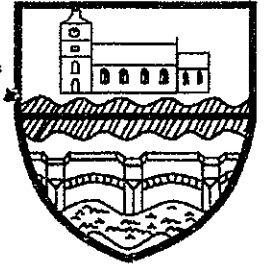


Haydon News

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



May 1995 / 4

IN THIS ISSUE: Village Appraisal meeting notes, three letters, editorial comments and the full details. The men in Black Velvet Suits are back. Forgotten Fleece. Local Doctor admits to Haydon Bridge girl's sex scandal hoax. A painful anecdote and much more inside.

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Crossword Competition inside

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WAR MEMORIAL

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Monday 8th May 1995

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HAYDON NEWS

EDITORIAL

Over the years these columns and those of the predecessors of the Haydon News have carried many thank you notes. I would like you to remember the following:-

J.Armstrong, T.F.Bell, J.E.Brown, P.Brown, A.Bates, C.S.Clemiston, T.Gilmore, J.S.Mason, I.H.Philipson, J.Law J.H.Ridley, C.J.Patterson, P.C. Patterson, A.S.Reed, J.C.Wylie, O.Wardle.

These local folk are those named on the War Memorial as having given their lives in the second world war thus enabling us to 'celebrate' VE day, and the subsequent 50 years of 'peace'.

Please recall these sixteen Haydonians during 2 minutes silence on May 8th, 8:38 - 8:40 pm (See front cover)

THE INVISIBLE LEGION

Triumphant day when bells once more proclaim
The reign of sanity on earth again;
Let it not be in unrestrained ways
We celebrate the peace for which man craves;
But on the day men no longer fight,
Remember those now - hid from mortal sight.
A mighty legion - spirits of the past,
Shall walk beside there comrades at the last
And claim their share of Victory. May we
Forget them not, whose death set Nations free.

Monica M. Bourne - 1945

The lovely poem above will, I know, bring a tear to many an eye was sent in by Pat Parslow. Written by Miss Bourne to celebrate VE day in 1945 it will act as a gentle reminder that the 50th Anniversary in May also holds memories of loss and sadness that the years can not erase.

Pat also informs me that Miss Bourne is now 101 years of age and takes an intelligent interest in life.

Complete and correct crossword entries were sent in by : T. Alexander, D. Corbett, Heslop of Burn Brae, P.C. Irving, B & R Shout. All are now on the first rung of eligibility for the special competition later in year. [P. 7]

On 18th April the five names were put into a hat and, with great aplomb, Haydn Ford drew two winners. Margaret Hindle provided the tea and cakes whilst the draw was also witnessed by Margarets mother together with Charles and Linda Thomas.

The 2 winners will each receive £15.

The Haydon News is, as you know, produced by the Friends of Haydon Bridge which is an apolitical group. Content of the newsletter is provided by the readers and may be biased through the personal or political prejudices of the writer. Editorial comment, whilst sometimes provocative will always be politically neutral.

However because of the contested Tynedale District Council Elections on the 4th May content of this issue could be construed by some as having political bias. Under these circumstances the Friends of Haydon Bridge have decided that the distribution of this month's Haydon News should be delayed until Friday 5th May.

Apart from this editorial which was written on 28th April and Parish Council Pickings (29th April) all articles and comment were typeset before it was decided the distribution date should be delayed.

Only eleven candidates put their names forward for the eleven positions on the Parish Council, because of this votes were not required for these posts.

Three Parish Councillors have stood down (Tom Bates, Jim Dryden and Joan Flannigan) so three new faces will be at the first meeting of the new Parish Council in May.

Amongst the unopposed group are two School Teachers, two former School Teachers, two Farmers, one Cabinet Maker, one Self Employed, one Shop Worker, one ex BR Technical Manager and one retired General Worker. Six are men and five are women. The eleven Parish Councillors will be:

*D.Charlton, E.Charlton, E.Garrow, L.A.Gilhespy, M.J.Howard, W.S.Howard, *G.W.Jackson, J.M.Loyd, R.McVay, L.A.Philp, *T.J. Stephen-son.

[* New Councillor].

Mitch

NEXT ISSUE OF HAYDON NEWS

JUNE 1995

ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR
S.B.MITCHELL
HIGH BRINDLES
HEUGH HOUSE LANE

or alternatively hand in at the
POST OFFICE
BY 20 MAY PLEASE

VILLAGE APPRAISAL MEETING 27 March 1995

You will be aware that a start has been made on an appraisal following four meetings in the village, the third of which was on 8th February when it was decided that Haydon Bridge should have an appraisal. Following the meeting Keda Norman of the Community Council wrote.

'This [Appraisal] would take an in depth look at the services, facilities and organisations in the Village and thinking about improvements that could change life for the better of the residents. Social and economic developments e.g. housing issues and retail in Haydon Bridge would also come under scrutiny. It is intended that the appraisal will be used to pursue funding from a variety of sources, including the European Community.'

All known organisation in the Village were invited to support the first meeting proper on 27th March.

The purpose of this meeting was to encourage the various organisations to provide the necessary facts about what they do, what they used to do, and what they would like to do in the future. Consideration should also be given to what facilities or help they require to achieve their objectives.

This meeting was chaired by Marion and Bill Howard with the assistance of Keda Norman of the Community Council of Northumberland. There were about 23 others present from the various clubs and groups with the Churches also being represented, the Hexham Courant was also in attendance.

Various questions were asked from the floor, mainly on clarification points and timescales. The only point of significance left unclear was does the appraisal cover the Parish or Village only? It is hoped that this item can be clarified at a later meeting. The main thing that came out of the meeting was that:-

>> P.3

Visitors are like fish
After three days they go off

DID YOU KNOW?

That in the Polling District of Haydon there are 1622 people on the Electoral Roll for 1995/1996.

PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS
27th April 1995

9 Councillors present - 2 apologies.
County Cllr Purdue in attendance.
Hexham Courant also represented.

Goodbyes - Mr Bates made a short speech of thanks to his fellow councillors, past and present, who had sustained him for the past 28 years as Chairman.

Mr Dryden also spoke about his 40 years service on the Council, at the age of 80 he feels he has done his bit: all those present agreed wholeheartedly.

Mrs Garrow presented parting gifts to both men.

Councillor Loyd took the chair.

The River Authority has at last been persuaded that something must be done about the accumulations of gravel which are distorting the flow of the river with detrimental consequences for the banks in various places. Action is promised.

Most important was the question of the Tynedale District Plan and the status of the Haydon Bridge by-pass within it. A senior Department of Transport official has said that there is no chance that the money will be voted during the life of the plan - i.e. before 2006. If the by-pass line is included, there may be claims for a 'planning blight': if it is left out, it will be claimed that local demand for it has fizzled out.

The Parish Council was quite certain that it was in the interests of the Parish that it should be included in the Plan, and decided to write to all the interested parties - Minister, MP, Northumberland County Council, etc. to make its view known.

May 8th is Victory in Europe Day. Members of the Parish Council will lay flowers and observe the two minutes of silence at 8:38pm.

JPR



ALL SET FOR A SIZZLING SUMMER

More events than ever before are packed into the new What's On guide, available now. It offers an amazing variety of guided walks and activities the length and breadth of Northumberland.

Produced by Northumberland National Park and Northumberland Countryside Service the booklet explains the grading of events - from 'easy' to 'strenuous' - and indicates which are suitable for people with disabilities. Led by Rangers, Countryside Officers, Voluntary Wardens and other experts, some are a couple of hours long, others last all day, and some take place at night!

In total there are 237 activities listed, taking the programme to the end of September. The What's On guide is available at National Park Visitors Centres, Country Parks, Tourist Information Centres, Libraries, or from the National Park Office, Eastburn, South Park, Hexham. Phone 605-555.

There are some 35 activities in May and your Editor notes that on Sunday 7th May there is a 3 hour medium graded guided walk of discovery into the Allen Valley. This walk starts at 10am from the Allen Banks car park.

On Sunday 14th May there is a 5 hour long walk revealing the Secrets of the South Tyne. This walk starts at 10am from Haltwhistle Market Place.

I would recommend that you get the guide and perhaps clear those cobwebs out of your system. Having been on quite a number of these activities in recent years I am sure that you will enjoy the change of scenery, exercise and fresh air. As there is an escort you can also learn something.

The guide is also handy for finding something for your summer visitors to do - I frequently send mine off on these walks.

SBM

>> a) A community resource in the form of a booklet distributed in the Village detailing which organisations are active in Haydon Bridge, when they meet, and who to contact will be produced. Organisations should send information to M&B Howard, 10 Ratcliffe Road, or Keda Norman Tel: 01434-321242 by 5th May.

As a guide, information should include:

- Name of Group
- When you meet and how often
- What you do
- Who to contact
- The History of the group
- Operating problems
- Any successes you have had
- What would you like to do in future

b) The Village Appraisal group will meet again on the 17th May to discuss the findings and talk about how we move forward with the Village Appraisal.

SBM

BOWLING GREEN

Following the Public Meeting in February a small Working Party was set up to look into the question of the provision of a bowling green at Haydon Bridge.

The Working Party have looked at a number of sites, all of which have been too small to accommodate a grass bowling green. One more site is currently being investigated but because this is not in public ownership or immediately available discussions will need to take place with the owner and present occupier before further progress is made.

Should this site become available the Working Party will move the matter forward with the Parish and District Councils, as well as giving consideration to the other aspects which need to be taken into account.

WSRH

Have you ever wondered why mothers take their offspring to Supermarkets to smack them?
-
Work is the curse of the drinking class
Oscar Wilde
-
The concept of two people living together for 25 years without a cross word suggest a lack of spirit only to be admired in sheep.

Dickies Itch - Lops Jump
I was stung by a bee in Hexham last week
-
A jar of honey cost twenty quid
-
A fella broke into Emsley jail recently and beat up a prisoner

It's hard to feel as fit as a fiddle when you're shaped like a cello
TRUE STORY ?
Mrs Day was asked why she called her son 'Shaun Zippidy Doo Dah'
She said she was going to call him 'Sonny' but that sounded stupid.

Jesus said love one another. He didn't say love the whole world.
Mother Teresa
March 1980
-
Do Dogs Believe in NAM ?

Readers Letters and Viewpoints - collated by the Editor

Support needed

Can I make a plea to more of the residents of Haydon Bridge who are not involved in Parish affairs to come forward.

I ask as a member of the Friends of Haydon Bridge and because of the 'Village Appraisal' which is taking place at present.

The Community Council for Northumberland has the knowledge and know how of how to access various sources of funding for community projects. Some of this money could be made available to the Parish. 'Village Appraisal' will take up to 2 years and will need an ongoing effort if we are to succeed in a bid for funds.

It seems possible that to prepare a worthwhile proposal people with the appropriate professional skills may need to be called upon for advice. Legal, financial, management, communication and media, data collection and evaluation, professional report writing, construction and architecture all come to mind but at present no one is exactly sure what will be needed

If you have any skills or services to offer or if you can volunteer an interest in the future of the Parish please put your name forward.

I am sure that the Editor would be pleased to keep an up to date list of names and skills so that the Parish Council, or the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge' could call on the skills of listed people if need be.

W.E. Nicholson

5th April 1995

Village Appraisal

Cubstocks

In common, I imagine, with most residents of the Parish, I have a very sketchy idea of the purpose(s) of the Village Appraisal, and even less understanding of how any ideas which are generated are to transform themselves into proposals, or proposals to crystallise into a project and thence into reality. However, a dedicated few will no doubt overcome these administrative problems somehow, and something will emerge as the favoured objective.

What worries me is that without the dangling bait of Euromoney there would probably not be a favoured objective at all. Because the Parish feels obliged to claim its share, a proposal will go forward, possibly not because a large proportion of residents wants it, but because it is the one which attracts the least amount of positive opposition. If a proposal is put forward on this basis and succeeds, we shall be guilty of inexcusable squandering of resources - even if we are 'entitled' to them.

I suggest that a referendum on the proposed choice of project is the only method of giving legitimacy to any application made by the Parish. The Haydon News provides the mechanism.

J.P. Richardson

10th April 1995

Whenever your caught between two evils,
take the one you've never tried

Brinkburn Village Appraisal

10, Ratcliffe Road

The aim of this village appraisal will be to involve as many people as possible from the Parish in a process which will look at all aspects of village life.

To do this Keda, Bill and myself have been putting together a project plan, which may well change with time as each meeting provides us with ideas which can be acted upon.

When ideas are identified each will be developed into a business plan. Each plan will seek to advance the idea by looking for ways of making the idea a practical project. For example if the picnic site needs a face-lift a plan will say what needs doing, what materials are needed, who will do the work, how funds will be found.

Photographs will be taken before a project is started and throughout the planned period.

So where are we ? [See Page 3.. Editor]

At the next meeting on 17th May (7pm Community Centre) we hope to discuss Environmental and openspace issues as well as Transport. Over the next six months we will involve all the Parish in discussing such things as Buildings, Sporting Venues, Economic Development, Tourism, Social Issues (youth, disability etc) and Policing. From these discussions we will formulate a full Parish Survey.

On Monday 22nd May we will be inviting businesses to join a meeting in the Community Centre. Future meetings will be arranged so that people living in Langley, Elrington, Haydon, Chesterwood and other communities will be able to discuss their ideas.

Where are we going from here ? It will take two years to address this appraisal properly. Along the way easily identified projects will be implemented.

To make this a successful appraisal we are looking for central premises that will be open at set times so that people from the Parish can drop in with their ideas, and look at displays showing the progress of the appraisal.

So already we are setting up a business plan to see how we can achieve this aim and how we will fund it. Central premises will also enable us to display Tourist Information, Local B&B accommodation, social displays, Citizens Advice Bureau, ADAPT (Action for Differently Abled People in Tynedale) and By Pass information. We hope it may also act as a place for overflow school exhibitions, help the community Voluntary Scheme and provide office space for a Community worker as well as providing a craft venue for local craftsmen and craftswomen.

The other business plan being drawn up so that we can find funding from the Community Council for Appraisal administration costs.

We have started this process, that is we the Parish and Village. However it will only wax if you provide us with ideas to make them a reality. Keda, Bill and myself are more than willing to draw up the plans and search for funding. Let us make this Appraisal a success. If you have any ideas, or wish to become involved, please contact me on 684-535 or drop in and have a chat.

Marion Howard

19th April 1995

Editors Comments

Marion - Do you know what Dick Turpin's first words were when he rode into York ? - "Whoa Bess !"
It is here that I must pull in the reins on behalf of those residents who are not happy with the current situation.

Continued on Page 5 >>

Readers Letters and Viewpoints - collated by the Editor

More people to stick there neck out are called for by Bill Nicholson whilst John Richardson is calling for level heads. Both are members of the Friends of Haydon Bridge and their letters each discuss different aspects of Village Appraisal. I hope that this issue clarifies the current state of the Appraisal for John and the rest of you who wish to know more of what is happening. Bill's letter highlights the need for various 'experts' in their field to make themselves known and volunteer their services to the village as and when required. Not only will their services be useful but the contacts they have within various organisations will be extremely handy for getting things done rather than just talk about getting things done. No one is asking for much of your time, just your expertise, contacts and 'know how'. Just send me a note, even if your interest is only lukewarm. Professional Philanthropists will be particularly welcome.

>> My head on the chopping block now - as I try to discourage Marion from galloping off on what could easily become a pointless time consuming and wasteful journey. It is considered by many that the Village Appraisal, if it is to be done properly and be of real value with a high chance of achieving defined objectives and funding, should be organised by a management group (representative and non-political) calling on the experts available. Not only the clubs and organisations but all sections of the community should be represented and their views taken into account. The first objective of this proposed group should be to define what the targets are, timescales, milestones etc. If this is not done a lengthy and aimless meander can be all that is achieved - you need to know where your going, and why, before you start a journey. At the Public Meeting on the 8th February many of the 35 people left after the Bowling Green discussion so it can hardly be said that the dozen or so left were representative of the whole community of 2200 people. Having been to all Village Appraisal meetings my own notes do not show any agreement that central premises ought to be sought nor that local businesses be approached in the manner indicated in Marion's letter. To proceed as she implies suggests a new organisation will need to be developed. In my view unnecessary and wasteful in voluntary resources.

The non partisan 'Friends of Haydon Bridge' have now been in existence for over 16 years and consists of nine members who produce and distribute the Haydon News, other activities are also supported. They are assisted by about 20 other helpers. Through this newsletter direct contact with all Parish households already exists. I would like to suggest that Marion (A former 'Friend') comes along to the next meeting on Monday 15th May 7pm in the Community Centre where the nine 'Friends of Haydon Bridge' can discuss the possibility of active participation in the onerous work for a successful 'Village Appraisal'. As Editor I will, of course keep you fully informed of all meetings associated with this activity. On page 8 is a complete guide to VILLAGE APPRAISALS,

Wrung its neck - is what someone has recently done to the topiary bird on the east side of the bridge. This is the second year running, says Ray McVay who noticed the callous deed during the Village clean-up in April. This wanton damage is senseless and can only discourage the person who is currently caring for the topiary. Let us hope the bird gets better again this growing season.

Funny goings on in the heather bed thought I on Easter Sunday as I was driving home after my Sunday Lunch. From a distance it looked like a couple up to no good. As I approached I saw it was none other than Pat Parslow and Ray McVay dragging out the chickweed which was smothering the valuable plants, only put in last year at great expense and effort. Pat has since written to me expressing her concern that no one else seems to care. She also points out that the resident who used to cut the grass to the rear of the Martins Close bus shelter and also undertook to trim around the island bed opposite has now moved. Is there anyone prepared to do it, or can it be added to the tasks of the odd job man, perhaps the Council can be encouraged to do it? I'm sure that someone in Martin's Close could be persuaded to volunteer.

An ego massage is what I then received from Pat as she concluded her letter: 'Thank you for the lighter touch and humorous rendering to serious matters you are bringing to the Haydon News and for keeping us so well informed about our interests and concerns.' Glad you like the style, many others like yourself have also told me that they appreciate my approach, others would no doubt like to do to me what was done with the topiary bird.

Duff information is what was given last month when it was said that Parish Council meetings were held on the last Thursday of the month. I have been reminded that they are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Sorry about that.

There is a chronic lack of child care in the area, thinks one of our advertisers. Aline Burton has put an additional advert on page 7 informing readers of her present and future plans, this may be of particular interest to working parents.

Future plans for the Haydon News seem even more secure after opening the donation box in John Clarke's shop when £26.89 was found there. The Friends of Haydon Bridge wish to thank those who have made a contribution. This month's issue contains an extra page.

The viewpoint to the left contains the opinions of quite a few people who I talk to in my wanderings and visits to the local eating houses and hostels. If you have any opinions let me know. I am happy to take your verbal views, whilst I may not agree with them I am content to print them in the manner shown, even though I may occasionally get the brickbats!

Mitch



The life story of Beatrix Potter was the theme of a talk and slide show by Mr Bishop at Langley W.I.

This programme, originally compiled by the late Mr Roger Clissold, is much in demand and will feature again at the group meeting in May at Allen-heads.

The slides were particularly interesting as they showed that the illustrations for her various books were inspired by her surroundings in the Lake District.

Although not originally from that area, Beatrix Potter settled in the Lake District and on her death her land and property was left to the National Trust.

M Nagel

WHAT IS MAN ?

If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous he will not bite you. This is the basic difference between a dog and a man.

Mark Twain

THE LITTLE GENTLEMEN
IN BLACK VELVET SUITS

It was recently brought to my attention that a West Rattenraw resident had a problem, not uncommon in chaps of his age. As you get older certain things become obsessive, one being a mania for the perfect lawn.

Usually not a blemish sullied the pure and undefiled sward at his outpost in the west, however things were to change. One morning there appeared not one, or even two, but six neat little mounds of soil on his manicured masterpiece.

Wary of writs the Editor has asked me to use a nom de plume for Mr Telford, I am happy to do this and will call him Dennis.

Now 'Dennis' being a decent and upright fellow did not wish to harm the little burrowing mammals, some folk had even suggested squashing them with a shovel. One night in the 'Haydon', whilst supping his Theakstons, he fretted and anguished over this seemingly insurmountable problem. Then someone quietly whispered into his ear the perfect and humane solution.

All he had to do was take his watering can and in a systematic and methodical way proceed to water his lawns. Then as the worms, thinking its raining, begin to appear pick them up slowly, holding your hand well above the bucket you carry, wiggling your fingers for a few seconds you then drop the worm silently into the bucket.

You will probably need to repeat this exercise for up to three days by which time you will find the worms appearing less and less until your lawn is clear.

'Ah yes', I can hear you say, 'but it is the MOLES I want to get rid of and not the worms !'. However this is where country craft comes in - did you notice pairs of beady eyes watching as you so painstakingly removed the worms, which is the mole's food supply ? The moles didn't take kindly to you slowly and tantalisingly dropping their food into the bucket one at a time.

Now the next thing to do is to get rid of the worms and the moles will follow, ridding you of the pests. But where do you put them? It has been said that some unscrupulous folk throw them onto the lawn of a rival gardener.

I will never understand why 'Dennis' was seen throwing a bucket full of fat juicy worms over the high stone wall of Maurice Armstrong's garden with it's immaculate lawn, to be followed in hot pursuit by two of the fastest wall climbing moles seen in the vil-lage.

Can't comprehend it as I've occa-sionally seen both men drinking together in the 'Haydon' and genuinely thought they were friends.



OWLD TAWNY

Anecdote Corner - A Doggie's Tale



It was a glorious summer during the war years. My mother and I were visiting my Auntie in Martins Close, perhaps I was four or five years old.

Two of my many cousins and me had just been plodding by the bridge, me in a pair of my cousin's knickers, we all got soaked and went back to the house. After changing and having a spam sandwich we were again told to go out and play, traffic was not a problem in those days.

We were playing Muggles on the ground by the 'Blue House' at the end of Martins Close, after a short while one of them decided that this game was not for her and off she ran to play with a couple of her girl friends.

After ten minutes we two lads became bored, pocketed our muggles and wandered westward along John Martin Street. My female cousin was sitting with her two friends on one of the doorsteps (the number of which I will never reveal), we were persuaded by these three older girls to be patients in a Doctors & Nurses game in the house. After a few minutes my two cousins decided to clear off and play in the river again, leaving me alone.

The usual innocent medical inspections were carried out by the 'Nurses.' I then had to pretend to be a new born baby, pressing a two foot length of string to my belly button one of the 'Nurses' held it taut whilst the other cut it with a pair of scissors.

I was then asked to be the girl's pet dog, however the string was not now long enough to tie around my neck so the girls decided to tie it to an appendage of mine.

Barking when asked to do so, they led me to the Anchor Yard for all the bathers to have a chuckle, then back along John Martin Street where I was left at the 'Blue House'. Trying to undo the string only succeeded in making it tighter, I kept pulling the string and the knot became tighter and tighter.

Eventually I started screaming, my mother rushed up from the house and carried me in. My Auntie and grown up cousins laughed and giggled when my mother took off my short pants and they were able to see what I was screaming about. Worse was to come !

Auntie disappeared and came back with a cut throat razor from the bathroom - can you imagine the abject terror with my mother holding me down whilst her sister tried to cut off the string. Both laughing of course.

They eventually succeeded by using a crochet hook.

Recently I was in one of the village shops when an attractive well turned out mature lady asked for a ball of twine. I wonder ?
A. Resident

Forgotten Fleece

Caught on the wire,
I hang suspended in time
wrenched from my bodily contact,
locked in my prison
fog smothers me in its shrouded embrace
clogged and tangled, I gasp for life
the wind blows through my fibres
and tries to free me
yet I cling there
I hear the flock calling to me
impaled on the wire, I forget.

I know I was cruel
as a child because I
remember stuffing
some young boy's
nostrils with putty,
and beating a little
girl with stinging net-
tles.

AN EGO MESSAGE

I am not conceited.
It is just that I like
the good things in
life and I happen to
be one of them.

Sylvia

The complete text from the pamphlet titled **VILLAGE APPRAISALS** is shown below by courtesy of the Community Council Of Northumberland

What is an appraisal ?

A village or town appraisal is a local stock-taking and planning exercise carried out by the local community. It is a process which looks at the good and bad points of the area and of local life, and it arrives at a strategy and programme for maintaining the best and improving the rest.

Community appraisals can be carried out in various different ways, but they all contain 3 important elements:

- they are run by and for local people
- they are concerned with the future, and not only with how things are or have been
- they cover a wide range of subjects, of local importance.

Why do an appraisal ?

All communities are affected by change. Some of these changes are the results of conscious decisions by public and private agencies, some are the outcome of wider trends in our economy and society, and some are the outcome of different opinions or interests coming into contact within the community.

Appraisals are a way of helping people to understand and anticipate what is happening to them:

- to be aware of different needs and opportunities within their own community
- to understand the links between different problems and issues
- to provide a clear view to outside bodies about local needs and opinions
- and to spur local people to work together to get things done.

Appraisals can tackle whatever issues are seen to be relevant:

- improving the appearance of local streets or green areas
- providing a new play area or old folks' day centre
- improving accessibility for disabled people
- creating some work-space or training facilities for unemployed people
- providing affordable homes to retain local people in their own community
- increasing support for the local shop
- attracting a new health clinic into the local area
- organising a car-sharing rota and so on.

In order to attract public funds for local projects, some bodies now give priority to proposals which have emerged from a community-led appraisal.

What is involved ?

First, there needs to be some discussion and agreement within the community about the idea. The whole process will take time, effort and some cost. Difficult decisions about competing priorities may need to be made. And, crucially, people need to be prepared to see that any ideas and proposals are implemented, which may require a great deal of patience and perseverance.

Some kind of management group may need to be formed, which draws together a wide range of different people and interests. This group needs to ensure that all sections of the community become involved. The stocktaking exercise can involve public meetings, working parties, project groups, household questionnaires, or whatever else seems appropriate and practicable.

A range of facts and opinions will need to be pulled together and considered by local people. Support for different proposals will need to be gauged, and some sort of action plan drawn up. Responsibility for implementing some of the proposals will fall on outside agencies - e.g. local authorities and public utility companies. Others will fall squarely on local people - volunteers for the most part. From time to time progress will need to be reviewed, and the priorities and proposals reassessed in the light of changing conditions.

Different groups of people with different types of expertise may be needed as work progresses from the initial discussions, to the implementation of the proposals.

What else do we need to think about at this stage ?

Time - an appraisal can take anything between 3 months and a year, to reach a stage where the proposals can be implemented. much depends on the complexity of the process (e.g. how many public meetings ? How big a questionnaire? How many special working parties?) and on the pace which each community (and groups within it) wishes to set for itself.

Cost - the costs can run into tens or hundreds of pounds, depending on the size and complexity of the chosen process. Typical headings include

- printing and circulating questionnaires
- hiring rooms in community centres for public meetings
- telephone calls and travel
- compiling and publishing some kind of report or plan

Help - advice, ideas and encouragement about the overall process area available from staff of the Community Council of Northumberland and other professionals

- expert information on particular topics is available from local authority planners, libraries, economic development officers, community care managers etc.

- some grant aid may be available, to set the ball rolling

Where do we go from here ?

For the next few years, the Community Council is making a substantial commitment of staff time, to help communities to carry out appraisals and similar regeneration work. We will help you to:

- think through your ideas, and make connections with other people in the area who also need to be involved
- arrange some publicity and an initial meeting to discuss the proposal

From then on, if there is sufficient interest, we will provide the necessary advice and support.

Community Council
of Northumberland
Tower Buildings
9 Oldgate
Morpeth NE61 1PY

Tel: (01670) 517178
Fax: (01670) 511400

- David Francis Director
- Kate Duckham Assistant Director
- Anne Lowrie Rural Officer
- Sarah Preston Rural Housing Officer
- Mike Hamp Rural Coalfields
Community Development
Worker
- Keda Norman Rural Development
Officer (West of County)

CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Number 34

An independent supplement to the Haydon News

MAY 1995

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting at St Cuthbert's, Haydon Bridge took place on Tuesday 25th April in the Church Hall. This is the meeting at which the new Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) is elected every year. The P.C.C. is responsible for supervising the work of the Church in the Parish. Our new P.C.C. is as follows:-

Clergy:- Rev K. Fletcher, Rev G. Price; Readers (ex-officio):- Dr. L. Gray, Mr. M. Fry; Churchwardens:- Mrs. A. Marshall, Mrs M. Curry; Rep. to the Deanery Synod:- Mrs R. Lowdon; (& Dr. Gray) Elected Members:- Mrs J. Armstrong, Mrs J. Hall, Mrs M. Milford, Mrs L. Heap, Mrs. R. Irwin, Mr. A. Shield, Mrs J. Oldfield-Rowell, Mrs H. Easby, Mrs S. Fletcher, Mrs E. Garrow, Mrs M Price.

REWIRE OF PARISH CHURCH

During this month of May the Parish Church will be rewired. We have waited for a year to do this essential work and are now relieved that it can go ahead.

While the work is going on the church will still be in use and we will endeavour to keep it as clean as possible - there will however, inevitably be some dust and dirt about during the week.

ORGAN RENOVATION

Following the rewire (in June) the organ is to undergo a renovation (in memory of our late organist Norman Suckling). This work will be more disruptive than the rewiring. We hope that all users of the church building will appreciate that some inconvenience is unavoidable during this major work.

Christian Aid Crisis

Christian Aid week is 14th to 20th May. Up to the time of going to press we have no organiser for Christian Aid Week House to House collection. Christian Aid is an Inter-Church organisation and the organiser could belong to any of the Haydon Bridge churches or simply be in sympathy with the work of Christian Aid.

Unless we have a volunteer coming forward in the next 7 to 10 days there will be no collection in Haydon Bridge this year. (If you can volunteer contact the vicar).

A Christian Aid Service is planned for the Parish Church at 6 pm on 14th May to begin Christian Aid Week. This service will only take place if the collection is going ahead, since its main aim is to commission the collectors.

THANKS FOR THE DANCE

Many thanks to Mr & Mrs Harry Watson and friends for the dance at the High School on 25th March. The proceeds have been donated to the Parish Church and will help enormously with re-wiring and the various other repairs which will be forthcoming. The total raised was £501.50p.

Not only is the money very much appreciated - the dance itself was a splendid occasion and a most enjoyable night out.

K.F.

CAKES FOR KNEELERS

A sewing group has been formed by Mrs Maureen Price to replace the kneelers in the Parish Church. Already a number of pews have been provided with new kneelers. £50 is needed to pay for some of the materials used and to raise this a stall has been taken in Hexham Market on **Friday 19th May**.

The stall will be able to sell as many cakes, or jams, chutney, marmalade etc as can be produced and the ladies will be grateful for anyone who could bake for the stall. If you are able to help please bring produce to the Church Hall between 2pm & 3pm on **Thursday 18th May**.

Mothers' Union

Wednesday 24th May
7.30 p.m. Action & Outreach
a talk by Marjorie Allison
(in the Church Hall)

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

9th April - Lindsay Ann Eales
*Jesus said: Let the children come
to me - do not stop them - for the
Kingdom of God belongs to such
as these.*

Funerals

7th April - Anne Bell
21st April Ellen Graham
*Our deepest condolences for those
who mourn.*

EVERY FRIDAY

at the Methodist Chapel

6.30 - 7.30 Youth club for under
10's
7.45 - 8.45 Study Club for 11+

SERVICES AT BELTINGHAM AND HENSHAW

7th May - Easter 3
10 am Holy Communion at
Henshaw - Rite A

14th May - Easter 4
9 am Holy Communion at
Beltingham - Rite A
6 pm Evensong at Beltingham -
BCP

21st May - Easter 5
10 am Holy Communion at
Henshaw - Rite A
6.30 Deanery Evensong at
St. Mark's, Ninebanks

28th May - Ascension (Sun)
10 am Matins at Beltingham
BCP

4th June - Pentecost
10.15 am United Service at
Henshaw Methodist Chapel
6 pm Holy Communion at
Henshaw - BCP

SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH

7th May - Easter 3
8 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Worship for All
6 pm United Service at United
Reform Church

14th May - Easter 4
10.30 am Parish Eucharist

21st May - Easter 5
8 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Parish Eucharist
3 pm Rogation Service at
Haydon Old Church
6.30 pm Deanery Evensong at
St. Mark's, Ninebanks

Thurs 25th May Ascension Day
8 am Holy Communion

28th May - Ascension (Sun)
10.30 am Parish Eucharist
3 pm Evensong at Haydon Old
Church

4th June - Pentecost
8 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Worship for All
6 pm Unity Service at Methodist
Chapel

A SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE

During May the Christian Church continues to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The mystery of the Resurrection is central to our faith. After Jesus was executed on the cross (Good Friday) he appeared to his followers on a number of occasions during a period of almost six weeks (Easter Sun to Ascension Day). His appearances were not ghostly apparitions - he spoke, ate and was touched by them! Whilst not a ghost, Jesus had changed. He was no longer subject to the limitations of this earthly life of ours - he appeared in a locked room - he was not always immediately recognised. The Resurrection is a mystery to us, yet it was such a powerful experience for those first disciples that the Christian Church began even in the face of violent opposition.

Our Christian belief in "life after death" is based upon our faith in the Resurrection of Jesus. He teaches us that because he lives, we will live also. We are given hope for the future. Our hope is not wishful thinking based upon man-made philosophy we can understand - it is a sure a certain hope based upon the mystery of the resurrection of Jesus.

INFORMATION

Vicar: Rev. Keith Fletcher
Tel: 684307
Asst. Priest: Rev. Gerry Price
Tel: 609861

Both priests use answering machines when they are not in their office - simply leave your name and telephone number and they will get back to you.. Please note that Gerry Price is on duty Sat to Tue inclusive and is NOT normally available Wed to Fri inclusive.

Hall Bookings - Mrs Marshall
Tel: 684454

HEALTH CENTRE NEWS

OZONE FRIENDLY ASTHMATICS

Several years ago we started to use forms of inhaled asthma treatment that did not involve the widely used sprays. There were two reasons for this. Firstly, there is evidence that some of the newer therapies are more successful than the old fashioned sprays. Secondly, the old fashioned sprays were powered by CFCs - the chemicals which blow holes in the ozone layer.

Many people liked the greater ease of use of the sprays and believed that they worked better than the newer treatments. We have never been rigid about what people used but very few use the sprays now.

We can now accommodate everyone's preferences as a new spray is available, called Airomir, which does not use CFCs. We expect to make quite a lot of use of this and anyone who would like to have one is most welcome to mention it next time they come for an asthma clinic check up. At present the new sprays only contain what used to be called Ventolin or salbutamol - other drugs should become available soon too.

DONOR CARDS/REGISTER

There has never been enough organs available to give transplants to all of the thousands of people who are - often and quite literally - dying to have one.

A new scheme is underway in which it is possible to register one's intention to donate any or all parts of your body for transplant in the event that you are so badly injured that you are dead or dying. To some extent this can ease the burden on relatives of having to make decisions when they are coping with grief.

We can provide copies of the relevant form to anyone who would like to get on the register. There is a place on the forms which we use for new patients in which it is possible to make your wishes known. I understand that similar space will be made available on a number of other official forms too.

It seems like tempting fate to make a commitment to be a donor and for similar reasons many postpone making a will. This is understandable and none should feel pressured to reach a decision until they are quite sure of their views. We are happy to discuss any questions which people may have.

I carry a card indicating that all of my organs may be used and my family know my wishes. Two people could be given back their sight, two people could be freed from the chains which bind them to their kidney dialysis machines, one or possibly two people could be rescued from liver failure, one person could be saved from premature death due to heart disease and one or two people could be allowed to draw deep satisfying breaths again who were previously fighting to get air into and out of their lungs. That's a total of 9 lives saved or improved and as technology advances other parts will be made use of - it's the last and best act that any person can perform for those that remain.

HAYFEVER

Most people look forward to Spring and Summer but not everybody. The streaming eyes and nose, the paroxysms of sneezing, the sore throat and cough, the tight chest and the skin irritation which pollen brings to many is an absolute misery. There are very many different approaches to the problem and it may be that sufferers will need to try a variety before settling on one that suits them best.

One cannot avoid pollen but one can avoid animal derived dust - from fur and feathers - to a large extent as they can cause similar symptoms.

There was a fashion for trying to desensitise people to the pollen which most upset them but this has been out of favour for many years now. Many people seem to become less sensitive as time goes by.

FAILURES AND MISTAKES - CHANCES TO IMPROVE

Everyone, without exception, makes mistakes. Mistakes in medicine can, at worst, have fatal consequences. At the other end of the scale a mistake may be no more than a minor irritant which is soon forgotten. Nonetheless, prevention is better than cure.

All of the Health Centre Team aim to perform to the best of their abilities at all times but we need to know when things go wrong. Sometimes a mistake will be simply too obvious to miss but sometimes the mistake takes the form of a misheard word which changes the meaning of a sentence or the use of a word which is not understood. Personalities play a part too, insensitivity or oversensitivity can create or magnify problems. What is a problem for one person may pass beneath the notice of another.

There are no circumstances under which any of us would knowingly cause harm or distress to any person. Accordingly we hope that when anyone feels that a problem has arisen they will know, on reflection, that there must be an explanation and the possibility of a resolution. Finding that explanation and discovering how things have gone wrong can help everyone involved and restore harmony.

Every time a problem is resolved the chances of further problems arising is reduced. It is positively helpful to know about problems and we are all willing to discuss any issue at all. The Community Health Council can help too - their number is 01670 504562.

TYNEDALE COMMUNITY HOSPICE

An inaugural meeting for the Tynedale Community Hospice was held recently - you may have spotted mentions of it in The Courant. This is a new service, just coming into action, which is intended to supplement the existing services for those who are gravely ill at home. It does not replace any of the nursing or other services. The purpose of the new service is to cover those areas of a person's life which are not strictly in medical or nursing or social services fields.

Shopping, gardening, decorating, fetching, carrying, organising, companionship, pet care - you name it and the Tynedale Community Hospice will try to find a person to help. Naturally, there is also a need for volunteers to provide those services. Anyone who would like to help or who needs help can make contact through us or directly on 600388.

HAYDON BRIDGE GIRL IN BILLION POUND SEX SCANDAL

Getting people's attention is depressingly easy - ISN'T IT! The mention of something which links the reader to the headline and involves money and sex just cannot fail.

The British Medical Journal has surveyed a number of professional journalists who contribute to national newspapers on matters of health. Their major source of information is the professional press. Their preferred subjects are "topical or controversial subjects, common and fatal diseases, rare but quirky diseases, sexual subjects and new treatments.", "Journalists assumed that the journals - assured accuracy." No mention is made of the boring but important stuff

Balanced is not the first word that springs to mind to describe this process of informing the public.

DO NOT BELIEVE ALL THAT YOU READ!