



## A Touch of Auld Lang Syne at The Angel, Topcliffe

To say that people had travelled from far and wide to take part in the Topcliffe and Asenby reunion was an understatement. Some had come from Lincolnshire and Newcastle as well as other parts of the country, while one man, who had particularly been looking forward to catching up with old friends, had flown over from Victoria, Australia.



*Richard Chapman (organiser), Bernard Yeadon, Geoff Lamb.*

*Front: Margaret Yeadon and Margery Collinson.*

This very nostalgic reunion consisted of residents of Topcliffe and Asenby from the 1950's onwards. Familiar, but not forgotten faces, ex-playmates, ex-sweethearts, and much laughter summed up the theme for the long afternoon. A few people still lived in the two villages while some hadn't been back for years. Some couples were made up of husbands and wives who had been at Topcliffe



*Getting re-acquainted are from the left: Marion Hoyle, Peter Hardy, Keith Hardy and (from Australia) John Chapman.*

School together, while others consisted of local women who had married airmen from Topcliffe Airfield. John Chapman, who had lived in Australia since the 1960's, was staying with his brother Richard, the reunion organiser, in York.



*From the left back: Chris and Rose Burns.*

*Front: Stanley Collinson, Alan Bowen and Mary Burns.*

There have been smaller reunions in the past and there was talk of more in the future, but this was the one that they felt was particularly significant and poignant, as up to forty people attended, some in their eighties. They agreed that there had been some changes in Topcliffe, but their memories of childhood must have been precious and happy to prompt this very successful coming-together of old friends.

## Senior Citizens

The Senior Citizens had an active and topical afternoon recently when they held a Mini-Olympics. They played Scribble, Connect and other board games where they all had to move on after each activity. So, lots of physical and mental action. If you would like to join Senior Citizens, ring Linda Nuttall on 577315.

## Good Neighbours

If you know that your neighbours are away or on holiday, please be a good neighbour and regularly check and keep an eye on their property. If you see or hear anything suspicious, please contact the police on 999 if the incident is taking place at that time. Alternatively, dial the non-emergency number - 101.

## Historic election - and you can play a part

Historic elections being held on 15 November will see, for the first time, one single directly elected individual being made responsible for policing in North Yorkshire.

The government states it is bringing in the post of Police and Crime Commissioner to improve democratic accountability of the police service and to be the voice of the people for policing and community safety. The elected Commissioner will be charged with holding the Chief Constable to account and ensuring that there is an efficient and effective police force for North Yorkshire. It is, therefore, a role with enormous responsibility and importance to all Topcliffe residents.

Details of the candidates seeking to be elected are available on the North Yorkshire Police Authority website - [www.nypa.org.uk](http://www.nypa.org.uk) - and will also be posted to all households prior to election day.

As part of the process of launching a Police and Crime Commissioner system, local Police Authorities will be abolished on 22 November.

There will be a new Police and Crime Panel created to scrutinise the activities of the Police and Crime Commissioner. This panel, which will comprise of councillors from each of the local authorities in North Yorkshire, plus two "co-opted" members, will be able to review the police and crime plan and annual report, veto decisions, request PCC papers and call PCCs and chief constables to public hearings.

The only way to ensure that the candidate who best represents your views on policing, community safety and criminal justice is the person elected, is to vote in the elections on 15 November.



## Snooker News

The new season is about to start for snooker players and sadly the annual fee has risen to £20. Sounds like bad news but, compared to a gym that you join and go to about three times, it's as cheap as chips. If you're interested in joining this good value club, ring Dave Bowman on 577843.







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## Village Hall Information

The Art Class with Mike Dobson will restart on October 1st, 1-3pm. It costs £6 per session payable at the beginning of term. Please contact Linda Nuttall on 577315 if you wish to join.

Tai Chi is discontinued, for the time being, as it hasn't been possible to arrange a suitable day.

## Barbara Boddy

There was a lot of sadness in Dalton, Asenby and Topcliffe following the recent death of Barbara Boddy. She had been the driving force behind a great number of events within St John's Church, the WI and Dalton for years. Her ability to gather support for fundraising activities was marvellous and she worked tirelessly in the interests of those causes she held close to her heart. She will be dearly missed by very many people: she was surely a lady who played a part in many lives. God bless her family in this difficult time.

## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Topcliffe	Asenby
<b>Garry Key (Chairman)</b> Cliff House, Long St. 578900	<b>Peter Palmer (Chairman)</b> Hilltop Farm 578057
<b>David Bowman (Vice Chair)</b> 21 East Lea 577843	<b>Judy Lowe (Vice Chair)</b> Green End Dairy 577911
<b>Lynn Heidstrom</b> 32 East Lea 577437	<b>Mel Arkley</b> Thistledhu, 7 Jamesville Way 578728
<b>Mark Bowen</b> 23 Manor Close 07703 040471	<b>Grahame Marsden</b> 8 Jamesville Way 578156
<b>Amanda Jameson-Allen</b> 77 Long St 07594 225254	<b>Jacqueline Naylor</b> Hayloft House 577059

**Isobel Peters (Clerk)**

Tel: 07739 258650 [isobelpeters@googlemail.com](mailto:isobelpeters@googlemail.com)



## Deer Shed Festival

With all the recent media coverage, you could be forgiven for thinking that The Jet Stream is an up and coming band. Fortunately for everyone at the Deer Shed Festival, the party pooper of summer 2012 finally got its act together and jetted off to ruin someone else's weekend. By Friday evening, Topcliffe was bathed in glorious sunshine and Baldersby Park was once again shaping up to be the perfect location for a weekend's entertainment.



The Deer Shed is not your average festival. It's more wholesome and imaginative than any of its competitors. Upon entering the site, you are immediately greeted by hula hoops, space hoppers and swingball sets as far as the eye can see.

For three whole days, bored and irritable children are no more. Families are at peace. Whether making sock monsters, designing cardboard guitars, taking part in circus workshops or learning how to play the drums - the younger generations are kept busy. Fortunately, there's also plenty to satisfy the grown-ups. This year's musical highlights



included Field Music, Cherry Ghost and the headliners Villagers.

Since its inception three years ago, the Deer Shed has drawn rave reviews from the Guardian, the York Press and the Evening Gazette - to name but a few. It was also shortlisted in the Best Family Festival category at the 2011 UK Festival Awards. It's been a while since Topcliffe made the headlines. The Percy family moved out more than 500 years ago, and aside from posting the occasional nithering temperature, not a great deal has happened.

So let's celebrate Topcliffe being back on the map by embracing what is fast becoming one of the best festivals in England.

*Karen Faughey*

## A Lovely Village Wedding

There was a splendid crowd of spectators at the recent wedding of Will and Kirstie Lowe. The sun remembered to shine, the general mood was very merry and, yes, in some quarters even the wine flowed. Sitting on the Trollopes' wall watching a betrothed couple enter the church and emerge forty minutes later as man and wife, was generally considered to be a far better way of spending a Saturday afternoon than cruising round Tesco's.



Kirstie and Will both looked stunning - full marks for the gorgeous bridal gown - and families and friends were appropriately happy. The couple departed in a pony and trap to Judith and Peter Lowe's house in Asenby where a fine marquee had been erected in the garden.

So, what we need in Topcliffe are a few more weddings to encourage the feeling of community and bonhomie, and perhaps Jen and John Trollope would consider serving champagne and canapés for onlookers.

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## Pilates at the Village Hall

I know, it makes you tired just reading about it:

Monday 9-9.30am  
KETTLE BELL PILATES

An energetic half hour class, which combines cardiovascular workout and toning exercises.

Monday 9.30-10.30am  
MAT PILATES

An hour of classic Pilates work. Core strength work and stretching.

Tuesday 9-9.30am  
KETTLE BELL PILATES

As above.

Tuesday 9.30-10.30am  
BALL PILATES CLASS

An hour class using gym balls. Toning exercises which help strengthen the core, improve balance and co-ordination.

Thursday 10.15-11.15am  
MIXED EQUIPMENT PILATES CLASS

An hour class using various equipment such as stretch bands, weighted balls to give a varied workout. Classes led by Certified Pilates Instructor and Sport Therapist. Please ring Nicole on 07887 581364 for more information or to book a place.

## Yoga in Topcliffe

Yoga Classes continue to run successfully at Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall on Monday evenings from 7.15 to 8.45 with September 10th being the first class after the summer break, marking the start of a seventh year of Yoga at Topcliffe. Class is well attended with membership between beginner to intermediate level, and everyone is welcome. Anyone interested should call Barry Walmsley (British Wheel of Yoga Teaching Diploma) on 01845 577976, or e-mail walmsley.barry@btinternet.com



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## THINKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?

DO YOU HAVE AN HOUR OR MORE A WEEK  
TO HELP?

Do you like meeting people?

The British Red Cross, health and social care team, based at the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton are looking for volunteers for their "Home from Hospital" scheme.

What is the Home from Hospital scheme?

It is providing practical support after someone returns home following a period in hospital or residential care, or after a serious illness or onset of disability. (For example, we can provide help with shopping or collection of a prescription.) Our staff and volunteers will work with the service user, normally for up to 6 weeks. We will help them maximise their long-term independence and minimise their need for on-going care. Early intervention and support of this type can prevent vulnerable people developing complex, long-term support needs and enables them to live at home.

Who volunteers to become a Home from Hospital volunteer?

Volunteers with Red Cross Home from Hospital currently range in age from 34 to 78 years old. They come from all walks of life. What they have in common is a willingness to make a difference to someone's life when in a time of need. They give an hour or two of their time to help isolated, vulnerable people.

How can you get involved?

Please call Paula Morris scheme co-ordinator  
01609 764646 for a chat or E-mail:  
Paula.Morris@stees.nhs.uk

Full training, equipment and uniform are provided.  
Out of pocket expenses are reimbursed.



## Produce Show

Topcliffe's third Produce Show, while not as busy as last year's, still produced a yield of fine fruit, vegetables and flowers as well as an impressive display of artwork.



There were a few entries from the children with Tristan Port creating a wonderful model tortoise which consisted of a cabbage encrusted with sliced courgettes. Unlikely but true! Frances Ventress baked some very delicious jam tarts which deservedly won a first prize.



Carole Ford took the photography prize this year with an emotive image of her beautiful granddaughter looking sad. Carole had appropriately named it "Teardrop." Kim Hughes won a first with her dinky little homemade mouse, though in a household with five cats, it may not stay in pristine condition for long. Mr Redman from the caravan park took first and second prize for his paintings of Thirsk and the Crab and Lobster.



*Doug Allan, with an excellent display of sportsmanship, presenting Grahame Marsden with the Winner's Cup.*

A special mention for the extremely delicious baking section. Sadly the pretty tarte au tatin apparently suffered from a soggy bottom. The Victoria sponges looked as if they could float out of the window and the jars of lemon curd were definitely mouthwatering. A scrumptious toffee cake was oddly considered to be a pudding and there was a jar of jam which had perversely developed a layer of mould. But it's homemade - you don't get that in Morrison's.

The fruit and vegetables classes were won by various keen gardeners - Doug Allan, Dave Bowman and others but, yet again, Graham Marsden won first prize.

Congratulations to everyone!

[www.Topcliffe.net](http://www.Topcliffe.net)

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.

### By Appointment Only

As of 1st November 2012, Topcliffe Surgery will no longer be offering a walk-in surgery service. Patients will need to book an appointment in order to be seen. We have come to this decision after a great deal of thought and consideration, and a recent meeting with our patient representative group. The minutes of this meeting and other background information behind the planned changes are available on the website [www.topcliffesurgery.co.uk](http://www.topcliffesurgery.co.uk). We hope that this change in the service will mean that patients are more able to see a doctor of their choosing and will not have to wait a long time in the waiting room to be seen. Thank you for your participation in these changes. Please feel free to voice any concerns or worries to the surgery team.

*Topcliffe Surgery Team*

## French from home!

Are you keen to progress from Beginner's level French and work in a small group of adults?

This class offers lessons where the objectives are educational, informative, progressive and frequently humorous! The current students are now at Intermediate level and are au fait with the Past, Present and Future tenses (although we do revisit key features of language as necessary!)

We use "Access French" Books 1 & 2, which is a well structured course book with audio material and with a refreshing, modern introduction to the language, culture and people. It is designed for adults of all ages. In addition we use a wide range of extension materials which improve and develop oral, listening, reading and writing skills.

The next series of lessons begins on Tuesday 18 September at 7.30pm. at Asenby Hall, Asenby.

Cost: £10 per session (1.5 hours)

Teacher: Clare Phillips (recently retired Head of Modern Languages, Queen Mary's School)

Please do contact me for any enquiries.

Tel: 01845 577034 E mail: [info@asenbyhall.com](mailto:info@asenbyhall.com)

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## Topcliffe Parish Council News

Traffic issues in Topcliffe. There have been a number of complaints made by parents to the head teacher about speeding vehicles passing the school, especially during entrance and home times. The Parish Council has requested NYCC for data strips to be placed across the road to determine if the speeding is fact or perception. We have also requested mobile Matrix signs from the Fire and Rescue Service to be located on the road to the north of the school to notify drivers of their speed. In the meantime, signage has been put up requesting that parents park on the road and not on the path or verges, as this creates a temporary chicane. If speeding is found, the NY Police will be notified.

On the subject of parking, can people please desist from driving over the sports field and limit any car parking to the north end of the field, by the entrance only? If the ground is wet, please do not drive onto the field, as it cuts up really badly and ruts have to be rolled flat. We have had a couple of incidents recently that required ruts to be filled in and rolled before the sports pitch could be used for league games. It is one of the best pitches in the area, so please help look after it.

*Garry Key (Topcliffe Parish Council Chairman)*

## Cash Machine Advice

Following a spate of incidents across North Yorkshire, police are warning members of the public to be extra vigilant when using cash machines.

The latest warning comes after a camera and card skimming device were recovered from a cash machine at a Post Office in Scarborough...but it has also happened at other locations in recent months.

Now the police have repeated their advice to customers when using cash machines. A spokesman said: "The most important thing is to cover your hand while you are typing in your pin number. Without your pin, thieves have limited opportunity to use the card."

Thieves use very sophisticated technology and the devices are often very difficult to spot. The devices are often made to fit in with the colour and design of the machine they are attached to. They consist of a card-reader which is placed over the card slot which records your card's details and a tiny pin-hole camera which records your pin number as you type it in.

In some cases a cover is placed over the keypad which can also record your pin number. The camera is usually stored in a strip of metal or plastic which looks like trim and is often coloured to match the machine. The camera lens is almost invisible.

If you ever have any suspicions about a machine you should report them to the police and representatives in the premises in which the machine is based. Don't under any circumstances try to remove the device yourself as the offenders may still be in the area watching the machine.

The spokesman added: "Always check to see if anything looks unusual or suspicious about the cash machine. If it appears to have anything stuck onto the card slot or keypad, do not use it. Cancel any transaction started and walk away.

"Be cautious if strangers offer to help you at a cash machine, even if your card is stuck or you are having difficulties. Don't allow anyone to distract you. Where possible use a cash machine which is in clear view and well lit. Check that other people in the queue are a reasonable distance away from you. Avoid opening your purse, bag or wallet when you are in the queue and put your money away immediately the transaction is complete."

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## Senior Citizens

Sorry, but no photos for the Senior Citizens' outing as no-one took a camera!! We all had a great time out in Masham, where we had a delicious fish and chip lunch at newly-opened Harry's Fish and Chip shop. Andrew Loveridge, from Catton, decided to buy another fish and chip shop after running one very successfully in Harrogate over the past few years. He called it Harry's, after his grandad. After a very filling lunch, we all moved on to the Ice Cream Parlour at Jervaulx and chose luscious ice creams for pudding!!!! It was a lovely day out and it was nice to see some old friends and the regular members enjoying the afternoon. Everyone said they are looking forward to the next trip!! We were lucky with the weather too. The Senior Citizens Club is held on the first Tuesday afternoon in the month from 2.00pm until around 4.00pm. We are aiming at providing a varied programme for the meetings over the next year and would welcome suggestions from members. Everyone in Topcliffe and Asenby and visitors are welcome to come along and enjoy a cup of tea and cake in friendly surroundings!! Not what the dietician ordered but great for a treat once in a while!!!!

*Judith Lowe*

## Saying Farewell

There is nothing more evocative than listening to the voices of singing children especially knowing that, on this occasion, it marks the end of a very significant era in their young lives. The Leaving Service at St Columba's, Church, Topcliffe was the setting for a very emotional celebration which marked Year 6 children's progression to secondary school. As soon as the hymn "One More Step Along the World I Go" began, parents and carers and some children began to shed a few tears, but listening to the youngsters read out their memories and place them in a box brought about much laughter.

Mrs Sheila Bird had even more reason to feel somewhat emotional as she was leaving the school after working there for twenty eight years as a teaching assistant. She has helped generations through their early learning years and been a good friend to many parents and teachers. She will be greatly missed by everyone, although she has stated emphatically that she will be back in September as a volunteer helper! She was presented with a comical and accurate goodbye card as well as many presents.

Awards were given to high achieving and hard working children as well as a souvenir gift for everyone in Year 6. Mrs Shepherd, the headteacher, mentioned each child by name and personality, making it clear that each and every one of them was valued.



## Au Revoir not Adieu

As many people will know, the Rev Robin Davill has been ill for some months and now he is leaving the Benefice. The congregations of Topcliffe, Dalton and Dishforth are very disappointed that he will be unable to return to their respective churches but are relieved for his sake that he has finally been offered early retirement. We all wish him the very best and hope and pray that his operation is a success. In the Parish Newsletter he did mention that he hopes to do some chaplaincy work at Queen Mary's School in the New Year, so hopefully we shall be seeing him in the not too distant future.



## 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.



### Zeke Deighton's "Country Life"

#### *A Country Childhood in Words and Songs*

"Country Life" is a glimpse into my life, growing up in a small Yorkshire village in the 1940s, 50s and 60s; a way of life that had hardly changed over centuries. A farming village, without television and few cars, where much of the farm work was done by horses, and the pace of life was the same as theirs. I illustrate this with songs, readings and anecdotes; choruses and humour abound.



I have been singing traditional songs, unaccompanied and with guitar, since the mid-1960s, performing at many clubs throughout the country. Recent solo work includes Otley Festival 2010,11; Otley Folk Club, guest and resident, Pateley Bridge Music Club, Bainbridge Feast, Ingleton Festival, Richmond Folk Club.



Zeke Deighton will be performing memories of his "Country Life" at the village hall on Saturday November 17 at 7.30. Admission is £5 and tickets are available from Linda Nuttall on 577315 or Judith Lowe on 577911.

**Just a reminder that dogs are NOT allowed on the playing fields in Asenby and Topcliffe!**



### Snooker Club

We are still looking for members, new and old.

Members must be at least 18 years of age.

Membership is due to be paid on September 1st.



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### 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 2012.

### Local Telephone Numbers & Websites

**Topcliffe Surgery - 577297**

[www.topcliffesurgery.co.uk](http://www.topcliffesurgery.co.uk)

**Friarage Hospital - 01609 779911**

[www.southtees.nhs.uk](http://www.southtees.nhs.uk)

**Gas Emergencies - 0800 111 999**

[www.nationalgrid.com/uk](http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk)

**Police - 101 Textphone 18001 101**

[www.northyorkshire.police.uk](http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk)

**Hambleton DC - 01609 779977**

[www.hambleton.gov.uk](http://www.hambleton.gov.uk)

**Harrogate BC - 01423 568954**

[www.harrogate.gov.uk](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk)

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