

Why, do weeks that on paper look fairly uneventful turn out to be the opposite. Mainly our own doing I have to admit. All those odd jobs around the house, doing the garden and cutting the grass all while trying to dodge the showers. Eventually I got round to polishing my old motorbike ready to show at the Ripon Classic Car Gathering on Sunday the 24th July. If you are going come and say hello. Tuesday we were up bright and early to make our way to the Great Yorkshire Show. Always a great day. It was nice to catch up with three of my ex work colleagues who were on the Northern Powergrid stand.

It was a quick change act on getting home as we were delighted to accept an invitation by Boroughbridge High School to present prizes at their first ever lower school prize giving night. It was an honour and a privilege to celebrate the achievements of so many young people. The final presentation award was made to Aimee Walker. This was the Boroughbridge Town Council Special award for all round endeavour, someone who has gone that extra mile. Aimee showed herself to be a true ambassador for the school. Well done. We also enjoyed the excellent musical interludes as well as catching up with some of the students we have known from our Primary School and youth club connections.



On Friday afternoon Pauline and I offered our support to the Brighter Boroughbridge Group. Boroughbridge entered the RHS Yorkshire in Bloom, large village category this year. The judges came in the spring and last Friday afternoon was their summer visit. The judges, Denise Wherret and Maurice Baren, arrived in the drizzle and they were shown the town with its beautiful hanging baskets and vibrant troughs. Boroughbridge Secondary School pupils, led by their teacher Theresa Pridmore, showed the judges their vegetable garden and were so obviously enthusiastic and knowledgeable the judges were delighted. The Millennium garden at Boroughbridge primary school was also on the judges' tour where pupils and Colleen Crumpton were waiting to show their work. Colleen runs an after school gardening club and the children showed their lettuces planted in the raised herb garden. Volunteers had also made huge changes since the spring and told of their plan to make a bird and bee garden beginning in the autumn. The judges were also shown the allotments, Stump Cross and Chatsworth Grove. The tour ended with tea, coffee and cake in the Jubilee Rooms Brighter Boroughbridge needs more volunteers so they can enter Yorkshire in Bloom next year and take on larger projects. Please don't worry if you would like to help but cannot commit to a regular time every week. If you can help, just for an hour a fortnight, it will make a difference. If you are interested please contact John Goss, john@gossoonline.co.uk or ring 01423 323123

The week ended with a wonderful day at Strensall Barracks in York where we were invited to be part of the Yorkshire Army Cadets Presentation Day. Young cadets gave demonstrations on many of the skills learned. It was an inspirational day which ended in the announcing and prize giving to the cadet of the year. Well done to all those taking part.

I promised last week I would inform you of some other issues brought to the council's attention following a recent council surgery held on the Fountain. I reported on the issue of overgrown hedges last week; however there are two more issues to make you aware of.

Firstly the recent changes to the bus routes and timetables, with some prices almost doubling, some routes altered and some cut altogether. With Kirby Hill being particularly affected. We intend to challenge the bus company over these changes to see what can be done. The new regiment at Dishforth Camp also have a vested interest and are keen to be part of the discussions. Hopefully together we can address and resolve some of the issues. With regards to the recent changes to the bus timetable and increase in fares we are trying to engage the bus company in some dialogue to see if we can resolve some of the issues.

Secondly the issue of parking is always a hot topic as there always appears to be more cars than people sometimes. All parking and traffic issues do get looked into by our traffic management group. But a lot is down to residents to park sensibly, think about your neighbours, keeping access clear, and not parking on pavements that prevent free passage for parents with buggies and those with wheelchairs.

The third issue I will cover next week.

But again can I appeal to everyone to consider thy neighbour and other road users when parking your car please don't obstruct the footpaths, peoples drives, gates and access points.

OK so I will stop moaning now. Oh just one final bit of council news. The Water Rats Club site. One or two of you have been asking what is happening. Well it is a story of good news versus bad news. The good news is that the site will be cleared in due course. The bad news is that we are still in the process of tying up some legal issues. I will keep everyone informed of progress. In connection with the club we have 2 full sized snooker tables that would love a new home so if you know of anyone please ask them to get in touch with the council office.