



THE HAYDON NEWS ON LINE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE	PAGE
The Road to Rattenraa'	2
Parish Council Notes	3 / 13
Historical Notes	4 to 6
Bypass Open Day	7
Haydon Bridge Bypass Opens	8 / 9
Parish Plan	10
Shaftoe Trust First School	11
Doctor's Pages	12/13
Church Pages	14/15
Correspondence	16
Street Party / WI Notes	17
Crossword	22

HAYDON BRIDGE BYPASS OPENING CEREMONY 25th MARCH 2009

Issue 3

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THE HAYDON NEWS ON LINE

The Haydon News was Established in 1979 and is published by the Friends of Haydon Bridge. It 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'.
www.haydon-news.co.uk

A web site that includes an archive of earlier issues.

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

Please email us:
email: editors@haydon-news.co.uk

Subscription fee, to receive 10 copies of The Haydon News by post for one year (Feb-Dec), is £11. This service is for people living outside the delivery area.

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

This month's cover photograph: by Ernie Swinburn

THE ROAD TO RATTENRAA'

When CVC Highway contractors,
Said "We have solutions for you,
If you want to get rid of the traffic,
From the village where it all goes through.

We'll put down two miles of macadam,
With white lines and cats eyes and all,
And we'll build a great muckle embankment,
That's bigger than Hadrian's Wall."

**So let's say three cheers for the bypass,
That runs to the south of the town,
There's no need now for Eileen and her supporters,
In their rages to jump up and down.**

Mind it's many a long year since the folk here,
Thought a road round the town would be great,
In fact the first time it was mentioned,
Was in the year nineteen and twenty eight.

But there was one idea they abandoned,
When the planners said each heavy load,
Would pass close by the shops and the houses,
On a bypass they called, 'Ratcliffe Road'.

**So let's say three cheers for the bypass,
That runs to the south of the town,
There's no need now for Eileen and her supporters,
In their rages to jump up and down.**

So let's say three cheers for the bypass,
From Crossley Burn you can travel by car,
Through Gee's Wood, past Esp Hill and Land Ends,
The new road leads to West Rattenraa'.

And now we have gotten the bypass,
That runs to the south of the town,
There's no need for Eileen and her supporters,
In their rages to jump up and down!!!

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF HAYDON, NORTHUMBERLAND, ENGLAND



The west bound lane of the Haydon Bridge Bypass opens.
25-03-09 @ 11.30am

The east bound lane of the Haydon Bridge Bypass opens.
25-03-09 @ 11.37am



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.

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Site construction by Henry Swaddle.

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PARISH COUNCIL NOTES from the meeting in March 2009

“The bypass is open” announced Councillor Eileen Charlton, introducing the ‘Highways’ agenda item at the Haydon Parish Council meeting on Thursday March 26th in the Haydon Bridge Community Centre.

Further words were unnecessary as the beaming smiles on the faces of the councillors and the members of the public present, said it all.

It was time to plan for the parish after the bypass (2009 AB) and indeed, after Tynedale Council. (2009 AT)

Issues of particular concern for councillors and the public, moving into a new era, included:

Opportunities for young people in Haydon Bridge; appropriate planning for the parish; bypass safety; the Parish Plan; the old bridge and the celebratory May street party.

Councillors present at the meeting were: Esmond Faulks (Chairman). D. Charlton. E. Charlton. V. Fletcher. D. Smith. R. Snowdon and H. Oliver. Along with NCC councillor Alan Sharp and Parish Clerk C. McGivern.

Ten members of the public attended the meeting, including Peter Fletcher representing the Haydon Bridge and Haydon Parish Development Trust.

Public Participation:

Mrs. Rene Armstrong pointed out that there are no ‘brown signs’ for the village from the new bypass. Peter Fletcher informed the meeting that he is due to meet with the Highways Agency who are awaiting recommendations from the Tourist Board in relation to tourist signing for the bypass.

Mrs. Julie Clark asked whether any progress had been made in developing a skate board park. She was informed that nothing further had been done, due to difficulties in identifying a site, insuring and funding the facility. Mrs. Clark informed the council that £8,000 was in place for the project and made an impassioned plea for the council to take action. Research had been carried out and presented by the young people as requested and she was disappointed that the initial enthusiasm of the children had not been supported. Peter Fletcher made the point that a skate board park was in the Parish Plan.

Mrs. Clark and Sue Gittens (Sec. of the Showfield Residents’ Association) asked where the proposed ‘Teen Shelter’ would be sited and suggested that the Langley Road would not be appropriate. A discussion followed on the vandalism being perpetrated by a small number of youths in the Shaftoe Green / Shaftoe Terrace area.

Mrs. Clark made a number of well presented points and left councillors in no doubt that she believed it to be a priority to provide opportunities for teenagers in the parish.

Councillor Vera Fletcher expressed ‘great sympathy’ for the younger

people in the parish and hoped that the situation could be resolved.

Mrs. Kathleen Fulton referred to the questionnaire in the Haydon News (March) and asked whether the Eiland picnic site would be an appropriate place. Councillor Eileen Charlton assured Mrs. Fulton that the results of the completed questionnaires would be taken into account.

The council was informed that a personal introduction to the parish had been written and published to coincide with the opening of the bypass. This ‘Welcome to Haydon Bridge’ is available locally at Claire’s Newsagents. Price £3.

Tynedale Council:

Tynedale Councillor David Smith and Councillor Alan Sharp, outlined what appears (*to me. Ed.*) to be a less than satisfactory change over to a Unitary Authority on April 1st 2009.

Parish councillors recognised that in many areas Tynedale Council had performed well, however voices were raised in a strong protest against Tynedale’s Planning Department and its failure to take into account parish concerns, ignoring parish consultations and recommendations and failing to support the Parish Council in its duty to speak for its constituents.

Councillor Eileen Charlton referred specifically to recent acceptance of a plan for a plant and equipment workshop in the vicinity of the Eiland Riverside Picnic Site. The proposals were passed in spite of very strong objections from the Parish Council. Councillor Charlton’s disgust was expressed forcibly and supported by other councillors. Councillor Vera Fletcher also expressed her view that giving planning permission for this activity, compromised the residents’ safety and described the decision as ‘appalling’.

Highways:

A plaque will be placed on a specially prepared stone wall on the Langley Road, to record the opening of the

bypass. This event will take place on the weekend of the village street party.

Repairs to the old bridge will commence in May 2009 and will take sixteen weeks to complete during which time pedestrians will have to use the new bridge.

Network Rail supports, but is unable to finance, the proposed improvements to the Station Yard car park at this time; due to its ‘higher priorities’.

Planning:

Construction of two dwellings for holiday let at Chesterwood Farm. Discussion on this proposal was deferred until later.

Correspondence from Councillor Mike Parkin was read in his absence. Councillor Parkin objected to the impact the Showfield development will have on views south and west from the village. It was agreed to approach Langley Estates to try to resolve the situation, by planting trees on the north boundary.

Correspondent Phil Harley requested that the village speed camera be re-located west of the east junction on the bypass; to improve safety at what could be a dangerous junction. While understanding Mr. Harley’s views, there was doubt as to whether the Highways Agency would re-locate the camera until there was a history of road accidents at the junction. Councillor Howard Oliver felt that speed restriction signs would be

These notes are continued on page 13.

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)

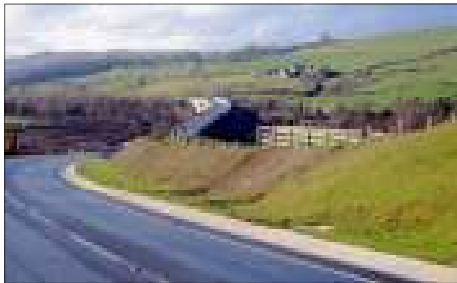
'THE ROAD TO RATTENRAW'

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE
80 YEAR JOURNEY TO A
BYPASS FOR HAYDON BRIDGE**

Be honest now. How many times have you said, "I'll not live long enough to see a bypass at Haydon Bridge" ?

Well. If you are reading this. You did!

Mind, after eighty years of proposals, plans and false promises, it's no wonder that many doubted the will of the authorities ever to rid the village of around 16,000 vehicles each day. Thanks however to those whose efforts have never wavered in the face of many set-backs, the Haydon Bridge Bypass was opened on March 25th 2009.



It is impossible to list everyone who has played a part in supporting the need for a Haydon Bridge bypass, and therefore, it has been suggested to me, that it would be unfair to mention any individuals. I have chosen to disregard this advice however and record here the exceptional commitment made on behalf of the village since the late 1960's by:

Raymond McVay. - who, in this piece, represents all those who have given of their time and effort over the years but are no longer with us. One time resident and councillor, Marion Howard. And Eileen Charlton whose name is synonymous with the struggle for a Haydon Bridge bypass, not just in our parish but nation wide. Each of these Haydonians, along with their fellow campaigners, deserve great credit for mobilising support for the bypass in a long running crusade.

No doubt the time will come for an official history of the Haydon Bridge Bypass saga, but it is appropriate this month to outline briefly the events that have led to the momentous occasion on March 25th 2009.

So here goes!

Following concerns that the bridge in Haydon Bridge was too narrow, an issue that seems to have been first mentioned in 1923 and continued until 1967, a route avoiding the centre of Haydon Bridge by building a new bridge to the west of the village, and diverting the main road round the village leaving the old bridge for lighter traffic, was proposed in **1928**.

The first call for a bypass!

Perhaps it wasn't surprising that the large number of village traders, in 1928, were not supportive of the idea; although forty years on, the proposer Thomas Johnson of West Allen, a prospective Northumberland County Council candidate, would surely have been carried shoulder high and guaranteed tea and cakes at every house on Ratcliffe Road.

In **1929**, the Parish Council made a request to Northumberland County Council for a new bridge and by 1930 had received some encouragement in its efforts, although no decisions were made as to where the proposed new bridge would cross the river.

By **1931** the proposal for a wider and straighter bridge, 'somewhere near the present bridge' gave some substance to the 1930 considerations, but this proposal was delayed due to the National Government's economic priorities.

A correspondent to the Hexham Courant was not alarmed that the project for a new bridge was likely to be held up. 'Just consider what would happen if a much wider and straighter bridge were erected somewhere in the neighbourhood of the present bridge. Cars and buses and whatnot would speed through at express rates and there would be almost certainly a greater danger to life and limb.'

Mmm!

Earlier requests to the County Council for a speed limit of 10mph through the village had been turned down.

The 'new bridge' proposal was soon discounted by the County Council in favour of a road that would miss the village altogether.

Once again however, as in 1928, the proposal to bypass the village met with some disapproval as: 'It would affect the local shopkeepers, who as it is are badly hit by the exodus to Hexham.'

The Parish Council continued to press for a new bridge, with submissions in 1933 and 1937, each encountering a dead end.

In **1938** however, proposals for a trunk road diversion past Haydon Bridge were again under consideration.

In 1939, duelling with Adolph and his mob proved to be the end of the road for the 1938-39 plans for a Haydon Bridge bypass.

And maybe it was just as well!

The proposals were to plough through California Gardens and what is now Belmont, following the line of William Chapman's ill fated 18th century plans for a canal from the North Sea to the Solway.

I am reliably informed that it was the prospect of this new development that prompted the Sillitoe family to sell their beautiful property - Linton House - afraid that a main road was about to be built at the bottom of the garden.

In the event, the Northumberland Education Committee achieved what the 1938-39 new road proposals failed to do - ruin Linton House - after the authority purchased it from the subsequent owners, the Boaden family.

The Education Committee were rather good at that in those days. - Buying up nice properties with our money and then letting them go to wrack and ruin. And that's another story.

As well as the rights of property owners, had this 1938 proposal been adopted, the Haydon Parish Council's concern was how to deal with a major highway running alongside a railway crossing, at the bottom of the North Bank.

Following the Second World War, the question of a Haydon Bridge bypass was again raised with the authorities and by **1948** a road to the south of the village had been suggested. This route left the Parish Councillors in a quandary as they had paid £325 in 1946, for a field to be converted to a new burial ground site. The line of the new trunk road was likely to run through this field.

The councillors need not have worried unduly, it appears to have been almost thirty more years before any further meaningful discussions on a Haydon Bridge bypass took place. And by that time, houses had been knocked down, the village War Memorial re-sited and a ghastly new concrete bridge, a proposal

that had so alarmed locals in 1931 and has upset many more since 1970, had been built through the centre of the village.

The seeds for that structure were sown in 1952, when the state of a central arch of the old bridge became a cause for concern. By 1959, the old Haydon bridge wasn't able to be used by abnormal loads, due to the deteriorating condition of the masonry, with even light vehicles causing vibration.

In 1961 it was further decided that the narrow footpaths meant that pedestrians were in danger from the increasing numbers and width of vehicles using the A69 and it was agreed that the old bridge would have to be restricted to pedestrians only.

In 1963, permission was granted for an A69 'Trunk Road Diversion Order' to be imposed, to allow a new bridge to be built.

As there wasn't an alternative route for diverting the traffic during construction, a temporary bridge was brought from Hexham and in 1967 it was erected alongside the old bridge, as a crossing over the River Tyne, to be used when the new bridge was being built.

The new bridge was started in 1967 and we were assured that it was 'temporary' until a bypass was built.

Did anyone believe that I wonder? The reinforced concrete decking, the massive steel girders and the foundations to a depth of twenty five feet below the river bed didn't look temporary to me as I watched Kiers' construction team at work, with Haydonian Billy Adamson a Clerk of the Works.

I think many Haydonians believed that a new and expensive five span concrete bridge had put paid to any chance of a village bypass in the near future, even though the powers that be had intimated otherwise.

The new bridge was opened with great ceremony. Why the ceremony I'm not certain. Everyone I knew hated what it had done to the village. Except perhaps the lorry drivers who had had problems turning onto the old bridge at the Anchor Hotel corner and then found it impossible to manoeuvre a left turn west off the old bridge at the post office corner; so had to drive forward along Church Street, turn in the station yard, return along Church Street, negotiate a right hand turn into Ratcliffe Road; and away!

So the planners, civil engineers and Kiers' employees packed up their plant

and equipment, closed their office in the Anchor Hotel and left; with little thought for those of us remaining who have had to suffer the consequences of their actions, and continue to do so.

It was not until late in 1976 that positive news was gleaned, if indirectly, that suggested Haydon Bridge and its bypass had not been forgotten.

The Rattenraw or 'Tunnel Top' bridge carrying the A69 over the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway, a quarter of a mile west of the village, had to be rebuilt to a higher specification. This involved demolishing the narrow tunnel through which the trains ran and building a much longer bridge. The old stone built railway arch was blown up in the early hours of the morning and Haydonians were delighted to learn that the new bridge was to be constructed at an angle aligned to a 'proposed new Haydon Bridge bypass'.

In 1978 the Department of Transport expressed their concern in Government papers that Haydon Bridge was split into three separate areas, by the river and the Carlisle-Newcastle railway with the central section being divided further by the trunk road.

The Department expressed the view that mixed residential and shopping development fronting the trunk road in the village, gave rise to considerable traffic noise and dirt and an ever present conflict between pedestrians and through traffic.

Locals could have been forgiven for asking to be told something they weren't already aware of. And had been aware of ten years earlier when the Department built the new bridge.

Nevertheless, it looked as though the village was to get its long awaited bypass and residents packed a two day Bypass Exhibition, on June 30th and July 1st 1978, where they were invited to 'take part in the early planning of the route' by completing a questionnaire, expressing their preferred choice from the five alternatives identified. Blue A: Blue B: Red A: Red B. All to the south of the village and aligned with the new railway bridge at the Tunnel Top. And the Yellow route which appeared to go through the Railway Hotel arch, and went along Parker's Terrace, directly behind Ratcliffe Road!!!

For those who were not living in

Haydon Bridge at the time I promise you, I am not joking. A 'bypass' was proposed and the route, published by the Department of Transport, was through the middle of the village.

The stated disadvantages of this route were the very reasons that made the plan incomprehensible to locals:

-Property demolition would be necessary.

-Trunk road would continue to pass through urban area.

-Speed restrictions would be necessary in built up area.

Neither were the advantages a surprise:

-Little agricultural land severance.

-The cheapest scheme.

The residents of Haydon Bridge were promised:

'As soon as possible after the results of this public consultation have been analysed.....detailed proposals for the selected route will be published formally.....'

Remarkably - or perhaps not - after many weeks the parish was informed that the red routes, chosen by the large majority of residents, were uneconomic and the department published its preferred route.You've guessed it.....'Yellow', through the middle of the village.

To say we were all flumoxed at this solution to our traffic problems is an understatement. And songs were even written about the curious decision!

So aa'l we can do now is just sit and wait,

Till the bulldozers come to determine wor fate,

Wor hooses and shops will be pulled down yen day,

And the rubble that's left will be hardcore they say.

Perhaps the Parish Council and local residents had the fight knocked out of them after this idiotic proposal by those in power, or had grown weary with bypass fatigue. Whatever the reason, when the Haydon Bridge A69 bypass was removed from the national roads' programme, 'because it gave such a poor economic return', the campaign stalled.

In 1983 the Parish Council was asked by the authorities to support a proposal to improve the A69, 'from the sub station (Crossley Burn) to the garage (Watsons) on the eastern approach to the village.' The Parish Council gave its support on

condition that the work carried out did not prejudice the start of a bypass.

Although the work at Crossley Burn was not completed until a three year period between 1992 and 1995, when Watsons' Garage was demolished and the Alston road junction improved, from this date there were signs that a renewed vigour in the call for a bypass was emerging;

As a member of the Haydon Parish Council's Committee for Bypass Affairs, Councillor Marion Howard, supported by Parish Clerk Christine Swaddle, kept up a continuous letter writing campaign of remarkable intensity during the 1980's, to anyone locally, nationally and European who could support the call for a bypass.

There is no doubt that Marion's pressure on those at the highest level of influence ensured that the case for a Haydon Bridge bypass was not overlooked, if in reality there was little sign that the bypass would be re-instated on the of Transport's Trunk Road programme.

By the end of the 1980's a further complication had arisen in the political chambers of Northumberland and Tynedale. The call for full dualling of the A1 and the A69, along with the associated costs, had a damaging effect on local calls to simply bypass Haydon Bridge.

News in 1990 that Haltwhistle had won its case for a (second) bypass and Haydon Bridge continued to be overlooked, led to the formation of a Haydon Bridge Bypass Action Group, and Eileen Charlton's demands that, 'we must declare war and fight in a loud and aggressive voice until we win' (Hexham Courant. 21st Dec. 1990) was an inspiring call.

In the meantime, along the A69; Wallbottle, Throckley, Heddon, Horsley, Corbridge, Hexham, Bardon Mill, Haltwhistle, Greenhead and Brampton were all being 'bypassed', leading to one Taits' lorry driver, the late Jack Rumney, informing the nation on television that he could travel over five hundred miles from Southampton to Glasgow, and Haydon Bridge was the only large village he had to drive through. - *A circuitous route perhaps for Jack, but a necessary one if a pint in the General Havelock was essential fuel for the long journey!*

The bypass action group held its first meeting in **May 1991** and a petition of 1,000 names in favour of a bypass was

delivered to the Minister of Transport.

In spite of numerous set-backs, this Haydon Bridge action group, chaired by Eileen Charlton, continued its orderly, peaceful and well organised campaign for sixteen years, until work on the Haydon Bridge Bypass was officially started on April 20th 2007.

It is thanks to the records kept by one time Haydon Parish Councillor Marion Howard; Parish Clerk Christine Swaddle and the press cuttings and general information accumulated by Parish Councillor and dedicated bypass campaigner Eileen Charlton, that we have a comprehensive record of the crusade for a village bypass from 1983. An archive that will provide material for a closer examination of events on the road to a bypass, in some future issue of The Haydon News.

There are however a few significant events influencing the call for a bypass that I must mention here to complete my summary.

In November **1995** the news was received that 'Roadlink', a private company, was to take responsibility for design, building, financing and operation of the A69. How would this initiative influence future decisions?

In April **1996**, the second Haltwhistle bypass was started and the Minister for Roads didn't endear himself to Haydon Bridge folk, stating.

"There is no scheme in the bypass programme for Haydon Bridge in the foreseeable future. I cannot at this stage agree to promote any new scheme for a bypass."

In September 1996, a proposal to spend £2 million on a feasibility study for a £6 billion plan for a canal from Newcastle to Carlisle was met with disbelief. - If the £2 million had been spent at Haydon Bridge just a few years earlier, the village would have had its bypass - now the Tyne was to become another 'Suez Canal' with 300,000 jobs promised.

Surprise surprise! The project sank without trace.

By **1997** there was more positive news for the bypass action group as they kept up their campaign. A greater emphasis was being placed on environmental benefits over economic issues, when planning new roads, and this was clearly to the advantage of the Haydon Bridge

proposal.

In August of that year, a Government Consultation document acknowledged that the residents of Haydon Bridge would benefit from an A69 bypass.

Now we were driving forward!

In June **1999** the Haydon Bridge bypass was included in a Regional Planning Guidance document and in June 2000, support for the project was given by 'One North East' and the North East Regional Assembly. - *Well I never. I thought we voted against an Assembly. Perhaps I was mistaken!*

In December **2002**, even better news. An announcement that a £13.7 million bypass scheme for the village, was to get underway in 2006.

By March **2003**, the plans for a bypass, now costed at £18 million, were unveiled and the route between the A686 junction to the east and West Rattenraw in the west was backed by the Highways Agency. The route would be bridged over the Langley Burn in Gee's Wood and the Land Ends Road; and cross the River Tyne and Newcastle to Carlisle railway, one hundred yards west of the 'Tunnel Top' bridge.

In April **2004**, CVC Highway Solutions was named as contractor for the - now - £24.7 million bypass.

The long awaited dream had come a major step closer and a potential set-back, when the Government called for fresh consultations in December 2004 did little to dampen the enthusiasm. Campaigners had been there so many times before!

Following an exhibition in July **2005**, the start of the consultation period, Roads Minister Stephen Ladyman, gave the go ahead date for the bypass, as September 2006 and in October 2006, an exhibition was held in the Community Centre prior to the contractors moving onto the site.

On April 20th 2007, A ceremony marking the official start of the £30 million Haydon Bridge Bypass took place when Archie Robertson, Chief Executive of the Highways Agency, cut the turf.

The persistence shown in the early days by Raymond McVay and all those campaigners no longer with us. By Marion Howard and her colleagues in the 1980's. And by Eileen Charlton and the Haydon Bridge Bypass Action Group, had paid off. It had been a long, hard road!

MARCH 8th 2009 - OPEN DAY AT THE BYPASS



**Billy and Rene Irwin,
among the first to take the journey along the bypass.**

‘Excellent’, ‘quite spectacular’, ‘fantastic’, ‘fabulous’. Just a few of the epithets heard as visitors described their first experience of the bypass as they stepped down off the minibus. Certainly there was an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response from the people who attended the bypass open day.

‘Not only have we got a bypass but it looks good too’.

I don’t think anyone there on the day would have disagreed with that remark.

Starting at ten o’clock, on a bitterly cold day, two 16 seater minibuses took nearly 300 people on guided tours of the bypass during the four hours of the ‘open day’. During the twenty minute tours the guides talked about many of the construction features of the new road. The cuttings, embankments, the four bridges erected on the route, the drainage problems and how these had been overcome. While all this was very impressive what seemed to fascinate most people were the steps taken to protect the local wild life and reduce the environmental impact of the bypass.

From tree trunks left lying in Geeswood (habitat for some animals and a source of food for others), the bat nesting boxes on the trees and the bat flight path bridge over the bypass, to the special fences provided to keep badgers and other mammals off the road and the 68,000 trees and shrubs planted along the route of the bypass, it was of great interest, and something of a surprise to most of the passengers taking the tour.

‘It was like going on a nature trail’

‘It’ll look great when it’s greened up’.

Back at the compound Andrew Harding, the project manager, was on hand, with a display of maps and aerial photographs to answer questions from the visitors.

The most frequently asked question, ‘When is it going to open?’

The most frequently expressed concern, the junction at the east end of the bypass and the difficulties motorists may experience getting onto the new road, joining high speed traffic from a standing start. Andrew did point out that the sightlines at the junctions were good, no trees, lamp posts or signs to get in the way, and that motorists will need to take their time and extra care, and be mindful of the speed of traffic travelling along the bypass.

Andrew and the tour guides were delighted with the public’s response to the open day and to the bypass.

Iris Waugh, Ratcliffe Rd resident for 61 years when asked about her visit to the bypass said, ‘I think it’s wonderful.’



**Iris Waugh and Kate Mckircle,
about to take the ‘bypass tour’.**

Iris remembers when she first lived in Ratcliffe Rd her neighbour would take a seat out on to the pavement and sit outside on a warm evening. ‘Ratcliffe Road used to be so quiet then’.

And when the bypass is open and Ratcliffe Road is quieter again - ‘It’ll be lovely’.

MP



Still queuing.

**The minibus
stops on the
Langley
road bridge
the guide
points out
features
incorporated
in the bridge
design.**



MARCH 25th 2009 - OPENING OF THE HAYDON BRIDGE BYPASS

The long awaited Haydon Bridge Bypass was opened officially on the morning of Wednesday March 25th 2009 by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport, the Hon Paul Clark MP.

A large contingent of invited guests welcomed Mr. Clark to the podium, erected on the bypass verge above the Cemetery Road.

The Minister informed the guests that after talking to residents earlier in the day, he was left in no doubt how important the bypass was for the village. Mr. Clark expressed his delight at being able to open a bypass that would provide reliable, safe and faster journey times for road users but equally importantly for the community, a bypass that minimised the environmental impact of thousands of vehicles each day through Haydon Bridge on the A69.

The 'environment' was a constant feature of the Minister's opening remarks and he congratulated the contractors for taking account of the impact of construction on wildlife habitats. Including otters, badgers, bats and red squirrels; and ensuring the breeding cycle of the Atlantic salmon in the River Tyne was not disturbed.

Mr. Clark made specific reference to Haydonian Eileen Charlton, whose perseverance and leadership of the bypass campaign, along with her supporters, was being rewarded. (*Loud applause.*)

The Minister also thanked the many people who had worked very hard over many years to deliver a bypass for Haydon Bridge.

The Hon. Paul Clark was followed on the podium by Donald Mackay, Project Director for Hanson / CVC Highway Solutions.

Mr. Mackay welcomed the milestone completion of the Haydon Bridge Bypass, following two years of construction works preceded by over two years of advanced design works and a concerted effort by everyone involved.

Through an innovative Early Contractor Involvement scheme, the Highways Agency, designers, contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers worked as one.

Mr. Mackay referred to the A69 as a strategically important trans-pennine transport route, and recognised that losing a large volume of traffic meant Haydon Bridge would be transformed forever and he thanked the residents who had, "borne patiently and supportively the disruption that a construction project on their doorstep had brought".

Mr. McKay expressed thanks specifically for the regular liaison group meetings, the monthly briefings with The Haydon News, the tree planting activity and support from Shaftoe Trust First School, and a very successful Open Day for residents. Each of which actively demonstrated the good working relationship between the contractors and the community.

The Project Director ended by thanking the Highways Agency team, the team comprising CVC, Hanson, Volker Steven, Capita and individuals who collectively made the project a reality. (*Loud applause.*)

The cutting of the ribbon to signal the official opening of the Haydon Bridge Bypass was undertaken, to loud cheers, by the Hon. Paul Clark, Eileen Charlton and school children from Shaftoe Trust First School.

At 11.30 am precisely, the west bound lane of the bypass was opened, from the junction of the A686 Alston road to West Rattenraw. And seven minutes later the cones were removed and traffic allowed onto the bypass from the west.

The residents of Haydon Bridge couldn't quite believe that after all the years of campaign and protest, the village was cleared of through traffic.

"What are we going to do now?" asked Eileen.

"Oh yes. There's a street party on Ratcliffe Road to organise for Sunday May 24th."

See you all there! (See page 17)





Haydon Parish Plan takes wing

We are now beginning to see tangible progress on taking forward the Haydon Parish Plan. Here is an update.

Funding

With the support of a number of partners, including Hadrian's Wall Heritage, we have secured over £50,000 funding from the Northumberland Uplands New Leader Rural Development Programme, together with funding from the Northumberland Library Service and Councillor Alan Sharp. This funding will be used for a number of initiatives.

Community Library and Tourism

The library will be repaired and upgraded over the summer and will re-open as a Community Library, run by volunteers, and a Tourist Information Point. There will also be a tea and coffee bar and a train ticket machine. It is hoped that the community library will be used for a wide range of learning activities in the future, linked to our culture and heritage.

We have also been working with Tynedale Council to develop a Tourist Information Poster which will provide information to Visitors about local shops and services, tourist accommodation, places to eat, and tourist attractions in the area. Further work is planned with local tourism businesses in the area looking at how best we can promote Haydon Bridge for tourism in the future.

Website

Over the next three months we will be developing a new website, building on the current visit-haydon-bridge website. The website will be for the benefit of the local community, and local businesses, and will promote Haydon Bridge and the wider parish, for example Langley, to tourists and visitors.

Riverside

You will have seen a survey in last month's Haydon News to get your ideas for the further development of the Riverside picnic area for the community. We will then take your ideas forward and look for funding to carry out the improvements needed.

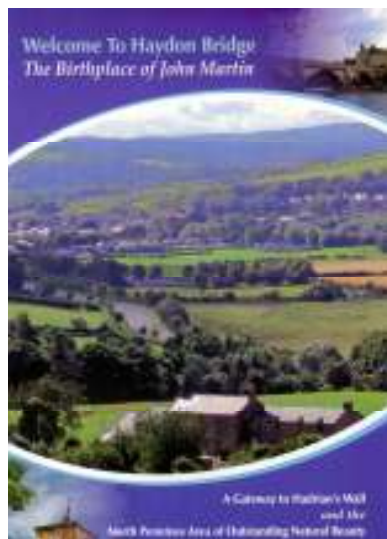
Haydon Bridge and Haydon Parish Development Trust

Last November we set up a Development Trust to work in partnership with the Parish Council to take forward some of the main initiatives identified in the Parish Plan. With the support of Social Enterprise Northumberland we are now in the final stages of registering as a Company Limited by Guarantee, and we will then also register as a Charity with the Charity Commission.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY VOLUNTEER

We are looking for volunteers for the Community Library.

If you are interested please phone
Eileen Charlton on: 01434 684505



Welcome To Haydon Bridge

Remarkably, as far as I am aware, Haydon Bridge has not had a guide book of this type - welcoming visitors to the village - since 1900 when Robert Brogdon published his 'Guide to Haydon Bridge and District'.

Perhaps you will agree then that another introduction to Haydon Bridge is long overdue.

Using the opening of the bypass as a focus for publishing a booklet that provides a welcome to some of the joys of our parish, seems to me to be most appropriate.

I am sure we need to take an early opportunity to point out the favourable features of our locality to prospective tourists and to encourage those who may pass us by, to stay a while. I also hope this small publication and its historical references will be of interest to residents of the parish and Haydonians living away.

I am grateful to Langley Castle Hotel for their support in the printing of my 'Welcome To Haydon Bridge', and if you should choose to read it I hope you find it enjoyable and that my presentation of our neighbourhood is to your liking.

Dennis Telford

Shaftoe Trust First School.

RED NOSE DAY.

Children and staff had a fun day on the 13th March dressing up in multicoloured clothes and telling jokes – all in the aid of charity.

We raised over £300 for Comic Relief! Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

NEW LIBRARY.

We are very proud of our new library. It is bright and cheerful and contains a great selection of books.

Children from Year 4 are fully trained librarians and children throughout school come along regularly to borrow books. We would like to invite you to pop into school to view this brilliant facility.

THE PROGGY MAT PROJECT IS WELL UNDERWAY WITH CHILDREN BECOMING QUITE PROFICIENT. PLEASE COME ALONG AND HELP US!

BYPASS ADVENTURE.

The children and staff thoroughly enjoyed their trip along the new road.

VANDALISM.

Some thoughtless individuals have once again targeted our Early Years Unit. This time it has resulted in the complete removal of our climbing frame as the damage caused meant it was too dangerous for the children to use.

The children would like to tell the individuals who did this that.....

'we are sad because we liked to climb, swing and bounce on it'

'the people who did this are very naughty and it was a bad thing for us'

The children have been reassured that Mrs Cox will find some money to buy a new one.

OUR EGG JARPING COMPETITION WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY 3RD APRIL AT 2.45 P.M.

The Victorians and their Story in Pictures - Dreams and Nightmares

Did you watch Jeremy Paxman's acclaimed television programme featuring Haydon Bridge and John Martin?

'Among the rocks and hillsides of Northumberland grew up an extraordinary painter.'

'He (John Martin) spent his childhood in the little village of Haydon Bridge.'

'Wild landscape and terrifying religion combined to produce something astonishing.'



Is it John Martin's 'Last Man' or Jeremy Paxman on Hadrian's Wall?

John Martin was born at East Land Ends, Haydon Bridge on July 19th 1789 and lived in our village for 14 years.

RAILWAY HOTEL

Easter activities

Good Friday April 10th

Fish and Chips

Evening music with John H.

Easter Sunday April 12th

Painted and died eggs competition

Entries by noon. All ages eligible

Egg jarping 2.00 pm

Open mike with Emma & friends 2.30 pm

Easter Monday April 13th

Wheelbarrow Race (See page 13)

Cast nae a clout.....

I know to "cast nae a clout til May is out", but.....it does seem spring is upon us at last (judging by the last two days at least). I have even had my first picnic of the year, basking in glorious sunshine and bathing in a fearsome gale at Tyne Green with 2 of my kids. It would have been relaxing but for the wee one's discovery of the nearby sike draining in the direction of the great river. I think he would have leapt into it and sailed away North Sea bound if he had not felt the long arm of "dada" on his collar! Dragged back and safely, yet indignantly, ensconced in his buggy, we could enjoy the rest of our pork pies and basil chicken in peace and in the comfort of our coats, collars turned to the wind. Thank you Marksies, it was a very lovely picnic..

Like the infant Wyatt I've been straining at my leash due to enforced rest.Unfortunately I have a bit of "ileo-psoas tendonitis" .Otherwise known as one of the many varieties of groin strain. I have recently joined Tynedale Harriers in Hexham and have been upping the intensity and speed of my running. I've been enjoying limb stretching and lung-bursting sessions down at the Wentworth (even though I have been a little disconsolate to find how hard it is to run faster than I could when I was 11!). In traditional fashion though, this has led me to an overuse injury, or at least a "too much, too soon" injury.....As with many musculo-skeletal injuries the best treatment involves a 2-3 week rest with stretching followed by gradual rehabilitation. Very well in theory, but I am finding the resting bit of it difficult and am actually not doing very well at it. I can now empathise even more easily with those of my patients who are struggling with muscular aches and pains. It is so frustrating when your body lets you down!

So what should you do with muscle aches, sprains and strains?

A sprain is a stretch or tear to a ligament; the tissue that holds two or more bones together. Symptoms of a sprain include:

- * pain,
- * swelling,
- * bruising, and
- * restriction of movement in the affected area.

A strain is a twist, pull or tear of a

muscle or tendon (the tough, narrow tissue at the end of a muscle that connects it to the bone). It is caused by overstretching or over-contracting a muscle. Symptoms of a strain include:

- * pain,
- * muscle spasm, and
- * loss of power.

Tendonitis is an uncomfortable condition caused by overuse, strain, or a tear in a tendon. Symptoms include:

- * swelling,
- * redness,
- * pain at the injured area,
- * restricted movement of the area

If your injury is new and obviously severe (e.g. completely unable to weight bear/loss of some movements in hand or leg) you should go to the nearest accident and emergency (A&E) department.

New sprains and other damage to the muscles or ligaments that are less severe can be treated at home with RICE therapy. This stands for:

- * Rest - two days (48 hours) of rest is recommended.
- * Ice - apply an ice pack to the area for between 10-30 minutes. The ice must not touch the skin directly as this may cause a cold burn, so place a towel over the injured part first.
- * Compression - compression bandages can be used to limit swelling and movement.
- * Elevation - raise the leg or arm to an elevated but comfortable height to reduce swelling.

Painkillers such as paracetamol can be used along with anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen to ease the pain of sprains and fractures and reduce swelling. Ibuprofen should be taken with food and can be particularly effective taken regularly (and with food) for up to two weeks. However, ibuprofen is not recommended if you have a history of asthma, stomach problems, or liver or kidney disease. I don't recommend aspirin. Children certainly should not take it under 16 years of age.

After 48 hours or so, you should attempt to move the injured area more freely, and stop compression. Heat and massage can be used to increase blood flow. Gentle stretching of the affected area is often an important part of rehabilitation and recovery. If symptoms are improving and function

is returning it is usually safe to return slowly to previous levels of function. If pain is not settling or function not beginning to return in a maximum of two weeks it is definitely time to come and see us.

Prevention of Sports and overuse injuries

Try not to over do it. If you have not done much exercise for a long time, strenuous activity could be more harmful than beneficial. Be realistic and honest with yourself about what you can achieve, you will soon be able to increase your activity as you become fitter.

This also applies to sudden bursts of DIY, lifting or gardening. If you have not done these kinds of activities for a while **don't expect too much**, pace yourself, take time to stretch out periodically and stop when muscles/joints are starting to feel tired.

The most important way to prevent sports related injuries is to make sure that you have completed an **adequate warm-up** session (at least 5-10 minutes), before taking part in a sports activity. Warming up involves exercising muscles for a few minutes at a steady pace, before gradually increasing to a brisk pace. This will increase the blood flow to your muscles, making them more flexible, and reducing the risk of muscle strains. At the end of your warm up, you may wish to do some **gentle stretches**. However, to avoid injury, it is important that you only stretch when your muscles are warm.

Drink plenty of water, especially when the weather is warm or when you are participating in sports that require endurance.

When you have finished exercising, make sure you **take time to cool down** properly. You should spend at least five to ten minutes after your work out doing gentle exercises, such as jogging or walking, until your heart rate returns to normal. This should leave you with less muscle stiffness and soreness after your exercise. **Stretching** after exercise is also thought to be crucial to avoid injury.

If only I could follow my own advice.....

Brain attacks and acting FAST

The Stroke Association are trying to increase national awareness of stroke

and the need to act fast where a stroke is suspected.

They emphasise that “**A stroke is a brain attack**”. Just like heart attacks, strokes happen when the blood supply to the brain is disrupted. Most strokes occur when a blood clot blocks the flow of blood to the brain. Some strokes are caused by bleeding in or around the brain from a burst blood vessel.

If you suspect somebody of having a stroke this is a very useful way of remembering what to look for and what to do:

Facial weakness - can the person smile? Has their mouth or eye drooped?

Arm weakness - can the person raise both arms?

Speech problems - can the person speak clearly and understand what you say?

Time to call 999

If the person you didn't expect to have failed any one of these tests, you should call 999. Stroke is a medical emergency and by calling 999 you can help someone reach hospital quickly and receive early treatment they. Prompt action can prevent further damage to the brain and help someone make a full recovery. Treatments of stroke are improving and delay can make death or major long-term disabilities more likely.

ICE - In Case of Emergency

“Storing next-of-kin details in your mobile phone can assist the emergency services if you're unable to tell them who to contact.”

How does it work?

Simply use your mobile's phone book to store the name and number of someone

who should be contacted if you have an emergency – but add the letters **ICE in front** of their name.

ICE stands for ‘In Case of Emergency’: it's what the emergency services will look for if you're involved in an accident and have your mobile phone with you.

Getting started

Enter the letters ‘ICE’ next to the name of your emergency contact, followed by their telephone number. Make sure you choose a number that's easy to get in touch with – a home number could be useless in an emergency if the person works full time.

What should I do next?

Make sure the person whose name and number you are giving has agreed to be your ‘ICE partner’. In addition, they'll need to know about any medical conditions that could affect your emergency treatment, including allergies or medication.

If you're under 18, your ICE partner should be your mother, your father or an immediate member of your family authorised to make decisions on your behalf.

A reminder about Practice opening times, etc:

I just want to remind you all that:

- The practice reception area is open from 8am to 6pm every weekday.
- The dispensary is open the same hours but closed between 12 and 1.15 for lunch and to allow catching up with routine tasks.
- Doctors and nurses appointments are concentrated in the mornings and mid-afternoons.
- We have many appointments before 9am every day of the week.

We have early morning surgeries (7 to 8am) every Monday morning and evening appointments every 2nd Thursday evening between 6.30 and 8pm.

We are constantly revising our opening times to try to meet demand so please let us know if you think we should change things.....but do remember “you can please most of the people most of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time”....

Geraldine Round, our very long-serving practice manager, and Margaret Turnbull, one of our dispensers, are both leaving in the next four weeks. Thank you both so much for your many years of service. We will miss you both and we wish you all the best for the future.

And finally it was red nose day recently so here are a few nasal related jokes:

1. What's a nose's favourite meal?
Hambogies and chips
2. What's the difference between brussel sprouts and bogies?
Kids eat bogies
3. In which country does a nose feel at home?
Snotland
4. What happened to the girl whose nose and feet were back to front?
Her feet smelt and her nose ran!
5. “Doctor, doctor, my nose won't stop running”
“well, blow me”
6. What did the nose say to the captain of the athletics team?
“pick me, I run!”

Paul Wyatt

These notes are continued from page 3.

more appropriate.

Parish Projects:

Peter Fletcher provided an update on Parish Development Plan activities. (See page 10 of this HN.)

Mark l'Anson of Lipwood Hall has been recruited as an independent chairman for the Development Trust. Councillors acknowledged his business background as a welcome addition to the Haydon Bridge and Haydon Parish Development Trust team.

Councillor Howard Oliver informed the

meeting that progress on the proposals to light the old bridge cannot be finalised until a bat survey has been undertaken.

A.O.B:

Street Party: Councillor Eileen Charlton sought parish support to fund the street party on May 24th. £500 is available from the Bypass fund and Councillor Alan Sharp offered £100 towards the event. Councillors agreed a sum of £200 from parish funds.

End

WHEELBARROW RACE EASTER MONDAY APRIL 13th

Entry £2 per person

Prizes

1st. £60

2nd. £40

3rd. £20

Best fancy dress £10

**Meet at the Haydonian Social Club
at 1.00 pm**

Supported by the Haydonian Social Club,
Anchor Hotel and Railway Hotel.

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From

Les Hann

APRIL 2009



It's that time again. Easter Eggs, Easter Bunnies, spring flowers, lambs, birds singing, hopes of spring and warmer weather leaving winter behind us. At Easter we remember that Jesus died on a cross on what we call Good Friday and that God raised him to life on what we call Easter Sunday. Showing us in Jesus his commitment of costly love to his world.

The Easter story tells us that our mistakes and the things we are ashamed of do not have the last word. That we can be renewed in the love of God. In what may seem like a never-ending winter of war, violence, injustice, indifference, prejudice and self-centredness we need the hope of the love of God, the chance of new life and a new start in Christ;

The first friends of Jesus needed to accept that God had raised Jesus and then act on what they had been given; a chance to change. We need to accept that God offers us the possibility of change and renewal, be willing to act on it and not just "wish" for better things for the world and ourselves. We must have the "will", political, moral, spiritual and personal, to change things and to be changed by the love and power of God.

If we want God to raise us to new life and a new start then we have to let go of many things we hold on to, our little prejudices and petty hatreds and selfishness, allow them die and let God grow in us the fruits of his spirit, "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. As we hope for peace and justice in this world may our wish be:

Let there peace on earth.....and let it begin with me.

Happy Easter

Les Hann

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

Holy Week 2009

Tuesday April 7th
Stations of the Cross St John's 7.30pm

April 9th Maundy Thursday
Lord's Supper. St. Cuthbert's 6.30pm

April 10th Good Friday
Methodist Church 11.00am.
St. Cuthbert's 12.00noon
Passion of our Lord. St John's 3.00pm

Saturday April 11th
Easter Vigil Mass St John's 7.30pm

Sunday April 12th
St John's Easter Mass 9.30am
Methodist Church Family Service 10.00am
Easter Praise 6.00pm
St Cuthbert's Easter Communion 11.00am

**METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES**

5 April

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

12 April

10.00am Family Service
Christine Caddy
6.00pm Easter Praise
Rev Les Hann

19 April

10.00am Communion Service
Rev Les Hann
6.00pm Evening Service
Rev Marie Olsen

26 April

10.00am Morning Service
Joyce Short
6.00pm Songs of Praise
Diane Wallace, Alston

3 May

10.00 am Morning Service
Norman Fullard
6.00 pm Evening Service
A reader

**BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW
CHURCH SERVICES**

5 April

Henshaw
9.30am BCP Communion

12 April

Henshaw
9.30am Communion
Service for Easter Sunday

19 April

Beltingham
9.30am Communion

26 April

Beltingham
9.30am Joint Communion
Service

3 May

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**

5 April

11.00am BCP Communion

12 April

11.00am Family Communion Ser-
vice for Easter Sunday

19 April

11.00am Communion Service

26 April

9.30am

Service at Beltingham

3 May

11.00am BCP Communion

**HAYDON OLD CHURCH
SERVICES**

Next service is Evensong
26th April at 6.00pm

Concerts at the Methodist Church
Saturday 4th April 7.30 pm
"Sheds on Fire" Community Band
Saturday 9th May
Shirley's Girls

tickets £5 (with supper) Kathleen 688131 Patsy 684482



Happy Easter

Saint Cuthbert's, Haydon Bridge Parochial Church
Council is seeking someone with bookkeeping skills
for the position of treasurer.
For further details please contact the Vicar or one of
the Church Wardens as soon as possible



The total collected in
2008 - 2009 was £606.12

Thanks to all who contributed

CORRESPONDENCE

Haydon Bridge.

Dear Editors,

I agree with all the letter printed in February's Haydon News - how great the Old Bridge looked with the Christmas Trees all lit up!!! How unfortunate that Mrs Burrows thinks that the only vandalism done is carried out by 'the youth of Haydon Bridge'! I regularly see a 'gentleman of over 60' allow his dog to dirt the pavement and leaves it lying there. I work with young people everyday and find that there are very few young adults who would carry out vandalism of the nature she suggests.

On a different note, have you ever walked over the new bridge? The footpath is in a dreadful state - lumps and bumps, hollows and holes, which are occasionally 'levelled by the Highways Department and within a very short time things are as bad as they were! Let's hope that before the bypass is opened these problems are sorted out permanently.

Avril Kirsopp

Haydon Bridge.

Dear Editors,

Residents may have noticed that Haydon Bridge Football Club is seeking planning permission to extend the pavilion.

The plan is to have a first floor with a meeting room and viewing gallery. The building footprint will remain the same and the finished outlook of the building should not be much different from what it is now, just slightly higher. Plans are displayed in the football pavilion if anyone would like to view them.

Alan Borthwick.

Carlisle.
12-03-09

Dear Editors,

Yesterday evening whilst John was watching a football match on TV, I stumbled upon your website.

It was great to find it and most of this afternoon we have both indulged ourselves by reading the back issues. We are delighted for you all that the by-pass is ready and look forward to using it. It will make a tremendous difference to the village. A more peaceful and pleasant environment for you all.

Since work started we have travelled on the Military Road to avoid hold ups.

We were shocked to read about the closure of The Anchor and hope it will be re-opened soon.

October 1975 was the date we moved to The Anchor and we left in November 1992 - and have 17 years of memories - most of them good.

It was lovely to see the New Year photographs and Trevor, Cliff, Joyce and the Douthwaites don't look any older!

Is that Nipper Brown with Mary & Alan?

We left Haydon Bridge in the summer of 2000 and have enjoyed travelling extensively since then. In June 2008 we decided it was time to settle down (after 8 years of globetrotting) and are now based in Carlisle.

Please pass on our best wishes to all who remember us and have a wonderful by-pass opening ceremony.

Yours sincerely,
Vivienne Dees.

Haydon Bridge.

Dear Editors,

I would just like to add my appreciation of the village Christmas lights. I believe St Cuthbert's Church may also have a tree illuminated this year.

Wonderful!!

I would also like to thank Joyce Brown. For two years now she has encouraged us all to part with our change, making our contribution towards the cost of the lights. This involves a lot of work, distributing and collecting the jars, counting and banking the money collected. Thank you Joyce, we much appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

Joanna Thompson

Haydon Bridge.

Dear Editors,

I wish to comment on an article in the February 2009 issue of the Haydon News.

On the front page of this issue the new railway crossing gates are described as bland and modern. There is nothing modern about the barriers that have been fitted; this type of barrier has been safely in operation within the railway system for decades, they are merely new to Haydon Bridge. As for the barriers being described as bland, if the author considers 4, steady yellow lights preceding 8 flashing red ones, working in conjunction with 4 red and white lit fluorescent barriers with skirting and audible klaxons to be bland, I hope I never see their Christmas decorations.

Changes to the Parish are often reported in the Haydon News with a cynical and negative tone; not all change is bad, without it we would be wandering around in hair shirts and clogs, hoping for rickets to come and complete the ensemble.

David Horsman.

HAYDON BRIDGE CRICKET CLUB

President William Foster, Treasurer Kenneth Ord and Secretary Barry Hope are shown in our photograph, receiving sponsorship money from Sue Zellas of the Railway Hotel.

The Cricket Club would like to thank all their sponsors - The Anchor Hotel, General Havelock, Haydonian Social Club, Claires Newsagent, Weldons, P&P McDonald, Railway Hotel, Haydon Bridge Tandoori, and Brendan Healy - for their support.

Barry Hope (Sec.)



**HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
MARCH 2009**

This month Jenny and Ann, representatives from the Marks and Spencer store in Hexham, visited Haydon Bridge W.I. They were there to inform us on how M& S came to Hexham and how the store is progressing.

They will now be stocking clothes for older boys and girls as well as the new Portfolio range of women's clothes. This is a real bonus for the town, as not all stores, especially ones as small as the one in Hexham, will be stocking the range. There were a record number of people at the stores opening last June and customers have continued to enjoy the delights of M& S food, drink and clothing ever since without the trek to Newcastle or Carlisle.

Members thanked Pam for hosting a very successful coffee evening on behalf of the Meningitis Trust, which raised over £135.

WI raffle tickets went on sale with Angela persuading us all to part with our cash! Well you never know one of us may win a prize one day.

Our next meeting is on the 21st April at 7.30pm when Catherine Dixon will make a return visit to update us on the Mercy Truck Missions. May's meeting will have a flower arranging display from Phyllidia on the 19th.

Karen Lumsden

A TASTE OF THE TYNE

The recipe collected by June Henriksen and published last month proved to be a great success. Maria Skerritt tells me. "The Sausage Casserole was absolutely scrumptious. Please tell the lady who supplied it, it is brilliant!"

So here is another one to try.

Beans and all the trimmings

- 2 tins of baked beans
- 1 really big onion
- 1 lb bacon scraps
- 3 large potatoes

Chop the onion and bacon finely and fry gently.

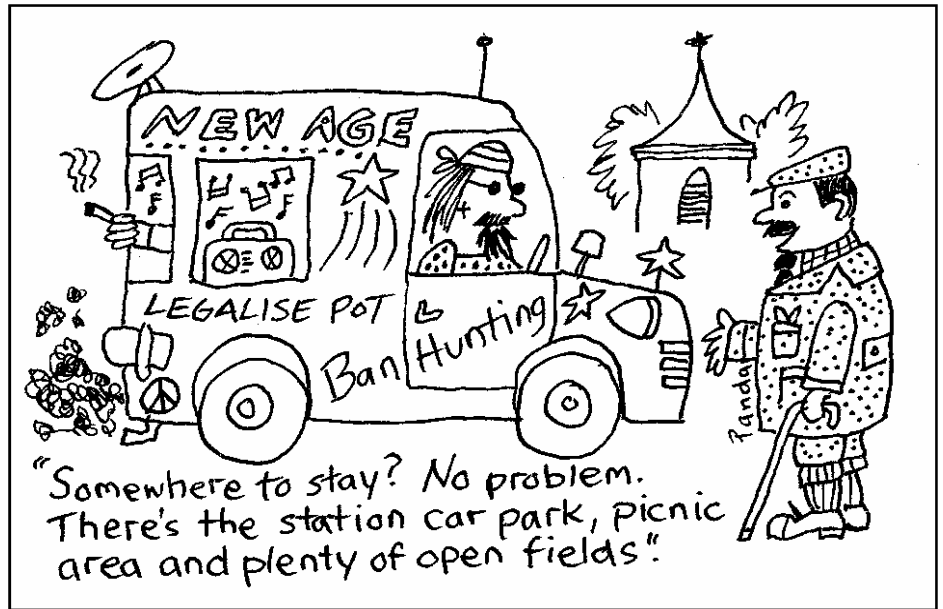
Chop the peeled potatoes into half inch cubes and fry to brown.

Put all the ingredients in a pan and simmer for an hour. Add a little water if the mixture becomes too thick.

Eat on buttered toast. You could add a green veg.

Serves 3-4 or more, depending on how much you eat.

Recipe from: Craig Jewitt and Jean, his mum (or maybe it should be the other way around).



LANGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE March 2009

Alison Ross representing Traidcraft was the speaker at Langley WI's March meeting. She explained that it was formed thirty years ago as a Christian response to poverty. As an organisation they trade directly with workers and their cooperatives by guaranteeing prices. They also support workers with advice about standards which buyers expect e.g. correct sizing for garments. Putting pressure on governments for fair trading is another objective. As an example Alison showed pictures of how Traidcraft is working in Peru supporting bee keepers. The honey produced is used in the Traidcraft Geo Bars so the price is guaranteed. This enables families to educate their children and provide a future career for them so they don't have to leave their villages to find work. Allison brought along lots of Traidcraft products which members bought after the meeting.

The competition for a china Posy was won by Doreen Davison with Susan Stephenson.

Next month's meeting 14th April "meal for two" demonstration by Mrs Marjorie Goodchild. All welcome.

Cathy Duffy

**HAYDON BRIDGE STREET PARTY ON 24TH MAY 2009
TO CELEBRATE THE BY-PASS BEING FINISHED**

Plans are underway to close Ratcliffe Road and hold a street party there with fun and games for all. This party will only be a day to remember with your help. At a meeting held in the Community Centre several groups were formed. These groups will be looking for extra help.

What can you do ?

The mammoth task of feeding everyone – can you bake a batch of scones or offer to help make sandwiches on the day

Contact: Joanna Thompson 684376 or Pauline Tulip 684742

To help organise or be part of the entertainment

Contact: Kevin Moore 684736 or Andrew Webster 688696

To be part of the strong arm team shifting tables / chairs and erecting bunting

Contact: Ian McKircle 684579 or John Wallis 684061

Co-ordinators and fund raising – we need sponsors and donations

Contact: Jacky Males 688551 or Tula Thompson 684578

A collection is to be made around the village as we wish to raise enough to make it possible to make everything on the day free – the more money we raise the more you get. All collectors will have a letter to prove their legitimacy please ask to see it if in any doubt.

We also need a group to organise the fun and games tug-of-war / competitions

No-one came to the meeting – but I am sure you are out there !

TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE THIS A DAY TO REMEMBER

For more information contact EILEEN CHARLTON 684505

HAYDON BRIDGE DANCE CLUB

SEQUENCE DANCING



EVERY
MONDAY NIGHT
7.30 to 10.00pm
TEA & BISCUITS
ONLY £1
DANCING IS FOR FUN
Ask for details at:
01 434 684 459

VICTIM SUPPORT

Working for victims of crime.

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(Bedlington office)

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 **Tuesday** of every month at 7.30pm in the Lounge of the **Railway Hotel** where representatives of every football team in the village are invited to attend.

This meeting is also open to members of the public.

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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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 £5.50**
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 Katie Bradford on Tel; 01434 684167



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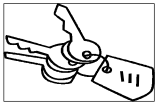
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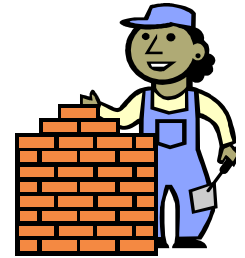
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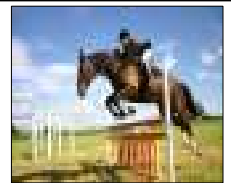
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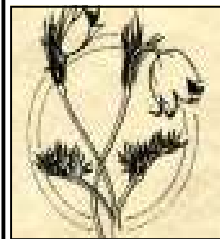
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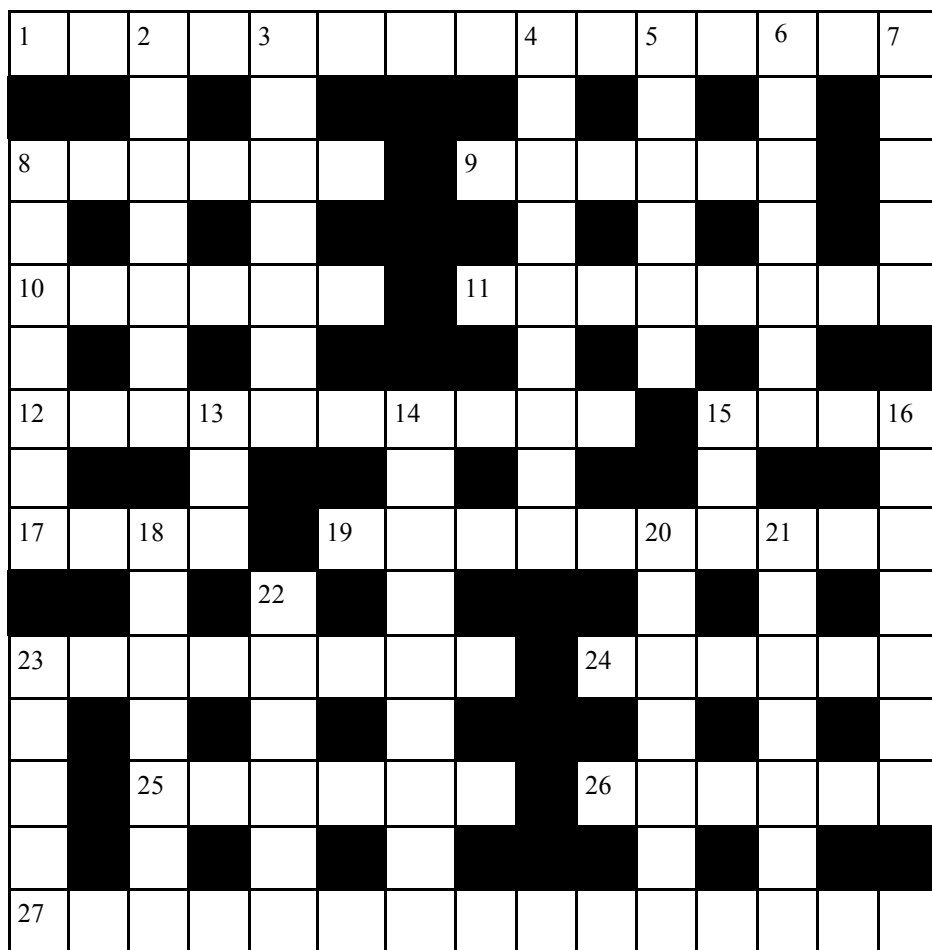
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ACROSS

1. Capital places of entertainment that answered the test.(4,3,8).
8. Story takes in quiet kind of spice.(6)
9. Prone to observe, with hesitation, by the sound of this one.(6)
- 10 & 11. A lady and a motor turn to where Nellie met the head!!(4,2,8)
12. Sweet and saucy photo.(10)
15. Region of solar earthquakes.(4)
17. Kentucky leaves Olympic sport on the firing line.(4)
19. Against the group that is prohibited.
(10)
23. Rich go round the promenade and are more cheerful (8)
24. Della could find her way reset in time.(6)
25. One could be the Queen's home.(6)
26. Material seller who parred around.
(6)
27. Smoke chemical used in this one.
(6,9)

SOLUTIONS TO MARCH'S CROSSWORD. (40)

Across

1. Specialist
7. Tosh
9. Sobranie
10. Lemurs
11. Tobell
13. Abrasive
14. Independence
17. Transcendent
20. Sprinter
21. Parrot
22. Plaice
- 23, 19. Apples and pears
25. Used
26. Suspecting

Down

2. Pronouns
3. Cur
4. Annul
5. Iceland
6. Tolerance
7. Times reader
8. Strive
12. Electrified
15. Exactness
16. End of run
18. Streams
19. See 23
21. Padre
24. Eft

DOWN

2. Use wages to pay for packing.(7)
3. Seats alien about housing areas.(7)
4. Is this one in a food shop?(9)
5. Sad men fix impairments.(6)
6. Walker goes to town in rural route.
(7)
7. One is a five bean salad.(5)
8. Wind a model car.(7)
13. Former river?(3)
14. Condition for flashpoint test could mushroom.(6,3)

15. What the priest will wear for his part in formal baptism.(3)
16. Inspector of the Carhill accounts.
(7)
18. Lock and secure for grip around sharp bend.(7)
20. This one is written in either typecast or iambic pentameter.(7)
21. The Spanish aphid found in this one?(7)
22. A sample love this one.(6)
23. Female soldiers, about fifty, advance slowly.(5)

NUMBER OF ENTRIES
3

THIS MONTH'S WINNER
No correct solutions

Entries in by SATURDAY, 25TH APRIL 09
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