

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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Baslow Road, Totley Rise.

Baslow Road, after the bungalows were built along the top side of this very wide thoroughfare (Issue 283 shows a 'before' photo). Some years ago the late Pat Sneath said that she had known the first house on the right as the King's Arms Hotel and that there was a bar in the wooden extension (rebuilt in the 1990s). It is said that the hut served as a dance hall for the many navies building the tunnel 1888/94. The Victoria Gardens were located to the right of the two ladies in the bottom photo. Note the width of the road which made for easy conversion to a dual carriageway..

Brian Edwards

Shop Window

When things change around you - only very slowly - it's a different environment that has emerged.

This is particularly true of the shops and businesses in the Totley area most of which are now only memories and an item on which to reflect and reminisce.

John Perkinson and Mike Williamson have been looking back to the late 1960s. Does anyone have any tales of the following ?

Baslow Road,

175, The Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-Op Society, it had the usual grocery dept, plus a Butchers Dept, and a Greengrocery which was later changed to a Launderette.

187, Wm.T. Hutchings - Chemist.

189, S.H.Wesley and Son - Newsagent, which was run by Stan Wesley and his wife and son Ricky. Who later moved to Bournemouth

191, Lynn Du Barry - Gown shop which was the shop on the left hand side of the Heatherfield club.

193, English Electric Co Ltd Domestic Appliance dealer, Washing machines etc, also part of the Heatherfield club.

F.Pearson, Heatherfield nurseries, where now stands the Heatherfield flats, we used to go there for fresh fruit and veg.

249, Albert Pashley - Butcher.

253, Frank Priest - Grocer.

337, H.Perkinson - Post Office and Newsagents, Sold everything from Groceries Hardware/Stationary/Ice Cream/Cycle parts etc, Open seven days a week, Was very busy with Hikers and Walkers /Cyclists .

Hillfoot Road Frank Evans - Grocer and Baker

This article to continue in the next edition if you have any memories or stories to tell please get in touch.

Wildlife on your Doorstep!



Want to get out & enjoy Sheffield's wildlife this spring, but don't know where to start? Sheffield Wildlife Trust runs a whole host of events and activities all over the city, aimed at helping everybody get the most out of their local environment. From children's fun events to practical volunteer days, the nature reserves are sure to offer you something.

All our events are free of charge, though you may have to ring and book in advance for some of them. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, bearing in mind that the weather is unpredictable, especially on the larger nature reserves inside the Peak District. There are also one or two other things to bear in mind:

- Please make sure your children are accompanied by a responsible adult, as we are unable to take responsibility for them at events.
- Many nature reserves have uneven or steep terrain, and may not be suitable for wheelchair or pushchair users. Please check beforehand if you are unsure.
- All events can be reached easily by public transport and most events are arranged around bus times. For information on public transport, call Traveline on 01709 515151. Call the Trust for an information sheet on how to get to the nature reserves by public transport.
- Photographs may be taken by Trust staff at events and used for publicity purposes. Please contact a member of staff at an event if you are unhappy about having photos taken.
- Dogs on leads are welcome, unless specified otherwise.
- Contact Alex Morley on 0114 279 2670 for details & bookings, or to join the mailing list.

Bracken Bash

Blacka Moor nature reserve
Saturday 9th July 10am to 3pm
Fancy a lovely day out at one of Sheffield's nearest and most gorgeous heathlands? How about lending SWT a hand to manage the site! for wildlife by pulling bracken, it makes a great stress reliever! Meet at Piper House lay-by SK283807. Contact Alex Morley on 0114 279 2670 or a.morley@wildsheffield.com

Survival Skills

Blacka Moor nature reserve
Monday 22nd August 10am - 3pm
This popular activity day returns. If you are aged 10-16 come and join our wilderness survival expert and outdoor hero Julian, to learn shelter building and other survival skills. Meet at Piper House lay-by SK283807. Please bring a pack lunch. Places are limited and booking is essential. Contact Alex Morley on 0114 279 2670 or a.morley@wildsheffield.com

Wanted! Young Rangers

If you are aged between 10 and 16 and interested in local wildlife, or know someone who is, you might be excited to hear about the Trust's Young Rangers scheme.

This exciting initiative offers young people the opportunity to get involved in every aspect of managing Sheffield's wonderful nature reserves. You'll get the chance to develop skills in lots interesting areas: surveying plants, animals and habitats, practical work, patrolling, learn survival skills and map reading, writing articles for newsletters and Wildlife Trust publications.

For further details about how to become a young ranger, please contact Alex Morley by writing to Sheffield Wildlife Trust, 37 Stafford Road, Sheffield, S2 2SF a.morley@wildsheffield.com

TOTLEY WEBSITE IS NOW UP AND RUNNING

www.totley.org.uk is now on the internet!!

It is starting small, as more and more information is put in. If you would like your organisation's details or forthcoming events put on the website, please contact me on 07795-280-603 or email: admin@totley.org.uk

The more people who provide information, the better will be our website.

John Beazer

For Totley Residents' Association

WAR TIME STORY

The sun shone right into my eyes as I opened them that morning. I saw my Mum. She was saying, "Come on love, get up, there is someone to see you". She had a lovely smile on her face. She picked me up and carried me into the kitchen, as I only had my nightie on and no slippers.

There was a tall man dressed in clothes which, I later realised, were khaki. Mum handed me over to him and I can still feel the roughness of his jacket. I was a bit bewildered but I knew it was a very special meeting. I was three at the time.

Time passed on and, once again, I was in that kitchen. This time it was with my Mum and Grandma. There was a rat-a-tat at the front door and my Grandma grumbled. It had made us all jump. She went to the door and came back with some paper, which she handed to my Mum.

I did not know what it was. I just remember Mum sitting in a chair and staring at it, and the quiet sobbing. The gentle visitor was my Dad and the paper was the telegram to say that he had lost his life at Arnhem. As I was only three at the time, I did not realise what was happening.

I was very lucky. My Mum remarried and I had a lovely new Dad. He had also fought in the war and had been a prisoner of war in Germany. I also had a new sister. We all came from ordinary families, but what people did during those times was not ordinary. They went off to save our Country, even though they must have been so scared at times. The women who were left behind kept things going and made sure that if anyone had leave, it was celebrated as well as possible during rationing.

They had dignity, courage, a sense of humour and consideration for each other. They also had a great pride in our Country. They never considered themselves special, but they certainly were. Their efforts and sacrifices must never be forgotten.

I am so proud of my family's part in it all.

ESPA BUNTING



Transport 17

There will be a Coffee Morning at our office at 172 Baslow Road, on Saturday, 2nd July. This will be from 10 am till noon. There will be the usual bric-a-brac, books, new goods, etc. If anyone would like to make cakes for this event or have any other items for us, please bring them to the office or ring 236 2962. Entry will be 50p, which will include refreshments. We will, of course, also have a stall at Totley Show on 17th September – if they'll have us!

When I wrote this article, the "Cakes and Cuttings" was just about to take place. We thank everyone involved for their hard work, kindness and donations.

We would like to congratulate one of our drivers, Terry Schofield, on completing his 1000th passenger trip for T17. We send our thanks also those of our passengers and wish him good health and happiness in the future, with us.

We were very sad when Sally Jones, one of our passengers, passed away last month at the age of 97. Sally was one of the kindest and funniest people I have ever met. She had a way of making the best of every day. All T17ers thought a lot of her. She supplied us with sweets for a very long time. There will be many people who will miss her, but their lives will have been made better for knowing her. We send our love and prayers to all her family and friends.

God bless.

Margaret Barlow

BRINKBURN GRANGE

Further to the photo printed on the front page of the March Independent, Sheila Hobson has kindly sent in this photo



of a family friend, Mrs. Laverack, who lived at the Grange. The photo is believed to have been taken around the 1920/30's.

Green Oak Park Bowling Club

Hopefully the weather is now getting better. The bowling season is now in full swing, matches are being played during the week. Unfortunately, we have lost our Saturday team due to not having enough players.

It does mean that members of the public can use the green all weekend. Why not take advantage and invite your friends/relatives for a game, it can be fun.

Some days and evenings are also free.

There is also someone on the green from 2pm Sundays if you would like a chat or you can ring 2365499 for details.

JUNIORS Age 8 – 15 years

To meet by the green Tuesday evenings 6-7pm

The Woodthorpe Festival 2005

presents

The Gondoliers

by

W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan

This is the fifth Woodthorpe Festival, the others being in 1993 (Yeomen of the Guard), raising £7,000 for the two local churches and the South Yorkshire Foundation, 1996 (Pirates of Penzance), which raised £13,000 for Weston Park Hospital and the two churches, 1999 (Iolanthe) which gave £14,000 to Weston Park Cancer Care Appeal and the Cheshire Home, Mickley Lane, Totley, and 2001 (The Mikado) which gave £18,000 to Weston Park, the Cheshire Home and Cherrytree Children's Home. This time we hope to share at least £25,000 between Weston Park Hospital, Leonard Cheshire Services in Sheffield and the Ashgate Hospice, Chesterfield.

Ticket details for the Woodthorpe Festival Production of Gilbert and Sullivan's The Gondoliers are as follows:

Wednesday 15th June £15.00

Thursday 16th June £20.00

Friday 17th June Special Ticket, including buffet meal, £50.00. Ticket only £25.00

Saturday 18th June Special Gala Ticket, including buffet meal, £60. Ticket only £30.00

All the above tickets may be booked from 1st April 2005 through the Ticket Secretary, Clare Oakley, who can be contacted either on the Ticket hotline: 0114 268 6084 or via her e-mail address: gondoliers@btinternet.com

St John's Church Choir

Saturday, 9 July at 7.30 pm St John's Church Choir are presenting a Musical Evening in the Church followed by a Cheese and Wine Supper in the Church Hall next door. Tickets price 5.00 will soon be available from all members of the choir or by ringing 0114 2362597. All profits will be going to Church funds. Do support the choir and come and have an enjoyable evening.

Phyllis Glossop (for St John's Choir)

COMING SOON.....

ANOTHER CHANCE TO SEE TOTLEY GARDENS

For the fourth year running, Totley gardeners are opening their gardens again.

This year on Saturday and Sunday July 16th and 17th from 2-6pm, eleven gardens, plus the Totley Pinfold and one fantastic allotment will be open to the public.

Put it in your diary now, and come and see a variety of lovely gardens throughout Totley. You will get inspiration in all of them, tea and cakes in some, toilet facilities in others, and be able to buy plants in some.

Admission to the gardens will be by programme at £3 per head. Programmes can be bought from Busy Bee DIY and Totley Library ahead of the event, and from outside Busy Bee on both days of the event.

Gardens open for Totley Open Gardens:-

Brook Hall, Mickley Lane (C&T)
14 Aldam Road
170 Baslow Road (P, T)
190 Baslow Road (P)
3 The Crescent (C&T)
2 The Quadrant
7 Quarry Road
14 The Grove
16 The Grove (P, T)
11 Rowan Tree Dell (C&T)
363 Baslow Road
Allotment No 13, Frances Fields
The Pinfold, Hillfoot Road

C&T = cakes and teas

T = toilet facilities available

P = plants for sale

Don't miss what has now become a Totley institution!! Tell your friends and relatives and help put Totley on the map!

Jennie Street
236-2302
jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk

A Man for All Seasons

There is no doubt that our leafy suburb of Totley could be classed as the gateway to the glorious Peak District National Park for within a few minutes one can step out towards the delights of Blackmoor, Totley Moss and the high country around Holmesfield and the Cordwell Valley for the local walks are endless in every direction. Looking back over the years the one name that stands out as the real pioneer for walkers in the Sheffield area was that great character G H B Wards (F.R.G.S.). He formed the Clarion Rambling Club back in the year of 1900. Access to the moorlands in those early days were frowned upon by landowners and gamekeepers. Maybe the turning point came on the mass trespass date in 1932 on the flanks of Kinder Scout when Bert Ward's party approached the area from Edale and met the group from the Manchester district led by Benny Rothman. Demonstrations got out of hand and friction developed with the local gamekeepers. The police were called and several of the rambling party were arrested. Little Benny Rothman went to prison for a few months. It all seemed so unfair for all the ramblers wanted was for the freedom to roam the hills but those days are over, tolerance has prevailed, now we have at last got access to the hills. Bert Ward died in the year 1957 aged around 80. There is a plaque view finder to his memory known as Ward's Piece on the summit of Lose Hill above the Hope Valley. Benny Rothman died in the year 2003 aged 90. He is remembered with a plaque in the quarry above Hayfield. Benny Rothman published his book, "The 1932 Kinder Trespass", in the year 1982, plus copies of Bert Ward's Clarion Ramblers Handbooks are real collector's items. It was a privilege to know these 2 great pioneers of the hills.

May I introduce you to a good friend who lives in the Green Oak Area of Totley, his name is Joseph Hegyl, he left his birthplace of Hungary in the uprising of 1956 and settled in Sheffield, working in the hotel catering business and soon found his great love of the outdoors right on the doorstep with the moorlands of the Peak District. He then became a Peak Parkranger, a most amiable person and an ideal candidate for the post of Information Assistance at the popular centre of Fairholmes (Upper Derwent Valley). In his off duty days Joe would be found exploring the local hills around Bleaklow, Kinder Scout, etc and the moors around Totley. His latest ventures have been tracing long lost guide stones and tumuli along that almost unknown region of Leash Fen probably one of the wettest bogland areas in the peak. Leash Fen covers an area of over 500 acres at around 950 feet above sea level. It maybe a wet patch but full of interest to explore. Once there was an old Derbyshire proverbial rhyme, I quote, "When Leechfield was a market town, Chesterfield was gorse and broom, now Chesterfield's a market town, Leech-field's a marsh is grown", maybe an old wives' tale of the sunken town of Leash Fen. Joe simply loves to explore the backwaters of Bamford Edge, Big Moor and Ramsley Moor, all these regions have now gained full access for the rambling fraternity. To recall an old pop style jazz tune as played by that sentimental gentleman of swing music Tommy Dorsey "Whatcha know Joe". Maybe my friend Joe is no expert on jazz music, but on the hills he is king of all he surveys. He has now joined the ranks of a young OAP but can cross the high ground with the best of them. You may meet him on the tops of Margery Hill or on his ranger patrols across the Langsett Moors. He often takes guided walks around Derwent Edge and the west end areas of Bleaklow. Have a day out with him and learn all about the magic of the hills. I only wish I could walk the hills again. Joseph is one

of the most interesting guys you could meet and has travelled all over the world on backpacking trips to the Alps, New Zealand, Fiji Islands, Mexico etc. But still loves the Derbyshire hills.

John C Barrows

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T.A.S.T.E. PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

DRACULA

The Curse of the Undead

17th June, 1st, 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd July

SPACE ROCKS

The Sci Fi 50's Musical

20th June, 18th, 20th, 22nd July

BUXTON The Old Clubhouse 5 p.m.

Tickets 07989 670137 - £5.00 & £4.00

www.tasteproductions.co.uk

PEAK DISTRICT EVENTS

JUNE

Sat 11 CHATSWORTH CELEBRATION PROM The London Gala Orchestra with Aled Jones. In aid of the NSPCC, includes fireworks spectacular. Tickets £25. Tel: 01246 850320.

Sat 11 MIDSUMMER MARKET All Saints' Church, Curbar. 11am-3pm.

Sat 11 - Tue 21 LITTON WELL DRESSING & WAKES Well blessing - Sun 19, 3pm, Wakes night - Tue 21 from 6.30pm, ending in a torchlight procession at 10pm. Tel: 01298 871569.

Sun 12 SHEFFIELD BOTANICAL GARDENS SPECIALIST NURSERIES PLANT FAIR Within Botanical Gardens where newly restored Orangery is now open. Entrance to gardens free but small entrance fee to plant fairs, times: 10.30am-3pm. Tel: 0114 236 7169.

Sun 12 THE SPA TOWN COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB Palace Hotel, Palace Road, Buxton. Doors open 7.30pm, show 8pm to midnight. Tel: 01298 70194. Web: www.frank-hambleton-promotions.co.uk Email: frankhambleton@aol.com

Sun 12 EDALE COUNTRY DAY Edale playing field, 10.30am-5pm. Tel: 01433 670138. Email: edalecountryday@fsmail.net.

Sun 12 TRAMATHON All the working trams running 10am-5.30pm. Tel: 0870 7587267. Web: www.tramway.co.uk. Email: enquiry@tramway.co.uk

Sun 12 BARLOW OPEN HORSE SHOW Bakewell Showground. 8.30am-6pm. Tel: 01246 583996.

Mon 13 THE GEOLOGY OF MILLDALE A short evening stroll to look at the fascinating limestone geology of Milldale on the river Dove. Meet at 6.30pm at Milldale Information Barn, next to the Viator's bridge, Milldale. Free but please book in advance. Contact the National Trust South Peak Estate Office on 01335 350503. Email: ilampark@nationaltrust.org.uk

Fri 17 to Sun 19 CELEBRATING CROMFORD A weekend of celebration at venues throughout Cromford: Many kinds of music & dance, sports, children's activities, open gardens, arts & crafts. Tel: 01629 824978.

Sat 18 & Sun 19 NORTH DERBYSHIRE DOG AGILITY FESTIVAL Bakewell Showground. Kennel Club licensed event - competitors from all around the UK. Show opens 8.30am each day until 3.30-5.30pm. Tel: 01246 566947. Web: www.northderbyshiredogagilityclub.co.uk

Sun 19 EMERGENCY SERVICES DISPLAY DAY Pavilion Gardens, Buxton. All emergency services covering the Peak District National Park, including fire, police, ambulance, PNP Rangers, Mountain & Cave Rescue. 10.30am-16.30pm. Tel: 01663 747786.

Wed 22 MEANDERING IN THE MEADOWS An evening walk and talk about the successful re-creation of wildflower meadows in Lathkill Dale, which will look spectacular at this time of year. Learn about the species and traditional management of this increasingly rare habitat. Meet at 7pm. The walk will last for 1 1/2 hours. Easy walking but with some steep slopes. Booking essential 01629 816640.

Sat 25 BAT EVENING IN LATHKILL DALE Join our guides and experts to find out more about these fascinating little flying mammals. Where do they live, what do they eat, how do they hunt? Meet 9.30pm. The walk will last for 2 hours. No dogs on this walk, please. Some rough surfaces and narrow paths. Booking essential 01629 816640.

Sat 25 TIDESWELL CARNIVAL Tel: 01298 872181.

Sat 25 to Thurs 30 YOULGRAVE WELL DRESSINGS 5 wells plus children's well dressings.

Sat 25 to Fri 1 July ROWSLEY FESTIVAL AND WELL DRESSING/SCARECROW COMPETITION 3 wells, well blessing outside Peacock Hotel Sunday 10.30am. Gala Day 25th June. St Katherine's Church Flower Festival 10am-8pm. Concert in Church on Saturday evening. Scarecrows located in various locations (Scarecrow competition on 25).

Tel: 01629 733574. Email: alan@immermein.fsnet.co.uk. Web: www.thelocalchannel.co.uk/rowsley

Sat 25 to Sun 3 July HOPE WAKES & WELL DRESSING WEEK 4 wells. Well Blessing Sun 26, 7pm, St Peters Church. Tel: 01433 621312 or 07747667082. Email: david@critchlow1133.freemove.co.uk.

Sun 26 to Sat 2 July PEAK FOREST FESTIVAL Exhibition in Church Opens 26 June. Festival Morning Praise at 11am. Church open daily 2pm - 5pm & other times by request during festival week. 27 & 28 June - preparing well dressings. 29 June - Well Blessing 7.30pm. 2 July - The Village Fete 2.30pm. Tel: 01298 812234 or 01298 24056. Email: m@flmwilliamson.freemove.co.uk

JULY

Fri 1 ROWSLEY FESTIVAL AND WELL DRESSING (see 25 June).

Sat 2 BAKEWELL CARNIVAL Programme normally available in May, can be obtained from Bakewell Information Centre. Crowning 2.30pm, parade 3pm. Tel: 01629 814112.

Sat 2 FARMING LANDSCAPE WALK A walk around Monyash House Farm to look at the ancient landscape, today's farming, the lead-mining legacy and the haymeadows. Meet at Monyash House Farm Learning Centre. 2.00 pm. Sorry no dogs. Free but booking essential. Contact the National Trust South Peak Estate Office on 01335 350503. Email: ilampark@nationaltrust.org.uk

Sun 3 THE SPA TOWN COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB Palace Hotel, Palace Road, Buxton. Doors open 7.30pm, show 8pm to midnight. Tel: 01298 70194. Web: www.frank-hambleton-promotions.co.uk. Email: frankhambleton@aol.com

Thurs 7 to Sun 17 BUXTON WELL DRESSING FESTIVAL 4 wells. 7-9 July - Wells in the making & Exhibition and DVD presentation St Johns Church. 7 & 8 July 9am-8.30pm. 9 July 9am-4.30pm. 10 July Well Blessing from 2pm. 16 July Carnival Day from 2pm. Tel: 01298 24201. Email: cssimpson@btinternet.com

Fri 8 to Fri 15 DRONFIELD WOODHOUSE WELL DRESSING & FEAST OF FLOWERS Blessing 8 July - Carr Lane, Dronfield Woodhouse. 6.30pm. Tel: 01246 234166.

Fri 8 to Sun 24 BUXTON FESTIVAL Over 100 events across Buxton. Main venues include Buxton Opera House, The Palace Hotel & The Octagon - Pavillion Gardens. There are events all day, from 10.45am to late night events starting at 9.30pm. Brochure request & info: 01298 70395. Web: www.buxtonfestival.co.uk. Email: info@buxtonfestival.co.uk.

Fri 8 to Sun 24 BUXTON FESTIVAL FRINGE Arts festival featuring drama, music, exhibitions & more, Various venues in & around Buxton. Tel: 01298 70562. Web: www.buxtonfringe.com

Sat 9 THE WHITE PEAK WALK 26 mile walk starting & finishing at Monyash Village Hall. Pre-entrants only (NO entries on the day, this event fills up early). 10am start. Tel: 01246 583460. Email: whitepeakwalk@monyash.org Web: www.whitepeakwalk.co.uk

All the above, plus many more events, can be found in "Peak District 2005" the National Parks Free Official Newspaper and Guide.

The Red Barrows Acrobatic Display

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Jaw-dropping
Muck-spreading

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24/7

Tescos, the RAC, AOL all offer a 24 hour, round the clock service.

This June Totley Rise Methodist is launching a 24 hour, round the clock prayer week. "24-7 Prayer is a world-wide, non-stop prayer movement with a network of Prayer Rooms." From June 12 to June 19 there will be 168 hours of unbroken prayer led by members of Totley Rise Methodist and other local churches. 24-7 works by a different individual or group covering one hour at a time. Most of this praying will take place in the Church's Prayer Room; a room containing a Prayer Wall, art-work, banners, clay, music and other aids to prayer.

The Prayer Room is open for people to drop in for as long as they want. Please CONTACT us if you would like to submit a prayer. You can be assured that your prayer request will be prayed for by 100s of different people for over 160 unbroken hours!

Prayers can be submitted by email to minister@totleyrise.co.uk or by phoning 2363157. We are happy to receive prayer requests both before and during 24-7. Watch this space!

Rev Chris Kirk



Are you worried that you may have to sell your home to pay for long-term care fees?

NLS have specifically designed a Protective Property Trust Will that allows you to pass on a significant part of your property to your loved ones. Your local NLS Consultant Jillian Jones can arrange for this in the comfort of your own home. If you wish to discuss or review your personal circumstances with Jillian or find out how she can help you by requesting a free information booklet, please call Freephone 0800 328 2364 quoting reference 9115.

PUZZLE CORNER

A Numbers Grid

Fill in the 6 x 6 grid so that each row contains the numbers 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, each once only, and similarly for each column.

Some numbers are already entered to start you off. In my solution the numbers in one diagonal add up to 18 and those in the other diagonal add to 24

4	2				
	6			3	5
		1	4		
		3			4
	1			4	
6			5		

Gardening Tips for June

June is a lovely month for gardeners, you can relax a bit, everything should be growing nicely, just the watering, weeding, dead-heading, doing all the jobs you did not get around to like de-spidering the barbie and cleaning out the fish pond, otherwise you can sit back and admire your efforts and chew on the burnt sausages and chicken drumsticks (lovely! All that carbon is good for your system I am told!)

My garden is looking quite colourful and should be even better when you come around on open garden days next month. We have had a nice few days to get things done though the frost had us worried for a while, let's hope we are clear of old Jack, we do not want him nipping the apples and plums just when they are setting nicely. My onions are coming along OK, they should be a bit bigger by now. I hope they will catch up in time for the Show in September, we have had a good crop of purple sprouting broccoli, I think this is one of the most useful veg and easy to grow and gives plenty of curds to eat, did you know it is known as ppor mam's asparagus and I can understand why if properly cooked it is really delicious and counts as one of the five of course. I had the heron around, he has taken a few of my best fish (anybody know what heron tastes like?). I suppose it is part of nature's pattern. The lug and snails are on the rampage, I have lost a few seedlings and the hostas are looking a bit holey already. I found one in the greenhouse recently, he went out sharpish!!! They say all natural things have a purpose, I wonder what purpose slug and snails have, except to feed the birds.

The lawn is looking good, I gave it full treatment in the autumn and again recently and it has paid off with a lovely green sward, it only needs regular cutting now and digging out the odd weed until autumn comes around again, it is all go this gardening lark, I had better get cracking, can't just sit here writing about it.

Flowers

Keep an eye on all newly planted bedding and other plants and keep them well watered during dry spells, a bit of liquid feed added to the water now and again will give an added benefit, keep it off the leaves if it is sunny when you are applying it. Stake and tie any taller plants as they grow, otherwise they will be damaged or broken by the wind.

You can lift and divide hardy primulas such as primulas denticulate, primulas japonica etc as soon as they have finished flowering. As alpine plants in the rock garden finish flowering, trim back the growth to keep them neat and compact.

Biennials such as Canterbury bella, wall flowers and sweet williams may be sown now. Bedding plants should be safe enough now from frost so if you have not planted them, do so now.

Place chrysanthemums in their summer quarters, stand them on ashes or gravel to give good drainage, keep them well watered.

Divide mossy saxifrages if they have a brown centre. Discard the brown pieces altogether and replace the green clumps in a semi-shaded place in a good humus soil leaf mould or moss peat. Deadhead peonies after flowering and cut back oriental poppy.

Vegetables

Keep all vegetables well watered and fed, especially during dry weather. Earth up potatoes. Watch out for aphids and caterpillars and deal with them as soon as they are seen. Plant out outdoor tomatoes, sweetcorn, runner beans, marrows and ridge cucumbers.

Plant out leeds for winter/spring use and celery for autumn/winter.

Sow leaf chichory, endive, spinach and leaf beet for use in autumn/winter. Make succession sowings of beet, carrot, dwarf beans, peas, lettuce, salad onions and radish.

Take cuttings from rosemary and sage and root in pots on a windowsill. Pick any vegetables as soon as they are ready, this will encourage more cropping.

To help rhubarb build up new crowns for next year, stop picking. Any flower shoots that appear should be removed and the plants well watered and fed. They would also appreciate a top dressing of compost. (I put custard on mine!! Ha ha) Pinch out the tips of broad beans.

Trees, Shrubs and Fruit

Keep newly planted shrubs and trees well watered.

Remove the dead tips of cotoneaster and cherry. Do not forget to pick the seed of laburnum, especially if there are children around.

Give azaleas, rhododendron, camellias and hydrangeas a feed of sequestrine. You can take semi-ripe cuttings from quite a lot of shrubs and trees, root in a frame or windowsill (not in bright sun). Keep fruit tree trunks clear of weeds and grass.

Trim apples and pears after the June drop of fruitlets.

Do not allow newly planted fruit trees to produce flowers, pick them off to encourage strong plant growth for the future. Tie in a support growing blackberry and loganberry, check supports on other fruits.

Cut out any badly cankered apple branches.

Summer prune gooseberries, grapevines and red and white currants.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants

As the weather gets warmer (we hope) ventilation is very important. Watch out at the beginning of the month and be ready to close up if the temperature drops, most plants are happy at 16C or 60F. As usual watering and feeding is the order of the day except of course the ones that are resting.

Stand pots on damp pebbles to maintain humidity. Pot up cuttings taken in May. Watch out for aphids etc and deal with them as soon as they are seen. Smoke cones can be very effective, do not use them if you have seedlings growing, some cucumbers do not like them either. Keep an eye out for mildew and spray or dust with an effective fungicide as soon as possible. Sow calceolaria, cineraria, busy lizzy, french marigolds and indoor primulas to use as pot plants.

Take cuttings of most indoor and greenhouse plants such as fuchsia, heliotrope, kalanchoe, plumbago etc. Leaf cuttings can be taken now from African violets, rex begonias and echeveria. Established fuchsias can be given a new lease of life if they are taken out of their pots and the old bottom root screwed off and the plant repotted in fresh compost, do not damage any new paler roots as you do this. Nip out the side shoots as tomato plants develop 5 or 6 trusses, regular feeding improves flavour.

Lawns

Clean up raking regularly, get into a cutting, feeding routine. Keep edges tidy. Do not worry about your lawn drying up in dry weather, it soon recovers when it rains, keep the mower set high during these dry spells and try to keep children and animals off. I think I said you could relax this month, looking at this lot I think I shall have to eat my words.

Don't forget the Totleley Show on 17 September, we are all working hard to make it a success so all we need is your encouragement by turning up and better still, having your work on show.

Cheerio for now,
Tom, Busy Bee

HOLMESFIELD VILLAGE FESTIVAL

13th - 22nd JULY 2005

- 8th to 17th July pm Feast of Flowers display in St Swithin's Church. 10.00am to 4.00 pm
Tea, coffee, and ploughmans' lunches available.
- 11th to 15th July Well Dressings in the making
Visitors are welcome to view both the Millthorpe Well & the Children's Well as they are being assembled.
- 13th July: 6.30 pm Sports Night.
Sports for the children & the Scouting group in the village playground.
- 8.00pm Official Opening of the Renovated Village Playground.
BBQ and Licensed Bar.
- 15th July: 3.15pm Blessing of the Children's Well in the Village Garden.
- 7.30pm Blessing of the Millthorpe Well at Millthorpe.
- 8.00pm Jazz Night & Hog Roast – at the George & Dragon.
- 16th July: 2 to 4 pm The Village Fete in the Vicarage Garden. Stalls, Games, Teas.
- 17th July: 10.30am The Patronal Service in St Swithin's Church.
- 11.00am to 5pm Open Gardens at Fanshawegate, Cowley, Millthorpe, and Dronfield Woodhouse. For details phone 0114 2890455.
- 18th July 6.30pm Family Treasure Hunt starting and finishing at the Rutland Arms
- 8.30pm Quiz Night & BBQ also at the Rutland Arms
- 19th July 6.00pm Cricket Match at the ground in Millthorpe. Village Team versus "Vicars XI". BBQ and licensed Bar
- 20th July 7.00pm onwards a "Silent Auction" with a Strawberry Supper will be held
in the Village Hall by the Holmesfield Flower Club in aid of "WORK" a charity which helps people with mental disabilities.
- 21st July 10.00am Ramblers' Association Walk, led by Robin Greetham, round Holmesfield's Historic Halls. Starting at St Swithin's Church. 8 miles. All Welcome.

At the end of two years' service I was demobbed and returned home. As time passed some of the airmen had marked off each day on the calendar such was their desire to resume civilian life. I did not follow this example although my relief at the end was profound. I received a document from my immediate officer, a female, which gave details of my service. In the section concerning appearance I was classified as untidy, the lowest category after very smart and smart. I took a perverse pride in this description which, I have to admit, was apt.

Perhaps I shared a bond with Wilby, the most untidy airman I ever saw in his worn uniform and greasy forage cap. He worked in the hangars as an orderly.

The document also classified my leadership qualities as fairly good which was low on the list but it did, however, commend me as being eminently suitable for any clerical occupation. That at least was a feather in my cap and might one day prove of use.

There was, and still is, some controversy surrounding the merits or otherwise of national service. In my own case the initial period of two months square bashing under spartan conditions was undoubtedly beneficial for it is the only time in my life that I have been really fit and the harsh discipline took away my complacency, leaving me to stand on my own feet away from the comforts of home. The rest was largely a waste of time spent on routine clerical work and languishing about camp in my leisure hours. If asked for an opinion I would recommend a short period of intense training of say three months but certainly not a period of two years.

The armed forces, I would say, are best served by regulars taking pride in their careers. Of course this position becomes entirely different in a world war when conscription is essential. Let hope that such times are confined to the past.

Hugh Percival

National Service (continued)

A detachment of WAAF's had their own block on the camp. Some of the more amorous airmen formed liaisons with the females, regularly returning to their beds in the early hours after courting. One regular airman, name of Wilby, - not a ladies' man - one day remarked while lying on his bed and talking of these amorous exploits "He pulled her on like an old sea boot". Hilarious laughter from those within earshot followed.

Wilby, a Scouse, was a real character without ambition, pride or care for himself and others. He would remain forever a mere LAC (Leading aircraftsman) however long his stay in the service. Nevertheless he was popular and the source of much amusement to the other airmen. I recall how he casually threw his forage cap onto the bed where it would stand up as though perched on his head. I think he must have been an orphan or unhappy at home for he had so little commitment to his profession - a lost soul but an amusing, irreverent character.

In the summers I played cricket for HQ (Headquarters) as an opening bat, I was a stonewaller scoring few runs but able to stay at the crease for a time and in my first year HQ won the station trophy. In the winters football took place and I regularly played for HQ at inside-left. In my second year HQ reached the final of the station cup competition but in the event this match was never played due to the requirements of flying training.

At Christmas I was selected to play for the station eleven that was short of regular players who were on leave. We beat the local village team 2-1 but it was a poor game on a bumpy pitch. I played once for the second team against another station and scored a goal in a 7-2 victory. Our centre forward, a flying instructor scored five goals that day.

The HQ admin officer, a chartered accountant and a qualified referee, took me under his wing. I underwent instruction, passed exams and refereed several matches. I took pleasure in awarding free kicks against sergeants and corporals but these gentlemen did not take kindly to my authority being a mere LAC.

In time I passed an exam for proficiency in my trade as clerk GD and took the rank SAC (Senior Aircraftsman). I remained in this rank for the rest of my service never aspiring to a corporal's stripes. My demeanour and discipline were too lax to expect promotion and I never took to the military life. The new rank led to an increase in pay which was most welcome. I can't recall the precise amount of pay received but it was no more than a pittance. Each week we attended pay parade to collect our money.

Evenings were spent in the NAAFI or camp cinema with occasional trips to the pub in Cottesmore village. Table tennis, snooker and darts were on the agenda but I did not excel at any of these pastimes. I did my best but could not compete with my closest companions one of who, Roy Parrot, excelled at snooker and another, Brian Stockdale, was a master in the art of table tennis. Roy, a gifted footballer with experience in the junior professional game, played for the station first eleven at inside forward. Brian, who had experience in the Yorkshire Council, plated cricket for the station, being an off spin bowler of guile and a good batsman. The main purpose of the station was, of course, flying training. The officer cadets underwent instruction in flying propeller-driven aircraft such as Harvards and Prentices. Later they would be posted to other stations to learn to fly jet-engined aircraft. Some of the ground staff went for trips in the air but I declined all opportunities to do so. Rumour had it that the pilots enjoyed performing aerobatics while taking

ground staff for flights and tales of sick and distraught passengers were rife.

One tragic event took place in my first winter. One Saturday afternoon I was playing badminton in a hangar with another airman. We began with the weather outside being clear, cold and sunny but soon, however, the windows were rattling in a sudden snowstorm. The sky darkened as the snow came down. Some of the cadets were airborne and one of them, flying solo, was caught out in the storm, crashed and was killed. Officer cadet Osborne, a tall, slim, young man with red hair, some twenty years of age, was known to me by sight for he had been a frequent visitor to the NAAFI games room playing table tennis. I was shocked at his demise and, for the first time, the dangers of flying training we-e- brought home to me.

I was one of a party of airmen ordered to guard the wreckage. The plane had come down on the site of a former airfield some three miles distant. One morning in the early hours I looked out from a disused hangar to see the former airfield overrun by a multitude of rabbits - thousands of them. I rubbed my eyes in disbelief. This took place before the devastating outbreak of myxomatosis that was to greatly reduce their numbers.

Every year the station underwent inspection by the AOC and prior to these occasions the camp was a hive of activity as airmen spruced up the buildings, paint being applied in large quantities. On the day of the inspection the entire force paraded on the square. In my first year the parade took place in midsummer on a hot, sunny day. We lined up in full-dress uniform standing easy awaiting the AOC. After a quarter of an hour had passed there was no sign of this august personage. The men stood silently in ranks, perspiring in the sunshine. Half an hour passed by and still no sight of the AOC. A few of the more feeble airmen fainted and were led away by corporals. I found my mind wandering in the unpleasant heat and sank to my knees. A corporal escorted me from the parade ground and I made my way back to my quarters. Never have I been so disappointed with myself at giving way to a weakness and, disillusioned, later I found it difficult to look my comrades in the eye.

Our airfield, before it became such, had been used to cultivate mushrooms and these were still prevalent. One sunny Saturday afternoon Roy Parrot, Brian Stockdale and myself sat on the ground picking the bountiful crop. When a large quantity had been gathered we took the mushrooms to the café in the wooden building situate just outside the camp gates and exchanged them for fried sausages, bacon, eggs and tomatoes - a most appetising meal. We had huge appetites in those days.

One evening the camp entertainments office, a jovial, corpulent character, took a party of airmen by coach to Leicester to see a salacious play. No doubt he thought the experience would be beneficial for those stranded on camp for weeks on end - in fact most national servicemen went home each weekend or at least once a month when there was a long weekend leave - however, some of us enjoyed the steamy play and afterwards we all adjourned to a pub where a large amount of alcohol was imbibed.

On returning to camp late, an inebriated Roy Parrot and myself assisted a sober airman Henry Rack into bed despite strong protests. Henry, temperate and a devout churchgoer, whose father was a vicar, had not been on the trip to Leicester. Henry was stripped of his clothing, helped into pyjamas and into bed by the two of us. While doing so we remarked, "Henry, you are incapable. You must have been drinking. Don't worry old chap we'll get you into bed." Henry, a good sport, joined in the ensuing hilarity.

Continued from page 10

There was, and still is, some controversy surrounding the merits or otherwise of national service. In my own case the initial period of two months square bashing under spartan conditions was undoubtedly beneficial for it is the only time in my life that I have been really fit and the harsh discipline took away my complacency, leaving me to stand on my own feet away from the comforts of home. The rest was largely a waste of time spent on routine clerical work and languishing about camp in my leisure hours. If asked for an opinion I would recommend a short period of intense training of say three months but certainly not a period of two years. The armed forces, I would say, are best served by regulars taking pride in their careers. Of course this position becomes entirely different in a world war when conscription is essential. Let hope that such times are confined to the past.
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The new season is packed with drama, music, dance, comedy, children's shows and more.

Highlights include the West End comedy hit The Play What I Wrote, the breathtaking Cinderella On Ice and a sparkling revival of the musical Salad Days. A feast of drama includes Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw, the 1920's farce Rookery Nook from award winning Oxford Stage Company, a thrilling performance of Frozen, Sherlock Holmes & The Athenaeum Ghoul and the dark and chilling Beyond Midnight.

Children and families can enjoy a stage adaptation of the magnificent adventure The Jungle Book, a visit from Engie Benji, an amazing solo adaptation of Animal Farm, a Double Bill from poet Brian Patten, and a magical, musical adaptation of The Gruffalo. The host of famous names appearing in this stunning summer season includes Jack Dee, Germaine Greer, Rob Brydon and Freddie Starr. The incredible range of music includes the European jazz phenomenon e.s.t., Paul Brady, Waterson Carthy, The YBS Band, Stacey Kent and Jacques Loussier.

The packed programme also features English Touring Opera's thrilling new productions of Cossi Fan Tutte, Mary Queen of Scots and The (Little) Magic Flute and European Ballet's Cinderella. There is also an eclectic Fringe Season in The Paupers Pit Theatre featuring drama and film, along with the popular Buxton Buzz Comedy Club, upstairs at The Old Clubhouse. The annual traditional family Pantomime is Jack And The Beanstalk. Tickets are on sale now so book early to get your favourite seats!

Much of the work of the Opera House couldn't happen without financial support from both individuals and organisations. There are a variety of ways individuals can help with our work in the community including Name-a-Seat, membership of the Buxton Opera House lottery, donations, leaving a legacy to the Opera House, or by taking part in a sponsored event. There are currently some fantastic opportunities available for local organisations to work in partnership with the Opera House including a range of high profile events available for sponsorship including our Live Music Festival 2006, Buxton Festival for Children and Teenagers 2006, Pantomime 2005, and Shakespeare in the Dome. Local businesses and companies are also invited to join the newly launched Cavendish Business Club. The scheme is designed to suit any size of organisation and offers a wide range of benefits for staff and clients. If you are interested in helping your local theatre and your community contact Janet Lee, Development Officer at the Opera House, on 01298 72050 email: development@buxtonopera.co.uk.

The new season brochure covers May to September 2005 and is available now. Call the Box Office on 0845 127 2190 to request a brochure or to make a booking. You can also view details of the new season or make a booking online at the theatre's website: www.buxton-opera.co.uk.

AGES OF MAN (or WOMEN)

As we have recently had a spate of birthdays I wonder yet again, why we have this fixation with age. Of course, it is nice for children to be aware of their age as one indicator of their growing up. Having said that, I am absolutely appalled at the cost involved in present day children's birthday parties, hire of a hall, perhaps sports centres, entertainers and stack of presents when the children go home.

Even in my lifetime things have changed drastically. As a child I do not remember ever having a birthday party, nor feeling deprived because of this. Indeed I am sure I was invited to only one party in my school days, and feeling acutely embarrassed about it. I didn't know what I should do, how I should behave. Postman's knock was a real nightmare.

When our children came along birthday parties became more the done thing and, of course, we joined in. Parties were at home, home catering, including the birthday cake, and games organised by parents. Even then we were aware things were changing. I remember one of our daughters coming home from a party in Fulwood. When asked if she had enjoyed herself she said she had, that it was a lovely very old house and grandfather had been sent out in his Rolls Royce to fetch twenty lots of fish and chips to have before they came home!

With our grandchildren we have become aware of and experienced some modern type events, but I have to be convinced the children got more from them than the simpler ones of years ago. I admit many parents feel they have to "keep up with the Jones's".

From my family history researches I realise that in earlier generations many people were not sufficiently aware of their age to record it properly I don't know whether this was the explanation for the method of recording ages on the 1841 census - to the nearest 5 years for adults.

The media, of course, seem obsessed with age. Reports invariably quote an age - e.g. "Mrs X, aged 39, said". However, I feel I must warn future historians against putting too much credence on these figures. If one couples the variation in reports of the same event in the different media, with the reluctance of some people to admit their true age, the lack of accuracy becomes obvious.

None the less I have to admit there are some advantages to admitting ones true age. My grandchildren no longer expect me to race them up a hill or to play ball games, though this may be because they realise I can't see the ball. Even the government joins in the acceptance. Once I was passed the 80 mark my pension was increased by the magnificent sum of 25pence each week. As my wife observed, saving it up for a month would permit one trip to town and back using the OAP pass.

Personally I think it is as insulting as the trivial amount offered in reduction of the T.V. licence fee when I was registered blind. Surely it would be wiser to save all the costs of administration involved when amounts are so small.

Not long ago I met a former colleague at a retired staff event. He had recently had occasion to visit his doctor and been prescribed a dose of pills. He had told the doctor he really wanted a pill to make him 35 again. I wonder if he realised he'd lose his extra 25p. each week.

Don Ashford

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TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

- 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 0163 or 236 6789 or 236 3603
HEALTH WALKS. 10-30 a.m., Totley Library foyer. For a current programme and/or further details contact:
 Sue, The Health Walk Ranger: 0114 2839195
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 2nd. And 4th. Saturdays 7.30pm. to 10pm.

JUNE 2005

- WED. 1st WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP**, Ken Bell, Living with our neighbours, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Primary Room, 7.30 p.m.
SUN. 5th. MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, first train 1 p.m., last train 5 p.m.
MON. 6th BLACKA MOOR GROUP MEETING, all welcome, Totley Rise Methodist Church. 7.00 p.m.
SAT. 11th SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Elgar, Brahms & Barber, Ecclesall Parish Church, tickets 266 8257 www.sheffieldbachchoir.org.uk
WED. 15th WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, Nora Rogerson, Sheffield Canal Basin Dereliction, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Primary Room, 7.30 p.m.
TUES. 21st TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, "Journalism", Mr. Alan Powell, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
WED. 22nd TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, Totley Methodist Church, Grove Road 11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
SUN. 26th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, The Moor, 10.00 am, Come and shop in the open air for a variety of mouth watering and fresh foods and local produce.
SUN. 29th. MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, first train 1 p.m., last train 5 p.m.

JULY 2005

- SAT. 2nd & SUN 3rd. MINATURE TRAIN RIDES – OPEN DAY & EXHIBITION.** Abbeydale Road South, first train 1 p.m., last train 5 p.m.
WED. 6th WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, Maurice Cartledge, The work of Mission Aviation Fellowship, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Primary Room, 7.30 p.m.
SAT. 16th & SUN. 17th TOTLEY OPEN GARDENS see page 4 of this issue for further details
SUN. 29^h. MINATURE TRAIN RIDES. Abbeydale Road South, first train 1 p.m., last train 5 p.m.
TUES. 19th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, N.C.M., Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.
WED. 20th WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, Mandy Gillen, The work of Galeed House, Totley Rise Methodist Church, in the Primary Room, 7.30 p.m.
SUN. 24th UNSTONE GRANGE OPEN DAY, Crow Lane, Unstone. Further details inside or www.unstonegrange.co.uk, 01246 412344
SUN. 24th SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET, The Moor, 10.00 am, Come and shop in the open air for a variety of mouth watering and fresh foods and local produce.

THE INDEPENDENT FOR JULY/AUGUST

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

SATURDAY 2nd. JULY 2005

COPY CLOSE DATE for this issue will be SATURDAY 18th. JUNE 2005

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We welcome letters about local affairs and will publish as many as possible. However the views expressed are not necessarily those of Editor, editorial staff or the Totley Residents Association and must not be imputed to them.