

**Totley History Group
Totley Library
Wednesday, 19 November 2008**

Present: 35 members

Future Meetings:

10 December – Sally and Rony are arranging some light hearted entertainment including readings, singing of local carols, acting etc. There is a meeting at Rony and Sally's house for anyone who is interested in taking part on Thursday, 4 December at 7.30 pm, their address is 11 Lemont Road.

ACTION : ALL

The 2009 dates will be on the 4th Wednesday of each month. **However, please note that the January date needs to be changed and will now be on 21 January.**

Business Items:

The Group need to discuss the Totley Conservation area particularly School House on Totley Hall Lane. Dominic has invited representatives from Corporate Property and the Conservation Team from the Council to attend the January TRA Meeting.

ACTION : ALL

Archives Day (where people can bring along any items which we can scan/copy and return to their owners) – The library have agreed we can use their facilities, however, from 1 December to the end of March 2009 the library will be open on Saturday afternoons until 3.00pm. We need to consider if could move this to Sundays?

ACTION : ALL

Professor Mel Jones and his wife Joan attended the meeting, and gave a very interesting and entertaining insight into historical findings, they also gave a slide show. We discussed the following:-

Researching your Local Patch

1. Objectives

Always make sure you have clear objectives. **What is the purpose of your research** – is it for an exhibition, article, book, leaflet, talk, for your own interest or a combination? **Who is it for** – children, adults, locals, visitors? Plan what the **main messages/findings** are that you want to get across. Are you assuming prior knowledge?

2. What is your theme?

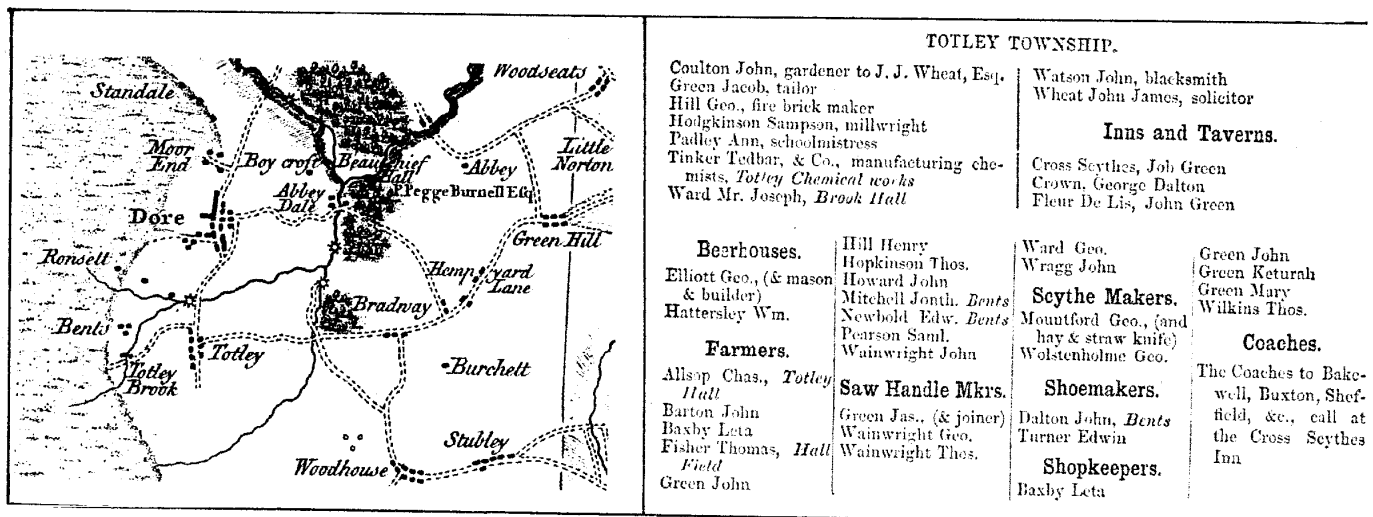
- a person ... family ... community ...
- an occupation/craft/trade ... an industrial enterprise ...
- a building/farm ... a school ... a street ... a village/suburb ...
- a woodland or piece of countryside
- some aspect of social history ... home-life, school days, leisure and pleasure ... at some time in the past ...
- transport and routeways ...
- military history ...
- a combination of some of the above e.g. if you were researching Totley Hall or your own home you might look at the architecture of the building & its past residents.

3. What sources are available?

Secondary sources – books, articles, newspapers, websites ...

Primary sources – you will probably use a **range** of the following:

- oral/written recollections or interviews
- photographs, illustrations, portraits, paintings, postcards
- school log books
- the building, a visit to the street, fieldwork
- maps – estate maps, OS maps ...
- surveys e.g. Fairbank
- advertisements/newspapers (& 19th century illustrations)
- diaries and letters



Section from Peter Perez Burdett's map of 1791

F. White's Trade Directory of 1857

TOTLEY is a poor village on the Bakewell road, 6 miles S.S.W. of Sheffield. Lord Middleton is lord of the manor. The schoolmistress has £6 yearly for 6 poor children, from £13. 6s. 8d. left by the Rev. R. Turle, and land allotted at the enclosure in 1821. The poor have 12s. yearly in bread, from the bequest of Wm. Green, in 1786.

TOTLEY.

Baxby Henry, beer house
Biggin Saml. vict. Green Oak
Elliott Abm. stone mason
Gainsford Robert, silver plater
Green John, vict. Fleur-de-lis
Hodkinson Joshua, corn miller and millwright
Hopkinson Saml. vict. (& scythes mfr.) Cross Scythes
Howard John, farmer
Marshall Joseph, file mfr.
Wild Hannah, day school
Wilson John, farmer
Wolstenholme John blacksmith

- trade directories
- wills (annual indexes from 1858) and inventories
- rentals and accounts
- manorial/church records
- birth/marriage/death certificates from 1837
- parish registers compiled by the Church of England from 1538, although many early ones have not survived
- census data (1841-1901)
- 19th century government commissions into child labour
- plans, leases and sales
- memorials/effigies/gravestones
- IGI – a good start for births & marriages prior to 1837 but it is only an index, check originals for further information It is available on-line www.familysearch.org and on microfiche.

You will, of course, need to consider the **reliability** of each source. Corroborate whenever possible. It's easy to get into bother!

4. The final product

Assemble your evidence, **select** what you intend to use, write up & revise. Aim for a balance of crisp, factual information and clear, relevant illustrations and maps/diagrams as necessary. Try to include some originality and detail.

If the project is for an exhibition consider how much space you have, decide on titles and sub-headings, tell your story succinctly without too much text (at a suitable height/size), mount your work. Illustrations will need captions, you may need a map (which you may need to draw). If you do not have an illustration, do you know an artist? If you get carried away with your project consider also writing it up at length, producing a file for visitors to sit and read. This may then become the basis for an article or a chapter in a book. Don't forget to acknowledge your source(s) and observe copyright.

If this is your first dip into historical research **be realistic** about what you can achieve within your time-scale – it is time-consuming, can be frustrating when you search and find nothing relevant but it is also fascinating and exciting and if you're not careful it can take over your life! Good Luck!

JJ/MJ

1871 Census <u>Lees Hall Farm</u>					
Samuel Butcher	Head	30	Farmer of 84 acres	Yorkshire Sheffield	
Mary Booker	Aunt	51		Derbyshire Norton	
Eliza Butcher	Mother	54		do	do
Robert Butcher	Brother	26	Farmer	Yorkshire Sheffield	
Margaret Lester	Servant	26	Domestic servant	Ireland Armagh	
Charlotte Wagstaffe	Servant	26	Domestic servant	Derbyshire Norton	
John Dukes	Servant	17	Farm servant	Yorkshire Hull	
Joseph Pashley	Servant	14	Farm servant	Nottinghamshire Worksop	

Date and Time of Next Meetings

Totley Library on Wednesday, 10 December 2008 at 7.30 pm

Totley Library on Wednesday, 21 January 2009 at 7.30 pm

The Hallamshire Beekeeper - Progress - Richard Tetley

Vic and I have spent some time exploring his family tree, particularly in respect of the MORLEY side. This is actually Vic's wife's side of the family.

Thomas MORLEY was born in Norwell, Nottinghamshire, in 1811 and stayed there all his life, as far as we've been able to determine.

His son, William Morley was born in Norwell in 1853 and moved to Marcus Street, Pitsmoor, Sheffield, in about 1878. He lived on Marcus Street at least until 1901.

William Morley was Vic's wife's g-grandfather. So far, we haven't been able to establish any Totley connection, but maybe that happened after 1901.

However, I have recently found a reference on the internet to a J. Hewitt (Hallamshire Beekeeper) who apparently wrote a book in 1892 which was entitled "Fertile workers-their utility", and yes, there are HEWITTS in Vic's wife's family tree, so we'll be exploring that avenue next.

It's possible that, although these folk lived in the Pitsmoor area, they kept beehives out here in the country. So, if anyone knows of any beekeeping activities, or the existence of beehives, in the Totley area around the turn of the century, I'd be most interested to hear about it.

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