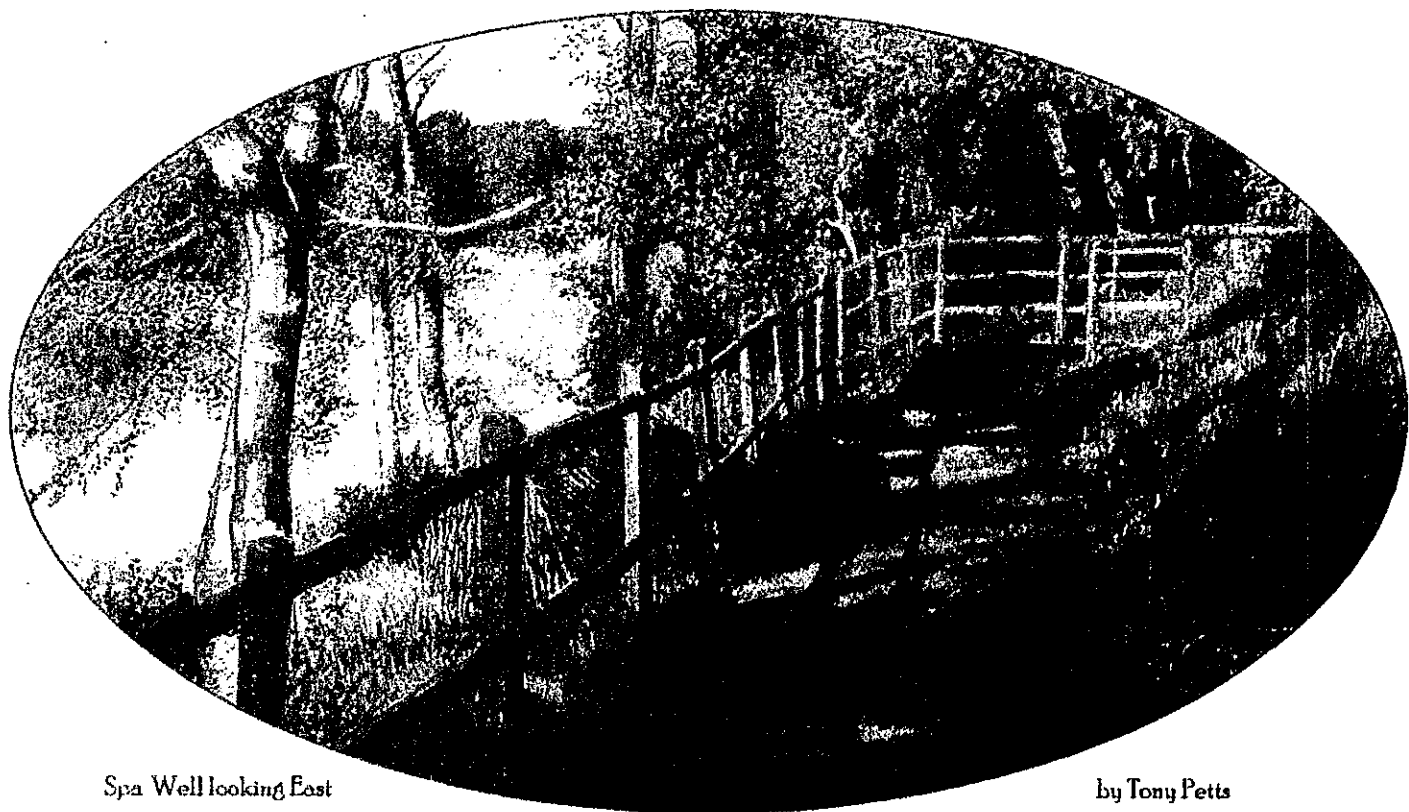


The Haydon News



Spa Well looking East

by Tony Petts



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issue 01

January - February

2003

STOP PRESS

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

FIVE of *Northumberland County Council's* six Area Committees still have surplus funds to distribute as part of this year's Small Grants Scheme. (Tynedale is one of them)

The Small Grants scheme is open to any voluntary or community group based in Northumberland, which is properly constituted with a bank account, providing their main activity is to the benefit of their locality.

Applications forms for Small Grants awards are available from Tracy Hollan, Chairman's Office, *Northumberland County Council*, County Hall, Morpeth NE61 2EF. Tel: 01670 533054. The final deadline for submitting application forms is 14 February 2003. Applications should be made at least 12 weeks before a funded activity is due to take place.

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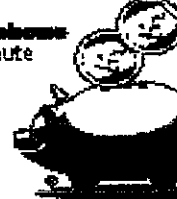
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(Newsagent)
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Ratcliffe Road

PRIZE BINGO

Organised by

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SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2003

7.00pm. - 9.00pm.

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Book of tickets only 50p
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'THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE'

Formal Committee Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the **MONDAY** before 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 NEWS

The 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, Hough House Lane,
Haydon Bridge, NE47 6ND

Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'

Charles Thomas (Chairman) Mike Parkin (Vice Chairman)
Elena Parkin (Secretary) Alastair Bowen (Treasurer) Richard Snowdon (Editor)
Pauline Tulip Sylvia Mitchell Louis Parkin Jacqueline Outterside

WELCOME TO OUR NEW LOOK

You will have noticed that your *Haydon News* has had a face lift with the aim of making it easier to read and more entertaining (?). Now there's a subjective comment if ever I saw one.

Some familiar sections have been given a revamp and, gradually, new ones are beginning to appear. These changes will roll out in the course of the coming weeks and it is hoped that you'll like them. Credit must go to Malcolm Hogg and Tony Petts who assisted me greatly in putting together the front cover. **Thanks fellas.**

As already stated, the *Haydon News* is yours so feedback would be very much appreciated. Indeed, contributions from other groups, or individuals would be most welcome. I find it heartening to be included on the e-mailing list of Northumberland County and Tynedale District Councils who provide up-to-date Press Releases. Some don't really apply to us hereabouts but you will find one or two inside this issue which keep us informed of the wider picture. Well done

Haydon Bridge High School! See page 9. Also, I have included a copy of the e-mail I received from BT when I asked when, or if, Broadband would be available in Haydon Bridge. See page 11, and page 19 for the latest number of people who have registered their interest.

Please drop me a line at the address on the facing page or leave a message on the 'phone if there is anything you want to say and which you feel the wider community might welcome. And don't forget that there are three drop-off points in the village.

Some things won't change so we are still the best place for news that affects YOU, highlighting YOUR issues and the events that shape YOUR life. The *Haydon News* is YOUR voice – so please, use it.

Richard A D Snowdon (Editor)

Just in:

See STOP PRESS on facing page

HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

*Meeting held Thursday 23rd January 2003
Haydon Bridge Community Centre*

Present: Six Councillors, Parish Clerk and three members of the Public.

Apologies were offered for four Councillors.

Public Participation: 1. The new riverside gauging station had been completed and the site left in a very tidy condition and thanks should go to the contractors responsible. It's a shame the same could not be said for the entrance to the site.

2. Continuing concerns raised at the amount of water cascading through the Cemetery. The place is like a quagmire and surely there must be a burst water pipe contributing to this state of things.

Cllr. Smith indicated that he would investigate.

3. It appears that one of the bollards on Church Street has been knocked down. The remaining stump near the archway to the Co-op is dangerous. Perhaps the rest could be knocked down!!

4. Church Street residents informed the Council that workmen had had the road up last Sunday in two or three

places. Is there still work to be completed?

Matters Arising from the previous meeting in December.

1. Cllr Fletcher has approached the Environment Agency who are keen to have a sort of Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Flooding. More dialogue is needed between the agencies involved.

2. The underpass has had its first coat of paint and the task force are to return to complete the job on 25 January. Cllrs mentioned that someone has already scribbled on the new paint!

3. The "2 for 1" vouchers scheme is still operating and interested folk should take notice of the advert in John Clarkes (Newsagent) window.

4. Work to repair the barriers at the Old Bridge has yet to happen. TDC are to be urged to complete.

5. The road to Fourstones. Does anyone know when it likely to be re-opened to traffic? Getting to be a bit of a bind having to detour via the A69.

6. Church Street (HER scheme).

Cllr Philp reported that various outstanding issues are being addressed. Notably the damaged pavars at the Methodist Church. Also the old Post Office corner is finished but concerns are now being expressed at the overall state of the road surface on Church Street. It's a bit like a patchwork quilt.

The question of possible reductions in Water Rates for residents is being looked at a-fresh. There should be some recognition of the fact that residents were faced with great inconvenience whilst work was being carried out on behalf of Northumbrian Water.

7. The A69 Task Group – Cllr Smith as spokesperson – is to present a written report in March outlining its findings.

In conjunction with that, the Parish Clerk had written to Alistair Darling (Department of Transport) asking if it would be possible to consider an earlier start than what has been suggested.

A letter of reply had been received from Peter Atkinson, MP, and which the Clerk read out. Briefly the letter said that there would be further consultation and a further enquiry would be held. This caused a few raised eye-

brows. Will the Bypass actually go ahead? We'll believe it when the first vehicle uses it.

Cllr Smith urged everyone to get hold of and complete an "A69 Route Management Strategy" leaflet - copies available from the Co-op - and send it back to the Highways Agency before 31 January. Please complete one as it is only by the Agency being bombarded with replies that things happen.

8. Martins Close residents seem quite happy with the traffic calming measures proposed as Cllrs have reported.

9. The litter bin in the lay-by outside the cemetery having been burnt out will be replaced at some stage.

10. How about a larger litter bin outside the Co-op? The Clerk has written to TDC who reply that they will monitor the situation on a daily basis (?)

11. Inappropriate vehicle parking at the junction of Lands End with Haydon bridge to Langley road still causing a problem despite written notices being displayed. Should it continue the Police will be told.

12. Consultants have been to look at the area outside the Co-op where it is likely that bollards, or indeed a barrier, will be erected. Some folk are concerned that should a barrier be put up, difficulties will ensue for those wishing to cross the road. However, this might not influence things because there is a perfectly good underpass which can, and should be used!

At this stage Cllrs accepted that the Minutes were in order.

Tynedale Council Minutes: Cllr Smith reported that not a great deal had occurred lately except that TDC is required to sound out the feelings of the populace with regard to having a referendum on the setting up of Regional Assembly. This must be done by the end of February 2003. TDC feel that by advertising in the Hexham Courant on three successive weeks the populace will be informed and also have the opportunity to reply using the form supplied.

Cllr Smith continued by saying that whilst TDC are 'pushing' for the Haydon Bridge Bypass they are becoming increasingly concerned at the problems caused by **Dog Fouling**. Initiatives to get supplies of 'Scoop-the-Poop' bags into local shops for dog owners to have will be tried. These bags are not so bulky as the more commonly used plastic bags. These shopping bags take up more space in the dog bins than these proper ones, which have caused problems over overflowing bins.

The Dog Warden's van will also be clearly marked, he will have a camera to record the problems and, of course, the power to enforce the law. Perhaps if one or two dog owners were prosecuted for allowing their dog to foul in public places then everyone else might get the message that such actions are unacceptable.

Highways:

The Langley road is in a bad state currently and ditches by the roadside are not always able to cope with the amount of water flowing down the road.

Recent bad, icy weather had led to problems throughout the village. Little gritting had occurred and there seemed to be a shortage of bins sited at crucial points where grit could be stored.

Lighting:

Cllr Smith raised the issue of lighting at the junction of the Hexham to Alston road with the Carts Bog Langley road. This is a staggered junction and is dangerous. He feels that a light is needed here to indicate to road users that the Hexham Alston road has priority. There have been cases where confusion has prevailed resulting in accidents. Also he feels that the 'Give Way' signs should be illuminated.

Planning Applications:

Only one had been received recently and it was for Innerhaugh. A recommendation that the profiles of six dwellings be changed. The Chair had felt that the proposals were fine.

Correspondence:

The Clerk has received a great deal of

correspondence over the last month and proceeded to read out each one. Some don't impinge too much but Cllrs were keen to stress that one should be looked at in greater detail by everyone if they can afford the time. It is the **"Draft Map of Registered Common Land and Open Country"**

Cllr Smith is to study this closer then to put it in the Library for public viewing early in the week beginning 27 January.

Village Projects:

Concerns expressed on amount of dog muck in and around the Parish. More responsible ownership is needed. See earlier comments.

There is a growing problem with chewing gum littering the paths. Removal by high-pressure water jets could spoil the recently laid stones. How do we get the message over not to litter?

RADS

Date / Time of next meeting:

27th February 2003 at 7.30pm

Venue:

Haydon Bridge Community Centre

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 very welcome at the first part of every meeting. Have your say - *Brickbats and Bouquets!!*

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr. E J Faulks (Chairman)

Mr. D Charlton 684 505

Mrs. E Charlton 684 505

Mrs. V Fletcher 688 872

Mrs. E Garrow 684 324

Mrs. L Gilhespy 684 632

Mr. S Mitchell 684 980 *

Mr. M Parkin 684 340

Mrs. L Philp

Mr. D Smith 684 480 *

Mr. T Stephenson

* also a Tynedale District Councillor

PARISH CLERK

Mrs. C McGivern 688 020

E-mail: carolemcgivern@aol.com

HISTORICAL NOTES OF HAYDON BRIDGE – Dennis Telford

I hope that you were able to enjoy Christmas and that 2003 will prove to be a happy and successful year for you all.

More of our houses have been bedecked with Christmas lights and decorations than for many years. Just like the window boxes and flower displays in the Spring and Summer, they make our village wonderfully attractive. A fine display and thanks are due to those residents who have taken the trouble and expense to brighten our streets.

I'm surprised that there are those who frown on the Christmas Festival and "cannot wait until it's over". Maybe they haven't had the pleasure of seeing the joy on the faces of our village children, looking wide-eyed at the brightly packaged toys and sweets in John and Maureen Clarke's shop window. Or was the look of excitement, on the faces of the young window shoppers, in anticipation of receiving one of the seasonal Newcastle United calendars on Christmas morning??

For those who no longer appreciate the wonder of Christmas time, I can recommend the Christmas Eve Crib Service and the Combined Churches' Carol Service in Haydon Bridge. They are guaranteed to raise the spirits of young and old and this year there was a real baby in the crib – Jane Collier from Woodbine Cottage.

Memories of Christmases past are so clear in my own mind and it will be no different for today's children, when they look back in years to come. Except that it won't be a laced up leather football that they will be drooling over!

Preparations for us started during the last weeks of term at Shaftoe Trust School, when we made and coloured simple paper decorations and streamers. They were pinned to the walls and ceilings in the classrooms and the hall and adorned a Christmas tree cut from the plantation.

The classroom partitions were opened, to extend the hall in readiness for our Christmas Party. We looked forward to the day with great excitement.

For Junior school parties, boys and girls were paired up by our teachers. Harry, John, David and Jeff hand in hand with Linda, Lorna, Margaret and

Dorothy perhaps! When we were eleven years old and in the Seniors, we were allowed our own choice of partners and tightly folded notes were passed secretly between boys and girls during lessons.

We made friendships with other young people from across Northumberland who had chosen, or had been selected, to attend Haydon Bridge School following the Grading Exam. Andy Brown, Ian Ledgerwood, Derek Nuthall, Bryce Rennison, David Renton, Richard Taylor, Ann Anderson, Gillian Baynes, Judith Brodie, Marianne Little, Elaine Thompson I could go on.

Dancing replaced party games as our preferred entertainment. Not because we were skilled on the dance floor, far from it, but we were allowed to hold the girls closer than we had ever dared before!

When we broke up for the school holidays then it was time to go carol singing, or guising. The cold night air echoed to groups of young Haydonians singing from door to door. As far as I remember, we were usually warmly welcomed by the residents. There were exceptions but the word soon spread and we avoided those houses.

Most young people in the village went to Sunday School in the 1940's and 1950's. At the Catholic Church, St. Cuthbert's, Congregational or Methodist Chapels. We knew all the words to the popular carols and were expected to sing one or two verses before receiving a handful of coins and a Christmas greeting in return. Occasionally we dared to enter one of the village pubs to sing "Good King Wenceslas". This would have been frowned upon at home but the financial return was worth taking the risk.

There were times when the carol singers were encouraged to go inside the village houses to sing to the residents. For many of us, Miss Telfer had been our first school teacher. A lovely lady, she lived in the School House at the West end of Shaftoe Terrace and young carol singers never passed her door without being invited in to sing to her. There were those who would lose their nerve just as we crossed the threshold and they made a quick dash down the school bank. For those who stayed the reward was a mince pie, a glass of ginger wine and a generous contribution to our collection.

When the singing was over for the night

the 'gang' returned to our 'camp' in the garden shed and, by the flickering light of a candle waxed precariously to the bottom of an up-ended bucket, the pennies and ha'pennies were shared between us. We were more than satisfied if we had enough money to buy a quarter of bullets each at Mrs Barron's, Elsie Watson's, Bobby Todd's or Harding's across the bridge.

On Christmas morning the Haydon Bridge Silver Band played carols around the village. Lance Spooner, Ned Davidson and Anderson Robinson carried wooden collecting boxes to each house, wishing everyone a "Happy Christmas".

On the south side of the river, pot dolls in their prams, bikes and bogies, sledges and six-guns were paraded on John Martin Street, Martin's Close and Whittis Hill. Best of all though, my real leather caser! Over a hundred goals must have been scored that Christmas morning as a dozen or more of us chased my football back and forward from the old Fire Station to Fitzgerald's garage.

Christmas dinner was a time when parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins joined together and exchanged presents. The gifts purchased were only those which could be afforded, perhaps from money put away monthly through a savings scheme.

Willi'm Waugh kept a grand selection of hats, gloves and footwear, upstairs at the Co-op. Jeff Marshall remembers his first pair of leather football boots as a Christmas present from Willi'm's emporium. One lady who has lived in Haydon Bridge all her life was delighted with a pair of leather fashion boots from the Co-op, given as a Christmas present by her admiring husband. She wasn't quite so happy at the half year end mind, when she received a bill for them. 'Rene did get her dividend though!!

Lottie Gladstone on Church Street had hankies, scarves and wool of all colours. Tom Clemiston kept brass and black leaded companion sets. Turnbull's sold slippers and shiny black boots displayed under a large sign advertising 'Cherry Blossom'. If it was a jigsaw, crayons or a blow football game you were looking for, then Rob-

ert Harding's was the shop to visit. Dinky toys or a new bell for the bike could be found at Dave Jean's and the foot of the Christmas stocking would be filled with apples and oranges from Joe (wiggy) Armstrong's. Our Chemist Jinnie Dinning (nee Anderson) provided toiletries and bottles of Stout or Brandy packaged in plain brown paper. For medicinal purposes only you understand!!

Once the wrapping paper had been carefully removed from the presents, was folded and put to one side to be used again the next year, the Telford's sat down to eat in the family home, "Tyne View" on John Martin Street.

We usually had a large goose from one of our local farms. Probably the best value for money given that there were eleven brothers and sisters and more that twenty of my closest relatives would sit down together around the dining table. In homes throughout the village the main course was just as likely to have been a chicken, beef or pork from the store butchers on Shaftoe Street or Frank Storey's on Ratcliffe Road.

The early welcome to Santa Claus, the morning's exertions and the excesses of Christmas dinner, plum pudding and mince pies took their toll and the adults struggled to stay awake to listen to the King or Queen's Message at three o'clock on the Home Service.

We were left to fill up our hand-made wooden farm yards and forts with lead animals and soldiers, amuse ourselves making fascinating patterns through a kaleidoscope or do our best to conquer the mysteries of a wooden solitaire board with hazel nuts as counters.

The wood and coal fire roared in the grate as stagecoaches on snow-covered linnins and Victorian ladies in large bonnets and fulsome dresses, looked down on us from cards on the matle shelf.

The only event which occasionally altered the annual Christmas ritual of which I have such fond memories, was a football match at St. James' Park. Until 1957 games were played on Christmas Days. In the 1951 - 1952 season for example, Newcastle United played four matches in seven days over the Christmas and New Year period, including Sunderland home and away

on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. These two games attracted 116,000 spectators.

After tea we sat around our grandad's large armchair and listened to his endless stories of times past. *How I wish I had been more diligent in writing down his memories.*

William Ridley Telford was born in 1872 in Haydon Bridge and I was fascinated by his tales as a young boy at Christmas, when the River Tyne was frozen over for many weeks and the villagers had bonfires on the ice, while children played games and skated.

My own research suggests that this may have been in 1878 when granddad was six years old and the Tyne valley was in the grip of a particularly hard frost. Or perhaps in 1886, when he was fourteen years old and on 21st December, 35° of frost was recorded in Tynedale. Eight years later on 7th January 1894, there was 38° of frost in Haydon Bridge. *Could we manage that today without central heating?*

The frozen River Tyne and its tributaries were also a great attraction to us as youngsters. We got our thrills by daring to cross the solid ice, without fear of danger. Until one year that is, when Alec Robinson, 'sheriff' for the day of the Martin's Close 'posse' ventured onto a frozen Pandon Pool and the ice gave way with a loud crack. Alec had the good sense to hang onto the butt of his toy rifle and was pulled from the icy waters of the pool by the barrel. Ice covered pools and rivers were treated with much greater respect by the 'gang' after that incident.

My granddad used to tell me that we were fortunate to have two weeks holiday from school at Christmas time because his father had only two or three days. I don't doubt his word, however, it is clear from Mr. Coombes' research (Shaftoe Trust School .. published 1981) that it in the late 18th century there were two vacation in the year at Shaftoe Trust School. *"Three weeks at Christmas and five weeks in July and August"*.

Interestingly, a manuscript exists written by Thomas Arkle of Cambo which tells us that in the early 1800's in country places, it was the custom for the children to be allowed 'days of play' at Christmas. The children were allowed

to attend horse racings and cockfights! The Chronicler of our own local history of the time, William Lee, informs us that *"When the barbarous amusement of cockfighting was greatly in vogue, this sport was held on a green by the riverside a little to the east of the Anchor Inn"*.

In my grandad's early years, agreement was reached by the Haydon Bridge business community to close their premises for two days holiday over Christmas. In 1876, shortly after midnight on Christmas morning, the Primitive Methodist's choir under the leadership of J.B.Smithson paraded our village streets singing carols and anthems until dawn broke. They then returned to their Chapel for breakfast before leaving by horse and trap and horse and cart to continue their singing at Woodhall, Elrington, Esp hill and the Lees. The Mill Hills, Haydon, Chesterwood and Peelwell. In the meantime the Haydon Bridge Temperance Society held their yearly Tea Party in the Odd Fellows Hall, while the Haydon Bridge Brass Band promenaded the streets under the leadership of J.Hetherington.

When my granddad was skating on the Tyne in 1878, there were two butchers on the north side of the river preparing for Christmas. Mrs Cowing, later to trade under her son's name, Thomas Blakey Cowing and Ralph Pickering, 'Butcher and Bacon Dealer'. I have a record of their Christmas offerings.

"Mrs Cowing exhibited three splendid shorthorn heifers selected from the stalls of J.E.Auburn of Lipwood Well and Matt Ridley of Peelwell, Mutton from G.Armstrong of Bradley Hall and an excellent supply of pickled tongues. Mr Pickering exhibited beef of two heifers of rare quality from Mr Longhorn of East Mill Hills, prime black-faced mutton, Cumberland dairy-fed pork and a good supply of poultry"

Matt Ridley of Peelwell was my great, great grandfather.

We are fortunate to have the 'West Mill Hills' butchers on Church Street today, providing attractive cuts of meat displayed in pristine conditions, when so many small family retail businesses are closing. Thomas and his Staff prepared for Christmas 2002 just as our village butchers did before them one hundred and twenty four years ago.

Only the slaughterhouse at the rear of the butcher's premises and the sawdust on the shop floor are missing.

I have started a New Year with memories of Christmases past, but I must close these 'notes' now.

My grandson, Jack, is calling, he wants to show me a present he got from Santa Claus. A Newcastle United calendar for 2003!!

CORRESPONDENCE

FLOODING AT HAYDON BRIDGE

The notes of the Parish Council Meeting, as reported in the *Haydon News*, expressed concern relative to the effects of flooding by the river. There is nothing new about this and, indeed, the risks appear to be much less than they were in days gone by. I can recall 40 years ago the river coming up into my garden at Brigwood and the water coming into the bus step as it 'ploughed' through the river flood at Whitechapel (it didn't do much good to the sawmill there).

William Lee in his 'History of Haydon Bridge' cites numerous examples of flooding ie:-

17 November 1771 - A great flood early this morning. It flowed over the whole village, which obliged the men, with women and children on their backs, to wade almost up to their neck to the Grammar School (Shaftoe Trust) where they found sanctuary. The inhabitants of the north side found shelter at Broomhill (beside the cricket field) no houses being nearer the village at that time. This was reputedly the greatest flood of all time and John Mulcaster of Langley Smelt Mill in his poem, *'The Inundation of the Tyne'* wrote,

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

Despite the chaos no lives appear to have been lost.

10 March 1782 There was a heavy fall of snow and next morning a very heavy rain which raised the river higher than anyone ever remembered. (memories must have been short in those days!)

29 December 1815 A great flood in the Tyne.

24 July 1829 Haydon Bridge and neighbourhood was visited by a tremendous thunderstorm. The lightning was awfully grand and continued from

3 o'clock in the afternoon until near 8 in the evening. The Low Hall Bum rose to a fearful height (nothing new there then). Low Hall bridge was covered with water to a great depth. The Post Office and several cottages near it were completely inundated and the inhabitants suffered severe loss. Ralph Heslop, letter carrier, saved himself by wading up the street from the Post Office to the Anchor Inn, nearly up to his neck in water (the Post Office was then on the south side). His mother who kept the Post Office had a narrow escape from drowning. It appears she had got onto the top of a coalhouse for safety but, the water rising very fast, she would have been washed off in a very short time, when some of the villagers seeing her, got her from the perilous situation at the risk of their own lives. The oldest inhabitant could never remember witnessing such a thunderstorm.

7 July 1852 A violent thunderstorm visited Haydon Bridge with such a deluge of rain as has seldom been witnessed in the village, the streets being completely flooded. The water came flooding down some fields totally flooding California Gardens with the road leading down to them being totally impassable (at Low Stublick there was scarcely a drop of rain and the sheep clipping was never interrupted).

16 July 1866 At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon a storm raged, with great fury, for half an hour. Rain and hail poured down in torrents, the hailstones being as large as marbles. The streets were flooded with water.

Although, some years ago, there was considerable opposition to it the gravel extraction which took place beside Martin's Close. It meant that the water when the river was in flood could move away from the bridge area in a vastly increased flow thus reducing the risk of flooding to the inhabited areas.

So, there is nothing new and no doubt, nature in its usual way will exact its revenge as I don't think that global warming could be blamed in those earlier days!

W. Veitch

HAYDON BRIDGE WAR MEMORIAL

For the past two years my husband and I have been researching the soldiers who died during the Great War and who are commemorated on the village war memorial. We intend to launch a web site dedicated to the memorial and those who died. This will include biographical details as well as photographs of the soldiers and their gravestones. We recognise that not everyone has access to the internet and therefore intend to make a copy of the information available somewhere in the village.

We were very fortunate to obtain copies of the soldiers photographs displayed in the Community Centre. We have supplemented these with information obtained by reviewing contemporary copies of the Hexham Courant. This provided us with both additional photographs and some biographical details in the form of obituaries printed at the time of death. We have also visited all but three of the individual soldiers gravesites.

We would like to establish contact with anyone who may have additional information they would like us to use. We know how precious family photographs are and would immediately copy and return any which were lent to us. If anyone would like to obtain copies of the information and photographs we already hold on a particular soldier we would be happy to oblige.

Although at present we are concentrating on the Great War we are also interested in any information on the soldiers commemorated from World War II. It is our intention to include similar information on these men at some time in the future.

**Contact: Pam and Ken Linge,
Drystones, Heugh House Lane,
Haydon Bridge.**

**Telephone: 01 434 684 050,
email: pam@klinge.demon.co.uk.**

ANOTHER WAY TO STOP SMOKING

Christmas was not far away and the little girl was staying for the night with her grandparents.

When, late at night, the grandmother looked into her room she was still awake.

When asked why she couldn't sleep she replied "Nanna, why don't you stop smoking?"

The grandmother replied "I will try to stop after Christmas".

The little girl's reply to this was "But what happens if you die before then?"

The grandmother had previously tried, by various means, to stop smoking - unsuccessfully - but was so affected by the conversation that, from that night 10 years ago she has never had another cigarette.

This is a true story.

W. Veitch

NATIVITY SERVICE

This year it was the turn of the Methodist Church to host the Christmas Eve Nativity Service which involved children from all three Churches in the village.

The Church was packed as the young ones acted out the Christmas Story in rather a different way using a production called "The Grumpy Sheep"

Children taking part were as follows:

ANGELS: Beth Kennedy, Lucy Collier, Emily Stevenson, Isla Jones, Yvonne Davy.

GRUMPY SHEEP: Ben Thornhill.

Others in his flock: Lois Arthur, Emilia Collier.

SHEPHERD: Joe Thornhill.

KINGS: Jason Bowman, David Davy, Charlotte Kennedy.

MARY: Morag Stone.

JOSEPH: Trevor Davy.

BABY JESUS: Played so sweetly by real live Baby Jane Collier.

READERS: Phillipa & Matthew

Green, Emily L'anson, Georgina Robley, Nichola Ord.

PIANIST: Alison Armstrong.

LIGHTS: Peter Davey.

INTRODUCTION, OVERHEAD OPERATION & CLOSING PRAYERS: Rev. David Hasson.

Members from each Church helped dress the children and supervised various groups as the Christmas Scene in the stable unfolded.

A plate was left at the door for donations to the *National Children's Homes*.

The total given was £120 and has since been sent to the NCH.

Many thanks to all the children for making this so enjoyable and to everyone for supporting this very special service.

Kathleen Armstrong



PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM

Residents and businesses across Northumbria are busy preparing for the launch of this year's prestigious Northumbria in Bloom competition, which will be held in Hexham in March.

And as the host of this year's contest, Tynedale Council is urging people in the district's towns and villages to get in quick by submitting applications before the end of January.

Sponsored by Newcastle Building Society, the Northumbria in Bloom competition has eleven categories, catering for each place size, from small villages, through to large cities. And in each category, there will also be a number of minor awards, including best student gardener, most attractive front garden and best retail area or business park. This year the Northumbria in Bloom organisers hope that the popular competition will capture the imagination of even more people across the region, leading to a record number of entries.

The judges of the competition will be looking for the combined efforts of the local authority, local community and local commerce that demonstrate overall floral im-

pect and landscaping, attractive bedding displays, hanging baskets and planters, bright and tidy front gardens and well maintained open spaces. They will also be looking for participation from the commercial, industrial and voluntary sectors as well as environmental improvement and conservation projects and work by schools.

A trophy will be awarded to the best entry in each category and a number of winners will be put forward to the national Britain in Bloom competition. Selected national winners will be entered into the European 'Entente Florale'.

Tynedale Council looks after the planting in Tynedale's parks, on roundabouts and verges, in cemeteries and other locations in Hexham, Haltwhistle and Prudhoe. Applications to enter the competition are to be made through town and parish councils and the council is offering support and advice to individuals and groups applying.

Councillor Mrs Audrey Hutchinson from Tynedale Council, said: "Northumbria in Bloom encourages everyone to take responsibility for looking after the local environment. It promotes community spirit, enthusiasm and pride in the local community and helps to make it a better place for residents, tourists, businesses and potential employers. To be successful, all sections of the local community should be involved and we'd like to encourage everyone to join in."

Mrs Kenneth Clark, chairman of Northumbria in Bloom added: "The Northumbria in Bloom committee is delighted that the inaugural meeting for the 2003 competition will be held in Hexham on the 10th March. With the help of local committees, many towns and villages have been transformed by displays of plants and flowers to the benefit of the whole community".

"Most importantly, the growing number of participants in Northumbria in Bloom has increased awareness of the competition overall and boosted the number of visitors to the region. Consequently we welcome as many entries as possible this year."

Tynedale produced a number of award winners last year, with Hexham, Haltwhistle and Melkridge all receiving awards of merit. Further awards went

to Hexham Youth Initiative which won best voluntary project for the Hydro Garden at Queen Elizabeth High School; to Betty Smith for loyal service by an individual and to Ashcroft Guest House in Haltwhistle in the best individual commercial premises category.

The Northumbria in Bloom competition also encompasses a children's painting competition. Children are asked to paint flowers and plants representing months of the year in seven different categories. The winning paintings will be depicted in a calendar on sale from the end of June.

For more information on Northumbria in Bloom or to obtain an entry form, please telephone **01 740 620 725**.

Northumbria in Bloom categories for entry include:

Small village – population up to 250, Town (10,001 – 25,000), Village (251 – 600), Large town (25,001 – 70,000), Large village (601-2,000), City (70,001 – 150,000), Urban community (2,001 – 10,000), Large city (over 15,000), Small country town (2,001 – 5,000), Urban regeneration, Small town (5,001 – 10,000)

Within the above categories are the following minor awards:

Most improved entry, Best overall entry in the region, Best horticultural project, Best voluntary project, Best student gardener, Best retail area or business park, Long service of an individual, Combined efforts of the residents of a community, Best grounds of an old people's home, Best grounds of a church, cemetery or crematorium, Best individual commercial effort, Best conservation project, Best bus, metro or railway station, Best pub or hotel, Best grounds of a manufacturer, Best park, Best efforts of chamber of trade, Most attractive front garden, Best sports grounds and grounds of colleges, universities and prisons, Best hospital, hospice or medical centre.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

*Council wins £200,000 for School
Pathfinder Initiative*

NORTHUMBERLAND County Council has scooped a £200,000 Government grant to enable an exciting new Arts programme to be devel-

oped from Haydon Bridge High School.

The Department for Education and Skills (DfES) is funding a **Pathfinder to Extended Schools** programme to extend and introduce new community - Arts related courses and activities linked to ICT - and family services in the widespread rural communities and the 20 First and Middle schools within the catchment area of Haydon Bridge High School.

The development of the Arts is a priority in *Northumberland County Council's* Education Development Plan as well as the school's Improvement Plan.

The **Pathfinder to Extended Schools** project will also bring together schools, along with other key partners, plus scores of associated organisations and agencies in the development of a cohesive and comprehensive learning strategy for the co-ordination of provision in this very rural area and increase community access to culture and leisure opportunities that are not otherwise available.

The scheme will commence at the start of the Spring Term in January 2003, concluding in August 2003. However, it is envisaged that the programme will be sustained beyond this period as a result of training undertaken with staff and young people during the latter stages of the programme.

Work will cover Music, Drama, Art and Dance, drawing children and young people from the catchment area; Community Education centres, youth projects and existing community arts programmes.

There will be two key events during the Spring and Summer terms to celebrate the work and achievements of the young people who have participated in a total of 48 activity days staffed by professional artists and performers.

Participants will progress to performances, exhibitions and concerts in the four subject areas with at least two in each discipline per term. This will total a further 16 events between January and September 2003.

It is also proposed to organise a comprehensive Arts 'Outreach' project aimed at enhancing community health and social inclusion. Activities will take place at different venues throughout the area including village and church halls, community centres, libraries and youth groups as well as schools.

It is calculated that the whole **Pathfinder to Extended Schools** programme will in-

volve around 2,500 children and young people drawn from schools and outlying communities.

Coun Jim Wright, Executive Member for Children's Services said: *"This is a quite superb initiative which will benefit children from some of our most rural and socially isolated communities.*

"I am very pleased that the DfES has chosen to fund this Pathfinder project in Northumberland and I am sure it will be a huge success."

Barbara Mansfield Deputy Headteacher at Haydon Bridge added: *"Haydon Bridge High School is delighted to act as the host organisation for the Extended Schools Pathfinder."*

"It is a wonderful opportunity to have the work we do recognised and to be provided with the opportunity to extend our work with an emphasis on the arts"

Note:

Haydon Bridge High School has a wide and successful experience of involvement in DfES initiatives. This includes the Specialist Schools programme, the School Sports Co-ordinator project, UK Online Learning, Health Action Zone Northumberland, including Peer Support; Healthy Schools initiative, Learning Support Unit, Northumberland.

The school is piloting a **Connexions** service and is also a national pilot of the **Progress File**.

The school operates **Study Support** and has organised DfES initiated Summer Schools including those for gifted and talented young people and others through the Youth Service.

In 2001 the school was selected as one of six schools from different LEAs across England to be part of the **DfES Schools Plus** pilot initiative held during the academic year 2001/02. An interim evaluation report has been prepared for the DfES by the National Children's Bureau.

This programme arose from the recommendation in the **Schools Plus Policy Action Team 11** report published in 2000.

This report considered a number of ways in which schools in disadvantaged areas might develop in order to raise

the achievement of their pupils. In particular, two main approaches were advocated – extending the services schools offered to their pupils and increasing the role of the community in the school and the school in the community.

Northumberland Fire Chief responds to FBU Strike Call

NORTHUMBERLAND'S Chief Fire Officer John McCall has called on the public for vigilance and a "safety first" lifestyle during the new series of fire-fighters' strikes set to begin later this month.

The Fire Brigades Union has announced a 24-hour strike commencing at 9am on 21 January 2003. Two 48 hour strikes are also scheduled for 9am, 28 January to 9am, 30 January and 9am, 1 February to 9am, 3 February.

"Our top priority is maintaining public safety during times of strike action," said Mr McCall. "To that end we have been working closely with the Army, police and other emergency services. During all strike periods the lead agency in fighting fire and managing resources will be the Ministry of Defence (MoD)".

"We urge the public to be vigilant and follow our fire safety advice to reduce the possibility of fires starting".

"We have distributed leaflets on fire safety and what to do in the event of emergency to every household in the County. I ask all householders to read these leaflets carefully. Fire safety advice is also available on the Northumberland County Council website at: www.northumberland.gov.uk. In the event of an emergency, people should dial 999 as normal".

"Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service also has a rescue capability, and the majority rescues we carry out tend to be as a result of road traffic accidents. We would therefore urge the public to drive carefully to reduce the risk of any potential road accident."

Mr McCall asks all members of the public to follow basic safety advice:

IF A FIRE STARTS:

DO

Get everyone out as soon as possible.
Close doors behind you.
Telephone 999 from a neighbour's house or phone box.
Clearly state the address of the fire.

DON'T

Panic.
Stop for valuables as you leave.
Go back into the house until it is safe to do so.

Facts and Figures: Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service

205 full-time operational staff includes 9 non-operation posts; 167 "rider" posts; 186 part-time or 'retained' personnel; 24 control room staff; 6 full-time fire stations; 12 part-time fire stations; 16 part-time crews plus 1 unstaffed station at Holy Island; 23 appliances plus 3 spare.

The service costs £14,255,000 per year to run including £2,000,000 fixed rental costs for assets.

Operational staff pay costs £9m and pensions over £2 million (14% of the budget). Fire Control staff and pensions cost a further £500,000.

Further information is available from:
Nic Outterside, Press Officer, Northumberland County Council.

Tel: 01 670 534 251

Email:
nouterside@northumberland.gov.uk
See all our latest news at:
www.northumberland.gov.uk/press

NATURAL REMEDIES FOR A HEALTHY BODY

(Part One)

New Year resolutions - help to give up smoking.

Many major diseases and health problems affect smokers and their children. There are over 30 potentially carcinogenic chemicals found in cigarette smoke. Tobacco comes from a large leafed **nightshade** or **solanaceae** plant. Many people have an allergy to **nightshade** related foods so they might find stopping smoking helps their joints.

People that give up smoking often report higher energy levels and a better sense of

taste and smell.

If you are thinking of giving up smoking plenty of water should be drunk in order to help the body to detoxify itself.

Stress is one of the things smokers say that they suffer from most whilst giving up. **B vitamins** are important for a healthy nervous system. The herbs **valerian** and **St John's Wort** are good for calming if you're feeling uptight.

5HTP can help to reduce anxiety and it can suppress appetite for those who worry about putting weight on whilst giving up. We have also had customers use the mineral **chromium** which balances blood sugar levels to help prevent putting on weight.

Garlic and **Milk Thistle** are useful herbs for helping the body to cleanse itself to get rid of nicotine. **N-Acetyl-Cysteine** helps to detox the system and break down mucous to get rid of the 'smokers cough'.

Vitamin C is strongly recommended to try to reduce nicotine craving. It is best to take a low acid version because smoking tends to make the body acidic. (**Vitamin C** is important for smokers anyway because each cigarette can rob the body of 25mg of vitamin C).

In the early days of giving up, herbal cigarettes in place of nicotine ones may be helpful. However they contain tar so they are not completely healthy.

Many people say that they need to occupy their mouths and hands, so they chew gum, liquorice root sticks or cinnamon sticks to occupy themselves. When cravings arise walking or finding an activity to decrease stress levels is important.

(Part Two)

Sexual problems.

Problems in this area can be embarrassing and heartrending, however, we are being asked more questions about intimate problems as people become more open about asking questions, and the celebrating of St. Valentines Day sees many queries in our shop in this important, though sometimes neglected area of our health.

HAYDON NEWS e-mail address: News4haydon@aol.com

Lack of energy.

This is one of the most common symptoms/reasons for problems. Long working hours, stress, poor diet, lack of sleep can all affect energy levels. Relief may be obtained from using the herbs **ginseng** or **guarana** - which both can have a positive influence on energy levels. Nutritional help may come from using a **B vitamin complex** or **CO Q 10 (a co-enzyme)** which are both important for energy levels. Royal Jelly is a good source of B vitamins and iron which is also vital for maintaining strength and stamina.

Loss of Desire.

Essential **fatty acids** such as those found in Evening Primrose Oil and Linseed Oil have an important role in providing the nutrients that make the sex hormones of both men and women.

The herbs **Damiana** and **Muria Puama** are both reputed to be **aphrodisiacs**. In one study **Muria Puama** was found to be effective in 62% of cases.

Erectile Dysfunction.

This may involve an underlying medical complaint and a trip to the doctor is sometimes needed. Sometimes it can be caused by stress or tiredness, the herb **ginkgo biloba** may boost circulation to the area, **vitamin E** aids circulation and **zinc** is important for the health of the prostate gland.

Vaginal Dryness.

This can happen at any stage in a woman's life but it is most commonly reported during and after the menopause, and is caused usually by a drop in the hormone levels.

The active ingredient of **Evening Primrose Oil (G.L.A)** is important for regulating the hormones. The herbs **Dong Quai** and **Black Cohosh** are said to help with energy levels and increase the effectiveness of the **ovarian** hormones and may help to combat this problem.

Aromatherapy Oils.

Massaging with oils may help to relieve stress, and stimulate **pheromone** production (odourless secretions that trigger sexual attraction). The following oils are best mixed in a base oil such as **wheatgerm, sweet almond** or **grape-**

seed before applying to the skin.

Bergamot is uplifting and relaxing.

Peppermint may help to boost a low sex drive linked with muddled thoughts, physical and emotional tiredness. **Geranium** is said to balance sexual hormones and to be an aphrodisiac.

Patchoulli and **Ylang Ylang** are both thought to stimulate secretion of pheromones.

Important:

Pregnant ladies, people under medical supervision or taking prescription drugs should check with their GP before using complimentary therapies:

All the best for 2003!

*Jill Henderson.
Holland & Barrett.*

DANCE CLUB NEWS

The Dance club got off to a good start after a two week break at Christmas.

On Monday 27th January the Club will be celebrating Robbie Burns Night with a Bring-and-Eat Supper. Most members will be wearing a Tartan of their choice.

Nan Coats, one of our members fell and broke her right arm and while convalescing, fell again, this time breaking her left leg! However, the last time I saw her, she was quite cheerful.

The Dance Club sent their kind regards

DJ. Jim Biggs

Dear Mr Snowdon

Thank you for your e-mail.

Unfortunately, it is simply a case of logistics. It is not possible to enable every exchange at the same time; it is also not practical to tie up time, money and resources enabling an exchange that may not be used. It is far more practical to give access to as many people as soon as possible as quick as possible, exchanges that carried the most data calls were updated first.

I'm sorry that your exchange has not yet been enabled to support this service. Nonetheless, I would like to bring you up to date with the latest position.

Before Broadband can be made available throughout the UK, we needed to carry out extensive work to the telephone network. Due to the unique way in which the product is being routed through our Net-

work, we must be sure that voice and data calls are separated effectively to prevent congestion of calls. A rollout programme was devised around exchanges that carried the most data calls and this enabled us to determine which exchanges were updated first.

Priority was given to those exchanges with the highest volumes. So far, BT has upgraded over 1100 telephone exchanges for ADSL services. Some 66% of UK households are connected to these exchanges. We understand that they will continue to upgrade exchanges if there is sufficient demand to justify the up front investment required. This means that, at the moment, we are unable to confirm where or when the next exchanges will be upgraded. However, from 1st July 2002 there has been a link on the availability checker that allows people to register their interest in BT Broadband. You can see this by going to www.bt.com/broadband and clicking on Broadband Availability Checker. This will allow BT access to a true barometer of demand. In addition, we are exploring other ways that we can provide high-speed services to parts of the country where, due to commercial or technical reasons, ADSL is unlikely to reach, and one of these may well turn out to be the solution used in your area.

BT is also investigating the possibility of introducing wireless and satellite broadband services. This would ensure that everyone in the UK has an opportunity to experience the benefits of broadband. Further details regarding this will be published on the web site so please keep checking this for updates.

Unfortunately it is not possible to connect you to a different phone pole/exchange to enable you to receive the ADSL service as there is no problem or fault with the line we have provided you. Your BT line and the service that is supplied to you only guarantees the ability to make and receive a call. The service does not include any phones or other equipment/service that we may supply you under a separate agreement.

I hope this information has been useful to you. Please do not hesitate to get back to me should you need any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Michael Shearman

HAYDON NEWS ADVERTISING

ANNUAL ADVERTISING FEES FOR THE YEAR 2003

*Advertising costs for businesses remain
unchanged for the coming year.*

Advertising Rates

Single Column – Variable Width

12 months (10 Issues) - £12.00

6 months (5 Issues) - £7.00

Single insertion - £1.50

No charge for:

Forthcoming events
Results of Collections
Acknowledgements
Club News
Reports of Local Functions

Please complete the box below, enclose it and the appropriate fee in an envelope addressed to:

The Treasurer (Alastair Bowen)
Friends of Haydon Bridge
11 Tynedale Cottages
Ratcliffe Road
Haydon Bridge
Northumberland
NE47 6EU

If you live locally just use the top two lines of the address and leave it at the *Co-op, John Clarkes or Marsh's newsagents* from where it will be collected.

ADVERTISING FEE FOR 2003

I wish to continue using my present advert. ☐

I wish to change my advert.(see over) ☐

NAME OF BUSINESS:

ADDRESS:

.....

POST CODE: **TEL:**.....

Cheques payable to: *'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'.*

PAID BY:(Please PRINT)

FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE FOR THE YEAR 2003

As the subscription to cover the current year is now due please complete the box below, enclose it and the appropriate subscription in an envelope addressed to:

The Membership Secretary (Mike Parkin)
Friends of Haydon Bridge
'The Rambler'
Brigwood
Haydon Bridge
Northumberland
NE47 6EX

(If you live locally just use the top two lines of the address and leave it at the *Co-op, John Clarkes or Marsh's newsagents* from where it will be collected)

The standard subscription is only **£1.20** therefore if you so desire by all means increase the size of your donation. It would be very much welcomed.

All donations are used by 'The Friends' in supporting voluntary and charitable causes in the Parish of Haydon.

UK readers of the *Haydon News* may join 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge' for an annual subscription of **£10.00**.

This will guarantee a posted copy for each of the ten months. Again you may donate more.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

Minimum donation **£1.20**. Larger donations welcome.

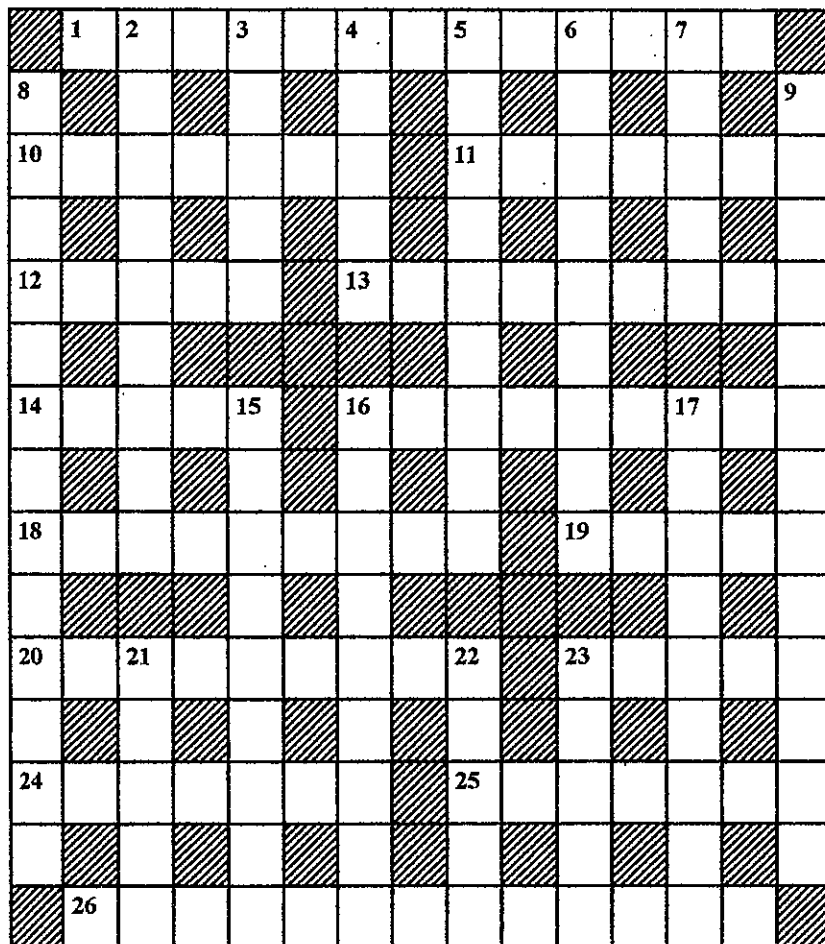
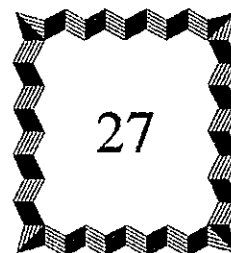
Cheques payable to: *'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'.*

New advertising or any queries should be addressed to **The Editor** (address to be found on page 2)
or please phone: **01 434 688 871**

The £10 Crossword

NAME:

ADDRESS:

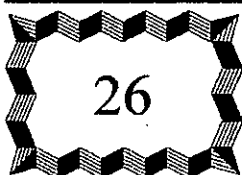


ACROSS

1. Weapon, a cosmetic conspiracy. (13)
10. Mountainous country. (7)
11. Eric's a musician. (7)
12. Leicestershire woodhouse. (5)
13. Tomorrow in two days? (9)
14. Vegetable. (5)
15. Administrative HQ. (9)
18. Bouth's collapsed. (3,6)
19. Start lathering soap county. (5)
20. Request to porter. (4,2,3)
23. Painting fur. (5)
24. Make from mixed uncontaminated fish. (7)
25. Over the top appearance for composer. (7)
26. Rose above wartime fires. (9,4)

DOWN

2. Unpleasant dessert? (9)
3. French in Greek wars. (5)
4. Tired in Co. Durham. (5)
5. Too great. (9)
6. Bloody small crockery? (9)
7. Chose top newspaper person. (5)
8. Conspiracy recording. (9,4)
9. Open series of song and Verdi opera feature in book. (13)
15. Rush by opening in SW. (9)
16. Irish sustenance. (4,5)
17. Improvise. (2,7)
21. Icelandic crown. (5)
22. Greek rays? (5)
23. Christian meeting? (5)



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

Entries were
received from:

Rene Armstrong
A. Phillips
Susan Stephenson
E. Jukes
Dennis Telford
T. Corbett
B. Pearson
Denis Bell
Rosemary Shout
A.M. Scott
Philida Irving
Simon Benson

Entries to be received by the Editor on or before
MONDAY 24th February 2003.

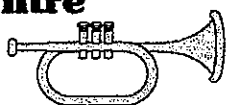
Best of luck

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

£10 winner out of the hat:

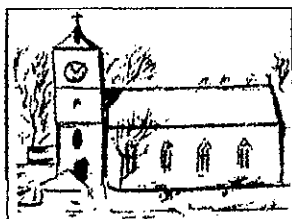
E. Jukes

**Concert of Band Music
in Haydon Bridge
Community Centre
by**



HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY BAND

Conductor - Justin Radford
Friday February 14th 7.30pm
TICKETS: £3.50 (children £1.75)
from Joyce Armstrong, 684.094
including light refreshments



*in aid of
St Cuthbert's
Church
Renovation
Fund*

**Friends of
Haydon Bridge High School
Ceilidh**

with

'Whapweasel'

Caller: Trevor Suckling
Friday 7th February
Haydon Bridge
High School
7.30pm

Tickets £5.00 and £2.50

Available from:

*School, Brian Bell or at the door
(Book early to avoid disappointment)*

**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 in the first instance, 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 scheduled for **Thursday 13th March 2003**. If you wish to make an application to that meeting, please write to:

**The Clerk
Shaftoe Educational Foundation
Shaftoe Terrace
Haydon Bridge
Northumberland
NE47 6BW**

Applications should arrive at the Office by **Monday 3rd March** at the latest. Applications received after this date may have to wait until the meeting in July 2003.

R A D Snowdon B.Ed (Hons) - The Clerk

Alnshouse Charity of John Shaftoe

**ARE YOU IN NEED
OF A MORE SUITABLE HOME?**

- * Are you a resident of Haydon Bridge?
- * Are you at least 60 years of age?
- * Are you able to show a genuine need for more suitable accommodation?

IF SO

** we can offer you a delightful one bedroom unfurnished cottage in pleasant and friendly surroundings on Shaftoe Terrace.*

For more detailed information and an application form please ring:

01 434 688 871



1683

Give to the Trustees: R A D Snowdon B.Ed(Hons)
Shaftoe Terrace - Haydon Bridge - Northumberland - NE47 6BW
Telephone 01 434 688 871 and Newshouse-sol.com

HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB. - please note change of meeting night.
Also: The Club would be very keen to borrow any photographs of any old teams of the Club so that they could get copies of them to hang on the display in the Pavilion. These are available for everyone to view at any HOME match. **Avril Kirsopp**

2003. A YEAR OF 'INTERESTING TIMES'.

NEW FOR 2003.

By the time this edition of the *Haydon News* is in your hands the latest copy of our Practice brochure should have been delivered to your door. We hope that you will find it helpful.

There are a number of changes from the previous edition and the whole has been proof read and corrected with the most extraordinary fastidiousness before being printed. Guess what happened the day after the finished brochures were delivered to the practice? The Royal Mail sent us a letter changing our postcode! Aaaaarrggghhh!

Our new postcode is **NE47 6LA**. Yipee! We also have a new email address (correct capitalisation please);

Admin@GP-A84045.NHS.UK

A number of patients use email to send requests for information, test results, prescription requests, requests for brochures etc. We are very happy for this to occur, the messages are read Monday to Friday each week but not at weekends. **Beware – normal emails are not secure, we do not employ encryption and use of this service is entirely at your own risk.** The previously advertised email address (**sford-hb@dircon.co.uk**) is now my personal email address and should therefore not be used for messages more properly directed to the Health Centre.

Also new for 2003 will be yet another change in the contractual arrangements under which GPs work. Sometime around spring a ballot will be held of all GPs on a new version of the old contract that we all used to have. Most of Northumberland works under what is called Personal Medical Services (PMS), which is viewed by many as an interim arrangement. Whether the new terms on offer will precipitate a renaissance in general practice remains to be seen but it is noteworthy that already, in January, there are four long established GPs in Tynedale (not here in Haydon Bridge) who are known to be retiring during the year. Others have recently or will shortly be going into semi-retirement too.

On a positive note; under PMS we have seen some useful changes and there is the promise of some more to come. We now have our very own health visitor – this is coincidental rather than directly attributable to PMS. More practice and nursery nurses are on their way. We have also acquired some additional equipment and will shortly get a new ECG machine that is so smart and shiny that it actually tells us what is wrong with the patient. You may also have noticed that, at times, though a doctor is plainly visible in the building, he/she is not seeing patients who instead see a locum. This arrangement is funded by PMS and allows the partners time to address the paperwork – please let us know whether this

sounds like progress to you.

An enormous amount of time is now being devoted to making the care of chronic diseases, such as diabetes and vascular disease (the precursor of heart attacks and strokes), more nearly as good as possible. At first glance this sounds both obvious and a good idea but it should be borne in mind that the beliefs about what exactly is 'best' change almost daily, as new information becomes available. For example, we are rapidly increasing the doses of cholesterol lowering drugs and will sometimes be giving two but recently we had to take everyone off one of these kind of drugs that was found to be potentially troublesome. We are going to be chasing those who have had a heart attack already and increasing their medications too. Both doctors and patients are going to have to get used to changing treatments at short notice if we are going to get the best possible results. Sorry. If you have questions please ask.

There is a continuous external audit of practice performance and in the last quarterly feedback, that we received a few days ago, the word 'excellent' was applied. Not yet perfect but with the co-operation of the patients, who knows...

ROLL UP! ROLL UP!

Our liquid nitrogen machine is here!!! All those with warts, verrucas, skin tags and similar skin problems are now actively invited to turn up for frazzling. In the first few weeks we have already emptied one whole storage vessel of nitrogen such is the popularity of the treatment.

Seborrhoeic keratoses, those rather unsightly but common brown patches that appear on older skin, are particularly suitable for treatment.

TERRORISM AND HAYDON BRIDGE.

Though we live in the back-end-of-beyond we should not be complacent.

Many in our community travel to work in major population centres on the railways and by plane - transport hub (airports and railway stations) are known targets.

Major shopping centres are also an obvious target, our village shops could do very well (Go on! Try them!), local market towns now seem much more attractive shopping venues and why not? There's very little that cannot be bought either locally or on the net. Renewed support for small traders that work in or near our community could be just what we need to make life better in our remote rural retreat.

If Hexham and Haltwhistle do not have what you want, what about Carlisle, Penrith, Alston, Morpeth etc?

Nuclear, or more correctly, radiological weapons seem to be viewed as very unlikely but we

are in the down-wind plume from Sellafield, given the normal prevailing wind. For decades there have been locally held stocks of potassium iodate tablets that in an emergency would be distributed to the whole population. These block the uptake by our bodies of radioactive iodine, one of the principal contaminants from nuclear plant leaks – remember Chernobyl. The other components of fallout cannot be readily combated.

Smallpox kills about thirty per cent of those infected. It is a virus against which normal antibiotics have no effect. Many in the community, of forty or more years of age, will have been vaccinated against smallpox in childhood but there is doubt about whether this will confer any protection after so many years. Vaccination is a very simple procedure with a mortality rate of about one per million. I estimate that if a real emergency threatened then our practice population could be processed rapidly. Four doctors and two nurses spending about one minute per patient could get through three hundred and sixty patients per hour – the whole practice in about ten hours with no breaks for food etc. This would probably be carried out in a martial-law situation with normal civil liberties suspended - no informed consent, no dissent and queuing in wind, rain or snow regardless. Stand still too long and you'd get two doses.

Not a pleasant prospect but there are no immediately obvious alternatives.

A FITTING END.

Last month I mentioned some of the more obscure research subjects that have been pursued. This month I am indebted to The British Journal of Urology International (2002; 90: 586-587). Women should never underestimate the enduring damage that they can cause by ill considered, even if heartfelt, comments that cast doubts on a chap'sAhem!....size. 'Is it in yet?' may even prove fatal.

104 UK men were surveyed, possibly with a very small theodolite but more probably a tape measure, and it has now been established properly and scientifically that there is no relationship at all between shoe and penis size. Average penile length was found to be 13cm and average shoe size 9.

Seriously though! Men's health is comparatively under attended to. There is a website that men of all ages and orientations may wish to access covering a huge range of topics:

www.menshealthforum.org.uk

The Terence Higgins Trust has recently launched a campaign to increase health awareness amongst gay men and there is a booklet entitled 'The Bottom Line' available.

Contact: **www.tht.org.uk**

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

from Canon Vincent Ashwin

As I write this, the train tickets are sitting on my desk. There is a mass lobby of Parliament, and I'm going down to London on my day-off to protest against a possible war in Iraq. I'm going as an individual, not as anyone's representative; but I shall wear my clerical collar to show that my views are prompted by my Christian beliefs. This is part of what I wrote in my letter to our MP, Peter Atkinson:

I am writing to you as my local MP to say that my wife and I believe that the Government is very wrong to consider getting involved in a war against Iraq. Yes, Saddam Hussein is a vicious dictator, and his people would be better without him – especially the Kurds and the Marsh Arabs, on whom he has used biological and chemical weapons.

But war is wrong for the following reasons:

- a) *The human cost of the war would be very great. Increasingly, it is civilians who are victims of war. Already the poor in Iraq have been crushed by Western sanctions. Are we going to produce another generation of even poorer people?*
- b) *A war against Iraq will unite many of the Arab countries which are divided. Iraq is a semi-secular state, but a US/UK attack would be interpreted by many Muslims as a Christian Crusade against Islam. That would make a 3rd World War – which would be a dirty long-term affair – more possible.*
- c) *A war against a Muslim country would be a wonderful recruiting campaign for Al-Qaida; young men from many nations would leave home to become terrorists*
- d) *Race relations in this country would be damaged. When I was a vicar in Newcastle 5 years ago, the local Pakistanis asked me for help in preventing extremist Muslims from holding meetings, and warned me – as a local community leader – about such fundamentalism. War against a Muslim country would break down the trust that has been built up.*

Mr Atkinson kindly found time to send a reply in which he stated the political reasons why - unless there is a dramatic change in Iraq - a war against Iraq would be justified.

The role of Christians in politics is always a tricky question. But when there are ethical issues involved, it is right that church leaders should express the Christian ideals. Some church people are pacifists, and I respect their position; Quakers, for instance, have been very brave as stretcher-bearers in world wars. The position is a literal application of Jesus' teaching "Turn the other cheek".

Most Christians since the 13th century (the age of St Thomas Aquinas) have held the doctrine of 'the just war': that is, war must be for a just cause; it must be proportional, and not too heavy-handed; it is the last resort; there must be the likelihood



CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN HAYDON BRIDGE AN INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENT TO THE HAYDON NEWS

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

DID YOU KNOW

- That Haydon Bridge High School use the Methodist Church hall for some of their drama lessons?
- That the new ramp at the entrance to St Cuthbert's, build with York paving stones, is now finished, so that anyone with a push-chair or wheelchair can easily come in?
- That High School pupils came in three shifts to a Carol Service at St Cuthbert's on the last day of the autumn term – one of very few high schools in the country to do this?

of winning; proper means of fighting must be used. The bishops of the Church of England have this month joined others in saying that the conditions for a 'just war' against Iraq have not been met. Can the destruction of homes, water supplies, roads, bridges, factories, etc, which will lead to deaths of many civilians, be justified in this instance? Should the Iraqi people be punished again because they have a brutal dictator? I think not.

Of course, it is possible that our Government has already succeeded in getting President George Bush to hold back, and to listen to the United Nations. Perhaps our Government is only threatening to go to war, and thus to disarm Saddam Hussein by words, not guns. In that case, Tony Blair is playing a peace-keeping role. That's a political question I can't answer.

For me the big question is: Is war against Iraq now a justifiable action for a 'Christian' country? Many of us are answering, "Definitely not; the case for war has not been made."

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday February 2nd

10.00am Mr W Huntsman
6.00pm Rev David Hasson

Tue 4th Men's Christian Fellowship
Wed 5th 6.30pm Alpha Course continues
and every Wednesday

Sunday February 9th

8.30am Communion Service
10.00am Rev David Hasson
6.00pm Mr J Robinson

Thu 13th Circuit Fellowship meeting

Sunday February 16th

10.00am Mrs B Mearns (Family Service)
6.00pm Rev D Hasson (Sacrament)

Wed 19th Luncheon Club, Women's Own

Sunday February 23rd

10.00am Local arrangement
6.00pm Father Leo Pyle

Sunday March 2nd

10.00am Mr John Green
6.00pm Service at Bellingham

THE ALPHA COURSE

has started; it is a successful introduction to the Christian faith for all who are seeking, beginning each Wednesday, with a meal together at 6.30pm. Organized by Christians Together in Haydon Bridge, the venue is the Methodist Church. For more info contact one of the clergy.

PROUD GARDENER ??

St Cuthbert's are planning a 'Garden Trail' People will visit private gardens in the locality on a Sunday afternoon; the money for tickets will go to the church renovation fund. If you are a proud gardener, and would be happy for others to come and look at your plants, please phone the vicar (684.307) or Joyce Armstrong (684.094).

FROM ST CUTHBERT'S REGISTERS

Wedding Dec. 14th:
Graham Chapman / Stephanie Alder.

Funerals
Dec. 5th William Carruthers
c/o 41 Strother Close
Jan. 7th Ida White
formerly of Hilltop, Langley

In future, we hope to feature Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths from all 3 churches.

CALENDAR FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

February 2nd The Presentation of Christ

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 2)
10.30am All-Age Communion/Address

February 9th 4th Sunday before Lent

10.30am Parish Communion & Sermon

Thu. 13th Deanery Synod, St Cuthbert's
Speaker: the Bishop of
Newcastle.

Fri. 14th Concert by the Community
Band, 7.30, Community Centre.

February 16th 3rd Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 2)
10.30am Morning Prayer (Mike Fry)

Thu 20th 7.30pm Church Council
Sat 22nd Alpha Course away day

February 23rd 2nd Sunday before Lent

10.30am Parish Communion and Sermon

Wed. 26th 7.30pm Mothers' Union

Thu. 27th 7.30pm Christians Together

March 2nd Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 2)
10.30am All-Age Communion/Address

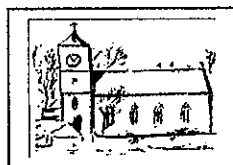
Haydon Bridge Community Band will be performing one of its first public concerts, in aid of St Cuthbert's Renovation Appeal. The concert will be in the Community Centre, because the church itself is cold in the winter. Give yourself a Valentine Treat!

Concert of Band Music in Haydon Bridge Community Centre by



HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY BAND

Conductor - Justin Radford
Friday February 14th 7.30pm
TICKETS: £3.50 (children £1.75)
from Joyce Armstrong, 684.094
including light refreshments



*in aid of
St Cuthbert's
Church
Renovation
Fund*

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Cuthbert's will be on Thursday April 3rd at 7.30pm in the church hall.

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.

FAREWELL FROM DAVID MATTHEWS

The youth worker sponsored by the village's three churches said good-bye in January. David Matthews was presented with a framed print of a picture of the bridge painted by the village's Tony Petts.

Writing in the Methodist Church's weekly news-sheet, David wrote about his final year's work:

"12 schools; 68 assemblies (that's 68 sleepless nights); 115 youth club meetings; approximately 2000 young people on each round of assemblies: not too bad for a year's work, is it?? But facts and figures don't really tell the whole story:-

- like walking into a room full of 13-14 year-olds just after their 13-year-old best friend had been killed in a car accident; what do you say to 30 teenagers who are in shock, and are grief-stricken, devastated and full of questions? Do you give them a three-point sermon on suffering, or open the Bible to the Psalms to try to comfort them? What do you say? The answer is, Nothing; but you are there with them; your heart breaks with them; you weep with them; you play on the playstation with them; there is nothing to say; but you are there!

Just a few weeks before this accident, I did a week of assemblies in the school where a teenager heard very clearly the message that Christ loved him. That is why I have treated school assemblies very seriously. Whether there are 15 or 800 in the room, it may be the only time those young people hear the Gospel."

[continued next month]

PRAY FOR WORLD PEACE

"We must strive: To bring the light of the Gospel to those living in darkness,
To bring the hope of the Gospel to those living in despair,
To bring the healing of the Gospel to the lonely,
the disadvantaged, the marginalized.
And to bring the peace of the Gospel to a divided world." [Pax Christi]