

The TAttler

Topcliffe and Asenby Times

Moving on Up

Alanbrooke Nursery gave the class of 2010 a wonderful send-off when they celebrated their graduation. After treating their parents, carers and friends to a medley of jolly songs, the children, appropriately donning mortar boards, lined up to receive certificates and hugs from their teachers.



Lorna Young, who is in charge of the nursery, commented that this was a particularly lovely group of children, who will now be moving on to various junior schools and who would be greatly missed by all the staff.

Brush Strokes and Blobs



Last term's art class with Mike Dobson was a tremendous success and is set to go again this autumn. Classes will run from Monday 4th October to Monday 29th November (8 sessions with half term break). Sessions will run as before, on Monday

afternoons from 1-3pm and though we will be picking up where we left off, new members are welcome. We aim to have a class of 12 to 16 people, so it will be first come, first signed up.

Thirty Years Young

For thirty years, Topcliffe Playgroup has made toddlers and parents happy which is a good enough reason to celebrate with a party. The school playing field was the venue for lots of games, a bouncy castle and some very tempting stalls selling delicious cupcakes, luxury soaps and herbal oils.



As you can see, the ice-cream wasn't bad either.

Could YOU be the one??

Topcliffe Parish Council is looking for a new clerk. The position entails working 14 hours a month, including a meeting of approximately one and a half hours per month. The salary of £348.00 plus expenses is payable every quarter. Basic computer skills are preferable.

If you are interested in learning more about the job, please ring Garry Key at 01845 578900.



Editors' note: Both Vicki and I started our careers as parish clerks and managed to work our way up to the giddy height of magazine editors!

Please let Linda know if you intend coming and arrange payment (£6 per session) by Sept 20th (577315).

Asenby Parish Council

We are about to find ourselves without a parish clerk.

The job requires -

- working from home only 7 hours a month
- attending one meeting every two months
- preferably being computer literate

Salary of £346 plus expenses, payable every six months.

If interested, please call Judith Lowe at (01845) 577911

SSAFA holds a "Big Brew-up"

SSAFA, the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, will be holding a "Big Brew-up" at Topcliffe & Asenby village hall between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 9th October 2010. Tea or coffee, scone and cake will be included for the admission price of £1.50 and a soft drink will be available for children. There will also be a raffle and a cake stall, in case you need something special for tea!

SSAFA does a tremendous amount of good work for servicemen and their families, especially these days with so much going on in Afghanistan. They offer support when things get rough and help families to get through difficult times when financial and emotional pressures become overwhelming.

2010 is SSAFA's 125th anniversary of helping our servicemen & women and a national campaign to raise funds is underway. Now, more than ever, SSAFA's caseworkers need your help, so why not come along on Saturday 9th, find out a bit more about what they do, and enjoy a brew and some good home baking with your friends?

Perhaps you would like to support this fundraising event with a contribution for the raffle or an item for the cake stall? - all contributions would be gratefully received. If you can help in this way, please give Brenda Pilgrim a call on 01845 578669.



Front Street Succumbs to Floods Yet again.

Topcliffe's Second Big Raft Race

Once again the landlord of The Swan and his enthusiastic regulars showed themselves to be accomplished raft builders and boatmen (and women) as they fearlessly set forth from Holme-on-Swale, where the swollen river was unusually fast-flowing, and made it all the way to Topcliffe Mill.



Team John and Roy set forth on their Boys' Adventure on board "Pancho's Hostelry."

Again the rafts were all shapes and sizes and it was impossible not to be impressed by the particularly streamlined "Pancho's Hostelry" with its many cans of beer and barbecue on board. It was, in fact, last year's "HMS OAP" renovated, restored and remodelled, and with greatly improved ballast – obviously that was the purpose of the beer. There was a photo finish between three rafts but newly-weds, Chris and Jenny Bumby, were the declared winners.



Jenny is brave and undaunted by the appearance of the fast-flowing river. She and Chris have clearly never seen the film Titanic.

The fundraising continued at The Swan during the evening when an auction raised £500 for charity. Items in the auction were donated by the Crab and Lobster, Wood Hall, Kevin Ryan's stables and Jewson's. It's thought that the final total will be £900 which will be given to Forever Fourth and also to Topcliffe football team.

John and Carrie-Ann would like to thank everyone involved in the event which has already become a Topcliffe tradition.

Topcliffe's First Produce Show

The village hall was transformed recently by a colourful display of fruit, vegetables and art-work, whilst everyone was full of admiration for the vivid and fragrant flower arrangements. Home-made cakes and jars of jam and lemon curd looked delicious whilst the "strangely shaped" vegetables were, of course, predictably saucy. Red onions had been polished to perfection and even the earthy beetroot had been subjected to some energetic scrubbing. Displays were spotless, orderly and artfully arranged. Paintings and cross-stitch samples revealed some impressive artistic talents while the children's competitions confirmed that creativity flourishes at Topcliffe School.



Dave Bowman was the overall winner and Graham Marsden was given special mention for his six First

certificates. £80 was raised for the village hall.

The first produce show was extremely popular and it's hoped that it will continue to flourish in future years.



Judith and Peter Lowe were the instigators with a small team helping with the spadework. It's now hoped that the gardeners of Topcliffe and Asenby will, in future, be cultivating and harvesting to a produce show-driven schedule.

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Free - And New to Topcliffe

Why not visit Topcliffe's new Swap Library every Tuesday afternoon, 3-5pm in the village hall? There are shelves of books, cd's and dvd's to look through and you can help yourself to whatever takes your fancy.

Best of all, there are *no* steely-eyed librarians giving you evil glares if your books are a week overdue, nor would anyone raise a questioning eyebrow if you borrowed a saucy book, of which there are just a few, well, perhaps one or two. And I think someone's already borrowed them. You might have to get your name down.



Three familiar bookworms pretending to read Jane Austen although they obviously all have their eye on the Harold Robbins on the table.

It all happens in the familiar and friendly village hall where you can sit and chat with your neighbours, without being told off for making a noise. Tea and coffee are available for 50p and you don't have to get in the car or catch a bus to get there. Bring your old books, cd's and dvd's and pick up some new ones. The more successful the Book Swap becomes, the better it will be.

Editor's Note: At today's Swap Library I spotted a most varied selection of books. They ranged from the children's Mr Men series to a volume about regaining lost libido the holistic way.

Please keep your trees...

Please keep your trees and bushes trimmed. Branches which overhang footpaths cause both inconvenience and a danger to the public when they have to step into the road to get past.



.....from County Councillor Neville Huxtable

I am sure by now you have heard that North Yorkshire County Council Waste Management Scheme is NOT coming to Dalton. This news will have been greeted with relief. The proposed site is Allerton Quarry, which at present is used as a landfill site for our waste.

Our rubbish has to go somewhere. I always thought Dalton Industrial Estate was the wrong location. How could rubbish have been handled in an area surrounded by 5 food manufacturers? We must not be smug about this because our relief is someone else's concern. However, I am of the opinion that the location and process being considered are the right ones. I know some people have different

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How observant are you?

I realise that our keen-eyed readers will have immediately spotted there are two ads for parish council clerks in this Tattler issue. This is a unique opportunity for someone, as the same person could, as I have, be in charge of both positions. This makes the jobs simpler and less time-consuming. Also, until we actually move away, towards the end of October, I will be here to answer any questions about the jobs.

So don't miss out on this once-in-a lifetime opportunity. Give those phone numbers a ring. They are Garry Key (Topcliffe) at 578900 and Judy Lowe (Asenby) at 577911. Alternatively you could call or email me at 577863 or hook.angela@ymail.com

Angie, current but not for much longer, parish council clerk to Topcliffe and Asenby

Three Cheers for Andy!

The village hall committee is happy to welcome Andy Eckersley as their new chairman. Thanks, Andy.

views, but the information I have been given, so far, leads me to support the County Council's proposal.

On 4th October the bridge over the River Swale at Skipton-on-Swale will be closed to all traffic for 8 weeks. This is for essential maintenance. At the moment I have not been given details of diversions but can only assume that additional traffic will be passing through Topcliffe. I will ensure that inconvenience is kept to a minimum.

This short article refers to County Council business. Please do not forget that I also look after your interest at Hambleton District Council. Please phone 01845 501068 or email Cllr.neville.huxtable@hambleton.gov.uk if you think I may be able to help you. You can use this email address for both County and District matters.

ST. COLUMBA'S Topcliffe

Everyone is very welcome to our new Family Eucharist, which takes place the third Sunday of every month at 10.45a.m. The service usually lasts about 45 minutes and is, we hope, family-friendly and informal. There are delicious refreshments afterwards.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Archbishop of York, John Sentamu will be coming to this group of parishes to take a confirmation service on Sunday 5th June 2011 at 10a.m. If any youngsters or adults are thinking about confirmation and would like to be confirmed by the Archbishop, please let me know (01347 823472). We hope to start classes around the end of next February.

The Archbishop takes only three confirmations a year in the whole Diocese, so we are very happy indeed that he has picked this group of parishes. We haven't yet decided which church will be the venue. I expect it will be the parish with the greatest number of candidates.

Everyone is very welcome to all our services, which are usually at 10.45a.m. most Sundays, apart from Evensong. Please check the magazine, the noticeboards, or ask me or a P.C.C. member about service times. Even better, become a magazine subscriber. It is excellent value.

Rev. Robin Davill

No Camping at the Sheepwash

There have been reports of people camping at the Sheepwash. If you spot cars parked there, please make a note of their number plates and inform the clerk at 577863 or Garry Key at 578900.

Genetically Modified Actors

Tattler readers may have heard the rumour that filming began recently on, what is claimed to be definitely and absolutely *not* a documentary about Thirsk and surrounding areas, but a far-fetched horror film about **inbreds**. The cast and production crew descended on their "location" – ie Skipton-on-Swale, and the casting director began to search for extras. Eventually, some worryingly naïve and aspiring thespians volunteered to work completely out of character and gamely allowed themselves to be splattered with cold coffee, gravy and coca cola all in the name of art.

And this year's BAFTA for best extra goes to.....



It's important that retired people continue to feel valued in the community....

The Topcliffe Educational Foundation

The Topcliffe Educational Foundation is a charity which makes small grants for the purchase of books, to students who have recently left school and are in their first degree course at university or the equivalent. To be eligible, the student must live in the parish of Topcliffe, which is broadly the area covered by the parish as now constituted together with Marton le Moor.

The Charity's income is fixed and limited, therefore the value of any single grant will depend not only on the funds available to distribute but also on the number of successful applications.

Applications are sought in September/October and the Trustees meet in December to approve grants. Students who have received grants in previous years will automatically receive an invitation to apply for 2010.

Anyone seeking further information, wishing to apply or questioning their eligibility to apply should ring Geoff Hall on 01845 578324.

Tattler contacted by overseas reader

Hello,

I read with sadness about the death of Fred Tye. When he was headmaster at the Wilmslow County Grammar School, I was an exchange student to that school sponsored by Rotary International.

I had the pleasure of my first sailing experience with Mr. Tye and his family. As I have no way of contacting his daughters, it is my hope that you will convey to them my most sincere sympathies at his passing. Also, I would like them to know how fondly I have looked back at that school experience, now some 45 years past, a large part of my happiness attributable to their father.

Best regards,

Kathryn L. Leinthal,
Interlaken, New York

Editor's note: In an attempt to contact Fred Tye's family, the writer of this letter had typed his name into Google. She immediately spotted his daughter's autumn 2009 Tattler article about her father and his sad death, and emailed this letter to us. If anyone is still in contact with Fred's daughters, could they please pass Kathryn's kind words on to them?

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on the playing fields
in Asenby and Topcliffe!



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Keep up to date with Parish information, meeting minutes, a colour version of The TAttler and all the pictures of Topcliffe and the surrounding area.

Through Austerity and Beyond

Everyone will have heard of the impending cuts to public spending. North Yorkshire has lost £11 million from this year's budget, forcing some very difficult service provision decisions. Councils have been instructed to freeze council tax for two years and council staff pay has also been frozen for two years for all but the lowest salaries. So what will this mean for local Government? Put simply, there will not be the funding available for local projects on anything like the previous scale. There may be *some* money but there will have to be an urgent specific need and a robust business case made. In short, if we want something, we will have to look to raising sums through the precept, as this has not been capped. I suspect that NYCC and HDC might try pass on other duties and costs to the parishes. Next winter there will probably be less road clearing and residents will have to look to themselves to keep roadways and paths free. You will not be sued for clearing a path.

As a Parish Council, we have done a lot in the last 12 months: revamped the lawn mowers, provided the new Play Park and acquired the sportacabin; all of which we timed right. All these contributed to village amenity and reduced maintenance cost. Through careful financial management the council precept has remained the same for three years, whilst insurance premiums continue to increase above inflation, as do subscriptions to advisory bodies. The council will endeavour to manage the limited funds available through carefully targeted spend on necessary maintenance.

Next year elections will be held for the Parish Council. Please consider standing for one of the five seats. The job needs to be done; it is not onerous nor too time consuming and can be very rewarding. This council has a well earned reputation with NYCC and HDC, does have influence and can contribute to future policy. The council routinely meets once a month for usually less than two hours. If we get more than 5 nominations that is good, but I think that it is time I stood down from the post of chairman, which it has been a privilege to hold for the past 10 years, and maybe for the council to make way for fresh thinking. If anyone wishes to find out more about being a councillor, please feel free to call me or speak to one of the other members.

Finally, our parish clerk is moving away. On behalf of the council and residents, I would like to say a special thanks for her hard work, diligence and humorous approach; she'll be missed but we wish her the very best for the future.

Garry Key, Topcliffe Parish Council Chairman

Date for the diary...

A Nearly New Sale of baby and children's clothing and toys will be held on Saturday 16th October 2010, at Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall from 1pm to 3pm. This will be a fundraising event for Topcliffe Pre-School Playgroup, please see the poster on the notice board for further details.

Mindless Morons Destroy Topcliffe's Park Benches

Three of Topcliffe's new park benches have been smashed up by unknown vandals. The benches cost the village's taxpayers £300 and will not be replaced. Hopefully the wood can be used to build stocks, so save your old tomatoes and they can be used to pelt the culprits when they are caught.

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Ace of Spades

I'm going to rent
an allotment,
Have a go at growing my own
Cos five a day,
Is what they say,
So I'll hurry and get me
seeds sown.

We're all good friends at
the allotment,
Doing something to keep
us all fed.

We gather together,
Whatever the weather,
When it rains, congregate
In the shed.

I'm cycling up to me allotment
Cause I'm worried about
me spuds.
There's no sign of them,
Not a shoot or a stem,
On account of the rain and
The floods.

I'm driving round to
Me allotment.
Cause the sun has come out –
Full blast.
I've done all me sowing
And me seeds are a-growing
And the spuds, they are
Sprouting fast.

Time to plant peas, carrots
And spinach,
Put up me wigwams for beans,
Tomatoes and beet
Are bound to taste sweet,
Along with the sprouts and
The greens.

I go to me plot every day now
With me sandwiches, fags and
A flask,
And I sit on me seat
In the sunshine and heat.
What more could any
Man ask?

Now something is not as it
Should be,
Cabbages, lace-like
With holes,
I've got carrot-fly
And the soil is so dry,
And me plot's been attacked
By moles!

I've got pest galore on
My produce,
Black and greenfly, snails
And slugs.
Pigeons eat seedlings
Ignoring the weedlings,
My hard work's been
Demolished by bugs.

I've given up on the allotment,
Had enough of all the wildlife.
So to Tesco I'm going
To see what they're growing
And I'll tell a white lie to
The wife.

J. Fludder, Byfleet, Surrey.

Ironing Service



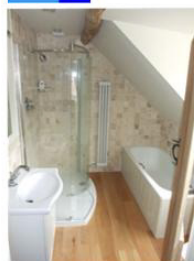
Fed up of trying to get the ironing done on top of
everything else? Then, let me do it for you.

For a charge of £10.00 an hour, your ironing will be
done in a clean working environment, which is my
home and will be done to a high standard.

Please call Tina on
01845 578402 or 07538 303991

Thanks...

The Tattler staff would like to thank the
management of The Swan, John and Carrie-Anne,
for their kind donation of £44, which was raised at
the Playpark Open Day bar.



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These cakes don't just look good....

At Topcliffe's recent thirtieth birthday party, a stall selling the most gorgeous sparkly cupcakes ever seen, was tempting tummy-rumbling customers to forsake pre-holiday diets. Nicola Knowles has recently begun a new enterprise, appropriately called Vanilla Pod, which specialises in "bespoke homemade cupcakes and cakes".



Nicola will bake for all occasions from afternoon tea to weddings, corporate events or birthday parties. As an alternative gift she can also provide personalised gift boxes containing a special message.

Call or email for more information on 01845 587785 or 07979050823.

Email vanillapodbakery@yahoo.co.uk. There is also a website: www.thevanillapodbakery.co.uk.

Thanks From Our Local Police Officers

PCSO Nigel Warby and PC Marie Scott would like to thank all of those who turned out in the heavy rain on 20th July to meet them on the Mobile Police Office at Topcliffe.

A number of bikes were security marked and residents had the opportunity to discuss the issues that affect their villages.

A big thank you is sent to The Angel Inn's owners, who allowed the police officers to use their car park for the event.

Snooker Club

We are still looking for members, new and old. Members must be at least 18 years of age.

Due to increasing costs, membership may have to be raised from its current price of £15 per year.

Membership is due to be paid on September 1st,



A Dog-Free Zone

There have been complaints about dogs being taken onto the playing field where they are definitely not allowed. The reason is obvious. This is an area specifically for small children and not everyone is particular about picking up dog mess. Also, it's unfair to let large dogs roam in a play area where children should feel especially safe.

There are other good dog walks in the vicinity. Please stick to them.

Football Season Kicks Off – already!!!

Yes, already the new football season has kicked off. It doesn't seem ten minutes since we were suffering the usual World Cup humiliation but this time it's personal. There are no histrionics, no tantrums and no huge salaries. We have a new manager in Paul Bumby, not only English but from this very village, and also a new sponsor, Simon Mosley, who has generously donated a new strip.

So, no more lying in bed of a Sunday morning. Get wrapped up and make your way down to the playing field to cheer on the lads.

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