

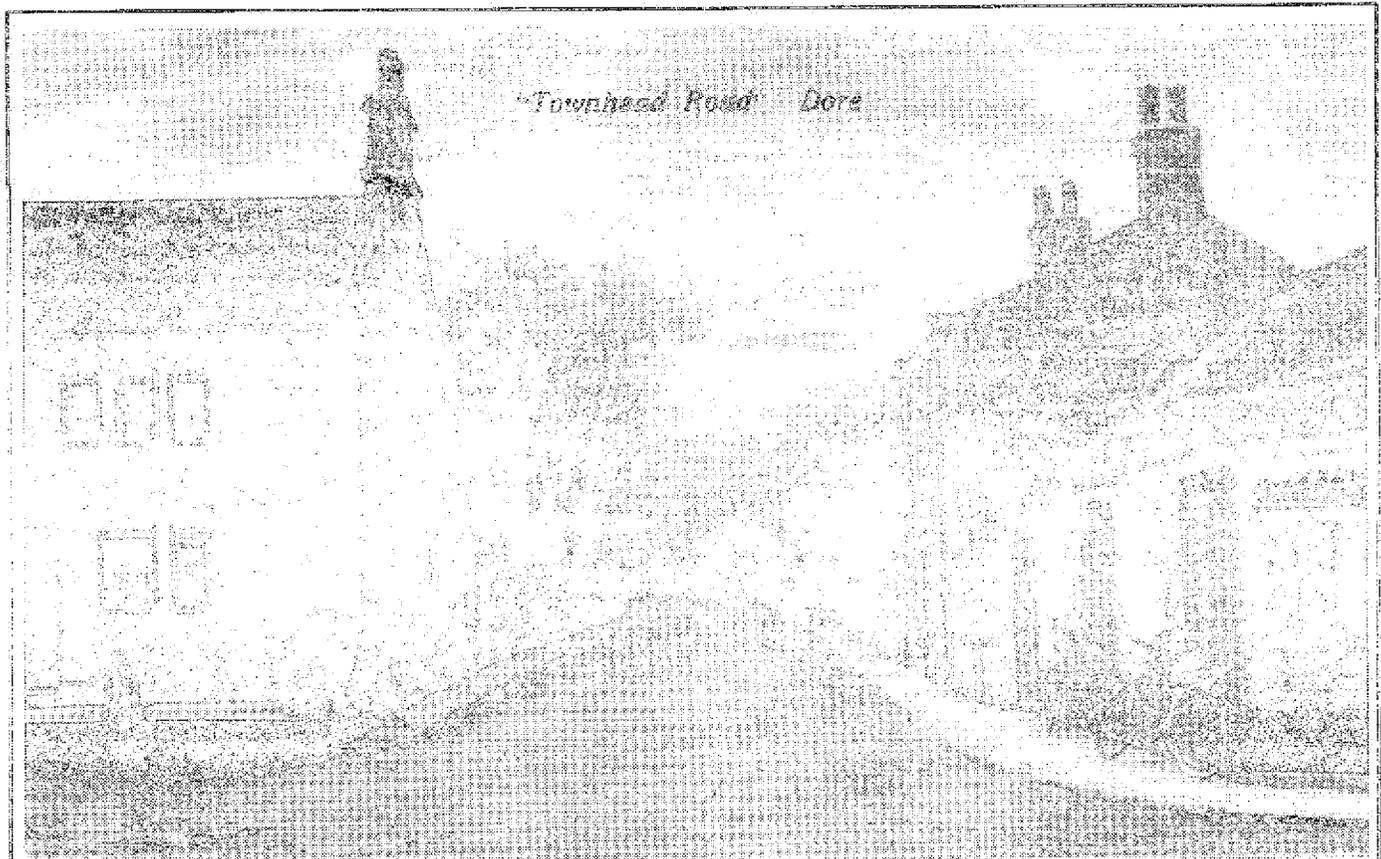
# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

MARCH 2001

No. 241

15p.



Townhead Road, Dore

Following the view shown in our November issue of Dore we now have the above different view looking up Townhead Road. The Post Office on the right changed to a sweet shop but now has become a private cottage. Behind the post office used to be a wooden hut which was the local fish and chip shop.

On the left the trees and cottage have been replaced by the current range of shops.

The view would be around the mid forties, but perhaps someone knows better and could let us know.

## TOTLEY RESIDENTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>. April,

Totley Library, Baslow Road

7-30 pm.

This is your opportunity to come along and make your feelings and opinions known about issues affecting Totley. Everyone living or working in Totley are members of the association and are invited to attend.

Your current committee are **CHAIR** Pauline Perkinson, **DEPUTY** Mike Williamson

**TREASURER** Maurice Snowdon **SECRETARY** Amanda Hardwick

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

## A RAMBLER MADE IS A MAN IMPROVED



To many veteran walkers the initials GHBW are synonymous with the great outdoors and the birth of organised rambling. George Herbert Bridges Ward was born in 1876 not far from Sheffield City Centre. His father, a mechanic by trade, introduced the lad to an early love of the open air and, by 1900, 'Bert', had

established the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers which, he claimed, was the first active rambling club of its kind to be formed in Britain. In September of that year he led the first club outing - over what was to become a great 'battlefield', Kinder Scout

It was his desire, that land should be free for all to enjoy lawfully, which led to a writ of trespass being served on him for making an annual pilgrimage to a cairn on Kinder where a fellow Rambler had perished. The £17 fine was accompanied by an injunction forbidding Bert from entering the moor without prior consent.

In 1910, he started off the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers' handbook which developed into a pocket sized mine of information on rambling, local history, folk lore and records of conversations with locals. That handbook has become one of the most sought after of publications and is constantly used as a rich source of information, not least of all by myself. He continued as editor for 47 years finding time to write constantly elsewhere and, recognising the work of his famed predecessor, he revised John Derry's "Across the Derbyshire Moors."

Concerned that public rights of way were gradually being crased, he formed the Hallamshire Footpath Preservation Society in 1912 and, over a number of years he was instrumental in gaining access to huge tracts of land in the Peak District. Ward was a prime mover in the formation of what we now know as the Ramblers' Association, and in 1926 founded its Sheffield & District Federation. He also found time to take part in the formation of the local YHA and assisted in the purchase of the Longshaw estate (now owned by the National Trust).

Having started his working life in engineering at the local steelworks, he then transferred to the Ministry of Labour before retiring in 1941. After that Bert was able to spend more time on his outdoor interests with his wife Fanny. He lived many years on Moorwoods Lane at Owl Bar, a few hundred yards from his beloved Big Moor. In 1949 the Access to the Countryside Act came into being but by that time Ward's great contribution, towards access for all, had been well recognised. Four years earlier he had received a just tribute. On 8th April 1945, some 2000 ramblers gathered on Lose Hill in the Peak District to witness Bert receiving the deeds to fifty four and a half acres of that summit (forever to be called Ward's Piece). A plaque there records that the Sheffield & District Federation of the Ramblers' Association had purchased the land in appreciation of the life's work of George Herbert Bridges Ward F.R.G.S. and an inscription repeats one of his favourite slogans "a Rambler made is a man improved". Ward's Piece was then presented to the National Trust.

On 6<sup>th</sup> July 1957 Sheffield University conferred an honorary degree of Master of Arts on G.H.B.W. but sadly he was unable to attend due to ill health. The Public Orator said "...that no man could have worked more tirelessly for the preservation and accessibility of our countryside heritage and especially of the incomparable Peakland. No man in the last half-century could have done more, by precept and example, to foster the true spirit of rambling."

Bert Ward died on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1957, leaving behind a rich heritage for all walkers and visitors in our countryside.

*Brian Edwards January 2001*

## THE BLACK & WHITE WORLD OF BRIAN EDWARDS

From the Isles of Scilly to the Isle of Man; from the top to bottom of Europe; from Sheffield in Ontario to Sheffield in South Yorkshire; from Swiss Castles to Welsh Castles; you name it Brian Edwards has sketched it.

Although better known for his drawings of Dore, Totley and the Peak District, his work from many other places is rarely seen. Now an exhibition to be held at Totley Library will include drawings from local and faraway scenes.

His recent trip to the battlefields and towns of the American Revolution have not escaped his sharp eye either, nor has his stay in a converted bordello on an island in Chesapeake Bay, Maryland, where the traditional oyster boats called Skipjacks are wintered.

During the exhibition, which will run from 28<sup>th</sup> February until 14<sup>th</sup> March, signed prints and copies of his books will be on sale. Until recently, few original drawings by perhaps the most prolific illustrator in the region have been released onto the market but only recently a private collector from the South of England purchased over 300 of Brian's original pen & ink drawings, several of which have appeared in magazines, newspapers, books and leaflets and the Totley Independent. How does he work, what materials does he use? All will be revealed in an illustrated talk to be held at the library on Monday 5th March at 7.30pm, tickets 50p from there, telephone 2363067. Funds will be put towards the purchase of new children's books for the library. If you are interested in going along, book early for each of Brian's previous talks has been a sell-out!

The exhibition will be open during normal library hours:

Monday: 10 am.-12.30 pm., 1.30 pm.-7 pm.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.30 am.-12.30pm, 1.30 pm. - 5.30 pm.

Saturday: 9.30 am. -12.30 pm.

Thursday and Sunday: closed.

Further details from

Brian Edwards

The Coach House Main Street, Great Longstone

Derbyshire DE45 1TZ

Telephone 01629 640752

Email: [briandwardsgl@talk21.com](mailto:briandwardsgl@talk21.com)

## CAR BOOT SALE

Totley Primary School P.T.A. have organized a Car Boot Sale to be held on

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 10 am. to 12 noon**

**Cross Scythes Car Park**

No buyers before 10 am.

For further details contact Jenny on 236 2302

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN S17

### A MALAWI VENTURE by Revd Brian Cranwell

One of the most encouraging experiences my wife and I have ever had has arisen from the support and encouragement given to us by local and city wide churches of all denominations for an education project in Malawi, central Africa.

In 1999 we learned from a newsletter that as a result of the Malawi Government introducing free primary education at virtually no notice, thousands of untrained teachers had to be employed to cope with some 1/4 million children who descended on the schools. We learned that the Anglican Diocese of Southern Malawi had 35 schools with 40,000 children, and 250 untrained teachers. Classes ranged from 80 to 150 pupils, some with no classrooms teaching under trees and writing in the dust. Most had no desks in Standards 1 and 2.

Hazel, my wife, has 20 years teacher-training experience in Kenya Malawi (where we had lived) and Sheffield Hallam University, while much of my background is in adult education and training. We met the Bishop of Southern Malawi, James Tengatenga, in Birmingham in November 1999 to discuss how we could help.

Clearly in a few weeks we could not do much for 250 people, so we agreed to run a 3 weeks programme to train some trained teachers to be mentors and trainers for the untrained in the church schools.

The plan was that we would arrive in Malawi at the end of April 2000 run a 3 days course for Head Teachers in Education Management, then a 3 weeks course for the trainers. But during the 5 months before our departure several things happened.

a) Two ladies from Gleadless Methodist Church, Anne Clark and Margaret Wardle, both retired teachers, heard about the project through our interview with Jack Shaw on Radio Sheffield, and volunteered to come with us. They proved invaluable.

b) The Diocese and Presbyterian Synod in the North of Malawi heard about our visit and asked us to run some training programmes for their teachers.

c) Bishop James had only been in office about 18 months and just begun to bring the Diocese out of debt. All board and travel expenses for teachers would have to come from outside. As a result of our broadcast and our appeal in the Sheffield Diocesan Newsletter, the broadcast, and the efforts of the two Methodist ladies, many churches contributed - Anglican, Methodists, URC and Baptists, so it was good to be

able to give assistance to the Presbyterian schools.

While we as a team paid our own fares and expenses these donations enabled us to pay for the teachers to attend plus expenses in tuition. We also received a huge amount of equipment - paper, writing materials, books, visual aid material, sports equipment. We filled 70 banana boxes which were dispatched in advance by sea virtually at half price courtesy of a Christian businessman in Suffolk!

The programmes were very well received and since our return last July we have received several letters from teachers expressing their appreciation. We have been asked to return this year to repeat the programme for more teachers in both Anglican and Presbyterian schools and have all agreed to do so. Once again we have been gratified by the generosity of congregations and individuals and take this opportunity to thank those locally who have assisted. We look forward to being able to fund all the expenses of the teachers again.

(to be continued in the next issue)

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

The dates for our 2001 meetings are;

March,	Wednesday 21st.
April,	Wednesday 25th.
May,	Wednesday 23rd.
June,	Wednesday 27th.
July	Wednesday 25th.
August, no meeting.	
September	Wednesday 26th.
October,	Wednesday 24th.
November,	Wednesday 21st.

**THE MEETINGS ARE AT 11am.  
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## WEATHER REPORT 2000

It would be nice to start this report with remarkable sunshine hours but who'd we be kidding? Obviously I do not have to tell you that this last year was the wettest of all the 13 years I have been keeping records with 'T' (Totley) 1362.6mm for the year (this could be higher as gales blew the rain gauge over in January) and 'WP' (Weston Park) 1086.9, the WP average being 825mm (69 - 98). The next highest for Totley was in 98 when 1226.4mm fell.

The wettest day was 5<sup>th</sup>. November (just right for Guy Fawkes) T - 49.8 mm, WP - 45.8mm, 19.92 mm. fell in just over 12 hours in Totley, whilst on 24th September, 16.2mm fell in 5 hours. February, April, September, October, November and December all had over 100 mm., the wettest being November with T - 219.6 mm. WP - 167.9 mm. While February had 3 times the average for the month. Just January, March, June and August were drier than the average. The driest spell was in January lasting 6 days. There were only 3 dry days in October and only 2 in November. There were 6 thunderstorms, and snow either fell or lay on 15 days.

The coldest night was on 27th December T - 5 degrees c WP 28th December - 3.4 degrees c and we experienced 50 nights of frost, but no days stayed below freezing.

Now to warm you up, the 19th June was Totley's warmest day 28.5 degrees C. and WP 18th June 30.7 degrees C, and we experienced 51 days with temperatures of 20 degrees C or over. There was only a 1 degree difference in temperature on 21st December between maximum and minimum.

Rain for the Year	Totley	Weston Park
2000	1362.6 mm.	1086.9 mm.
1999	1024.1 mm.	876.7 mm.
1998	1226.4 mm.	927.7 mm.
Coldest Night	Totley	Weston Park
2000	-5.0 deg. C	-3.4 deg. C
1999	-5.5 deg. C	-5.1 deg. C
1998	-5.0 deg. C	-3.6 deg. C.
Wettest Day	Totley	Weston Park
2000	49.8 mm.	45.8 mm.
1999	36.5 mm.	28.7 mm.
1998	54.0 mm.	49.9 mm.
Hottest Day	Totley	Weston Park
2000	28.5 deg. C.	30.7 deg. C.
1999	28.5 deg. C.	29.6 deg. C.
1998	24.5 deg. C.	28.4 deg. C.

### Sun hours Weston Park only.

2000 - 1400.3 hrs. 1999 - 1629.9 hrs. 1998 - 1401.7 hrs  
Weather Tree posters showing local weather should be in Totley Library when this magazine is on sale. It will be seen from the poster that there was no day of unbroken sunshine between 15<sup>th</sup> June and 27<sup>th</sup> December. Vivien Filleul

## It IS a small world

The editors have recently returned from a trip to New Zealand to visit their Daughter who lives in Queenstown.

On the evening of our arrival Ann-Margaret had booked us in for a meal at one of the many restaurants there. The waitress showed us to our table, which was in a small room with only four tables. As we entered and sat down a voice exclaimed, "It is Les Firth!" We turned and sitting at the next table were a family from Dore who we had known for many years and their neighbours. They happened to be in Queenstown for 3 nights as part of their travels in Australasia. None of us knew the others were visiting the Southern Hemisphere and in that small room were 8 people from Dore & Totley.

On another occasion we met a young man who lives on Totley Brook Road and is the grandson of the Reynolds who have in the past contributed to the independent.

## SCOUT NEWS

### 1<sup>st</sup>. TOTLEY SCOUT LOTTERY

#### January 2001 Results

1<sup>st</sup>. Prize B.T. Cordless Phone

No. 59 Mr. & Mrs. Loft, Quarry Rd.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Prize £10 voucher

No. 2 Mr. & Mrs. Foster. The Green.

#### 1st Totley Scout Post

The First Totley Scout Group would like to thank everyone who purchased scout postage stamps for their Sheffield and Chesterfield Christmas cards. Also to the scouts and beavers and their parents, who at a very busy time gave many hours to deliver over 7600 cards that came into Totley. They also helped sort and frank 4860 cards leaving Totley.

Finally, thanks to Rosies Dress shop on Baslow Road for a very valuable collecting point for sales of stamps and receiving cards.

Many scout groups and charities benefit from each 15p stamp sold. Peter Casson.

#### 1st Totley Scout Cubs

Yes, we are back. Cubs have started at the 215<sup>th</sup>. Sheffield (1<sup>st</sup>. Totley Scout ) Group, Aldam Road Headquarters every Friday night 6-15 p.m. to 7-30 p.m. for boys age group 8 years to 10.5years.

Come down on the night or contact:-

Nigel Watson, Tel 236 4778, Tony Marples tel. 235 3464 or Mike Hollindale tel. 0124 641 8963.

## Music Society

Hello again. Well, the Society is back in harness again after the Christmas break. We started early in January: learning new songs etc., for our Concert at the end of March, and arranging "auditions" for some new members. It is amazing how the word has got round and we are attracting enquiries, and securing members who are swelling the ranks. The Society seems to have found a niche that suits a lot of people who just wish to sing and perform "for the fun of it", and give enjoyment to others whilst doing so. We now have 25 regular members, together with 3 or 4 "part-timers", who share their time with other Societies, and do guest spots when available.

On January 23rd, we did a Concert at Cheshire Home, and had a super evening! We were made most welcome for our first visit, and the whole evening had an atmosphere of being in a friend's house, for a get-together, rather than a formal presentation. Apart from the lively songs that were part of the Programme (with enthusiastic participation of the audience), there were some distractions - such as loss of words in the monologue in my case! lack of music, to accompany the singer when "Encore" was demanded, so the "pianist" had to "Vamp" it! and a slightly risqué poem about OAPs! All this was appreciated in good humour, and we enjoyed the opportunity to mix with the Residents and Staff during the interval, which was a "first" for us, but was nevertheless much appreciated.

We were thanked, and asked when we could return so we must have made some impression - or perhaps they wanted time to collect bags of flour for our next outing??

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank all concerned at Cheshire Home for treating us Royally (although I personally was a bit miffed during the interval, because I had started a diet that morning, and could not partake of the food... and that was hard!!!) So once again, Thank You,

**Thank You, Thank You!**

Tony Reynolds.

## Ginger Longlegs. By Hugh Percival

27th December 2000. A stray cat has been besieging our bungalow for some weeks past. He is a tall, ginger and white feline. Shirley, my sister, gave him the name 'Longlegs'. He has a keen appetite and rapidly devours any soft food and biscuits that we put out on the patio. When he first arrived he had a collar but this disappeared one-day.

Longlegs can be quite vicious at times, probably due to his predicament, and he is a terror to other cats. Twinkle, our resident cat, keeps well out of his way and is reluctant to go outside when he is about the place.

With the arrival of the cold weather we allowed Longlegs into our bungalow to thaw out in the afternoons and he soon made himself comfortable in an armchair. However, Twinkle was clearly upset at the intrusion and it was not possible to leave Longlegs inside overnight.

After the Christmas holiday when the nights were beset with frost, with Longlegs' nose red and raw in the mornings, my sister decided that something must be done. We had been perusing the lost and found column in the 'Star' for some time without result. Shirley suggested I take Longlegs to the new Animal Hospital on Baslow Road to ascertain whether or not the cat had a name tagging device in his fur. I did so but no tag was found.

The receptionists were most helpful and, to my great surprise and relief, produced a notice marked 'I lost cat' showing a feline the spitting image of Longlegs. The notice had been given to them on the previous Saturday. The cat had been missing since July. One of the receptionists rang the owners to find an answering machine in operation. The receptionists were pretty sure that Longlegs was the missing cat but, if not, they would be able to find a home for him. To my surprise Ginger Longlegs reacted kindly when stroked by the receptionists. One of them put Longlegs into a cage and I left the animal hospital well pleased at the turn of events.

On the following Saturday, no news having been received, I called in at the animal hospital. Ginger Longlegs had been reclaimed by his owners and the receptionist gave me the lady's telephone number. Shirley rang the lady who apologised for not ringing us. Her children were absolutely delighted at the return of their lost pet. The cat called Jelly had been lost after they moved from their home off Furniss Avenue to a new residence about a mile distant. The children intended to write us a letter of thanks as soon as they were assembled together.

The letter of thanks quickly arrived together with a generous cheque. Jelly had now been micro-chipped and a cat flap was to be installed. I took the cheque (payee blank) to the animal hospital and it was agreed that it should be made payable to the 'Cats Protection League'

Shirley and I felt much better for knowing that the cat was safe at home and not stranded out in the cold at night. A happy ending for all concerned particularly for the cat. Ginger Longlegs had used up one of his nine lives.

PS. To the great surprise of my sister, Jelly (alias Ginger Longlegs) turned up at our bungalow on the first Friday morning in the New Year. He apparently has an attachment to his old home off Furniss Avenue nearby. We returned Jelly to his owners that same morning and promised to let them know should he turn up again.

PPS. That is not the end of the story. On the following Sunday Longlegs turned up again at our bungalow and was collected by his owners. A week went by with no sign of the feline but on the Monday he arrived once more. However, Jelly, now wary of our intentions, would not enter our

premises. After that he was to be seen periodically and we put food outside for him to eat as the weather was bitterly cold. This behaviour persisted for some days. Eventually Longlegs overcame his suspicions and entered to eat food on the kitchen mat. We made no attempt to detain him.

On Sunday 21st January, with snow on the ground, Jelly, now more trustful, entered the house and I was able to close the door behind him. Shirley rang the owners who came to collect him at once. Jelly made no attempt to resist and was placed in his carrier-box. Apparently Longlegs is happy when at his new home but insists on returning to his old haunts and seems unable to find his way back to his new home thereafter. Perhaps he will settle down soon and his old home will become but a distant memory. Perhaps - but I wouldn't put money on it.

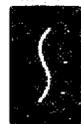
## HOLIDAY HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

SALTMERE-ON-SEA. Hotel Majestic. Sea nearby - in grounds during high tide. Sea monster recently seen in grounds - sighting not guaranteed. Lifeboat within call. Swimming lessons free of charge. Running water in all rooms. Wellingtons for sale in foyer - all sizes available. Public toilets within walking distance. Pets welcome - animals too. Happy hour 4 to 5 am. Dress optional but preferred - except in mating season or in hot weather. Friendly staff - take advantage of the chambermaids. Beds turned down daily. Exquisite cuisine. Bring own wine and cutlery. Vegetarians catered for - served as additional course for carnivores - rare or well done. Enjoy yourselves. See the wildlife. Nudist colony next door. Binoculars for sale or hire. Life and sickness insurance available - agency in reception. Funeral arrangements and teas a speciality. Vacancies all dates. TERMS Usual credit cards accepted. Cash preferred. VAT optional. Recommended - not by RAC, AA and C&E. Apply local representative  
H. Percival c/o Totley Independent enclosing SAE.

## OLWEN SHEPHERD

Sadly we have to report the death of Mrs. Shepherd on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Olwen was for many years a devoted worker for the Red Cross and was well known at local events undertaking First Aid duties. She and her husband Dennis were also, for many years, greatly involved with the First Totley Scout Group



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## TRANSPORT 17

Our first new minibus of the 21st century arrived in the middle of February. It is a Volkswagen and has a tail lift and safety belts the same as all our other buses. It is a slightly darker blue than the Renaults and has the added attraction of an electric step. This will save wear and tear on the escort's muscles! A report on the hand over will be in next month's Totley Independent. Transport 17 services about 30 clubs all over Sheffield. If you look in church magazines, libraries or on notice boards you will see many clubs or events listed. We are proud to say that we transport a lot of people to quite a few of these. One of my favourite memories is of our 3 gleaming buses lined up at Chatsworth Garden Centre while our passengers enjoyed a snack or a spend up. They attracted (the buses) a lot of attention. Michael Finn does a great job keeping them in good condition. It was great to see one of our ex-escorts on television one day this month. Roger Hebblethwaite reached the last 3 in Countdown. One of our aunts rang me and said, "There is a nice looking gentleman from your village on the telly Congrats, Roger."

Doug Turner, who drove for us for a long time before retiring at 70 sadly, passed away last month. I worked with Doug a great deal. We had many laughs and had to cope with many situations, some quite sad. He reminded me of my late father. They were both tall and always well turned out. Doug continued to support us after he retired and it was great to see him and Pat.

Instead of flowers the family requested donations to Transport 17, a magnificent sum of £470 was raised which was presented at the new bus Hand-over on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February, at St. John's Church.

We send her and the family all our love and hope that she will come and see us again in the future.

Thanks for the cards, flowers etc. for my 60th. I had a superb birthday and my Grandson and I particularly enjoyed the "Bob the Builder" cake.

Best wishes, Margaret Barlow.

## NSPCC



**Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.**

There has traditionally been a house-to-house collection for the NSPCC in the Dore, Totley & Bradway districts during April & May. With a small band of collectors who have helped for more years than even they care to remember, almost £2000 was collected last year. That is a fantastic amount and is used directly to help local children. However, this year a number of these faithful collectors feel it's time to take a well earned retirement, so we are looking for new helpers who could spare just a few hours to distribute and collect envelopes in the area. Collecting on just one street will help us to make a difference to the children of Sheffield who are the unfortunate and innocent victims of abuse.

The NSPCC think that at the beginning of the 21st Century it is appalling that 35,000 children are on Child Protection registers; 450,000 children have endured bullying at school; one child will die each week following abuse or neglect; 26% of all rape victims are children. If you agree, you might like to help us to put an end to child cruelty.

If you feel that you could spare a little time to help with this local house-to-house collection, or in other ways, please call Helen on 0114 2724214.

Helen Mower, Branch Support Manager, South Yorkshire NSPCC



## House sales take off in Totley.

Westbury

After a record-breaking month, Westbury Homes has just two stone properties left to sell in Totley. And its advice to would-be buyers is to hurry if you want the chance to live in this prime location.

Twelve brand new homes at Low Fields in Totley have been snapped up in the past four weeks.

"It has been an extraordinary month," explained Angela Jarrett, Area Sales Manager for Westbury's Nottingham Region. "This development has always been sought after because of its superb location and the high specification the properties we are building here.

"Since the start of the year we have been inundated with inquiries which have all resulted in sales. It has been amazing. Totley is certainly a prime location, especially as it sits on the edge of the Peak District."

The only properties now for sale are two of Westbury's four bedroom detached Roxton homes, which have reconstituted stone frontages and are priced at £172,000.

To view a property of this style, call into Westbury's Cavendish Grove development in Storrthorpe, near Chesterfield, where a version of the Roxton is now open for viewing as one of the showhomes.

For more details of the latest two homes which will be ready to move into this summer, tel: (0114) 235 3771 or call into the Totley sales centre which is open seven days a week from 11am until 5pm.



## Miniature Train Rides

~ Timetable 2001 ~

### MARCH

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>

### APRIL

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Easter Monday

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>

### MAY

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday

### JUNE

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Open day and Exhibition

### JULY

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>

### AUGUST

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Teddy Bears Picnic

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Bank Hol.

### SEPTEMBER

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>

### OCTOBER

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

### DECEMBER

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Santa Special

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Santa Spec..

First train 1-00pm. - Last train 5-00pm. (or dusk if earlier)  
Please note that dates and times may be subject to change without notice.

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(opposite Abbeydale Garden Centre & 100 yards towards Sheffield)  
Visit our web site - [www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk)

## CENSUS RETURNS

I was interested in the article about the 1881 Census by Maurice Snowden. In the past I have spent many hours poring over census returns and other documents in my family history research, and I was not aware of the availability of any of them on CD.

My first reaction was to think how wonderful it would be to sit comfortably at home to do the research, not to have to travel to distant Record Offices and Libraries, not to have to lift huge registers and index volumes and not to have difficulty reading strange handwriting.

My second thoughts then turned to some disadvantages such as a loss of a sense of being in close touch with the past. To some extent this was already being lost as more and more Parish Registers were transcribed followed by the originals not being available for personal searching. I know that, except for say signatures on a Marriage Certificate, they were not written by our antecedents, but they always seemed more immediately connected than anything on a typewritten list.

My third thoughts about the CD concerned the accuracy. Each time any information is transferred it is almost inevitable some errors will occur. My next thoughts then went into the realms of fantasy. To minimise errors we need to reduce the number of times information is transferred. Perhaps in the future each newly born baby will immediately be issued with a personal bar code to be used whenever personal identification is required. Some future family historian will then not see signatures on a marriage certificate, merely two bar codes ready for immediate transfer to a CD, or whatever replaces it in this rapidly changing chip driven technology. More efficient but far less fun.

Finally my thoughts turned to the forthcoming census. I hear that many staff have already been recruited for the event. I wonder if we shall still have to make our entries on paper forms, or shall we be interviewed by an enumerator, armed with a portable computer like an insurance assessor after a burglary, or a portable handset like a meter reader. Whatever the system, human intervention is bound to introduce some errors. Don Ashford

*Don't show the others how quickly you can go. You may reach the Hospital first.*

## The Dramatic Society Dore & Totley United Reformed Church



### DEATH TRAP

Ira Levin's 1978 thriller is guaranteed to have you sitting on the edge of your seat for the whole of an exciting evening, with twists and turns to the very end. Set in the isolated home of a New England playwright, this production presents as great a challenge to the stalwart continuity and stage management team of the Dore & Totley United Reformed Church Dramatic Society as it does to the actors - who must master American accents in addition to learning reams of words.

With sherry and mince pies forgotten, New Year resolutions things of the past and only nights of freezing fog for stage rehearsals, this is a cracking start to the early spring which we can promise will get you hot under the collar. Don't miss *Death Trap*.

The play will be in the Church Hall, Totley Brook Road 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm. Tickets may be obtained from the Box Office (236 4440) Martin's Sweet Shop or Members of the Society.

Richard Moffat

### CRICKET AT ABBEYDALE PARK

How many of your readers realise that Abbeydale Park is the home of the National Club Champions? Certainly the loyal five spectators and the dog celebrated the success of the Collegiate C.C. last season. The first match at Lords against Eastbourne was rain affected but the Club won the replay. They also won the Yorkshire League Championship and the delayed Final for the League Cup will take place at the end of April 2001. Incidentally Michael Vaughan began his career at the Club and Richard Kettleborough (ex Yorkshire & Middlesex) has returned to play and won the League Batting averages last year. This next season the Abbeydale Park Cricket Club will field 5 teams (with the amalgamation of the Club & Old Edwardians) in various Leagues. On a lovely summer afternoon (?) there is not a more pleasant place than to sit at Abbeydale (glass in hand) and watch a good game of Cricket. It would be nice to double the number of spectators this season. How about it?

John Gray

(I am only a patron not the Club P.R. Officer.)

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR MARCH

The weather varies more in March than any other month. We may get snow and then sunshine a couple of days later, so don't get too excited when the sun shines and go out planting summer bedding plants etc they may get knobbled by old Jack Frost. April is plenty soon enough in this neck of the woods. There are plenty of jobs to do in preparation, weeding and tidying up borders, mulching and fertilizing to give a good show in the summer. Get out the mower and give it a good oiling etc. Have a pair of secateurs in your pocket, at all times, when you are in the garden, there are a number of plants which need pruning at this time. Buddlia and hydrangea paniculata, these should be pruned back hard to encourage large blooms and strong growth. Another good late flowering shrub which loses its attractiveness unless pruned is *Caryopteris clandonensis*. All last years flowering branches should be pruned back now, to within 1 inch (25mm or so of the point from which growth started a year ago. I would remind you novices out there when spring cleaning the herbaceous borders that the pacony scabious and the *Aistomeria Ligtu* hybrids should be left strictly alone : they resent disturbance and demonstrate their feelings by sulking. Bearded iris are happier when moved and divided when they have finished flowering. Plan your borders ready for planting, think in blocks of colour or drifts, particularly the smaller plants like *Lobelia* and white alysum they lose their impact when planted singly or in straight lines, make sure your bedding border has a good fine tilth for sowing seeds, if its compacted or rough the seedlins will be struggling from the start.

### FLOWERS

March is a good month to divide and or transplant the majority of herbacious perennial plants, and its also a good time to sow seeds of many herbacious plants such as delphiniums, lupins, perennial gypsophila, statice etc. Cover with cloches, if the weather turns cold. At the end of the month make the first plantings of gladioli and montbretias. Take dahlia cuttings, sever the firm young shoots when they are around 5cm long, insert in deep sandy soil in trays or pots, they should be rooted in a propagator with a temperature of 60 - 70 degrees F, water well. Prepare flower beds when soil conditions are favourable, work in a balanced fertilizer such as Growmore, around the plants, remove all weeds as they appear, remove all dead leaves and flower heads. Put up sweet pea supports. Lift, split up and re plant snowdrops if they are overcrowded.

### VEGETABLES

Clear up spare areas removing old crops, prepare areas for salads and new vegetables, dig trenches for runner beans and fill with well rotted compost manure etc. adding a dressing of bone meal and hoof and horn as you fill it. Make celery trench, don't fill this, prepare base as for beans but allow room to earth up as plants grow. Start chitting potatoes ready for planting out at the end of the month. Sow cauliflower, broccoli and other brassicas in a frame or cold greenhouse. Runner beans can be started off in March in a cool greenhouse, I put 7 or 8 in a 5 or 6 inch pots. Broad beans and peas that have been sown in pots or boxes indoors for planting out should now be hardened off. Towards the end of the month if conditions allow, sow main crop leeks, use cloches to help get the seed bed into a dry condition. Prepare onion beds they like a deep, rich soil especially if you are going to try and beat Aeron and me at the Totley Show. In September, make sowings of turnips in fairly rich but not newly manured soil where rhubarb is being forced. Take covers off at the end of the month, if they are left too long the plants become very weak.

### TREES SHRUBS AND FRUIT

Feed cane and fruit trees with a balanced fertilizer, give your blackcurrants a treat with nitro chalk. Check over newly planted fruits etc. make sure they are firm, mulch around them and make sure they are not drying out. If the ground is favourable complete the planting of new trees, fruits etc. Give all fruits a spray against aphids and caterpillars as soon as they show. Spray apples and pears with fungicide to control scab and mildew, especially if your trees etc. suffered last season. Clean up strawberry beds removing all dead or injured leaves.

### GREENHOUSE and INDOOR PLANTS

Your greenhouse should be looking busy this month with plenty of rooted cuttings and seedlings growing like mad.

These must have plenty of light and fresh air if they are to be short and sturdy, so a careful watch on ventilation is required, also protection from strong sunlight is essential by shading. Gradually increase the watering of plants which have been resting. Feed actively growing plants with a high potash feed (Tomato fertilizer is OK). Pinch out tips of fuschia and geraniums. Also penunias at the 6 leaf stage this will encourage strong bushy plants. Pot up cyclamen seedlings and rooted cuttings of pot plants. Take cuttings of bedding and greenhouse plants such as heliotrope, marguarite, fuschia and pelargoniums (geraniums), as soon as sufficient growth on the parent plant is made. Size of the cutting will depend on the type of plant. Geraniums have a thick stem and cuttings of 3" (75mm) or so are ideal. 2", 50mm cuttings will do for the thinner stemmed fuschia and heliotrope. Put them in pots or trays of sandy compost at a temperature of 60 deg. F or so, keep them moist but not over watered.

Try propagating a few cuttings from around your garden, it is very satisfying to increase your stock this way, and if you have too many you can donate them to the cakes and cuttings stalls at the various charitable events. Sow cucumbers and tomatoes, if you have a heated greenhouse, also melons, (they make your greenhouse small lovely when they are ripening). Keep indoor plants away from radiators and give them a refreshing spray except fancy leaved types. If possible stand them on trays of damp gravel or sand, this will give them the humidity which most of them like. Shade from strong sunlight.

### LAWNS

Prepare ground ready for sowing new lawns at the end of the month or early April again depending on the weather. Spike or aerate established lawns and give a top dressing of sandy compost or peat and a dose of lawn fertilizer, make it look really smart by trimming round the edges. Don't forget to keep feeding the birds there's not a lot of natural food about yet (except slugs and not all birds like them). Enjoy your spring gardening.

Cheerio for now.

TOM BUSY BEE.

## TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL 50 - 50 CLUB

Your chance to try and win some money. Each member pays £1 per month, for the remaining months of the year, and each month 50% of the money is given out in prizes with the other 50% going to help the school.

You can pay by monthly standing order cheque or cash.

If you would like to join contact Pam on 262 0880.

Prizes are drawn in school assembly in the last week of the month. You don't have to be connected to the school to join.

## BIRD UPDATE by Alan Faulkner Taylor

15.01.01. 10.30am. We had four siskins in our garden in King Egbert Rd for a short while. Soon after my wife had seen the siskins, I heard, then saw them fly across the road from Sherwood Chase flats at the bottom of King Egbert Rd and into the gardens opposite. I hope they may stay with us until it's time for them to fly north to their breeding grounds in northern England and Scotland.

We find that crows, magpies and squirrels are a nuisance when they "steal" the crumbs we drop on the lawn for our robins, song thrushes, blackbirds, dunnocks, house sparrows and starlings. Recently I thought of an idea for overcoming the problem - green plastic netting suspended six inches above the lawn from canes, and reinforced at the edges by string. Unfortunately squirrels and magpies soon became sufficiently brave to venture underneath. Recently we saw one carrion crow tugging at the string and reaching out to grab a few larger pieces of bread. My wife scatters pieces of white bread underneath the netting, but brown bread away from the netting, because squirrels appear to prefer brown bread.

As far as carrion crows are concerned, we have three as regulars (almost residents, not visitors), we throw out larger scraps, such as fat, rind and the bone from the week-end joint. Currently we have a song thrush as a resident in the garden, and occasionally two. We hope they'll survive the winter.

**IMPORTANT:** Recently it was announced on the morning Radio 4 programme that greenfinches and other birds had been dying from contaminated peanuts held in suspended containers. The reason, according to RSPB and the British Trust for Ornithology, is salmonella, caused partly by the birds' droppings and partly by the mild winters. It is recommended that bird-feeders should be cleaned regularly, and after the old and mouldy nuts have been dropped into the dustbin, the container should be lowered into a mild solution of disinfectant for several minutes, rinsed and re-filled with new peanuts.

## SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

There is a proposal to have a school crossing at the junction of Baslow Road/Totley Hall Lane/Hillfoot Road. This is wonderful news as there have been many requests for this facility over the last thirty years to my knowledge!

It does depend though on someone willing to apply for the job. If you feel that you would be able to take on this responsibility please phone Shirley Johnson on;

0114 273 5818.

# SPRING PLANT SALE

SHEFFIELD BOTANICAL GARDENS  
Demonstration Centre Area - Thompson Road Entrance

SUNDAY, 25 MARCH 2001

2-4pm

Organized by the  
Friends of the Botanical Gardens (FOBS)

**EARLY PERENNIALS:**  
Large Hellebore Hybrids in Flower  
(Special this year)

Euphorbias, Foxgloves, Hardy Geraniums  
Pulmonarias, Symphytums, etc.

Botanical Garden Information Stand  
Sales Tables: Cards, Crafts, etc.  
Pictures by Local Artists

Refreshments



FOBS MAIN PLANT SALE  
13 MAY, 10.30am-2.30pm

Fund-raising for the Restoration of The Gardens  
SBG Trust Reg. Charity No. 1057845

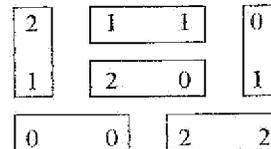
## PUZZLE CORNER

Here is something for Scrabble Players and Crossword Solvers to think about.

How many words can you make from the letters in **TOTLEY?**

I managed to list 32, though I couldn't find any with more than four letters ( except proper nouns such as OTLEY).

Solution to DOMINO RECTANGLE (issue239)



Don Ashford

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# Whisperer

Highfield Site. David Wilson homes have opened their new show house, which is quite different with its interior design mostly in black and white and grey and white. They say that they hope to be off site by the year-end. Totley Hall, is back on the market again at offers over £500,000 it was expected that David Wilson homes would be re-furbishing it but that is not to be. Lowfield Site, is now taking shape and should be finished by mid summer. Totley Rise, the white railings have finally been painted, and the paper bins should have been moved by now. Cars are still parking on the double yellow lines. Totley All Saints School old pupils are holding another re union at The Old Mother Redcap at Bradway the re union is for people who were at the school between 1942 - 1946 or around that time. It is to be held on Monday 9th April from 7-30pm onwards.



## SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY

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Saturday 24th March - 7.30pm  
Sheffield Cathedral

# St John Passion Bach

Stephen Liley - Evangelist  
Dean Robinson - Christ  
Charlotte Ellett - Soprano  
Shelley Coulter-Smith - Contralto  
Tom Raskin - Tenor  
Stephen Wells - Bass

Tickets £8 and £6 concessions, Schoolchildren and students £3 at the door only.

Available from Sheffield Music Shop, Broomhall Tel. 266 1000, and NPC, Music Sheffield City Hall.

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(Please enclose SAE)

## Our Lady of Beauchief and St Thomas of Canterbury

Tel: 0114 2747257

*That highte March, when God first made man*

As the weather warms up, so does the pace at Our Lady and St Thomas and English Martyrs, Totley!

### PENITENTIAL SEASON OF LENT

During Lent, why not come along to one of our Lenten Lunches served in the Parish Rooms every Sunday at 12-30pm? Proceeds to various charities.

Stations of the Cross are prayed every Tuesday at 7-00 pm. (OLST) and Thursday at 7-00 pm. or 9-30 am. (English Martyrs)

22 March Parish Business Meeting in the Parish Rooms 8-00pm. All welcome

24/25 March Scriptural reflection on the Passion and Resurrection led by Kathleen O'Gorman

3<sup>rd</sup> April Penitential service 7-30 pm OLST

### LENTEN TALKS

Wednesday 14 March What is a Synod? Speaker: Fr McManus

Wednesday 21 March Challenges to community and communion. Speaker: Fr McManus

Thursday 29 March. Young people and the Synod Speaker: Fr K. Grady

Thursday 5 April Experience of Synod. Speaker: Tony Beck Diocesan Secretary, Diocese of Sheffield

Enquiries about all the above events to 0114 2367736 or at the churches.

## SALERI'S REQUIEM in C MINOR

St. John's, Abbeydale

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 6-30 pm.

SALERI'S REQUIEM in C minor will be sung by the choir of St. John's and other singers from S17 and beyond.

Everyone has enjoyed rehearsing this work. It is very singable and makes pleasant listening too.

For those who are saying "Never heard of it", Salieri was a contemporary of Mozart (some might say rival), and his Requiem is very Mozart in style.

Salieri completed his requiem in 1805 but according to his last 'Will and Testament' was first sung at his funeral in 1825 by his pupils and other musicians.

Do come along and hear it at St. John's Church on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 6-30 pm. All welcome.

Every Wednesday during Lent. Holy Communion will be held at 10-15 am. Phyllis Glossep

# TOTLEY HALL FARM PRODUCE

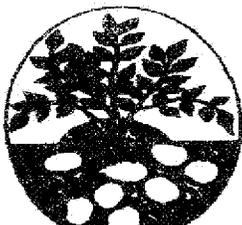
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## A Dickens of a Time by Hugh Percival.

Dickens' chalet lies in the back garden of Eastgate House at Rochester, now a Dickens' museum. The chalet was given to the author near to the end of his life and most of his work had been completed beforehand. Still it must have been in use when the author wrote his final, uncompleted book 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood'. Perhaps some of his latent thoughts were still lingering inside it occurred to me as I surveyed the chalet one sunny afternoon in September. Perhaps they might inspire me to write some great literature of my own. I walked over to the chalet and looked inside. The writing desk and chair basked in the sunshine that shone in through the windows. An eerie silence prevailed.

I stood transfixed as some of the inimitable characters crossed my mind. Samuel Pickwick, esquire, bachelor, founder of the Pickwick Club and the author of the 'Theory of Tittlebats and the Source of the Hampstead Ponds'; his manservant, Sam Weller, philosopher and friend; Fagin, the fence and corrupter of boys; Bill Sikes, murderer and burglar without a redeeming quality in his brutal nature; Wackford Squeers, the one-eyed practical schoolmaster; Mrs. Nickleby, that loquacious chatterer of inconsequential matter and the object of the affections of that divine lunatic in small clothes from next-door, affections shown when throwing cucumbers over the garden wall to the feet of his beloved and when climbing down the chimney of Mrs. Nickleby's house; Vincent Crummles, the actor/manager personified; Mantalini, that audacious ladies' man; Tim Linkinwater, bookkeeper and friend to Dick, the blind blackbird;

Daniel Quilp, dwarf of Tower Hill with his inherent energy and aquiline nose; Dick Swiveller of the Grand Apollon and the memorable phrase; the Marchioness, diminutive, hungry and sharp, the unsung heroine; Little Nell whose fate distressed the populace at large; Barnaby Rudge, the friendly lunatic; Grip the raven; Sim Tappertit, the revolutionary; Mr. Pecksniff, sublime hypocrite; Sarah Gamp, indelicate carer of the dead and dying and her friend Betsy Prig; Mark Tapley, indomitably cheerful; Toots, the great eccentric writing letters to himself from persons of importance; Cousin Feenix, humane though aristocratic, ambling aimlessly about as though his legs were on castors; Bunsby, the tamer of the dreaded Mrs. Macstinger, Mr. Carker, villain with prominent teeth; Major Bagstock of the florid face and worldly manner; Scrooge, the miser, whose name has passed into the language; Mr. Barkis, everwilling; The loquacious Mr. Micawber, always expecting something to turn up; Dora Spenlow, delightfully feminine; the unctuous Uriah Heap so humble; Mr. Dick the endearing half wit; Mrs. Jelleby, the fervent philanthropist and benefactor to the settlement at Borrioboola-Gha; Miss Flite, solemnly expecting judgement in the Court of Chancery; Mr. Vholes, typical solicitor; Mr. Guppy, unlucky in love; Lady Jane, Krook's cat; Jeremy Cruncher, the bodysnatcher; Sidney Carton, the drunken ne'er-dowell and his final redeeming sacrifice and his bullying senior Mr. Stryver; Jarvis Lorry, the dutiful bachelor; Miss Pross the eternal spinster; Pip's sister Mrs. Gargery, the belligerent ogress; Her husband Joe Gargery, the modest blacksmith, ever the best of friends; Joe Gargery's Uncle Pumblechook; Miss Havisham, the reclusive bride, forsaken at the altar; Mr. Jaggers, the domineering solicitor; Silas Wegg of literary persuasion and with wooden leg; The patriotic Mr. Podsnap, true blue, and his daughter Miss Podsnap, a great fool; and finally in his last uncompleted book Durdles, the stone mason in the crypt; Mr. Sapsea, the self-important architect; and the maniacal Jasper; and many,

many more.

Mesmerised, I left the chalet and strolled about the town in the sunshine. Eastgate House itself had been Miss Twinkleton's Academy, Rosa Bud's place of education in his final novel and the garden the scene of her unfortunate encounter with Jasper. In the ancient cathedral I surveyed the plaques on the walls. One paid extravagant tribute to a saint of a man without a fault. Did this plaque plant in the author's fertile mind the idea of the preposterous epitaph of Mrs. Sapsea in his final, uncompleted novel. I wondered? He had been a frequent visitor to the town in his later years from his home at Higham nearby. I felt quite certain that this was possible, even probable, and indulged my feeling of discovery.

In the High Street I passed the house donated by Richard Watts in an earlier century for the benefit of poor travellers. Dickens had used the charity as the setting for his Christmas story 'Seven Poor Travellers'.

On the opposite side of the High Street stood a black and white gabled building, now a shop, the site of Uncle Pumblechook's corn chandlers shop in 'Great Expectations'.

Off the High Street I came across 'Restoration House' the 'Satis House' of Miss Havisham in 'Great Expectations'. One inhabitant told me that Dickens had been seen looking through its gates only three days before his death.

Opposite the cathedral stand the remains of the castle on the banks of the river Medway, as mentioned in 'Pickwick Papers'. Here a horse carriage and its lady driver stood waiting to give passengers a tour of the historic town.

I had tea in Mr. Tope's gatehouse cafe. (He was the verger in the final, uncompleted book). I returned to my lodgings delighting in the memories of Dickens invoked by my visit.

Next morning I entered Eastgate House to survey the exhibits in the Dickens' museum. Scenes from his works were on display in a series of alcoves together with narrative from the books spoken over loudspeakers by actors and actresses. They included items from 'Pickwick Papers', 'Oliver Twist' and 'David Copperfield'. In a darkened room at the end of the display at the top of the stairs leading to the gift shop a figure of Dickens in pensive mood sat at a desk, while on a screen before him appeared in succession the sights and sounds of a host of his inimitable characters, including Dick Swiveller, Sam Weller and Mr. Pickwick amongst many others. I went down the stairs much impressed by the tribute to the great writer. It was worthy of him.

In the gift shop I purchased pewter models of Bill Sikes and Bullseye. They stand on the desk before me as I write and remind me of that inspiring visit to Rochester four years ago.

## COFFEE MORNING

The Totley All Saints Parent and Toddler Group are holding a Coffee morning and Jumble Sale on Saturday 17th March.

Come along and pick up some bargains, children's clothes and toys on sale, and coffee and cakes too.

The sale starts at 10-00 am. till 12 noon at Totley All Saints Church Hall.

If you have any children's clothes or toys that you would like to donate please contact either Jo on 262 0741 or Sue on 236 0097 to arrange for us to collect.

Any items that are not sold will then be donated to a children's charity.

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Volunteers to help support our residents are always welcome however little or however much time they have to spare. Drivers, escorts to accompany on outings to the shops, countryside or entertainments, help with crafts and activities or just companionship and conversation will all be much appreciated. Come and visit us please.



**THE JOHN WADE  
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**FRIDAY 31 MARCH CONCERT.**

The John Wade Singers will be giving a concert of popular choruses from Grand Opera together with a selection of other well-known works.

Conductor: John Wade.  
Organist: Paul Green.  
Soloists: Joanna Shacklock (Soprano),  
Eleanor Fear (Mezzo Soprano),  
Melvyn White (Tenor),  
Michael Tipler (Baritone).

Venue: St John's Church, Abbeydale, Sheffield.  
Time: 7.30pm.

Tickets: £5.00 and £4.00 (Senior Citizens).  
Availability: 0114 236 0820, 01246 415778 via members or at the door.

Proceeds in aid of the Schizophrenic Fellowship.

**Totley All Saints' Church of  
England School Sheffield 1827-2000**

Towards the end of last year I published the above book, which I had been researching and writing over the previous three years. The book tells the history of the school with information gathered from Record Offices, Local History Libraries, and ex-pupils. However it does also contain a good deal of more general local history and information on schools in Totley and Dore prior to the establishment of State Education in 1870. Also it contains a large number of photographs dating back to the beginning of the last century. The book costs £11.99 for the Soft-back version and £14.99 for the Hard-back. It is available locally at Totley Library, Totley Post-Office, Jimmy Martin's Newsagent shop and Totley All Saints School. It can also be bought at Waterstone's Bookshops (Orchard Square and Meadowhall), Blackwell's Bookshops (West Street and Broomhill), Sheffield Sports Shop in Surrey Street, Don Alexander's shop on Ecclesall Road, Country Bookshop at Hassop station and Fulwood Post-Office. I am also able to supply it myself and am willing to deliver locally.

I am sure that ex-pupils will find the book of interest, but think many other readers of the Totley Independent will too, especially anyone with an interest in Totley or in Education. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Joan Stratford

**FRIENDSHIP GROUP WANTED**

Since moving to Totley, I have grown to appreciate the unique almost village atmosphere and the local amenities. However since the death of my husband, I regret that there seems to be no non-sectarian informal friendship group. Are there amongst your readership any people in my age group, 'sixty to seventy' who would like to join with me in forming such a group? If so please contact me by telephoning Pat, on 236 8009

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## LEFT? RIGHT? By Alan Faulkner Taylor

"Left - left - right - left." Words of command by drill NCO's.  
"left - left - right - left." Words of command by right-handed drill NCO's! It's as though right-handed NCO's don't want to say the "l" in "left"!

Of course - I'm joking!

But to be serious - left and right have equivalents:

Left = gauche = gauche (French) = links (sausage-eating Germans); right = adroit = droit (French) = rechts (German).

All of which infers that left-handed people are inferior and less clever than right handed people.

Don't believe it! In actual fact, scientific evidence has proved the reverse: it's all to do with the brain; in left-handed people a thought or command has to cross over from one side of the brain to the other, and this takes a greater effort than for right-handed people. All very complicated - but is fact. (I may not have got the explanation quite right, but it is more or less correct).

To continue - why are left-handed boxers called "southpaws"? But paws for thought - why not call right-handed boxers "northpaws"?

Then what about footballers? Why not call a left-footed footballer a "southfoot"?

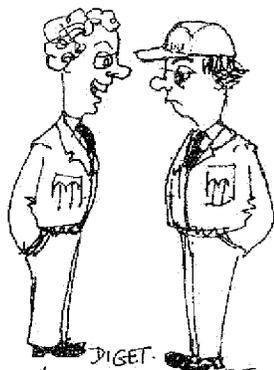
For the most part I'm left-handed. In spite of this, when I used to play tennis, some sixty years ago, I was ambidextrous; on the other hand, I played table tennis right-handed. Very peculiar!

As a cricketer, I'd been a left-handed batsman, but a right-handed bowler.

As for handling cutlery, until I was fifty I held my knife in my left hand; this seemed to be quite logical because I would always use the same hand for conveying food from plate to mouth with the same hand - fork or spoon. When I changed to my right hand for the knife, I would still use my left hand for slicing and buttering bread and carving a joint.

Left-handed people must use scissors right-handedly, just try and do otherwise - its impossible! I once attended a talk by a Sheffield man who specialised in supplying left-handed people with a variety of articles - scissors included.

Dare I mention politics? Well here goes - the far lefties are Communists, the far right are either Fascists or neo-Nazis. Given a choice, I'd go for the far left. But nearer to home - the left is led by Blur, the right by Vague. Take your choice.



"WE'RE VERY POSH IN TOTLEY WE HAVE GRAPES ON THE SIDEBOARD WHEN NO ONE'S ILL!"

## DERBYSHIRE FROM THE AIR

Hundreds of local residents spend their leisure time in the Peak District, walking or driving around and enjoying the glorious scenery. Well, one local resident and her friend have found a new way to see their favourite places - from the air! Sue Cullen, of 28, St Quentin Drive, Bradway, and Sheila Dyson of Intake, have teamed up over the last two years to make a series of flights over the Peak District, and have seen, from above, the places where they have walked for years. Sheila, who got her private pilots licence in 1995, says, "My favourite place is the Derwent Valley with its dams and reservoirs. It looks spectacular from the air." Sue is equally enthusiastic: "Sheila's the pilot, but I love to see the hills and valleys from above, especially when there's snow on the ground. I'm the photographer on our trips and I've taken hundreds of slides and photographs of the places we've walked. It looks so different from the air. People are often curious to see what it's like."

Sheila and Sue are happy for other people to do just that. On Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, they're holding a "Derbyshire Evening" at the Scout Hall, Sir Harold Jackson School, Bradway Drive. It starts at 7.30 for 8.00 pm, and includes a slide show and talk by Sheila, and an exhibition of Sue's photography. Light refreshments will be served, and there will be a chance to buy copies of the photographs (many taken off the slides), if people want them. *Tickets, available from Sue Cullen, Tel. 0114-235 1560, are £2.50 in advance, or £3 on the door. Refreshments are included.*

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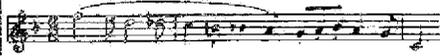
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**MONDAYS** COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon  
**TUESDAYS** COFFEE MORNING, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 10am. To noon.  
**CRAFT GROUP**, Totley Library, 2pm.  
**LADIES EXERCISE TO MUSIC**, All levels, United Reformed 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. 2369298  
**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. Contact Julie 2350839. Lucy 01246 470971. Alison 2364316.  
**SATURDAYS** MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING, All Saints Church Hall 2<sup>nd</sup>. And 4<sup>th</sup>. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

### MARCH 2001

**FRI. 2<sup>nd</sup>** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Women's World Day of Prayer, Totley Rise Methodist Church.  
**MON. 5<sup>th</sup>** SKETCHING by Brian Edwards, Totley Library 7-9 pm. Details inside.  
**TUE. 6<sup>th</sup>** QUIZ NIGHT, King Hogben School, Wesson Hall, 8.15-9.00, pay on the door. Bring your own refreshments 8-9.00 p.m.  
**SAT. 10<sup>th</sup>** JUMBLE SALE, St. John's Church Hall. 10-30 to noon Admission 20p. in aid of Yorkshire Cancer Research.  
**SUN. 11<sup>th</sup>** MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
**SAT. 17<sup>th</sup>** COFFEE MORNING & JUMBLE SALE, Totley All Saints Church Hall. 10-00 am. till noon. Details inside.  
**TUE. 20<sup>th</sup>** TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 10am. Annual General Meeting.  
**WED. 21<sup>st</sup>** WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, "The Atkinson Story" Mr. Graham Bell, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 9-00 p.m.  
**SAT. 24<sup>th</sup>** CAR BOOT SALE, Cross Scythics Car Park. 10 a.m. to 12 noon Further details inside.  
**SAT. 24<sup>th</sup>** DERBYSHIRE FROM THE AIR, Scout Hall, Sir Harold Jackson School. Details inside.  
**SAT. 24<sup>th</sup>** SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY CONCERT, 7-30p.m. Sheffield Cathedral Full details inside.  
**SUN. 25<sup>th</sup>** PLANT SALE, Sheffield Botanical Gardens. Details Inside.  
**SUN. 25<sup>th</sup>** MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES, Abbeydale Road South. 1p.m. to 5p.m.  
**TUES. 27<sup>th</sup>** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Lenten, Rev. C.Kirk Totley Rise Methodist Church 2.30 pm  
**WED. 28<sup>th</sup>** to **SAT.31<sup>st</sup>** "DEATH TRAP" by The Dramatic Society. Dore & Totley United Reformed Church Hall. 7-30 p.m. Full details inside.  
**FRI. 31<sup>st</sup>** JOHN WADE SINGERS CONCERT, St. John's Church 7-30 p.m. Details inside.  
**APRIL**  
**SUN. 1<sup>st</sup>** SALER'S REQUIEM, St. John's Abbeydale Road. 6-30 p.m. Full details inside.  
**TUES. 3<sup>rd</sup>** to **THURS. 5<sup>th</sup>** "Little Shop of Horrors" A Musical by the pupils of King Egbert School. Further details Telephone 2369881  
**SAT. 4<sup>th</sup>** LEONARD CHESHIRE HOME, Spring Coffee Morning, Tel. Jackie Short 0114 236 7491 for further details.



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### THE INDEPENDENT FOR APRIL

The next issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on Saturday 31 st. March. Copy date for this issue **SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH**.

Editors Les & Dorothy Firth, 6, Milldale Rd. Tel. No. 236 4190  
 E Mail [les@dlesfirth.19.co.uk](mailto:les@dlesfirth.19.co.uk). Distribution & Advertising John Perkinson, 2, Main Avenue, Tel. No. 236 1601. Items for publication may be left or sent to 6, Milldale Rd., 2, Main Av., Totley Library or V. Martins Abbeydale Rd. PRINTED by STARPRINT

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