

TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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Totley allotments complete with air raid shelters

TOTLEY ALLOTMENTS

By Jennie Street

If anyone knows a thing or two about Totley, it's Danny Reynolds. If you want to hear something about Totley of old, drop in to Danny and you can be guaranteed a wealth of detail and snippets of scurrilous information about the goings-on in the Totley of his youth.

So it was to Danny's house I went to learn about the history of Totley allotments.

Now 94, Danny, who was born in Shrewsbury Cottages (Terrace), and remembers the beginnings of Totley Allotments at Francis Field, on the Baslow Road behind the War Memorial.

Totley allotments were started about 1916 on the present site, as part of a larger piece of land, which is now the playing fields of Totley All Saints School. According to Danny the top and bottom allotment holders did not have much to do with each other!

This would have been a later start than many allotment sites, as the first plots let in Sheffield were in 1887 for the new steel industry workers who came to the towns when the enclosure act took common land away from farm labourers. But in 1917 Totley was still a village in Derbyshire, in the parish of Dronfield, and did not come into the Sheffield boundary until 1935.

In those early days the land was in the living of the Vicar of Dore, and the allotment-holders paid their annual rent to the church. It has not been possible to find out when Sheffield City Council took the land. It seems likely that it was sometime after 1937.

There is also some debate as to whether the allotment site is known as Francis Fields or Harecroft. In the Enclosure Act of 1842, Brian Edwards reports that the land the allotments are on now is labelled as Upper Hare Croft, and were probably originally part of the common land which ran from the village (the centre of which was the cross roads by the Fleur pub) almost to Owl Bar. However, nowadays people refer to the site as Francis Fields, because this is what is written on the bill for their annual rent which allotment holders receive from the Council. Does anyone have the definitive answer? Brian Edwards suggests that the 'Francis' may refer to Francis, fifth Earl of Shrewsbury, local landowner.

On the old photo reproduced on the next page from Brian Edwards' book "Totley District in Old Photographs" a group of boys from Totley All Saints School appear to be working on the allotments. It is not dated, but could be around the time that the allotments were first opened in 1916. Note how smart they are in their white collars!

I casually asked Danny if he remembered any of the men who had allotments at that time, and going back more than 80 years he reeled off most of their names together with the addresses of some of them. "On the right were Jack Slack from Totley Rise, Moorhouse who lived on Lane Head, Putterill, then me dad, then Hibberds, then George Pearson, Jim Marsh, the local bobby 'Straightback' Bagshaw, and Jack Wortley. On the left were Bill Proctor, Fred Bishop, Mr Mottram from Main Avenue, Andrew from Totley Bents, Horatio Taylor from Summer Lane cottages, Mr Copes, then Mr Cook from Lemont Road. There were no women allotment holders- it was very much a man's world."

"My dad, Tommy Reynolds, had an allotment right up to World War Two. He mostly grew potatoes, beans, onions, carrots, parsnips, beetroot and celery. He never grew radishes or lettuces."

PTO



Continued from Page 1

In those days no-one had a shed on their allotment, because they weren't allowed to. They just carried their tools up with them when they went to work there. But Jim Marsh built an underground shed in the slope under the road bank. The walls were turf with a window and the top was corrugated iron.

Thieving was never a problem in the early days, but it became so later. Danny remembers a woman being accused of pinching a cabbage.

There was also no piped water on site in the early days, except the water which came from the spring on the other side of Baslow Road. No-one had any barrels and a big hole was dug to collect the water, but men had to get there early when the weather was hot as the water would run dry.

It is difficult to find out when piped water was laid on, but it was probably in the 60s or 70s.

Manure was always delivered by horse and cart from different farmers like Fred Creswick, Jack Unwin or Tommy Andrews.

By the early twenties there was a Totley Show centred around the allotments. The allotment men competed fiercely for the prizes. The Show was held on the field which is now the site of Totley Primary School. "In those days," Danny recalls, "the prizes were genuine silver, because business people who lived in the area were involved. There was a silversmith and one chap who lived near the Crown made razors and gave them as prizes. Mr Swift who had a grocery business in town gave a silver tray, which had palm trees on it."

But the rivalry of the competition led to some dirty tricks. Danny remembers one Bill Wragg who didn't have an allotment and so wasn't allowed by the allotment men to enter his vegetables in the Totley Show. "He gave his veg to me dad, who won all the prizes with them. When nosy old Horatio Taylor said "Tha never grew them onions," my dad said to him "I'll chop thee in two with this spade". Mr Wragg told my dad that those same veg were going into the Daily Mail show in his name the next week!"

In 1934 Francis Fields had 48 plots that went right down to the school, and the school had a plot too. During the war, four air-raid shelters were built behind the school, and in her "History of Totley All Saints School," Joan Stratford writes that some children remember the air raid sirens going off and walking across the allotments to the air raid shelters. In the photo of the air raid shelters, taken in 1945, it does not look as if the allotments have been tended for some time. After the war, the bottom field of allotments was taken back by the school for playing fields. Previously the school had used the field behind the Cricket Inn for sports.

Today the Totley Allotments are owned by Sheffield City Council, and there are just 17 allotments, now very much in demand with a waiting list of 26 people. Keeping up the tradition, Aaron Atherton has won prizes at Totley and Dore Shows each year for several years, Trevor Dickinson's immaculate allotment has been part of Totley Open Gardens for the last 2 years, and Danny himself is still keen on gardening and has also opened his garden, just opposite the allotments, for the last three years.

If anyone has any more information or memories about Totley Allotments, please contact Jennie Street on 236-2302, or email at: jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk

Whisperer

All Saints Primary School, Hillfoot Road, have applied for planning permission to erect a portable building adjoining the nursery as an extension.

Totley Brook Road, number 144, have put in a planning application for the erection of 3 dwellings on this site.

The Cottage, Hillfoot Road, have applied for a single storey side extension plus a first floor site extension and window alterations. This is a resubmission.

Totley Residents have once again applied for more bulbs to be planted around the area.

Totley Hall Park – More work seems to be taking place with digging out for footpaths etc, you never know one day it may get finished.

Totley Bridge Service Station. A planning application has been submitted to the council for the erection of a retail store with provision for parking. It is not know what type of store they propose to build.

TOTLEY SHOW 2004



At a recent get together for the Totley Show helpers Les Firth, Totley Show Committee Chairman was able to hand over a cheque for £400, raised from the show, to Micheal Finn, Manager of Transport 17. Pictured above are from left to right Margaret Barlow, T17, Les Firth, Micheal Finn, Beth Booth, Tom Steel (Show President) and Pauline Perkinson, (Past Show Chair).

Sheffield Employment Bond Meeting – Tuesday, 9 November

The New Sheffield Bond

Many of you will remember the 1999 Sheffield Employment Bond which raised almost £800,000, brought in an additional £1M in matched funding, got 200+ people into work, built ground-breaking affordable houses on the Manor and invested in projects in Sheffield's communities. The Bond matured this August and bondholders got all their money back – an unusual but highly effective way of supporting charitable initiatives!

The new Sheffield Bond is now being launched by City Life and people are again being given an opportunity to invest in making Sheffield a better place for everybody. You are all invited to attend a presentation at All Saints Church, Totley on Tuesday, 9 November at 7.30 pm. Please help make a difference to peoples' lives.

Supported by Totley Residents Association.

TRA UPDATE

Committee meetings have been spent discussing a variety of concerns within our community.

Youth nuisance occurs over a wide area. Following a meeting in the Town Hall during the summer the committee were joined by Patrick Meleady (Community Safety Officer), PC Mark Wadsworth, Matt Conant (Youth Worker), John Sturdy (Neighbourhood Watch) and Councillors Keith Hill and Mike Waters. A lot of discussion took place as to what young people really want. This would appear to be somewhere to meet where they can do what they want without supervision. As usual there is a lack of resource for this area. The community, the police and the council all need to work together to look at the problem. This we are all trying to do.

John Sturdy from Neighbourhood Watch told us about the importance of Neighbourhood Watch areas. The police need our help and if groups are set up, information collected could be passed on to the police. It was suggested that areas where the problems occur regularly need to be identified and hopefully groups could be set up. If troublemakers realise they are being watched and that information is passed to the relevant authorities their behaviour may improve. Issues which could be helped are graffiti, litter, theft of cars, theft from cars, drugs, burglary etc.

You are 8 times less likely to be burgled in an active Neighbourhood Watch area.

The size of the area is irrelevant, it can be a few houses in a cul-de-sac or a whole street. Perhaps there is someone in your immediate area who would like to make a difference to the local community. Please come forward and help. We can put you in touch with those who would help to set up a group. Each group can be set up to deal with the problems in that particular area.

Concerns have been expressed about the fact that some Totley children are unable to go to Totley schools. These concerns for children in the future will be put before the Education Scrutiny Board to be held on 20 October.

ETM are carrying out the major sewage renewal which is taking place in Totley, on behalf of Yorkshire Water. A meeting took place between Andrea Peers (Area Co-Ordinator), Councillor Mike Waters and myself on 13 October. We learned the scheme is costing 3 million pounds to replace the sewers that are over 90 years old and to prevent internal flooding which occurs in some properties. Heavy rain means it impossible to work, so the renewal is running a little late. It is hoped Totley Brook Road will be completed by mid November. ETM are hoping to have 2 way traffic on Laverdene by Christmas and be off the site by February 2005. The Aldam area is causing problems because the site is so small. It is difficult to move heavy plant because of cars parked on the narrow roads. ETM are keeping members of the public fully informed. They are very keen to cause as little disruption to people as possible. If there are any problems please speak to the workmen and they will do their best to help if at all possible. It is hoped a notice board with details of the extent of the work will be placed near the top of Totley Rise, Glover Road, Baslow Road for all to see. There are already 2 noticeboards near the police station on Totley Brook Road.

Finally, I am pleased to say that my invitation for someone to join the committee in the September Independent was successful. We are happy to welcome Marlene Marshall onto the committee.

Avril Critchley

View from KES (5)

We have been back only two weeks, but it seems as if we were never away. Our new Y7 pupils are quickly finding their way around school and seem to have fitted in well. Buses, however, do seem to be a cause of concern as they always seem to be at the start of the year. At the end of the day we have more students than usual wanting to go home by bus, the buses are not arriving at the terminus when they should and as a result are struggling to cope with the numbers. Equally in the mornings we have pupils standing at bus stops at 7.30am and still unable to get into school on time due to buses being so full at this time in the morning. We, as well as many parents have informed the bus company of this situation, which I hope will improve soon.

Sponsored Walk

This year will be the 20th anniversary of our King Egbert School 'Sponsored Walk'. The walk will take place on Friday 1st October and covers 13 miles. It extends across the Longshaw estate, goes down to Grindleford and then ends up back at school. Sponsored walk day is looked forward to by the whole school community, and we certainly would not be able to continue with the walk if it wasn't for the support of our parents and members of the local community who walk with our students or who agree to marshal along the route. The money raised is spent by the student council on what they consider to be good causes.

The New School Building

The new building is still on schedule to be opened for April 2005. We shall be closing a few of days before the Easter holiday officially start and extend the break by a few days to allow staff time to pack up and then unpack. Our top priority is our exam groups and whatever we do we shall ensure that the move does not impact negatively on their education. We are also at the early stages of discussing how we want to open the new school, we have some initial ideas, but certainly it will be something which should involve not just the school community, but also the wider community of which we are a part.

Adult Education Classes

I am very pleased to report that after enrolment last week we now have a number of classes running from this term in school. At the moment we have; Italian, Greek, Spanish, ICT and Asian cooking classes. When we move into the new school building this is an area we really want to develop further and Sheffield College are keen to use us. I shall keep you informed of any further developments in this area.

Community links

As you will be aware, I visit the mosque on a regular basis to talk to members of the mosque and to try and promote greater understanding. To this end, some school governors and elders from the mosque will be meeting with myself at school during the first week in October to discuss how the school and the Asian community can work more closely together. It will be the first meeting of this group and I shall report back to you what we discuss. Before the summer holidays Bob Evans, our head teacher accompanied myself and some of our school council members to the Mosque to present a cheque to go towards a community room in their new Mosque. This money was raised by the students, who decided where it should go. As well as this, on the last Wednesday of every month, I with Mazher Baig, our Urdu teacher and Gavin Walker, our Inclusion coordinator go to Highfield Library from 4.00-5.30pm to make ourselves available to local residents of this area. We call it a 'Drop-in surgery,' where anyone can walk in off the street and speak to us around any issue concerning the school.

And finally exam results

I could not write to you without briefly mentioning our excellent exam results this year. This was thanks to the hard work and dedication of the teachers and the students of the school with the support of their parents. We are now one of the highest performing schools in Sheffield and the first LEA school in Sheffield ever to score 100% for it's 'A' level results. If you have any questions to put to me or any comments to make, could you write to me at King Egbert School, Furniss Avenue, Dore, S17 3QN

Thank you

Sean McClafferty

Deputy Headteacher i/c Community and Technology College Status.

Totley Open Gardens

On Saturday 9th October, Totley Open Gardeners presented Transport 17 with a cheque for £1,100, being the takings from the Open Gardens event in July.

This sum was less than 2003's grand total of £2,900, but last year we had exceptional weather and a generous donation of £600+ from Freemans as one of the open gardeners is an ex-employee.

This year 11 gardens participated in the Totley Open Gardens, including the garden of Danny and Isabel Reynolds, now both in their 90s.

For our fourth year in 2005, Totley Open Gardens will take place on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th July from 2-6pm.

At present we hope to have 14 gardens open - two new ones, and two coming back after a gap of one or two years. So we go from strength to strength, put Totley on the map, and raise money for a local cause.

If you know anyone with a good garden who's too modest to come forward themselves, but would be willing to open their garden, even if for only one of the days, please contact me. We would love to add a few more gardens to the event.

Jennie Street

236-2302

 You are invited to a
Dickensian Christmas Fayre


at
W.O.R.K. Ltd.
Ringinglow Road, Bents Green, Sheffield
(Reg. Charity No. 1050876)

on
Saturday, 4th December 2004
10.00—4.00 pm

Woodturners
Cake Stall
Great Gift Ideas
Candles
Cards
Wrapping Paper
Refreshments
Jewellery

Crafts

Farming Scene

Hi there! It seems ages since I last managed to put pen to paper for the Independent and so in theory there should be lots of things to bring you up to date on.

The first topic of conversation is nearly always the weather, so let's start there. I am sure you will have noticed how unsettled, changeable and damp this year has been. For you it probably meant a spoiled holiday, water running through a lead in the roof or an abundance of slugs in the garden, as the multiplied profusely in the warm, damp conditions. For farmers it has been a difficult year trying to plant, care for, and harvest their crops. There have been very few long, dry spells in between the showers or longer periods of rain. The long delays in getting jobs done causes frustration to set in followed by long exhausting work schedules when the conditions are favourable. These circumstances inevitably lead to short tempers, tiredness and accidents. I am pleased to say that, as I write, most farmers now appear to have caught up with the work, with the cereal harvest finished and the planting of next year's crops well underway. The potato and sugarbeet harvests are ongoing and progressing well. The old proverb that livestock thrives on nothing when the sun is hot on their backs is quite correct. This year they have had more than ample supplies of grass but the cool wet conditions have led to slow growth rates and poorer body weights. I suspect that farmers also thrive (and feel better), as most people seem to when they feel the sun on their backs.

Financially and politically agriculture is in no man's land. At the moment the people wait to see what effect the new Common Agricultural Policy changes have on their farming systems and incomes. This is further complicated by the recently joined Eastern European States and their potential to export low priced produce to this country. However, enough of this far too heavy stuff, let's go local! How have we done this year? What has happened or happening? Surprisingly, the fruit did much better than we expected this year. This does not mean we shall carry on, merely that our last year has proved a bigger success than anticipated. All our fruit equipment is now sold and the sheep have been busy eating the leaves of the strawberry and raspberry plants, not to mention the blackberry plants, which they seem to be very partial to! So if you buy some "fruity" lamb you will know where it got that flavour. We had been growing fruit for over 20 years so its demise ends an era, with our peak workload changing from summer to winter and the land reverting from cereal, potato and fruit cropping to mainly grassland. By the time we have removed the "ring road" and surplus fences the farm will very much resemble the all grassland farm we took on over 22 years ago now. We seem to have come full circle. On the livestock front, Sunbeam has had another calf, again a heifer (female), yet to be named, but "Starlight" would seem to be appropriate, as her elder sister is called Moonlight. We have even more sheep this year as our Teal flock has increased to 160 ewes. Most of these should have been "tupped" by the time you read this, ready to give birth in March and April. The Dorset flock is due to start lambing in November 19th, and they are starting to look very pregnant! In theory, this means we will have a good supply of new born lambs for our nativity plays and also fat, or "finished" lambs for the Easter spring lamb table, I wonder if the practice will be different!



Shortly we shall be busy preparing for this year's nativity plays, giving the farmstead a good clean-up and improving the facilities and décor in the "Bethlehem Barn". Tiered seating and emergency lighting system, a fire alarm system, improved hand wash facilities all have to be installed, tried and tested. The two biggest improvements would probably be a Father Christmas that didn't spend so much time talking to the children and a donkey that walked along when it had a child on its back!! Here's hoping. It's all good fun anyway. Edwin Pocock

Advent and Christmas at St John's Church

14 November – Remembrance Sunday – 10.00 am with the Act of Remembrance outside of the war memorial at 10.45 am

21 November – Toy Service – 10.00 am. New, unwrapped toys for the 5-8 years age group would be welcome. These will go to the Family Service Unit.

28 November – Advent Sunday – 6.30 pm Advent Carol Service. A special service of readings and carols with special music led by St John's Church Choir.

19 December – 10.00 am – A Family Service of preparation for Christmas.

19 December - 6.30 pm – Service of Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight – Join in with some well loved carols and listen to some new ones sung by the church choir. The readings tell the Christmas story in the well loved words from the bible. All welcome.

24 December – Christmas Eve – The Christingle Service will take place at 5.00 pm. The popular service for the whole family will include the lighting of the Christmas tree and the Christingles and popular carols. All welcome.

24 December – Christmas Eve – Midnight Communion 11.30 pm – The first communion of Christmas and the blessing of the crib with music led by the choir.

25 December – Christmas Day – A family communion with carols at 9.30 am.

All are welcome at any of our services during the Christmas period.

PEAK DISTRICT EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Fri 26 Bamford and District Gardening Society Floral Art Demonstration. The Village Institute, Main Road, Bamford at 7.30 pm Tel – 01433 651417

DECEMBER

Sat 4 to Sun 6 Jan Great Hucklow Christmas Lights. 4th switch-on lights at 7pm Tel – 01298 871385

Sat 11 to 12 Carols by Candlelight. Treak Cliff Cavern, Castleton at 2pm Tel – 01433 621487

All the above, plus many more events, can be found in "Peak District Guide 2004" the National Parks Free Official Newspaper Guide.

All Saints' Church, Totley Birthday – 7 November

We will be celebrating the church's 80th birthday on this Sunday. There will be one service for all ages, at 3.00 pm, when Bishop Jack will be joining us, followed by bumper refreshments, bonfire and fireworks. All welcome.



Transport 17

In 1984, we lived in Kent and, sadly, my Mum died suddenly. That same year, here in Totley, Transport 17 got its first mini-bus and, with the help and support of many people, started its Community Transport service. Little did I know then that I would be working for them and celebrating that event. It's a small world isn't it?

The support has never stopped and culminated, recently, in a cheque to us for £1,100. This was from "Totley Open Gardens". Many thanks to all those who opened their gardens and all who visited them. My mum would have admired your efforts.

Sometimes we are given or sent monies anonymously. May I take this opportunity, on behalf of Transport 17, to say that this is also very much appreciated.

Jack Cresswell, one of our drivers, and his wife Dorothy have had a little grand-daughter, called Carys. She is a sister for Iestyn. As you can guess, Jack's daughter Lisa married a Welshman. They are all very well.

Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan have kindly included us in their Christmas Draw again this year. For every £1 book of tickets that we sell we get to keep 80p. Please support us by buying some tickets. Don't forget to put your name and address, etc. on each stub as the Rotary Club want to make sure that the prizes get to the right addresses. The draw is on Tuesday 7th December. All money and stubs must be back with us by 30th November. Thank you.

A cheque for £400 was presented to Michael Finn at the Heatherfield Club on 20th October. This was from Totley Show. We are really touched, not just by the money, but because of all the time and energy people gave to raise it. Well Done.

Take care all of you,
Margaret Barlow

Totley Primary School is right up your street...

for meetings, parties and social gatherings!

Do you need to hire a hall for a family party, social gathering or a meeting?

Totley Primary School is making its facilities available to the public as part of plans to extend its support to the local community.

The school, sited in extensive pleasant grounds off Sunnyvale Road, is just minutes from the Peak District National Park.

Facilities are available for a wide range of recreational activities. There is disabled access and toilet.

Letting fees are competitively priced and can be tailor-made to suit your special occasion, whether it is a birthday or book club meeting, local lecture or walkers' rendezvous.

Anyone interested in hiring out these well-maintained facilities should contact Mr Allen Miller, building supervisor, at the school between 8.00 am to 11.00 am or 2.30 pm to 6.00 pm weekday, telephone 236 4482.

For Sale - 2 Metal Goal Posts (with nets). Please contact Totley Primary School with any offers on 2364482

Job Vacancy - Lunchtime Supervisors required at Totley Primary School. Hours 6 *³/₄ per week, 12 noon to 1.15 pm each day. £5.48 per hour. For further information and an application pack, please contact the school on 2364482 or write to Totley Primary School, Sunnyvale Road, Sheffield S17 4FB.

TOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL ADDS REAL SPARKLE TO BONFIRE NIGHT

IT 'S back, it's big and it promises to be better than ever!

Totley Primary will be staging it's bonfire and firework extravaganza in the school's extensive grounds off Sunnyvale Road, on Friday, November 5th.

The event has traditionally attracted visitors from all over the city and has been a major fundraiser for the school over the past fifteen years.

But it was cancelled for two years running due to unavoidable problems, which included the fire-fighter's strike of 2002.

Rebecca Popple, chair of Totley Primary School Parent Teacher Association, said: "We're planning to put the sparkle back into bonfire night with a massive display of fireworks and huge bonfire this year.

"We very much hope that the whole community will turn out to celebrate."

Visitors will be able to check out the winner of the Best Guy competition, tuck into a range of hot food and drinks, while a stall selling glow in the dark products promises to be a winner with children.

It is hoped that the evening will also feature a return visit by a fire-eater, who proved a popular attraction at the school's annual summer fair.

Sparks might fly but there will be no need to feel hot under the collar. For Totley Primary School's very own cool customer and chair of governors Martin Farmer, will be organising the pyrotechnics and setting alight the bonfire.

A fire-fighter for 17 years, Mr Farmer, is sure to be a safe pair of hands.

He said: "I usually put fire's out, but I'll make an exception in this case! "

Gates open at 6.30pm. Bonfire from 7pm with fireworks from 7.30pm. Food all night.

Tickets are £2 per adult and £1 per child, available at the gate or in advance from Totley Primary School office and Totley Library.

Penny Baddeley

SHEFFIELD

BACH

SOCIETY



Registered Charity No 511146

Conductor - Peter Collis

**Saturday, 20 November 2004 at 7.30 pm
at Ecclesall Parish Church**

**Mass in D – Dvorak
Jesu Meine Freude – Bach
Plus other works**

Tickets £10.00 (concessions £8.00)
Students £5.00 at the door

Tickets available at the door or from
Sheffield Music Shop, Broomhill 0114 2661000
Blue Moon Café, St James Street 0114 2763443
Or by post – SBS, 3 Tapton Mews, Tapton Crescent Road,
S10 5BE
If you would like to know what time the concert will end
please ring 0114 268 3812



Kids Football in Totley Needs Players



Totley Youth Football Club was established 9 years ago with a single team to cater for boys who could not get in to the limited number of teams in the area. Since then we have had teams representing all age groups and have won several league championships as well as sporting trophies every year since the club was formed.

Unfortunately, during the construction of the Lowfield estate the clubs pitch that was notorious for being waterlogged had to be dug up to allow for a service pipe to be installed to the new houses. The ensuing council bureaucracy meant that we were not allowed back on the pitch for 3 seasons during which time we had to travel to play all our games. The lack of a local football pitch made it very difficult to attract players to play for TYFC and their parents to help run the club.

However, all that has changed, the once overgrown meadow has been drained, a junior pitch and practice pitch have been marked, play facilities have been installed and the area has been designated an official Sheffield park and open space.

One thing is missing, more local boys playing football at the designated age groups. As things stand we only have an Under 13 team and an Under 16 team, the other teams have faded away mainly due to the lack of a local pitch. This means that next season we will have potential opportunities for players to join TYFC at U11, U12, U13, U15 and U16 age groups.

As well as players we need parental support, like other clubs TYFC relies on parents helping with coaching, refereeing, accounting and administrating the clubs affairs etc. If you have a son aged under 11, 12, 13, 15, or 16 on 1st September 2005 please contact the club on the numbers below. This may seem a long time away but we need to get organised NOW or risk loosing the Totley pitch to an outside team and once we loose it we will never get it back as it is rated as one of the best playing surfaces in Sheffield.

PS we also need supporters for the home games, fixtures will be displayed in the notice boards around Totley in the near future.

Contact Kevin on 2351862 or David on 2356937

Indoor Bowling Club

There is now an indoor bowling club meeting at St John's Church Hall on Thursday afternoons from 2.00 pm and we are looking for a few new members. We have 2 "short" mats and use carpet bowls. All members are novices with no experience of indoor bowling. More information ring John Putsey on 236 3554 or Ken Jay on 236 8612.

Bus Shelters – Glover Road and Mickley Lane

The bus company said we could have shelters at both stops, now they have changed their minds. So we need to prove to them that people need these stops. Do you use these stops? If you do please let me know the day and time. I can then give the company a good case for covered shelters.

Please ring me on 2351244 or send me a note through my door (5A Glover Road). This will only happen if the people of Totley want it to.

Janet Chapman

Friends of Greenoak Park

The Annual General Meeting to be held at Totley Library on Monday, 15 November at 7.30 pm.

Please come and support us and show your interest. We need your comments and ideas about how the living spaces grant for the old tennis courts is to be used. Suggestions for the multigames area and youth shelter has to be decided. It is your chance to have your say on what is needed in Greenoak Park. If you cannot attend your suggestions etc can be left in the box at Totley Library. Please do not forget 15 November. We look forward to seeing you.

Sylvia Ruddle

Recommended Last Posting Dates for Christmas - UK

Wednesday, 15 December 2004 – Standard Parcels

Saturday, 18 December 2004 – Second Class

Tuesday, 21 December 2004 – First Class

Wednesday, 22 December 2004 – Special Delivery

Aaron Atherton

Mr Aaron Atherton and family would very much like to thank all the kind wellwishers who signed the lovely get well card. Aaron is back home from hospital now and is feeling much better. He is sorry to have missed the Totley Show this year but hopes to be with you all again for the next show.

Also, thank you Tom at Busy Bee for your kind words in October's Totley Independent.

Mr and Mrs Atherton

MacMillan Cancer Relief Coffee Morning

Very many thanks to all those who supported the coffee morning on 24 September. A total of £218 was raised for this worthy cause.

Sheila Parkin

Obituary

Edna Alice Attlesley who died suddenly in hospital on 6 September, aged 84 years, wife of the late Cecil and much loved mum of Marjorie and Jean and mother-in-law of Roy and Chris. The service was held at Hutcliffe Wood on 16 September. Edna and Cecil were well known in the Totley area where they first lived on the Greenoak estate and later on Aldam Road. Edna later moved to the north side of Sheffield to be nearer her family.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the bungalow at no. 2 The Quadrant, it's one of the gardens participating in the Totley Open Gardens event, when it was new in the late 20s, was offered as a prize in a raffle? It was called 'Blighty' and was probably sold in this way because it was difficult to sell the houses at the time.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER 'LITTLE KNOWN FACTS' ABOUT TOTLEY? – WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Gardening Tips for November

The apples were a bit disappointing this year, they are all picked but we are having to cook and freeze a lot because the damage alone by codlin moth grubs is quite a lot more than usual. I will have to put some traps up again in 2005 and winter wash the trees before the buds show next year. We are picking the last few tomatoes. I grow a majority of Sungold, the small sweet orange ones, they haven't been as prolific as in previous years, I suppose we can blame the weather for that. I was hoping for a nice picking of broccoli in January and February next year I only put in half a dozen plants, the cabbage white caterpillar have devastated these so the crop will be smaller if any. I didn't spot them in time and I do not like spraying unnecessarily. So better luck next year. The runner beans were not too good this year. I think I planted them in the wrong place, they haven't produced as good a crop as previously either. I've managed to get some winter greens in the very plot after the spuds were cleared so I hope those will do better, they are looking good at the moment, slugs might be a problem I am keeping an eye out for them, particularly in the evening. We started work on the new raised bed, moving my previous flowers which were very well established to temporary beds until we decide where they go in the revamped area. We are using blocks for the circular raised area they lock together without cement, so we can move them around until we are happy with the position, a bit like lego. We need a bit more oxygen in the pond water so we are adding a little waterfall feature to help correct the problem, it should look rather nice and the sound of trickling water should add to the atmosphere! Two of our fish have died so we hope that this remedy will the rest of the fish happier. We have a lot of clearing up to do and a fair bit of pruning to catch up on so our gardening days are a bit busy just now, not much time to sit browsing through the new catalogues or planning what to do for the next Totley Show. I cannot leave it too late otherwise I will miss out on the prizes yet again!! As I have said lots to do so let's get cracking.

Flowers. Tidy up herbaceous borders cut off all dead or dying leaves and stems, dig over any vacant plots. If you have not fed the ground recently then a good dusting of bone meal will work wonders, work it into the top 2 inches of soil the worms will do the rest. It is a good time to half prune roses this stops the wind from rocking them, you can prune them down properly in the spring when the frost has done its worst. It is also a good time for planting roses, dig a large enough hole to spread the roots in a natural formation, fork a bit of bonemeal or better still rose fertiliser into the bottom of the hole (don't let the roots lay directly on the bonemeal). Fill up the hole making sure there are no air pockets, firm them in well but leave the final 2 inches or so loose. Check dahlia tubers in store, cut out any rotting parts and dust with flowers of sulphur.

The planing of hyacinth and tulips should be completed this month. Check over bulbs planted in pots for winter flowering one or two of the most forward can be brought into the light but keep them cool. 60 deg F max, make sure they have plenty of root formed. Time to plant honeysuckle, clematis, jasmine and ornamental vines, if they are dry when they arrive give them a soak in tepid water and drain them for an hour or so before planting them, tie them to the supports straight away. Herbaceous and moisture loving plants can be planted now, split up perennials like michaelmas daisies, gold rod, scabious, replant the best bit usually the outer portion pot up any surplus for the charity plant stalls, don't forget to wrap up the tender plans or bring them indoors before they get nipped by frost.

Vegetables. Clear any plots of old veg and roughly dig over leaving the clods big so that the frost can get to them, this is one way the frost helps the gardener in breaking down clay soils and killing off any nasties. Stake up brussel sprouts and broccoli, remove any yellowing leaves. Cover any green crops with netting or fleece to protect from birds and watch out for the dreaded slugs and deal with them pronto. Keep the old hoe busy eliminating weeds before they takeover. Lift and store Jerusalem artichokes, also a few roots of parsnip, as they will be difficult to dig up if the ground becomes frozen. Lift a few crowns of rhubarb for growing in the greenhouse. Leave them on top of the ground for a week or so before taking them inside, the crowns can be close to one another and light excluded (a grow bag would do if you do not plant in the ground).

Trees Fruit and Shrubs. Move container grown evergreens to a sheltered spot out of the wind, any deciduous hedges etc can be cut back at this time. Fruit trees especially those trained against a wall can be pruned, after pruning make sure

they are tied back securely. Make sure that all supports for your fruit stock is in good condition and the wires etc are not biting into the stems or trunks. Prepare ground for planting all kinds of fruit trees, bushes and canes, dig it as deep as possible and work in some manure especially if you are planting blackcurrants. When pruning trees watch out for canker (a crusty like scab on the branches cut it out with a sharp knife and paint the wound with a tree paint. Look over fruit in store use any suspect ones or discard them.

Greenhouse and Indoor Plants. If you have not done already give your greenhouse a good fettle, remove all those dying plants and any other debris that is lying around. Give the glass a good wash with greenhouse cleaner, make sure none goes on the plants and fix up the insulation, one of the most important things at this time is getting a nice balance of temperature and ventilation. The temperature on a sunny day can reach 100 deg F which would build up quite a damp atmosphere if adequate ventilation is not provided. Most plants do not like it. So keep a wary eye open and try to avoid these conditions. If you are a summer greenhouse gardener when the greenhouse is empty in the winter (shame on you) then a good wash down with Jeyes or similar is all that is required, do not store tools etc in the greenhouse, this reduces their life quite considerably. Cyclamen and winter flowering primulas are ready to come into flower and will benefit from a feed once a fortnight remember calceolarias must be quite dry before they are watered, this rule applies to most pot plants except those that are in full flower or those that are growing rapidly in a heated greenhouse, seedlings and cuttings should be kept on a shelf as near to the glass as possible. Plant indoor lilies, gladioli and hyacinth to flower in Spring (you see there is no need to have an empty greenhouse). Prune flowering maple, musk, fuchsias, oleander and plumbago. Try to keep the atmosphere around indoor plants especially those near radiators etc moist by placing them in a tray of damp pebbles (or glass chips which look a bit posher) and spray mist them occasionally except the hairy leafed specimens. Do not over water plants at this time and avoid spilling water about in the greenhouse and cold frames.

Lawns. As usual keep lawns clean and well raked, scarify and give them a feed of autumn winter fertiliser, keep off when they are covered in frost. In mild spells you can dig and prepare new lawn sites ready for sowing or turfing in Spring.

Cheerio for now
Tom, Busy Bee

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

This is the time of year when appeals from so many good causes start coming through the letterboxes. I would like to put in a few words for the animal charities, local as well as the large national ones, who do such good work for our less well-loved pets.

Apparently, the practice of putting obituaries in the newspapers for deceased, well-loved pets is growing, and perhaps a more practical remembrance could be a donation - large or small - to a charity.

To mention but a few organisations besides the well-known PDSA and RSPCA, "Labrador Welfare" say they have many more requests to re-home dogs with the break-up of marriages these days, which takes more funding. Sheffield Cats Shelter, Travis Place, do wonderful work, as do the Cats Protection League in fostering strays before adoption. Thornberry Animal Sanctuary at Todwick give shelter and help to many types of animals, and S.Yorks Animal Rescue recently had an appeal in "The Star". Sheffield Dog Rescue is another local charity, and there are a number of others in the area.

Overseas, Brooke Hospital for Animals, Panton Street, London SW1Y 4DR and the International League for the Protection of Horses, Snetterton, Norfolk NR16 2LR both do greatly needed work to help the incredibly ill-used donkeys and horses in India, Africa, Mexico etc. These animals are badly shod, badly fed, covered in sores from ill-fitting harness, such as it is. Many die in work. The owners are frequently as poverty stricken as their animals, and the above charities provide farriers, vets etc. in clinics to provide advice and help for both the animals and their owners, who benefit from the knowledge and have fitter animals, often their means of earning a living.

To finish on the "benefit to both humans and animals" theme, Guide Dogs for the Blind and Support Dogs (who are often "rescue" dogs) make such a difference to the lives of their owners, and a happy loving home for the animals. The cost of training is considerable, and funding always needed to continue the work.

I realise I have not by any means covered all the small or large charities, and have not included the RSPB. With winter coming on it makes one think of the incredible way birds migrate, and how our local birds welcome food put out for them.

D. Styles

ABBEYDALE MINIATURE RAILWAY



Santa Specials

Sunday 5th December
and
Sunday 12th December

First Train 11 o'clock

Last Train 4 o'clock

One Price Admission £4.00 per person

includes unlimited train rides all day plus tea/coffee and a mince pie for the grown ups and for the children a visit to see Santa in his grotto, a present and a drink

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(opposite Abbeydale Garden Centre and 100yds towards Sheffield)
★ Look for the yellow notice board on the grass verge ★
www.sheffieldsmee.co.uk

Warning - Steam locomotives may emit sparks, ashes and oil which could result in injury or damage to clothing. They, and exhaust pipes on petrol engine locomotives, are very hot. DO NOT TOUCH THEM. Passengers travel at their own risk.

BOTTLE BANKS

Berryman, the glass recycling company, for whom I work, which collects the glass from Sheffield, has been asked to remove the bottle banks from Totley Rise, because of complaints from residents in the new cottages. This is sad as I have campaigned to get the banks there since 1988 and the existing banks are well used. We are not removing the banks from The Shepley Spitfire. I just wanted to make clear that it is neither Berryman nor the Council which have instigated the removal of the banks.

Danny Barlow

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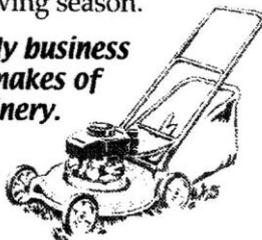
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LIVE NATIVITY PLAY
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REAL FARM
with
THE ANIMALS
and
FATHER CHRISTMAS



Totley Hall Farm

Totleys Special Christmas Recipe

Rekindle the true spirit of the season by putting the arrival of the baby Jesus at the heart of Christmas. An Authentic scene in a real farm setting with the animals looking on in their warm and dry winter home. Is this not the best way to start your Christmas festivities?

Ingredients

- Narrated story of the nativity.
- Carol Singing
- Opportunity for your child to dress up and join in, so bring your camera
- Manger setting with live animals
- See the cow and calf, and new born lambs.
- A present, Christmas biscuits and squash for each child.
- Tea and Coffee.
- Mulled wine, and mince pies for all the adults.
- Meet Santa in his grotto.
- Large selection of Prime Christmas trees for sale.
- On site parking, disabled access/facilities.

Cooking Time

Approximately 1½ hours. Please arrive only 15 minutes before the performance. The first 30 minutes will be a narrated nativity play with children participating in our top barn, so wear warm clothes. Then there will be refreshments and an opportunity to visit Father Christmas, and to choose your Christmas tree.

Preparation Times

Approximately 5 minutes. Fill in the booking form below and enclose a cheque (made payable to J.E. Pocock), and S.A.E. to Totley Christmas Festivals, Totley Hall Farm, Totley Hall Lane, Totley, Sheffield S17 4AA and we will send you your tickets. Or use our credit card hotline on 0114 2364761 - please note there is a 50p charge for this. Tickets are not transferable and we regret that refunds cannot be made if tickets are not used.

*** Please note that performances indicated below with * are already fully-booked**

cut along here

2004 Booking Form

To: Totley Christmas Festivals.

Please send ticket for:

.....no. of adults @£7.50 =
 (prices include mulled wine and mince pies for adults)

.....no. of children @£7.50 =
 (3-16)

.....no. of children @£3.50 =
 (age 2 and under)
 (prices include a present, drink and Christmas biscuit for each child)

TOTAL =

Please tick first and second choice dates.

Fri 3rd Dec			4:30	
Sat 4th Dec		1:30	4:30	6:30
Fri 10th Dec			4:30	6:30
Sat 11th Dec		1:30	* 4:30	6:30
Mon 13th Dec			4:30	
Tue 14th Dec			4:30	
Wed 15th Dec			4:30	* 6:30
Thu 16th Dec			4:30	* 6:30
Fri 17th Dec			4:30	6:30
Sat 18th Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30
Mon 20th Dec		1:30	4:30	6:30
Tue 21st Dec		1:30	4:30	6:30
Wed 22nd Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30
Thu 23rd Dec	10:30	1:30	4:30	6:30
Fri 24th Dec	10:30	1:30		

Name.....

Address.....

Post code.....

Tel. No.....

Names of children:

Name.....

Age.....Boy/Girl

Name.....

Age.....Boy/Girl

Name.....

Age.....Boy/Girl

NEW For this year!!
in response to your requests

**Options for you to choose from
for your school, club or group
or why not join with your friends and
neighbours and all come together**

**For a minimum of 40 people booked
up to a maximum of 60**



1. Use of Barn, facilities and safety officers £2.50 per person
2. As above plus use of costumes, animals and lights.
With narration £ 3.50 per person
3. As above plus refreshments ie. Tea, coffee, and juice.
shortbread biscuits, mince pies £5.50 per person
Mulled wine available for the adults at £1 per glass extra.
4. As above plus – for children - visit to Father Christmas and a present
– for adults - mulled wine included. £7.50 per person

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or visit our web site at www.topleychristmasfestivals.co.uk**



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Abbeydale Park Bowling Club.

The annual Dinner and presentation night was held at the club on Friday 22nd October. Mr Brian Edwards was guest speaker and presented the prizes to the following members.

Mid Season comp

Winners C.Talbot , B.Walton, V.Crann

R/Up M.Hayes, P.Jenkinson,K.Stoneman.

Captains Day.

Winners M.Stobbs,B.Alt, M.Green.

R/Up A.Bird, J.Perkinton, K.Stoneman.

Autumn Shield.

Winners D.Pilley, P.Green

R/Up B.Walton, H.Hughes.

Curvacious Cup

Winner D. Reeves

R/Up F.Young

Hallett Trophy.

Winner D.Reeves

R/Up A.Wright

Val Clark,Mixed Doubles.

Winners J.Perkinton, M Slator

R/Up V.Turner, C.Talbot.

Roebuck Cup Mens Doubles.

Winner M.Thorpe, M.Cross.

R/Up J. Perkinton, V. Crann

Leslie Hulse Vets Trophy.

Winner T.Ogley.

R/Up G.Torry.

Hargreaves Trophy Open Singles.

Winner J.Perkinton.

R/Up A. Jenkinson.

London Road Gallery

Never heard of it? That's because it is NEW. A group of local artists and craftspeople have joined together in a co-operative to exhibit and sell their works. We are called the Hallamshire Crafts Co-operative Ltd and will be open for business from 23rd October onwards. The Gallery has been given a start-up grant by Sheffield Community Enterprise Development Unit and occupies part of the First Step Trust's premises at 100 London Road, close to Harrison's Camera Shop and Dino's Restaurant.

The Gallery will exhibit works of all kinds, made by weavers, painters, potters, mixed media artists, photographers, and artists in glass, metal, textiles and paper. We will promote high quality art at reasonable prices, and also provide space for the sale of works by non-members.

The London Road Gallery will be open from Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., with a late night opening on Wednesdays in the run up to Christmas. This will be a splendid opportunity to view and purchase individual handmade works of art, all produced locally. For more information, go to: www.londonroadgallery.co.uk

What better Christmas present could you give your friends than something unique and stylish from the

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Doreen and Ray Gridley

Overdale Pottery

Scout Lottery

We are asking our Scouts to post registration forms for each house in Totley for our next Scout Lottery, starting our first draw with the December Christmas Hamper as usual. If anyone cannot return the form to the addresses, just ring 2363881 to register.

Thank you

Peter Casson

Totley Rise Chapel



This photograph features members of the Totley Rise Chapel Sunday School. My mother is on the photo but she cannot recall the celebration – was it Easter perhaps? The Sunday School also performed “The Doll’s Wedding”. Can others remember that and has anyone a photograph of it? This photo is taken about 1929/30, we think when my mother would be 8 or 9 years old.

Thank you

Sheila Hobson

Totley (Morning) Townswomen’s Guild

Totley Townswomen’s Guild celebrated their 18th anniversary, together with 75 years of the Guild Movement, with a very enjoyable luncheon on 5 October 2004. An excellent 3-course meal was provided by caterers, a special birthday cake baked by Mrs Laura Richards was enjoyed, and the Dore Mercia and Totley Townswomen’s Guild Choir gave a most entertaining programme.

Each member of the Guild was presented with a commemorative Parker Pen.

If you are interested in joining our Guild (and enjoying next year’s birthday lunch!) please contact Mrs J Sturdy 01246 417690.

Meetings are held on every third Tuesday at Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall from 10.00 am until noon.



HEY PUSSY, LISTEN TO THIS RECIPE FOR
TAINTED-TOTLEY-TOFFEE

The Early Pioneers of Jazz Music

Jazz music is not to everyone's taste and is often associated with noisy brass sections and rather offensive to the ear but this varied style of music has been around for a long time and will still be played when the shallow pop tunes will have vanished. Legends go back to the streets of New Orleans when bands used to head funeral parades and various events in the mid 19th century.

The first coloured gentleman to have a feeling for the rhythm was Charles Buddy Bolden who blew his cornet across the River Mississippi with a real gusto. Buddy Bolden was born in the year 1868 and died in 1931. Recordings in those early days were not in existence; all that was left was simply legend. The first jazz band to make recordings was led by James Nick La Rocca also a cornet player. Born in 1889 this white band was known as the original Dixieland jazz band. The line up included a clarinet, trombone, piano and drums. This vintage music has stood the test of time; recall our own Alex Welsh Group and Kenny Ball, Acker Bilk and Chris Barber still popular today. Everyone's number one jazzman has always been Louis Satchmo-Armstrong. Born 1900, died 1971. His first major role was with the Jo King Oliver Band as second cornet player. His hot five and seven records back in 1925 are classics. The first big swing band he ever played with was the Fletcher Henderson Orchestra. This coloured outfit employed the best musicians, i.e. Coleman Hawkins (tenor saxophone). He put the sax in its rightful place as a major instrument of jazz. Benny Carter (alto sax) later a composer and bandleader, only passed away recently aged around 90. He toured Britain many times. Satchmo-Armstrong will be remembered always for his commercial recordings "Hello Dolly" and "Wonderful World". But his best work on trumpet was the solo of "West End Blues", and the "St James Infirmary Blues" with the king of the trombone, Jack Teagarden.

Satchmo's last visit to the South Yorkshire area was to the Batley Variety Club in the late 1960s. Every trumpet since seemed to model their style on the immortal Satchmo-Armstrong. The early show band of Paul Whiteman (often called "the king of jazz") introduced many fine players such as Leon Bismark Biederbeck Bix on his day was recognised as the best of all the white trumpet players. His short life was only from 1903 to 1931. He could play classical music also. He influenced many great trumpet leaders such as Bunny Berigan, Bobby Hackett, Charlie Teagarden and Billy Butterfield etc.

The name of Edward Kennedy Duke Ellington is very special in early jazz music. Born in 1899 he led a successful big band right up to the 1970s. This piano leader composed more numbers than anyone else in the history of music making classics such as "Mood Indigo", "Sophisticated Lady", "Satin Doll", "C Jam Blues", "Things Aint What They Used To Be", and "I Let A Sound Go Out of my Heart". He was also a great lover of classical music. Always employed the best sidemen, i.e. Johnny Hodges, Ben Webster, Harry Carney (Saxes), Cootie Williams, Cat Anderson and Rex Stewart (trumpet). This orchestra without a doubt is the most important in the history of jazz music. After such great bands as Fletcher Henderson and The Duke came the swing era of the mid 1930s. The most popular being Benny Goodman (the King of Swing), others include Artie Shaw, these two leaders were exponents of the clarinet. The latter is still going strong and well into his 90's.

Remember the fabulous Dorsey Brothers, let's remember the great Little Drummer Chuckwebb, his band could outswing anyone around, born in 1902 died in 1939. Benny Goodman's

drummer Jean Krupa stated Chick Webb was the best, later the Buddy Rich Band proved to be the best drummer in the world. He had previously learnt his skills with the bands of Bunny Berrigan, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw and Harry James.

Other great bands from the early days were Jimmy Lunceford, Woody Herman, Charlie Bennett, Glen Gray's, Casa Lum's and William Count Basie. Remember his classic "one o'clock jump" and "jumping at the woodside". The kid from redbank was every jazz lover's favourite swing band. Don't let's leave out the people's favourite Glenn Miller. Born 1905, died 1944. Two of my favourites were Stan Kenton and Harry James. The latter was married to the film star Betty Grable, the pin-up girl. I recall the nights back in 1973 when Basie and Kenton (artistry in rhythm) played at the club Fiesta at Arundel Gate in Sheffield. I went backstage and met these 2 giants from the USA. They certainly left their mark in the world of jazz. Who could match the soaring trumpet notes of the late Harry James, his technique in a rendering of "The Flight of the Bumble Bee" has never been equalled.

In closing, I must not leave out the immortal Sidney Bechet, the greatest every player of the soprano saxophone. His solos on the tune of Gershwin's "Summertime", "Sweet Lorraine", and "Laura" would bring a tingle to your spine. Bechet was the only player that could rival Satchmo-Armstrong in a cutting solo duel. Bechet was born in New Orleans in 1897 and died in Paris in 1959. The citizens of Paris erected a statue to his honour and his memory. So many pioneers in the formation of jazz music have had to be left out. Long may the music continue.

John C Barrows

PS Have any readers got a copy on record of Benny Goodman playing "Under a Blanket of Blue" or Jack Teagarden's "Sophisticated Lady" I could borrow please?

Thank You for the Music

The reminiscences by John Barrows of the old Sheffield Empire Theatre recalled many happy times. I too was privileged to enjoy many of the artists mentioned from the "gods", including Lee Lawrence, who as John says managed to project their voices without any microphones. Later came Matt Munro, Dickie Valentine, David Hughes, with their lovely voices, sadly, all dying comparatively young but what a legacy of talent and music they left. My first introduction to Opera was from the same "gods", "Aida", "La Boheme", "Carmen" and others and all for ninepence!!

In my teens 70 years ago, a group of us from work would go weekly to The Montgomery Hall where "Billie Manders Quantescques" would have a spell after finishing a summer season then going onto panto. It was an all male minstrel type show. One or two may still remember it. We girls all had a "crush" on the leading tenor and would linger after for his autograph. He would emerge, "gleaming golden hair", long, belted camel overcoat, turned-up collar, our mouths wide open gazing at him. Then, a dash to catch the tram by the town hall, the others hurrying to halt it for me as I was always last. They would haul me on-board where we collapsed, giggling into our seats, dashing home for 10pm (our curfew) to dream that night of our "idol". How naïve we were!!!

A year or so on, being more worldly (or so we thought) switched our allegiance to Harry Hansons Court Players at The Lyceum who produced some cracking good plays, also Mondays, two seats the price of one! Tribute is surely deserved to all travelling companies of the time. Very often meagre wages, sometimes only a share of the takings, poky dressing rooms, hanging around draughty stations to the next venue, a far cry from some of today's stars with their temperamental demands.

Joan Merrell

Early Days (Continued)

In the third year, when I was again placed in the top form 3G, I was selected to play for the school's under fourteen eleven in two matches. Although I failed to score in either match from my position at inside-left, we did win one of them and drew the other, both away from home.

In my fourth and final year I was selected on five occasions for the school's second team. We won only one of these matches but on that occasion I scored a hat trick in a 14-1 triumph. Our centre forward Brian Gabbitas scored nine goals in that match. The headmaster, Mr. Smith, reported the result in assembly on the following Monday morning to an incredulous school.

In the spring of my final year I played for our house team, the Egyptians, in the final of the football cup. I scored twice but to no avail as our side were beaten 7-2 by the Angles on a day of gale-force winds. We led 2-1 at half-time but were overwhelmed in the second half.

The unauthorised picking of apples, or scrumping as it was known, was prevalent amongst the boys. On one such occasion myself and two friends, our pockets full of apples, were walking home when a squad of soldiers marched by. I threw an apple to one soldier and soon regretted my action for the sergeant in charge called out halt in stentorian tones and came over to us. I don't recall his precise words but they left no doubt in our minds that I had gravely breached army discipline and that he would like to have charge of me on the parade ground to teach me better manners. The incident left me shaking in shock and was a foretaste of things to come when I did my national service.

Another unfortunate incident following scrumping took place that year. A boy neighbour of mine, Henry Bridges, and I scaled the orchard wall to be confronted by a police constable. We were caught in the act and there was no escape. The officer

took note of my name and address and then noted Henry's name and his address at 39 Pentland Road.

"You mean Penrhyn Road don't you Henry?" I naively asked.

The constable bestowed a suspicious look at Henry so he admitted his mistake and the officer continued on his beat.

"You silly sod!" Henry exclaimed. "I was giving a false address you idiot."

This was my first indication of the deceit and I apologised profusely. Fortunately neither of us heard any more of the matter.

At home at this time we boys frequently played cricket and football with a tennis ball in the road. Little traffic went by in those days and the only interference to our games came from grown-up neighbours who objected to the noise and were conscious of the danger to their windows. This danger was not of the imagination and several windows were broken over the years. Two older boys, Brian Slack and Jimmy Frost led these and other activities.

At one period we spent much time in Endcliffe Park searching for condoms thrown away by soldiers after courting the local girls. I don't think the word 'condom' was then in vogue, the name in use being 'French letters' but we boys more often referred to them as 'sponkbags'. It was quite a game amongst us scouring the woods for these trophies. I can't recall the number found on any one expedition but they were numerous and each find was hailed with a cry of triumph. During the summer evenings we made friends with the soldiers and their girlfriends and a good time was had by all.

In February in my second year at grammar school, a schoolmate, Dennis Holmes, invited me to his thirteenth

birthday party. Girls had also been invited and one who was red-haired and had luscious, green eyes attracted my attention. I had a reputation, quite undeserved, of being a romeo. This had come about through passionate kisses bestowed at previous parties where I was simply following the example of an older boy, Brian Slack, a neighbour of mine and my hero at that time. That evening, by chance, I found myself in the company of a precocious girl named Andrea and our antics, although innocent, became the talk of our friends. This disappointed me as it prevented any contact with the red-haired girl who seemed unaware of my existence.

My reputation stayed intact until the summer holidays when Dennis Holmes asked me to join a party going on a day's outing into the countryside. Andrea came with us as did - unfortunately for my reputation - a handsome youth called Alan. After some innocuous games in a haystack in a field, Alan and Andrea detached themselves from the main group. They crept together under a waterproof sheet and, out of sight, amused themselves to judge by the emanating laughs and cries. I was simply an onlooker, out of favour and temper, so returned home disillusioned. Never again would I be known as a ladies man.

On the 8th of May, 1945, - VE day - Germany surrendered thus bringing the war in Europe to an end. A day's holiday marked the event. In Fulmer Road tables were set out in the road laden with food and drink despite the rationing. We children, many bedecked in fancy hats and trimmings, enjoyed this repast. Britannia was triumphant and euphoria prevailed.

In the evening a bonfire lit up the middle of the road outside our house, motor traffic being sparse in those days. Dancing took place to the sound of gramophone records in a convivial, joyous atmosphere. My mother danced away as happy as a skylark.

Two friends and myself went on a tour of the neighbourhood. Every street had a bonfire and we partook of the freely available food and drink and joined in the general bonhomie. Popular songs such as 'roll out the barrel' and 'run rabbit run' rang out in the mild air. Never had I seen such scenes.

I returned to Fulmer Road and retired exhausted to bed at midnight. I could hear the cries of revellers from my bedroom and I did not fall asleep until the noise died down and silence prevailed at about four o'clock. I thought of the blitz, the loss of Uncle Bob and offered up a prayer of thanks for our deliverance and victory.

Similar celebrations took place in August when Japan surrendered after the dropping of two atomic bombs. VJ day brought hostilities to an end worldwide.

The chemistry master, Freddie Potts, a jovial character, did his best to arouse my interest in the subject but to no avail. On one occasion I swallowed ammonia when sucking a pipette and burnt my mouth severely. This did not help and neither did an obnoxious brown gas that smelled of bad eggs. I gave up the subject after the second year for at that time we had to decide which subjects to sit for in the school certificate and I decided that chemistry was not for me.

I also gave up art for which I had no talent. One day the art teacher kicked me off my stool, whether in despair at my drawing or for some other reason I never knew but perhaps he had an artist's temperament.

The German master, Mr. Robertshaw, known to the boys as Otto, was in the habit of asking me to translate. He would invite me to do so by exclaiming 'Al so, Percival!' This in time became a catchphrase. Whenever a boy passed me on the corridor or elsewhere he would exclaim 'Al so Percival!' and break into fits of laughter. I would reluctantly reply 'Al

Continued from page 14

so, Smith, or Jones or Brown or whosoever'. Mr. Robertshaw, a diminutive, neat, dry as dust man with a moustache, had been in Intelligence during the war and was much respected by the boys.

The winter of 1947 was severe, the hardest in living memory. Snow lay deep with drifts several feet high. It began to fall at the end of February and did not entirely disappear until June. Most of the school football matches were cancelled and United did not play their last match until 14th June.

Although the arctic conditions were ideal for sledging I had little time for that activity. My last year at school was fully occupied by studies for the school certificate examinations. In the event I matriculated with six credits, two passes and one failure in physics, a satisfactory performance.

My mere pass in geography, one of my favourite subjects, was disappointing but the class as a whole were responsible for the poor performance. The master, of a timid disposition, was unable to keep control. The boys took advantage sometimes by pelting the teacher with balls of paper as he wrote on the blackboard. Some of the more rebellious pupils would, when the mood took them, leave the ground-floor classroom through an open window and not return until they saw fit. The master, veins prominent of his forehead, would plead for order as mayhem ensued but to no avail.

On one occasion when the teacher went into the storeroom attached to the classroom an ingenious boy turned the key in the lock and the master was imprisoned. The master banged on the door in a frenzy but a good quarter of an hour elapsed before he was released by a nervous boy who thought the matter had gone far enough for our wellbeing. The master hurried to the headmaster's study and soon returned with that personage. Mr. Smith lost no time in restoring order, caning the ringleaders while the geography teacher looked on in humiliation. It was an abject admission of his own failure to keep discipline. I could not help feeling sorry for him.

My other pass in music was not unexpected for I had no gift for the art and could not play an instrument. In the oral exam for the school certificate we had to sing the tonic sol-fa scale and I shall never forget the teacher's look of disbelief as I sang it. Earlier, in my second year, the master had indicated my failure to gain selection for the school choir by rapping the back of my head with his board duster, which was his normal way of showing displeasure. On another occasion, in my final year, after playing a composition of mine on the piano the master sarcastically remarked "We must congratulate Percival. He has written another unfinished symphony". Hilarious laughter followed much to my chagrin and the master's pleasure at the success of his wit, no doubt used before and since to a succession of boys.

In the final summer our house, the Egyptians, won the cricket cup. I played a useful role in the semi-final, scoring all eight runs for the last wicket in an unbroken stand with a junior.

Hugh Percival - (To be continued)

John Wade Singers

Saturday, 20 November – John Wade Singers Concert at All Saints Church, Totley, for St Wilfreds Centre at 7.30 pm Gounod St Cecilia Mass and contrasting items. Tickets £5 from J Parker telephone 2360798

Saturday, 27 November – John Wade Singers Concert at Millhouses Methodist Church, Millhouses Lane for St Wilfreds Centre at 7.30 pm Gounod St Cecilia Mass and contrasting items. Tickets £5 from J Parker, telephone 2360798

Ancient Totley

The article (TI June 04) by J. C. Barrows reminded me of some of the other remains on Totley Moss. Along the top of Brown Edge, above the firing range and extending into the Moss, is a series of scheduled ancient monuments. However, I only have information on those closest to the centre of Totley. There are well over 70 cairns (small burial mounds of rock) and the remains of field boundaries dating back to the Bronze Age period of our history, up to 4300 years ago. There are also other enclosures and hut circles identified as ancient monuments, which are as yet undated, but may be from the Iron Age (2000-2700 years ago). Bole Hill is the home of a suspected Iron Age hill fort similar to, but smaller than those at Mam Tor, Carl Wark and Wincobank.

Bronze Age funereal monuments or round barrows, and finds of various small objects, are also known locally overlooking Totley, near Dronfield Woodhouse and Holmesfield. These barrows were the equivalent of the rock cairns, but simply built of soil.

The most ancient relic to be found locally, as far as I am aware, was also found at Bole Hill. Clearly Bole Hill has been an important part of the Totley Scene until comparatively recently. The name Bole Hill, of course, refers to the mediaeval lead-smelting bole that was there until the new smelter on Old Hey Brook took over in the late 16th century. The ancient relic is a "Tardenoisian" microlith. This is a very skilfully worked piece of flint less than 2 cm (1") long which probably would have been set in some sort of wooden handle and used for cutting in some way. I am sorry I cannot be more explicit, as I am not an expert by any means. This item dates from the later Mesolithic period, say c. 6500-4500 BC. Alas, I have not seen it and indeed do not know what has become of this piece of our history. I hope that it has found its way to the City Museum or somewhere similar by now so that we can all enjoy, study and wonder at it. However, I am glad that the finder reported his discovery back in 1949. This at least gives us some knowledge of this part of our ancient past.

If you find any archaeological material either in your garden or while out walking, please respect it and report your discovery to the local Finds Liaison Officer. For South and West Yorkshire this is Anna Marshall of the West Yorkshire Archaeological Service, 01924 305359 amarshall@wyas.org.uk, while for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire it is Rachel Atherton of Derby City Museum, 01332 716665 rachel.atherton@derby.gov.uk. If you want to find out more about the Portable Antiquities Recording Scheme, try logging on to www.finds.org.uk. You can do this at the library if you can't do it at home. My information came from a search of the National Monument Record archive. There are also County based Sites and Monuments Records. These can be searched for free by the public for private research. South Yorkshire's record is held by SYAS part of Development Services in Howden House, Sheffield 0114 2736428, while Derbyshire SMR is held at County Hall, Matlock, 01629 580000 ext7142. Duncan Froggatt

Is it your Umbrella?

During the open gardens event this July a woman visiting Danny and Isabel Reynolds garden on Baslow Road, asked to borrow an umbrella. They gladly lent her their only umbrella. She promised to return it to them "at church" as quickly as possible. Danny and Isabel have not seen this umbrella again.

Would this person please return the umbrella, as promised?

T.O.A.D.S. AUTUMN PLAY

Our next play is a good old comedy/farce, "Pool's Paradise" by Philip King, something to cheer you up on a dark evening! Penelope Toop is suddenly aware that the local raffle she thought she had been contributing to every week, is, in fact, a football pool, and she and her friends might have won a sum of money. How to tell her staid husband, Reverend Toop, is the burning question of the day. Confusion reigns - another Vicar, a Bishop and another coupon appear before everything is sorted and confessions made.

To add to your enjoyment, we are hoping, with the help of the Castle Inn, to give you the choice of a glass of red or white wine as well as the usual splendid coffee or orange. This is an experiment, as we have been asked by some regular members of the audience why we don't sell wine. So we will see what happens in November, Wednesday to Saturday, 17th to 20th, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets still £3, or £2.50 concessions, from me, Kate Reynolds, 236 6891, or any other member of T.O.A.D.S. from the beginning of October.

TOTLEY ALL SAINTS SCOOOL RE-UNION

A re-union is being held at the Fleur-de-Lys at Totley on Monday 22nd November at 8:00pm. A buffet will be provided at £2.00 per head. Anyone wishing to attend please ring either Pam on 264 6392 or John 236 1601 as we will need to know how many are coming.



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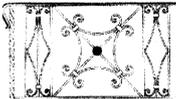
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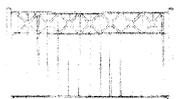
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MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING. All Saints Church Hall 8pm. to 10pm.)
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NOVEMBER 2004

FRI 5th. BONFIRE EXTRAVAGANZA, Totley Primary School, Gates open 6.00pm, tickets £2.00 adult, £1.00 children – more details inside page 6

SAT. 6th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Michael J Oliver, Heatherfield Club Baslow Road 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome. Entry £1-50

SUN 7th. ALL SAINTS CHURCH BIRTHDAY, 80th Birthday Celebration Service at the Church 3.00 pm followed by refreshments, bonfire and fireworks. All welcome

TUES. 16th TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, "The Peace of Iona", Mr. Roger Kite, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.

FRI. 19th ANNUAL DINNER & JAZZ, Leonard Cheshire Services, Whirlowbrook Hall, 7.30pm

SAT. 20th JOHN WADE SINGERS CONCERT at All Saints Church, Totley, for St Wilfreds Centre at 7.30 pm Gounod St Cecilia Mass and contrasting items. Tickets £5 from J Parker telephone 2360798

SAT. 20th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Adrian Alexandra, Heatherfield Club Baslow Road 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome. Entry £1-50

SAT. 20th SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, Ecclesall Parish Church at 7.30 pm Mass in D – Dvorak, Jesu Meine Freude – Bach - see inside for ticket details

MON 22nd. TOTLEY ALL SAINTS SCHOOL REUNION, Fleur-de-Lys at 8.00 pm, buffet £2.00 further details Pam 264 6392 or John 236 1601

TUE. 23rd TOTLEY & DORE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, 4 Grove Road, 11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

SAT. 27th JOHN WADE SINGERS CONCERT at Millhouses Methodist Church, Millhouses Lane for St Wilfreds Centre at 7.30 pm Gounod St Cecilia Mass and contrasting items. Tickets £5 from J Parker, telephone 2360798

DECEMBER 2004

WED 1st. VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAYRE, Leonard Cheshire Services at Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane 10.00 am – 12.00 noon

SAT. 4th SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, Karen Beverley, Heatherfield Club Baslow Road 8-30 pm. Non Members Welcome. Entry £1-50

SUN. 5th. MINATURE TRAIN RIDES –SANTA SPECIAL. Abbeydale Road South, first train 11.00 am., last train 4.00 p.m., one price admission £4.00

WED. 8th. WEDNESDAY FRIENDSHIP, Carols by Candlelight in the Church, 7.30 p.m. Totley Rise Methodist Church

SUN. 12th. MINATURE TRAIN RIDES –SANTA SPECIAL. Abbeydale Road South, first train 11.00 am., last train 4.00 p.m., one price admission £4.00

TUES. 21st TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD, Christmas Meeting, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10.00 am.

FRI 24th. CHRISTMAS CAROLS, Leonard Cheshire Services at Cheshire Home, Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane 11.00 am – 12.00 noon

THE INDEPENDENT FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

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

SATURDAY 27th. NOVEMBER 2004

COPY DATE for this issue will be

SATURDAY 13th. NOVEMBER 2004

Editor Ian Clarke Tel. No. 235 2526.

E mail iangclarke@hotmail.com

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