



THE HAYDON NEWS

November 2014

Next copy deadline November 20th

On line: www.haydon-news.co.uk
Editor: Steve Ford



The children and young adults of Haydon Bridge's 'Messy Church' met in October to design a Christmas Card for the front of The Haydon News.

The fruits of their labour will provide a Christmas Greeting for all our parishioners from 'Churches Together' and will adorn the cover of our December issue.

The Messy Church meets on the second Wednesday of every month and welcomes all children of the Parish. It's an enjoyable session after school, well supported with volunteer helpers, where children from 3 years and upwards can enjoy crafts, a short time of worship and food for everyone!



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The Friends of Haydon Bridge Association Committee
Steve Ford (Chairman and Editor), Pauline Wallis (vice chair) Peter Parker (treasurer), Marcus Byron, John Harrison (Minutes Sec.), John Wallis, Elliott Wallis.

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The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editors. Our intention is always to ensure that the content of the Haydon News is as fair and factually correct as possible. Any complaints concerning editorial policy should be addressed in writing to the Chairman of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge. Complaints other than those made above will not be entertained. The Editors reserve the right to decide which letters/articles are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters/articles when necessary.
Anonymous letters/articles will NOT be published. A nom-de-plume may be used if the Editors know the writer's name and address.

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or
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11, Church Street
email: mail@stevenford.co.uk
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EDITORIAL

Don't forget! If you want something in The Haydon News for Christmas I need to have it before 20th November!

It is a delight to report that several advertisers and article contributors have taken the trouble to email me to tell me that they have had good results following their appearance in The Haydon News. We are very keen indeed to promote our local economy in any way possible and to support those providing services within the community.

Rosie Mace wins our second Under 16s prize—see back page. This is a very striking and colourful piece done when she was only 12. Very well done Rosie!

Our experiment in colour printing proved less catastrophically expensive than feared and, at least for the foreseeable future we will continue this way. Those with adverts are welcome to consider redrawing them in colour and articles can be much enhanced by well chosen illustrations—but do watch out for copyright issues! Because of the way we are charged for the colour printing I will strive to corral the colour items on the smallest number of pages possible—even with a single coloured full stop a page counts as a colour page!

So far (!) this is proving to be an amazingly mild autumn. One wonders what winter holds in store for us. I am personally entirely to blame for last winter's absence of snow - I went to the trouble of fitting winter tyres on the car and so, naturally, not a flake fell. Typical. It does not matter how powerful your car is nor how many of the wheels are driven if the tyres will not actually grip the road. Now would be a good moment to consider getting properly prepared for winter.

The promise of better trains but higher ticket prices on our railway is a mixed message. On balance, I think it is progress. Did you know that Humshaugh has a community electric car? Do we want to do something similar? Robert Llewellyn (Crichton on Red Dwarf) has a website about electric cars which is fascinating - http://www.thechargingpoint.com/authors/robert_llewellyn.html London — Edinburgh — London for £4 anyone — in a Tesla?

Two local organisations need your support this month. See page 19.

Meals on Wheels is a valuable support service to those who would struggle to provide regular cooked meals for themselves. Volunteers to help distribute the food are always welcome and new customers too. Regular proper meals are an important part of everybody's life and are essential for good health. Do be in touch with Mary Milford if you would like the meals delivered fresh and hot to your house.

Advertising in The Haydon News seems to have saved the Hear to Help service that supports users of hearing aids - at least for now. It is another of those 'use it or lose it' type situations. Anne Shilton will be delighted to receive your call or email.

Free Firewood! There is a large oak tree trunk in the river by the old bridge. Seems a pity to waste it. Anyone got something big enough to tow it out? I don't think my Land Rover would be quite man enough for the job.

What a pleasure it is to see so many people in the parish harvesting renewable energy. Solar PV panels, solar thermal panels and wind turbines are springing up all over the place. Our own experience of solar power, combined with a wood burning stove, dramatically improved insulation and thoughtful adjustment of the control systems has reduced our energy costs by about £2,000+ per year. Our electricity used to cost £140 per month and now we are down to £40 and we are using over 500 litres less oil per year. This summer there were days when we had more nearly boiling water for free than we could conveniently use and so we had to switch off the solar power supply for May, June and July.

Nobody has money to burn these days...

We aim for every household in the Parish to get a copy of The Haydon News. Do you know of anybody who does not get one? Would you be willing to help deliver them? Most of our distributors do their own road or similar easy walking distance houses. Do get in touch if you can help answer either question. Thanks.

Steve Ford

UNDER 16s COMPETITION

Thinking ahead to the Autumn, the Haydon News is offering prizes for contributions by under 16s, resident in the Parish. **£25.00** each month in October, November and December will be given to the best piece submitted.

This can be writing (poetry or prose), photographs or artwork of any kind. (Remember we publish in colour now.) It should occupy a single side of A4. Entries to the editor — see front page for deadlines.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Mrs. E Charlton (Vice Chair)	684505
Mrs. V Fletcher	688872
Mrs. I Burrows	ideburrows@tiscali.co.uk
Mr. E Brown	684084
Mrs. J Thompson	684376
Ms. L. Thompson	ljtceramics@gmail.com
Mr. S Walker	684488
Mr. J Ridley	jmr@orangehome.co.uk
Mr. D Robson	daver1949x@gmail.com
Mr. D Thornhill	07810 336 537
Parish Clerk	Mrs. C. McGivern 07543 912 113
County Councillor:	Cllr. Alan Sharp
320167(home)	320363(work) 07759 665200(mob.)

A meeting of the Haydon Parish Council was held in the Haydon Bridge Community Centre on 23rd October 2014.

Public Participation

The pavement and manhole cover outside 27 Church Street are uneven and loose, constituting a risk of tripping for pedestrians. The problem is to be assessed and remedied.

The creation of dropped kerbs by the Co-op was welcomed as a significant help for users of mobility scooters and less agile pedestrians. It has been noted, however, that despite the presence of double yellow lines cars are parking directly in front of the dropped kerbs thus blocking access completely.

Amongst the suggestions forthcoming was the taking of a note of the registration plate of the offending cars, informing the police or informing the parking warden services. The possibility of additional road markings was also mentioned.

A large meeting of NCC officers, councillors and members of the public has recently occurred in the village. Amongst the issues considered was the overgrown hedge in Whittis Hill. No firm conclusion was arrived at during the meeting and neither has one been vouchsafed since. Councillor Sharp noted his disappointment at the absence of a conclusion and undertook to follow the issue up.

Apologies

Were noted.

Declarations of Interest

Were sought.

Previous Minutes

Were agreed.

NCC

Councillor Sharp made further reference to the recent meeting of officers, councillors and members of the public that had recently occurred in the village.

The extremely rapid attention to the hedges and footpaths to the west of the village, toward the tunnel top, was noted with satisfaction.

Definitive repair work to the Allerwash road is scheduled to start on 10th November. The road will be closed to all traffic, save residents, for the duration of the repair work.

The works scheduled for the Land Ends Road will start very soon.

As already noted, a number of dropped kerbs have appeared around the village to assist those in mobility scooters and less agile pedestrians. Any further refinements that might be considered desirable, such as road markings, can be dealt with in the future.

The road past Standalone Cottage has yet to be repaired and Councillor Sharp undertook to chase it up.

Haydon Bridge Football Club has recently taken delivery of an ATV to assist with ground maintenance. Funding was shared between the Community Chest and Councillor Sharp. The importance of promoting, supporting and encouraging sporting activity, especially for the young, was noted.

Further to which theme, Haydon Bridge becoming cricket champions for the second year brought forth praise and congratulations from the council.

Footpaths around the village have received attention recently, especially weeding. More work will occur in the near future.

No start date has yet been set for the installation of the poles that will bear the flashing speed warning signs. Enquiries are to be made by letter.

A new development plan should be promulgated within a month or so.

Highways

Contributions to a new survey are sought from the public concerning the A69.

Comments on any aspect of the road should be offered to Eileen Charlton. Concerns about the access to the Alston Road are already documented.

A traffic census is underway in the village.

Part of the Langley Bends road by the sawmill is collapsing despite recent repairs. With winter coming on, further deterioration seems likely. Repairs at the earliest opportunity were advocated to forestall disaster.

At a recent meeting about the location of a waste bin near the football field a very successful outcome was secured. Not only was a location agreed but charges were waived and Mr. Kirsopp undertook to supervise the bin and its emptying. The council praised Mr. Kirsopp very warmly for his public spiritedness and a letter of thanks will be sent to him.

The cemetery bin problem is almost sorted out. Notices are to be attached to the cemetery bin and the nearby layby bin directing users to put only compostable green waste in the cemetery bin and all other materials, such as paper and containers, into the layby bin.

The waste bin in the layby opposite the Shaftoe Trust School was felt to be sub optimally located. It was suggested that it would be better on or near the railings by the Social Club.

Whilst some dog owners are diligent in cleaning up after their pets, some, having bagged the waste, then hang the bags on hedges, railings or trees, instead of putting it in a bin. More fines are needed!

The state of the Haydon Bridge public toilets was both questioned and praised. That they are open at Christmas was noted with gratitude, A councillor will visit the establishment soon and report back.

The disabled toilet has a universal key arrangement to give 24/7 access.

Ownership of the lane by Park Stile seems to be in doubt. The issue came to light when access for services installation was being considered.

Lighting

Repair is required to a light at the top of Whittis Hill.

The forthcoming change of lighting regime, in connection with the Dark Skies Initiative, was debated. The lack of opportunity, prior to the installation of new LEDS, for local discussion was noted.

Planning

No objections were raised to any of the four applications before the council - for the West End Joinery site, 22 Shaftoe Street, Abbey Mill or Sunnybrae.

Accounts

Were agreed.

Correspondence

Allendale have submitted their Neighbourhood plan. Because of the timing of the promulgation of the new regulations concerning such submissions it seems likely that Haydon Bridge's equivalent will be passed over.

That West Northumberland is not fairly represented in Morpeth based deliberations was noted. It was felt that this will lead to avoidable problems arising.

Nominations for awards under the Local Heroes Recognition Scheme are sought. Anyone may offer names for consideration.

Parish Projects.

Development Trust - The great success of the Haydon Hundred was noted. 330 riders had competed and some had to be turned away. Next year numbers may be allowed to go up to 400 and three distances offered - 140,100 and 60 kms. The longer route will encompass the four highest peaks in the area and should appeal to masochists everywhere. A useful surplus arose from the event.

The Bridge - Praise was forthcoming for those young readers who gained prizes for their reading activities. New activities and membership was also reported.

Cemetery - A replacement grave digger is in prospect and a meeting is to be held shortly.

Play Area - The chairman reported on his recent instruction in the technique of 'stress testing' the installed equipment. He was clearly both stressed and tested by the exertion. More wood chippings are required annually around the equipment. The steps up to Shaftoe Green require repair.

AOB

A collection was made for the War Memorial wreath.

The location of the village millennium yew tree and plaque was disclosed in response to an enquiry.

Henry Swaddle is to be contacted about the parish website's Larkin content. Two of Monica Jones' books have been donated to The Bridge. She may have had some connection with Bletchley in WW2.

Ben Carter, our new vicar, has expressed a wish to come and introduce himself to the Parish Council. It is hoped that he might attend the next meeting and use the Public Participation section to good effect.

GITS - reports lots of support for the fireworks at New Year. Volunteer helpers are sought for the event. H&S has been exhaustively evaluated. Businesses south of the bridge hope for greater involvement.

Next meeting 27th Nov - Budget meeting 20th Nov.

I continue my reports of activity on 'The Home Front', at Haydon Bridge, during the Great War. Previous recollections are recorded in the July, August and October issues of The Haydon News.

Seventeen year old Mathew Stobbart, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Ann Stobbart (nee Robson) of Stublick Hill, Langley, was killed in the War on June 16th 1915. Major D. Gibson of C company, 4th Northumberland Fusiliers wrote:

'... We all deeply feel his death, though it was one which a soldier would choose'. Mathew worked at Langley Brickworks, was a member of the Primitive Methodists at Deanraw and a Sunday School teacher there.

Second Lieutenant D.T. Turner of Haydon Lodge, was listed in the London Gazette in June 1915, as a Haydon Bridge resident recommended for 'gallant and distinguished service in the field'. Lieutenant Turner had farmed for Mr Davison at Peel Well before joining up at the outbreak of war. Sadly, he was to make the ultimate sacrifice in May 1918.

At home in July 1915, two Haydonians, Robert Bell and John Thompson, were summoned to Hexham Petty Sessions for riding their bicycles without lights on the highway. According to the prosecution, both gave false names and addresses and this made it very difficult to get to know who they were. Robert and John were each fined seven shillings and sixpence.

The Sanitary Inspector of Hexham Rural District Council wasn't too happy about Haydon Bridge residents either in July 1915, when he reported that a nuisance was being committed at Armstrong's Buildings on Shaftoe Street, by persons throwing refuse into the Tyne through an opening in their ash pits that backed onto the river.

In clover: It wasn't all bad news at Haydon Bridge, however, Mr King cut two acres of clover new laid hay at Innerhaugh in July. This was the earliest hay harvest in the district.

Fine family records: In two consecutive weeks in August 1915, the Hexham Courant featured families from our parish whose men and boys were reported as being 'men who didn't shirk their responsibilities' and were, 'a patriotic example to other young men in the district' who had not yet taken the 'King's uniform' and joined our forces in the war. Sergeant Birnie (father), Pte George Birnie (son), Pte Thomas Birnie (son), Pte Michael Birnie (son) Sergeant C. Thompson and Pte J.M. Birnie (nephew) had all joined up, were all from the same Haydon

Bridge family and were all in the Northumberland Fusiliers.

A Langley family's fine record was also a matter of public record; Mr and Mrs Wilson's five sons having enlisted:

Pte T. Wilson, Pte M. Wilson, Pte W. Wilson, and Pte H. Wilson - all Northumberland Fusiliers - and Pte J. Wilson of the 11th Black Watch.

Public Lighting: The wartime foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey, may have said, "The lamps are going out all over Europe, we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime", but in Haydon Bridge, a debate was raging over the Haydon Bridge Gas Company's decision to charge £2 - 2shillings per light for the supply of gas to twenty four lights in the village. If the lamps were extinguished one hour earlier each night, the Company agreed to reduce the charge per light to £1. In 1914, the cost for gas to each lamp had been £1 - 13shillings.

The Parish Council agreed that five lights in the village, one on each street, would not be lit, to reduce the cost, and 'in this time of general demand for economy' it was decided not to light the Church clock, thereby saving £10.

It's not that far to Tipperary: The Government passed the National Registration Act in July 1915 as a step towards stimulating recruitment for the army, and to discover how many men between the ages of 15 and 65 years were engaged in each trade. The results of this census became available in September 1915 by which time there had been a mass exodus of Irish labourers from our parish, so as to avoid the implications of the Act. This disappearance caused considerable annoyance amongst our local farmers and a great scarcity of agricultural labourers in the district, the labourers having left before completing their contracts in spite of having been well looked after by their employers.

The Sunday School trip to Whitley Bay for the children of the Haydon Bridge Primitive Methodist Church was replaced in 1915 with a treat at the cricket field by kind permission of Mrs Carrick. The children joined in sports, races and tea.

Sunday School trips to Whitley Bay. What wonderful memories. I feel a story coming on!!

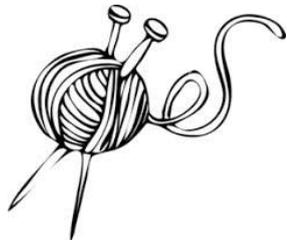
James Stonehouse of 'Tofts Cottage', Haydon Bridge, was posted as missing on October 2nd 1915. Aged twenty three years, James was employed as a miner at the Settlingstones Mines. He hadn't lived in the village long and having enlisted in October 1914, went to France in July 1915.

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Wild Sir Mathew, a stud ram and Highland Show champion of 1913, was purchased by Mr Pickering of The Lees in October 1915, for £20.

Northumberland Fusiliers in action:

As far as I'm aware, we don't have an archive of correspondence from our young men in action during the Great War. *It would be rather nice, however, if there are letters or diaries out there that I could share with our readers.* In the meantime, I bring you two items of correspondence.

Firstly, extracts from a letter by former village postman, John Gray, who wrote to his Haydon Bridge postmaster Mr N. Beattie after being wounded in the first battle of the war at Mons. A battle from which the British Expeditionary Force had to withdraw.

'It rained shells and I lost my namesake John Grey in the first few minutes. It turned too hot for our lot and we had to beat a hasty retreat.' ... 'we were led into places which were sure death traps and had many a good starving for want of food and tobacco.' ... 'Talking of tobacco, we had to smoke our tea. I smoked five tea allowances. We took tea out of the kettle and dried it on our trench tools.'

And a letter from T.H. (Tot) Thompson of 'C' Company, - from 'Somewhere in France' - and written to his mother Mrs Harkness of John Martin Street. Tot's letter describes a different situation. It was dated September 25th 1915 and published in the Hexham Courant in October.

'I received your parcel and am pleased to hear you are well. I am in the pink myself. We are in the trenches once more, for how long I do not know, as arrangements are indefinite at present. A few of the lads were wounded yesterday but not badly. The weather these few days has been very bad. It has hardly stopped raining at all.

When we leave the trenches we have a very good time, as we get out and buy almost anything we want. While I have been writing this, our lads have been giving the Germans gip and now they have advanced all along the line, the Germans going like the very devil So you may look for me being home for our Christmas dinner, or this is the attempt.

Mrs Walton: The death was recorded in Haydon Bridge of Mrs Walton of Linton House - the Walton family were the first owners and occupiers of Linton House. The deceased was 64 years of age, widow of the late Joseph Walton of West Mill Hills and the eldest daughter of George Lee of West Land Ends. Mrs Walton owned several estates in the district and was a large shareholder in the Ashington Coal Company.

The interment was held at Whitfield in the family burial plot.



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A number of significant Wills were read in the parish during the latter months of 1915:

-William Kirsopp Todd, a grocer at Haydon Bridge, left an estate of £4,008-7s gross; £3,448-13s net.

-Isaac Walton of Geeswood House, and well known for fifty years in the services of the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company, left £1,805-10s-3d gross; £867-12s-2d net.

-Miss Sarah White of Bank House left an estate of £9,117-11s gross; £4,496-16s-4d net.

-Miss Catherine White, sister of the former Sarah White, left £4,737-10s; £2,367-4s-d.

I am reliably informed that the following table shows today's value of £1,000 in 1915:

Relative standard of living: £69,920

Relative wage of a worker: £302,400

Relative average income £391,400

Irving Reay died unexpectedly on December 1st 1915 at his home 'Roseville'. He had retired through ill health as a railway official earlier in the year, having joined the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company in 1860. Mr Reay's record of his working life is fascinating for those interested in the history of the Newcastle and Carlisle line.

Irving joined the service department at Brampton Junction as an apprentice joiner, a responsible position in the early days of the railways. Within two years of his employment the Company had amalgamated with North Eastern Railway and in 1873 he came to Haydon Bridge as a Permanent Way Inspector, to succeed his father George Reay who had joined the railway in 1835.

Mr Reay could recall the days when there were only four or five passenger trains between Newcastle and Carlisle, whereas when he retired in 1915 there were three times that number. In the early days the trains were allowed to journey in a very primitive fashion, either by the wave of a hand or a flag, as there were only two signals in existence between Newcastle and Carlisle. The length of each rail in 1860 was twelve or fifteen feet, compared with forty five feet in 1915.

One of the peculiarities of the early Newcastle and Carlisle line was the reverse running of the up and down lines, compared to the North Eastern system. This had to be remedied after the amalgamation and, as a consequence, most of the station buildings had to be transferred to the opposite side of the railway. Nearly all these stations were devoid of platforms, and where they did exist they were simply made, of wood, and raised only a little above the railway line.

Irving Reay had been a member of Haydon Parish Council since its inception in 1894, until 1910 when he retired. He was also a manager of the village Shaftoe Schools.

PLAYING A ROUND AT HAYDON BRIDGE

Part 2

For part 1 see the October issue of The Haydon News, when I joined our early golfers on their Chesterwood Park fairways; a nine hole course that was opened officially in May 1905.

By January 1915, the Haydon Bridge Golf Club was looking for a new home, the lease on the Chesterwood course being due to expire in the spring, and it was the owner and tenant of Esp Hill Farm that came to their rescue. The Club negotiated a lease on the field to the west of the Langley road below Crook Hill; the old cricket field - that would, in later years, be called the Show Field - and a small field lying between the two that is today's Haydon Bridge cemetery. (See letter on page 9)

The estimated cost of setting up the new nine hole course with tees, greens and bunkers, was £100, and the course would be ready for play by May 1915.

In spite of the loss of the Chesterwood course, the Golf Club's membership and financial position was relatively healthy, with a membership of ninety and a balance of £50.

Out of a committee of six men, four were on active service in 1915, but, the officers: President, C.T. Mailing; Secretary, N. Beattie; Treasurer, W.W. Ridley and Club captain G.A. Coning, were able to ensure successful design and construction of the new course. The golf course at Esp Hill was described as having, 'fine natural features and good old turf, and commanding exquisite views of the surrounding country'. The annual membership fees for 1915 were: Gentlemen, £1-11s-6d, and Ladies and youths under thirteen years, 15 shillings.

The new golf course was opened on Saturday, May 8th 1915, on the land owned by Mrs Bates of Langley Castle and tenanted by Joseph Henderson. The course architect had been J.S. Caird of the City of Newcastle Golf Club - a gentleman who had played an exhibition four ball match at the opening of the Chesterwood course in 1905 - and the green keeper was William Veitch who, according to the Hexham Courant, 'had carried out his work with great ability'.

The 1915 Haydon Bridge golf course cannot be traced on the ground in 2014; the Haydon Bridge by-pass, cemetery and Show Field each covering the 'good old turf'. Fortunately, many years ago I was given a guided tour of the remains of the course by a Haydon Bridge resident, the late Lance Spooner, and I can just about remember part of its layout as Lance described it.

The two opening holes were easy walking on the old cricket field - The Show Field - with the third and

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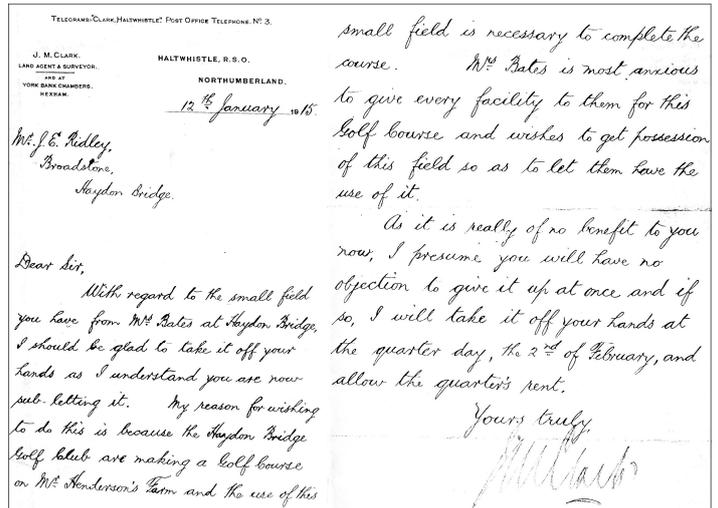
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fourth holes rising quite steeply to the fifth green just below Crook Hill. The Hexham Courant described the views up and down the valley across the northern slopes from the fifth and sixth greens as wonderfully fine. It was here that parts of the course could still be recognised before the Haydon Bridge by-pass was constructed and now, of course, the only driving that is done across the one time fairways is by those on the A69. From the sixth green, the course descended gradually to the north, across today's cemetery and back into the old cricket field to the ninth green.



Thank you to Jean Brown (nee Ridley) for this letter which refers to a small field being let to J.E. Ridley of 'Broadstone' (Jean's grandfather) that was required by the Golf Club to complete the 1915 Esp Hill course. The photograph below was provided by William Veitch and shows the lady members of the Haydon Bridge Golf Club at Chesterwood in 1905. William's grandmother, Jane Veitch, is at the front in the apron; so, William comments, 'She presumably looked after the brew.' (Who are the other ladies?) William's grandfather was green keeper for Haydon Bridge Golf Club and was praised for his work in constructing the new course at Esp Hill.



Continued from page 9

Before leaving my history of golf at Haydon Bridge, for this month, I'd like to share with you two items of correspondence sent to the Hexham Courant in 1905, before the official opening of our Chesterwood golf course.

Maybe you have to be a golfer to understand the need for adjectives and alcohol. Whatever your 'class'. !!!!

May 1905

Dear Sir,

I have just had a very narrow escape and I hasten to make you aware of the facts of the case. For some time past I have been seriously considering the advisability of joining Haydon Bridge Golf Club and had just reached the juncture where a final decision in favour of that course of action seemed inevitable. I had faced the question of bad language on the course and had decided I could manage to keep on the straight and narrow there without too much difficulty, even though it is said a strong will is needed to keep from using a form of words in which

adjectives predominate.

Now, when I had reached that point, I was told that whisky was another indispensable and, in proof, I am informed that they cannot manage to have the course opened without having liquid refreshments on the ground. Now! I draw the line at whisky.

By the way. Does this account in any way for the accounts you have given us of 'turf flying', 'missing the ball' and other things of this kind?

Yours in great sorrow.
No Golf.

And in reply to the above letter:

With regard to your correspondent and drink at the opening of the golf course (at Chesterwood), It may be said that due to the class of people that can be expected to be there, it will not degenerate into the common or garden boozier.

Maybe not, but which 'class' and which 'boozier' were they referring to, I wonder. In my experience, on the golf course (or in life generally) 'class' is no barrier to either 'adjectives' or alcohol!

THE HAYDON BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY LTD

Part 9

For parts 1 to 8 see Haydon News' February to October 2014

I left you in October, with our Co-op committee planning a celebration for the Society's fiftieth year of operation in 1925.

The Town Hall was booked for the event on June 13th, and it was agreed that a fruit bowl would be adopted as the Society's 'Jubilee Souvenir'. 450 bowls were ordered and a charge of one shilling and sixpence (1/6d) was made to those who wished to purchase the memento.



It is thanks to Jeff and Margaret Marshall that we have an image of the 1925 Haydon Bridge Co-op Jubilee Souvenir Fruit Bowl. The memento was handed down to the family from Jeff's parents.

The West Wylam and Prudhoe Co-op was engaged to provide a 'meat tea' for the Jubilee event, at 1/3d a head; although members 'and their housekeepers'

would be given free entry, as would, 'all the old people on Shaftoe Terrace who were not members'.

On the big day, Mr T. Hare of Langley presided and welcomed over 400 to the gathering, including Mr J. Nevin of Alston and William Dickinson, both of whom were on the twelve man committee who bought the old Wesleyan Chapel on Ratcliffe Road and founded the Society in 1875. And both of whom were still serving on the committee in 1925.

Membership of the Society in 1925 was 451 and the share capital amounted to £11,290, whilst half yearly purchases totalled £11,376-14s-3½d. A weekly turnover of around £437; a sound financial position.

Following the speeches, a cinema show illustrated the work of Co-operative Societies throughout England. A special presentation was given for children, and a concert was held in the evening.

The excitement of the Jubilee event over, it was time for the committee to turn their attention to the general organisation and administration.

In July 1925, Mr Hall resigned as manager of the butchery department after three years of service, and he was replaced by Mr A.M. Armour. Mr Armour was to receive £3-10-0 a week, a health insurance benefit and one of the Society's cottages on Shaftoe Street at a rent of 4/- per week. On Mr Armour's



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recommendation, the Society purchased a new cart for the butchery department and Mr Cooper was engaged to carry out the necessary signing on it.

In December 1925, Miss Minnie Mitchinson of Gasworks House - her father being manager of the Haydon Bridge Gasworks - was appointed from thirteen applicants as check girl at a wage of 8/- per week; a new apprentice wage structure having been adopted. Year 1: 8/-, Year 2: 10/-, Year 3: 12/-, Year 4: 16/- ; Year 5: £1 per week. (*Five years before a recruit was accepted as a fully fledged employee of the Haydon Bridge Co-operative!*)

To end the year, more poaching of Haydon Bridge customers was reported, this time by West Wylam and Prudhoe Co-op. Maybe the 'meat tea' provided for the Jubilee had made a favourable impression with the locals!

1926 was dominated by the effects of the General Strike and the Co-op suffered through a lack of supplies and being unable to satisfy the demand for its goods. A special meeting held in May 1926 agreed emergency instructions in the wake of the 'coal strike':

- Members were informed that goods on credit beyond the members share holding would not be allowed.

- No member would be allowed goods above his or her usual order.

- The manager would be allowed to make the best possible arrangements to procure foodstuffs.

At the half yearly general meeting in June, it was further agreed that the committee could use their discretion in assisting in any schemes instituted to meet distress prevailing in the district.

The effects of the 1926 strike didn't dampen the committee's enthusiasm to increase its housing stock and after considering the purchase of Mr Curry's six roomed house at 'Springfield' for £600, Mrs Scott's house at 9 Alexander Terrace, and Mr Robert Armstrong's house for £650, a decision was made to build two new bungalows instead; 'of not more than four rooms each on the vacant land at Brigwood. adjoining, but detached from, the terrace'.

On November 26th 1926, J.W. Brown was employed as a warehouseman at the Store, on £1 per week, and Alec Rodger had completed his apprenticeship.

A tender of £1,160 from the CWS, to build two bungalows, was accepted in 1927 and within four months the building work was complete. The butchery manager, Mr. Armour, moved from the end terrace house, where he was then living, into one of the new bungalows and George Briggs rented the other. Each occupant paid ten shillings a week rent.

To be continued next month

HAYDON BRIDGE WAR MEMORIAL by Pam and Ken Linge

We continue our series of articles on those individuals who died in the Great War. The biographies are published chronologically and the forty third casualty, in 1918, was **Herbert Pearson**

(43) Herbert Pearson



Photograph courtesy of Haydon Bridge Community Centre

Herbert has no known grave and is therefore commemorated on one of the panels on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium.

Herbert served as Lance Corporal, 235226, 1/4th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers.

He died on 10th April 1918, aged 22.

Born in Hexham, one of five children of Thomas and Margery Ann Pearson (nee Thompson). Thomas was a stone hewer.

Herbert was educated at the Shaftoe School and was a member of the Primitive Methodist Church

He enlisted at Hexham.

As well as having his name on the War Memorial, Herbert is also commemorated on the Reredos in St. Cuthbert's, the organ in the Methodist Church and the Shaftoe Trust School Memorial.



If you have any information relating to Herbert Pearson, or any of those individuals on the Haydon Bridge Memorial, then please contact Pam & Ken Linge at: Drystones, Heugh House Lane, Haydon Bridge, NE47 6HJ, phone (01434) 684050 or email: pam_ken.linge@btinternet.com.

CORRESPONDENCE

Wallsend.
October 2014

To the Editor,

As keen walkers we were pleased to meet Dennis Telford on our recent holiday in the Lake District. Dennis was celebrating his anniversary at the oldest hotel in Keswick and we were doing what walkers do at the end of a walk, have a hearty meal and real ales. The conversation opener, as it so often is, was our black and white collie Florrie: 'Got the right colours,' said Dennis. Of course, there was a football reference in there too.

When Dennis and his wife said that they were from Haydon Bridge we told them we'd been there often to 'do' the **John Martin Heritage Trail**. It came as quite a surprise to learn of Dennis' connections with the Trail (John Martin admirer, author, associated Trail plaques). **We thought that we'd write to give our endorsement, particularly, of the 'moderately strenuous' - though it's probably more on the strenuous side - 10-11 mile Southern Section.**

It has the things that we look for in a walk including

variety of terrain, some forms of water - here a river and a tarn - trees, places of interest with good views throughout. Added benefits are that it starts and finishes in Haydon Bridge and is easy enough to follow from the leaflet and way markers.

But we must add that we can read a map and have appropriate walking gear.

After doing the Heritage Trail the next step for us was to go and see some actual paintings by John Martin that are on display at the Laing Art Gallery in Newcastle. To anyone who hasn't seen them, you must because they are truly epic.

Dennis encouraged us to do the 2 miles Northern Section of the Trail past Haydon Old Church and mentioned or was it persuaded us to buy the book on Haydon Church the next time we are in Haydon Bridge. That will be soon, and we will!

Yours,
Jim and Hazel Murray

HAYDON OLD CHURCH

Mention of the Church at Haydon is a reminder to thank the volunteers who turned up in not too clever weather in October to do a wonderful 'clean up' job there. Well done to all the friends of Haydon Church.

A VIEW FROM UP THERE

John Harrison

On a bad day I am one of the world's worst navigators if I am in unfamiliar territory. Fortunately I don't use SatNav because as I approached Berwick the other day there were signs at the roadside which said in very large letters "DO NOT FOLLOW SAT NAV". I can't recall coming across such an instruction before – maybe the local engineer was having a bad day !!?

No question where the weather is going – we are heading for winter. The cooler and windier weather so typical of autumn is already in the air. I wouldn't wish to bang on about this, but nature does not have the ability to forecast the weather several months ahead. So although the hawthorn, sloe and damson are relatively prolific this year, this does NOT suggest a severe winter ahead. We can, however, see the impact of the weather in the world around us. Much of the hedgerow fruit, such as the sloe, has shrivelled due to the shortage of rain during September, and water courses are running at exceptionally low levels.

Strangely, September was a mild but very damp month with a remarkable number of rainless days. The average temperature was 1.2 degC above normal but there was only 46% of normal rainfall. In many parts of the UK September was the driest month on record with less than 20% of normal rainfall. This was largely because high pressure dominated the weather for almost all of the month, lying either directly over the British Isles or over Scandinavia. Winds were generally quite slack, and heavy dew and fog at dawn were frequent. Early fog tended to clear on most days to give lengthy sunny periods and daytime maximum temperatures occasionally in excess of 20 degC.

However, while much of the British Isles experienced exceptional warmth mid-month, high pressure to the north-east dragged in an easterly airflow over Northumberland. This very stable and damp air brought low cloud, fog and fine drizzle between the 9th and 21st which were unpleasantly murky, and occasionally cold, days. Over the course of the month visibility was recorded in the range poor to mist/fog on 12 mornings. Although very damp, rainfall was a relatively rare visitor and 26.8 mm fell on just two days, the 5th (16.3mm) and 23rd (10.5mm).

Just to remind you what 'normal' means in a weather context. The 'normal' of temperature is the average taken over a thirty year period, while that of rainfall is taken over a thirty-five year period. Statistically, rainfall varies a great deal more than temperature from place to place and from year to year. This makes the 'normal' less reliable, which has implications for water resource and flood management.

Monthly Weather Summary (Haydon Bridge : Height 162m asl)

Month	Average Maximum Temperature (Daytime) Deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Average Minimum Temp (Night-time) Deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Rainfall mm	Percentage of long-term average
September 2014	17.9	+1.3	9.5	+1.2	29.3	46

And finally Gladys tells me of a little old lady who purchased two parrots, one male, one female.

Unfortunately it was almost impossible for her to determine which was which so she decided to watch them closely. To do this, she placed a large brown paper bag over the cage, and watched them through a spy-hole. After some while, the male bird shuffled along the perch and pecked the female on the cheek. Pleased with her work, the old lady removed the bag, grabbed the male bird and painted a white ring around its neck, so she would know in future which was which.

The very next day, the vicar called round to see how the lady was, and also to sample some of her excellent baking. At the sight of the vicar, the male parrot called out "Ah, I see they caught you at it too did they, vicar?"



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Haydon Bridge United AFC

Haydon Bridge United AFC have awarded this years Edward Waite Trophy for exceptional contribution to sport to Rosemary Todhunter.

Rose is 55 and for most of her life was not sporty and only got into sport as a result of getting cancer.

Firstly she had a malignant melanoma (skin cancer) resulting in a 3 inch by ¾ inch part of her bicep muscle being removed. Then more drastically she had cancer in her lung and had 1/3rd of her lung removed.

Following this she could hardly walk without being out of breath.

Gradually, through her determination, she regained fitness and started to train regularly with Allan Valley striders running club and One Life Triathlon club (both of which she is now secretary) entering competitions and normally being one of the last to finish.

However through her determination she got better and better and started to win the occasional prize. Just a year after having part of her lung removed she completed the Great North Half Marathon.

The improvements continued as Rose got the fitness bug and worked harder and harder. In the last 12 months her achievements have been incredible :-

- Rose completed the gruelling Bolton Ironman of 2.4 mile swim + 116 mile Bike + 26 mile run in just under 16 hours!
- She qualified to represent Great Britain at Duathlon, (Run+bike+run) and in the European Championships in Holland finished in 3rd to earn a Bronze medal. She has earned a place for next years European Championships.
- She qualified and is off to Austria in June to represent Great Britain in the European Triathlon Championships (with eldest son Mark also qualifying).
- She is both the Allan Valley Striders and One Life Triathlon club athlete of the year and runner up in the Tynedale Awards.

Rose's story has featured in 2 National magazines – Triathlon 220 and Running Fitness, an inspiration I'm sure.



Thank you.

Paula Collis (secretary Haydon Bridge AFC) and Kim Wright would like to thank all who sponsored them for this years Great North Run. £1,000 was raised with half going to The Great North Air Ambulance and half to Haydon Bridge Football Club. Thank you again.

W.M.H.

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RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY DARMAID

How was that bottle the doctor gave you for your bad back, Raydon?

Why did you drink it in the garden?

It was useless, Dusty, it tasted horrible and I had to drink it out in the garden.

The label said: "For External Use Only"



CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

CLERGY MESSAGE FROM:

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter

November is a time for Remembering.

Growing up I always remember chants of 'remember, remember the fifth of November.' By the time you will be reading this the shops will be festooned with things for Halloween many of us will be wearing poppies. All signs that November is, by accident or design, a month full of opportunities to remember.

Halloween might not seem an obvious time to think of remembering, but the origins of this increasingly popular festival come from its place as the eve of the Church's Feast of All Hallows – which we now keep as All Saints' and All Souls' days. In these festivals we remember and draw close to the faithful departed who have gone before us in faith. For this reason this has become a fitting time remember our loved ones who rest in the love of our Father's house.

On Sunday 2nd November at 6.30pm in St Cuthbert's there is an opportunity to remember in quiet, and prayer, and by lighting a candle, those who we love but see no longer. All are very welcome to this simple service of remembering.

Following fast on the heels of the remembering of All Saints and All Souls comes our national remembrance of those who have given their lives in wartime. It will be my great privilege, as your Vicar, to help lead Haydon Bridge's Act of Remembrance on Sunday 9th November. First with a service in St Cuthbert's at 10.15am and then at the War Memorial at 10.50 am. It will be particularly poignant this year on the Centenary of the start of the Great War to call to mind, and read out, the names of all those from Haydon Bridge who gave their lives in war.

WHO AND WHERE

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

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter
with St. Cuthberts Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard
Tel. 01434 688198

Deacon Anne Taylor
with the Methodist Congregation
Woodville, Redesmouth Road, Bellingham
Tel: 01434 220283

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

In this act of remembering we will commit ourselves to remember their sacrifice and through this remember again the pain and suffering of war as we commit ourselves to those things that make for peace.

At the end of the month as Churches we will also be remembering.

As the great juggernaut of Christmas begins to approach we will be remembering through the great season of Advent. In Advent we not only count down to Christmas but remembering God's great promise to each one of us that he would come close to each one of us – in the words of St John, that he would 'pitch his tent among us' - in the person of the Messiah, the chosen one, his son Jesus Christ. And so on November 30th all the Churches will be remembering again this promise, and at 3pm some of us will gather (weather permitting) on the quiet and mystery of the Old Church to remember with Advent carols and candlelight God's great promise to each one us.

Above all, in all these times of remembering we remember God's unchanging love for each one us.

With love, your Vicar, Benjamin

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

2 November

10am Morning Worship
Joyce Short
6pm Communion Service
Rev. Peter Wright

9 November

10.15am United Service at St. Cuthbert's Church
10.50am War Memorial— Act of Remembrance followed by refreshments in the Methodist Church
6.00pm Evening Service
Jackie Males

16 November

10.00am Morning Worship
Ian Warburton
6.00pm Café Style Worship
Deacon Anne Taylor

23 November

10.00am Morning Worship
Matthew Barrick
6.00pm Evening Service
Di Wallace

30th November

10am Morning Worship
Brenda Mearns
6pm Communion Worship
Rev. Marian Olsen

BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW CHURCH SERVICES

2 November

Henshaw
9.30am BCP Communion
4.00pm All Souls Service

9 November

Henshaw
10am Service of Remembrance

16 November

Henshaw
9.30am
Parish Eucharist

23 November

Beltingham
9.30am
Parish Eucharist

30th November 10.00am

Haydon Bridge
Joint Eucharist

ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY CHURCH SERVICES

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am

Mass each Sunday at 11am at Haltwhistle

Mass on weekdays (except Mondays) at 10am either St John's or Haltwhistle

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH SERVICES

2 November

11am BCP Communion
6.30 pm All Souls Service

9 November

10.15am Remembrance
10.50am War Memorial
Act of Remembrance

16 November

11.00am Parish Eucharist

23 November

11.00am Parish Eucharist

30th November

10.00am Joint Eucharist

OLD HAYDON ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Sunday
30th November
3pm

All Welcome

From front cover
'Children from Messy Church creating pictures for the Haydon News Christmas edition'

Faith Boag
Imogen Hamilton
Kristian Parker
Stella Taylor
Olivia Alder
Rhys Clark

Methodist Church
Christmas Fayre
Saturday 6th Dec. 2pm
Usual Stalls, Teas
Visit from Santa
All welcome
Come along and join us

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At

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Tuesdays & Thursdays
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A Warm welcome to All

Messy Church

12th November

3.30 to 5.45 pm

at the

Methodist Church

Come along and bring your
friends.

NOTICES & WHAT'S ON?

HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

HBUAFC hold their monthly meeting on the first **Monday** of every month at **7.30pm** in the Lounge of the **Anchor Hotel** where representatives of every football team in the village are invited to attend.
This meeting is also open to members of the public.

General Havelock

Quiz for **Red Squirrel Group**
At 8.15pm on November 18th

Fund raising event for cure for **Parkinsons Trust**
At 8.30pm November 22nd
£2 entry. Positive Vibes playing.

WEST TYNEDALE JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 5yrs-12yrs

TAG/CONTACT RUGBY

MEET AT HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
ON SUNDAYS 10.30am- 12.00noon

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HAYDON BRIDGE LOCAL ARTISTS' GROUP

HAYDON ART CLUB

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November 12th and 26th

All Wednesdays, 6.30pm-9.15pm

For details/enquiries
please contact Barbara on 01434 688 886

NATURE CLUB WINTER PROGRAMME

Meetings held at the Methodist Hall at 7.15pm.

November 6th

Andy Bates Heritage Woodlands
Past, Present & Future

November 20th

Mandy Roberts & Claire
The Special Qualities of N.N.P.

December 4th

Sheila Morris The Peripatetic Pensioner

A Summer walks programme will be arranged to cover April - September
2015. Copies will be available at the 19th March meeting.

All enquiries to: The Hon. Secretary Robert Ford
28 Strother Close, Haydon Bridge. Tel No 684486

ADVANCE NOTICE OF THIS YEAR'S

WINTER CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

Anyone wishing to book a sales pitch please phone
Barbara on 688886

(We use the profit from this event to fund the Week long Art Exhibition in June)

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OPENING TIMES

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WEDNESDAY: 1.00pm-4.00pm

FRIDAY: 4.00pm-6.30pm

SATURDAY: 9.30am-12.30am

Coffee and tea available

River Watch Group

Litter Picking Volunteers

meet at

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Saturday 29th November 1pm

gloves, bin bags and tools provided
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HAYDON BRIDGE JUDO CLUB.

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MEALS ON WHEELS.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

Meals on Wheels are delivered in Haydon Bridge on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the year at a cost of £2.70 per meal. They are cooked at The Shaftoe Trust School during the term time and at The Anchor Hotel during the holidays. Anyone who would like to receive a meal, twice a week, can do so. Recipients no longer have to be referred.

If you would like to receive a meal please contact Mary Milford, Tel; 01434 684234.

In order to maintain this vital service more volunteers are needed to deliver the meals. If you feel that you would like to help please contact Mary Milford, at the above telephone number. This is not a huge commitment. It involves being part of a rota of people who deliver the meals. The rota is flexible and can be organised around personal commitments. **We need more volunteers.** Without people to deliver the meals the service will fail.

HEAR TO HELP

NEXT SESSION 13TH NOVEMBER

You might remember reading here recently about the hearing aid support service that is held at Haydon Bridge health centre every two months. You might not realise it but this listing was crucial to keeping the service going in Haydon Bridge because unless the numbers of people attending increased, the service would have ceased at the end of the year. This means that people needing hearing aid maintenance for their NHS aids would have to go to Hexham Hospital for help. As a result of you and your friends reading the article and coming along, the service is being maintained for at least 6 months. If you'd like it to continue in Haydon Bridge, please use the service and let other people know we are 'Hear to Help'.

Anne Shilton, Action on Hearing Loss (previously RNID) 01670 513606

heartohelp.northoftyne@hearingloss.org.uk.

Thursday 8 th January	12 noon – 1.00 pm
Thursday 12 th March	12 noon – 1.00 pm
Thursday 14 th May	12 noon – 1.00 pm

Following dates to be confirmed, depending upon continued project funding:

Thursday 9 th July	12 noon – 1.00 pm
Thursday 10 th September	12 noon – 1.00 pm
Thursday 12 th November	12 noon – 1.00 pm

Community Centre Regular Activities

Lots of different activities. Try something new.
Make new friends. Have fun.

MONDAY

Zumba 6.15pm	Shelley Murray, 07824449731 shelley.m@josiesdragonfly.org
Dance Club, 7.30-10pm	Audrey Philips, 684452 george@vallum.plus.com

TUESDAY

Pilates – 9.15am	Lorna, 07747 842364
Karate – 6.15pm	David Beales, 07561153485 david.beales2@btinternet.com

WEDNESDAY

Yoga 10am	Alicia Lester, aliciafearon@btinternet.com
Pilates - 6.30pm	Lorna, 07747 842364
Art classes (bi monthly)	Barbara Wardle, 688886 bbarawardle2011@btinternet.com

THURSDAY

Chairobics 11.30am	Lorna, 07747 842364
Irish Dance 4.15pm	Kathleen Hannon, 0191 2648240 kmhannon@btinternet.com
Youth Club 6-8.30pm	Amev Henry 01434 603582 Amev.Henry@nothumberland.gov.uk
Bowls Club 7.30pm (Sept-April)	Joseph Tulip, 688817 joseph.tulip@cnmedia.co.uk
Parish Council 7.30pm (monthly)	

FRIDAY

Karate – 6.15pm	David Beales, 07561153485 david.beales2@btinternet.com
-----------------	--

SATURDAY

Coffee morning, 10am	Various groups and organisations.
----------------------	-----------------------------------

SUNDAY

Hornby Model Railways Association 10am	Grant Robinson, 01661 844843 grant.robinson@tiscali.co.uk
--	--

NEW ACTIVITIES ALWAYS WELCOME.

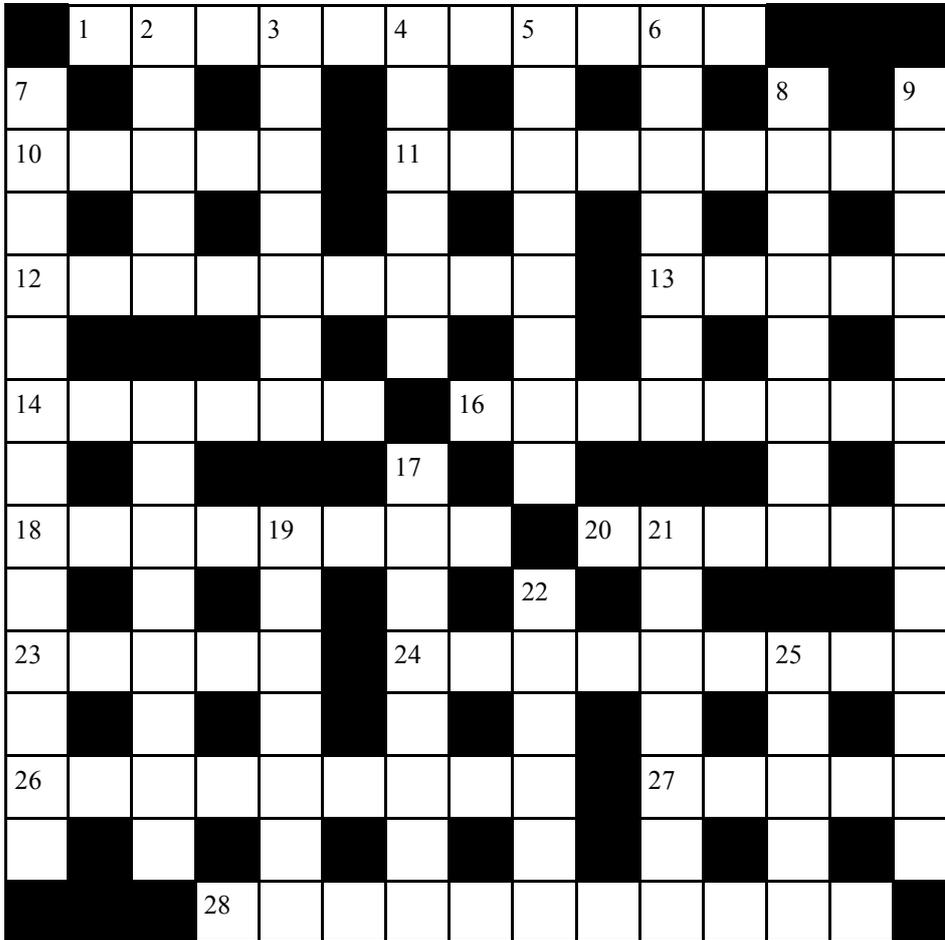
Contact: **Valerie Bell 01434 684705**
valerie@hexhammorris.com

The £10 Crossword

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

**November
2014**



SOLUTIONS TO AUGUST'S CROSSWORD.

ANSWERS

ACROSS

1. RESTAURANT
6. PEAT
8. CRANCHES
9. AGNATE
10. APSE
11. ACROPHOBIA
12. GRADUALLY
14. FILLY
17. ELEGY
19. PARAMETER
22. DECIPHERED
23. HERB
24. CHOICE
26. USED
27. DISCHARGES

DOWN

1. RECTANGLE
2. SWANSEA
3. UPHEAVAL
4. AUSTRALIAN RULES
5. TRAMPS
6. PANTOMIME
7. ANTHILL
13. DIGNIFIED
15. YARDBIRDS
16. SANDWICH
18. LEECHES
20. THE STIG
21. SHIELD

NUMBER OF ENTRIES

13

LAST MONTH'S WINNER

Sue Charlton

In case anyone was wondering - most of the entries are correct and the editor draws the winner out of a suitable receptacle, rarely a hat.

Entries in before

Saturday 20th November

**Please hand in your entry to
Claire's Newsagent or post to the
editors — see page 2.**

ACROSS

- 1 Former scheme a Conservative joined by way of clarification (11)
- 10 With its front off, loudspeaker has to irk (5)
- 11 Finish off endless white fur in gallery (9)
- 12 Grasping arms sent cleat flying (9)
- 13 Country begins its northernmost dam in Ayrshire? No. Yes! (5)
- 14 Executive officer takes in missile for cash (6)
- 16 Censure McIlroy, maybe, in stretch of river (8)
- 18 Can back ceremonies and get salts (8)
- 20 Name of woman in Geological Society (6)
- 23 Turn poor on Dec. 1st and accordingly feel wishy-washy (5)
- 24 Active Croat and seaman in charge (9)
- 26 Sun ruined everywhere because not covered (9)
- 27 Odd – insofar as lair as neat as this conceals climber (5)
- 28 American offender at etude muddled on but kept going (11)

DOWN

- 2 None kiss up at No. 54 (5)
- 3 All deny change in this northern town (7)
- 4 10 sting (6)
- 5 Hasten in no end of these songbirds (8)
- 6 Wetter conditions for Grace's spouse? (7)
- 7 Weld a bad taunt with this building material (6,3,4)
- 8 Servant soundly fashioned by a craftsman (8)
- 9 Encountered a medic, rather an abstruse one (13)
- 15 Universal panacea not on (8)
- 17 Purchase a travel bag and pull oneself together (3,1,4)
- 19 Dead end – main road up, old hat (7)
- 21 Plant a high ball to Charles Lamb (7)
- 22 Street reputation, sex appeal, quite a card! ()
- 25 Not much of a dray reversing east (5)

HAYDON BRIDGE PLAYGROUP.

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 £6.00**

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MARIA AND THE LITTLE LAMB.

The many millions of readers of my fabulous articles will know that not only are we new here but that I am no Bill Gates when it comes to computers.

In our house Haydon Bridge is not so much Silicon Valley as the Valley Time Forgot. Actually we quite like it that way! In fact we're finding so do most of the other inhabitants - the majority of whom seemed to have lived here all their lives. As did their forefathers before them.

Take a lady I met the other day. It was pouring with rain and bitterly cold as I drove along Philip Larkin Road (I prefer to call it that - makes it sound very poetic). On and on past the very useful but sadly unpoetic Co-op I went, keeping well below the 30mph limit, when I spotted a group of optimists waiting for the bus. I had 4 spare seats and was heading to Hexham so I stopped and offered the assembled gentlefolk a lift.

All but one were off to Newcastle so the remaining Hexham-bound bus-waitee leapt in. And turned the usual quiet 6 mile trip into a maelstrom of joy! Ne'er a livelier person have I met and what a bundle of fun. I discovered Maria has lived here almost all her life and I also discovered she loves Lionel Ritchie and Dean Martin. Well someone has to! She too explained many people have lived in the village forever and that it's one of the friendliest places you could wish to find.

I pointed out hesitantly that I've only been here a year and - at first - reluctantly so.

She suddenly exclaimed midway down the A69 "Aha! YOU'RE the one who writes in the Haydon News!!" Astonished at her powers of deduction after only 3 minutes - and given the Editor gave me a pseudonym - I reasoned this lady should work for MI5 or at least Bletchley as a code-breaker should World War 3 ever break out. She dismissed my deep awe and said "S'easy! You're new. You came here reluctantly. It figures". In other words, no one else is new and no one else is here reluctantly. Makes perfect sense.

I dropped Maria off way ahead of the bus in the middle of Hexham town where her lovely granddaughter was waiting.

Back to the non-Silicon Valley of Haydon Bridge. So inept am I on the computer that I was surprised to find a pop-up from a site called Pre-loved. Well not surprised at that but at my ability to navigate it sufficiently to make any sense of it. And it was then that I fully realised we live in a village miles from civilisation.

'Pre-loved' for those of you equally inept is like a local eBay. If you don't know what eBay is then Google it. If you don't know what Google is then.... Oh never mind - welcome to the club my friend.

Up popped a series of adverts. Items I never knew I needed and as such I also knew I had no need to read on. But give a woman a cornucopia of items in a shopping window and it's a strong woman who turns away. I am not that woman. I read on. First advert up said "3 gorgeous lambs for sale. Bucket trained. Can live in the house until you're ready to eat them".

By 'bucket-trained' I have no idea if that means they pee in a bucket or dine from one. If it's the former then they should surely be in a circus and not on the dinner table.

The second advert along similar lines said "Gertie our much loved goose for sale. Loves to run around so needs a large garden. Perfect for Christmas". Yep dear reader I'm busy working that one out too. Are we talking wrapping paper and a big bow or tin foil and apples?

The third advert - by which time my attention and appetite were waning - read "Nicely Rotted Manure. Been rotting for 5 years. Can deliver".

I showed the site to my husband who was also reading my forthcoming Haydon News article at the same time. He left unsaid the obvious connection between manure and my writings. Just as well, if he hopes to get any more of my experimental dishes. Which will not be including locally reared lambs or geese any day soon.

Euphemia Whaletrouser

Half-term meditations

I spent my first Halloween in Britain fearing what would happen if kids come to my door saying: "Trick or treat!" I didn't know what to do. Was I supposed to be scary, or kind? Would they smash an egg against my window if they didn't like my cakes? Instead of feeling re-assured by information volunteered by my kind neighbours, I felt panicky.

This is all but water under the bridge and as I look out of the window, waiting for the painted little faces and dressed up children to arrive, I cannot help but envy them their childhoods, their endless opportunities and education, which really is one of the greatest in the world.

Of course, there is no comparison: in the Czech Republic we start school aged six. Also, I come from an era where all you had was a blackboard and a white-chalk as your equipment. No computers, no Internet, just good, - *continued page 25*

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Pauline Story

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continued from page 22

- old-fashioned text-books, hand-written notes and memorizing.

Anyone under the age of about twenty-five will probably think I was born at the time of Julius Caesar. I am not that old, I promise. It's just that the technical development has been so rapid that from a generation that left school without knowing how to switch on a computer or send an email to a generation who cannot say "hello" without using an i-phone is literally one blink of an eye.

And it's not only the technical advances in learning and teaching. Today's kids seem to have fun lessons, tailor-made for their needs. I cannot remember ever having a fun lesson. You either understood fractions or spelling or punctuation, or did not. If you understood it too quickly and were bored, that was your problem. If you could not keep up, that was your problem.

One of the notes from my teacher I had to deliver to my parents read: "She is watching me through her plastic ruler in order to see my face green." It was not strictly speaking true – I was trying to see the whole world in a green colour because I was bored.

My request to return to nursery was not seen even as mildly amusing. Now, you probably expect admission what a bad pupil I was and how I struggled with basics. On the contrary, my Dear Watson, I was a straight 'A' pupil and later straight 'A' student.

Perhaps it also had something to do with growing up behind the iron curtain – sticking your head above the parapet was not desirable and you had to be beaten into shape. I cannot even count the number of times I was called stupid at school by my educators, and I was not the only one.

We were very well behaved, always polite, subdued, quiet, speaking only when asked, but we were like the dogs that obey their owners because they are scared, not because they understand why they should do certain things whilst others were forbidden.

Our files were filled with assessments by teachers and we had to complete questionnaires that asked how we wanted to contribute to the future of our socialistic motherland. I answered that I wanted to become a wood-nymph, whilst writing a number "9" upside down in the box referring to my birthdate so it read that I was born in the XVII century. My mother then had to persuade my teacher that there was really no need to send me for a psychiatric assessment.

The previous week I wanted to be a bin-man, the following a doctor. After all, I was only six.

Natalie Nera

Haydon Bridge Writers' Group:

Our next meeting is going to take place on Thursday, November 27, at 7:30 pm. It will be a special one as we are going to have a script- and screenwriting workshop with Chris Dunn. He is an experienced TV writer with many creative credits to his name (The Bill, Family Affairs) so it should be a great insight into a completely different branch of writing and industry.

Should you wish to come and join the group, please contact me at natalienera@yahoo.com.

HAYDON BRIDGE **FIREWORKS** **NEW YEARS EVE AT MIDNIGHT**

Everyone in the Get It Together Society is really excited about the fireworks from the old bridge on New Year's Eve.

We're running a competition for a drawing/painting/work of art that depicts the spirit of the event. It's open to anyone aged 11 and under and the winner will be given the opportunity to push the button to start the fireworks at midnight!!!

Mrs Woodward at Shaftoe Trust Primary School has all the details or you can take your entries to the library. Don't forget to put your name age and tel. no. on the back. We look forward to seeing all your wonderful pictures.

We still need volunteers to be marshals at the event, please contact me on the number below.

**Our AGM will take place
at the Havelock at
8pm on December 1st**

Pauline Wallis
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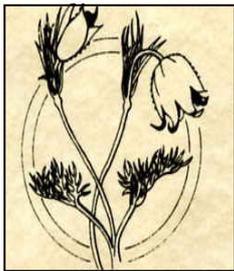
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Aristippus of Cyrene, 435BC-366BC

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The gentle chatting of geese

From late September I have heard the low honking of skeins of geese as they passed from east to west along the back of our house.

They seem to be guided by the South Tyne, passing to its north, and once the river turned south at Halt-whistle, they would have other guides, as well as the stars, as they make their way by night as well as day.

Quite often when I have gone out in the garden at night with the dog, I have heard them passing, quietly but insistently keeping in touch with each other, encouraging each other, on the final leg of their long journey.

For they must be the Barnacle geese on their journey down from Svalbard in the north of Norway, the islands where the Northern Lights can be seen and where the polar bear ranges.

These geese spend their summers nesting in the Arctic Circle on Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago, and in Greenland and Russia. In winter when it's too cold they fly about 2,000 miles south for food and warmth, encountering bad weather and hunters on the way.

These birds are on their way to Caerlaverock, to the rich salt-flats and marshes of the Solway Firth, where the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust reckon to host over 30,000 of the Svalbard barnacle geese from October to May each year.

It has been one of our regular pleasures to visit Caerlaverock in the very early part of the year to see the great numbers of these wild creatures that thrill when they take off as one from their distant fields. They are not like the whooper swans and widgeons who queue to be fed on the pond next to the large viewing hide near the entrance to Caerlaverock WWT centre.

You have to go to the end of the main pathway to see them and marvel at their numbers.

I seldom see them as they pass by beyond our garden, but yesterday morning while I was gardening, I looked up quickly when I heard the well known honking, and saw two v-formations progressing quickly across the sky. One was large and strong, a single bird at its helm. The second was small and weaker, frequently losing its shape and having to reform and keep up.

Maybe younger or older and weaker birds, desperate to get to the end of their journey and to rest. My good wishes went with them.

June Henriksen

The Haydon News welcomes contributions on as wide a variety of topics as possible. Prose, poetry, artwork, photos, puzzles, information about forthcoming events or reports on events that have occurred. Get published—you know you want to! Ed.

Panto time at the Theatre Royal Newcastle is almost upon us once again!



Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs - the fairest panto in all the land!

Sees Clive Webb and Danny Adams celebrating ten years of pantomime magic at the Theatre Royal – this dynamic duo have been ensuring North East audiences always go away wanting more, and with over 72,000 seats already sold you need to book your seats NOW to avoid disappointment!



Following the huge success of the relaxed panto performance last year, we're all set to do it again on
Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 1pm.

'Relaxed Performances' are specifically designed to welcome people with an Autistic Spectrum Condition, learning disability or sensory and communication disorders into theatres to give those who otherwise might feel excluded the chance to experience live Theatre.

Tickets £8.50

Other highlights in our programme include:

Shrek the Musical 11-29 March 2015.

JOYOUS. THE MOST FUN YOU'LL EVER HAVE. A MONSTER HIT! *The Mirror*

There will also be a relaxed performance of *Shrek the Musical* on
Tuesday 24th March at 2pm. Tickets £20



The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Barnum, The Bodyguard and *To Kill A Mockingbird* are just a few of the fantastic shows for 2015.

There are always great discounts available for groups of 10 or more so contact me for details of these shows and many more. I can check availability and reserve your seats. I can also send you a copy of our latest brochure and keep you up to date with special offers and discounts.

I look forward to hearing from you. Pauline Wallis - District Publicity Assistant

Tel: **01434 684061/07880 742571** email: pauline.wallis@theatreroyal.co.uk

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Some more stuff by Brendan Healy

- due to popular demand. (His mam wrote in)

I love the North East. Not like. Love. Admittedly I've been here a long time, fifty-seven years minus some bits and pieces living away, but ostensibly I have lived here all my life, and always by choice.

Actors and musicians are told that they should go to London, and I'm sure it is best for their careers, so I went and I didn't like it. I was the only person in a West End show who celebrated when the show's closing notice was posted. I was homesick. It is hard to admit to being home sick when you are a grown up (something I will never really be) but now I look back on the that time and realise that's exactly what it was. I was homesick for my family and friends but I was also homesick for the North East itself.

Apart from great cities, towns and villages and pristine countryside within spitting distance of them, we have the greatest beaches in the world along the North East coast.

I wouldn't dare put this in a national publication because the last thing we want are tourists coming here and spoiling the place. (Dear Northumberland Tourist Board, Stop advertising.)

Where else in the world can you sit on a beach with about three other people, on a beautiful summer's day, in the shade of an 11th century castle, looking across sparkly, green seas at island bird and seal sanctuaries in an area of outstanding national beauty? Take a drive of less than an hour north of Newcastle and there you are. Bamburgh.

When I was young I was a surfer, not a very good one but I loved it. I would surf at Tynemouth, South Shields and Seaburn and sometimes venture up the coast to Bamburgh. It's not a great surfing beach but sitting fifty yards off shore can give you a whole different aspect to this ancient place.

I also had a dabble at wind surfing which was a brand new sport when I was in my twenties. Four of us decided to windsurf around all of the Farne Islands, and I can tell you it's a lot further than you think.

The lighthouse was manned in those days, and the dumbfounded keepers came down to the shore and told us that we were the first windsurfers they'd ever seen out there. They also told us that there were killer whales coming in to the islands to feed on the seals, which prompted me to suggest we should head back sharpish.

On the way back the wind dropped and it took hours for me to make shore. Eventually I ended up in Budle Bay. I had no body harness in those days so all the weight of the sail and rigging was taken on my arms and shoulders. As a result I walked around with my arms up like a zombie for a few days.

One more story about Bamburgh, (apart from the one when I ran into a tank block on the beach one New Year's Eve, 'cos I'd been skinny dipping and didn't see it for the sleet in my eyes.) I was surfing all by myself on a sunny day and I looked down under my board to see a 3 metre black shape tracking me everywhere I went. It is really hard to keep your feet out of the water on a surf board, so I threw caution to the wind and went like a demented paddle steamer for the shore, desperate to escape the killer whale who was getting closer to me with every stroke.

When I finally got to shallow water it was still there! Common sense then told me that killer whales don't swim in six inches of water and on further, very tentative inspection I found that I had been trying to escape the shadow of my board. In my own defense I'd never seen it before because at Long Sands and Seaburn I'd never seen the bottom.

So, thanks to the crystal clear waters off Bamburgh beach, I am officially a man who is scared of his own shadow.

Much as I love the North East there are times when you don't want to hear a Geordie accent. Here's an example. "Gud evenin' ladies 'n' gentlemen. The neet we'll be croozin' at thorty six thousand feet..."

I've just taken delivery of a big roll of bubble wrap. The courier asked what he should do with it. I said 'Just pop it in the corner.' He's been there for three hours.



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This month's winning artwork by the under 16s is by Rosie Mace. She is in Year 8 at HBHS. It is wonderfully colourful and inventive. Congratulations and £25 to Rosie!

