

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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MAY 2000

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Totley Hall Lane,

The above photograph is of The Totley Hall Lane junction which in the near future could be altered slightly for traffic calming measures. On the left of the picture is Totley Post Office which has not altered much over the years since this picture was taken, around the early 1940s, when it was kept by the Perkintons who ran it for about 38 years, it has since changed hands about 4 times. On the right is the Fleur De Lys which was built around 1933 and run by the Greens for many years. Also on the right just inside the farmyard is a signpost with the words "139 miles to Llandrindod Wells," why this should be there nobody knows, or do they?

## TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION A.G.M. 17. 4. 2000

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting Of Totley Residents Association was held in the Library. Chairwoman, Pauline Perkinton welcomed over 60 people to the meeting and gave her report for 1999. Various events and issues were highlighted such as, the work done on various footpaths and roads in the district, the developments in Green Oak Park, planning developments, the Totley Show and our new link with Chris Dale, South West Area Officer. Mike Williamson then outlined to the meeting the role of TRA and the Millennium Charter that re-enforces the Constitution of the Association. He also explained the role of the Committee, which is made up of twelve people who work hard on behalf of the community. He also explained that there were times when we may need to draw upon the services of others in the community when a specialist is required or for extra help on a sub-committee.

Peter Jones from Leisure Services, who has responsibility for the Parks in Sheffield attended the meeting and outlined the Park Scene Project that is running in other parts of the City and suggested that anyone interested in Green Oak Park and its future development may like to become involved in a group for Totley. He also spoke about the sports field on Totley Hall Lane and the discussions that are going to take place shortly about its future, including the possible renaming. Plans for the sports field will be discussed at a Public Meeting.

Two police officers also attended and were able to pass on the news that our new Community Constable will be Rebecca Hunt - Brown and she should be seen around the district shortly.

There was also time for other issues to be discussed; the recurring questions about a community centre and youth in Totley plus planning concerns at Totley Rise and the plans for the Abbeydale Road corridor.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2000/2001

**CHAIR** Pauline Perkinton, **DEPUTY** Mike Williamson **TREASURER** Maurice Snowdon  
**SECRETARY** Amanda Hardwick All the above accepted the positions and were duly elected unopposed.

### ELECTION OF COMMITTEE 2000/2001 (Committee maximum 12)

Duncan Froggatt, Delya Bond, Edwin Pocock, Kevin Walker, Avril Critchley, Janet Chapman, Les Firth, John Perkinton, Brian Hodges, Ros Stokes, Carol Pugsley

Thanks were expressed to all those attending the meeting and the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

## SOUTH WEST AREA PANEL MEETING - MONDAY 10TH APRIL

Over 60 residents attended the meeting at Totley County School to discuss the proposals for the junction of Totley Hall Lane and Baslow Road and Stocks Green Drive and Totley Hall Lane. Trevor Halliday from Highways Design section explained the proposals. Councillor Colin Ross chaired the meeting, and Chris Dale the South West Area Co-ordinator was in attendance.

It is proposed that traffic calming measures should also be introduced into the scheme these being at present:- a red strip with 30 mph on the Baslow Road approach to Lane Head junction - a further strip with a school sign on the road approach to Hillfoot junction - another strip with school sign above Main Avenue junction. The TRA have been pressing for some time for traffic calming on the approach to Totley, a safe crossing area near the junction of Totley Hall Lane. [pelican, zebra, or central refuge], speed cameras, and better signage along Baslow Road. This was discussed and asked to be considered at the meeting.

There were concerns about proposed yellow lines around Totley Post Office affecting the business and proposals were made that there could perhaps be designated parking places for customers.

There was discussion around the proposed widening of Totley Hall Lane and the new footpath by the new cottages to try to avoid taking down the trees there, but if this is not possible three new ones will be planted.

A shell grip surface on the exit from Stocks Green Drive was asked for so that vehicles do not slide into Totley Hall Lane in icy weather. The proposed kerb modification at the top of Stocks Green Drive by the farm track and stile was asked to be looked at to make sure that no slurry would overflow from the track onto the road.

A question was raised as to whether the new development at Summer Lane had been taken into account, with the answer being no. It was proposed that this should be taken into account because of the effect this may have on the vision of vehicles and pedestrians exiting Hillfoot Road and also on any proposed signage.

Everyone agreed that the new proposed lighting for Totley Hall Lane looked good and in keeping with the conservation area!

The results of the consultation will be publicised via TRA in the library, notice boards, and Totley Independent.

There was a plea for motorists to be aware of dropped kerbs and not to park against these so blocking the way for wheelchair users and buggies.

Pauline Perkinson

### COMMUNITY SKIP

The date of the next community skip will be Thursday, 25th May, on Totley Library car park between 7.30am and 12 noon. Please do not over fill the skip.

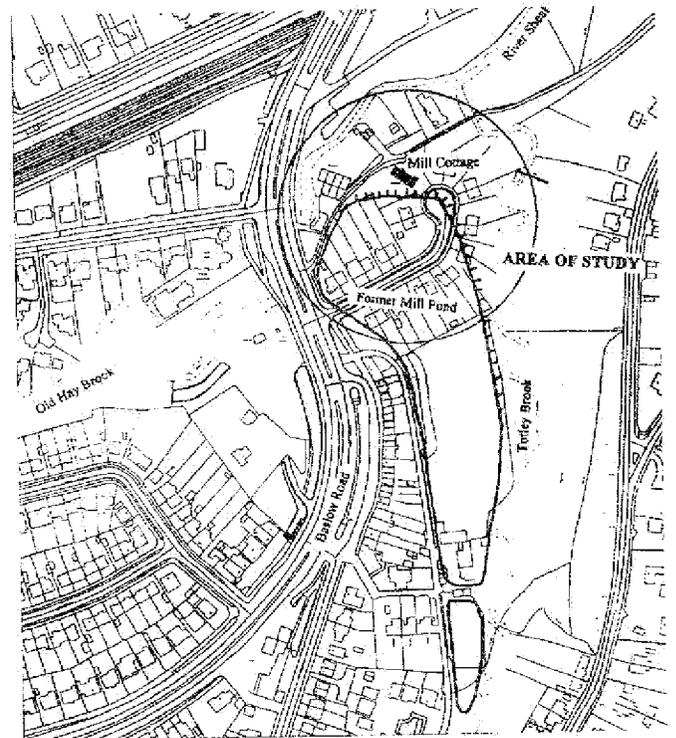
## INTERNATIONAL CROCHET COMPETITION

At the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham an International Crochet competition took place with entries from as far as Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A, Canada, Trinidad and Eire as well as all of the United Kingdom.

Mary B Marsh was persuaded to enter one of the categories and was highly delighted to find she had won a second place. Her prize was the latest book on Crochet Patterns from America.

## TOTLEY SOIL SURVEY

A report was recently received at the Environment and Regulatory Services of the Sheffield City Council, of the results of a ground investigation study, which was undertaken at Totley Brook. The results of this investigation have shown that the subsoil (0.5- 1 m) in some gardens on Mill Lane contains a concentration of lead higher than would normally be expected. A historical survey has confirmed that there was a lead smelting and fabrication works in this area in the 17th and 18th centuries.



This survey was undertaken in preparation for drainage improvements proposed by Yorkshire Water and involved the taking of soil samples at depths of over half a metre from the ground surface. The sampling in this instance was conducted for civil engineering and construction purposes.

In view of the levels of lead found in some of the soil samples taken, this Service is seeking the co-operation of residents in an investigation of topsoil in local gardens within the area shown on the attached plan. The purpose of this survey is to establish whether lead is present in the top 30cm (1ft) of soil at concentrations which may give rise to concern. A walkover survey will first be carried out to help identify suitable locations for soil sampling by visual inspection. Soil sampling will then be undertaken by hand digging to depths of up to 30 cms and every effort will be made not to disturb plants. Local residents have been asked for their co-operation in providing officers access to their gardens if and when required.

The walkover survey was planned to be immediately after the Easter Holiday and sampling to take place during the week commencing 8th May 2000. Local residents will then be notified of the results of the soil analysis in due course. Circumstances may require some amendment to this schedule.

Please do not hesitate to contact Louise Thomas, Philip Whitaker, Steve Simmons on 2734651 if you would like to discuss this matter further at any stage of our investigation.

## RAVENS

By Alan Faulkner Taylor

A few days after the unexpected fall of snow early in April, my walking friend and I parked the car in the car park just before the Surprise View. Having paid our 50p into the "pay and display" meter which, unfortunately for me, happened to be working correctly at the time, we firstly trudged up to the rock called "Mother Cap". If the rock had been named fifty years ago, most assuredly it would have been called "Andy Cap"! But it's too late to change the name now!

The sun was brilliant! So was the snow! Of course there were only a few patches of snow remaining after the thaw, but these were some ten inches deep in parts.

Everything - snow and ground alike, was frozen. When we reached the top of the ridge, amongst the immense cluster of boulders called "Over Owler Tor" (my friend being born a Lancastrian, pronounces "Owler" as "Owler", as in "owl - the bird"! No Sheffield Wednesday fan would ever mispronounce "Upper Owler Tor" incorrectly. Or would they?)

The view from the tor, up to the far end of the Hope Valley, was superb. The distant hills were covered with snow. The sky was blue. Win Hill stood out as a dark mass against the snow-covered plateau of distant Kinder Scout. (Lose Hill is always difficult to pick out from this altitude because its summit is below the level of Kinder.)

Once we had savoured the spectacular vista, we turned left and followed the path towards Millstone Edge, the spectacular sheer drop of rock that appears as a natural edge, situated on the left side of the Surprise rocks, as one approaches by car from Hathersage. From that viewpoint and that distance, Millstone Edge looks like any other edge, but in fact it is the working face of a disused quarry.

As we walked on the path, which follows the line of the top of Millstone Edge, the vista, from a photographer's point of view, was even better than that from Upper Owler Tor. The reason: sheer dark rock, on the right-hand side of the picture area, to act as a frame and a contrast to emphasise the brilliance of the distant snow. The "picture" was made even better by the outline of birch trees, silhouetted against snow, filling the lower third of the picture area.

For me, as a photographer, the morning had been superb.

We entered the car park through a gate on the side of the park nearest to the Surprise View. Here there was a notice requesting rock climbers not to climb on Millstone Edge because a pair of ravens had their nest on a ledge on one of the faces.

As with buzzards, ravens have been increasing steadily in the Peak District for a number of years.

But now I will go back just over thirty years. At that time I had been filming additional material for my movie film - "A Pennine Moor": my wife and I had climbed up to Alport Castles because I knew that ravens had nested successfully on

a ledge there during the previous year. However, on that second year, only one raven was in residence. The bird had built a new nest in a crevice, some ten yards away from the nest of the previous year. The solitary bird had been gliding along the ledge of the precipice called "The Castle", taking full advantage of the updraughts, when suddenly I heard the staccato "chee-chee-chee...." of a kestrel. The raven had

entered the territory of the kestrel and he, the kestrel, was going to do something about it! I was sitting with a 16mm cine camera, with a very long telephoto lens (400mm), on its tripod and at the ready - sitting on the immense bulk of rock called "The Tower", some eighty yards away from the action. The kestrel repeatedly dive-bombed the raven. My film sequence shows two attacking dives where the smaller bird actually causes the raven to flap its wings and stagger sideways. I have tried to convey something of the action in my painting. Note, however, that I have used artistic license to convey better the action and its environment. In actual



fact, the raven had been perched on a grassy ledge on the precipice, and not on the rock some one hundred yards away, as I have portrayed it. Looking at my painting, the bulk on the left is The Tower; the precipice in the background is The Castles.

Approximately three years ago (as I write), my walking friends and I climbed up to Alport Castles in order to find out just which species of bird had chosen The Castles for its nest on that particular year. Our approach had been up the very steep grassy slope out of Alport Dale, and as we had arrived at roughly the viewpoint of my painting, we were treated to a fabulous display of aerial jinks. A raven was mobbing a peregrine falcon.

We ranged our binoculars backwards and forwards across the ledges and crevices of The Castles to no avail! Yet it was obvious to us that the raven was the aggressor and that the peregrine was invading its territory.

On the following day two of us, we being the experienced ornithologists of our band of four walkers, returned to Alport Castles. As we sat in the hollow that emerges up from the space between The Tower and The Castles, partaking of our lunch, I noticed a movement of one of the ledges of The Tower. Through our binoculars we were able to count four very large young ravens in their nest - a nest just at the entrance of a large crevice.

On the previous day's visit I had never thought to examine The Tower because all the previous nests, either of raven or of peregrine, had always been on The Castles.

## CLAY AND BRICKS by Jo Rundle (Part 1)

The Tithe and Enclosure map of 1842 shows that there were at least five shafts on or near the site of the present Tolley brick works, all supplying clay for the old brick kiln further up the moor on Hollins Hill. One of these was started by my Great-Great-Grandfather, who had walked from Brampton

over Eastmoor looking for work and ending up on Tolley Moor. In 1819 he married Martha Greenwood, also of Brampton, probably at Holmesfield Church, although registered at Dronfield, the Mother Church at that time. My Great-Grandfather Joseph followed him, and according to the Census Records of 1881 he was 61 years old, lived in a cottage at the Brickyard with his wife Martha and daughter Isabella aged 21 and owned and managed the Clay-mine. This was confirmed by entries found in an old diary used by Joseph. (2) which I found and rescued from a box of toys. It contained much scribbling by my young daughter and her cousin Martyn to whom it had been given by my Mother for that purpose. but, fortunately, entries by Joseph are still quite clear and readable. I regret the loss of another document that my Mother and I found about 1963. It was just a scrap of scribbled paper, similar to some of the surveys I had seen my Father do when looking for ganister. We thought at the time that it had something to do with the brickworks and after some thought, it was sent to Dyson's Refractories, who now own the brickworks, finding out too late that it was in fact, Joseph's (l) original survey of the clay mine, showing the position of the opening in the hillside, and proposed direction of the workings. I contacted Dyson's Refractories some years later, but was told that they do not have any archives, or records of the origin of the brickyard. So, what happened to the paper that we sent is not known.

The diary is interesting, though a little confusing. It contains the names of about twentythree men who appear to have worked shifts of eight men in 1885, (Although the diary itself is 1877). Amongst the names were Joseph's son Joseph aged 38 and his Grandson Richard aged 11. His sons Elijah aged 35, Ben 33, Edward Abraham 27, also his Brother Samuel aged 57, his son Joseph aged 18, and Ned Salt. I am not sure who the last named was; Ned could be another name for Edward, except that on one page, the names E. Salt, E.A. Salt, and Ned Salt, appear on one shift, which leads to the notion that Ned was indeed, another man, whatever his origin. Actually, the diary appears to have been more an account book than a diary, for most of the entries allude to costs of the mine and the house, as well as entries for purchases of beer, ale, porter and groceries, and re-sales to the men, along with rents collected, whether on Joseph's behalf, or for absent landlords.

Joseph was a well known herbalist; and one of the entries that reflects this interest reads

Parsley Pert (His spelling) 1 oz.

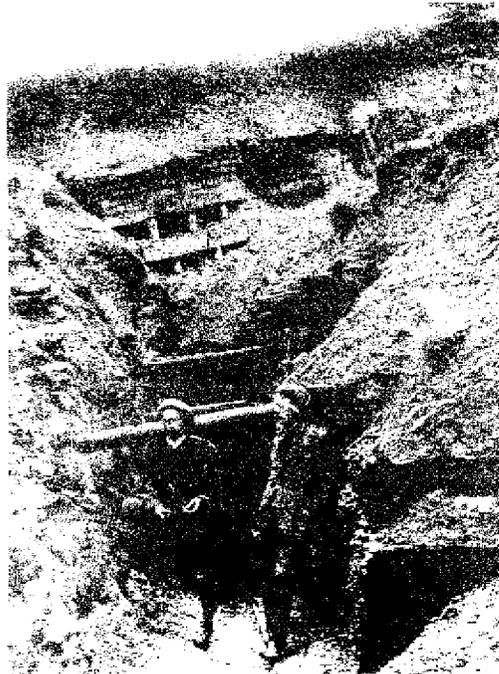
Wild carrot 1 oz

Pellitory of the Wall 1 oz

Wood Rough 1 oz However, it doesn't say what it was used for.

His son, Edward Abraham (Our Grandfather), must have

inherited the interest, for, over the years he had produced his own Pharmacopoeia in which he recorded all the herbs he collected, where he obtained them, and their uses. The journal the size of a family Bible was sold by auction in 1911 for £200, the price of a house at that time. Our Father obviously absorbed some of the information, for we were brought up on herbs, but more of that another time.



*My father, left, and an Inspector of Mines at the entrance to the Strawberry Lea Mine in 1921.*

In Tolley there lived a tramp called 'Black Jack' (not the night watchman at the brickyard in the twenties called 'Black Jack'). The tramp lived rough roaming the streets and moors and was a valuable source of information on a variety of country subjects. There was a herb that eluded Edward Abraham, called 'Parsley Piert' (see above), a small herb approx. 3" to 5" high, with small palmate leaves and greenish flowers growing in tufts in the axils of the stems. It is a stringent usually used as a demulcent, (A drug that is said to sooth and protect the alimentary canal.... the gullet!). It was used in cases of kidney and bladder complaints such as Gravel, a disease in which crystals form in the kidneys and gall-bladder, and as a diuretic for water retention. The plant has nothing to do with parsley used in

cooking; its name comes from the French 'Perce pierre' (Stone piercer), given to it because of its habit of growing amongst stones, hence its uses, for many old remedies are based on the appearance or habit of the plant. Culpepper tells us that the herb can be used in salads, but I doubt that this was our Grandfather's use of it! According to Gerard, "Our herb woman in Cheapside knew it by the name of 'Parsley Breakstone'. There was only one place in the locality where Parsley Piert grew, known only to 'Black Jack', and he wasn't prepared to tell, not even to our Grandfather. Whenever the herb was required he asked 'Black Jack' to fetch it for him, and he always obliged, probably for a small handout' Granma disclosed many years later that the site was on the moors above the Brickyard, I wonder if it still grows there?

The standard wage for the miners appears to have been five shillings a day for setting wood (Pit props), for most of the entries are for such payments. Here are a few.

R Bull and H Jepson 2 days for seting wood in clay level.

Elijah Salt and Tom Turner 2 days for seting wood in clay level 10s.0d

Other couples were Elijah Salt and Fred Tucker, Ben Salt and J Jebson, Dick Salt and Fred Tucker, Elijah Salt and K Margerrison, and Elijah Salt and H Booker.

Other jobs earned less, as,

Allowance to Dick Salt and Elijah Salt for shifting and seting wood 6s.0d

To Ben Salt for sinking a pit on the ? for the new clay.

Allowance for going throu fault to Dick Salt

Allowance to Jebson and Ned Salt for fault

It appears that Dick Salt usually had the job of crossing the fault for there are one or two entries for 10s.0d for doing so. As he was only 11 yrs. old he was probably the smallest

and most nimble, or of course, it could have been because he was the most dispensable! Three men earned less for the same job as. Allowance for crossing the fault to Tom Durely and Fred Tucker and F Salt £1 4s 0d Some jobs were worth very little as, Joseph Salt, N Salt, and Jebson for sciling and piling up Shifes at Gate Way 6s 0d

From the following entries it would appear that Joseph owned property at Apperknowle, the Pewitt, and a house on Holmesfield Common. (The end cottage in the group of three at the top of Horsleygate Lane) where Ben, and in 1911, my Father and Grandmother lived before moving to Cherrytree Cottage, from where he was married in 1913).

On February 9<sup>th</sup>. 1879, Ben Salt in Court for rent of a house with Jos. Salt at Apperknowle ( The house where my Father was born in 1886)

February 8 1879, Ben salt paid £1 0s 0d. On August 21<sup>st</sup>. Tom Fowler paid Rent 5 weeks. 10s Samuel Salt lived at Pewitt Hall at the time, when Joseph's son Elijah lived in the cottage next door. Tom Fowler lived next door to Ben Samuel's son in the cottages on Holmesfield Common.

This is followed by a list of rents owing from 23<sup>rd</sup>. Feb to Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. when they had gone up from 2s a week to 2s 6d.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Joseph Salt Received for Rent money of Ruben Pindly £1 0s 0d

On December 27<sup>th</sup>. paid 10s 0

Two entries for beer read

On August 4". 1885 to Brampton Brewery  
Dear Sir

Please send to me

1 18 of Beer XXX and 1 12 of Porter  
today from your obedient servant

Joseph Salt

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1885 this was sold to the workers at 3d per pint 20 names shown.

An interesting entry regarding the price of gold!

On October 26<sup>th</sup>. 1885

Number of Geneva wach 30 955

Verge wach Number 288

On April 20". 1878

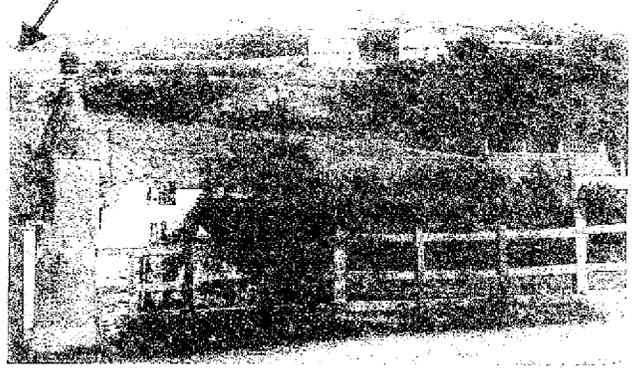
All spellings are as in the diary.

On August 19". 1886 Gold Geneva Watch and Guard

Number 21329 £2.0s.0d

The last entry in Joseph's diary in 1886 reads Received from Chadwick £1. For clay' The brickworks on the moor known as Hollin's Hill were owned in 1886/7 by Mr. Chadwick and his partner Mr. Barker. Mr. Chadwick lived at Cherrytree Cottage on Moorwood Lane, still called 'Chadwick's Cottage' by my Father in the twenties. When the cherry tree was planted that prompted the change of name is in the annals of history.

**BRADWAY BANK FROM ABBEYDALE ROAD** Our front page picture in the last issue has been identified as being



taken around 1909 by Mr. & Mrs. Lashmar.

It is believed that the arrow shows 1 Prospect Place and above that the other houses were built around 1910 and 1911.

The house in the centre (with one directly behind) was built around 1906 - 1907 and the one on the right (double bay) was built 1891/93.

**TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP  
FOR THE  
VISUALLY IMPAIRED.**

The dates for our 2000 meetings are;

May, Wednesday 24th.

June, Thursday 22nd.

July, Tuesday 25th.

August, no meeting.

September, Thursday 21 St.

October, Tuesday 24th.

November, Wednesday 22nd.

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 11a.m. at  
4, GROVE ROAD, TOTLEY

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# PLANNING FOR CHILDREN IN TOTLEY AND DORE

## THE EARLY YEARS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

### SHEFFIELD CHILDREN FIRST

The Government National Childcare Strategy requires every local authority to set up an Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership to help develop and co-ordinate local services for young children and their families.

Sheffield was amongst the first Local Authorities to set up such a partnership, and has taken the name *Sheffield Children First* in order to reflect its commitment to children's rights.

A wide range of interests is represented on the Partnership including the local authority, early education and childcare providers, parents, employers and other interested organisations.

*Sheffield Children First aims:*

- To provide good quality, free early year's education places for all three year and four year olds.
- To provide good quality affordable childcare for children aged 0 -14 in every neighbourhood.
- To improve services available to families, including learning support and a range of other provision.

In March 1999, Sheffield appointed a team of Area Planning Co-ordinators, to help implement the Early Year's Childcare Development Partnership Plan. Each co-ordinator has responsibility for specific areas of the city. The main aim of the team is help ensure effective partnership working in order to identify an area's needs, supporting appropriate developments. By planning services on an area basis within citywide strategy help ensure services are integrated, localised, inclusive and accessible.

This term, the area planning team is concentrating on developing Parent Forums with a view to listening to and sharing ideas for the development of services area by area. The Area Planning Co-ordinators will endeavour to make contact with as many families as possible. This may be via your local playgroups, parent and toddler groups, school, or via other methods such as family fun days or road shows.

If you would like to become involved in local parent forums to ensure you have a say in the development of services for children and young people in your area, please contact Maureen Hemingway, the Co-ordinator with responsibility for Dore and Totley. Maureen can be contacted by telephoning 2881493. Alternatively if you would like to know the name and contact number for any of the other 5 Area Planning Co-ordinators, please telephone Sheffield

281 2339 and ask for the name of the person responsible for your area. **Maureen Hemingway**

### Whisperer.

**Lowfield Site.** The show house is now open on the site, the new houses are going up rather quickly and the development is beginning to take shape. It is understood a number of the new houses are already sold.

**Sports Field.** As soon as the football season has finished the builders are to put in a large diameter drain across the field to divert surplus water during heavy rain.

**Sheffield Boundary.** At last a new sign has been put up near the brickworks which says City of Sheffield Totley, the previous one got knocked down about two years ago.

**Main Avenue.** New Street lights have been put up which give a much better light. Disabled ramps have been created at junctions, and now the footpaths are being re-surfaced.

**Liberty Farm Shop.** The new shop at the top of Main Avenue seems to have taken off and doing a good trade. It is a butchers and also sells Roses bread, and excellent partly cooked chilled meals and pastries cooked on the premises.

**The Elliott Family.** Does anyone have any information on the Elliott family who were at one time builders in Totley and also involved with the Methodist Church, if so please get in touch with the Independent so that we can pass on any information to a distant relative in Australia.

**Totley All Saints School.** A re-union was held recently at the Old Mother Redcap at Bradway, with over 50 ex pupils who attended school around 1942 -1946 and ex teacher Dilys Cooke. A very enjoyable evening was had by all with some people who had not been seen for many years, one even turned up from Cheshire. The well known personality Rony Robinson said on the radio the next day there were all these elderly people there and he was the youngest, still 37, after all these years!

It is hoped to organise another one later in the year probably early October so watch the Independent for details.

### Coffee, Cakes and Cuttings.

Just a reminder to people that on Saturday May 20th this annual event will take place. Thanks to those folk who have already responded to our request for books, bric-a-brac and plants etc. If others wish to contribute the contact numbers are 236 7176, 236 5313 or 235 0422.

Our main request is, however, to ask you to support us on the day. The starting time is 10am and the venue English Martyr's Church. You will be made very welcome. Please come along and enjoy some good company whilst having a coffee or two. You will be supporting both Transport 17 and 'Reaching the Unreached' in South India.

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see separate advertisement)

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Janet Alton MNIMH, Medical Herbalist, presents a series of articles about the medicinal uses and folklore of wild plants growing commonly in the Totley area.

**Stinging Nettle (Urtica dioica/Urtica urens)**

Ugly, untidy, invasive weeds - food for increasingly rare butterflies and moths - or valuable medicinal plants, depending on your viewpoint. Wherever people make a home, there will nettles grow. They love a phosphate-rich soil - a type provided in abundance wherever, not to put too fine a point on it, an earth privy or midden has been a feature. In fact one way to tell if a site has been occupied in the past is to look for a nettle patch, which can persist for centuries after the site has been abandoned. In a medicinal sense, nettles are a veritable pharmacy in themselves, the different parts of the plant being used in a host of different ways.

The name 'nettle' might be derived from the Germanic 'noedi' (a needle) with reference to its sharp sting. However, there is also the old word 'ne', which gave rise to words like 'net' and in German 'naehen' - to sew. In the Hans Anderson fairy tale 'The Princess and the Swans' the princess weaves coats made of nettle fibres for her eleven brothers. This is not as fanciful as it sounds. Before the general introduction of flax into northern countries, the Germanic tribes used nettles to weave a coarse cloth - a practice which survived in Scotland up to the 17th century. It was revived in Germany during the First World War, when cotton was in short supply; thousands of kilograms of nettles were collected to make uniforms for the soldiers. Even as late as the Second World War in England, nettles were used to make dye for camouflage nets.

The Latin name 'Urtica' derives from the word 'uro' - 'I burn' for obvious reasons. Nicholas Culpeper, the famous 17th century herbalist, commented of the nettle: 'they may be found by feeling in the darkest night!' Most of us have had the unpleasant experience of being stung by nettles (and have probably used the ageold cure, rubbing with a dock leaf. This used to be accompanied by a charm, recited three times: 'Nettle in, dock out - Dock rub nettle out!') Nettle leaves are equipped with pin-sharp, hollow hairs which break easily on contact to release histamine and formic acid, irritating the skin and causing inflammation - the familiar white weals of 'nettle rash' or 'urticaria'. Strangely enough, one sure cure for nettle rash is to rub on fresh nettle juice, a remedy which John Wesley knew of and recommended in his book, *Primitive Physick*. Medical herbalists still use this treatment today, both externally and internally, in cases where a nettle-like rash is caused by an allergy. Nettle juice or tea is also useful during the hay fever season, when it can help reduce the misery of streaming eyes and stuffed-up nose caused by the allergic reaction to pollen.

The Romans are credited with introducing one variety of

nettles into England (*Urtica pilulifera*, occurring only in eastern counties). They are said to have used bunches of these nettles to flay arthritic joints - which probably played up in the cool, damp English winters, far away from their native southern Italy - and some accounts say it was done simply to keep warm! Although a pretty drastic cure, it probably worked by a process called 'counter-irritation'. This is the principle behind our own heating ointments for painful joints, the idea being to encourage blood flow to the affected part, which speeds up the inflammatory process. In fact, herbalists often prescribe nettle juice as part of their treatment of arthritic conditions, including gout. Nettles have a diuretic effect, and also help the body gets rid of substances which build up and cause inflammation in the joints and tissues.

Nettles contain tannins, which when applied externally cause the edges of wounds to shrink towards one another. In ancient times people used wads of dried nettle leaves to stop a nosebleed. (Drying takes away the stinging effect!) The leaves of Nettle concentrate iron - at least when grown on iron-rich soil - and can help in iron deficiency anaemia if the fresh leaves are made into a soup and eaten regularly. The high Vitamin C content of the plant helps the iron to be absorbed. In Germany an extract of nettle was rubbed onto the head of people who had lost their hair due to illness - one acidic substance in the plant stimulates the hair follicles.

Nettles used to be used as fodder for milk cattle because they stimulated the flow of milk. Nursing mothers might try nettle tea for a similar effect!

A relatively new discovery is the use of nettle roots to treat prostatitis. Almost all men undergo some enlargement of the prostate gland as they get older, which can lead to problems with passing water. Nettle roots have been found to contain a substance which helps moderate this enlargement, when taken regularly.

I have already mentioned the medicinal benefits of nettle soup. In fact young nettles make a delicate and delicious soup, thickened with potato or oatmeal and well seasoned. Make sure you wear stout gardening gloves - of course - and take only the succulent top few leaves from the new spring growth. Don't worry - cooking completely destroys the irritant chemicals in the leaves. From Norfolk comes a recipe for 'nettle pudding' made with boiled nettles, lemon juice and egg white, and another for a sort of beer, brewed with *Galium aparine* (Goosegrass or Cleavers), ginger, yeast and sugar.

It may surprise you to know that plants like the nettle are still valued and prescribed with great benefit by medical herbalists. As a qualified member of the National Institute of Medical Herbalists I am now offering consultations in Totley. If you would like to know more, just ring me, Janet Alton, on 236 4765.

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR MAY

I'm a bit early writing the tips this month ( keeping the editor happy ) and it's snowing outside covering up all the lovely daffodils and other blossoms. One thing about snow at this time of year it does not last (we hope). The seedlings in your greenhouse should be looking good and ready for hardening off when the snow has gone. The holiday season is starting don't forget to make arrangements to have your plants looked after.

### FLOWERS

Get all the flowerbeds, tubs and troughs ready for planting out the bedding plants later. Stake up perennials and thin them out a bit so that you get sturdy blooms. Give all growing plants a regular feeding programme to make sure you have healthy plants, they will then be able to withstand any adverse weather conditions and they will be able to resist quite a lot of insect infestation. Dead head all plants that have finished flowering especially bulbs, this will make them prepare a good bulb ready for next year instead of making seed. Trim other herbaceous border plants, such as aubretia and saxifrages that have finished flowering, with shears, and give them a mulch to see them through the summer months.

Pinch out the growing tips of michaelmas daisy and golden rod to encourage bushiness. Watch out for slugs, greenfly, caterpillar and other nasties on your plants and deal with them as soon as possible. Spray roses with a good quality fungicide especially if you had black spot last year, also spray fruit trees with the same stuff to prevent mildew and bitter pip, mix a bit of insecticide with it but do not spray when the blossoms are open. Plant up window boxes and hanging baskets, keep them in your greenhouse or cold frame until they are established and all chance of frost is gone. Candy tuft, godetia, clarkia, calendula and many other hardy annuals can be sown at this time, cover with cloches if frost is forecast.

### VEGETABLES

Harden off any vegetable plants, then plant them out as soon as possible. Make a sowing of french beans singly, about 15cm (6") apart in drills 5cm (2") deep about 23 to 30cm (9" to 12") apart. Earth up potatoes.

Prepare mounds for marrows, pumpkins, courgettes and squashes. A couple of bales of straw placed about 2 feet apart, the space between filled with a good compost topped with soil, will give a good marrow patch.

They will be ready for the TOTLEY SHOW, in September. Keep all vegetables well watered and fed. Sweetcorn can be sown where they are going to grow, they grow better in patches rather than rows. Sow runner beans 2" deep in double rows about 1 ft apart allow 2 feet 6 inches between each double row.

Keep your vegetable plot clear of weeds, especially your onion patch, they don't like competition from weeds. Slugs can make a mess of the veg patch so knobble them as soon as possible. Thin out carrots and beetroot planted earlier, sow more seeds for succession. Prepare ground for outdoor tomatoes, later in the month. The best position for these is against a wall or fence which faces south, tomatoes like a good rich soil containing plenty of rotted manure.

### TREES SHRUBS and FRUIT

Newly planted trees will love a spray over with clean water on a warm evening this will help speed up their development. Remove any weak growth and some of the older wood as you prune flowering currant and orange blossom. Mulch around newly planted trees and shrubs and evergreens. Make sure you don't forget to water and feed those specimens in tubs or planters, remove any suckers. Give acid loving plants

(crucious ) a tonic of sequestrine. Keep tying in any shoots of blackberry and loganberry. Thin out the fruit on gooseberries, the small fruit can be used in the kitchen (you'll need plenty of sugar).

### GREEN HOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS

The order of the day is watch your ventilation and watering, the sun can raise the temperature in greenhouses and coldframes to uncomfortable levels for plants so have your shading ready. As the plants come on regular water and feed will bring them on, especially those earmarked for the TOTLEY SHOW. Remove side shoots from cane trained tomato plants, tumbling varieties do not need side shoots removing. Train and feed melons and cucumbers, restrict melons to 4 or 5 fruit per plant. Take cuttings from houseplants, such as shrimp plants, coleus, fuchsia, busy lizzy, and mother in laws tongue. Sow seeds of browallia, indoor primula, calceolarias cinararia and cacti. Watch out for the nasties, aphids, whitefly, caterpillars etc, deal with them as soon as they are seen. Allow the bulbs of nerine, arum and freesia etc, to rest by reducing the amount of water. Bedding plants must be hardened off in readiness for planting out at the end of the month or early June. Begonia and gloxinia plants that were potted a few weeks ago will benefit from a top dressing with a little good potting soil, shade from strong sun.

Geranium cuttings can be taken now and they will make good plants for autumn flowering.

### LAWNS

Have a regular mowing routine, feed if the lawn looks dull and add a weedkiller, if weeds are a nuisance. Tidy the edges for that well kept look. The plans for the TOTLEY SHOW are underway so keep an eye on those special plants etc, earmarked for the Show. The artists and photographers are working hard to have their exhibits ready, so I look forward to a record number of exhibitors.

Cheerio for now.

TOM BUSY BEE.

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## The Ladybower Challenge Walk 2000

Do you enjoy walking in the beautiful local countryside? Well, King Egbert School Association is organising a 26 mile Challenge Walk on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> July. It will start and end at our Wessex Building on Totley Brook Road in Dore, going out to Ladybower Reservoir via Burbage Rocks, and returning via Hope, and Grindleford Cafe, where the main walk ends and lifts are available back to school if required.

There will also be a short round walk of about 12 miles for those who don't wish to do the full walk. The walk is part of the parent-teacher association fundraising effort, and for the entry fee, we will provide:-

- checkpoints en route with free cold drinks
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For both walks, it is up to you to decide on your route, but you have to check in at the checkpoints. The cost of the walk remains at £8.50 (£4 for under 18's). Under-16's will have to walk with a responsible adult, and under-18's need written parental consent. For further information or application form, please telephone

2367942 or send an S.A.E. to Mrs. C. Brewster, K.E.S.A., King Egbert School, Furniss Avenue, Dore, Sheffield, S17 3QN.

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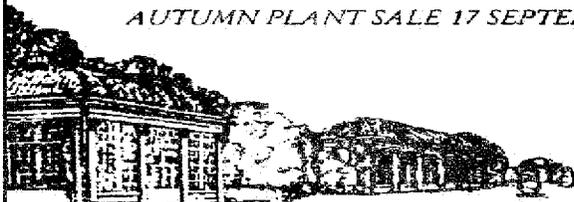
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## Farming scene

The answer to the question posed at the beginning of last month's article must surely have been a resounding NO!!!!. April's weather has certainly brought us down to earth with a splash, a cold one at that.

The recent long spells of cold rain / sleet / wet snow, are undoubtedly a shepherds nightmare come true. Newly born, or youngish lambs, are quite happy in dry cold weather, even during sharp frosts, but when rain is added, their coats become wet and drain the heat out of them, rather than keeping them warm. This is when major lamb losses occur, and there is no doubt that hundreds of lambs have died this year due to the inclement weather. Those that have survived will have had their growth rates severely reduced, and will therefore take much longer to reach maturity. We have been fortunate in that our early lambs have been out in the field for two weeks prior to the onset of the snow, etc, and were consequently weather hardened, but we still lost one lamb from this batch. During the second period of sustained rain, one of our ewes with triplets succumbed to the cold, so we now have an extra three lambs in our bottle-feeding pen.

The farms situation means that the buildings where our sheep are housed are totally cut off from the land, therefore they are either "in" or "out". There is no way we can do what most sheep farmers like to do, i.e. allow the ewes / lambs to have the freedom to graze the fields when the weather is nice, but be able at night or during wet periods, to take shelter in the farm buildings as they feel necessary. We try to mitigate this disadvantage by holding the sheep inside until the lambs are approximately ten days old, and are able to endure a bit of unfriendly weather. However this is a poor substitute to the proper free-range access to the buildings. Keeping the ewes inside for over two weeks after lambing leads to disease problems with the lambs, and mental and weight loss problems for the ewes. The stress of being confined leads to aggressive behavioural patterns, and an obsessional craving for concentrated feeding pellets, to the extent that they ignore other feed source such as hay. This leads to rapid weight loss when they are feeding the lambs and can result in their death if remedial action is not taken. You can see from this that there are definite advantages to having the farmstead located in the middle of the farmland.

Many of you will probably remember that we decided last year not to grow potatoes again. I have to say that we have changed our minds, and will in fact be growing 4 acres of spuds this year. This will enable us to retain our potato growing skills and ensure that supplies are to hand when required. It will also enable us to have full control over the growing and grading of the crop, ensuring that we can supply our customers with produce that is up to our usual standard of

safety and quality. Initial grower surveys indicate a 7% drop in planted area this year, and when combined with this years late spring, indicates that potato prices should be a fair bit higher this autumn. Edwin Pocock

## Churches Together in S 17.

### Are You Thirsty?

There can't be many people in Sheffield who have not known that something special was happening during April. The Millennium Mission as it was called culminated in meetings at the Sheffield Arena, finishing on Saturday April 8th.

There had been a very full programme of events and preparations over the previous months but the climax was led by Luis Palau, a gifted evangelist. Since the last meeting many people have asked "Was it successful?" The answer (and this is not original!) depends on what you mean by success!

In truth, it is too early to make a complete judgement and all the necessary data is not available to us. Nevertheless there were many good things which can be recalled. It was wonderful to see thousands at the Sheffield Arena. Each event must have had five to seven thousand people gathered to hear the answer to the question "Are you thirsty?" Clearly very many people said, "Yes!" Many more will have been given great encouragement through being able to worship God together in such a setting.

It was a meaningful demonstration of the way in which Christians from all denominations can, and did, work together. Unity between different churches is often spoken about but here it was being put into practice. This is not to deny that there are many differences but does affirm that those differences are insignificant compared with the shared vision that we are called together to build the Kingdom of God.

This was also apparent on the buses going down to the Arena. There were two or three busloads every evening from Dore and Totley. On these journeys it did not matter whether the other people worshipped in "our Church" or even if we knew each other. What mattered was that we were all there with a single purpose - to join in worship and learning about how we can help the Kingdom to grow. Successful? Certainly there is a big "Yes" to many parts of this event. Maurice Snowdon

## ABBEYDALE HALL

Council planning officers have recently recommended refusal of planning permission for a housing development at Abbeydale Hall. Although this is good news for residents and conservationists for the Wildlife Garden there is still planning permission available to change the Hall to a public house.

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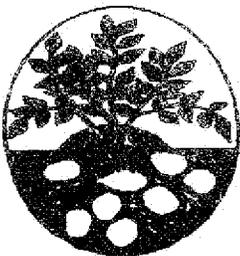
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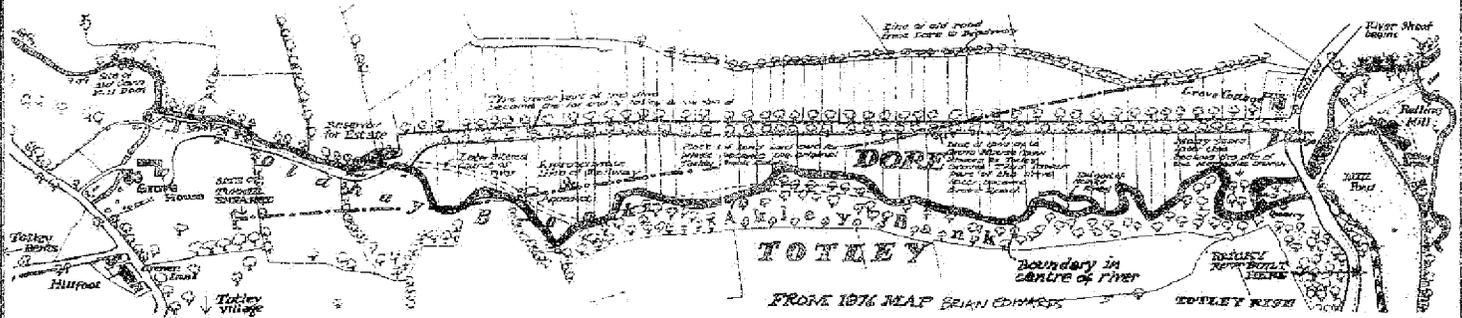
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## DORE or TOTLEY



Brian Chatterton of Vernon Road has written to "Dore to Door" magazine with a query that crops up almost incessantly. His title deeds tell him that he lives in Dore yet his postal address is Totley Rise. Therefore does he live in Dore or Totley? Historically there is no doubt at all that the actual boundary, between the two, follows the middle of the course of the Old Hay Brook. Now this watercourse runs approximately parallel with Totley Brook Road, passes under Baslow Road near the Methodist Chapel and then continues behind the sub station before meeting the Totley Brook that is the boundary river between Totley and Holmesfield (or Bradway for a short length). Incidentally the two rivers meet here and together form the beginning of the River Sheaf

It seem to me that there are three reasons for the confusion:

1. Totley Rise was a name that appeared sometime in the second half of the 1800s and originally referred to the rising ground from the Old Hay Brook and past what is now the crescent of shops on Baslow Road. After that time the area name seems to have spread to include Totley Brook Road, Vernon Road, Chatsworth Road, Bushywood Road, Abbeydale Road, West View etc., all of which are Dore. Even Grove Road and the Methodist Chapel are in Dore! Milldale Road, almost opposite the Chapel is, however in Totley.

2. In the 1870s, developers of private villa estates were taking advantage of the new attraction afforded by the opening of Dore & Totley Station, providing access to Sheffield and London, and the possibility of a link with Manchester via the Hope Valley. The original 'Totley Brook Estate Company' laid out plots of land on either side of the tree lined private drive leading from the still-standing lodge on Baslow Road, up what is now called Grove Road and leading to the Victorian residence known as Totley Grove (alias Totley Dale and Totley Vale), which, these days, can be approached from Hillfoot Road near the Crown Inn, or via Totley Brook Road.

Unfortunately the Estate Company adopted 'Totley Brook' as it's title either in ignorance of the actual names of the rivers - technically speaking it should have been the 'Old Hay Brook Estate' - or more likely because the inclusion of 'Totley' had marketing attractions. This aberration was then compounded when Sheffield City Council built the new 'Totley Brook Estate' that stretches almost into the heart of Dore. Whoever named this new council development did not do their homework, because it is perhaps up to a mile away from the Totley Brook itself So you can understand why there is some confusion!

3. The third problem is that the railway company bought up many of the proposed (original) estate company plots and severed the link between the beginning and the end of the estate road, otherwise you would have been able to drive straight along Grove Road and continue up what I now

refer to as the middle section of Totley Brook Road. In forming the railway, the Old Hay Brook was diverted over the cutting via the attractive brick aqueduct and thereafter the line of the river was straightened out for a distance then resuming its original course before it reached Baslow Road.

So for me to say that the boundary follows the centre line of the course of the Old Hay Brook is not strictly true these days but let us say that it does, apart from the hundred yards or so of river where the straightening took place.

In other words there is no doubt at all that you are firmly entrenched in Dore, Brian. Whether you could get the Post Office to change the postal address is highly doubtful, even if you wanted to effect the border crossing!

Some other time we can deal with the contentious boundaries between Dore and Bradway and also between Totley and Bradway. In the latter case I have a long running and, I hope, good-natured debate with some Queen Victoria (originally Victoria) Road residents who prefer to be know as Totley Risers.

Brian Edwards.

### ADRIAN SCHOFIELD

It is with sadness that we learned of the recent death of Adrian Schofield.

After 26 years in Totley and following retirement, Adrian and his wife Anne moved to Oban, Scotland and became the self styled Scottish correspondent to the Independent.

Whilst in Totley, Adrian was a member of the T.R.A. Committee, contributed articles and drawings to the Independent and will be remembered as a member of T.O.A.D.S. and Totley Troupers, which continued his life long interest in entertainment.

Having broadcast on Radio Sheffield and presented and acted on Canadian television, Adrian was presenting and overseeing programmes on Radio Oban up until the very end. On a personal note, I thoroughly enjoyed his company, his mischievous sense of humour and treading the boards with him.

Adrian wrote the most wonderful letters and it was always such a pleasure to receive one.

Our thoughts go to Anne and his family.

Mike Williamson.

*It's simply fantastic the amount of work you can get done if you don't do anything else.*

## PEAKTOWN STORY Chapter 24 by Hugh Percival

On his return from London John booked a course of driving lessons with the James School of Motoring, a small firm under the sole proprietorship of Mr. Ronald James. Mr. James, a small, quiet man of nervous disposition no doubt acquired from the antics of his pupils, began with a discussion of the Highway Code on a quiet road in the suburbs. He then showed John the basics of driving a car such as the use of accelerator, clutch and brake pedals and the gear lever. They then travelled short distances putting this advice into practice.

Following the third lesson it became desirable for John to practice driving in order to become fluent. With this in mind he purchased a second-hand Austin car at a modest cost. Roger Heath, a qualified driver, accompanied John when making the purchase. Roger, although having only recently attained his majority, had been driving for a couple of years and was familiar with the highway code. Roger also agreed to spend a few evenings with John while practising.

On the first of these evenings John, on making a turn in a road of terraced houses, found himself, in a moment of panic, unable to apply the brake, being uncertain which pedal to use. Although travelling at snails pace the car ran remorselessly onto the pavement and pushed over a low wall in slow motion to the horror of John and Roger. Roger's instructions, given in a hysterical voice, to apply the brake proved of no avail. Fortunately at that point the engine stalled and the car came to a halt before further damage could be done, the house remaining intact.

John wiped his brow as an indignant householder, wearing pyjamas and carpet slippers, ran into their sight. "Bloody fool. What's the idea eh!" the bald, middle-aged man exclaimed with angry gesticulations as he surveyed the demolished wall in disbelief.

"My apologies sir," said John calmly. "There is no need to get upset - I am insured".

"What about the inconvenience" the man exploded. "Learner drivers - shouldn't be allowed on the road".

"I will report the matter to the insurers tomorrow sir" John said apologetically. "Your wall should be rebuilt in a couple of days. Here is my name, address and details of my insurance". John wrote the details on a page torn from his diary and handed them to the householder.

"Practice elsewhere in future," the man shouted as he snatched the page.

Roger Heath, feeling that he should take charge of the car, drove off with John in the passenger seat while the householder watched with an angry stare until they disappeared from his sight.

John reported the accident to the insurers next morning and they agreed to arrange for the reconstruction of the wall. The damage to the car would also be repaired. John agreed to return to Mr. James for further instruction before Roger would consent to continue assisting with the practices.

During this period John's romance was flourishing. He escorted Susan to various functions - film shows, theatre performances and dances. Susan thought the incident of the demolished wall hilarious until John reminded her that, in the near future, she too would have to learn to drive.

However, Susan's interest at this time lay with horses rather than motor cars. Every Sunday she would go to a farm on the city outskirts to ride and generally to mix with other riders and their horses. Her favourite horse, a young, brown, powerful gelding of aggressive demeanour named Mack, required some handling but gradually, under the influence of carrots, came to accept Susan's presence on his back.

John, no longer preoccupied with studies, resumed playing cricket. He was asked to play for a team recently formed by employees of a retailing client whose audit John was responsible for. John attended several practices and showed sufficient aptitude to be selected for a match at Gresley, a village lying just over the city boundary.

On a warm Sunday afternoon in June John met the team captain, Gordon Briers, at a pre-arranged pick-up point to be transported by car to Gresley along with two other players Briers, a sturdy man with close-cropped hair and blue eyes was the client's accountant. He had first thought of raising a company team and was the instigator and guiding-light behind the whole initiative.

They arrived at Gresley in bright sunshine and soon located the cricket ground, a small arena of grassland, reasonably flat, bordered by hills on three sides and by a river on the other. The client's team, called Baron's house C.C. after the name of the head office, assembled in high spirits for their first match after much practice.

The village team, in the person of a burly, overweight specimen, won the toss and elected to bat, the conditions being ideal for that activity.

The village captain returned to the pavilion. "Tell Bill and Ron to get their pads on" he ordered one of the players at the entrance.

"We're baring are we. Good show fatty" said the player with delight.

The captain, taking umbrage at being so described, remarked "There's no evidence that I'm overweight. The scales are broken and Shirley won't let me use hers". This sally raised raucous laughter from those within earshot.

Gordon Briers asked a well-built, powerful, saturnine man named Geoffrey Barnes to open the bowling. Barnes was a guest player not being an employee of the client. Briers, in discussion with Barnes, set the field, John Winter being placed at first slip.

Barnes had a somewhat unusual action, his right arm appearing down the left-hand side of his stooped head before he released the ball. His length and line, however, were impeccable and, combined with a lively pace, made him a formidable adversary.

Barnes took a wicket in his first over. The opening batsman was clean-bowled without scoring, much to the delight of the bowler's team mates. The fielders, overjoyed at this early and initial success, surrounded the bowler and bestowed a series of hearty slaps on his broad back.

At the other end Fred Summers, the client's bookkeeper and assistant accountant, a tall, lanky man with flowing dark hair, was not so effective. Nine runs were taken from his first over. Barnes took another wicket in his second over. The batsman edged the ball to first slip where, to John Winter's pleasant surprise, the ball stuck fast in his open hands. After the opening overs the village team's tactics became apparent. Their batsmen blocked the bowling of Barnes with dead bats and took runs comfortably from the various bowlers tried at the other end.

One inspired piece of fielding did lift the spirits of the weary fielders as the village score mounted. The village captain, batting number five, hit the ball to a mountainsque height. Captain Briers called out "Leave it to Jamieson". That fielder, a small, fair-haired, blue-eyed youth from the sales department waited patiently for the ball to descend before clutching the ball to his chest while falling to the ground on his back. The congratulations of his fellow-fielders were fervent and prolonged.

Barnes persevered through much of the innings until he tired in the heat of the afternoon. His analysis, when reluctantly taken off by Captain Briers, read 16 overs, 5 maidens, 25 runs, 5 wickets.

However, the village team had made, and continued hay from the other bowlers until they eventually at a total of 183 for 7 wickets.

At tea, taken in the wooden pavilion the fare consisted mainly, it seemed, of fish sandwiches and was not popular with the visitors. When the home-side vice-captain came round selling raffle tickets Roger Blythe, a corpulent young man with red hair, a stock-department clerk and a well-known character, bought a ticket and commented "I hope the prize isn't a hamper". This remark raised hilarious laughter from his team mates.

Baron's House made a competent start to their innings.

John Winter and Brian Fisher, a tall, powerful, left-hand batsman and a regular player for another team on Saturdays, put on a total of 55 runs against the opening bowlers.

Of that total five runs came from one stroke. John Winter glanced the ball to deep fine leg where the fielder in pursuit of the ball trod in a hole and fell to the ground writhing in agony. The two batsmen, ruthlessly exploiting this mishap, continued to run hard while another fielder from slip went to retrieve the ball which had come to rest just inside the boundary. The injured fielder was carried to the pavilion and replaced by a substitute with the consent of Captain Briers.

This unsporting behaviour of the batsmen, against the spirit and convention of a friendly match, led to an increase in endeavour by the fielding side. The first evidence of hostility came when the opening fast bowlers unleashed a series of short-pitched balls which reared by the batsmen's heads and disturbed their tranquillity. However, they survived this onslaught albeit somewhat fortuitously.

The village captain, perturbed at this lack of success, himself now came on to bowl at the end where George Wright, the client's cashier, was umpiring. George, in his sixties nearing retirement, an amiable, talkative man, bald, bespectacled and plump, informed John Winter that the new bowler would bowl right-handed round the wicket.

It soon became apparent to the players and to those spectators with a knowledge of the game that the village captain was bowling leg-breaks. On the last ball of his first over the ball struck John Winter's pad as he played forward. "How's that" roared the bowler turning round aggressively to face the

umpire.

George, with great aplomb, immediately raised his finger in the time-honoured tradition and the batsman, much to his disgust, was out lbw for a score of 19. John Winter, despite his anger, did not wish to distress the amiable George by pointing out that when facing leg-breaks bowled from round the wicket it was nigh impossible to be out lbw. George, who had not played cricket since schooldays, in his innocence had not apparently studied the lbw law when accepting the position of umpire. He smiled sympathetically at John as the batsman walked past him to the pavilion. The smile was not reciprocated.

This proved to be the start of a collapse in the Baron's House innings in which George and the village captain played the prominent roles. With a ruthlessness that belied his innocent, benign appearance, George, relishing the powers conferred on him, gave lbw decisions in favour of the bowler against six more batsmen. Baron's House C.C. were all out for a total of 102 and Gresley had won by 81 runs.

The village captain, who had taken 8 wickets for 29 runs, heartily shook the umpire's hand as they left the field. The other two wickets had been taken by a left-arm slow bowler. When the batsman Roger Blythe told George, in between overs, that this player was bowling chinamen, George replied "I see no orientals". "A classic remark by an innocent" Roger said later when talking to his teammates.

George's reception by the defeated team was not cordial. He was ostracised by the players when they drowned their sorrows at the 'Bull's Head' in the village for the rest of the day and, in fact, for several weeks by those members of the team who took their cricket seriously. George, never again invited to umpire by Captain Briers, had officiated at his first, last and only match.

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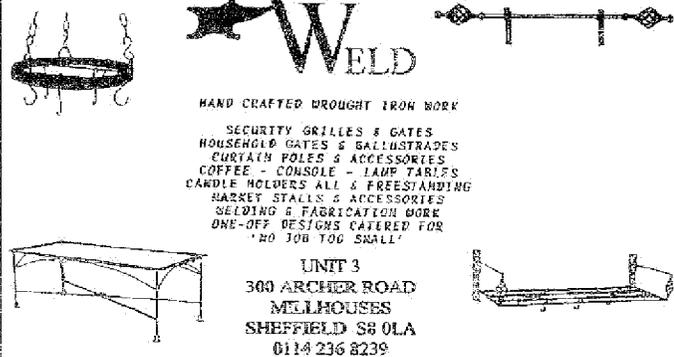
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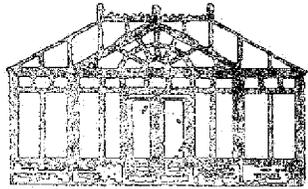
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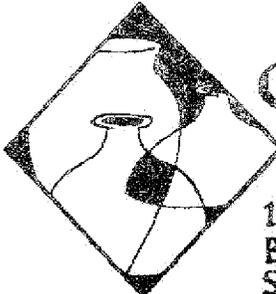
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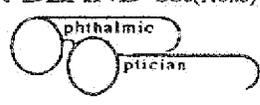
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### MAY

- SUN. 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>. & 28<sup>th</sup>** MINATURE RAILWAY, Abbeydale Rd. South., 1-00 pm. to 4-30 pm.
- TUES. 9<sup>th</sup>** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom, 2.30pm. Devotional.
- SAT. 13<sup>th</sup>** SPRING FAIR Dore & Totley U.R.C., Church Hall, Cakes, Plants Bric-a-brac. Books Toys, Refreshments. 10 am. - 12-30. Free admission.
- TUES. 16<sup>th</sup>** TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. "Amateur Radio & Russian Artio" Mr. J. Hewitt
- SAT. 20<sup>th</sup>** COFFEE CAKES & CUTTINGS, English Martyrs Church, 10-00 am. to 12 Noon. Full details inside.
- SAT. 20<sup>th</sup>** CHILDREN'S CLOTHES SALE Totley Primary School, 1-03pm. To 3-00pm., Admission 50p.
- TUES. 23<sup>rd</sup>** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Totley Rise Methodist Church Schoolroom, 2.30pm. "My Work at Hanover" by Miss Portia Wilson.
- THUR. 25<sup>th</sup>** COMMUNITY SKIP, Totley Library, 7-30 am. to 12 noon.

### THE INDEPENDENT FOR JUNE

The next issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE.**

**COPY DATE FOR THIS ISSUE SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MAY**

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E Mail [les@lesfirth.d.co.uk](mailto:les@lesfirth.d.co.uk)

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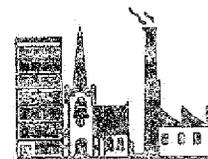
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