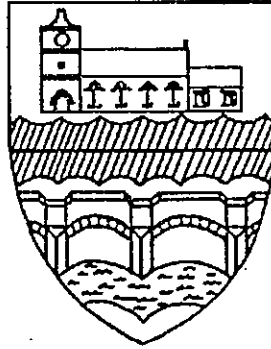


HAYDON NEWS



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MAY 1990 No. 21

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WEDDINGS : SPECIAL OCCASIONS
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THE FISH SHOP

	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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EDITORIAL

Dear Friends,
I have been looking back through the Haydon Heralds and I was very surprised to see how politically contentious the Editorials were, and in some cases no name was given to the Editorial letter. I have always myself tried very hard to keep political statements out of my editorial introduction to each issue. However, when we live in a society that is rapidly waking up to the fact that we need to retain that which is good in our society and manage our affairs more efficiently, I feel inclined to redress the matter. Retaining and improving Hexham General Hospital is essential, and in social terms provides that which every person has the right to expect - good healthcare! We need to face the fact that whereas preventive medicine should always be better for all societies, there are areas of healthcare that will always include longterm illness, accident and emergency care, and provision for an aging population and all the health problems that age brings. It is also worth fighting to provide our children with a good healthy start in life.

I believe that we should - however much the cost -

support a well-managed Health Service from our Income Taxes. To me, well-managed is not the same as bowing to market forces. No healthcare should depend on which shop provides a scarce resource, such as heart surgery or the provision of a kidney transplant service. We should provide outreach facilities so that both urban and rural communities get the best of all services.

The health of our people is the single most important aspect of life as we recognise it. For a "nation of animal-lovers(?)" we often treat our pets to better healthcare than we treat our fellow homo sapiens. I could go on for very much longer on this one topic of social right. All men have within this democracy the right to excellent healthcare, not second best but the very best that our money can buy.

Best wishes,
Marion Howard

HEALTH EDUCATION MEETINGS

After two very successful meetings on the related subjects of ECZEMA and ASTHMA (one lady, not in the Haydon Bridge Practice(!), said she had

learned more about asthma in that hour than she had after going to her Doctor for years) the next two meetings are targeted at women.

On Wednesday May 23rd, Mr IAN LONGSTAFF, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist in Newcastle, who used to have sessions in Hexham and will be known to some ladies in the practice, will talk about Cervical Screening - who needs it, what does it involve, who should have it, and what good is it anyway? That, and any "matters arising" out of the topic can be raised and freely discussed with an expert of international renown who is also a very approachable and conscientious Doctor. Smears will not be "on offer" that evening, just an opportunity to learn more about them and is of special importance to any lady over 35 with NO UPPER LIMIT!! The last lady to die of cancer of the cervix in this practice was almost 80 years old when she first presented with symptoms.

The meeting after that, on Wednesday 13th June, will be by Dr MACINTOSH, again a Newcastle Consultant, on the topic of Hormone Replacement Therapy. Numbers for the

meetings are limited to thirty. Please apply for tickets from the Health Centre.

Drs High and Ford

YOUR LETTERS.

Dear Editor,

I attended the Mothering Sunday Service in St Cuthbert's Church. The Church was filled with young, very young and parents. Those people who object to the noise children make in church could not have found fault. It was lovely to see them all and collecting the very sweet bunches of flowers put together with such care by the Sunday School teachers. It would be lovely if once a month the church could be filled with families such as this.

It would be nice...

C Felicity Bell

Dear Editor,

As Chairman of the Hexham Branch of the Royal British Legion, I was slightly embarrassed to find that Hexham was proposing to meet the cost of rehangng the Legion banners in Haydon Bridge Parish Church. I told the Hexham Branch that I thought that Haydon Bridge ex-servicemen and women would be ready and willing to find the modest sum required. I hope that my judgment was right, and though

there is no longer a village branch of the R.B.L., that there are enough people with service memories and connections who will feel that this is a worthwhile cause to support. The rehangng of the banners requires three blacksmith-made brackets of a suitable design. Rather than mention the sum needed (not a big amount) I would ask anyone wishing to donate to leave his or her gift with John Clarke at the paper shop. I will publish in the Haydon News the sum collected, and would propose giving any balance to the R.B.L. Poppy Appeal which is the best way of helping less fortunate ex-service personnel.

T A Bates

BEST KEPT VILLAGE?

"Whoever entered Haydon Bridge in the Best Kept Village competition is an optimist" - so it was remarked to me. Yes, I am an optimist and we are entered in the "improved" section, I hope. Well, I have kept the greenhouse heater going all winter, safeguarding the geraniums from last year. I have cleaned out all the hanging baskets. Raymond McVay mended them all last season. Harry and Nancy Watson have donated boxes of lobelia, French marigolds and

ageratum, and I have laboriously pricked them out so now we have a greenhouse full of plants and we are ready to go. BUT you in Haydon Bridge must do your part, that is quite apart from watering the baskets daily - get at every single body, be it man woman or child, who scatters litter all over the place. Sweep and swill the fronts of houses and shops.

Are there any groups prepared to adopt an area and do a spring clean? The old bridge, the War Memorial and its hinterland, the bus stops and the approach to the High School come to mind.

The gardens on our estates are absolute pictures, but drive through Haydon Bridge with the eyes of a stranger and the sight is enough to put you off. The West end of the village is to be cleaned and levelled and reseeded - not before time! Our seats, donated by a number of generous people and groups are a shambles. It is up to each person to guard our village. O K, you get a mouthful when you do, but don't say anything and no impact is made at all. Haydon Bridge a dump? Well, let us make it a clean and wholesome dump.

Enid Garrow

Keeper of the Hanging Baskets

PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS

(Meeting of 26 April 1990)

All Councillors present plus 6 members of the public.

Once again the "meat" of the meeting was beef, and once again the beefing was about a planning application. It is normal practice, when an application which arrives for comment is due to be returned before the next meeting date, for it to be looked at by two or three Councillors who decide whether it should be held back for discussion at a full meeting. This was done in relation to an application for an "agricultural building" at Lipwood, on the site of the distended plastic strawberry, and it was returned without comment. But the papers for the District Council Planning Committee told a very different story. The "agricultural building" is in fact to be a produce packing shed employing a substantial number of people, and local residents were keen to ensure that their anxieties about traffic and other necessary services, especially water and sewerage, were taken fully into account. They were also less than satisfied with the ar-

rangements adopted by the Planning Department for "informing" people about applications which are likely to affect their interests. The Parish Council tended to agree with them on this question and decided to ask for a review of the Standing Orders relating to the publication of planning applications. They also felt that fuller information should be given when they are first asked to comment. Both these matters will be taken up with the District Council. Another complaint was that the fine detail of planning law appeared to differ according to whom you spoke to in the Planning Department.

The second resident was there to complain about litter in Langley Burn. The District Council had come to remove it, but had only cleared the banks, leaving behind the plastic bags in the stream itself. Thirdly, there was a complaint about the height of the grass on the verge at the West end. There is at least a gleam of hope here. The County Council says it will do something (sometime) to clear the rubble and put the surface into a condition in which it is possible to use a grass-cutter without wrecking it. They will then try to persuade

the Department of Transport to pay them to cut it, but they probably won't succeed, and it may be that the Parish will be forced to take responsibility for it.

A good deal of surprise was expressed at the extensive work being done on the kerb at the bottom of North Bank. Although the District Council claims to be "guided" by the Parish in deciding the priority of road works, nobody had been asked about this job. There was a feeling that the money would have been better spent on Strother Close pavements. There may be more light there when the paper factory gets its illuminated sign.

=====

As stars along the Milky Way
Like incandescent light
Are seldom seen throughout the day
But commonly at night

Each day I wandered by the shore
My hearts desire to see,
Then shyly hid behind a rock
In case she noticed me.

But that was many years ago
And now I'm growing old;
Romantic memories like this
Still keep my heart consoled.

JR

PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS

(Meeting of 22 March 1990)

9 Councillors Present

The proceedings opened with the holding of the annual Parish Meeting - a short-lived event which consisted almost exclusively of signing the minutes of the meeting held a year ago. There was, however, much more meat in the discussion which followed. Three members of the public attended with the object of leaving the Parish Council in no doubt about their dissatisfaction with the refusal by Tynedale District Council of the planning application relating to the Land Army hostel. The Chairman explained that the had no powers in the planning field: all it had done was to pass on to the District Council the reasoned and well-researched bases of objection which had been put forward by members of the public at the earlier meeting. The Parish Council itself did not register an objection, though it seems that the papers which went to the Planning Committee may have suggested that it had. The matter now has to go to appeal. The Parish Council is not involved in those proceed-

ings and intends to make no further comment.

Miss Sarah Wilson of the Recreation Department of Tynedale District Council came to explain the new proposals for servicing the Sports Hall, particularly at week-ends. While there are still no specific details of what is to be provided, the Parish Council was assured that the setting up of a professional team would lead to an improved level of service. The Council agreed in principle to contribute £500 pa for three years, provided that the rest of the money needed could be found.

If you live in Hordley Acres you may soon need some thicker bedroom curtains! There will be two new street-lamps provided by the District Council, another by the Parish, and two wall-mounted ones will be replaced by the County. And they will all be sodium and not mercury. And if you go to the Cart's Bog Inn, you will be glad to know that they are planning to install bigger and better toilets.....

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HAYDON BRIDGE CARPET BOWLS CLUB

A silver cup, kindly given by Mr E Waite, and named the Kathleen Waite Memorial Cup, was played for in a singles game by the members.

The cup was won by Michael Rumney and Mrs Esme Smith was runner-up.

A FRIEND FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME IN TYNEDALE

Northumberland County Victim Support Scheme is a registered charity which offers a free and confidential service to victims of a wide variety of crimes who may be suffering from injury, shock, fear of repetition and/or a sense of loss or outrage.

A scheme is being developed for the community of Tynedale and this exclusive service is now available to to victims of burglary and attempted burglary. On-going training will enable the scheme to provide assistance to victims of more serious categories of crime in the not too distant future. The Chair-

man of the Management Committee is Mrs Vera Fletcher, one of our local residents.

The Tynedale Co-ordinator, Mrs Sandra Coleman, would like to hear from anyone who feels they can contribute to this worthwhile scheme. You could train as a volunteer visitor to victims of crime, help with fund raising, or if you have practical skills such as fitting locks, then Sandra would like to hear from you.

The office is in Hexham Community Centre, Gillesgate, Hexham and the telephone number is 600117. If you have time to spare for this valuable work do contact Sandra.

TONY'S PATCH

Within the Parish there is a small nature reserve of four acres of woodland known as Tony's Patch. The reserve is owned by the Northumberland Wildlife Trust into whose keeping it was given in 1966, in memory of Tony Clissold of Hill House.

The approach to the reserve is by way of Hill House and Standalone roads, as far as the sharp corner leading on to Prior House. From here a right of way follows the fence to

the Honeycrook Burn. A stile leads into the reserve, which stretches upstream as far as the farm track crossing the burn.

The area is one of open woodland, predominantly oak, with elm, ash, birch, hawthorn, hazel, bird cherry and honeysuckle. Although at one time modified by grazing (now excluded) it is a good example of ancient woodland.

Tony's Patch bears an air of antiquity, and there is historical evidence to support this claim:

In 1792 the scattered tenants of Chesterwood agreed with their landlord, Sir Edward Blackett, to enclose their fields. Tony's Patch, then known as Back Cleugh, was hedged off. Even though each tenant had his own land, each had the right to cut and lead "great wood and timber" from Back Cleugh. In addition, they were to share the hay crop from the wood.

The best time to visit the wood is in springtime when the ground flora of bluebells is at its best. While the vegetation is the main reason for the existence of the wood, it is not surprising that the burn and woods provide a

suitable habitat for a variety of birds. The lovers of the burnside are pied and grey wagtails and the dipper.

If you do pay a visit I hope you will respect the area by not picking the plants. You can walk further up the burn to reach the Chesterfield - Chesterwood road. There is a path of sorts, but no right of way. Following the burn you cannot fail to see the waste heaps of the old Langley Barony lead mines. From here the burn cuts through a short but striking limestone gorge, which is well worth traversing even though the going is difficult.

If you are interested in geology, a small fault can be clearly seen in the limestone cliff and a thin coal seam along the base of the limestone, best seen where the gorge ends at the waterfall.

The muddy road to Chesterwood is reached here.

This is reprinted (in part) from Haydon Herald of June 1972 with grateful thanks to L C Coombes and W Tait.

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TWENTY YEARS ON

"Do you know?" said the Old Bridge to the New Bridge, "we have not had a chat for nearly twenty years".

"I know" replied the New Bridge, "I've been too busy attending to all this traffic. It's an important job, you know. I don't get a minute's peace".

"Well, that's what you're there for" was the unsympathetic answer. "When I did your job they said I was too slow. Now they say that you're too fast - - encouraging the traffic to go too fast, I mean".

"But it's not my fault" protested the New Bridge; "after all, there is a 30 mph sign".

"That's true, but you young fellows encourage this kind of thing. Just look at the number of times the Parish Councilors complain about needing double white lines right down the centre of your back"

"They are always moaning about something" retorted the New Bridge; "Why don't they get on with tidying up the riverside and the tipping by the Anchor? They have been talking about it long enough".

"What's the news?" he went on. "Anything much happen since we had our

last chat?"

The Old Bridge pulled himself up to his full length and width before speaking. "Got a new vicar and a sharp rise in population at the same time".

"I believe I heard about that. What's his name? Tall fellow, dark hair, a bit like St Francis - looks after animals".

"You never could get people's manes right. You youngsters have very bad memories for names and dates. It's because of all that lead being pumped out onto your surface each day"

"I remember now, it's Keith Fletcher. Likes fishing, I hear".

The Old Bridge paused for a moment before he replied. "Here comes that dog again. I do wish people would control their pets. I know the dog cannot read the bye-law notice, but its owner can. It's not like twenty years ago, when Stan Bowman used to brush the week-end litter away. I do miss him, in fact I miss all the people who used to keep me clean".

"Got a new Head at the Technical School too, but it's not called the Tech any more. It's Haydon Bridge County High School. Nice lad, that John Bowes. Don't know the new man. Sometimes see him in the village,

rounding up bairns during break times".

"I'm glad to hear that" said the New Bridge. "Doesn't fish though. John Bowes was a keen fisherman. I can remember when you were fascinated by the fish trying to jump over my foundations. The weir makes a difference - feels like it's always been there.

"Ah yes" answered the New Bridge. "What was it you said? 'I take great pleasure in watching the fishes' anadromous efforts'. I still don't know what it means - never did get to ask Jimmy Watson".

The Old Bridge was starting to get tired. He stifled a yawn before he replied "That's the advantage of age and also of being the site of the Bridge Club. What memories I have of them! Things don't change: people are still talking about the Railways. To quote this fine bunch of gentlemen - 'We all hope as 'ow the gentleman who's gonna look into it tells the railway fowks as 'ow us uns want a better deal for Haydon Bridge".

"Should all go by road" said the New Bridge.

"Don't be so stupid, young 'un. Any more traffic and you will collapse. One day you can grow old gracefully like me". The Old Bridge yawned again. "I'm glad we had another talk". At which point he nearly jumped out of his nicely settled sandstone arches. "What was that!?"

"Just another six speeding police cars and two ambulances. Hold on to your lampposts, here comes the fire engine from....

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