

# TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

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## Huge Success for WW1 Exhibition

The Totley war memorial is no longer the bold focus for community remembrance of our war dead that it was when it was first erected in 1920. In pictures from the time, the sandstone cross stands proud of the surrounding buildings and trees on Baslow Road, overlooking Summer Lane and visible from most places in Totley. The monument was built on an extensive earth promontory and over the years the laurels that were planted to stabilise the bank have grown

to surround the cross that is now held snugly within a green cocoon. There are probably many local people who do not realise Totley has a war memorial, and many more who have never visited it. The one hundred year commemoration of the start of the First World War was an occasion that Totley History Group wanted to mark in some way. So when the Dore and Totley United Reformed Church asked us to put on an exhibition, we jumped at the (*continued page 7*)

**A Happy Christmas and a Splendid New Year  
to everyone from Totley 'Independent'!**





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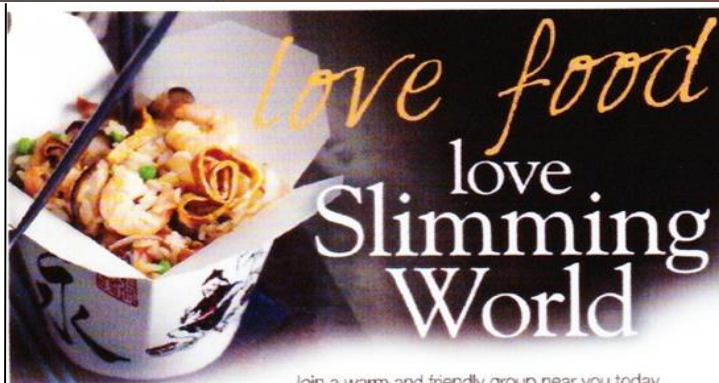


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## FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD

**Monday 19 January** - Illustrated talk by local photographer Stuart Davies on 'Wildlife in the Wood and Beyond' at Totley Library, 7.30pm. Free to members, contribution £3 non-members. Refreshments available.

**Sunday 25 January** - Practical Conservation Morning with the Council Rangers. Meet at 10.00am at the metal gate at the bottom of Totley Hall Lane. Refreshments, tools etc provided. Please wear strong footwear and appropriate clothing. All levels of help required and guidance given. Stay as little or as long as you wish.

## Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society

I now know some of the music we'll be performing at the Christmas concert in December and I must say it is an interesting mix. It includes some Andrew Lloyd Webber, Barry Manilow, songs from the Swing era and Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody by that genius Freddie Mercury (and it's not easy to sing but I'm sure we'll do it justice).

Our Christmas Concert will be, as usual, in Dore Methodist Church, at 2.30pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets are available from me (Tel: 0114 2362299) or other society members at £6 each - the best value for money around!

Rehearsals are now well under way for our annual show which will be *The Gondoliers*. The show will run from 29<sup>th</sup> April to

2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2015 at the Montgomery Theatre in Surrey Street. Further information on tickets and timings will be in later editions, or by telephoning me on the number above.

If we don't see you in December have a good Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

*Derek Habberjam*

## TOTLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

We were very pleased to be involved with the Macmillan fundraiser in September at the Shepley Spitfire. There was coffee and excellent homemade cakes and biscuits for sale. Local businesses donated raffle prizes and we had a Silent Auction for a piece of art entitled *Bluebells in Gillfield Wood* by local artist Angela Harpham. £649.44 was raised over the weekend, a terrific effort by all concerned. How fortunate that the weather was so lovely for Remembrance Sunday. Totley All Saints was packed and many more attended at the War Memorial. Thank you to Johnny Moran for laying the wreath on behalf of the TRA.

Some concerns have been raised regarding the road works on Mickley Lane and the extended traffic diversion. I have spoken to both Derbyshire County Council and Sheffield and have received a long email explaining the current situation. Everything above the Leonard Cheshire Home is being dealt with by DCC, below that by Sheffield City Council. The developers, of course, are also involved. It appears that the road will remain closed until all works, including total resurfacing, are completed to the satisfaction of the parties involved. It is hoped that the current deadline of January 2015 will be upheld.

At Committee we have discussed the current problems with road safety and we are of the opinion that focus should be on having pedestrian crossings - including lollipop patrols at school times - at strategic points on Baslow Road between the Cross Scythes and Tesco. Let us have your opinions on this or any other matter at [totleychair@gmail.com](mailto:totleychair@gmail.com).

We wish you all Happy Christmas and the very best for 2015.

*Hetty Moran, Chairman, TRA*

## Sheffield Botanical Gardens

The Friends of the Botanical Gardens are looking forward to an exciting year in the development of the Gardens with a new education centre.

This will replace the old classroom, with a new building twice the size of the old one. It will cost around £600,000. The Sheffield Botanical Gardens Trust, Friends of the Botanical Gardens and support from Sheffield Town Trust means there is already around £400,000 available for the building, but the rest of the money is needed to complete the project. Fund raising is needed to raise the rest.

This is where we need your help.

The Post Office has kindly agreed to sell Christmas cards and photographic cards taken in the Gardens. Other shops and garden centres around the city are all doing their bit to carry on with the restoration of our much loved Botanical Gardens. If we all buy just one pack of cards we will reach the target.

Thank you for your help.

*Avril Critchley*



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## Totley History Group Programme 2014-15

Meetings take place in Totley library at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> Maureen Taylor, 'A Tudor Christmas'. Come and get your Christmas off to a good start. Find out how people celebrated Christmas in bygone years.

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> Suzanne Bingham, 'The rise and fall of the workhouses - focusing on the local area'

Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> Details to be confirmed.

Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> Christine Shimell, 'The showing of local photographs from the Thompson postcard collection'

## Totley Scouts

We were very pleased with our autumn Antiques Fair at St Johns Church hall in October. Amazingly we have been running it for 32 years now. I hope you managed to come along and look at the antiques but also sample the excellent food (main meals as well as delicious buns and cakes) for sale. Very valuable funds were raised for the Scout Group. We seemed to have more people than ever through the door and the traders were very happy.

And on the 7<sup>th</sup> November we held our annual Bonfire Night. This was a very enjoyable evening for the boys and girls, and of course parents, grandparents and friends. Unfortunately the weather was not so good this year with lots of rain in the afternoon and so we had fewer people attending. As well as the bonfire and fireworks we had hot roast pork sandwiches and hot dogs. Some people also had 'scout made' candy floss, and fruit smoothies which were made using bicycle power. We also raised over £300 for Scout Funds.

During the evening our District Commissioner, Neil McKay, presented our Beaver Leader, Lissy Manterfield with her Wood Badge. The Wood Badge is a Scouting programme and award for adults. The Wood Badge course is designed so that adult Scouters can learn the skills and methods of

Scouting. On completion the award recognises their significant achievement in leadership and direct service to young people.

The highlight however was Neil, on behalf of the Chief Scout, presenting John Smith, our Group Scout Leader, with an Award for Merit. This is what Neil had to say:

"In the space of three years John Smith has been the driving force behind the Scout Group in Totley more than doubling in size; successfully involving more parents and adult volunteers in all aspects of the Group's activities and opening a second Cub Pack to meet demand. John initially volunteered with the Group in 2010 as a parent helper in the Beaver Colony when his son joined, before he agreed to take on the leadership and management of the Scout Group itself, becoming Group Scout Leader in 2011."

And finally on the 9<sup>th</sup> November we were proud to take part in the Remembrance service at Totley All Saints Church, and at 11am at the memorial on Baslow Road. All sections of the Totley Scout Group paraded with their flags, which were also taken to the memorial. The parade started from the Scout Hut before going to the Church for the service. The Leaders were impressed with the numbers of children taking part this year. And we were blessed with nice weather for a change.

On the first weekend of December the older cubs will be going on a 'Freezer camp' at Gradbach, near Buxton. I hope that it's not too cold for them!

Please take a look at our job advert if you are interested in helping any of our sections. We have a growing number of men and women helping but we need more.

It is particularly pleasing that one of our Young Leaders, James Bridgens, will have turned 18 by the time you read this, and he is very excited about becoming an Adult Leader and working for his Wood Badge.

*Richard Frost*  
Chairman, 1st Totley Scouts  
TotleyChair@aol.com  
0114 236 3603

## Puzzle Corner 1

For Christmas, two puzzles are offered! Here is the first of them.

### ***Equilateral Triangles***

Take two equilateral triangles, the smaller one being half the area of the bigger one. Put the smaller one inside the larger, its points just touching the sides of the larger triangle. How far along the longer sides are these points?

Solution: page 33

## A wildlife dilemma!

As an Environmental Health Officer, in particular managing the Council's Pest Control service, for 10 years, dilemmas have often come my way. Killing feral pigeons was never my best way of being in Fitzalan Square at 5.00 am on a Sunday morning, either for family life, or for my preference to not kill. I did not expect to get a dilemma on my own doorstep, though.

Squirrels are rodents, and their front teeth are constantly growing. They have to gnaw to prevent their teeth from locking together, though why they chose to gnaw rubberised pipe insulation around refrigeration pipes in a new hospital fooled me. If they get into roof spaces, householders are terrified as they wake around 5.00 am and make a terrible noise, apparently directly over your bed. One elderly lady had just this scenario. I caught the offending squirrel in a trap and said I would take it away to despatch it. Oh, no, you won't, she told me. I want to see it killed here! They look cute, are acrobatic, and can be trained to get food. The late Jimmy Young used to feed his squirrels on walnuts. They can climb house walls with very long claws, which can do serious harm to a child or baby, and if you look at their nicotine coloured teeth, you might take a dislike to them.



And the Council does not offer a squirrel control service. I have now had eleven squirrels in my garden.

I built a small store in the garden for little-used bits and pieces, including a cover. Mice found it and enjoyed nibbling at it (their teeth also grow continuously) costing me £25 for a repair. I placed some traps and despatched five mice.

Last month, I was sitting in the garden when I saw movement out of the corner of my eye. I didn't move - but watched a weasel walk within a few inches of my feet. Having lived in Totley/Dore

for 70 years, this was a first for me. I had seen them in a wall in Buxton, but thought that they were much smaller. The stoat looks very similar, but has a black tip to its tail. They burrow into the ground, often adjacent to a wall, and, apparently, like log stores. The weasel walked



past the kitchen, and I beckoned my wife to come and see it. We watched it walk down the drive and along the road, out of sight.

Return to the coffee and suddenly think - holes in the ground adjacent to the wall and under the log store! I had not thought these holes to be rat holes, but had never thought of a weasel. Buy a wildlife camera and find out!

Setting it up was confusing - to me, anyway. When I switch something on, I do not expect the screen to read "Off" but that is what I had to do, after my neighbour had sorted it. Before having got the camera operating, I was watching out for birds, as one of my seed feeders was being depleted rather quickly, and I wanted to see what it was. The other feeder was not being consumed at all. Wow! There it was. The culprit. A rat. It climbed with ease, up the bird table and into the feeder. They, like squirrels, are actually cute. Climb well, always keep themselves clean, can burrow great depths (20 feet from experience), BUT carry nasty diseases! Dilemma: how to kill the rat, without harming the weasel?

Read the next edition to get the answer!

*Roger Hart*

## Councillor Surgeries

### Liberal Democrats:

2nd Monday in the month 6.00-7.00 pm, Totley Library, Baslow Road and 2nd Saturday in the month from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon, Dore Old School Hall, Savage Lane, Dore. Contact details: Colin Ross 235 1948

Email: [colin.ross@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:colin.ross@sheffield.gov.uk)

Joe Otten 230 3290

Email: [joe.otten@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:joe.otten@sheffield.gov.uk)

Martin Smith 0781 205 5346

Email [martin.smith@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:martin.smith@sheffield.gov.uk)



(continued from page 1) chance.

Considerable research had already been done by a few members of the group into the military careers



of the First War soldiers named on the Totley war memorial. Our intention for the commemorative exhibition was to widen its scope to include the soldiers who returned home and the community at home during the war. An appeal was made locally for artefacts and documents and a search across Sheffield brought in an exciting array of fascinating exhibits.

On the evening before the opening day we arrived at the URC with our bags and boxes and display boards and cabinets and set about creating the biggest and most ambitious exhibition Totley History Group has ever put on.

We were very touched that so many people lent generously from their precious family archives. The exhibition included, amongst many other things, a letter that Bill Glossop's father, William, wrote to his wife in which he asked her to keep him in mind with the children and to tell them that "..... I am very near and shall see them in due course."

From a number of sources we were lent tiny books of religious tracts and words of comfort designed to be carried in uniform pockets and handy in times of need. One of the books had been much thumbed and well read.

Local farmer Oscar Creswick spent his war in Salonica and sent lots of picture postcards back to his family. His granddaughter, Mrs Patricia Borland lent us these precious pieces of her family history.

Carmen Blakeley lent the album kept by her father-in-law of his time serving in Africa. The album is too fragile to be handled, but we were able to see the pictures, as Sue Hare (Carmen's next door neighbour) had carefully scanned them all into a new album.

Jennie Street lent us a fascinating selection of letters and other documents about her grandfather. He was a conscientious objector and owned a printing press from which he published material in support of the

cause. Newspaper reports and articles reveal the pressure the authorities put him under to cease his support. He carried on printing until the authorities destroyed his press and with it his livelihood.

A whole array of personal military equipment was lent to us by David Sandilands. A shovel, a pair of binoculars, a periscope, French, German and British helmets and much more. All could be handled by visitors as David takes his collection to schools to talk about war.

The Longshaw Estate lent us a reproduction nurse's uniform which they used for their own



First War commemoration exhibition; and daintily embroidered silk postcards and a lovely family portrait were loaned by Mrs McDermott of Dore.

The special postal service between the mainland and the front line of the war served as a vital connection between the soldiers and their families and friends back home. As well as sending letters, wives and sweethearts baked Trench cake and Anzac biscuits to post to their menfolk. Although both were solid enough to survive being posted across the Channel, they don't taste as unappetising as you might expect, and were probably very welcome to soldiers living in trenches with no home comforts. We had samples of both baked by THG members, and lots of visitors were brave enough to try them.

We know from the comments in our visitors' book that many people enjoyed and were moved by our exhibition. Totley History Group owes a debt of gratitude to all the people who trusted us with their precious family documents and artefacts. Without their generosity, we would have had no exhibition.

We would also like to thank Dore Village Society for the loan of exhibition materials and display equipment. And thanks too to the lovely people at the URC who kept everyone well supplied with tea and biscuits across the three days of our exhibition.

*Christine Shimell, Totley History Group*



## Recently spotted.....

*(Right) Most of the inside of a car recently dumped at the Baslow Road entrance to Gillfield Wood. Thanks a lot.*

*(Below) Wreaths laid at the Totley War Memorial on Baslow Road at the Remembrance Service on 9<sup>th</sup> November*



*Hugh Voice (Open Gardens Treasurer) presents Sue Hare with a cheque for the Music Festival*



*Gas Masks on display at the WW1 Exhibition*



*Many stalls were set up indoors at the recent Totley Residents Association Farmers Market*



*Dancing in the street (well, almost) with Easy Dance at the November Farmers Market*



# Walking the Dog....

## Me and The Mooney Gang

We were walking at the back of the Rise, so I was telling Jack about the shops, starting with Mrs Gratton the beer-off, then Colin Thompson the meat purveyor, and Mrs Jackson the post. Then, only not in this order, Daveys, Mr Damms with his shoes and his rude name, and tiny Mrs Spring with her dolly mixtures.

Then L Tym the sausage shop, Eric Bryars's Restawhile that did the Kunzle cakes my famous actor friend loved, then Chambers & Son with their dead rabbits and yellow fish you can smell from the 45 bus.

Then it was Shaw's fish & chips - no the haberdasher, whatever that was, then Shaw's. But now I've missed out the chemist. And the haberdasher was Whiteheads, or somebody was, and it was only houses after that, including the Wrens and the Wingfields, then Mrs Toph -

Start again.

Grattons, Thompsons, Mrs J -

But suddenly this bloke was leaping out of his posh car at the back of Whiteheads and asking Jack if I was Rony from the radio, because, if I was, he was the last surviving member of the Mooney gang and he'd just come to live in Totley. I said Totley was a great place to have just come to live in if you like gangs, and he cuddled Jack and leapt back in his car.

I explained to Jack, once we were safely on Grove Road, all about the gangs, with their tossing rings and their murder and their silly policeman called Sillitoe and -

But suddenly there was this family of Sunday walkers blocking the path by the signal box, so they could tickle Jack .

One of them had luscious brown whiskers. I tried to say that, but he was too busy telling Jack how he always read the Totley Independent and loved what Jack wrote in it.

He tickled him some more, then said goodbye till the next issue, and walked off with his whiskers.

So on we went, up to The Crescent, and I was just explaining to Jack how nobody knows where The Crescent is, or why it's called a crescent because it isn't a crescent at all -

But suddenly this woman came out and asked Jack how he was doing, and said how she'd seen me on television and didn't I look old these days, and could she give me a biscuit?

## Your Mum Gave Him A Kunzle cake

'You know Kunzle cakes?'

'Yes Jack I do.'

'Only they were square and they had thin shiny sheet chocolate that didn't taste of chocolate. And yellow cream that didn't taste of anything, even yellow. The only shop in all Totley that sold them wasn't a shop it, was Eric Bryars's Restawhile cafe on the Rise and -'

'Jack, I know th-'

'- once when you were a student you got marooned in Stone in Staffordshire because you thought it was Stoke, and you hitched a lift with this actor Keith somebody all the way home to 6 Laverdene in time for tea and your mum Lily gave him a Kunzle cake.'

'She did Jack but -'

'And this Keith somebody was from the Playhouse on Townhead Street, and after that he was in short trousers on the telly, but then he married Gwen somebody on TV in France. When you interviewed him years later, in Hull, he didn't remember you or Stone or even Lily but he did remember his Kunzle cake. Do you know that?' '

'Of course I do Jack. It's my story. Why are you telling it?'

'I just thought I'd get in first this time. '

## Rony Robinson

~ \* ~ \* ~ ~ and ~ \* ~ \* ~ ~

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## GARDENING TIPS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

It was 18 degrees outside just a couple of weeks ago. It must have been a record for this time of year. The sun was shining and we were in the throes of insulating the greenhouses. I suppose the global warming will cool down a bit soon and the insulation will come into its own, protecting our overwintering plants and our cuttings which are rooting nicely.

The weather is always unpredictable at this time of year so we have to be prepared. If you have tender plants outside, they will need a bit of TLC. Wrapping them with straw or newspaper (the 'Times' is good) to prevent old jack frost nipping at the buds looks a bit untidy but is worth it if it keeps your plants for another year. If you use bubble wrap, don't forget to undo the wrapping now and again to let the plants have a breath of fresh air on a nice sunny winter's day - and remember to wrap them up again before the darkness and cold return.

The garden is a mess at the moment. Leaves are everywhere. We have to do the raking in stages - it's a bit too much to do all at once. I had a garden vac a while ago but that was far too heavy and awkward to use so I gave it away to someone a bit stronger than me. I've given the lawn a good fettle and a good feed of Autumn Winter fertiliser. This treatment will give it the nourishment it needs to keep it looking good next year.

The pond is the next job (yuk!). It's smelly and messy but the fish always love it. I just take off as much duckweed as possible then leave it until the fish start to liven up after the winter dormant period. They seem to be half asleep and don't do much until March or April (a bit like me) then they liven up and we watch out for any babies which may have developed.

It's time to plan your garden for next season - order seeds and plants, check over any produce that you have in store, and discard any rotting or suspect ones. Remove them so that they don't contaminate the rest. Prepare the plots. Dig over the soil on the veg patches as they become available, and test the soil to make sure it is the right Ph for the vegetables you are planning to plant.

Don't forget to do the painting and preserving job on sheds and fences, and relay any paths which have become unsafe.

Whilst you are sat in your armchair, full of the seasonal cheer, and planning what to do in 2015, make a New Year resolution to have a few entries in the Totley Show. We rely on people taking part - it's a bit of fun and Transport 17 benefits from any profit made. They do a great job shuttling people to the various luncheon clubs etc.

I hope you have (or have had, if you're reading this in January!) a lovely Christmas, and have a great gardening year.....

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

Herbaceous plants sometimes suffer from slug damage during the winter - delphiniums are generally first in line. To help prevent them spoiling your young plants, scrape away a little soil from around the crowns and replace with sharp sand (or better still, cinder ashes). Check all the structures supporting flowers (arches, fences, trellis etc) making sure they are sound and ready for next season's weight of flowers and berries. Mulch over any roots exposed by the rain. Top dress with compost or soil, peat and sand. Large flowered clematis such as Jackmanii can be cut back fairly severely.

Order your seeds in good time. Try something new this year - there are a lot of new varieties to choose from - or maybe resurrect an old favourite that you haven't sown for a few years. They say a change is as good as a rest. You can divide and move or plant new stock of Michaelmas Daisy and Golden Rod. Pick over plants in frames or cloches, remove dead leaves etc and dust with fungicide. Dig and prepare new beds. Place

insulation over frames at night to give extra protection from frost, and ventilate well on sunny days. December is the last chance to plant out late tulips. If you haven't given your flower beds a slow-acting fertiliser for a year or two, January is a good time. A dusting of hoof and horn or bone meal will do your flowers a world of good. Hoe it into the top inch or so, and the worms will do the rest (stand well back in the spring as the flowers burst forth). If you want to increase your stock of perennials or have some plants ready for the various charity stalls or swaps, you could take root cuttings. Dig up the plant to be propagated, or cut a portion from one side, wash off as much soil as possible so that the roots can be separated from each other, cut off the sound roots about the thickness of a pencil and divide into sections about 2ins long (5cm). Trim off small fibrous roots, cut the bottom of the root diagonally and the top straight so that you know which way up to plant it, and insert into pots of cutting compost with the tops just buried. Water well and stand in a frost-free cold frame or propagator, if you want them to root faster. Plants with thin roots can be multiplied in a similar way, 3 inches (8cm) long pieces laid horizontally in the compost (dusted with fungicide) cover them with another 1-2cm of compost and water well. Some of the plants which can be done this way are acalthus, brunnera, caenothus, dicentra, echinacea, eryngium, Japanese anemones, nepeta oriental poppies, phlox rhus, verbascum etc. Remember root cuttings taken from variegated plants will turn out green and NOT variegated.

**Vegetables** Firm in any plants loosened by frost. Dig any vacant plots and manure the ground. Apply lime to acid soil where cabbage is to be planted (do not apply at the same time as manure: wait a month or two if possible). Prepare runner bean trench. Take off any yellowing leaves from Brussel sprouts and compost them. In January chit seed potatoes i.e. put them in a frost free place in shallow boxes with the eye ends upwards. This will encourage them to sprout. Prepare your onion bed (I am giving away secrets now). Dig in manure deeply, spread bonfire ash over as well as bonemeal and hoof and horn at about 4ozs (100gms) per square yard. Prick this into the soil lightly. Sow onion seeds around Boxing Day, either in separate pots, or two or three seeds per pot, place in propagator or greenhouse at a temperature of 65F. When they have reached the loop stage discard the weakest seedlings leaving just one per pot. Or put seeds in a tray when they are at the loop stage, transplant into deep boxes or trays, and reduce temperature to 55F. Lift a few roots of mint, place them in a deep wooden or plastic box, cover them with potting soil, old stuff will do, place them in a frame or greenhouse, this will give shoots for early picking. Mulch asparagus beds with well-rotted manure break it up well and spread it about 2ins thick.

**Shrubs, trees and fruit** Do not let snow hang on conifers. It can break off branches and spoil their shape. Firm in any newly planted trees and check all stakes and supports, make sure they are firm. New fruit trees can be planted now if weather permits (keep roots moist and frost free prior to planting). Prune apple and pear trees, removing cankered branches. Prune fruit bushes and canes, check grease bands and renew if necessary. January is a good time to give fruit trees a tar oil winter wash - choose a fine and wind free day. Blackcurrants will benefit from feeding in January. They like plenty of nitrogen so a top dressing of sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk at 4-6oz per well-established bush, sprinkle it thinly over the soil and keep it away from the stems. Newly planted blackcurrant and raspberries should be pruned back severely, blackcurrants to 2-3ins from ground level, raspberries 6-9 ins above ground. Plant out in mild spells deciduous trees, hedging plants, stored or heeled in shrubs.

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

Use insecticide to control aphids and white fly, paint patches of scale and mealy bug with methylated spirit. Plant amaryllis, Lily of the Valley and indoor gladioli. Pot on cineraria, primula and slipper flowers. Examine all bulbs placed in the dark- they should be about ready to bring into half-light conditions prior to bringing into a light warm house. Don't rush them though. Seedlings and cuttings should be kept as near to the glass as possible. Stake up schizanthus. Sponge over large leafed evergreen plants with half a teaspoon of milk stirred

into a cup of water. This will make them nice and glossy. Make sure the greenhouse glass is kept clean. Cut back old geranium plants, shortening the growths to a joint or bud 6-9 ins above the pot. Repot the plants, shaking all the soil from the roots, Repot them in the smallest pots into which the roots can be placed, using ordinary John Innes compost or similar.

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

**Lawns** If you walk on your lawn at this time of year and find squelchy patches they need attention. Spiking is a real pain, but it is a good cure for squelchy bits. Note where they are and when they have dried out a bit (hopefully) go over the area making holes at about 6 ins intervals with a fork. Do a couple of square yards at a time then brush in a good dressing of sharp sand (not building sand unless it has been in the rain for a long time) and leave a shallow layer on top. This will encourage rooting in spring. Keep lawns clean and keep off in frosty weather.

Clean and overhaul your mower - you could take advantage of cheaper rates for servicing, up to the end of February.

Please bear in mind that these notes cover 2 months when doing the various jobs.

Have a Happy Christmas and a lovely gardening year

Cheerio for now,

**Tom**

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## The Story Behind.....

### The Mohul Restaurant

**On April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015, the Mohul restaurant on Totley Rise will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday – it was opened by Sheffield's Lord Mayor in April 1990. What better way of starting our new series of glimpses behind the scenes of some of our local business than 'The Story Behind.....the Mohul'.**

Rohan Islam, who works with his uncle, Habib Rahman in the 'front of house', told us about the Mohul restaurant's beginnings. Rohan and his father H.Miah came to Sheffield from London, where, thirty-five years ago, H.Miah and the current Mohul head chef A. Shohid ran a restaurant together. Then, Habib, who at the time was living in Mansfield, offered them the chance to join forces to open the Mohul which after 25 years is still going strong.

When asked why they chose to open a restaurant in Totley, Habib replied, quite simply, that "we like the area, and we think this area deserved a nice authentic Indian restaurant!" Rohan added "Indian food is popular – we have a strong reputation – the management is well known, as a business and as individual people. We have stamped our character on the area".



To this day, Rohan's uncle will probably be the person who greets you when you walk into the Mohul, but his father H.Miah, and the chef Shohid, are still, 25 years later, in charge of the kitchen.

Rohan explained that "food preparation is very carefully organised, with the staff working every day except Mondays preparing the food - they don't just get here at six o'clock!" There is a weekly rota of what food is prepared each day in readiness for serving as freshly as possible to diners.

Where do the dishes come from? "Mainly from Bangladesh", explained Rohan. "But some dishes come from various parts of India". The selection of, and recipes for, the dishes are the responsibility of all three family members –

Rohan has experience of other restaurants in the area, and so is well qualified to offer his own point of view on the cuisine – and, he adds. "the chef is very creative and likes to experiment!" Have customers' tastes changed over the years? "Yes. Chicken Tikka Massalla and Chicken Kurma are always popular, but people like to try something different, and that's why we change our menu every so often. We have, for

example, haryali from South Bangladesh which is very popular. It is a spicier dish but combines several unusual and really nice tastes in one dish. It's a fusion of flavours - lamb with chili pickle and garden mint". Chicken and lamb dishes remain the most popular, but fish also features on the menu. "Fish is our national dish in Bangladesh, so we have it on our menu, but the problem with traditional Bangladeshi fish is that they have too many bones – too much chance of having a bone struck in your throat! So the fish we use is good solid fish, but

without the bones. Some dishes are from India, such as the Multani; and we also offer sweet and sour Persian dishes."

It's a successful recipe - the Mohul is ranked by reviewers contributing to the Tripadvisor website as among the top 15 per cent of the area's Indian restaurants. "The key is consistency, and that's what we aim for - along with improvements. We pride ourselves on being friendly and family-oriented. Our customers don't see us as workers, they class us as friends – sometimes they take us out with them to sample their local Indian restaurants!"

But there is more to the story behind the Mohul. Many Totley residents eat there, or order a take-away meal (Rohan reckons that on busy evenings, a fair share of their business is made up of take - away meals). A lot of regular

customers have parties to celebrate wedding anniversaries, birthday parties and so on. And as Rohan reminds us, Christmas is coming, so you might want to think about booking family meals and events!

What is not so obvious at first sight, perhaps, is the considerable success of the Mohul team in catering for large parties and events held at venues outside the restaurant itself. "Every year, for instance, we supply to the Abbeydale Tennis Club for 20 or 30 people after their tennis tournament. The kitchen



*Rohan and Habib behind the Mohul's bar*

staff are kept very busy though obviously, we need to have a reasonable amount of notice of what people are going to want".

Back on Totley Rise, high-spots over the years include – inevitably – the custom of sporting personalities from the world of snooker and professional football – Steve Davies, Steven Hendry, Dennis Taylor, Trevor Francis, Dave Bassett – to sample the Mohul's fare. And there will be more for everyone to enjoy in the New Year, when the Mohul undergoes another makeover – and a new menu – to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday!

## Hedgehog help

Gardens and urban green spaces provide a vital habitat for hedgehogs to live in, but their numbers have fallen by more than a third over the last 10 years. By making your garden more hedgehog-friendly this autumn and winter you will be helping animals prepare for hibernation, a critical time for any hedgehog.

It is a time when many of you are active in the garden. Simple, satisfying jobs such as turning the compost heap, raking up leaves or a spot of pruning. Please remember, hedgehogs can remain active well into November and December and will often move nesting sites during hibernation. So our local hedgehogs are preparing to hibernate or may

already have done so. Any help you can give them will be invaluable.

Here are some easy ways you can help them:

Leave some leaves. Decay processes support the fungi and bacteria which underpins the garden ecosystem. More rotting leaves = more insects = more hedgehog food.

Sort, don't burn. Burning everything is a waste. Sort your woody debris from leaves and shoots. Pile the former in a corner of the garden, the latter can go into the compost heap. The result: less pollution, more nesting opportunities for hedgehogs.

Plant a fruit tree. Apples, pears or cherries all produce fruit which encourages insects, and they have the right type of leaves for hedgehog hibernation nests.

Bonfires are popular with hedgehogs as they make an ideal nest site. Make sure you check any bonfires before lighting them or relocate them on the day of burning.

Supplementary Food: meat-based cat or dog food, special hedgehog food, along with a few crushed unsalted peanuts, raisins or mealworms are all great for hungry hedgehogs.

Get your neighbours to put access holes into their wooden fences to allow your local hedgehogs to freely roam your neighbourhood. Register as a Hedgehog Champion and you can download a hole template for free!

Place a hedgehog home or build a log or leaf pile. Do not disturb hibernating hedgehogs as it may cause them to stir and use up valuable energy reserves.



Autumn orphans and juveniles: if you see a hedgehog that's really small, get in touch with BHPS on 01584 890 801 or email at [info@britishhedgehogs.org.uk](mailto:info@britishhedgehogs.org.uk). Or visit the website for more information – [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk)



## Totley Open Gardeners give away their takings!

The Totley Open Gardens weekend in July raised a fantastic £2,211 net, despite the Saturday being almost washed out by rain and few visitors coming.

This was the second best amount raised since Totley Open Gardens began 13 years ago in 2002. Having five new gardens probably helped, but also the weather on the Sunday was perfect and sale of teas and cakes was exceptional.

In addition, we invested some money in new posters and banners and put them up further away from Totley which had a good effect. Unfortunately some of our posters and a corex board, which can be used year after year, were maliciously destroyed or removed from around Marstone Crescent/Totley Rise.

The programme which all visitors to the gardens get with their entrance fee also contained a number of advertisements from local businesses. The Cross Scythes funded the printing of the programme and an ad, which made a big difference! Thank you Stuart!

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, Totley Open Gardeners presented the proceeds of the Open Gardens weekend to four local organisations.

Transport 17 received £1,548 and Totley Music Festival, Totley History Group and Cherry Tree Young People's Services each received £221.

Jennie Street  
[jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk](mailto:jennie@hadish.f9.co.uk)



## Transport 17

The last two months have been free of major disasters but ongoing repairs to the buses have still taken a considerable toll on our income. We have received several donations: Totley Open Gardens donated £1548 and two long term supporters have donated £200 each. We have been promised approximately £450 from Totley Show and there is another donation of £75 on its way from the Birthday Bash Sunday breakfast crew.

In spite of the grim weather we raised £210.50 at the Christmas Fayre, and £96 was from the generous raffle that was run by Dorothy (one of the members from Low Edges Luncheon Club).

To all of you who turned out a big thank you - you were very brave to tackle the horrible foggy conditions.

We are hoping to do a Coffee Morning at the Cross Scythes in February so please watch the notice boards that are dotted around the area for further information.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support and take this opportunity to wish you all the compliments of the festive season followed by a happy and healthy New Year.

*Felicity Revill*

## The Retiring Milkman!

George Morgan, our milkman for over 30 years, has retired. His biggest fans on Grove Road took him and his wife Bev out for a meal to thank him. George never missed a day despite hail snow wind and flood or anything else Sheffield could throw at him carrying on cheerfully through it all. Living at Wharncliffe Side and delivering in Totley was no easy task.



Back row l to r: Peter Cain, Danny O'Connor, Judith Hancock, Barbara O'Connor.

Front Row l to r: Chris Cain, Bev Morgan, George Morgan, Paul Hancock.

He even found a dairy to replace him so that our deliveries carried on seamlessly after he finished. Thank you George for your great service and cheery banter on a Friday night when you collected your money. You will be missed.....

*Barbara O'Connor*

## HOLMESFIELD CHURCH WALKING GROUP

On Wednesday 10th December at 10am Robin Greetham will lead a walk from the Moon Inn at Stoney Middleton where we will order our food (optional). The walk takes us to the Riley Graves and then onto Eyam where we will visit the church and then back through the fields to Stoney.

The cost is £3 (proceeds to Holmesfield Church Restoration Fund). If you would like to come just turn up on the day. The walk is approximately 4 miles long.

Any queries phone Robin on 01246 412767. Sorry there is no walk in January.

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# TOTLEY SHOW RESULTS September 2014

**Overall Best in Show: Andy Meaker**

**HANDICRAFTS. Best of Class: Susan Ashmore**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
1. Hand Knitted Garment	Susan Ashmore	Joyce Gilligan	Mary Robinson
2. Decorative Cushion	Pamela Challis	Susan Ashmore	Judy Needham
3. Soft Toys	Susan Ashmore	Joyce Gilligan	Pamela Challis
4. Tapestry	Hannah Corby	Pamela Challis	John Elliot
5. Cross Stitch	Claire Rose	Hannah Corby	Pamela Challis
6. Collage, any medium	Ruth Lamb	Ruth Lamb	Ruth Lamb
7. Greeting Cards	Shona Picken	Catherine Wrigglesworth	Claire Rose
8. Any Medium	Barbara Cassidy	Sally Measures	Joyce Gilligan

**DOMESTIC SECTION. Best of Class: Liz Hayden**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
9. Victoria Sandwich	Valerie Loft	Dorothy Firth	Daniel Whitley
10. Dundee Cake	Tom Steel	Claire Rose	Duncan Froggatt
11. Carrot Cake	Sue Hare	Chriss Scott	L. Hayden
12. 5 Biscuits.	L. Hayden	Christine Shimell	P. Burnet
13. 3 Scones	E. Ogley	Dorothy Firth	Susan Bridgens
14. Apple Pie	Susan Bridgens		
15. Jam	Pauline Perkinson	Duncan Froggatt	Claire Rose
16. Lemon Curd	Christine Steel	S. Goldie	E. Walkden
17. Marmalade	L. Hayden	Simon Gray	Rebekah Newman
18. Chutney	Duncan Froggatt	Simon Gray	Susan Bridgens

**FLORAL SECTION. Best of Class: Pamela Challis**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
19. Floral arrangement- Jubilee 18"high, 10"*10"	Pamela Challis	Pamela Challis	Rose Rawlings
20. 3 cut Flowers	Rose Rawlings	Peter Caroe	Rose Rawlings
21. Foliage in a pot	Pamela Challis		
22. Flowering in a pot	P. Burnet	Pamela Challis	Pamela Challis

**FRESH PRODUCE. Best of Class: Kathryn Deakin**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
23. 4 Eating Apples	Duncan Froggatt	Martin Challis	Rebekah Newman
24. 4 Cooking Apples	Kathryn Deakin		
25. 8 Blackberries	Harry Liddle	R. Thompson	E. Ogley
26. 4 Matching Potatoes	R. Thompson		
27. 3 Matching Leeks	T. Steel		
28. 3 Matching Onions	J. Needham		
29. 5 Matching Runner Beans	P. J. Cassidy	Kathryn Deakin	K. Caroe
30. 5 Tomatoes	P. J. Cassidy	T. Steel	R. Farnsworth
31. 1 Cucumber .	R. Farnsworth	T. Steel	Kathryn Deakin
32. 3 Courgettes.	Kathryn Deakin		
33. . Largest Onion	T. Steel		
34. Heaviest Marrow	T. Steel		
35. Longest Runner Bean	A. Miller	Catherine Wrigglesworth	T. Steel
36. 3, Eggs	C. Shimell	A. Miller	Rebekah Newman

**ART. Best of Class: Rebekah Newman**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
37. Oil Acrylic Painting	Valerie Wrigglesworth	Lionel Boniface	Ruth Lamb
38. Water Colour	John Wells	Doreen Scotton	Ruth Lamb
39. Pen & Ink Sketch	Andy Meaker		
40. Pencil Sketch	Alex Scott	Alex Scott	
41. Open Multi Media	Rebekah Newman		
42. Reclaimed Art,/ Sculpture	Melloney Cameratas	Melloney Cameratas	
43. Sculpture any medium	Hannah Corby		

**PHOTOGRAPHY. Best of Class: Steve Giles**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
44. Monochrome any colour	J.D.Elliott	J.D.Elliott	
45. Creative	Charlotte Bridgens	Susan Bridgens	Tom Steel
46. Wildlife	Andrew Bridgens	Andrew Bridgens	Tom Steel
47. Landscape	Steve Giles	Steve Giles	Steve Giles

**WOODWORK Best of Class: Andrew Rose**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
48. Wood Turning	Andrew Rose	Tony Sturdy	Andrew Rose
49. Small Furniture	Judy Needham		
50. Wood Sculpture	Andy Meaker	M.Loft	

**CHILDRENS SECTION. Best in Class: Up to 8: Chloe Challis; 9 to 14: Alex Buxton**

	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
51. Animal Veg. Up to 7yrs.	J.Deakin	William Challis	James Caroe
52. Miniature Garden 8 to 14	Chloe Challis	Poppy Taylor	Isabell Deakin
53. 3 Decorative Buns under 7yrs.	Oliver Scott	William Challis	Alice Taylor
54. 3 Decorative Buns 8 to 14	Chloe Challis	Keira Scott	Daniel Whitley
55. Wobbly Wobbly Jelly up to 14	James & Alex Buxton	Alice Holly	
56. Flowers in an Egg Cup to age 14	Chloe Challis	Poppy Taylor	
57. Painting under 5	William Challis	Elizabeth Bridgens	Rebecca Langford-Day
58. Painting under 6 - 7.	James Caroe	Oliver Scott	James Caroe
59. Painting 8 to 11	Emma Caroe	James Buxton	Isabel Deakin
60. Painting 12 to 14			
61. Lego Model 5 to 8 yrs	Rafi Langford-Day	Sonny Taylor	James Buxton
62. Lego Model 9 to 14 yrs.	Reuben Tozer-Loft	Alex Buxton	Nathanial Tozer-Loft
63. Colour Photo up to 14	Matthew Giles	Alex Buxton	Alex Buxton
64. Open any Medium up to 14	Chloe Challis	Kara Scott	Douggy Nuttall

All the children who came first in their class received a Medal and a certificate thanking them for taking part in the Show.

The Show raised a profit of £450, and this amount was presented to Transport 17.

We thank 96 exhibitors who entered 283 entries for all to see.

Many thanks to our Class Sponsors: The Cross Scythes Inn, Totley Rise Methodist Church, Hamnett Wealth Management, All Saints Church, Functional Nutrition Ltd. (Synergy), Tom and Christine Steel, Gill Warburton, Mary Hanson, Avril Critchley, Beth Booth, Mick Warwick, Sue Meaker, James and Ann Powell, and Jenny Burns. Thanks also to our local shops for their generous raffle prizes: Ironing Parlour, Looby Loo, Totley Co-op, Mr. Singh of Totley Pharmacy, Baslow Road, Totley Rise Newsagents, Totley Tails and Whiskers, Totley Flowers and Gifts, King Fisheries, Luxury Gap, Totley Deli, Martin Scrivens and Totley Rise Post Office.

**A very big thank you to all our helpers who make the Show possible and thanks to all who came along to support the show.**

**See you all next year.**

*Les and Dorothy Firth*



# THE DAVID CLOVER FESTIVAL OF SINGING

## Dore and Totley United Reformed Church

The David Clover Festival of Singing (DCFS) will be held from the 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 and the entrants will perform in their chosen classes over 3 days. The closing date for entries, by the time this is published, will have passed and work will be ongoing to arrange the programme. The different classes embrace British Songs, Oratorio or Sacred Songs, Opera, Songs from the Shows, and Recitals and performers can be any age from 9 years old.

**Previous winners** at the Festivals have included many local and out-of-Sheffield singers who have attended major music academies, some of whom have gone on to make their name nationally and internationally in the music professions. Some past competitors who have gone on to achieve truly great things are:

**Elizabeth Watts**, who competed in the DCFS in 1998 and 1999, is now a soprano of international renown singing for English National Opera and as a freelance singing all over the world: Covent Garden, Santa Fe, Royal Festival Hall, and Theatre de Champs-Elysees in Paris to name a few. She also won the prestigious BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition in 2007.

In 2000 and 2001 **John Savournin**, a bass/baritone, competed in the DCFS and is now a successful professional singer currently with Opera North. He has sung at Concert Halls and Theatres throughout Great Britain and has been named a Concordia Foundation Wigmore Hall Prize winner by the Worshipful Company of Musicians and sang at Wigmore Hall in the summer 2014.

More recently **Ella Taylor** competed in 2009, 2010 and 2011 and also in 2011 she was named as Radio 2 Young Chorister of The Year. A wonderful start to a musical career.

**History** - Every year since 1980 this competitive Festival and celebration of Singing has been held in Sheffield. It was established following the death of David Clover who was the City's musical advisor to the Education Department. Following his untimely death the City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir, which David established, decided as a fitting and lasting tribute and memorial for his work, that a Festival of Singing should be established. Whilst initially for young singers the Festival is now open to everyone over 9 year of age.

**Adjudicator** - Over the years internationally famed singers and teachers of singing have adjudicated at the Festival and for the 2015 Festival we are delighted to welcome once again Elizabeth Ritchie. Elizabeth is a professor of singing at the Royal Academy of Music and many of her pupils have

secured work with major opera companies in the UK and Europe and a number have been successful in international competitions. In addition to teaching abroad she has also given masterclasses and has participated as a teacher in summer schools in England and abroad.

The DCFS is **administered**, promoted and supported by the City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir and this year appointed a new Chairman. David Heslop accepted the invitation to Chair the Festival Committee. He is also Chairman of Dore Male Voice Choir. We are looking forward to his input into the Festival. Also newly appointed this year are Eric and Janet Barraclough who take on the role of Music Secretaries. The City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir have established the "**David Clover Festival Friends**". On paying an annual fee of £20 members and one guest are entitled to free admission to **all** the Festival sessions and invited to attend a Festival Friends' Reception. Family and Corporate Membership is also available by annual subscription. Any queries or further information may be obtained from Di Hallatt (0114 2490402) or by email [dhallatt@beachcroft.co.uk](mailto:dhallatt@beachcroft.co.uk).

Tickets are available at the door at the Dore & Totley United Reformed Church on Totley Brook Road. The cost is £3 per session (£2 per session for accompanied children 12 years old and under) for the evening session on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February and 3 sessions (morning, afternoon and evening) on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February at the Holiday Inn Royal Victoria the cost is £3 per session (£2) for the morning and afternoon sessions but the Festival Finals Evening at 6.45 p.m. tickets cost £10 (£5).

Please check out the website for further information:

[www.davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk](http://www.davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk)

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# Ward Road Safety and Bus Services Meeting

## Report by Roger Hart

The ward meeting on road safety and bus services, flagged up in the last the Totley *Independent*, was held on 6 November 2014, in the Totley Library. Despite good intentions, publicity for this event was later than planned. On the night, nineteen residents from Dore, Totley and Bradway attended, with two councillors and five council officers also being present. Sadly, the initiator of the Facebook page and one member could not attend - but where were the other 138 members of the Facebook group?

Cllr. Joe Otten chaired the event with Roger Hart (joint author of the report on Road Safety on the A621 with Neil Bunting) leading the agenda items.

There was no evidence available to indicate that speed was a contributing factor to either of the U-turn collisions reported in the last issue of the 'Independent'. However, community concern about excess speeding justified approaching the Safety Camera Partnership who carried out a tube test survey and found one car travelling at 76mph outbound (outside the library) and a motorbike travelling inbound at 63mph. It is possible, of course, that these *could* have been emergency vehicles. The average speeds observed, with the two accidents, justified the start of enforcement work, and two repeater 30mph signs with camera logos have been installed.

The enforcement work, on Sunday October 26, recorded 198 offenders in five hours, 30% of whom were from the S17 area, and 50% of whom were from adjoining post code areas. The highest recorded speed was 57mph.

Parking problems brought a lively debate with many examples being given. The Transport and Highways Officer who attended made numerous notes of the problem areas, which included violation of parking restrictions and parking on footpaths.

Crossing the main road was of major concern, as there are many frail, elderly or disabled persons in the area needing to cross. The existing facilities, together with the excess speeds, were highlighted. The Council officer, whilst stressing the shortage of resources at the council's disposal, offered to consider alternatives, including a zebra crossing, but even they cost nearly £70,000.

U-turns - which had prompted both the report and the meeting - raised much discussion and concern. Two suggestions were made, which, it

was felt, were practicable. Mini roundabouts - not used much in Sheffield, but to be considered - and white line lane marking. The latter would be likely to result in the loss of some parking spaces.

Glover Road junction is used for U-turns, and there is a variety of traffic and pedestrian movements, all of which contribute to it being a hazardous area. The officer undertook to emphasise the 'No Left Turn' from Glover Road, and to ask Amey (whose representatives had to leave the meeting early) if they can see if any alterations are planned to the traffic light sequences. He will also ask his team to look at the junction.

The Bushey Wood Road/Totley Brook Road/Abbeydale Road South junction was also discussed and the officer was asked to resurrect previous proposals in light of the increased traffic at the junction, due to factors such as the wide catchment area for King Egbert School, and the increased use of the United Reformed Church premises since its changes to create more community use space. If none of the proposals have any merit, or costs are too high, it is hoped that the council team will observe the junction at school times to see the problems for themselves.

Problems with bus services - especially the 97, 98 and 70 routes - are being dealt with by Cllr. Colin Ross. He has numerous examples of the problems caused to passengers by the failures on these routes. Unfortunately, the representative from the South Yorkshire Transport Authority sent their apologies for the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm with discussions continuing afterwards. Thanks to all residents who attended and to the various officers, especially the two officers who had made the arrangements, took notes, and supplied tea and biscuits. The absence of the Police and SYPTA was disappointing.

## Puzzle Corner 2

Here is the second of this issue's two puzzles for Christmas!

### Say and Spell

For each clue, find two words which sound the same but have different spelling. For example, 'horse soldier / after dark' could be 'knight / night'.

- |                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Fashioned / servant               | 2. Single / pale          |
| 3. Couple / peel                     | 4. Obnoxious / bird       |
| 5. Lacer / fly aloft                 | 6. Mineral / propellant   |
| 7. Meat / post                       | 8. Seal / stopper         |
| 9. Level / eye-drop                  | 10. Vegetable / drip      |
| 11. Spin / aquatic bird              | 12. Tree / neckwear       |
| 13. Flower / lines                   | 14. Drink / plaintive cry |
| 15. Opening closure / way of walking |                           |
| 16. Everything / carpenter's tool    |                           |
| 17. Shakespeare / excepted           |                           |
| 18. Tree part / way taken            |                           |
| 19. Falling water / role             |                           |
| 20. Unclothed / animal               |                           |

Solution: page 33



# Interview with Totley's Norman Iosson at 100 years of age

Norman's son David Iosson writes:

Dad had a small celebration of his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday with his family and a few friends in the Northern General Hospital on the 30th of October, but sadly passed away a week later. It is the family's wish that the following article should still be published.

## Part 2: The RAF and World War 2

*Tell us about your war experiences*

I joined up on 3 January 1940. In those days there was a team spirit. Play the game. In football, or cricket you thought of the team, not like they do now when they think of individuals. In those days it was the team spirit. And I thought my place in the team was in the Air Force. I wanted to fly. I was passed physically fit to fly by the doctors; and then I had to wait until 1941, when I went to Calgary in Canada under the Empire training scheme to learn to fly. Then, when I got my wings, because I had been a schoolteacher, and they were expanding in Canada with umpteen aerodromes, I was sent to be a navigation instructor – flying navigation and ground navigation – and went to Regina, Canada, to teach students to fly and do the navigation work beforehand. Eventually I became head of the Navigation Department at the Aerodrome.

And after teaching navigation we never lost anybody. One silly fool disappeared. His aircraft and he disappeared. Our station was about 30 miles from the American border. It turned out he flew over the American border and he got lost. He found a nice posh ranch and he landed on their aerodrome (because in America the farms were 30 miles apart). The Americans weren't in the war, and so they made a terrific fuss of him – he was going out to parties because of his uniform, and the way he talked, they were making a fuss. And every time



*Norman in his RAF days*

there was any flying at all from our station, everybody was looking for this crashed aeroplane to see where it was. We couldn't understand it. Eventually we got word from officialdom that he was at such-and-such farm in America, so we sent a plane and pilots to bring him back, and the plane he landed. Turned out that the reason he got lost was he lost his map. He had the window open in

the aircraft and the wind blew the map out! And straight away I ordered spare copies of maps to go in the cubbyhole of every plane.

In 1943 I came back to England I was converted into flying twin aircraft – the Dakota. It wasn't many months before D-Day came. I went on D-Day and dropped paratroops into Normandy; and after that we went on re-supply with drops of food, arms and medical stuff. And after that we were going over to France taking supplies and bringing the wounded back to Swindon to the RAF hospital near Swindon. Within four hours from being wounded they could be back in hospital.

Then along came Arnhem. I flew to Arnhem twice with supplies. And then I went to Burma in 1944. We were re-supplying the 'forgotten army' – the 14<sup>th</sup> Army – they were moving down towards Rangoon to Singapore. Because that's the only way you could get everything – by air. There were no roads there. They were known as the 'forgotten army' because everybody was interested only in how the army was going on in Europe, as it was nearer to them. Anyway while I was in Burma the war in Europe finished but the war against the Japanese hadn't. A strange incident happened on one of the islands out there – I don't know whether it was Java or not – but when the Japanese surrendered on the island, the Japanese commander had no troops to command or to hand his sword to, so he had to have the officer commanding the local POW camp which was full of British. But they asked, will you still have your Japanese troops at every corner to maintain discipline, because if all the Japanese troops go back to barracks (which is what you do when you surrender) and let the POWs out, it'll be mayhem! There will be no discipline with the local people,

there will be nothing. So on that day they surrendered.

We had landed there to bring our casualties back from the camps, and we landed the same day as the Japanese surrendered. At night we wandered around to look at the place and there was a Japanese sentry at each corner. When we went past he bowed, because that's the way they saluted. You didn't know whether to acknowledge it, or just ignore it. It wasn't much fun walking round there. There were no local people about. Eventually, I spent the next few months flying to Java and Sumatra, bringing British people back. And there were Dutch women and children, some of whom had been there two or three years. They didn't know where their husbands were, or whether they were still alive. I remember one lady walking towards me with no shoes. They had no luggage, because they didn't have anything.

I got married during the war. My girlfriend and I were engaged, and we got married when I came back. She was a teacher in Mansfield. I was sent out to practice flying and the headmistress there said 'come on, children, come into the yard and wave to Mr Iosson!' And as I flew around the school they all came out and waved!

There was another interesting incident. Before I went to Canada when I was odd-jobbing and waiting in Bristol, a German fighter pilot was captured. And he became was the only German who got away. Because of him I nearly got arrested as a deserter! Coming from France he was shot down and was put in a POW camp in the north, and he escaped. Now, in the RAF every month you had a 48 hour pass. You could spend a weekend away. The pass started 5 o'clock in the afternoon on Friday and you had to be back by 23.59 hours on Sunday! Now it's natural for people to try and beat the system and what we did was this: the orderly room where you picked up your pass closed at five and your pass didn't start till about that time. You could get your pass in the afternoon on Friday and what we used to do was to go and get it at midday and say, 'I've got a 48-hour pass, can you give it to me?' and you'd put the pass in your pocket. Well to beat the system you gave your pass to your pal so he could use it, then go to a quiet place in the aerodrome, get under the fence and you set off.

Now, that weekend Sheffield got bombed, and I wanted to see how my parents were - because a lot of people were killed. There were no phones; there were no communications at all. I couldn't find out if my father and mother had been killed in the bombing so I wanted to go and see them, and so I got the pass.

Now, in the war, every lorry driver would pick a serviceman up and that was the only way you

could get around. And along came a lorry - 'where are you going to?' 'Sheffield.' 'In!' He was on a regular route from Bristol to Sheffield. He dropped me at Attercliffe which is where his works were, and I walked home to Firth Park. I had rung my wife up - she lived in Mansfield - to say I was coming up for the weekend, and she came over to my parents. Now, they had another bombing raid on the Saturday, and we got no sleep all night because you could hear the bombs going off - they were getting nearer. I was counting them to see where the next one was going. We had a shelter under the house, we had a cellar. But we had no water the next day - so we couldn't wash. I had no sleep, and I wanted to get Hilda, my wife, safely back to Mansfield.



*Dakota airplane - the kind Norman flew*

There were no trams, no buses and no trains. But buses were still running from Chesterfield, because they weren't bombed, so the Chesterfield buses were coming to Sheffield, so we got on a Chesterfield bus and went to Chesterfield so that my wife could change for Mansfield. I saw her off on the bus, and then I went on the main road. Lo and behold, the first lorry that came was the one that taken me to Sheffield! Wasn't that a stroke of luck! Well we got about two miles out of Chesterfield when up comes a police car, slows us down, and stops us. They said 'where's your pass?' I didn't have it, of course. They took the driver to one side of a lorry and me to the other side, and one questioned the driver and the other one me. I said 'I'm going back to my station. Now you can check that because this driver gave me a lift from Bristol back to Sheffield, and he can vouch for the fact that I went to Sheffield to see if my parents were all right, and he's taking me back. I'm going back to camp. I couldn't go earlier because nothing was working. They said were looking for a deserter. I said 'I'm not a deserter - I'm going back!' I'd had no sleep, I hadn't been able to wash, and eventually I said to the



copper, 'if you're going to arrest me, take me to the station and ring my RAF station up, and they'll verify that I am on my way back.' But they said that the lorry driver had told them that we got to Sheffield at 6 o'clock: 'And you say you got there at 5.20. How do you account for that?' I said it was 5.20 because I checked my watch and said to the driver that's good, it's just twenty-past-five. So when we set off on our way again, I said to the lorry driver, 'Why did you say it was 6 o'clock when you know it was twenty-past-five when we got to Sheffield? He said 'I dared not say that time because I wasn't supposed to be back till six, and they'd know I'd been going too fast!' They were limited on the speed and he dared not say he'd got there at 5.20! There was no problem when I go back to camp, they didn't want my pass or anything – they could see the state I was in and they knew Sheffield had been bombed.

And the fighter pilot who escaped wrote a book –

he was the only German who got back to Germany after being a prisoner of war. And that particular weekend, he was missing and all the police were searching for him. The police officers didn't tell me that they were searching for an escaped POW because they didn't want it to get in the newspapers. I always blamed that German for me almost being arrested as a deserter. I read the book later and I checked the date that he escaped and the dates fitted! And I thought at the time that the police don't look for service deserters – it's the service police who look for deserters. They had alerted all the police stations in Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Northumberland and so on. He could even have been in uniform – but there were umpteen different uniforms walking about during the war – Dutch, American, French, whatever – and he'd be all right, because all people would see would be just another uniform!



*Norman Iosson (1914 – 2014) photographed in front of his picture of a WW2 Dakota aircraft*



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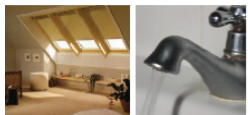
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#### SERVICES IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

##### December

7<sup>th</sup> 10.00 am All Age & Baptism with children from All Saints School, "getting ready for Christmas".

6.30pm Holy Communion

14<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Christmas Tree Festival Service

6.30pm Evening Prayer

21<sup>st</sup> 10.00am Morning Service

6.30pm CAROL SERVICE

24<sup>th</sup> **CHRISTMAS EVE**

4pm CRIB SERVICE – bring a toy to give to a child who needs one.

11.30 pm CHRISTMAS HOLY COMMUNION

25<sup>TH</sup> **CHRISTMAS DAY**

9.30 am All Age Christmas Service Followed by Holy Communion

28<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Morning Service

6.30pm Evening Service

Every Wednesday at 10.00am – Holy Communion

**January** – there will be the usual Morning Service at 10.00 am every Sunday and an Evening Service at 6.30pm

#### Totley All Saints Christmas Tree Festival

Totley All Saints are holding what we think will be a first in the area – a Christmas Tree Festival! From Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, around 20 Christmas trees, each one decorated by a different local organisation, will be on display for people to enjoy. There will be a quiz for children to complete and refreshments. And it's all free of charge!

The Festival is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm to 5pm, and on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 11am to 5pm.

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, the church will host a special all-age service starting at 10am. Everyone is welcome to come and discover the story of the three Christmas trees...

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December members of All Saints Church will be Carol-singing in the Spitfire, the Cross Scythes and the Crown, starting at 7pm in the Spitfire, about 7.45 pm in the Cross Scythes and finishing about 9.30 pm in the Crown.

#### TINY WEE BABE

Tiny wee babe

Lying there in the stable stall

Wrinkled and furled there in Your bed

No place for You to lay Your head

What do You dream of fast asleep

What do You know of keepers of sheep

I wonder what goes off in Your mind

Do you know You're the saviour of humankind

Little One, the true innocent  
Here on earth from heaven sent  
Come to redeem us and pave the way  
That in heaven one day we will stay

Tiny wee babe curled up so small  
Dependent and helpless all in all  
How could we know You'd turn out to be  
Our strength and light for eternity.

## St Luke's Festival of Light adds sparkle to Christmas

St Luke's Hospice will bring some extra Festive sparkle to the Christmas season as plans for the charity's 17<sup>th</sup> Festival of Light get under way.

The annual Christmas celebration – one of the biggest and best loved events in the St Luke's calendar – see the hospice building and trees decorated with thousands of white lights, all dedicated to loved ones. This year's official switch-on will take place on Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and the lights will then shine out throughout the holiday period, finishing on Twelfth Night, January 6. The ceremony, which this year is sponsored by Sheffield company Insight UK, will feature seasonal music from the Holymoorside Brass Band and the City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir.



"For many of our friends and supporters in Sheffield this event has come to mark the start of their Christmas season," said St Luke's Director of Patient Care Judith Park. "All the money we receive from the dedication of lights goes directly to fund vital patient care here at St Luke's. As an independent charity, not part of the NHS, this year alone we need to raise more than £4.9 million just to carry on delivering our specialist care, free of charge, all across Sheffield. It costs £23 for one hour of patient care in our new In Patient Centre and £61 for one of our specialist community nurses to visit a patient in their own home so every donation is important."

To find out more about the Festival of Light or to make a dedication, visit [www.stlukeshospice.org.uk](http://www.stlukeshospice.org.uk) or call 0114 2369911.



# The Totley Independent Poetry Workshop

## Sally Goldsmith

In the last issue I gave you an extract from *Under Milk Wood* by Dylan Thomas – the beginning where the little town is sleeping. This wasn't exactly poetry, though written with a poet's eye and ear - Dylan described it as "prose with blood pressure." Your task was to write some poetic prose, a bit like Dylan, about Totley at night. One of our youngest contributors Emma Caroe, aged eleven and one of our oldest, Pat Pillow, rose to this task. How could I choose between them? Here are both.

### **Totley at Night** *by Emma Caroe*

It is autumn, a moonless, cloudy night in the small suburb, charcoal-black and still. The normally choc-a-block Baslow Road is empty, except for the occasional vehicle roaring along in the stillness around it. The monsters with such fiery eyes make the rabbits and their playmates scurry to safety. After a while they cautiously emerge, and resume their play. The chicken keeper's enemy with her cubs enters a garden on the Grove. The vixen is hardly deterred when a searchlight comes on, flooding the place with light. Next door are plump fluffy chickens nestled squawking in their house, but that is not what the vixen has come for. Instead, she watches her cubs dancing and prancing, twisting and turning, playfully jumping about.

The houses are draped in darkness, the shops on Totley Rise deserted and lonely, mournfully waiting for their shopkeepers to return. Totley Hall stands proud, dreaming of lost, forgotten days when it had huge gardens and was lived in by elegant, refined gentry.

Everyone is deep in slumber now, the teenagers, the tired fathers, shopkeepers, the vicar, postmen, teachers, pensioners, policemen, office workers, GPs and firemen. Children dream of school, of friends' birthday parties, of the costume they'll wear for Hallowe'en. Only mothers are awake, attempting to comfort their screaming babies. They long for the time when the babies will sleep quietly through the night.

Hush, listen. All is peaceful now. The babies have settled down, the only noise in the inked wood is the meandering stream. Let's steal away silently now, and leave the inhabitants of Totley sleeping.

### **Night Time at Totley Rise** *by Pat Pillow*

A straggling uneven crescent of old houses, squashed together like upstanding sardines. Exploding upwards into the night sky, like penguins from a huddle. A few lights shine from upper windows. Which one is John's? I listen for the strumming of his guitar. Below extra doors are squashed in dividing up the premises into smaller units. Day and night the small shops are calling for our attention, offering their wares and services. Fancy breads and home made cakes. Keys cut, shoes repaired, watch batteries fitted. The Post Office, Newsagent, Chemist, Hairdresser, Chiropodist – all are here. Centrally is the Greengrocer. The colourful display of smiling apples, tomatoes and broccoli now covered and locked inside. The helpful assistants who tot up customer purchases on paper bags have gone to their homes. Martin's van stands permanently opposite the shop awaiting the early morning trip to market for supplies. What will he bring for tomorrow? Day time, cars come and go continuously – you must not stay long – others need your parking space. But now at evening time it is less busy, though the curry house and chip shop are lighted up invitingly. Above, the street lights of the road cast shadows over the crescent and the traffic roars southwards. Look up and listen to time passing. There is history in this place.

I love Emma's 'charcoal black' followed by 'chock-a-block' – now there's a poet's ear for you - and a lovely echo too of Dylan's 'sloeblack, slow, black, crowblack.' And I could really see her 'inked wood.' Pat's houses 'squashed together like upstanding sardines' are just right and I like the listening out for John's guitar – a lovely touch. Well done both of you.

A real challenge this time. I'm not giving you a poem as stimulus for this issue's workshop. Instead, I want you to take a walk – as short or as long as you like, on the streets or into the woods, paths and fields – and to take a notebook, a pencil and all five senses with you. There's something about walking which can set the mind free and get you into a groove. (If you find it really difficult to walk, you could do this out of your window instead – but do walk if you can.) Pay

attention to what is around you – be in the moment. On your walk, 'collect' in your notebook some or all of these, describing them as exactly as you can, but only in note form:

- a sound nearby
- a far away sound
- two things with colours that attract you
- something that surprises you or makes you curious
- a far away thing
- a snatch of weather
- something man-made
- something written - like a sign or graffiti
- some overheard conversation
- a texture
- a smell
- a triggered memory
- a movement
- a bodily feeling – be exact, not abstract
- anything else at all that attracts you

Back home, look at your notes, highlighting anything that you really like. Is there something that would make a good first line? Shape and edit a poem from your notes – don't be afraid to add or to make drastic cuts to make the whole poem work. It might help to think of your poem as film – using close-up, panning, distant shots, sounds, a flash-back. It doesn't need to rhyme.

Go on, if you've never sent in anything before, just have a go. You might surprise yourself!

Please send your attempts to Sally Goldsmith, [goldssally@googlemail.com](mailto:goldssally@googlemail.com) by Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January. I'll choose one to publish and comment on. I'm sorry I can't give individual detailed feedback on others.

*Sally Goldsmith is a prize winning poet, script and songwriter. You can order her collection of poetry, 'Are We There Yet?' through [www.poetrybusiness.co.uk](http://www.poetrybusiness.co.uk)*

## **Plant a tree this winter and help give nature a home**

Staff and volunteers from the Eastern Moors Partnership are joining forces with conservation groups, university students and primary school pupils to help out with the tall task of planting 18,000 trees on the Eastern Moors over the next three years - and more help is needed.

The Woodland Creation Project will be managed by the Eastern Moors Partnership, a joint initiative between the National Trust and the RSPB, looking after 10 square miles of upland in the Peak District National Park, high above the western fringes of Sheffield.

The project, funded by the Forestry Commission's English Woodland Creation Grant Scheme (EWGS), will kick off this winter with 6000 trees being planted on Totley Moss and Ramsley Moor.

Rachel Bennett, Eastern Moors Projects Manager, said: "Planting woodland in this area will improve both the wildlife and landscape value of the area. The project is important because woodland habitats are limited within the Peak District and the restoration and creation of native woodland has

been identified as a conservation priority by the Peak District National Park Authority."

The project has been designed to bring many wildlife benefits, including: providing safe travel for wildlife across landscapes, by linking new woodlands with existing woodland to extend green corridors out of Sheffield; encouraging a greater diversity of wildlife, by creating stages in the vegetation from woodland through to open moorland, increasing scrub in areas of existing heath and scattered gorse; and supporting birds through part of their migratory journey, by establishing woodland along migration routes.

The Eastern Moors Partnership is still looking for people to lend a hand. If anyone would like to join the project by planting a tree or two on the Eastern Moors, please get in touch with Rachel Bennett at

[rachel.bennett@easternmoors.org.uk](mailto:rachel.bennett@easternmoors.org.uk) or call 0114 2891543. Whether done by an individual or as part of a group or school, every tree planted will help.

## How Does Your Garden Grow?

One of the difficulties of old age is that routine jobs around the house tend to be ignored for too long. One such for me is the cleaning of the roof gutters. My excuse is that 'she who must be obeyed' has issued an order banning me from climbing ladders.

Another chore I was recently engaged in was sweeping the drive. An oak tree in our front garden deposits its loads of leaves, twigs and acorns each year. Pigeon droppings are another nuisance. As I plied my sweeping brush a neighbour walked down an adjoining drive. After greeting me he said, 'I don't know whether you are aware that you have a plant growing in your fall pipe and it's causing water to flood over.' I thanked my neighbour, said I was unaware of it, but would deal with it. The offending growth was about ten feet from the ground in the hopper taking water from the shower and wash-basin in the bathroom. I got out a small step ladder, ignored my wife's remonstrations, and climbed four steps to get hold of the unwanted foliage. Any amount of tugging and waggling proved to be in vain. I then resorted to plunging a stout garden cane down the fall pipe to detach the blockage but all to no avail. At this juncture my neighbour returned and saw me struggling. He is a big chap more than thirty years my junior, and said, 'come down off the ladder. Don, I'll get it out for you' – and this in spite of being very nicely dressed, not in gardening or plumbing clothes. But his efforts were no more successful than mine, and we agreed that an expert must be called.

In quick response to my phone call, our plumber Gary arrived shortly after breakfast the next day. I assume he thought, as I had thought, that it would be a simple job to grip the plant and pull it out. He is a strong young man but after five minutes' intense struggle he had to admit defeat. For the next onslaught Gary sat on the flat roof of the kitchen extension and prodded the blockage with a long metal rod. After twenty minutes' hard work, slight movement could be detected and after a few more prods it finally yielded. Gary stood on the roof and triumphantly pulled the plant upwards out of the fall pipe to reveal it in all its glory. It was a beech with about six stems up to 106 cm (3ft 6 ins) long and magnificent roots 208 cms (6 ft 10 ins) in length. When I filled the wash basin and let the water out I immediately became aware of an unexpected bonus. For the past couple of weeks a mysterious gurgling sound had always followed the emptying of the basin. It had

defied all my efforts to cure – 'jiggling' of the plug mechanism, scalding hot water and poking with long flexible curtain wire.

Readers may guess these events set my thoughts going. I have no training in plant growth but always understood that roots extend in search of water, so why did these roots grow so long when they were watered many times a day from the top? Other thoughts made me wonder whether there was some magic growth-promoting agent in Sainsburys toilet soap or Colgate toothpaste. There would be enough work here to keep a research student occupied for a while. If this investigation proved ineffective it could be extended with the various shampoos, etc, which are discharged from the shower.

As for my own research I might try watering the sweet peas with a solution of Sainsburys toilet soap, if I remember. I'll close by making it clear I am not, in any way, trying to muscle in on Tom Steel's gardening hints!

**Don Ashford**

## Scout Lottery

### **1st Totley Scout Group Lottery winners September 2014 draw:**

1st Prize – No. 36

By request. Two bottles Languedoc red, and two bottles Rivaner white wine.

Mrs Dunstand, Becket Avenue

2nd Prize – No. 12

£10 voucher

Mr & Mrs Rolfe, The Grove

### **October 2014 draw:**

1st Prize – No. 33

Set of steak knives and bottle of red wine

Mr & Mrs Hollindale, Buttermere Drive

2nd Prize – No 40

£10 voucher

Mrs S Bridgens, Baslow Road

### **November 2014 draw:**

1st Prize – No 07

Theatre tickets

Mrs Jockel, Sunnyvale Road

2nd Prize – No. 45

£10 voucher

Mr & Mrs Whitely, Marstone Crescent



## Time Travellers Travelogue

The Time Travellers are a group of local people who share a common interest and enthusiasm for archaeology through a variety of activities, visits and research. We are all amateurs, varying from 'Time Team' fans to enthusiastic trowel detectives. We have our own programme of events, are active in support of professional excavations and provide a news service of interesting events and activities in South Yorkshire and N E Derbyshire.

In September, fourteen Time Travellers and partners enjoyed a weekend trip to Wroxeter and the Ironbridge Gorge. Roman Wroxeter or Viriconium as it was then known, was, in its heyday, the fourth largest Roman city in Britain. The Ironbridge Gorge complex of ten different museums satisfied all tastes within our group. Blist Hill Victorian town was a fascinating step back into Industrial Archaeology with many opportunities to experience the reality of Industrial life and living in that period. We also visited Coalbrookdale and then some of the more unusual museum sites like the Clay Pipe Museum and the Tar Tunnel. Truly something for everyone!

We have enjoyed exploring our Peakland landscape with two organised walks, firstly around Froggatt to inspect the remains of the Lead Mill hidden deep



*Early excavations at Poynton Villas site, Bradway*

within Froggatt Woods and then to Gardoms Edge where there are various features ranging from Neolithic to the Iron Age, including a large stone covered with rock art and clay lined pits for which several possible uses were put forward.

The Roman Landscape project team members have been busy, determined to pin down the missing Roman Road often mentioned in documents of the time, but so elusive to find on the ground. Our 'Romans' have made contact with a group of amateur archaeologists based in Huddersfield who have been on a similar quest for evidence of

Roman Roads in West Yorkshire and came to see what we had found on our own search in the Stanage and Burbage area - and significant new developments have been made very recently in the Redmires area on farmland.

Word of the Time Travellers' activities is spreading across Sheffield! We were invited to explore a feature in a Lodge Moor garden recently. It has long been believed that a Roman Road went through this area - maybe this stone feature could have been it! Careful excavation seems to have shown that the existence of a Roman Road is unlikely but there is definitely a feature there!

The attention over at Poynton Villas has switched from excavating within the remains of the house walls to the garden and courtyard areas, leading



*Time Travellers Glynn Burgin and Cathy Jackson at Poynton Villas site*

to a whole set of different and fascinating finds. The most intriguing of these has been our locating of water storage cisterns adjacent to each house and which are in remarkably good condition. We don't know when use of these to supply water to the railway worker families stopped but we suspect this might have been discontinued when a new water storage facility was built under the front rooms of the houses. Based on artefacts discovered within the courtyard spaces to the rear sides of each house, these seem to have been general outdoor working areas, possibly for laundry duties. When the houses were demolished in the late 1960's the courtyards seem to have become convenient places to leave discarded items and this created a bit of a 'treasure trove' for those Time Travellers who were shifting bricks, soil, timber and stonework throughout the summer.

If you are interested in finding out more about the programme of activities that the Time Travellers have lined up for the winter then log on to our website at [thetimetravellers.org.uk](http://thetimetravellers.org.uk)

*Glynn Burgin, The Time Travellers*

## Totley Primary School

The teaching of reading skills has always been an essential part of our job as a primary school. However, over the past two years, we have really focused on promoting reading as a rewarding and pleasurable activity in its own right. Our library has been extended and lots of exciting new stock purchased. This includes a range of audio books and special headphones for children to use.



*Y3 Performance Poem*

Furthermore, a crack squad of Y5 librarians has been set up to encourage the use of the library at lunchtimes and enable children to borrow and change their reading books regularly. Book clubs have been set up and run by members of staff to take children on journeys through books which they might find tricky to read on their own. We are now at the stage where our older children are able to run book clubs for the younger ones!

The highlight of our reading initiative each term is a DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) afternoon, where time is set aside to allow quality reading activities. Just before half term, we used our DEAR afternoon to celebrate National Poetry Day, with classes working on group performances.



*Y2 Performance Poem*

Here at Totley Primary School  
We think poetry is so cool  
Keep to the beat with rhythm and rhyme  
(Actually free verse is just fine)

So to celebrate National poetry day  
We've put our pencils and pens away  
To **Drop Everything And Read** the ideas  
Of our finest poetry pioneers!

*Ben Paxman, Assistant Head Teacher*



It's been another exciting start to the year with the launch of our brand new curriculum, a strong drive towards developing even better sporting and entrepreneurial abilities, and an emphasis on children understanding what they need to do next through our new assessment system. That's aside from all our usual lessons, activities, residentials, visits and visitors!

### **Goodbye to Sheila Cooper**

It was with great sadness that we began the year however, as we announced the death of Sheila Cooper, one of our long serving, much loved and devoted Governors. Sheila not only attended TASS herself as a child, but then went on to teach both primary and secondary age groups for 30 years before her retirement. Sheila was the class governor for last year's Y3 and was a regular at parents' evenings to take on people's opinions on the school. She was also an active member of Totley Rise Methodist Church and enjoyed swimming and glass making. She will be greatly missed for her wonderful bright and chatty personality, plus her amazing sense of humour. We are extremely grateful for all of the hard work and contribution that she made to us as a school!!! Our very best wishes and condolences go to Sheila's family and friends at what has been a very sad time!

### **Welcome Back Rony Robinson**

Rony Robinson, from Radio Sheffield, visited TASS in October as part of the ten things to celebrate in a long career in radio. Rony was educated at TASS before going on to King Edward VII School and Keble College, Oxford. We were very proud to welcome him back and our Merit Captains were amazing ambassadors as they showed him around as well as being interviewed!

### **Sports Day at The English Institute of Sport**

Our Sports Day was held earlier than usual this year and was a celebration and culmination of the athletics training that all classes had undertaken since September. It was also excellent preparation



for the City Sports Hall Athletics and other athletic competitions. The children had an amazing day and took part in track and field events – as did many of their parents! Soon after, our Y5 and Y6 children took part in the Sports Hall Athletics regional heats and came second. The final will be on 27<sup>th</sup> November, so we look forward to seeing how they get on!

### **TASS Remembers**

Our Remembrance Assembly for children took place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November and focussed on some of the young men who attended TASS before later going on to fight in WWI. This certainly brought history alive for our children and helped them to focus on the sacrifice made by others as part of this very special centenary year.

### **TASS Healthy Snack Shack Leaders and Other Responsibilities**

Our TASS Healthy Snack Shack was financed as a result of Church Burgess funding. Many healthy snacks are available at reasonable prices and the children are served by our Y6 Healthy Snack Shack Leaders. Other roles and responsibilities include Merit Team Captains, School Council, Eco-Saints and Playground Leaders. All the children involved go through a selection process, from applications and interviews to hustings and public votes. The children are becoming well established in their roles and are developing excellent skills of leadership.

### **TASS Superstar Mathematicians**

A team of our Y6 superstar Mathematicians took part in the Maths Pop Quiz at Birkdale in October and showed off their calculation skills. They came a fantastic third overall!

### **TASS Forest School**

Building on the work last year in our Forest School Lunchtime club, we're doing one better with FS2 (Reception) and Y1 children taking part in our very own purpose-made Forest School within our own grounds! Forest School is a fun and exciting way to learn in an outdoor setting and is known to improve children's self-confidence, resilience, safety awareness and communication skills. The children have been taking part in a range of activities including den building, woodcraft, playing games and cooking on a camp fire. The activities are being run by a member of staff from the Sheffield Children's University Team as well as our usual staff. We look forward to seeing even more of what the children get up to!

### **TASS Harvest Celebrations:**

Our Harvest Celebration took place in October and began with a fantastic family breakfast provided by our PTA Fun-d Raisers and was followed by a special time of thanksgiving held at All Saints Church, Totley. This involved children in every year group contributing with prayers, poems, songs and

presentations. It was also pulled together with a fantastic talk by our vicar (and governor to the school), Rev. Paul Oakley. Parents and carers contributed through food gifts which were sent out as hampers for nominated people in the area with left-overs being donated to the Sheffield Cathedral Archer Project. Also, money was donated which went to the Water Aid Charity.

### **TASS Big Draw Day**

In October, we held a Big Draw Day where our children were encouraged to bring in all types of paper in order to construct their very own sketch books. They also took part in a whole host of drawing and art activities, including some very BIG Art which is now displayed in our school hall.

### **Y5 Enterprise Project with YMCA White Rose**

Once again, The Y5s have been taking part in an amazing Enterprise Project with Jonathan Buckley from YMCA White Rose. The children were treated to 'Dragon's Den' type pitches from the different projects run by the YMCA and decided to support 'The Yours Project' which helps young people with disabilities. The children are in the process of planning a whole host of events to raise money for the project.

The Year 5 class will be taking part in the Morning Service at All Saints Church on Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> to talk about their entrepreneurial activities. As part of the project, they have also partnered with All Saints Church and Totley Rise Methodist Church to run a one-off 'Messy Church' which will be held at TASS on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 3.30-4.30pm.

If you want to find out more of the exciting things that are happening at our school, then please visit our website or email us at [enquiries@totleyallsaints.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@totleyallsaints.sheffield.sch.uk). We'll be so happy to let you know!

*Karole Sargent, Head teacher*

  
**Tristan Swain**

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~~~~~

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us in December and we will give you a voucher to come back in  
January, it's that easy!!*

## *Totley Choir Singers*

*We will be having the Choir singers back this year as we loved  
them so much last year. So come down, show your support for our  
community and get into the festive spirit with a nice glass of red  
while listing to them sing or even join in. If you would like to  
book a table please call us in advance on 01142360298.*

## *New Year's Eve*

*You will be glad to know there will be no tickets on sale to enjoy a  
night with us. If you would like to come down for a meal all you  
need to do is call us in advance and book yourselves a table,  
deposits are required to confirm bookings. We will be turning up  
the music from 9pm and we will have the televisions on so we can  
see in the New Year with everyone else in the UK.*

*Family, Friends, Good Food and Music what more can you ask for?*

## *And for a final treat...*

*We are now doing Fish and Chip Friday!! 2 Fish and Chips for  
only £10.95 available all day. Go on treat yourselves.*

## Totley Rise Methodist Church

### Winter Events

#### Alpha Course

The Alpha Course will start in January at Totley Rise Methodist Church. If you would like to book or require more information please contact John Freeman on 0114 2366919 or email [sueandjohn6@talktalk.net](mailto:sueandjohn6@talktalk.net)

#### Messy Church

Come and watch your children enjoy crafts, games and friendship. Suitable for pre and primary aged children.

Saturday 13 December – Christmas Messy

Saturday 10 January – New Beginnings

Contact Rachel on 07912 352 543 or [racheltrm@yahoo.com](mailto:racheltrm@yahoo.com) for details and booking and with any special dietary needs. There is a charge of £2 to cover your meal and craft supplies

#### Quiet Garden

Monday 15 December, 12 noon – 2 pm: You are invited to a quiet Advent reflection. Please bring a packed lunch. Drinks will be provided.

Saturday 17 January 9.45am – 12.30pm at the Whirlow Spirituality Centre. Reverend Louise Grosberg will be one of a small group of people celebrating how the Quiet Garden Ministry can add to our Christian Faith. Louise would be delighted if you could join her. For details and to book a place please email [suekirkman.uk@gmail.com](mailto:suekirkman.uk@gmail.com)

### Christmas at Totley Rise Methodist Church

**Journey to Bethlehem Returns!** Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December - 30 minute tours from 4.15pm – 7.30pm at Totley Rise Methodist Church. The Nativity story for all the family. Journey through time to see the sights and sounds of a bustling Bethlehem, look out for the shepherds and their sheep and experience the meaning of Christmas. Booking essential by email [suekirkman.uk@gmail.com](mailto:suekirkman.uk@gmail.com) or phone 07854 968011. Leave your name, phone number, preferred day of tour and the number of people in your party.

**Carols by Candlelight** Wednesday 10 December 7.30pm. A traditional service of carols and readings led by the United Voices Choir. There will be a collection for the charity Homeless and Rootless at Christmas.

**Carol Service** Sunday 21 December 6.30pm

**Crib Service** Wednesday 24 December 4.00pm

**Christmas Day Service** Thursday 25 December 10.00am



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### Wild About Play to Close at Totley

The 'Wild About Play' child-care company which has been offering outdoor activities for children of various ages at Totley Scout Hut, is to close. Some residents had raised concerns about various issues connected with the activities organised by the company, and a petition was presented to the Council. However, it having been realised that the Scouts' lease did not permit sub-letting the premises to other organisations, the company will cease to operate at the Scout Hut early in the New Year.

### Solutions to Puzzle Corners

Equilateral triangles: The touching points are 21.13% of the larger triangle edge from a point.

Say and Spell:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Made/maid    | 2. One/wan     |
| 3. Pair/pare    | 4. Foul/fowl   |
| 5. Sore/soar    | 6. Ore/oar     |
| 7. Steak/stake  | 8. Caulk/cork  |
| 9. Tier/tear    | 10. Leek/leak  |
| 11. Turn/tern   | 12. Fir/fur    |
| 13. Rose/rows   | 14. Wine/whine |
| 15. Gate/gait   | 16. All/awl    |
| 17. Bard/barred | 18. Root/route |
| 19. Rain/reign  | 20. Bare/bear  |

## TOTLEY & DISTRICT DIARY

### MONDAYS

**COFFEE MORNING**, All Saints' Church Hall, 10am-noon  
**TAI-CHI**, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 11.30am-12.30pm  
**RAINBOWS and GUIDES**, All Saints' Church Hall, 5.45pm-9pm  
**SLIMMING WORLD**, United Reformed Church Hall, 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm, Jo Elsey: 262 0523 or 07590 545253

### TUESDAYS

**PILATES**, The Old School, Dore, 9.15-10.15am. Phone Teresa Tinklin 07906 312372  
**COFFEE MORNING**, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10am-noon  
**KNIT, NATTER, CRAFT & CHATTER** See Totley Rise Methodist Church article in this issue - 12 noon - 3.00pm  
**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**. Drop in, free, impartial, and confidential. Totley Rise Methodist Church, 10am-noon

### WEDNESDAYS

**CRAFT GROUP**, Totley Library, 2pm  
**PILATES CLASSES**, Dore Old School, 9.00-10.00 and 10.15-11.15. Contact Caroline - Tel: 0781 722 0324, email caroline1north@btinternet.com, www.pilatescarolinenorth.co.uk  
**COFFEE in the LIBRARY**, 10am-11.30am  
**TODDLER GROUP**, 10am-11.30am, All Saints' Church Hall. Details tel. Andy Holmes 0114 236 2088  
**HEALTH WALKS**, 10.30am, Totley Library foyer. Phone Tina, The Health Walk Ranger: 0114 203 9335  
**MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING**, All Saints Church Hall, 8pm-10pm

### THURSDAYS

**BELROBICS**, United Reformed Church, 9.15-10am, email: jenny@belrobics.co.uk or telephone: 07816 850132.  
**NCT COFFEE GROUP FOR DORE TOTLEY & BRADWAY**, 10am-noon, For mums & babies/toddlers, meeting in various locations, Phone Lucy Street 07837 000405 or email: lucy@streetr.plus.com for further details  
**ROCKCHOIR**, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Rd, 11.30 - 1.00pm. See www.rockchoir.com or call 01252 714276

**CHAIROBICS**, Heatherfield Club, 1.15pm  
**PUSHCHAIR CLUB**, Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall. 1.30pm-3pm. Tel. 236 3157 for further details  
**PILATES CLASS**, United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, 6.15pm-7.30pm **also new class 1.30pm to 2.30pm**, Phone Emer Coffey 07792 422909

### FRIDAYS

**PILATES**, The Old School, Dore, 9.15-10.15am, 10.30-11.30am. Phone Teresa Tinklin 07906 312372

### SATURDAYS

**MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING**, All Saints Church Hall 1st Saturday Monthly 8pm-10pm

## DECEMBER

**SAT 6<sup>th</sup> MILLHOUSES METHODIST CHURCH** - John Wade Singers: Carols and Christmas Music, with seasonal refreshments. 7pm onwards.

**TUES 9<sup>th</sup> N.S.P.C.C. CHRISTMAS QUIZ**, Abbeydale Sports Club Bar, 7 pm - 9 pm. £2.50 per adult, £1 per child. Price includes mince pies (sponsored by Dore Service Station) and mulled wine (sponsored by Fawthrop Williams). Lots of great prizes including a wine and goodies hamper worth £99 and sweetie hamper for the children's round, a personal training session with Phoebe Marshall, and much more. To book call 07938 135138 or email [info@talksign.org.uk](mailto:info@talksign.org.uk)

**SAT 13<sup>th</sup> WINTER GARDEN**, city centre - City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir. 12.30 - 1.30 pm.

**SAT 13<sup>th</sup> UNITED REFORM CHURCH** - Christmas Coffee morning and craft stall, 10 am - noon.

**TUES 16<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**: Raymond Lawrence, 'It Could Be Verse'. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10 am.

**WED 17<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP**: Maureen Taylor, 'A Tudor Christmas', 7.30, Totley Library.

**Till 24<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS MARKET**, Fargate. Traditional wooden cabins offering a huge choice of seasonal goodies makes this the perfect place to stock up on gifts, foods and treats!

**SAT 20<sup>th</sup> DORE GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY** present their Christmas Concert at Dore Methodist Church, 2.30 pm. Tickets £6 from Derek Habberjam, tel. 0114 236 2299.

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*6.30pm. to 9.00pm (drinks - open all day)*

*Sundays 12.00 to 9.00pm*

**Phone 01433 630 423**

## JANUARY

**WED 14<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church: Talk: Mrs Suzanne Bingham, 'History of Sheffield Newspapers'. Visitors welcome.

**MON 19<sup>th</sup> FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: Illustrated talk by local photographer Stuart Davies on 'Wildlife in the Wood and Beyond'. Totley Library, 7.30 pm. Free to members, £3 non-members. Refreshments available.

**TUES 20<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**: Steve Drinkall, 'Images of Wild Life and Wild Places - Scottish Islands'. Totley Rise Methodist Church Hall, 10 am.

**SUN 25<sup>th</sup> FRIENDS OF GILLFIELD WOOD**: 10 am: Practical Conservation Morning with Council Rangers. Meet at gate, bottom of Totley Hall Lane. All levels of work, light and heavy, fully supervised. Stay as long as you wish. Tools provided, refreshments too. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing

**WED 28<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY PROBUS CLUB** 10 am Totley Rise Methodist Church: Talk: Steven Gay, 'A Pennine Journey'. Visitors welcome.

**WED 28<sup>th</sup> TOTLEY HISTORY GROUP**: Suzanne Bingham, 'The Rise and Fall of the Workhouses - focusing on the local area'. 7.30, Totley Library.





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**Editor: Phil Harris**

Tel. 07956 858944 or email:  
[editor@totleyindependent.co.uk](mailto:editor@totleyindependent.co.uk)

**Advertising & Distribution:**

**John Perkinson**

Tel. No: 236 1601 or email:-  
[advertising@totleyindependent.co.uk](mailto:advertising@totleyindependent.co.uk)

**Proof readers: Chris & Margaret Spencer**

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