



THE HAYDON NEWS

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2002

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Editorial Comment

Well, one month into the new year and nothing seems to have changed much. The same old concerns in the village are still around and no doubt you are / have been bombarded by junk mail, flyers from banks offering you 'fantastic' deals on how to look after your money, prepare for the future and so on. This stuff never seems to go away no matter how hard you try. I have even put some of this junk mail into envelopes and posted it back to where it came from – without a stamp I hasten to add! But all this effort does not seem to register with the powers that be. So I wonder whether to bother. After all it is much easier to 'chuck it in the bin'. One becomes complacent, not registering the fact that if everyone does this the amount of refuse to be collected grows out of all proportion. Perhaps one should take more responsibility for one's own actions.

We are definitely in the computer age now so have you registered with a Service Provider for Internet access? Computer use is constantly encouraged, access to the internet etc. The process of voting at an election can now be done through the computer – no need to leave the house and walk to the local Ballot Station. What else can we do using the computer? Shop? Book holidays? Bank? The list does go on. Before too long it might just be possible never to leave the house at all! Everything will be delivered to you! But hang on a minute. Who will deliver it to you? Surely they are also in their houses waiting for a delivery! There is more to this than meets the eye, isn't there?

Within our Parish there are two issues which can only be addressed/undertaken by active participation – getting out and about rather than being at home stuck in front of the computer screen. These issues relate to the proposed relocation of the village Library and to the restoration of the Spa Well.

There is growing concern about the Library. The Public Meeting in December was vociferous in wanting it to remain where it is. County statisticians (using their computer of course) quite rightly state that only about 10% of the population use the Library. So why the fuss when possible relocation is suggested? Does the majority of the Parish actually care? Are you one of the 276 registered users of the Library out of a population of 2000? [see Parish Council notes below]

The Spa Well tries to be a tourist attraction. Its present state leaves a great deal to be desired but moves are afoot to do something about it in time for the Jubilee. Active participation will be required and wouldn't it be satisfying to know that local people had a hand in putting it back to rights rather than 'outsiders' drafted in to do the work like on the regeneration scheme on Church Street.

So maybe, we should get out more. Don't rely on someone else to do it for you. These are serious issues which I think we must address.

Richard A D Snowdon (Editor)

*Notes from the Parish Council Meeting held at the Community Centre (Haydon Bridge)
Thursday 24th January 2002 at 7.30pm.*

Present were: 10 Councillors (apologies from 2), Parish Clerk and 7 members of the Public.

The Chair opened proceedings by welcoming David Bonser (Divisional Director – Libraries) who gave a short but informative presentation about the possible relocation of the village's Library. This was a follow-up to the Public Meeting held last December at the High School attended by 50 – 60 people when Mr Bonser, Cllr Hillman and David Thompson (Head – High School) presented their cases.

Mr Bonser outlined the case again stating that there was a statutory duty to look at what, where and how Library provision could be met in towns and villages. He stressed that there was no hidden agenda and that he was keen to provide the service that people wanted. However, he did have to consider facts. These were, that out of a population approaching 2000 there had been only 276 registered at Haydon Bridge Library since last Easter. What did this say to the authorities? What does this indicate to the people of Haydon Bridge? Do they want a Library?

There are 'pros' & 'cons' on relocating the Library to the new facilities being provided at the High School. A greater range of material, longer opening hours, access to ICT, technical support and more space. Against the move, of course would be that it would be less central, up the hill (a

serious consideration), some resistance to a move on to the school site because of perceived safety concerns, and as far as the County is concerned a cost would be incurred in terminating the lease of the present building.

However, nothing is 'cut and dried', further consultation is needed.

Time was given over to raising questions relating to these points and Mr Bonser tried to answer them. Councillors expressed their disappointment that David Thompson had not approached the Parish Council in the very first instance rather than go to County.

It was reiterated finally that some efforts (but how and in what form) should be made to advertise the services provided by the Library and to encourage its use. Everyone had received a yellow flyer with their copy of the *Haydon News* last October. Has it been acted upon or just thrown away!

The Chair called for a show of hands on the proposal to keep the Library in its present site. All were in favour, none against. David Bonser then asked that a letter be forwarded from the Parish Council stating its views.

The Chair thanked Mr Bonser for his attendance.

Public Matters: 1. Geoff Holmes expressed his concerns at how the planning process and how the work was progressing on the toilets. He has lived next door to them for 10 years so he would have thought he would have been consulted before work started. To get handwritten notes from the workmen asking for permission to access through his garden after work has started is 'just a bit off!' Cllr Mitchell will look into the whole affair since it was obvious the Parish Council were not aware that work was starting. Cllr Smith will also 'lend a hand' because he had been approached by Mr Holmes initially.

2. Moles in the cemetery. Having a party!! Molecatcher needs to be employed rather urgently.

3. What is happening about the promised Audit of the HERS scheme? To be discussed at the end of the meeting.

4. Can the PC do something about the trains, particularly as regards ticket deals (2 for 1, etc)

5. Golden Jubilee. Anything planned? End of meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Matters arising: Parking at the Co-op. Progress is very slow with 'the buck' being passed from PC to Highways to Roadlink. Turns out that the PC must give permission for work to be undertaken! Condition of the pavement is getting worse by the day. Slabs cracked, sunk leading to standing water through which users of the Co-op/Post Office have to wade.

Petitions for the Library: Correctly worded versions are now in place at Marshes and Clarkes. Previous ones were incorrectly worded therefore counted for nothing in the eyes of County.

Spa Well: A Village project so to be discussed at the end of this meeting.

Tynedale Council Minutes: Innerhaugh is near to agreement between the developer and Highways so a start is likely very soon. Some interest in purchasing property has been shown by some in Haydon Bridge.

Highways: Concerns expressed over the state of pavement outside of the Co-op. See earlier comment. Also seems to be a loose drain cover on the main road (A69) close to the Rose Beds (west of village) causing disturbance to residents when traffic go over it. Clank - clank!

Cllr. Gilhespy raised concerns over traffic and parking close to the 'Oddfellows'. More cars are being parked and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find safe places for school children to cross. Any possibility of having a 'Zebra' crossing?

Cllr Stephenson raised concerns about the car parked awkwardly at the junction with Church Street and A69. Far too close to the junction so impeding traffic flow. Felt that it was a Police matter and the owner should be asked to move it as a matter of some urgency.

Lighting: Work likely to begin in March on the 'new' lights on Church Street. Concerns were raised however, that the road might have to be dug up again in order to lay

the necessary cabling.

Planning: Not a great deal this month except that a paper was circulated to Councillors on how planning matters were to be approached in future. Some disquiet expressed.

Correspondence: Rather a lot had been received so briefly. A letter had been received from Clark Scott Harden (Straker) regarding Spa Well. It seems that Roadlink is concerned at the rapidity with which the land is falling away close to the A69. They might be carrying out some stabilising work so, PC wonders whether there could be some liaison when it comes to reinstating Spa Well. Worth following up.

Replies had been received from Peter Atkinson (MP) as regards Railtrack & Arriva.

Letter from Roadlink concerning the overgrown bushes/narrow path close to Innerhaugh as raised by Cmdr. Irving. Roadlink indicates that it is the landowner's responsibility to rectify the matter!

Brown Tourist Signs: PC needs to write to Roadlink indicating what is required on them.

'New' house on the North Bank to be called "Springhill"

Information concerning meetings in various parts of the county regarding the upgrading of the A1 north of Morpeth.

Circular encouraging PC and associated groups to work towards celebrating the Golden Jubilee appropriately.

Village Projects: Spa Well. At the last meeting it was agreed that a topographical survey be done and that funds be set aside for this. Now seems to £740 +VAT. It was felt that it is essential that this survey be carried out as soon as possible and that liaison with Roadlink be encouraged particularly as they were considering stabilising the area close to the A69. It was suggested that Brian Bell be invited to the next meeting to outline what was felt to be required to reinstate access to the Spa Well. The meeting was told that petitions to 'Save Spa Well' were in place in Clarkes and Marshes.

HERS: Cllr Philp indicated that lights would be installed beginning in March, that pavement would be completed and that funding was OK to see things through.

Audit of HERS accounts: Cllr Mitchell said that the report was extremely thorough and that the complaints made had been accepted and lessons learned which should prevent problems, as experienced by Haydon Bridge, ever occurring again on similar projects.

The report however would not be put into the Public domain.

Jubilee Celebrations? Cllr Garrow to write to interested groups. Funds are available and need to apply for licences early. Further discussion at February's PC meeting.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 28th February at 7.30pm

RADS

*Notes from the Parish Council Meeting held at the Community Centre (Haydon Bridge)
Thursday 20th December 2001 at 7.30pm.*

Present were: 7 Councillors, the Parish Clerk and 2 members of the Public.

The Chair welcomed Richard Powell of the Countryside Commission to talk about the "Village Plan". Village Appraisal and Parish Plans are the same. Cllr Charlton has a copy of such a plan and access to funding is through the plan.

Funding from the C.C usually provides 75% of the total with the remainder found locally through consultancy or physical labour etc.

There is a Transport Grant of £10000 available to each parish though plans will have to fit in with TDC overall plan.

The Chair wondered whether Spa Well restoration might be a suitable project. If the local community backed this project and an identified individual leads the project then he could see no reason why not. Cllr Charlton agreed to take this on and to lead a group of interested people. More to come.

Richard Powell will be invited to the next Appraisal meeting and the Chair thank him for his attendance here.

Public Matters: Cmdr Irving expressed frustration at how large organisations (football clubs etc.) can receive public funds to handle as they wish yet bodies like PCs have to work very hard at getting funds and have to account for every little change!! **Got it off his chest!!**

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Matters arising: Cllr Horncastle had been informed by Cllr Mitchell about the parking problem at the Co-op. No progress is being made even though it is 3 months since David McVay brought it to the attention of the PC

Cllr Smith added his voice to the concerns expressed and Cllr Horncastle promised to follow this matter up.

Replies had been received from Peter Atkinson (MP) regarding the railway crossing and that a ramp was likely to be in place by November 2003!! In the meantime the signaller will have to open the gate.

Tynedale Council Minutes: Not a lot to report on and there was nothing further on the development at Innerhaugh.

A compromise has been reached over a planning application at Standalone. All to do with extensions being no larger than 33% of the size of the original property. Some councillors expressed unhappiness with this particularly where the original dwelling is so small.

Highways: Nothing to report.

Lighting: Priority to be given to a new light at Belmont.

Planning: Microwave Antennae to be attached to the Telephone Exchange.

Retention of PVC windows at Middle Lipwood.

Construction of new entrance and disabled access to HSBC Bank on Church Street.

Single storey dwelling on land west of Sunny Brae, Ratcliffe Road.

Change of use of one shop to 2 dwellings at 3 Shaftoe Street.

Village Projects: Spa Well. Second letter/quotation received from Brian Bell regarding topographical survey. PC agreed to go ahead. The Clerk will write to the landowner (Straker) and the Environment Agency to make sure that they have no objections and if contributions to the costs might be forthcoming.

A petition will be placed in the newsagents asking for local backing to the scheme to restore the Spa Well.

Relocation of the Library. The village is very upset about the way the consultation has gone. They should have been consulted first. The Public Meeting had been 100% against the move. The petition has been wrongly worded – so not acceptable to County. A new one will be put in place.

The Clerk will invite David Bonser to the next PC meeting.

A.O.B: Next year's Precept agreed by Councillors present.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 24th January 2002 at 7.30pm

RADS

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held on the 4th Thursday of each month.

The meeting is usually held in the Community Centre but occasionally goes elsewhere.

The notice board, next to the Butcher's shop on Church Street always shows the likely agenda for each meeting and the venue.

The General Public is welcome at the first part of every meeting. Have your say – Brickbats and Bouquets!!

HAYDON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCILLORS

	Mr D Charlton	684 505
	Mrs E Charlton	684 505
(Chair)	Mr E J Faulks	Chesterwood Park
	Mrs V A Fletcher	
	Mrs E Garrow	684 324
	Mrs L Gilhespy	684 632
	Mr S B Mitchell	684 980 *
	Mr M R Parkin	684 340
	Mrs L A Philp	
	Mr D C Smith	684 480 *
	Mr T J Stephenson	

* also Tynedale District Councillor

PARISH CLERK

Mrs Carole McGivern 688 020
e-mail: carolemcgivern@aol.com

HISTORICAL NOTES OF HAYDON BRIDGE – Dennis Telford

"Wherever ye gan you're sure to find a Geordie!" and in my experience, wherever ye gan you'll find someone who knows a "Geordie" song. Or at least the chorus to "Blaydon Races" or "When The Boat Comes In" Is there any other region in the country that has such a rich tradition of music and song than the North East of England?

In September 1999 an exciting new project, "The Northumbrian Anthology" was launched with Millennium funding support, to compile a collection of all dialect songs and recitations from Northumberland, Durham and the conurbations of Tyneside, Wearside and Teeside. An enormous task but one which is safe in the hands of Johnny Handle.

Johnny is perhaps best known for his singing and accordion playing with the "High Level Ranters" a folk group which has performed live and on LP's, Tape and CD since 1963. Having lived at Bardon Mill until a few years ago Johnny's versatility and inimitable style is very much appreciated in our own locality. Whether playing and singing for a grand occasion at Langley Castle, imparting our North East tradition to visiting school children at the Once Brewed Visitor Centre, playing for a Ceilidh at Shaftoe Trust School or recalling his own experiences in verse and song in our village pubs.

By following a trail of bibliographies, history books, old newspapers, periodicals and broadsheets as well as existing compilations such as the 'Northumbrian Minstrels', 'Bell's Rhymes of Northern Bards', 'Allan's Tyneside Songs', 'Joe Wilson's Songs and Drolleries' and publications by the printer Frank Graham, in the first year of the project, Johnny had uncovered 340 collections and well over 3000 songs about our region suitable for publication. The songs date from as far back as 1650 and the list is growing by the day. A living archive, as individuals and groups continue their own song-writing and composition of dialect recitation. The success of the Haydon Bridge "Rainbow Writers" group is an example of the healthy resurgence of story and poetry writing in the Tyne Valley.

From the sources discovered, 280 items have been selected and recorded to produce a boxed set of 20 Compact Discs which will be released initially to Libraries, Universities, Colleges and Schools. Each CD contains material from a 'zone' of our region and Haydon Bridge gets a mention on the South Tyne Valley CD, although songs of local interest can also be found on CD's of neighbouring 'zones' such as North Tyne and around Hexham.

Two of my own songs have been chosen for the anthology CD's, both of them have an alcoholic content – I cannot think why!!

"Oot on the Spree" tells the story of my 1950's visit with Joe, 'Flash' and Jeff to four of our village's public houses; 'The Anchor', 'General Havelock', 'Railway' and the 'Scotch Arms'. The tale ends, somewhat predictably, down John Martin Street, after the Town Hall Dance. This track is performed in a Jerry Lee Lewis style by Freddie 'Fingers' Lee.

"The Black Bottle" a tasty Scottish Whisky, records a by now well-known incident which took place in the 'Haydon Hotel' fifteen years ago. Benny Graham sings, "The Black

Bottle" for the anthology with a lovely guitar accompaniment by Bob Fox. The arrangement by Ted Grimes slows it down a bit compared to my own rendition, "so that the names and the story will be easier for non-Haydon Bridgers to follow". I like the arrangement very much.

Would you like to read the story? Alright then!

1. *I'll tell you a tale about a pub that aa knaa,
on a Sunday neet they would all come,
They'd stand at the Bar with a glass in their hand,
But it wouldn't be best beer nor rum,
For the evils of drink never left such a trail,
For a man who would stick to his gill,
They'd hang onto the Bar with the room ganmin roond,
Of the Black Bottle they've had their fill.*
2. *Now they'd come oot on Sundays for to celebrate,
For their wives they'd find any excuse,
It was usually Mondays afore they'd getting supped up,
And they'd gan yem to call for a truce.
Mind there was one occasion that I can recall,
When the landlady looked kind of glum,
She telt them they'd supped it and there was nee mair,
"I'm afraid the Black Bottle it's done!"*
3. *"Well, I'm glad that it's done" shooted Long Matty Reed
To the chaps that were stood by his side,
"If the wife comes for me I'll be ready to gan,
Instead of walking now I'll get a ride,
There's many a morning upon Haydon Fell,
With a bad headache that's been nee fun,
There's many a time I've said, 'Never again!'
So I'm glad the Black Bottle it's done"*
4. *Now Isabel she thinks her husband's left yem,
He sees more of the Barmaid than hor,
Bui she'll get quite a shock at eleven o'clock,
When Ozzie comes in through the door.
She'll think that he's gannin wrang in his mind,
But she'll knaa when she asks him, "How come?"
And he tells her that Betty's sold all that she had,
And now the Black Bottle it's done.*
5. *"Well I'm glad that it's done for the sake of my wife,
If there's nee drink I'll gan yem instead,
And you'll see much more of me", he said to Eileen,
As she tucked Jasper up in his bed.
"In the morn, I'll be ready to give of me best,
Withoot drink the farm work will be done,
And Thomas and Robert can lie in and rest,
They'll be glad the Black Bottle it's done"*
6. *Now Maurice the Barman he was of two minds,
Aboot letting folk gan afore time,
'Cos he'll make nee mair profit, if they gan yem soon,
But he'll get to his pit work on time.
As he sang sweet love songs to Betty his wife,
She made eyes that promised much fun,
He said, "Gan on upstairs pet, I'll be with you soon"
Now he's glad the Black Bottle it's done.*
7. *Mind there's always one link in the chain that is weak,
And though all their intentions were good,
And most of the chaps have now mended their ways,
Alone at the Bar one man stood.
He looked at his glass it was empty and sad,
He said, "I'll not leave this Public House"
And then Jackie Robson said them famous words,
"If the Black Bottle's done, I'll have Grouse!"*

Neither my own research nor that of Johnny Handle has uncovered any evidence of prolific poetry or song writers living in Haydon Bridge. It appears that little has been done to preserve our ancestors' tales and memories of people and events which must have made up the very fabric of our village life over the centuries. This is disappointing. It means that we have to rely on official or formal documents and reports when recording our social history. But seldom do they reflect the 'colour' of informed gossip as written by the Bards over the years.

There is no doubt that ballads, yarns and experiences were passed from generation to succeeding generation and village to village, as a means of communication.

*A Minstrel wandered 'tween Tynedale and Tweedale
Who could perform the Bagpipes and Fiddle,
Who tended at Hoppings, at Bridals and Fairs,
And charmed young and old with his lilts and his airs.*

Henry Robson b. 1770

Perhaps the Minstrel performed at the Haydon Bridge Tuesday market which received Royal Assent from King Edward III in 1344. Or at our Annual Fair held for four days on the Feast of St. Mary Magdelene. While many of our traditional melodies have been revived, by groups like the 'High Level Ranters', sadly our local words which accompanied them weren't written down and most are lost. It seems that having an academic institution like John Shaftoe's Grammar School in Haydon Bridge since 1697 hasn't delivered the inspired writing and social comment in the way that the patrons of the Ale Houses and Music Halls of our towns have provided us with a host of memorable stories about events and characters.

A few sources do exist which give us an inkling of our social and literary heritage.

The fragments of information from the Roman occupation along 'Hadrian's Wall' for example.

*"Next these came Tyne, along whose stony bank
That Roman Monarch built a brazen wall,
Which might the feeble Briton strongly flank
Against the Picts that swarmed over all"*

The legend of

Edmund Spenser 16th Century.

Sewin Shields Castle was told in twenty-one verses:

*Once, too, it held Northumbria's King
In days of former fame:
But now no corteous tenants boasts,
And Sewin Shields its name.*

Memories of the lawless age in Northumbria and the Borders are re-told in the Border Ballads and reference to our countryside can be found:

*'till the Cruel Syke wi' Scottish blode rins rede
Too maun na sowe corn by Tyneside.*

The present day Cruel Syke runs past Haydon Old Church and follows Page Croft Bank down to the River Tyne, or was the 'Syke' referred to our 'Langley Burn'?

In the early 1700's the protection of life and property in the district south of the Tyne was entrusted to William Lowes of Willimoteswick Castle. During an altercation, near Sewin Shields, an attempt was made to stab Lowes. The thrust missed its target but killed his horse instantly.

*O, kensta Will Lowes,
O, kensta Lee Ha',
O, kensta Will Lowes
The flower o' them a',*

*O, had Lee Ha' but been a man,
As he was never nean,
He wad have stabbed the rider,
And let the horse alean.*

The Great Flood of November 1771 was recorded by John Mulcaster of Langley Lead Mills in 47 verses.

*The rivers soon their bounds outswell'd,
Tyne kept no more its native bed;
By banks and weirs in vain repell'd,
He desolation round them spread.*

*Away those banks and weirs are borne,
Nor lofty arch, nor bridge is left;
Up by the roots the trees are torn,
And from their sills the rocks are cleft.*

John Tweddle was born on 1st June 1769 at Threepwood. A resident Educator at the University of Cambridge and a traveller in Europe, Tweddle died in Athens on 25th July 1799. He was held in high esteem and the 'English Chronicle' published a three verse tribute:

*Is Tweddle gone? And shall no voice be raised.
His high endowments or his fate to tell!
Shall his bless'd spirit take its flight unprais'd
Ascend to Heaven without one farewell!*

Members of our village's 'Martin' family also made their mark of course and the sons have either written poems themselves or have been celebrated in rhyme by others. None of these describe Haydon Bridge in the 1700 - 1800's although primary source material is available in prose, to allow present day songsters to reflect on the Martins' life and times.

*... Clouds that inspired a young artist's mind,
Look down on green meadows rolling into the Tyne
And the steep Allen Gorge, all this beauty is mine.*

Our scenic heritage has often been described in verse. In 1876 a local poet, Mr Proudlock, wrote:

*Flow on lovely Allen, thro' groves of rude grandeur,
Flow on, in thy serpentine course to the Tyne.*

In 1757 Mark Akenside described our valley:

*Oh dales of Tyne and ye most ancient woodlands; where
Oft as the giant flood obliquely strides
And his banks open and his lawns extend
Stops short the pleased traveller to view
Presiding over the scene some rustic tower
Founded by Norman or Saxon hands.*

Great events attract recognition from poets of the day and they don't come much greater than the opening of the Newcastle to Carlisle Railway Line. J.G. of South Shields penned nine verses.

*When you see the steam coached and all things complete
For four or five shillings you may take a seat;
You may dine at Newcastle and then take your flight,
And stop at Carlisle on the very same night.
When you see the waggons move on at full speed,
Well laden with liquor, provisions and lead,
You may fill a glass of good rum or strong beer,
And then drink a health to the Head Engineer.*

We are indebted to the records of the Haydon Hunt for won-

derful descriptive tales of the chases. "Haydon Days" is an extensive poem written by Frederic Palmer, describing hunting and hunters with the Haydon in the early 1900's.

*And even now all will be well
If he can skirt Nine Acres Wood,
And reach the earth in Haydon Fell.*

Isaac Pattinson wrote about the opening meet at Blenkinsopp:

*On the first day of November, Eighteen and Ninety Two,
There were over fifty riders and footmen not a few.*

Isaac was Ozzie Davison's Great Great Grandfather. He had the 'Samson Inn' at Gilsland and was a gamekeeper with an obvious talent for writing poetry. Ozzie gave me a copy of his seven verse song. I have put a tune to Isaac's verses and recorded the story.

Finally, a song of seven verses without a title, which was written by W. Makepeace around 1812. The song was published in William Lee's historical notes in 1876. This ballad describes the lives of ordinary everyday village folk in Haydon Bridge. How I wish there were more like it from the same era!

*Gin ye like to take a drink
and tell on't when it's past man.
I will divert thee with a sang
as lang as it shall last man,
At Haydon Bridge there was such a sport,
I dare venture to say man,
You never heard or saw such sport,
As was on Christmas Day man.*

*.....
Then to the Royal Anchor Inn,
We did again repair man.*

I don't know whether the name of 'The Anchor Inn' ever included 'Royal'. Perhaps it was used to ensure that the rhythm of the verse was maintained, or was it a reference to the fact that it was owned by the Crown, having been forfeited by the Derwent Estates?

I cannot believe that W. Makepeace wrote only one song. Do any readers have knowledge of other works attributed to him? Or any other material which describes our village's events and characters in rhyme?

For those readers interested in my own memories of Haydon Bridge, I have recorded a CD in song and verse. I am supported by Johnny Handle and Henry Robson.

The recording and production was done by Ren Hunter at "Axis Audio" in the village.

If you decide to buy a copy of the CD, (see next column) **THANK YOU!** I hope you enjoy it.

WHOOPS!

My apologies are due to Mrs Joan Benson whom I unwittingly aged by one generation in November's notes.

Joan is a COUSIN to Jean and ex-Haydon Bridge footballer, Ronnie Sewell and not an AUNT as I stated.

Sorry Joan

Dennis Telford

"The Places I Knew As A Bairn"

Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge

in Song and Verse

by Dennis Telford

available from: **West Rattenraw
Haydon Bridge
NE47 6ED**

Tel: 01 434 684 636

£11.99 + postage

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL A YEAR OF CHANGE

In the last twelve months much has changed at the High School. If you are not a frequent visitor you could be totally unaware, because from the outside, little seems to have altered. From inside, though the difference is tremendous.

A recently completed project has been the Gymnasium extension to the Sports Hall. For this we are indebted to the local community for its patience, understanding and financial support. It is a superb facility which, with its brand new equipment, offers an ideal venue for the popular gymnastics classes for local children and provides the opportunities for new sporting activities. The Kick-boxing is a case in point.

Just as this was completed, the builders moved in to start on Phase Two of our long-term plans - a new Information Resource Centre. This forms an integral part of the UK Online Centre development which is providing rural West Tynedale with improved access to computer learning facilities. The centre on the High School site will link with seven satellite bases in surrounding villages and it will incorporate the school Library. These village satellites include Newbrough Town Hall, the Fawside Foundation in Allendale, Village Access, and Haydon Bridge Community Centre.

Finding space for the project has involved a 'domino effect' of moves for school departments - the 'old' Library is now a Languages area, the Music Department has moved to 'History' who have moved to the former Language classrooms. We may all need maps to find our way about over the next few months!

Yet, at the end of the day, we will have transformed our accommodation to provide many bright, newly re-furnished rooms, including an Information Resource Centre of which we can be proud. This will make it possible for us to extend the range of courses and improve ICT facilities available for the whole community. If you've got any ideas on how you would like to use these facilities, we'd love to hear from you. This development is for your use as much as our 13-18 year old students.

(Continued on page 9)

Northumberland County Council held a public meeting in December, starting a Community Consultation process about whether or not this new facility could offer better Public Library services.

This, understandably, triggered strong feelings. There are advantages and disadvantages of moving the Public Library or keeping it in its present location and these need to be aired openly so that any decision made by the County Council is based on full awareness of all the issues. The current location offers better physical access, being on the level in the middle of the village. The High School site is 'up the hill' but has potential for longer opening hours and increased stock. The most important thing is that local people express their views and that we all continue to work together to everyone's benefit.

Having described Phases One and Two of our development, now on to Phase Three which is to dramatically improve provision for the Creative and Expressive Arts. Those of you who came to see 'Grease' in the summer, attended the Christmas Concert, have heard the 'Sunshine Panners' or are members of the Community Band will know that the talent in our community is worthy of support. This should include access to quality facilities and resources to develop that talent. Why should the towns and cities have all the best facilities!

To make things better is our constant aim and it's only achievable by working in partnership and sharing ideas.

I am delighted with what has been achieved so far - come and have a look for yourself if you have not already seen the changes.

Mind you - I'll be glad when the builders finally move out (no offence intended, West End Joinery).

David Thompson
Head teacher

LANGLEY W.I

The speaker at the Langley W.I. Meeting was Christine Kennedy Doxford, a member of the Aurora Project, a network of Northumbrian Artists and Craftswomen.

Mrs Doxford, an Art Therapist and Graphic Designer, demonstrated in great detail the age-old art of papermaking. Fascinated, we watched as she turned used Christmas card envelopes into pulp tinting this with scraps of coloured paper. Then, threads, glitter, fresh herbs, flower petals, Thisle-down, lace were tossed in to give an interesting finished texture.

Mrs Doxford uses her paper to make beautiful and interesting collages, her subjects ranging from plant folklore, the language of flowers, Zodiac signs, old herbals, painted symbols and pastels of flowers and gardens. A most enjoyable evening which inspired us all to 'have a go'

The competition for a paperweight was won by Doreen Davidson with runner-up, Pat Stewart.

Myra Bowen

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS HAYDON VIEW

The League of Friends of Haydon View Residential Home, North Bank, Haydon Bridge would like to thank everyone who supported their Christmas Raffle and Coffee Morning on Saturday 8th December 2001.

A total of £792.19 was raised which will be used for the benefit of the residents.

During the last year the League of Friends has built a Summer House for the residents, taken them on trips to North Shields, Kielder and Carlisle and bought them Christmas presents.

Winners of the Raffle were as follows:

£100	Mrs Robson	1777
£50	Ruth Boyd	1120
£25	Scott Davies	0729
£ 5	Chris Kay	0514
£ 5	Joan Barber	1457
£ 5	Harry Fletcher	0619
£ 5	Sarah eddy	1216
£ 5	Scott	1616

Thank you for your support

OVER 60'S CLUB

At the Over Sixties January meeting, members wished Molly Johnstone and Myra Bowen "HAPPY BIRTH-DAYS"

Florence Turnbull continues to be a patient in Haltwhistle War Memorial Hospital. Members wished her a speedy recovery and hope that she will be back admidst us all in the near future.

After socialising and afternoon tea, the meeting finished with 'Card Bingo'

The Over Sixties meet in the Community Centre every other Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm.

New members of fifty or over are most welcome.

Myra Bowen

DANCE CLUB

Jim Biggs thanks everyone for their kind support and best wishes following the sudden death of his wife just before Christmas.

He would like it to be known that he is looking forward to seeing Dance Club members on the evening of:

Monday 4th February

THE ADVENTURES OF AN OLD AGE TRAVELLER – by S.E.P**THE FARM WORKER**

Barbara saw him working in the farmer's field, his slender frame bent nearly double as he pulled the turnips from the

earth one by one and lopped off their tops with his sickle;

Barbara paused, and leaned her tired old arms against the wooden stile.

As if sensing her presence the man stopped working, straightened his back while shading his eyes against the noonday sun.

Barbara realised the enormity of the man's task with a two acre field to cut, and his solitary figure appeared small and insignificant, silhouetted against the landscape. Yet his smile encompassed the whole of his weather-beaten face as he waved to Barbara, laying down his work tool, and striding across the furrows in her direction.

When he reached the dike back he retrieved his haversack from against a tree stump, and wiped the sweat from his brow with a dirty white handkerchief.

"Would you care to share a cup with me?", he asked Barbara pushing his cap onto the back of his head to reveal a thatch of greying hair; Barbara noticed that his voice was tinged with a faint foreign accent.

The man held out his hand helping Barbara to heave herself over the stile.

They walked together around the edge of the field stopping at a shaded spot against a dry-stone wall, and putting down his bait bag the man waited until Barbara settled herself onto the grass, before joining her there. They sat for a while just staring out across the land in silence, enjoying the freedom and tranquility of the moment. Then the man unfastened his haversack bringing forth his lunch box and flask. He unwrapped his sandwiches, handing a couple across to Barbara and she gave him her old tin mug and he filled it to the brim with piping hot coffee.

"I built this wall we are leaning against", he announced

suddenly, "as far as the eye can see. I laboured many days to finish it".

"A big job for one man", said Barbara looking about her. "What tools did you use for such a task?"

The man turned and smiled broadly. "These are my tools". He held forth his hands for her inspection, and she saw their strength and marvelled at their size, and power. "Just like a pair of shovels!" she thought.

"Have you always worked on the land?" "Ever since I came to your country many years ago". He stared out across the field, and Barbara sensed that his thoughts were somewhere else, in another time, and another place.

Barbara accepted a rosy red apple, biting into it with her few remaining teeth, and letting the juice trickle down her whiskered old chin. A family of crows swooped low overhead, noisily cawing their hopes of some left over scraps. Barbara untied the string from around her coat and, hitching up her long tattered skirts, allowed the cool autumn breeze to penetrate her skin.

"How long have you been travelling the roads?", inquired the man taking out his tobacco tin. Barbara stared into the distance. "Time has no meaning for me, every day is a new beginning".

He nodded, his head deep in thought, and busied himself rolling the tobacco paper through his fingers until he'd made two thin cigarettes, one of which he offered to Barbara. They sat together smoking, and wondering about each other.

Later the man rose to his feet emptying the remaining dregs of coffee from his flask onto the ground, then picking up his haversack placed it back against the dike back. Pulling his flat cap over his brow he turned to Barbara and said. "Time to get back to work". Then he was gone striding off across the field to where he'd left his sickle. He turned once, and waved farewell to her, but Barbara was in no hurry to leave this tranquil place, she had all the time in the world and what better way to pass an afternoon than watching this man do an honest days toil.

She marvelled at the speed in which he inched his way across the field and the power of his arm as he raised the sickle, and smote the snannies, one by one. As his figure melted further, and further into the landscape, and the autumn sunshine cast deepening shadows across the earth, Barbara wondered about the man, his origin, and his beginnings.

Later she heaved her bulk up from its resting-place, and tying up her coat, gathered her few possessions together then trundled back to the stile.

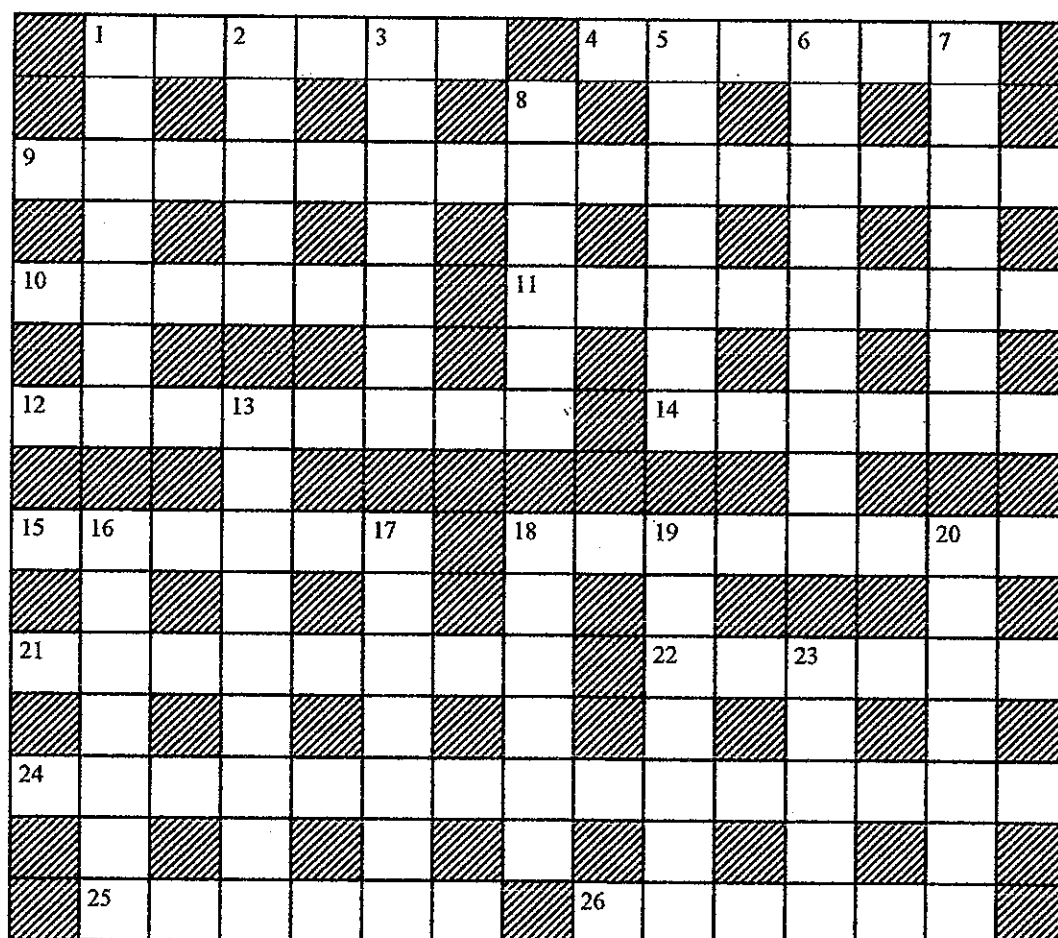
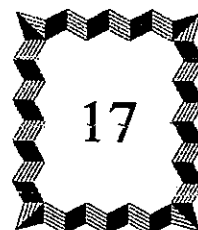
As she set off up the road she looked back only once and could still make out his lonely figure hard at work. Barbara sensed this man's love of the land and joy in living, and she knew come evening time his job would be done.



The £10 Crossword

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Entries to be received by the Editor on or before MONDAY 25th February 2002.**Best of luck**

Please hand in your entry to:

any of the businesses indicated at the top of Page 2

or by post to: The Editor, Wheelsteads, Woodhall Mill, Haydon Bridge, NE47 6AS

ACROSS

1. Scottish elevations. (6)
4. Reversed measure ending in opposite directions.
Not many. (3,3)
9. Broom Rex. (11,4)
10. East End twin starts colouring stick. (6)
11. Indicates a hopeful future. (8)
12. Little southern port. Request at the bakers? (5,3)
14. Pale colour. (6)
15. Religious group round city of origin in East Anglia. (6)
18. Couples make up company. (8)
21. Collection of winning snaps. (3,5)
22. Elsie & Doris. (6)
24. Family mix briefly instrument and biological relations, food and single ancient warrior. (4,6,5)
25. Showy. (5)
26. E.g. of 9 across. (6)

DOWN

1. Instrumental container. (3,4)
2. E.g. of 9 across. (5)
3. Rail company gaining skill encompasses listener. (7)
5. Supervised. (7)
6. Undesirable currency. (4,5)
7. Change of name from 24 across. (7)
8. Changed from 24 across to 7 down. (6)
13. Schweitzer's colony. (9)
16. E.g. of 9 across. (7)
17. Ragged strips? (7)
18. Well known animal endlessly following sport. (6)
19. Battle not fought. (7)
20. From top to bottom by York. (7)
23. Woman's name. (5)

Solution to Crossword number 16 will be found on page 14.

HAYDON NEWS WEB SITE: www.haydonbridge.demon.co.uk/

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Warm welcome to all

**HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED
ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB**

HBUAFC hold their monthly meeting on the first Tuesday
of every month at 7:30pm in the Lounge of the *Railway
Hotel* where representatives of every football team in the
village are invited to attend.

This meeting is also open to members of the public.

NEED HELP WITH
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Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'

Charles Thomas (Chairman) Mike Parkin (Vice Chairman)
Elena Parkin Alistair Bowen
'Mitch' Mitchell Pauline Tulip Sylvia Mitchell Richard Snowdon

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(Haydon Bridge Health Centre)

Monday to Friday: 8.00am to 12.00 noon
2.00pm to 6.00pm

Doctors consult from: 8.00am to 11.00am
3.00pm to last appointment at 5.30pm

All phone calls for appointments and visits, including 'out of hours':

01 434 684 216

All phone calls for dispensing or prescriptions:

01 434 688 351

E-mail address: **sford-hb@dircon.co.uk**

Web-site: **www.sford-hb.dircon.co.uk/hc**

Tynedale Citizens Advice Bureau

We hold a free, confidential, independent advice and information session at:

**The Health Centre, Haydon Bridge
on Monday afternoons
from 2.00pm until 4.00pm.**

We can give you advice and information on:

Social Security Benefits
Consumer Rights
Relationship issues
Employment

Money Problems
Problems at work
Housing
Legal Proceedings

And much moretry us!

We can help you fill in forms, draft letters, negotiate by telephone or letter, and prepare Social Security reviews or appeals.

Ring the Health Centre (01 434 684 216) to make an appointment or, if required, to arrange for a home visit.

MUSIC and MOVEMENT

Calling all Mums! Did you know that there is a Music and Movement group running in Haydon Bridge?

We meet at the Methodist Church on Friday afternoons (1.10pm and 1.50pm) during term time.

This is a fun get-together for Mums and pre-school children alike which involves singing, instrument playing and movement with coffee and orange juice served afterwards.

Please contact **Susie Steven** on:

01 434 674 260 for further details.



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WHIST DRIVES*Langley Village Hall*Fortnightly on Saturdays
from 1st December at 7pm.50p entrance
(Everyone welcome)**Solution to crossword (16)***Eleven (11) entries were received.
Eight (8) were correct.**Mrs E Dukes
Rosemary Shout
B. Pearson
Rene Armstrong
Dennis Telford
Denis Bell
Maureen Robson
A M Scott***TINY TOTS***From Birth to 3 years.*

The sessions, run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, from 9.30 to 11.30 at St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, aim to provide a friendly environment where parents / carers can meet, have a coffee and chat, whilst the children play and have fun.

Cost: £1 for the first child, 50p for each additional child.

For further information contact

Genevieve Stone on: **01 434 684 537** or call in at one of the sessions.**PLAYGROUP - From 2 years 6 months**

Playgroup currently runs on Monday and Friday mornings from 9.15 to 11.45. Each session provides your child with the opportunity to learn through play and to experience a wide range of activities. Children learn, through play, to communicate effectively and happily, at their own pace, with other children and adults. Playgroup is run by a qualified Nursery Nurse Teacher plus assistants.

Cost: £3 per session.For further information contact Helen Easby on: **01 434 674 371** or call in at one of the sessions.

St Cuthbert's Playgroup is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.



£10 winner out of the hat:

B. Pearson

C	N	T	S	T	R	N
C	U	A	B	O	V	E
L	T	A	R	O	Y	T
S	T	R	I	P	S	F
U	O	T	D	L	O	
I	R	A	N	S	C	O
E	A	T	M	R	P	A
E	V	O	L	V	E	D
U	T	A	A	N	R	G
A	L	C	H	E	M	I
T	E	H	I	H	L	
R	U	N	A	B	O	U
R	T	U	R	I	U	E
H	E	A	R	T	S	A
S	E	E	Y	E	E	Y

'THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE'Formal Committee Meetings are held at 8.00pm on the **TUESDAY** following the fourth **THURSDAY** of each month at The Community Centre, Haydon Bridge.

(The General Public is welcome at the first part of every meeting.)

Any items for discussion must be notified in writing to the Chairman one week in advance of the meeting so that Committee members can be advised, enabling worthwhile discussion to take place. The Chairman will then advise the person concerned of the right to attend.

EDITORIAL POLICY OF THE HAYDON NEWSThe editorial policy of the *Haydon News* is ultimately the responsibility of the Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge', although day-to-day responsibility is delegated to the Editorial Committee of the *Haydon News*. Our intention is always to ensure that the content of the *Haydon News* is as fair and factually correct as possible. Any complaints concerning editorial policy should be addressed in writing to the Chairman of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge', and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'. Complaints other than those made above will not be entertained.The Editorial Committee reserves the right to decide which letters are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters when necessary. Anonymous letters will NOT be published. A nom-de-plume may be used provided that the Editorial Committee has been advised of the writer's name and address.**Charles Thomas, (Chairman)**
South View, Heugh House Lane,
Haydon Bridge, NE47 6ND**DEADLINE:** All contributions to the *Haydon News* to reach the Editor no later than Monday 25th February 2002.

2002 – ANOTHER VINTAGE YEAR ALREADY**All point and laugh!**

John Peel's Saturday morning programme called *'Home Truths'* is a fascinating mixture of loosely connected anecdotes – I commend it as a good listen. It's repeated later in the week but I am not sure when.

At present there is a recurring theme of spitting in public places, an almost exclusively male hobby. Many of us will be able to remember seeing notices on buses and the like saying 'Spitting prohibited'. The original reason was the risk of TB in the phlegm that emerged from some passengers that may well have infected fellow travellers.

TB is making a big comeback so none of us should become complacent but so far the notices have not made a re-appearance. Spitting on the, other hand, seems to be on the rise. Whether it is on the sports field or in the street, men are often to be seen with that ruminative pre-spit look on their faces. Then there is the little gesture with the head and the glistening ball of gelatinous mucus, with its attendant trail of lesser globules, describes its sickly arc before splattering wetly on the ground or any other handy feature in the immediate environment.

The association of spitting and sport has always puzzled me. Clearly it is the spitter and his fellows who are most likely to roll in it a few moments later and so one would have imagined that self-interest would have curtailed the habit. Perhaps these hairy-arsed specimens of *homo sporticus magnificans* imagine that their throbbing machismo is enhanced by a light coating of phlegm or that the size of their cojones is advertised by the prodigality of their expectoration. Who knows? Who can tell?

Then there is the common-or-garden street spitter. It becomes something of a test of observational skill to tell whether the sticky splat adhering to your shoe is a bird dropping or the fallout from an earlier pedestrian. Alternatively, the really astute observer of the urban pavement may find themselves engaged in a cross between a hornpipe and hopscotch as they seek to avoid the thickest accumulations.

I do not believe that spitters are merely disposing of unwanted secretions – swallowing is so much more discrete for that or for the really fastidious there is a tissue or handkerchief. Some people have the belief that swallowing might be bad for health – untrue – for practical purposes all microbes that are swallowed are killed by stomach acid and mucus is what the stomach is lined with anyway.

Hopes that one's social standing might be improved or that you might attract women are also false I suspect. Nobody thinks highly of a spitter, in fact, everyone thinks 'What an idiot – probably dribbles down his bib at tea time too.' And who would want to kiss that?

So, the next time you see someone spitting – *All point and laugh!*

Painting the town red.

Andy Warhol, in his book *'Exposures'* (Hutchinson 1979), makes the following observation; 'I have a Social Disease. I have to go out every night. If I stay home one night I start spreading rumours to my dogs. Once, I stayed home for a week and my dogs had a nervous breakdown.'

Now, far be it from me to suggest that anyone in the Parish would be so low as to start a rumour going. Oh No! Any little confidentiality passed between parishioners in Haydon Bridge is as safe as can be. Never was heard in the bars and snugs of the village anything close to a malicious innuendo or a scurrilous morsel of a hint of a scandal.

It's important to have a social life but it would be easy to interpret much of the advice we give – stop smoking, drink less, eat less etc. – as meaning that you can't go down the pub or to the club or out for a meal. On the contrary, a social life may be positively helpful.

At present most people don't smoke – join the crowd. If everyone at home smokes you may well find that fewer people are smoking around you in a bar. Have halves instead of pints, try the low carbohydrate (not low alcohol – unless you want to) beers. Choose the salad instead of the chips, have a coffee instead of a sweet. Have a fish (from the chippie) each but only one portion of chips between the family. Share a take-away Indian with neighbours or friends for a greater variety of dishes but end up eating less each.

DOCTORS' TIMETABLE

With four doctors working and three of them half-time it's no surprise that people are having a hard time working out when they can catch any particular one of us. We would like you to be free to see the doctor of your choice. It is often helpful to see the same doctor for a particular problem. We have no problem at all with people choosing to see whom they please for what they please – nobody is going to sulk or stalk off in a huff if anyone sees a variety of doctors or appears to avoid any one of us. Please tell the receptionist if you wish to see a particular doctor and every effort will be made to accommodate you.

Steven Ford.

Every weekday. (half-day alternate Mondays and Fridays)

Mary Henderson.

Every Thursday and alternate Wednesdays and Fridays.

Michelle George.

Every Monday and alternate Wednesdays and Fridays.

Gail Young.

Every Tuesday and alternate Mondays and Fridays.

Lucky to be alive

Someone's soul was saved by their soles the other night. Ploughing through the frosty murk of a winter's night I saw a flicker of white by the kerb about two car lengths in front of me and after a second's puzzlement I realised that within a few feet of the car bonnet was a runner dressed all in black (or at least a very dark colour) who was running on the left hand side of the road, in the same direction as the traffic. The only visible part of him was the under-surface of his shoes – which by chance were white – even his hair was dark.

A few nights later I encountered a strange winking in the headlights at a range of about fifty metres. Getting closer, a figure dressed all in black came into view but with strips of reflective material placed all over his outer garment. What a contrast with the previous near victim.

ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS wear bright reflective or light clothing when walking or running or cycling on the roads at night. At the very least put reflective belt, harness, jacket or tabard on top of your ordinary clothing. Think how easy it is to see road crews or policemen in their reflective jackets. Would you rather be easily seen or injured or killed?

ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS walk on the right side of the road, towards the oncoming traffic, when there is no pavement. This prevents vehicles hitting you from behind, gives oncoming drivers a chance to see your pale face and hands and gives you a chance of jumping clear if all else fails.

A plausible but untested hint to enhance that summer romance.

To make love successfully in a hammock, lie diagonally.

Health living in Haydon Bridge.

The 'Out & About' Group are planning a series of eight talks and demonstrations aimed at maximising good health on Monday afternoons in February and March 2002 in the Methodist Church Hall.

For more information contact Elizabeth Grande on **01 434 602 418**

Steven Ford.

HEALTHY LIVING IN HAYDON BRIDGE

On Monday afternoons during February and March there is an interesting and wide-ranging series of talks and demonstrations planned at the Methodist Church Hall. This is hosted by the "Out & About" Group but is open to anyone with an interest in learning about ways of maximising health and well-being.

The February Programme 2-4pm

4th February *Coping with Arthritis*
presented by Arthritis Care North East

11th February *Complementary Health for Wellbeing*
by local therapist Chris Lewis

18th February *Dru Yoga (for the less active)*
Yoga for body, heart & mind
by Karen Merkin-Eyre

25th February *Nutrition for your Health*
by Linda Forster

March

will cover *Fighting Depression, Reflexology, Taking care of your feet & back, Releasing stress, Bioenergy therapy.*

All tutors and therapists are fully qualified in their subjects.

The course is sponsored by the Health Promotion Department of Northumberland Health who hope that many people will come to participate and learn more about good health for themselves and their families.

Cost £2.50 for non-members which includes refreshments.

Further details from: **Patsy**

Tel: 01 434 684 482

Dennis Telford - Pop Star

I felt that I should let you know about my favourite Christmas present this Year. A small insignificant looking present found amongst the children's roller blades, skateboards and pogo sticks. It was a CD written and sung by my Dad, Dennis Telford.

Obviously this means a lot to my family and me yet it is not just me who this CD will appeal to.

The CD is entitled "*The places I knew as a Bairn*" and covers a number of subjects including treasured memories of Shaftoe Trust School, the ever awaited by pass, the Haydon Bridge Show, the Methodist Chapel and a touching tribute to friends and family who are no longer with us. If you are from Haydon Bridge or love the village then you will enjoy this selection of songs and poems, many of you may even be surprised to hear your names mentioned.

With invaluable help with accompaniments from Johnny Handle and Henry Robson this quality recording made in the village would grace any one's hi-fi system.

I believe that there are a small number of CDs for sale so if you want to hear more then ask the man himself.

His Grand children are very impressed and are looking forward to his debut on Top of The Pops.

"Now Granddad has made a CD is he a real Pop Star?" they ask.

Well, in their eyes he is.

Joanne Tait

the shaftoe charities

Shaftoe Educational Foundation
Almshouse Charity of John Shaftoe

Reg. No. 528101

Reg. No. 506598

SHAFTOE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Anybody resident in Haydon Parish, or their child, is entitled to apply to the Foundation for a grant to help them pursue a course of further education, either academic or vocational.

Applications should be made by letter, naming the type of course, where it will be studied and how long it will last. You should also say to what extent you are able to obtain other grant aid - for instance, from the County Council.

The next Governors' meeting is in March. To be considered at that time, applications, addressed to 'The Clerk' should arrive at the office on Shaftoe Terrace (Post code: NE47 6BW) by 2nd March at the latest.

If you need further information, please contact the Clerk (John Richardson) by telephone : **01 434 684 298.**

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT 'THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE' MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please find enclosed subscription of to 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'

Name:

Address:

Minimum donation £1.20. Larger donations most welcome. Cheques payable to: 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'.

You may leave your envelopes in Marsh's or John Clarkes Newsagents. Or, you can post them to:

The Treasurer, FOHB, High Brindles, Heugh House Lane, Haydon Bridge, NE47 6HJ

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

Rev David Hasson

Christmas and New Year have come and gone, the celebrations have calmed down and we begin to look forward to the rest of 2002. Many will have said goodbye to 2001 with much relief because of all the problems that year brought for them.

We can all look forward to the rest of 2002 in hope that things will improve. But will they? There is chaos on the railways, the NHS is in disarray, crime seems to be on an upsurge and there are battles going on in different parts of the world. World leaders and governments struggle to come to terms with what is happening and their efforts to improve matters don't seem to have much effect. It can be quite depressing to watch the TV news and read the papers.

We are often left with the question 'What hope is there?'

For many people hope lies in God. In the middle of all the problems and uncertainties there is God. He is the one true constant within the world. He is totally reliable and always there when people turn to Him. This is the message that Haydon Bridge Mission 2002 quietly bringing to the people of Haydon Bridge. All of us who discover this truth about God can go forward with a confident hope instead of uncertainty. We will have experienced the constancy of God.

Have a good 2002 and I will think about you while I am in Nepal from mid February to the end of April.

THANK YOU, FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE

The churches in Haydon Bridge continue to be grateful to the Friends of Haydon Bridge, and the editor of Haydon News, for including this *Church Page* with the Haydon News each month. Haydon Bridge must be almost unique in having a community newsletter that goes to every house, and includes input from the Church, the Health Centre, and every group in the community. Thank you.

LANGLEY METHODISTS IN GOOD HEART

Frances Wise writes:

The members and friends of Langley Methodist Church thank everyone who contributed to the Gift Service in December. Services for February and March are at 2.30, except on February 10th, when there is a United Service at Trinity, Hexham at 6.00pm. The Annual Rally will be held at Langley Methodist Church on Friday, March 8th, at 7.15pm. All will be welcome.



WHO AND WHERE

The names and phone numbers of the clergy who minister in Haydon Bridge

Rev David Hasson, with the Methodist congregation
The Manse, Moorview, Haltwhistle 320.051

Father Leo Pyle, with St John's Catholic Church
St John's Presbytery, North Bank 684.265

Canon Vincent Ashwin, with St Cuthbert's C of E
The Vicarage, Station Yard 684.307

TALKATIVE MOUSE LEADS CRIB SERVICE

Children from all Haydon Bridge's churches led the first part of the annual village Crib service this year, which featured the Christmas story told by the animals that were in the stable at Bethlehem. So that everyone could hear, adults read the words, but the children acted the part of mouse (the main character), cow, hen, sheep, etc. St Cuthbert's Church was filled with children and their mums and dads for the Christmas Eve service. Nation-wide there is a hunger for a spiritual input at Christmas, as a reaction against the SpendSpendSpend atmosphere. Numbers at Christmas Eve services everywhere are going up each year.

The previous evening, St John's hosted the village Carol Service. Children and adults read the well-known Bible passages, and we sang the Christmas story ourselves in carols.

A week later, the Rev David Hasson led a reflective End of Year service at the Methodist Church on New Year's Eve. Members of different churches attended, to thank God for 2001, and to pray for a better year in 2002.

Earlier in December, 800 school pupils attended Carol Services in St Cuthbert's. Shaftoe Trust School, under the able leadership of Mrs Audrey Cox, told the story in readings and carols, and then handed a 'Christingle' candle to each child.

In contrast, the High School came in three shifts on the last day of term, to a service that included drama in the style of a Mystery Play. The Angel Gabriel wore a stunningly ugly costume; we all laughed uproariously, but the message of Christmas was clear. The school choir sang old and modern carols, conducted by head of Music, Martin Hoile. His Jesmond vicar, Rev Rick Simpson, gave 3 excellent talks.

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday February 3rd

10.00am Mrs S Hall

6.00pm Rev David Hasson; Sacrament

Tue Feb 5th 7.30pm Men's Fellowship

Wed 6th 2.00pm Women's Own

Sunday February 10th

10.00am Rev David Hasson; Family

6.00pm Circuit Service: Trinity Church

Sunday February 17th

10.00am Rev Russell Hilborne

6.00pm Father Leo Pyle

Tue 19th 7.30pm Men's Fellowship

Wed 20th 2.00pm Women's Own

Sunday February 24th

10.00am Rev David Driver

6.00pm Mr Jim Robinson

Sunday March 3rd

10.00am Mr Kris Anderson

6.00pm Rev Marie Hall

President Visits Hexham

The President of the Methodist Church, Rev Christine le Moignan, will preach at Trinity Methodist Church, Hexham, on Sunday February 10th, at 6.00pm. A great honour!

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN HAYDON BRIDGE

Village Church Christmas Cards

Many thanks to all those who helped to deliver the Village Church Christmas Cards. Our hope is that every home received information about the Church services over Christmas, and our special message about Mission 2002.

Thanks also to the folks of the Monday *Out and About* and others for putting the cards into the envelopes. A great help!

Lent Courses

There will be morning and evening meetings of 'York Courses', run by members of the village's churches. The courses are based on taped interviews with famous Christians, leading on to discussion. Details to be announced in the churches.

conflicts justified over-riding the civilized Christian standards embedded in the Geneva Convention.

War is awful. But if there is war, revenge should never be a motive. Keeping Arabs in cages looks like revenge. Christian people should give no support at all to such uncivilized behaviour.

SERVICES AT ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am.

Mass at 11.0 at Haltwhistle each Sunday.

Mass on weekdays (except Mondays), at 10.00am, either at St John's or at Haltwhistle.

SOAPBOX

Vincent Ashwin

Should the Americans hold Al-Qaida suspects in cages? Should the detainees have any rights? Many people are deeply troubled that our American allies appear to be using medieval means to detain those suspected of belonging to a terrorist organization.

In 1864, the Geneva Convention was signed by members of most 'civilized' countries. At the beginning, the Convention covered those who had been wounded in war; later it was extended to cover prisoners of war. Christian culture was dominant in the world at the time, and civilized nations reckoned that those wounded or captured in war, whatever atrocities they had been involved in, should be treated humanely; they should be given reasonable shelter, food and medical treatment. This reflected Gospel values. Featherstone and Colditz Castles were examples of this in the Second World War.

As I write this, the Americans seem to feel that the Al-Qaida suspects do not deserve to be treated either as prisoners-of-war or as men facing criminal prosecution. They are being denied the rights to justice given to IRA and UDF bombers, or German and British combatants in two World Wars. Where are the Gospel values of the Geneva Convention? What kind of civilization are we protecting?

Ever since September 11th, mainstream Christians and Muslims have been determined to show that this conflict is not between different faiths. My worry is that - if Al-Qaida suspects are treated like animals - then moderate Muslims throughout the world will stop supporting the campaign against terrorist extremism.

The Americans might argue that the appalling attacks on September 11th were a different kind of event justifying a different kind of response. Nearly 4000 people killed in a single hour is absolutely horrific. But the last century saw horrific slaughter too: on the Somme in 1917, in Coventry and Dresden in 1944, in American-funded civil wars in Guatemala and Angola in the 1970s. None of those

(to previous column)

CALENDAR FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

Feb 3rd The Presentation of Christ

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 2)

10.30am All-Age Communion & Bapt'm

Wed.6th 7.00pm Healing Service

Feb 10th Sunday next before Lent

10.30am Parish Communion, Sermon

Wed.13th Ash Wednesday

7.00pm Holy Communion, Ashes

Feb 17th 1st Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 2)

10.30am Morning Prayer, Baptism (VA)

Wed.20th 9.45am First weekly Comm'n

10.30am 1st Lent course

Thu.21st 7.30pm Church Council meet

Feb 24th 2nd Sunday of Lent

10.30am Parish Communion, Sermon

Thu.28th 7.30pm Deanery Synod (here)

Fri.1st Women's World Day of Prayer

March 3rd 3rd Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 2)

10.30am Morning Prayer, & Sermon

MASSIVE APPEAL TO BE LAUNCHED

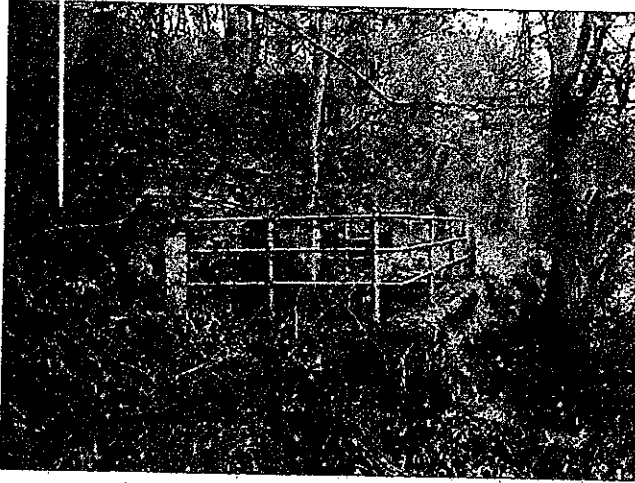
The Parochial Church Council at St Cuthbert's is launching an appeal for £80,000 this month. The Archdeacon of Northumberland is coming to preach at the launch service on Sunday February 24th.

The work is partly to improve the church building, to make it more accessible to the elderly and disabled. The improvements are looking forward to the time when the prefabricated church hall comes to the end of its life-span, perhaps in 20 years time.

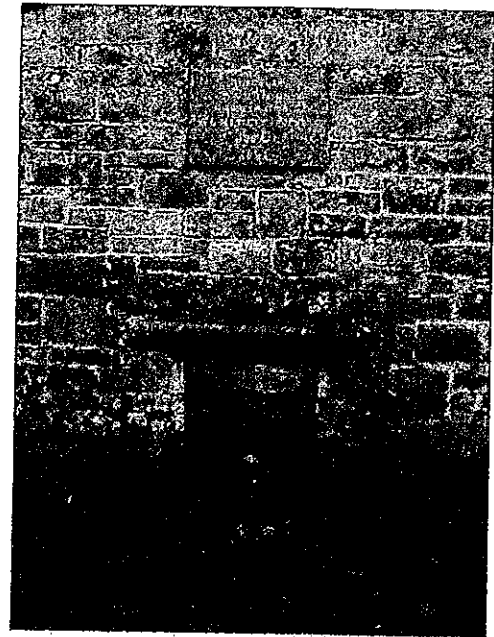
The rest of the work is to restore the existing building, as the biggest building at the heart of the historic village. Part of the vestry is leaning outwards, and will fall down unless one wall is taken down, and rebuilt on a proper foundation. The tower steps also were added to the church in the 1880s, without a proper foundation; they are in a dangerous state, and need to be demolished and rebuilt on a new concrete base.

"All this is horrendously expensive," says the vicar, "but if St Cuthbert's is to remain as a place where the village can meet for school carol services, big funerals, etc., and to serve the community, then we have no option but to raise the funds. If the work is done well, then the St Cuthbert's will stand on Church Street for another 200 years. Most of the money will be raised from Trusts and Heritage Funds. But the village will need to contribute too."

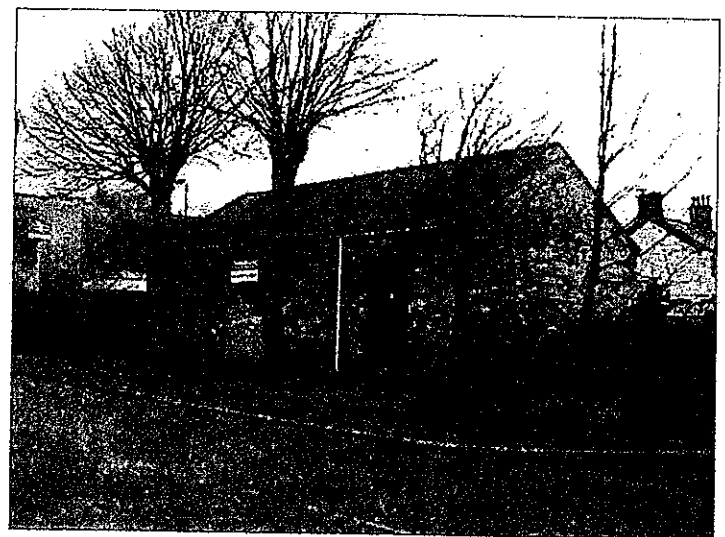
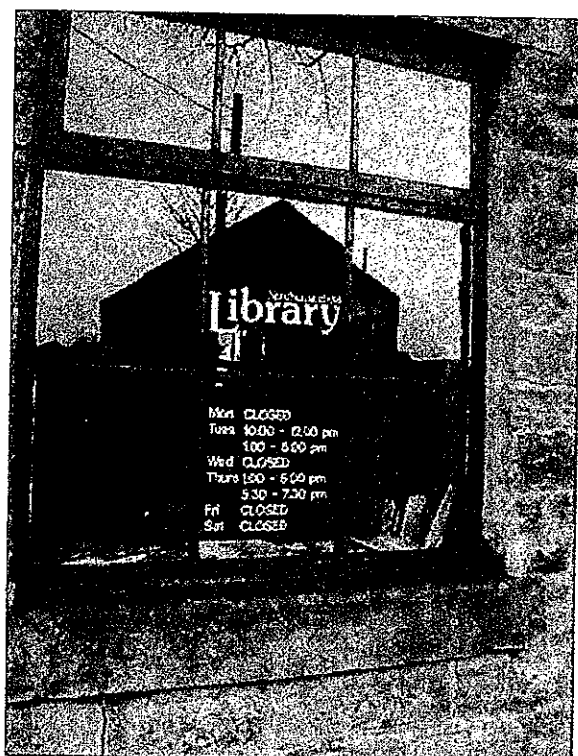
HAYDON SPA WELL



Approaching from the EAST



*The approach from the WEST
has disappeared*



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