

Totley History Group
At Totley Library
Wednesday, 25 January 2012

Present:

52 People

Items:

Ted Hancock came to the meeting to give a talk about the Totley Tunnel and the Navvies, it was very informative and interesting, the below are a few key points:-

The Totley Tunnel was on the Dore to Chinley Line. Midland Railway built the tunnel and there was a large expense for them in getting under the moors. The first sod of earth was cut on 11 September 1888 and it took until October 1892 when the workers shook hands when they met in the middle, the tunnel opened in 1893. It took 12.5 years from when the first cut of earth took place to when all the shafts were completed. The shafts were built to gain access to the line and still can be seen today. They did cause problems as the rain got in through them and the water made for awful conditions to work in.

The line was built with the aim to get coal to Lancashire, the passenger side was secondary. The tunnel opened for goods traffic in November 1883 and then 6 months later for the passenger service.

There were issues with recruiting workers due to the bad conditions they had to work in and they also needed workers who knew what they were doing. It wasn't until improved wages were offered that workers were found.

Most of the navvies were not local and therefore the local population vastly increased. There were 3,000 at its peak with their families who lived in often rural places. The locals were quite unprepared for this. Shops and pubs opened, and the risk of law and order increased. They lived in temporary houses with limited sanitation, most of the accommodation was at Totley, Padley, Edale, Chinley and Chapel En Le Frith. For Totley there was an overflow to Holmesfield and Dronfield. Totley had a population of 650 and this grew with 700 navvies. Navy huts for the workers were erected near the shafts, there were 58 built made of wood, 11 had brick walls and by October 1883 all of them had been pulled down as most of them were infected with smallpox. The Totley Rise houses were erected for the navvies and called Brickie Row, the houses on Lemont Road were also built for the navvies. There were up to 20-30 people living in each house, working in shifts, bed sharing, this was due to not enough huts being built for them. There was continued concern regarding health and there was an outbreak of typhoid

at Chinley with the workers. In 1888 the first occurrence of smallpox was at Topley and the Victoria Pleasure Gardens were used as a convalescent place or they were sent to Lodge Moor Isolation Hospital. There was also an isolation hospital at the Rifle Range. There were also many accidents in the tunnels whilst they were working. There was low level nuisance crime, mainly vagrancy, drunken behaviour, thieving of grouse. However, there was a community within the navvies where they held Sunday schools, arranged football matches etc

Notices

Everyone was reminded about the War Memorial Book that the Topley History Group has recently published, if anyone wishes to buy one the cost is £4.50. It gives interesting detail about the soldiers who are on the Topley War Memorial for World War I. Please see Dorothy or Pauline.

Forthcoming Meetings

22 February – Open Meeting at the Library

All welcome. Bring along any research you are doing and questions you have. These meetings are lively discussions for sharing information and ideas.

28 March – The History of Grouse Shooting with David Hey

David's talk will be wide ranging and will include the gentry, the workers and the management of the local countryside.

25 April – AGM and there will also be a speaker, subject to be confirmed.

**Totley History Group
Management Team Meeting
Cross Scythes
Wednesday, 8 February 2012**

Present:

Pauline Burnett
Alan Byron
Jean Byron
Kerry Clarke
Dom Harris
Ann Lee
Dorothy Prosser
Sue Scattergood
Christine Shimell (Chair)

Apologies:

Jim Higgins
Norman Rolfe

Items:

Brian Edwards

Christine, Sue and Jim are going to visit Brian this Saturday in the company of Brian's wife. It is hoped they can ascertain the amount of information there is and a way forward. Avril Critchley has advised we can use a room at her use to store this information. Once we have a way forward Christine is to find out what we need to do from a legal point of view. **Action Christine**

Website

Christine advised there had been a problem with getting onto the site, however, she has now been in contact with Matthew and we have the correct codes. Christine will send these codes out to us so we can all have a look at the site, it is not yet live, the first impressions are that it seems complicated and difficult to put items on the site.

Action Christine

Christine is to contact Matthew to arrange a lesson about inputting information on the site and will also ask Norman if he wants to join.

Action Christine

Ideas for items to put on the website:-

Sue will create a timeline for Totley. **Action Sue**

Photos, minutes, forthcoming meetings and events, research that we have done, eg Totley Memorial work, Cherry Tree

Projector Stand

These are £75 plus postage and package brand new. Ann has been watching these on ebay and there are some currently on there between £13 to £28 plus postage and packing, Ann will keep a watch on these and we all agreed we could bid up to £50. **Action Ann**

Projector and Carousel – Some speakers do not have these and we have to hire or borrow them. Pauline will ask at the next meeting if anyone has one we can use and Ann will look on ebay. Christine will put an advert in the next edition of The Totley Independent. **Action Ann, Pauline and Christine**

Speakers/Future Meetings

Pauline advised the following:-

22 February – This is an open/research meeting.

28 March – David Hey will speak about the history of grouse shooting on the Derbyshire Moors.

Kerry cannot attend this meeting and Sue/Dom agreed to collect the subs at the start of the meeting. **Action Sue and Dom**

25 April – AGM followed by Jim Rieuwerts talking about smelting in Totley. Kerry will hand out the membership forms at this meeting.

May – Date to be confirmed – Walk in Ecclesall Woods by John Gilpin - A Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon (probably the third week in May). Booking is essential for this as there is a maximum number of 20 per walk.

27 June – Open/Research meeting.

14 July – Woodthorpe Hall at 2pm

Future Venue

We may have to think of a new venue if the library charges increase, suitable places may be The Heatherfield Club or the new Church Hall on Totley Brook Road.

Family History Fair at Norfolk Park

This is on Saturday, 21 April at 10am to 4pm we have got a stall and we need to decide what we put on the boards, ideas are the Soldiers, Totley Grove House, Totley Tunnel, Cherry Tree, Anne White article regarding The Chemical Yard, Oral history snippets. We need volunteers to man it

and help set up and take down the information. Ann will print a sheet to pass around at the next meeting for volunteers. **Action Ann**

Books

Jo Rundle Book - We have had a copy given to us of this book, this is for reference only and we will purchase a copy to lend out.

Totley Village Walk Book - Dorothy and Pauline are producing a leaflet detailing a Totley village walk they have created. It has a map with points of interest along the way. Christine will see if we get funds from the Council for this and Dom will ask Roger Hart if he is able to help. **Action Christine/Dom**

Dorothy and Pauline will bring the information along to the February meeting to discuss with everyone. **Action Dorothy/Pauline**

Rogation Day and Beating the Bounds – Sue is in the process of producing an A5 leaflet with a walk and it also provides the history behind this.

It was thought we could eventually produce a Totley Walks book with these in and other walks we have done in the past.

Date of Our Next Meeting

Wednesday, 4 April 2012 at The Cross Scythes at 7.30pm

Signed – Chair, Christine Shimell

Totley History Group Meeting March 28th 2012

Grouse Shooting by David Hey

Present 29

Pauline introduced David Hey. He has spent a lifetime studying history.

He started by saying that our local moors are as they are because of grouse shooting. Without grouse shooting they would have been forested. Every 10 years there has been deliberate burning to create the habitat for the grouse.

The word grouse has not always been used. They are also called Moor fowl or Moor game. The birds used to be netted but after the civil war they started shooting them. This was started on the continent.

By the late 18th century it was more popular and land was specifically taken over for grouse shooting. Large unproductive areas of land were put over to shooting.

1820/1830 Longshaw Lodge was built by the Duke of Rutland specifically for people shooting. Fox House was also used for shooters.

There were smaller owners of land for example on Kinder Scout. The right to shoot was determined by acts of parliament. It was determined that shooting would take place from 12th August to December by an act of 1872. Crowds used to gather to watch.

From 1860's onwards butts were built at waist height.

The record for the most grouse shot in one day was 2843 on Broomhead Moor.

Water troughs were built on the moors and can still be seen today. It was thought they were to encourage the grouse to gather together in one area.

The popularity of grouse shooting has declined by 40% since the 2nd World War.

Pauline thanked David for a very interesting talk.

Notices

Christine reminded people about the walks through Ecclesall Woods on May 15th at 2pm and May 16th at 6.45pm Meet at Abbey Lane

Sally asked if she could invite people to a talk about Gillfield Wood next Tuesday and also a walk on 28th April and one in May

Christine told us about the purchase of the postcard collection from the Thompson family 248 cards from the 1st world war to 1950. They will be split between Dore and Totley. They need cataloguing. Christine invited people to view the cards.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

**Totley History Group
At Totley Library
Wednesday, 25 April 2012**

Annual General Meeting

Present:

31 People

AGM Items:

Jim Rieuwerts was scheduled to talk to us tonight regarding lead smelting, however, he is unwell and this will be rearranged.

The previous AGM minutes were accepted and seconded.

There were no matters arising.

Chairperson's Report

We have had interesting speakers at the meetings and thanks were given to Pauline for arranging these, they included Ted Hancock, Howard Smith, Jim Rieuwerts. We have had visits to Padley Chapel through Totley Tunnel and Beauchief Abbey, our first publication that Dorothy, Pauline and Jim have produced for the War Memorial soldiers. We have done 2 exhibitions, one at Totley Library and one last Saturday at the Sheffield Family History Fair. The Oral History Project is ongoing, we have completed 12 to date. We have purchased postcards of Dore and Totley from the Thompson family with the Dore Village Society and the help of some kind donations from the Group members. Christine was thanked for all her efforts with this at the auction.

As we know Brian Edwards has been unwell and he has decided to pass on his archive/research material to us, it will be stored in a room at Avril's house along with the postcards. Once these have been catalogued we will be arranging access so everyone can view them, say one Saturday each month or by prior arrangement.

The website for the Totley History Group has today gone live, the address is totleyhistorygroup.org.uk, we will be adding content to it, thanks were given to Norman for all his efforts with this. If anyone has any items or suggestions for the site please email Norman. Ann will send Norman some details of the oral history project for Norman to add.

In the coming year we have 2 more publications currently being produced. It has been suggested we have a Totley History Week, this will probably be in June or July 2013, this would be about local buildings eg shops and have something on their door of the history of the building.

The History Group Management Committee were thanked for all their hard work and also the members for all their support. This was accepted and seconded.

Treasurer's Report

We have spent more than we have brought in, but this is mainly due to the publication of the War Memorial Book and the receipts for it were not received in time for the year end accounts. We have broken even and this is good as we have arranged activities and purchased equipment so we have had a good return from our membership fees and entry fees. This was accepted and seconded.

Management Committee

All the committee are prepared to stand for another year, and anyone else who wishes to join can be co-opted onto the committee. This was accepted and seconded.

Any Other Business

Pauline went today to the start of a number of workshops, it is a shadow woods and ghosts project, about woods that no longer exist, trying to trace areas that were wooded. Ian Rotherham gave the talk, there are 3 more talks in May, June and July, anyone can go, Pauline has the dates.

Ian Rotherham has recently been appointed a Professor and is giving an inaugural speech on 23 May at the Hallam University regarding how nature and history have got links over the centuries.

Christine then showed us a selection of the postcards that the group have purchased, they were very interesting and informative, the ones shown were:-

View from Bradway Bank, Totley

View from Abbeydale, Dore (looking to Queen Victoria Road)

View from Abbeydale Road at Dore, 1890-1900 (looking to Queen Victoria Road)

Victoria Road, Bradway Bank, Totley Rise (can see the Chemical Yard)

A few cards of Totley Rise over the years and can see the detail of the shops, people, cars, their adverts, horse and carts.

Back Lane with the blacksmiths and Forge Cottage

Bradway Bank, Totley with Brookvale Laundry on Back Lane

Baslow Road above Totley Rise where the dentist now is

Mickley Lane, Totley

Green Oak, Totley with sheep on it

The Grove to The Quadrant

Aldam Road

Grove Walk, Atley Bank

Hillfoot Road

Butts Hill

Totley Hall Lane

Totley Village looking to Butts Hill from the school and can see the missionary wooden hall that was built for the navvie children

Hall Lane going up to Woodthorpe Hall.

Totley Moss

Totley Rifle Range, the camp and the moors

Monnybrook Farm, Totley Bents

Totley Hall.

Cross Scythes Hotel, 1904 and one earlier than this and another later when it was a bus terminus, the police box can also be seen across from the pub

Totley War Memorial

Turnpike to Owler Bar

And lastly a picture of David Stanley who lived in Baraclava House at the bottom of Queen Victoria Road, he survived the charge of the light brigade which was part of the Battle of Baraclava and received a Crimea Medal, he died in 1803.

Forthcoming Meetings

Tuesday, 15 May at 2pm and Wednesday 16 May at 6.45pm Ecclesall Woods, Past and Present with John Gilpin, numbers are strictly limited for this event and so booking is essential with Pauline.

27 June – Open Meeting at the Library at 7.30pm

All welcome. Bring along any research you are doing and questions you have. These meetings are lively discussions for sharing information and ideas.

Saturday, 14 July at 2pm, Woodthorpe Hall followed by a picnic weather permitting.

**Totley History Group
At Totley Library
Wednesday, 27 June 2012**

Present:

20 People

Items:

News

Pauline brought along the postcard collection for people to look at and also some of Brian's archives, these are for viewing only.

There is a fund raising opportunity available which is aimed at local residents for the history of their area, this suits us well. We could use for the proposed history week next year, however, we need volunteers to help with this and ideas.

Ideas we have so far are looking at the shops through the centuries and post in their windows how they have changed over the years. Dorothy and Pauline have done a leaflet detailing historical walks, we could have some guided walks of this, utilise the oral history recordings we have done and have some sessions in the library where people could listen to them. There is also the beating the bounds walk that Sue has now written up and we could have an evening of showing the postcards we purchased. The history week would probably take place in June time next year and we could run in conjunction with the Totley Farmers Market or work other groups are doing, eg Friends of Gillfield Woods. The next Sheffield and District Family History Fair is on Saturday, 1 June 2013.

Marlene with the help of the photographic society has got some microfiche that was Brian's onto CD. We will see if Norman can put on the website. It is the overseers of the poor for the hamlet of Totley in 1794, the people who collected rents, Marlene had printed off a few extracts and handed it around the group.

The next TRA Farmers Market is Sunday, 22 July, noon to 4pm, there will be plenty of stalls, the last one was a great success.

There will be a TRA barn dance all ages welcome, at Totley Hall Farm with pie and pea supper and a band, £6 adults, £4 children or contact Marlene for tickets, it is on Saturday 21 July.

Marlene, Ann and Jennifer have undertaken some oral history at Mill Lane Cottages and they went in the cellar where these were barrel vaulted

and there was also an old mangle, Marlene handed around some photos, she has a copy of the deeds back to 1888, the cottages were built by the Thompsons, the butchers.

Ann Lee has met with a lady whose father was an ARP warden for the Chatsworth Road area and she has got his record book.

Marlene is ongoing with the orphanage project and is waiting to speak to Sheila Hobson who she believes has information about the Victoria Gardens, she also knows of another person who lives on Baslow Road who may have information about these gardens too.

Pauline gave the group more details about the historical Totley walks herself and Dorothy have been working on. She highlighted the routes of the walks and asked if anyone has any further information to let her know, they will be producing a leaflet for these walks shortly.

The first walk is as follows Cross Scythes, Grange Terrace, Totley Hall Lane and its various buildings, Summer Lane, Hillfoot Road, Shrewsbury Terrace, Cannon Hall, the Pinfold, Methodist Church. The 2nd Walk then continues down the Bents footway, Chapel Fields, Penny Lane, Hillfoot Road, Totley Grove, Avenue Farm and mill buildings, to Lower Bents Farm, Cricket Inn, Monny Brook, Lane Head Road, War Memorial and back to Cross Scythes.

Forthcoming Meetings

Saturday, 14 July at 2.30pm, Woodthorpe Hall to learn about the history of the hall. For people wanting to walk there then meet at the Shepley Spitfire at 2pm. You can take your own picnic to eat in the grounds after the tour.

26 September David Templeman – History of Sheffield Manor

24 October – Research Meeting, all welcome and bring along any information/research you may have.

28 November – Suzanne Bingham – Pus, Pots and Privvies – Victorian Life in Sheffield

Totley History Group
At Totley Library
Wednesday, 26 September 2012

Present:

30 People

Items:

Speaker

David Templeman came to the meeting to talk about Sheffield Manor Lodge, Sheffield Castle and the Park and its medieval and tudor history.

The first census was early 1600 and approximately 2,000 people lived in Sheffield, one third poor, one third were servants and one third self-sufficient. They lived in wooden huts called hovels, the cutlery industry was just beginning.

The Medieval Castle in 1270 towered over the town and the River Sheaf and Don.

The old walls of the Castle can still be viewed under the Sheffield market area. Many finds have been found on the many digs that have taken place and these are at Weston Park.

John Talbot was the first Earl of Shrewsbury by marriage. He inherited the castle and the huge deer park that came with it. In the middle of the park he built Manor Lodge on top of the hill, there were great views and there were 3,000 deer in the park, these were hunted and killed for the table. The gates of the park have survived and are by Richmond School. The Earl himself was a great warrior and led the Battle of Casterville.

Sheffield Manor Lodge was the first house outside of London to have a gallery. It also had a porters lodge, stables, a brewery where small beer was made. In 1616 the Shrewsburys died out as they had no heirs and it went to the Duke of Norfolk, the house itself was not used and this was when its started its demise.

People who have stayed at the lodge include Cardinal Wolsey, when he was under arrest he stayed here waiting for armed guards, he was there for 18 days and became ill, it was on his journey from here to London that he died at Leicester.

From 1570 it became a Royal prison for Mary Queen of Scots, for 14 years she lived between the Castle and the Lodge, though her main residence was at the Castle. She had an entourage of people as she had to be kept in the lifestyle of a queen so the lodge had to be extended and built for them. She was in solitary confinement and did a lot of embroidery, over 200 pieces, and a lot have survived. The Earl of Shrewsbury and his wife Bess of Hardwick were in charge of her, Mary eventually left as she was in ill health as was the Earl.

The lodge now has a purpose built visitor centre and groups and individuals are all welcome to visit, it is open every Friday and also Saturdays, depending on the time of year. They also have open days in July and September. All are encouraged to go and see the site and the large area of land around it.

Notices

Duncan Froggatt has produced some leaflets regarding Sheffield buildings and architecture.

The group are trying to find out information about a man called Frank Mottershaw and if he lived in Topley, he was a photographer, if anyone has any information please let us know.

Forthcoming Meetings

24 October – Research Meeting, all welcome and bring along any information/research you may have.

28 November – Suzanne Bingham – Pans, Pots and Privies – Victorian Life in Sheffield

**Totley History Group
At Totley Library
Wednesday, 24 October 2012**

Present:

15 People

Items:

Research Meeting.

Christine asked for people to speak about their research.

1. Christine gave us an update on Frank Mottershaw and his Sheffield Photographic company.

There is a film on the website that he did He was very influential in filming. He went to the United States. Jean has shipping records of his son's trips to the US. He had a holiday home on Chapel Lane. Mrs Spring who had a sweet shop on Totley Rise was a Mottershaw and her son had a camera shop.

2. Marlene talked about her research on the Victoria Gardens. They were behind what is now the dentist and its adjoining semi. The whole building was an hotel. The one with the wooden extension was the billiard room. Mr Gledhill was an owner. Behind the dentist are the stables. Marlene has seen the deeds for 1906. Marlene has photos of the gardens. They used to hold shows there but they couldn't get a liqueur license so eventually it closed.

Paul Savage has given Marlene photos of the prefabs that used to be where the library is now. An interesting discussion took place about them.

3. Richard talked about the Abbeydale Freehold Land Society. People bought land and the society was set up 1873. Names such as Joe Pearson, Wm. Fox and Henry Matthews. The only people who could vote in those days were people who owned land and therefore by owning land in an area they could vote and perhaps influence what happened to an area, especially outlying areas of a city like Abbeydale. Richard would like people to come forward with their deeds so that he can put together a record of all the people involved. It was suggested that Richard advertise in the Totley Independent.

4. Totlely Walks. Dorothy and Pauline. Printing will be expensive but Pauline is investigating options. A draft was passed round for everyone to see. The size is A3 folded in half and concertinered. Thanks must go to Dorothy's husband for all his hard work in putting the information together.

5. Totlely Grove House. Christine told us it was built in early 1850's. Thomas Ellison lived there for 20 years from 1901. He was a judge and his father was also a judge. He had been appointed an arbiter between miners and the mine owners in Northumberland and Durham. He had come up with the principle of a living wage.

Thomas went to Mount St Mary's school and he married Constant Lucy Atkins (her family ran an asylum) They moved to Totlely Grove in 1901. They had 4 children. One of them had Arthur Conan Doyle as a godfather.

In 1920 Thomas got pneumonia and needed oxygen.they contacted the N and D miners and they sent oxygen tanks down to Totlely but they were too late and Thomas had died. One of their sons died in 1923 at 9 Cobnar Road.

6. Next meeting. 28th November 7.30pm. Pus, Pox and Privies.

Christmas meeting 12th December. Sally and Rony are happy to put something together for us but we need a venue. It was suggested we might have a quiz.

7. Website is up and running. www.totlelyhistorygroup.org.uk

8. Postcards. What should we do with them? Another slides how. Take them to luncheon clubs or small groups. Use with oral history?

9. £220 has been given to the history group by the Totlely Open Gardens. It was suggested we buy a digital projector. Christine will formally thank the open garden members.

10. Brian Edwards books are on sale in Tesco's £2.99

A O B. Richard asked if we had contact with people who have done historical dissertations. It was suggested that Richard contact the university.

There will be a shire horse in Gillfield wood on Sat from 10 am until 2pm clearing the felled trees.

There will be a Farmers Market on Dec 9th. We have not decided whether to participate.

Ann said Starprint have an offer on banners. She will investigate

Totley History Group
At Totley Library
Wednesday, 26 September 2012

Present:

40 People

Items:

Speaker

Suzanne Bingham attended the meeting and gave a fascinating talk called Pus, Pox and Privies. It was about death, disease and the concepts of hygiene in Victorian Sheffield.

The cholera epidemic began in 1832. In the early 19th century Sheffield was a small town, but the population was starting to grow. This had effects on living conditions, which became awful, overcrowding, back to back houses were built to try to combat this. Sanitary conditions were not good, standpipes were used but water was only available at certain times of the week, so water was stored for days and became stagnant. Wells were used but these were full of gunge. Toilets were privy middens, with many families sharing one.

The public services in 1830s were very fragmented so there was no ownership of the issues.

They did not understand how to cure illness. Asiatic cholera arrived in 1831 which was a new plague to Europe and this quickly spread.

In Sheffield free health care was set up with a house of recovery in the workhouses and public dispensaries with free medicines. However, people would not go as these were in the workhouse and suspicious of hospitals. This public money was being spent but there was still no sign of the cholera so they started to take no notice of the precautions they were being told to take.

The cholera arrived in June 1832 and quickly people started dying, they could die within one day of showing symptoms.

The cures were for example, bleeding, warm baths, carbonate of soda, stimulation of the spine.

Bodies were buried within hours as they believed they were contagious, were the people really dead? There were specified places for burials, St Marys at Bramall Lane, St Josephs opposite the University, St Phillips

and also at Attercliffe and Ecclesall. Eventually these couldn't cope so a pit was dug by the rail station where there is now a memorial.

On 24 December 1832 the cholera ended, there were over 1300 cases, with 403 deaths.

Public health then was high on the agenda, in 1842 there was a report of the sanitary conditions of the population, the summary of findings was that in 1843 the population was 100,000, families sharing homes with animals, no drainage, filth on the streets was removed by hand. The water supply was stagnant and as not available all of the time. Sewage for example there were 3 small privies for 386 people. TB was the leading cause of death by 1650, smallpox was vaccinated for from 1840 but many people were not vaccinated.

The cholera reoccurred in 1848, and killed twice as many people apart from in Sheffield where the sanitary committee had spent money.

1848 Public Health Act – This allowed public lighting, maintenance of the roads, ventilation of public buildings, closing of burial grounds, opening of parks, baths and washhouses.

Industrialisation in 1850s and 60s – The clean up was abandoned as the population rapidly increased, by 1861 Sheffield had fell behind other towns and cities. Life expectancy was low due to the sanitary conditions.

Public Health Act 1855 – Money was spent to improve health, trying to get people out of the city and into the suburbs, there was slum clearance, and abolition of privy middens.

Medical improvements – Hospitals were built, there was free health care for people with contagious diseases and isolations hospitals. There was understanding of how diseases were being spread, eg posters to advise people. Tackling infant mortality, babies were badly fed, no midwives so mothers were educated about how to look after their infants, there was baby clinics.

During the flu epidemic of 1918 schools were closed to restrict movement of the people. The NHS was introduced in 1948 and there was then development of the drug industry and immunisation.

General Items.

Christmas Party – This will be on 12 December at 7.30 pm at the library. Sally and Rony are doing a mummers play, if anyone wants to be involved there is a rehearsal at 11 Lemont Road on Wednesday, 5

December at 7.30pm , all welcome, or you could do your own “turn”. At the party on the 12th, all to bring raffle prizes and party food contribution, eg mince pies.

Totley History Group Website – A lot of work has been done on this site and it is worth a visit, there are lots of articles, photos, oral history, the address is www.totleyhistorygroup.org.uk, comments are welcome from everyone

We have received an appeal from someone doing family research, they are trying to find the family of her mother who was adopted, Eileen Keetley, she lived in Brookvale Cottage.

Sally advised that The Friends of Gillfield Wood have received a Heritage Fund Lottery Fund grant of 4K to be spent on learning and research in how to survey the archaeology of the wood, there will be workshops in 2013, their website is www.friendsofgillfieldwood.com, or see Sally for details.

Pauline advised that in January leaflets will be available for an historical walk of Totley, it is 3.5 miles approximately and is around Totley Hall Lane, Totley Bents, leaflets will be available at our meetings, the Post Office and the library.