

Yet another week of tragic events this time in Germany, just so sad. Let's hope for a peaceful summer holiday period. Whilst on the subject of security and trying to make the world a safer place, On Thursday I was invited along with other civic leaders to an informative briefing at Menwith Hill. During the visit we had opportunity to see inside and climb to the top of one of the so called golf balls. Raydome to give them their proper title. A dome covering the radar (big satellite dish) hence the name raydome. Nothing mysterious about that! We also learned about satellite communications and I did not realise how small satellites were. They can in fact fit into a small family car However on a more serious note the base plays a very important part in keeping the world a safer place. A very interesting day.

An apology to the organisers of the Boroughbridge and Aldborough show for not attending but I did have my classic motorbike booked in to the Ripon Classic Car gathering event held on Ripon Race course since late last year. No one was more surprised than me to win best bike in show with my 1953 AJS spring twin. Well pleased. Thanks to our deputy Mayor and Mayoress Rob & Janet Young for stepping into the breach, and they tell me they had a great day.

Although they got off to a slow start the Town Council open surgeries held monthly are gaining momentum. If the weather is kind to us Councillors can be found on the Fountain where they are happy to listen to your concerns and opinions and wherever possible we will do what we can to help and resolve those issues. Thanks to Cllr Julie and Kenny Fuller who manned last Saturday's surgery. I will touch on those issues next week but lots of people were disappointed to say the least to hear about the closure of the towns HSBC branch. This leaves the ever increasing population with only one walk in bank. However I do understand that our Post Office can be used to pay in to the HSBC. Our forward programme for the surgeries are as follows.

27 August - Sean Hynes/Iain Maltby
24 September - Graham Archer/John Goss
22 October - Peter Phillips/Rob Windass
19 November - Still to be agreed

Some of you will be aware that our library will, later this year, become a Community Library run by volunteers who are members of BACLA: Boroughbridge Area Community Library Association, which works in partnership with NYCC. The hope is that the library will eventually become what is called a "community hub": a place where all sorts of interesting events and activities take place in addition to the traditional role of a library associated with borrowing books

John Helliwell, who is the secretary of BACLA, has asked me if I would encourage you to complete a very simple survey form on local use of the library and ideas for the future. NYCC have requested the survey to ensure that what BACLA proposes to do in the library is in accordance with the wishes of the people of Boroughbridge.

The forms, which literally take about two minutes to complete, are to be found in the library and in various other places around the town. There is also an electronic version of the survey on our web site. Please support BACLA and our library by taking part in the survey - thank you

