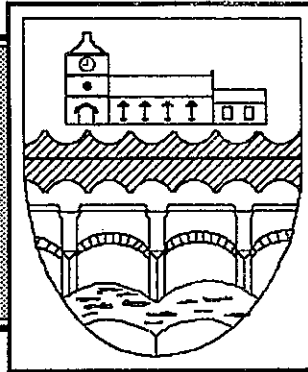


# HAYDON NEWS



The Friends of  
Haydon Bridge  
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DECEMBER/JANUARY 1990/91 No. 26

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<p><b>THE FISH SHOP</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>LUNCH</th> <th>TEA</th> <th>EVENING</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Monday</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>7.30 - 12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday</td> <td>-</td> <td>CLOSED ALL DAY</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday</td> <td>11.30 - 1.30</td> <td>-</td> <td>7.30 - 12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday</td> <td>11.30 - 1.30</td> <td>-</td> <td>7.30 - 12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday</td> <td>11.30 - 1.30</td> <td>4.30 - 6.00</td> <td>7.30 - 12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>11.30 - 1.30</td> <td>-</td> <td>7.30 - 12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday</td> <td>-</td> <td>CLOSED ALL DAY</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Wet Fish: Friday 9.00 - 2.00</p>							LUNCH	TEA	EVENING	Monday	-	-	7.30 - 12.00	Tuesday	-	CLOSED ALL DAY	-	Wednesday	11.30 - 1.30	-	7.30 - 12.00	Thursday	11.30 - 1.30	-	7.30 - 12.00	Friday	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 6.00	7.30 - 12.00	Saturday	11.30 - 1.30	-	7.30 - 12.00	Sunday	-	CLOSED ALL DAY	-
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<p><b>HENRY WATSON          &amp; COMPANY</b>  <b>Tel. 684 214</b></p> <p>All cars welcome for M.O.T.          Service: Repairs: Crypton Tuning</p> <p><b>Gas and Electric Welding</b></p>		<p><b>FRIDGE/FREEZER</b>          Commercial and Domestic          Sales and Repairs  <b>CALOR GAS, PROPANE</b>          or <b>BUTANE</b>          Call or phone anytime          Delivery if Required</p> <p><b>POPLARSCARAVANPARK</b>          Haydon Bridge Tel 684 427</p>		<p><b>D ROBSON</b>  <b>Landscaping, Tidy-ups,          Pointing, Concreting,          Stone-walling, Trees          felled/logged, Light Haul-          age.</b></p> <p>Free estimates.          Telephone 688930</p>																																	

## EDITORIAL

Dear Friends,

In the winter of 1223 Francis of Assisi was staying at a small friary in Greccio in Italy. A rich man from a nearby town offered the Friars any gift they wished for Christmas. Francis said, "I want to celebrate Christmas with you, the people. Up in the rocks there is a cave; there prepare a crib of hay, bring an ox and a donkey. I want to feel and see with my own eyes how the Son of God came into this world for the love of us".

So that year all the Friars and local people gathered together at the now famous cave of Greccio.

There is nothing in my story to suggest that this was the origin of our setting up a crib at Christmas, but it would be nice to think that such a romantic beginning is possible.

The wonder of the Christmas story is that we still celebrate the love that this event brings into our lives. How nice to remember this Day in December, because it brings out many good things in our human nature. Generosity of spirit, thoughtfulness, a delight in family and family celebration.

This is my last issue of the Haydon News as Editor.

However from time to time I will contribute information from Tynedale District Council.

I have enjoyed my time as Editor and have found the decision to stand down a difficult one to make. It is more that 8 years since I wrote my first editorial letter. I have always tried to be fair in all I included: in my own editorials I have tried to be non-political. Even though sometimes I felt very strongly about issues I have resisted the temptation to include controversial items.

The new Editor will be Mrs G Richardson, 14 Shaftoe Street. She, like me, will appreciate it if all your contributions reach her by the 20th of each month.

Thank you for all your support over the years. At this Christmas time may laughter echo in your homes and joy be in your hearts. May the peace and goodwill of Christmas be with you throughout the coming year.

My wishes to you are endless and my words can't express all that I feel about this community and the way you have accepted our family into your lives.

Have a very merry Christmas;

Best Wishes,  
Marion Howard

## POPPY APPEAL

In the recent Poppy Appeal the magnificent total of £754.13 was collected in the Haydon Bridge District. I should like to thank the hard-working collectors and all those who gave so generously to this very important Fund.

Audrey Carey  
Hon Organiser

The box collection for the **Church of England Children's Society** raised £280.05. Many thanks to all box-holders for their generous support.

M L Curry  
Secretary

Mrs M J Nicholl wishes to thank everybody who contributed to the **Red Cross** subscriptions, which amounted to £343.90.



<p><b>JOCK'S TAXIS</b>          ❖CONTRACTS❖          ❖AIRPORTS❖          ❖WEDDINGS❖  <b>DISTANCE NO OBJECT</b>  <b>FOR PROMPT SERVICE</b>  <b>PHONE</b>          HOME - 0434 688997          MOBILE 0860 877692</p>
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## LAND'S END TO JOHN O' GROATS CYCLE RIDE ... continued.

Tuesday morning...well, we knew it would come: rain. I was unhappy about my route for this leg, it being intricate to say the least. Main roads are avoided wherever possible - traffic fumes and most vehicles should carry a Government health warning - but this bit was going to test our navigating skills to the hilt. We couldn't believe our luck when the hostel warden told us that there was a new A361 road, hence the old one was now reclassified 'B' road. This eliminated our navigational worries in one fell swoop and despite damp weather we swanned and smiled our way traffic-free to Wiveliscombe in Somerset. Fortune indeed!

Fortune went a little awry after Wiveliscombe however, when the heavens opened properly. Did I say awry? Some of you may have heard about cyclists' appetites. Cycling, being quite an active pastime, and particularly with a couple of stones of deadweight baggage means that not only is it important to maintain energy levels but also that a healthy appetite is

generated. Well, we have two permanently healthy appetites and cycling makes them positively prodigious. Now food is heavy stuff: I insist on fresh foods in the interests of health and well-being and I resist 'fast' foods in the interests of health and financial well-being. Consequently, when cycling we carry a minimum, shopping in the late afternoon. That night's hostel, Crowcombe Heathfield, had no store, but there was a shop in the village of Lydeard St Lawrence, so we aimed to stock up there. We dripped into the deserted village and located the shop. It was shut, and its shelves were bare. It had clearly been shut for weeks. This was nothing short of catastrophe, neither of us feeling energetic or even able at the end of a long day to try the next village...or the next...We were kindly sold a pint of milk by a passer-by who raided his fridge, and when we consulted the hostel handbook, we realised this hostel did supply evening meals. Saved! Saved? You would've chuckled had you seen us, along with a dozen or so other cyclists that night, gaping in hungry disbelief at the plastic chicken burger, half a potato and teaspoonful of

carrots which huddled on the corners of our plates..Adversity can be a uniting force, though, and we cyclists grouped together later, sharing some cake and biscuits which a car-driving wife unearthed, discussing routes and swapping BR stories over mugs of tea. The following morning we had to cross the Quantocks to Bridgewater, catching a glimpse of a red deer on the way. We found the flat Somerset Levels area incredibly boring, but soon forgot it as we approached the Cheddar Gorge, somewhere I've always wanted to see. Its majestic grandeur was rather marred by vehicles: the Gorge must rank as one of the world's longest car-parks. Bath was our stopover that night and not having visited this famous spa town before, we hurried in to have a look around. The spa entrance was thronged with shoppers, tourists and begging drug-addicts, the town itself befumed by vehicle exhausts, and when we eventually located the Royal Crescent, it was a crumbling facade. Is this what Britain is today, I asked myself. The hostel was full and noisy, and we were pleased to leave the roaring traffic behind the next morning in search of leafy lanes.

## 1906... Continued

In 1906 there was danger on the roads just as much as there is today, not from the motor car, but from horse muck. You ran the risk of ending up with stinking clogs when crossing the road to the General Havelock, whose landlord was William Henderson Brown - also the local blacksmith, whose shop was only two doors east by the second arch in Ratcliffe Road.

William M Dickinson, my uncle, was landlord of the Black Bull in Ratcliffe Road. Now that good old low-beamed pub is long gone and can be seen opposite the Community Centre under renovation. The Scotch Arms Hotel stood at the south end of the bridge and was tenanted by one John Dining, who was also job-master of the village. The Anchor, on the opposite corner of the bridge was in 1906 a public house tenanted by one Mrs Margaret Slavin (My! hasn't it come up in the world....mighty posh!) and the Haydon was also a public house run by one Mary Jane Wetherald. It was covered in ivy in those days long gone... but I enjoyed a cosy lunch-time drink as I cocked my ear to the banter and humour of

two elderly village locals by the name of Sid and Daggit.....Would I have known their fathers?

Haydon Bridge did sport a temperance hotel, in fact there were two in 1906. One known as the Temperance Hotel on the south side of the village and run by one Robert Hogarth, and the other, Belmont Temperance Hotel, run by one Mrs Mary Wigham. The name Wigham should give a clue as to why it was temperance. The old hotel board can still be seen to this day, although the painted name long obliterated by the elements.

Now we come to the only other hotel in the village where drink could be obtained - all the rest were pubs - The Railway Hotel, my birthplace.

I did not know what to expect as I pedalled my bike down Shaftoe Street that summer evening on my way to The Railway. I propped my bike up against the wall, opened the door and went in. I was disappointed. Gone was the staircase going up from the entrance, and although the north end of the bar slightly resembles it as I knew it, gone is the quaint little corner to the left with the large wall clock ticking away; but the old iron tables are still there. Then on the left where the old piano stood,

is now one large bar. The landlord, Bryan, Byron, or something like that never smiled, so I was reluctant to ask him anything about the place, but I thought I would sit down and listen and take all in, then select someone or so to ask any questions about the place.

As I was now well into my fourth pint I was beginning to feel at least some of the old atmosphere when the door opened and in walked a little man in glasses. He ordered his pint, then just in typical army style, stood at the bar: his hair going grey, but plenty of it. "Where had I seen him before?" thought I. I hadn't been to Haydon Bridge since 1922, so WHERE had I seen him? A fifth pint brought no more enlightenment, but a picture was beginning to form of him being a great musician.

A group of lads stood at the south end of the bar; they looked like brothers, so I thought I would ask them who the little well-dressed gentleman was. "Excuse me, sir" says I, "Could you please tell me who is that gentleman?" The lad looked at me and replied "I'm saying nowt". So I asked the other - "Excuse me, would you be so good as to tell me who is that well-dressed man?" He looked at me

and said "I'm not saying". By now I felt the need to go to the toilet, and as I made for the door out to the back lane I slipped in a pool of diesel oil at the end of the bar near the fireplace and all but wet myself. I did wet myself when eventually I got up the back lane and found the old stone starlight strong-smelling toilet had been demolished years ago. Being slightly incontinent and full of ale, I just hadn't time to find where the Railway toilet is now! As I pedalled back up Shaftoe Street and feeling wet and uncomfortable, I remembered where I had seen that little man. It was back home in Canada; he played lead trumpet in an RAF band, and me being in the RCAF at the time, spent leisure hours at many dances. My! could he play? Note-perfect was he, boy. His little eyes stood out like granny's varicose veins when he played the Tiger Rag, but I remember the girls all drooled over him in his smart uniform when he played Moonlight Serenade. It was near the end of the war and as he played softly to the end of that smoochy dance, the girls would shout - "Play it again, Sam". Could that be his name? Must find out next time I come over.

## PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS

Meeting of 22 November 1990  
9 Councillors and Cty Cllr Purdue present: also 3 residents.

Several planning applications have run into opposition. One wanted to build a house in a space between Belmont Gardens and Belmont, but the site is not thought to be suitable for development given the difficulty of access. Another was for extension of the caravan site, though it was not clear whether it involved more vans on the same area or an actual extension to the development. Objections to this scheme are on the grounds of appearance, and rather surprisingly, from the north bank residents whose peace is disturbed by campers who cross the river on foot bearing their barbecues and ghetto-blasters and other impedimenta of civilised life and settle in for the evening! A third was for a dwelling and garage at East Land Ends - again difficulty of access is the basis of objection. On the roads, the A69 through the village is due for resurfacing, but this is being delayed until they

have stopped holding the traffic up at 'Watson's Garage'. It has been suggested that there should be a herringbone marking to protect people turning right towards Low Gate. The Parish Clerk is still trying to make sense of the various requirements which have to be satisfied before an Information Sign-board can be erected at the entrance to the village. (Presumably the owners of the present individual signs have some opinion in this matter, but they do not seem to have made their views known). An idea was put forward that the grassed area on the west side of the entrance to Hordley Acres should be cut into to provide parking spaces to reduce the congestion and the accompanying danger to people trying to turn in off the main road.

An outline of next year's budget was looked at. Although there are some fairly substantial expenses in 1991/2 (including an election) the Parish Council's demands on the Poll Tax should be slightly lower than this year.

British Rail did not close the crossing, as threatened, on November 11th. They are now talking about midnight to 9.30 am on December 16th.

## UGANDA 91 SCOUTS

Ian Bradley, Daniel Clarke, Stephen Hogg and Andrew Round would like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the Prize Draw, also everyone who sponsored the 45-mile hike.

### Winning Numbers of Prize Draw

£10 voucher	457	Geoff Duffy
£10 Petrol voucher	2112	Hilda Charlton
Bottle whisky	1497	Mrs Thompson
Joint of meat	164	Mrs Shorey
Framed Print	2546	Eric Armstrong
Chinese vase	580	K Stanners
Parker pen	1458	G Round
Parker pen	1028	G Messener
Shampoo and set	78	N Ridley
Bottle of sherry	2585	A Hopper
Box of chocolates	8	P Brown
Bottle of Wine	1876	N Wilson
	950	J Woodcock
	1959	J W Robson
Box of biscuits	121	E M Liddle
Bottle of sherry	379	Ruth Black
Bottle of wine	1996	Robert Sowerby
Crochet blanket	309	Tracy Round
Thank you		
Cynthia Bradley.		

## HAYDON BRIDGE COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

meets every Tuesday, 8.00pm to 10.00pm.  
70 pence

We got off to a good start in the **Community Centre**. Everyone seems to be enjoying the experience of learning a little and forgetting a lot. We will improve. Why not come in at the beginning and have some fun? Having two left feet does not exclude you.

Where are all the **Fred Astaires** in Haydon Bridge? **We need you**. We have lots of Ginger Rogers.

This is one dance club where you do not need to bring a partner. We have one waiting for you.

K. M.

## W R V S

or **R V S** as it should be known. A number of men help in this organisation. Well, they need and welcome more recruits to help with

- \* Meals on Wheels
- \* Books on Wheels
- \* The hospital canteen
- \* "Other Services"

Have you a little spare time and a willing heart? Contact -  
Marjorie A Sproat  
Hexham 681 468

## HEALTH CENTRE FEEDBACK

A few of us attended an excellent meeting at the Health Centre on Wednesday, November 7th, at 7.00 pm. The speaker was Lyn Holt, a specialist nurse from the Freeman Hospital who spoke eloquently and knowledgeably about organ transplants. It was obviously not everyone's cup of tea but you only want to know about one when you need one. Well, I have news for you - you need to make up your mind to give every spare part away in the event of an early demise **before** emotion takes over. Carry a donor card which gives explicit instructions and tell your relatives what are your wishes. It's the young folk whose bits and pieces are needed. I seem to have been born too late for everything. I was too old for bananas and too young for nylons and now too old for transplants and I expect no-one will want mine anyway. Where were you all? You were sadly missed.

A number of females missed Dr

Murphy's talk on Breast Screening, but mainly because:

(a) it was half-term and a few were away:

(b) it was Mother's Union night.

We are lucky to have these Health talks organised for us. E. G.

**BLACK INK**

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**(0434) 684 650**

## OUR VILLAGE

The war years 1914-1918 were sad and bitter ones. By 1915 more than 200 young men had gone to the war and more than two thirds either killed or wounded. The fire brigade soldiered on as best it could with equipment consisting of no more than could be put in a hand cart. Nevertheless the brigade survived. The defunct bell was replaced by a caller and a list of all members fixed to the old stable door which served as a fire station. During the late 20s and early 30s the council successfully fought off all attempts by the district council to relieve them of their fire fighting duties.

There are many tales told about the early fire brigade. Of the gallant bowler-hatted captain, at practice on the cricket field, running out the hose with great speed and efficiency, then getting his legs entangled, to sprawl headlong on the grass. Another, I am told, always insisted on wearing a collar and tie no matter when or what the emergency. Collar studs have now vanished from the sartorial scene, but if you can remember them, they could often be tricky things to lay your hands on, even in moments of tranquillity.

Now we have a gleaming, highly polished fire engine housed in a modern fire station. The brigade all dress alike: no more bowler hats, no frantic searching for collar studs. Fires are extinguished speedily and flooded cellars emptied in no time at all. There is no seamy side to the present brigade. No more stories for future generations. Efficiency has seen to that.  
(Concluded)

## CHRISTMAS at the PARISH CHURCH

- |                |         |   |
|----------------|---------|---|
| Sunday 23 Dec  | 10.00am | Parish Eucharist  |
| Advent 4       | 6.00pm  | United Carol Service at Roman Catholic Church                       |
| Monday 24 Dec  | 4.00pm  | CRIB Service - a short service for young children and their parents |
| Christmas Eve  | 11.30pm | Midnight Eucharist - the first Eucharist of Christmas               |
| Tuesday 25 Dec | 10.00am | Christmas Eucharist - the MAIN Service of Christmas for ALL ages    |
| Sunday 30 Dec  | 10.00am | Parish Eucharist - following the Order of the Book of Common Prayer |
| Christmas 1    |         |   |
| Sunday 6 Jan   | 8.00am  | Holy Communion  |
| Epiphany       | 10.00am | Parish Eucharist and launch of Decade of Evangelism                 |
|                | 6.00pm  | United Service at the Methodist church                              |

Morning and Evening Prayer is said in church on most days throughout the year. Please see Notice Board for details week by week.

We welcome everyone to our church and hope that you will join in worship with us.

Communicant members of the Church of England are reminded of their obligation to receive communion at least once at Christmas.

The Friends of Haydon Bridge thank the Advertisers for their continued support

<p><b>A SCUDAMORE</b></p> <p><b>ANCHOR GARAGE</b></p> <p>All makes of car repaired and serviced Body and Paint Spraying All makes of Exhaust Supplied and Fitted Crypton Tuning and M.O.T. Testing</p> <p>Telephone Haydon Bridge 684 345</p>	<p><b>W &amp; M MARSH</b> 43 Ratcliffe Road Haydon Bridge</p> <p><b>Newsagent &amp; Tobacconist Confectionery &amp; General Dealer</b></p>	<p><b>J. P. WESTALL &amp; SON</b></p> <p><b>Plumbing &amp; Heating Engineers</b></p> <p>Now offer power jetting &amp; a 24 hour drain clearance service</p> <p>Telephone Hexham 602740</p>	
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