

# The Haydon News

June 2017



Mick Hayter & Chad Alder won.



Photos: Tom Buist



# Haydon Bridge Businesses

A new Facebook group has been set up for local businesses in and around Haydon Bridge! This includes pubs, shops, services, B&B and entrepreneurs.

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# ADOXOGRAPHY

Why do people chuck stuff in the river? Why do people fly-tip? The place where we all live is 'everybody's place' and making a mess of it makes no sense. A correspondent mentioned people chucking bottles into the river from the old bridge and this introduces a measure of active danger - some kids play in the river in summer and I have seen plenty of lacerations from broken glass. Very bloody, very painful and very damaging to tendons, blood vessels and nerves.

Parents should advise their children to keep their shoes on if the children are playing in the river.

Take your rubbish home with you or take it to the tip. My correspondent, a recent incomer, was very distressed as he thought he had left all this bad loutish behaviour behind in the city.

Many years ago I was following a car down the A69 and witnessed a steady stream of rubbish being thrown from it. I was so cross I took the number and reported it to the police - who later rang to say they had intercepted it and it was a stolen car too. Instant Karma.

Periodically adverts and notices in The Haydon News go out of date. A notice that has been present for very many years relates to the Whist Drives in Langley Village Hall. I have no idea who placed the notice or when. Does anyone know if these Whist Drives are still happening or who I should ask to check?

One of our other correspondents has offered the following (whilst omitting to mention if he inhaled): "In the 1960s people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal" Reflecting on his words I offer the response that not a day goes by but some further departure from reason, good

sense and orderly progress occurs. "Those whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad!"

Things have looked fairly weird from West Northumberland for some years past. Will a changed County Council make a noticeable difference. If genuine power is returned to a local branch of the County Council then I might experience a twinge of optimism but no more than that. Actions speak louder than words.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!  
IT MATTERS - A LOT.**

Before casting your vote in the forthcoming election it is worth checking whether what you have been told by the candidate of your

choice is actually true. Incredible as it may seem, politicians (from all parties) have been known to tell lies or deceive or misdirect or withhold inconvenient truths. You're shocked - I can tell.

Whilst a person without views, opinions, preferences and prejudices would be very dull company, the prudent person would take steps to check their own facts too. You might be surprised at the number of ways that are available to you to find out what is actually going on. The web is going to be most people's source of information and here are a few sites worth looking at:

<https://fullfact.org/>

<https://fullfact.org/europe/>

<https://www.channel4.com/news/factcheck>

<https://theconversation.com/uk/topics/fact-check-uk-15076>

Some tabloids and even 'quality' dailies are not above suspicion. Don't believe all that you read.

Everybody's vote matters. A vote cast on the basis of real facts ought to improve our country. Steve Ford

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Or you may leave it at Claire's Newsagents for collection.

**NEXT DEADLINE: Third Wednesday of each month.**

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE, CONTRIBUTIONS, ADVERTS AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS TO:**

*The Haydon News, Five Stones, Heugh House Lane, Haydon Bridge. NE47 6HJ email: mail@stevenford.co.uk*

Or: CLARE'S NEWSAGENTS 11, Church Street.

### The Haydon News Committee

Steve Ford (Chairman and Editor) Brian Alderson (Deputy Editor) Pauline Wallis (vice chair) Peter Parker (treasurer and diarist) Pat Hirst, Sheila Adams, Marcus Byron, John Wallis  
The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editor. 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 and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee. 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 author's name and address.

# **PARISH COUNCIL NOTES**

## **PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Esmond Faulks (chairman)	
Mrs. E Charlton (Vice Chair)	684505
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Mr. E Brown	684084
Mrs. J Thompson	684376
Ms. L. Thompson	<a href="mailto:ljtceramics@gmail.com">ljtceramics@gmail.com</a>
Mr. S Walker	684488
Mr. J Ridley	<a href="mailto:jmr@orangehome.co.uk">jmr@orangehome.co.uk</a>
Mr. D Robson	<a href="mailto:daver1949x@gmail.com">daver1949x@gmail.com</a>
Mr. D Thornhill	07810 336 537
<b>Parish Clerk</b>	Mrs. C. McGivern 07543 912 113
<b>County Councillor:</b>	Cllr. Alan Sharp
320167(home)	320363(work) 07759 665200(mob.)

A meeting of the Haydon Parish Council was held at 7.30pm on 25 5 17 in the Community Centre.

Prior to the main meeting there was a meeting with David English of the NCC to discuss neighbourhood plans. This meeting was held *in camera* and consequently no record is published here.

By way of a preamble to the main meeting the Chair welcomed the newly elected councillors and offered his appreciation to those who were no longer present.

### **Public Participation**

An enquiry was made about who will assume responsibility for keeping the church clock accurately adjusted, as the previous parish honorary horologist has relinquished the post. Candidates will be sought for the post.

It was remarked by several present that the new double yellow lines at the junction of Church Street and Ratcliffe Road are being routinely ignored by large numbers of drivers and that this is causing major problems for larger vehicles such as HGVs and buses. Both Cllr. Sharp and the parish council have raised this issue with NCC who are the body in charge of enforcement. Action will follow and it is hoped that the imposition of a few dozen fines will yield benefits for the community at large.

### **Apologies for absence**

Were invited.

### **Declarations of interest**

Were sought.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

Were accepted.

### **NCC**

Cllr. Sharp prefaced his report with some cogent observations on the composition of the new County Council. The area committees are to be reinstated -

which for us means a committee based on the Tynedale boundaries which will meet monthly.

Planning will be done by a west area committee who will be more likely to have greater local knowledge of planning matters and community sentiment.

The statutory notices have been reinstated in The Courant.

Overall, Cllr. Sharp felt there were reasons for optimism and he will continue to represent us with all the energy he can muster. He will be vice chair of the rights of way committee.

All the street lights in the parish are now believed to be operating correctly.

Agreement has been reached concerning the signage for the road leading past Pagecroft to prevent HGVs using the road.

It is proposed to site the new bin in The Showfield upon the grass area just inside the entrance, rather than on or near the pavement where it might cause obstruction. It is suspected that Riverside might be responsible for it.

A new date for works on the East land Ends road has been established.

The Park Stile and Springfield drains have been fixed.

The possibility of a greater number of dog bins on the estate was raised.

### **Highways**

There are still repairs to be completed on the Elrington and Threepwood roads. The latter will be delayed until after all the heavy builder's traffic has ceased.

### **Lighting**

Already covered.

### **Planning applications**

A new proposal for the site of the old garage on John Martin Street to become an apartment block with parking spaces. No objections.

A proposal to replace the playing field shipping contained with a more modern and appropriate structure. No objections.

### **Accounts**

Were agreed.

### **Correspondence**

The Annual Roadlink report is now to hand.

The sale of the Fire Station is reported to be imminent though even now nobody knows the buyer's intention. Some comfort may be drawn from

**NB. These Parish Council Notes are NOT the formal records of the meetings. They have no status other than that of notes taken by a member of the public in attendance.**



the necessity for any change of use application will have to be put before the council. The hope was expressed that the new CC might revisit the decision to shut the First Station and a letter to the Leader will be sent.

It was reported that the steps leading to the Shaftoe Green are disintegrating.

### Parish Projects

Development Trust and The Bridge.

The Haydon Hundred, which occurs in two weeks time, has now attracted over one hundred entries - more than last year - and more are anticipated in the next few days. Steps have been taken to mitigate any potential confusion that might arise as a result of an out of area cycle event crossing the course of The Haydon Hundred.

The patio outside The Bridge is getting a lot of use and favourable comment.

A Northumberland Day stall will be in place to raise funds.

Mass production of bunting has been the chief occupation in The Bridge for some time now. The decorative bicycles will be on display again too soon.

Flooding.

Even at this late stage further correspondence has had to be entered into to clarify some minutiae. With luck (!) the gravel will start to disappear in early June.

Parking behind the Community Centre.

Probably due to health related indisposition no reply has yet been received to enquiries about the practical aspects of this plan. The matter will be kept under review.

River bank access.

Cllr. Sharp will chase Tim Fish and others about this (and the Spa Well) as the situation is now becoming distinctly unsafe.

Public toilets.

Whereas the public toilets had been previously reported to be grievously malodorous, a recent major spring clean has brought about a substantial improvement - though it would be premature to describe them as fragrant in a good way. The operation of the timer locks has been reviewed and a summer time adjustment will be made. It is thought that warping of a door may be contributing to the problem.

Social housing proposal.

Replacing a rank of garages on the estate with housing was generally felt to be a bad idea for a variety of reasons—not the least of which is the

already very bad provision of parking spaces. A number of options were debated and it was noted that a public consultation is proposed in the future.

### AOB.

The chains supporting the hanging baskets have had to be replaced.

The patient representative group at the health centre has been informed of plans for a collaborative engagement with other practices in Northumberland. This is all part of the current changes that are sweeping the NHS and should ensure the continuation of local medical services for the foreseeable future. A letter to all patients will be appearing soon describing the plans in greater detail. The new arrangements are starting on July 1st.

Concern was expressed about the availability of appointments at the health centre as the situation seems to have deteriorated somewhat lately. It is believed that more staff may be appointed in due course which should alleviate the difficulties.

In addition, it was pointed out that the premises were built as a community endeavour with considerable funding being raised locally. It was felt that the community had a legitimate interest in the ownership of the premises.

A letter from the council will be sent to the practice raising these points.

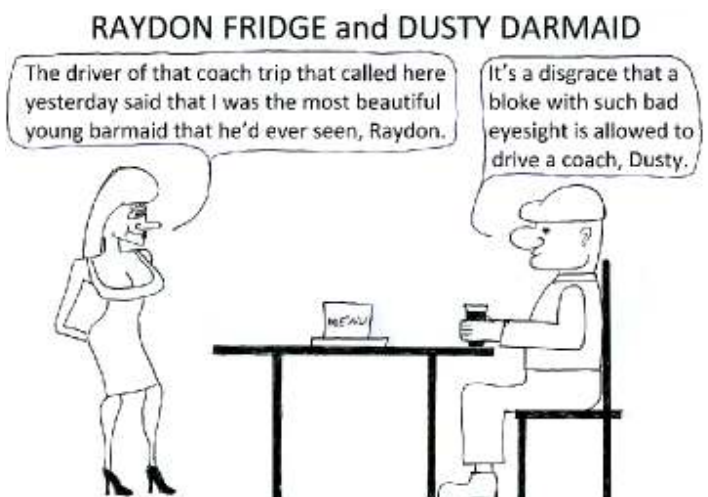
The drains on Ratcliffe Road were reported to be in need of attention and it was pointed out that the problems had already been notified to the CC.

The pavements near Brigwood were reported to be in an unsatisfactory condition.

The ownership and or responsibility for the bins, which are overflowing, by the quoits area adjacent to The Anchor was queried.

The increasing financial difficulties of the Tiny Tots Group was noted and discussed.

**The next meeting of the Haydon Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd June in the Haydon bridge Community Centre.**



**HAYDON PARISH 'HOME FRONT' : 1939 - 1945****Looking back at our parish events during the Second World War, I continue with events from 1942.**

*The more I read about events at home during World War II, the more I find tin pot inspectors determined to catch out honest, hard working residents; rules and regulations deemed necessary to keep us safe seem to have created an army of jobsworths. However, as I was there only as a child, it is, perhaps, unfair for me to judge.*

**Stung:** A seventy year old experienced bee keeper of Ratcliffe Road, and a highly respected Haydon Bridge resident, was charged in October 1942 with selling honey at a price contrary to the 'Maximum Price Order of 1942'. On October 6th, an Enforcement Inspector went to Mr. Turnbull's shop and asked whether he had any honey for sale. The inspector purchased a section of flower honey for three shillings which, on being weighed, he found to have been charged 4½d too much, based on a maximum price order of 'two pence an ounce' for honey in a comb.

*I have a suspicion the inspector left, licking his lips in glee!*

**And ... Lodgers:** In December 1942, a Haydon Bridge resident of 12A Ratcliffe Road was fined five shillings and six pence with one shilling costs, for failing to keep a written record of two lodgers over the age of sixteen in his property - Miss Dorothy Hyde and Kathleen Margaret Jupp. The magistrates at Hexham expressed a belief that Mr Tait, the resident, was genuinely unaware that he had to keep a register, but stated that as a technical breach had been committed there must be a conviction.

**Gift Fund:** 1942 ended in Haydon Parish with two money raising events. £43.12s.6d was raised on behalf of the Local Soldiers' Gift Fund and Christmas gifts were sent to the one hundred and fifty four men and women from the Haydon Bridge district serving in the forces, including ten prisoners of war.

**A Whist Drive and Dance** held by Myles Carrick of 'Foxton', raised £62 for the British Red Cross P.O.W. Fund.

**Star of Wonder:** The year of 1943 started in Haydon Bridge with a hugely successful Nativity play, 'Star of Wonder'. The play was produced by Mrs J. Beavers and Miss Dorothy Todd and was performed in front of a large congregation in the Elmfield Methodist Chapel. Included in those taking part in the production were: Ann Brown, Norman Foster, Pat Charlton, Aileen Hill, Dennis, John and Noel Oliver, Rene Lax, Laurence Mitchell, Margaret Ransome, Doris Noble, Irene Osselton, Jill Rogan, Amy and Mary Stokoe, Kenneth Storey, Evelyn Thompson, Marlene and Eric Turnbull, Dorothy and Brenda Winn and Margaret Watson.

**Young Red Crossers:** In January 1943, the efforts made to form a youth detachment of the Haydon Bridge Branch of the British Red Cross, proved to be successful. The weekly meetings were held at Selwood House, the

home of Mr and Mrs J.C. Hanna. The secretaries were; Mrs Penty of Ratcliffe Road and Mrs W. Thompson of Brigwood.

**How it Used to Be:** Haydon Bridge's St Cuthbert's Church was filled to capacity when the preacher on 10th January 1943 was the Bishop of Newcastle, Noel Hudson.

**John Armstrong D.C.M.:** News of twenty three year old John Armstrong of Langley's D.C.M. was received in the parish in February 1943.

After his platoon commander had been wounded during an attack in the Munassib Depression in an advance on the night of October 25th/26th 1942, and was unable to carry on, Armstrong of the Green Howards went forward with complete disregard for his own safety and destroyed the enemy machine gun post, thus enabling the platoon to move forward. Later, when the platoon was held up again by another machine gun post and flash bombs, Pte Armstrong with another private again went forward and put the post out of action, killing and wounding seven Italians. The following day, under intense mortar fire Pte John Armstrong kept up a continual fire on an enemy sniper post, subsequently killing at least one sniper and forcing them to evacuate the position.

**A Barn Dance?:** The National Union of Agricultural Workers held a successful dance at the Haydon Bridge Land Army Hostel by permission of Miss Murial Fleming the girls' warden. The £9 proceeds from the dance were given to the Red Cross.

**P.O.Ws:** Correspondence received from Coldstream Guard, Wilfred Raymond Welton of Haydon Bridge and reported in the Hexham Courant of February 6th 1943, caused great interest in his home village. Wilfred, a son of Mr and Mrs Harry Welton of 13 Martin's Close, had been serving overseas for over six years when he was wounded and taken prisoner in the Middle East in June of 1942. Wilfred's letter home told of his great surprise to find on his arrival at a Prisoner of War camp hospital, that he was in the same sleeping quarters as Lance Corporal Willam (Bill) Foster of Cubstocks, with whom he had been mates at Shaftoe Trust School.

Bill was reported missing in March 1941 but rejoined his unit later and had only been back with the RASC for a short period when he was captured in June 1942.

**Dig For Victory:** Following a meeting at Haydon Bridge on February 13th 1943, it was decided to form a local branch of the Northumberland Gardens and Produce Association. Officials appointed were: Rev. C. Sinclair (Chairman), N. Watson (Sec.), J.T. Mewes (Treasurer). Committee - G. Robinson of the Post Office, T. Smith of Walton's Buildings, and J. Turnbull and W. Irwin.

**Harrison (Harry) Harding:** The Elmfield Church on Church Street was too small to accommodate the numbers who turned out to pay their respects to Harrison Harding at his funeral on March 3rd 1943. Harrison was described as a popular, genial and respected resident and he had been in business as a Newsagent and Stationer on Church



Street for twenty years, having given his name to the earlier, Brogdon's Stationer and Newsagent.

Harry Harding would have been 58 years old on March 5th 1943 and left a widow and only son, Corporal Robert Harding, who was serving in the Middle East.

Mrs Harding, Robert, and his wife Marie continued to run the business in Haydon Bridge, following Harry's death. (See below)

*I wonder if there are a few residents left who, like me, still call the shop 'Harding's' on occasions; even though it has been 'Clarke's' and 'Claire's' in the years since the Harding family sold the business on.*

**An early History of Claire's Newsagents in Adverts.**

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Following his father Harry Harding's death in 1943  
Robert Harding ran the business after he  
returned from the forces until his death in April 1974  
This advert is from 1950

This established Haydon Bridge Newsagents  
continued in the hands of Marie Harding until 1974,  
John and Maureen Clarke from 1974 until 2008 and  
'Claire' from 2008 until the present day.

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## The Home Front - Haydon Parish in 1943 - Continued

**Alarm Bells:** At a meeting in March 1943, it was agreed that St Cuthbert's Church bells would only be used in future as a local alarm signal for any form of attack by airborne enemy troops. It was agreed to ring the bells only on the orders of the military or local police and then everyone would know they were a signal that enemy troops were in the immediate neighbourhood, or were approaching the district.

**Miss Alice Watson:** The savings movement in Haydon Parish lost a keen and energetic worker with the death of Miss Alice Watson in March 1943. The local savings movement had been in existence for forty two weeks when eighteen members were paying a subscription of seventeen shillings and sixpence each week. By April 1943, the movement had seventy two members and £672 had been collected.

Miss Watson was described as: "First and foremost a Christian and one of those Methodists who, though saying little, did much."

**Parish Council:** At their Annual General meeting on Thursday April 15th 1943, Haydon Parish councillors appointed John Davison (jnr) of Peelwell as chairman of the council and G. Lee Wanless as vice chairman.

**Gift Fund:** It was reported in May 1943, that £200 had been sent in 1942 to one hundred and fifty four members of the forces; the money having been raised by Haydon Bridge Local Soldiers Gift Fund. Thanks were offered to the fund treasurer, Joe Keen, by secretary Matt Smith.

The fund continued to raise money for local soldiers during the month of June 1943:

£7-5s was raised through a social evening at Prior House, thanks to Mr and Mrs William Wilkinson.

£20 was raised at Grindon Hill thanks to A. Burn.

£20 was raised at The Tofts thanks to Ernie Harrison.

£15-12s was raised at East Mill Hills at a dance organised by Mrs Rutherford.

**Freddie Steel:** There was sadness in the parish when news that twenty one year old Flight Sergeant F.J.A. Steel had been killed was received in June 1943. Freddie, who had been married for only three weeks and was formerly of Haydon Bridge and a fine footballer, had joined the RAF in 1940/41.

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE DELAVALS

'Seaton Delaval Hall' was purchased by Admiral George Delaval in 1717 and within a year he had commissioned Sir John Vanburgh, famed architect of Blenheim Palace and Castle Howard, to remodel the mansion. In 1728, the work was complete and the Delaval family and the north east could be proud of the masterpiece of construction we can still visit today. I notice that the National Trust, in their Seaton Delaval 300 year commemoration literature, point out that the Hall's 18c owners were renowned as the most notorious of all Georgian - and presumably, Geordie - partygoers, and: 'An invitation to Seaton Delaval Hall quickly became one of the hottest tickets in town.' This was an invitation I enjoyed - in 1949/50 rather than the

1700s - but this year's celebrations got me thinking:

## I wonder how many of today's readers are aware of Haydon Bridge's connection with the Seaton Delaval Hall of the 20/21st centuries?

When the last of the Delavals died in 1814, the estate passed through a sister's marriage to the Astley family - the Lords Hastings. Having suffered from serious fires in 1752 and 1822 and having been partly restored in 1862, Seaton Delaval Hall was requisitioned in the Great War and was taken over by the Military during World War II when it housed prisoners of war. It was following the Second World War that Lord Hastings undertook the restoration of the Hall, and in 1946 the connection with Haydon Bridge was made.

Mr Frederick (Fred) Hetherington, a Land Agent, lived in Haydon Bridge in 'Edenholme', John Martin Street, with his wife Isabel Mary (Molly) and two children, Alan and Kathleen. Seeking a new challenge in the late 1940s, Fred and the Hetherington family moved to Seaton Delaval to live in the east wing of the Hall where Fred became agent and administrator to Lord Hastings at a significant period in the Hall's development and fortunes.

My parents lived next door to the Hetherington family on John Martin Street, and Alan and Kathleen were young members of the 'John Martin Street gang' I introduced you to in my Notes in last month's Haydon News. (*May 2017*) When our neighbours moved to Seaton Delaval - which seemed such a long way away from Haydon Bridge in 1946 - they were sorely missed in the village, but their move to a cosy home as part of a rambling stone building, was to provide a ready made playground for an imaginative seven year old, who spent his holidays there with Alan and Kathleen.

Holidays I enjoyed at Seaton Delaval Hall, within its great empty halls, seemingly endless corridors and dark dungeons waiting to be explored, I have never forgotten.

In 2008, a campaign by the National Trust to purchase Seaton Delaval Hall raised a marvellous £6.5 million and by 2009 the Hall has been saved for the nation; while the west wing remains the family home of the 22nd Lord Hastings.

With my National Trust card at the ready, I visited Seaton Delaval Hall again last year and, remarkably, guess whom I met ... Kathleen (nee) Hetherington, (Mrs Walter Mills today) sixty five years since we last saw each other.

Fred Hetherington died in 1999 and Isabel in 2007, while Kathleen has continued in the footsteps of her father; not living in the Hall itself now, but still taking care of three hundred years of north east history and architecture. Kathleen's brother Alan has also remained resident at Seaton Delaval since leaving Haydon Bridge and I am so pleased we met up again after sixty five years, enjoying Kathleen's company once more and recalling memories of mutual friends from our early years.

Seaton Delaval Hall and its gardens make a pleasant day out from Haydon Bridge and while you are there you might like to stop for a while at the headstone of Fred and Molly Hetherington of Haydon Bridge, in the grounds of



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Leader plus assistants playgroup  
£6.00 per session

Tuesday 9.15 to 11.15  
Parents lead baby and toddler

*£1.50 per family includes juice and snacks*

Further information call

**Nicola Grint 07879999289**

or call into one of the sessions at The Community Centre

the early 12c Church of Our Lady. Seaton Delaval Hall is much different today from the early days I can recall, of course, when the Hall was unoccupied - although there were still interesting signs of earlier war time residents. It was an exciting, if scary, place for a small boy in which to play in 1950 and, on my return to Haydon Bridge, I remember having many nightmares in which Italian and German prisoners of war, and large gin or - Alan told me - 'man' traps that littered the floor of the central hall, played a gruesome and bloody part! (Thanks Alan!)



Alan and Kathleen Hetherington with me at Seaton Delaval Hall (circa 1950)

**Below:** The headstone at Seaton Delaval of Fred Hetherington and his wife Isabel Mary Hetherington formerly of Haydon Bridge. Fred was for 50 years, the Agent at Seaton Delaval Hall.



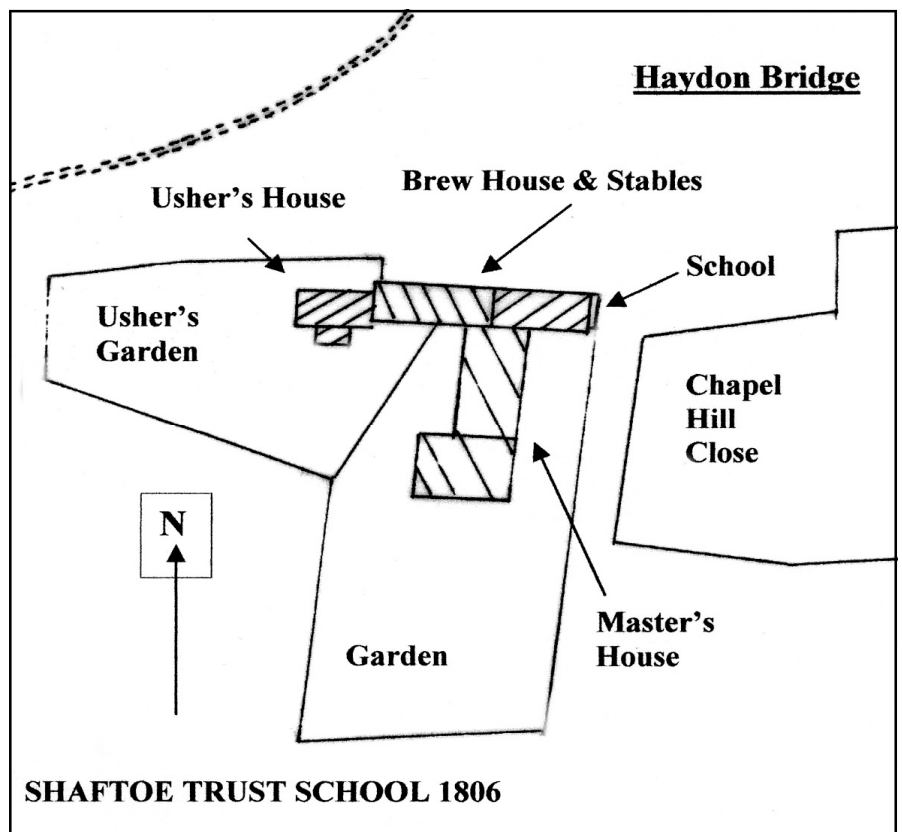
**THE HAYDON VIEWS**  
**Haydon History in Black and White**



**Welcome to a new feature of my Historical Notes in which I will introduce our history in pictures (and captions) from my archive. It seems appropriate to start with one of the earliest images I have of the village; that of John Shaftoe's School and Alms Houses around 1806.**

The 1806 painting from which this photograph is taken was credited to John Martin, having been in the collection of W.S. Walton - whose ancestor was, I understand, a contemporary of Martin at John Shaftoe's School - before being deposited at the Laing Art Gallery.

It might surprise you that in 1806 the school was a single room at the north east corner - the north elevation of which, along with the brew house and stables, follows an approximate line of the school today (See sketch) - whereas the Master's house is the 15 roomed 3 storey building that dominates the scene to the south and east.



The terrace of Alms Houses ('Shaftoe Terrace' today) was built between 1804 and when it was first occupied in 1810.

The artist may have used a little 'licence' with regard to the panorama to the west, but we know that the buildings on the site are very much as they were in 1806. - Other than those of our churches, one of my earliest views of Haydon Bridge.



RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY DARMAID

I've been on the internet, Dusty, and I bought first class flights for me and you. I'm taking you to the Red Lion, Dusty, we'll thrash them at darts with our new flights.

That is fantastic, Raydon, where are you taking me?



Letter to the editor

Sir

On the approach to Haydon Bridge from the east there is a clear warning sign five hundred yards before the staggered junction advising a reduction in speed and describing the nature of the junction. Competent drivers need no further information. Vehicles tend to turn at junctions. There are two further information signs before the junction, the road surface markings also clearly indicate what is happening and there is a direction sign at each branch of the junction.

If you are going to leave the A69 to the right or the left, or indeed if you are going straight on, you need to concentrate on what is happening, but just when you should be at your most alert, insistent lights start flashing serving perfectly to distract. We all understand that it takes but a fleeting lapse of concentration to change a normal manoeuvre into an accident. The new sign is at best superfluous and at worst dangerous.

Yours

Michael Haggie

Alexandra Terrace

Ed. My editorial comment last month struck a chord.

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY DARMAID

I love you! I love you! I really, really love you! I was talking to the beer, Dusty.

I'm flattered, Raydon, but is that you talking or is it the beer?



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**Collapse of stout party.**

In these politically correct times it is so easy to speak without sufficient thought that I live in a state of constant apprehension.

At a motorway service station the other day we decided on a cup of tea to sustain ourselves and meandered into the Costa. The lass, or should I say barista, bustled about very efficiently and soon had the pot of tea, cup and saucer and a tiny jug of milk on the tray. Seeing that there were two of us sharing one pot of tea (we are notoriously tight) she said: 'Would you like extra milk?'

I picked up and peered closely at the tiny jug of milk and said, in complete innocence: 'Yes please. You do have very small jugs!'

*\*Awkward pause\**

After several minutes of helpless mirth we both recovered sufficiently to complete the transaction.

## CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

### CLERGY MESSAGE

*From: Deacon Anne Taylor*

Over the past few weeks I have planted out vegetables in a patch in my garden. As well as frequently watering them because of the unusual dry weather I have had to support them and protect them from the frost and slugs. It has been lovely to watch them grow into stronger, flourishing plants.

One of the initiatives in the Tynedale Circuit this Spring has been 'Growing in Prayer'.

We have been helping, supporting and encouraging people in their prayer life. Although as a Church and as individuals, prayer should underpin everything we seek to do, many people find it difficult to pray, so we have been suggesting different prayer activities to encourage people, some things you might not even think of as a prayer.

We began at the beginning of Lent and have been focusing on a different area each fortnight.

We began with 'Growing in Vision' focusing on what God wants us to do and be as Christians in Tynedale. One of the activities was to look for 'Glimpses of God' in every day life. Most people found this easy to do from looking at new born lambs to watching the sunrise while out with their dog.

People experience God in many different ways.

Another activity was to plant seedlings and watch them grow. As you see the plants grow, pray for growth in your Churches both spiritually and numerically. It has been good to see people take up the challenge.

Just like plants in the garden we can plant, water, protect and encourage them but it is God who makes them grow.

Our last fortnight will co-incide with 'Thy Kingdom Come' a prayer initiative set up by the Arch bishop of Canterbury which encourages people to pray for renewal and revival across the World, by praying during the ten days from Ascension Day on 25th May to Pentecost on 4th June ([www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)).

A wave of prayer across the world!

Look out for different activities in your area.

PS We won't stop praying after this event concludes, we will continue to pray for our Churches and Communities.

If you would like the Church to pray for you or a situation, please contact a Church member.

*Deacon Anne Taylor*

### Services in the Benefice of Haydon Bridge and Beltingham with Henshaw.

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter. St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church  
The Vicarage, Station Yard Tel. 01434 688196

#### **Pentecost:**

##### **Sunday 4 June 2017**

9.30am: Parish Eucharist (BCP), All Hallows' Henshaw

11am: Parish Eucharist with Storybook Church, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

#### **Trinity Sunday:**

##### **Sunday 11 June 2017**

9.30am: Parish Eucharist with Storybook Church, All Hallows' Henshaw

11am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

3pm: God's Tent, location tbc

#### **Trinity 1:**

##### **Sunday 18 June 2017**

9.30am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Beltingham

11am: Parish Eucharist, (BCP) St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

##### **Saturday 24 June**

10.30: Messy Church, All Hallows' Henshaw

#### **Trinity 2:**

##### **Sunday 25 June 2017**

10am: Joint Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

5pm: Evening Worship, Haydon Old Church

#### **Trinity 3:**

##### **Sunday 2 July 2017**

9.30am: Parish Eucharist (BCP), St Cuthbert's Beltingham

11am: Parish Eucharist with Storybook Church, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

### METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

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

#### **4 June**

10am Morning Worship  
Roger Anthony  
6pm CIRCUIT SERVICE  
West End Church, Hexham

#### **11 June**

10am Morning Worship  
Graham Wilson  
6pm Communion Worship  
Supt. Paul Dunstan

#### **18 June**

10am Morning Worship  
Deacon Anne Taylor  
6pm Local Arrangements

#### **25 June**

10am Morning Worship  
Diane Wylie  
6pm Evening Worship  
Joan Bullous

#### **2 July**

10am Morning Worship  
Tom Dodds  
6pm Evening Worship  
Deacon Anne Taylor



### ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

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

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am

Mass each Sunday at 11.00am at Haltwhistle

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

Come and join us for

Storytelling and crafts during the morning service  
at St. Cuthbert's, Haydon Bridge and All Hallows',  
Henshaw. All children are welcome

Sunday 4 June, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 11 June, Henshaw, 9.30

Theme Pentecost - Wind and Fire  
Crafty fun - a dove mobile, kites, windmills.....

Sunday 2 July, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 9 July, Henshaw, 9.30

Theme Doubting Thomas  
Play a listening game  
Make a large collage of Jesus

Learn and grow together with Jesus

Children must be accompanied by an adult  
For more information, contact the team at  
[storybookchurch@gmail.com](mailto:storybookchurch@gmail.com)

### CHRISTIAN AID 2017 HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION

Many thanks to all who donated and all who gave of their  
time to help this worthy cause.

The total raised will be published in the July edition.

### The Shaftoe Charities

#### Shaftoe Educational Foundation GRANTS

If you are: A student leaving school and needing educational support **OR** starting a trade or apprenticeship **AND** your family home is in Haydon Parish then you may be eligible for an education grant.

The Foundation provides grants to promote the education of residents, or the children of residents, of Haydon Parish. This means that:

Students undertaking further or higher education academic courses can apply for a support grant for ALL years of their course.

Students taking vocational courses or apprenticeships can apply for a support grant, and/or a contribution to the cost of their tools.

The governors are meeting on 13th July and completed grant application forms need to be received by the Clerk at least 10 days before the meeting to be considered. Applications not received before the deadline will be deferred to the following meeting.

For a grant application form or to talk through applying for a grant please:

Go to our website [www.shaftoecharities.org.uk](http://www.shaftoecharities.org.uk) or Email Peter Fletcher, The Clerk/Ann Shearer, the Assistant Clerk at: [info@shaftoecharities.org.uk](mailto:info@shaftoecharities.org.uk), or write to The Clerk, The Office, 15 Shaftoe Terrace, Haydon Bridge NE47 6BW

Allen Valleys  
churches Together



Miscellaneous craft of Fibres 115 12-19

## Allen Valleys Crafted Miracles

This 'unmissable exhibition' of 12 scenes from the Gospels  
crafted by local groups will be on show at

St John of Beverley Church

Haydon Bridge NE 47 6LP

June 10th - June 22nd

Access & Refreshments will be available on:

Saturdays, Sundays & Wenesdays

10.30am - 3.30pm

Includes contributions from Haydon Bridge Messy Church &  
St John's Parish as well as a range of Allen Valley groups  
plus a display of Vatican Stamps from St Wilfred's Haltwhistle

For further info contact: Pat Devlin 01434 618306 [patdev48@btinternet.com](mailto:patdev48@btinternet.com)

## METHODIST CHURCH

### A MUSICAL NIGHT

WITH A

### UKELE BAND

from Hexham

JULY 8th 7.30 pm

TICKETS £6

(INCLUDES SUPPER AFTERWARDS)  
CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE DOOR

ALL WELCOME

### Coffees at the Methodist Church

Every Tuesday and Thursday 10 am to 12 noon  
These sessions are run by local Church members in turn and  
take place around the Coffee Tables. Please come in for a  
friendly chat - tea/coffee/biscuits  
Stay as long or as short a time as you wish  
A warm welcome is given to everyone.

### Messy Church

Wednesday 14th June 3.30 pm

Methodist Church

All children welcome

# News From The Bridge



A children's crafts session was held at The Bridge on Monday 10th April. Jackie, from Hexham library, led the activities with support from volunteer librarians and the parents. This time activities had an Easter theme: bunny masks; chickens in eggs and an egg mobile. At the end the children enjoyed an Easter egg hunt and Easter refreshments.



There are places for a maximum of eleven children on the craft sessions, so please remember that it is essential to book beforehand.

**Local Information**  
**Tourist guides**  
**Local events**  
**Village maps**

**COMPUTERS**

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Printing, photocopying,  
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small charge  
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Access to archives £1/hour

The Golden Egg Reading Challenge ran throughout April. Children collected a lucky ticket every time they visited the library to borrow a book, or if they enrolled a friend. The Golden Egg tickets were put in a draw. And the LUCKY WINNER IS **VINNIE THOMPSON**

**DON'T FORGET THE HAYDON HUNDRED**  
**10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE** Are you taking part or helping ?



# Haydon LOCAL ARTISTS

Haydon Bridge Local Artists

# Summer Exhibition

Sunday 25th June

'til

Saturday 1st July 2017

10am till 6pm

## Haydon Bridge Community Centre

An exhibition of paintings,  
sculpture, photography  
and embroidery,  
including art works from  
the pupils of  
Shaftoe Trust First School.

# Admission FREE



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BAKE**

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KNEAD YOUR HELP!**

We invite you to cook up a storm by baking in support of Tynedale Hospice at Home. You could host your own bake sale, coffee morning, afternoon tea or open garden for friends and family. What about getting involved at your place of work? Go on, get creative in the kitchen to help us raise some dough!

Our Big Tynedale Bake takes place during:

**SPRING & SUMMER 2017**

If you would like to rise to the challenge, visit [www.tynedalehospice.com/The-Big-Tynedale-Bake](http://www.tynedalehospice.com/The-Big-Tynedale-Bake) or contact a member of our team: T: 01434 686 464 or E: [fundraising@tynedalehospice.com](mailto:fundraising@tynedalehospice.com)

Tynedale Hospice at Home, 1 Shaftoe Place, Shaftoe Park, Ashby Road, Haydon, ND4 4TE.  
Registered Charity Number: 2091173  
T: 01434 686 464 E: [fundraising@tynedalehospice.com](mailto:fundraising@tynedalehospice.com)  
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*\*Written (on the back of a shopping list) the day after Steven's birth.*

**THE MEETING**

*The long, long months of waiting  
Have reached an end at last.  
The days of wondering, hoping, longing  
To see your face have passed.  
I've known the thrill of holding you  
And whispering my love  
And felt your hand in mine, my dear.  
A joy all else above.  
The greatest thrill of all my life,  
My moment of greatest joy,  
Was when the nurse showed you to me  
And said "It's a little boy."*

Nearly sixty four years later and through the clouded consciousness, distress and disorientation of dementia, pain, opiates and an awareness of imminent death, my Mum's last words to me, spoken with infinite tenderness and holding me steadily in the gaze of her tired old grey eyes, were:

"I love you so much!"

There is no superior profession to that of maternity nor is there anything more profound and enduring than a mother's love - absolute, unconditional and eternal.

*Steven*

\*The italics are verbatim

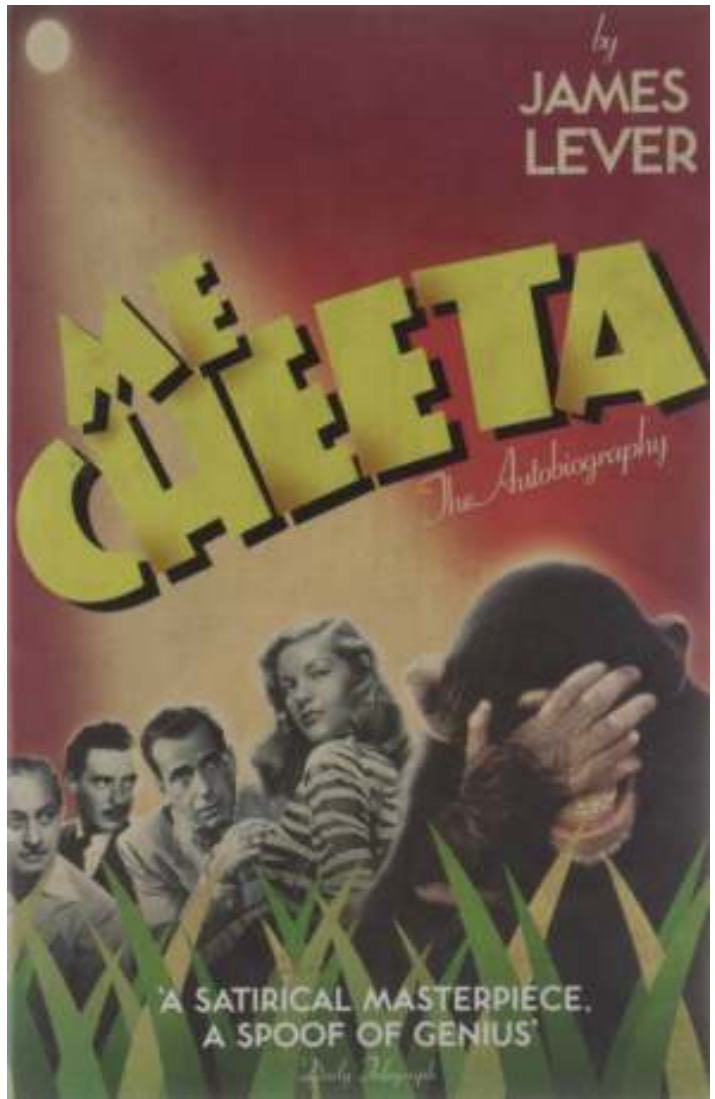
**Curious Naturalists**  
**A talk by David Hirst**

An affectionate look at some of the people from the north of England who have contributed to a better understanding of our natural world.

From hermits and heretics to Squires and seafarers, this is a story of eccentric adventure, derring-do, scientific curiosity and armchair deduction.

In a time-travelling tour we'll find out about how Anglo Saxon seafarers in Northumbria made some of the earliest observations of wildlife, a Morpeth priest banished by Henry VIII made important discoveries based on his knowledge of the birds of the Tyne, how a lad from Cherryburn produced one of the first bird identification books, and why a Yorkshire Squire took a ride on an alligator in pursuit of scientific knowledge.

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 7-9pm  
Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall  
Tickets £5 including refreshments  
Call 07981 101651 to book  
Café Scientifique/Let's Get Together



**Book Review**

You'll have heard the one about an infinite number of monkeys with an infinite number of typewriters eventually producing the complete works of Shakespeare - well, this book is the autobiography (sic) of Cheetah the chimp who accompanied Johnny Weissmuller through the Tarzan films in the 30s and 40s. It is a very sly book, it is knowing and insightful beyond what you would expect of a chimp - even one with an unquenchable thirst for booze, drugs, fags and fast food.

Many of the questions you have been harbouring for years (about who did what, with what and to whom in Hollywood) are answered in this book. Secrets are uncovered, no blushes are spared and the number of egos and reputations that are skewered is large. Only one who was there could have written this book. Only one who could observe without being noticed could amass this much scuttlebutt and tawdry scandal.

Cheetah's worldview is revealing concerning the awful truth of life in the wild. His relationship with Weissmuller was one of helpless love and adoration which seems to have been largely reciprocated, as Weissmuller was singularly unlucky-in-love with his own species.

Chapter 8, entitled F\*\*\*\*\* Bitch, has been withdrawn following legal advice...

Fourth Estate (28 May 2009)

ISBN-10: 0007280165

ISBN-13: 978-0007280162

*Ed.*



## CARPETS, CRUISE SHIPS & GREETINGS CARDS

A carpet designer once employed by Hugh Mackay Carpets in Durham to design for luxury cruise ships, hotels and high wealth individuals, has now turned her hand to painting land and seascapes, with a selection being hung in a new exhibition, entitled:

“Land, Sea and Sky” at the Alledale Forge gallery throughout June.

Former art student Linda Vine’s talents also extended to textile design, then she relocated from Newcastle to Yorkshire to work for seven years on greetings card designs, latterly for Hallmark UK. Her work included contracts for major retailers such as John Lewis, Sainsbury, Marks & Spencer and WH Smith.

She then found success as a freelance designer, creating and producing numerous greetings cards for what was then ‘The Paper House Group’ and ‘International Greetings’, before entering the ministry for twelve years after finding faith in her early twenties. She continued to use her design background in creative direction, while speaking regularly at various conferences and events she organised. She enjoyed a season living in sunnier Texas, before returning to

the UK in 2011 with her daughter, now a teenager.

Once back home Linda set up her own greetings cards company but explained: “I had a strong desire to do something completely different and after a time of artistic experimentation I discovered my greatest passion when I



began my first landscape painting. I was completely hooked, and now feel I have found my niche in creating impressionistic style landscapes and seascapes, often described by others as conveying a certain peace and tranquillity”.

She added: “I find the outdoors with its huge seas, skies and landscapes amazing and wonderful to capture under different light. Whether I’m in the countryside or by the coast, it helps me to breathe deeply, wind down and relax; and it also reminds me that there is something far greater out there, which helps keep things in perspective. I now live

in Durham city and continue with my paintings and commissions, particularly of my favourite locations - Northumberland, Yorkshire, Devon and Cornwall.

[info@lindavineart.co.uk](mailto:info@lindavineart.co.uk)

[www.lindavineart.co.uk](http://www.lindavineart.co.uk)



Geeswood. Tony Mess-



## THE NORTH EAST IN TWELVE IMAGES 6 SHILDON

All right, I'll admit it. I'm one of those clergy – and there are a lot of us - who love trains. When I was a youngster growing up in London, my grandmother would spend hours on platform 1 at King's Cross while I watched Gresley Pacifics like Mallard glide out of the station at the head of premier express trains. They were bound for exotic places like Durham, Newcastle, Berwick-upon-Tweed and Edinburgh. How the idea of the "far north" fascinated me! It would be many years before I would get to know these places.



But now, here we are, living in retirement by a railway line. It doesn't matter that it's not a main line. The Newcastle to Carlisle route is both beautiful and of real historical interest, being the oldest cross-country line in Britain opened in 1837. For as locals all know, the North East pioneered the building of railways. Wagonways had been

used in the coal and mineral industry since the 17th century. It was only a matter of time when passengers began to be transported on the iron roads that spread across the countryside.

The Stockton and Darlington line was opened in 1825. It soon colonised the valleys of West Durham. Its original western terminus was Shildon, near Bishop Auckland.



There was already a colliery here. But this little town became a byword for the railway industry when the S&D, soon to be taken over by the North Eastern Railway, established the Shildon Wagon Works. Some of the world's earliest steam engines were built here. And although the works closed in 1984, Shildon continues to be a focus of railway heritage as home to Locomotion, part of the National Rail Museum whose mother house is at York.

You don't have to know about trains or railway history to enjoy this fascinating museum. And while we grown-ups of a certain age can become dewy-eyed with nostalgia for

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**Haydon Bridge Tandoori**



long-lost locomotives and carriages that remind us of our youth, children love it too for the beauty (as I see it) of these grand dinosaurs that are so different from anything they have experienced on a modern railway. My last visit was for the great gathering of the six surviving A4 Gresley “Pacifics” including the holder of the world steam speed record, 60022 Mallard.

But Shildon, the “Cradle of the Railways”, isn’t only a celebration of the old and venerable. The collection contains, for example, the prototypes of the renowned Deltic diesel locomotive that used to hurry up and down the East Coast Main Line in my student days, and the ill-fated Advances Passenger Train or APT that was going to be the

engine (or maybe that’s because of its name which means “without equal”). Either way, the North East left an indelible mark on Britain’s railway history – and indeed the world’s.



To complement a visit to Shildon, the Beamish Museum near Stanley in the north of the county is a must. But while you are in this part of County Durham, you may want to visit Auckland Castle, the historic home of the Bishops of Durham with its marvellous paintings of the Sons of Jacob by Zurbarán. The palace is now undergoing extensive refurbishment, and is home to the Kynren spectacle about the history of England that was launched in 2016 and is returning to the grounds this coming summer.



future of British Railways.

The train shed with its splendid collection of rolling stock and railwayana is only part of the museum. The site is half a mile long and sits alongside the still functioning branch-line from Darlington to Bishop Auckland. As you walk the path and admire the preserved 19th century railway buildings along it, Northern’s unloved Pacer trains squeal and growl their way up and down the line adding a suitably authentic touch to the environment.



The buildings seem quintessentially County Durham: unshowy, workmanlike, honest, whether it is the goods shed, the coal drop or the original railway workshops. At the end of the trail – or the start if you are doing it the right way round, there is a building that houses the legendary steam locomotive Sans Pareil. It was built in 1829 by the railway pioneer Timothy Hackworth whose cottage you can also see by the railway. The locomotive was entered in the “Rainhill Trials”, a competition to find the best locomotive to run trains on the Liverpool and Manchester Railway. George and Robert Stephenson’s Rocket won – but Sans Pareil was perhaps the more romantic

The hidden gem in the Wear Valley is, for me, the little church at Escomb. It is a Saxon building that was already there in the time of St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede in the late 7th century. It is still in use as a parish church. What would it have to say about the heavy industry that would grow up and flourish around it, only to suffer in our own times a long and painful decline? “To live is to change, and to live long is to change much” said John Henry Newman. The North East, where the railways were born, where ships were built, steel was made and where coal was once king, knows the truth of this perhaps more than any other part of England.

*Michael Sadgrove*

# **CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS AT THE GENERAL HAVELOCK HAYDON BRIDGE**

**All quizzes start at 8.15 pm - cost is £1.50 per person.  
In addition to the Quiz, the evening includes the famous  
‘Beer Question’, Refreshments and a Raffle.**

**Team size from 2 to 6 (optimum 4-5).**

Tables can be booked in advance over the bar.

## **Charities being Supported:**

**June 20<sup>th</sup> Haydon Bridge Flower and Veg Show Queenie Quiz**

**July 18<sup>th</sup> Haydon Bridge Health Centre**

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> Haydon Bridge GITS**

**Our charity slots for 2017 have now been filled and we have already reached March 2018 so if you wish to nominate a charity then please contact John Harrison (aka Queenie) via the General Havelock or on [Johnandaveril@aol.com](mailto:Johnandaveril@aol.com).**

**Raised so far this year ---- £818**



## **HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB NATURE CLUB EVENING WALKS**



### **CIRCULAR WALKS**

**STARTING AT 6.30 PM**

**8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE FALLOW FIELD FELL – MEET AT LAY-BY  
BY ST OSWALD’S CHURCH**

**22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE HEXHAMSHIRE - MEET AT HEXHAM RACECOURSE**

## A VIEW FROM UP THERE ....

John Harrison

Looking ahead to June 8<sup>th</sup>, it's just an impression I have, but I seem to be spending an awful lot of time voting on things recently, so I thought I'd start this month's contribution with a couple of political comments from a friend of mine. Thinking of our EU vote last year, "Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do here today, may be a burning issue somewhere else tomorrow" and with one eye on matters meteorological "All of us could take a lesson from the weather – it pays to attention to criticism". Which brings me to April's weather .....

April was mainly cool with occasional sunny spells and was exceptionally dry. With the wind from a generally westerly direction the first eleven days were quite warm with no night air frosts. Although occasionally cloudy and dull, there were some very warm spells, notably on the 8th and 9th, the temperature on the latter reaching 18.0 degC. The most noteworthy feature of these first eleven days was an almost total lack of rainfall, Apart from a few light showers on the 1st it was the 12th before any significant rainfall arrived. With high pressure located to the south of the UK the fresh westerly airflow became occasionally fresh to strong. Less settled conditions arrived in the 12th in the form of a transient low pressure system but rainfall remained showery in nature. A polar airstream became established in its wake, which dominated the weather for much of the remainder of the month and for twelve of the remaining days the wind came from a northerly quarter. Daytime temperatures fell sharply from the 13th and there were early-morning ground frosts, the screen air temperature falling to -2.2 degC early on the 18th . Easter Day (16th) was not only cold and raw, but was the wettest day (5.1 mm), providing 36% of the month's total.

Weak frontal systems brought some slightly warmer weather 20th – 23rd but high pressure became established to the west of the UK with the resulting wind coming from the north. Showery rain turned to snow pellets and sleet on the 24th with further falls over the following few days – was this the 'Lambing Storm' ? Conditions improved as weak frontal systems tracked across the UK from the 27th but by the end of the month high pressure was developing over Scandinavia which promised a spell of cold easterly winds.

The ground was very dry by the end of the month, which has continued in to May. Streams and rivers are running at abnormally low levels for this time of year and the word which is beginning to rear its ugly head is DROUGHT. At its simplest, this is basically a shortage of water but it develops in stages (1) meteorological drought (2) soil moisture or agricultural drought and (3) hydrological drought. There is no universal definition of either the second or third of these, which are defined in terms of their effect on plants and water resources. However, there is a UK Met Office definition of meteorological drought which you may wish to bear in mind - *absolute drought* is a period of 15 consecutive days with a daily rainfall of less than 0.2 mm of rain; a *dry spell* is a period of 15 consecutive days none of which records a rainfall of 1 mm or more (Met Office Glossary). So between April and May Haydon Bridge has had a dry spell but not a meteorological drought (by one day).

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

Month	Average Maximum Temperature (Daytime) Deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Average Minimum Temperature (Night-time) Deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Rainfall mm	Percentage of long-term average
April	11.8	+0.3	3.8	0.0	14.1	29%

And finally Gladys tells me sorry about two dozy young men in her village who had heard that fish can be caught by hand by hanging by the heels from a bridge. So they tried this on the bridge just outside the village. After a minute or two, the one who was dangling down called to his mate to pull him up urgently. "Why, have you caught a fish?" To which the reply was "No, there's a train coming".



# 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.

## 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

Contact Dave on 07810 336 537  
or [dave.thornhill@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dave.thornhill@tiscali.co.uk) or the website  
[www.pitchero.com/clubs/westtynedalejuniors](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/westtynedalejuniors).

ALL WELCOME.

## HAYDON BRIDGE DANCE CLUB

### SEQUENCE DANCING

EVERY MONDAY

7.30 to 10.00pm

Haydon Bridge

Community Centre



Only £1.50 inc. tea &  
biscuits

DANCING IS FOR FUN

Ask for details at:

01434 684 452

## VICTIM SUPPORT

*Working for  
victims of crime.*

If you are a victim of crime, we can offer support in practical and emotional ways. Just a phone call away.

Call *Leanne* at:

01661830770

82, Front St. Prudhoe.

NE42 5PU

Or

0167082234 (Bedlington)

## SHAFTOE SINGERS

(used to be The Shaftoe Chorale)

7.30pm Friday evenings

- term times only

Very wide ranging repertoire.

All voices welcome — experienced or not.

Methodist Church Hall

## Computer Club

(Beginners Welcome)

Catton Chapel Tuesdays 2-4pm

Why not come and join a group of people who would like to improve their digital skills by sharing knowledge between friends.

01434683154

(Free entry but donations for heating and refreshments welcome)

HAYDON BRIDGE LOCAL ARTISTS' GROUP

## HAYDON ART CLUB

Open to all, first session free.

Meets 6.30 - 9.15pm every other Wednesday at

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

June 14th and the 28th

## Haydon Bridge & Allendale Medical Practice

Monday to Friday: The Health Centre is open continuously  
from 8.00am until 6.00pm

(except for the afternoon of the **fourth** 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': **01434 684 216**

All phone calls for dispensing or prescriptions: **01434 688351**

E-mail address: [Admin@GP-A84045.NHS.UK](mailto:Admin@GP-A84045.NHS.UK)

Website [www.haydonbridgesurgery.co.uk](http://www.haydonbridgesurgery.co.uk)

## HAYDON BRIDGE JUDO CLUB

Keep Fit, Have Fun! Young or Old.

Tuesdays at HB High School

Juniors: 6pm - 7pm Seniors: 7pm - 9pm

BJA Qualified Coaches

Contact Michael on: 01 434 684 783

## WHIST DRIVES Langley Village Hall

Fortnightly on  
Saturdays  
at 7.00pm.

£1.00 entrance  
(Everyone welcome)

## CHESS CLUB

at the

Haydonian Social Club

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

Phone Dave 01434 344844 (evenings)

## Hexham Beacon Club

31st May Tyneside Cinema  
7th June Church in Papua New Guinea  
14th June My Iceland Trip  
21st June Peter Cook & Dudley Moore  
28th June 1916 Three Battles

On Wednesdays 10-30 to 12-00 at  
Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Hexham

# Writing Workshop

in the

## Community Centre

On

### Sunday 25th June

*It will be £2 to participate  
and the workshop will run 2pm - 4pm.*

### The General Havelock Inn

01434 684 376

email:generalhavelock@aol.com

Riverside Restaurant

Haydon Bridge. NE47 6ER

#### Opening times:

Mon 5.15 - 12.00

Tues/Weds/Thurs/Fri 12 - 4.00 5.15 - 12.00

Sat/Sun 11.30 - 4.00 5.15 - 12.00

OAP's meals half price on Tuesdays  
(lunchtime and evening)

**Last Friday of the month  
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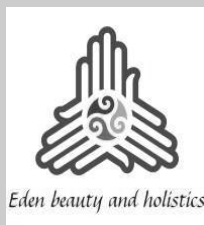
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## Regular Activities in the Community Centre

### Monday

Playgroup – 9.15am

Nicola Grint. 07879999289

Yoga – 10am

aliciafearon@btinternet.com

Dance Club - 7.30pm

Audrey Phillips. 01434684452

Craft class - 1pm (bi monthly)

Joyce Sim. 01434 684704

### Tuesday

Tiny Tots – 9.15am

Nicola Grint. 07879999289

Keep Fit - 10am

caroleannprice@hotmail.co.uk

### Wednesday

Kalmababy - 12.45 - 2.30

Catherine Roberts 07730566237

catherine@hexham.kalmababy.co.uk

Yoga - 7.00pm

aliciafearon@btinternet.com

Art Group - 6.30pm (bi monthly)

Barbara Wardle. 01434 688886

### Thursday

Bowls Club - 7.30pm

Sandra Bough. 01434 684372

Parish Council - 7.30pm (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday)

Eileen Charlton. 01434 684505

### Friday

Playgroup – 9.15am

Nicola Grint. 07879999289

Keep Fit – 10am

caroleannprice@hotmail.co.uk

RNLI - Bridge Afternoon - 1pm (as arranged)

### Saturday

Coffee mornings - 10am

Various parish organisations.

### Sunday

Hornby Model Railways - 10am

(Every 2nd Sunday - alternate months)

grant.robinson@tiscali.co.uk

For new bookings and information:

[Valeriebell2@gmail.com](mailto:Valeriebell2@gmail.com)



## Langley Castle Launches Search for 'Langley Greeters'

Langley Castle Hotel and Restaurant in Langley-on-Tyne - the champion of Northumberland's first ever 'Northumberland Day' - is ready to take the visitor experience in Northumberland to another level, by creating the county's first 'Greeter' programme.

If successful, Langley Castle will also give the north of England its first 'Greeter' initiative – something believed to only exist in England within London, the counties of Kent, Suffolk, Brighton and Cirencester.

Langley is announcing its desire to launch its 'Langley Greeter Programme' at a time that coincides with a key anniversary. April 2017, marks the 10th anniversary of Langley's owner of 30 years, Dr Stuart Madnick, reuniting Langley Castle the property, with the titles of 'Baron of Langley' and 'Lord of the Manor of Langley'.

The title was stripped from the castle in 1731 as a punishment, after two of its former owners participated in the Jacobite uprisings in 1715. After these, the Crown conferred Langley's property and titles, including its lucrative lead mines, upon the Greenwich Hospital – a Crown charity. Although the castle was bought back in 1882 by former Sheriff of Northumberland, Cadwallader John Bates, the title only returned in April 2007, thanks to Dr Madnick's efforts.

Langley Castle has been part of Northumberland's landscape since 1350 and has always been proud of its heritage and place in history. It is also located in an area where there is a massive sense of community and where celebrating Northumbrian life is a passion. For all of these reasons, Langley is confident of being able to set up a Greeter programme for UK visitors, for those travelling from the USA, Canada and Australasia, and for those with English language skills who have journeyed from other parts of the globe.

A 'Greeter' programme is something that has operated hugely successfully in New York, where 'Big Apple Greeters' are local people who hook up with visitors to the city and show them its highlights and hidden gems, through their eyes and perspective.

Greeters share their time with visitors to provide unique insights, as they interpret the things to see and do through their own personal stories.

'Langley Greeters' will be volunteers who meet up with visitors to Langley Castle and take them around the local area, communicating their own experiences of growing up or living there. They could be great raconteurs, dropping into a conversation wonderful tidbits that relate to real life beyond the tourism guide, or welcoming hosts who want to share a little bit of their lifestyle, and a cup of tea and cake, with visitors to the area.

The search for 'Langley Greeters' is a perfect fit with Langley's initiative of Northumberland Day, which took place this year on May 28, for the very first time. Both concepts are about celebrating life in Northumberland, past and present, and enlivening every aspect of Northumberland, from food and drink to sport, and from heritage to landscape.

Additionally, Langley's owner, Dr Stuart Madnick, is himself an American, so creating the very first Greeter programme in the north of England makes perfect sense.

Langley is inviting local people from the lower Tyne Valley to put themselves forward as greeters. Greeters will

be pictured and promoted on the Langley Castle website. If we can find a minimum of five greeters, it could also possibly become part of the Global Greeter Network.

Dr Stuart Madnick says: "The search for Langley Greeters is very exciting and we hope we shall soon find some passionate individuals who want to share their stories and 'best places to go' with visitors and, in turn, be enriched by hearing about their lives. This is a very fitting accompaniment to our initiative of Northumberland Day and a great way to mark my 10th anniversary as the official 'Baron of Langley'.

"The initiative will put Langley firmly on the map as a go-ahead tourism business that goes the extra mile to give its guests, diners and day visitors a unique and unforgettable experience.

**To volunteer to become a Langley Greeter, please email [manager@langleycastle.com](mailto:manager@langleycastle.com), or call 01434 688888. Fun times lay ahead for both visitors and greeters, as each exchange stories and share each other's culture.**

## Debt Advice services at

### Citizens Advice Northumberland

Free, confidential, independent advice on money worries is available at all offices of Citizens Advice Northumberland.

This service is vital to people who are struggling to pay bills, make loan repayments and pay important things like their rent and council tax – these problems are becoming more prevalent when people across the area are losing their jobs or having cuts to their working hours. Out of control debts can have serious effects on people's lives leading to loss of their home, possessions or liberty. It is also a major contributor to ill health.

Trained staff will help people get their finances in order and get them back in control of their money and their lives. As part of the help, staff will check if there is any extra income or benefits clients could claim.

Advice can come in many shapes and forms; we can provide self-help packs, give telephone or face-to-face advice and webchat or refer you to another appropriate service.

Call our Adviceline on **03444 111 444**

Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm

On-line help is also available at

**<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/web-chat-service/>**

#### Hexham Office

The Community Centre, Gilesgate, Hexham. NE46 3NP

Drop-in sessions

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am to 2pm

#### Prudhoe Office

Spetchells Centre, 58 Front Street, Prudhoe. NE42 5PU

Drop-in sessions, Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 2pm

#### Haltwhistle Office

Masonic Hall, Greenholme Road, Haltwhistle.

NE49 0AX

Drop-in session, Thursday, 10am to 2pm

**Find your nearest Citizens Advice**

**Northumberland office at**

**[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/northumberland](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/northumberland)**

## 'What my party will do in government that will affect the residents of Haydon Parish'

This question has been posed to all the candidates in the general election. Responses are printed verbatim.

*Continued on back page:*

### UKIP

We feel there are basically 4 areas that each community require in order to feel as though they are not isolated;

Transport, NHS, Energy, Planning Applications.

Transport - Restore the Postal Bus connecting isolated communities to link with main stream transport services. This could on the basis of booking the service in advance to allow the Post Office flexibility as to how they accommodate this service & communicating with the GP Surgery.

NHS - The commitment to a Free Health Service

Working with the local community & GP Practice to provide sustainable ongoing support particularly for elderly. This may incur additional cost if the service that the Practice provides is expanded to accommodate both the needs of the GP & patients.

We would also be looking at the relationship of the Care Home within the Community, as there are instances where the staff in those Homes feels as though they are not appreciated This would also help the Residents as they may feel as though they are not isolated.

Energy - In future all Wind Farms are positioned off shore, this would allow more Turbines to be erected without scaring our landscape.

Incentives for the use of Heat Exchangers & other forms of renewable energy

Planning - The scourge of communities where the appetite of the property developer over rides the wishes of the community.

In the Haydon Bridge ,Allendale are you are privileged to live & perhaps work in a beautiful part of Northumberland & as with communities like yours the question is ' can you afford to live their ' ?

Therefore the needs of the local community comes first in any planning application over say 10 homes & would require a majority decision by the effected existing residents.

These are a brief summary by UKIP of what we could achieve if we were in a position of influence .But as you know we are a very young Party growing from the 1 Topic Agenda of the last 20 yrs , which brought together 17 million + voters who believed in Democracy .

We are growing & today our focus is reminding Theresa May we are watching, but importantly supporting of Brexit Negotiators in their negotiations with the EU who sole aim is to preserve the EU as all it does is to affording itself more power and more control. It is here where nuisance turns to malevolence and becomes an affront to democracy.

I would be pleased to meet any of your readers wish to meet me in a group session.

*Stuart Miles*

### CONSERVATIVE

Last summer, after the country voted to leave the European Union, Britain needed certainty, stability and strong leadership; That is why I backed Theresa May to become our Prime Minister and why I am proud to be standing with her in this election.

Since Theresa May became Prime Minister, that is what she has delivered. Britain is leaving the European Union, and what matters now is getting the right leadership and the right plan for our new relationship with Europe. That means we need to control our own money, our own laws and our own borders.

That is why we are having this General Election. To decide who will help Britain through the difficult challenges ahead.

Here in our patch I am proud of my own local record, working with you to fight for Tynedale over the last 7 years. Working to keep Haydon Bridge High open when the Council wanted to close it, fighting for our NHS, and fighting for more jobs and investment here in our area. I will always be a strong local champion for our community.

The country faces a clear choice between strong and stable leadership in the national interest with Theresa May as Prime Minister, or weak and unstable coalition government, led by Jeremy Corbyn, propped up by the Liberal Democrats, with Nicola Sturgeon and the SNP.

Your support for the Conservatives will make it harder for opposition politicians who want to stop Theresa May from getting on with her job delivering our Plan for Britain. Most importantly your support for the Conservatives makes Theresa May stronger when she negotiates for Britain with the prime ministers, presidents and chancellors of the European Union. That I why I urge you vote Conservative on 8th June.

*PP. Guy Opperman*



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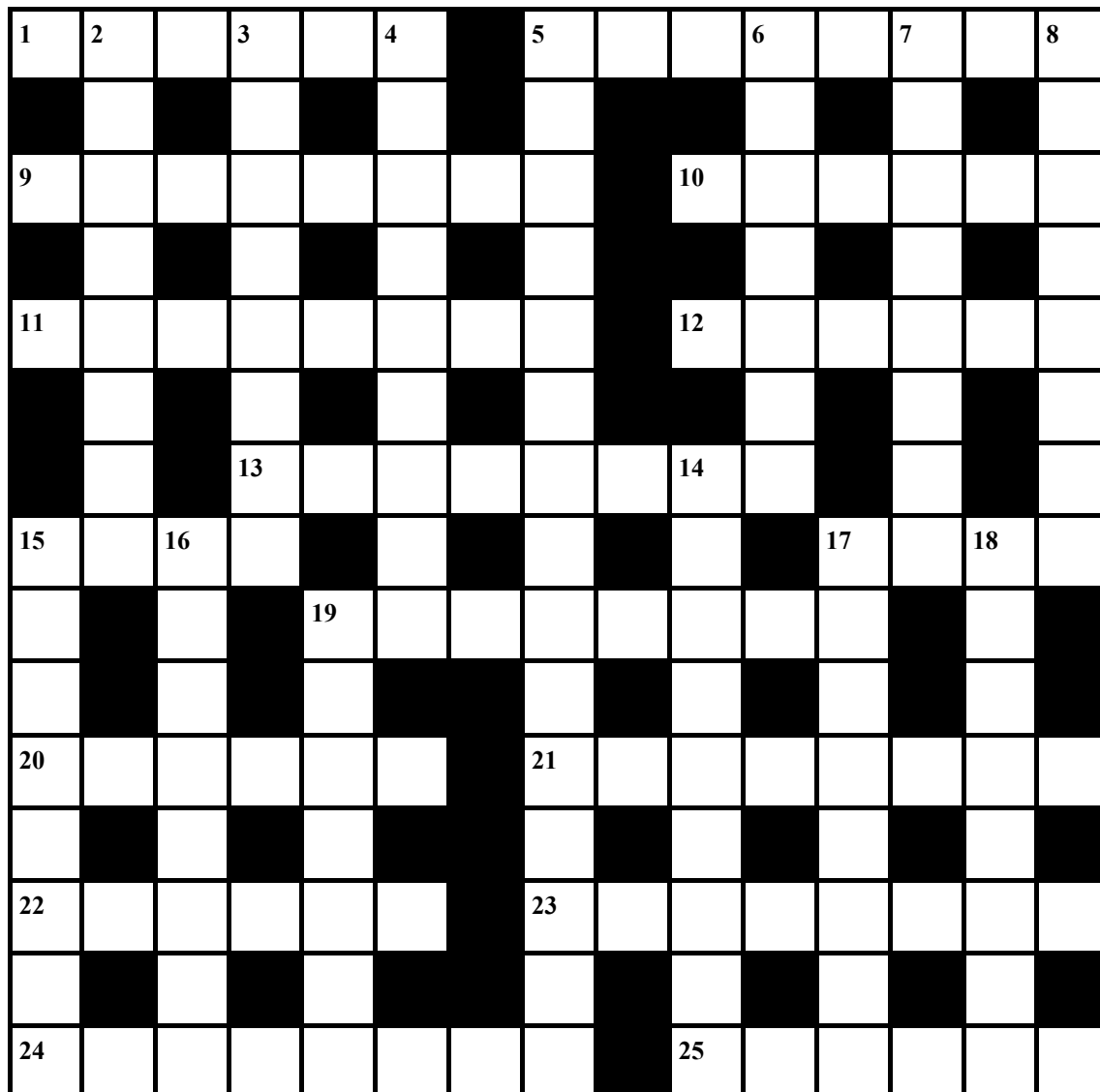
# THE HAYDONIAN CRUCIVERBALIST

June 2017

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NAME.....

ADDRESS.....



Please drop answers off at Claire's by 20th June (or post to the editor)

MAY'S WINNER

Denis Bell

NUMBER OF ENTRIES

6  
(3 correct)

## ACROSS

1. Loads if Buddhism gets into turned turf (6)
5. Bread rose a second time to be censured (8)
9. Get up before pick-me-up fails to finish off pasta dish (8)
10. Firm about tailless fly in the French spirit (6)
11. 'Tis a cut I made out being developmentally different (8)
12. Alarm bell sounding out poison (6)
13. Those demanding an alternative tax score (8)
15. When family leaves Scottish peninsula only rubber band remains (4)
17. Pastime of le Carre? (1-3)
19. Dog was placed between two fellows (7)
20. Cover with trees in the middle of Hexham (6)
21. Toy fixed after move to cleanse it (8)
22. Hang about! Do it with intent! (6)
23. Tape tore apart in musical, G & S possibly (8)
24. Hangers of nylon stocking no queen defers (8)

## DOWN

2. Oddly, bomb hit true, array written off in BMD (8)
3. Old French friend born whilst being tested (8)
4. No long autumn to make less than required (9)
5. Shall we shelter in the kennels when it does this? (4,4,3,4)
6. Tumultous debts rot (7)
7. Paints right out and disappears (8)
8. Last month, gently face off in seemly fashion (8)
14. Tropical plants from the sky (rather like 5 down?) (9)
15. Chocolate mushrooms? (8)
16. Sheep attacks car in shop window (8)
17. Me first, reversing agent in following, quite unpractised (8)
18. For Latin apt ruler, he gains (8)
19. No luxury in Faust, eremite par excellence (7)



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### MAY'S ANSWERS

#### ACROSS

1. POLEMIC
5. REQUIRE
9. LUG
10. POMEGRANATE
11. CARDIGAN
12. ABUSED
15. NEEP
16. TROTSKYITE
18. BLACKBOARD
19. WIPE
22. LONELY
23. ET CETERA
25. GLASTONBURY
27. APT
28. AGAINST
29. KINETIC

#### DOWN

1. PELICAN
2. LEGERDEMAIN
3. MAP PIN
4. COMPATRIOT
5. RAGS
6. QUADBIKE
7. IRA
8. EPERDUE
13. SUICIDE PACT
14. STARSTRUCK
17. SKELETON
18. BOLOGNA
20. ELASTIC
21. KENYAN
24. INST
26. AGA

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Tuesday	CLOSED FOR ALL OF THE DAY	
Wednesday	11.30 - 1.30	5.00 - 9.00
Thursday	11.30 - 1.30	5.00 - 9.00
Friday	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 9.00
Saturday	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 8.00

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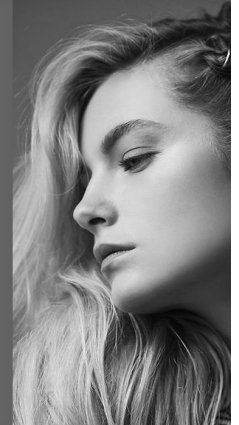
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# HAYDON BRIDGE

## Events 2017

**Saturday 10 June**

The Haydon Hundred cyclo sportif  
[www.haydonhundred.co.uk](http://www.haydonhundred.co.uk)

**Saturday 24 June**

The Haydon Bridge Festival  
[www.haydonbridgefestival.co.uk](http://www.haydonbridgefestival.co.uk)

**Sunday 25 June - Saturday 1 July**

Haydon Local Artists Summer Exhibition  
Community Centre, Ratcliffe Road

**Saturday 8 July**

St Cuthbert's Summer Fete: 2pm

**Saturday 26 August**

Fruit & Veg Show  
The General Havelock Inn

**Sunday 27 August**

2pm Charity Duck Race  
by the Old Bridge and Anchor Hotel

**Saturday 11 November**

Craft Fair – Community Centre

**December 31**

Midnight fireworks from the Old Bridge

### **FURTHER EVENTS INFORMATION:**

**[www.haydon-bridge.co.uk](http://www.haydon-bridge.co.uk)**

### **Brendan Healy - Who is not talking Pollock's.**

What is art? I haven't a clue. What I may perceive as art, you may perceive as a pile of steaming Damian Hurst.

I think public sculpture is a great idea and I think Anthony Gormley's Angel Of The North is a shining example. Originally there was a lot of hooaha from local councillors who were opposed to it but now I bet they feel like right nitwits, as it has become an icon of the North East. It says 'home' to the motorist in the same way that the Tyne Bridge says 'home' to the train passenger.

We have some other great examples of public art in the North East. If you've never seen the Brick Train on Morton Park Industrial Estate near Darlington you're missing a treat, and then there's Northumberlandia in Cramlington, the largest landform sculpture in the world. It is a huge naked woman lying on her back and you really must see it, if you can get past the schoolboys standing 50 abreast, giggling.

I have always maintained that anyone who sets out to create 'art' probably won't. I think that great art is mostly created by great artists just getting on with their jobs.

Did Van Gogh think "I will be remembered for this painting, for its form and insight, for its brush strokes, its emotion?" Or did he think "I hope that alcoholic prostitute up the street likes sunflowers." I also bet that Handel's view wasn't "Now it is complete, my 'Messiah' will feed the souls of future generations." More likely, "I'm glad to see the back of that tune, where's me money?"

When Jocinda, the 16-year-old TV producer had the 'fabulosa' idea of making programmes where people would have their houses decorated, she brought in a team of numpty designers who would often finish off a room by making some art. The framed result always looked as if it had been done by a particularly untalented elephant. I'm very glad that the fashion for these shows seems to have passed and audiences are much more interested in the heady delights of four people who hate each other getting together for dinner.

One of my favourite artists is Alexander Millar. He is Scottish but he lives in the North East now. You cannot look at his 'Gadgie' paintings and not instantly recognise this wonderful character and his companions. Every single picture will make you smile.

My favourite is 'Daybreak.' It is only a tiny stretch to imagine that it was by Monet, and if Sting is looking for the perfect image to illustrate the concept of his musical, The Last Ship, he could do much worse than use Alexander's 'Launch Day'.

I think art gets a very bad name because of the people who represent it. Brian Sewell the art critic talks as if he has a whole tin of plums in his mouth and even though he is very knowledgeable the average person can't take him seriously, and yet the same applies to the violinist Nigel Kennedy for exactly the opposite reasons. He talks like an East End barrow boy and then plays violin in front of a geet posh orchestra, while the audience pay 3 squillion pounds a ticket. I don't really know what to make of it all. My thinking is that art is everywhere, in nature, over the airwaves, in paint or bronze, it makes no difference, if it is art to you then so be it. Me, personally, I like dogs playing cards.

I was working in Daventry this week doing an after-

dinner speech for Makita, the tool company. The audience consisted of employees, dealers and a few Japanese bosses. The bloke who booked me was the Geordie marketing director and at dinner the usual old subject came up. "I hope they understand you, they are from all over the UK and Ireland." I come across this a lot and it's such nonsense. As long as we don't use dialect words and we speak clearly we will all be understood wherever we go. The audience found it much harder to understand the footballer, Ray Parlour, than me and even the Japanese gentlemen laughed at all my jokes, apart from one.

I was playing golf with a Japanese businessman who hit a great shot from the first tee so I said to him "Nice tee shot!" To which he replied, "Do you not think it's a bit tight under my arms?"





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## News from Tynedale Hospice at Home

The Big Tynedale Bake is back!

Tynedale Hospice at Home launches baking campaign to raise some 'dough'

Tynedale Hospice at Home has launched its Big Tynedale Bake campaign and is calling on people across the area to pull on their pinnies and get baking to raise valuable funds to support its work.

Cathy Bates, community fundraiser for Tynedale Hospice at Home, said "We launched our first Big Tynedale Bake last year and it was a great success, raising an incredible £5,600 to support our services. This year we're hoping to smash that total and raise over £10,000.

"Whether you're part of a community group, school, a local business or an individual wanting to host something for friends and family, we're appealing to everyone to get involved. We can supply you with our Big Tynedale Bake Fundraising Pack which includes everything you need to stage a great event."

Ideas for your big Bake with friends, families and colleagues:

- **Host a coffee morning or afternoon tea**
- **Host a bake sale**
- **Have a bake-off – who is the next Mary Berry?**
- **Sell your baked goods in return for donations to the hospice.**

All funds raised will support the work of the Hospice which provides palliative nursing care to people in their own homes, Family Support Services and a Hospital Transport Service to people living in Tynedale, West Northumberland, Ponteland and the surrounding areas.

**The Big Tynedale Bake will be taking place throughout the summer.**

**If you'd like to get involved, please email:**

**fundraising@tynedalehospice.com,**

**telephone 01434 606 444**

**or visit [www.tynedalehospice.com](http://www.tynedalehospice.com).**

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## ‘What my party will do in government that will affect the residents of Haydon Parish’

This question has been posed to all the candidates in the general election. Responses are printed verbatim.

*Continued from page 25:*

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

People have been shocked and frightened by Conservative plans to introduce a “dementia tax” – the after-death seizure of the family home to pay for support services received by elderly people in their own house. How much you pay for care should not depend on the lottery of whether you die suddenly from a heart attack or have the misfortune to suffer from a long degenerative illness such as Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s. This attack on social care comes on top of swingeing cuts to the NHS which have seen the end of 24 hour admissions at Hexham General, leaving the sick and elderly stranded at Cramlington Hospital 35 miles away.

The Liberal Democrats will tackle the double crisis in health and social care by putting 1p on income tax in order to inject an extra £6 billion a year into NHS and social services, as a first step. Our aim is to integrate NHS and social care into one seamless service by 2020 and provide free end-of-life social care wherever people spend their last days. At the same time, we will help the elderly by maintaining the ‘triple lock’ on pensions, ensuring they rise with inflation and wages and by at least 2.5% a year.

On education, the Liberal Democrats are committed to investing nearly £7 billion extra over the parliament. This will protect per-pupil funding and reverse all cuts to front-line school budgets. Projections under the Conservative funding formula have seen local schools facing eye-watering cuts - Haydon Bridge High School is set to lose £450,172 by 2019, equating to a loss of 12 teachers. Haydon Bridge Shaftoe Trust Primary School would lose £60,615.

To help Haydon young people access education, work (and leisure!) the Lib Dems will introduce a two-thirds discount bus pass.

Investment in health and education requires a stable economy but Haydon Parish, as the rest of our country, faces deep uncertainty because of Theresa May’s hard Brexit. High tariffs on lamb and beef exports will make already marginal hill farms unviable, with grave knock-on effects on village communities. We do need to plant more trees but if forestry becomes the only economic option, it will result in the loss of our traditional Northumberland landscape and habitats.

The Liberal Democrats in Government will negotiate to keep Britain in the single market and offer a second referendum on the final deal, with the option of remaining in the EU. This will protect our farmers and communities and ensure a continued easy welcome to the many visitors to Hadrian’s Wall, on whom our local tourism industry depends. We share a 2000 year heritage with our European neighbours. The way our friends are now being treated as enemies is our own great loss.

*Fiona Hall*

### GREEN PARTY

We are living through one of the most politically turbulent times in living memory, and the old left versus right political spectrum is starting to break down. At a time like this the need for a party that cares for the long term future of society, rather than short term gain, is more important than ever.

Unlike most of the other candidates in this election, I haven’t been parachuted into Tynedale. Instead I have grown up, lived & worked here, because I love this area, with its rich heritage, natural beauty and friendly people. I live with my partner Laura and our 2 sons at Warden, where I am an active Parish Councillor and supporter of many community causes.

My children went to playgroup in Haydon Bridge at the Fire Station, and it was sad to see the demise of a facility that benefited the community in so many ways. Equally the treatment of Haydon Bridge High School has been atrocious, and is a prime example of unnecessary political interference.

These are some of the symptoms of the Conservative government’s ideological desire to privatise and reduce spending on our public services, in order to benefit the vested interests that keep them in power. Other examples include:-

Our hospitals being downgraded.

Our local schools being carved up and under funded with parents asked to fund the shortfall.

Our Green Belt being threatened by Wild West planning regulations.

And our care homes closing due to funding shortages.

How can the Green Party benefit the residents of Haydon Bridge?

Well we can end the failed experiment with academies & free schools and return our schools to local authority control. We can also abolish OFSTED & SATS in order to let teachers teach. Next we can stop reducing the funding to councils which inevitably leads to the loss of valuable public services like the Fire Station.

We will take our railways back into public ownership and scrap HS2, allowing us to invest in the Tyne Valley Line and reduce fares. Finally we will introduce a £10 per hour living wage and introduce a Citizen’s Income payable to everyone by scrapping the outdated benefits system.

I joined the Green Party because I believe strongly in its principles of equality, sustainability and fairness, but most importantly we are the only party that has a vision for a post growth world where the success of our society is measured by the happiness of our citizens rather than simplistic economic measures, such as GDP.

This constituency needs an MP who lives and cares for this area, someone who puts their constituents before their party’s interests. If you vote for me on June 8th, I will be that MP.

*Wesley Foot*