



THE HAYDON NEWS



Shaftoe Green

Cover Note page 12

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Issue 08

**October
2006**

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EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Since the late 1960's a series of promises, false starts and shattered expectations have marked the village's progress towards getting a by pass. It comes as no surprise, therefore, that the announcement this week, that the by pass is to go ahead was greeted with delight tempered by a little scepticism. However, this must not detract us from the fact that we are closer to acquiring the long awaited by pass than ever before. The report from the public enquiry strongly supports the case for a by pass. The few objections received have either been resolved, can be resolved through negotiation or have been outweighed, in the judgement of the inspector and ministers, by the substantial public benefit of the scheme. So we must remain hopeful that the April 2007 starting date for the construction of the by pass is realised and that sometime in 2009 a ribbon will be cut and the road declared open. In the meantime there's going to be a great deal of disruption in and around the village as construction gets underway. That should keep the moaners and groaners occupied for the duration.

The Editors.

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HAYDON NEWS contributions and crosswords to:

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The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editors. 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 Editors reserve the right to decide which letters/articles are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters/articles when necessary. Anonymous letters/articles will NOT be published. A nom-de-plume may be used provided that the Editors have been advised of the writer's name and address.

Dennis Telford (Chairman). chairman@haydon-news.co.uk

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Alastair Bowen (Treasurer), Sylvia Mitchell, Mike Parkin, Catherine Hall, Storey Hall.

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
FLOOD RISK ISSUES.**

**Haydon Bridge Community Centre
Thursday, 2nd November 2006.**

A drop in centre will take place from 2pm until 7.30pm where members of the Agency's Flood Risk Management Team and Tynedale Council will be available to answer any questions relating to flood warning, flood wardens, gravel issues and options for reducing flood risk. Further details to follow.

Public Participation.

A member of the public complained about the behaviour of some village children and teenagers in and around the Shaftoe Green area. On one occasion the contents of the dog bins and waste bins were emptied around the car park and an elderly couple harassed by the culprits as they attempted to stop them. The parish council are to write to the police to express the considerable concern felt by local residents and councillors.

Parish Council Meeting.

10 councillors were present.

Matters arising from the July meeting

Tynedale Council are to inspect the trees in the churchyard to ascertain the work to be done re overhanging branches. The developers of the flats in Foundry Yard have not responded to letters from the parish council concerning the replacement of the seat at the corner of Church Street and Strother Close and the compensation due to the council for the loss of the bus shelter, demolished as part of the development. The proposals regarding the future of the library were discussed (see page 9 for a full report). The council was informed that work on the reinstatement of the riverbank and footpath at the Spa Well is progressing. The information required by Northumberland County Council to support the council's request for the provision of brown tourist signs at the Repeater Station on the Military Road and at Esp Hill has now been gathered and the application form prepared. Several councillors attended a planning training session held by Tynedale Council in August.

Tynedale Council Minutes.

A full meeting of the council was not held this month. Tynedale Councillors have attended a meeting on neighbourhood shopping trends and provision in the main towns in the district and also a presentation, given by a representative from One NorthEast, on the business opportunities presented by the 2012 Olympic Games.

Highways.

The councillors expressed their delight, tempered by a hint of scepticism, at the publication of the public enquiry report on the Haydon Bridge by pass and the news that ministers have given their approval for the scheme to proceed. A note of caution was sounded as it was pointed out that there are still more legal processes to follow eg. Compulsory Purchase Order agreements, before the work on the by pass starts.

A report was given on the extraordinary meeting held by the council to discuss possible improvements to Ratcliffe Road when the road is de-trunked following the completion of the by pass (see report on page 9) A complaint was received about the overgrown hedge obstructing the pavement between Innerhaugh and the tunnel top. Pedestrians using this section of path are having to walk on the road to get by. The council are to contact NCC Highways Dept to request the hedge is cut back. A letter is also to be sent to NCC about the number of road signs in our area obscured by overgrown trees and shrubs.

Village Projects

The organisers of the John Martin Trail have sent a request to One NorthEast Tourism Department asking for the trail to feature on their website. The John Martin Trail already appears on the village's own web site www.Visit-Haydon-Bridge.co.uk. A trail leaflet can be down loaded from the site. The suggestion was made that the council undertake a village appraisal now that the outcome of the by pass enquiry is known. This is to be placed on the agenda for the next council meeting.

An enquiry was received about the opening of the south end of the cemetery, an area to be used for green burials. At present the ground needs levelling, the fence requires repair and access paths constructing. Although the completion of this preparatory work will not take long, it was suggested that there was a need to wait until the work on the by pass is completed, as the effect this will have on drainage in the area was not known.

Any other business.

The problems created by the introduction of wheelie bins in the rural parts of the parish were highlighted. Road side collection, required because the tracks/drives to many houses are too narrow for the large waste lorries, is going to be difficult at some property locations due to the distance of the house from the road and in other instances by nature of the road eg winding, narrow, lack of verge etc. The scheme is being introduced at the end of the month so there is little time for some of these problems to be resolved. A request was made for the seats outside the Community Centre to be repaired. They are in constant use throughout the day by people waiting for the bus. The question was raised about the display of lights in the village at Christmas. The council agreed to part fund another display this year. The amount collected, at various locations throughout the village for the display, is not known, but this should make a worthwhile contribution to the cost.

Date of next meeting October 26th 06 at the Community Centre.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Esmond Faulks (chairman)
Mr. D Charlton
Mrs. E Charlton
Mrs. V Fletcher
Mr. M R Parkin
Mrs. C Duffy
Mr. D Smith*
Mr. R Snowdon
Mr. E Brown.
Mr. M Zellas.
Vacancy

(* also a Tynedale Councillor)

Parish Clerk
Mrs. C McGivern

Richard Snowden, Henry Swaddle and I, continue our journey in the Isle of Man, following a John Martin trail there, as part of Haydon Bridge's John Martin Heritage Project.

In August, we left you at the gates of Kirk Braddan New Cemetery where John Martin was interred on February 24th 1854 after his death at 4 Finch Road, in Douglas, on February 17th.

Mona's Herald of February 25th 1854 recorded the previous day's funeral of John Martin

'A mighty spirit - a son of genius - has passed away from this earth! Martin - the greatest of British artists - is no more.....Any eulogium on Martin's transcendent genius would be superfluous. His works praise him - and are known and appreciated throughout the civilised world.'

The newspaper then offers with great pride, a lengthy and most praiseworthy eulogy it had earlier deemed unnecessary, until finally:

'The interment of the deceased gentleman took place yesterday forenoon, at the Kirk Braddan Cemetery.

The funeral cortege, consisting of the hearse, mourning coaches, with a number of private carriages, and many of the inhabitants on foot, left the house of Mr. Wilson in Finch Road, at which the deceased had for some time resided, at eleven o' clock, and proceeded to the cemetery. The service having been read by the Vicar, the Rev. Wm. Drury, the remains of the great Martin were deposited in their final resting place.'

'Martin was laid by the side of some of his departed relatives in the cemetery on the hill, near the romantic Churchyard of Kirk Braddan, one of the spots he admired so much, and loved to visit..... **We may truly predict that strangers from all parts of Europe, landing on these shores, will like pilgrims journeying to some far-famed distant shrine, visit the grave of Martin.'**

John Martin's final resting place is close to the small church and is described in the Isle of Man / Manx Notebook, as, 'perhaps the most nationally important tomb in the cemetery.....'



THE THOMPSON/WILSON FAMILY VAULT.

JOHN MARTIN'S RESTING PLACE IN KIRK BRADDAN NEW CEMETERY NEAR DOUGLAS ON THE ISLE OF MAN



When the vault was opened to take John Martin's coffin in 1854, it already contained the mortal remains of 6 year old James Richard Wilson, only son of Thomas and Maria Alice Wilson, died October 28th 1847.

Richard Thompson's widow Anne (nee Middleton), died October 27th 1853 aged 85 years, and her husband, John's uncle, whose epitaph on the tomb reads:

'Richard Thompson
born in Northumberland 1758
died April 17th 1846 aged 91 years.
He was descendant from the family of
he pious martyr Nicholas Ridley,
Bishop of London.'

The family connection with the Ridley name is through John Martin's grandmother on his mother's side, Ann Thompson (nee Ridley) who lived at East Land Ends. Bishop Nicholas Ridley was born in the neighbourhood of Willimoteswick Castle of course.

The inscription in John Martin's memory is clearly visible on a marble plaque attached to the rear of the vault in Kirk Braddan Cemetery.

**IN MEMORY
OF
JOHN MARTIN
HISTORICAL PAINTER
BORN AT HAYDON BRIDGE
NORTHUMBERLAND
19TH JULY 1789
DIED AT DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN
17TH FEBRUARY 1854**



The marble plaque dedicated to John Martin, is on the rear of the vault

'The Grave of John Martin.'

'Tis a most pleasant spot where he lies sleeping,
Upon a gentle hill, around it heave
The mountains which he loved most,
keeping
A solemn wake above his lonely grave.

The honoured dust that here with
thee's reposed
Was of a (lofty) order: it contain'd
A soul that glanced through nature,
and disclosed
To marvelling men, the simple and the
trained,

Scenes of surpassing grandeur, which
for ever
Will haunt their memories; and there
will come
From far off lands the gifted and the
clever,
To gaze in silent thought upon this
tomb!

Edited from

'The Grave of John Martin'

by Thos. Cambria Jones (June 1854)

The vault at Kirk Braddan also contains the remains, interred after John Martin, of Charlotte Jopling Spittal, Thomas Wilson's daughter (died 1898), and her husband Major James Spittal.

Following Major Spittal's interment in 1914 all the internal shelves were bricked up and the access to the vault made secure.

MANX NATIONAL HERITAGE (again)

Richard, Henry and I paid a final visit to the Manx Heritage Museum ('after the funeral!!'). We trawled the library archives for 'Martinalia' and were delighted with what we found. Several letters from John Martin, his family and friends, that as far as we know have never been published. But of special interest, was an 1834 architectural drawing in John's own hand, setting out one of his grand schemes.

'For preventing the pollution of the water of the Thames and for preserving the sewage for agricultural purposes..... Wharfs should be constructed as to form the roof of the sewer; with a grand public walk forming a roof to the wharf.'

If we had neither seen nor done anything else on our visit, to find this item alone would have made our journey worthwhile. We hope to unveil a copy

in our John Martin Gallery at some time in the future, so that you can all share in John's plans for the Thames embankments.

THE PLAINS OF HEAVEN ?

Our final journey on the island was to solve a matter of some dispute between those on the Isle of Man and three Northumbrians.

'The Plains of Heaven' was painted in 1853, it is the second largest of Martin's works and is described by the art critic William Feaver as, '.....the dream landscape of his native Tyne valley'. Thomas Balston offers one explanation, amongst others, that has the great painting as a scene from 'above Willindles Wick Castle (presumably Willimoteswick).

Just a few days before I left for the Isle of Man, David Reay of Bardon Mill told me that he knew a man... who knew a man.....who knew... without doubt that 'The Plains of Heaven' was a view from Hardriding top, looking towards the Ridley estates of years ago.

None of this will alter our Isle of Man friends' belief however, that the large imaginative painting was inspired by views from Mount Murray and Dreemlang near Braid, local beauty spots, three or four miles from the town of Douglas. It has to be said that those in Mann can quote a most important witness in support of this view. John's daughter Isabella was of the opinion that her father drew his inspiration for the painting.....from the Isle of Man.

Unfortunately for the Haydon Bridge visitors, 'Mannanan Mac Lir' had the last laugh on our journey as he threw his cloak across the valley from Braid, obscuring our view.

It was clear to us that non believers were not going to be allowed to see the plains of Heaven.

So Richard, Henry and I left for Northumberland with another question unanswered, and another reason for a return visit to this friendly Isle, **all the way from Haydon Bridge.**

END

A FOOTBALL SCRAPBOOK.

Is it really 25 years since we met at the Haydonian Workingmen's Club for a centenary dinner **to celebrate 100 years of football** in Haydon Bridge?

Football club President, Edward Waite, welcomed 140 guests on that Thursday evening in November **1981** and we all received commemorative certificates.



Special guests were Stan Seymour, chairman of Newcastle United; the chief coach at Newcastle, Tommy Cavanagh; Shaun Elliott and Bryan 'Pop' Robson.

Among the older players who received their certificates in 1981, were Tot Barron, Archie Thompson, Laurie Thompson and Cecil Telford.

Tot had turned out for our village team before the first world war and returned from the trenches to continue playing for the 'Robins'.

Archie, Laurie and my father Cecil were all in the same class at school and I heard many of their stories over the years about how they would cycle from Haydon Bridge on a Saturday, for league games as far away as Nenthead and Alston. These three were members of the first Haydon Bridge football team to bring a cup to the village, when they beat Alston 3-2 in the Haltwhistle League Cup Final in 1928; although earlier village teams had twice won the West Tyne League, in 1909 and 1910, and a Hexham Hospital Medal in 1911.

Of course, if the away fixtures were along the Tyne valley, and if the players could afford it, they would occasionally leave their bikes in the shed and travel on the railway. My grandfather William Telford, played football for Haydon Bridge in the late 1800's and early 1900's and I can recall a story he used to tell me about a particular match at Haltwhistle to which the Haydon Bridge team travelled by train.

'Local pride' was at stake and a crowd of several hundred partisan Haltwhistle folk were packed around the touchlines. Haydon Bridge won the game, against the odds and much to the annoyance of the Haltwhistle team and supporters.

After the match the Haydon Bridge team donned their flat caps and muffers, adjusted their galluses and waistcoats and made their way to the station for the return journey. What they didn't expect, was to be confronted by more than a hundred Haltwhistle roughnecks who threatened all kinds of mischief against the victors. The outnumbered Haydon Bridge players sensibly avoided the station platform, (I mean! Have you ever met anyone from Halty when their dander's up?) and made off on foot, outpacing their pursuers and then walking the nine miles home. My grandad would tell me that the folk from Haltwhistle couldn't play football, and they couldn't run either. Haydon Bridge beat them on both counts that Saturday afternoon. (Football clearly had its hooligans long before the 1960's and 70's!)

In 1931, Haydon Bridge Football Club's **50th anniversary** year, our village team played in the higher class Prudhoe and District League and it was this season when they won the first of their Clayton Cup Finals, beating Eltringham 5-2 in a replay. The team captain was Jimmy Armstrong and the goal scorers were Edwin Bowman, Charlie Bates(2) and Jack Leathard(2). My dad often said that our friend and neighbour Jack Leathard, was one of Haydon Bridge's best ever footballers.

In general, the 1950's were successful years for our Haydon Bridge football club, unfortunately however, not in **1956** its **75th anniversary**.

Our team ended the season mid-way in the league and failed to retain the Haltwhistle Charity Cup they had won the previous season. They also lost in the semi final of the Clayton Cup, 4-1 to the eventual winners Stamfordham.

The committee in 1956 included Robert Harding (Chairman), Eddie Moffat (Secretary), Norman Heslop (Treasurer), Jackie Wardle (Trainer) and Tommy Welton (Groundsman), and partly due to the considerable expense involved in the purchase and erection of a new pavilion, they had to make economies and found it necessary to disband the second team.

I have my own memories of playing for the Haydon Bridge second team in 1956. I made my debut in a game at Wylam, and I know exactly how many times I kicked the ball that day; it was thirteen! West Wylam and Prudhoe Co-op beat us 12-1, I was centre forward and my contribution was to kick off thirteen times. Oh dear! I had hoped for a better start

to my senior football career.

To return to 1981 and the centenary year for Haydon Bridge.

The celebratory season got off to a good start with the Haydon Bridge Junior team winning the West Northumberland Juniors Cup Final, in October. It had been held over from the previous season and they beat a much fancied Prudhoe side 4-1 with goals from Michael Wren, Adrian Clark, David Telford and Eric Donnelly. Unfortunately, the first team was unable to continue this success, finishing the season in 13th position, 22 points behind the league winners Wark.

To end the centenary season, Haydon Bridge played host to a Hexham and North Tyne League Representative XI. The League side won an entertaining match 2-1.

Haydon Bridge Association Football Club was formed at a meeting in October 1881.

'To provide a healthy recreation for the youth of the village.' Mr. M. Waugh was the first secretary. The first game was a practice match on the evening of Saturday November 5th in a field lent by James Davidson of the Anchor Inn.

A good crowd turned out for the team's first competitive match. It was played at Haydon Bridge against Allendale on November 12th. 1881 and the visitors won.

The year ended with another match, a goalless draw against Wall.

Our football club has celebrated its **125th year** in existence, this year (*See page 7 for a report of the celebration.*) and we wish all connected with the club, every success for the future.

CORRESPONDENCE

Haydon Bridge
September 2006

Dear Editor,

I don't know our Parish Councillor Mrs. C. Duffy who kindly replied in the August Haydon News to my earlier letter (July), but I don't doubt her wish to help the community and therefore I hope she continues with her campaigns for village improvements.

I suggest however that individual Parish Councillors, whether they are co-opted volunteers like Mrs. Duffy or those we have voted for, should not be too huffy in response to questions or comments from those they represent. The money they spend, (for example

the £8,000 plus on the church clock !!! (*Aug. H.N.*) is **our** money. The decisions they make, or don't make, affect **us**.

The future of the parish is partly in our councillors' hands and their actions should be subject to keen scrutiny surely.

To return to my original query, directed to those who do not have a vested interest in a particular issue and yet still abstain from voting. You can be sure that there are councillors from Tynedale or from Northumberland, who have their own agendas and will delight in making the decisions for you.

Do they know better than you, our Parish Councillors, what is best for Haydon Bridge?

I would hope not!

Finally, I am still bemused, because I am aware that the minutes of Tynedale D.C. inform us that Haydon Parish Council **did not object** to the planning proposal in question, and yet, I thought that a democratic vote taken at the special Parish Council meeting firmly **objected to the proposal**, by four votes.

Local politics seem to move in mysterious ways!

Just one reason why I will not be taking up Mrs. Duffy's challenge to take a seat on the council.

I will however continue my many years of meaningful voluntary work along with all the others like me, who support the communities in which we live.

Yours faithfully,
B. Mused. (name and address supplied)

7 Station Cottages,
Haydon Bridge.

17.07.06

Dear Editors,

I recently crushed a finger in the entrance doors at the Community Centre.

Thanks to prompt action by Eileen Charlton, back up from Angela Corbett and the care and attention of Dr. Steve Ford and, especially, nurse Mary Douthwaite the finger lives to print another day. Albeit in a slightly different direction.

So, a finger tip for visitors to the Community Centre; handle those doors with great caution, otherwise you may end up light fingered.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Pearson.

125 YEARS OF FOOTBALL IN HAYDON BRIDGE

The 125th anniversary of Haydon Bridge Football Club was celebrated at the Haydonian Social Club, on the evening of Friday 11th August.

Alan Wright, President and Chairman of Northumberland Football Association, and David Tiffin the West Tyne representative, were the football club's invited guests and they shared the company of those former and current officials, players, sponsors and supporters who attended the informal event.

The concert room in the 'Club was the venue for this special occasion, and an excellent display of photographs and articles, dating back to 1917, was a source of much discussion and reminiscing.

Alan Borthwick, Chairman of the football club, was Master of Ceremonies for the evening and his first task was to introduce the club President, Dennis Oliver, who has had fifty seven years of active involvement with the Haydon Bridge Football Club. It was appropriate then that 'Dent' should speak on the club's behalf.

Dent pointed out that Haydon Bridge is the only surviving club from the original Hexham and District League and the President praised the football club committee members, past and present, for their dedication and commitment over the years, including the lady members of the committee in 2006. Avril Kirsopp (Secretary), Kathryn Lowdon (Asst. Sec.), Marilyn Brownlee (Treasurer) and Paula Collins (Welfare Officer).

Dent went on to say that the football club had been supported by lady members over many years in its fund raising and social activities, principally the pantomimes, Donkey Derby's and Strawberry Fairs.

Dent spoke of the success in the professional game of former Haydon Bridge players George Hope and Shaun Elliott, before offering his best wishes to youngsters Dan Kirkup at Carlisle and Michael Liddle at Sunderland's Academy.

The President concluded by stating that the success of the football club could not have been achieved without the support of the local community and he praised the Haydon Bridge people for their backing.

Alan Wright then spoke on behalf of the NFA, he said that he had always enjoyed

coming to Haydon Bridge and the West Tyne as a player because he was always made welcome and the people were so friendly. He congratulated the football club on their anniversary and spoke highly of the facilities provided at Low Hall Park.

Mr. Wright presented the football club with a beautiful inscribed crystal trophy to mark 125 years of football in Haydon Bridge, and a football to kick off the next 125 years.

David Tiffin recalled Haydon Bridge's football success over the years, citing the league titles won and victories in the cup competitions, especially in the 1950's and 1970's.

He highlighted the fact that Haydon Bridge won the Hexham and District League in its final season, and the combined Hexham and North Tyne League in its first season, but said that their main successes were in the cup competitions, winning the League Cup many times and the Clayton Cup on ten occasions.

A highlight of the evening was provided by local actor, musician and comedian, Brendan Healey who entertained the audience with his hilarious jokes and funny stories.

The Haydon Bridge Football Club Chairman, Alan Borthwick, expressed his appreciation to everyone who had participated in the event. Including, Brendan for getting off his sick bed to support the football club, Stephen Brown for providing copies of the photographs for the display, the invited guests, all the people who attended, and finally, the committee of Haydonian Social Club for their tremendous help in making the event such a success.

A SIGN OF HOPE

While we are on a football theme and applauding Brendan Healey's funny stories, I'd like to return to my memory, published in August, when a young Barry Hope accompanied me to St. James' Park to see his brother George play for Newcastle, and couldn't understand how forty two thousand people knew his brother's name.

Barry has since reminded me that I forgot perhaps the funniest part of the story, so I'll put that right now.

After the match a long line of supporters queued up for George

Hope's autograph and a starry eyed seven year old joined the queue. When eventually it was the turn of the seven year old to get the signature of the player who had scored the winning goal against Manchester United, George scribbled down his name, looked up into the boys eyes and was almost lost for words, but did manage to ask the young boy a question: "Why have you queued up all this time Barry? I could have written this for you in the car on the way home!!"

JOHN FLETCHER

It is always a great pleasure to be able to congratulate one of our own when they are successful in their chosen career.

Haydonian John Fletcher, who took up rugby at Haydon Bridge High School, has moved up from Manager of the Newcastle Falcons' Academy, a post he held for five years, and is now Director of Rugby, having taken over the main job from Rob Andrew.

John had two spells as a player with Tynedale as well as playing for Northampton, Newcastle Gosforth and at international level with the England A squad and he is looking forward to his new challenge.

John says that he has been advised to, "Just be yourself" and that is what he intends to do. That sounds like a very sensible and down to earth attitude and we wish John every success. His parents, Tommy and Dora and family must be very proud.

RAILWAY HOTEL FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

The inaugural 'Railway' show was held on Saturday August 26th and the proud winners in the various categories were as follows:

Collection of 3 vegetables:

- 1 Joe Brown.
- 2 Ronnie Youngman.
- 3 Cliff Eales.

Blanched Leeks:

- 1 Mick Smith.
- 2 James Brown.
- 3 Ronnie Youngman.

Home grown tomatoes:

- 1 Rene Armstrong.

Cut Flowers:

- 1 Cliff Eals.
- 2 Karen's Kids.
- 3 Mick Smith.

Home made jam:

- 1 Jack Brown.
- 2 Beth.

Home made chutney:

- 1 Cliff Eals.
- 2 Joe Brown.
- 3 Jean Sim.

Have you started your Christmas shopping yet?

Thank you

A very big Thank you to both the relatives and friends of the late Edith Foster and the Indoor Bowls team who have made such wonderfully generous contributions to the equipment fund. We have drawn up a list of things to get including a new electro-cautery device and a new electro-acupuncture device. We may also get a gadget that will enable us to feed in information on lung performance directly to your computer records.

Coming -

As any quick glance at the problem pages in magazines will show, the degree of puzzlement, dissatisfaction and dismay in connection with relationships and sex remains very high. Considering the vast amount of information and advice available one might have been forgiven for thinking that, as nothing is left to the imagination any more, everyone would be brimming with knowledge and, hence, confidence.

From the perspective of a medical practitioner, it is easy to forget that only a few people have a similar level of knowledge of how the body is put together, where all the bits are and what they all do. Trying to convey this is an important part of a doctor's role. Some of you may have been given the same talk more than once, by way of explanation, and had the same pictures drawn to demonstrate a point – each doctor has their own stock of ready-to-play explanations.

I am sure that if much more detailed education about the human body were provided early in life, people would be much healthier, happier and self-reliant. Frequently I recommend that people take time to examine carefully their own bodies and learn for themselves how they are put together and what all the bits do. Warm hands, a relaxing environment, a good light and perhaps a mirror will usually advance one's education farther in a few minutes than any amount of reading.

This lack of knowledge and reluctance to explore lies behind one of the saddest, yet most easily avoided, problems that affects women of all ages – the inability

to experience orgasm. Just under half of all women never experience orgasm – apparently. It doesn't have to be like this. Whilst orgasm is not compulsory I suspect those women who have experienced it would recommend it with some enthusiasm – whether single or in a relationship.

Relying on a male partner to know what to do is a fairly reliable cause of failure – how would a bloke know what to do if no-one has shown him? Likewise, how would a woman know what a man wants or prefers? Satisfaction is most likely to arise from collaboration – both partners showing and teaching and both learning together – patiently trying to improve all the time. Remember also that what works in one relationship may give some guidance in new relationships but, as everyone is unique, new learning, consideration and adaptation will be required.

The pressure to perform is itself a major turnoff for many. The belief that any particular action is expected or required on every occasion is false. Be prepared to ask and tell and show.

On a number of occasions I have been deeply moved by the difficulties some couples have experienced, when the whole problem revolves around a very simple bit of information that is missing. Sometimes a few simple words will lead to progress, sometimes a diagram helps, sometimes sorting out one problem leads to progress in unexpected areas.

There is absolutely nothing that cannot be discussed with the doctors and if you don't know the 'right' words to use, just use the ones you used to use in the playground – we will know what you mean.

The French call it *le petit mort* – speaking of which...

- and going.

Have you made a will? If not, why not? You might live to be the oldest person ever or you might not make the end of this sentence...

See what I mean! It pays to prepare and it is not tempting fate to discuss the subject of death.

Everyone should have a will made out, from the age of majority would make sense but certainly once you start to earn and absolutely definitely when you have dependent children.

Wills are best made with the help of a solicitor but can be home-cooked if care is taken with the phrasing and details. A bank may be able to help too. Wills should be re-written and up-dated regularly as circumstances change. The cost is, or should be, small. Our last wills cost £85 together.

Once you have taken steps to ensure that your possessions and dependents are accounted for when you die, you may wish to give thought to making sure someone knows how you want to die and what is to be done with your body.

A 'living will' is the phrase often used to describe a list of instructions left by you to guide your carers whilst you are dying, especially if you are not able to communicate effectively at the time. This can be very detailed or quite simple.

Recent court cases show that the range of opinions on dying is very wide. Some people wish to bow out promptly when the end is in sight and others value every scintilla of potential life and take every option available to that end. Could any decision be more personal? If we are to carry out your wishes we must know what they are.

A solicitor can help and there is advice on the net and in books – check in the library.

We would like everyone to consider carrying a Donor Card. Every person's death could be the start of a whole new lease of life for several other people – all at once. You would probably like to think that someone else might help you out in the same way. Discuss your wishes with your partner and older children and ask what they want too.

Health Visitor

The Care Trust has officially gone mad! It has dropped a fortune into the lap of some management consultant outfit and subsequently abandoned any pretence at rational care provision. Changes are in hand that appear to remove the Health

Visitor from the primary health care team, in complete opposition to what has been so carefully created over decades. Quite how this will play out remains to be seen but there is enormous anxiety everywhere on the subject – a colleague recently observed that the Care Trust should both care and be trusted but currently neither applies.

Baby Café / Health Visitor Drop-in

As from Tuesday 12th September the clinic will be known as the Baby Café and held every Tuesday afternoon, 1- 3pm, at the Fire Station – to be renamed the Fun Station for the event.

Immunisations will now be provided at the Health Centre on separate days, by either a doctor or nurse. When ringing for an appointment for an immunisation please be sure to state that this is the purpose of the visit.

Breast screening

An article in *The Independent* about a journalist's experience of breast screening raised a smile. She describes going into the screening unit a perfectly respectable 34B and suddenly finding herself transformed into a 42Long – it's a nice image anyway.

Every year we get the reports from the screening unit and this year there has been a stunningly poor response to the invitations. We have got armfuls of reports that state – 'Did not attend any session'.

It is almost true to say that the only women who die of cervical cancer are the ones who have not had smears. One cannot say the same of breast screening but it does make a huge difference. I am at a loss to understand why a woman would not attend for such a simple and quick procedure that offers such tremendous benefits and is entirely free. Then there is the question of the vast waste of money that each failure to attend represents – at least ring up and say your not coming – its only polite.

Anyone who wants to go for breast screening should contact the Breast Screening Unit at the Newcastle General Hospital (0191 233 6161 and ask to be put through). They will be delighted to hear from you if you have changed your mind and they will be especially pleased to hear from you if you are over 70. When you are over 70

you have to volunteer for screening, though the evidence suggests that it is this group that benefits most.

Desert dessert

A man crawls out of the desert and into a small village, which has some market stalls in the street.

He crawls up to the first one. "Water, water! Give me water!" he cries. "I'm sorry", says the first stallholder, "I only sell custard."

The man crawls up to the second stall. "Water, water! Give me water!" he cries. "I'm sorry," says the second stallholder, "I only sell cream and sponge."

The man then crawls up to a third stall. "Water, water! Give me water!" he cries. "I'm sorry," says the third stallholder, "I only sell hundreds and thousands."

"I can't believe no one has any water," says the parched man.

"I know," says the third stallholder, "it's a trifle bazaar."

Steve Ford

HAYDON BRIDGE LIBRARY

In the August edition of the Haydon News we reported on a consultation meeting, held in July, about the future of the library service in Haydon Bridge. Northumberland Library Services, while expressing their commitment to providing a local service in the village made it clear that the present library facility would not continue in its present form.

Those present at the meeting were asked to come forward with proposals to be discussed at a future meeting.

This second meeting was held on September 12th when a proposal was put forward that the Parish Council be asked to pay the rent of the present library building and a group of local volunteers be organised to run the library service. This proposal was looked upon favourably by the library service representatives. Should the scheme be put into practice then the county library service would continue to supply the books.

Prior to the meeting, parish councillor, Eileen Charlton had discussed the proposal with a number of people in the village, some of whom expressed an interest in joining the volunteer group.

It is suggested that at least 30 volunteers would be needed if the scheme was to go ahead, to ensure adequate coverage and to increase the library opening hours.

A further meeting is to be held to discuss the proposed scheme in more detail and to get information on the running costs (rent, utilities, maintenance etc), before a final decision is made by the Parish Council and NCC.

HOWEVER, THE SCHEME WILL ONLY WORK IF SUFFICIENT PEOPLE VOLUNTEER TO HELP RUN THE LIBRARY SERVICE IN HAYDON BRIDGE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT EILEEN CHARLTON ON 684 505.

Clarification.

The paragraph on library staffing in our August article should have read;

There is also a difficulty staffing the library, as staff have to be taken from Hexham Library to cover the opening hours of Haydon Bridge when the librarian is absent due to holiday entitlement or illness. This results in staff shortages at Hexham, often in busy periods

The de-trunking of Ratcliffe Road

An extra-ordinary Parish Council meeting was held on September 21st to discuss proposals for Ratcliffe Road when it is no longer the A69, following the completion of the by pass.

The following ideas were put forward; Increased parking facility with the introduction of 'herring bone' parking on the south side of the road.

Improved access between the old bridge and Church Street with a pedestrian crossing across Ratcliffe Road.

A lay by outside the Co op for use by delivery vehicles.

Street lighting more in keeping with the conservation status of the area.

A direct access road from Ratcliffe Road to Langley Gardens/Greenwich Gardens.

The installation of an interactive speed sign and a limited number of rumble strips to help keep drivers within the speed limit.

Provision of finger sign posts for pedestrians to direct them to Shaftoe Green, riverside picnic area, public toilets, Spa Well path etc.

Your comments/ideas would be welcomed.

The above ideas are to be discussed at a future meeting with a representative from NCC Highway Dept. NCC will be responsible for the maintenance of Ratcliffe Road when it is 'de trunked'

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From

Judith Hampson

October is always a month for harvest. Pick the last of the beans and courgettes before the frost finishes them off. As some things finish others come into fruition. The late cabbage and broccoli start to look inviting. The parsnips improve with a touch of frost. The trees are in major shut down ready for winter as another growing year comes to a close. Our supermarket society has spoiled the seasons. Having strawberries available at Christmas and grapes all year round removes the anticipation of those first tastes in season. People seem to think they can have what they want exactly when they want it. This is costly and the environment absorbs most of the cost. The anytime and all the time attitude has invaded other aspects of life. Many believe that there is a pill or potion for every ache and pain. The reality of life is very different. This life of ours is a gift. Each hour contains sixty minutes and we can only use it once. Each life has its allotted span and the choices we make give it direction and meaning. There is no 'quick fix' for overindulgence. Good food and exercise make fit and healthy people. The mind and soul needs constant attention. The happy pills may work for a while but at what cost? The love and support of friends and family requires give and take on both sides. Constant taking causes pain and suffering. Constant giving wearies the giver as much as it indulges the receiver. At harvest we give thanks for all the good things we have received. For some the profit will be meagre but their lives can be cheered if they share in the surplus. For good growth next year we have to learn from this year's failures both in the vegetable plot and in our lives.

Every Blessing

Judith Hampson

**OCTOBER
2006**



WHO AND WHERE

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

Rev Judith Hampson,
with St Cuthbert's Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard
Tel. 01434 684307

Rev Les Hann,
with the Methodist Congregation
Wesley Manse, Moor View, Haltwhistle
Tel. 01434 320051

Father Leo Pyle ,
with St John's Catholic Church
St John's Presbytery, North Bank
Tel. 01434 684265

**CHURCHES TOGETHER
DINNER AND DANCE**

**Friday 24th November 2006
at
GILSLAND SPA HOTEL
Dinner 7 pm for 7.30 pm**

TICKETS £15 PER HEAD

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT**

**PAT AND JAN PEACE
TELEPHONE 01434 320471**

**PROCEEDS TO
The Ali Johnson appeal**

**METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES**

October 1

10 am Mrs Evelyn Charlton
6.00pm Churches Together
Harvest service

October 8

10.00am Family Service
Martin
6.00pm No Service

October 15

10.00am Morning Worship
J Wall
6.00pm Evening Worship
Appleby

October 22

10.00am Morning Worship
Histon
6.00pm No Service

October 29 CLOCKS CHANGE

10.00am Morning Worship
Rev Les Hann
6.00pm Rev K Mankin

November 5

10.00am Family Worship
Mrs Brenda Mearns
6.00pm No Service

**ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY
CHURCH SERVICES**

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am

Mass each Sunday at 11.00am at
Haltwhistle

Mass on weekdays (except Mon-
days) at 10.00am
either at St John's or at
Haltwhistle

**BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW
CHURCH SERVICES**

October 1

Henshaw (Harvest)
10.00am BCP Communion

October 8

10.30 Service at Haydon Bridge

October 15

Beltingham
10.00am Matins

October 22

Henshaw
Family Communion

October 29 CLOCKS CHANGE

Henshaw
10 am Joint Family Service

November 5

Beltingham
10.00am BCP Communion

**ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
SERVICES**

October 1

8 am BCP Communion
10.30 All Age Service

October 8

10.30 Joint Family Communion

October 15

10.30 Communion

October 22

10.30 Morning Prayer

October 29 CLOCKS CHANGE

10 am Service at Henshaw

November 5

8 am BCP Communion
10.30 All Age Service

**HAYDON OLD CHURCH
SERVICES**

Sunday 08 October

6 pm Harvest Service

All Souls Services

Thursday 2nd November

6.30 pm All Hallows',
Henshaw

7.30 pm St Cuthbert's,
Haydon Bridge

There will be quiet contemplative services at each church on Thursday 2nd November to remember all those who have died. We will give thanks for those who loved us, supported us and inspired us. If there is a name of a loved one you wish to have read out then add them to the list in the church or ask the Vicar 684307 to include them.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER
HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

Come to the Methodist Church
Sunday 1st October at 6 pm
Help celebrate the harvest home



CONFIRMATION There will be a confirmation service at All Hallows' Henshaw (provisionally booked for Sunday 28th January 2007).

Please contact the Vicar 684307 if you wish to consider being confirmed.

Ideally there will be groups to enable all ages explore the meaning of Christian Discipleship. Once the number of people wishing to take part is known appropriate meetings will be announced.

Please let me know if you are willing to assist with these groups. Come for a refresher course and act as a supporter to the newly confirmed.

HAYDON BRIDGE CARPET BOWLS CLUB

A charity event held on July 22nd. 2006 proved to be an outstanding success. This was the first open event of its kind held by the Haydon Bridge Bowls Club and it attracted an entry of 32 bowling clubs from around the area. The event raised over £300 for charity and Dr. Steven Ford was presented with a cheque to provide extra facilities for the Health Centre. The charity pairs event was won by a team from Wideopen and the runners up were from Guidepost.

The Haydon Bridge Bowls Club has been running for a number of years, and hold regular meetings in the Community Centre. The club is open to members of all ages, younger members from 14 years upwards are particularly welcome and **membership is free** for those under 16 years old.

An open event will be held shortly where anyone will be welcome to go along and give it a try.

For further information telephone Alan Bates on (01434) 688411

Remaining Fixtures for 2006

October

- 1 Home to Kirkwelpington
- 5 Home to Slaley
- 12 Away at Wall
- 13 Home to Corbridge
- 19 Club Night
- 25 Away at Catton
- 26 Club Night

November

- 2 Away at Kirkwelpington
- 8 Club Night
- 14 Away at Lambley
- 15 Club Night
- 23 Club Night
- 27 Home to Kirkwelpington
- 29 Club Night

December

- 6 Home to Langley
- 14 Club Night
- 20 Away at Hexhamshire
- 28 Club Night

HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

October 17th
Beeswax candles

November 21st.
A.G.M. followed by a quiz

7.30 pm
In The Community Centre
New members always welcome

BLOOMIN' BEAUTIFUL

To all those people who, through their hard work and green fingers, have adorned our village this summer with wonderful flower baskets and garden borders; take a bow!
It is impossible to mention each one of you by name, but you know who you are and you can be sure that we all appreciate your efforts.

Thank you.

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB PROGRAMME OF WINTER TALKS

Meetings are held in the Methodist Church every other Tuesday at 7.15pm and include tea and biscuits. All are welcome.

5th October: Dave O'Hara.
(R.S.P.B.)
'The Geltsdale Reserve.'

19th October: Dr. J. Scurlock.
(NE Community Forests) 'Bio-fuels.'

2nd November: Mike Hall.
'The Bibbulmun.' – The longest track in Western Australia.

Annual Subscription £10.
Non Members £2 each meeting.

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB WINTER WALKS PROGRAMME

Saturday 28th October:
Barrasford area. Distance 5 1/2 miles.
Leader Pauline Nicholls.
Meet at Barrasford Arms at 10.00 am. Soup & sandwiches available at the Barrasford Arms at the end of the walk.
Please inform Pauline if you are joining us for lunch. Tel. 681634

COVER NOTE

At 'Shaftoe Green' we have a superb playground in a beautiful setting and many children have taken advantage of its top class equipment during this summer. Haydon Bridge has lagged behind its neighbours for many years in this provision, so we are grateful for the determined and positive attitude of Pauline Wallis which ensured the success of the project and has given us a facility to be proud of.

Please take care of it.

And what's next?
A bowling green perhaps!!

HAYDON BRIDGE CRICKET CLUB

In what has turned out to be a sporting issue of The Haydon News this month, we congratulate our village cricket team 1st XI on winning the West Tyne League by beating Matfen Hall by 13 runs at Matfen in the final match of the season.

LEEK SHOWS

Mick Smith followed up his success in the Railway Hotel vegetable show by winning both the pot and blanch leek sections at the Haydonian Club Leek, Pumpkin and Marrow show on the 9th of September. Mick's pot leeks measured 175 cu. ins. and his blanch leeks 210 cu. ins. Mick continued his success by setting a new record to win the Carts Bog show with a stand of 201.75 cu. ins. Our former village policeman Bob Richardson came second to Mick in both sections at the 'Club where John Kanen won the pumpkin and marrow categories with a pumpkin of 13st. 5lb. and a 2st. 9lb. marrow. John Davison was second at the Carts Bog.

Not in our parish, but it was good to see ex Haydonian Barry Brown winning the Blue Back Leek Show at Whitfield with a stand of 174.96 cu. ins. Barry lived with his parents Lily and 'Father' Johnny Brown, the first occupiers of 'Almora', on John Martin Street and he has been a determined competitor and regular prize winner over the years, whether it has been leek shows, pigeon racing or golf competitions. Well done Barry.

We are always interested in hearing from Haydonians who no longer live in our village.

*By the way: 'cubic inches'!
And why not?*

Call me old fashioned but I love 'cubic inches'..... Long may they continue.

RIVERSIDE CLEAN UP

Tynedale Council have decided to extend their spring clean week as it is so successful. They are now planning an autumn clean up and have asked us if we require a skip. We have said "yes" but intend putting the skip on the **south** side of the river. The clean up on the north side has made a big improvement and now the south bank could do with a really good clean.

**Would any groups like to have a sponsored river clean up to raise funds?
If you are interested please contact Eileen Charlton.**