

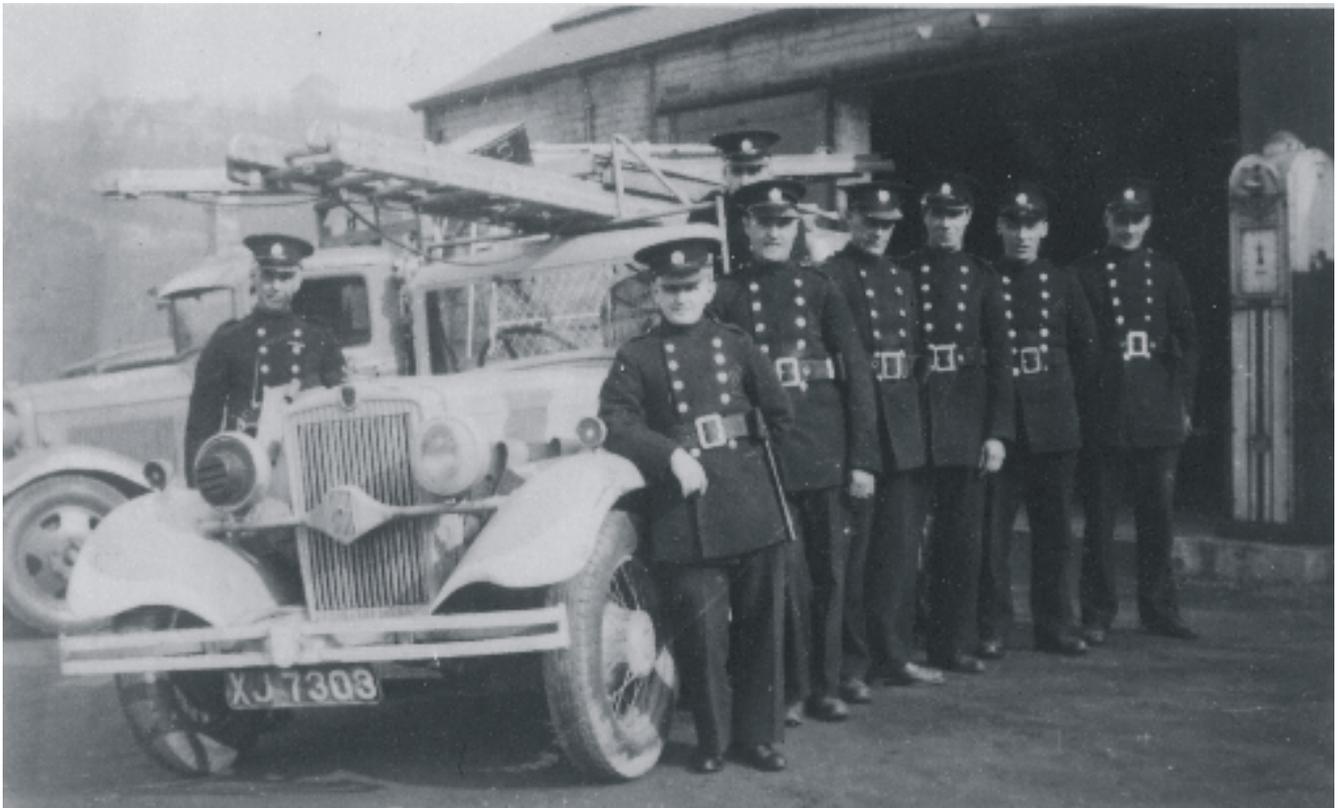
TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

PUBLISHED BY THE TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SINCE 1977

APRIL 2006

No. 292

15p.



With the intended closure of Ringinglow fire station next month and less cover for the South West area of Sheffield, does anyone remember when Totley had it's own fire station. This was based at the old Marstone Garage on Totley Rise.



Totley Residents Association Annual General Meeting - 3 April in the Library at 7.30 pm

TRA Update

Green Oak Park still remains a great concern for local people. After the positive meeting with Mary Bagley, the Director of Parks and Countryside, in February, we are still waiting for satisfactory, detailed answers to the questions we gave to Mary at the site meeting.

(The full list of questions can be seen on the TRA notice board in the Library and on the website (www.totley.org.uk))

The only response we have received so far has been from Bob Bryan, Team Manager in the Planning Division's Development Control. His reply states he was responsible for the determination of the planning application.

Apparently the application was considered carefully and the access issues received particular scrutiny!!

Conditions were placed, which require the installation of bollards to restrict access to the wider park area.

This "careful scrutiny" fails to deal with the residents major concerns :-

The use of the pedestrian access between Mickley Lane Entrance and the blind corner to the back of the house which uses OUR GREEN SPACE AS A PRIVATE ROAD.

This soon to be, joint pedestrian/vehicular access is where several near accidents have already occurred during the construction of the bungalow, now a 4 bed roomed house!

Once occupied, this **PEDESTRIAN** entrance will be a danger to **ALL**, disabled, elderly and children who use it on a daily basis.

The Planning Officer obviously did not consider the views of local residents who submitted their concerns in writing about the dangers of the access important! **Why not? We live here and know our area and how it is used.**

The members of the Area Planning Board no doubt, made their decision as recommended by the Planning Officer.

TRA are continuing to press for a satisfactory conclusion to this Council created danger to the residents of Totley.

HELP

The Animal Control Service is asking for help with short term fostering of animals/birds.

Temporary accommodation for various types of animal/birds, elderly, injured or too young to be held in kennels is often required for short periods of time. If anyone is interested in helping to foster, please get in touch with -

Rebecca Taylor

Information Officer

Animal Control Service

Sheffield City Council

Gayton Road

S47DB

Tel.0114 2930362

If you are unable to attend the TRA AGM on Monday 3rd April Please buy a copy of the Independent where a full report of the last years activities will be published.

We are always on the look out for new members on the committee. Even if you are unable to attend committee meetings on a regular basis your help will be much appreciated.

Remember the TRA Constitution states all people who live or work in Totley are members of the Association

We are all members of the Community and should contribute to making Totley a pleasant place to live

Avril Critchley

TRA Chairman

King Egbert School Official Opening Friday 10th March 2006

The move into this 'state of the art' new school building has been an incredibly positive experience for everyone concerned. The official opening therefore was so important as it signalled the beginning of an exciting new era for King Egbert School.

The new school was finally officially opened on Friday 10th March 2006 by the Right Honourable Richard Caborn MP. In addition to Richard Caborn, we were fortunate to have Councillor Roger Davison, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Jonathan Crossley-Holland, Executive Director of Children and Young People's Services and David Alston, Arts Director of the Arts Council of Wales, present to speak at this event.

Due to the size of the main hall, the number of guests was limited to 250, a large number of which were existing staff, but we also invited many former staff and colleagues with whom we still had contact. This number together with various VIPs quickly took us close to the 250 limit.

For those who attended, the evening itself will remain unforgettable. Despite the heavens opening up and rain falling in torrents as the guests arrived, everyone still managed to enjoy themselves. Indeed, many visitors commented on the cheery nature of our dozen 6th form students in luminous jackets and umbrellas who were posted as car park stewards outside in the rain. They stuck to their task of helping guests to park their cars and escorting them to the main building with vigour.

Unfortunately, Richard Caborn was unable to stay with us for the full event, as he was flying to Australia for the start of the Commonwealth Games the following day. Nevertheless, all the speeches were memorable. Particular praise should go to our Head Boy and Girl, Nick Andrews and Rebecca Cousins. Their speech, which linked the history of the school with present day, was extremely well received.

The evening did not go completely as planned. We had thought that many guests would like to have a look around the building. However, it quickly became apparent that many guests were simply happy to renew acquaintances with former colleagues and indeed we struggled to get everyone back into the hall for the main speeches and the main multicultural event that followed.

Throughout the evening I received countless requests to organise a reunion for former staff and pupils and this is something we need to seriously consider. Indeed, the performances, which were the highlights of the previous evenings' Multicultural event, reflected and celebrated the truly diverse nature and multiculturalism of the school. My own personal highlight was seeing our local community police officer break dancing on stage with some of our students – it is a sight that I shall carry with me for a long time.

On Saturday 11th March, we opened the school again from 10am to 3pm to allow visitors an opportunity to look around the building. Once more, we had a steady stream of visitors, amongst them many former staff.

In order to commemorate the opening of the school, all students and staff will receive a memento – a glass tankard, engraved with the school logo.

The official opening was undoubtedly a very special event. We are pleased that former students and staff were able to attend and share this special evening with us. They will probably reflect on the changes that have taken place since they were at King Egbert and perhaps speculate on the changes that lie ahead. The world of education never stands still and we anticipate considerable change in the future. We are confident that we will make the right choices in our strategic development of King Egbert School and that our new site will enable us to go from strength to strength.

Sean McClafferty



Transport 17

We will be having a "Coffee Morning" at our office on

Saturday, 15th July. This will be from 10am till noon. Entrance fee of 50p will get you a coffee or tea and biscuits. There will be the usual bric-a-brac and new items and anything else that we can find or are given!!

Terry Schofield has driven for T17 for many years. He also helps Sheffield Royal Institute for the Blind and St. Luke's Hospice. He will be 70 at the beginning of May. We send him all our best wishes and thanks.

It used to be that drivers could not work for us as drivers after 70. However, if a medical is taken and is OK, then they can continue to work for us. This is just as well as we don't know where we would be without the services of these good drivers.

We have recently had some awful weather. I would like to remind our passengers that unless someone from Transport 17 or their club leaders or representatives ring to say that their club is cancelled, everything will run as normal.

We were very pleased to receive a cheque from Dore Ladies Tuesday Group, for £500. We are their chosen charity for this year. Danny and I have both spoken to them and the Methodist Church about T17's work and we really appreciate their support.

Best wishes to you all. Margaret Barlow

THE MICHAEL CHURCH, LOWEDGES ROAD

The Thursday Lunch Club for the Housebound Elderly of the area, like all lunch clubs throughout the city, is in urgent need of more helpers. Those of us who already help to run the club are getting older and will soon be eligible to be members instead. We desperately need some younger, enthusiastic helpers and, in particular, someone who feels confident to assist with the cooking once a month on a rota.

If you feel you can help us in this sort of way, please contact me, Dorothy Haw, on 296 0722. Please get in touch and let me talk you into joining our happy and dedicated band of helpers.

Dorothy Haw (Co-ordinator, Michael Church Thursday Club).

Green Oak Bowling Club

The bowling green in Green Oak Park will be open from 5 April. We are looking forward to a good season. Our bowlers are very friendly and would welcome new members. We are short of male bowlers for matches. Anyone interested?

New members are welcome to join the club, it costs £15 for membership to use the green all season. The council charge £2.40 for casual play otherwise come along, bring your friends, it is a healthy outdoor sport.

Junior Bowling – We are having a junior club this year, every Tuesday evening beginning 11 April 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm. We have entered a team for the junior league (Turner Cup) to play Saturday mornings home and away (not in school holidays). The team will be chosen each week. To join the juniors it is £5 to play all season. Otherwise the council charge £1 per session.

We have more bowls this year so we will be more organised. I had more than 20 youngsters interested last year. So please parents come on Tuesday evenings and sign them up. 7 to 14 year olds welcome.

Sylvia Ruddle, Secretary, telephone 236 5499



ONLINE SHOPPERS URGED TO BACK WILDLIFE

Shoppers in South Yorkshire were today being urged to escape the crowds while helping local wildlife by doing their shopping via a charity website.

The Sheffield Wildlife Trust has launched a new online service which allows people to shop at all their favourite stores while helping to raise much-needed funds for the charity.

Visitors to the new website at www.buy.at/wildsheffield pay exactly the same price as they would at the store but the charity gets commission for every item bought.

The site also aims to help people save money by offering a search facility which hunts out the cheapest price for any object you want.

One user of the new service, who asked not to be named, said: "I was a bit worried about the security of buying online, but all the major retailers have strict security measures and the site was really easy to use."

A spokesperson for the charity said: "It's a great way to get some online bargains, and anything you buy through this shop will help towards Sheffield Wildlife Trust's fundraising targets at no extra cost to you."

Sheffield Wildlife Trust is the city's largest and most effective independent nature conservation organisation, and exists to build a better future for both people and wildlife.

Staff and volunteers work to protect vulnerable habitats and species across Sheffield, and provide a successful programme of environmental training, education and youth work, land management and much more.

Totley All Saints School Reunion

A reunion is to be held on Monday, 24 April at The Fleur De Lys, Totley from 7.30 pm onwards for pupils who left school around the mid 1950s to early 1960s. We look forward to seeing as many old friends as possible.

Toads Spring Play

Just when you thought it was safe, they are back!!! Those indomitable ladies of the Farndale Avenue Townswomen's Guild are back, under the guise of TOADS members of course. The actual title of the play is "They Came from Mars and Landed Outside the Farndale Avenue Church Hall in Time for the Townswomen's Guild Coffee Morning". Needless to say the tickets will have to be a bit larger to accommodate the words!

The ladies, and their long suffering stage manager, attempt lift-off with their unique production of this sci-fi thriller. But, needless to say, high tech effects (that have some reassuringly homely touches), coupled with the inability and disability of certain members of the group, ensure that the cast remain firmly on the ground. All I can say is that the tear jerking ending will have the hysterical audience on the edge of their seats!!

So, come and have a good laugh at St John's Church Hall, Wednesday to Saturday, 10 to 13 May at 7.30 pm. Tickets £3.50 or £3 concessions from Kate Reynolds, telephone 0114 2366891. Wine (and you will probably need it) and coffee and orange on sale as usual.

DOGS

Prompted by a passing dog-walker's comments about the unacceptable amount of dog faeces on the paths either side of the river between Hillfoot Road and Totley Brook Road we would ask (yet again) for dog owners to clean up after their animals.

A request has already been made (by the afore-mentioned dog walker) to the council to install a bin in which to deposit the offending items. If a bin is provided perhaps it will also put an end to the bizarre practice of bagging up the dogshit and suspending it from the nearest branch or twig.

This is a lovely neighbourhood: let's keep it that way.

Trevor and Judith Barber

Dog Bins... a cautionary tale?

I've had several correspondents ask me as their Councillor to organise the provision of "dog-bins" in selected areas such as our local parks, popular walks, recreational fields and open spaces etc.

Elsewhere in this issue you see Mr. & Mrs. Barbers' plea for a little common sense on the matter. A relatively new problem but, in its way, a tribute to those conscientious dog walkers who package their dog poo and thereby prevent unpleasantness and the risk of infection, particularly, it seems, among young children.

Not too difficult you might imagine, and a simple way of endorsing good practice?.....such a small item. Surely England's fourth largest city can afford it? Indeed, the South West Area Panel has offered to contribute to at least two locations in Totley.... But :

Here's what I've learned:

- Good practice it may be, but health and safety regulations require it to be treated as chemical waste... to be disposed of in a certain way.... and by specially trained operatives!
- There are only 471 dog bins in the whole of Sheffield, a city of 550,000 people..... (worked out the ratio of bins to people yet?) What is more, that is 21 over capacity - the city is only funded for 450!!!
- The Council Section "handling" this matter tell me there'll be no more bins erected until more funding is available.
- One more bin would cost at least £26,000!.... i.e. the cost of labour for collection/disposal plus part share in another refuse wagon.
- Mix dog poo with normal domestic waste at your peril!..... if you take it home and put it in the wheelie bin Onyx/Veolia may refuse to take it!.... Catch 22 all over again!

What is the solution, I wonder?

- Introduce dog licence?.... a matter for central government.
- An increase in Council Tax?.... could we justify spending it here when carer charges have just risen by 165% this year
- A ban on dogs?... You can't be serious – a surefire recipe for revolution!

As a first step surely we need to demonstrate the extent and seriousness of the problem.

Please let me have your views or suggestions and I will forward them to the relevant Council member or write to the Totley Independent if you want your letters published.

Councillor Keith Hill Dore & Totley Ward
Tel. 235 2289; Email. Keith.Hill@sheffield.gov.uk; 10, Totley Brook Way, S17 3QS

Friend or Foe

Clean up after your Dog

I should like to congratulate anyone who reports a person allowing their dog to foul in a public place and not picking it up.

I find this unacceptable that people are so irresponsible.

It is an offence to allow a dog to foul any Footpath, Park or Play area. Grass verge, amenity green etc. without cleaning it up

Most parks are now supporting Dog Loo Bins and therefore there is no excuse.

Some excuses are 'It's not my dog', 'I'm walking it for a friend' and 'I was looking the other way'.

We are all responsible for our dogs and therefore need to make sure we know what they are doing in public places.

The only owners exempt would be a registered blind person with a dog they will not be prosecuted, general public could be fined up to a maximum of £1,000.

Estimates put the UK dog population between 6.5 - 7.4 million, producing 1,000 tons of excrement per day, therefore not surprising that dog fouling is a major issue.

We can all play our part by reporting direct to the Animal Wardens anyone who is allowing their animal to foul the area or you can contact them on 0114 2037415 for further information.

Let's keep our local parks and areas clean.

Marlene Marshall

Dog Fouling

Does the lady who walks the very large dog around Baslow Road, The Grove and The Crescent not notice that it is leaving a trail of excrement behind it? Please be a responsible dog owner and clean up after your dog. It is not a pleasant task to have to clean dog poo from your children's shoes or from the carpet.

Marie Keyston

Disgruntled Dog Owners!

Are you having problems gaining access with your dog into Gilleyfield Woods because of the stiles? If so, it would be helpful if you could ring Mick Hanson or Nick James on 0114 273 6117, or you could write to either of them at:

Public Right of Way Group
Sheffield City Council
4th Floor, Howden House
1 Union Street
Sheffield S1 2SH

Please request that the stiles be altered to allow dogs to pass underneath. Stiles like this are used around Whirlow and they work brilliantly - keeping farm animals in, but allowing responsible dog owners to get through with their pets.

The more people who contact the Public Right of Way Group, the better the chance there is of getting these stiles changed.

Gill Richardson

Jess Sowman

Mrs Jess Sowman nee Jessie Turkington late of Mickley Lane and Totley Rise Methodist Church Youth Club sadly died at her home in Dunedin, South Island, New Zealand during the Christmas period.

HAROLD FOLEY. R.I.P.

We shall miss this "tall man" moving around Totley. At his funeral service on 7th March members of his family paid tribute to him and one of the memorable comments was that he was a tall man. But Harold was not only tall in stature but a principled man who stood tall for the things he believed in.

As a school master and particularly as a Head Teacher he had the responsibility and the privilege of showing many generations of children just what it meant to be upright in our dealings with each other. Many people will remember him from their schooldays and their memory will be a kindly and happy one. Harold first came into this area to be Head of Mosborough Junior School when it was in Derbyshire. He later was the Head at Nethergreen which actually changed its name a few times whilst he was there.

His long retirement gave him more opportunities to indulge in his favourite game of bowls. He was a member at Abbeydale and there was a photograph of him bowling whilst smoking a pipe on the order of the funeral service. Typical! His other favourite occupation was playing bridge and he played regularly for many years. His love of music also featured amongst his activities both as a singer and as a keen connoisseur. All these activities made him well known in the neighbourhood.

Our sympathy is extended to his family both local and elsewhere (including Brazil!) He will be missed but his upright life has given us fond memories.

Maurice Snowdon.

OUR LOCAL POST OFFICE....

There are strong fears that our local sub-post offices are under threat once again.

If you use a POCA (Post Office Card Account) to receive your benefits instead of a bank account, you may be asked to stop using the cards very soon.

This could take vital business away from your post office.....This may also affect your local shops.

IF YOU WISH TO PROTEST ABOUT THIS... TELL YOUR LOCAL MP

WRITE NOW TO : Mr. Nick Clegg MP,
Constituency Office
FREEPOST NEA 11900
Sheffield,
S11 7ZZ

SENIOR CITIZEN TRAVEL PASSES RENEWAL

By Post from: TIC Managers,
PO Box 801,
Exchange Street,
Sheffield S2 5YT

..... Don't forget to enclose your old pass, proof of date of birth, address and postcode.

Note: You can wait until just before it expires.

For more help ring Jeanne Bullivant on 01709 515844

RECYCLING CANS & TEXTILES

– some advice from Onyx/Veolia:

If you still have the pink and clear bags..... Use the pink for fabrics and the clear bags for cans.

If you no longer have these bags, use black plastic bags, BUT please label them.

Put them out alongside your blue bin on collection day, but please note the textiles and can bags will be collected by a charity called RECLAIM, not by Onyx/Veolia.

Keith Hill (Cllr)

EASTER DATING

Easter Sunday can fall on any date between March 22nd and April 25th. Last year (2005) it fell on March 27th whereas in 2003 Easter Sunday was April 20th. How is the date arrived at, not only for Britain, but for all western Christian cultures? Easter Sunday is the Sunday following the Paschal Full Moon (PFM) date for the year.

In June 325 A.D. astronomers approximated astronomical full moon dates for the Christian church, calling them Ecclesiastical Full Moon (EFM) dates. From 326 A.D. the PFM date has always been the EFM date after March 20 (which was the equinox date in 325 A.D.).

The simplest explanation for calculating Easter Sunday I have seen is:

1. Divide the year by 19.

e.g. 2006 divided by 19 = 105 with remainder of 11.

2. Apply the remainder to the following table:

0 Apr 14	1 Apr 3	2 Mar 23
3 Apr 11	4 Mar 31	5 Apr 18
6 Apr 8	7 Mar 28	8 Apr 16
9 Apr 5	10 Mar 25	11 Apr 13
12 Apr 2	13 Mar 22	14 Apr 10
15 Mar 30	16 Apr 17	17 Apr 7
18 Mar 27		

e.g. 11 applied to the table brings up April 13th.

This date is the arbitrary PFM which, normally, is the same date in Britain as an astronomical full moon. 2006 calendar shows that Thursday April 13th is the date of an astronomical full moon.

3. Easter Sunday is the following Sunday, April 16th.

Footnote: The above table is relevant until, and including, 2199. For the next 100 years the dates in the table are advanced by 1 day, except that Apr 18 is superseded by Mar 21, and so on.

P.W. Davis

Easter

The Minister and congregation of Dore and Totley United Reformed Church invite you to join them in celebrating Easter Day at 10.30 am 16 April.

The John Wade Singers

This year there will not be a Tenebrae Service for Churches in S17 on Good Friday, 14 April. Instead everyone is invited to a service for Worship for Good Friday at 7.30 pm at Millhouses Methodist Church. The service will include Stainer's "Crucifixion" and Maunder's "Olivet to Calvary" sung by the John Wade Singers.

On Easter Saturday, 15 April at 7.30 pm The John Wade Singers will repeat, as a concert performance, both the "Crucifixion" and "Olivet to Calvary" at Millhouses Methodist Church, soloists John Nelson (tenor) and Mike Tipler (bass-baritone). There are no tickets, but an opportunity will be given for donations to charity.

COMPANIES URGED TO GET HANDS DIRTY

Fancy spending a day outdoors, getting your hands dirty and helping to preserve something for the future? Sheffield Wildlife Trust now offers the opportunity to go beyond the norm and immerse yourself in the Yorkshire countryside, by participating in the ultimate challenge in team building exercises.

These exciting new work days will engage teams with conservation tasks ranging from post and rail fencing, footpath construction and tree felling to habitat management, drystone walling, tree/hedge planting or hedge laying. The experienced Sites Team offers both weekend, with arranged accommodation, and weekday challenges, which will take place on Trust nature reserves across Sheffield.

For employers, these days can enhance the company's image by promoting corporate social responsibility, allowing companies to demonstrate a commitment to building healthy communities whilst helping to build a wholesome environment within their workplace. Various groups from Barclays Bank have joined the Sites Team on a number of occasions and thoroughly recommend the scheme. "A fun and refreshing day away from the bright lights and phones of the office ... working for a great cause alongside staff who are passionate about caring for our natural environment" Matthew D Chenery, Barclays Bank. Participant in a recent successful Sheffield Wildlife Trust Corporate Team Building Day.

At the end of the day the teams will have created something solid and permanent that they can view as a lasting mark of their effort, as well as making a real difference to the environment. For more information on Corporate Team Building Days please contact the Sites Team manager on 0114 263 4335, email: sites@wildsheffield.com or visit www.wildsheffield.com

Puzzle Corner

Acrostics

Just before last Christmas a friend drew my attention to a recent claim to have produced an acrostic using 10 letter words. Of course I could not resist trying to see how far I could go in constructing such word squares. I found it easy using words of 3 letters, 4 letters and 5 letters.

For example:-

LEG	ROTE	ROPES
ERA	OPEN	OPERA
GAP	TEND	PERIL
	ENDS	ERICA
		SALAD

However, I had to struggle a bit more to make 6 letter patterns. Readers may care to try making up their own acrostics, and submit any longer than mine.

For this puzzle I have written crossword type clues to my 6 word acrostic, number 1 for the first word across the top and then in numerical order to number 6 across the bottom.

1. Distant, isolated
2. Runs away for a special purpose
3. Follower of fashion
4. Sleep inducer
5. Sixpence, associated with a bed
6. Chemicals from alcohol and acids

Don Ashford

LIFELINE IN NEED OF HELP

Parent Lifeline is looking for volunteers to enrol for our next Training Course.

We need men and women who, as parents, are sympathetic to the problems of other parents or carers. One of the chief requirements is a willingness to listen and not pass judgement. The course will prepare trainees to take calls on the helpline from people who may be feeling helpless, desperate, angry, or perhaps just in need of a bit of friendly support. It is not just a crisis line.

Our Sheffield-based group has been going since 1978. It was the brainchild of Llyn Wilson, a mother experiencing difficulties herself, who felt parents needed an anonymous listening service for those times when the pressure builds up in families and there is no-one else to turn to.

Volunteers share duties, doing two hours in the morning or four hours in the evening (7.30pm - 11.30pm) each week. There are fortnightly Support Groups for the benefit of volunteers and general meetings for the whole group every two months, giving volunteers the chance to meet each other.

Here are some comments on what Parent Lifeline means to our members:-

"I have gained friendship through volunteering at Parent Lifeline."

"I have learned the importance of being a good listener."

"A broader understanding of life; knowledge of other caring organisations and meeting volunteers who also care."

"Being a volunteer stimulated an interest in counselling which led to a Diploma in Counselling and work as a counsellor."

And for one volunteer it was a 'life-saver', giving her an absorbing and worthwhile interest at a time when she felt very isolated, having just moved to Sheffield with a new baby.

Our next free 8-session Training Course begins on MONDAY 8th May 2006 at 7.30pm at Sheffield Mind, Lawton Tonge House, 57 Wostenholm Road, Sheffield S7 1LE. Please ring 0114-273 0269 as soon as possible to apply or for further information.

"DOGGIE 'DOG'GERELS!"



DIGET
THERE WAS A YOUNG DOGGIE
FROM TOTLEY
WHO GOT ME GOING QUITE
HOTLY
SHE SAID WITH A GRIN
I CAN'T LET YOU IN, SO
OH, DEAR IT'S ON WITH THE
MOTLEY!

Gardening Tips for April

The frogs are back croaking away in my pond (mid March), a sure sign of spring. It was a real pleasure to walk around this morning seeing the daffodils about to burst forth and the perennials just coming through, the greenhouse is looking busy with onion and geranium seedlings looking good and the established plants starting into bud. It will not be long now when we have a blaze of colour again, it really does make one feel better, even though it means more work weeding, mulching, digging etc. I am looking forward to a few warm days when we can have a cup of tea sat outside in between doing all the chores. It is now snowing (next day), the ground is nicely covered and the garden looks lovely (this is one time when all gardens look nice), the snow will protect the young shoots from any bad frosts we may have, the frogs will have had their ardour cooled down a bit, the forecasters are saying it will not last. My son John up in Livingston has got 8 inches of snow up there and very low temperatures so I do not suppose their snow will go away very quickly.

When the snow has gone there will be plenty to be doing, weeding beds and borders, a task that should not be left too long or the weeds will take over and be even harder to get rid of, get any wood preserving out of the way, before the climbers get weaving up your trellis and fences (that reminds me I must give my fence a coat before the plants start climbing).

Ponds will need a good clear out, especially if you have trees nearby as I have, it is always a messy, smelly job which I put off as long as possible, the frogs like all the gunge at the bottom but the fish do not so it has to be done.

The birds are enjoying the little feed station under the plum tree, green finches, blue tits and great tits are the most common visitors and of course the blackbirds and magpies, our resident robin gives us a nice song now and then and the wrens give us a ticking off if we get too close. So the food seems to be appreciated even though the magpies are about quite a lot.

The onion seedlings are coming along quite nicely; they should be quite sturdy ready for planting out at the end of this month, depending on the weather and should be ready for The Totley Show in September. I hope you are preparing your exhibits so that they are ready in good time. April is always a busy time for us, gardeners do not leave everything to the last minutes or you may find you are a bit late with your show exhibits, so get cracking!

Don't forget, watch out for the weather forecast and be ready for a late frost. Totley Show is on 16 September.

Flowers Given the right weather, seedlings and young plants can be planted out, some will need a little support use dead twigs or split cane, choose a showery day as the sun can be a bit traumatic for them at first, all your borders should be weed free and large clumps divided. Do not be in a rush to plant dahlias they are a bit vulnerable to late frosts. Iris unguicularis can be planted now. Plant butterfly gladioli for cutting; put a bit of sand under each corm if your soil is a bit heavy. Weed and replant when necessary in the rockery, the garden centres will be offering small plants in containers, try not to disturb the roots when planting out; there is lots to choose from. Try to mix the colours a bit to give a bit of a change, fork in a sprinkling of bone meal. Prepare your window boxes, tubs and containers with rich compost for planting. Towards the end of the month sow the last of the annuals thinning them to 2 or 3 inches apart, those with long tap roots like poppies rarely transplant happily. Biennials should be sown, include sweet Williams and wallflowers, the fiery red wallflowers are magnificent but try some of the primrose, rose lavender and purple varieties for a change. Make sure the taller border plants have all the support they need, a bit of a gusty wind can devastate your delphiniums, lupins etc. All garden flowering chrysanthemums should be planted out during a mild spell. Keep the rows at least 2ft apart so that you can work comfortably amongst the plants. Remove dead head from daffodils and narcissi but be patient and allow foliage to die back naturally. Pick off pansy and viola deadheads otherwise the plants will stop flowering and concentrate on producing seeds, watch out for greenfly. Water lilies can be planted from late April to June. Warning do not let them dry out whilst waiting to be planted, they do not need a great depth of water 18" suits them well.

Vegetables Thin any vegetable seedlings that are in danger of growing leggy due to overcrowding, prepare celery trenches for further sowings. Catch crops of radishes and lettuce can be sown between slower growing vegetable rows and in odd corners. Onions not destined for The Totley Show in September can be grown in the less cultivated part of the garden, sets can be planted out now, protect them with a cloche or newspaper if frost is forecast. Potatoes, apply a complete fertiliser mixture of 3lbs of superphosphate, 1.5lbs of sulphate of potash and 1.5lbs of sulphate of ammonia at 2-3 oz to the yard fun of drills at planting time or dig in well

rotted manure or compost. Keep the potato growing tips lightly covered with soil if frost threatens or cover them with straw, spring cabbage will benefit by an application of nitro chalk, 2ozs per yard run, apply in showery weather keep it clear of foliage. Brussel sprouts should be planted out in a rich loam that has been well fed from a previous crop, keep them well watered. Another sowing of French beans can be made for a continuity crop; leeks need a rich deep soil if you are interested in having those fine specimens for the show. Make the first sowing of runner beans in deep boxes or pots under glass. Sow winter cabbage, savoys, broccoli, cauliflowers and a pinch of beetroot and lightly cover with finely sieved soil. Sow marrows in pots in the greenhouse. Ridge cucumbers can be raised in cold frames, cover with sacks or insulate if frost is forecast overnight, do not forget to remove it during the day. Sow carrots thinly to avoid having to thin them as this encourages carrot fly, a tent of fleece is an effective deterrent or a dressing of soot if you can find any.

Trees, Shrubs and Fruit Spray blackcurrant if big bud is seen, break off and burn any affected buds. Spray gooseberries against mildew. Keep an eye on newly planted fruit stock; make sure they do not dry out. Spray or dust raspberries against the dreaded raspberry beetle. Spray applies with a fungicide if your trees have suffered from scab in previous years, whatever you spray avoid the period when the blossoms are in full flower we do not want to knobble Ian's bees even if they do come from New Zealand. Keep raspberry canes well mulched as their roots are fairly close to the surface, be careful when hoeing round them for the same reason. Prune back any rose shoots that have not developed any buds, rub out any inward growing or unwanted buds. If you use lawn mowings as mulch do not put more than an inch or so because they can create heat which will not do the plants much good. Make sure newly planted trees, shrubs and fruit are firmed in well and are kept free of weeds. Evergreen planning should be completed this month. Give roses a treat, a dressing of rose fertiliser based on Tonk's formula will do them a world of good, you can buy it ready mixed if you care to mix it yourself the formula is – 10 parts nitrate of potash, 12 parts superphosphate of lime, 8 parts sulphate of ammonia, 1 part sulphate of iron, 2 parts sulphate of magnesium, wear protection when mixing.

Continued page 9

From page 8

Forsythia, winter jasmine, flowering currant and other winter flowering shrubs can be cut back to within a few buds of the old growth, once the flowers have finished. Prune late flowering clematis, hybrid tea and floribunda roses.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants Re-pot indoor azaleas and camellias as soon as they have finished flowering. Take cuttings of winter flowering begonias, rest freesias lachenal, as arum lilies and cyclamen, place them on a shelf near the glass and gradually reduce the water supply. Take cuttings of greenhouse plants, fuchsia, geraniums etc you can increase your stock quite easily for fuchsia take a non flowering shoot about 2 or 3 inches long, dip it in a bit of rooting power and put it in a 3 inch pot with a label on and water well. Allow to drain surplus water then put it in a clear plastic bag and pop it in the propagator at about 60-65F, 3 or 4 weeks should see it well rooted. Geraniums are easy, place non flowering shoots in a tray filled with damp, sandy compost or vermiculite dip in rooting powder, pop them in the tray about 3" apart and hey presto more plants!! If you have too many save them for the plants and cuttings stall at your local church or school. Keep an eye on the weather and shade young plants and seedlings from strong sun, ventilate well (do not use side vents yet, young plants do not like draughts) close up in late afternoon. Offsets from many plants can be detached and potted up if they have a heel or rootlet so much the better. When watering in the greenhouse it is best done in the morning. Plants not in flower will enjoy a spray with tepid water (except hairy varieties). Sow winter flowering primulas if you want a few plants to cheer you up in the winter and early spring.

Lawns A regular mowing schedule should be established at this time. A good rake and spike if you have not done it already. Also, after spiking a top dressing of a good lawn fertiliser will work wonders, water it in if rain is not imminent. April is a good time to sow a new lawn, a good firm bed is important spread seed as evenly as possible, water well, keep birds off, and do not let it dry out. Keep the blades on your mower high; do not cut lower than 1 inch. Here is a formula for a good spring lawn fertiliser, 3 parts sulphate of ammonia, 3 parts dried blood, 4 parts sulphur phosphate, 4 parts bonemeal, and 1 part sulphate of potash.

We are all hoping to have a better summer this year, so keep an eye on those special plants you have got earmarked for The Totley Show, let's make it even better than the excellent show we had last year.

Cheerio for now,
Tom, Busy Bee

Update from from your South West Area Panel (SWAP)

The Panel comprises 9 local councillors from the city's South West. Cllr. Keith Hill has been its Chair since May 2004.

SWAP covers 57,000 people and 24,000 households – a tenth of the City. It has a modest budget for small highway schemes e.g. dropped kerbs, street signs, waste bins, guard rails, benches, planters etc. Last year we offered grants to 21 community groups including:

Whinfell Quarry Gardens, Abbeydale Probus Club, Bradway Action Group, Transport 17, Totley Residents Association, Woodseats Advice Centre, Ecclesall Live at Home Scheme, Friends of Porter Valley, Friends of Millhouses Park, Green Oak Park Bowling Club, Totley Bents Cricket Club, Dore Village Society Family History Project, Totley Rise Luncheon Club, Friends of Ecclesall Woods

In addition we used our entire £20,000 Regeneration allocation to support outreach youth work in the Totley area.

We've arranged at least 8 public meetings a year around the panel area, enabling local communities to receive presentations from the Council and other agencies and also to air their views. Topics have included the proposals for Ringinglow Fire Station, Crosspool parking, Beauchief Traffic Lights, the new land use plan for the city, policing changes, Parks, Ecclesall Woods and much more. Recently we held two themed "road shows" which were very well received.

Additionally, we work behind the scenes with Council departments, non-government organizations and community groups to facilitate consultation and forward planning.

Although under-funding remains a problem, good attendances at our meetings testify to the worth of our efforts and I am well pleased with the Panel's performance.

If you wish to be notified of meetings please add your contact details to our database by notifying :

Andrea Peers (Area Officer),
The Devonshire Suite,
Blades Enterprise Centre,
John Street,
Sheffield S2 4SW.
Tel. 2922191

Email: andrea.peers@sheffield.gov.uk

....and minimum of 7 public meetings each year have brought together the Council and other agencies.

Keith Hill (Cllr.)
Chair of SWAP

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OLD TOTLEY by Jo Rundle

The Bents was a thriving community of seven farms, two in Moss Road, one at Moneybrook, another at Moneybrook Rise, two in the Bents, and another across the fields at Old Hay. The Hamlet of Old Hay had been a thriving community in the 19c, with its forges, mills, and John Dalton's Paper Mill, but throughout the twenties and thirties, it was the playground in winter for Totley residents of all ages, who skated on the frozen Dam. The experts like Charlie Coates taught those who couldn't skate, and the young ones used the icy surface for making perfect slides, and all ages had a wonderful time. Sadly the dam was filled in years later, after a local man had used it to commit suicide. About 1885, a cottage and two small three-story houses were built into the hillside on the main road at Lane Head, on allotment land that was under the Jurisdiction of Rev J.T F. Aldred, Vicar of Dore, and in 1889 a plot of land 1222 sq. yds. with a frontage on to the main road, containing four houses, three newly built, and a cottage, was sold at auction by Auctioneers in High Street and Castle Hill, and Solicitors 'Burdekin, Benson, and Burdekin' of Norfolk Street,

Sheffield. At the time of the sale, two of the new houses were occupied by Messrs. Handley and Coates, and by 1891, James Green, File Cutter, had moved into the third one with his wife Ann and their children. Sampson age 22, also a File Cutter, Tom 14, Jessie 9, Steven 3. James, a later son was also to become a file cutter, who still lived in the same house with his wife and son Harold during the 20s and 30s. Jim Green's hobby was breeding canaries, a hobby that made him famous for miles around. As children and playmates of his son Harold, he occasionally allowed us to enter his cellar and look aghast at the beautiful birds in the cages that lined the walls, all different in colour, shape, and song, due no doubt to Jim's clever interbreeding. In 1891 Edward Dalton of Lower Bents Farm, descendant of the Daltons, Yeomen farmers of Lower Bents farm and Overseers of the Poor for two centuries, died, and his wife, nee Elizabeth Peat, my great, great Aunt, moved into the first cottage at Lane Head, and Albert Fox and his family moved into Lower Bents Farm. Kate, one of Albert's daughters, married Joe Burgess, a local man, and for many years Rose Burgess his daughter lived there with her husband, Bill Taylor, until her death. I was born in the Old School House in Hall Lane in 1915, leaving there with my parents and 3 year old brother Elijah in 1916, for our new home in the same cottage at Lane Head that was to be my home until I married a Sheffield Policeman in 1936. Residency was stable at Lane-head for a number of years after 1916, until the Putrells, our next door neighbours, left in 1925, and the Ramsells joined the small community at Lane Head. The top house was the home of William Gascoigne, who drove the big traction engine for Pickford and Holland. Maurice Jobnson with his wife and five sons resided in the second, James Green in the third, with Arthur Ward, his wife, son Arthur, and daughter Bertha, the long-standing residents of the other cottage in the middle of the row. The Ramsells were next on the opposite side of the steps down to the back yard, whilst the Smiths were well established next door to us, the Salts in the bottom cottage. This situation lasted for thirteen happy years, during which time I had left to be married, until 1938 when the Smiths moved out and became the new residents in the Old School House in Hall

Lane, now enlarged inside by putting in a new floor/ceiling to create more bedroom space than the original building. Soon there were new residents at Lane Head after the cottage and the two bottom houses were sold and the daughter of the new owner moved in. After many years of negotiating between my Father and the new owner, he finally moved to Moorwood Lane in 1947



The 2 daughters of Mr. Bradbury – Blacksmith in the chemical yard, Ida and Doris, standing in front of their house, The Matchbox House at the corner of Glover Road and Mickley Lane. About 1910.

and there have been many changes since then. The rest is modern history!

A year after John Wood became Headmaster of the Totley Church of England School he, and the Headmaster of Dore School, organised a Pageant to commemorate the anniversary of the meeting between King Eanred of Northumbria and Ecgbert, King of Wessex in 829; whose symbolic Wyvern is displayed on a Stone on the village green at Dore. When Ecgbert finally conquered Mercia, he continued north, following the boundary between Mercia and Northumbria, crossing the Mytham bridge at Hathersage, following the boundary between Mercia and Northumbria, over Big Moor, finally reaching the ridge over Totley Moor to Dore. However there was no battle, for Eanred surrendered to Ecgbert, who now became the first Overlord of all England and was crowned King at Winchester, the Capital, a month later. Sad to say, his triumph did not last long, owing to the Danes, but that does not detract from the fact that Ecgbert was the first King of England. According to the account told to me by

our neighbour, Arthur Ward, when I was a very young girl who hardly understood the implications of what he was saying, without describing the actual formation of the soldiers, explained that the positions of the respective armies were reversed at the pageant, when Ecgbert's army of Mercians on the ridge at Dore, were Totley pupils, whilst Eanred's soldiers of Northumbria in a field at Avenue farm were pupils of Dore school. This might have been symbolic in the fact that no actual battle took place. Who knows?

Perhaps the most memorable event in our teenage lives was the advent of the Talkies. Not that Totley residents made a habit of 'going to the pictures', for the nearest Picture-house was six miles away at Abbeydale, near Broadfield Road. The cost of a seat in the stalls was 9d, which is just about the same as today considering that no man in the twenties earned more than two pounds a week, and most were nearer one pound. Youths were lucky if they earned fifteen shillings a week, which was handed over to Mother for housekeeping (Father in our house), in exchange for spending money. I was eight years old when my Father took me, my brother Elijah, and Nellie Smith from the house next door, to Abbeydale Picture House to see one of the classic silent films, Charlie Chaplin in 'The Gold Rush'. It was impressive, especially when Charlie's hut was blown away in a gale and he was left at the top of a precipice, eating his boots. A year or two later, when the Talkies 'The Singing Fool' and 'Showboat' came to the cinemas the effect was even more impressive when we actually saw the kneeling Al Jolson with pleading arms raised to Heaven, singing 'Sonny Boy'. Such was the interest in this new phenomenon, that soon there was a cult of filmstar worship, sometimes heart-throbs or strictly as actors. Even my father soon had his favourite actor, Alistair Sim, whose cryptic sense of humour never failed to tempt him into Abbeydale Picture House, and soon the faces of famous Stars replaced those of footballers and animals on cigarette cards. To be continued

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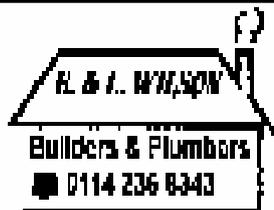
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WEDNESDAYS. COFFEE in the LIBRARY, 10am. to 11.30am.
MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm.)
TODDLER GROUP. 10-00 a.m. to 11-30 a.m., All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. 236 0163 or 236 6789 or 236 3603
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APRIL 2006

SUN 2nd MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk**
FRI 7th & SAT 8th ART EXHIBITION, Dore Old School, Free Entry – see page 6 for further details
SAT 8th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Justine Andrews. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome.
SUN 16th EASTER SUNDAY& MON 17th EASTER MONDAY MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk**
TUES. 18th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Janet Taylor, 'Kinder Mountain Rescue', Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
SAT 22nd SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Jon Clifford. Heatherfield Club, Baslow Road.8-30 pm. Non members welcome.
WED 26th TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, Totley Methodist Church, Grove Road,11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
SUN 30th MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk**

MAY 2006

MON 1st MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, **First train 1 p.m. – last train 5 p.m. www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk**
SAT 6th BEAUCHIEF GARDENS Volunteer Working Morning 2006: 10 to 12 am. All Welcome. Mike Kidder 296 0550
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SATURDAY 29th APRIL 2006

**COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be
 SATURDAY 15th APRIL 2006**

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