

THE TATTLER

Volume 12 Issue 2
Summer 2005

The Alanbrooke Concert

The 40th Regiment Royal Artillery held their annual concert at Alanbrooke Barracks on Saturday 14th May, in aid of charities in both North Yorkshire and Scotland.

This year, entertainment was provided by the Lowland Band of the Scottish Division, the children of Thirsk School Choir, The Harrogate Male Voice Choir, the Corps of drums, 1st Battalion the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment and the Pipes & Drums of the 40th Regiment themselves.



The musical theme last year was a journey from the regiment's North Yorkshire home to their recruiting base in the Lowlands of Scotland. This year the theme was War and Peace, which provided an excellent excuse to perform the 1812 Overture again as a first part finale. The large audience were treated to some excellent music, singing (especially the children) and some very talented solo performances.

Refreshments were available at the interval and there also some interesting static displays showing the activities of the Lowland Gunners and their theatres of operation.

This was the fourth charity concert arranged by the regiment since they became based at Topcliffe nearly five years ago. During that time they have raised several thousand pounds for local, national and Army charities thanks to the generous support of the military and the local population.

Job Vacancy

Topcliffe Parish Council has a vacancy for a Clerk to the Council. If you have some administrative or secretarial experience, would like to help in the community and can spare around 14 hours/month then this may be the job for you. There is the added attraction of around £1000 per annum remuneration as well!

If you are interested or would like more details, then please contact the current Clerk, Claire Cadogan on 577238 or the Chairman of the Council, Gary Key on 578900.

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Topcliffe News

The "Darlington and Stockton Times" has a new correspondent for the village and details of any news or events which you would like to see published in the D & S can be passed on to Vicki Moores on 01845 578076.

Anti-social Behaviour

During the last few weeks, there have been several incidents of cars being scratched, graffiti appearing, vandalism and household rubbish being dumped around the Topcliffe area. If you note any of the above or any other similar incidents, please remember that any event, however small, is worth reporting to your local neighbourhood watch co-ordinator or possibly the police. Only that way can a picture be established of how big a problem it is and what action needs to be taken to eliminate such anti-social behaviour.

Asenby News— Summer Approaches?

With the weather eventually improving, we have been able to begin the much needed task of cutting the playing field grass. The new mowing rota is up and running. Many thanks to those of you who agreed to help.

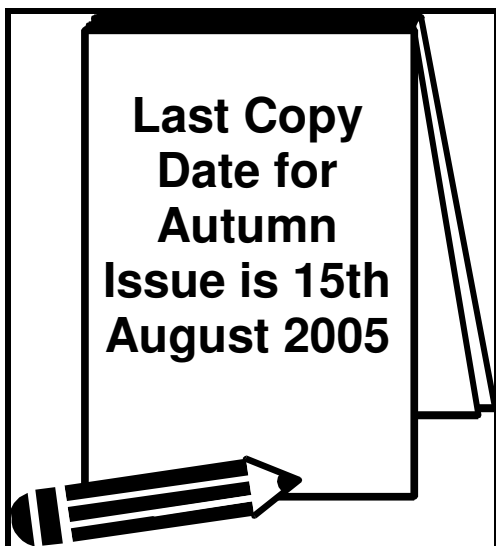
As the signs of summer begin, plans are afoot for the annual Asenby Barbeque. The probable date for this is Sunday 26th June, but watch out for flyers and posters nearer the time.

As always, the barbeque promises to be a fun and enjoyable afternoon for the family. There will be all of the old favourites and hopefully, many of the new ventures from last year such as the highly successful face painting and the delicious strawberries.

We have recently purchased two small marquees which means that even if it does rain, it won't stop the fun!!

Tickets will be available shortly from Jackie Avison on 578871, Emma McCormick on 577119 or any other member of the committee.

Emma McCormick



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**Thirsk School Bus Park
1p.m.—2 p.m. (enter by Gravel Hole Lane)
No car parking**

**The Angel Inn, Topcliffe
2.45 p.m.—4 p.m.**

SATURDAY 11TH JUNE

**Thirsk Market Place
All day.**

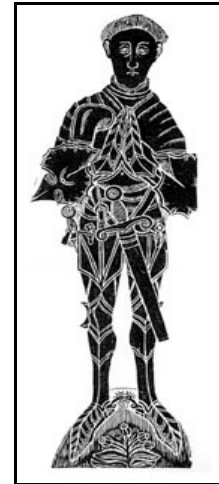
Come along and find out more



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Got Some Time? Find out how and where you can use it.**

Brass Rubbings at Baldersby



The Monumental Brass Society will be exhibiting high quality brass rubbings at Baldersby St. James Church between 5th and 13th August 2005. This will be combined with an exhibition of the church's embroidery, of which the church has some exceptionally fine examples.

The exhibition will be opened with a lecture from a leading expert on memorial brasses. During the week, there will be opportunities to try out brass rubbing your self and if you find it thirsty work, refreshments will be served daily.

If you are into monumental brasses, then this is a great opportunity to see some excellent exhibits right on your doorstep. If you're just curious, then why not go along and see what it's all about and try your hand at brass rubbing. More information about this fascinating subject can be found on the Monumental Brass Society's web site at www.mbs-brasses.co.uk

The event is in aid of the Church Spire restoration and there will be more publicity nearer the time.

Thirsk Festival

Most of you will be well aware that Thirsk Festival takes place between Saturday 2nd and Sunday 10th July. As usual, tickets for the top attractions are selling well and you will be lucky to get seats for Kenny Ball or the Searchers, despite more spaces being available this year.

However, there are still plenty of events worth attending and on Sunday 3rd July there will be a Grand European Tour by young musicians in St. Mary's Church, starting at 7.30 pm. The following day, in the Town Hall and starting at 8 pm the M & EM Dance Company will give a display of various dance styles and there will also be performance from two local dance groups, Thirsk School and Butterflies.

If music and dance is not to your taste, on Tuesday 5th there will be an Antiques Evening with Rory Wardroper (of Tennants) starting at 7.30 pm in the Golden Fleece Hotel. If you like gardening, then maybe you need to be in East Thirsk Community Centre at 7 pm on Wednesday 6th, as the "Thirsk in Bloom" team have arranged to have two one hour sessions of Radio York's "Down to Earth" programme recorded there that evening. ("Down to Earth" is the Radio York version of "Gardener's Question Time".)

As usual the festival will end with Gala days on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th. A 100 metre aerial ropeway will be erected for those looking for some action and this should go down well with children of all ages. If you prefer to be a spectator, then a Classic Vehicle Rally on the Saturday and "Extreme Team" motorcycle displays on the Sunday should keep you well entertained.

More information should have dropped through your letter box already, but if you require any further details visit the festival web site on www.thirskfestival.org or call the festival office on 01845 523833.

Friarage Hospital

The NHS is working together to look at the best ways of delivering hospital services for the local people of Hambleton and Richmondshire now and in the future.

Already building has begun on the Friarage Hospital's £21 million redevelopment to help provide a modern health service for patients in a warm and welcoming environment. But the reason behind this piece of work, which started 18 months ago, is that across the country the NHS is undergoing massive change affecting how and where services are provided.

Some of these changes are, inevitably, impacting on smaller hospitals such as the Friarage in Northallerton.

They include:

Changes in the number of hours junior doctors work, impacting strongly on services requiring 24-hour cover such as maternity and accident and emergency.

Historically doctors in training provided much of this so if working patterns stay the same, more doctors will be needed to run a 24-hour service.

Recruitment and retention of medical staff as the NHS continues to expand.

Patient access. Patients are having shorter waits for treatment and being given more choice about where and when they receive planned operations and other NHS services.

More advanced treatment. Medical technology is moving forward all the time. New technologies for treatment and diagnosis mean more patients are being treated by specialist doctors in larger, more specialist, hospitals.

Moves towards providing care closer to patients' homes and looking at the potential of providing more hospital care in the community and GP practices.

South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust and Hambleton and Richmondshire Primary Care Trust are currently working together to look at the best ways of sustaining local hospital-run services.

The first phase of this project began last year when NHS staff and members of the public were invited to take part in a number of meetings and workshops.

From these discussions it was agreed further work would be done to look at the best ways of organising services in four key areas – front-of-house (such as accident and emergency and the medical assessment unit), general surgery, anaesthetics, and women and children's services such as obstetrics.

A clinical futures board including NHS staff, patient and public forum representatives and members of the overview and scrutiny committees, has now been set up to oversee this review and look at the best way of safeguarding local health services at the Friarage Hospital and wider community in the long-term.

The board has held its first meeting of the year and further updates and information will be sent out after each meeting and is also available on the trusts' websites on www.Southtees.nhs.uk or www.hrpct.nhs.uk.

Public information meetings

Public information meetings have been held at Thirsk and Richmond in March and at Hawes in May. The last of these meetings will be at Hambleton Forum on Thursday 9th June starting at 7 pm. and if you would like to know more about the changes taking place then please come along and meet those involved.

St. Columba's Tower Re-dedication

A glorious Sunday, 24th April, was the date for the service of Thanksgiving and re-dedication for the restoration of the Church Tower. The service was conducted by the Bishop of Whitby, the right Reverend Robert Ladds and the Vicar of Topcliffe, the Reverend Christine Haddon-Reece.



A large congregation attended the service, and in addition to the church officers and members, those involved in the execution of the restoration work were also represented and

took part in the service. A fascinating sermon from the Bishop, which ranged from St. Columba via horticulture to tower restoration, was followed by prayers of re-dedication at the foot of the tower and refreshments in the Village Hall.

Although the tower stonework is now finished, there still remains work to be completed on the clock, (which at present gives the correct time twice a day) and the bells. Work is also required on the roof, so further fundraising is on the agenda.

Funds are still available for the clock and bells, although they are insufficient to carry out all the work required and further financing will be required. This work must be carried out to satisfy the terms of the English Heritage grant for the tower restoration and around another £7,000 (more if possible) will probably be required to complete the job.

As for the roof, discussions are taking place with English Heritage regarding grant aid for that work and these have reached Stage 1, which professionally determines the extent of work required.

Affordable Housing for Topcliffe?

Refurbished houses will soon be available for sale at Alanbrooke Barracks. In 1996, Annington Homes purchased 57,600 homes from the Ministry of Defence and these are now gradually being sold at locations all over the U.K.

The sales office at Alanbrooke has been open on Chestnut Avenue since 23rd May and houses will go on sale from 10th June. The initial release will be a number of 2 bedroom terraced and semi-detached homes and one 3-bedroomed semi detached home. These homes all have gas central heating, new front doors & canopies and have carpet & vinyl floor coverings.

Prices have yet to be announced but are likely to be very competitive if those at other locations are anything to go by. If you are interested, more information can be obtained from the site office, by phoning Annington on 0800 358118 or by visiting their website at www.annington.co.uk

St Columba's Church Services

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

June	Sunday	5th	Benefice Family Service	10.30 am
	Wednesday	8th	Holy Communion in the Percy Chapel	9.30 am
	Sunday	12th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sunday	19th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sunday	26th	Matins	10.30 am
	Sunday	26th	Choral Evensong	6.30 pm
July	Sunday	3rd	Benefice Family Service	10.30 am
	Wednesday	6th	Holy Communion in the Percy Chapel	9.30 am
	Sunday	10th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sunday	17th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sunday	24th	Matins	10.30 am
	Sunday	24th	Choral Evensong	6.30 pm
	Sunday	31st	Prayer Book Holy Communion	10.30 am
August	Sunday	7th	Benefice Family Service	10.30 am
	Sunday	14th	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sunday	21st	Holy Communion	10.30 am
	Sunday	28th	Matins	10.30 am
	Sunday	28th	Choral Evensong	6.30 pm
September	Sunday	4th	Benefice Family Service	10.30 am
	Wednesday	7th	Holy Communion in the Percy Chapel	9.30 am
	Sunday	11th	Holy Communion	10.30 am

NB. No mid-week Holy Communion during August

Attic Auction raises over £1,000

For the second year running, the auction has raised over £1000 for Church funds. Thanks to the generosity of contributors and buyers, and the hard work of auctioneer John Phillips and all his helpers, the Attic Auction held on 7th May raised £1002.

Grateful thanks to all concerned. The money raised will help keep the Church Restoration funds in good shape, as although the tower stonework is now finished, there is still work to complete on the clock and bells.

St. Columba's Summer Fayre

More fundraising for the Church will take place with the Summer Fayre in the Village Hall between 7pm – 9pm on Friday 1st July.

Please come along and support the event which will have all the usual stalls including home-made cakes, plants, bric-a brac and tombola.

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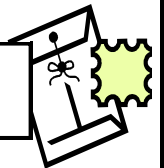
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Topcliffe School



Another busy time for the school during the last three months starting with the children taking an active part in the Mothering Day service at St. Columba's, singing and reading, all beautifully performed. This was followed by Class 1 enjoying an Easter Egg Hunt at the Crab & Lobster on 14th March – no doubt much chocolate was consumed afterwards. Also at Easter, an egg decorating competition and "Eggstravaganza" arranged by Friends of Topcliffe School raised over £122 for school funds.

Football is maybe a subject best not discussed too much, as the team has had some poor results this year, however football (and cricket) coaching will be available in the summer and hopefully there will be better luck and results during the next season!

At the beginning of May, a portable Planetarium was erected in the school hall and a great learning experience was had by all as the heavens were explored and explained by Dr. Fred Stevenson. The children of Baldersby & Dishforth schools joined the Topcliffe children for this terrific experience.

The new term starts on 6th June, with many activities planned until the summer break. Trips to Hartlepool Historic Quay, Eden Camp and Fountains Abbey are scheduled as well as more traditional matters such as school photographs and reports! Friday 15th July is the date for the School Production and Barbeque and Sports Day will be on the following Monday. Good weather has been requested for both events! End of term will be 22nd of July, when the school will say good-bye to Linda Fairburn who will retire after 19 years at Topcliffe. A new teacher, Nickolas Rathbone has been appointed and he will join the school in September to teach Class 1.

Finally, for you Tesco shoppers, thanks to all who collected the Computers for Schools vouchers. The school has now enough vouchers for one new computer, but they are still being received until the end of the academic year. Please have a rummage in bags, pockets and cars to see if any have escaped. The school is aiming for two computers this year!

Topcliffe Parish Council - Neighbourhood Watch - Co-Ordinator List

Co-ordinator	Address	Tel:	Area Covered
Dave Bowman	21 East Lee	577843	East Lea
Lynn Heidstrom	32 East Lee	577437	East Lea
Linda Carver	Green Acres	578014	1 - 12 East Lea
Julie Clayton	Manor Close	577081	Winn Lane / Manor Close Back Lane & Long St east of Back Lane
John Key	Cliff House Cottage, Long St.	577072	Long St west of Back Lane
Mrs Acaster	4 Swaleview	578036	Swaleview
Jenny Trollope	Kenilworth, Church St.	577397	Church St.
David Pilgrim	Mill Rise, Front Street	578669	Front St.
Doug Allen	7 Dovecote Mews	578526	Dovecote Mews
Pauline Hindmarch	Moot Hall, Dean Square	577508	Dean Square
Sandra McGrail	Kyber House, Station Road	577675	Station Road

Useful Telephone Numbers

Topcliffe Surgery	577297	Friarage Hosp.	01609 779911	Gas Emergencies	0800 111 999
Police	0845 60 60 24 7	Hambleton DC	01609 779977	Harrogate BC	01423 568954
Hambleton District Councillor (Topcliffe Ward) - Neville Huxtable 01845 501068 (E-mail NWH@dwny.fsnet.co.uk)					

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