

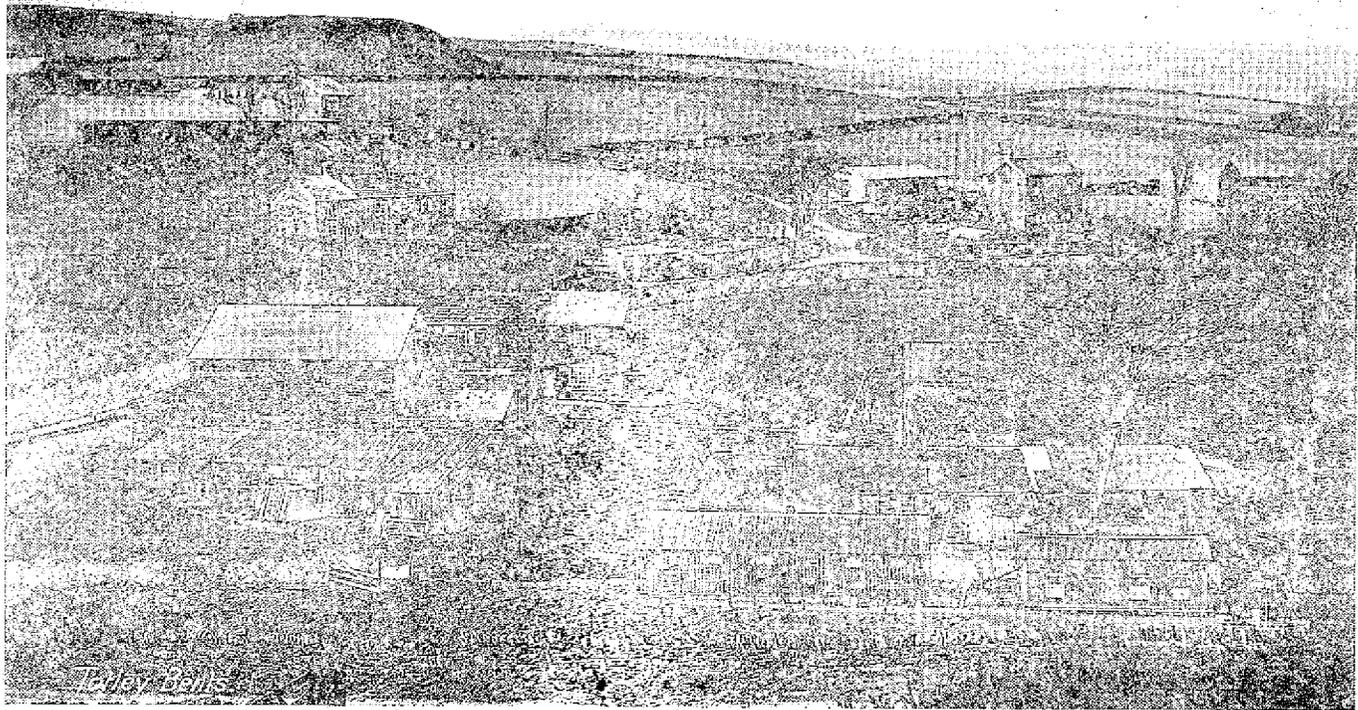
TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

SEPTEMBER 2000

No. 236

15p.



TOTLEY BENTS WITH MONEYBROOK FARM AND THE RIFLE RANGE DATE UNKNOWN, PERHAPS YOU CAN HELP.

TRA UPDATE

Community Skips

When we had our last community skip, someone deposited a large, empty, gas canister in it. This was removed by the skip driver as a safety hazard and left on the library car park. After the previous skip, there was a single mattress and a chair left also on the library car park. These items caused inconvenience to the library, for which we do apologise. Because of problems, the cleansing department have told us that no skips will be delivered without an undertaking by the TRA to stand by and actually police the skip during the time it was being filled. The TRA committee finds this impracticable so there will be no more community skips. There is a notice on the TRA board in the library with alternative ways to dispose of any rubbish.

The NEW Totley Show

Please support the Show by entering as many classes as you like. there are lots to choose from whatever your age. (See the entry forms at Totley Library, Busy Bee or Totley Rise Post Office)

Enjoy tea, coffee, juice and home made cakes whilst listening to the Gentleman of Jazz.

Wander around the charity stalls offering crafts, tombola, bric-a-brac etc. Have a go on the raffle with a great first prize of Don Williams' advice on how to make your garden look gorgeous (kindly donated by Abbcydale Garden Co.) Many thanks to them and to Martin Scrivens, Liberty Foods and Totley Flowers and Gifts for their prizes too.

Browse around the exhibits and finally stay for the prize giving and a bargain and more fun at the auction.

Altogether a great afternoon out at Totley Primary School on Saturday, 16th September.

(Exhibits accepted 10.30am to 12 noon. Public admitted 2pm) See you there!

**THE NEW TOTLEY SHOW, SATURDAY 16th. SEPTEMBER, TOTLEY
PRIMARY SCHOOL,
ENTRIES 10-30 a.m. PUBLIC VIEWING 2-00 p.m.**

TOTLEY SHOW

The Totley Show, in its current format, has existed since Saturday 7th, September 1985, when the event took place at Totley County School and there it stayed for 5 years before moving to Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. This month the Show moves back to Totley Primary School. The Show is now in its 16th year.

Recently, through the kindness of Ann Rose, 2 programmes have been given for the Totley Shows of 1921 and 1922. It is therefore quite pleasing that the Show is a revival of what was obviously, in the past, a major event in the village of Totley and the surrounding areas.

These old programmes (or catalogues as they were called) suggest the Show originated in 1918, which would probably make sense, occurring at the end of the Great War. Although, of course, the Show may be older, as many events and traditions ceased at the outbreak of war in 1914. Many never to restart again due to the lack of manpower. The other interesting aspect is that the Show was originally held in Earnshaw's Field, opposite Totley Grange, which is now the site of the School. So in a way it has returned to its roots.

The original Shows were organised by Totley Allotment and Horticultural Society and the old programmes make very interesting reading.

It is proposed to display copies of these old programmes at this year's Totley Show and maybe there will be reproductions available to purchase.

It would seem that no articles have appeared in the Totley Independent either about the Allotments or the Horticultural Society. Although the names of some of the officials and entrants are familiar.

The Independent would be most interested to receive articles from readers about the original Shows, the Allotments or the Horticultural Society, in particular when the Shows began and ceased. It had obviously been a major event. The programmes show entries from a wide area including Mansfield and Heanor, Nottinghamshire.

Catalogues Ed. 1900.

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Fifth Annual
SHOW
of
Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables,
Poultry, Rabbits & Pigeons,
Classes for Farmers, etc.,
will be held on
SATURDAY, SEPT. 2nd, 1922,
in the
FIELD opposite TOTLEY GRANGE,
(Kindly lent by Mrs. Barnshaw)
The Show will be opened by **Mrs. Ernest Terrey,** at 4 p.m.
Admission (including Teal):—
Adults 2 to 4. 1/6. After 4 p.m., 6d.; Children 9 to 15
years, 5 to 4 p.m., 6d., after 4 p.m., 3d.
Business close Monday, Aug. 28th, 1922.
A. SHERW. Hon. Sec., Totley Rise

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Wanted – Friendly Visitors!

One person in every 500 has Parkinson's Disease. Over the age of 65, one person in 100 is affected and by the time 80 is reached the figure rises to one person in 50. It is a progressive, neurological disease, occurring when 80% of the brain cells which produce a chemical called dopamine are lost. No-one knows why this happens and at present there is no cure. However, there is a wide range of treatments available.

The Sheffield Branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society currently has over 250 members. We employ two paid Welfare Visitors who offer advice and support, we hold monthly meetings in the centre of Sheffield and produce a local newsletter about 6 times a year. However, we have found that one of the most useful facilities that we can offer our members (a lot of whom live alone and/or are housebound) is our volunteer visiting service – friendly people who call on a regular, but not necessarily frequent, basis, to make sure everything is fine, or whether more specialised help is needed. These 'friendly' volunteers have the back-up of our Welfare Visitors to whom they report back if necessary.

Our problem is – we don't have enough 'friendly visitors!' – so we would like to appeal for volunteers who could spare 2-4 hours a week. Training and ongoing support are provided, and reasonable expenses reimbursed. Anyone interested should call our Welfare Officer, Chris Bond, on 0114 235 2885 for more information.

If anyone wants more information on Parkinson's Disease, or our branch in particular, they should call me on 262 0468 any evening.

Val Heap, Hon. Secretary
Sheffield Branch, Parkinson's Disease Society



Beauchief Abbey

Explore and discover the hidden treasures of Beauchief Abbey off Abbey Lane in Sheffield.

Heritage open days 2000, England's celebration of architecture and culture, is to be held on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th, September. The event harnesses voluntary effort and enthusiasm on a massive scale to open 2000 buildings throughout England free of charge. Beauchief Abbey will open as part of this event, from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm on the Saturday and from 12:00 am until 6:00pm (Evensong will be between 3:00pm and 4:00pm) on the Sunday. An additional attraction at the Abbey for the weekend will be an exhibition of paintings by local children who attend an art class run by local artist/teacher Pamela Marshall; Louise Jennings, FRSA, also a well known artist from Beauchief, will judge the entries.

Heritage Open Days 2000 across England is co-ordinated by the Civic Trust on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. This year English Heritage will fund the event through the Heritage Grant Fund and as in previous years further funding and support comes from Warner Holidays Limited, The Guardian newspaper and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The weekend is part of England's contribution to European Heritage Days, a Council of Europe initiative which sees similar events taking place in 46 countries. Details of what else is happening throughout England will be published by the Guardian on 12th August and copies will be available from Tourist Information Centres and local libraries. The event directory will also be available from the Internet at www.civictrust.org.uk. Further details of this and other events at Beauchief Abbey are available from Kath & Eddie Greenwood on 0114 274 5000.

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.

5. Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*, *C. laevigata*)

Lots of hawthorn bushes and trees do appear to be growing wild today, but they all originate largely from bushes planted as hedgerows at the edges of fields - the very name HAWTHORN derives from an Old English word 'haga' meaning a hedge. There were once literally thousands of miles of these hedgerows in central England, planted during the enclosure of the open fields, mainly between 1750 and 1850. Much has been written in protest against the ploughing up of many of these hedgerows in recent years and the consequent loss of habitats for wild creatures and plants. But it seems to me, as I have travelled around this Spring, that it has been a particularly good year for the may blossom with its beautiful and cheerful show of snowy white. Herbalists are now looking forward to an excellent harvest of the hawthorn berries with which to make medicine for use in circulatory disorders such as angina, varicose veins and high blood pressure.

Like the elder, hawthorn has a long history of superstitious belief. In many areas it was unlucky to bring branches of flowering may into the house, in the belief that this would cause a death in the family. This belief has been attributed to the scent of the blossom, which to some people smells of rotting meat (especially *C. laevigata*); in years gone by it was even said to be reminiscent of the smell associated with the plague. However, the month of May itself has been associated in the past with bad luck: "Marry in May and rue the day" was one old saying - and this belief may have become associated with may blossom. An even older belief, however, is that hawthorn protects against witches and brings good luck in the Spring. Branches of flowering may used to be gathered on the 1st of May (hence the name) to decorate the house, and especially the entrance to the house. This brings in an interesting fact about the time of flowering of the may. Today it is very unusual to see may in blossom on the first of the month - but it used to, until in May 1582 Pope Gregory axed 11 days from the calendar, because it was running ahead of the true solar year of 365 days and a bit. Do you know the old rhyme: "Cast ne'er a clout, Till may is out"? Some people interpret this to mean "don't shed any warm clothes until the month of May has ended" (and in some years this is very good advice!) But it probably means "... until the may is in flower", i.e. around the *beginning* of the month of May. Perhaps you remember picking and eating the fresh young hawthorn leaves as a child (what did you call them?) Richard Mabey in his *Flora Britannica* records an actual recipe from Leicestershire for a 'spring dinner' made with suet pastry covered with young hawthorn leaves and thin strips of bacon, rolled up and steamed.

It may surprise you to know that plants like hawthorn 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 on 236 4765.

Would the gentleman who asked for details of the Pewit Café, please contact us again, we have lost your telephone number.

Sheffield

LEONARD CHESHIRE



We always need new volunteers to help with driving the residents on short local visits and if you have any recently retired friends who feel they might like to spare an hour or so a week to assist with this or with help in our activities centre at Mickley Hall, please ask them to telephone Jennie MacLaren at the Home to discuss how their talents might be used for the benefit of our residents!

Now that the new porch and automatic doors are in operation, we hope that this improvement will make entry to Mickley Hall much easier for you the visitors as well as the residents. We hope you agree that in spite of the recent presence of builders and decorators surrounding the place, the benefits will be great and the appearance enhanced.

We were delighted to have a stand this year at the Great Sheffield Art Show and met many new people who showed interest in the Leonard Cheshire organisation. It was a good opportunity to raise our profile within the 'artistic community' and I feel some extra support will follow from various contacts made as a result of our four days' involvement. Our grateful thanks must be offered to Isabel Blincow who has organised the event for the past thirteen years and allowed us this facility.

Audrey Herrington (Fete Chairman) joins me in adding our special thanks to everyone who helped in any way towards making the Summer Fete a success again this year. In spite of the weather and competition from other local events on the same day, we managed to raise over £4,000 after expenses which was a most acceptable amount towards the purchase of the specially-adapted vehicle which was on view in the car park.

I need hardly add that your continued support of fund raising events is very much appreciated and indeed is essential if we are to keep producing sufficient voluntary income to provide the extra equipment needed by our residents - thank you.

Jackie Short (Fundraising Co-ordinator)

WE DON'T WANT YOUR RUBBISH, THANK YOU.

Dear Sir,

One of the reasons why people come to live in Dore or Totley is that, quite apart from these places being beautiful parts of Sheffield, one anticipates that all the inhabitants are appreciative of this factor and are also considerate people. I find it very surprising therefore, to find that the river Sheaf, at the bottom of our garden is, not infrequently filled with people's garden rubbish. I live on a bend of the river, which is otherwise quite picturesque, but unfortunately when large branches and sometimes whole bushes that have been felled and dumped in the river they collect here. The result of course, is that I have to clear the river.

That I feel obliged to do this, is not only to restore the view from my garden, it also ensures that in times of very heavy rain (such as we have had twice in the last at three years) there is not flooding upstream from us, where presumably people are throwing this very rubbish into the river. Could I make this plea therefore, that in their own self-interest the residents, with access to either Totley Brook or Old Hay Brook, do not do this? At the very least it would be helpful if they would try to ensure that it's in smaller pieces which will float downstream.

P J Winnall

Dreams.

"I have a dream....." Martin Luther King, the great fighter for human rights for coloured people in America made these words immortal. We all dream about the future sometimes but dreams do not always come true. I would like to suggest that we should do some dreaming about what we want in Totley.

Each of us will have our own dreams and it would be good to share them. You might dream that cars would not use Baslow Road as a racetrack. You might dream that cars would not stop too close to corners (in contravention of the Highway Code) You might dream that house owners would cut back hedges or plants which overhang the pavements. You might dream that there could be a more responsible approach to litter and graffiti. Your dream might be that Totley could have a community centre in which meetings and leisure activities could be held. You might dream that there could be a coffee bar so that the younger members of society could meet together other than on street corners. You might dream that Green Oak Park (and possibly other places) could be developed to be more attractive and used more fully.

You might dream that Totley could become a village where a real spirit of community could be built up. You might dream that there could be a secondary school nearer than those at present existing. You might dream that there could be further adult education opportunities or cultural activities within easy reach. You might dream of improvements to the public transport facilities in some way.

What is your dream? Why not let the Totley Independent allow your dream to be aired? You might discover that there are other people in the area who share your dreams or, perhaps, there are other people who will say, "I wish I had thought of that!"

"Totley Independent" can be your platform. It already is yours so why not use it? Maurice Snowden

A CHANGE OF BUTCHER

The end of July saw a change of management at L.Tym, Butcher, Totley Rise.

After 26 years of serving the community, David Broadhurst decided to head out to the luxurious surroundings of Chatsworth Farm shop, Pilsley, his new position there allowing him to spend more time with his family and friends. David would like to thank all his loyal customers for their support over the past 26 years and hopes some familiar faces will appear at Chatsworth Farm Shop.

He extends his best wishes to John Firth, who has taken the business over, and the continued success of L.Tym of Totley Rise.

TWO WEEKS IN PRISON FOR SINGING HYMNS

No, it did not happen in Totley, but in many areas of the world Christian believers face the threat of that and worse. And yet incredibly, it is in those countries that the church is mushrooming.

On the weekend 22nd. - 24th. September we at All Saints are very privileged to have Baroness Cox spending time with us. She is a real live member of the House of Lords. Her passion is doing what she can for the church under immense pressure in many nations, predominantly in Asia, the Middle East and Africa. She is in a unique position to speak up for such people, and frequently to visit to provide first hand encouragement and see for herself the reality of situations. She is also a riveting speaker.

There will be events on the Saturday morning and evening, and she will be the speaker at our Sunday services.

All will, of course, be welcome.

David Rhodes

All Saints' Church Totley GARDEN PARTY 2000

Saturday September 9th 2.00 p.m.

Various Stalls, Refreshments, Children's Competition, Raffle GoGo the Clown, American/Custom cars, Bouncy Castle.

Art Exhibition for Children, Aged up to and including 11 years. Entry forms in the Church Hall (if you didn't get one from school). All entries will be displayed in the Hall on the day of the Garden Party.

Photographic Competition

Entitled: My Favourite Holiday Moment

Entry forms in the Church Hall. Separate prizes for photographs taken by 11 - 18 year olds. All entries will be displayed in the Hall on the day of the Garden Party.

Proceeds to the Oakes Project

Useful Phone Numbers

Given the number of building developments taking place around Totley at the moment, the following telephone numbers may be of help to local residents.

Planning matters Chris Heeley - Planning Dept 2734184

Dust and out of hours noise Louise Thomas - Environmental Protection. 273 4655

Mud on roads/potholes Tony Constantine Highways 273 6134

Unauthorised signage on lamp posts etc. Dennis Wyatt - Enforcement Officer 273 6677

Lorry speeds and bad parking Police: Totley Brook Road - 296 3681
Woodseats 220 2020

Local Councillor Keith Hill - Dore ward 235 2298

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IS THE STORY OF ONE MAN'S
ADVENTURES AND HOW HE COPEs
WITH LIFE WHEN HE JOINS THE
COLONIAL POLICE FORCE IN KENYA IN
1954
A TRULY FASCINATING STORY TOLD
WITH
COMPASSION AND HUMOUR**

I came to Sheffield 28 years ago and formed a Company Newman Facilities Ltd and looked after Shopping Centres and commercial Properties in the area. I lived in Kenwood Park Rd for 15 years before moving to Totley where I have lived for the past 13 years with my wife Sandra. Our two sons Mark and David attended Totley County School and then King Egberts.

I had previously spent some years in Africa as a Police Inspector. Now retired I have taken up the pen and written a book entitled

"A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE", which chronicles my adventures in Africa after joining The Kenya Police in 1954. I feel that the friends I have made in Totley might be interested to know that I had written a book and like to enjoy a good read.

Copies of the book are on sale in the Totley library and Jim Martin's Newsagents.

Through the Internet on NEWMAN - AFRICA . COM

Or by cheque for £11.50, including post and packaging. The book is priced at £9.95. To Mr H.C.Newman P0 Box 1796 Sheffield S17 4XU.

Jim Newman.

The Sheffield Centre of the National Trust

In 1972, local members of the National Trust formed the Sheffield Centre with the aim of providing functions to further the work of the Trust in the area. The current membership of around 350 enjoys a variety of events in its annual programme.

The AGM is held in March, as is the Annual Luncheon; previous speakers have included national figures within the Trust, and individuals from other organisations involved in heritage and conservation work. Summer outings to houses, castles, gardens or well-known homes, have proved popular with those wanting a half or whole-day coach visit. During the Spring, 5-day holidays have taken members to various Trust properties, predominantly in the south, but also to Scotland and along the Scottish borders. A new event for Autumn 2000 is a weekend away in the Bath area. There is likely to be pressure for this to become an annual function, based on the rapidity with which places were filled.

Autumn and winter meetings take place at the Sheffield Friends' Meeting House in both afternoons and evenings, roughly once per month. These serve a wide range of purposes:

from informative illustrated talks to pea and pie supper socials, from the raising of funds to the forming of friendships, from recruitment of members to making membership of the National Trust more enjoyable.

Complementing the programme is the twice-yearly newsletter published in January and July. In practice, this is a 24-page booklet, keeping the Centre's members fully informed, even when they cannot be present in person.

The President of the Sheffield Centre is Sir Hugh Sykes K.B., D.L. Activities are predominantly organised by a small, voluntary committee, voted in at the AGM with individuals typically serving a three-year term of office. Ideas to learn more about the National Trust - its houses, gardens, countryside and coastline - are always most welcome. If you are a National Trust member and want to be a part of this local group, or if you are interested in joining the Trust itself, please get in touch with John Robertshaw, the Sheffield Centre secretary, on 0114 - 236 0846.

Judith M.Norris

Bill Allen

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Farming Scene

Much has happened since my last article in the June issue. My forecast then that there would be plenty of fruit to pick has proved to be only partially correct. The inclement weather of late May and early June just about finished off our early strawberry crops. This variety, called Honeoye, is very susceptible to poor ground conditions and the weather induced stress caused the plants to become stunted, with the fruit small and bitter. The plants seem to have recovered now, and hopefully will produce a good crop next year. Our mid to late season varieties are more tolerant of less than ideal ground conditions, and produced a good crop of fruit. Unfortunately, the cool wet weather in July, caused a lot of this to go mouldy on the plant, resulting in even further loss of production and sales. I suspect we have lost well over half of our strawberry crop due to the weather. The cane and bush fruit has fared much better, the fruit being off the ground and therefore less susceptible to Botrytis (mould) attack. The only real problem with these has been the Mildew on our Leveller (desert type) Gooseberries. These are very susceptible to Mildew and for the second year running have produced very poor quality fruit due to this fungal disease. We have therefore dug them out, and the vacated area will be planted with strawberries later in the year.

The cool, cloudy, damp conditions have also affected cereal crops. Harvest is running about 2 weeks later than normal as crops are slow to ripen. Yields are also down, the lack of sun reducing their ability to photosynthesize and fill out the grains.

Very little really good hay has been made this year. The continued unsettled weather has prolonged the drying period, greatly reducing the quality and feed value of the crops. There are still quite a few fields that have been kept for hay production that have yet to be cut let alone harvested.

On a brighter note, one beneficial outcome is the later and reduced growth of the potato crop. This reduced output has resulted in current prices being nearly double those achieved this time last year. We plan to start harvesting our crop this week, starting with Saxon, a white variety. The potatoes are not ready for long term storage yet, so we shall dig up approximately 2 tonnes a week to supply our retail trade until they reach maturity at the end of September. They will then all be harvested into half tonne boxes and stored at the farmstead ready for grading and sale during the October to April period.

The pig industry is under threat again, as an outbreak of Swine Fever has been confirmed on several farms in eastern

England. These herds have been slaughtered and buried to try and contain the spread of this virus. Although it can have a severe affect on pigs this disease does not affect humans, so the destruction of these herds is to protect other pigs rather than for food safety reasons. There were several outbreaks of this disease on the continent last year. No outbreaks have occurred in this country for the last fourteen years. It is suspected that the initial infection in this country has been caused by a virus transfer from wild boars to a commercial herd. This may surprise you, but yes, there are wild boars living in the countryside in parts of England. These are not remnants from an earlier age, but escapees from commercial wild boar farms, initially stocked with imports from abroad. These have been started to supply the demand from exotic or rare breed meat which are perceived to be more natural and better flavoured. Unfortunately, these pigs are true to their name, and have a habit of returning to the wild and forming breeding herds.

One other very surprising bit of information was published in the farming press recently. We all know that a few sheep are killed by stray dogs every year. Some of these dogs are genuine strays, others are abandoned on the roadside, and some are just let out to roam in the countryside as their owners are too busy or lazy to exercise them under proper control. The surprise was in the number of sheep worried to death every year. Would you think 2 thousand a year realistic, or a bit excessive? In fact it is claimed that 2000 a month, 24 thousand per year, are actually killed or have to be put down, as a result of dog attacks. Horrendous is the only word you can use to describe this slaughter. Many thousands of lambs will also be aborted as a result of non-fatal attacks on their mothers. Please, if you are a dog owner, do keep your dog under proper control when walking in the countryside. If you see a stray dog roaming the streets, or farmland, report them to the dog wardens or Police. If you see a dog chasing or attacking sheep, contact the nearest farmer if possible, before trying to scare the dog off. Your help and care could save the lives of many sheep.

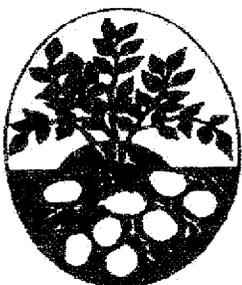
Edwin Pocock

Did you know that?

You can buy 3 green sacks for £1 at the reception at the Old Town Hall, fill them with garden rubbish and telephone 2734567 for collection, These must not be left inside or out of your wheely bin they must be kept separate.

TOTLEY HALL FARM PRODUCE

TOTLEY HALL LANE



25kg. SACK OF POTATOES @ £4-50

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Gossamer wings

One of the features of my garden is a wildlife pond. No fish, fountain or stream, but a constant source of interest provided by frogs, toads, newts, water boatmen, water plants and for me most attractive of all, dragonflies

With their fast darting flight, held aloft on pairs of glistening wings, dragonflies and the smaller more delicate damselflies, are an added bonus to any garden. From June onwards a sunny day holds the promise of a visitor circling or buzzing the pond, sometimes hovering then gliding effortlessly, or moving with a sudden burst of speed to intercept an insect meal or check out a potential mate. If it is a male patrolling his territory, and male dragonflies are very territorial, chances are he will occasionally settle on a prominent position to bask in the sun with his wings outstretched. It is then that one gets the chance to check his colours and make a stab at identification.

Identification of different species or the sex of individuals can be difficult, as colours and markings can vary between the sexes and with age. No problem for them though, and the male dragonflies possessive flight pattern advertises his territory, and serves to deter other males. If not you might be treated to a spectacular high-speed dog-fight reminiscent of first world war biplanes, but much faster!

Dragonflies have two sets of wings which function independently and which gives them immense manoeuvrability. They can hover, fly backwards, slip sideways, or dart forwards almost faster than the eye can follow, reaching speeds of more than 30 mph. As they fly past you or through plants by the pond, you may hear their wings clattering on the vegetation. Gossamer they may appear, but they are immensely strong. And they have served dragonflies well, making them one of the longest surviving families in the insect kingdom with fossils complete with wing impressions, dating back well beyond the Jurassic period.

Courtship does not exist in the dragonfly kingdom. Some of those dog fights turn out to be something totally different with the male seemingly grasping a female by the scruff of the neck to fly in tandem. Still in tandem egg laying eventually begins, with the female dipping her abdomen in the water to deposit eggs or attach them to plants. This is a risky business, and I have watched damselflies in particular disappear into the hungry mouths of opportunistic newts.

Underwater few would be attracted to the life of the dragonfly larva or nymph. Unlike their adult phase the nymphs are ugly creatures, candidates for a part in an alien film, and voracious hunters. Tadpoles without tails have usually been their victims. Even young newts and small fish can fall to their stalking amongst the pond weed.

Depending on species and food supply it takes two or more years before the nymphs emerge to climb a reed or iris stem and begin their transformation. As the skin splits the adult dragonfly emerges, pumping its gossamer wings full of blood and then drying them in the sun before starting another generational sequence.

There are several species of dragonfly and damselflies in the Sheffield area. Broad-Bodied Chasers visit and Southern Hawkers breed in my pond, along with several species of damselfly. If you are interested, keep an eye out for guided visits to local nature reserves, visit www.dragonflysoc.org.uk or better still dig a pond and just wait - you won't be disappointed.

John Baker

Our Lady of Beauchief and St Thomas of Canterbury, Meadowhead Chapel-of-ease English Martyrs Baslow Road

Parish Priest:- Fr. Mark McManus Tel. 0114 2747257

Regular Events

Sunday

0915 Mass Our Lady and St. Thomas' (OLST)

1115 Mass OLST

1600 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament OLST

1645 Evening Prayer OLST

Monday Weekday Mass as announced OLST

2000 St. Vincent de Paul Society, Parish Rooms OLST

Tuesday Weekday Mass as announced OLST

0930 Parents and Toddlers, Parish Hall OLST

1830 Cubs, Parish Hall OLST

2000 Scouts, Parish Hall OLST

Wednesday Weekday Mass as announced OLST

1030 Fun and Friends, Parish Hall OLST

1830 Brownies, Parish Hall OLST

2000 Guides, Parish Hall OLST

1930 Praying the Gospel English Martyrs Church.

Thursday Weekday Mass as announced English Martyrs.

1030 Parents and Toddlers, Parish Hall OLST

1730 Rainbows, Parish Hall OLST

1400 Sewing Circle, Parish Rooms OLST

2000 Youth Action Group, Parish Rooms OLST (as announced)

Friday 1200 Mass OLST

1230 Friday Lunch Club, Parish Rooms OLST

1930 Youth Club, Parish Hall OLST

Saturday 1115 Sacrament of Reconciliation

1200 Mass OLST

1700 Sacrament of Reconciliation

1830 Mass (Vigil of Sunday).

Holy Days

1930 (Vigil) Mass, English Martyrs

1000 Mass OLST

1930 Mass OLST

Weekly Newsletters containing details of current events are available at both churches. In addition, a free Parish Magazine is published every three months. Why not come along and find out what you have been missing!

GRAND BARN DANCE

The Outreach Group is holding a Barn Dance in the Parish Hall of Our Lady and St. Thomas' on

FRIDAY 29th, SEPTEMBER 2000, commencing at 7.30pm.

Proceeds are in aid of Third World charities.

Tickets will be on sale at both churches or on the door.

Enquiries welcome: contact Vivian Coomer (0114 2367736) or a member of the Outreach Group.

Come along and let your hair down for a good cause!

Did you know that?

The new red strip on the Road at the traffic lights with the Bicycle motif on means that motorists must not stop on this area as it is an offence to do so.

GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER

Autumn on its way! time to do all that tidying up so that the garden looks good for winter. Some plants which have out grown their spot will need lifting and dividing up, give a few to friends or pot them up for the charity stalls. Clean out greenhouses and frames ready for the tender plants, which will be brought in later. The Totley Show is on the 16th SEPTEMBER DONT FORGET, there are plenty of categories for you to enter (see last months Totley Independent) or collect a schedule from the Totley Rise, Post Office, Busy Bee or Library.

Let's make this years Millennium show a real one to remember. It's a lot of fun and you may win a cup, there are 10 to be had. You don't have to enter just garden produce, knitting, embroidery woodwork, jam, and apple pies (There were non last year). Flower arranging, photography, art, so there is no excuse for not entering, have a go. There is a children's section, miniature garden and computer ART please encourage them to take part. Don't forget it's at a new venue the Totley Primary School, Sunnyvale Road.

FLOWERS

Continue dead heading flowers (unless you are saving the seed then select a good specimen) this will encourage more flowers and give healthy plants for next year. Prepare new beds for spring planting, clearing old summer bedding plants and giving the ground a boost with bone meal or compost or both, fork it into the top 4" (100cm). As soon as the frost has nipped the tops of dahlias (they may last until next month) dig up the tubers and store them. Herbaceous plants can be lifted and divided now. Plant out bulbs and corms of spring flowers, tulips can be left till later, also spring plants such as forget me nots, pansy, polyanthus, primroses and viola. Cuttings can be taken of many plants such as calceolarias, penstemon, verbenas, etc. take cutting 3" or 4" long from firm non flowering shoots, pot them up in a good cuttings compost and place them in a cold frame or cold greenhouse and protect from frost. Most rambler roses will have finished flowering and can be pruned. If they have made a good deal of new growth, mainly from ground level you can cut out all the old canes that have borne flowers, if there is not much young wood you will have to keep the best of the old and simply remove the obviously worn out or diseased bits make sure that there are no old flowers or hips left on.

VEGETABLES

Keep all vegetables well watered, especially beans, marrows and courgettes. Bend over onion tops to encourage bulb ripening. Deal with any caterpillars as soon as they are seen, don't spray vegetables which are ready for eating (read insecticide instructions carefully). Plant spring cabbage.

Check potatoes and lift and store if they are ready (rub the skin with your thumb if the skin stays put they are ready). Earth up celery and leeks they should be looking good now ready for the Totley Show. Lift and store maincrop carrots, if they are left in the ground too long the roots are liable to crack. Beetroot should also be lifted to prevent them getting old and coarse. Thin out any vegetable seedlings and keep them watered.

TREES SHRUBS and FRUIT

Prepare ground for new planting in Autumn. Pick and store apples and pears, keep them in a cool airy place. Spray gooseberry and currants against mildew, pick up any windfall apples and pears to prevent any infection. Complete the cutting back of blackberries and loganberries, tie in new growth. Prepare ground for planting evergreens including heathers, hedging plants, shrubs and conifers. Last chance to complete the planting of strawberry beds if you cannot find time to do this in September leave it until March. At the end of the month deadhead and shorten shoots of floribunda and hybrid tea roses. Take hardwood and semi ripe cuttings of berberis, forsythia, juniper, privet, honeysuckle etc root in a cold frame or indoors.

GREENHOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS

Gradually reduce the watering all round, and dry off tuberous begonias, cacti, gloxinia, hot water plant and clivia. Feed plants in flower such as African violets, begonia, and bush

violets and chrysanthemums. Bring in tender plants which have been out during the summer, pot up bulbs of crocus, daffodils, iris, narcissus, freesia, and tulips and place in the dark, keep watching them make sure they do not dry out but do not over water them. Sow cyclamen to flower in 14 months. General Greenhouse. Nights now begin to get colder so ventilation must be kept an eye on; the side vents will very likely not be needed if the weather is cold. Close the top vents, close them around 4 o'clock in any case (unless we have a lovely Indian summer then treat as normal). Shading can be washed off or removed about the middle of the month. Spraying and damping down should also be discontinued gradually, there will soon be too much moisture in the air for most greenhouse plants.

LAWNS

Continue regular mowing and edging, rake, scarify, and spike and then apply a top dressing of sieved compost. Carry out repairs or start a new lawn using either turf or seed. DONT FORGET 16th SEPT TOTLEY MILLENNIUM SHOW, try to keep the village activities thriving and encourage the people who work hard to put on these events.

See you there. Cheerio for now.

TOM, Busy Bee.

PEAK DISTRICT EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

1 SEPT - 28th OCT

MATLOCK BATH ILLUMINATIONS & VENETIAN NIGHTS

4-9

CHESTERFIELD WELL DRESSING IN PROGRESS Peacock Centre Courtyard, Low Pavement, Chesterfield (town centre). Admission free - donations gratefully accepted (all donations go towards the Mayor of Chesterfield's Appeal). 9.30am-5pm daily. Tourist Information Centre: 01246 345777/8.

7,8,9

LONGSHAW SHEEP DOG TRIALS Longshaw Pastures, Longshaw Lodge, Grindleford, Hope Valley. 7th sheep dog trials at 3pm, Yorkshire hound trial run. 8th- sheep dog trials. 9th- local sheep dog trials and 12pm, open singles championship. 7.30am - 6pm approx. Tel: 01433 651852.

9-16

CHESTERFIELD WELL DRESSINGS 4 to 6 wells on show in Chesterfield, town centre. Sites include the "Crooked Spire" Church and the Peacock Centre Courtyard on Low Pavement. Wells on show 10am-5pm. Sunday opening 11am-4pm. Tourist Information Centre: 01246 345777/8.

Fred Martin (1913- 2000)

Selma Martin and family would like to thank friends and neighbours for the kind thoughts during their sad loss.

RETURN TRIP

Regular readers may remember that T.O.A.D.S. were invited by the author to take their May play to Switzerland in July last year and perform it at a beautiful hotel and conference centre in Caux, above Montreux and Lake Geneva. The whole experience was wonderful - apart from the journey for five of us, also chronicled on these pages and, therefore, you can imagine our utter surprise when we had an invitation to re-visit Caux and take "Return Trip" for another outing! By some miracle, the seven strong cast and three essential supports were all available, expenses were being paid, and we flew out on July 20th, performed the play on the 22nd and returned on the evening of the 23rd.

The weather prior to our arrival had been very strange and they had even had snow on the mountain almost to Mountain House itself. Nights were very cold and they had had a lot of rain. However, it sorted itself out for our arrival and was very warm for our stay. The performance went very well and we were once again made most welcome.

I did manage to get to Chillon Castle this time. You can see the beautiful "fairy-tale" castle, (made famous by Lord Byron's poem about Bonivard, the prior from Geneva who was chained to a rock in there for four years) from the grounds of Mountain House, jutting out into the Lake and looking tantalisingly near. In reality, it is a good forty minute walk from Montreux along the lovely promenade that winds its way round the Lake for miles, and I made the effort and did the walk when we arrived in Montreux on the Thursday. Well worth it - so beautifully restored and so many rooms to walk through. I even managed the walk back, despite the large number of silver scooters being used by adults and a few children! And I do mean the push with your foot variety! I had heard that the scooter was back but hadn't seen it with my own eyes

- well who in their right minds would have one in hilly Sheffield - but it is certainly the thing on the promenades abroad. And this time, on the Sunday, I took the Lake boat from Montreux to Lausanne, "did" the Cathedral and other lovely buildings and the park and market stalls by the Lake, then hopped on the next boat and saw more from the Lake and even went across to France, briefly, then back across to the Swiss side and reluctantly left the boat at Nyon and caught the next train to Geneva Airport. All this, on one train ticket. Providing you are going from A to B, the Swiss let you do it by train and boat at no extra cost, alighting as many times as you wish. If only it were that easy in this country!! Altogether another memorable four days in Switzerland

Just to wet your appetites, can I mention that our autumn production is that wonderful

Oscar Wilde comedy, "The Importance of Being Earnest" We first performed the play nearly twenty years ago to packed audiences and hope to repeat that this November 22nd to 26th. More details next month.

Kate Reynolds.

TOTLEY RISE METHODIST CHURCH OVERSEAS MISSION WEEKEND

SATURDAY/SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23RD/24TH, 2000
SATURDAY 23RD.

10-00 a.m. - Noon. In the Church Hall.

COFFEE MORNING. Various stalls including plants, cakes, nearly new gifts, cards and jewellery.

7-30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. approx.

DROGFIELD BRASS BAND. A varied programme of light classical, modern and popular items.

Tickets £3-00 available at the door or telephone 236 1598 for details.

SUNDAY 24TH.

10-30 a.m. Service, taken by Rev. David Halstead (Chairman of the District) talking about his time in Peru.

TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.

Thursday September, 21st.

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

DORE and TOTLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
Totley Brook Road

YES, WE HAVE A MINISTER

In last month's issue of we were informed the new minister was called Rev. David Hudson but in fact this should have been Rev. David Hudston.

He will be minister at Dore and Totley, Meersbrook Park and the Michael United Reformed Churches.

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REMEMBERING THE DAYS OF THE OLD SCHOOL YARD by Robert H. Carr

Whilst motoring out of Sheffield City Centre recently via Bannerdale Road, I had to stop at its junction with Carterknowle Road and saw over to my right a row of little faces peering through the school yard railings, their cause for concern, one rubber ball which I could see just coming to rest at the kerbside. At once I was taken way back to the days when I at that very school would peer forlornly with my classmates at our ball in the road waiting for a kindly passer-by to retrieve it for us. Crossing over the road I pulled up and got out of the car to throw the ball back to them and as I walked back to the car, a chorus of "thank you's" rang in my ears - some things never change! I attended that school only briefly before our family moved to live in Totley.

Prior to Carterknowle, my first school was at Hunters Bar and although very young at the time I have two clear memories of that schoolyard. The junction of roads around the school was far different than today - no roundabout, no traffic lights and certainly not the volume of traffic we see there nowadays. At that time just one lone policeman on 'point duty' controlled the scene (and how we could do with that at certain busy places today). One end of the school yard overlooked the junction and sometimes the older boys whilst playing football would kick the ball over the railings on to the road below and quite often it would land at the "bobby's" feet. I can hear now the wail we infants gave out as we stood at the railings - "that ball please", "that ball please", we would sing out over and over again until unable to bear our plea any longer he would return the ball, with so little traffic he was able to do this. I doubt it would happen today, policemen are so rarely seen on foot nowadays.

The second memory concerns the police also. On one side of the schoolyard a policebox "backed in" from the road. Occasionally an individual was arrested and detained in there until they would be taken to the police station. I am sure they were only "petty offenders" but to our over active little minds they were "public enemy No.1"! and all sort of fanciful tales were whispered about them in school.

My third and final schoolyard was at Totley C of E, spanning the years 6 to 14 and what happy times they were. At first we played games like "tiggy" and/or "catch" with a tennis ball. Later as we grew older a form of cricket and football was enjoyed along with activities many readers will recall such as "five stones", "whip and top", "yo-yo's", "leap frog" and "bent finger and thumb", "Hop scotch and marbles" etc.. The collecting of cigarette cards was very popular and the colour and quality of them was very good. One brand (Senior Service) gave away a larger than average card with their packets of 20 and were well worth collecting, printed in black and white with a gloss finish depicting scenes of the British Isles, they were quite "classy".

I seem to remember the girls had their own play area and were very good with a skipping rope, solo or as a team using a longer rope, a girl either end rotating it, one or sometimes two girls would dance in and out as the rope spun round. Their agility was a treat to watch.

In winter the snow and ice brought the inevitable snowballing and sliding. The harshness of winter meant viewing the outside toilets in a very different light! The facilities that were pretty basic anyway were all but useless when frozen, a problem most schools had to face in those days.

Sliding was not confined to winter, however, most lads at that time wore "scgs", a form of metal protection to the soles and heels of their footwear and they helped wear quite a good "slide" into the asphalt of the yard, and how we could skim along it.

A not so fond memory was P.T., it took place outdoors (no such thing as a sports hall) and mats were laid out on the yard for certain exercises. One I never seemed to master was the somersault, I would get to the half way point but instead of going right over I would sometimes fall sideways. It brought a laugh or two from my classmates some of whom were quite expert. The embarrassment of that however was nothing compared to the "medicine ball" this was very large and leather bound and filled with a substance that made it truly heavy. A number of us would form a circle around two yards across and were told to throw it to each other to catch, throw it, I could hardly lift it. You know how it is, some lads at ten or twelve are naturally "hefty" others are lightweight by comparison, I was one of the latter, around six stones wet through. So I would sometimes be bowled over by the weight, if it were thrown hard at me. Again this brought a laugh, I would grin and bear it, but in truth it was quite painful.

At break time, when in the school yard, we lads would sing comic songs of the day, one about the Prince of Wales and Mrs Simpson comes to mind and when Sheffield Wednesday won the F.A. Cup in 1935 "roll along Sheffield Wednesday roll along" was a favourite with we Wednesdayites, and I am still rolling along to Hillsborough, sixty odd years later, Ah well!

When the war came along we lads took up an interest in warships and warplanes and during break times we would test each other with the silhouette shapes published at the time and we got good at it, being able to identify friend or foe alike.

Early in the war, France surrendered and I can clearly remember being first told about this by one of our classmates. A few of us were standing around at the school gates one lunch time when our friend who lived nearby, having been home had heard about it on the radio. Although only young, we realised the significance of this alarming news - Britain was now fighting alone against the might of Germany! And as history relates, only Winston Churchill and a privileged few knew the state of our plight at that time.

Later in 1940 I left Totley C of E and the old school yard to go to Art School where, after only three months or so of attending, the place was blown apart in the Sheffield Blitz. I must say that my memories of the old school yard at Totley were fast fading as we in Sheffield witnessed the grim reality of wartime bombing. Today of course I can cheerfully recall the happy times at school all those years ago. A time when though we may not realise, the schoolyard is a classroom in itself, the first rung on life's ladder. We learn at first hand the rules of right and wrong; of give and take; and mutual friendship, etc., - taking those rules into later life.

I would like to think that on the whole the schoolyard today is much the same as it ever was. SO HERE'S TO "THE OLD SCHOOL YARD".

SUMMER OF '84 REUNION

**Did you finish the 5th. year at King Egbert School,
Dore in 1984? Or do you know someone who did?
Would you be interested in a reunion in November
2000?**

For more info, contact:

Kerri Hickman 230 2913
Amy Sykes 281 8225

Derry Walker 237 8921
Teresa Malone 251 4077

The Woodcraft Folk.

Are they carpenters? Or do they make wooden sculptures or what?

Jennie Street

I have had some funny questions asked me when I mention that my 8-year-old son and I belong to the Woodcraft Folk. So I thought I'd give a brief explanation of this educational movement for children and young people, which is now 75 years old. In Sheffield there are older people who were Woodcraft Folk in the 1930s and are witnesses to a tradition that is still carried on among young people today.

The Woodcraft Folk is a national voluntary organisation working with children and young people, with the aim of building a world based on equality, friendship, peace and social justice, and dedicated to developing self-confidence and activity in society. It is a registered educational charity, and was founded in 1925.

Groups meet weekly, enjoying a varied programme including games, drama, craftwork, singing and dancing, as well as following an educational programme based on our aims and principles. Hiking, hostelling and camping are also organised during weekends and holidays.

Most groups have between 15 and 30 members. 6-9 year olds are known as Elfins, 10 to 12 as Pioneers, 13 to 15 as Venturers, and 16-20 as District Fellows. During each meeting there is a Council Circle where everyone has their chance to raise any ideas, questions or criticisms.

Group activities are co-ordinated by adult volunteers, usually parents of the children, who hold regular informal meetings to plan the weekly programme of activities. Every effort is made to include suggestions put forward by the children and young people.

What's special about Woodcraft?

- ◇ Woodcraft is mixed. Boys and girls are equal in all groups.
- ◇ It's co-operative. We encourage children and young people to work together and share their skills and enthusiasm
- ◇ This means discussing and challenging discrimination
- ◇ It is open to people of any religion and none
- ◇ It aims to empower young people to make decisions themselves and to take a full and active part in society
- ◇ It promotes an understanding of the need to protect our environment and the use of the world's resources
- ◇ It is dedicated to the building of a more peaceful future
- ◇ It has exchanges with similar organisations throughout the world. Our international links help to further our motto:

SPAN THE WORLD WITH FRIENDSHIP

In Sheffield there are 3 districts, within which there are a total of 8 local groups, at Westways, Loxley, Abbeydale, Broomhall, Porter Croft, Meersbrook, Hunter's Bar and Sharrow.

My son and I enjoy the group we belong to, and feel we shall be involved together right the way through his school days, and would recommend anyone to join existing groups, or found their own in their own area.

If anyone wishes to start up a new group in an area which does not already have a Woodcraft Folk group, for guidance contact The Woodcraft Folk, 13 Ritherdon Road, London SW17 8QE Tel. 0181-672-6031, or for Sheffield, Simon Martinez, Tel. 233-9464.

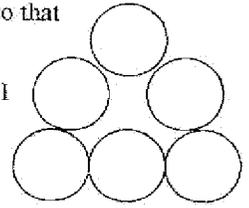
Numerical Triangles

My nine year old grandson is good at writing and drawing but not so confident with numbers, so I try to stimulate his interest from time to time. Recently I set him the following puzzle.

Put the numbers 1 to 6 in the circles so that each edge of the triangle adds to 10.

Doodling around with this puzzle I

found it could also be solved so that each edge adds to 9, 11 or 12, as well as the 10 originally asked.



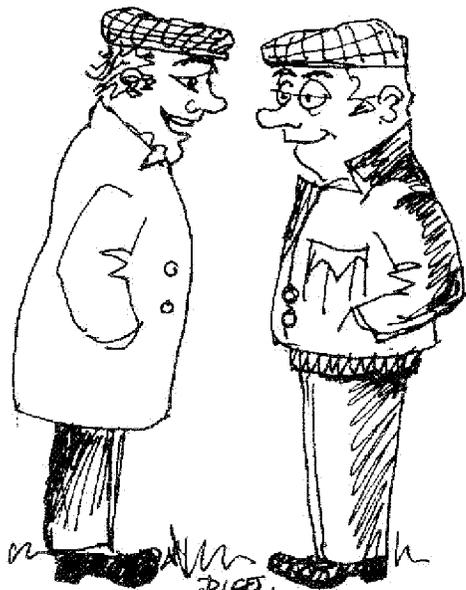
Being of an inquisitive nature this set me wondering about a similar problem using bigger triangles.

Using triangles with four rings on each edge and numbers 1 to 9 I found I could make the edges add to 17, 19, 20, 21, and 23, but NOT 18 or 22, Similarly for triangles with five ringed edges and numbers 1 to 12. I could make the edges add to all the range 28 to 37 inclusive.

Readers may care to doodle around with these puzzles.

I think I have convinced myself that the 18 and 22 solutions mentioned above are not possible but perhaps I shall be proved wrong.

Don Ashford



EX PUPILS OF TOTLEY ALL SAINTS
C. OF E. SCHOOL HELD A REUNION,
ONE OLD MAN ARRIVED LATE AND
WAS GIVEN 200 LINES!

PEAK TOWN STORY Chapter 27 by Hugh Percival

Most of the happy couple's spare time following their engagement was spent in house hunting. Their preference was for a cottage in the country within reasonable travelling distance by car from the centre of Peaktown. Oakley came within this area but a search of the village and contact with estate agents revealed no suitable property in their price range.

They would, of course, have to obtain a mortgage and John calculated that this, together with the little capital they had, would leave the price of an affordable house at about £4,000. At the estate agents there were notices for several properties in this range and they visited some of these in the evenings and at weekends.

There were several disappointments ahead. One delightful cottage, in fairy-tale surroundings, with lawns back and front and rose-embowered, with all modern conveniences recently installed, proved to be just beyond their financial resources. John did his best to console the heartbroken Susan when they were outbid. Susan was out of sorts for a week or so before she took heart to resume the search.

One Sunday in October, after several weeks of searching without result, the engaged couple arrived at Lowfield, a village some ten miles from Smith Square. On a blustery afternoon with clouds threatening rain, they drove over a narrow stone bridge that spanned a stretch of river with trees on either bank and graced by mallard, moorhens and cootes.

They soon found the cottage with the estate agent's sign hanging near the garden gate. First impressions were promising. Bordered at the rear by fields and trees the white-painted cottage, one of five in a terrace, comprised ground floor and upstairs rooms with a grey-slate roof on which sat a group of chimney pots. The lace curtains in the open windows blew in the strong breeze. In the small, pleasant garden at the front geraniums, snapdragons, petunias, hydrangeas and honeysuckle were still in bloom although somewhat faded.

John and Susan were met at the door by a mature, slight lady. She had white hair and pale blue eyes and was seemingly healthy and agile as she chased away a cat intruding in the garden.

"Welcome young people. May I show you round?" she said with a friendly smile. "I never wanted to leave the cottage having been so happy here for forty years - but my husband died in July and I am going to live with my sister down south". John and Susan expressed their condolences.

The rooms downstairs consisted of a front room, a dining room and a kitchen extension all with fireplaces, the one in the dining room being lit. The rooms were small but tastefully furnished and spotlessly clean. Pictures of country scenes graced the walls of the front room and dining room. Upstairs via a narrow, steep staircase lay two small, snug bedrooms and a bathroom over the kitchen extension. The bedrooms were wall-papered in a pleasant, flowery pattern. They were adorned with watercolour paintings and also had the benefit of fireplaces.

There was a surprisingly large garden at the rear, consisting of a small lawn, fruit trees and bushes at the bottom-end and a kitchen garden lying fallow.

"Delightful! isn't it John?" exclaimed Susan when they had completed the survey.

"Yes indeed. I am impressed. The rooms are rather small but quite adequate for two people, I am sure" he replied enthusiastically.

"Perhaps there soon may be more than two" suggested the mature lady archly.

"Perhaps" replied John quietly while Susan laughed as she blushed.

"Have you any children, Mrs. Harris?" John asked.

"No - unfortunately. We had a son but he died in infancy" replied the mature lady sombrely.

"I am so sorry to hear that" John said kindly while Susan kissed the owner's cheek.

After a pause Susan remarked "John we must put in a bid to the estate agent at once

"First thing in the morning - I will ring them" John confirmed.

"I would mention that some of the furniture is available for purchase" announced Mrs. Harris. "There won't be room for it all at my sisters and the rest will have to be sold in any case. "We have little furniture of our own so we would be pleased to have some of yours - wouldn't we John?" said Susan eagerly.

"Yes. We can discuss this if our offer is accepted" replied John. "Goodbye Mrs. Harris. I hope we shall meet again shortly".

They shook hands with the owner and left the cottage in optimistic mood.

John telephoned the estate agents on Monday morning to make a bid of £3,750 to find that an offer of £4,000 had already been made. Knowing Susan's keen desire to have the cottage he increased his offer to £4,250 their uppermost limit. In the event this proved to be sufficient. The other party withdrew on being informed of the increased offer.

John and Susan were elated. John made arrangements for a mortgage with the Halifax Building Society in joint names and he instructed Mr. Patterson, a partner at Preston & Hyde, to complete the legal necessities.

Later that week the engaged couple returned to the cottage to discuss purchase of furniture. It was agreed that two tables, two armchairs, several kitchen chairs, carpets, curtains, some pictures and an electric cooker should remain in the house after the mature lady's departure. All this at a price of £400. John had insisted that Mrs. Harris's suggested figure of £200 be increased to a fair value. As John said, the relevant price if bought new would far exceed the amount to be paid.

It was hoped to be able to move into the cottage in January.

Arrangements for the wedding were now made. Normally these would have been the responsibility of Mrs. Lilleywhite. However, neither of the engaged pair were regular churchgoers, although both had been baptised into the Church of England. Susan had always wanted a church wedding, preferably in the country, so John made arrangements with the vicar of All Saints Church at Oakley to be married there.

For some weeks the happy couple attended the church on Sunday evenings to hear the banns read and, on one Wednesday, to have a discussion with the vicar about the significance of a Christian wedding ceremony.

Arrangements for a reception at the Plough Inn at Oakley were also put in hand. Here the problem was to limit invitations to the number that could physically and financially be catered for. Blood being thicker than water first on the list were close relatives, fortunately in short supply. Next came friends and colleagues of the happy couple and their parents. John, on seeing that the list totalled forty four names reduced it to thirty six after a little judicious pruning to suit the available accommodation.

John, Susan and Mrs. Lilleywhite spent a couple of happy evenings together taking much pleasure from issuing the invitations and discussing the idiosyncrasies of the various recipients.

BIRD UPDATE by ALAN FAULKNER TAYLOR

Two days ago as I write (23 June), I was standing at our kitchen window, looking out onto our garden, when a female great spotted woodpecker landed on the chunk of fat suspended from the bird table. A few seconds later another bird arrived and perched on the old and somewhat corroded pole which supports the bird table. It was a youngster; bird-watchers call juvenile great spotted woodpeckers *redheads* because of the red cap on the top of their heads. I knew the adult to be a female because, unlike the male, she has no red patch on the nape of her neck. After pecking away for a minute or so (by which time the youngster had flown down to the flower bed), the mother bird flew down, beak crammed full of fat, and proceeded to stuff the food down into her offspring's gape. The action continued for at least ten minutes before mum flew away, hotly pursued by the youngster. It is usually at this time of year that we expect these beautiful birds to visit our garden. We now look forward to seeing the cock, followed by a further youngster, during this next day or so. Then, after a further few days, the youngsters will have learnt to fend for themselves and we will expect them to visit for several weeks, and hopefully through the winter.

About ten days ago, a friend and I travelled to High Bradfield in the hope of seeing a peregrine falcon (ornithologists dropped *falcon* from the birds' name some fifty years ago). Fortunately we took an incorrect turning soon after passing Strines Inn; instead of taking the shorter road down into Low Bradfield, we overshot and descended to the village by the road that runs more or less parallel with Agden Rocks, these being some half-mile to our left. Just as we were about to pass a parked car, a man was extracting a telescope and tripod from the boot. I said: 'Ken, reverse in behind him, he's a bird watcher and he's got a telescope.' So - we were able to look through the chap's x40 magnification 'scope and observe the one large chick in the peregrines' nest. I mentioned to our bird-watcher friend that two years ago, while motoring up to the Lake District, I had stopped off at Haweswater Reservoir, knowing that golden eagles had nested there the previous year: sure enough these magnificent birds were there again. I was privileged to look through the RSPB volunteer warden's X60 telescope and see the male eagle with a rabbit that he'd just caught, as I watched, he took off and flew towards his mate - who was sitting on her first egg. Our Bradfield acquaintance told us that he'd also served as an RSPB volunteer warden during the previous year. We then

knew that he was a genuine bird-lover and not one of those dreadful criminals who steal peregrine youngsters from the nest and sell them on to wealthy Arabs for falconry. No doubt you will recollect my mention of ravens nesting on Millstone Edge near the Surprise View this year? Unfortunately they failed to rear young - possibly because the eggs may have been infertile?

WHISPERER

Planning applications have been submitted to the council for the following.

New signage for the Veterinary surgery at Baslow Road Totley Rise planning application no 9A/0062A.

And also planning application for use of land as a paddock at the rear of 27 Overcroft Rise,

Totley application no 9A/0617.

The sign for Totley/Sheffield at the boundary near the brick works has been replaced yet again this time sponsored by Westbury Homes.

Summer Lane, building work on this site has come to a standstill yet again as the council has put a stop order on the project.

United News is opening longer hours as they now have a licence to sell wine beer and spirits.

Totley All Saints School pupils from the years around 1942 - 1946 are holding another reunion on Monday 9th October at the Old Mother Redcap at Bradway from about 7 - 30 p.m. onwards.

TEDDY BEARS FOR AFRICA

Mary B. Marsh, of the Totley Library Tuesday Craft Group would like to say thank you to all the people who have brought us wool and knitted 'Teddy Bears for Africa' and I feel sure the children in this impoverished country say thank you too.

This group at the library, alone, have already sent 150 Teddy's and have another 50 waiting to go, but that is just a drop in the ocean, more are needed, please keep up the good work.

If you know of anyone who has spare wool or can knit we would be very grateful. Wool is collected at Totley Library where, also, the pattern may be obtained.

Wadding for padding the bears can also be obtained from the Library on Tuesdays at 75 pence for half a pound, that is enough for 4 Teddy Bears.

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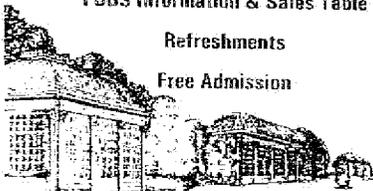
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MONDAYS COFFEE MORNING. All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon
TUESDAYS COFFEE MORNING. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 10am. To noon.
CRAFT GROUP. Totley Library, 2pm.
LADIES EXERCISE TO MUSIC. All levels. United Reformed Church, 10.30am. to 12 noon. Tel 2359298

WEDNESDAYS. COFFEE in the LIBRARY, 10am. to 11.30am.
MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm.
AMERICAN LINE DANCING. United Reformed Church 8pm. to 9.30pm. Tel: 2359298
TODDLER GROUP. 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. 2360097 or 2620741

THURSDAYS **PUSHCHAIR CLUB.** Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.
AMERICAN LINE DANCING. United Reformed Church 1pm. to 3pm. Tel. 2359298

FRIDAYS **TOTLEY TOTS.** Baby & Toddler Group. 1.30pm. to 3pm. Wizz Kids Preschool Building, Totley Primary School. Contacts Julie 2350839, Lucy 01246 470971, Alison 2364316.

SATURDAYS. **MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING.** All Saints Church Hall 2nd. And 4th. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

SEPTEMBER

SUN. 10th. & 23rd. MINATURE RAILWAY. Abbeydale Rd. South.. 1-00 pm. to 4-30 pm.
 TUES. 5th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. Totley Rise Methodist Church 2.30 pm. Devotional
 SAT. 9th. GARDEN PARTY. All Saints' Church. 2 p.m. Full details inside
 THUR. 14th. MADHATTERS TEA PARTY. 2 p.m. to 4p.m. Leonard Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane. Cakes & preserve stall. Bring & buy. Further details phone Jackie Short 0114 2367491
 SAT. 16TH. TOTLEY SHOW, Totley Primary School. Details inside.
 SAT./SUN. 16th/17TH. BEAUCHIEF ABBEY OPEN DAYS. Full details inside.
 SUN. 17th. PLANT SALE Sheffield Botanical Gardens 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Details inside.
 TUES. 19th. TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 10am. "Behind the Brown Paper" Mrs.C.Booth
 TUES. 19th. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. Totley Rise Methodist Church 2.30 pm. "Texas to Totley" Rev.C.Kirk.
 WED. 20th. WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. "Greenhill Village and 200 years of Methodism" by Mrs. Shirley Ellins. 8p.m.
 SAT. 23rd. JUMBLE SALE, Dore & Totley U.R.C. church Hall. Entrance £2.00 10 a.m. and 20p from 11a.m.
 SAT/SUN 23rd/24th. OVERSEAS MISSION WEEKEND Full Details inside.
 FRI. 29th. BARN DANCE. Our Lady and St. Thomas Parish Hall, 730 p.m. Full details inside.
 FRI. 29th. COFFEE MORNING for MACMILLAN NURSES. 10-00 a.m. to 12 noon All Saints' Church Hall

THE INDEPENDENT FOR OCTOBER

The next issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on **SATURDAY 30th. SEPTEMBER.**
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