

A Hundred Years in Asenby

A hundred years ago, Peter Halliday was born, the youngest of nine children, in Asenby where he still lives to this day. Life began in the cobbler's shop but when he was two, the family moved to the blacksmith's forge. Now he lives in his bungalow, making his own meals, tackling crosswords and listening to music. His next door neighbour helps him with shopping, and frozen meals are delivered to supplement his home cooking.



The centenarian attended Topcliffe School when it was situated in what is now the post office. Surprisingly, he recalled that there were about one hundred children attending at that time, pointing out that families were bigger in the early 20th century and that the majority of children stayed at the local school until they were 14 or 15, rather than move to the secondary school in Thirsk. He left at 15 and worked for Lord Roseberry at Mentmore in Buckinghamshire, spending seven years as a gardener, then three years as chauffeur to Lord Roseberry.

He returned home from Mentmore to resume working in the blacksmith's before being called up to serve in the second world war, where he became chauffeur to an army officer, travelling no further than the Isle of Skye during his service. On his discharge, Mr Halliday returned to the blacksmith's shop where he continued to work until 1990.

No doubt the fact that he never married has equipped him well for a life of independence. Yet because he was born into a large family, he says that he is not without visitors. His birthday was spent at home with family and friends who presented him with a birthday cake, fortunately, for health and safety reasons, not adorned with 100 candles. His card from the Queen has pride of place among the many greetings sent to mark a great occasion. He reveals nothing when asked the usual question about the secret of a long and healthy life, but his gentle demeanour suggests that Peter Halliday is a contented man.

Topcliffe School's Got Rhythm

Topcliffe School had a fantastic musical experience when 'Music for Life', in the form of Dan Whibley and Naomi Atherton, paid a visit and showed them all the fun to be had making music. Not only that, the children themselves became an orchestra without instruments.



At the beginning of the day, Dan, on double bass, and Naomi, playing the French horn, performed a concert for children and staff. This was followed by workshops for all KS2 children who, with guidance from the two musicians, later demonstrated to the rest of the school, as well as parents and staff, the many wonderful ways they could create a glorious myriad of sounds using only voices and hands. Music has never sounded more joyful, nor has an orchestra ever looked so enthralled!

Dalton Ladies' Club

Following the demise of Dalton WI, several of the members decided to form the Dalton Ladies' Club. The meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of every month in Dalton Village Hall at 7.30pm. It's hoped that there will be plenty of interesting speakers, plus other activities to keep everyone entertained.

At the February Meeting, members and friends enjoyed a demonstration of Clinique products with a brief history of the company by Eve and Sandra. Barbara Swales received a facial, which felt and looked very good. Everyone received a goody bag containing some of the company's products then tea and biscuits were served as usual. The members were pleased to send a donation of £300 toward the purchase of an "All-terrain" wheelchair for Nic Kane from Sandhutton, who is paralysed following a road traffic accident. The March Meeting will be held on the 14th at 7.30 and will include a return visit by Barbara Dixon talking about the many humorous and interesting incidents she experienced as a Registrar. All are welcome.

Race Night

A Race Night has been planned for March 15th to raise funds for Topcliffe Bowling Club. All the action is at the Conservative Club in Thirsk and starts at 7.30pm.

There will be free entry and a free supper. Call Louise Bumby on 01845 524551 for more details.



Pilates at the Village Hall

Monday 9-9.30am
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Monday 9.30-10.30am
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Tuesday 9-9.30am
KETTLE BELL PILATES

Classic Pilates. Core strength work & stretching.

Tuesday 9.30-10.30am
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Thursday 10.15-11.15am
MIXED EQUIPMENT PILATES CLASS

Certified Pilates Instructor and Sport Therapist. Please ring Nicole on 07887 581364 for more information or to book a place.

Spring has sprung... so think Produce Show

After a very cold winter it's great to look forward to a sunny summer. Let's hope that we get one!

Springtime means those gardeners among us will be actively working on their garden or allotment and making plans for this year's Produce Show, which this year will be held on Saturday, 31 August.

Though it may be too late to sow some produce, such as onions from seed, especially if you are looking to grow large ones, now is the time to start thinking of what you might grow and what you intend to enter in the Show. It's all about knowing the target date for honing our crops and ensuring they are at their best for showing on the day.

This year's list has 42 horticultural classes, 16 baking/preserves classes, 2 floral classes, 10 hobbies classes and 5 specific classes for entries from children. It's worth checking the 2013 list and rules, which are now available on both village websites - www.asenby.net and www.topcliffe.net

Alternatively, email doug@dougallan.co.uk and he'll send you a copy.

Doug Allan

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



YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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

Isobel Peters (Clerk)

Tel: 07739 258650 isobelpeters@goolemail.com

Topcliffe Parish Council news

The past 12 months have been a fairly steady period in Parish affairs with some interesting exceptions. The council received an excellent report on its accounts - our thanks to the Clerk. We can look forward to no increase in Parish precept for this year and the account balance is healthy.

Last year we received comment from the school about vehicles speeding past the school. The council immediately reacted by commissioning and mounting signage outside the school asking people to park on the road and not the verges. This was building upon advice received for Long Street. We also requested data gathering equipment which was installed 7-14 September and which gathered information on speed and length of each vehicle in either direction. The results were alarming. Over the week there were approximately 10,000 movements out of the village and 9,000 inwards. The average speed outbound was 45mph, inbound 40mph. However, some vehicles, mostly cars and vans, had been travelling at 50, 55 and even 68mph,. Prior to 08.30pm virtually no driver obeyed the speed limit in either direction. With people parking as requested, those obeying the speed limit rose to 70% between 08.30 and 09.15 with breaking of the speed limit then rising dramatically until 1515 -1600, when obeying the speed limit was again back to around 70% and rose dramatically again afterwards. This demonstrated that the immediate action worked to a great extent at least during the most vulnerable periods for our children.

Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall Improvements

The Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall Committee has started a project to refurbish and improve some of the facilities at the village hall. If approved, and with sufficient funding, phase one of the refurbishment is to update and improve the foyer and toilets, with phase two (at a later date) updating the kitchen facilities.

Plans for the proposed build are posted in the village hall entry foyer; access to view (if you're unable to view during normal organised events) can be arranged by contacting any of the committee members. Helpful comment on both the proposed plan, and any potential help for funding the project along with any relevant expertise, will be gratefully received.

The Village Hall Committee

The last parish council meeting was informed by the Richmond and Hambleton Safety Partnership and NYCC Traffic Management that speeds were still too high and that enforcement action had taken place and will continue to do so. Last month a camera van deployed for 30 minutes and made 29 prosecutions or cautions. Beware. This is ongoing.

We had quite a blow recently. The clutch of the refurbished mower gave up the ghost. Spares are seemingly impossible to obtain. Having looked at several options, a new replacement is not possible and second hand ones are around £4,000 with all the problems of maintenance and fuel. It seems likely but not yet confirmed by formal meeting that the cutting will be outsourced as the projected cost of a second hand mower would cover (at current prices) eight years of cuts. If anyone has any connections or suggestions in the regard, please contact the council.

Garry Key (Chairman of Topcliffe Parish Council)



Here is Jackie Hemmingway who has been the cook at Topcliffe School now for over a year. She put on a brilliant Christmas lunch for umpteen people with all their dietary foibles and quirks catered for.





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An MBE for a Local Hero

Major Kevin Young, a well-known resident of Topcliffe, has most deservedly been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List. Having been enlisted into the army in Sunderland in 1975, Kev completed basic training in Woolwich, London after which, he was posted to Germany where he was employed as a gunner within the Royal Artillery. He has had an impressive army career that saw him promoted through the ranks to Regimental Sergeant Major before being commissioned in 1997. He has deployed throughout the world, including Northern Ireland, The Falkland Islands, Bosnia, Kosovo and Iraq. In later years, Kev has been employed as a Company Commander at the Army Foundation College in Harrogate, a Staff Officer within Army Recruiting, and more recently working within the military welfare system.



During his appointment as Welfare Officer with 4th Regiment Royal Artillery based at Topcliffe, Kev was responsible for supporting all soldiers and families of the Regiment, both married and single. He was also responsible for building strong links with the local community in the Topcliffe and surrounding area, in particular during a very

demanding period when the Regiment had deployed to Afghanistan and suffered a number of fatalities and casualties.

Having recently taken over the appointment of Officer Commanding of the Personnel Recovery Centre in Catterick, he and his Training Team, as well as a number of charities, are responsible for wounded, injured and sick soldiers who are supported through their recovery pathway. The current centre caters for up to 35 soldiers, but in May 2013 Gaza Barracks will be the location for a new purpose-built centre which will be capable of supporting up to 50 individuals.

A thoughtful man, Kev said, "It has been an honour to receive the MBE having completed some 37 years of service. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wife, family and everyone who has supported me throughout my career. My tenure as Welfare Officer with 4th Regiment Royal Artillery was probably one of the most demanding roles I have undertaken and I would personally like to thank the regiment, my own welfare team and a whole host of civilian agencies who supported the regiment so well. The regiment are currently deployed back in Afghanistan as part of 4th Mechanised Brigade and I wish them a continued safe tour and a speedy return."

Kev's wife, Lorna, Lyn and David will of course be accompanying Kev to Buckingham Palace. And not only will Kev have the honour of meeting the Queen, there will be two nights at Claridges for the family, one of which will be paid for by the hotel. As a mark of respect, many of the London hotels have offered a free night's stay to members of the armed forces who have been mentioned in the New Year's Honours List. The Tattler hopes to publish a photograph of the family at Buckingham Place when Kev receives his MBE.

Asenby News

The annual mulled wine evening was another success this year, raising much needed funds for the maintenance of the play area as well as the flower basket. Thank you to everyone who attended and especially to The Crab and Lobster for kindly allowing us to use their conservatory again.

Another fantastic Christmas shopping trip preceded this and we hope everyone who came along had a great time.

The St George Quiz will again be held at the Lamb Inn in Rainton on 23rd April. It is a really fun quiz, with questions for everyone, spot prizes, bangers and mash and apple pie. It would be fantastic to see a few more villagers there this year. The quiz will start at 7.30 with food at 8.

For tickets (£7.50 each) call Lisa on 595052

Emma McCormick

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Home and outbuilding security

Following a spate of burglaries in Topcliffe and Asenby, it is vital that we all do what we can to ensure we have in place appropriate security to protect our property.

First of all, it is important to understand that more than a third of all burglaries are crimes of opportunity, where the burglar enters through unlocked doors or windows to steal our possessions. So obviously, it is important to keep your home secure at all times, not just when you are out.

According to the Home Office, we are ten times more likely to be burgled if we don't have basic security - even something as simple as putting strong locks on your doors and windows will keep our homes much safer.

Nationwide, burglary has fallen by nearly 60% since 1995 – though statistics like this mean little when you are a victim. So here are the Tattler's top twenty security tips – ten for your house and ten for outbuildings:

Securing your home

1. Fit strong locks to external doors and windows, and make sure they are locked at all times.
2. Always remove all keys from inside locks, and keep them out of sight and in a safe place.
3. Fit sturdy deadlocks (British Standard BS3621) to all doors. Euro cylinder locks should bear the new standard TS007.
4. Make sure your doors and frames are strong and in good condition - wood doors should be at least 44mm thick.
5. Mark your property - having it marked helps police verify it's been stolen.
6. Fit a door chain or bar and door viewer (spy-hole), and use them.
7. Never leave a spare key in a convenient hiding place such as under the doormat, in a flowerpot or behind a loose brick - thieves know to look there first.
8. When you are out in the evening, leave your lights on and shut the curtains.
9. Install outside security lighting; if other people can see your property a burglar may think twice.
10. Keep your tools and ladders securely locked up - a burglar could use them to get into your house.

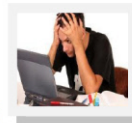
Securing your outbuildings

1. If you have a door lock or window lock on your outbuilding, use it.
2. If you don't have a lock look at what type you could fit. In some cases a simple padlock and hasp correctly fitted to a door can deter the opportunist thief. Use a close coupled padlock for increased security.

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3. Fit window locks or a grill to the inside of garage and shed windows.
4. Garage doors should be lockable or secured by padlocks. A simple method of security for up and over doors is to drill a hole in the top channel above the wheels and insert a padlock into the hole. This prevents the wheel moving above the padlock so keeping the door closed.
5. If you have an integral door between your home and garage. Consider this as an external door and secure it appropriately. Don't forget to keep it locked.
6. Consider external lighting, either dusk 'to dawn lighting or PIR lighting dependant on the location of the outbuilding.
7. Consider marking your valuable items with your postcode in a prominent position or by forensic marking of which there are several inexpensive choices available.
8. Consider placing smaller items in a secure cabinet within your shed or garage, or store them in your home. Do NOT store petrol or other fuels in your home.
9. Consider a shed alarm, an inexpensive item easily fitted.
10. Keep your keys secure. Do not leave any car or house keys in any shed or outbuilding.

How You Can Help the Homeless

North Yorkshire and York Forum have been awarded the "Community Champion" contract by North Yorkshire County Homeless Group, to publicise a new initiative for helping those who find themselves having to sleep rough. This is a "proactive scheme" designed to inform members of the public how to access help for anyone who becomes homeless.

Streetlinkon 0300 500 0914 is a national helpline which can be used by anyone who is concerned about an individual living on the streets.

Bob Curry

On Behalf of the North Yorkshire Homeless Group

10th June 2015 - 800th Anniversary of signing of Magna Carta

One of the most important historical events of the Medieval era was the signing of the Magna Carta, an event which is considered to be the founding document of English liberties and hence American liberties. The influence of Magna Carta can be seen in the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Article 21 from the Declaration of Rights in the Maryland Constitution of 1776 reads:

"That no freeman ought to be taken, or imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties, or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed, or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land."

The purpose of the Magna Carta was to curb the King and make him governed by the old English laws that had prevailed before the Normans came. The Magna Carta was a collection of 37 English laws - some copied, some recollected, some old and some new. The Magna Carta was drafted by Archbishop Stephen Langton and the most powerful Barons in England and signed by King John, 10th June 1215. The King was renowned for conceit and connivance and 25 Barons were duly nominated to act as sureties to ensure that he kept his word, which he later did not. One such Baron was Richard de Percy, resident at the time at Maiden Bower and adjacent area and leader of the sureties.

Given that there are only 25 surety manors around the country, a proposal has come forward to hold some form of celebration or festival to remember this historic event. How or in what form this should be has not been decided. The Parish Council has discussed the matter and propose to set up an independent committee to consult, discuss, map a way forward and manage the project, if that is the way the people of the village and surrounding are in agreement. I therefore ask those who would like to get involved in any way to contact myself, other councillors or the clerk to register interest. The date is over two years away but these events can take time to bring to fruition. There is considerable interest in the project from local schools as a learning medium, Hambleton District Council and local businesses so support is there for the right projects, so please come forward.

Garry Key

Snooker Club

We are still looking for members, new and old.

Members must be at least 18 years of age.

Membership is due to be paid on September 1st.



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Always Something Going On

The Senior Citizens Club held an Antique Road Show recently when John Phillips invited the members to bring along any interesting memorabilia or knick-knacks. He discussed with the owners the provenance of the items and their possible value, later showing, and giving a talk, on some of his own antiques, and setting a competition for the club's members where they guessed the value of various items.



The meeting in March was somewhat more energetic when physiotherapist, Rosemary Walmsley, encouraged everyone to get moving. There was nothing too taxing but it was very well-planned and the exercises were designed to loosen joints and flex muscles.

A cruise on April 2nd is already fully booked. Although it won't be visiting the bulb fields of Holland or the Rhine, it will be a grand day out, aboard The Teeside Princess. Transport is provided, as is a good roast lunch with apple pie. A lovely day spent in the company of friends is guaranteed.

Senior Citizens know how to have a good time so why not join in? Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month in the village hall from 2-4pm. Tea and cake and a raffle are always part of the afternoon's programme.

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Tattler Open Letter to Residents of Topcliffe and Asenby

The Deer Shed Festival is taking place in Baldersby Park on July 19-21 this year. Deer Shed Festival Ltd are promoting this event and, as part of our premises licence, we are obliged to inform all local residents within 500 metres of the event site of a telephone number which they can call to complain about any aspect of the festival relating to noise.

The telephone number is 07523 537146 and it will be manned throughout the event.

Please be aware that noise from the site may be audible during the festival but should not be audible after 11pm on any day. The noise levels will be monitored by an independent party throughout so that they fall within the limits set by Harrogate council.

We will continue to strive to comply with all noise control guidelines in 2013 as we have done in previous years.

If you have any questions relating to this letter please feel free to call me on 01845 595980.

Yours sincerely
Oliver Jones

DIRECTOR, DEER SHED FESTIVAL LTD

Environment Agency

Mann Power Consultancy Ltd on behalf of UK Hydro Ltd is applying for a licence to obstruct or impede the flow of water at the River Swale. The object of impounding water by means of the works is to construct a hydro-power scheme for the generation of electricity via two twin Archimedes Screw Turbines.

The impounding structure will consist of two twin Archimedes Screw Turbines, control room and associated housing constructed within the River Swale, incorporating two sluice gates, a coarse screen with 150 millimetres bar spacing, a fish pass, eel pass and an intake chamber.

The water will be used for generation of hydro-electric power. All water abstracted will be returned from the turbine house to the river at National Grid Reference SE 39658 76319.

A copy of the application, map plan and any other document submitted with it may be inspected free of charge at The Environment Agency, 8 City Walk, Leeds LS11 9AT during normal office hours.

Any person who wishes to make representations about the application must do so in writing, quoting the name of the applicant and Reference Number NPS/WR/007396 to the Environment Agency, at Permitting Support Centre, Water Resources, Quadrant 2, 99 Parkway Avenue, Parkway Business Park, Sheffield, S9 4WF by no later than March 20th 2013.

This was taken from Public Notices in the North Yorkshire News.

Please keep your trees...

Please keep your trees
and bushes trimmed.
Branches which overhang
footpaths cause both
inconvenience and a danger
to the public when they have to
step into the road to get past.



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- * prizes for best costumes
- * tickets £10 from Judy Lowe at 577911

THE TATTLER NEEDS YOU!

People are needed to help deliver the Tattler to homes in Topcliffe. If you can spare a few hours to help us every 3 months, please phone 578076

A Pleasant Seat on which To Survey the Scenery

Asenby Parish council has purchased, on behalf of the village, a bench seat commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The bench will be situated on the riverside walk (when the weather improves) and a plaque will be attached stating the above.



It is hoped to situate the bench close to the Topcliffe bridge entry to the walk.

A.P.C.

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A Good Book and a Nice Cup of Tea

The Book Exchange at the village hall has become ever more popular, where there is a wide range of fiction and non-fiction; something for everybody as they say. If you haven't paid it a visit yet, call into the back room any Tuesday afternoon from 3-5pm. Donations of books are very welcome as refreshing the stocks will go down especially well with the regulars. Cups of tea and a chat are always available and nobody ever gets "shushed".



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.

Local Telephone Numbers & Websites

Topcliffe Surgery - 577297

www.topcliffesurgery.co.uk

Friarage Hospital - 01609 779911

www.southtees.nhs.uk

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