

# Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish News

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## New parish council means business

OVER 7,500 votes were cast by Sprotbrough and Cusworth residents in the May 2007 elections as they elected 17 local people to represent them as parish councillors.

Eight of the members are new to the parish council, with the other nine seats being retained by existing councillors.

Sadly, Cllr Fred Thompson died just days after successfully retaining his seat on Park Ward. Fred polled 434 votes, the highest of any parish councillor at the election, to retain the seat he had held for nearly 20 years.

Following Fred's death, the vacant Park Ward seat was filled by former councillor Kerry Wood.

The political make-up of the parish council now stands at: Conservative 11; Green Party 3; and Labour 3.

The names and contact details of your parish councillors are listed on the back page.

Thirty-five parishioners contested all the seats on the parish council, with East Ward attracting the highest number of candidates – 12 in all – for the five seats on offer. Parish chairperson Doreen Woodhouse said: "I'm delighted

that the recent elections were well supported, both in terms of the numbers of candidates who stood for election and in the number of votes cast by parishioners.

"Parish councils are the cornerstones of our democracy, representing the grass roots views of local residents. Sprotbrough and Cusworth has a strong and effective parish council that really supports the local community."

Though they are unpaid volunteers, your parish councillors shoulder a lot of responsibility in serving the 12,500 residents of Sprotbrough and Cusworth. They represent the parish council on a range of bodies and organisations, including Doncaster Council, Scabba Wood Landfill Site Liaison Committee and Don Gorge Environmental Partnership.

They also have a key role to play in monitoring, evaluating and commenting on the appropriateness of all planning applications in the parish, including supporting parishioners as appropriate. The chair of the parish council planning committee attends Doncaster Council's development control committee meetings and makes site visits as necessary.



Councillors at the first meeting of the parish council

# Grants total for skatepark now hits £45,000



SPROTROUGH'S Anchorage Lane Skate Park celebrated its second birthday by providing another opportunity for local youngsters to showcase their breathtaking board and bike skills.

It was standing room only for the 200 competitors and spectators who packed in and around the park, under the watchful eye of the judges from Team Extreme.

After the competitions ended, Parish chairperson

Sports. This is on top of the £25,000 grant they previously awarded the parish council to turn the skate park from concept into reality and as well as a further £2,000 grant they have given us to buy skateboard and BMX equipment. It adds up to a staggering £45,000 in donations which are really making a difference by enabling the parish council to improve leisure facilities for local young people.

The parish council is allowed to draw down the £2,000 grant over three years and it has already paid for four new BMX bikes and four skateboards which local youngsters can use at the organised events. (See photo alongside with coun Woodhouse)

The development grant is proving very successful in achieving its aim of funding activities that are designed to involve current users and increase participation in skate sports. The first event took place in November 2005, just a few months after the skate park opened. It featured training sessions, workshops and a display by professional skaters and BMX riders.

Since then local BMX and skate enthusiasts have been the winners, with members of Sprotbrough Fracture Factory enjoying two visits to Liverpool's Rampworx Skate Park and one to the National Adventure Sports Show at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre.



coun Doreen Woodhouse presented prizes for several age category competitions for both skateboarders and BMX riders.

Coun Woodhouse said: "The aims of the skatepark project are to not only encourage people to take up sport to improve their health but also to bring people together and strengthen community spirit. We want to ensure these excellent facilities are well used and to support this we have bought coaching kit and equipment to encourage residents to get involved."

The six hour long event was organised by Groundwork Dearne Valley in partnership with Barclays Spaces for Sports, the Football Foundation, Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish Council, Team Extreme and Sprotbrough Fracture Factory skate park user group.

It was the latest in the series of skate and BMX workshops, training sessions, professional displays, shows and competitions that have been funded by the £18,000 development grant generously awarded by Barclays Spaces for



## Thank you

THE widow of former parish councillor Fred Thompson has thanked parishioners for their support following his recent death.

Delia, who was married to Fred for 54 years, said: "The kindness I've received has been amazing. Fred was obviously very well liked by the community and following his death I received over 90 sympathy cards, many of them containing hand written tributes. I would like to thank everyone for their concern and support."

Fred, who was 84 when he died, had been a parish councillor for nearly two decades, including being council chair, vice chair and chair of the finance committee. He cared passionately about all aspects of Sprotbrough and Cusworth parish and was keen to see all new housing developments carefully managed and in keeping with their surroundings.

Parish councillors observed a one minute's silence to remember Fred at last month's annual meeting of electors.

He fought in the Far East during the Second World War and the latest issue of Prickly Heat, the magazine of the National Malaya and Burma Veterans' Association, contains his obituary. A former teacher, he taught in Africa after the war and came to Sprotbrough in the late 1950s to join the staff at the then High Melton teacher training college. Fred leaves two children and two grandchildren.

## GRANTS TO LOCAL GOOD CAUSES

SPROTBROUGH & Cusworth Parish Council has certain legal powers and conditions which enable it to make grants to local groups which provide services that benefit the local community. In the 12 months to the end of March 2007 we donated £1,250 to these six good causes:

Whizz Kids Disability Charity	£100
Safe at Last (homeless children's charity)	£100
Sprotbrough Park Children's Playgroup	£100
Sue Ryder (Hickleton Hall home for disabled adults)	£300
Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice	£250
Doncaster District Scouts (St Edmunds Group)	£400

The £400 grant awarded to the St Edmunds Scouts Group will enable six local explorer scouts to join 40,000 other members at the scout movement's world jamboree, a 12 day event taking place at Hylands Park, Essex, during July and August. Taking part are Adam Hunt, Michael Kelly, Natalie Noakes, Natasha Dunkerley, Emily Sugden and Philip Hunter, pictured here with 28th Doncaster scout group leader Graham Hunt.



Graham, who puts in huge amount of his own time for the local community, including providing refreshments at skate park events, is currently undertaking a high level mountaineering award that will qualify him to tutor and support scouts on camping expeditions.

## FLYING HIGH

TOP GUNS from Ridgewood and Rosedale primary schools earned medals for their piloting skills at one of the country's top model flying events.

The pupils gained bronze medals in their respective categories after competing against schools from across England in the British Model Flying Association's (BMFA) School Championships at RAF Duxford.

Before what was their first attempt at the championships, they had spent six weeks preparing their aircraft under the guidance of John Cuttriss, technologist in residence at Ridgewood. They constructed models of a glider, helicopter and an aircraft powered by an elastic band.

BMFA judges scrutinised their models and recorded their individual flight times before awarding the bronze medals.

Following their success, the young high fliers and their supporters - pictured here - visited the aircraft exhibition at RAF Duxford, where they went inside a



Concord and saw the famous Memphis Bell, Blackbird and Spitfire exhibits.

## Yankee Doodle Ridgewood

RIDGEWOOD School youngsters flew the flag for Doncaster after crossing the Atlantic to battle it out in the USA's equivalent of Robot Wars.

The Ridgewood contingent joined 15 other pupils from Campsmount, North Doncaster Technology College (NDTC) and Trinity Academy in taking part in the famous FIRST Robotics competition in Annapolis, Maryland.

They finished an impressive 20th in the competition 12 places up on the previous year - after going head-to-head with teams sponsored by some of the world's biggest businesses.

Ridgewood staff Mr Francis, Michelle Marks, Dr Brian Stones and Mr Apopei, a consultant from Sheffield University, accompanied the school's Year 10 pupils - George Berrett, Tom Buxton, Alison Parton, Rachel Reeves and Ben Woodhouse - and after two days of trials the robot was ready for its appearance.

The annual competition involves pupils having to meet a demanding and tight timescale for building, programming, and testing a robot to specific requirements from a kit of parts.

Two Doncaster teams entered the competition, joining others from London. The Ridgewood/NDTC robot was named The Duk (Doncaster Ultimate Kinetics) and sponsored by Doncaster Council's Aim Higher Project and local firms.

Dr Stones said: "In 2006, the Doncaster/Ridgewood team came 32nd out of 64 entries from the USA, Japan and South Africa. Imagine the thrill and excitement when after the first day of the 2007 competition the Duk was announced to be in second place. Eventually the team were placed 20th overall. This was an amazing result because this meant that the Duk was not only the best placed British team but it had become established as a close competitor to the American teams, who were sponsored by NASA, Heinz and other large US corporations.

"Away from the competition, the pupils took time out to visit Washington and other places of interest on the USA eastern seaboard. Many friendships with American and London students were created and the Doncaster teams worked extremely well together. Having raised the Ridgewood profile in the USA it is hoped that the competition next year will have more of a European challenge, with Ridgewood, the pioneer school, leading the way."

### DID you know....

...that you can arrange to have unwanted or broken fridges and freezers removed from your home free of charge by contacting Sprotbrough Customer Service Centre and Library?

It's just one of many Doncaster Council services you can access here in the community. Call in at the Centre, on Sprotbrough Road, or ring 782436. It is designed to complement Doncaster Council's Community First service - Tel 736000 - by providing a local contact point.

Use the customer service centre and library for reporting dumped rubbish; to apply for a permit to enable you to take a trailer to a local household waste recycling centre; and to apply for a senior citizen's bus pass or to renew an existing one.

## Please help

Coun Cythia Ransome and I have had a very emotional time visiting flood victims both in their homes and in the centres where they stayed. I saw at first hand the generosity of the people of Doncaster, and the bravery of the of those who's homes had been flooded. A lot of people have lost everything and even if they are insured they will have lost the security of feeling safe in their homes which will last for a very long time.

I would like to say a big thank you to Sue Hunt and her family for all the hard work they and some scouts (who live nearby) have done for people living in the flooded area of Northfield Road, Mayfield Road and Sprotbrough Road. Doncaster, Barnsley, Sheffield and Rotherham have announced the launch of the South Yorkshire Flood Victims Support Appeal in partnership with Hallam FM and the Yorkshire Bank. The aim is to raise money to support thousands of people displaced by the sever flooding. Donations can be made at any branch of the Yorkshire Bank, Cheques should be made out to: "South Yorkshire flood Victims Support Appeal", or donations can be made by post or handed in at Doncaster Council's Colonnades offices. Please give generously.

Regards, Coun Doreen Woodhouse,

## Local crime update

SPROTBROUGH beat manager, PC Lynne Walker, says police have arrested a man from outside the parish in connection with a number of shed and garage burglaries in the Ivanhoe Close, Ivanhoe Way and Somersby Avenue areas of Sprotbrough.

Cycles, power tools and fishing tackle were stolen during the raids.

Following the man's detention in custody, there were two more reported 'sneak-in' burglaries in Ivanhoe Way and Ivanhoe Close, with the intruder gaining access through unlocked doors to steal cash and mobile phones.

Officers from the West Safer Neighbourhood Team are implementing certain measures but PC Walker "strongly advises" you to lock your doors at all times during the day and night to prevent such crimes. She also asks you to review the security measures in place at your home, your shed and garage, to prevent such crimes happening to you in the future.

### **To make your home safer, follow these guidelines:**

Most house burglaries occur at the rear of occupied dwellings. Secure and high fencing may prevent easy access into your garden.

Secured side/back garden gates prevent access to the rear of your house – try to secure your back garden, if possible, using bolts/padlocks to side/back garden gates.

Close your curtains or blinds – burglars may be tempted to break into your house if they see precious valuables on display.

Timer lights are a great deterrent – burglars don't know whether you're in or out.

## Monthly Surgery

PC Walker has a 'surgery' on the first Wednesday of every month, from 2-3 pm, in the committee room of the Goldsmith Centre. The surgery provides an opportunity for residents to talk confidentially about any concerns they have, or to pass on any information that may be useful to the police.

## Toasting the New Arrivals

ST EDMUND'S is now able to cater for parties of up to 50 people in its newly refurbished hall thanks to a £4,000 grant.

The donation has paid for 10 lightweight tables and 50 padded chairs, which were officially unveiled at an open day at the Anchorage Lane church.



Toasting the occasion – with orange juice – are deputy warden Jeanette Black, treasurer Judy Smith, lettings secretary Carole Hall, and St Edmunds rector, Revd John Richards.

The tables and chairs were paid for by the Rural Target Fund of the Objective 1 Programme for South Yorkshire, which is part financed by the European Union and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The Yorkshire Rural Community Council manages the Rural Target Fund.

**For more information about booking the hall ring Carole Hall on Doncaster 782776.**

## Mobile phone safety

Police are also urging mobile phone users to take simple steps to make sure thieves don't cash in if they have their handsets stolen.

More than 7,000 mobiles were stolen across South Yorkshire last year so the message is store your handset details in case you are a victim of crime.

Find and record your phone's IMEI number. This is a serial number unique to your phone and can be found by entering \*#06# on your phone's keypad. The IMEI number will then be displayed on your screen. Keep a note of it in a safe place. If your phone is lost or stolen contact your service provider and give them your IMEI number and within 48 hours the phone can be blocked and made useless to whoever has it.

## Smartwater makes sense

RESIDENTS affected by a recent increase in burglaries have been offered the opportunity to purchase a 'DNA profiling' kit at a discounted rate. Smartwater is a clear liquid solution which, when applied to property provides a 'forensic fingerprint' that enables it to be traced back to the owner. For more information on how to buy a kit for £10, contact Community First on 01302 736000 or PC Walker on Doncaster 385488.

# Rain didn't stop play

TORRENTIAL rain failed to dampen spirits at the 21st annual Sprotbrough Scouts Gala and road race, with organisers being able to keep their heads financially above water thanks to a large crowd digging deep into their pockets.

The £3,600 collected was more than last year's event raised and will be shared between scout funds and the appeal to replace the 67th Doncaster Sprotbrough Scouts' ageing minibus.



Race champion Dean Watson

The 6.5 kilometre road race attracted a larger field of runners, 169 compared to 130 last year. Winner, 17-year-old Dean Watson from Cusworth, crossed the line in 23 mins 47 secs – just over one minute faster than last year's winner, Howard Darwin.

Fastest female, Helen Metcalf, finished in 28 minutes 44 seconds, nearly six minutes quicker than the 2006 time.

First scout home, Thomas Malkin, continued the family tradition by following in the footsteps of his brother Matthew who won the same category last year but at a slower time of 32 mins 3 secs.

Coun Doreen Woodhouse, Chair of Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council, presented the scouts' shield and trophies to winners. She also presented a new trophy to the scout group which group scout leader Ken Burley said would be awarded annually to a section, child or adult in recognition of their achievement or contribution to the group.

The Dobbin family from Sprotbrough had a clean sweep in three categories with Thomas, 10, Faye, 9, finishing first in their respective age groups and Beth, 13, being the first Sprotbrough female home.

The gala and start and finish of the road race took place at New Lane Playing Field, which Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council loaned to the organisers free of charge.

Position	Name	Time	Runner's No.	Category
1	Dean Watson	23.47	38	Overall winner
4	Michael Hurley	25.32	164	1st Sprotbrough male
34	Beth Dobbin	30.55	125	1st Sprotbrough female
19	Thomas Dobbin	28.56	127	8-11 Boy
121	Faye Dobbin	41.49	120	8-11 Girl
27	Joseph Beattie	29.36	156	12-15 Boy
30	Leanne Warren	30.31	79	12-15 Girl
3	Iain McBride	25.32	26	16-39 Male
16	Helen Metcalfe	28.44	124	16-39 Female
2	Steven Evans	25.13	105	40-59 Male
44	Heather Towndrow	32.21	82	40-59 Female
77	Bill Rigby	36.16	83	Veteran male
NO ENTRY				Veteran female
21	Thomas Malkin	29.08	132	First scout

The full list of entrants and their race times can be viewed on the scout group's website at [www.sprotbroughscouts.co.uk](http://www.sprotbroughscouts.co.uk)



They're off



Thomas Malkin



Coun Woodhouse presents the winner's award to Dean Watson



Coun Woodhouse with the Dobbin family



Young runners

## Members agree to adopt new code

MEMBERS of Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council have agreed to formally adopt the The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order.

The Code, which came into force on 3 May this year, sets a protocol for the manner in which elected members conduct themselves and undertake public office, including requirements to declare any possible conflicting personal, prejudicial or financial interests. All elected members are governed by this working protocol and have signed to signify their agreement to be bound by it.

Anyone who wishes to inspect a copy of these declarations should make an appointment with the clerk or deputy clerk to the parish council, who can be contacted on Doncaster 788093. The parish council office is located at the right hand side of the Goldsmith Centre, on Sprotbrough Road.

**For more information about the Model Code of Conduct visit:** [www.standardsboard.co.uk/TheCodeofConduct/IntroductiontotheCodeofConduct](http://www.standardsboard.co.uk/TheCodeofConduct/IntroductiontotheCodeofConduct)

# Working For You

THE following appointments have been made to the parish council's committees, together with our representation on external groups and organisations:

Chairperson: Coun Doreen Woodhouse  
Vice-Chairperson: Coun Brian Woodhouse

## Parish Council

The full parish council meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at the Goldsmith centre, with the exception of March and September when it meets at Scawsby Community Centre. No meeting is held in August.

## Planning Committee

The committee has nine members and meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Goldsmith Centre at 7pm, with the exception of March and September when it meets at Scawsby Community Centre.

Chair: Coun Alan Smith  
Vice-Chair: Coun Carolyn Taylor

Members: Councillors Lynnette Chipp, Norman Dent, Michael Goodwin, Stephen Platt, Kim Rolt, Paul Womack, Brian Woodhouse.

## 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 normally 7pm, but this can vary depending on the agenda.

Chair: Coun Paul Womack  
Vice-Chair: Coun Stephen Platt

Members: Councillors Lynnette Chipp, Norman Dent, Michael Goodwin, Sheldon Ransome, Kim Rolt, Alan Smith, Brian Woodhouse.

## Policy, General Purposes and Local Agenda 21 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 usually between 7pm and 7.30pm.

Chair: Coun Brian Woodhouse  
Vice-Chair: Coun Debbie Wood

Members: Councillors Lynnette Chipp, Norman Dent, Michael Goodwin, Stephen Platt, Sheldon Ransome, Paul Womack.

## Performance Review Committee

Chair: Coun Pat Haith  
Vice-Chair: Coun Stephen Platt

Members: Councillors Norman Dent, Allan Jones, Malcolm Wood.

## Scawsby Community Centre Joint Management Committee

Vice-Chair: Coun Pat Haith  
Representatives: Councillors Norman Dent, Stephen Platt, Doreen Woodhouse, Brian Woodhouse.

## Representatives to Yorkshire Local Councils Association

Representatives: Councillors Allan Jones and Kim Rolt

## Scabba Wood Liaison Committee

Representatives: Councillors Norman Dent and Stephen Platt

# WHO'S WHO ON YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

## CENTRAL WARD COUNCILLORS

**Michael Goodwin (Conservative)**  
14 Ingleborough Drive, Sprotbrough, DN5 7AD  
Tel: 783275

**Paul Womack (Conservative)**  
51 Clifton Drive, Sprotbrough, DN5 7NL  
Tel: 785208

## CUSWORTH WARD COUNCILLORS

**Pat Haith (Labour)**  
43 St Paul's Parade, Scawsby, DN5 8LJ  
Tel: 562015

**Stephen Platt (Green)**  
39 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, DN5 8JJ  
Tel: 782928

**Carolyn Taylor (Conservative)**  
6 Nottingham Close, Scawsby, DN5 8PH  
Tel: 782522

**Brian Woodhouse Vice chairperson (Conservative)**  
159 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, DN5 8JN  
Tel: 783710

## STADIUM WARD COUNCILLORS

**Trevor Ashman (Labour)**  
53 Wroxham Way, Cusworth, DN5 8JY  
Tel: 785429

**Doreen Woodhouse Chairperson (Conservative)**  
159 Cusworth Lane, Doncaster, DN5 8JN  
Tel: 783710

## EAST WARD COUNCILLORS

**Lynnette Chipp (Green)**  
250 Sprotbrough Road, Sprotbrough, DN5 8BY  
Tel: 785866

**Sheldon Ransome (Conservative)**  
85 Tennyson Avenue, Sprotbrough, DN5 8EU  
Tel: 785635

**Alan Smith (Conservative)**  
38 Melton Road, Sprotbrough, DN5 7NJ.  
Tel: 785578

**Debbie Wood (Conservative)**  
23a Marlborough Avenue, Sprotbrough, DN5 8HA  
Tel: 783043

**Malcolm Wood (Labour)**  
119 Tennyson Avenue, Sprotbrough, DN5 8EU  
Tel: 783043

## PARK WARD COUNCILLORS

**Norman Dent (Conservative)**  
1 Melling Avenue, Sprotbrough, DN5 8EQ  
Tel: 784218

**Kerry Wood (Conservative)**  
23a Marlborough Road, Sprotbrough, DN5 8HA.  
Tel: 783043.

## STONECROSS WARD COUNCILLORS

**Allan Jones (Conservative)**  
38 Spring Lane, Sprotbrough, DN5 7QG  
Tel: 858075

**Kim Rolt (Green)**  
20 Fieldhouse Road, Sprotbrough, DN5 7RP  
Tel: 850557.

## MEETINGS

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

## OFFICERS

**Anita Unsworth** - Clerk to the Parish Council

**Tom Hinds** - Deputy Clerk

**Ian Carpenter** - Editor and webmaster

## Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council

Goldsmith Centre, 259 Sprotbrough Road, Sprotbrough, DN5 8BP. Tel: 01302 788093 (Answerphone outside office hours)

Email: [admin@protuscpc.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:admin@protuscpc.wanadoo.co.uk)  
mWebsite: [www.sc-pc.co.uk](http://www.sc-pc.co.uk)

## Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council

A vacancy exists for a

### RELIEF PART TIME CARETAKER/CLEANER

for the GOLDSMITH CENTRE,  
259 Sprotbrough Road, Sprotbrough.

An opportunity has arisen to work alongside a small and friendly team. The position is to cover for the Caretaker and Assistant Caretaker during holidays and will be for a minimum of 12 weeks a year for an average 15 hours per week. In addition, cover for any staff sickness may be required. The work involves very occasional night and weekend working. The rates of pay and conditions are in accordance with nationally agreed Local Council scales, pro rata to £11,992 (pay award pending 1 April 2007).

Applications are welcomed from all sections of the community who should be aged over 18. Please apply by letter stating suitability for the post and giving the names and details of two referees.

Further information on this post may be obtained from:  
**A.Unsworth, Clerk to the Council or  
T.Hinds Deputy Clerk to the Council  
at the above address or  
by telephone on (01302) 788093.**

## Paul's in the medals

FORMER Sprotbrough man Paul Newbert is making a splash as a champion swimmer after renewing his interest in the sport to encourage his two young sons.

Paul, whose parents Bert and Barbara, still live in Sprotbrough, swam in five events at the Yorkshire Masters Swimming Championships at Scarborough Leisure Centre and carried off three medals. He won gold for coming first in the 50m freestyle and two silvers for finishing runner-up in the 100m breast stroke and 100m front crawl.

His achievement was all the more remarkable as the championships took place in May and he only started training for them in February. Also in the medals was fellow club member Andrew Stillings who also swam in five events and won a bronze in both the 100m breast stroke and 100m butterfly.

The former Ridgewood School pupil, who now lives at Balby's Woodfield Plantation, decided to have a go after taking sons Aaron, 11, and Oliver, 9, to Edlington pool and rekindling his interest.

Paul's dad Bert has been a caretaker at the Goldsmith Centre for the 12 years.

## Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish News

IF you have a friend, neighbour or relative who lives in the Sprotbrough and Cusworth area but does not receive a copy 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 or from your local parish councillor. Past copies can be viewed on our website: [www.sc-pc.co.uk](http://www.sc-pc.co.uk)