



THE HAYDON NEWS ON LINE



HIGH AND DRY
.....after the September deluge at Haydon Bridge.....
And they think they've got problems at Corbridge!!

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THE HAYDON NEWS ON LINE

The Haydon News was Established in 1979 and preceded on and off for over forty five years by a church Parish Magazine, The Haydon News is published by the Friends of Haydon Bridge and is written, printed, collated and delivered by volunteers.

Around 1,000 copies of The Haydon News are distributed free of charge, ten months of the year, throughout the parish of Haydon in Tynedale, Northumberland.

The Haydon News on line doesn't replace this traditional publication but allows those living outside our delivery area, who have a connection with or an interest in the parish, to keep in touch.

Welcome then to The Haydon News On Line, a web site that will build throughout the coming months and already includes an archive of earlier editions.

Contributions to The Haydon News in the form of articles or letters are welcome, especially from those with a family connection within the parish.

Please email us:

email: editors@haydon-news.co.uk

**Dennis Telford. (Chairman)
Friends of Haydon Bridge.**

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Two weeks cruising on the Med., avoiding television and newspapers, and I return home to find that it is the country I left behind that is all at sea; sinking - or being sunk - in the depths of despair.

It is refreshing then that many positive things are happening in our parish.

We have a bright, new **pharmacy** on Church Street.
(To be opened officially on November 20th 4.00pm - 7.00pm.)

The Parish Plan Development Group has all but completed its task and a new **Haydon Community Development Trust** will take us forward into an exciting future.

The residents' response to the proposals to light up the Old Bridge for Christmas has been excellent and we can all look forward to the switch - on at **3.30pm on Sunday November 30th**. Lots of voluntary work and support has gone into this event. Please try to get along to the old bridge on November 30th.

The **Local Artists' Annual Table Top Sale** is with us again and we are sure you will want to support this event in the Haydon Bridge Community Centre from 9.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday November 8th.

So things aren't so bad after all!

And by the way:

The smoking ban seems to be working.

This week I walked along Church Street past the Railway Hotel and popped into the pub.....for a breath of fresh air!!!

Next month we will offer a full page for parish events taking place over the Christmas and New Year period.

Be sure to book a space by making contact with either Mike or myself as soon as possible.

DT

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF HAYDON, NORTHUMBERLAND, ENGLAND



HAYDON BRIDGE BYPASS. 26th October 2008

The South Tyne Viaduct is taking shape. Cutting through the beautiful South Tyne valley at Haydon Bridge

The Friends of Haydon Bridge is a voluntary organisation and is responsible for the publication of The Haydon News. Some of the revenue costs of publishing around 1,000 copies of The Haydon News, ten times each year, are met by advertising fees. To support the revenue costs and provide capital expenditure for new equipment etc., The Friends of Haydon Bridge rely on donations. If you have enjoyed our on line magazine and would like to make a donation, please email the editors in the first instance

editors@haydon-news.co.uk

Thank you

Editors: Mike Parkin. Dennis Telford.

**THE HAYDON NEWS
www.Haydon-News.co.uk**

Site construction by Henry Swaddle.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES from the meeting in October 2008

Chairman Esmond Faulks opened the meeting promptly at 7.30pm on Thursday October 23rd.

Ten councillors attended, along with Alan Sharpe (NCC), Police Sergeant Tony Laidler and a handful of residents.

Public participation:

A number of residents of Shaftoe Street expressed their dissatisfaction with the proposed position of a new street light on the old bridge. Pauline Wallis, speaking for the residents, pointed out that they agreed in principle with the additional light, but asked that it could be placed so that it was not in direct line with the windows of houses. Councillors agreed with the residents and the necessary authority will be informed.

Mrs. Joyce Brown spoke for the residents and pedestrians on Church Street and requested more regular clearing of fallen leaves from the pavement - as had been the case in the past. (Anyone who has walked along Church Street recently will sympathise with the residents' concern. Perhaps the leaves will have been cleared before publication of this Haydon News.)

Mrs. Brown also asked whether there would be Christmas lights or a Christmas tree on Church Street this year. Councillor Howard Oliver responded later in the meeting, explaining that decorating Church Street for Christmas was not within his remit and all the village trees and lights would be on the old bridge; unless businesses or residents elsewhere were willing to provide their own.

Sergeant Tony Laidler, who is based at Haltwhistle and has a temporary responsibility for the parish, attended the meeting and expressed a willingness to respond to any queries from the parish with regard to police matters. Policing Shaftoe Green was immediately identified as an issue, as were concerns related to groups of young people congregating and drinking alcohol at the Eiland picnic area and near the Innerhaugh estate. Councillor Richard Snowdon also reminded the officer of earlier incidents at Shaftoe Terrace when a window was broken, apparently with an air rifle. Sergeant Laidler will arrange for regular police visits by local beat officer Yvonne Clemitson. Sergeant Laidler will attend occasional

parish council meetings in the future to inform councillors and hear their concerns.

Tynedale Council:

Councillor David Smith reported problems in Tynedale in relation to stray dogs, as the police were no longer able to deal with this issue. Two Dog Wardens cover the whole of Tynedale and two new kennels will have to be provided for stray dogs.

On a related issue, Councillor Vera Fletcher sought clarification and expressed concern that, as Haydon Bridge is classified as a 'town' with the new unitary authority, parish, councillors will have to accept enhanced powers and become enforcers of bye laws. Northumberland Councillor Alan Sharpe assured the members that while the parish council could volunteer to take additional responsibilities, there would be no compulsion.

Councillor Ed Brown pointed out that if the parish council took on a greater role in undertaking services, there would be no additional central finance available and it may be necessary to increase the parish precept.

Councillor Eileen Charlton expressed the view that if responsibility is delegated to the parish and had to be paid for by the parish, then the council tax should be reduced to reflect this. Councillor Sharpe will arrange for someone to inform the parish council as to the unitary authority's proposals.

Highways:

Seat at the corner of Church Street and Strother Close.

Having read about the situation in the October Haydon News, a member of the public has offered to fund a seat, located next to the level crossing, as a memorial to her recently departed mother. Councillor Eileen Charlton will liaise with the lady willing to donate the seat, at a site meeting.

Sign on Church Street.

The directional sign is on order and will soon be placed in position.

Drain at the end of the old bridge.

The drain is being cleared regularly and will be cleared by hand to see if a fault can be discovered.

Drains on Church Street.

The cleansing machine is not in the

area at present but when it is, Church Street will be kept clear of vehicles to enable it to carry out the drain cleaning work.

Temporary road closure.

The level crossing will be closed overnight on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November, for essential track maintenance.

Cemetery Road update.

The council's concerns about the 'hidden dip' beneath the bypass bridge have not yet been allayed. Councillor Mike Parkin informed the meeting that following a site visit, the Highways Agency and the Bypass Project Manager felt that there wasn't a problem. The council will await an official reply to their requests.

Church Street flagstones.

The council has been informed that the tarmac replacing the stone flags on Church Street is temporary and the flags and kerbs will be replaced.

Lighting:

The street light in Greenwich Gardens has been repaired.

A member of the public has asked whether it would be possible to light the arch between the Railway Hotel and the Pharmacy, leading from Church Street. Councillors acknowledged that this was a dark area and will seek the views of the owners of the adjacent properties.

Planning applications:

The council had no objections to the following planning applications:

The Parish Council Notes are continued on page 16

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Esmond Faulks (chairman)	
Mr. D Charlton	684505
Mrs. E Charlton	684505
Mrs. V Fletcher	688872
Mr. M R Parkin	684340
Mr. D Smith*	684480
Mr. R Snowdon	688871
Mr. E Brown*	684084
Mr H Oliver	688856
Ms J Males	
Mrs J Thompson	684376

(* also a Tynedale Councillor)

Parish Clerk
Mrs. C McGivern
688020(after 6pm)

Last month (October) I traced the career of Haydonian George Anderson who played football for Haydon Bridge, Mickley, Sunderland and Aberdeen before becoming Manager of Dundee and one of Scotlands foremost soccer legislators.

I continue George's story this month.

George Anderson's life in Scotland was filled with much more than his football commitments. For a period of ten years from 1945 he represented Rosemount Ward in Aberdeen on the town council, serving for a time as a magistrate. He was a convenor of the corporation's town planning committee and he was also chairman of the committee responsible for floral decorations in Aberdeen's public places. Of particular

interest is a report of his pioneering work in advocating the use of window boxes for brightening up Union Street. George clearly had this in mind when the Haydon Bridge Floral and Horticultural Society held its Centenary Show in 1950 and the organising committee received a large silver trophy from Dundee's Manager George Anderson, to be presented for the best window box in the village. The trophy was won in 1950 by Mr. E. Corbett of Whittis Crescent.

I wonder where that trophy is now?

Incidentally, I'm sure that Ted Corbett deserved the first prize, knowing how much work both he and his family put into terracing and cultivating the most difficult of gardens at Whittis

Crescent.

I have emphasised that George Anderson the Dundee Manager had always retained a soft spot for his native village and that was never more evident than on the April 19th 1952 when he invited his family, the players and the supporters of Haydon Bridge Football Club to the Scottish Cup Final at Hampden Park. George's generosity is still remembered with gratitude to this day.

George arranged and paid for private transport from Haydon Bridge to Glasgow, accommodated the visitors before and after the match in the team's hotel, had special seats reserved in Scotland's famous stadium and, had Dundee won the cup, had reserved places alongside the Dundee players at

APRIL 19th 1952 HAYDON BRIDGE'S TRIP TO HAMPDEN PARK



Back row left to right:

Joe Nevin. Jackie Harrison. Norman Heslop. Jeff Marshall. ?not known? Robin Armstrong. Bus driver. Gilbert Smith.

Second back row:

Jackie Thompson. Tommy Westgarth. Matt Smith. Jackie Heslop. Dent Oliver. Ralph Curry. Tommy Nicholson. Eddie Moffat.

Middle row:

Nevin Kirsopp. Billy Irwin. Andy Doodle.

Second front row:

Jackie Wardle. Lyle Herdman. Lloyd Brown. John Heslop.

Front row:

Robert Harding. Lance Spooner. Dougie Eggleton. Ronnie Marshall.

the victory table.

Mary Pearce (nee Stokoe) travelled to the game with her family and remembers sitting in the stand while the rest of the Haydon Bridge party were all together in a special place in the ground.

“Memories of the cup final day are hazy but I think that Peggy Bell (nee Brown) - Peter and Frankie’s sister - made and iced a fruit cake which was given to the team at the hotel in George Square. The coach took us there before the match and we travelled to Hampden Park following the team coach. I remember the police escort!”

Ralph Curry was a member of the travelling contingent from Haydon Bridge that day over fifty six years ago and he still remembers the occasion with great pleasure.

“I’d just come out of the Air Force in March and I was invited to go to the final. I was twenty three years old. It was a very enjoyable day of course, all organised by George Anderson. We went to the same hotel where the team were staying. We had a meal at the hotel and then the bus took us through Glasgow.”

Like Mary, Ralph also has memories of the police escort to Hampden Park.

“We felt quite important because the Dundee players were in the bus in front of us and we followed them with a police escort through Glasgow. It wasn’t a great game as I remember it and Dundee got beat 4 - 0. But it was enjoyable for all that.”

Ralph recalls only two low points in the day other than the result.

“Dougie Eggleton was very tactless after the match when he shouted to George Anderson, who had put the whole day on for us and was disappointed his team had not performed well: ‘Bring your team down to Haydon Bridge and we’ll show you how to play.’ Dougie put his foot right in it!”

The other story, amusing for those of us who knew the gentleman concerned, involves the consumption of alcohol. Or in Ralph’s case, the lack of it.

“On the day, for me, there wasn’t much drink involved. Some of the others had a sup mind but I got stuck with Robin and after we had a drink bought for us and then I bought one, it was Robin’s turn. So we sat looking at empty glasses and those were the only two half beers we had all night.”

There were over thirty villagers who travelled to Hampden on April 19th 1952 and most of those in Haydon Bridge who couldn’t travel, listened to the commentary on the radio.

With no score at half time and Motherwell goalkeeper and captain Willie Kilmarnock keeping them in the game with a number of goal line saves, Dundee started the second half full of confidence but Motherwell’s two goals in two minutes ended the game as a contest.

In spite of Dundee’s 4 - 0 defeat, maybe our village footballers did learn something from their visit to Hampden that Saturday afternoon, as they went on to win the Hexham and District League; beating Bardon Mill 2-0 in the last game of the season with goals from Dent Oliver and Tommy Westgarth.

Haydon Bridge’s post war record in league and cup competitions had dubbed them as the most consistent local football team during the period and George Anderson, the famous football club manager, was known to follow their progress as keenly as that of his own club, Dundee F.C.

George Anderson retired as Dundee’s manager in 1954 but continued as a director of the club until his death on May 28th 1956.

Obituaries to George Anderson in the Scottish newspapers where fulsome in their praise of the former Haydonian who never forgot his roots.

Fred Donovan, the Scottish Football League secretary was quoted:

‘Scottish football will be much the poorer for his passing. He was a big man in every way as he proved by taking the Dundee club from obscurity to the First Division and also taking some of the best known post-war playing personalities to Tay side. George undoubtedly had a shrewd football mind and the S.F.A. paid him one of the greatest compliments by appointing him a member of their selection committee.’

Perhaps the most famous soccer legislator of all time, Sir Stanley Rous, secretary of the Football Association, had this to say:

‘It is with much regret that I have heard such sad news here in Berlin on the eve of England’s international match. Although George Anderson

had been comparatively inactive in football recently, he was a splendid legislator and a sound judge of a player, and he rendered wonderful service to Dundee Football Club. My deepest sympathies lie with his widow and daughter, whom I have known for many years.’

And the Lord Provost of Aberdeen:

‘.....Although he never lost his love for his native Northumberland, he took more than an ordinary pride in his adopted city. He was an exceedingly kind and generous man, and tactful and genial in his dealings with people. His generosity knew no bounds and he will long be remembered by countless numbers of people.’

George’s wife Lily died on December 31st 1992, while their daughter Mildred still lives in Aberdeen.

It was while writing these Historical Notes that I learned that Mildred was celebrating her 80th birthday, on August 29th this year. I wish her well from the village of her father’s birth - a place he never forgot and where he now has a place forever in the Haydon News archives - and thank her for her help in putting together these memories of a famous sporting Haydonian.

George Albert Anderson 1887 - 1956



Sources:

In addition to the friends, family and guests of George Anderson, already mentioned, I am grateful for the archives at Newcastle City and Hexham Libraries and information found in the Newcastle Daily Journal, the Newcastle Daily Chronicle and the Hexham Courant.

100 YEARS

The Haydon Bridge ‘Town Hall’ celebrates its 100th anniversary this month. Since it opened on the 27th November 1908, the building has provided great pleasure for residents and next month I will publish part 1 of my history of the Town Hall. Why don’t you share your personal memories of the Town Hall / Club with our readers?

Contact me, Dennis Telford, on 01434 684636, leave a message at Claires Newsagents, or write to me at ‘The Buildings’, West Rattenraw, Haydon Bridge. NE47 6ED. Thank you.

CORRESPONDENCE

Following a response from Mary Pearce, (nee Stokoe) to **part 1** of my story about **George Anderson**, published in the October Haydon News; I am pleased to update my information in relation to George Anderson's cousin, George Stokoe, and his wife Edith.

Co. Durham.

1st October 2008

Dear Dennis,

I have just read the article about George Anderson on the web site. Great! You have spent many hours doing the research and I'm sure all the family will enjoy it.

Perhaps the reference to my Mam and Dad can be amended however. They didn't move directly from New Alston to Ratcliffe Road, but lived in the Railway Cottages at Lipwood before moving to 10 Ratcliffe Road in 1936. They stayed there until 1961 when they exchanged houses with Norman and Mavis Heslop and moved to 26 Strother Close. They stayed there until Mam died in 1971 and Dad in 1978.

I will try to keep up with the Haydon Bridge news on the web. We have so many happy memories of the years we lived at Haydon Bridge and try to visit at least once a year. We were all members of the tennis club and I was a member of the badminton club and the youth club. I remember well the good times we had and would like to send my regards to all my old friends. Please say hello to Maurice and Rene when you meet up at the 'Railway'.

Cheers,
Mary Pearce. (nee Stokoe)

PETER LONGSTAFFE

I wonder whether any of our older readers, in the parish or on our World Wide Web Site, remember Peter Longstaffe? Peter arrived at Haydon Bridge as a nine year old evacuee in 1942.

"I was taken to Newcastle Central Station with a label round my neck on a piece of string and put on the train. I was an only child. It was my first time away from home and I ended up in Haydon Bridge. I had never heard of Haydon Bridge before that!"

Peter stayed in our village for one year, during which time his mother was only able to visit him once.

As an evacuee, his memories of Haydon Bridge sixty six years ago are of places rather than names.

"I, along with two other evacuees, lived with a lady in a house on Ratcliffe Road; opposite the General Havelock. The village doesn't seem a lot different now; of course I used to walk over the old bridge. Certainly I remember Ratcliffe Road looking just like it does today, except that if I looked out of the front door to the left, there was a smithy and there was very little traffic on Ratcliffe Road then. Oh! And I remember we had a back lane where there was a midden and they used to come round during the night and empty it. I'd never come across that sort of thing before. We had flush toilets where my parents lived at Denton Burn, although I was born in Felling."

Peter described to me how he loved watching the blacksmith shaping his ironwork and shoeing horses. As a young boy from the town he was fascinated, and it is Brown's blacksmith's shop on Ratcliffe Road more than anything else that has stayed in his mind. Peter was delighted to find that although the smithy is no more, the arched doorways he remembers so well still remain, and an earlier photograph of William Henderson Brown and his helpers shoeing a horse in 1905 was another reminder well received by Peter.

Our visiting 1942 evacuee does have other memories of his time here however.

"I remember walking across the weir below the bridge and getting told off about that."

The steam trains were also a source of dubious pleasure. "We used to put pennies on the line and wait for the trains to come along and crush them up."

Goodness. The things these townies got up to!!

"I loved the trains and spent a lot of time in the station yard. That has changed a lot since I was here but the signal box and station gates look the same."

Peter was as disappointed as I am when I told him that we are to lose our traditional station gates, that provide character to the village, as our Parish

Council's efforts to save them seem to have hit the buffers.

School did not feature fondly in Peter's memory.

"I went to the school on the hill (Shaftoe Trust) during my stay at Haydon Bridge. But I skipped off school quite a lot I'm sorry to say and had a lot of catching up to do when I eventually returned home."

Peter Longstaffe lives in Swansea now, with his wife Doreen, and we met during their one day visit to Haydon Bridge in August, hoping to find the house on Ratcliffe Road in which Peter stayed as a nine year old. Our visitors were especially complimentary towards "the friendly people" they met during their visit.

"The lady called Joanne, in the General Havelock, was ever so helpful giving us names and phone numbers of people she thought would be able to help. She also suggested the library, where a very nice lady gave me a copy of 'The Haydon News' and we will certainly look it up on the internet when I return home."

Another tourist almost satisfied then. All that remains now is for someone to remember Peter Longstaffe from his evacuation to Haydon Bridge in 1942.

If it is you; please contact the editors.

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB

**AUTUMN AND WINTER TALKS
September 2008 to April 2009**

13th November: Margaret Jacot.
'The Golden Road to Samarkand, Uzbekistan.'

27th November: Naomi Hewitt.
'North East Reptiles and Amphibians.'

11th December: Ken Carlisle.
'Benin, Togo and Burkina Faso.'

**Talks are at 7.15 p.m.
in
Haydon Bridge Methodist Church
every other Thursday**

Coffee/tea and biscuits provided

**Annual subscription: £10
Non-members £2 each meeting**

**A programme of evening walks are
organised in the Summer 2009**

**ALL ARE WELCOME INCLUDING NEW
MEMBERS**

Shaftoe Trust First School.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES WEEK

In October as part of their Healthy Lifestyles week, pupils and staff were treated to a fantastic concert by the Newcastle Ukulele All Stars!

The afternoon was inspirational with KS2 children raring to get practising on the school's set of ukuleles!

Arts Co-Ordinator Mrs Judges would love to organise an All Stars concert for the village Watch this space.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Once again, Shaftoe Trust First School is supporting Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child 2008.

The children have been very busy collecting for their shoe boxes. The school hopes to exceed the total of boxes donated last year.

WORLD WAR 2 RETURNS TO HAYDON BRIDGE!

Recently pupils from Kielder class have been experiencing what it was like to be evacuated. After leaving school with cardboard gasmask boxes and name tags they were given a 'pretend' wave-off from parents at the train station then left for the church where they were billeted out to two local homes.

The whole school was involved in 'World War 11 day' on Thursday 23rd October. Members of the local community were invited from 2.00 p.m. onwards to share their war time memories, taste war time food and sing songs from the 1940's.

FUTURE DATES.

Monday 10th November.

Open day

Friday 12th December 3.30—5.30 Christmas Fair

Monday 15th December 2.00 p.m. Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal and Tea for Senior Citizens.

HAYDON BRIDGE PHARMACY UPDATE

The proposed improvements to the pharmacy have now been completed. We are now in our new premises at 5 Church Street. The pharmacy has officially changed ownership and will now be called Haydon Bridge Pharmacy.

In designing the pharmacy we have tried to make facilities that are professional and modern whilst fitting in to the historic rural village feel of Haydon Bridge. We aim to provide forward thinking pharmacy services and we welcome any comments and ideas on how we can improve your pharmacy.

Haydon Bridge pharmacy wishes to thank all the local firms that have been involved in the refit. We have tried to use local companies as much as possible.

We invite everyone to our official opening on Thursday 20th November from 4pm to 7pm.

We especially would like to see people who do not normally use the pharmacy in the village.

Services now available from the pharmacy

Prescription Collection Service:

We collect prescriptions from Haydon Bridge Pharmacy twice a day, we also collect from neighbouring villages and Hexham. Please ask at the pharmacy for more information.

Repeat Dispensing:

This is a scheme for people whose medication is stable. Instead of ordering a prescription every month, the surgery issues a batch of prescriptions that can be collected from the pharmacy when needed. Please check with pharmacist to see if your medication is suitable.

NHS stop smoking service:

If you want to stop smoking, make an appointment to see our stop smoking adviser they will not only help you choose the most appropriate product but also advise on how to kick your habit for life.

Emergency Hormonal Contraception:

Emergency contraception is now available free of charge direct from the pharmacy, as long as there is an accredited pharmacist on duty.

Haydon Bridge.
October 1st 2008.

Whitefield,
Manchester.
October 20th 2008.

those subjects that did not get talked about.

Dear Editors,

Shaftoe Green.

My son (16 months) and I have been popping up to the park periodically through the summer and we are disappointed to hear that the bark is still not down - especially as it has arrived in the village.

The paragraph in the October Haydon News suggests that the road company will not be able to complete on this until the road closures are finished - which I think take us up to December (?)

Are there any other solutions for getting the bark down?

We love the park and my son just isn't happy in the big area - he heads for the little area every time.

I would gladly give up some time to do some shovelling but I'm not sure I'll get very far on my own!

Please could you respond to my enquiry or pass it on to the appropriate person.

Kind regards,

Gail Dovey-Pearce

We have responded to the writer and forwarded her correspondence to the parish council. Ed's.

Dear Editors,

My sisters and I recently had a nostalgic trip to Haydon Bridge with our cousin Fran, nee Dinning and her husband Ian Duncan.

Fran's mother, Jenny, was our dad's (Thomas Albert Anderson) elder sister. He lived at Bank Cottages, North Road with our mother (Hilda) from 1944 - 1948 with Jean born in Blackpool 1943, Joan born at Haltwistle 1944 and Marilyn Barbara born at Dilston 1948.

We know that Hilda met George Anderson (*Haydon News Historical Notes, October 2008*) during her time at Haydon Bridge, she always spoke fondly of him.

We are curious to know more of our dad and his family.

We know that he had an older brother (Mansfield Anderson) who was killed in the First World War.

We know that our mother, Hilda, returned to live in Bolton, Lancashire in 1948, taking the three of us with her.

We still do not know the reason why they separated or what happened to our dad from 1948 onwards. It was one of

We do know that our dad Thomas Albert Anderson died at the Ambassador Nursing Home South Shields in 1989 aged 78 years.

We used to have holidays in the 1950's with our mothers friend, Dorothy Scriven whom we called Aunty Dorothy. She had two children Christine and David, David was born in 1948. We visited their Aunty Mabel and her daughter Carol. The children had a friend called Avril. Aunty Dorothy lived at Greencotes, Warden.

We would be so grateful if you could print this story in the Haydon News in the hope that we may jog some people's memories and be able to fill in some gaps.

We would be grateful for any further information
Our mother had very fond memories of Haydon Bridge.

Many thanks in anticipation.
Yours sincerely,

Jean, Joan and Marilyn Barbara (nee Anderson)

If any of our readers can help with our correspondents' request, please contact the editors.

Haydon Parish Plan Update

Notice of public meeting at 7.30pm on 19th November 2008 at Haydon Bridge Community Centre to launch Haydon Community Development Trust

Following last month's update in the October Haydon News, things are moving apace on taking forward the Haydon Parish Plan. We have got through the first bidding round for Northumberland Uplands Rural Development Programme funding, and are now preparing the full application for early December. The funding will be used to re-design the library building to become a Community Library and Visitor Information Point, subsidise running costs for the first two years and fund a new community website and marketing materials for the Parish.

Other action includes working with Tynedale and the County Council for remedial works in Haydon Bridge after the detrunking of the A69.

We are also replacing the Parish Plan Development Group with a Community Development Trust, to act as a development vehicle for initiatives such as the Community Library.

The inaugural meeting, which is open to the public, is at 7.30pm on 19th November at the Community Centre. Any local resident who is interested is very welcome to attend.

At the meeting the existing Parish Plan group will be dissolved, and the Community Development Trust created, including ratification of the new committee.

Kate Minto
Secretary to the Haydon Parish Plan Development Group

Decorated Christmas Trees on the Old Bridge

Wonderful support from the village

The demands of copy and publication deadlines mean that this issue of the Haydon News will be published about three weeks before lights are turned on by the pupil from the First School who won the art competition. This will happen, weather permitting, at 3.30 on Sunday 30th November.

The details of the event are advertised below but it promises to be quite a party, the support we have received will ensure that it will be well attended by the parish.

Father Christmas, his sleigh and helpers will be there; the ladies of Haydon Bridge are providing hot soup, mulled wine and hot dogs to make it even more of an occasion and finally, the Sunshine Panners will provide their wonderfully foot tapping music.

I am taking this opportunity to thank publicly the people or companies who have put in so much hard work to make this an event to remember. When you

see the trees you may think that it was easy. Believe me it has taken a lot of effort.

The planning started back in April when discussions began with the senior conservation officer at Tynedale Council. No objections having been raised, the sourcing and volunteering began in earnest.

There are fifteen trees in groups of three contained in five boxes, each sixteen foot in length and two foot six high. There are 200 lights per tree making 3000 in all and over thousand feet of timber has been used in the making of the containers. They have been weighted down with well over a ton of sandbags. Thank goodness, the village is blessed with both brains and muscle power.

My special thanks must begin with Ali, who provided the illustrations for the posters and for the provisional working plans for the containers. My thanks too, to the Knowles family, who have so generously donated the timber and constructed the containers. Equally important, Crawford & Oliver have

given up very many hours of their valuable time to provide all the electrics to make an efficient and safe display. The Anchor Hotel has kindly allowed the power to be taken from its source. This has solved a pressing problem. The Leazes Estate donated the trees; the Allendale Lions have magnificently provided Santa and his attendants and Claire's newsagents have allowed us to use them as a focal point.

People have also been generous with their donations or time and I must personally thank the Faulks, the Fiori, the Fletcher and Rutherford families. Along with Stephen Dickinson, Kathleen Fulton, Peter Henriksen, the Romfords, Alan Sharpe and Irene Tweddle.

Joyce Brown and her ladies have been towers of strength and Shaftoe Young Farmers and Jose Brown are going to add muscle power to the proceedings. My apologies if I have missed anyone but there are still three weeks to go if anyone is feeling like adding their names to the list.

Finally let's all make it a party for everyone to enjoy. *Howard Oliver*



The Old Bridge Lights Up

At 3.30pm on Sunday 30th November

The Christmas lights will be switched on by a pupil from Shaftoe First School
(Winner of the art competition)



Fun for everyone

- **Soup, Mulled wine and hot dogs (provided by the ladies of Haydon Bridge)**
- **Santa, sleigh and helpers (kindly provided by the Allendale Lions)**

Music by the Sunshine Panners Haydon Bridge High School

WHAT TO DO WHEN STUCK AT TRAFFIC LIGHTS ON THE A69!

- 1 Read Tolstoy's 'War and Peace'
- 2 Teach yourself Cantonese.
- 3 Knit a pair of socks for a soldier in Iraq.
- 4 Make a full scale matchstick model of the Eiffel Tower.
- 5 Try to change your BT Family and Friends numbers.
- 6 Smoke your full duty free quota of cigarettes.
- 7 Valet your car and those of others in the queue.
- 8 Listen to Wagner's 'Ring Cycle'.
- 9 Watch a kettle boil.
- 10 Write a letter to the Haydon News.

HAYDON LOCAL ARTISTS'

TABLE TOP ART & CRAFTS SALE.

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

SATURDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER 2008

10.00am - 4.00pm

*FOR
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
WITH A DIFFERENCE*

*LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND
SOUP
AVAILABLE.*

**MORE STALLS
THIS YEAR**

**SUPPORT OUR
LOCAL ARTISTS**

RAFFLE

Haydon News Blog October 2008

Well, I am now an old hand in Haydon Bridge. I have been made very welcome in many homes across the village and surrounding area. I have only been assaulted by the occasional over-exuberant puppy. And I have loved seeing (again and again) many of the beautiful views in the surrounding countryside. There are lots and lots of good points in working in the area I have come to love. So, after 2 months of "how do you like our village", I can now respond truthfully with "very well".

Becoming a native started a while before I started working here. I remember a colleague in Brampton asking me about Haydon Bridge. The only thing he knew of our glorious village was a speed camera that had once caught him in a hurry. He wasn't very pleased with it. He looked rather upset when I told him, "You shouldn't have been speeding through our village".

Of course there have been some teething troubles, too. I have met some interesting and perplexing problems and even had the occasional communication problem. This could have been a text from a consultation I had last week (although *this* was obviously a clever doctor):

A man goes to the doctor and says:

"It hurts when I press here" (pressing his side)

"And when I press here" (pressing the other side)

"And here" (his leg)

"And here, here and here" (his other leg, and both arms)

So the doctor examined him all over and finally discovered what was wrong...

"You've got a broken finger!"

It has been a busy month with lots of changes afoot, both nationally and in our practice. Here are some of the important ones:

Dr Young's Retirement

I am sorry to tell you that Dr Gail Young has announced her retirement as of December. Gail has given many years of service to our patients and to the practice. She is an excellent GP and a

great colleague, so we are very sorry to see her go. We do understand that she has many things she would like to do outside of medicine and wish her well.... not too many foreign holidays, Gail, or we will all get horribly jealous. We also hope (and expect) that she will be coming back in a locum capacity from time to time

New Website:

We now have a website up and running. Go to:

www.haydonbridgesurgery.co.uk where you can:

- Access information on surgery opening times and services
 - Order repeat prescriptions online (you need to register for this via dispensary first)
- Contact us about administrative issues or with suggestions for our services

In future you will also be able to Book and cancel appointments (again you will need to register with the service first)

Medication Reviews and Blood Tests

People on regular long-term medication need review with their regular GP or Nurse Practitioner, usually 6 monthly. Many of them also need regular blood tests, in particular people with heart conditions, high blood pressure, kidney conditions, previous stroke, thyroid conditions, and diabetes.

We are no longer sending out letters to remind people they are due a blood test – a first frozen and now falling budget means we are having to be more cost conscious. So, PLEASE HELP US BY FINDING OUT IF YOU NEED A BLOOD TEST BEFORE YOUR REVIEW, AND MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO HAVE IT ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE YOU SEE THE DOCTOR!

The receptionists can tell you if a test is due, and your doctor will tell you at the review when you should have the next blood test.

(We also have an excellent new phlebotomist, Thelma, on our staff....welcome Thelma).

Childhood Obesity

Childhood obesity has been big news in recent times. Nationally, we are in the middle of an obesity epidemic. This is fuelled by decreasing activity

levels, the availability of cheap highly calorific foods and its indiscriminate selling. Obesity dramatically increases the risk of people developing many medical problems from the obvious like diabetes and heart disease, to more surprising illnesses like osteo-arthritis and most forms of cancer.

It obviously makes good sense if we help our children to develop healthy lifestyles to protect them from this epidemic (it is NOT only due to lifestyle but without certain lifestyle conditions almost nobody becomes obese). There is also now quite a bit of evidence that overweight children do not necessarily become overweight adults, so we should keep optimistic about the possibility of change where children are overweight.

There is now a new service for Northumberland called "Get Active Northumberland". It is aimed at families with at least one obese child who have decided that they want to make changes to a healthier lifestyle. The idea is to help families to make those changes. If you are interested contact one of the GPs. There will be assessments as well as a "holiday programme" in Haydon Bridge. Unfortunately the more intensive programme will be in the east. But "use it or we will lose it"

Threat to Our Dispensary

You probably know that we dispense medicines to about half of our patients. I think this is an invaluable service in rural areas. Our dispensary functions really well and we know that patients like it. We can, of course, only dispense to anybody living more than a mile away from their nearest pharmacy. (This ability for doctors to dispense only applies in rural areas, including ours).

However, the Government is thinking about changing the rules over doctor dispensing apparently with the aim of both increasing competition and of being more "equitable". If the rules change, we may no longer be allowed to dispense to anybody.

It is quite complicated but feels very much like another threat to rural services. Either our dispensary or the Haydon Bridge pharmacy may be threatened by any proposed change.

I think the current arrangements offer a large number of rural patients' choice over where they get their medicines and I am adding my voice to those who are

asking the government not to change things.

We are at a consultation stage here and the government has said that "*we do not favour any one option*". They also *particularly value patients opinions*, so if you would like to have your say please write to:

Gillian Farnfield
MPI – Community Pharmacy Policy
4th Floor, Skipton House
80 London Road
SE1 6LH

Further details are on our website and in letters we will be circulating with prescriptions.

Medical Notes again:

We are still working very hard on keeping our notes accurate and up to date. Here are some more extracts (not from Haydon Bridge) where doctors have perhaps tried too hard:

The patient had waffles for breakfast and anorexia for lunch.

She stated that she had been constipated for most of her life until 1989 when she got a divorce.

I saw your patient today, who is still under our car for physical therapy.

Bleeding started in the rectal area and continued all the way to Los Angeles.

She is numb from her toes down.

While in the emergency room, she was examined, X-rated and sent home.

Finally, a big thank you to Colin Murphy and those who sponsored him on his epic three peaks walk. He managed to raise a very substantial sum for our equipment fund.

And a few more "facts":

"Pokemon" stands for pocket monster.

Norville is the real name of Shaggy of Scooby Doo fame.

Donald Duck's middle name is Fauntleroy

**Goodbye for now
Dr Paul Wyatt**

Langley WI Notes

It's been a busy month for Langley WI, starting with a visit to the brand new Doxford Hall Hotel. This was at the invitation of Shirley and Brian Birnie, Shirley being a former Langley WI member. After a fabulous afternoon tea Shirley took us on a tour of the 23 bedrooms and two suites. A superb afternoon was enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

Next was a visit to Whitfield WI where the celebrated Cumbrian author Jackie Moffat gave a hilarious talk about her family's small holding. After a fabulous supper a domino drive took place which was great fun.

Finally Langley held their birthday party this month. Visitors came from Newbrough and Bellingham and enjoyed an evening of Morris dancing performed enthusiastically by Hexham Morris Men and more gracefully by the Hexhamshire Lasses. Various dances were performed by both groups and it was explained that Morris dancing was often used to supplement a village's income when they went on tours to other villages often wearing disguises. A quiz about the north then took place after supper. Dorothy Thompson won the competition for an egg cup with Cathy Duffy second.

Sylvia reminded all members that all entries for County Day had to be with her by Friday the 24th October so that they could be set up at the venue in Morpeth.

Pie and Pea Supper tickets are now on sale they are £3.50 it will take place at Langley Village Hall on Friday the 14th of November.

Next WI meeting is the 11th November, All Welcome.



HAYDON BRIDGE WI

Our next meeting will be the A.G.M. on November 18th at 7.30 in the Community Centre. Would all members wishing to go for the Christmas meal please give their names and deposits in on the evening. **K.L.**

CLANN NA NGAEL IRISH DANCE ACADEMY proudly present their

CHRISTMAS SHOW.

featuring the ceilidh team and world medal dancers

**HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE
SATURDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER.**

Performance times and prices

**3.30pm ADULT TICKETS £3.00 (including mulled wine & mince pie)
CHILDREN'S TICKETS £2.00 (includes refreshments)**

**7.00pm ADULT TICKETS £4.00 (including wine & cheese)
CHILDREN'S TICKETS £3.00 (includes refreshments)**

COME AND ENJOY THE DELIGHTS OF IRISH DANCING
FOR TICKETS CONTACT

DENISE on 07789 171830 or SYLVIA on 01434 684035
TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From

Judith Hampson

When a reporter from a church newspaper visited a Californian mega-church which had more than 2,000 worshippers in church every Sunday, a film crew was in the church making the latest Hollywood blockbuster. As Angelina Jolie strolled past the reporter in church, he tried hard to look nonchalant and unimpressed. But the whole multi-million-dollar complex was so huge and so magnificent, that the reporter was impressed despite himself.

Whatever our best intentions, most of us are impressed by opulence and wealth. Millions of us are avid for news of the rich and famous and idolise them.

And apart from a small minority, most of us recognise and submit to authority. We may grumble about our taxes, but we usually pay them and we regard those who are in high positions as being worthy of respect.

When someone with sufficient authority tells us to do something, it seems we almost always obey even if what we are required to do goes against our moral values.

But one characteristic of Jesus, which was recognised even by his enemies, was that he did not regard people with partiality. He had sufficient inner strength to be unmoved by displays of opulence or authority. He saw through their flattery and he was unmoved by it.

The risk of this kind of response to authority is that you quickly become recognised as a troublemaker. This, of course, is exactly what happened to Jesus. The attitude of the authorities to his troublemaking was later summed up by the chief priest's prophetic remark, "It is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed" (John 11:50).

After having forthrightly told the Pharisees and Herodians exactly what kind of people they were, Jesus then confounded them by the response which has



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

passed into our English language as a kind of proverb, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

Sadly, in our hypocritical world this saying has been used to separate politics and religion, something which Jesus cannot have intended since his whole life was political. He was not party political, but politics is about life and the way it is lived.

For Christians today, it is tempting to opt for a quiet life, even if this means rendering to Caesar the things that are God's. It is easier just to go with the flow than to attempt the difficult task of sorting out what belongs to Caesar and what belongs with God.

Judith Hampson

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

2 November

10.00am Morning Worship
Shoebos will be packed and blessed
Rev Les Hann
No Evening Service

9 November

10.15 am Saint Cuthbert's REMEMBRANCE
Followed by Act of Remembrance at War Memorial

6.00pm Evening Service
Kevin Williams

16 November

10.00am Morning Worship
Rev Les Hann
6.00pm Evening Service
Rev S Caddy

23 November

10.00am Morning Service
David Applegarth
6.00pm Evening Service
Canon Ray Best

30 November

10.00am Morning Service
Rev Les Hann
6.00pm Communion
Rev Les Hann

7 December

10.00am Morning Service
Rev Jim Errington
6.00pm Evening Service
Rev Les Hann

Remembrance 2008
Haydon Bridge
Sunday 9th November

10.15am.
Service at St Cuthbert's
11.00am.
War Memorial
Followed by refreshments at the Methodist Church

BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW CHURCH SERVICES

2 November

Beltingham
9.30am BCP Communion

9 November

10.00am Henshaw REMEMBRANCE
Followed by Act of Remembrance at War Memorial

16 November

11.00am Joint Service
Haydon Bridge

23 November

Henshaw
9.30am Communion Service

30 November

Henshaw
9.30am Joint Service

7 December

Henshaw
9.30am BCP Communion

ST. JOHN OF BEVERLEY CHURCH SERVICES.

Mass each Sunday
9.30am. Haydon Bridge
11.00am. at Haltwhistle

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

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH SERVICES

2 November

11.00am BCP Communion

9 November

10.15 am REMEMBRANCE
Followed by Act of Remembrance at War Memorial

16 November

11.00am Joint Service

30 November

9.30am Joint Service
at Henshaw

7 December

11.00am BCP Communion



Methodist Church
Christmas Fayre
Saturday 15th November at 2pm

Stalls, Teas, Children's Stalls

Santa will make a guest appearance

LIFE CYCLE CHALLENGE 2008

You will recall that in August's Haydon News we introduced readers to David Armstrong's ten day sponsored challenge; cycling 1,350 miles over 10 days, through 4 countries and crossing 4 mountain ranges in temperatures anticipated to be up to 40°C.

David has returned to Haydon Bridge safe and sound, having raised close to £4,000 for Haydonian Alan Curry's charity, raising money for kidney disease research.

This month we take a look back at David's remarkable journey.

A CYCLIST'S PERSPECTIVE

The Life Cycle Challenge 2008 started at Lourdes in the foothills of the Pyrenees and once the bikes were reassembled after the plane and coach journeys, thirty eight cyclists set off in similar ability groups of up to six with the slowest group starting first and then each progressively faster group following at intervals of between 5 and 8 minutes, depending upon the distance to be cycled each day. Each day's route would have compulsory checkpoints at around 50-55km intervals, which would generally take around 2-2½ hours of cycling, depending upon the terrain. Each involved a compulsory stop of 20 minutes to rest and take on essential food and fluids. These would prove invaluable, both physically to keep the body in shape, and mentally to break up the extreme distances into manageable sections.

This first day involved 196km (122 miles) up and over the Pyrenees to Huesca in Spain. The Pyrenean scenery was spectacular, and the cool conditions suited me. The 1st checkpoint was at 1,474m (4,860ft), after a climb of 875m (2,950ft). A nice descent preceded a further climb to another pass and then a long winding descent through a ski resort led to a never-ending 24k ascent up to the 2nd checkpoint at 1,763m (5,800ft). The weather worsened at this stage with rain blown in on the gusty wind. Imagine Hartside Cafe on a damp November day. I found it chilly, but my Maltese colleagues were generally shivering uncontrollably. By this time, the lack of sleep was catching up and there were several worrying occasions where my eyes were closing whilst cycling downhill at speeds in excess of 30mph with sheer cliffs at the roadside. Not a good time to "drop off", if you excuse the pun! Thankfully I managed to fight it off until the 3rd checkpoint

which was conveniently adjacent to a cafe, where I had an espresso to try to waken me up.

Once we left the mountains and progressed into Spain the terrain became gently undulating and the weather warm and sunny. The last 4 hours were very pleasant and we arrived in Huesca after 10 hrs 11mins of cycling. We must have done around 2,250 – 2,500m (7,500 – 8,000ft) of ascent to add to the 196k distance. The wooden floor of the Huesca Sports Centre might have felt basic on any other day, but was a pleasure to lie on after that.

Day 2 to Alcaniz was a modest 142k (90miles) and generally quite flat, but being inland plains, it was very hot. To me, flat land generally means pretty uninspiring scenery, and so it was one of my less enjoyable days; flat, lonely and hot. At least it only involved 5h 40m of cycling. Sleeping was on a floodlit outside 5-a side pitch, so some of us moved away to find dark corners elsewhere to escape the all-night bright lights.

A warm, muggy night, turned into a hot sunny morning for **day 3** to Teruel. Another day of modest distance at 148k (94miles), but we had another mountain range to cross, the Sierra du Gudar, which proved sensational. Total ascent for the day must again have been in excess of 7,000ft, but the temperatures were 33°C. This produced a very testing day, which was made bearable by the spectacular scenery through the mountain sections. We reflected on how relieved we were that days 2 and 3 didn't have to be cycled together; it would have finished most people off, I suspect including me!

Day 4 saw a 5.00am rise for a 7.00am start. 205k (128 miles) beckoned, to Albacete. Another chilly, pre-sunrise start, became a lovely ride up a pretty valley. To me it was just a bit fresh, but to my Maltese companions it was perishing. Once the sun rose, mid-day temperatures of 34°C presented a tough challenge. A puncture to one of our cycling group, conveniently at the entrance to a small village, provided a chance for a Magnum Double-Choc at a local bar as a very welcome energy boost.

Another cool day-break greeted us on **Day 5**, the biggest day of all – 256k to Jaen (apparently pronounced Haan"). We knew we would be cycling all day today and we all tried not to push too

hard. The temperature again rose to 34°C and at times it felt like we were cycling past an open furnace door. Lack of sleep was haunting me, and I was struggling to stay awake as we cycled along some rather too busy roads. I had to resort to the espresso treatment again to try to avoid ending up in a deep concrete-faced Spanish roadside ditch, or even worse, under an on-coming vehicle.

It turned out others were suffering similar challenges.

Minor bike issues again proved convenient, when one of my colleagues suffered a chain problem, handily in a village and only 50m from a local bar. A welcome chance for another Magnum Double-Choc energy boost, and drinks for those that needed them.

No-one spoke Spanish, but Ray, a fellow cyclist, spoke some Italian, which is apparently interchangeable and quite easily understood.

He explained that he had the following exchange with one of the locals as we left the bar...

"Why is that man white?"

"He's English"

"Aaaah"

No more explanation needed! At least it confirmed that my Factor 50 was doing its stuff!

We eventually stepped off our bikes at 9.00pm, after a total of 11 hrs 26 mins of cycling time.

By the end this, the most challenging day claimed the greatest single number of drop outs, through a mixture of injury, fear of cycling in intense darkness and sheer physical and mental exhaustion.

We had a comparative lie in until 6.00am on **Day 6**, before we headed off for 176k to Antequera. This one was hilly from the start as we headed into the heart of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Seemingly endless winding climbs and descents thankfully made less noticeable by the marvellous scenery. 176k seemed short after the previous day, but it was punishingly hot and with constant ascents and descents it was one of our toughest days.

Day 7 was the last day of Spain. 190k to Algeciras, adjacent to Gibraltar, and the ferry to Africa. We were told to expect another hilly day, as Alan reminded us once more that Spain is the second most mountainous country in Europe. The initial 2 hours or so to our first checkpoint were quite flat, but then we hit the mountains again and climbed steadily to the town of Ronda, high in the mountains. A delightful place, very Spanish in feel, perched on cliffs and

surrounded by wonderful scenery. I made a mental note that I would one day return.

The route turned out to be a cracker. Superb scenery for miles; beautiful hillsides covered with millions of Olive trees and small whitewashed villages.

Day 8. Up again at 6.00am and off by 7.30 for the 9.00 ferry to Tangier. The sailing time is only 1½ hours but Spain and Morocco are worlds apart. We unloaded the kit lorry watched by eagle eyed local youngsters, ready to pounce for anything worth having - if they could evade the Port Police keeping them back with dogs. After 2 hours hanging about, and reloading the truck, we set off in one large group through the mayhem of Tangier traffic. There appeared to be no rules; cars approaching in all directions, cycles, pedestrians, traffic police blowing whistles and waving and pointing randomly and traffic lights that we didn't understand. In 40 years of cycling I have never felt so vulnerable. We survived, although we were not entirely sure how, and gradually were freed of the urban sprawl and moved into the very different rural Morocco. The poverty gap quickly became very apparent. Many peasant farmers tending scrawny-looking goats, trying to sell onions, melons or prickly pears from buckets at the roadside and local craftsmen with small roadside stalls of pottery, as shiny new Range Rovers and Porsche Cayennes drove past. The transport modes became more primitive as we moved towards the mountains. Horses, donkeys and battered old pick-ups and camper vans replaced the 4x4s. It was a practical lifestyle; we saw ladies sitting in the back of open top pickups, men standing on the rear of vans at 50mph hanging on by open doors and even a herd of sheep disembarking from the rear doors of a camper van. Because of the ferry crossing, our cycling day was comparatively short at 112k, but this included a climb from sea level to Chefchaouen at 975m (3,200ft).

On day 9 we awoke well before sunrise as usual, and as dawn broke we watched a cow being walked down the main street outside our hostel. Never be surprised by anything in Morocco. The sun was just rising as we set off, disappointingly, uphill, as the road curved above the village. We reached the coast north of Rabat, and passed though another city of madness, Kenitra, about 40k to the north. Viewed from the main street, it looked a very poor city, which seemed

to be one huge market, with dilapidated buildings and dirty streets thronging with people, animals and battered vehicles. We were glad to be in a group, and were pleased to leave and eventually reached the outskirts of Rabat. What a relief. The last big day was over, after 9 hrs 23 min of cycling.

Everyone rose with renewed vigour on **Day 10, our final day.** We all knew that surviving Day 9 meant we were as good as home, as this final route to Casablanca was a mere 97k. This seemed nothing after the previous nine days, but it is still equivalent to cycling from Newcastle to Carlisle! That shows how perspectives change; six weeks earlier that would have seemed like a major undertaking.

A triumphant Police escort had been arranged for the final 10k to Casablanca and the King Hassan II Mosque that was to be the dramatic official end to our Challenge. This was a tremendous experience. Many of our group that had dropped out earlier due to injury or fatigue re-joined us for this finale and we were cheered, clapped, tooted and waved at for the whole time.

There were mixed feelings of elation and anti-climax as we realised it had all come to an end. 10 days of sheer determination, commitment and teamwork was over. But what an experience!

A total of 12 cyclists failed to complete the Challenge for a variety of reasons. This was the highest number in the 10-year history of the event and so perhaps outlines the severity of this unique challenge. So many people giving up so much time and effort, unpaid and raising funds, to support 38 cyclists putting themselves through such a physical and mental challenge was incredible to be part of.

Our flights home took us via Madrid and our arrival there was greeted with text messages of the latest crisis. Our support truck was returning overland back to Spain with everyone else's cycles and kit, and had left Casablanca earlier that morning. They had stopped for a meal before reaching Tangier and when the vehicle was later examined by the Tangier Customs, it was discovered that 9 teenage 'illegals' had broken into the back of the truck and hidden away amongst the cycles and equipment. The driver (who is in the Maltese Army) and his companion, had both been arrested by the

Moroccan authorities as traffickers and had their passports confiscated. Diplomatic assistance was called upon and we were relieved to hear later that day that they had both been released to continue their journey, and that the driver's army career would not be jeopardised. It's never dull on the Life Cycle Challenge!!

I have been overwhelmed by the support of family, friends, colleagues, clients and the residents of Haydon Bridge in sponsorship, and I am delighted to have raised close to £4,000 for the renal charity founded in Malta by Haydonian Alan Curry. My heartfelt thanks to everyone who kindly donated to the cause.

David Armstrong.



Mutual congratulations from Alan Curry and David Armstrong outside the King Hassan II Mosque at the end of the Life Cycle Challenge.

Haydon Bridge Pharmacy

**Official Opening
20th November
From 4-7pm**

10% discount

**Refreshments available
Everyone welcome**

ACCOUNTANCY & TAXATION SERVICES

Fully qualified
Professional Advice
Confidentiality Guaranteed

**David Armstrong
ACA MAAT ATH**

Tel: 01 434 684 072

Parish Council Notes continued from page 3.

Subdivision of one dwelling into two and construction of sun room to east elevation, at The Belmont, Haydon Bridge.

Replacement of an existing modular block with a permanent modular block at Haydon Bridge High School.

The council objected to the proposed construction of a two storey side extension and alterations to vehicular access at Burn Cottage, 2 Whittis Road. Councillors felt that the extension was too large in relation to the existing building and the adjacent cottage.

The Showfield.

The Parish Clerk read out a letter from 'Riverside North East', a housing association, stating that the organisation 'Home Housing' is unable to proceed with the second phase of the Show Field as planned, but 'Riverside' has accepted the position as a new partner for the project.

'Riverside', a Liverpool company, have apparently no previous experience in Northumberland but are meeting with the existing Show Field residents on November 6th and have expressed a willingness to meet with the parish council to introduce themselves. Councillors agreed to meet with Riverside North East but made it clear that any meeting would not prejudice earlier objections to the extension of the Show Field.

Correspondence:

A request from Northumberland County Council, seeking access to parish notice boards, was received. Councillor Ed Brown explained that the proposed county letting policy for housing association properties was based on the tenants preferred choice of locality. This meant that houses available to let had to be advertised across the county, whereas the existing Tynedale policy is to allocate housing on the basis of need and then to house people as local as possible. There was concern among parish councillors that, 'local' was defined as 'Northumberland' in the authority's plans. Councillor Brown and Councillor Alan Sharpe agreed that the policy needed to be clarified and Tynedale Council had proposed a number of recommendations. The parish council agreed to take Councillor Vera Fletcher's advice and examine the document in great detail when the

amended policy is available.

Parish Projects:

Parish Plan update.

The final Parish Plan document will be made available in the library and on line. (See page 8)

Library.

Councillor Eileen Charlton reported that estimates for improvements to the library have been obtained and application for grants made.

Shaftoe Green.

A letter had been received from a resident - via The Haydon News - expressing disappointment that the toddlers play area at Shaftoe Green was still not open and had not been open all summer as the new bark had not been laid as promised.

Councillors were informed that the bark was in the bypass contractor's compound but they were too busy at the moment to lay it as promised. Contact will be made with the bypass Project Manager to try and solve the problem.

Councillor Mike Parkin informed the meeting that the Highways Agency has offered to plant a semi mature Copper Beech tree, just inside the entrance to Shaftoe Green, as a replacement for one removed at Esp Hill. Councillors accepted their offer.

Spa Well.

Councillor Eileen Charlton reported that there had been a positive response to the list of work that needs to be done at the Spa Well. Councillor Richard Snowdon suggested that after the general tidy up was complete, it would make a more interesting place for visitors to stop, if the gate was repositioned and a car park and information panel provided.

Christmas lights/trees.

(See report on page 9)

Any other business:

Councillor Mike Parkin informed the meeting that the work to repair the problems associated with the original construction of the Community Centre, will probably start within the next two months.

Network Rail are willing to provide 24 parking bays for the village, in the station yard. This will involve re-positioning the recycling bins and a request for this will be made to Tynedale Council.

Next meeting November 27th at 7.30

BYPASS UPDATE

The construction of our bypass moves on apace, and although the recent high river levels have slowed work in the Tyne, white lining on stretches of tarred road is a very promising sign for an early completion date.

The South Tyne Viaduct, the east end tie-in and the Land Ends road diversion are the main sites of construction activity.

South Tyne Viaduct:

Divers are working in the river to cut out the coffer dams that surround the columns. This work will be complete by the end of October in accordance with environmental requirements imposed on the contractors. Work is also proceeding on the bridge deck and Project Manager Andrew Harding expects this to be completed within the next two weeks. So the bridge at the west end of the bypass will be substantially complete when you receive this Haydon News and the rust coloured beams of 'weathered steel' - which incidentally is the same kind of steel from which the Angel of the North is constructed - are expected to have a life span of 125 years.



East end tie-in:

Vehicles started to use the east end tie-in on Saturday October 25th and a single lane on the Langley road may be open for traffic before this Haydon News is published. Some form of traffic management at the east end of the bypass will still be in place until Christmas however.

Land Ends road:

It is expected that the diversion of the Land Ends road, through the underpass, will be completed and the road re-opened by the end of November.

Planting:

57,000 (Yes! 57,000) trees and shrubs will be planted before the end of the contract and it is proposed that children from Shaftoe Trust First School will have a permanent reminder of the bypass construction, by being involved in planting those trees alongside the Cemetery Road.

POETS' CORNER

Last month we invited you to share your poems about the River Tyne.

FRIENDS OF THE TYNE

Remember those days on the banks of the Tyne
Day's way, way - way back in time.

The clanking of stones as we built out those jetties,
The feel of the mud - as we played 'Clarty Betties'.
Remember the day you learnt how to swim
Or the ecstatic elation with the first stone you skimmed.

A jam jar with a handle fashioned from string
Made a perfect aquarium to keep your catch in,
When with an old nylon stocking slotted with wire,
Then rammed in a cane - made a net to desire.

Slowly and carefully we trawled through the shallows
Taking the greatest of care, not to cast any shadows.
Pinheads and Minnows in shoals they'd abound
But it was out in the deep - Beardies could be found.

Oil-drums and inner-tubes made into rafts
Of one thing we're sure there was no finer craft.
Long days of summer spent messing about
With friends who remain friends of that there's no doubt.
For distance may part us in the passing of time
Our memories unite us - on the banks of the Tyne.

Eileen Charlton

ABOVE CROSS FELL

From mossy hag and heathered fell,
To the valley floor then a fond farewell,
I'll end my days in a North Sea swell;
I am the river Tyne.

Stark beauty on my snow white head,
From force and syke I am well fed,
My life blood strained through veins of lead;
I am the river Tyne.

Green meadows washed where cattle graze,
Great mansions on my beauty gaze,
While in my shallows Salmon laze;
I am the river Tyne.

A bridge below John Martin's skies,
My singing waters in disguise,
The deluge signalled its demise;
I am the river Tyne.

When coal was King and miners' bold,
Consigned to history stories told,
My waters served to move black gold;
I am the river Tyne.

The Tyne bridge and the old quay side,
Geordie ships sailing on the tide,
I'm black and white and roar with pride;
I am the river Tyne.

Don't mourn my death beneath the waves,
Give thanks for Mother Nature's ways,
For above Cross Fell on darkened days
I am the river Tyne.

DT (Written as a song)

THE QUAYSIDE TODAY

The river today runs quietly
In the early morning air.
The quayside is so peaceful
No toil or trouble there.

Gone are the bollards,
Gone the ropes
Gone all the labouring men,
The smell of tar, the dust of coal,
The cargoes in from pole to pole
The orders shouted loud and clear
The swearing and the hidden fear
Of being laid off and on the dole.

The quayside's now a pleasant place
In the early morning air,
To stop and watch the river flow,
No ships downstream to break the flow,
In the early morning air.

Gone are the captains,
Gone the crews,
Silenced the seamen's tales.
The skills are lost, the ships have gone
To graveyards where all good ships go.
The chandlers' stores have closed their doors.
The shipping agents' lists are closed.
And all the seamen's bravery
In mountainous seas, in peace and war
Is now to some a memory
To others just some tales of yore.

The tables and the chairs are set
In the early morning air
Outside the cafes and the pubs
And all is spruce and all is clean
In the early morning air.

But something has gone
Something is lost
On this peaceful morning here.
Hard to define, to find the words
To say what has gone from here.
Endurance - yes, sheer bloody guts,
Bravery beyond compare.
'Neath burning suns, 'mid icy flows
In times of peace and war
Those countless sailors down the years
Since before the Romans came,
In ships with oars, in ships with sail,
Oil fired or fired with coal
Slipping down the river to catch the tide
And take their chance on the oceans wide,
Safe harbour or full fathoms five
In the salty morning air.

We sit and watch the river
In the early morning air
And hear the seabirds' plaintive cries.
Some say the souls of seamen rise
Up with the seabirds there
In the haunted morning air.

Olive Ingledeu

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NOTICES

HAYDON & ALLEN VALLEYS MEDICAL PRACTICE

(Haydon Bridge Health Centre)

Monday to Friday: The Health Centre is open continuously from 8.00am until 6.00pm (except for the afternoon of the second Wednesday of every month)

Doctors consult between: 8.00am and 11.00am
3.00pm and 5.30pm

All phone calls for appointments and visits, including 'out of hours': 01 434 684 216

All phone calls for dispensing or prescriptions: 01434 688351
E-mail address: Admin@GP-A84045.NHS.UK
Website www.haydonbridgesurgery.co.uk

THE MEETING PLACE

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HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

HBUAFC hold their monthly meeting on the first **Thursday** of every month at **7.30pm** in the Lounge of the **Railway Hotel** where representatives of every football team in the village are invited to attend.

This meeting is also open to members of the public.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

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

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

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

Please contact **Julie Finch** on: 01434 607 490 for further details.

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between 10am-11am

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HAYDON BRIDGE PLAYGROUP AND TINY TOTS.

TINY TOTS from Birth upwards

Tiny Tots sessions run on Thursday mornings, from 9.15 to 11.15 at **Haydon Bridge Fire Station**. These sessions are for parents and carers of young children and provide an opportunity for a coffee & chat, whilst the children play. **Cost: £1.50 per family** and includes a drink & biscuit.

PLAYGROUP - From 2 years

Playgroup runs on Monday and Friday mornings from 9.15 to 11.15 at **Haydon Bridge Fire Station**

The sessions give children a chance to learn through play and to experience lots of different activities. Playgroup is lead by a fully qualified Playgroup Leader & assistant(s). **Cost per session is £5.**

Haydon Bridge Playgroup is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance

For more information on the above sessions or an informal chat please contact **Kathryn McHarg** on Tel; **01434 688718**

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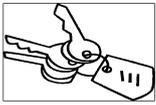
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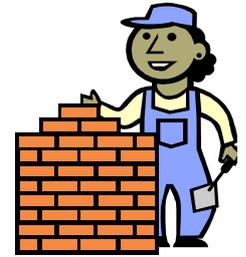
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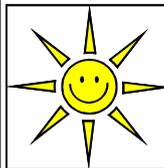
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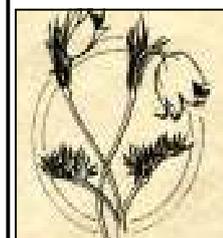
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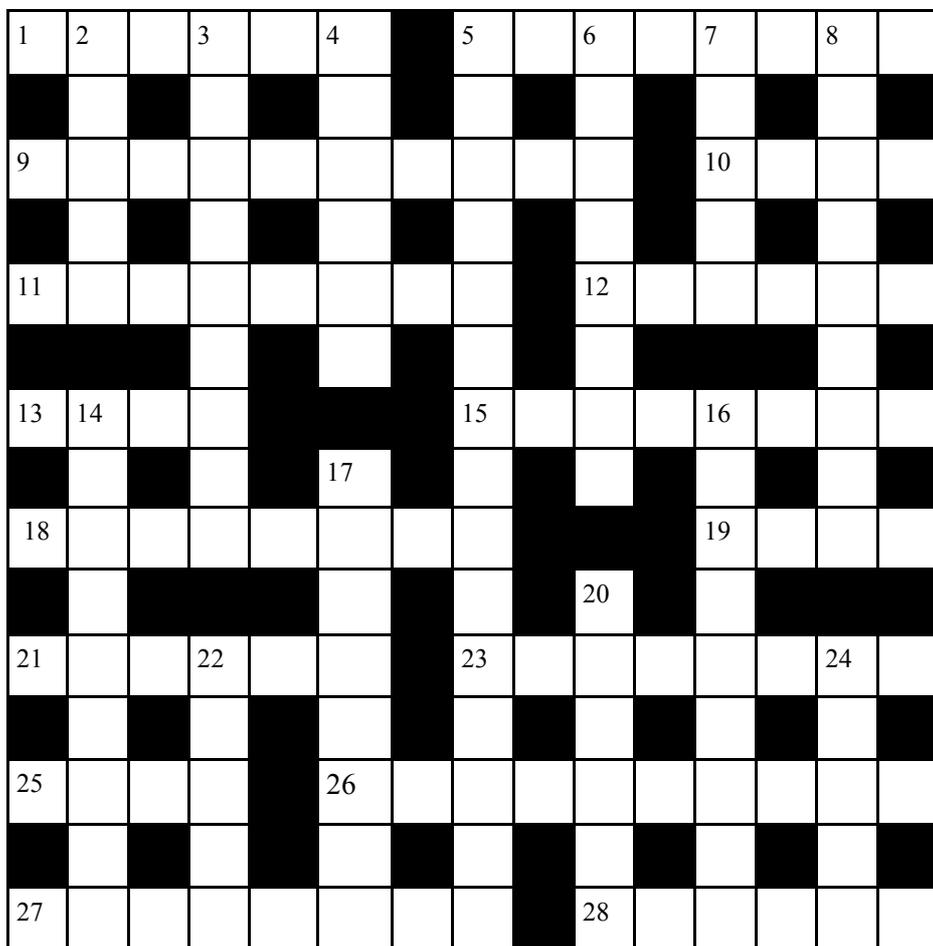
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NAME:

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ACROSS

1. Orchestrated party by top journalists.(6)
5. Affix a warning to an apron.(8)
9. Disturbed cool client gave offering. (10)
10. Turn in the French for blue or white flower.(4)
11. One thousand men went back one century for memory jogger.(8)
12. Release a French forward.(6)
13. Copied in a pedantic way.(4)
15. Sects sup around as usual in Hollywood.(8)
18. Casino hotel that is, in short, global, perhaps.(8)
19. Step around annoying person.(4)
21. Fiddle by Italian river for a single piece of seafood.(6)
23. Garden pest is, perhaps, why I left. (8)
25. Fail to notice the young lady.(4)
26. Where the tone is vile, and it's not on the radio.(10)
27. Removes from office when the umpire takes a spin in the docks.(8)
28. Stand firm when sister comes round. (6)

SOLUTIONS TO AUGUST'S CROSSWORD. (36)

ACROSS

- 1 Satire
- 4 Spurious
- 10 Fieldfare
- 11 Elver
- 12 Stoical
- 13 Femoral
- 14 Leech
- 15 Naythles
- 18 Colombia
- 20 Locum
- 23 Everton
- 25 Cobbler
- 26 Glade
- 27 Icelandic
- 28 Shortage
- 29 Adonis

DOWN

- 1 Soft sell
- 2 The Move
- 3 Radicchio
- 5 Pied Flycatcher
- 6 Rheum
- 7 Obverse
- 8 Surely
- 9 Lapland Bunting
- 16 Half Board
- 17 Americas
- 19 Oregano
- 21 Celadon
- 22 Sedges
- 24 Treat

DOWN

2. Golf course, or not, perhaps.(5)
3. Model, glad to win an award.(4,5)
4. Acceptable as part of a jade centrepiece.(6)
5. Please crown if supreme leader becomes a leader.(8,2,5)
6. Martial art that could be unjust in discharge.(8)
7. Fall endlessly round at home, that's settled.(5)
8. Moves to a new job or elects a union.(9)
14. Impose before the amanuensis.(9)

Down (cont'd)

16. Verbalises former forces.(9)
17. He cannot be certain when coasting around.(8)
20. Horse that lives around a river.(6)
22. Half are about right and tight.(5)
24. Circles a cylinder around.(5)

NUMBER OF ENTRIES
8 (7 correct)

THIS MONTH'S WINNER
Rene Armstrong

*Entries in by **SATURDAY, 22nd.. NOVEMBER 08**
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