

THE TATTLER

Volume 11, Issue 1
Spring 2004

GARGOYLES GAZE ON TOPCLIFFE

Many of you must have thought that the Church Tower is going to stay clothed in scaffolding forever more, but as with all projects of this nature, there is always more to it than meets the eye.

Once dismantling work was underway, it became obvious that the ravages of nearly 150 years of weather had taken its toll and there was much more work to be done than originally estimated. What had started off as a £100,000 project had escalated to around £350,000.

English Heritage was providing much of the funding for the repair work, and they were keen that all necessary



repairs should be undertaken at the same time. Work stopped for a time while formal applications for additional funding were made to English Heritage and other organisations, and the Tower Committee had to

make some tough decisions. With a lot of faith and some trepidation, the Committee decided to press on with the ordering of more stone in the hope that the additional grants would become available.

Fortunately, English Heritage came up trumps just before Christmas, and offered a second large grant. Thanks to them, plus additional grants from The Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust, Hambleton District Council and the York Diocese, together with money from private donors, from the hard work of fundraisers and all the support from the people of Asenby & *(Continued on page 5)*

TOPCLIFFE CHOSEN AS PILOT FOR NYCC YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

NYCC have chosen Topcliffe as one of a number of areas to be part of a pilot scheme to bring youth activities into the community. These include visiting youth workers, who will organise and supervise various activities and games etc. in the

community. Eventually it is intended to provide mobile skateboard park etc. In addition Alanbrooke Barracks have indicated that they would like to see the youngsters of Topcliffe using their supervised Youth Club facilities - they will even

provide transport! The Parish Council would like to hear from youngsters, or their parents, about what they would like to see in the Village or if they are interested taking part in the scheme. Contact numbers on back page.

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Special points of interest:

- Proposed Government Changes - Your District Councillor talks.
- Toll Booth to be developed for the Community.
- Local Policeman discusses concerns at Parish Council meeting

Topcliffe on the Web. See page 2.

EDITORIAL 21ST CENTURY ARRIVES IN TOPCLIFFE & ASENBY

In the last issue we reported that we hoped the TATtler would soon be available on the St Columba's Church web site. No sooner said than done, and thanks to Webmaster Peter Perkins, the TATtler is now available worldwide! Check it out now on www.st-columba.fsnet.co.uk

Peter has also volunteered to create a Web Site for Topcliffe. He is liaising with Howard Wilson, producer of The TATtler and Vice Chairman of Topcliffe Parish Council, as to the layout and content. The web site will be for all of us, young and old. If you wish to include something on the site please contact either Peter or Howard. Once complete you will find the site at www.topcliffe.net

February 4th brought Broadband to the Topcliffe telephone exchange and my postman tells me that he delivered several AOL broadband packs on one day so at least some of you are getting your Internet information up to ten times quicker. For those of you who have not signed up yet, but enjoy surfing the net, I can thoroughly recommend a broadband upgrade – you'll be amazed at the difference.

Many articles for the TATtler now reach Howard Wilson or me by e-mail and I'm sure the whole production process is a lot easier than it was when John Walter started things off ten years ago. However, fear not, TATtler is not turning into a paperless production and thanks to Steve Hall who takes care of the printing and our distributors it will continue to pop through your letterbox in its usual format every quarter. We hope you continue to enjoy its content and find it informative about the village issues.

David Pilgrim



Last Copy
Date for
Summer
Issue is
15th May
2004

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Following the appeal for neighbourhood watch co-ordinators, Julie Clayton of Manor Close has very kindly volunteered to take over the Winn Lane/Manor Close area from Ian Roberts, who has now moved away from Topcliffe. We still need a co-ordinator for Back Lane and Long Street to the east of Back Lane so if you feel you would like to do your bit for the community, then please contact Dave Bowman – Tel. 01845 577843.

The Police advise that Bogus Callers are particularly active in this area at present and residents should be on guard for criminals masquerading as council or utilities employees. There are many steps you can take to take to make sure you do not become a victim and your Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator can supply you with some helpful information to help you protect yourself and your property. Remember – if you are in any doubt, DO NOT let unexpected callers into your house, no matter how

THIRSK'S NEW 'COP SHOP' OPENS

Many of you will have read in the local press about the opening of the new Police Office in Thirsk market place. The old Police Station in Westgate is now closed to the public, although it will continue to be used by officers until a new facility at the York Road Business Park becomes available. The new office is intended to help bring policing into the heart of the community and is a North Yorkshire Police initiative, which is being watched closely by other forces in the country.

Members of the public with police business should now direct all enquiries to the office at 33 Market Place, which will normally be manned by civilian Operational Support staff only. Business hours for the new office will be the same as they were at Westgate, with staff being available between 11 am and 7 pm Monday to Saturday inclusive, apart from a meal break between 3 pm and 4 pm. If the office is closed, then using the yellow 'phone at the door will put you in touch with duty personnel.

The new office should be your first point of contact for presentation of motoring documents, lost and found property and requests to see a police officer. If you just want an informal chat or need advice about a police matter, then you will be made welcome.

The telephone number of the new office is **01609 789737**, which, please note, is different to the old Westgate office number. If you ring this number outside office hours, then your call will be automatically transferred to a duty operator. As always of course, in emergency situations you should ring 999. If you have any information on incidents, suspicious persons or criminals in your area then ring **01609 789212** or if you wish to remain anonymous call

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGES

A major consultation exercise on the future of Local Government in North Yorkshire has endorsed the "lets keep it local" campaign. More than 68% of people consulted in the six District Council areas within North Yorkshire support the creating of three Unitary Councils. Locally this could mean Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils merging. Only 13% of those questioned wanted to see a single Unitary Council, which would cover 3,200 square miles. I support the view that LOCAL councillors known to LOCAL people will achieve more, using LOCAL knowledge, and most importantly, knowing and understanding LOCAL problems.

You will have the opportunity to vote for the system you prefer in October 2004. Make sure you are registered to vote. If you would like to discuss this issue or any other item please telephone me, Councillor Neville Huxtable on **01845 501068** or email NWH@dwny.fsnet.co.uk

TOPCLIFFE FOOTBALL CLUB

Topcliffe F.C. are having a great season in the Bass Hambleton Combination Division 2. We have been in the top four all year and hope to gain promotion to the First Division for next

season if all goes well. We have also reached the semi-final of the Bob Seymore cup, with a home advantage on Sunday 29th February against top of the league side, Richmond Turf. For anyone wishing to cheer us on, the kick off is at 10.30 am. Local support has been fantastic so far and we thank you all for that! Well done lads, keep it up.

Dave Thomas Club Manager

League tables and results can be found at www.thehibs.com then follow the links.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

NEWTON SINGERS TO GIVE CONCERT

The Newton Singers (Patron - Placido Domingo), will be appearing at Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall on Friday 26th March, with their music director Les Brenehan. They are a very high quality "ladies only" society, who have appeared everywhere from York Minster, to Beningbrough Hall. For their concert in Topcliffe they will be singing an assortment of songs from the musicals, as well as folk songs.

This will be an excellent musical evening, right on your doorstep, and will allow residents to have a great night out and at the same time help the Village Hall funds. Please give this event your support - remember - use it or lose it! Tickets at £5 each (including a glass of wine or a soft drink) will be available from Lewis Rudge - Tel. 01845 578644.

PERIMETER WALL IN NEED OF REPLACEMENT

Regular daytime visitors to the Village Hall may have noticed that the perimeter wall is in poor shape and is in need of complete replacement before it becomes a public liability issue. However, as the hall is within the conservation area, the wall must be rebuilt in similar materials. Stone walls don't come cheap and the Committee have been quoted £5,000 for the necessary work.

Money to pay for this work will have to be provided from within the community, and your continuing support of all the events organised by the Village Hall Committee will help to raise the necessary funds.

ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE AT THE VILLAGE HALL

You may have noticed from village notice boards, that Askham Bryan College have been running short courses at the village hall and also halls in nearby villages. Courses available in Topcliffe over the winter months have been on "Sculpture" and "Exploring techniques with textiles" and these have both run for six weeks.

There is currently an "Upholstery for Beginners" course on Tuesdays at Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall - which started on 24th February, just before this issue of the TATtler reaches you, but even if you miss the first lesson, you will still be welcome to come along and join in. The course runs for six weeks and sessions are between 10 am and 12.30 pm. The course fee is £13.50.

The TATtler has now established links with the college, which is based in Bedale, and we hope to bring you advance news of future courses. If you would like more information, then please contact either Kathleen Dodds or Chris Hall - Rural Outreach Workers, at Askham Bryan College, Bedale Centre, Benkhill Drive, Bedale. Tel. 01677 422344

TOPCLIFFE PARISH - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

Help required! The council intends to develop the ground floor of the Toll Booth into a community information exchange point and community meeting place with eventual unrestricted access for all. This will be done in partnership with local government, agencies, social services and the police. The council is keen to emphasise that there will not be profligate expenditure indeed it is hoped that much will be done on a community self help basis. The council has identified some readily available financial resources to get the project underway and has been promised some matched funding by NYCC. Other grants may be available as the project progresses. Future investment will be based upon building on success.

The facility will provide: -

Display centre for community activity and social services.
Display local information, bus timing, trains, jobs etc
IT facilities. (Four second hand Computers have already been donated by HDC)
Community meeting point.
Library and on-line education centre.
Part Time Police Station

The outline project plan, which may be subject to amendment, is as follows:

Phase one. General tidy up, treatment of timbers and install power supplies. Provision of basic furniture and installation of second hand IT. Library and information displays. Upgrade security. Use by visiting youth workers. Meeting place for the community. Install drinks and snack dispenser. Police begin occupation on ad hoc basis.

Phase two. Kitchenette. Water and waste supplies. Upgrade IT to include Internet access. Continued development of activities and use by those in Phase one.

Phase three. Upgrade of security to individually issued swipe card system and installation of broadband. Continued development of phase one and two activities.

Phase four. Toilets, including disabled access. Tourist information centre. Historic centre. Continue to develop phase one two and three activities.

Key to the success of this project is that the community, not the council, takes ownership of it. If anyone is interested in forming a committee or is keen to offer labour, time, materials, and professional services especially electrical, plumbing and IT, or sponsorship, please contact any member of the Council. Have your say and contribute to this project.

Garry Key (Chairman of the Parish Council)

POLICE ATTEND TOPCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Sgt. Ben Frank of North Yorkshire Police attended the Parish Council meeting on 19th January 2004 to answer questions about a number of concerns within the village. Several topics were discussed in detail, with traffic speeds, vehicle weight limits, crime and Neighbourhood Watch all getting an airing.

Traffic offences resulted in six fixed penalty tickets being issued in the Topcliffe area during the last six months but the Police need to target resources effectively and Sgt. Frank indicated that he has requested that a data collection strip be installed to gather information on speeding vehicles.

(Continued on Back Page)

SCHOOL REPORT

BY SIMON ASHBY (HEADTEACHER)

At the time of writing the school is bracing itself for a period of upheaval whilst building work is carried out. The proposed work includes extending the school hall and one of the classrooms, as well as creating a new parking area to the front of the school. We are also hoping to create a new playground area for the reception children which will be directly joined to their classroom for use throughout the day. The work has been made possible by securing grants totalling £80000, as well as a fantastic fundraising campaign which has so far raised in excess of £4000. The work is expected to begin at before Easter and may be finished towards the end of the summer term. Fundraising towards the development of the playground has been very successful, and we would like to thank everyone for their support of the Christmas Fayre at the village hall, and also for collecting old

Local fundraising in excess of £4000

clothing for our "Bags 2school" appeal back in November. The Friends of Topcliffe School have other events in the pipeline including:-

A family quiz night to be held at the school on Friday 26th March at 7pm. You can enter a team of up to 6 for £5. Tickets are available from the school. There will be refreshments and a bar on the night.

Our Summer Fayre will be held at the Crab and Lobster in Asenby this year as the school will probably be a building site at the time. This will be on a Sunday towards the end of June. Keep an eye out in the village for further details. We are very grateful to the restaurant for offering the use of their grounds for the day.

A Balloon launch to celebrate the opening of the new school hall. The date of this is yet to be confirmed but balloons will be on sale for £2 with a cash prize going to the balloon which travels furthest. Again keep an eye out for further details.



The School Student Council has been active over the past few months, and has just organised the redecoration of the school toilets. The children decided on the colours and wrote to parents to ask for volunteers. A band of children and parents carried out the work during the half-term holidays and the toilets now look a lot brighter as a result. The School Council also has its own section on the school Web Site where the minutes of their meetings can be found. The school web site can be found at www.topcliffe.n-yorks.sch.uk. There are also lots of details of recent activities at the school.

ASENBY RECREATION GROUND NEWS_VIEWS_OUTLOOK?

I know how useful and informative the Tattler is in keeping us all in touch with local news, events, clubs and facilities, so here is the latest news from the *Green Belt* in Asenby!!

At the last meeting Siobhan Gifford who pioneered the project from the outset, stood down as secretary and relinquished her role on the committee. We are enormously grateful to Siobhan who has devoted much time and energy to pursuing grants, funding and researching equipment and suppliers. In the meantime Jackie Avison has agreed to stand in as secretary but is on the lookout for someone to take over... could this be you? There's not a lot to do now, so you young Mums, how about volunteering?!! We are delighted to welcome Emma McCormick onto the committee. She is currently at home on maternity leave but will shortly be returning to work. If you would like to join us, then please talk to any of us. Names at end!

By the way does everyone know that the Recreation Ground is situated at the end of Jamesville Way on the left hand side? It's open all year round and has a safe play area with swings, slide, roundabout etc as well as football

goals, basketball hoop and lots of green open space! However, **NO DOGS PLEASE**, for health reasons.

Martin Scholes continues to keep a green eye on the newly planted reception area to the field and we are delighted with how well it all looks. Plans are afoot to plant further trees and shrubs on the field, so we will be asking for a few pairs of hands to help

Would you like to help? Contact the committee for information

out, so watch for date, we'll keep in touch!

Another well-supported year of fund raising in 2003 included the ever-popular Summer Barbecue on the field, which raised £485 and the Christmas Mince Pie fixture, which raised £301. Our grateful thanks go to Peter and Judith Lowe for providing a splendid festive venue. The monies raised are always required to fuel the mower, purchase trees, plants, new equipment, benches etc. Thanks to all of you who supported the events in buying raffle tickets, donating prizes

and gifts and coming along! What would we do without you?!!

Carl Avison gave unstintingly of his time last year in siting the storage container and of course we owe him our thanks, as we know that he is always extremely busy! Thanks too are due to the team of grass cutters who keep the field in such pristine condition, please do sign up again!

All being well, you will find a questionnaire included in this issue of Tattler. Please do fill it in, as your thoughts and ideas could help us. What would you like to see on the field? What is missing? How could the facility be improved? Would you be available to help out at or organise any fund raising events? Finally don't forget, we would be delighted to hear from you if you can contribute in any way at all to the continued success of the Recreation Ground.

Clare Phillips

COMMITTEE:

Chairman: Clare Phillips Tel 577034

Temporary Secretary! Jackie Avison Tel 578871

Treasurer: Julia Campbell Tel 577376

Sharon Hutchinson

Emma McCormick

BITE SIZE LEARNING

FREE ONE HOUR TASTERS

Is there something you've always wanted to learn, but you've never known where to start? A new campaign of free, one hour Bite Size Intros could be just the first step you need.

Running across North Yorkshire from 19 January to the end of May 2004, there are Bite Size topics on using a computer for the first time, putting digital photos onto a computer, shopping on the Internet, learning a language, learning to relax and practising your job interview skills. There are also Intros on helping your pet to lose weight, making greetings cards and hundreds more topics!

If you've an hour to spare and there's something you've always fancied doing then call free on 0800515547 or go to the website www.bitesizeintros.co.uk to find out what's on in your area. They are running in all kinds of venues - from community centres to pubs.

Bite Size is run by the Learning and Skills Council North Yorkshire, supported by local training organisations, voluntary organisations and employers. If you didn't enjoy school, or you're keen to try something new, then Bite Size Intros could give you the confidence to go on to learn more.

BURN'S NIGHT SUPPER RAISES £365 FOR CANCER CHARITY.

As a result of the highly successful Burn's Night Supper held on 23rd January, Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall Committee was delighted to be able to send over £365 to the Harrogate based "Candlelighter's Trust" which raises money for children with cancer.

The money was raised largely through the inspiration, hard work and generosity of Linda & Andy Hutton of Topcliffe who originally started the event in their own home almost twenty years ago. Over the years it has grown to provide an enjoyable social event for many local people and at the same time raised a considerable amount of money which has been shared between local charities and the village hall.

GARGOYLES GAZE ON TOPCLIFFE

(Continued from Front Page)

Topcliffe, the costs, as known at present for the tower refurbishment, can be covered – just!

Work is underway again and includes the tower roof work, (which was moved into a later phase when the costs originally escalated over £100,000), and all the additional stone work including the buttress weatherings.

The work schedule has of course been reprogrammed and completion is now due by early July this year. If you were through the churchyard during

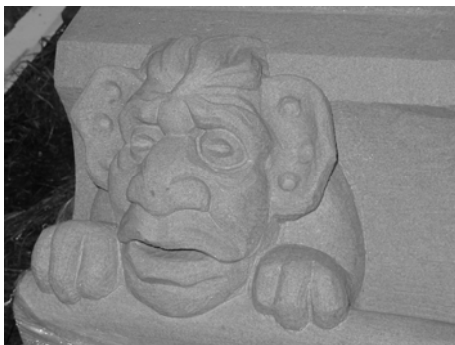


February, you may have seen the new carved stone gargoyles and grotesques waiting to go in place, but we have some photographs for those of you who missed the carvings and don't want to climb the scaffold!

The Parish is also committed to the repair of the historic clock and church bells. Indeed the original English Heritage grant was conditional upon the restoration work for these items being completed even though they were ineligible for English Heritage grants. Although there are some funds specifically allocated for the clock and

bells, yes - you've guessed it – there are not enough. So there is still a need for further funding.

Various events are being organised so look out elsewhere in TATtler for details of the "Attic Auction" in the Village Hall on 8th May, Classics at St. Columba's and also the two productions of "The Mikado", on 17th July and 11th September. As always, your support of these excellent events will be much appreciated.



CRAB & LOBSTER TREATS SENIOR CITIZENS

Over 70 lucky Senior Citizens from Asenby & Topcliffe were treated to a Christmas Bash on Wednesday 3rd December 2003, thanks to the generosity of the Vimax Leisure, owners of the Crab & Lobster. An excellent complimentary Christmas Lunch and drinks was followed by entertainment from the pupils of Topcliffe School who provided a carol service in the restaurant.

Commenting on the event, the Managing Director of Vimax, Paul Mackings, said "Community involvement is an important part of Vimax Leisure's strategy; it is a pleasure to give something back to the people of Asenby and Topcliffe. I am delighted with the attendance today and the carol service from the pupils added to the enjoyment of the afternoon. I would like to thank

Topcliffe Primary School for their involvement."

My sources tell me that it was an exceptionally good "do", and I can't wait to get my pension book and qualify for an invite! The pupils will also benefit from their participation as Vimax have kindly allowed the school to use the Crab & Lobster grounds for the Summer Fayre in June as extensive building work is planned for the school at that time.

St. Columba's Church Services

Vicar: the Revd Christine Haddon-Reece, Tel: 01845 577939

March	Sun 7th	Benefice Family Service	10.30 am
	Wed 10th	Holy Communion in the Percy Chapel	9.30 am
	Sun 14th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sun 21st	Mothering Sunday Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Wed 24th	Compline: a short evening service, with address	8.00 pm
	Sun 28th	Matins	10.30 am
	Sun 28th	Choral Evensong	6.30 pm
April	Sun 4th	Palm Sunday Family Service with Baptism	10.30am
	Wed 7th	Holy Communion in the Percy Chapel	9.30 am
	Fri 9th	Good Friday: Joint Family Service at Topcliffe Chapel	10.30 am
	Sun 11th	Easter Day Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sun 18th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sun 25th	Matins	10.30 am
	Sun 25th	Choral Evensong	6.30 pm
May	Sun 2nd	Benefice Family Service	10.30 am
	Wed 5th	Holy Communion in the Percy Chapel	9.30 am
	Sun 9th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sun 16th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sun 23rd	Matins	10.30 am
	Sun 23rd	Choral Evensong	6.30 pm
	Sun 30th	Prayer Book Holy Communion	10.30 am
June	Sun 6th	Benefice Confirmation Service, with the Rt Revd Robert Ladds, Bishop of Whitby	10.30 am

Benefice Service of Confirmation

The Bishop of Whitby, the Rt. Revd. Robert Ladds will be pleased to preside over a service of Confirmation to be held at 10.30 am on Trinity Sunday, June 6th, at St Columba's Church.

Candidates for Confirmation must be at least 10 years old, but there is no upper limit! Although preparations will not begin until after Easter, the Vicar, Christine, would like to hear from anyone who might be interested in taking this important step on their Christian journey. If you would like to know more, please telephone the Vicarage, Tel: 577939.

Holy Communion at Home

If anyone would like to receive Holy Communion in their home, because they are unable to attend church owing to infirmity of illness, either on a regular basis, or occasionally (e.g. at Eastertide), please contact the Vicar, the Revd Christine. She will happy to make arrangements.

CHURCH FUNDRAISERS

Attic Sale

Save yourself a trip to the tip, or the hassle of attending a car boot sale and keep all those things that you don't really need any more for the **Attic Sale** to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 8th May. For further details see the back page of The TATtler.

The Mikado

Many of you will be aware that members of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society have been rehearsing hard

since last October to be able to treat us all to another splendid production. This time it is "The Mikado" and at present there will be two performances, one on Saturday 17th July at Cundall Preparatory School and the other on Saturday 11th September at Queen Mary's School. Final details about these performances, including ticketing arrangements, will be in the June issue of the TATtler, but look out for further information on village notice boards.

Classics at St. Columba's

Sadly, the concerts planned for February and April (Tim Lowe 'cello and the Russian Choir from St. Petersburg) have had to be postponed, but hopefully will be rearranged for later in the year. Meanwhile we are hoping to organize alternative events for the spring and early summer. Please watch out for further announcements on the usual notice boards.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Topcliffe

Gary Key (Chairman)
Cliffe House, Long St.
Tel 578900

Howard Wilson (Vice Chairman)
Eldmire House, Long St. Tel 577039
Russell Smith
The Swan, Front Street, Tel 577239
Tracey Brown
Sandtoft, Church Street. Tel 577623
Vic Rawlings
Hawthorn Cottage, Long St. Tel 577697

Asenby

Chris Millross (Chairman)
Topcliffe House
Tel 577961

Jackie Avison (Vice Chairwoman)
2 Orchard Cottages Tel 578871
Peter Dale The Warren
Tel 577373
Steve Hall Orchard End
Tel 578379
John Sharp 16 Cundall Road
Tel 578406

GRAND ATTIC AUCTION

To be held on Saturday 8th May, 2004, at
2pm

in Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall

All proceeds to St. Columba's Tower Appeal

Auctioneer: Mr. John Phillips

We are appealing for items for the above Auction, so
please do not discard anything during your
Spring Cleaning, which could be sold to assist the
above! Books...Furniture...Bric-a-brac...
..even Antiques!

IN FACT ANYTHING SALEABLE!!!!

Items to be brought to the Village Hall on Saturday
morning 8th May, 2004
between 8am and 11am

Viewing from 12 noon to 2.00pm on the day.

Refreshments, Raffle

It may be possible to arrange transport for any bulky
items.

Please contact John Phillips, Tel: 01845 577034

**BUYERS; Come and browse and see what you can
discover...that hidden treasure,
useful gadget or something you don't yet know you
can't live without...!**

POLICE ATTEND TOPCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

(Continued from page 3)

There is a waiting list for this equipment so there may
be some delays before any information can be
collected.

Although there are many HGV's using the village for
access, during recent months there has been a
dramatic increase in the number of large vehicles
using Station Road when the A1 has been closed due
to traffic incidents. The Police would be able to take
some action if local people could supply details of
vehicles that they believed were infringing the 7.5
tonne weight limit on a regular basis.

Figures for Topcliffe indicated that there had been 9
crimes reported since 1st July 2003 and three of these
had been solved which is about the national average.
Sgt. Frank acknowledged that there had been
difficulties with the telephone answering service and
that reporting a crime was not always easy. However,
he believed things were improving and confirmed
that requests to speak to specific officers would be
dealt with in due course. (See also the article on the
opening of the new Thirsk "Cop Shop")

Neighbourhood Watch continues to be one of our
first lines of defence against the criminal fraternity.
Improved systems are being set up to pass
information between watch groups and as criminals
were generally very mobile these days, it is important
to pass on any information, no matter how trivial it
may seem. There are also many things you can do to
your home or car to make things to more difficult for
the thief and leaflets or information on home and
vehicle security are available from the Cop Shop or
you local Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator.
Surprisingly, opportunist thieves carry out the

Useful Telephone Numbers

Topcliffe Surgery	577297	Friarage Hosp.	01609 779911	Gas Emergencies	0800 111 999
Police	01609 789737	Hambleton DC	01609 779977	Harrogate BC	01423 568954
Hambleton District Councillor (Topcliffe Ward) - Neville Huxtable 01845 501068 (E-mail NWH@dwny.fsnet.co.uk)					

The TAttler
Team

Editorial: David Pilgrim - Tel. 578669: (E-mail: tattleditor@aol.com)
Production: Howard Wilson - Tel. 577039
Printing: Steve Hall - Tel. 578379