

Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish News

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Summer 2005

'WHEELIE' GOOD

UP and away! - the parish's newest leisure spot is proving a big hit with local BMX and skateboard enthusiasts.

They turned out in force to launch the new skatepark on Anchorage Lane playing field after parish councillors honoured their pledge to create more fun-time facilities for local young people.

The park, funded by Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish Council, with grants from waste recycling business WREN and Barclays Bank's Spaces for Sports scheme, is one of the best of its kind in the Doncaster area. The design, which included technical input from local resident Steve Gratton - a former skateboarding and BMX champion - includes various ramps and a large bowl, together with a seated area and a grid at the entrance to prevent dogs from entering the area.

It was officially opened by Cllr Malcolm Wood, then Chair of the parish council's Policy and General Purposes Committee and Cllr Pat Haith, then Chair of the Parish Council, who thanked WREN and Barclays Bank for backing the scheme, adding that it would not have been possible without their financial support.

Cllr Wood said: "A few years ago we carried out a parish appraisal to find out what changes local residents wanted to see take place in the parish. They told us they wanted more leisure opportunities for local youngsters, including skateboarding and BMX facilities. We've listened and acted and this magnificent new play area illustrates that the parish council delivers what it promises."



Malcolm Wood and Pat Haith officially open the park, helped by Local pupils Matthew White, Gary Sanderson and Marc Kendal and watched by Karen Swainston, Barclays, Victoria Mager, WREN, and Steve Gratton.



Nathan Hemstock, from Cusworth, shows how it's done.

The parish council is currently looking for more grant funding to pay for skateboarding coaching sessions at the park and there are plans to decorate the area using 'grafitti' artwork designed by local youngsters.

● One local problem has been that some people have been dragging waste wood pallets from stores on York Road onto the skateboard park area and setting fire to them. Community First and the Police are investigating. Please ring the Police on 0114 220 2020 if you see any vandalism.

Please keep Sprotbrough and Cusworth tidy - take your litter home !

Visit our new website at www.sc-pc.co.uk

SPROTBROUGH and Cusworth Parish Council has gone on-line.

We've become one of the first parish councils in the area to develop a website so people far and near can find out more about our work.

You can find us at www.sc-pc.co.uk

The site home page contains a number of buttons which, by simply clicking on any of them, will take you to various other pages. The site will continually develop but currently contains a variety of information, including:

- A news page
- Contact details for parish councilors and parish council staff.
- Agenda and minutes for the various meetings of the parish council.
- Information about the parish council's role.
- Booking details for local community centres.
- Local history.
- Useful community contacts.

In addition there is a downloadable leaflet showing the local Millennium Walk and details of other local walks will be added in the future.

Electronic versions of this newsletter are also being added so you can read about your local area when and wherever you are in the world just by having access to the internet.

You can also email your comments about the site - including any ideas for new pages or suggested improvements - to the parish clerk using the interactive email facility on the 'contact us' page'.

Chair of the Council, Cllr Doreen Woodhouse, said: "Sprotbrough and Cusworth has always been a forward-looking parish council, keen to engage with our local residents and keep them abreast of the work we are doing.

"The website will enable us to make available a lot of information, not just about the parish council, but also about activities that will be of interest to our local residents and even those further afield."

The website was designed by experts from Doncaster and South Humber Healthcare NHS Trust and the newsletter editor maintains the site.

If you have any ideas for improving the site, or if you would like to publicise a local event or community group, let us know. Visit the website and use the email link to send your information to us.

REMEMBERING ANN

PARISH councilors have unveiled a commemorative plaque in memory of former employee Ann Barnard.

Ann, a caretaker for over 20 years, died following a tragic road accident last year, and is sadly missed.

Cllrs Malcolm Wood and Pat Haith unveiled the special plaque at the entrance to the parish council's new pavilion on Anchorage Lane, watched by her proud husband Trevor, daughter Elizabeth and grand-daughter, Eleanor. The pavilion has been built in the shadow of the old 'portacabin' changing rooms that Ann used to keep spotlessly clean and was used by local football teams for around 20 seasons.



Village green is blooming lovely

GREEN-FINGERED Doncaster Council workers have turned Sprotbrough's village green into a blaze of colour.



They have planted scores of flowers to transform the former grassed area into an attractive focal point for visitors and residents alike.

The transformation follows the MAD - Making a Difference - week earlier this year when staff from Community First carried out a major tidy-up in the area as well as other community safety events, including security marking pupils' bikes at local schools.

Sharon West, Community First's team leader for Sprotbrough, said: "Local residents told us they would like to see a feature made of the green, so we listened and acted. It has been well received by residents."

Community First staff can be contacted on Doncaster 736000.

● FOLLOWING a request from the parish council for a dog waste bin to be installed on a green space to the east of the motorway bridge on Melton Road, the area has become much cleaner. Owners now use the bin to clean up after their pets and signs have been erected to warn those who don't of the penalties of dog fouling in the area.

Parish Council Backs Local First Responders

THE parish council has lent more support to a group of local volunteers who are trained to save lives in Sprotbrough.

For the past year the parish council has backed the six-strong Sprotbrough First Responders' squad by allowing them to use the Goldsmith Centre free of charge for their six-weekly refresher training sessions. Councillors were so impressed with the volunteers' commitment to helping the local community that they awarded a grant to pay for a special fluorescent jacket for each member.

South Yorkshire Ambulance Service (SYAS) paramedics have trained the First Responders to provide immediate care to people in the local area who :

- have collapsed;
- are showing signs of having a heart attack; or
- are having difficulty breathing.

Whilst on duty they can be called on to respond to calls in the Sprotbrough area to administer treatment until an ambulance crew arrives. The service is put into action once a 999 call has been received and an ambulance has been despatched. Members have already responded to local emergency calls, mainly to administer oxygen to people who were having difficulty breathing.

Volunteers work on a rota basis, giving as little or as much time as they can, whenever they can. They have all been trained in resuscitation and the use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) - used to deliver a controlled electric shock to the heart - as well as other skills to enable them to deal with incidents confidently. SYAS has kitted out the team with a £1600 defibrillator and other equipment and a mobile telephone link to the ambulance service's communications centre at Rotherham.

A number of similar First Responder schemes operate in communities across the Doncaster area and SYAS is keen to encourage more volunteers to get involved. Training is free and the skills learned could prove invaluable. Recently Sprotbrough members spent a morning at the NHS' 'hi-tech' Clinical Simulation Centre at Mexborough's Montagu Hospital, where they trained on a £400,000 'robot' patient that can speak and behave like a human patient. Funded by the Fred and Anne Green legacy, it is one of only a handful of its kind in the country.

- If you would like more information about the Sprotbrough First Responders' scheme, or are interested in joining, please contact David Smith or Julia Massey at South Yorkshire Ambulance Service on 01709 820520 ext 857. They would also like to hear from anyone interested in starting a similar scheme in Cusworth or Scawsby.



Sprotbrough First Responder Jacqui Carpenter in a training situation wearing one of the new jackets.

SUMMER SPORTS

STREETSPORT are to run a programme of FREE Summer sports activities for local youngsters, aged 8 to 13, every Wednesday from 27 July until 31 August, from 10am to 12 noon.

CLlr Pat Haith arranged the sessions - which will be held at the Goldsmith Centre playing field - through the Cusworth and Scawsby Appraisal Group. Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish Council has agreed to underwrite any funding shortfall in providing the sessions.

For more information call the parish council office on **Doncaster 788093** - or check our website www.sc-pc.co.uk for more information.

RECKLESS DAMAGE AT NEWLANDS PARK

THE parish council wrote to residents of Mendip Close, Cusworth, after a number of trees adjoining the houses had their branches hacked off by unqualified people, who then left them on the ground to rot.

The trees are on parish council owned land at Newlands Park and the cost of making good the damage, which was both indiscriminate and criminal, had to be picked up by council tax payers. There should be no need for this type of reckless activity as the parish council has an office which members of the public can visit if they want to raise any issues of concern, or they can ring **Doncaster 788093**.

Mike's Legacy

A CHARITY collection for non-hodgkinsons lymphoma disease research raised **£364** in memory of a Sprotbrough teenager Mike Wilson, who died earlier this year.

Mike's mum Jackie, and his auntie Denise Hinds, collected the cash at the young footballer's memorial tournament, organised by the Crusaders at Anchorage Lane in May.

Smokefree

PARISH councillors have introduced a no-smoking policy in all parish council owned premises. Signs are being installed to remind visitors.

Interesting Websites

- Find out more about the Trans-Pennine Trail, which cuts through our parish, by visiting <http://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/>
- Doncaster tourism is now on line at www.visitdoncaster.co.uk

Record Field For Popular Race

THEY'RE OFF! – a record 211 runners set off in this year's Sprotbrough 6.5 kilometre fun-run, with the fastest crossing the finishing line less than 24 minutes later.

Speedy Matt Lloyd showed the majority of the field a clean pair of heels as he romped home in an impressive 23 minutes 25 seconds, whilst many others were content to simply complete the course, irrespective of the time they took. Young and old took part and amongst this year's entrants were a bunch of harriers from Beverley Athletics Club, who made the journey from East Yorkshire to take part. Organised by the 67th Sprotbrough Scouts, and sponsored by Riverside Volvo, this was the 19th year the popular race has been run. The race started and finished at New Lane Playing Field, which Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish Council loaned free of charge.

Organisers were delighted with the proceeds from the fun-run and associated gala, which raised **£4,220** towards the cost of running the scout group, which currently has more than 90 members.

The winners of the various race categories were:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ● 1st Sprotbrough male: | Barry Found: | 24 mins 27 secs |
| ● 1st Sprotbrough female: | Clare Flannery: | 33 mins, 51 secs. |
| ● 1st Scout: | Richard Carter: | 36 mins, 1 sec. |
| ● 1st boy aged 8-11: | Thomas Hoyle: | 29 mins, 18 secs. |
| ● 1st girl aged 8-11: | Samantha Sajkovic: | 28 mins 13 secs. |
| ● 1st boy aged 12-15: | Thom Smith: | 26 mins, 1 sec. |
| ● 1st girl aged 12-15: | Ashleigh Dawson: | 30 mins, 12 secs. |
| ● 1st male aged 16-39: | Matt Lloyd: | 23 mins, 25 secs. |
| ● 1st female aged 16-39: | Helen Metcalfe: | 29 mins, 39 secs. |
| ● 1st male aged over 40: | Barry Found: | 24 mins, 27 secs. |
| ● 1st female aged over 40: | Irene Boulton: | 32 mins, 53 secs. |
| ● 1st male aged over 60: | Paul Ashcroft: | 29 mins, 30 secs. |

Everyone who competed received a commemorative medal. The next fun run is scheduled to take place in June 2006. For more information ring Janet Graves on **Doncaster 853932**.



Group of runners setting off



It's a tradition for the Scout 'cart' to complete the course - pulled this year by Scout leader Dave Chaffer, Chris Towndrow, Andrew Finlay (204) Callum Roberts (107) Callum Bennett (106) Chris Duckworth and Mathew Malkin in 39 mins 25 secs.

CUSWORTH HALL UPDATE

VISITORS had a fascinating final glimpse of one of the area's hidden treasures before it undergoes a major makeover.

Staff at Cusworth Hall gave guided tours of the cellars and third floor 'attic' rooms at special open days to give visitors a chance to see them before they are restored as part of a multi-million-pound grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The upper rooms were formerly used for staff accommodation when the Hall belonged to the Battie-Wrightson's, though it is more than 50 years since the family left and the signs of neglect are apparent. Many of the rooms have their original panelling walls and small windows with excellent views over Doncaster.

Restoration work was due to start as Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish News went to print and expected to be completed in late 2006.

● The three lakes in the Hall gardens have been restored, and the middle one has been recreated with its original cascade and 18th century bridge. The plan is to reinstate angling at the middle lake and from the far bank of the upper lake. This will leave the lower lake as an environmental area for, such as, green hellebore and water voles.



The cascade which flows into the middle lake.



One of the panelled rooms in the attic area.



The restored upper lake with 19th century bridge in the corner.

The Three 'Bs' In Our Gardens – Birds, Bees And Bats

Cllr Stephen Platt, pictured, describes how giving nature a helping hand can have a knock-on effect...

HOW is the wildlife surviving in our parish? Isn't it enjoyable when a butterfly flutters onto the garden flowers, or when the blackbird or robin sings? We can use our gardens to help these wild creatures by growing some of the right plants.

All butterflies - and bees - need the bright coloured, nectar-bearing 'cottage garden' flowers, such as aubretia, alyssum saxatile, honesty, sweet rocket, valerian, lavender, nicotiana alata, sedum spectabile, michelmas daisies and the flowers on your garden mint. Butterflies also feed on the flowers of buddleia bushes, which can be brought from a nursery. However, the buddleias that are grown from seed seem to have the strongest scent and peacock, red admiral and small tortoiseshell butterflies flock to them to feed on the nectar. Then, if you can keep a few nettles in the corner of the garden, the caterpillars of these species eat them.

Moths feed on the flowers of the native honeysuckle, *Lonicera periclymenum* and bats feed on the moths. The moths' caterpillars feed on the goat willow, *Salix caprea* - but see below. Moths also feed on the flowers of night-scented stock, which if you sow under your bedroom window will send you to sleep with its swooning-sweet scent.

How about the birds? They need food, but also cover - somewhere to hide. Thick hedges, which are not too short, are excellent - many gardens have them. Grow your native honeysuckle up a fence or ivy up the house. Birds will nest in them. Both have flowers for insects and berries for the birds.

Native trees are good to grow. Beech and willow have many, many invertebrates living on them which are food for birds. Caterpillars eat the leaves and blue tits eat the caterpillars. There are thousands of species of willows. Which ones to choose from? - bay, goat, white, crack, grey, almond and dark leaved. They will grow in your hedge.

Hide a nest box in the hedge and hang another high up on the wall. Sparrows like terraced nest boxes. Put them in the shade, not in the hot sun. Feed the birds on all-the-year-round food. Birds are getting fewer and fewer and we need to take on the responsibility for their well-being.

Got room for a pond? If so you can have frogspawn from mine. Let's help the frogs as well as the birds and the bees and the butterflies.



New Store is a Gardener's Dream

SPROTBROUGH Gardeners' Association have moved their discount store into new premises and are looking for more members after numbers fell following various moves.

Their new home, an extension to the Goldsmith Centre on Sprotbrough Road - provided by Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish Council - marks the latest base for the Association, which has a history stretching back over 60 years. It started out during the Second World War on an allotment site at what is now Sprotbrough Road service station, later moving to a brick store on Newton Lane, which was demolished last year to make way for the new surgery. But parish councilors have kept their pledge to find a permanent base and after a few months using the former changing rooms on Anchorage Lane, the gardeners' intend to put down roots in their new building.

Committee member Alan Waite, pictured here with volunteer Peter Stevenson, said: "We used to have over 300 members but the list has fallen to less than half that and we're keen to build up the numbers. We lost a lot of members when we moved to Anchorage Lane and we're hoping to attract them back now we have a permanent base." Membership is great value at just £1 a year, or 50 pence for state pensioners.

The new store is open from 10.30am to 12 noon on Sundays, and 2pm to 3.30pm on Wednesdays. Top tip – check out their unbeatable prices for fertilizers.

● For more information contact the Gardeners' Association secretary Jock Currie on **Doncaster 783928**.



VOLUNTEERS DO THE PARISH PROUD

PARISH councilors were out and about earlier this year, planting bulbs with local pupils and residents to ensure the area looked a picture.

Cllr Allan Jones took a planting team along Spring Lane; Cllr Stephen Platt looked after the footpath off Cusworth Lane; Cllr Jackie Marsden dug deep at Ormesby Crescent; and Cllr Malcolm Wood is pictured here with helpers on his 'patch', Anchorage Lane.

The parish council funded the bulb-planting programme, which included local schools, as part of its contribution to improving the local environment.

All Change At The Top

THIS year's Annual general Meeting of the parish council saw Cllr Doreen Woodhouse elected as Chairperson, and Cllr Fred Thompson Vice-Chairperson.

They take over from Cllr Pat Haith and Cllr Malcolm Wood, who had held the same positions for the previous 12 months.

Here is the parish council's full committee structure and list of offices held:

Chairperson: Cllr. Doreen. Woodhouse
Vice-Chairperson: Cllr. Fred. Thompson

Parish Council

The full Council meets on the third Thursday of the month, excluding August, at 7.30pm at the Goldsmith Centre, with the exception of March and September when it meets at Scawsby Community Centre.

Planning & LA 21 Projects Committee

The committee has nine members and meets on the third Thursday of the month, excluding August, usually at 7pm, though times sometimes vary. Check with the parish clerk.

Chair : Cllr. Brian Woodhouse

Vice-Chair: Cllr. Norman Dent

Members: Cllrs Pat. Dent, Paul Dent, Elizabeth Jones, Jackie Marsden, Stephen Platt, Fred Thompson and Kerry Wood.

Finance Committee

The committee has nine members and meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month in January, March, May, July, September and November at the Goldsmith Centre. Starting time usually 7pm but this can vary depending on the agenda. Check with the parish clerk.

Chair: Cllr. Fred Thompson

Vice-Chair: Cllr. Pat Bartlett

Members: Cllrs. Pat Dent, Norman Dent, Allan Jones, Jackie Marsden, Stephen Platt, Brian Woodhouse and Trevor Ashman.

Policy & General Purposes Committee

The committee has eight members and meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month, excluding August and December, at the Goldsmith Centre. Starting time between 7 and 7:30pm, check with the parish clerk.

Chair: Cllr. Paul Dent

Vice-Chair: Cllr. Allan Jones.

Members: Cllrs. Pat Dent, Norman Dent, Jackie Marsden, Stephen Platt, Kerry Wood and Brian Woodhouse.

Performance Review Committee

The committee has five members and meets at the Goldsmith Centre at the call of the Chair.

Chair: Cllr Kerry Wood.

Vice-Chair: Cllr. Stephen Platt

Members: Cllrs. Pat Bartlett, Pat Haith and Allan Jones.

Scawsby Community Centre Joint Management Committee

Vice-Chair : Cllr. Pat Haith

Representatives: Cllrs. Norman Dent, Jackie Marsden, Stephen Platt and Brian Woodhouse.

Representatives to Yorkshire Local Councils Association

Cllrs. Allan Jones and Stephen Swift

Scabba Wood Liaison Committee

Representatives: Cllrs. Allan Jones and Stephen Platt.

Doncaster Council Parish Council Joint Consultative Committee

Representative: Cllr. Stephen Platt

Remember - it's your parish council

WOULD you like to attend one of the parish council's monthly meetings but find the venues difficult to get to? We're always welcome to suggestions about alternative meeting places - contact Anita Unsworth or Tom Hinds on **Doncaster 788093**.

Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish News

THIS newsletter is delivered with the Doncaster Advertiser. If you have a friend, neighbour or relative who lives in the Sprotbrough and Cusworth area but does not receive a copy of Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish News please let them know they can pick up a copy from Sprotbrough Library, Sprotbrough Post Office, The Goldsmith Centre, Scawsby Community Centre, also from your parish councillors, listed above.

We're also on www.sc-pc.co.uk

askew design print, doncaster - t: 01302 323714

WHO'S WHO ON YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

CENTRAL WARD

PAT BARTLETT

72a Spring Lane, Sprotbrough, DN5 7QL
Tel: 310575

ELIZABETH JONES

38 Spring Lane, Sprotbrough, DN5 7QG
Tel: 858075

CUSWORTH WARD

PAT HAITH

43 St Paul's Parade, Cusworth, DN5 8LJ
Tel: 562015

STEPHEN PLATT

39 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, DN5 8JJ
Tel: 782928

JACKIE MARSDEN

41 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, DN5 8JJ
Tel: 561462

BRIAN WOODHOUSE

159 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, DN5 8JN
Tel: 783710

STADIUM WARD

TREVOR ASHMAN

53 Wroxham Way, Cusworth, DN5 8JY
Tel: 785429

DOREEN WOODHOUSE (Chairperson)

159 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, DN5 8JN
Tel: 783710

EAST WARD

PAUL DENT

146 Crompton Avenue, Sprotbrough, DN5 8EQ
Tel: 782621

NORMA PATRICIA DENT

1 Melling Avenue, Sprotbrough, DN5 8EQ
Tel: 784218

KERRY WOOD

23a Marlborough Ave., Sprotbrough, DN5 8HA
Tel: 783043

PETER WATKISS

5 Ingle Grove, Sprotbrough, DN5 7AE
Tel: 789469

MALCOLM WOOD

119 Tennyson Ave., Sprotbrough, DN5 8EU
Tel: 786864

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NORMAN DENT

1 Melling Ave., Sprotbrough, DN5 8EQ
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FRED THOMPSON (Vice Chairperson)

3 Farcliff, Sprotbrough, DN5 7RG
Tel: 852488

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ALLAN JONES

38 Spring Lane, Sprotbrough, DN5 7QG
Tel: 858075

STEPHEN SWIFT

58 Westmorland Way, Sprotbrough, DN5 7PW
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CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

ANITA UNSWORTH

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Tel: 788093 (answerphone/fax outside office hours)

DEPUTY CLERK

TOM HINDS

(Goldsmith Centre address)

EDITOR

IAN CARPENTER

Tel: 782603

Meetings of the parish council are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Goldsmith Centre, starting at 7.30pm, with the exception of March and September when they are held at Scawsby Community Centre at the same start time. No meeting is held in August.