

Pub is to close for 'brilliant' revamp

THE Carlton Tavern pub in Acomb Road, York, will close for refurbishment on Monday and reopen on June 28.

Landlord Matt Sidebottom said: "This is brilliant news for all our customers, especially our regular dining and drinking clientele who deserve to see their local pub made more welcoming."

There will be a new menu with special offers and cocktails on the reopening night, followed by an Armed Forces Family Fun Day on Saturday, June 29, including a children's army fancy dress competition, coconut shy, face-painting, music and games.

Grants 'simpler'

HARROGATE Borough Council has combined its two grants funds to make things simpler for community and arts groups to apply for money. Coun Pat Jones, cabinet member for cultural services, said: "We hope that by managing the arts and heritage funding jointly with the community chest it will be more efficient and less confusing for applicants." Full details are at harrogate.gov.uk/communitygrants

Festival raised £3k

THE recent Stillingfleet beer and music festival raised more than £3,000 for village institute funds, organisers have said. More than 330 people attended the festival. Its proceeds will help to protect the institute building against damp.

Artist's work shown in Royal Academy exhibition



VERY SPECIAL OCCASION: Above, artist Lesley Birch, whose work has been selected for this year's Royal Academy Summer Exhibition and, above right, *The Red Beret*, her mixed-media collage which has been selected for the exhibition



AN ARTIST from York has had her work selected for this year's Royal Academy Summer Exhibition.

Lesley Birch, who is an English teacher at St Peter's School in Clifton, has had two of her works chosen from about 12,000 submissions to go on display at the

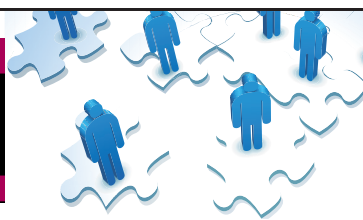
prestigious event. Mrs Birch had her works *Pilgrimage*, inspired by a 1937 film, and *The Red Beret*, a mixed-media collage, shortlisted before *The Red Beret* was announced as part of the exhibition.

As part of the 245th annual exhibition, she and the other

artists took part in a procession in London from Piccadilly to St James' Church, where Royal Academician Norman Ackroyd read from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Mrs Birch said: "Attending the opening ceremony was a very special occasion and one I shall treasure for ever."

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Town's leaders in new cinema talks



STILL A PLACE: Eva Lambert, of Selby Globe Community Cinema

by **DAN BEAN**

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TALKS are set to restart this month between council bosses and national cinema chains to bring a new movie venue to a North Yorkshire town.

Selby District Council is expected to meet representatives of cinema chains from around the region to discuss the possibility of using land at the site of the former Abbey Leisure Centre to create a new venue for the town.

Following the demolition of the former leisure centre, which was destroyed by a fire last February, a new one is expected to be built at the same location.

It will take up just over half the space of the previous building, leaving some of the land for an alternative use.

Council leader Mark Crane said: "At the new leisure centre site there is room for more than that, shops or another development."

"My first thought was, could we build a cinema? Not a massive one, probably only three screens."

"If we put it on the site next to the

leisure centre and make it a lot more of a leisure village, we would give people more reason to come to Selby, give people something to do and hopefully, spend more of their money in the town, so it could benefit other businesses as well."

Speculation about a cinema in the town has been rife for years, with interest shown as recently as 2009 and 2011.

But Eva Lambert, who runs the Selby Globe Community Cinema, which operates with the assistance of the town council in the town hall, said the plans were still in the early stages, and there would still be a place for her organisation.

She said: "I have a huge amount of respect for Mark, as we do for the town council, who told me about the possibility several months ago."

"Cinema in Selby has been mentioned many times before but unfortunately for the town has not led to fruitful outcomes. "Even so, Selby Globe will continue to offer film to the community, collecting data for lottery funding that will bring us a cinema in Selby."

"We want a community cinema, run by the community for the community."