

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977  
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No. 269

15p



The Fox House Garage on the Hathersage Road in the Winter of 1947. It used to be next to the Fox House Inn.

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and a HAPPY NEW  
YEAR**

## TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

We had hoped to be able to report that youth nuisance in the area had improved; unfortunately this is not case. The police have been giving us support by sending extra patrols into the area.

After a "quiet" period, except for the fireworks, there has been an increase in mindless vandalism.

Lights on the path between Bradway and Totley have been deliberately broken, Marstone Crescent/Baslow Road bus shelter has had two panels smashed, the Vet's signs have been damaged and plants in pots have been destroyed.

Police, Councillors and Community must continue to work together in an attempt to stop this anti-social behaviour.

**Please report any incidents to the Community Police Team on 296 3680 or 2202020.**

The petition to B.T. to replace the phone box outside the Cop has had a wonderful response, many thanks to all that have signed. B.T. has indicated they are prepared to replace the phone but it may take some time before it happens.

The post box at Baslow Road/Totley Hall Lane will also be replaced; this too had been vandalised.

T.R.A. committee has been discussing Green Oak View and the future. It will close sometime in 2004 because of the National Policy of Care Standards. We will be seeking a meeting with the Council to find the best way forward for clients, carers and the site after closure.

May I take this opportunity to thank T.R.A. Committee members and other residents in the area who give their time voluntarily to make the community in which we all live a better place for everyone.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Totley residents.

Avril Critchley

## HONARY AUDITOR REQUIRED CAN YOU HELP?

Totley Primary School needs an independent honorary auditor to audit its sundry school fund, commencing in 2004. The small number of transactions are recorded in a cash-book and all items are supported by vouchers.

If you are suitably experienced and can help please call Mike Strobin, Parent Governor, on

236 3382.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS

### SUNDAY 21st Dec.

**10.00 a.m.** Special service for Christmas led by the children.

**6.30 p.m.** Candlelit Carol Service.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

**4.00 p.m.** Crib service (Bring a toy, labelled with age and gender, for a child who will not get much. Nothing that needs batteries, or is overtly military, please.)

**11.30 p.m.** Service of Holy Communion.

### CHRISTMAS DAY

**8.00 a.m.** Quiet Communion Service

**9.45 a.m.** 45 minute service for all ages

## Christmas at St. John's Church.

**December 21<sup>st</sup>. 6.30p.m.**

Service of Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight. Join in with some well loved carols, and listen to some new ones (including some by John Rutter) sung by the Church Choir. The readings tell the Christmas story in the well loved words from the bible. All welcome.

**December 24<sup>th</sup>. Christmas Eve.**

Back at its old time the Christingle Service will take place at 5 p.m.

This popular service for the whole family will include the lighting of the Christmas tree and the Christingles and popular carols. All welcome.

**December 24<sup>th</sup>. Christmas Eve.**

Midnight Communion. 11.30p.m. The first Communion of Christmas and The Blessing of the Crib, with music led by the Choir.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>. Christmas day:-**

A Family Service with Carols at 10a.m.

### EARLY WARNING TO ALL SINGERS! APRIL 4th.

Following the Pattern of the last few years, the choir of St. John's & Alan our organist/choirmaster invite singers from S17 to join us to sing the shortened version of Bach's St. Matthew's Passion. This year, owing to all Alan's other commitments, it will be on Palm Sunday and we hope that this will not interfere with the other churches own arrangements. Rehearsals will start on January 9th at St. John's at 8pm. I will be writing to the individual churches & others who have joined us in the past, very soon. Please let me know if you are interested.

Phyllis Glossop.

## Christmas Dates for Totley Rise Methodist 2003

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

*from all at Totley Rise Methodist Church!*

We warmly invite you to join us for our Christmas celebrations.

We're located at Baslow Rd/Grove Rd

### Sunday 21st December

**'It's A Boy!' 10:30am**

Brand new musical for all ages with catchy tunes & humorous script led by the Choir, Brownies and Youth Church.

**'The Lord of the Kings' 6pm**

The Christmas message through readings, music, & carols old and new.

Followed by coffee & mince pies

### Christmas Eve

**'Silent Night' 11:15pm**

The celebration of Holy Communion  
(At Dore Methodist Church)

### Christmas Day

**'Joy to the World!' 10am**

A Christmas Day service for all ages.  
Children bring along a present to show!

For further information please call **Rev. Chris Kirk 236 3157**

## View from KES (2)

Life is never dull in a secondary school. Although it has been a long term and both staff and pupils are ready for the Christmas break, we have had a number of highlights, which I would like to share with you.

### The Sponsored Walk

Even though I only joined the school in January, I quickly realised what a great community event our sponsored walk is. I had the task of organising the event this year and would like to thank the many parents who helped out, either by marshalling or accompanying the youngsters on the walk. We were very fortunate with the weather and the last child back to school came in at 5.00 pm. Thanks to every ones efforts we managed to raise nearly £10,000 and this money will be spent on the students of the school. Year councils are already providing the management with lots of ideas as to how the money ought to be spent.

At present the walk involves all our students (Year 7-13) and covers 13 miles. We are at present reviewing how we manage the walk and some changes to what we have done in the past should be expected.

### The New Building

In my last article, I wrote that the work on the new school should have started in June. This did not happen. We were then told mid-July, and started to prepare ourselves and the pupils for this event - we even got Chris Adams (Gleasons on site manager) to talk to the pupils about Health and Safety issues and write to parents. Suddenly everything was put on further hold so building did not start. During the summer break further progress was made and the workmen finally started at the end of September. We are all delighted with this.

The back of the Wessex building has all been fenced off and students can now only enter or exit the site through the main gates on Wessex drive. This drive has been partitioned to separate construction traffic from pedestrians.

### Sporting achievements

Our students continue to succeed in sport at a local, county, national and international level. In cricket the Year 7 team won the City Schools Final. The Year 8 team were South Yorkshire champions and went to represent the county at Headingley. The Year 10 team, who for the past three years had failed to win a match, reached the semi-finals of the Sheffield Schools cup.

In athletics we had 30 athletes represent the school at the City Finals at Don Valley stadium. Unfortunately, for the first time in six years we did not have an athlete on the South Yorkshire Team at the English Schools Championships, although the school was represented by Mr Eccles, who was once again a team manager. This was not due to under performance by our students but quite the opposite. Jessica Ennis was unable to defend her English Schools High Jump title as she was competing in the U20 World Athletics Championships in Canada. Jessica was competing in the heptathlon, which she led for 5 of the 7 events, and eventually finished 5th. This was an outstanding achievement and the school is extremely proud of her.

We continue to be successful in badminton with the U13 Boys winning the County Schools Badminton title.

### Junior School Visits

During the last few weeks the Senior Staff at KES, that is, Bob Evans -the Headteacher, Tim Eldridge, Jo Higgins and myself- the Deputies and Tom Smiles -Head of Lower School, have been visiting our Junior schools of Totley All Saints, Totley County and Dore, to meet parents and tell them

a little about what makes KES so special. It is also an opportunity for parents to be re-assured and ask any questions which they may have.

Parents had an opportunity to visit us on Wednesday 22nd. October when we held our Open Evening when visitors had an opportunity to see us 'in action'.

I hope reading this gives you a flavour of some of the exciting things that happen at KES. We have so many talented and gifted youngsters and are very proud of their achievements, as I hope you are.

If you have any questions to put to me or any comments to make, could you write to me at King Ecgbert School, Furniss Avenue, Dore, S17 3QN

Thank you

Sean McClafferty

# Spotlight

on Danny Reynolds

- one of Totley's oldest residents.

### How long have you lived or worked in Totley?

I have lived here for almost 93 years.

### What do you like most about this area ?

The rural life and the honesty of the inhabitants.

### What would you change if you could?

I would bring back corporal punishment in court, also in schools and homes without the interference of do-gooders.

### What is your most treasured possession?

A wallet my wife gave me 70 years ago , and a brass inkwell bust of Shakespeare given to me by my eldest son Keith, (unfortunately killed in a car accident).

### Which famous person would you like to meet (past or present)?

Enoch Powell, the only man who had the guts to stand in parliament and tell the nation as to what was likely to happen. His advice was ignored and we now have the problem he forecast.

### Who has had the most influence on your life?

My parents and school master who taught us the values of friendship, money, and the countryside.

### What was your childhood like?

Very happy, creative in many ways. We made our own entertainment and were never bored.

### How do you like to spend your spare time?

In our garden where we grow flowers of all kinds. Giving pleasure to us and visitors when our garden is open to the public two days of the year, when money raised helps local events.

### What was your best holiday?

My first weeks holiday on my honeymoon in Morcambe in 1935 when at a show. I met what I claim to be the most talented tenor I have heard, his name was Howard Heeley.

### What is your favourite book, Film, Song, Music, Painting or Poem?

My favourite music is Country and Western, in my early days known as Cowboy songs.

Isobel and I were regulars at the Empire theatre. It was there I heard and met Kit Carson and the Mitchel kids, who sang songs from the heart as cowboy music was about real life.

## WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS DAD?

The usual question has already been posed though thankfully not as soon as "Christmas" started in the shops. The truth is I don't need anything in the usual sense. I have a stack of socks, shoes, shirts and sweaters, a plethora of pullovers and pyjamas, a host of hankies, an abundance of belts and tons of ties. Though I wore suits to work I have rarely worn them, in more than twenty years since retirement. Indeed those bought for special occasions such as weddings have hung almost unused in the wardrobe before being given to St. Luke's charity shop. I might add the major reason for the transfer was that they seem to have shrunk since I wore them, particularly round the waist.

Since I cannot come up with any meaningful needs of my own I began to wonder what I could ask for if the magic fairy came along to grant any wishes. I think my first priority on a personal basis would be restoration of my sight and then say, at least twenty years off my age. Even asking for these would not be without a tinge of guilt. I have a CCTV viewer which magnifies up to forty times allowing me to write letters, do crosswords and read short articles and I know many people with sight problems cannot afford such luxury. Also my general health is better than many younger people as any visit to hospital quickly makes evident.

Realistically of course the magic fairy is not likely to appear but there are many things I could wish for which ought to be possible. On the world stage, my priority would be for all people to live in peaceful co-existence. Why does so much trouble have to be caused by religious intolerance? Isn't it a pity that the human mind, capable of producing so many wonderful inventions, even putting a man on the moon, cannot find the way to live and let live, after thousands of years of strife?

Does this imply that the human brain can only function at its best by being confrontational? Certainly life in this country seems to be organised on these lines. Wouldn't it be a refreshing change to hear a radio or television presenter ask how some chosen news item might be to the common good instead of how it might affect the leader of this or that political party? Similarly, in legal affairs, why cannot we devise a system to find truth, instead of persisting with the system where the cleverest (most expensive?) barrister can outwit an opponent, irrespective of the truth.

On an even closer to home theme, I could wish for all the things Avril Critchley draws to our attention in the November Totley Independent to be put right. I have often argued that "more bobbies on the beat" as is commonly called for, could not eliminate anti-social behaviour. A drastic change in personal responsibility and behaviour is what is required.

Take as an example what is commonly seen on any bus trip to town and back. The bus floor is almost always littered with discarded tickets and scraps of paper. More than once I have been aware of an empty drink can or bottle rolling about. Many people assume it is their right to occupy two seats, sitting on the one next to the aisle with shopping or just a handbag on the other. Children, whether accompanied by adults or not, rarely offer their seats to standing adults. Passengers availing themselves of the free papers provided, usually discard them on the seats or even on the floor, rarely returning them to the luggage platform. I also hate to see shoes on the seats. At least they will be dusty and may have mud, chewing gum or even dog dirt to transfer to a seat and then to someone's clothes. As I write this I am remembering my bus journey home from town only yesterday. I was aware of a boy and girl of perhaps 16 years in the seat across the aisle. Both had their feet on the facing seat all the journey

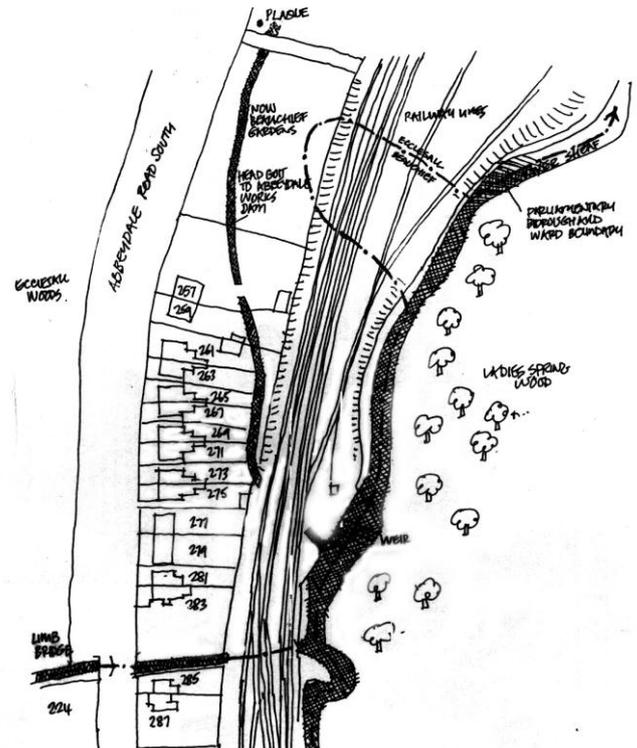
until they alighted at the stop for Abbeydale Park Rise. I wonder if they bothered to remove their shoes before curling up on the settee at home.

I am aware that these observations will be regarded as "nit picking" by many, and I agree. But wouldn't correcting these make life so much more pleasant and wouldn't it be so easy given the general will? More importantly, if attitudes were changed, much anti-social behaviour would also disappear.

Ah well, it's nearly time for New Year Resolutions! How about resolving not to discard your chewing gum onto the pavement, or to hold a door for the next person coming through so that it doesn't slam in their face!

Don Ashford.

### A SMALL PIECE OF BEAUCHIEF GARDENS IS ACTUALLY IN BEAUCHIEF



The plaque in the wall near to Abbeydale Road reads 'THIS GARDEN AND THE ADJOINING SHEET OF WATER WERE PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD BY THE J.G.GRAVES CHARITABLE TRUST APRIL 1935'. This is just one of the many 'gifts' given to the City of Sheffield, by the founder of this early mail order company, and which included Graves Art Gallery, Graves Park, Round Walk etc. This particular gift was awarded at the time of the annexation of Dore, Totley and Norton from Derbyshire to Sheffield. Close by a small stream runs between the flowerbeds; this is the head goit or feeder of water into the dam at Abbeydale Works. On the railway side of the park is the River Sheaf which had its level raised to feed the goit, as shown on the plan. It would appear that the bed of the River Sheaf was straightened (possibly for the railway line) and the dotted line shows that a chunk of Ecclesall was then taken into Beauchief. The parliamentary borough and ward boundary looks as though it was faithful to the old route. If you look over the wall between nos. 283 and 285 you will see the final section of the River Limb emerging from under the road before it joins the Sheaf. The Limb, of course, was the boundary between Derbyshire and Yorkshire. It was also the boundary between the religious provinces of York and Canterbury

Brian Edwards

## Horses at Totley by Hugh Percival

Each weekend I go to Totley Bents to pass round a few carrots and apples to the horses in the fields thereabouts.

My first port of call is at Teresa's stables latterly occupied by Guinness, a fine, dark horse and Merlin a small, brown pony belonging to Debbie's farm nearby. Merlin is lodging temporarily on a diet in a field adjacent to the stables. Both animals receive their share of the nutrients gratefully and look for more before I move on.

Jimbo, a mature, brown and white gelding at Debbie's farm is nowhere to be seen but this does not matter as he suffers from an ill mouth and has not eaten carrots for months. (I later found out that the gelding had been put to sleep suffering from a tumour in his head - a great loss as he has been with Debbie for over twenty years).

Next I feed Punch and Jerry at the farm at the foot of Moss Road. Punch, a tall, white, gelding, quickly answers my whistle. He has a voracious appetite and soon consumes a generous helping of the fare. Jerry, aged forty-five or thereabouts, a great age for a horse, arrives a little later, his brown coat now flecked with grey. He too gratefully chews carrots and apples though at a more gentle pace before I move on.

I no longer walk up Moss Road as the Shetland ponies Mawva and Jamie have left Mrs Hill's farm having moved to Cornwall in the summer.

My final call takes me to a field bordering Baslow Road. Last Saturday there was no sign of the quadrupeds until my shrill whistles enticed them from woodland and a posse of five emerged into the open field at a gallop. Headed by a large male they quickly surrounded me as I threw carrots and apples on the ground at their feet. Anna, a fine, dark brown mare, took her share eagerly leaving Lara, her three-year-old filly to follow her example. Lara is my favourite and I feed her by hand when I am allowed to do so by the other horses. Herbie, a large, piebald horse, consumes his share alongside Aran, a white horse of small though sturdy stature who I know from birth some seven years ago. The large male also takes his share.

Herbie intrudes on Lara's patch and the young filly takes exception and shows her mettle by kicking her hind legs in the horse's face and causes him to withdraw.

Once the fare has been distributed I am in some danger of being trampled on as the horses surround me and barge into me in search of more. Not until I screw up the plastic bags and hold my hands skywards do they desist. I make my way back to the stile pursued by Lara while the other horses eat the remnants of the fare on the ground.

After mounting the stile I look back with satisfaction at the scene where Herbie rolls over and over on his back in sheer delight. I truly believe that the horses share my satisfaction and look forward to my next visit as much as I do.

PS. Mystic Meg, a recent arrival at the stables, belongs to Debbie. The newly born, brown, filly foal is not yet able to consume even a small carrot but manages to digest a small piece of carrot or apple. At present she is fed a special diet three times a day. I look forward to the day when she can take her share of the carrots and apples together with the other horses.

## SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY



Registered Charity No 511146

Conductor - Peter Collis

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 7-00 p.m.**  
**Sheffield Cathedral**

### MESSIAH Handel

Soloists from the Royal Northern College of Music.

Tickets £11-00 (Concessions £9-00)  
Students £6-00 at the door

Tickets available at the door or from  
Sheffield Music shop, Broomhill (0114) 266 1000  
Blue Moon Café, St. James Street (0114) 276 3443  
Or by post - SBS, 3, Tapton Mews,  
Tapton Cres. Rd.  
S10 5EA

If you would like to know what time the concert will end, please ring 0114 268 3812



Registered Charity No. 511146

## SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY

CONCERT SERIES 2002/2003



Visit our Website at <http://www.sheffieldbachchoir.org.uk>

# COME AND SING



# MESSIAH

DORE PARISH CHURCH  
DORE VILLAGE, SHEFFIELD

MONDAY 15th DECEMBER 2003, 7.30 P.M.

**Conductor: Peter Collis**  
**Organ: Alan Brown**



£7 including wine and mince pies

Tickets at the door from 7.00 p.m.  
or from Sheffield Music Shop, Broomhill (266 1000) or  
Blue Moon Café, St. James Street (276 3443)



SOME SCORES AVAILABLE FOR HIRE AT £1, IF YOU ARRIVE EARLY

The Choir has VACANCIES for tenors and basses. Ring 0114 268 1208 for more information.  
Rehearsals in Carver Street Social Centre (off West Street), Mondays, 7.30 - 9.30 p.m.

## CHILDREN IN NEED

Toads would like to thank all the people who attended their production of 'Absent Friends' on Friday 21 November, and generously contributed the sum of £75.34 to the Children in Need Appeal. Thank you all very much.

Tony Reynolds

## LONG DISTANCE CALLS



With the apparent speed that post offices are closing, I wonder how long it will be before the post box's red partner, the telephone box, will remain. Everywhere I go, out in the street, in cafes, in trains despite warnings, whilst driving a car and in the middle of meetings, that magic, miniature mobile phone appears. I wonder how many young people are rushed into casualty departments with a request to remove the shattered remains of a 'mobile' from ears after collisions with lamp posts (or even telephone boxes).

Have you tried ringing any one of the short-lived directory enquiry numbers? I asked for the number of a person who lived in a village near Aylesbury and received a difficult to translate reply, "What is Aylesbury?" There followed a ridiculous conversation - perhaps I should have spoken in Urdu for it was obvious that I was connected with a call centre in the India region -ending up with "I'm sorry I can't find your number".

This took some time and some money. Imagine if you were speaking from the telephone box I have sketched on the corner of Totley Brook Road and Baslow Road. Follow the Boy Scout motto and Be Prepared with a bagful of coins unless, of course, our European friends (?) have condemned them as being dangerous health and safety hazards to people walking along pavements with phones to their ears

However, the post and telephone boxes may soon have disappeared because it now seems to be the fashion to blow them up using powerful fireworks. Ah well, at least our bright red friends will go out with a bang!

Brian Edwards

## PEAK DISTRICT EVENTS

Information from the "Peak District 2003" the official guide to the National Park. These events can be seen in the free guide available throughout the Peak District or by visiting their web site [www.peakdistrict.org](http://www.peakdistrict.org)

### DECEMBER

**Mon 1 December to Tues 6 January (approx.)**

**CASTLETON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.** Lights on daily at 3.30pm - midnight. Tel: 01433 620571 or 01433 620330

**Sat 6 December to Sun 7 December**

HOPE VALLEY LIONS CLUB SANTA'S GROTTO

**Sat 13 December to Sun 14 December.** CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT. At Treak Cliff Cavern, Castleton, Derbyshire at 2pm. E mail: [treakcliff@bluejohnstone.com](mailto:treakcliff@bluejohnstone.com), Web Site: [www.bluejohnstone.com](http://www.bluejohnstone.com). Tel: 01433 621487 between 10am & 4pm daily.

**Sat 13 December to Sun 14 December.** HOPE VALLEY LIONS CLUB SANTA'S GROTTO

**Sat 20 December to Sun 21 December.** CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT. At Treak Cliff Cavern, Castleton, Derbyshire at 11.30am and 2.30pm. E mail: [treakcliff@bluejohnstone.com](mailto:treakcliff@bluejohnstone.com), Web Site: [www.bluejohnstone.com](http://www.bluejohnstone.com). Tel: 01433 621487 Between 10am & 4pm daily.

**SAT 20 December to Sun 21 December.** HOPE VALLEY LIONS CLUB SANTA'S GROTTO

## THE BIG ISSUE.

Most of us will have seen someone in the City Centre offering to sell "The Big Issue" to passers by. The organisation got some bad "press" recently when Liverpool police rounded up a lot of people for drug offences. They arrested 54 people and there were some 'Big Issue' sellers amongst them. The City Council then decided to suspend sales of "Big Issue" in their City Centre.

The whole incident demonstrated that there was a lack of understanding as to what the organisation of "Big Issue" was trying to achieve. The Chair Person of "Big Issue" has written an open letter to supporters saying that this particular activity by the police and Liverpool City Council has implied that "Big Issue" is part of the problem. In fact "Big Issue" is part of the solution!

It may not be widely known how the system works. The vendors that we see on the street keep a proportion of their takings for themselves and this money helps them sort out their lives. There are over 350 vendors in the North of England doing just that. These people are homeless and many of them start selling "Big Issue" whilst they still have a drug problem. It is estimated that 84% of the vendors had a drug problem when they started but only 62% of them still have a problem.

This may not seem to be completely satisfactory but success can be measured in other ways. In the past year 63 vendors were found jobs. 142 vendors secured temporary accommodation and 91 got permanent accommodation. 91 people were helped into drug detox programmes. All vendors are offered training and in the year 108 received an accreditation in ICT.

The vendors are vulnerable people. They are 5 times more likely to be the victims of violent crime. Their health is considerably below average and they are more likely to die young. It would seem that the "Big Issue" has tackled a very real problem and achieved something which needed doing. When we buy a copy we are doing something which is really worth while. If you haven't ever bought a copy try it when you are next in town. You won't feel disappointed!

Maurice Snowdon.

## Economics Made Simple

### TRADITIONAL CAPITALISM:

You have two cows.

You sell one and buy a bull.

Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows.

You sell them and retire on the income.

### AMERICAN CAPITALISM (or Enron-capitalism):

You have two cows.

You sell three of them to your publicly listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows.

The milk rights of the six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to all seven cows back to your listed company.

The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more. Sell one cow to buy a new president of the United States, leaving you with nine cows.

No balance sheet provided with the release.

The public buys your bull.

### AN AUSTRALIAN CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

You sell one, and force the other to produce the milk of four cows.

You are surprised when the cow drops dead.

### A FRENCH CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

You go on strike because you want three cows.

### A JAPANESE CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

You redesign them so they are one-tenth the size of an ordinary cow and produce 20 times the milk.

You then create clever cow cartoon images called Cowkemon and market them worldwide.

### A GERMAN CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

You reengineer them so they live for 100 years, eat once a month, and milk themselves.

### A BRITISH CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

Both are mad.

### AN ITALIAN CORPORATION:

You have two cows, but you don't know where they are.

You break for lunch.

### A RUSSIAN CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

You count them and learn you have five cows.

You count them again and learn you have 42 cows.

You count them again and learn you have 12 cows.

You stop counting cows and open another bottle of vodka.

### A SWISS CORPORATION:

You have 5000 cows, none of which belong to you.

You charge others for storing them.

### A CHINESE CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

You have 300 people milking them.

You claim full employment, high bovine productivity, and arrest the Newsman who reported the numbers.

### A NEW ZEALAND CORPORATION:

You have two cows.

That one on the left is kinda cute...

## 'Journey to Bethlehem' Dec 6-7

This holiday season Totley Rise Methodist invites you on a journey back in time...the year AD1, the place Bethlehem. In parties of 10, you'll be taken on a 30-minute tour led by a Roman Centurion. You'll experience the sights, smells and sounds of the time of Jesus' birth. You'll visit the Market Place with Bible-time baking & sweets to taste and Bible-time crafts for the children to make. Hebrew dancers, a crowded inn and finally the baby Jesus all go in to make this a memorable tour. This special programme for the whole family is free. To book your place and tour-time call Gill on 236-1635. Tours run from 5:30pm to 7pm Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Further details from Rev Chris Kirk 236-3157. Start your Christmas with a journey...[a Journey to Bethlehem](#).  
Rev Chris Kirk

## PUZZLE CORNER

### Jigsaw Grids

Some time ago I came across the following puzzle. You are given a square grid sub divided into 16 equal small squares and 5 L shaped pieces each to cover 3 of the small squares. You are asked to arrange the L pieces on the grid leaving one square uncovered. If so can a different pattern leave a different square uncovered? In fact any one of the 16 squares can be left uncovered.

I thought it might be fun to try the same sort of thing using a larger grid and more L pieces.

Using a 5x5 grid of 25 equal squares and 8 L shaped pieces each covering 3 squares, which of the squares can be left uncovered? I can find arrangements to leave 9 different squares uncovered (one at a time) but not the other 16.

Perhaps someone may do better.

Don Ashford.

### NOT ENOUGH HOURS IN THE DAY ?

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## A GRAND CHRISTMAS WALK

Totley has some grand scenery right on its doorstep. Circled around by the high ground of Totley Moss and the noble Houndkirk Hill. Let's head for the latter on this Christmas morn. Maybe work a real appetite for that festive fayre.

Start the walk from Hillfoot Road 7.5 miles. Allow 3.5 to 4 hours. Rambling boots desirable.

Route as follows, Chapel Lane; familiar ground, via the cobbled causeway. Passing the Cricket Inn and opposite the sports field turn right along Penny Lane to signed path through Bents Farm yard.

Stile and field to the fashionable hamlet of Old Hay.

Locate the river bridge and steps, which lead up to the Lane into Avenue Farm. Note the interesting Weir to the left.

A gate at the head of the drive takes us across two fields areas to Shorts Lane. Home of the Dore Horse Riding Stables.

Turn left into the realms of lovely Blacka Moor. This area was given to Sheffield by the benefactor the late Alderman J.G.Graves back in the year of 1933. 448 acres of magical wood and heather moors.

The path keeps to the side of the Blacka Dyke stream for several hundred yards. Keep forward after passing the Ford and a sign takes us into a woodland scene to our right with a sharp pull towards Devils Elbow for nearly a half-mile.

The path finally joins the main A625 Fox House Road.

Walk a few yards back towards the top of Whitelow Lane and cross the road with care to a gate, which leads towards the shapely Houndkirk Hill.

En route note the enclosure of the Devils Elbow, once a notorious accident blackspot bend before the new road was built.

The track steepens towards an old concrete pillar. Swing over to our right to the summit of Houndkirk Hill.

At approx. 13,000 feet the highest point of the walk, grand views in all directions and the Sheffield region spreads before us like an ariel map. Below us the infant Red Car Brook, the principle feeder of the river Sheaf, to the North Burbage moors and dominated on the skyline by the weathered Ox stones. This hilltop is encircled by an escarpment of rocky edges. This lofty height is worthy of a coffee break.

One could linger at this quiet spot for an hour but the walk beckons us on.

Retrace our steps back to the concrete post and follow the heather slopes along Houndkirk Edge, only a faint path to negotiate passing several interesting rock outcrops.

This edge is seldom walked and deserves to be explored.

After half a mile from the summit of Houndkirk Hill the ridgeline turns slightly right to join the ancient trackway known as the Houndkirk Road. This popular highway which forms a route between the hamlet of Ringinglow and Fox House is a favourite with mountain bikers. Note the ruined shell of an old grouse-shooting cabin on the crest of the hill.

At the turn of the 19th. Century these moors were the domains of the Duke of Norfolk's grouse shooting parties.

Turn left towards Fox House and just before the road joins the track leading to Parsons House, locate a stile on our left which takes us across a field area passing the gaunt ruins of Stony Ridge Farm. Soon we are back on to the main A625 road.

Passing the head of Stony Ridge Road, often known as the "Flying Mile" by motorists.



Just at the side of the A625 road you will notice an old toll bar sign. This used to be an ancient coaching road.

Cross the road to enter the realms of our own Totley Moss.

Just a word about "The Parsons House", now owned by Knowsley Trust. This centre is used for "Outward Bound" adventure groups and has been converted to a high standard. I recall sheltering in the ruined shell of the building to light my primus stove for cooking on route for Stanage Edge more than forty years ago.

During the turn of the 19th, century this was the home of a local preacher, hence the name "Parsons House". It was in decline for many years before the Knowsley Trust took over.

We carry on the walk passing the line of Rhododendron bushes and cross the open moor towards the ruined old farmstead of Strawberry Lea. This must have been an isolated spot to live, no nipping to the Super Market from this high level abode.

The main path descends under Blacka Hill and Totley Moor, pass the junction where the Dore path joins under Lenny Hill and soon we are back to the fine beech tree avenue that leads into Strawberry Lee Lane and the familiar home ground of the "Cricket Inn"

Maybe we are tempted to sample a well-earned tipple before homeward bound via the cobbled causeway.

This has been a grand walk with ever increasing scenic views.

You will certainly have got an appetite for that turkey and Christmas pudding.

John C.Barrows



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## THINK AGAIN

Each time you think that life's unfair  
 Because the burdens hard to bear,  
 Or when you feel inclined to sigh,  
 That fame and fortune pass you by,  
 Think of those who have no sight,  
 And live their days in endless nights,  
 Think of those who cannot hear,  
 The voice of spring so soft and clear,  
 Think of those who have no voice,  
 To speak with others and rejoice,  
 Think of those who lie and pray  
 For strength that they may walk someday,  
 Think of all the sick and maimed  
 For whom no sign of hope's proclaimed,  
 Think of each unhappy life  
 Shattered by some mortal strife,  
 And cast aside the mournful view,  
 That life brings nought but care for you.  
 For surely they are more inclined  
 To say that life has been unkind,  
 Think of them, and then recall  
 You're not unlucky after all.  
 By H.C. Wilson Esq. Epworth

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

I hope you got those tender plants into shelter or wrapped up with fleece for the winter. As I write (late October) frost was on the lawn this morning, fortunately we had just put all the "vulnerables" in the greenhouse and cold frame, it's also raining at the moment, we can certainly do with it. I planted a bay tree this week and I dug a hole 18" or so into the ground and it was as dry as snuff. The environmental people are asking us to be careful when using water to avoid drought next year, we don't want a repeat of 1996, I think it was, when we had the threat of stand pipes and a hose pipe ban, so I will be watching my water consumption this winter. December and January are the quieter months in the garden tidying up paths and borders, digging over spare plots, planning what you are going to plant and where. The seed catalogues will be arriving, showing you all the things to make your garden like you always dreamt it would look, and giving you inspiration to enter the Totley Show next September.

If you are growing onions for the show traditionally they should be sown on Boxing Day and leeks a month after. I've just been reading the "Garden News" magazine and a young man 12 years old has grown a pumpkin they estimate to be a half-ton in weight! He has won several awards for large vegetables in the past 5 years. I hope he doesn't come to the Totley Show we ordinary gardeners wouldn't stand a chance although size generally means a loss in flavour so I will not be asking him for the recipe he has for his fertiliser. It's nice to hear that young people are taking an interest in gardening, perhaps some of the young people in Totley will take a leaf out of his book and start a garden of their own. I am sure Dad or Mum will be more than willing to devote a plot to their daughter or son, it's such a healthy and rewarding hobby. I look forward to seeing the results on the show bench in September. Please let the Organisers know if you are going to beat this young man at growing pumpkins so that they can reinforce the show benches.

I hope Father Christmas brings you lots of nice gardening goodies so that you can enjoy a good gardening year.

### Flowers.

Prune back any large rose bushes, chop them down to about half way, so that they can be pruned properly in the spring. This early chopping down will reduce any wind rock which can severely damage rootstock if rain and frost get down there. It also makes your rose bed look tidier. Work in humus making material into your soil during the winter months, manure, leaf mould, spent hops, garden compost, old Growbags etc. are ideal. All these will have a beneficial effect.

Herbaceous plants sometimes suffer from slug damage during the winter, delphiniums are generally first in line, to help prevent them spoiling your young plants, scrape away a little soil from around the crowns and replace with sharp sand (better still cinder ashes). Check all the structures supporting flowers (arches, fences, trellis etc.) make sure they are sound and ready for next season's weight of flowers and berries.

Mulch over any roots exposed by the rain. Top dress with compost of soil, peat and sand. Large flowered clematis such as Jackmanii can be cut back fairly severely. Order your seeds in good time, try something new this year, there are a lot of new varieties to choose from, or maybe resurrect an old favourite that you haven't sown for a few years. They say a change is as good as a rest. You can divide and move or plant new stock of Michaelmas Daisy and Golden Rod.

Pick over plants in frames or cloches, remove dead leaves etc. and dust with fungicide. Dig and prepare new beds. Place insulation over frames at night to give extra protection from frost, also ventilate well on sunny days. December is the last chance to plant out late tulips. If you haven't given your flower beds a slow acting fertiliser for a year or two, now is a good time (January), a dusting of hoof and horn or bone meal will do your flowers a world of good. Hoe it into the top inch or so, the worms will do the rest (stand well back in the spring as the flowers burst forth). If you want to increase your stock of perennials or have some plants ready for the various charity stalls or swaps, you could take root cuttings. Dig up the plant to be propagated, or cut a portion from one side, wash off as much soil as possible so that the roots can be separated from each other, cut off the sound roots about the thickness of a pencil, divide into sections about 2ins long (5cm). Trim off small fibrous roots, cut the bottom of the root diagonally and the top straight, so that you know which way up to plant it, insert into pots of cutting compost with the tops just buried. Water well and stand in a frost free cold frame or propagator, if you want them to root faster. Plants with thin roots can be multiplied in a similar way, 3ins (8cm) long

pieces laid horizontally in the compost (dusted with fungicide) cover them with another 1-2cm of compost, water well. Some of the plants which can be done this way are acanthus, brunnera, caenothus, dicentra, echinacea, eryngium, Japanese anemones, nepata oriental poppies, phlox, rhus, verbascum etc. Remember root cuttings taken from variegated plants will turn out green and NOT variegated.

### Vegetables.

Firm in any plants loosened by frost. Dig any vacant plots and manure the ground. Apply lime to acid soil where cabbage is to be planted (do not apply at the same time as manure, wait a month or two if possible). Prepare runner bean trench. Take off any yellowing leaves from Brussels sprouts and compost them. In January chit seed potatoes i.e. put them in a frost-free place in shallow boxes with the eye ends upwards, this will encourage them to sprout.

Prepare your onion bed (I'm giving away secrets now). Dig in manure deeply, spread bonfire ash over as well as bone meal and hoof and horn at about 4ozs (100gms) per sq. yd. Prick this into the soil lightly. As mentioned before sow onion seeds around Boxing Day, either in separate pots, two or three seeds per pot, place in propagator or greenhouse at a temperature of 65F. When they have reached the loop stage, discard the weakest seedlings leaving just one per pot. Or put seeds in a tray when they are at the loop stage, transplant into deep boxes or trays, reduce temperature to 55F. Lift a few roots of mint, place them in a deep wooden or plastic box, cover them with potting soil, old stuff will do, place them in a frame or greenhouse, this will give shoots for early picking. Mulch asparagus beds with well-rotted manure break it up well and spread it about 2ins thick.

### Shrubs, trees and fruit.

Do not let snow hang on conifers, it can break off branches and spoil their shape. Firm in any newly planted trees and check all stakes and supports, make sure they are firm. New fruit trees can be planted now if weather permits (keep roots moist and frost free prior to planting). Prune apple and pear trees, remove cankered branches. Prune fruit bushes and canes, check grease bands and renew if necessary.

January is a good time to give fruit trees a tar oil winter wash, choose a fine and wind free day. Black currants will benefit from feeding in January, they like plenty of nitrogen so a top dressing of Sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk at 4-6ozs per well established bush, sprinkle it thinly over the soil and keep it away from the stems. Newly planted black currant and

raspberries should be pruned back severely, black currants to 2-3ins from ground level; raspberries 6-9ins above ground. Plant out in mild spells deciduous trees, hedging plants, stored or heeled in shrubs.

**Greenhouse and Indoor Plants.**

Dead head faded flowers and pick over all pot plants, water sparingly. Keep bulbs fed and watered after flowering, but move to a cool spot. Increase humidity around indoor cyclamen, azaleas and winter cherries.

Use insecticide pins to control aphids and white fly, paint patches of scale and mealy bug with methylated spirit. Plant amaryllis, Lily of the Valley and indoor gladioli. Pot on cineraria, primula and slipper flowers. Examine all bulbs placed in the dark, they should be about ready to bring into half light conditions prior to bringing into a light warm house, don't rush them though. Seedlings and cuttings should be kept as near to the glass as possible, stake up schizanthus. Sponge over large leafed evergreen plants with half a teaspoon of milk stirred into a cup of water, this will make them nice and glossy. Make sure the greenhouse glass is kept clean. Cut back old geranium plants, shortening the growths to a joint or bud 6-9ins above the pot. Re-pot the plants, shaking all the soil from the roots. Re-pot them in the smallest pot into which the roots can be placed, use ordinary John Innes compost or similar.

Get ready for seed sowing by cleaning all pots, seed trays and boxes. Pot lillies required for the greenhouse feed fuchsias pruned earlier, as geraniums the plants will be potted on into larger pots as new growth develops. If you have a heated greenhouse you can start tuberous rooted begonias and gloxinias. Keep a careful watch on ventilation. Remember a sunny day can reach quite high temperatures in a greenhouse or cold frame, even in the depth of winter. I have known mine to shoot up to 95F when snow was on the ground, so be warned. Heat at this time can do a lot of damage to young or freshly shooting plants, and quite a lot of plants cannot put up with large variations in temperature.

**Lawns.**

If you walk on your lawn at this time of year and find squelchy patches they need attention. Spiking is a real pain, but its a good cure for squelchy bits. Note where they are and when they have dried out a bit (hopefully) go over the area making holes at about 6ins intervals with a fork, do a couple of square yards at a time, then brush in a good dressing of sharp sand (not

builders sand, unless it has been in the rain for a long time) leave a shallow layer on top, this will encourage rooting in spring. Keep lawns clean and keep off in frosty weather. Clean and overhaul your mower, you could take advantage of the cheaper rates for servicing, up to the end of February.

Please bear in mind that these notes cover two months when doing the various jobs.

Have a Happy Christmas and a lovely gardening year.

Cheerio for now, Tom Busy Bee



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**Andy Hogg***

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## MEALS ON WINGS

In the normal course of events I enjoy eating on an airliner but I have to exclude coffee from that statement. Often I survey, reproachfully, the dandelions on our back lawn and I wonder if airliner coffee would annihilate these unwelcome yellow weeds. Put otherwise I am on good terms with catering at 30,000 feet.

For all that, dining on a charter flight is a cramped affair and it is as well that your partners have strict control of their elbows. Some years ago a plastic spoon slipped out of my wife's hand and fell to the floor. We struggled to rescue it but our arms, which might have touched the floor in other situations, for instance in the dining room of the "Ritz" or "Hilton", were foiled by our heads, which pressed closely against the seat in front of us. Only after the aircraft landed could we reach the lost spoon.

Pilots are not exactly helpful in these matters. They sit up in the nose of the aircraft on comfortable seats and with wonderful panoramic views. They constitute an aristocracy with lofty disdain for passengers who are unable to keep control of their plastic spoons. But just let one of the hoi polloi begin to argue with an air hostess and down goes the Boeing 767 for an emergency landing to hand the delinquent customer over to a posse of police. Recently I began to study our cabin crew, a bonny team of young muscular ladies. I could sense that were I to cause even a modicum of disturbance then I would be trussed up in a straitjacket before I could say "Jack Robinson".

This year's flight to Majorca lasted 2.25 hours. A baby, who could see no pleasure in the interior of an aircraft, howled for exactly 2.25 hours. But my remedy was simple and I recommend it to you: switch off both your hearing aids and take out the novel by Dick Francis or John Masters. When the meal was served on our return flight to Manchester I noticed that one passenger was in great difficulties. As many of you are aware, these meals are served on small tables which are lowered from the back of the seats in front, whereupon a hostess hands out meal trays, all of which are carefully wrapped up in hygienic plastic sheets. This particular passenger was in trouble because he could not bring his table down to lap level. There was an obstruction. In fact he himself was the obstruction and the following sketch explains, probably better than I can in words, how the dark tide of destiny had dealt with this unfortunate gentleman. To begin with he looked as if he had been stuffed by a high-class taxidermist, an artist who had never needed to allow for aircraft folding tables.



In days of yore, when I was in knee pants, my mother explained to me that 'to stare at other people's embarrassing situations was the height of rudeness'. None of her children must ever be found guilty of such an iniquitous crime. And so, after about twenty minutes, I stopped looking.

Some time after this I glanced across to see how Fatty was faring. Now the scene was entirely different. Fatty's adult partner had exchanged places with a small boy who had already finished his lunch. A fresh meal tray stood on the boy's table. Fatty was squatting sideways, part of him spread into the aisle, as he fed from the boy's new tray, shoveling nourishment down into that prodigious stomach which had no doubt won prizes exhibiting before the crowned heads and even the uncrowned heads of the world. This was a highly intelligent solution to an extremely perplexing dilemma. If ever you, or one of your loved ones, have difficulty with an airliner meal table, which refuses to become horizontal, then take heart - there are remedies.

C.N. Railton Holden

## Dear Reader,

Here are 10 questions.

You only need to answer 5 correctly to pass.

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get catgut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Atlantic are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) How long did the Thirty Years War last?

All done? Check your answers on below.

### ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ:

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last?  
**116 years**
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?  
**Ecuador**
- 3) From which animal do we get catgut?  
**Sheep and Horses**
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?  
**November!**
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?  
**Squirrel fur**
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Atlantic are named after what animal?  
**Dogs**
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?  
**Albert**
- 8) What color is a purple finch?  
**Crimson**
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?  
**New Zealand**
- 10) How long did the Thirty Years War last?  
**Thirty years -- of course!!!**

What do you mean you failed?  
You got a miserable one, right...?

**You ARE the Weakest Link-- Good-bye!**

## Office Dinner/Dance by Hugh Percival

Dress at the dinner/dance, the social highlight of the firm's year, is formal. Previously it had been optional although I always maintained that, in the interests of decorum, it should be compulsory.

On a frosty, starlit night in January I arrived by car at the Glendower restaurant accompanied by Susan. She looked radiant in a full-length blue ball-gown enhanced by gleaming silver jewellery. Her prominent blue eyes sparkled healthily like diamonds.

The reception area was crowded with a convivial assembly of splendidly attired partners, staff and their partners all imbibing drinks. Susan and I followed their example.

We fell into conversation with a small group that included Irene Kline and her fiancé, Roger Heath and a girlfriend, Alan Brown and his fiancée and Mr. and Mrs. Sampson.

"What a delightful scene!" I exclaimed.

"Yes. Do you come here often?" asked Alan Brown.

"Only in the mating season" I replied facetiously.

This raised a laugh and enlivened the already cordial proceedings.

"As a matter of fact the annual dinner is the only occasion on which I enter these portals. I can't afford regular visits," I continued with a laugh.

"Yes. It's nice to have a free meal now and again remarked Roger Heath.

At eight o'clock the bell rang for dinner and the guests took their places there being some eighty diners at eight tables.

Susan and I found ourselves at Mr. Dilks's table, the senior partner being accompanied by his wife who was bedecked in jewellery. Others at our table included Peter Ross and Sophie, who, glamorous as usual, looked in the pink, Alan Brown and his fiancée - our immediate neighbours - and young articled clerks John Spencer and Arthur Botham.

Mr. Dilks introduced strangers at our table to each other. He was in his usual convivial mood after drinking, the ideal host. His wife, a plain looking woman despite her jewellery would be hard put to keep him in order I thought. Perhaps Susan thought the same about myself.

The chef, Mr Goodwin, welcomed the guests in a broad local accent seemingly miles away from French and Italian cuisine. The meal, he announced, would commence with prawn cocktail, followed by celery soup then by a fish dish. The main course would be roast beef - with nut cutlets for any vegetarians. Mr. Goodwin spoke of these few latter in derogatory tones and I suspect he would like to have served this small minority done rare as an extra course. For sweet the choice lay between sorbet and chocolate éclairs. Cheese and biscuits followed by coffee would bring the meal to an end.

"Do you come here often?" I asked the pert waitress as she served the prawn cocktails to my neighbours. As a vegetarian when choice permitted I was not partaking of this course.

"I work here" she replied with a laugh.

The soup course followed.

"What is this fly doing in my soup?" I enquired in mock indignation.

"Perhaps it doesn't know you are a vegetarian," suggested Alan Brown.

"Don't worry Hugh. They drink very little," remarked the senior partner. A frown crossed his wife's face.

I thought of my own reply "Don't worry. It is pea soup", I refrained from speaking not wishing to upset Mrs. Dilks. In any case the soup was celery.

"Don't worry sir. There's no extra charge. It's on the house." said the waitress joining in our little game.

"It looks like the breaststroke from here" Peter Ross joined in.

"Trying to get to the other side," added one of the articled clerks.

These replies, although juvenile, did introduce a feeling of levity and we got on famously. The wine served with the meal helped in this respect. Susan laughed hysterically for much of the time and I became concerned for her sanity such was her light-headed, giddy behaviour.

At the end of the meal the master of ceremonies rang a bell and called for order. Mr. Manning rose to speak.

"Ladies and gentlemen. May I, on behalf of the partners, welcome you all here this evening. I trust you enjoyed the meal and will later take part in the dancing. This past year has been, in the main, one of

continued success for the firm. Several new clients have been introduced and some of the older ones have expanded their businesses. I have to admit the loss of one old client - but we will draw a veil over that. It just goes to show that one can't be too attentive to one's work and I ask all staff - and partners- to take heed whether on audit or otherwise."

"Several clerks have been successful in their examinations. Michael West satisfactorily completed his articles with Mr. Dilks and is now a chartered accountant. We were all sorry to witness his departure to commerce where he is now the financial director of James White & Sons Limited a finance company in London. We wish him well. Hugh Percival passed his final exam and is now an incorporated accountant. I am glad to say that Hugh is to remain with the firm. Alan Gitting, John Spencer and Brian Ibbotson all passed the intermediate examination - Alan and John for the Institute and Brian for the Society. We congratulate them all."

There was generous applause.

"We are all deeply saddened at the passing of Henry Pearson - myself in particular. Henry was like a father to me in my early days at the firm. He was a faithful servant and a true model of the best type of Yorkshireman, blunt, humorous and down to earth. I miss him more than I can say, as I'm sure we all do. May he rest in peace. Silence prevailed for a while.

"On a lighter moment our side beat Clark's Brewery by seven runs in the annual cricket match. We were particularly indebted to Peter Ross who scored thirty-two runs and took eight wickets for forty-three. Stand up Peter."

There was applause and vociferous cheering which Peter acknowledged with a wave of the hand. Mr. Manning continued.

"John Williams again won the golf trophy awarded by the district society, the third year in a row he has done so"

There was more applause and Mr. Manning concluded his speech by thanking the chef and his staff for the appetising meal. The partner sat down to prolonged applause before the MC introduced the reply by a member of staff namely myself, yours truly, Hugh Percival. I began in light-hearted manner.

"As Mr. Manning so kindly reported I recently qualified as an incorporated accountant and I feel it appropriate at this time to pass on some of my experiences to articled and other young clerks. Accountancy was not my first choice as a profession. My early ambition to be a comedian proved futile as I failed their examination on no less than three occasions. Nerves got the better of me each time. I could never remember what the actress said to the bishop or why she couldn't cross the road or what the judge said to the dentist - 'I want the tooth, the whole tooth and nothing but the tooth.'

Boisterous laughter rang out and I continued. "Seeing no future as a comedian, other than in writing jokes for Christmas crackers - not an attractive outlook, I entered the accountancy profession. Here I thought I would combine my talent as a mathematician with any I might have as a comedian. Numerous examples of this duel role spring to mind, no doubt also to yours. In the interests of social harmony I will not be more explicit tonight." There was more laughter.

"I joined Amos Dilks & Sons as office boy intending to study as a byelaw student of the Society. Later on joining the audit staff where ticking was a fetish ~ first heard of the office motto 'Erit Rectum' - translated 'Tick it. It'll be reight'

Here there was more laughter.

"I strongly advise articled and other junior audit to heed this motto. If you don't fully comprehend advice from a senior until you do."

At this point I took a swig from my glass of wine and continued "All of us in the accountancy profession are familiar with the Obiter Dictum of the judge in one legal case i.e. an auditor is a watchdog not a bloodhound- this despite appearances in some cases. Laughter.

"In my early days in the profession I wondered if I should subscribe to the RSPCA as well as to the Society." Laughter.

"However, I could not afford to do so. We were not well paid and my thoughts were full of Mr. Micawber's maxim. 'Annual income twenty pounds. Annual expenditure nineteen pounds nineteen shillings and sixpence. Result. Happiness. Annual income twenty pounds. Annual expenditure. Twenty pounds. No shillings and sixpence. Result. Misery.'"

"To come up to date. When studying last year's finance act I was

relieved to know that the penalty provisions were enacted before the House of Commons debated a motion to restore the death penalty." As laughter rang out the pert waitress intervened and handed me a folded piece of paper. I read this - the contents previously known to me by arrangement with the waitress - and spoke to the audience in serious tones.

"This is a police message"

The audience abruptly ceased to chatter and complete silence prevailed.

"A constable on duty in this area has reported seeing a burglar. He thinks he is bow-legged."

A few laughs were to be heard.

"I assume the burglar has this disability and not the constable".

There was more laughter.

"The police advice is - if you see a man fitting this description riding a horse report to the nearest police station."

Hysterical laughter rang out with Susan well to the fore.

"That is the end of the police message."

After a pause to allow the laughter to die down I continued. "This incident reminds me of the need for eternal vigilance. Some of you may have read last week's Star in which details were given of a typical hour in the work of the Sheffield Constabulary. One interesting item recorded the sighting of twenty seven suspicious-looking characters. I thought this a remarkably low figure. At the time I was in the office not fetching my sandwiches until twelve o'clock as usual.

Harold Bottomley had gone out of town on audit. Where the partners were I cannot say."

Here there was an outburst of hysterical laughter.

I continued. "To be serious for a moment if I may. I remember remarks made by Mr. Nightjar on his retirement some four years ago. He said that while auditing could be boring and repetitive in the long term it was of aesthetic and financial benefit. There was satisfaction at the end of an audit of having been of service to shareholders and third parties - not forgetting directors and staff of client companies. Mr. Nightjar opined that without audits chaos and fraud would be rife. I am sure he was right. I am happy to serve in this great profession of ours."

The audience erupted with thunderous applause and cheering before I concluded. "It remains for me to thank, on behalf of the staff and other guests, the partners for providing tonight's sumptuous repast together with notable assistance of Mr. Goodwin and his staff, and to hope that everyone will enjoy the dancing and festivities to come."

Amid loud, prolonged applause I sat down to receive a kiss from Susan and warm handshakes from Mr. Dilks and others at our table.

The tables were cleared and dancing began to the music of a versatile quintet comprising piano, trumpet, trombone, violin and clarinet.

At the bar in men's only company Alan Brown asked me "Hugh what did the actress say to the bishop?"

"I forget - many things I believe." I replied to much disappointment..

The evening passed along merrily and I enjoyed several dances with Susan and others, notably Mrs. Dilks who surprisingly had enjoyed my speech and turned out to be quite a character.

In the small hours leaving some inveterate revellers still on the dancefloor I took Susan home. I bade my colleagues and their partners a cheerful farewell which was heartily reciprocated. I had enjoyed the evening so much and so had Susan she said laughing merrily at the remembrance of it.

We kissed goodnight and I returned home where my mother had already retired for the night. I followed her example and was soon enmeshed in deep slumber too tired to dream of the evening's events.

## CHILDREN in NEED

On Friday, november21st. in Totley Library a raffle in aid of "Children in Need" was drawn.

The winning ticket for 2 Embroidered towels with matching face cloths was no 484 (Thomson).

£300 was raised and Mrs.Mary Marsh wishes to thank all that helped and took part.



## Transport 17

The new bus arrived in Totley on 10<sup>th</sup>. November. It was decided that the official handing over of the keys would be done during our coffee Morning on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>. November. We are very glad that Stella Jockel agreed to do this.

She represented everyone who had been involved in Transport 17 in any way over the last 20 years. Everyone should give them selves a pat on the back.

Our 3 buses now consist of two Volkswagens and one Renault. They will take passengers to and from more than 30 clubs every week. We cover not only the S17 area of Sheffield but many other parts too. Give us a wave if you see us.

At the end of another year we thank the Cheshire Home for all their kindness to us. The churches, clubs, Library and Busy Bee who are also very good to us. I mustn't forget Totley Independent staff and many individuals who encourage us to soldier on!

Michael Finn, our manager, and John Savourin, our treasurer join with all the T17 committee and drivers (we couldn't work without these!) and escorts in wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Our office will be closed from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>. December to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>. January 2004 inclusive.

God bless and once again, many thanks

Margaret Barlow



### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### Dec 3 VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, 10 am. – 12 noon

#### Dec 5 CRYSTAL SINGERS

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, 7 pm.

#### Dec 10 LOXLEY

##### SILVER BAND

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, 7 pm.

#### Dec 18 "DICK WHITTINGTON & HIS CAT"

A Pantomime by Partytime Productions

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall

11 am – 12 noon

#### Dec 24, CAROLS AT MICKLEY

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, 11 pm – 12 noon

#### Dates for your Diary

##### for 2004

Jan 17 BRIDGE & SUPPER EVENING

6 Ashfurlong Drive, Dore 7.00pm.

April 7 SPRING FAIR

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall 10 am - 12 noon

July 3 SUMMER FETE

Sheffield Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, 2 pm. to 5 pm.

Further details may be obtained from

Jackie Short - Tel: 01142367491

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**CAROL CONCERT**

The Friends of the Botanical Gardens have organised a Carol Concert to be held in the Botanical Gardens in front of the restored Pavilions on

**WEDNESDAY 17th. DECEMBER  
6-30 p.m.**

Hosted by Gerry Kersey of Radio Sheffield.  
South Yorkshire Police Band and Hallam Choral Society will lead the singing.  
Refreshments will be available.  
Donations welcomed in aid of the restoration fund for the gardens.  
Come and enjoy a good sing.

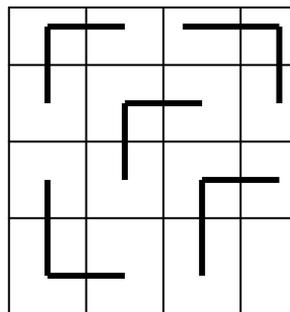
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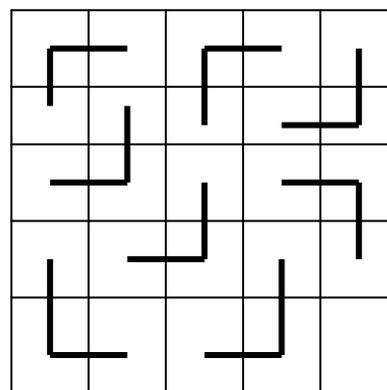
Answers to Jigsaw Grids.



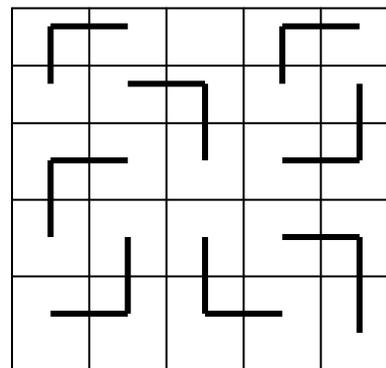
**4 by 4 grid**

The 'L' piece in the bottom right hand quarter of the grid can be rotated to expose each of the other three squares in turn. Each quarter of the main grid could be similarly treated so any of the 16 squares could be left uncovered.

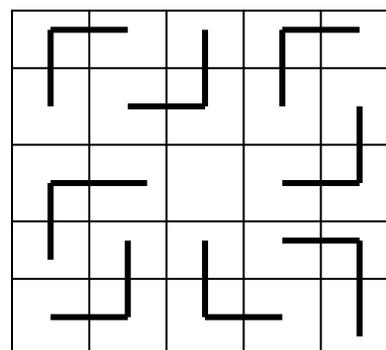
**5 BY 5 GRIDS**



Similarly for each corner.



2.) Similarly for each edge centre



3.) Centre space



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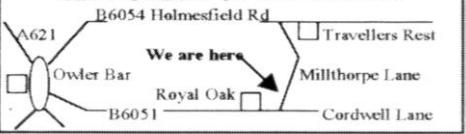
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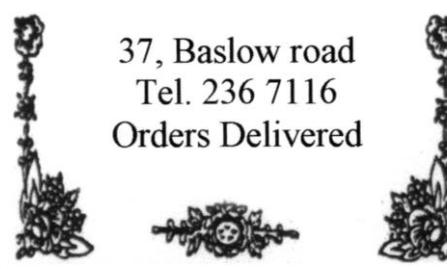
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- MONDAYS** COFFEE MORNING, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am. To noon
- TUESDAYS** COFFEE MORNING. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am. To noon.  
CRAFT GROUP, Totley Library, 2pm.
- WEDNESDAYS.** COFFEE in the LIBRARY, 10am. to 11.30am.  
MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm.)  
TODDLER GROUP. 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. 236 6789 or 236 3603
- THURSDAYS** PUSHCHAIR CLUB. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm.. to 3pm. Tel. 2363157 for further details.
- SATURDAYS.** MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 2<sup>nd</sup>. And 4<sup>th</sup>. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.  
(Note Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>. December cancelled)

### DECEMBER 2003

- WED.3<sup>rd</sup>.** VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAYRE. Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, 10 am to 12 noon. Full details inside.
- FRI.5<sup>th</sup>.** CRYSTAL SINGERS. Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, 7 pm. Full details inside
- SAT. 6<sup>th</sup>.** TABLE TOP SALE. St. John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road, 10 am. to 1 pm. Full details inside. More details ring 2362551.
- SAT./SUN. 6<sup>th</sup>./7<sup>th</sup>.** "JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM" Totley Rise Methodist Church, 5-30 pm to 7-00 pm. Full details inside. Ring 2363157 or 2361635 for further details.
- SAT. 6<sup>th</sup>.** SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE. "Double D's" Vocals & comedy Duo. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Rd. 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1.50
- SUN. 7<sup>th</sup>. and 14<sup>th</sup>.** MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, Full details inside for Santa Specials.
- MON. 8<sup>th</sup>. MON. 15<sup>th</sup>.** SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY. Concert details inside.
- TUES. 9<sup>th</sup>.** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. "Christmas Music" Rev.C.Kirk  
2-30 p.m. Totley Rise Methodist Church
- WED. 10<sup>th</sup>.** LOXLEY SILVER BAND. Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, 7 pm. Full details inside
- WED. 10<sup>th</sup>.** WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP. Carols by Candlelight. 8-00 pm. Totley Rise Methodist Church, (in the Church.) Followed by coffee and mince pies. All welcome.
- MON. 15<sup>th</sup>.** SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Concert Sheffield Cathedral 7-30 pm. Full details inside.
- TUES. 16<sup>th</sup>.** TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Christmas Entertainment. in Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
- WED. 17<sup>th</sup>.** CAROL CONCERT. Botanical Gardens. 6-30 pm. Full details inside.
- THUR.18<sup>th</sup>.** "DICK WHITTINGTON & HIS CAT". Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, 11 am. to 12 noon. Full details inside
- SAT. 20<sup>th</sup>.** SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE. Jimmy Jones, male vocalist. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Rd. 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1.50
- WED. 24<sup>th</sup>.** CAROLS at MICKLEY. Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, 11 am. to noon. Full details inside
- SAT. 24<sup>th</sup>.** SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE. Christmas Eve Cracker. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Rd. 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1.50
- SAT. 31<sup>st</sup>.** SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE. New Years Eve Carnival nite with Ray David. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Rd. 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome Entrance £1.50  
See Inside For Church Christmas services.

### JANUARY 2004

- TUES. 6<sup>th</sup>.** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. Townswoman's Guild Choir. 2-30 p.m. Totley Rise Methodist Church
- TUES. 20<sup>th</sup>.** WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. "Unparalleled Parable" Rev.C.Kirk  
2-30 p.m. Totley Rise Methodist Church
- TUES. 20<sup>th</sup>.** TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, "Ecuador and the Galapagos", Travel slides. Mrs. S.Jockel. in Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.

### THE INDEPENDENT FOR FEBRUARY 2004

The next issue of the Totley Independent will be available from the usual distribution points on

**SATURDAY 31<sup>st</sup>. JANUARY 2004**

**COPY DATE for this issue will be**

**SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup>. JANUARY 2004**

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