



THE TATTLER



Topcliffe and Asenby Times

An Amazing And Unexpected Letter From Australia

My name is Jane Enright nee Fyfe. I live in a small coastal village called Rosedale on the south coast of New South Wales in Australia. I am first generation Australian and grew up here with my parents and four siblings but without any relatives. My father left England in 1953, aged 20, to follow his heart and his girlfriend, later his wife (whose father had been offered a position in Canberra), to make a new life in Australia. They married here in 1955.



In recent years I have become more than a little obsessed with family history and trying to put the small fragments of information that I did have together, to try to understand my roots in the UK on the other side of the world. And here Topcliffe comes into the picture.

I came across your newsletter purely by chance when I googled - "Dickenson, Topcliffe" - in the hope that I might find some information on long lost relatives. I could hardly believe my luck when I came across an article written in 2014 celebrating the life of Jean Dickenson who had died at the age of 90.

After reading the article I decided to contact the TATtler to see if I could get any more information so that I could confirm that Jean had in fact been a relative of my father Malcolm Fyfe.

Vicki Moores kindly answered my email straight away and put me onto her good friend and past Topcliffe resident Jan Dickenson. What a stroke of luck!



Jean Dickenson

My great grandmother was born in 1872, Mary Jane Dickenson. She was the daughter of Barnard (local butcher) and Mary Hannah Cooper of Topcliffe. Researching from across the seas has proved very difficult, partly due to the fact that my father Malcolm Fyfe, had very little information about his grandparents. His father John Barnard Fyfe, RAF, was killed in action, in August 1940 when dad was only seven. His mother apparently did not have a good relationship with her mother-in-law, therefore, stories were not shared or told.

Dad does remember Granny Fyfe (Mary Jane Dickenson Fyfe) but never knew her well. He spent 10 years at boarding school and so family for him was limited.

Mary Jane married my great grandfather David Adam Fyfe in Thirsk I believe. We have very little detail of this part of the family history. They had two sons, David and John (my grandfather).

David Adam Fyfe was born in Scotland so I wonder what took him to Topcliffe (Thirsk?) and how the two met. I guess I shall never know, but to have this connection via your wonderful newsletter has proved invaluable.

Jan Dickenson has been a wonder, a generous source of information including a few photos that had never been seen before, and we have determined that she and my father are 2nd cousins!



This photo is courtesy of Jan Dickenson. It shows Barnard Dickenson (in hat) and my great grandmother Mary Jane Fyfe (Dickenson) and my grandfather John and his brother David. I assume this was taken in Topcliffe? When?

If anyone has any further information, please email me at jane.enright@gmail.com

Midsummer Brunch

The Midsummer Brunch in Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall was a happy success but the recent Autumn one was even better. The customers just kept coming and by the end of the morning, there was scarcely a sausage or rasher of bacon left. The atmosphere was extremely sociable and with constant cups of tea and coffee being served at no extra charge, lots of people were content to stay for the full two hours. Many commented that they'd seen friends and neighbours they hadn't bumped into for ages and there certainly seemed to be lots of catching-up going on.

Local farmer and Parish Council Chairperson Anne-Marie Barningham provided the eggs and milk, and Hartleys of Helperby sold sausages and bacon at cost price.

The event was held in aid of the village hall, and was an excellent excuse for a friendly get-together. £223.25 was raised which was almost £50 more than the summer event.



Toiling over a hot oven and hot teapots are Kim Hughes, Emily Collard, Heather Holt, Karen Thomis and Vicki Moores.

The next Brunch will be February 25th. So already a date for next year to put in your diaries.

Christmas Lunch

The very popular Christmas Lunch will be served on December 19 in the village hall. Ring Judith on 577911 for more information. For £15 a fantastic meal which includes turkey and all the trimmings will be served. The lunch is for the over-65s and places are limited.



As you can see, everyone certainly tucked in last year.

Report From The Village Hall

There was a range of matters discussed at the village hall meeting held 22 November. Here's a summary of the important issues:

- A baby-changing unit has now been installed in the hall.
- The mobility railings for the entrance paths and steps have now been installed. The rails were provided at cost by Dalton-based NTS and they were fabricated by local company K2 Design and Fabrication.
- Both Asenby's and Topcliffe's Parish Councils have now contributed towards the cost of the railings; the former gave £300 and the latter £400. A big thank you to both councils.
- Cargills of Dalton have kindly donated £150 towards the village hall's development costs.
- An application for grant assistance to Hambleton Council's 'Make a Difference' scheme to help fund a canopy over the front entrance of the hall has been turned down.
- The Scarecrow Festival - which was initially was planned for 2017 but which proved difficult to deliver - will go ahead in 2018. Plans will be developed over the next month or two so that plenty of notice can be given to residents who we are sure will enthusiastically support the event.
- Watch out for further news of a training and information session being organised for local people who wish to get an understanding of how the defibrillator, recently installed at the Doctor's Surgery, works.
- A wide range of exciting events are being planned for the village hall in the New Year. These include the next Sunday Brunch in February, afternoon tea on Easter Saturday, a social night to celebrate St. George's Day in April. Exciting plans are being drawn up for a Blues Night, Magic Circle Night and Horseracing Night.

Village Hall Events Via Email

Do you want to hear directly about interesting events coming up at the village hall? If so, get in touch with committee member, Doug Allan, who now and again circulates an email highlighting key details and dates. So far there are around 100 people on the database.

Doug promises not to send too many emails and will keep those he does circulate short and sweet.

If you would like to be added to the list, simply drop Doug an email - doug@dougallan.co.uk - and he'll do the rest.

*The Vicar and Members of the Parochial Church Council
wish you all a very*

*Happy Christmas
and
every blessing for the New Year*

and look forward to seeing you at the Services

1st Topcliffe Leader Going To 2019 World Scout Jamboree

Dave Baker, Assistant Scout Leader to 1st Topcliffe Scouts has been selected by the county to be part of the Leadership team for the 24th World Scout Jamboree in North America in 2019

County Commissioner Mark Edwards said: "An excellent group of members applied for leadership appointments and it's regrettable that we could not offer all of them a role."

Some 69 Scouts and Explorer Scouts attended the Contingent Selection Camp at Snowball Plantation on the weekend of the 10th & 11th November. As a result, 54 have now been selected to represent the county at the 24th World Scout Jamboree.

The focus will turn to fundraising for the young members who will make up the Jamboree contingent and Dave hopes to include his local area in helping to fund raise for this unique, cultural, educational and what should be a memorable Scouting event in the Summer of 2019.



Dave (centre) with the other North Yorkshire Unit Leaders.

When Santa Called In At The Angel

Lots of young families were enjoying a cracking lunch at The Angel recently when who should drop by but a familiar figure with a white beard and a jovial twinkle. Never mind the reindeer, this Santa had a friendly sprightly elf to assist. Fortunately, the staff were expecting them and had prepared a very cosy and colourful grotto where the man himself could receive his young admirers who were happy to give him their requests for a perfect Christmas Day.



Well done Greg and staff for organising a fantastic event and many thanks to West Park Inns who pay for every edition of The Tattler.

Scout Cooking Competition Rivals "Master Chef"

1st Topcliffe Scouts have won the Scout County Cooking Competition for the second year running. They retained the title from 2016.

Sunday, 8th October saw the largest entry list for the North Yorkshire Scouts' Annual Camp Cooking Competition so far. 28 teams from North Yorkshire Scout Groups registered. It took place at Easingwold Outdoor Centre (Dawney Bridge).

Each team of three were required to produce a meal for four (main meal and either starter or dessert) that they might serve at a scout camp. This was using a maximum of two rings or burners, no grills or any other aids that they might not have when camping - and all in two hours.

The three judges, Mark Edwards, Keith Cartwright and Felicity Hackett, all members of the County Scouting HQ Staff, managed to agree on the winners.



FIRST PLACE: 1st Topcliffe Scouts - Oliver, Chloe, Grace: Team Name - "Clifftop Cafe" won with Pan Fried Salmon and parsley sauce with new potatoes, mange touts and baby carrots with Tiramisu for dessert.

Congratulations to Ripon and District: Not only did 1st Topcliffe Scouts achieve a first for the second year running but their Hillside Group also managed to get second prize.

The Scouts are looking for new recruits. Would any boys and girls who would like to join in with their activities and adventures, ring Dave Baker on 07983033833.

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A Few Notes From Asenby!

Asenby Community Space will be alive to the sound of music thanks to Harrogate Borough Council Small Grants Scheme.

An innovative plan to develop an Acoustic Corner in the recreation field at the bottom of Jamesville Way has inspired the judges of the small grants scheme to award £3000 for the purchase and installation of a Bell Tree, Tongue Drum, Chimes and Bongos.

Today it is well understood that every child benefits from the opportunity to express themselves through play. Combine that with the fun factor of outdoor percussive instruments and this will encourage general cognitive and motor skills, social interaction, critical and artistic thinking and emotional and mental balance. Percussion instruments are the simplest of all musical instruments but also the easiest to figure out. But most of all...they're just fun!

The four eco-acoustic items, which will be ordered from Leeds based company Simply Playgrounds Ltd, are also eco friendly with 100% recycled plastic posts, and ready for installation. The committee of Asenby Community Space hopes to install the four pieces in the early spring with a special opening ceremony on the field. Watch this space for more news.....



The small committee is always on the lookout for more members to help with inventive fund-raising and development of this vital community resource. If you would like to be a part of the future of Asenby Community Space, contact Siobhan Gifford on 578300.

Messy Christingle

Give people of any age the opportunity to start creating something out of an orange, plus a few candles and cocktail sticks, and it's going to be a bit messy. But of course that's part of the fun. The Rev'd Susanne was on hand to help everyone produce a perfect Christingle orange.



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Christmas Celebrations at Topcliffe Church

Nine Lessons & Carols	Sunday 17th	6.30pm
Crib Service	Christmas Eve Sunday 24th	2.00pm
Midnight Mass	Christmas Eve Sunday 24th	11.30pm
Christmas Morning Worship	Sunday 25th	9.00am
See out the Old Year and Welcome in the New Year		
Service at St John's Church, Skipton on Swale	Sunday 31st	10.00am

A warm welcome awaits you at all the services. We look forward to seeing you.

Village Hall Events		
Monday Morning	Pilates 9am-12am	N. Brule Walker 07887 581364
Monday Afternoon	Art Class 12am-5pm	
Monday Evening	Yoga 7pm-11.30pm	B. Walmsley 577976
Tuesday Afternoon	Boccia/Tues Club 12am-5pm	J. Lowe 577911
Tuesday Afternoon	Book Exchange 12am-5pm	L. Nuttall 577315
Tuesday Evening	Footloose Dance	E. Jakeman 07912 147386
Wednesday Morning	Daisychain 9am-12am	N. Fox 577739
Wednesday Afternoon	Hatha Yoga 12am-5pm	Yvonne Lovatt 07944 436718 Sept 21 st Onwards
Wednesday Evening	Beavers & Cubs 5pm-7pm	
Thursday Morning	Pilates 9am-12am	
Thursday Afternoon	Brownies 5pm-7pm	K. Roberts 577177
Thursday Evening	Indoor Carpet Bowls 7pm-11.30pm	D. Arkley 578728
Friday Evening	Scouts 7pm-11.30pm	Dave Baker 07983 033 833

MyTimeYoga

I am Yvonne Lovatt, the owner of MyTimeYoga. I have been running a class at Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall for almost one year now. The class is from 1.45-3pm on a Wednesday and all abilities can be accommodated.

My teaching is based on careful alignment in the poses and each week is usually a little different so there is always plenty of variety. Poses can be adjusted to suit a range of abilities and health issues. The class starts with a period of settling and pranayama (breath work), warm up movements working towards the main posture of the day and then a time of stretching out and ending with everyone's favourite part - savasana (relaxation).

If you would like to know more:

classes@mytimeyoga.uk

07944435718

Facebook: YogaYorkshire

www.mytimeyoga.uk



Message From The Chair Of Topcliffe Parish Council

In July, readers may remember that our footpaths were treated to a new slurry tar coating. This looked splendid for about a week (some say 3 days) but then the weeds and grass began to grow through. It was claimed that they had previously been pulled out before the tar was laid but clearly hadn't been sprayed. We look forward to seeing the pavements of Topcliffe getting the lawnmower treatment as soon as Spring arrives.

I'm sure most of you are aware that there have been some burglaries lately at Swale View bungalows. Please be vigilant, particularly in the dark evenings.

The school had a new classroom lifted into place in early September, which should help with the increasing number of new pupils. There is another problem which has worsened, however, and that is the disruptive parking, leading beyond the school at Anchor Dykes, down to the junction. If possible, would parents consider walking their children to and from school which would help cut down the number of cars and keep this busy time as safe as possible.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to looking out on Christmas morning to see snow and children out on their new bikes and scooters.

Anne-Marie Barningham

The Mummers Are Coming

Ripon Wakemen will perform the Topcliffe Blue Stots Mummers Play at various points round Topcliffe from about 11.30am onwards on December 31. The event starts at Swale View and finishes at The Angel with a music session.

If you've never managed to catch this extraordinary performance, it's certainly worth a viewing.

www.Topcliffe.net & www.Asenby.net
www.facebook.com/topcliffeasenbyvillagehall

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



The TATtler

Jumpers Galore At Asenby Mulled Wine Night!

Asenby villagers turned out in force on Sunday evening for the annual festive Mulled Wine & Mince Pie Evening in Asenby Hall, wearing a jovial selection of Christmas jumpers and antlers!

Over 64 tickets had been sold for the event which raised a magnificent £610 and this will go towards the maintenance and development of Asenby Community Space and the play area. The Committee wants to give heartfelt thanks to all those



Liz and Steve enjoying a festive tippie.

who came to the event, all those who couldn't come but still bought tickets, and all those who so willingly donated our astonishing collection of raffle prizes. Too many people to mention supported our raffle, but special thanks must go to West Park Inns, Hambleton Ales, artist Chris Moss, the Elm Gallery, Hutton's Florists, Yorks Tearoom, Racha Thai Restaurant, Merryweather's Hair Salon and Sutton Bank Visitor Centre. Also as usual, immense thanks to Clare and John Phillips for providing the venue.

Asenby Institute Committee has worked hard this year building funds with three major events, Pie, Peas and a Pint night last February, the May Feast in...well May, and now the Mulled Wine night. We are in the process of buying and installing an eco-acoustic corner with four pieces of musical play equipment and our next projects are to fund and install some all-weather covered seating, plus a new series of fun events for 2018. We are always on the hunt for new committee members and are pleased to announce that we found one new member and two new helpers on Sunday night. There's still room for more though....

Any new prospective committee member phone Siobhan Gifford on 578300.



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News From Topcliffe Surgery

Dr Parker Achieves Quarter Of A Century!

Dr Parker celebrated 25 years of working at Topcliffe Surgery on 1st October 2017. The team had a small celebration tea party and Dr Doswell presented Dr Parker with a fob watch to mark this tremendous achievement. We all wish him many congratulations.



Flu Vaccinations

Flu occurs every year, usually in the winter, which is why it's sometimes called seasonal flu. It's a highly infectious disease with symptoms that come on very quickly. Colds are much less serious and usually start gradually with a stuffy or runny nose and a sore throat. A bad bout of flu can be much worse than a heavy cold.

The most common symptoms of flu are fever, chills, headache, aches and pains in the joints and muscles, and extreme tiredness. Healthy individuals usually recover within two to seven days, but for some the disease can lead to hospitalisation, permanent disability or even death.



Patients in the following groups are eligible for a flu vaccination:

- People aged 65 or over on 31 March 2018
- People aged from 6 months to 65 years with a serious medical condition such as:
 - Chronic Respiratory Disease
 - Chronic Heart Disease
 - Chronic Kidney Disease
 - Chronic Liver Disease
 - Chronic Neurological Disease
 - Low Immunity
 - Diabetes
 - Pregnant women
 - Obesity/Adults classed as morbidly obese
 - Carers
- People living in long stay care facilities where flu can spread rapidly

Appointments for flu vaccinations are now available to book at Topcliffe Surgery in early October. Please speak to a member of the reception team for more information. Tel: 577297.



Produce Show

Saturday 25 August - that's the date of the 2018 Topcliffe & Asenby Produce Show which as usual will be held at the village hall.

The Categories and Classes remain the same as in 2017 and these can be read on both village websites.

The general rules will remain as they are but in addition to the Trophy awarded to the person with the most points overall in the horticultural section, there'll be an additional award to the person with most "firsts" in that section. The winner will receive a special Rosebowl.

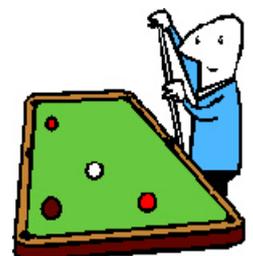


Our picture shows Doug Allan, who donated the Rosebowl and Peter Brown, who produced the base on to which the winner's shield will be attached each year. And, of course, both Pete and Doug will be going all out to be the first to have their name on the Rosebowl.

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News From The Elm Gallery

It's now two years since we opened the gallery in Topcliffe. It's been great getting to know people in the area and to see so many of our original customers taking the time to visit us, with many of them coming to do their Christmas shopping here.

The last couple of months have been quite eventful in both good and bad ways. We had a very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning here on Saturday 30th of September. So many people came and some came quite a long way, In total we raised £733 which smashed the previous year's total by over a hundred pounds! A big thank you to all of you who came and supported the Coffee Morning by eating cake, making donations, giving raffle prizes, making drinks, baking or washing up - it was really appreciated by us and by Macmillan Cancer Care.



It was only a few days after the Coffee Morning when, unfortunately, Dave had a heart attack. It was completely out of the blue and a great shock, as he had no previous history of heart trouble. We were both very fortunate that our neighbour, good friend and retired paramedic Debbie was at home and had a paramedic friend visiting her (what are the chances of that!) and they were able to take care of Dave whilst we waited for the ambulance and work with the crew when they arrived. We are both very grateful to everyone who helped and it is wonderful to still have Dave here! He now has two stents in his heart, put in at James Cook Hospital, where the staff were also excellent. He's doing very well, but won't be doing any more roofing! (Dave says the jury's out on that one!). Thank you for all your

good wishes and the many offers of help and support, which we've really appreciated.

We are starting to get busier for Christmas and we are now open late every Wednesday evening till 9pm, with free wine and nibbles to ease the strain of Christmas shopping! We are getting new hand made things in the gallery regularly and if you follow us on Facebook, you can keep up to date with new stock or better still, pop in and have a look!



We would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and

The Elm Gallery, Front Street, Topcliffe.
www.the-elm-gallery.co.uk 577316

News From Swaleside Holiday Park

Swaleside Holiday Park has held several events in recent months. The best apparently was the August Bank Holiday Annual BBQ Family Fundraising Day. £1194.66 was raised for the Air Ambulance and £270 for the Autism Society.

Swaleside is known for its fishing and so a competition was held between the Holiday Parks (Old Hall won) and several local people. Again we celebrated with a great BBQ, tombola and raffle.

Halloween was a brilliant event at the village hall. A local band, Ant and Frank, performed and the decor was appropriately lurid and sinister.

All events are open to people from Asenby and Topcliffe and mince pies and mulled wine will be served from December 22 when all will be welcome.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Topcliffe	Asenby
Anne-Marie Barningham (Chairman) 07740 175311	Peter Palmer (Chairman) Hilltop Farm 578057
Lynn Wallis (Vice Chair) 32 East Lea 577437	Judy Lowe (Vice Chair) Green End Dairy 577911
Debbie Roberts 577024	Mel Arkley Thistledhu, 7 Jamesville Way 578728
Garry Key Cliff House, Long St. 578900	Peter Dale 577373
Alex Little (Clerk) 07977 417428	Don Compton 577462
	Jayne Molyneux (Clerk) 595053



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