



THE HAYDON NEWS



“It’s been a long hard road!”

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Issue 03

**April
2007**

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FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE
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Addressed to The Haydon News

Thank you.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Without our volunteers, it would not be possible to deliver our publication free of charge across the parish, and we welcome you to The Haydon News this month with a **“thank you”** to two of our retiring distributors; **Pauline Tulip** and **Norman Heslop**.

Pauline and Norman have delivered The Haydon News to you for many years and we are very grateful for their support. Pauline has also been a long time hard working committee member of The Friends of Haydon Bridge and without her help and commitment to the Friends', and that of others working with her, The Haydon News would not exist today. **Thank you Pauline and Norman.**

We are now looking for a volunteer to deliver The Haydon News along Alexandra Terrace.

There was a good turn out at the Community Centre on 21st March, for the launch of the ten year Haydon Parish Plan. The plan gives us all an opportunity to put forward our ideas for the future of the parish.

And it will get results!

Remember that the Haydon Bridge Community Centre was built as a direct response to the last plan (or appraisal as it was called then). There is more information on page 9.

Steve Ford also has a 'plan' this month (see page 10). Our Doctor's recommendation to the Parish Council for a solution to the ills of our society is an interesting one - that will not surprise regular readers of Steve's column - the 'plan' does not represent the collective view of the editorial committee of The Haydon News however.

We hope you enjoy The Haydon News this month.

HAYDON NEWS

contributions and crosswords to:

editors@haydon-news.co.uk

or handed in to J & M CLARKE (newsagents) Church Street.

Addressed to The Haydon News

The HAYDON NEWS is edited, published and printed by the Friends of Haydon Bridge.
It is distributed free of charge to all but the most distant households in Haydon Parish.

The committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge thank those members who produce the Haydon News, people who contribute items for publication, our advertisers and distributors.

EDITORIAL POLICY OF THE HAYDON NEWS.

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 sent by email 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@haydon-news.co.uk

Editors: Mike Parkin and Dennis Telford.

Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'

Dennis Telford (chairman), Dennis Gilert (vice chairman), Elena Parkin (secretary),
Mike Parkin (Treasurer), Alastair Bowen, Sylvia Mitchell, Catherine Hall, Storey Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES from the meeting in March 2007

This meeting was held in the Haydon Bridge Community Centre on Thursday 22nd March at 7.30pm..

Public Participation:

A visit has been undertaken to the cemetery to look at the general state of the area.

It was noted that the grass has been cut and rubbish blown into the area has been picked up; some of it by members of the public.

It was commented that the grass will not in future be shorn to bowling green standards but will be left at a reasonable length.

Strimming around the planters etc. does present a problem for picking up the grass cuttings. However these cuttings will be picked up wherever possible.

Concerns were expressed over the wall at the corner of the Co-op and number 10 Ratcliffe Road, as the wrought iron fence has been removed and the coping stones are loose.

The Council agreed to look into getting these stones cemented back into place.

The village clock will be moved forward on Sunday 26th March.

A reminder to villagers that we are passing into summer!!

Council Meeting:

Seven councillors were present.

A discussion took place relating to the issue of a single unitary authority for Northumberland as opposed to a two unit system.

Northumberland's District Councils have proposed that the county be split between rural and urban areas and if this is the case, Tynedale will become part of a rural unitary authority. Northumberland County Council has proposed a single unitary authority for the whole of the county.

It was noted that if a single unitary system is adopted then more responsibilities will be placed on the Parish Council, therefore clarifications need to be sought as to the new system and its implementation.

The proposal for wind farms in Tynedale was discussed and it was stated that Tynedale council voted to reject the proposals despite local government officer approval.

Highways:

It was stated that from 1st April the Cemetery Road will be closed to all vehicles and pedestrians for a period of eight months.

Access to the cemetery from the village will not be affected.

The signs to show the diversion of the 'John Martin Trail' have been ordered. The diversion of the route is necessary because of the work on the bypass.

Compensation for the demolished bus shelter has still not been received. The council is awaiting a resolution.

Discussion took place about the unsightly wheelie bins left for refuse collection at the end of the private road to Lees Farm.

Councillors felt that they were unable to intervene unless the bins encroached onto the highway.

Planning Applications:

Three applications were considered at this session of the council.

There were no objections to a change of colour scheme for the new 'green' Co-op; alterations to the former Premier Express shop; or temporary scaffolding for work on 19A Church Street.

Accounts:

The Parish Council accounts were accepted unanimously.

Correspondence:

The problems experienced by those living near Shaftoe Green were discussed.

It has been decided to extend the fence to block the corner of the green, a quotation has been received for this work.

The proposal to install a hedge inside the fence line will also help to placate the nuisance of stray dogs and litter to the neighbouring properties.

Village Projects:

The public meeting on the Parish Plan was discussed. (*A report of the public meeting is published on page 9 of this Haydon News.*)

The council agreed to set up a steering group for the Parish Plan. It was noted that the youth of the

village were not represented at the Parish Plan meeting, either by the schools or associations. (Although they may have been represented by their organisers in a private capacity.)

The library lease is being investigated. There are 36 volunteers to help run the unit, and several suggestions for making more use of it for tourist information and as a railway ticket/information centre were made.

Any Other Business:

The council considered complaints about quad bikes being a nuisance on the pathways adjacent to the football pitches. Although the use of these playthings cannot be stopped, using them on footpaths should be discouraged as they present a danger to pedestrians and pets.

Holes left in Hordley Acres, due to the work on the new water pipe installation, are causing safety concerns as open holes are not being covered.

The council agreed to write to the company with their complaints.

This month's Parish Council Notes were provided by Storey Hall.

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.
Mr H Oliver

Any resident of the parish wishing to put their name forward for co-option to the Parish Council should contact the Parish Clerk on the number below.

(* also a Tynedale Councillor)

Parish Clerk
Mrs. C McGivern

**The Long Haul To Low hall
(Part two)**

**This month I continue my history of
Haydon Bridge AFC football grounds
1881 - 1981**

Our village football team won its first game on their new ground at Low Hall, beating Kielder 4 -1 in 1972.

The next major expense for the football club would be a new pavilion and a special meeting held on March 14th 1972 discussed possible money raising activities. A sub committee was formed to organise dances at Langley Castle and the Greenhead Hotel in the September, October and December. Tickets would be sold for a grand draw with cash prizes up to £100; coffee evenings organised by the ladies committee, whist drives, sponsored walks, a Clay Pigeon Shoot and a Donkey Derby were all planned to support the 'Pavilion Fund' for which a Priority Grant of £8,000 had been received.

Most of the club's business off the field was now concerned with these events, and each of them had a considerable impact on Haydon Bridge's social calendar in the years to come.

By August 1973, when a further 'Educational Grant' of £1,000 was promised, the committee agreed to go ahead with the building of a new pavilion. At least £3,200 would have to be raised by the football club, in addition to the grants received to cover the cost of the work as estimated by the contractors Benson and Dixon.

Just as divisions and disappointments off the field in the early 1960's seemed to affect the team's performance, the unity and ambition off the field now was mirrored by the team's success on it and Haydon Bridge won the League and the League Challenge Cup in 1971 and in 1972, and the League Challenge Cup and Clayton Cup in 1973.

One thing is abundantly clear as I follow this story of our village football club's grounds; it is the debt that our local community owes to Edward Waite. His determination to make things happen, his ability to delegate, his contacts, clear vision and reluctance to take "no" for an answer was a major factor in the success of the new field project. And that was no surprise to those who knew Mr. Waite I might add!

During his time in Haydon Bridge, our ex school headmaster was the driving force behind many village projects and as far as I can recall, only once, when he supported the factory building in the station yard, did he seriously misjudge the mood of the residents.

*Oh! And there was another occasion I wasn't too happy about; when as my Headmaster in February 1954, Mr. Waite gave me a dressing down in assembly, in front of the whole school, for choosing to watch Newcastle United play Burnley in an F.A. Cup replay at St. James', rather than turning up as a second reserve for the school football team. Never one to miss an opportunity to belittle the 'accused', Mr. Waite also used the occasion to criticise my pink socks with **ROCK and ROLL** emblazoned down the side, and sent me home to change them.*

(I wonder! Can I backdate a claim for infringement of my human rights?)

*Just to keep my record **straight**, be sure that I wouldn't dream of wearing pink anything in 2007!*

The football club's first eighteen mile Sponsored Walk in October 1972; from the Community Centre to Wood Hall and Elrington, along the Paise Dykes, to the Carts Bog then Dean Raw, West and East Land Ends and home, raised £293 for the Pavilion Fund.

By November 5th 1973, Mr. Waite had reached agreement for further grants; from The Playing Fields' Association (£100), Hexham Rural District Council (£1,000), Northumberland County Council (£660) and the Sports Council (£1,000).

Other income which is of interest includes: £800 from a 'Garden Project'; the sale of 1,000 cabbage plants, 1,000 cauliflowers, and rhubarb. All cultivated and harvested voluntarily by members of the football club on land farmed by Mr. Waite, at the end of the village east of the 'tunnel top'.

And there were also 'transfer fees'; £250 from Newcastle United for George Hope and £100 from Sunderland for Shaun Elliott. (Cheap at the price I would have thought!!)

1974 was a sad year for Haydon Bridge and its Football Club due to the sudden death of the club's Chairman Robert Harding on April 8th, aged fifty

eight years. Robert was our popular village newsagent, having followed in his father's footsteps just after the war; he had his shop on Church Street and was involved in most aspects of village life. Robert Harding was Vice Chairman of the Hexham and North Tyne League and was known fondly as the 'Mayor of Haydon Bridge', significantly he had been involved in most of the early negotiations which were to lead to our football club acquiring its own ground.

Incidentally, we know from one of the earliest songs available about Haydon Bridge that our residents did used to 'crown' a Mayor of the village in the 'Royal Anchor Inn' each Christmas Day. Certainly in the 1800's and perhaps earlier.

I wonder! Who would be your choice of Mayor today?

Answers to be left with John Clarke in what used to be Robert Harding's newsagents on Church Street.

At the Annual General Meeting in July 1974, Haydon Bridge AFC welcomed Alan Donnelly as their new secretary, a position Alan held until his resignation in 1983. Dennis Oliver replaced Robert Harding as Chairman, Joe Worthington was appointed Vice Chairman and David Kirsopp as Treasurer; a position David held for one year before taking on the role of groundsman when he was replaced as treasurer by Drew Brown. A vote of thanks was given to Anderson Robinson, Wilf Dawson and Jack Mitchell for their combined efforts in keeping the ground in good condition and on the field Ernie Edwards was once again appointed Captain with Alan White as his Vice Captain.

The numerous 'off the field' events organised by our football club - initially to finance the new ground and new pavilion but eventually becoming regular dates on the social calendar to which everyone in the village looked forward - could not have been undertaken without the help of a hard working 'Ladies Committee'.

These ladies included:
Mrs. Alder, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Kirsopp, Mrs. Benson-Brown, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Oliver Snr., Mrs. Christine Oliver, Mrs. E. Robinson, Mrs. Waite, Mrs. Worthington and Mrs. White; and the Misses S. Brown, E. Donnelly, S. Forster, H. Hajda, K. Hope, D. Humble and J. Scandle.

Many more ladies helped at individual events.

An enormous amount of work went into the preparations for the first Donkey Derby, to be held in September 1974. A profit of £250 was made but sadly the weather intervened and the event, without the donkeys, had to be moved to the Community Centre. Undeterred, the football club committee immediately set about planning another Donkey Derby for May 11th 1975.

As a way of repaying the residents of Haydon Bridge for their support in financing the new pitch and pavilion project, it was agreed that the footballers of the village would help turn part of Ratcliffe Road, opposite the Community Centre and in front of Tynedale Cottages, into a 'Rose Garden' complete with a retaining wall. That garden remains to this day.

Four houses once stood on this piece of land until they were demolished.

Four dwellings; can you believe it?

The new pavilion was completed and ready for use early in 1975 but problems with flooding soon surfaced. As did water on the new pitch!

Flooding and drainage was to become a major and constant concern and the River Board was asked to investigate and recommend a solution. These problems had to be dealt with by the club's new groundsman, David Kirsopp. David is still doing the job today, after thirty two years of first class service.

In previous seasons, our football pitches had been looked after by among others, Anderson Robinson, Bob Brown, Eric Turnbull, John Oliver, Colin Edwards and Jim Porteous.

In April 1975, the football club reacted to rumours that the land on the riverside, adjoining the football pitch, was to be sold by its owners 'Tilcon'. Purchase of this area of land was acknowledged by the committee as a sensible development of the new pitch project and this opportunity gave further impetus, if it was needed, to continue the club's money making activities through social events, the most recent of which, the 1975 Donkey Derby, had raised over £500 for the football club's Low Hall Park project.

And so it was that the Pantomime season opened for the Haydon Bridge Football Club and on January 30th and 31st 1976 the footballers trod the boards to packed houses at the Community Centre which,

together with an additional performance at the Haydonian Working Men's Club, raised £164 towards the £500 required to buy the extra land. Mr. Waite once again offered his financial support, giving £100 from the sale of fruit from the 'tunnel top' strawberry fields.

In early 1976, surface water and flooding was still a major problem in and around the new field and the pavilion. This was no surprise as the residents at the bottom of nearby Temple Houses had been inundated on various occasions since 1963, so talks took place between the football club and the Water Board to discuss altering the course of the Langley Burn on its way into the River Tyne.

Ironically, by September 1976 the football club had to ask the Haydon Bridge Fire Brigade to water the new ground which was **too dry**, due to the long drought of that year.

On March 1st 1976, the President and Chairman informed the committee that they had purchased the land on the riverside for £500 on behalf of the football club. Mr. Waite hoped that this extra space would provide an opportunity to broaden the appeal of the provision at Low Hall Park, by introducing tennis courts and a bowling green.

Developing the use of the land in this way, and therefore adding to the membership, was for some a practical and worthwhile means of sharing the ever increasing revenue costs. Others were less enthusiastic and worried that the football club could lose its sole control of the facility if other sports were encouraged. It was also pointed out that a full time groundsman would be necessary and the revenue costs of this appointment could well be prohibitive.

The matter was left in abeyance at this stage; after all there was another Donkey Derby to organise!

The 1976 Donkey Derby proved to be another great success both socially and financially, with takings of £1,111 and a clear profit of £821.

The facility at Low Hall Park was now valued at £25,000 and in November of 1976 Alan White suggested floodlighting a pitch area so that it could be used for training in the dark winter nights. The proposal was accepted by the committee with

enthusiasm and they set about making appropriate plans.

The club's off the field activities continued and a second pantomime raised £134.

In spite of its expensive programme of development, the committee were ever mindful that the football club's vision could not be achieved without the support of the village residents and a donation of £30 was made towards the events planned for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in Haydon Bridge.

Lance Spooner was a great supporter of football in general and the Haydon Bridge club in particular. His death on January 4th 1977 was a blow to the village and the football club. Lance had lived in Haydon Bridge for most of his life, had worked for many years at Langley Fireclay Works and was dedicated to the Haydon Bridge Silver Band, being the Secretary and Treasurer. In his early years Lance had been a football referee and he was influential in forming the Haydon Bridge junior football team which he managed in the late 1950's. His support for junior football is recognised through the trophy in his name which is played for today. Lance's knowledge and views on football (and politics) made many a night in our Haydonian Working Men's Club a joy for me. *(Even though we did differ in our allegiances to the north east's professional clubs!!)* Lance Spooner's death was a great loss to us all.

In readiness for the 1977 season, the football club purchased steel goal posts, a set of gang mowers and a white liner and by early in 1978 floodlights were acquired and erected. It wasn't until 1980 that the club purchased a tractor for the groundsman, until then the equipment needed to maintain the pitch was borrowed from Haydon Bridge High School.

Now that the club had the additional land bought from Tilcon, it was agreed to seed the car park on the riverside and erect the old goal posts there for the village children to use. Mr. Waite returned to his suggestion that the committee should consider providing a bowling green on the land.

The football club continued its leading role in our village's social life by organising a successful Field Day on Sunday May 21st 1978. Almost £600 was made for the development fund and a further £500 was donated by Edward

Waite, to be used to construct a new field on the riverside land. The football club continued its policy of donating to worthwhile village causes, £10 to the Haydonian Working Men's Club and £30 towards a new heating boiler for the Community Centre for example.

The Low Hall Park facility was by now fully utilised and in addition to senior football, the village's junior, Sunday League and pub football teams were also given permission to use the pitches. And when football wasn't being played, terrier shows, traction engine rallies and barbeques were held there and a further £500 was added to the club funds from their 1979 Field Day.

These particular 'Notes have not been written to follow the football club's achievements on the field, however it is worth recording that in 1979 Haydon Bridge first team won the Clayton Cup and the League Challenge cup, and Haydon Bridge Juniors won the Junior League President's cup.

Haydon Bridge Football Club's annual pantomime scripted by Christine Oliver and performed each year for four years from January 1976, became one of the highlights of the village's Christmas calendar and it was a major disappointment when Christine abandoned her script writing in 1980. A disappointment not least to the actors may I say, but there is no doubt that many happy memories of the shows will remain with the audiences and those who took part.

Other social activities organised by the football club continued and a successful Strawberry Fayre was held in July 1980, making a profit of £700.

Access to the football ground had been a cause for concern, for those living in Temple Houses, since the club bought the Low Hall land from Joe Anderson in 1969. Going back as far as anyone could remember, there had been a cobbled right of way for carts down Temple Houses as far as the gravel beds. That was the only public access to the river bank on the south side, east of the old bridge, other than through 'Blackies Arch' in the corner of what is now the Anchor Hotel car park.

Of the alternative ways onto the riverside, 'Telfords' Lane' was a private road with access for 'coals in and ashes out', and 'Martin's Close', built in the field where our football club may have played its first game, was a cul-de-sac until it was opened up as a temporary

route for commercial gravel extraction from the River Tyne.

In 1980, before seeding and fencing round their new field on reclaimed land, the football club sought consent from Tommy Bates to use his land, on the south bank of the Tyne, to access the football pitches through Martin's Close and along the riverside, and they erected bollards to restrict vehicular traffic in Temple Houses.

This decision was welcomed by some residents of Temple Houses who had long desired the lane to be closed to the public, but there were other residents, including the Ridley family who had lived there for generations, who expressed the view that the access to Temple Houses should be re-instated to the way it had been for hundreds of years.

The arguments for and against the alternative routes were passionate and almost everyone in the village had an opinion.

1981 was Haydon Bridge AFC's centenary year and conscious of his promises to the public on more than one occasion, the President again approached the subject of providing a bowling green at Low Hall Park. Mr. Waite usually got his own way in similar circumstances, but in this case his vision of a 'sports club' at Low Hall Park, as opposed to just a 'football club', wasn't shared by everyone on the committee and it was pointed out in opposition to the proposal that the club wouldn't be able to afford the expense of a regular police presence, necessary to ensure that the bowling green was protected from 'undesirables'.

(I am reminded that Sir John Hall's attempts to develop Newcastle United F.C. into 'Newcastle Sporting Club' in the image of Barcelona, met with a similar rebuff..... so Sir John was in good company!)

One hundred years since its formation, twenty two years after Robert Harding, Lance Spooner and John Chamberlain had spearheaded our football club's first efforts to secure a permanent home and now the proud owners of two football pitches and a new pavilion, secured through a remarkable amount of voluntary work and local support, the football club committee could have been excused for dwelling on the success of their considerable achievements. But those appointed to take the club into its second century

had other ideas.

The committee with the club's future in their hands were: President: E. Waite. Chairman: Dent Oliver. Vice Chairman: Joe Worthington. Treasurer: Drew Brown. Secretary: Alan Donnelly. Groundsman: David Kirsopp. General Committee and helpers: Davie Alder, Alan Borthwick, Chris Coombes, Ralph Curry, John Dixon, Ernie Edwards, Max Edwards, Norman Heslop (Snr.), Ronnie Hope, John Porteous, Jackie Thompson, Roy Thompson and Peter Wylie.

So 1981 wasn't the end of the story of our football club and its ground at Low Hall; it was very much the beginning of a new chapter in which the results of the club's more recent vision and hard work, allied to the public's continued unwavering support, is measured by the excellent provision now available for football in Haydon Bridge.

David Kirsopp reminds me that nine football teams share the facility on three pitches in 2007. The Haydon Bridge Academy boys/girls teams: under 8, 9,10,11,12 and 13's, as well as the under 16's junior team, the Sunday League team and the Haydon Bridge 'Robins' first team.

A far cry from those early days when our footballers worried at the start of each season where the next pitch was coming from and were happy to strip down to their vests and pants behind many a hawthorn hedge, relying on Mrs. McVay's tin can to provide a warm and welcome half time sustenance.

Thanks: to all who have provided information that has supplemented my personal recollections and research, and has helped me put together these 'notes; especially Tula Thompson and her late husband Roy.

At a committee meeting on March 6th 1978, the football club president Edward Waite proposed that. "All the past minute books should be kept safely so that they could be looked into in years to come."

Roy Thompson, who became secretary of the football club in 1983, and Tula, have kept the minute books safe in their care and consequently invaluable details of meetings between 1959 and 1980 have been available to me during my research. Thank you Tula!

It is certain that this story is incomplete!

Many more of you will have interesting stories and memories that relate to Haydon Bridge football and the club's grounds.

If you would like to add to these notes which will eventually be archived for future generations, along with all our other Haydon News contributions, I'd be pleased to hear from you.

And of course, there is still the 1981 to 2007 story to tell!

As the initial construction earthworks for our bypass continue, the change to the southern slopes of the Tyne valley, as seen from the Peelwell - Rattenraw lane, is striking. Our landscape's colour change from green to brown, due to the removal of tonnes of turf and topsoil, gives a clear indication of the route the long awaited road will take.

There is also a lot of unseen work being undertaken during these early stages of the contract, principally environmental mitigation to ensure that the project's effect on wildlife habitats and natural corridors is minimised. Temporary otter holts are being provided for example; the activities of bats within 500 meters of the line of the new road are being monitored to ensure they are not unduly affected by the works; and tree felling and the removal of hedges and shrubs, especially at the West Rattenraw junction and in Gee's Wood, has been planned with the times of birds nesting in mind.

The official, 'Start of the Works Turf Cutting Ceremony' for the Haydon Bridge Bypass will take place on site on the morning of Thursday 5th April when Archie Robertson, Chief Executive of The Highways Agency, will perform the ceremony in front of invited guests. Then, following the Easter holiday, the construction work will start in earnest along the length of the new road. The numbers of construction workers and staff will increase three fold from fifty at present to around one hundred and fifty.

It will be June 1st before work starts on the sub structure of the South Tyne viaduct at the west end of the bypass, and from then much of the visible work will be concentrated on this major construction.

Of immediate importance to residents in the parish, as reported in our Parish Council Notes, is the notice that the Cemetery Road will be closed from April 1st until around Christmas; during which time the road will be lowered to its eventually route under the bypass. Diversion signs will be in place and access to the cemetery from Haydon Bridge will not be affected.

Andrew Harding, the on site Project Manager for CVC Highway Solutions, recognises the need to keep the public informed and tells me he is very pleased with the progress of the contract to date. In fact the only set back since the work started, is a failure by BT to provide communication links to the site as planned. The restrictions caused by three months without any landline telephone or computer access on an undertaking of this size can well be imagined.

Ever conscious of the need for public safety while the work is in progress, pupils at Shaftoe Trust First School have been introduced to the dangers of treating the construction site as a 'playground'. The contractors are equally keen to ensure that all members of the public approach the

boundaries along the length of the bypass and site access points, with extreme care.

CVC Highway Solutions is a joint venture between contractors Cumbrian Industrials Ltd. and Volker Stevin Ltd., with Capita Symonds as the design partner, and it is pleasing to note that considerable local interest was shown when positions of employment were advertised in the village and in The Haydon News.

We appreciate the welcome extended by CVC Highway Solutions to the editors of your Haydon News, as a link with those living in the parish, and we look forward to a close relationship over the period of the contract.

LANGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Leslie Hutchinson made a welcome return visit to Langley W.I. for the March meeting. On previous visits Leslie has demonstrated the art of decorating glass bowls and vases, and decorative candles, all of which members enjoyed making.

On this visit Leslie demonstrated fabric painting. Members were shown different techniques and products which produced widely varying finishes. My personal favourites were the "cross stitch" samplers which were very authentic looking. Several members had a go at stencilling producing some lovely examples of tray cloths, children's aprons and satin bags.

During the business part of the evening plans for the annual plant sale on the 28th of May were discussed and details for Langley W.I.'s inclusion in the Haydon Parish Plan were agreed.

The competition - A Silk scarf - 1st Shona Wardle, 2nd Cathy Duffy.

Next meeting is the 10th of April, all welcome.

Cath Duffy

Did you recognise the 1950's footballers and officials and the members of the 1950 show committee illustrating my 'Notes in last month's Haydon News'?



Gilbert Smith. John Heslop. Wilf Brown. Norman Philipson. Jeff Marshall: Jackie Robson. Bobby Ross. Peter Gradwell. Jackie Thompson. Lyle Herdman. Ronnie Marshall. Jackie Harrison. Tommy Westgarth: Herbie Thompson. Ralph Curry. Sid Bell. Norman Heslop. Lance Spooner. Dent Oliver Jnr. Robin Armstrong:



Billy Pickering. Eddie Moffatt. Geoff Reynolds. Ernie Mitchell. John Willie Hill. Anderson Robinson. Jack Graham. Joe Keen: Jimmy Mews. Matt Smith. Alan Moffatt. Col. R. Allen. Billy Adamson. Jack Storey. Jimmy Buchan: Dent Oliver. Tom Philipson. John Oliver. Herby White:

JUNIOR FOOTBALLERS

Much of The Haydon News, in the last two months, has been given over to the history of our football club; but we must not forget our present day players taking the first steps in their careers.

Most recently, Brian and Ruth Welch's son, fifteen year old Matty, has signed a two year professional scholarship with Edinburgh Scottish Premier League club Hibernian.

We congratulate Matty and wish him well with his chosen football club.

Michael Liddle continues to impress at Sunderland and although nursing an injury recently, he was selected for the Ireland under 18's squad in March for a four team international tournament in Portugal.

Last year Michael played for Ireland under 17's in Malta and this year in Portugal he played his part in the three games.

A 3-1 victory against Georgia, a 2-2 draw with Belgium and finally a 1-0 win against the hosts Portugal, which won the Irish the tournament trophy with seven points.

ADDLED INDEED!

Following the introduction of new diagnostic methods at Haydon Bridge Health Centre, where the state of a patient's health/mind can be determined simply by which newspaper they read. Am I correct in thinking that there will not now be a need in the parish for a swish new surgery with doctors, nurses and an army of administrators manning the phones, files and computers? Indeed, our newsagents John and Maureen Clarke or perhaps John and Lisa Alder, could carry out any diagnosis quickly and efficiently. There would be no need to make an appointment. The facility would be open seven days a week. The shelves would hold enough Paracetamol to support even the most confused or muddled tabloid reader, and our newsagents could share the £1/4 million allegedly paid annually to our health service doctors, and still have enough left to cobble Ratcliffe Road.

I haven't decided yet whether to publish this response to Doctor Ford's analysis (page 10), but if I do and you should hear a high pitched scream from half way up the North Bank, it may well be your Daily Mail reading co-editor's pips squeaking when next asked to, "cough"!

LANGLEY CASTLE Short listed for Best Small Hotel 2007

We are delighted that Langley Castle Hotel has been selected to receive a Gold or Silver Award in the category of 'Best Small Hotel of the Year', in the National finals of 'Enjoy England for Excellence 2007'.

Langley Castle won Gold in the regional award ceremony (sponsored by One North East) in October last year and then went on to represent the North East against the nine other regional tourism bodies.

The entrants from these regional heats, have now been whittled down to just three Hotels in the country. The national award ceremony will be held in April 2007, to coincide with St. George's day, at 'The Banqueting Hall - Whitehall - London'

This is the third time Langley Castle has won the regional award for Best Small Hotel. The previous years being 2002 and 2004.

Anton Phillips is of course delighted and very proud. And no wonder! The award is a tremendous recognition of not only the investment in the Castle over the last few years but also of the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the staff and management.

Anton says, "To get this far, in this National competition is a fantastic achievement in itself, irrespective of the final 'colour' of the award."

Owners Stuart and Yvonne Madnick, have a most appropriate description for Langley Castle. 'A modern luxury dressed in medieval clothes.'

This modern luxury is the result of 20 years of dedicated efforts of many people who are now being recognised by this honour.



Langley Castle's General Manager Anton Phillips receives the Regional Award in October 2006. Anton is pictured with Wendy Gibson, and John Holmes of One North East.

A TOUCH OF THE IRISH

If you weren't at this year's St. Patrick's Party in the Railway Hotel, then to be sure you missed a grand 'ceilidh' of music, song and laughter.

Sue and Michael had the Public Bar bedecked in Guinness and green; Angus Gardner with vocals, guitar and banjo, and Dunmail Hodgkinson on the whistle, provided the entertainment; and the many entries to the limerick writing competition were uproariously received by a packed house.

Most of the ditties are unsuitable for a family news sheet, for fear of causing offence, however we can report that the present generation of schoolboys are progressing well in their Literature and Biology lessons, if the contribution from our County Middle School - via Victoria Terrace - is anything to go by.

*There once was a man from China,
Who wasn't a very good climber,
He slipped on a rock,
And split open his xxxx,
And now has a great big vagina.*

I mean to say!

As boys at Shaftoe Trust (circa 1950's), dressed in our grey, raggy short trousers and gathered round the outside lavatories in the school yard at playtime, we would have sniggered, or even guffawed, at the lyrics but we certainly would not have known what a 'vagina' was.

We would have had to rack our brains to come up with words that rhymed with 'granny'!

So that must be a sign of progress don't you think?



'....and the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight'

HAYDON PARISH PLAN



Successful Public Launch for Haydon Parish Plan

Around 60 people filled the Community Centre on 21st March for a very lively public launch of the work to develop the **Haydon Parish Plan**.

Jane Hart, from Community Action Northumberland, said that Haydon had been awarded a grant of £1,500 to fund the plan, and is the first Parish in Tynedale to secure funding under the new grants scheme.

Haydon Parish Council is also providing nearly £100 for the work.

It is vital that the village gives a clear statement about how it wants to develop over the next 10 years.

What sort of a village do we want to be once the bypass is completed?

How do we ensure that shops and businesses thrive?

What about the future of our young people?

A Parish Plan will provide the evidence about the issues the Parish sees as priorities, and the action it wants to take to address these.

A Parish Plan is needed to support bids for funding by local groups for Parish projects.

Most of the meeting was taken up by everyone identifying issues that needed to be addressed in the plan, under a number of different themes.

The themes are outlined below:

Themes	Some of the issues and ideas raised
Leisure, play and sport	More trails, lots of ideas for new sports/leisure activities. Getting help from Leisure Tynedale sports development team.
Older people	Seating, road crossings, changing heating from coal to electricity. Befriending service, inter generational action.
Environment & heritage	Having focus for village (e.g. heritage, John Martin, mining) and making it clean/attractive for local people and tourists; visitor centre. Housing issues; pavements, flooding and disaster plan.
Facilities and services	Library, toilets, sharing resources and facilities. More use of High School and community centre, more shops.
Economy and employment	Business centre, promote local and new businesses, small business support network, coherent approach to tourism.
Children and young people	More activities and facilities for young people and 'key fund' to support funding applications, keep our schools.
Families	Greet new families, more family friendly facilities, time bank, support for young mums and dads, village parties.
Health and care	New health centre in centre of village, more 'health promotion' activities/education, health food shop/restaurant.
Transport	More trains, better parking, car sharing scheme, transport to rural areas. Traffic congestion, future of Ratcliffe Road.
Education	More youth and adult education, Educational Trust, linking schools/businesses, inter generational links, internet café.
What have we forgotten	More trees, things to make the village distinct – health spa, café, deli, wine appreciation club.

15 people volunteered to join a Steering Group. Over the next few weeks they will agree a programme of work to develop the plan. This will include a further public meeting later this year or early 2008 to discuss the priorities and ideas for action to go into the plan. There will be regular articles in the Haydon News to keep everyone up to date.

If you have any issues you want to raise please contact us via:

E mail: haydonparplan@fsmail.net

POLEMICAL? MOI?

Small local revolution with universal scope.

'UNDERAGE GAY SEX WITH ASYLUM-SEEKERS CAUSES CANCER OF THE HOUSING MARKET'

The above title has been offered as The Daily Mail's dream headline by Michael Bywater in his recent book *Big Babies (Or; Why can't we just grow up?)*. In the book the author offers a view that takes us beyond those of the contributors to the 'Grumpy' series on TV and looks at the why, where and how of our apparently inexorable slide toward a festering, celebrity-obsessed, risk averse mediocrity in so many aspects of not only national but international life.

It might be claimed, entirely plausibly, that anyone sufficiently addled to read The Daily Mail is already so far gone into the brain melting mire of helpless victim hood and vacuous consumerist inanity as to be beyond salvation. However, help is at hand, as reported in The Independent, – 'Sussex University banned the sale of The Daily Mail in 2003, blaming the paper's tone on asylum-seekers.' The ordinary citizen can fight back against the ubiquitous, yet often subliminal, pressures to conform to lifelong infantilisation. The Parish Council should investigate the possibility of banning the sale of The Daily Mail, and others of its stripe, in the parish. Haydon Bridge could be the origin of the fight to escape the handcart in which we are going to hell - it could all start here.

Tea 1

Old joke – My wife's half-Italian, she only shaves one armpit.

Phytotherapy Research has recently reported the results of a study of the effect of spearmint tea on hairy women. Two cups every day for five days reduced the amount of male hormone in their circulation significantly. Because male hormone is responsible for the unwanted hair growth, the implication is that regular spearmint tea drinking could reduce or eliminate the need for more unpleasant treatments. The bad news is that there is a suspicion

that the reduction in hair growth may be accompanied by a reduction in libido – though for whom this would represent a problem is not specified.

Tea 2

Green tea has been associated with all sorts of health benefits and most recently has been found to be helpful for people having chemotherapy for cancer. It usefully reduces the side effects on the gut.

Having tried green tea I cannot pretend to like it very much but the general health benefits are so numerous that giving it a try might be worthwhile – you never know, you might like it.

Evolution vs. creation

For years I have puzzled over the degree to which the parties to the evolution versus creation debate have resorted to bilious invective and vociferous mutual contempt. Hypothesis based upon observation need not conflict with faith-based interpretations of ancient texts, indeed, in my view, it requires a special effort to consider the two as unambiguously antithetic. Not only are the views, ultimately, irreconcilable but also there is no possibility of a definitive arbitration between them at any time - neither creation nor the broad sweep of evolution will ever be directly observed.

The view attributed to Einstein – *Raffiniert ist der Herr Gott, aber bösehaft ist er nicht.* (God is clever but he is not perverse) has much to offer here, I feel. Those inclined to a literal interpretation of the Bible, as the word of God, might help by showing how the meaning, cultural signification and nuance of the original oral traditions, subsequently multiply translated, transliterated, interpreted and copied through generations and cultures far removed from their origins, can survive as more than a palimpsest requiring diligent, perpetual contemporary re-evaluation – which is where our species' intelligence and free will come into the picture. For an American perspective try: <http://speakingoffaith.publicradio.org/programs/einsteinsgod/reflections.shtml> where you can find

an MP3 discussion of the subject.

Why would the acceptance of the broad principle of evolution deny the existence of God? God is not dependent on evolution. What is to prevent Him bringing about our existence in a manner consistent with the observed evidence and yet communicating some information about our origins in the form of an allegory? Why limit God to words on paper, subject to numerous forms of semantic, cultural and other influences?

The above preamble was prompted by another book that I got for Christmas and a rather oblique link to a recent newspaper article. Bill Doherty, a well-known breeder of Deerhounds, lurchers and longdogs from the Ashington area has recently written a book on his life's work, of which I have been lucky enough to get a signed first edition from Cogito Books in Hexham. In it he mentions the immediate ancestral lineages from which dogs emerged. Around fifteen million years ago a predatory social dog-like animal appeared called *tomarctus*. From this animal four canine types evolved: *Canis familiaris metris-optimea* (which became the herding breeds), *Canis familiaris intermedius* (hunters and toy breeds), *Canis familiaris leineri* (sight hounds and terriers) and *Canis familiaris inostranzewi* (mastiffs and water dogs). An indifferent alien arriving at Crufts might not immediately suspect that all the animals on show were related and yet a feature common to all dogs is their colour blindness that, no doubt, arouse in response to environmental pressures (being a successful predator) rather than chance.

By comparison, humans have three-coloured vision (trichromats) a feature that arose no more 63 million years ago, allowing most people to discern five colours in a rainbow. However, one in forty humans, it is now recognised, have four-coloured vision (tetrachromats) and can see ten colours in a rainbow. Human vision evolved in response to different environmental pressures (avoidance of predation) to those bearing upon *tomarctus*. Are the tetrachromats living examples of where our species was heading before we developed to the point where 'civilisation' intervened in the process of evolution – the opposite of living fossils?

Dogs and humans are both mammals and therefore distantly related through a common ancestor. As such our branch of the evolutionary tree only had to develop eyes once. The implausibility of a partly evolved eye being of use to the animal bearing it is often quoted as arguing against evolution and yet eyes, in the general pattern with which we are familiar, appear to have arisen at at least six different points during the evolution of life on our planet. The fault lies with our understanding of what has happened, compounded by the incomplete fossil record rather than the broad principle of evolution.

Whilst we're talking about eyes – when did you last go to the Optician? Every year I see a handful of people for driving medicals who fall below the required standard for sight and they had no idea there was any problem.

Smell

Smell and taste are very closely linked and even though neither is especially highly developed in humans their loss can be very tiresome.

Causes for loss of smell include; polyps in the nose, damaged and deformed nose bones – causing airway blockage, infection – including sinusitis, allergy, smoking, head injury, age and a handful of other rare causes. Every year we see a

handful of people complaining of altered or absent smell. Quite often the problem can be resolved easily and it rarely means anything serious.

When the sense of smell is definitely permanently lost then it becomes literally a matter of life or death to install smoke alarms in the home!

Grief

A common observation amongst the bereaved is that people are ill at ease in their presence and don't know what to say. If something intended to be sympathetic or helpful is said the bereaved bursts into the tears and if nothing is said that's not right either.

A recent trial has shown that the best advice is to listen more and say less. Share the feelings and emotions of the bereaved. Acknowledge the hurt and distress that is being felt.

'You're very badly upset, I can see that.'

'We all loved and miss him(her) – such a lovely person – you must be very sad.'

'How long had you been together?'

'That's a very long time, you must have some great memories.'

A companionable silence, an arm round the shoulder, a clean

handkerchief, a cup of tea, a quiet walk together, looking at photos together, helping sort out – there's such a lot that can be helpful as well as talking.

A bit late but:

A study conducted near a California highway has shown that traffic fumes stunt the growth of children and cause lasting damage to their lungs.

Culinary delight

Those readers who are easily put off their food may care to look away now.

On small ships and in other situations where there is limited access to medical facilities one has to improvise. In The British Medical Journal a report was recently published of the successful treatment, whilst at sea in a small sailing boat, of severe bleeding from haemorrhoids with a number of deep frozen sausages.

More detailed discussion is probably superfluous but for anyone in doubt I will be happy to explain with the aid of diagrams – I am not sure that I could do full realistic justice to an accompanying soundtrack though.

Steve Ford

EARLY NOTICE OF THE LOCAL ARTISTS' SUMMER EXHIBITION

to be held on

17th June - 23rd June 2007

Guidelines

1. Entry is open to artists born, resident, educated or with connections to the Parish of Haydon Bridge.
2. Up to 5 works may be submitted, the last one listed may be held in reserve if hanging space becomes limited .
3. Entry fee is **£1:00 per work**. Please make cheques payable to '**Haydon Local Artists' Association**'
4. Entry forms should be submitted 2 weeks before the commencement of the exhibition but no later than **Saturday 2nd June 2007. An entry form will be included with next month's Haydon News.**
5. A label should be fixed to the back of the work giving your **Name, Address, Title of Work, Medium, and Price** if for sale. or **N.F.S.** if not)
6. All pictures should be strongly framed with fixings for hanging. Maximum frame size of approximately **66 x 76cms (26 x 30 ins)**.
7. The organising committee reserve the right to select or reject work at their discretion.
8. The works are exhibited at the owner's risk. Any insurance deemed necessary should be arranged by the artist.
9. Works for sale will be on a 20% commission basis. Proceeds will be used to offset the exhibition costs.
10. Works must be delivered to the **Haydon Bridge Community Centre**, Ratcliffe Road between **9:00 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** on **Saturday 16th June** and collected at the end of the exhibition between **4:00 p.m.** and **5:00 p.m.** on **Saturday 23rd June.**
11. Exhibitors will be encouraged to act as invigilators during the exhibition
12. Entrants are automatically invited to the preview **Saturday 16th June** from **5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.** Limited numbers of tickets will be available for their guests.
13. If you have any queries regarding your exhibits, please contact Robert Ford

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ARTISTS' SUMMER EXHIBITION
HELD IN THE VILLAGE WHERE JOHN MARTIN WAS BORN**

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From

Leo Pyle

**APRIL
2007**



Rags to riches and Easter faith means moving from rags to riches. Perhaps we suffer the monotony and drudgery of daily existence and consider ourselves losers. Perhaps we have suffered the loss of a loved one and feel bereft. Perhaps the trauma of not being loved despite our loving leaves us 'gutted'.

Easter faith can transform these negative experiences into a paradoxical plus. And loss becomes gain. Killing becomes dying and dying leads to exaltation. Obituary becomes proclamation and certainly Christ has died, but Christ is risen and Christ will come again. Easter faith means our moving from rags to riches.

We see this truth born out in the contrasting reactions of Peter and John to the empty tomb. Peter sees the linen cloths and remains in the Good Friday mode. John sees the linen cloths lying on the ground and moves on instantly in his spiritual life. John believes. For John the mystery of the empty tomb is God's transformation of the life of Jesus and the transformation of his own, John's, life. Easter faith moves John from rags to riches.

So parents presently immersed in the fatigue and monotony of daily care, may now be caught up in the mystery of Easter faith. Our sick and our dying, with a positive attitude and acceptance, move from Good Friday to Easter. All of us, coping in faith with loss of whatever kind, move from that loss to gain, Calvary to transfiguration.

It is the death resurrection swing, the rhythm of Christian experience and the movement of salvation history. It's the Christ way and our Christian way. Easter faith really does mean moving from rags to riches.

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

Rev Les Hann,
with the Methodist Congregation
Wesley Manse, Moor View, Haltwhistle

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

Perhaps we are best advised to bring all these issues together in our Eucharist. After all, it is here in the Eucharist that we revisit the tomb. In the Eucharist we recall the events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday and then go on to Easter Sunday. There is no standing still in the Eucharist. We move from bread and wine to the real presence of Jesus, our risen Lord, the real, sustaining, energizing presence of Christ.

So there is the challenge. The Eucharist challenges us to find the transforming presence of our God in the simple, the bizarre and the traumatic. Easter faith means moving from rags to riches.

Leo Pyle

**METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES**

April 1

Palm Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion
Les Hann
6.00 pm Evening Service
Stephen Caddy

April 8

10.00 am Family Worship
Jim Robinson
6.00pm Easter Praise
Les Hann

April 15

10.00am Morning Worship
Reader
6.00 pm Evening Service
Peter Wright

April 22

10.00am Morning Worship
V Anthony
6.00pm No Service

April 29

10.00am Morning Worship
Brian Elstobb
6.00 pm Evening Service
Marian Olsen

May 6

10.00am Morning Worship
J Wall
6.00 pm Holy Communion
Les Hann

**ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY
Holy Week Services**

April 1

Palm Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion

April 3

10am Mass
7.30pm Churches together for
Stations of the Cross

April 4

10 am Mass
7.30pm Penitential Service with
confession

April 6

3 pm Celebration of the
Passion of the Lord

April 7

7.30 pm Easter Vigil Mass

April 8

9.30am Mass for Easter

**BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW
CHURCH SERVICES**

April 1

Beltingham

Palm Sunday

10.00am BCP Communion

April 6

Henshaw

2pm Good Friday Devotions

April 8

Beltingham

Easter Day

10.00am Communion

April 15

Henshaw

10.00am Matins

April 22

Beltingham

10 am Communion

April 29

Beltingham

10.00am Joint Service

May 6

Henshaw

10 am Joint service
BCP Communion

**ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY
CHURCH SERVICES**

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am

Mass each Sunday at
11.00am at Haltwhistle

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

**ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
SERVICES**

April 1

Palm Sunday

10.30am Morning Prayer

April 3

St John's

7.30pm Churches together for
Stations of the Cross

April 5

6.30 pm Lord's Supper

April 6

Noon Good Friday Devotions

April 8

Easter Day

8 am BCP Communion
10.30am Communion

April 15

10.30 Communion

April 22

10.30am Morning Prayer

April 29

Service at Beltingham

**HAYDON OLD CHURCH
SERVICES**

April 29

6pm Evensong

Shaftoe Chorale
are singing
"Faure's Requiem"
At St Cuthbert's
Haydon Bridge
7pm
Sunday 1st April

Retiring collection for church funds

HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

BARBADOS SPORTS AND CULTURAL TOUR 2007

"This tour has been a life-changing experience."

"It was the experience of a lifetime and I will never forget what I have achieved and got out of this tour."

"Absolutely excellent. The best two weeks ever."

"Playing against local teams was a really good experience."

"A great insight into Barbadian culture."

"Bajan Roots and Rhythms was fantastic."

"I loved every minute of the tour, ranging from the sports fixtures to the excursions."

In July 2005, 40 students and 5 staff from Haydon Bridge High School (Specialist Sports College status) toured Barbados.

Above are some of the many quotes from the students who experienced "the best two weeks of their lives".

In July 2007, and we would like to repeat the experience with another group of students.

Tours like this are of great importance to Barbados - not only to their economy, but to their sporting development. Without schools like us touring, they would struggle to develop, as they cannot afford to tour.

In 2005, when we played rugby against both a local school and the National U18 team, we were shocked that neither had a set of rugby shirts. Apparently the cost is too much. On our return to the UK we sent to Barbados a set of old school shirts and if we can raise sufficient funds to tour in 2007 we aim to take out a set of rugby shirts to help their plight. One of the netball fixtures was in the middle of a rundown housing complex. However the locals made us extremely welcome, despite their poor living conditions.

All these experiences made a great impact on our students as they were like nothing they had experienced before, and certainly made our students appreciate just what they have in their lives.

On tour, as well as playing netball, football, rugby and cricket fixtures, we would undertake various excursions, including a catamaran cruise and a jeep safari. We would experience the culture of the island by visiting the

ecological and wildlife centre, snorkelling over reefs and attending the Bajan Roots and Rhythm evening dinner show, which portrays the history of the Caribbean, and Bajan culture.

None of the excursions have similar opportunities in the UK or Europe, and hence contribute to the experience of a lifetime this tour offers.

However, the basic tour cost without food is £1400. Most of our students do not come from well-off families, so the cost is prohibitive.

Our aim is to reduce the cost per student to under £1000 so that the tour is as inclusive as possible.

Our efforts so far have already raised nearly £4,500 but we would like to raise £10,000 in total. Students have organised fundraising activities such as coffee mornings, bag packing and evening events. The staff contribute to this amount by helping with fundraising, but we need further support to reach our target.

The number of educational activities we are able to undertake is directly dependent on how much money we are able to raise.

Please consider our appeal and the long term benefits it will have for our students, who will broaden their outlook on life. Any donation will be gratefully received, and your company or individual name will feature in school and local newspapers as well as 'The Haydon News' and our tour souvenir book.

If you feel you would like to support us, please forward cheques to Derek Todhunter, made payable to Haydon Bridge High School to the school address overleaf.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Derek Todhunter
Tour Organiser.

MEET THE AUTHOR

**An afternoon with Freda Lightfoot
at Haltwhistle Library**

Tuesday 17th April at 2.30pm

The Lancashire born author of popular family sagas often set in the Lake District and the North of England will be visiting Haltwhistle Library to talk about her work and answer questions. Bestseller Freda, who now lives in Spain, returns to the UK to carry out an extensive programme of smaller talks in the spring and autumn

every year, as she enjoys meeting her readers face to face much more than speaking at large events.

Freda was born in Lancashire. Her mother was a weaver and her father was a cobbler and she was brought up behind the shoe-mending shop. Her dreams of becoming a writer were considered a little ambitious, so she followed her parents' advice to 'get an education' by training to be a primary school teacher. But she kept on writing short stories, scripts, a children's novel and romantic fiction. Slowly she started selling stories to My Weekly, People's Friend, and My Story magazine. She then had her first novel Madeiran Legacy - accepted by Mills and Boon. After four more novels she finally sold her first piece of mainstream fiction, 'Luckpenny Land', to Hodder and Stoughton.

Freda has now written over 20 books, many of which are set in the Lake District and Manchester. She also works extensively to help other budding writers get their work published.

All are welcome to what should be a really enjoyable afternoon..

Tickets £1.50 - includes refreshments.
Haltwhistle Library Mechanics Institute,
Westgate, Haltwhistle. NE49 OAX

Contact: Jenny Kinnear 01434 652491
or Haltwhistle Library 01434 320462

HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Ann Fenwick was welcomed back to Haydon Bridge for part 2 of Through the Vicarage Window. We have been waiting eagerly since 2006 to find out what happened next! Guests from Humshaugh and Acomb were welcomed along with Rose, a prospective new member.

A very funny and entertaining talk followed giving us all an insight into life as a Vicar's wife. Ann's reputation is spreading far and wide now; she has travelled as far as Windermere to deliver her talk at a W.I. group meeting.

Keeping up our usual practice of sharing out the Raffle prizes, a member of each W.I member present walked away with a prize. A delicious supper provided by the members rounded off a very enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 17th April at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. The evening will include a village Treasure Hunt followed by pie and pea supper.

The Community Centre Coffee Morning will be hosted by the W.I on Saturday 7th April from 10am.

Karen Lumsden.