

Just in Time for the Summer Holidays

The weather, in its usual bank holiday fashion, didn't fail to disappoint for the opening of the new playground. About 150 people braved the elements to watch Sophie Atkinson, assisted by Garry Key, declare the playground open.

Despite the pouring rain and howling gales (a slight exaggeration) the ice-creams were as popular as ever and there were queues to use the somewhat damp slide. Everyone gamely sheltered under canvas, drinking cider and beer, and eating damp

burgers as the water trickled down the back of their necks.

Jen Smith and Lauren Atkinson were the main instigators of the fundraising and were able to secure financial backing from Yorventure and Awards for All, as well as Newby Foods and Topcliffe Parish Council.

The park was designed by Playscheme and chosen by villagers who had viewed the plans in the village hall.

Two Fast Ladies do the London Marathon

Thank you all so much for all your support. I've managed to raise over £2,500 for cancer research and the figure is still rising! Thank you also for all the messages sent before and after the race. They made all the difference!

This very fetching photo was taken just after we had finished what I can only describe as a most amazing day; one I'll remember for the rest of my life. I enjoyed every single moment of the 4 hours 48 minutes it took us to cross the line. We had some very surreal moments, meeting Elvis at 6 miles and then a couple of very large wombles! Ran past the royal caterpillar, although we didn't know at the time it was Princess B. Jon and the kids managed to see us three times along the route.

I definitely could not do an Eddie Izzard and run another 42 in 50 days but I sadly think I may have the marathon bug!

Jenny Roberts

I did it! Most importantly, I've raised over £3,000, which is entirely thanks to my wonderful family and friends. It will really help out HFT and contribute to all the wonderful



The photograph shows Sophie, assisted by Garry, cutting the ribbon and declaring the playground open.

work that they do for those with learning disabilities and their families. (And if you were thinking of sponsoring me but haven't yet it's not too late!

Do go to www.justgiving.com/Claire-Cadogan (where there are various photos of me at the end.)

According to my watch it took 4h 48 mins. This was a little slower than I'd hoped for but not too bad nonetheless. Unfortunately my official time is 4h 56 which is due to the length of the queue for the loos at mile 14!

PTO...

Continued...

After great fears about the predicted heat, we were amazed to be drenched before the start in a massive downpour. Luckily the sun came out for the run itself. We started alongside a chap who was 80 and running his 51st marathon, all of them completed since his 60th birthday. We overtook Uncle Bulgaria and a couple of other wombles, as well as a few Stormtroopers, Princess Leia, Elvis who was blasting out his tunes on a ghetto blaster and the record-breaking royal caterpillar. Batman & Robin overtook us several times as did all manner of strange creatures, people in bonkers costumes, and ordinary runners like us in every shape and size. It all just goes to show that anyone could do it if they put their mind to it. The biggest boost was seeing Mum, Dad and the kids at mile 12, and also my Aunt Janie at mile 14. So it's done, ticked off the list of things to do in life, and I'm certainly not planning to do it again – for now at least!

Claire Cadogan

So, what do you know?

There's no doubt about it, some of the most popular programmes on TV are a puzzle. They raise questions that quite simply must be answered. If you enjoy testing your knowledge, then there's a quiz held every Sunday evening at The Angel at 9pm that will appeal to you

So, over a drink and food, courtesy of mine hosts, Kevin and Marita, and in exchange for just 50p per person entry charge, teams of up to four can compete to win all the money paid in that evening by quiz participants. And a great laugh and bit of fun is thrown in for nothing! Not bad when you think what any other evening entertainment costs nowadays.

And don't worry if you can't get a full team together. The regulars will organise groups to accommodate anyone who wants to join in.

Quizzes start prompt at 9pm. The question is...will you be there?

Peter Wright Painter & Decorator



42 Front Street
Topcliffe

Call him on 577047 or 07742 707101



Topcliffe and District Carpet Bowls Club

At the recent AGM, the Captain reported that at the end of the bowling season in March, the club finished a credible 5th in the Vale of York Carpet Bowls League. All credit goes to the Captain and members who played in the team. We hope to improve on this result in the next season, starting in September. Trophies were presented to Anne Winfield and Peter Boothroyd in winning the singles in the Ladies' and Gents' competitions.

We were pleased to welcome three new members recently, Chris, Sue and George who we hope will continue to enjoy their evenings with us. We are still open for new members. We meet every Thursday evening in the village hall between 7.30-10pm.

Peter Boothroyd

Villains, Caterpillars and All Things Literary

World Book Day was clearly a perfect opportunity for staff and children to dress up as their favourite characters in fiction.

Mrs Wendy Shepherd, the headteacher, again revealed her Dark Side, as she made a scarily convincing Cruella da Ville, complete with stuffed dalmation (just the one) at her side.

A Very Hungry Caterpillar and a Mad Hatter were also seen among the staff.

The children had enjoyed book-related activities throughout the day and, as home-time approached, each class was given the opportunity to re-enact dramas, set games and tell stories about their favourite books.



The Good Life

Now's the time to start planting cabbages, spinach and all things green (unless it's carrots – or beetroot, and a few other things that *aren't* green) because on September 4th, there is going to be a **Produce Show**. This is a great opportunity to show that you can be as "best of..." as anybody else. So if digging and planting aren't for you, then get knitting and painting and cooking. Home crafts are the new black. You heard it here first!

A Turner Electrical

Sowerby – Thirsk – North Yorkshire

Tel: 01845 522364 / 07726 456 536

agturner@aturnerelectrical.co.uk

Electrical contractor. We offer a friendly and reliable service and turn up on time! We are interested in work, not excuses! Free quotations, all job sizes considered



Proprietor: Andrew Turner B.Eng (Eng) Hons

There's more to Lent than Giving up Chocolate

Once more, the village hall was transformed into a village bistro with a welcoming ambience and some excellent soup. Local people of all ages gathered together every week throughout Lent to partake of some hearty sustenance. Parents had brought their youngsters or their own elderly parents, while some people had nipped out of work, during their lunch hour, to enjoy the congenial atmosphere.

Jenny Roberts, an instigator of the Lent Lunches, said that several people had made the whole enterprise successful, kindly contributing ingredients or money. For housebound neighbours, Jenny thoughtfully delivered soup personally. This is the second year of Lent lunches and it's certainly

Time for Me Amanda Roberts The perfect Gift

Treat your friends and loved ones to a gift that shows you truly care. I offer a range of indulgent massage therapies that pamper and rejuvenate.

For full details and to order Gift Vouchers please call me on 01845 578520 or 07976 943353 or visit my website

www.timeformeholistic.co.uk

Mobile Library

If you're an enthusiastic reader but find it difficult to get to the library in Thirsk or Ripon, take advantage of the Mobile Library which stops in Topcliffe and Asenby every three weeks. All vehicles have wide doors and passenger lifts for people with mobility problems and there are 2,500 items on board, comprising books, videos, DVDs, CDs and audiobooks which have all been chosen to suit a wide range of tastes.

To join the mobile library, meet the vehicle at the stopping point - the times and locations are given below - taking with you any official documentation bearing your name and address. Once you have become a member, you can use your card to borrow items from any branch library in North Yorkshire. You can also request books, CDs or DVDs that aren't immediately available and you can return items borrowed from a mobile at any branch library. If you miss a mobile visit when your books are due back, just take them into your local library or telephone the library to extend the loan.

The next two visits are:

June 24	– Jamesville Way at	14.25
	East Lea at	14.55

July 15	- Jamesville Way at	14.25
	East Lea	14.55

More detailed information can be found on www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraries/mobiles or call 01609 767800.

clear that the gathering together of volunteers and "customers" encourages valuable community spirit.



The photograph shows The Tattler's very own typesetter, Charles Collinson, with his wife Hazel and friends

The Swan News

John and Carrie-Anne, along with regulars of The Swan, proudly presented £655 to Forever Fourth, a charity set up to help wounded soldiers of the Fourth Regiment and their families. Major Kevin Young was pleased to receive the cheque on behalf of the charity.

The money was raised by holding a weight-losing competition amongst regulars Paul Taylor, Alistair Burnett, Ben Halliday and landlord, John Heidstrom. John sadly lost the competition by failing to lose enough weight, and was humiliatingly forced to run round the village wearing a less-than-fetching pink mankini, a historic event which will be forever remembered by many onlookers. He did, however, sportingly thank his fellow contestants and sponsors for their generosity and support.

STOP WASTING ENERGY

Check the following URL to find easy ways to stop wasting energy:

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

For free, independent and local energy saving advice, call us on

0800 512 012

The Deer Shed festival

is a newcomer to the summer music and arts scene, but is already making waves as a truly family-friendly music festival. Set in beautiful landscaped parkland near Topcliffe, Thirsk it promises to offer live music fans of every age one day and night – (Saturday 17 July 2010) of the best in contemporary music and art.

Indie legends, The Wedding Present, have already signed up to headline what is shaping up to be a great quality alternative to the larger, corporate and more expensive festivals. For lead singer, David Gedge, he's happy to be returning to his Yorkshire roots.

The Deer Shed philosophy is such that even the youngest festival-goer gets as much out of it as their parents do. There's a full schedule of activities, involving both musicians and artists, such as a giant doodle wall, treasure hunts and percussion making workshops. Adult ticket prices are set at a modest £35 (under 16s £7.50, under 6s FREE) and the on site locally sourced food and drink will be just as reasonably priced.

For general festival enquiries contact Kate Webster on 01845 595980 or email kate.webster@deershedfestival.com



The date for this year's raft race is August 28 and anyone who wishes to enter needs to ring John on 578174 or pop into the pub for entry forms.

In case any readers have been in a coma for the last few months, the World Cup began on June 11 and John and Carrie-Anne are welcoming everyone to The Swan for the England games. World Cup curries will be available at half-time and there'll be a World Cup draw to add some excitement in case the matches fail to deliver.

COME ON ENGLAND!!!!

Neighbourhood Watch

Sadly there has been an upsurge in petty vandalism and theft in Topcliffe recently.

A garden fence was broken down and the school had several pot plants tipped over. In the early hours a gang of youths was seen going up Front Street. One of them was wearing a white hoodie. Someone forced open the snooker club door and graffiti was scrawled on both the door and steps. The bench on East Lea has also been scratched with names.

A shed was broken into and money stolen from it. A lady's mountain bike was also stolen on Manor Close. If you have a bike of any kind, it should have a number stamped on the bottom. Make a note of this number. The police may be able to mark bikes with the owner's post code if enough people want this done.

If you see something you think is suspicious, please call the police on 0845 60 60 247. If you would like more information on Neighbourhood Watch, call Dave on 577843

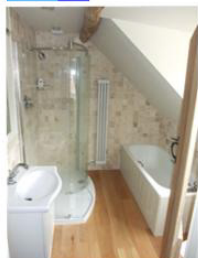
Dave Bowman

Christian Aid

£411 was raised for Christian Aid at the recent fund-raising lunch at the village hall.



offer a complete service, all our work is carried out by professional time served tradesmen to the highest possible standard



Kitchens

Bedrooms

Extensions

Bathrooms

Conservatories

Conversions



Sun Lounges

Roofing

Patios

Doors

Windows



certass

01845 577612 07801 189162

walker.renovations@virgin.net

14 Jamesville Way Asenby Thirsk YO7 3QP

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.

Topcliffe Parent Praises Thirsk Sure Start Centre

As a first time 'mummy', a word I feel lucky to hear, I wanted to do my best to help my child become that all-round happy, healthy, well-socialised and good mannered youngster. I needed information, advice and the opportunity to meet and make friends with other mums in the area. This is where the Sure Start Centre proved invaluable.

The Sure Start Centre offers lots of free courses such as first aid, parenting classes, baby massage and, as my child grew, music, art classes and many more. With weekly well-structured playgroups my child and I were able to make good friends and feel support and solidarity from other mums, along with the lovely staff located at the centre.

Eighteen months on and the centre continues to provide a focus for activities to entertain both of us. It also allows any parent to have a say in how the centre can work best for all with regular parent forums. The centre has staff and resources to help not only with the information and entertaining side of parenting but for those in need of assistance, or needing help with particular issue. There are a number of good, kind, understanding staff with a wealth of knowledge and experience between them, who will be able to help directly or send you in the right direction. I would recommend any mum to go and experience your local Sure Start Centre. I am sure you won't be disappointed.

A Topcliffe very impressed parent

NORTH YORKSHIRE HEATING

Gas, OIL, LPG,
& SOLID FUEL APPLIANCES
Installation / Service / Repair
• Boilers • Fires
• Central Heating • Stoves

Call Steve Humphreys on



01845 597865
or 07730 303923



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.

Topcliffe Parish Council News

As we enter a new financial year it is pleasing to report that the parish finances are in good shape and that the precept will remain unchanged again for this year, despite increases in insurance and grounds maintenance, the latter due, in the main, to the sharp increase in fuel price. The last 12 months have seen considerable improvement made to the local amenity, not least of which is the fantastic installation of the new play park. Bringing these projects to fruition is not an easy task and requires dedication, determination and effort, fighting through bureaucracy, complying with rules and procedures, making a sound case and putting together a winning bid. Much of the credit for this must go to Jenny Smith and Lauren Atkinson who together helped steer this project to fulfillment. In addition the council has supported the local school through small financial support for the gardening and greenhouse project as part of the healthy eating drive, and the purchase of six combination picnic benches. These will allow the children and staff to take meals and classes outside in good weather, and provide a place for adults to sit on sports day. The council has also purchased six benches for the play-park which have already encouraged many parents to sit and watch their children play. The official opening of the play-park saw Sophie Atkinson cut the tape and was attended by about 120 people who, despite the light rain, enjoyed the sponsored BBQ (courtesy of Newby Foods) Thanks go to 4th Regiment RA for providing a light gun team which created considerable interest.

For the future the council intends to put together a working party to further improve fishing access at

Befriending Scheme Can you help?

The Alzheimer's Society is seeking volunteers across the Hambleton and Richmondshire area.

Anne Brown, Befriending Manager
01748 825817 or 07545 207029
Anne.brown@alzheimers.org.uk
www.alzheimers.org.uk



the sheep wash. Enquiries are underway to replace the two ornamental trees, which were removed last year from Long Street, and further improvements are intended to the portacabin in the form of decking, balustrades and re-painting.

It is easy to forget that Alanbrooke Barracks is part of the parish and indeed contributes to the village precept through council tax. The regiment is, in large part, away on operations in Afghanistan and it is all too often sad to re-call the recent murders of Gunner Zac Cusack and Lance Bombadier Mark Chandler. Our thoughts go out to his family, friends and colleagues. The council is to show our support to the families and children at Alanbrooke Barracks with some limited funding to help improve the families' centre.

We are very fortunate to live in a safe, well serviced village with a diverse community which, of late, has seen the re-emergence of some mindless damage to school property (the greenhouse you paid for!), garden tubs, etc; breaking down of fences; theft of money and the letting out of rabbits at the farm, which led to the death of several animals, plus a litany of missing bikes courtesy of the Dalton bike borrower! Thank you to 'Chappy and Nicky' for scratching their names into one of the new play park benches, – whoever they are. Finally, when visiting the surgery, can people please refrain from parking on the verges as this is killing the grass.

Garry Key

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



Meet Your Safer Neighbourhood Police Team

On Tuesday 20 July 2010 come along to The Angel Inn car park at Topcliffe and meet PC Marie Scott and PCSO Nicki Smith. We will be available between 1700 hrs and 1830 hrs to answer any questions you may have in relation to the policing of your area. We can offer advice on many issues, including crime prevention, road safety, poaching, etc. We will also be offering a free bike marking service for all the family. Please bring your bikes with you on the day.

We hope to see you there.
Marie & Nicki.

Thanks Ange

Angela Hook is leaving our community for pastures new. We, on the Village Hall Committee, would like to thank her for the many rôles she has played in our area. She has been Treasurer to the village hall, Clerk to the parishes of Topcliffe and Asenby and kept us informed of our "goings on" in the Tattler.

She will be greatly missed and we would like to wish her good luck and best wishes on her new beat.

*David Winfield
Chairman, Village Hall
Committee*



It's Goodbye and Hello

It's been some time since Ange warned us that she would be leaving for the Middle East – well that is to say, the middle east of Yorkshire. We hear that the natives around the Malton area are quite friendly and we are sure that Julian and Ange will settle in and make new friends in no time at all. Thank you Ange for all your work keeping our finances in order. We shall miss you and your chirpy optimism.

Following our appeal in the Spring Tattler for a new treasurer, we are pleased to welcome Jane Graham onto the committee.

Yes Ed, people do read The Tattler cover to cover!

A Two Way Family Favourite

Linda Nuttall

As most of Our Readers will know, Ange is set to emigrate to Malton which is fortunately not too far away. While we'll miss her hurtling round the streets of Topcliffe, scattering hens and small children in her wake, you'll all be delighted and relieved to hear that she's continuing as editor of The Tattler. So now we have a foreign correspondent, we can expect Kate Adie style reportage. This may well bring a whole fresh outlook to the newsdesk and we look forward to hearing gossip from t'other side of Yorkshire. Just be thankful she isn't moving to Lancashire.

Actually, she will be greatly missed by everyone; she's achieved so many things in the last few years, all to the benefit of Topcliffe. I'm sure she'll appreciate everyone who's online, keeping in touch so take note of her email address (but no stalkers obviously) and keep sending all those dire jokes and all-too-scary virus warnings.

Vicki Moores



CL & V Parker & Sons
Carpentry & Joinery Contractors
Bespoke Joinery
Cabinet Making
General Building Work

Les Parker
Mobile: 07802 456127

FENSA
Reg No. 18823

81 Long Street • Topcliffe • Thirsk • North Yorkshire • YO7 3RL
Tel/Fax 01845 577402

For All Painting Jobs



Ring Jimmy on 526640.

reliable decorator with
years of experience,
offering a
professional service
to brighten up your home

Baking Day at Topcliffe School

The school's Y6 pupils spent a whole day baking biscuits and cakes, which they then sold to fellow pupils, making a healthy profit of £67.60 for their forthcoming leaving party. The children had taken into account costs and profit margins, ensuring that they can look forward to an exceedingly good party!



Asenby Institute News

Our annual barbecue will be held on **Saturday 26th June** this year. Please put the date in your diary and encourage as many fellow villagers as you can to come along.

As you may remember, we had to cancel the barbecue last year as there were not enough committee members to be able to go ahead with it.. It takes a lot of hard work to organise, set up and clear up afterwards. Last year there were just not enough hands!

However, we have a couple more great volunteers this year. We feel it is such a wonderful opportunity for the villagers to get together and so much fun for all that we really want to try it again! Please support us. **Look Out For Posters and Fliers!**

The St George Quiz was another successful evening and we thank all at The Lamb Inn at Rainton for their work. Thanks to those of you who supported us too.

It seems an age since the Mulled Wine evening but again this proved a successful night. Thanks to the Avisons for hosting the evening. Part of the funds raised on this evening have been used to fill the lovely flower baskets on the bus stop.

Some of you may wonder what happens to the proceeds from other events. After paying for grass

asenbyonfacebook:

Do you live in Asenby, used to live there or are just interested to know what goes on there? Then why not join the new facebook group **asenbyonfacebook** – share your news, publish events, show photos of Asenby, learn about its history, network with friends and neighbours! Let's make this a really useful 21st century way of promoting communication within our village.

Carole Ford

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.



cutting and general upkeep of the recreation areas (such as repairing the see-saw), the money goes towards a project for the village. At the moment we need ideas of what this project should be. We would like to appeal to villagers of all ages, so if you have any ideas, perhaps chat to one of the committee members at the barbecue.

The Perfect Gift

The children of Topcliffe School had good reason to be grateful to the parish council when they were presented with six lovely outdoor benches with tables. They're made of good solid wood so hopefully will be used by many children for years to come. Sadly, one thing the parish council couldn't give the children was a bit of sunshine. Still, we live in hope.....



Local Telephone Numbers & Websites

Topcliffe Surgery - 577297
www.topcliffesurgery.co.uk

Friarage Hospital - 01609 779911
www.southtees.nhs.uk

Gas Emergencies - 0800 111 999
www.nationalgrid.com/uk

Police - 0845 60 60 24 7
www.northyorkshire.police.uk

Hambleton DC - 01609 779977
www.hambleton.gov.uk

Harrogate BC - 01423 568954
www.harrogate.gov.uk

HDC Cllr Neville Huxtable 01845 501068
Cllr.neville.huxtable@hambleton.gov.uk

HBC Cllr Chris Brown 01765 640398
c.b.brown398@hotmail.co.uk

Editorial: Vicki Moores / Angela Hook - Tel. 578076: (E-mail: tattler@topcliffe.net)

Production: Charles Collinson - Tel. 578464