

### The Bride and Groom

Romance was considered to be alive and well in Topcliffe when Malcolm Morley, and Karen Thomis married on September 1 in St Columba' Church.



Karen moved here two years ago and she and Malcolm became close friends while trudging across the muddy fields with their three labradors, Harry, Mavis and Buster. The neighbours were the first to suss that there was more going on than canine companionship and, of course, everyone was thrilled.

Karen was originally from Halifax, later moving to Lossiemouth in Scotland where she lived with her first husband and two daughters, Victoria and Nicola. When her husband sadly died, Karen and Victoria moved to North Yorkshire to be near Nicola who was living in York. As everyone knows, Karen has become very involved in the village. She always volunteers to serve afternoon teas, having already baked a great deal of confectionery for the event at home.

Malcolm was born in Leeds and, though he grew up in Topcliffe, he moved to Dringhouses to work for the NE

Electricity Board as an electrical engineer. In 1976/77 he moved back to the village where his parents and sister Linda lived, and became a car mechanic. A very successful and competent one! In the past, Malcolm enjoyed scuba diving, hill walking and abseiling. Now, however, he has settled for a life of dog walking and domestic bliss. He and Karen join in the weekly pub quiz at The Angel and the pair, along with Dave Bowman, usually manage to win. Victoria is living with her mum and new stepfather in Malcolm' house – now a family home!

The church was packed for the wedding and the Rev' Susanne Jukes ensured that the service was relaxed and personal. Local dogwalkers had scrubbed up well, wearing dresses and suits instead of their usual fleeces and jeans. Victoria and Nicola were bridesmaids and Malcolm' close friend, Steve Halliday, was the best man.

Later the bride and groom, along with their guests, walked to the village hall for a delicious buffet, speeches and general socialising while the evening was filled with more food, partying and dancing the night away. For book lovers, the romance and wedding were like an up-to-date Thomas Hardy story. Karen and Malcolm certainly deserve to live happily ever after.

*Vicki Moores*

### Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall Free Art Cafe

There is a free Art Cafe for older people being held on Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October at 1:30pm until 3:30pm in the village hall. Everyone is welcome and there will be a wide range of activities. To find out more ring Judith Lowe on 577911. These meetings will be once a month over the winter months.

### Boccia Club

I would like to make everyone who receives this newsletter aware of the Boccia Club that meets every Tuesday afternoon between 1.30 and 3.30pm in the village hall. This club is open to all ages and abilities and aims to give simple exercise as well as providing an entertaining afternoon with a cup of tea and cake.

Come along and try your hand at the game and meet the regular players. Hope to see you there for an afternoon of fun.

*Judith Lowe*

## Produce Show A Great Success

This year's Produce Show was probably the best ever! Best in terms of the entries submitted and best in terms of the number of residents taking part and visiting the show.

It's much easier to report the event in pictures, so here's a few photographs to sum up the day.

1.



2.



1. In the horticultural section, Dave Bowman (left) won the overall winner' trophy and Peter Brown (right) became the first holder of the rose bowl presented for the most 'firsts' in the show. They are pictured with judge Grahame Marsden who said: "the show continues to go from strength to strength, with some fabulous produce on display and more locals taking part."

2. The exhibits are ready for public viewing.

3.



4.



3. Wonderful colour and imaginative floral arrangements.

4. Annabel and Florence Bumby with their winners' certificates

**Dairy Date:** the 2019 Topcliffe & Asenby Produce Show will be held on Saturday, 31 August.

## Topcliffe Seal Dies After Capture

Readers will recall the story in the last edition of the Tatter about the seal that visited our stretch of river...and decided to stay!



*The seal is spotted enjoying the sun,  
photo by Karen Hargrave*

It arrived in April after heavy rain and flood conditions on local rivers. It attracted much attention from locals and the media...even getting a mention in an Australian newspaper, apparently. Well, the story came to a sad end in August when, after being captured at Topcliffe Weir, the

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seal died whilst being transferred to a water tank for transportation back to the sea.

The British Divers Marine Life Rescue organisation, which had been leading the effort to capture the seal, issued the following statement (we have slightly shortened the statement to fit our pages).

"Over the last four months, British Divers Marine Life Rescue has been working in closely with the Angling Trust, Environment Agency, Marine Management Organisation, Natural England, York Rescue Boat and local police officers to capture an adult common seal that had become confined to a section of the River Swale near Topcliffe. It was thought the animal initially arrived here after severe flooding in the area earlier this year while swimming up the River Humber, and once the floodwaters receded had been unable to find its way back out to sea again.

Several attempts were made to capture the seal by our volunteer team with, with specialist equipment such as a large funnel net being constructed especially for the task. As a typically cautious wild animal, the seal managed to evade capture on these occasions, either by dodging the equipment or hiding in areas that were difficult to access and work in safely.

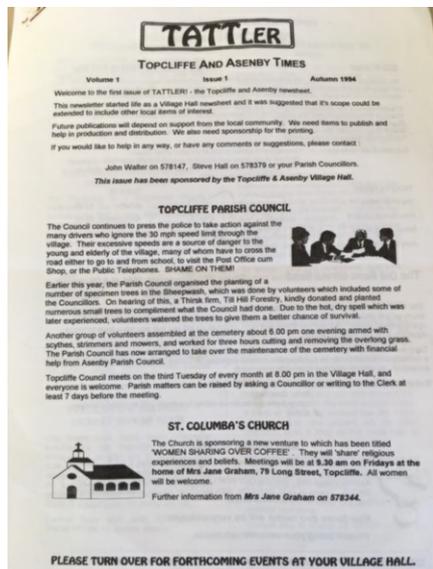
However, early on the morning of Friday 10 August, the team managed to corner the seal at Topcliffe Weir and were able to capture it in the net. It was brought ashore and was in the process of being transferred to a transport crate when it suddenly stopped breathing without warning. Despite resuscitation attempts being made, the seal sadly could not be revived.

Everyone involved is devastated by the outcome and is deeply affected by the events that transpired. A post mortem examination will be held to investigate further what may have caused this to happen, though it has been noted already by veterinary experts that the animal appeared to be underweight for its size, which could have been a contributing factor.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to those organisations, particularly the Angling Trust, but also the many local residents and fishermen who were looking out for this animal, providing information and offering assistance to us, throughout this complex incident. We have all learned a lot from the experience that we can take forward with similar incidents elsewhere in the country for the future."

## Our 25<sup>th</sup> Year

As this is the twenty fifth year in which The Tattler has been produced, it's interesting to look back at the first edition produced in 1994. Our picture shows the front page of that initial newsletter and it's easy to see how the design and presentation has moved on over the years. As computers were a new development at that time it's not surprising that issue one was so basic.



The origins of our quarterly newsletter are quite interesting too! Sometime before the Autumn of 1994 an information sheet about the new extension at the rear of the village hall was prepared and circulated to all residents of our two villages. That led eventually to the idea of a regular newsletter and John Walter, who died many years ago,

edited the first edition. Steve and Liz Hall of Asenby, who had just bought their first PC, were drafted in to tackle the layout and add clip-art images here and there! That first edition was sponsored by Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall.

It's fascinating to read through the four pages of the newsletter and to see what was grabbing the attention of the Editor and villagers at that time. Of course, the Parish Council was prominently covered with appeals for drivers to slow down as they drive through Topcliffe, work parties being put together to plant trees at the Sheepwash and to tidy up the overgrown cemetery on Whin Lane.

The village hall was busy publicising events such as the visit by Sid Kipper, a performer of songs, piano and storytelling. Then there was a concert at which The Old Rope String Band performed their wide-ranging repertoire of folk music, mime, comedy and tricks! The publicity suggested "you've never seen or heard anything quit like this trio before. They are funny, do tricks, run around and make people laugh out loud!"

It was also interesting to see some village stalwarts were as active in 1994 as they are today. Judith Lowe gets a mention and David Bowman was running quizzes in the village hall, was involved with the football club and also managing the snooker club! It's a great tribute to those who were involved in the first edition that The Tattler is still going strong after so many years. A big thank you is due to them and to everyone who has worked so hard since then to ensure the news gets through. Long may it last!

*Doug Allan  
Editorial team*

## The Swan At Topcliffe

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Doug Allan (578526) or from Judith Lowe  
(577911)**

**Bring your own drinks!**

**Under Starters Orders For  
Another Race Night**

Those who attended the first Topcliffe & Asenby horse racing night last April know that the event proved to be a big winner. Not only did around 100 people attend...but the night also raised a massive £1,800 for village hall funds.

Well now, due to popular demand, it's been agreed that another race night will be staged on Saturday 6 April 2019.

Organiser Doug Allan is already looking for sponsors for various parts of the event, with local businesses being asked to sponsor the eight races at £25 each. Individuals can also get involved by becoming owners and naming their own horse. There'll be 64 horses and they'll be sold at £5 each on a first come, first served basis.

Doug said: "We had a brilliant night at our first race night and punters made it clear they would like another event in 2019. I'm sure local businesses will again support the event and I suspect there'll be a clamour to name individual horses in each race."

It's never too early to start, so contact Doug on 578526 if you want to register as an owner and name your own horse.

**Village Hall Events**

Monday Morning	Pilates 9am-12am	N. Brule Walker 07887 581364
Monday Afternoon	Art Class 12am-5pm	
Monday Evening	Yoga 7pm-11.30pm	B. Walmsley 577976
Tuesday Afternoon	Boccia/Tues Club 12am-5pm	J. Lowe 577911
Tuesday Afternoon	Book Exchange 12am-5pm	L. Nuttall 577315
Tuesday Evening	Footloose Dance	E. Jakeman 07912 147386
Wednesday Morning	Daisychain 9am-12am	N. Fox 577739
Wednesday Afternoon	Hatha Yoga 12am-5pm	Yvonne Lovatt 07944 435718 Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> Onwards
Wednesday Evening	Beavers & Cubs 5pm-7pm	
Thursday Morning	Pilates 9am-12am	
Thursday Afternoon	Brownies 5pm-7pm	K. Roberts 577177
Thursday Evening	Indoor Carpet Bowls 7pm-11.30pm	D. Arkley 578728
Friday Evening	Scouts 7pm-11.30pm	Dave Baker 07983 033 833

## News From Elm Tree

It's been a wonderful summer but already, there's a feel of Autumn in the air with winter waiting in the wings behind. Believe it or not, August saw several people doing their Christmas shopping in the gallery already! I'm afraid we're not so organised with our own Christmas shopping, but we're more than happy to encourage others to buy for Christmas!

We will be starting our late night shopping evenings from Wednesday the 17th of October and as in previous years, we'll have the odd glass of wine and nibbles available to anyone who wants to come and browse our range of art and unique gifts. We also sell gift vouchers for the gallery which need to be ordered in advance and can be used to buy anything in the gallery. If you know someone who likes our gallery, a voucher could make a perfect gift.

Many of you will know that Dave has recently completed a painting of Topcliffe. We're pleased to say that prints and cards of it are selling well and the original painting is on display in the gallery. We hope to paint other local scenes in future to add to our wide range of art.

Wishing you all a happy and relaxing Autumn and if you need a new log basket, we sell them here!

Liz and Dave

01845 577316 [lizanddave@the-elm-gallery.co.uk](mailto:lizanddave@the-elm-gallery.co.uk)

## Sheep Wash Saved

Some of you may not be aware but a large chunk of sawn off tree from upstream had lodged itself just in front of the sheep wash seats. This was then compounded by a larger tree from the river bank which had fallen across the whole lot.



As a result, this meant that the sheep wash was "unfishable" for parish residents, to say nothing of an unsightly view which was clearly going to get worse as more upstream rubbish accumulated as the year rolls on.

So, George of the Swan and his two trusty helpers (Chris and Kewell) set about clearing up the whole mess. The pictures don't quite sum up their efforts but do give a feeling of the effort involved. And all done without charge, just for the good of the Parish.



Roy Beckwith

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THU - 10 TO 5.30  
FRI - 10 TO 5.30  
SAT - 10 TO 5.30  
SUN - 12 TO 5.30



### CONTACT DETAILS

01845 577316  
07709 223920

[lizanddave@the-elm-gallery.co.uk](mailto:lizanddave@the-elm-gallery.co.uk)



## The Cleveland Way

It was coming to the end of the summer holidays when my friend, Alfie Dickson, and I were running out of things to do. Then, excitedly, we came up with the idea of doing a challenge to raise some money for charity. What challenge can be enjoyed more than walking along the Yorkshire Coast in bright, shining weather with your best friend and your families support along the way.



Our challenge, the Cleveland way, is a 110 mile walk through the most beautiful British countryside and coast. The walk begins at Helmsley and swoops round to the White Horse, then a quick dash up north turning east at Roseberry-Topping before the final stretch right along the coastal path from Saltburn to Filey. Because we wanted a challenge we fit the walk into 5 days, but after the first day we had gained 5 blisters between us and had soggy boots. However, 'we'll reach the end soon enough' we kept saying. Absolutely we did, to everyone's amazement. We learnt that when your feet get to a point when they hurt so much, the pain "disappears" and once you reach this point, nothing can stop you.

Over the whole walk, there wasn't one second when we didn't stop smiling, laughing or making memories. This was definitely the highlight of my summer holiday, and I'm already looking forward to next year's challenge...

Any donations go towards Cancer Research UK and anymore donations are kindly accepted and are asked to be sent to Swaleside Grange, Green End, Asenby. We would really appreciate it, thank you.

*Ben Mcloughlin*

*All is safely gathered in*

*Come and join us for our*

### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

*as we give thanks to God for all his goodness*

*and remember the needs of the world*

*Service and buffet supper in Church:*

Topcliffe Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 6.30pm

*Benefice Harvest Holy Communion*

Dalton Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 11.00am

*Followed by bring-your-own picnic*

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Closed Sundays.

### A Note From The Editor

For the last few years The Angel has very kindly sponsored the printing of The Tattler. We have been grateful for their support.

However, print sponsorship has now ended and the editorial team has had to raise the necessary funds to keep going by selling advertising. Local businesses have been extremely generous in taking space and their kind support has ensured you can continue to read about local matters in our own newsletter. Let's hope we can continue to publish for a further 25 years!

[www.Topcliffe.net](http://www.Topcliffe.net) & [www.Asenby.net](http://www.Asenby.net)  
[www.facebook.com/topcliffeasenbyvillagehall](http://www.facebook.com/topcliffeasenbyvillagehall)

Keep up to date with Parish information, meeting minutes, the TATtler, pictures of Topcliffe, Asenby and a copy of the Millennium Book of Topcliffe.



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To all Snooker Club members, the annual subscription is due and is still only £25 for the year. The Snooker Club situated in the Toll Booth, is excellent value. There are two tables, one full size and one three quarters; the club is heated, and you get your own key so you can play whenever you like. The club welcomes new members but under-18s must be accompanied by parents. Contact Dave Bowman on 577843



## A Message From Margaret Robson

I would like to thank you all for sending cards and best wishes for the sudden death of my husband Bill.

## Angel Fun Day Was A Brilliant Success

The Angel at Topcliffe hosted another fantastic Family Fun Day & BBQ on the August bank holiday. Many people attended the day despite the cooler weather. The children had fun all round and really enjoyed the face painting & inflatable obstacle course. The new "Under the Sea" theme games also proved a big hit with all members of the family. A visit from a giant octopus was the highlight for many of the children, they loved chasing him around and having their picture taken.

So overall a great day out for all the families.

Greg the manager said: "it's always a pleasure to see so many people from the local community coming to this event and I was delighted to see a lot of new faces too! Thank you all for coming!"

The next family event will be a Sunday Lunch with Santa on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – places are limited so please call now to reserve your table!

## MyTimeYoga

Yoga class from 1.30pm - 2.45pm on a Wednesday at Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall.

The class starts with a period of settling and pranayama (breath work), warm up movements working towards the main posture of the day and then a time of stretching out and ending with everyone's favourite part - savasana (relaxation).



If you would like to know more:

07944435718

[www.mytimeyoga.uk](http://www.mytimeyoga.uk)

All levels are welcome. Yvonne Lovatt



## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Topcliffe	Asenby
<b>Anne-Marie Barningham (Chairman)</b> 07740 175311	<b>Peter Palmer (Chairman)</b> Hilltop Farm 578057
<b>Lynn Wallis (Vice Chair)</b> East Lea 577437	<b>Judy Lowe (Vice Chair)</b> Green End Dairy 577911
<b>Heather Holt</b> 577024	<b>Mel Arkley</b> Thistledhu, 7 Jamesville Way 578728
<b>Garry Key</b> Cliff House, Long St. 578900	<b>Peter Dale</b> 577373
<b>Roy Beckwith</b> 578662	<b>Don Compton</b> 577462
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## Village Hall Committee Update

Here's a summary of matters discussed at the last village hall meeting (August).

The committee welcomed Tony Bruce who has agreed to take on the important job of Treasurer.

Fund raising is still underway to pay for a canopy over the front entrance. It's hoped that work will be undertaken late 2018 or early 2019.

Following a burglary on 21 July, the committee agreed to improve the outside lighting and install CCTV cameras.

The committee agreed to examine ways and costs of improving the acoustic in the main hall.

The Bookings Secretary reported that interest in using the village hall was high, with plenty of regular users maintaining their interest...and lots of one-off bookings being made for parties etc.

The music and magic evening held on 4 August was a great success with over 50 people attending and over £200 being raised for village hall funds. The supper was enjoyed by all and there were brilliant performances from close-up magician, Bruce Munton and versatile North Yorkshire singer, Sara Sleight.

The afternoon teas served at the village hall on Sunday, 5 August was also a tremendous success with over 50 teas being served, raising another £200. A special thank you goes to main organiser Karen Morley and those who helped by baking cakes, making sandwiches and serving on the day.

The next Sunday Brunch will be held in the village hall on Sunday, 25 November between 11am and 1.15pm. There'll be bacon or sausage and egg butties served along with endless cups of coffee or tea.

The next Village Hall Committee meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, 31 October 2018.

Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall features on Facebook so follow our page for all the latest news and information about upcoming events.... or via email

If you want to hear directly about events coming up at the village hall then add your email address to the circulation list maintained by committee member, Doug Allan. He promises not to send too many emails and will keep those he does circulate short and sweet. If you would like to be added to the list, simply drop Doug an email – [doug@dougallan.co.uk](mailto:doug@dougallan.co.uk) and he'll do the rest.

# THE *Angel* WHAT'S ON

at TOPCLIFFE

## OKTOBERFEST

SAT 29th SEPT 12 - MIDNIGHT

FREE EVENT GERMAN LAGERS & OTHER DRINKS LIVE MUSIC FROM NOON OOMPAH BAND @ 9pm BBQ



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