

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE JULY 1977

APRIL 1998

No. 212

15p.



THE STREAM RUNNING ALONGSIDE PENNY LANE IS THE NEEDHAM'S DIKE WHICH EVENTUALLY FLOWS INTO THE OLD HAY BROOK

PENNY LANE WINTER
BRUNSWARD 1916

MIKE WILLIAMSON TAKES A RETROSPECTIVE LOOK AT TOTLEY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION and its community magazine THE TOTLEY INDEPENDENT.

'FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW'

Totley Resident's Association was founded in July 1977. The Association was formed to foster a community spirit and become a voice and platform to any group or individual, residing or working, in the area. It was anticipated that such an organisation would improve communication and develop a better understanding of all community needs from both inside the area and to its immediate neighbours. It will be seen how effective this enterprise proved to be and how the launching of a magazine called Totley Independent became an anchor and accessible medium which continues to thrive after over twenty years of

publication.

A snatch of Totley's History. Today Totley is a residential suburb of Sheffield, situated in the South West of the City. Geographically it is the most southern point of both Sheffield and South Yorkshire, and shares a boundary with Derbyshire. Although regarded as an important residential area, two thirds of it is still given over to agriculture and farming, playing an important role in the local economy. The district still maintains some of its Derbyshire roots, whereby some local football teams continue to play in the Hope Valley League. (Continued page 2)

**T. R. A. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TOTLEY LIBRARY, 7-30pm. ALL WELCOME
APRIL 27th.**

BUMPER 20 PAGE ISSUE FOR EASTER

Until 1935 Totley was part of Derbyshire, controlled by Norton Rural District Council. More local matters were dealt with by Totley Parish Council, who met regularly in the village school. The Minute Book of the Parish Council, now housed in the archives of Sheffield City Library, makes interesting reading and is a good source of history and an insight into a rural community.

In 1935 Totley, along with the neighbouring village of Dore, despite much objection, became part of Sheffield and Yorkshire. To the regret of the local populous, the Parish Council had to be dissolved.

The result of this was that the new 'Garden Suburbs' acquired by Sheffield, now only had a quiet voice. The village's relationship with its new owner became somewhat distanced. However, to give the impression that the village itself was dormant would be incorrect.

Totley is mentioned in the Domesday Book and has been inhabited since the Bronze Age. However, it was the coming of the railway in the 1890's that really put the place on the map but also turned the village and its inhabitants into turmoil. Almost overnight the influx of railway navvies doubled the population. They had been engaged by the Midland Railway Company to construct the Totley Tunnel. This was to be a feat of Victorian engineering and the second longest tunnel in Britain. Nearly four miles long (The Severn Tunnel being the longest).

By the 1930's the village had settled down again, although, along with the rest of Britain, the Great War had taken its toll. The navvies had been responsible for the formation of Totley Sports and Social Club, which is still active today. The four village pubs continued to thrive, the Churches were well established, All Saints Church having been founded in 1924. And many new organisations prospered. The problem seems to have been that most of these clubs and associations flourished and 'bubbled away' in isolation of each Party, at a cost of £1,600. The building was opened by Malcolm other. Another problem was that since the development of the turnpike road, the axis of the village had changed and it was now difficult to determine its centre. This was further complicated by the fact that for some unexplained reason a village hall had never been established. (Although in 1926 Green Oak Hall was built as the 'handsome new headquarters' of the Dore and Totley Labour McDonald, son of ex Premier Ramsey McDonald. Although the Labour Party had first claim, their 'Conservative friends could use it if they wanted'. This they did, particularly the 'Primrose League' who held socials there, in spite of the fact that the premises were not licensed.

In the 1970's after a variety of uses the hall became the Heatherfield Conservative Club).

The result of this historical situation was that between 1935 and 1977 Totley, along with the sister village of Dore had almost become a quiet backwater.

Since the 1930's new housing developments continued in Totley, including a sizeable estate of council housing (prefabricated) This was by no means a problem. The area had always had a mixed population of owner occupiers and many of the village locals lived (and some still do) in rented cottages. Also in later years there would be a large semi-permanent body of students at the local college. The community as a whole, became well

integrated, regular friendships were made especially in sporting activities, Churches and Public Houses. Even to the extent that in 1935 a welcoming party was held for the new prefab tenants in the Tea Rooms upstairs in the Cross Scythes Hotel.

In the early 1970's Parent/Teacher Associations had been formed in both the Church of England aided village school (which was to celebrate its centenary in 1977) and the more recent 'County School. Contact and discussions were established between these two groups, as were sporting challenges between both the pupils and their parents.

FORMATION OF TOTLEY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

At the same time as key members of the two local schools were becoming acquainted, it was being mooted from other sections of the community, particularly a group of council tenants, whose properties bordered the local park, that there was an urgent need for recreational outlets for the local youth and senior citizens. Here it should be noted that Totley has, amongst its population, the highest proportion of senior citizens in the city. At the same time as this need was being voiced, a survey carried out by the Family and Community Services division of the City Council, supported this suggestion, although at the time nobody in Totley was aware that this survey had been taken.

However a new vicar Rev. Alan Jockel had recently been appointed to Totley and he would prove to be the necessary catalyst. Moreover he was totally community minded, a goof mediator, experienced and a man with the essential ingredient - enthusiasm.

After several preliminary meetings, with all interested parties, to test the water, a Public Meeting was called at Totley County School (which possessed the largest hall) in April 1977.

FIRST PUBLIC MEETING.

The Turnout at the first Public Meeting was exceptionally high, the hall being filled to capacity.

An initial proposal from the platform, chaired by the Vicar, to form a 'Totley Residents' Association' was passed unanimously and a pre-prepared constitution accepted. The constitution basically said that the Association would be open to all and would work for the well being of the local community. It was hoped that the Association would also serve as an umbrella for all other established groups in the area and that a Forum could be set up to co-operate, exchange ideas and offer inter-support.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

The meeting was able to proceed further and sub groups were formed to identify and develop specific interests, causes for concern and recreational pursuits. Amongst these included a Badminton Section, a Junior Football Team, a Camera Club, a Social Committee and links with the local students. Perhaps most important of all, it was decided to launch a Community Magazine.

A new Library and Old Peoples Home had recently been built and contact would also need to be made with these. Also the Sheffield Cheshire Home was located in Totley as was Cherry Tree Children's Home. These would also be invited to participate.

One important point to arise from this meeting was a desire that the name would be Totley Resident's Association, the inclusion of 'Tenants and Residents' was not to be included as it was thought this may suggest an 'us and them' situation, which everyone was keen to avoid.

Particularly as it did not exist. A most positive step was also decided. This would be a two pronged attack.

Firstly a launch date for the Association would be determined and this would also revive the Village Sports Day. This tradition had been popular earlier in the century but had ceased. Secondly, if at all possible, a quality magazine, rather than a newsletter, would be published at the same time.

With the amount of enthusiasm and the multi talents of the assembled volunteers, this could come about very quickly. The magazine would be called 'Totley Independent' (after the demised Sheffield Weekly Independent) and the venture would be inaugurated on July 4th 1977 - 'Totley Independence Day'. From its earliest conception, two peripheral goals were identified. To build and maintain a Community Centre (This was not to happen). Secondly, to secure local community transport, mainly for the use and convenience of the ageing population. (This became reality in later years. Indeed it was to become the most successful community transport venture 'Transport 17' in Sheffield.)

The Association and its magazine was successfully launched at the newly revived Totley Sports Evening in Green Oak Park on 4th July 1977. As executive committee had been established and this now set about performing the tasks and duties that it has been commissioned to carry out.

The magazine became an immediate success and maintained healthy sales and a circulation of around a thousand copies a month. It became available from several retail outlets. The current cost is 15p. There is a constant waiting list from advertisers and the magazine, now in its 21st year, continues to make a profit. Indeed it is the main income of the Association, paying its way in an admirable fashion. There have been six editors since the launch. It has also served well as a springboard for budding professional journalists. These have been recruited from the local comprehensive school and at one time good communications were established with the Journalism Course at Richmond College, Sheffield.

The magazine had been fortunate to receive regular contributions from first class Totley artists, who are recognised throughout the City. The Association continues to perform a variety of successful functions. Unfortunately, its ambition to build a Community Centre remains a pipe dream. Neither are there any

old or suitable buildings for conversion. Many attempts at funding were made at City and National level. The campaign goes on.

The Sports Day continues and in 1994 this was combined with the Centenary Celebrations for the opening of the Totley Tunnel. Publicity for this event reaching national radio.

A village show is held annually. This is well supported. In 1977 a Senior Citizens Party was held at Totley College. The food was provided by the Home Economics Department. Both Lecturers and students being involved and this continued for a good many years until Totley College (later Sheffield Polytechnic) became autonomous and an alternative venue had to be found. The event continued for about 19 years.

On the campaign trail, many successes can be recorded. Housing developments are continually monitored, particularly where they fall in the local Green Belt. Constant awareness is maintained with other environmental issues. One major triumph has been the installation of traffic lights in Baslow Road. This is the main dual carriageway through Totley. Prior to this campaign there had been no crossing point between Millhouses Park and Baslow Village, a distance of six miles. Unfortunately it was only in the event of fatal accidents that a positive outcome was achieved.

A series of talks is organised annually at Totley Library and these have been amongst the best supported library talks in the City.

Each year, along with all similar organisations, the Annual General Meeting struggles for support, but somehow a Committee continues to be elected.

From humble beginnings, Totley Residents' Association has established both itself and its publication into an effective and active force, open to all members of the community at large. It is prepared to fight and support issued of local concern. It can reflect with interest and appreciate its own history. Hopefully it can also look forward to a future, although unpredictable, with confidence.

Dear Ed.

I would like to express my appreciation to all those who are working so hard to restore the Chapel Lane footpath. The results so far are most impressive and it is obviously no easy task. If "actions do speak louder than words" then T.R.A. is getting it's message of community spirit over loud and clear.

Kathleen M. Jones

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OUR BYGONE WORLD ON WHEELS

Do the young boys of today pass some of their time 'spotting' vehicles as I with my playmates used to do in pre-war Totley. Nowadays cars are very much alike in shape and design and you have to be within a yard or two to tell one from another. Commercial vehicles are little different, only a handful of makers names to note.

In our young days we had a variety of vehicles to 'spot' at the various viewing points along Baslow Road. The skill or knack was being able to identify as soon as it came into view (and the further away the better!) Of course the number of vehicles on the road was far less than now, but it was still a worthwhile pastime, and kept us out of mischief! We did the usual boyish things, playing down by the river and climbing trees etc. We also cycled and played football and cricket. All good outdoor activities which kept us fit and I am sure we benefited in later life from it. Occasionally we enjoyed sitting on a wall or fence watching the world pass by.

To name the makes of private cars no longer with us will I am sure bring back memories to many readers - Armstrong Siddeley (The Rev. Hutton of All Saints Totley owned one when I was a boy). The Alvis, Humber, Singer, Brough Superior, BSA Coupe, Crossley, Jowett, Hillman Minx, Lagonda, Lanchester, Wolsley, Riley, Talbot, Flying Standard, S.S. Jaguar; Triumph Gloria etc. What a list! I am sure many of you could add to it - and what a variety.

Mention must be made of the Ford Popular (Yours brand new for £100) I believe the cheapest car ever made in this country.

All the cars of that time had a distinctive appearance - not like today. Modern streamlining having lost the 'individual' look of the pre-war car. A fact that gave so much interest to our pastime.

We also noted the names of the lorry and van owners, and could 'spot' many of those from afar. Firms such as Jas Shimwell from Youlgreave, whose lorries carried milk in churns collected from the farms around Derbyshire and taken to the Dairy Factories in Sheffield. They made little noise going in, but what a rattle and clang when they returned with the empties!

Pickford Holland (with bricks from the kilns below Owlbar) Toft Bros. & Tomlinson (Darley Dale) Arthur Davy (Provisions) Earls Cement (now Blue Circle) Cooper & Hart (Woodseats) Bradshaw & Bly, etc. - names no longer seen plying their trade through the area.

At Totley Bents we had local Haulage firm of Slater's whose smart red lorries were a common sight around. A pal of mine, Douglas Turner had an elder brother Ken, who drove for them and years later owned his own Haulage business at Totley.

Pre-war there were a number of locally owned lorries. Some of my school pals at that time had fathers driving their own lorries for hire or coal delivery. You were often more aware then of what vehicles were carrying. I remember the aroma of tar from asphalt carried by the lorries of Derbyshire Stone Ltd. and of 'spent' hops being taken from the Sheffield Breweries to

the farms for fertiliser. Another but not so pleasant aroma was the wet fish in open boxes on the back of Frederick Pell's lorries being delivered to the fish shops etc. Another sight I recall was the large blocks of ice on the open backs of lorries (before the days of mass refrigeration). Sometimes we heard the sound of the fire bell, faintly at first then as it grew louder, our young hearts would pound with excitement at the sight and sound of the magnificent fire engine as it came into view, bright red and gleaming with brass work etc. The firemen wearing their brass helmets, standing on the back alongside the turntable ladder. It would race past us, followed by the fire car, probably going to a chimney fire, commonplace in those days, the large majority of households having coal fires. These incidents were sometimes serious enough to call out the Fire Brigade. I remember a few haystacks catching fire but thankfully only one house completely destroyed by fire. So much for the motor vehicle.

THE BICYCLE was much used in many jobs. The local 'bobby' could often be seen on his bike around Totley and the Telegram boy in uniform on his red bike (my brother Brian began his career in the Post Office as a Messenger). They were stationed at many local post offices, as well as in the Sheffield City Centre.

The 'Lampman' came round on his bike (with ladder attached) to check the gas lamps which lit many of our roads in those days. One chap I fondly remember was the 'Knife and Scissors Sharpener' He came round on his 'special bike' knocking on door to door. He had fixed to his bike a grinding wheel, this he turned from the rear wheel of the bike when elevated on a stand. We would watch enthralled as he peddled away sharpening carving knives etc. the sparks flying off all around him - what a sight.

Many shops had their own delivery bikes, the goods carried in large wicker baskets on the front. One man we were always pleased to see was riding the Walls Ice Cream Tricycle - with his motto STOP ME AND BUY ONE on the front, and we did, eager to spend our pocket money before he ran out of supplies.

A Mr. Kettley I remember calling at our house, he had an enclosed box cart on wheels, this he pushed around Totley selling bread and cakes door to door. Many fresh goods were delivered to your door in those days.

HORSE DRAWN VEHICLES were around too - Mr. Taylor who owned the Grocery and Off Licence at the top of Totley Rise delivered all his goods by horse drawn dray. Mr. Windle being the man in charge of the dray. Many will remember the very distinctive two-wheeled horse drawn vans owned by Ringtons Tea.

Mr. Chapman who lived at Totley Bents sold fresh fish from his horse and trap to homes in the area (a service which was very much appreciated). Mr. Kirby who farmed the land behind the 'Fleur de Lys' helped to keep the roads clean and tidy with the use of his horse and cart.

A common sight in winter was the horse drawn snow plough, the winter time reminding me of the days as young boys when we helped to dig out the buses stuck in the snow on Baslow Road, heavy snow being quite common in those days (fun for us, but not if you were

driving!)

THE STEAM ROLLER. Pre-war many estate roads were laid out in Totley, and a sight to behold was the steam roller. Small boys were drawn to them as if by a magnet! The noise, fire, steam and smoke, what majestic beats they were. Later came the motor roller, but they were never the same (like the steam and diesel engine on the railway I suppose). Mention of steam, you could still see the occasional steam lorry trundling about. One or two Breweries used them as did the Gas and Electric companies. Running these would be a bonus in the later war years, no problem need I say with petrol!

Speaking of war time, in the early years we heard much grinding of gears from the 'L' plated army lorries going up and down Baslow Road, their drivers being trained for service world wide. I would be in my early teens then and saw many army convoys, most of the lorries being 'flat front' Bedfords. These Bedford lorries gave many years yeoman service to the private hauliers who used them after the War. Most being ex-army.

Life in our young days had not the frantic pace of today - thank goodness, and also none of the distractions i.e. television, videos, computer games etc. - we were free indeed to enjoy OUR BYGONE WORLD ON WHEELS.

I wonder how the young boys of today will view the World on Wheels in fifty or sixty years time - Now there's a Thought!

Robert H. Carr

JOHN WADE SINGERS

MAY 1ST AND 2ND. CONCERT BY JOHN WADE SINGERS, at St. John's Church, Abbeydale. 7.30pm Tickets £4.50 and £3.50 (Concessions)

Details: 0114 2360820 or 01246 415778. Programme to include a selection of well-known and popular choruses, arias and duets from Grand Opera together with a semi-staged performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Trial by Jury' Conductor John Wade, Organist Paul Green.

Proceeds in aid of two local charities: The Sheffield branch of the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (ASBAH) and the Michael Elliot Trust - a charity working for children with special needs.

A FAMILY MISCELLANY

and OTHER MEMORIES
by JOHN ARTINDALE

An interesting booklet with glimpses of the Lincolnshire and Sheffield of the past, concluding with a selection of short present day walks around Sheffield. The centre pages demonstrate a fine example of genealogy, if one has the inclination (and the time) to trace one's family history. The booklet is available from Totley Rise Post Office or by ringing 2367176. Price £2 - the proceeds are going to "Reaching the Unreached", an organisation working amongst the very poor in South India.

ROAD SAFETY IN DORE

We are often asked at Governors meetings:-

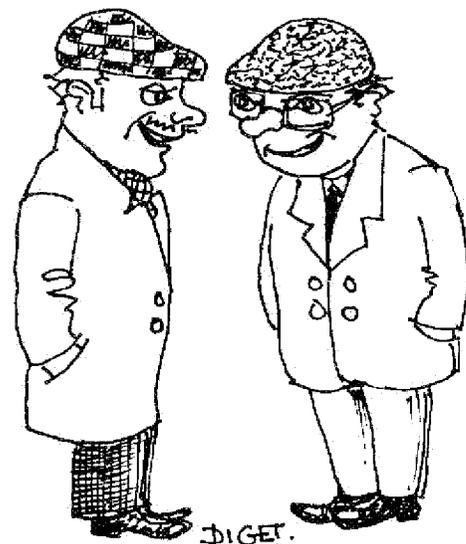
"Why don't we do something about people driving too fast in the village in ways that could lead to serious accidents to children walking to school? Why don't we get the local authority, or the police, to deal with this matter?"

However, on reflection, it doesn't take long to realise that many of the problems are caused by ourselves - by parents dropping children off at school, or by residents of Dore hurrying to work, or doing their shopping! Indeed, if we are honest with ourselves, we have all been guilty at one time or another of driving too fast through the crowded, narrow streets of Dore, or parking in inconsiderate ways. The problem, then, lies with ourselves - not with the 'Authorities'.

It is easy in this busy world to be tempted to drive down Furniss Avenue or Vicarage Lane or Busheywood Road or any of the other streets of Dore at 40 mph. But is it necessary? Driving from the village down to Abbeydale Road South at 40 mph would only save 30 seconds compare with driving at 20 mph - yet common sense, as well as accident statistics, tells us that an accident in which a pedestrian is killed is much more likely at 40 mph than at 20 mph.

Therefore, we are appealing to all those who live and work in Dore to start thinking of others a little more as they drive around the village. Remember, sensible driving saves lives.

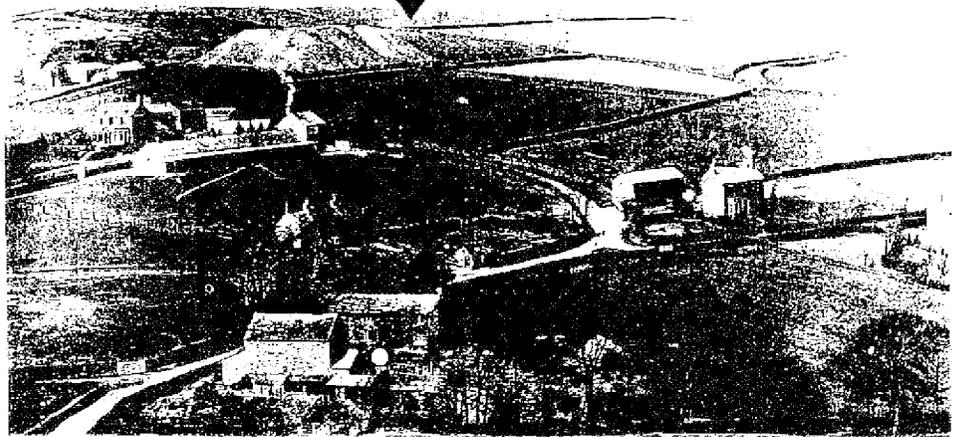
Colin Ross - Chair of Governors, Dore Infant School.
Mike King - Chair of Governors, Rowan School.
Roger Allum - Chair of Governors, Dore Junior School.
Derek Gillibrand - Chair of Governors, King Egbert School.



DIGET.
"FANCY THAT STREAKER BEING SEEN RUNNING UP LEMONT ROAD, BY ALL ACCOUNTS IT WAS THE FULL LEMONTY!"

FOOT BALL IN TOTLEY

It is generally thought that football started in this area in the 1870's and Sheffield did of course play a leading role in the early days of Association Football. But did you know that, over 20 years earlier, Totley had it's own foot ball field?

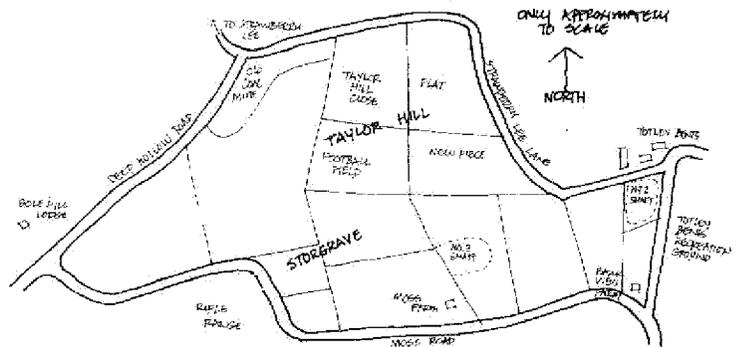


Situated near Strawberry Lee Lane on what was then known as Taylor's Hill, it is marked on the 1849 map of Samuel Shore's estate in Totley. He had owned Meersbrook House and was a member of Shore's Bank in Church Street, Sheffield, until it went bankrupt and the family estates were sold in 1850. Florence Nightingale was related to the Shores.

Taylor Hill probably refers to Isaac Taylor in whose (Ale?) house the eighteenth century Courts of the Honour of Peveril were held.

As far as foot ball is concerned Sheffield club was founded in 1851, so obviously the game had become common place by the time of the 1849 map. However the foot ball played could have been akin to the games still played in Ashbourne where teams of indeterminate size carried and kicked the ball over a line. This would have been a derivation of the Roman game of Harpastum which Edward III in 1349 ordered his sheriffs to suppress because of it's rowdy nature.

Our foot ball field may well have been taken over by the Midland Railway for navy huts during the Totley Tunnel construction of 1888-94. The attached photo is pre 1910. It is said that the navvies started up Totley Sports and Social Club and it is likely that games were played on Totley Bents Recreation Ground on Penny Lane. The 'Rec' or 'Sick', as it was once called, was awarded to the inhabitants of Totley in perpetuity at the enclosures 1839-42. Here Totley football Club still plays in the Hope Valley League of which they were founder members. Visiting teams still use their local names e.g. Youlgrave is Pommy and Tideswell is Tidsa. Of course Totley Sports Cricket



team and Totley Athletic Club are based there too.

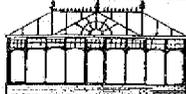
Incidentally I have an old photograph which shows goalposts near Marstone Crescent before the building of the Heatherfield estate - stir any memories?

Greenoak F.C. played for many years in the Sheffield Sunday League at Greenoak Park and various other senior and junior teams have used that central facility.

An interesting point is that Abbeydale Sports Club was once based on Baslow Road up hill from the now derelict garage. I have a map of 1875 showing the position.

Brian Edwards 1998.

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CHANGES IN THE CHURCHES

All Saints' Church will sadly be losing its Vicar in the autumn when the Reverend David Benson will be leaving. He has been advised to retire on health grounds after just over seven years in Totley. He and Margaret are hoping that they will be able to find a house in the Doncaster area when they leave on 30th September.

Meanwhile there is still no news of the appointment of a Vicar for St. John's Abbeydale. The Reverend Grant MacIntosh left last summer after nine years as Vicar and has gone to continue his ministry in Scotland.

The Roman Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St. Thomas based at Meadowhead has also seen changes. Father Kevan Grady has left to take up a post as Diocesan Youth Officer and has been replaced by Father Mark McManus. We extend a warm welcome to him.

Maurice Snowdon

THE EDALE RAMBLER FOLK TRAINS

This unique on-train entertainment costs no more than an ordinary train ticket (£5.60 Off-peak adult return from Manchester and £4.00 return from Sheffield). At Edale we visit the Rambler Inn for home cooked food and liquid refreshment, entertained by a further session from the band.

We regret that the Edale Rambler Folk Train cannot be booked in advance - just turn up and purchase your ticket in the normal way.

SHEFFIELD-EDALE.

All trains depart at 19.18 (7.18pm) from Sheffield and return at 21.25 (9.25pm) from Edale, stopping at Dore, Grindleford, Hathersage, Bamford and Hope en route.

Tuesday April 28th - The Little Buffaloes: A Sheffield-based trio playing traditional music from the British Isles, France, America, Canada and Mexico.

For more details of the South Riding Folk Network, contact Ron Day on (0114)2470099.

COFFEE, CAKES & CUTTINGS

This Annual event at English Martyrs Church, Baslow Rd. in aid of Transport 17 will be taking place on May, 30th 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon.

If you are putting seeds in at the moment we shall be grateful if you could put a few more in for later sale on the plant stall. We are also looking for books and good bric-a-brac. Arrangements to collect these can be made by ringing 236 7176.

EGYPT

ANCIENT EGYPT; DISCOVERY ART AND INFLUENCE.

City Museum and Mappin Art Gallery.
28 February - 6th September 1998

The Mysterious land of Egypt has always intrigued the Western World and this fascinating exhibition examines the Ancient Egyptian Civilisation and its subsequent influence on modern society. Ever since Napoleon's troops invaded Egypt in 1798 and revealed the wonders of the Ancient Egyptian World, Europeans have been fascinated and influenced by what they have seen. This interdisciplinary exhibition shown Ancient Egyptian artefacts alongside decorative art objects influenced by Egyptian design and examples of Egyptian inspired architecture as well as water-colours, lithographs and book plates illustrating the Ancient Egyptian sites. A display of contemporary material including Jewellery, replicas and tourist souvenirs shows our continuing fascination with the mysteries of Ancient Egypt.

A varied programme of events including talks, videos, family activities and educational work supporting the National Curriculum will accompany this exhibition.

Carry on Cursing! Mappin Art Gallery Coffee Shop.

28 February - 8th June 1998.

A light hearted look at the more bizarre influence of Ancient Egypt on Modern society using cartoons, film posters, magazine advertisements and other kitsch ephemera.

For more information on the Egyptian exhibition please contact Alison Walster, City Museum and Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield S10 2TP. Telephone 0114 2768588.

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CALOR

PEAKTOWN STORY By Hugh Percival. Chapter 2.

After waiting in a queue for ten minutes, John Winter boarded a tram and secured one of the few available seats upstairs in the front bay. Hemmed in by fellow passengers and unable to read his evening newspaper, he stared into space trying to avoid the eyes of his neighbours, most of whom had similar objectives. Fortunately the journey to his lodgings, less than a mile distance from the city centre, was short and he soon reached his stop.

He alighted and made his way up Slope Street, a long row of terraced houses, two storied plus an attic. The houses had no benefit of front gardens but abutted directly on to the pavement. To his surprise he found the pavement in front of him blocked with furniture. In the light of the street lamp he recognised a table, two kitchen chairs, a bed, assorted items of household utensils and personal belongings such as clothing and books. An old white-haired, unshaven, gaunt man sat on one of the chairs staring with a forlorn expression into the roadway.

'That's the lot' exclaimed a voice from within the adjacent house. Two men emerged and one of them, small dark-haired and dapper slammed the front door shut. Then he and his burly companion, without a word to the old man, walked off down the street and out of sight.

'Have you been evicted, sir?' asked John Winter, rather as a means of introduction than requiring an answer as the evidence before his eyes was plain to see.

'Couldn't pay the rent for my room these past few weeks. What's to happen now. Can't get a job at my age. Even young men are out of work'. The old man's soliloquy for such it seemed to be to the listening junior, disturbed John Winter mightily.

The cold damp evening mist swirled about them making the old man's situation untenable. 'Something has to be done. You can't stay in the street all night. Let's pop along to my lodgings - just up the road - and ask my landlady, Mrs. Rodgers, if she knows where you may stay for the night. Come with me if you will sir', suggested John Winter in compassionate tones.

The old man rose from his seat, put a few books and items of clothing into a cardboard box for protection from the elements, looked behind him with regret at leaving his belongings in such circumstances, and followed the junior like a sheep.

Mrs. Rodgers, a large matronly sort of person with blond hair and rosy cheeked countenance, listened to their story with ever increasing indignation as the events of the eviction were related to her by the old man, with comments by John from time to time. 'Baillifs they are not human' she snorted, 'what would I give for the chance of giving them some of their own medicine. Mr. Dodds, take a seat by the fire. You shall have some tea and we can decide that to do', the landlady added in a more kindly manner that was quite reassuring to the old man.

They were joined at tea by Mr. Rodgers, a small bald, bearded gentleman in spectacles, and two offspring in their early teens, one female with blond hair and rosy face, and the other male, brown haired and also fresh faced.

After consuming piping hot beans on toast, followed by bread and apricot jam

and drinking cups of scalding tea, all parties were in a better state to discuss matters.

'Marjorie and Tom, I am sure you must have homework to do' suggested Mrs. Rodgers, and the two children left the room somewhat deflated at not hearing more of the visitor.

'Jack, Mr. Dodds can stay the night. We can make up the sofa in the front room' suggested the landlady. 'Of course dear', replied her spouse, 'but where's he to go on a more permanent basis'.

'First things first, Jack. What about the furniture on the pavement? It's a damp night and there maybe thieves about' replied Mrs. Rodgers.

'Possibly we might find a temporary home here for the smaller items. The rest will have to go either to a warehouse, second-hand dealer or possibly a pawnbroker. Depends on resources I suppose' advised Mr. Rodgers.

These being in short supply, it was agreed that finance be obtained from Dawsons the pawnbroker by lodging suitable items as security. Mr. Dodds was apparently already known to Mr. Dawson, as were numerous inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

'Come on John' remarked Mr. Rodgers, and the two of them went out to examine the belongings on the pavement while Mr. Dodds sat before the fire in the consoling company of the landlady, as she cleared up the tea table.

Mr. Rodgers armed with a torch, looked over the items on the pavement with an experienced eye, while John, to whom such matters were a novelty, and not an agreeable one at that, watched with morbid interest.

The landlady's husband selected a clock of antique appearance with Roman numerals as the main likely source of funds, together with various items of cutlery, a painting of horses ploughing and a carved wooden model of a shire horse. They reported the choice of belongings to Mr. Dodds who with some reluctance agreed to their being lodged at the pawnbrokers.

Mr. Rodgers selection proved to be justified on receipt, after some bargaining with the pawnbroker, of the sum of £4- 5-0d for the use of Mr. Dodds. They returned to the house and handed the money to the old man who accepted it with great surprise and gratitude obviously regarding it as a small fortune, as indeed it was to one in his pecuniary difficulties.

Mr. Rodgers and John then returned to the furniture on the pavement, and spent the next hour or so in taking bedding, clothing, books and other smaller items into the house, and the bed, table and kitchen chairs into the yard at the back of the house. Mr. Rodgers undertook to lodge these latter pieces at a warehouse in the morning.

Mr. Dodds, tears welling in his eyes, thanked his benefactors from the heart, while Mrs. Rodgers provided cups of cocoa and some biscuits. They consumed these before the blazing fire.

'To-morrow Mr. Dodds, I will take you round to Talbots almshouses on South Road to see is there are any vacancies' the landlady remarked.

After supper John Winter retired to his attic room to study his accountancy books for an hour before bedtime, whilst the landlady, her husband and Mr. Dodds

listened to a variety programme on the wireless. This included a tap dancer, a harmonica player, a duet of soprano and tenor and a comedian.

The programme helped to enliven the prevailing atmosphere of gloom and doom a little and Mr. Dodds, having been mellowed somewhat by the harmonious singing, laughed quite heartily at one or two of the comedian's jokes, much to the gratification of the landlady and her husband.

Afterwards they listened to the news bulletin. This was mainly concerned with the war in Korea and like most news bulletins, did not help to alleviate the sombre mood.

By the time the children were asleep and the others retired for the night. Soon the only sounds to be heard were the occasional cry of a cat on the tiles and the resulting barking of dogs.

(To be continued)

CONDITIONS ON PATH ACROSS TOTLEY MOOR

I thought it appropriate to inform you of an unusual mishap I had when out walking alone on Totley Moor recently. It occurred at Grid Reference 282794.

I was travelling due west across Totley Moor, where the main right of way is badly rutted due to its use by four wheel drive vehicles. My mishap was probably waiting to happen. Recent rain has caused some of these ruts to be filled with water and I managed to miss my footing and sustain a near total immersion in one of these flooded ruts.

I am an experienced walker, but this could have happened to a less fit individual with more serious consequences. Happily apart from getting soaked, I was not hurt. However, be warned when you walk (or run) across Totley Moor.

S.E. Chandler.

PLANNING NEWS

An application for full planning permission to build five homes on land off Summer Lane has been submitted (ref.98/0164P). At the time of writing (March 15th) public notices had not gone up in the area. Once notices go up in the local vicinity, residents have at least three weeks to send in their comments. It is being dealt with by Mr. Lomas but if you are interested, you should visit the Town Hall to inspect the plans in the first instance.

There is no news to date regarding plans to extend Ash Cottage.

There is no news regarding the Sheffield Hallam University site but Bob Kerslake, the Council's new Chief Executive, attended the last T.R.A. Committee meeting at which he promised to contact the university to suggest to the powers that be that they agree to a meeting with Totley residents. We hope he is able to succeed where we have failed.

Katie Bramall. Planning Group.

TOTLEY BUS TERMINUS

Following the Council meeting on Thursday, 5th March, the South and East Planning Board decided to accept the officers' recommendation to retain the status quo.

The chairman is a former bus driver and was very sympathetic. He ruled that if Whitbread's Brewery submitted a planning application which included the loss of Mainline's contract, the Council would place a compulsory purchase order on the terminus.

HOORAY!
The chair also agreed that traffic calming measures on Baslow Road were needed and this would be investigated.
DOUBLE HOORAY!

The number of people attending the public meeting must have played a significant role in achieving this. Public participation can make a difference.

Katie Bramall. Planning Group.

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS

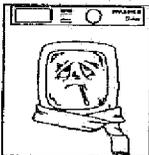
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GARDENING TIPS FOR APRIL

April always a busy time in the garden, young shoots sprouting all round might need protection from late frosts, seedlings need pricking out, plots just cleared of vegetables need digging over and the soil checked for Ph. levels. In between all the jobs take time to marvel at mother nature's bounty. The lovely spring flowers and blossoms, get down and take a really close look. The structure of some of the blooms is really marvellous. Take rosemary flowers, they are just like small orchids and the pollen laden tulips look just like a kaleidoscope when viewed close to. Whilst on your knees pull up the weeds before they get established.

FLOWERS Prepare beds for new plantings, break up any crusty borders and give feed a of general purpose compost or fertilizer. Weed and clean up patio areas and containers. Stake tall plants and prepare supports for lupins and delphiniums. Feed and top dress and mulch around perennials. Dead head flowers as they fade. Do not cut back the leaves of daffodils and other bulbs and corms, let them die back naturally. Give them a feed to encourage flowering next year. Water any newly set out plants. If you like gladioli space your plantings throughout the month, so that you get a succession of flowers. Alpines can be planted at this time. Also established plants can be moved provided sufficient care is taken. Sow seeds of hardy annuals now, if you have cloches, if not leave until next month. Plant and stake sweet peas. Plant out violas and pansies, both seedlings and rooted cuttings if they are properly hardened off. A rather cool semi shaded position is best. Though they will grow in full sun, they tend to finish flowering sooner. They like a well worked liberally manured soil. Plant with a trowel and water freely. Start dahlias if you haven't already. A cold frame will do nicely, cover tubers with a light soil, water lightly at first, increasing as growth commences. Cover frame with sacks or other insulation at night, remove these every morning unless it is very frosty. Start hardening off bedding plants by moving them from greenhouse or propagator to cold frames. Keep the frames closed and shade from strong sunlight, protect from frost at night. Plant up patio pots with summer flowering bulbs. These look good mixed with shrubs and other perennials. Towards the end of the month plant out antirrhinums raised in the autumn from seeds or cuttings and also penstemon cuttings in their flowering position. Take chrysanthemum cuttings that are to make dwarf specimens in pots. Pot grown plants of clematis can be planted now.

VEGETABLES Brussel sprouts sown earlier in a frame should be ready to be pricked out into open ground. Early plants such as these are the ones that will produce

the finest crops of sprouts. Spring cabbage will benefit from a top dressing of nitro chalk or high nitrogen compost. Sowings of lettuce, radishes, peas etc., cloche protection should be given. Sow winter greens such as Savoy cabbage, January King and broccoli. Sow early potatoes if you haven't already. It is coming up to the time for main crop to be sown early next month, so prepare ground ready for them. Onion sets should be well on their way keep them weed free. They do not like competition for food. Prepare any trenches for runner beans fill with plenty of well rotted compost and moisture retention material. Keep the hoe going between crops where rows can be clearly seen. This frequent aeration of soil and checking of weeds does a great deal of good and certainly encourages growth. Plant out rooted cuttings of herbs such as bay, mint, rosemary and sage. Sow root crops, globe beetroot, carrots and turnips. Sow annual herbs like basil, borage, dill and sweet majoram.

FRUIT, SHRUBS AND TREES Clean up strawberry beds, take off all dead or injured leaves and clean the surface of the bed. Check wires and supports and renew where necessary, firm in loose roots. Spray gooseberries against mildew. Watch out for aphids and caterpillars and deal with them as soon as they are seen. If your apple trees suffered with scab last year give them a spray now with a good quality fungicide. Prune flowering shrubs such as hardy fuschias, buddleia, leycasteria formosa, all varieties of carnus and salix (willow). Last year's growth should be cut back quite close to the older wood, leave a few 3/4 length branches to remain on buddleia to build up a main framework of growth if a large bush is required. It is also time to prune forsythias if you want to keep moderately small specimens, or train them against a wall. Cut back as many as possible of the flowering branches to younger stems that have not yet flowered or to new shoots just starting. Remove grease bands from around trees and burn them.

Water and mulch newly planted hedges, trees and shrubs and firm in any

loosened by frost or wind. Give camellias, rhododendrons and azaleas a treat by watering with sequestrene. Tie in new growths of climber and rambling roses and spray against blackspots and mildew.

GREENHOUSE AND INDOOR PLANTS Prick out seedlings for pot plants and bedding plants. Pot on geraniums and young plants like begonia, gloxinia and fuschia. Early April should see the completion of half hardy seed sowing. Sow seeds of tomato for planting outdoors. Sow seeds of melon and cucumber they need 65 degrees to germinate. Make up hanging baskets with geranium, trailing lobelia, verbena and other suitable plants. Pendulus, fuchsia and surfinia look very good when planted together and have a long season. Remember to take off the side shoots on tomatoes as they grow. Watchout for the bright sunny days. They can finish off small seedlings in a jiffy if they are not shaded. Freesias and lachealias lilies and cyclamen, that have been flowering during the winter must now be allowed to go to rest gradually, place them on a shelf near the glass and gradually reduce the water supply. Take cuttings of greenhouse plants, fuchsias and geraniums are particularly successful and will give a nice show later in the season.

LAWNS April is a good time for sowing a new lawn, so long as the ground is not too sticky. Established lawns will need cutting regularly. Don't forget to trim the edges to really make it look smart. Give a dressing of lawn fertilizer stick to the manufacturer's recommendations regarding the amount, a bit extra is not always a good thing. Attack patches of moss with moss killer and treat diseases such as fusarium, red thread and fairy rings with a proprietary herbicide. Patch damaged areas with turf or seed.

Cheerio for now, Tom Busy Bee.

TRANSPORT 17

We are having a Coffee Morning at Totley Library on Friday, 1st May. This will be from 10.00a.m. till noon. Admission is 50p and this includes coffee or tea and biscuits. We will have the usual stalls but would be grateful for any donations of cakes and scones or preserves. Our thanks to the Library for their kindness to us. There will be no transport available for this event as all 3 buses are very much in use on Fridays, as on most days.

Our new Renault Master is on order and the conversion is being arranged. Seating, doors, lift and wheelchair tracking all have to be sorted out. It is quite exciting and everyone who contributed to the new bus in any way is to be congratulated. The "Outward Bound" club has printed it's first set of outings for 1998. These are always very popular. Membership fee is £2 for a year. If you have any enquiries about it please ring the office on 236 2962.

Many thanks, Margaret Barlow.

SCOUT LOTTERY

The winners of the 1st. Totley Scout Group Lottery are as follows:-

1st prize No. 29

Mantel clock with Brass pendulum.

Mrs. Hossent, Sunnysvale Ave.

2nd prize No. 03

£10 Voucher.

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WHISPERER

Locals living in the vicinity of the Cross Scythes were surprised to receive a hand bill through their doors claiming the recent Public Meeting, which discussed the future of the Totley Bus Terminus, had been organised by one of our local political parties. They were under the impression that the meeting had been called by the City Council ----- Whisperer is considering whether to dip into his limited funds to wager that the Terminus will remain unchanged.

Those rather courteous villagers of Dore have been saying things about the pages of this magazine ---- talking of which a new magazine has appeared next door called the "Bradway Bugle" ----- how long before it blows its own trumpet?

Nice to see that someone cares about the appearance of Green Oak Park and path down Chapel Fields ----- Has anyone else noticed the new evening pastime of Totley residents - turning out in droves to Public Meetings. But how many will sneak unnoticed into the Library on April, 22nd to T.R.A.'s A.G.M.?

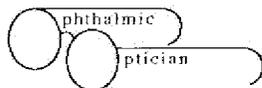
The Grapevine reports Bob Kerslake, Chief Executive of Sheffield City Council, seen leaving the T.R.A. Committee Meeting recently at Green Oak View ---- back at the Library man seen cutting the bottom off a trouser leg and placing it onto the counter. Now that is a turn-up for the books!

X-FILES HITS BRADWAY

The X-Files phenomena has hit Bradway in a big way. People are vanishing before our very eyes! Members at the Slimming World class at Bradway Annexe have seen people vanish over the last few weeks. Members have been literally reducing in size, diminishing by a whopping 26 stone 7 lb in one month alone. The consultant of the Thursday 5p.m. & 7p.m. classes, Alison Murphy is delighted with the members' weight losses, "seeing my members reduce in size and become more confident before my very eyes is just tremendous. I'm extremely proud of them all. For further information Tel: Alison (01246) 410145.

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ENVIRONMENT - CHAPEL WALK

Volunteers and a local contractor have made a good start on clearing back the overgrown grass and brambles from Chapel Walk. It has been a great place to work, with excellent views over the moors and words of encouragement from everyone who passed. It is, however, a shame about all the dog mess on the path. There are signs up at both ends of the path reminding dog owners of the penalties for allowing their dogs to foul the footpath. Work on Chapel Walk and other footpaths will be continuing, so look out for the posters or phone me if you would like to help. We are grateful to Sheffield City Council's Public Rights of Way Unit for the grant that has made this project possible.

GREENOAK PARK SURVEY.

Totley Residents' Association is carrying out a survey to find out what small scale improvements you would like to see in Greenoak Park. Would you like more seats, more trees and shrubs, spring bulbs, or perhaps less evidence that dogs use the park? Is litter a big problem? Please let us know what you think. Survey forms are available in Totley Library until the end of April. The results will be published in the Independent. The survey should help our applications for a grant from the Council to enable us to improve our park.

Ros Stokes.

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JACKIE COLLINS SCHOOL OF DRAMA

"Rags and Razzmatazz" featuring scenes from 'Oliver' and 'Bugsy Malone' is the latest production from Jackie Collins School of Drama.

Students from the school, many of whom are local children with ages ranging from 6 -16 years, will be performing in the show.

Much of the proceeds will go to a charity group specifically from this area to support the local community.

"Rags and Razzmatazz" is being performed on Friday 24th April and Saturday 25th April at 7.30pm at St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South.

Tickets priced £2.50 each (£2.00 concessions).

To book tickets contact Jackie Collins School of Drama. Tel: 2363467.

T.O.A.D.S

T.O.A.D.S. Spring production is a comedy by John Chapman, the well known playwright who wrote such gems as "There goes the Bride", "Look No Hans", "Key for Two", all great successes for our Company. We hope you will find his latest offering equally funny. "Kindly Leave the Stage" is one of those plays that you can't begin to give a summary of without giving the game away, but suffice it to say that the action takes place in the charming sitting room of Sarah and Rupert who are entertaining their very good friends Madge and Charles when they are surprised by the arrival of Sarah's mother. From that point on my lips are sealed on pain of death from the Director!

The play is at St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, Wednesday to Saturday, 13th to 16th May, at 7.30p.m. Tickets are still £2 for children and Senior Citizens 1.50, obtainable from any member or by phoning Kate Reynolds on 2366891. If you are on Totley Rise nearer the date pop in the Opticians where I have a ready supply of tickets.

Kate Reynolds

YORKSHIRE CHAMPIONS

On Saturday, 14th March seven girls from Totley Primary School (Jennifer Booth, Simone Dawson, Daisy Freeston, Katie Johnson, Laura Kelley, Harriet Manton, Zoe Thirsk and Mrs. Bush) took part in the Yorkshire Floor and Vault Gymnastics Competition. We were all very nervous on Saturday morning, we had to be at Hillsborough Leisure Centre for 11.00a.m. When we had all arrived we had to go and practise on the mats because our team were on first. When we had had the practise we were on for real. After about 5 minutes we had all done our routines 'Phew! the hard bit over'.

We watched the other teams for a bit then it was time for us to do the vaulting, we could have two practise vaults and then two for real. It all went well, we all managed to get over the vault.

We had done everything in the first two hours, how time flies when you are having fun. There was about another 3 hours of the competition to go so we all went for a swim before it was time to go back to hear the results.

At about 5.30p.m. all 14 Schools were sitting in rows waiting anxiously to hear where we had come. They started off with the School in 14th place then 13th and so on until they got to 2nd. 'In second place Garfield A' they announced. We were all clapping glad that they had done so well. Then we stopped, turned round and looked at each other. Does that mean we've come 1st? No it can't be can it? "And in first place Totley". It was true. 'WOW! BRILL!' we have come first. I don't believe it, first in the whole of Yorkshire.
TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL - YORKSHIRE GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONS.

Thank you Mrs. Bush for all the extra hours you have worked to train us all.

Jennifer Booth.

DORE ART GROUP

Dore Art Group will again be holding their Annual Exhibition in April. Thanks to the support of the local people the Exhibition goes from strength to strength. The group is very appreciative of this support and we hope to see everyone again this year. The Exhibition is on Friday, 17th. April

2.00 pm.- 8 pm.

Saturday, 8th. April

9.30 am.- 5 pm.

in the Old School, Dore.



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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN S.17.

A NIGHTMARE

An awful dream the other night;
I dreamt I went to Church.
The ladies all wore great big hats,
And all were twice my age!

The men were wearing starchy suits,
And groaned through dreary hymns.
They read things from a big fat book,
I couldn't find the place.

The prayers were long, the sermon worse,
My bottom grew quite numb,
I'd sat in someone else's seat,
(I think that's why he frowned!)

The heating system didn't work,
But still we had to pay,
I won't go near a Church again,
Or was it just a dream?

I hope so! But plenty of people think that if they turn up at a church one Sunday it would be like that! When you come to church, there are no special clothes that you must wear - come as you are in Jeans or dinner suits. Sit where you want to sit - for a good view or a quick getaway! Some churches use a lot of modern music - but you'll soon pick up the tunes - and if an order of service is being followed and you're lost ask for help! Churches have good heating systems - and some have comfy chairs - and even if a collection is taken - you don't have to put anything in it!

To be honest some churches are deadly and dreary - which is a shame - because the Christian message is one of life and hope. Not just about life in heaven either - but richer fuller life here and now. About forgiveness and fresh starts, because we all get things wrong sometimes, don't we? This Easter at your local churches we'll be celebrating Jesus' resurrection from the dead - and if you think that's just a story, why not come along and listen to our side? Some churches run special courses just for people like you to investigate further the claims Christians make about Jesus - why not put them to the test? In our neighbourhood there are a whole variety of churches - if you visit one and feel out of place, don't give up - try another, until you find one where you feel at ease with the style of the service.

The claims that Christians make about Jesus are too important to ignore just

because you have preconceived ideas about church! You'll find a list of Easter services in the Independent - Have a look at it - and then call in - we'll be pleased to see you and I hope you'll be pleased you came.

Rev. John Thompson.

HYMN

THE MIRACLE OF LOVE. Tune Mickley Lane
(SEC) (DSM) (D major)

1. This is the miracle,
The miracle of love
That Christ our Lord came down to earth,
Our Lord who reigns above;
He left His heavenly home
For Bethlem's stable bare,
He came to show the way of love,
To teach us how to care.

2. This is the miracle,
Salvation is for all.
For no one is beyond the love,
Of Christ who all does call;
He shows the way to live,
The way of service free,
For all who lose their life in Him
Will know His victory.

3. This is the miracle
Of Calvary's darkest hour,
When Christ did give Himself for us
And broke all Satan's power;
He broke the pain of death,
He rose up from the grave,
And now He reigns in heaven above,
And seeks all folk to save.

4. This is the miracle
That Christ will come again,
In glory and in majesty
Then Christ will fully reign;
Then every knee will bow,
And all confess He's Lord
So let's sing praise to Christ our King
For evermore adored.

S.E.Chandler (Sheffield) 12.12.97

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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN S17. EASTER SERVICES

The following are details of Easter Services in our local churches. All the Totley Churches are joining together in an Act of Worship on the Wednesday in Holy Week (APRIL 8th.) at 8.00p.m. at the U.R.C. in Totley Brook Road. In addition there will be a joint service of Tenebrae on Good Friday (April 10th.) at 8.00p.m. at St. John's Church, Abbeydale.

DORE METHODISTS.

April 10th. Good Friday 10.30 am. Morning Service.

April 12th. Easter Day 10.30a.m. Morning Service.

TOTLEY RISE METHODISTS.

April 9th. Maundy Thursday 8.00 pm. Combined Service.

April 10th Good Friday 9.30a.m. Combined Service at U.R.C.

April 12th. Easter Day
9.15 am. Holy Communion
10.30 am. Easter Morning with the Choir

6.30 pm. Easter Praise

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH, TOTLEY BROOK ROAD

April 9th. Maundy Thursday 8.00 pm. Combined Service at Totley Rise.

April 10th Good Friday 9.30a.m. Combined Service.

April 12th. Easter Day
10.30 am. Communion
6.30 pm. Communion.

DORE & TOTLEY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

April 12th. Easter Day 11.00a.m. Easter Celebration at Dore Parish Hall.

PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST. THOMAS

April 9th. Maundy Thursday 8.00 pm. at Meadowhead. Maundy Mass

April 10th. Good Friday 3.00 pm. at Meadowhead.

April 11th. Holy Saturday. 8.30 pm. at Meadowhead Vigil Mass.

April 12th. Easter Day

8.00 am. Mass at English Martyrs'.

9.15 am. Mass at Meadowhead

11.15 am. Mass at Meadowhead

CHRIST CHURCH, DORE

April 9th. Maundy Thursday

10.30 am. Holy Communion

7.15 pm. Holy Communion

April 10th. Good Friday,

10.00 am. Family Service.

2.00 pm. Final Hour - Devotion of the Cross.

7.30 pm. Choral Passion Service.

April 12th. Easter Day

8.00 am. Holy Communion.

9.30 am. Family Communion.

11.00 am. Holy Communion.

5.30 pm. Evensong & Holy Communion.

ST JOHN'S ABBEYDALE

April 9th. Maundy Thursday

7.00 pm. Holy Communion.

April 10th Good Friday

2.00 pm. Devotional Hour by the Cross.

8.00 pm. Joint Service of Tenebrae

April 12th. Easter Day

8.00 am. Holy Communion.

9.30 am. Parish Communion.

6.30 pm. Evensong.

ALL SAINTS' TOTLEY.

April 9th. Maundy Thursday

8.00 pm. Holy Communion.

April 10th. Good Friday

10.00 am. Children's Service.

12-3.00 pm. Three Hours Devotion.

April 12th. Easter Day

8.00 am. Holy Communion.

10.00 am. Easter Praise with Holy

Communion,

6.30 pm. Evening Prayer.

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RESCUE AT SEA

During the summer of 1936 I took my first week's holiday after starting work. In company with my best friend and cousin Roy. We planned a cycle ride to the south west coast around Lyme Regis. By train to London we joined forces with another cousin, Desmond, who lived at Harrow on the Hill, where we stayed the night before the three of us peddled our route to adventure. The only impression of London was the amazing number of Lyons Corner Houses and the cinema showing the current feature film up in lights of "High, Wide and Handsome" starring Randolph Scott and Irene Dunne. Complete with panniers full of sleeping bags, food, primus stoves and wanderlust tent our thoughts were only for the open road. We cycled through Uxbridge, Windsor, Reading to the village of Aldermaston where we camped the first night close to the Roman road and the river Kennet. Second day through the town of Andover across Salisbury Plain where we pitched our tent on the slopes of Odstock Down to the south of Salisbury. Third day a steady ride through the town of Dorchester and final destination the lovely coastline around Lyme Regis, here we camped just outside the town. Fourth day to plan our day at the seaside. The weather was perfect and so we strolled down to the beach and the quaint quayside known as the Cobb, where a local old sea salt character offered his rowing boats and fishing tackle to hire for a trip out into the bay. He said the weather was set fair and we would be O.K. in the Lyme Bay. He showed us his gnarled hands and his secret formula for avoiding blisters was the crude method of weeing on his hands. He assured us we would be safe to row out into the bay, so we took it in turn to row and hang out the fishing lines. For the first half hour things were calm and we were about 1 mile out from the shore. We noticed many yachts also in the bay. Then suddenly without warning an off shore wind sprang up and we started to drift out to sea. We rowed frantically but still drifted away. Panic was really setting in as the shoreline got fainter. We saw several launches racing out to rescue yachts in distress. We really thought our number was up and were soaked to the skin with the spray. About 75 yards away a red sailed yacht suddenly capsized throwing the 3 occupants and belongings into the sea. We rowed like mad to their aid. They had no life jackets, the crew were two ladies around 40 years of age, we pulled them in first. The third member was an elderly gent who was suffering from cramp and we had a difficult task getting him into our boat. What a situation now 6 of us drifting still further out to sea and keeping our line into the waves was no easy task. It seemed an eternity before another launch was seen heading directly for the sinking yacht. I waved my cycle cape and shouted to attract their attention. But they still headed straight for the yacht which was now sinking fast. Fortunately the skipper realized we had the 3 in our boat and came to our aid. What a relief to be pulled aboard to safety! They tied our rowing boat and at last we sailed back to the harbour. En route I finally suffered from sea sickness. A crowd had gathered back at the quayside Cobb to greet us as heroes. All I wanted to do was crawl back to the tent to recover from the ordeal. It

appeared that the owner of red sailed yacht was a local V.I.P., a certain Lady Dunne. She thanked us for the rescue later sending us a letter and gift in gratitude.

The old sea salt who hired the rowing boats said he had seen us in difficulty through his binoculars and had raised the alarm. But another twist to the story was that the launch was only sent to rescue the yacht. It appeared as head line news in the local papers. A lesson the hard way for us. Maybe Lyme Bay is a dangerous area for sailing. Only a few years ago was the grim tragedy of the young canoeists being drowned. Lack of supervision by the organisers, taking the blame. It appeared we had drifted about 7 miles out at sea, for it took the launch almost half an hour to sail back to harbour.

That same afternoon we packed up camp and started the return cycle ride back towards London. The night's lodgings this time the luxury of the Transport cafe in Poole. We had to sleep 3 in a bed and looked after with a lorry driver's breakfast fit for a king. The lady charged us only 2/6d each for the overnight stay. Fifth day back in the saddle and through the lovely countryside around Ringwood and the New Forest, campsite near to the village of Abbotswood. Sixth day a long ride, Winchester, Basingstoke, Camberley, Egham, Richmond, Ealing, Wembley and finally Harrow on the Hill. What an adventure. Luckily no punctures. Back to work on the Monday seemed easy after that hectic holiday. The sad end to the story. My cousin Roy, who had been to College to train as a Mining Engineer joined the Army in 1940, was commissioned to Lieutenant and was killed at Arnhem. I lost complete touch with Desmond, he went to live in South Africa.

Maybe one day I will return to Lyme Regis and relive that adventure.

John Barrows.

MR. S. E. FORDHAM

As many of you must be aware, Stuart Fordham, our local Optician, has been in hospital for the last ten months. Just to set the record straight, he has not suffered a stroke, a heart attack, a mental illness and has certainly not died - (that rumour surfaced two weeks ago!!). He was unfortunate enough to be struck by a very rare Syndrome called "Guillain Barre" caused by your own anti-bodies attacking your peripheral nervous system and causing total paralysis. Only nature can cure it, regenerating the nerve endings which takes a very long time.

I am happy to say that is happening very speedily now and the Neurology Rehabilitation Unit at the Hallamshire Hospital are working towards allowing him out of hospital in the near future. He will then gain strength to return to the Business and take over the reins once more. He is extremely cheerful and grateful to all the many people who have sent him good wishes. In the meantime, the Opticians is still in perfect working order with Mr A. Whiteley testing your eyes as usual and we look forward to you next visit!

Kate Reynolds, Receptionist.

LEAD - KINDLY LIGHT

by Alan Faulkner Taylor.

When the Peak District lead miner moved cautiously along the narrow tunnel on hands and knees at the start of a day's stint he would have been guided by the light of his tallow candle. When he reached the end his first task would have been to stick the candle to a tiny ledge on the tunnel wall. This would be his only comfort for the day - as he wielded his pick - whilst on his knees, possibly in several inches of cold water. His only protection would have been leather knee-caps and his Bradder:- the leather helmet made in Bradwell. He was referred to by his family as T'Owd Man.

He may have been a part-time miner, part-time farmer - helped by his wife and children. He was obligated to extract a minimum weight of satisfactory ore annually. If he failed to meet his quota he would be evicted from his farm. Woe betide him if he were stricken down by disease.

Other miners worked for large companies - for instance a hundred or more were employed at Mill Close Mine near Winster until it finally closed in 1939. The mine's demise resulted from flooding of the workings in 1938 caused by a shot-firing that accidentally broke the wall of an underground lake. This occurred two miles from the shaft, almost 900 feet below the level of the river Derwent.

Water was ever a problem in the mines and had to be pumped out continuously as soon as the levels got below the water table. At Mill Close Mine a Cornish engine called 'Baby' with a 50in. diameter cylinder was installed. This proved insufficient to control the water so 15 years later the monster 'Jumbo' was added, with an 80 in. cylinder. In 1889 a third engine was added 'Alice' with a 60 in. cylinder. Mill Close was the largest mine in Britain, possibly even the World between 1861 and 1936 producing 1/2 million tons of ore. The site is well worth a visit because the superbly built engine house still stands.

Lead had been mined since the time of the Roman occupation, one mine was at Bradwell, using convicts to do the hard grind under ground. People who live in Hope say that the folk who live in Bradwell are descended from convicts! Just look around when you're in Bradwell next and count the dark-haired, swarthy people you see!

Lead miners were a superstitious lot. On no account would they touch the ore with their picks, they believed that ill-luck would dog the mine should a nugget of lead be broken. One immense nugget was recorded in Swaledale in the Yorkshire Dales measuring 5ft. across. It was a sin to whistle because this might make the ore vanish!

The most spectacular entrance to any mine is that of Odin Mine near Castleton. Carry on through Castleton on the Mam Tor road until you can go no further. Park the car just before the turning circle. Climb over the stile on your left and the mine entrance is in front of you. But under no circumstances allow your children to scramble inside the cave which is at the end of the deep



cleft. The old workings have been explored by experienced cavers and found to penetrate 1/2 mile to finish underneath the Mam Tor car park. Back to your car, then climb over the stile in the wall opposite. Here you will find a large ring of iron set into the ground and a large round wheel of solid gritstone with its iron rim alongside. This was a horse mill - used for crushing the chunks of rock which contained the nuggets of galena (lead ore). Women would roll the rocks onto the iron ring and sweep out the crushed particles, then separate the nuggets from the useless spoil.

While in Castleton walk into Cave Dale, its access is between the cottages on the east side of the village green. About 15 yards into the dale look at the rock faces to your left. On either side of a vertical cleft you will see holes bored into the limestone. These were exploratory drillings to try to find lead. Alongside the cleft you will notice rock of a different colour and texture from the surrounding limestone. This is calcite and miners would follow a vein of the mineral because it was within calcite they would hope to find galena embedded - they are shiny grey in colour. Unfortunately for the miners, they found equally tiny nuggets so they abandoned their search here. There are similar borings in the rock on the opposite side of the dale, but again no significant quantity was found there.

When a vein was found this would be exploited until the galena petered out. A vein that could be chopped out from the surface was called a rake; the most spectacular of these is Dirlow Rake which starts in Pindale, between Castleton and the cement works. It is still possible to see the dark marks in the limestone surface made by gunpowder.

The Mining Museum in Matlock Bath is well worth a visit. Here you will see actual equipment used, from helmets and picks up to the pumps used to extract water from the workings. Your kids will be able to climb up a ladder within a narrow shaft and experience what life was like in those hard times.

Description of transportation of the ore and lead smelting in Hope Valley, Totley and Dore will follow in a later issue.

FARMING SCENE

Our early lambers have nearly finished lambing now and have given us the excellent results of two lambs reared per ewe. We have had 4 lots of triplets, some of which are being bottled fed as their mums cannot cope to feed all of them. Hopefully these early ones will be turned out shortly so that our "main" flock can be housed, ready to start lambing on March 22nd. Many of these are "first timers" and will initially be unhappy with their lack of freedom, but will soon quieten down and relax in the comfort of their new environment. They could prove to be unco-operative patients at lambing, being hard to catch and handle as well as ignoring and rejecting their lambs. The fact that they have not yet reached their full mature size can lead to lambing difficulties, particularly when a large single lamb is badly presented or is impeded by a small cervical cavity. Where it is proves impossible to lamb the ewe naturally, a caesarean operation can be used to save both ewe and lamb. This is an expensive option that could not be justified on economic grounds but no caring farmer would preclude using this option because of this. Anyone wishing to bring their children to see the lambs is welcome to do so. The two weeks beginning March 30th would seem to be the period when we shall have the most lambs inside. We would ask you to avoid Sunday visits, our day-off, and if wishing to bring a group please ring first to arrange a guided tour!

This is the time of year when we, like most farmers, draw up a budget for the next 12 months to estimate our costs and returns. You will no doubt have heard how farmers incomes have been severely reduced lately, 40-60% being the figures quoted. With this in mind I looked through some old budgets and valuations and came up with these results:- (Ex. farm wholesale).

VALUES	1988	1998
Fat lambs	£38.16	£40.00
Wool (per ewe)	£ 3.00	£ 3.00
Hay (per bale)	£ 1.50	£ 1.25
Fat pigs(per kg.)	0.925p	0.90
Cull ewes(each)	£25.00	£25.00
Potatoes (per tonne)	£85.00	£73.00
Wheat " " "	£100.00	£105.00
		(inc. Subsidy)
Barley " "	£95.00	£101.00
Oil Seed Rape "	£300.00	£270.00
Eggs (per dozen)	78p(etail)	£ 1.15
Fresh Turkeys(per lb.)	£1.15	£ 1.40
Retail Price Index	100	159

The 50% plus inflation rate over this period, plus the almost static ex farm prices, clearly show why farmers are feeling economically challenged at the moment.
Edwin Pocock

115th. DORE & TOTLEY SCOUT GROUP

There will be a
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ADMISSION 25P.

Our collectors will be calling for any jumble you would like to donate on the evenings of Thursday 2nd. April & Friday 3rd. April. If you would like any items collected at another time, please phone 236 4036.

THE AMERICAN OSCARS

Jane Labonte (nee Coldwell) is a local girl born and bred in Totley, she attended Totley Infants and Juniors and King Egbert schools. Jane has lived in Los Angeles since the mid 1980's because as a qualified nurse she obtained a job through an agency looking after young children and babies.

Through this she looked after well known actors and actresses children. This then brought her in to contact with the film industry. As Jane has always loved films she decided to learn to type and use a computer and as a result of her learning these skills, she went to work in the industry as a PR person.

Work followed with agencies until last year when Jane succeeded in qualifying for a job working for the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences as one of four publicists for the Academy Awards. If you happen to have watched the television during the run up to the Oscars or the Awards Ceremony you will have heard and seen some of her work televised by GMTV and BBC. When Jane meets people and is asked where she comes from, she replies "Sheffield." The enquirer then always says "Oh yes, steel and cutlery," then light dawns "Oh the Full Monty" and Jane replies "Yes". This city is now well and truly on the map.

How do I know all this, I'm her Mum, Margaret Coldwell.

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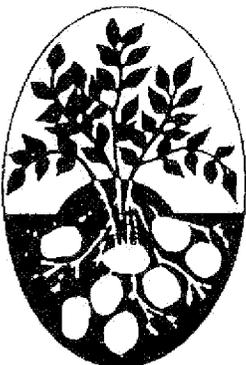
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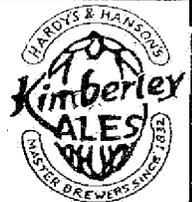
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TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

MONDAYS COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10-00am. - noon
TUESDAYS COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10-00am. - noon
 CRAFT GROUP Totley Library. 2-00 pm.
WEDNESDAYS LADIES EXERCISE TO MUSIC. All levels, United Reformed Church, 10.15 - 11.45am
 COFFEE in the LIBRARY 10-00 am. to 11-30.
 MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING, All Saints Church Hall, 8.00 pm to 10.30pm.
 AMERICAN LINE DANCING, (Beginners) United Reformed Church, 7-30 to 9-30 pm.
 Tel. 236 8572 for further information.
THURSDAYS OPEN DOOR, United Reformed Church, 10-00 am. - noon
 PUSHCHAIR CLUB, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 1-30 to 3-00 Telephone
 2363157 for further information
 AMERICAN LINE DANCING, (Beginners) United Reformed Church, 1-00 to 3-00 pm.
 Tel. 236 8572 for further information.
SATURDAYS MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING, All Saints Church Hall, 7.30 pm to 10.00pm.
 Second and fourth of each month.

APRIL

WED. 1st. MUSIC & READINGS for EASTER Led by Dr. Marion Jepson. 8pm. Totley Rise
 Methodist Church. All welcome.
FRI. 3rd. TOTLEY EVENING GUILD A TALK ON BRITISH RED CROSS, St. John's Church, Guild
 Room. 7-30 pm.
SAT. 4th. JUMBLE SALE URC. Church hall, Totley Brook Rd. 11 am. Details inside.
SUN. 12th. STEAM TRAIN RIDES 2pm. to 5pm. Ecclesall Woods, Abbeydale Road South.
FRI./SAT. 17th. & 18th. DORE ART GROUP EXHIBITION The Old School Dore, Details inside.
TUES 21st. TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED. RETURN SPEAKER
 Mrs. JULIE McDONALD. 11am. 4, GROVE ROAD TOTLEY.
FRI./SAT. 24th. & 25th. RAGS & RAZZMATAZZ. 7-30 pm. St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale
 Road. Details inside.
SUN. 26th. STEAM TRAIN RIDES 2pm. to 5pm. Ecclesall Woods, Abbeydale Road South.
MON. 27th. TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Totley Library 7-30pm
 ALL WELCOME.

MAY

FRI./SAT 1st. 2nd. CONCERT by the JOHN WADE SINGERS 7-30 pm. St. John's Church.
 Abbeydale, Full details inside.
FRI. 1st. TOTLEY EVENING GUILD MEET AT THE FLEUR DE LYS 7-00pm. for a MEAL.
FRI. 1st. COFFEE MORNING TRANSPORT 17 10am. to Noon,
 Totley Library.

FULL DETAILS INSIDE OF ALL LOCAL CHURCHES EASTER SERVICES

THE INDEPENDENT FOR MAY

The NEXT issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **SATURDAY 2nd. MAY** Copy date for this issue, will be **WEDNESDAY 15th. APRIL 1998.**

EDITORS Les & Dorothy Firth, 6, Milldale Rd., Tel. No. 236 4190

DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISING John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, Tel. No. 236 1601

TYPING Eileen Ogley, 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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