

Haydon News

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June 1997 / 5

In this issue: A second frank consultation with Doctor Ford. Parish Councillor blows her top - Editor defends right of editorial control. My name is Adolf - intimate revelations. Old sea-dogs part in missing submarine search. No jokes in this issue but lots of things going on in the Parish.

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ERNIE SWINBURN - PHOTOGRAPHY

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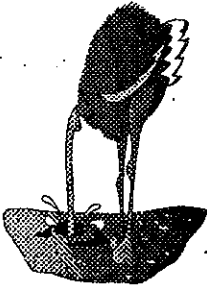
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UNWARRANTED OUTBURSTS AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the Parish Council meetings in March and April those attending were treated to a bad tempered and heated debate - in both cases the combatant was Joe Public (pseudonym) with Cllr Bill the defending combatant in March and Cllr Mrs. Bill the former Chairman of Tynedale District Council (Mrs. Marion Howard) performing in April.

Joe Public's outspoken and angry outburst were rather a bit over the top however one could sense the feeling of frustration in his angered voice.

In the March case Joe Public was fed up to the teeth that the simple task of clearing weeds and grass from the drains and gullies of the estate roads was not being done. Cllr Bill, also the Chairman of Tynedale's Environmental Services Committee, did not help matters by his lack lustre replies. Early in May the problem was resolved when the hefty road sweepers and herbicides came to attack the growing weeds. Would this have been done had not Joe Public intervened is anybody's guess - perhaps we tax payers are expecting too much in expecting jobs to be done properly in the first place!

Cllr Mrs. Howard was on the receiving end of Joe Public's wrath at the April Meeting of the Parish Council - this time over the delays in placing a copy of the long awaited Parish Appraisal results into the library. We have long been promised that a copy of the Parish Appraisal would be made available in the Village Library. Joe Public had visited the library at 4pm on 24th April and the librarian could not find a copy. This vexed Joe Public who had been visiting the library regularly over many weeks hoping to read the document. In what she may have hoped would be the 'coup de grace' one Councillor boldly announced that she had in fact placed her personal copy in the library two days earlier. This caused the spit to hit the fan - we observers in the public gallery ducked for cover.

Where was Cllr Mrs. Howard during all of this - well folks I'm sorry to have to report that her temper was as fierce as Joe Public's. This is not the first time that I have seen the Councillor so angry in a confrontational situation - not a quality desired in public figures.

During her heated outburst she made an angry [but false] statement to the effect that she couldn't get space in the Haydon News to report on the Appraisal and that reports published in the newsletter were always distorted. She then left the room in a fit of temper. I understand that she returned shortly after I left the meeting at 8:15.

I was a mere observer and took no part in these heated discussions on the 24th April but had hoped that Cllr Mrs. Howard may have re-considered her totally false accusations, directed towards your Editor, and perhaps apologised - no such apologies have been received so I will comment through this medium. Any considered response by either of the Howards will be printed in full in these columns.

From the very start of the Village Appraisal discussions, which started in the Autumn of 1994 with a presentation in the High School by The Community Council of Northumberland, I have taken a supportive and active interest, participating at most open public meetings of the group.

Progress reports on the Appraisal activities have been accurately reported through these columns either from my personal attendance at meetings or from reports obtained from Keda Norman of the Community Council for Northumberland. I have re-read all of the past Haydon News reports and I cannot find one case of 'distorted' reporting - perhaps Cllr Mrs. Howard would like to pop into the village library and have a look for herself.

Maybe our Parish and District representative is still smarting from the fact that in the May 1995 Haydon News that in the Readers Letters and Viewpoints column it was suggested that Marion came along to the next Friends of Haydon Bridge meeting and discuss the possibility of actively involving the non-partisan Friends in the Appraisal.

In her wisdom she chose not to involve the Friends nor did she come to the meeting. However she did come a couple of months later and complained about my style of editing the village newsletter - but that's another story!

At the Parish Council Meeting on 28th November 1996 Keda Norman (Community Association of Northumberland) distributed a preliminary analysis of the Appraisal to all Parish Councillors and Cllr Mrs. Howard specifically instructed that neither me or the Friends should be given a copy. Keda Norman promised a resumé of the main points - this never materialised.

In February/March I made a number of calls to Keda Norman's Haltwhistle Office in an attempt to get information - these calls were never returned.

At the Friends of Haydon Bridge Meeting in April Cllr Mrs Howard gave a short presentation of some of the appraisal results promising a full copy of the Appraisal to the 'Friends' - who are still waiting! Attached to the May issue of the Haydon News was a summary of some Appraisal results which I was not allowed to see before the Haydon News had been completed. There may be some obscure reason as to why Cllr. Mrs Howard did not see fit to let us know the details of the Appraisal - I have my own suspicions.

Fortunately the Howard's apparent *veil of secrecy* attitude over matters which should rightfully be in the public domain is not shared by most of the other Councillors. Cllr Michael Loyd regularly states at meetings that the Council should keep the public informed of what is happening.

So for goodness sake Bill and Marion get your heads out of the bloody sand and realise that the Haydon News is here to inform parishioners of what is happening and not only of what has happened. Through these columns I try to express the views and concerns of people in the Parish - it would be more constructive if you both helped in this process. You may not like my style of editing however this does not justify withholding of information which should be available for public debate. The Haydon News provides the mechanism for initiating such debate!
Mitch

PS This article was written on 16th May before I went on holiday. On the 27th May the Chairman of the Parish Council wrote the letter shown on page 4, his letter on page 3 was received by me on 30th May. I am sure that readers, like me, will be pleased at this positive approach by the Parish Council who were not aware of my article when their Chairman wrote to the Haydon News.
See you later folks **Mitch**

CORRECTION AND APOLOGY

In the May edition of the Haydon News it was reported that the house to the south of the rest home at Peelwell had been purchased at the same time by the new owners of the rest home. I have since been informed that this information is in fact not correct.

My sincere apologies to all concerned.

Editor.

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

In the May issue of the Haydon News the Parish Council published its own news sheet, and wish to thank the Friends for including the information we provided.

We hope to use this method of passing on Parish matters in future issues of the Haydon News.

In June Working Groups made up of Parish Councillors and Members of the Appraisal Committee will be meeting to:

- (a) Put together project proposals for environmental improvements.
- (b) Sit down with the Community Association Executive Members to progress their application for funding so that they can make improvements to the Community Centre.
- (c) To set a time table and enlist the essential help from outside agencies.

You will be informed about our progress in July as a Parish News sheet attached to the Haydon News.

If you have any comments about these proposals or in reference to the Appraisal I will pass them on to the Parish Council for discussion.

**M Loyd
Threepwood Hall**

Editors Response

The Haydon News is the official organ of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, not the Parish Council. I believe that the delivery service should be restricted to the Haydon News. The system has worked well for over 18 years and I am not prepared to attach a separate Parish Council News Sheet to the Haydon News.

The Village Appraisal was a special case and its delivery in July 1996 should not be seen as a precedence. The delivery of the single sheet summary of results in the May 1997 newsletter was agreed by me because of the rather heated discussions at the 24th April P.C. meeting. On reflection I wish I had not done so as the preamble contained erroneous information:

- (a) The public exhibitions were held on November 2nd and 8th 1995 and not in 1996 as stated by the Parish Council.
- (b) The questionnaires were returned in July/August 1996 and not early 1997 as stated by the Parish Council.

In view of the bad tempered outburst by one Councillor (see page 2) at the April meeting I just hope that the above errors were genuine mistakes and not a deliberate attempt to mislead the public thereby negating the April 24th complaint by 'Joe Public'. I do think an explanation is in order.

Nevertheless I do welcome the idea of the Parish Council providing more information on the Village Appraisal, any information they do provide will be included in the columns of the Haydon News without modification of factual content. All items must be received by the Editor the day before the Parish Council meeting so that he can clarify any point before its inclusion in the newsletter. Most inputs are normally printed 'as received' however editorial control must remain in the hands of the Editor. Mitch

**PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS
Thursday 22nd May 1997**

There were 8 councillors in attendance with County Councillor Purdue also present. Chairman Councillor M. Loyd took the chair.

Public participation - concerned dog fouling along the 'back lane' behind Ratcliffe Road and Strother Close. The mess was most disagreeable. Remonstrations with owners of offending dogs was useless. Dog bins are to be placed on the picnic site and are to be emptied regularly. You do need to have a plastic bag in your pocket! Cost of bins and emptying is quite expensive. Hope they are used.

Gates to the Industrial Site - No progress. Keep writing to object.

Subway - proposal to have a mural instead of offensive graffiti - progress is being made - High School are to take the project on board as part of curriculum - next academic year.

Spa-Well anniversary - have you any ideas to commemorate this event? New seats were suggested, but I remember what happened to the last ones - they ended in the river - am I correct? As an aside - does anyone know why it is better to sit at the back and put your feet on the seat instead of the other way round?

Village Appraisal - it was agreed that this matter be part of the Parish Council Agenda for future meetings, in order to keep public informed. Working groups are to meet in the Community Centre on June 10th at 7:30pm.

Planning application - vehicle dismantling and recycling on premises at Fourstones Road were refused on Environmental grounds - pollution into the river - stream runs underground at that point.

It was also agreed to make a donation to the Shaftoe Trust First School three hundredth anniversary. It is hoped village people will become involved in these celebrations. Enid Garrow

GATE TO STATION CAR PARK

If there are any problems with the gate being closed thereby preventing access to or from the station car park you can ring your complaints to:

Railtrack
David Field - 01904 524 807.
-
Salem Tube International
Howard Ions - 688 000

CROSSWORD

The number of correct entries was 12. After four competitions points standing is:

D. Corbett(4), P. Irving(4), R. McVay(4), A. Phillips(4), E. Rumney(4), B&R Shout(4), R. Armstrong(3), M. Hindle(3), A. M. Scott(3), M. Robson(3), M. Nagel(2), N. Pretswell(2), M. Porter(2), P. Tomlinson(2), N. Gilholm(1), E. Jukes(1), M. Moore(1), P. Tulip.

This month's winners were drawn and are Neil Gilholm and Agnes Scott.

The answer to 13 down (Commonly) was FREELY but I have also allowed OPENLY.

SBM

SALEM'S LOT

In the middle of May I visited Howard Ions of Salem Tube International in his office on the Church Street Industrial site - apparently owned by the Company.

The Company were anxious to explain what they were trying to do to ensure free access to the station car park following the erection of the security gate at the entrance to the site.

Mr. Ions explained, and showed me documentary evidence which seemed to support his claim, that the access to the station car park via the factory site had only ever to be intended to be temporary. The intention always was, he claimed, that when No.8 Station Cottages was demolished that British Rail provide access direct into the car park. No. 8 has long since gone and Salem's argument is that Railtrack should now giving vehicular access to the station via a new entrance between the level crossing and the library, the former site of No. 8 Station Cottages.

A meeting has already taken place between Salem and a representative from Northumberland County Council-Highways and I understand that they have no objection to a new access being provided. Mr. Ions has advised me that his Company are prepared to pay for the cost of the new access in that location.

I have spoken to Railtrack who advise that the matter is with their solicitors and would prefer not to comment on the matter at this time.

SBM

THANK YOU

The Watson Family would like to thank everybody who helped and contributed in any way to the Dance on Saturday May 10th.

A cheque for £510 has been handed over to the Northern Counties Kidney Research Fund.

Nancy Watson

ST. Johns R.C.

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in
Church Grounds
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Sunday 29th June
opened at 2 p.m.

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Conducted by Rev. T. Oakley
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Please join us for a lovely afternoon

All money in aid of the U.R.C. funds

SHAFTOE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The next Governor's meeting will be held on 10th July 1997.

Applications for grants to promote the education of residents of Haydon Parish should be made in writing to The Clerk and posted to or left at the Office, Shaftoe Terrace NE47 6BW by Saturday June 28.

Further information or advice can be obtained by telephoning The Clerk (J.P. Richardson) on 684 298.

Readers letters and Viewpoints

Submarine tragedy remembered by Haydon former Sailor - Maurice Reed of West Land Ends has written in following my reference in the April edition of the newsletter to the submarine HMS Affray sinking in the English Channel in April 1951 with the loss of 75 lives. Maurice was in the Royal Navy from 1950 to 1955 and says:

'I thought you would be interested to learn that living in Haydon Parish you have someone who spent four weeks on the active search for the submarine H.M.S. Affray when she sank.

In 1951 I was a serving member of the Royal Navy and at the time of the submarine's disappearance was serving on the Naval Frigate H.M.S. Loch Fyne which was second-in-command of the Flotilla assigned to search the English Channel off the Isle off Alderney for The Affray. We swept the area day after day with our ASDIC equipment, trying to locate the missing vessel. After three and a half weeks searching we detected a faint echo and were certain in our minds that we had found the missing submarine on the sea-bed.

The co-ordinates of the object were promptly signalled to our Flotilla Leader H.M.S. Loch Insh which immediately swept the area but signalled back to us that we were mistaken and the object on the sea-bed was not the lost vessel.

Much to the surprise of all aboard H.M.S. Loch Fyne, two days later H.M.S. Loch Insh re-swept the area and received positive sonar echoes from the co-ordinates we had previously given. They then signalled The Admiralty in London stating that they had found the submarine and thus received all the praise for finding the vessel. Naturally the crew of my frigate were dismayed at the Loch Insh claims but we were also delighted in having correctly assessed our own soundings two days earlier.'

Maurice Reed
ex R.N.

Thanks for the tale based on your first hand knowledge of this tragic event Maurice. I recall the incident quite well, at the time I was a 14 year old at Akkie Road Tech. in Newcastle and my maths teacher, Charlie Telford, used to bring a big 'portable' radio into the classroom to hear the news bulletins of the search. He did the same when the 'Flying Enterprise' was sinking.

Perhaps more of you have similar tales you wish to share with readers - please give me a ring on 684-035 or send a note. I will write the article if you wish.

A letter from the Chairman of Haydon Bridge Parish Council

27 May
Dear Mitch,

The Showfield

As you will have guessed the new estate has been named The Showfield.

I called in on you earlier this afternoon because I had heard that The Home Housing Association were giving a conducted tour to their office staff amongst others at 3pm and thought that you might like to join me on it.

The situation is that Bellways expect to be clear of the site in the first week of July. To date four of the eight elder peoples bungalows have been sold and eleven of the 3 & 2 bedroom houses to let have been allocated.

Although there were more applications from the village than houses the local response was not overwhelming and perhaps insufficient to provide the ideal community balance, for that reason the allocation of the final house has been delayed until mid June to ensure every local person who wishes to apply will have had an opportunity to do so.

Three houses have been handed over and a further three next week. There will be an official opening to be decided in mid June.

Yours sincerely
Michael Loyd



A Public Consultation

"When you started the joint Allendale/Haydon practice the local press reported that the Allendale Doctor would move to the Allendale area however in the event she moved to Lipwood Hall, as you live in Haydon Bridge and Dr. Henderson lives in Bardon Mill this seems to put the Allen Valley folk at a distinct disadvantage on call-outs.?"

"This argument cuts both ways. In due course there will be a doctor resident in Allendale and when on duty it may be that Haydon Bridge patients will feel disenfranchised. It is an obligation on partners that they live within the practice boundary, at present all are in fact quite central.

There has not yet been an occasion when I have been unable to get anywhere in the practice. Though on one occasion I have been towed in the Land Rover through eight foot drifts by a large four wheel drive tractor. Ultimately we would, and do, walk."

"I have read recent press reports, supposedly emanating from Government sources, stating that it has been found that fundholding practices are costing some £70,000 more to run than previous arrangements. Have you done an audit on the costs of running the Health Centre and compared to before?"

"The costs of running the 'internal market' are immense. We know our own fundholding costs and believe them to be quite modest when compared with others but that does not mean that we are content with the system. The costs of running the health centre are a different issue - the questioner may be confusing apples with pears. Fundholding and the practices are run as separate entities."

"Sorry Doctor Ford but you have not answered the question which I will repeat

[READERS PLEASE SEE ABOVE QUESTION Ed.]

Whether the practice and fundholding are run as separate entities is irrelevant. As a fundholding practice in Haydon Bridge have the costs risen or decreased since the start of fund holding - if so by how much?"

"There is clearly mutual incomprehension here. Since fundholding and the practices are run as separate entities it is axiomatic that the question, as posed, is meaningless. The fundholding system is superimposed on the existing practices, three of them originally in this case. The funding for the operation of the fundholding system is entirely outwith the practice funding and is new money - the management allowance - which is similar throughout the UK and is, at least notionally, a virement of Health Authority revenues. Whether the existence of fundholding has affected the practice's internal funding is conjectural because of the multiple confounding factors - increase in practice size, change in staffing, change in tasks performed etc.

The fundholding is subject to annual audit and to date there have been no faults detected. The practice accounts, not being those of a limited company, are not formally audited.

The fundholding budget and management allowance have risen year on year and the practice revenue likewise though there is no linkage between these elements. They are influenced by a national policy, local and regional negotiation and the Review Body which advises on fees and allowances for the profession."

"Is there not a danger that Fund Holders will look upon their activities too much as a business than that of a health care service? Doctors are qualified as medical practitioners and not usually known for their organisational or business acumen - how do you reconcile this?"

"In 1989, at the start of fundholding, I had a letter published in 'The Independent' newspaper. I can do little better than repeat a part of the text:

' - the new regulations will harm patients by diverting resources to non-productive management activity, distracting 'care productive' staff from their proper function and rendering chaotic the carefully wrought mechanisms by which the NHS operates.'

It was true then and remains true today.

The alternative, as I mentioned in the Haydon News in the preliminary year to our own fundholding starting, is to accept a lower level of care for Haydon Bridge - and I will not do that."

"A friend of mine recently had to cancel a holiday because of illness - during a consultation for the ailment she asked for a holiday insurance claim form to be signed and was charged £12 for this. I understand the need to charge if a separate consultation had been needed how can you justify such a fee for less than 15 seconds of work?"

"As mentioned in the practice brochure, there is a regularly revised scale of charges for non-NHS work available in Reception. GP's are private contractors contracted to perform a variety of tasks for the NHS for which there is a nationally agreed scale of fees and allowances. Any other work which is performed may be charged for at the discretion of the doctor, just like any other commercial enterprise. Fees vary from practice to practice.

A signature on a document of legal consequence, such as an insurance claim form, has significance beyond the few seconds involved in signing. As has been shown in the courts an incorrectly applied signature can cost a doctor thousands of pounds and may attract a prison term too. One is not just rubber stamping a claim, one is accepting legal responsibility for verifying the information."

"Patients generally seem to prefer to see the same Doctor who they can develop a rapport with over the years. With three Doctors, soon to be four, residents are concerned that this personal Doctor/Patient relationship will be lost. What is your view?"

"You cannot please all of the people all of the time. All doctors have their detractors and their adherents. People's minds change and we feel it important that there is choice.

People are free to see the doctor of their choice."

"I suppose that many people visit the surgery on trivial matters which self administered remedies would suffice such as, and dare I say it, a couple of Paracetamol and a glass of water. Simple cases of the common cold and sore throats being examples. How much of your time do you estimate is being wasted on such visits and what is the solution?"

Continued on page 6 >>

HAYDON NEWS

A PUBLIC CONSULTATION (Continued)

One of the tenets of general practice is that we provide care to those who are ill and those who believe themselves to be ill. What may seem trivial once diagnosed may well have seemed terrifying to the patient a mere moment before.

These sort of issues are of major concern. How many chest infections do you have to see before you find someone with lung cancer? How many minor illnesses mark something major?

No consultation is a waste of time providing that the patient learns something from it and becomes more confident in dealing with minor illness for themselves. If in winter I see a thousand patients with chest infections and reassure seven hundred of them that they only need 'paracetamol and rest' then the following winter seven hundred fewer people will be worried unnecessarily and feel able to cope for themselves. If only

As a very rough estimate, about two thirds of people seeking advice are more worried than they need to be - but they don't and cannot know that at the time."

More questions and answers soon.
SBM / SF

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HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL Music and Theatre Group

There's a lot going on for everyone at Haydon Bridge High School. In the next few months alone you will be able to catch:

(i) **The Annual Strawberries and Cream Concert on June 27th.** This will be an opportunity to say goodbye to the young ladies whose contribution to music and Theatre over the last four years has been outstanding - Rachel Evans, Sarah Morgan, Vicky Gilhespy, Jane Robson, Nicola Graham, Jessica Hare, Katy Brown and Lindsey Craxford. There will be music from *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Godspell* and *Guys and Dolls*, plus many other solos and duets. There will also be music from up and coming talent - Emma Brownlee, Sally Brown, Lisa Beniams and Faye Drydon. Plus lots of surprise guests. Ring out the old, sing in the new.

This will be at Ridley Hall starting at 7:30pm. Afterwards there will be strawberries and cream for all. Tickets are £3.00 and available from the School.

(ii) **ACTION AID** are presenting the Box Tree Theatre Company at Ridley Hall on Sunday 29th June at 6pm for 7:45pm. They will be performing *Romeo and Juliet* and there will be a chance to picnic in the grounds. Tickets are available from 01434 684 228 at £8.00 each.

(iii) **The Music Theatre Group** return to the fray on the following week with their annual *Summer Shakespeare Show*. This year we are presenting the magical mystical *The Tempest*. A Magician, much wronged, gathers his enemies on his island, what will he do to punish them? A feature of this production is that the main part of the Magician is played by three girls - Lisa Beniams, Sally Brown and Faye Drydon. The magic is conjured up by Sarah Moody working with Tracey Willis of the Art Department. Music is by Allan Armstrong. This show is at the School (inside- on seats) Monday June 30th and Tuesday July 1st; then at Ridley - open air - bring your own seats on Thursday July 3rd. All performances start at 7:30pm.

(iv) We are also hosting a performance by Newcastle College, featuring an old boy of this school, Jimmy Thompson (as Henry the Fifth) - This is a series of linked scenes from Shakespeare, so you'll get a chance to see most of the complete works in one evening. It will be performed at Ridley on June 10th starting at 7:30pm. Further information from Mr. Fry at the School Office.

So there is a lot going on And next term we will be staging the hard hitting modern Australian Play "Year 10 are Animals" starring some present members of the year 10 Drama set - though next year they will be year 11. Watch for this exciting, challenging piece - to be performed in early October.

Mike Fry

Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Wednesday 3rd July 1997

A SUMMER LUNCHEON

To be held at
Stable House, Farnley, Corbridge
by kind permission of
Mr. & Mrs. J. Common

Tickets £10

Tel: 01434 632 585

THANK YOU

Match wishes to thank all those people who voted for him in the recent County Council Elections

Northumberland County Council

Results of Elections held on
May 1st 1997

W. Purdue	(Con)	1213
W. Nicholson	(Lab)	837
S.B. Mitchell	(Ind)	771
B. Urwin	(Green)	185
Spoilt Votes		21

Total Votes Cast 3027

The Allendale Division has a total electorate of 3956.

76.5% of the electorate voted

June Garden

A Scottish Chelsea - On the 1st of June I spent the day at Scotland's first National Gardening Show. This should be applauded by northern gardeners not only because it is a major move by the Royal Horticultural Society out of London and away from the south-east but because it was also a fantastic day out.

The show is in Strathclyde Country Park which straddles the river Clyde. The water, with yachts and swans, surrounds three sides of the park creating a beautiful setting for the gardens. With good roads and the Haltwhistle bypass it only took about two hours to get to there. Included were all the key elements of a classic R.H.S. show - gardens, floral marquees and a wide range of horticultural sundries. Toilets, car parks and catering were of a high standard.

The main marquee represented the cream of British horticulture - all the exhibitors were former R.H.S. gold medal winners and the displays were magnificent. Most exhibitors had plants for sale and there were some unusual and rare plants offered. One new introduction which would look good in my border is *Astrantia Hadspen Blood*, a very dark red variety, as the name suggests. It was the last day of the three day show so many of the plants used in display gardens were sold at bargain prices at 5pm. As the show ended happy enthusiasts struggled back to their cars laden with huge flowering plants and shrubs. My bargain was 8' high and came home intact though my travelling companions suffered some cramp.

Whether it was the perfect weather, the clear air, the beautiful setting, the friendly Scottish voices or what, I preferred it to Chelsea and it's in my calendar for next year.

This month - at last we can hang the baskets and plant up window boxes and patio pots. If you haven't a bracket to hang a basket try a flower pouch. It will hang on a nail and it is very easy for anyone to plant up. It is a plastic bag with ten pre-cut holes. Just fill with compost and insert one young plant in each hole. A pack of three pouches and sufficient fertiliser and SwellGell (makes watering more effective) costs £5.99 at Tynedale Park.

June has the longest days giving plants and weeds the fastest growth rate. Hoe small weeds between plants. Dig out deep rooted weeds. Use a patio weedkiller between slabs and on paths.

Dead-head rhododendrons as they finish flowering.

Take Hydrangea cuttings. Pinks can be increased by layering. Peg down straggly growths firmly into the soil.

Lawns - mow and edge regularly. Keep blades higher in dry weather. Use a lawn weed and feed.

James Chin

MESSAGE FROM THE RAILWAY

Let it be known that recently Ronnie Youngman beat Cliffie at darts

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Let it also be known that not so recently Sylvia beat Cliffie at darts. She didn't even take her coat off

MISS J TEASDALE BA

**State Registered Chiropodist
Member of the Society Of Chiropodists**

Treatment available at the Haydon Bridge Health Centre
and at 25 Burswell Avenue, Hexham
Telephone 608 612 for Appointments & Enquiries



LANGLEY W.I.

May was a busy month at Langley W.I. with two meetings being held.

At the first meeting, members and guests visited Geoff Jackson's furniture workshop at Langley and were showed the tools of his trade. Mr. Jackson spoke with great enthusiasm and humour and members were surprised to learn of some of his more bizarre commissions - the latest being a 70ft. iceberg for a theatre company. Members then returned to the village hall for supper after which they finalised arrangements for the group meeting.

Langley hosted the 1997 group meeting on Tuesday May 20th, where approximately 80 members of group W.I.'s enjoyed a memorable evening.

The speaker, Mr. Edwin Grieve, was superb and had the audience in stitches with his talk on notable Northumbrian women.

After supper the Cherryburn Clog Dancers took to the floor and ended the evening with a flourish.

Mary Nagel
Westley Bank
Haydon Bridge
Tel: 684-419

IT HAPPENED IN JUNE

- 1926 - Marilyn Monroe born.
- 1953 - Coronation of the Queen.
- 1913 - Emily Davidson the suffragette killed herself by jumping in front of the King's horse during the Derby.
- 1939 - George VI was the first British monarch to visit the U.S.A.
- 1956 - Last British troops leave the Suez Canal base.
- 1779 - Spain declared war on Britain and the siege of Gibraltar began.
- 1944 - Allied forces take Cherbourg.



The first marriage is matrimony;
the second company;
the third heresy.

"The Flow of Time"

This year sees the 300th anniversary of the formation of the Shaftoe Trust School here in Haydon Bridge. To commemorate this important occasion the First School and the local community are organising a number of events, activities and celebrations under the title "The Flow of Time".

Main Events

- June 10th School Open Day (opportunity to see artists work)
- July 3rd Fashion Through the Ages
(Courtesy of Alan Graham from Beamish Museum)
- July 7th - 12th 'Shaftoe School Past, Present and Future'
an exhibition held at the First School.
- July 11th 2pm. Commemorative Service at St. Cuthberts.
- July 12th 10am - 2:00pm School Fair and Pageant.

Two artists will be working with the school and the community throughout the project. In the weeks leading up to and during the celebrations there will be many opportunities for anyone interested to become involved in the different activities. To enable as many people as possible to join in, some of the sessions with the artists will take place in the evening.

Hans Ullrich will be guiding us through the process of designing and making a ceramic mural depicting scenes on and around the river and Haydon Bridge. When finished, a large mural will be positioned in the First School and a smaller one elsewhere in the community. There will be numerous opportunities for everyone interested to be involved at each stage of their development.

Keith Morris will be working with the children, the Shaftoe Chorale Choir and any other interested people to explore music making, instrument making and singing. The compositions will be performed during the celebrations in July.

Jill Scrimshaw and her co-workers from the Theatre Royal Newcastle are helping the children to dramatise a number of short scenes centred on the theme of the river, the school and Haydon Bridge. Again anyone interested in helping with 'backstage' activities, especially nearer the celebration day, will be welcome.

Dates and times of the workshop sessions will be circulated via newsletters, posters around Haydon Bridge and the Haydon News. If you have any queries then please contact the school.

Exhibition

Many of you and/or previous members of your family may have been pupils of the Shaftoe Trust School and as a result are an invaluable source of information and memorabilia about the school. We would be most grateful if you could delve into your loft for those hoarded photos, paintings, exercise books, certificates, reports! or anything else you think would be of interest. If you do have anything you could lend us then please contact Viv Smith at the School or Catherine Stirling Hill, Burswell House, Church Street.

We do hope that many of you will be able to join-in in some way to make these celebrations as memorable as possible.

<p>Tynedale Artists Network Open Studios Summer 1997</p> <p>21, Ratcliffe Road, Haydon Bridge</p> <p>AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS AND CERAMICS by Nancy Priest of Tindale Fell, Brampton and Judy Brown of Haydon Bridge</p> <p>Sundays June 29th, July 6th and July 13th at 21, Ratcliffe Road, Haydon Bridge opening times 11-5, admission free</p>	<p><i>Proverb</i></p> <p><i>He that is needy when he is married</i></p> <p><i>Shall be rich when he is buried</i></p>
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MY NAME IS ADOLF!

The Coffee morning on any month with five Saturdays is held in the United Reform Church Hall. The 31st of May was a fifth Saturday and we found ourselves entering the U.R.C. hall spot on 10:30.

My partner received cuddles from many of the ladies present and they just said "Congratulations Mitch" to me. As soon as I sat down one of the regulars slipped a wartime postcard in front of me, the photograph on the card was of No.1 Platoon, No. 8 Company, 4th (Hexham) Battalion, Northumberland Home Guard. Another of the ladies present had found out that I was trying to get hold of a copy of the postcard as amongst the 50 people in the photograph were three of my uncles. She told me I could keep the card - Thank you.

The coffee morning was a nice one and I had a pleasant natter with quite a few people. Before leaving one of the ladies said "I hope we're all going to read about the recent event in the Haydon News." Shrugging my shoulders I responded: "Hadn't thought I would bother mentioning it." Back came the chorus "You won't be allowed back here if you don't!" So by special request here is an account.

On Sunday 11th May at about ten in the morning my 'friend' rang the Haydon Hotel to see if they had a spare table for two at the second sitting. Maurice answered the phone and checked with Betty who said there was one double left in the lounge that we could have. Before hanging up Maurice said "I'll put a candle on the table."

When we sat down for lunch at 1:30 the waitress brought over a candle in a glass crystal holder - the other diners looked bemused as the girl solemnly lit the candle. Noticing the attention our table was getting my 'friend' boldly announced to all and sundry - "He's going to propose to me." There was nowhere to run as I was trapped in one of the inside seats. Laughingly I replied "The only proposing I'm going to do today is that she should buy the meal." The diners got on with their meal and so did we.

A week later Flight BA 3992 took off from Manchester promptly on schedule with yours truly muttering to himself - "What a fine mess you've got yourself into Stanley." Three hours later the 737-400 made a bumpy but safe landing in Gibraltar - it was now 8pm local time May 18th.

>>> p10

MY NAME IS ADOLF (continued)

Monday 19th - We ate a hearty breakfast in the luxury of the Rock Hotel restaurant and walked into town where we passed a poster shop displaying a large photograph of the late John Winston Lennon (28) with the former Yoko Ono Cox (36) - between them they held a marriage certificate - the date was 20th March 1969. We quickly found the Registrar's Office where we asked when we could get married - "Any time you want, it'll cost £99 if you want two copies of the marriage certificate but you can save £3 if you only want one. The cost also covers the special licence that the Governor of Gibraltar has to sign." We were then given a couple of forms which we had to sign under oath.

We filled out the forms then went and found a Commissioner for Oaths in the next lane. Having a chat with the lady lawyer, an attractive 40'ish year old, as she was filling her bit of the forms we explained that my 'friend' had been married once before and me twice. With laughter in her voice she replied "I'm divorced and if I was to get married again it will be my fourth time!"

Within two minutes we were back at the Registrar's Office. Handing over the forms they were quickly checked together with our passports and decree absolutes. The young Gibraltarian woman checking my 'friend's' divorce papers noticed they were very recent and laughed as she said "You've not been long out then have you? That'll be £99 please and when do you want to be done?" My 'friend' replied "How about late Wednesday morning, the 21st May - my birthday."

Checking the Registrar's book the clerk responded "Yes that'll be fine, the ceremony will take place at 11:30, please get here a couple of minutes early and bring a couple of witnesses - if you don't know anyone I will act as one witness and just ask any one of the local shopkeepers - they'll be happy to do it for you." Looking directly at me the clerk said "That's crafty getting married on her birthday you'll only have to buy her one present!"

It noon by now so we took a stroll down to the yacht marina, had an extended lunch in the sun arriving back at the hotel in the early evening. We spent the rest of the day sitting in the large lounge overlooking the bay with Spanish Algeciras a few miles away on the other side of the bay, to the left and about 20 miles away were the Atlas mountains of North Africa.

Tuesday 20th we had a leisurely time and in the afternoon ended up around the other side of the Rock at Catalan Bay where we were fortunate in meeting a 91 year old local resident Mr. Macarri. The old gentleman sat with us for quite a while as he recalled how he had been born at Catalan Bay and never moved from there. He had been, by profession, a school teacher with mathematics and english being his subjects. Of Italian descent Mr Macarri was proud to be a Gibraltarian and like all citizens of the Colony wanted no part in becoming part of Spain. He left shortly after our late lunch arrived and my 'friend' and I spent a nice few hours just taking in the sun and a few glasses of spanish wine to help the economy of our European partner.

Taking a 40p bus ride back to the Rock Hotel it was a quick shower and change and out on our evening mission to find a couple of witnesses. We ended up in an hotel, just around the corner from the Registrar's Office. A pianist was playing in the lobby bar - his name was not Sam. During the next couple of hours we sipped numerous Bacardi and cokes but espied no-one who would have been suitable witnesses. However as the juice started having its desired effect our specifications relaxed a little and we opted for a couple sat a couple of tables away. We popped over and asked "Of course," they said, "we'll be pleased to do it." The husband added "Last beggar I was a witness for turned out to be a bloody bigamist, but I'm sure your not one of them" he chortled, and as if to emphasis the point slapped me on the back with a "What what, old chap." We arranged to meet them at 11:20 next morning at the Registrar's Office.

Wednesday 21st was another gorgeous day as we made our way down for a late breakfast at 10. We had dressed in our wedding gear - casual but smart, the groom had a salmon pink face through over exposing himself the day before. Being extra careful not to drop anything on ourselves we both ate a hearty breakfast.

Leaving the hotel we walked down to the Registrar's Office and arrived just before 11:20. Five minutes went by and still the witnesses had not arrived - quick look upstairs in the building - no sign of them it was now 11:27 and panic begins to set in.

A quick scan down the street - it was now obvious the witnesses were not going to turn up - it is now 11:28 and the wedding is scheduled for 11:30.

What on earth can we do now ?

I spot a chemists shop just a few yards away and the friendly looking owner is on the doorstep. My 'friend' rushes over and asks him to be a witness but he apologises saying that he is off to a meeting - however he collars a friend from inside the shop and hands him over to us. The three of us arrive at the wedding room door at 11:30 prompt just as the clerk arrives - she quickly agrees to be our second witness and photographer. She explains the ceremony procedure and gets us to check the entry in the register for correctness, I notice the bride for the 12:00 marriage is also called Mitchell.

At about 11:32 the good looking young deputy registrar M.L. Farrell quietly enters the room in order to join together in matrimony the late *Hermann the German's* daughter Sylvia Ellen to Stanley Brian Mitchell

The three part ceremony took about 15 minutes to complete and was witnessed by a Mr. Torrilla and Mrs Balban. I can assure you there wasn't a dry eye in the place as the couple took their marriage vows.

Photographs were taken in the Registrar's Office lovely town garden. At 11:55 Mrs Balban had to rush away to prepare for the other Mitchell wedding at 12. Mr Torrilla shook us both by the hand - as he made to leave I asked:

"By the way what's your first name?" He replied "Adolf is my name."

My wife Sylvia and I just smiled at each other as Adolf Torrilla made his way back to the chemists shop.

That evening we treated ourselves to a slap up meal in the Rock Hotel's Rib Restaurant.

After the meal my wife Sylvia rang her mother Dorothy Pesarra at her home in Douglas Gardens and let her know the news, following that she rang her two daughters Louise and Denize and a friend with the news.

22 - 25th May - More bright sunny days which we spent looking around the town shops where a litre of Bacardi costs £7 and 200 fags £6.50. A camera costing £350 in Hexham is only £240 in Gibraltar. We flew out of Gibraltar at 1pm Sunday arriving Manchester at 3pm - we were back in the village by 6pm.

So ladies of the coffee mornings I hope you enjoyed the true marriage story of how a village author married the Editor of the Haydon News - and no-one knew. Now that is a **SCOOP!** See you next month. Bye bye **Mitch**

The Vicar's Letter

Dear friends,

One of the issues in the countryside at this time of year is what we do for tourists and visitors and what they do for us. Talk to any farmer, especially near Hadrian's Wall, and they will tell you about people tramping over their hay, and leaving gates open so that valuable livestock escapes. In a parish like this, the livelihoods of some people depend on trade brought by visitors; the livelihoods of others is threatened by the minority who treat the countryside like their playground. It is a difficult balance to keep, and the Country-side Commission and National Trust try to educate visitors about helping farmers; and ask farmers not to fence off stiles.

Helping visitors is something that churches try to do. It doesn't always look like that! We are afraid of theft and vandalism, so our churches are often locked from one service to the next. This is true of St John's, the URC Church shared for the moment with the Methodists, St Cuthbert's, and Haydon Old Church. Insurance companies are not sympathetic if furniture or silver is stolen from an unlocked unattended church.

At a meeting this month, the Hexham Deanery Synod is discussing the best ways to make visitors feel welcome, both to services, and when they look round our buildings. We will be asked to have a look, when we go on holiday, to see what kind of impression we get when we visit churches either for a service, or simply to enjoy the building:

- Did church members - if you went to a service - make you feel welcome?
- Was there good information outside about times of services?
- Was there a leaflet inside saying something about the building **and** about what the building stands for?

Our church buildings, the noticeboards inside and outside, and the welcome we give - these are all the shop window for the Gospel. If visitors or tourists are moved by a prayerful and by the welcome, they may ask what it is the Church stands for, and wish to take it further.

Yours in Christ's service.

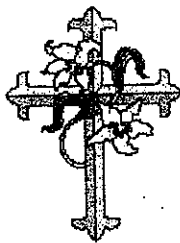
Vincent Ashwin.

FROM OUR REGISTERS at St Cuthbert's

HOLY MATRIMONY

April 26th

Eric Elliot Charlton & Lyn Worthington



CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

May 1st: Ethel Routledge (81), Church St

THE OFFERING OF LIFE

Life is a gift from God. We can feel it, enjoy it and see it all around us. The mystery of eternal life is part of our prayers, and is there within the doctrine of our faith. At our physical death, life goes on in a new and different way with God.

Even within our own lives we can offer the possibility of life to others. Our family and friends will be saddened by our death, but in dying we might be able to help others under special circumstances. During June the Hexham Courant are running a series of carefully considered articles in relation to Organ Donation. These will be informal, personal, about real people in Tynedale who have had a transplant or who perhaps await such an operation.

Please do think carefully about offering life to others by completing and returning a Donor Registration form, and agreeing to carry a Donor Card. They will be freely available across Tynedale. Also, pray for those who need a donation, members of their families, and for those who in the midst of sadness and tragedy do offer life to those in need.



(from Hexham Rotary Club)

Willing Volunteers?

Many organisations are looking for suitable volunteers to help in their regular work. Tynedale Victim Support Scheme is one of these. It is part of the National Organization to offer assistance to the victims of crime as soon as possible after the event. The scheme seeks people who are good listeners, with non-judgemental attitudes to be trained as visitors. If you are interested and want more information, contact Sandra Coleman on 600.117, or drop in to the office at 1, Meal Market, Hexham.

ST CUTHBERT'S PEOPLE

Vicar: Revd Vincent Ashwin

684.307; Fax 684.512

Wardens:

Mrs Margaret Curry 684.238

Mrs Agnes Marshall 684.454

Readers:

Mrs Lindsay Gray 674.437

Mr Mike Fry 684.166

Secretary:

Mrs Mary Milford 684.234

Treasurer:

Mrs Joyce Armstrong 684.094

PCC Vice-chairman:

Mrs E Garrow 684.324

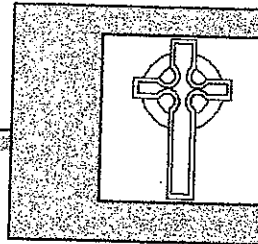
NOTICE BOARD

HENSHAW METHODIST CHURCH are celebrating their centenary on June 1st. Congratulations to them.

CONFIRMATION GROUPS FOR ST CUTHBERT'S: A meeting will be held at the vicarage at 7.30 pm, Sunday June 22nd for any adult or young person who wishes to consider being prepared for Confirmation. Please phone Vincent or speak to him first: 684.307 Parents welcome too: and anyone wanting to use the group as a refresher course.

WANTED AT ST CUTHBERT'S: a wardrobe and some bookshelves for the vestry - to help us tidy up! Please see the churchwardens or vicar.

CHURCH NEWSLETTER



An Independent supplement of the Haydon News

METHODIST CHURCH AND UNITED REFORMED CHURCH SERVICES

June 1 st	10.00am 6.00pm	Reader Rev D Perkins
June 4 th	2.30 pm	Women's Own Meeting Speaker: Mrs S Martin
June 8 th	10.00am 6.00pm	Rev D Perkins Rev D Arthur (S)
June 15 th	10.00am 6.00pm	Service at Trinity, Hexham Miss V Little
June 18 th	2.30pm	Women's Own Meeting Speaker: Mrs Wilson
June 22 nd	10.00am 6.00pm	Rev D Perkins (F) Rev D Arthur
June 29 th	10.00am 6.00pm	Mrs B Rowarth Rev D Perkins (S)

A PRAYER FOR UNITY

Gracious God
you have called us to be a new community in Christ
and yet we remain divided.

Forgive our c

fear

anxiety

prejudice

and misunderstandings.

Strengthen our common bonds

and deepen our resolve

to promote the unity of your church. Amen

*(from Celebrating Community
quoted in The Book of 1000 Prayers)*

CALENDAR FOR ST CUTHBERT'S

June 1 st , <u>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</u>	8.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (Bk of Common Prayer) Worship for All: Mr Mike Fry
June 8 th , <u>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</u>	10.30am	Parish Communion (the vicar)
June 15 th , <u>4th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	8.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (Bk of Common Prayer) Morning Prayer and Sermon: Dr L Gray
June 17 th Tuesday.	7.30pm	PCC meeting in the church hall
June 18 th Wednesday	7.30pm	Deanery Synod meeting at Alston
June 19 th Thursday	3.30pm	Service, Haydon View residential home
June 21 st Saturday	10.00 - 12.30 2.00pm	Gift Day envelopes received CHURCH SUMMER FETE
June 22 nd <u>5th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	10.30am 6.00pm	Parish Communion & Sermon (the vicar) Evensong & Sermon (vicar) Old Church
June 25 th Wednesday	7.30pm	Mothers' Union: Canon SV Prins
Sunday June 29 th <u>St Peter the Apostle</u>	10.15 am	Joint Parishes' Communion, at Haydon Bridge: preacher, the vicar
July 6 th <u>7th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	8.00am 10.30am 4.30pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion (Book of Common Pr) Worship for All (Mr Mike Fry) Teas at URC Church Ecumenical Service with United Reformed Church

Any material for the July Church Newsletter should please be with Vincent Ashwin, who edits the page, by Sunday June 22nd.

HAYDON & ALLEN MEDICAL NEWS

HAY FEVER

Sneezing, nasal congestion and itching and a tendency to drip watery nasal discharge unexpectedly are all symptoms of hay fever. Sometimes the eyes are also affected with itching and watering. A few people have such symptoms all the year round. One in six people are affected to some degree, adolescents and young adults are most affected. The number of people affected is increasing. Affluent people and southerners are more affected than those from poorer households and northerners. Members of families with many children are less affected than those in small families, the theory being that exposure to each others viruses and bacteria somehow reduces one's sensitivity.

Sufferers are often also troubled by asthma and eczema, the reason being that all three conditions are allergic responses of one sort or another. There does seem to be some tendency to inherit these conditions too.

Real hay fever occurs when concentrations of pollen and fungal spores reach a certain level in the air and there is some evidence that simultaneous exposure to diesel fumes can make the situation worse for some people who would otherwise escape. May to July is the main season for grasses and flowering plants, July to September is the main season for fungi.

Plants tend to shed pollen between 4 and 9 am and the warning daytime air carries it higher into the atmosphere. In the evening, as the air cools, the pollen returns towards the ground. When the weather is warm and dry the pollen count will rise and when it is cool and wet it will fall.

The British Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology has drawn up a list of actions to take to reduce symptoms:

- Listen to the pollen forecast and plan your day accordingly. 01705 77 77 220 for the pollen count.
- Avoid cutting grass, picnics and camping.
- On returning from the countryside shower and wash hair.
- Wear wrap around sunglasses when outside.
- Bring in washing before the evening coolness brings the day's pollen back to the ground.
- Close bedroom windows before evening.
- Keep car windows closed and consider air filters in the cars ventilation system.
- Avoid cigarette smoke, fresh paint and other obviously irritant fumes and vapours.
- Be observant in trying to spot other things which are irritant to you and avoid them.

Treatment comes in several forms, the most convenient of which is tablets of antihistamine drugs. There are the older fashioned ones like Piriton which are very effective but also very likely to make you drowsy - they are good for night time symptoms but beware (!) they may not have worn off by the time the morning comes. The newer antihistamines are almost equally effective but are much less likely to make you drowsy. Unfortunately, one of the most widely used of these newer drugs, terfenadine, has been found to cause problems for a small number of people, especially when they are also taking some kinds of antibiotics or antifungal treatments. Accordingly we are trying to get everyone off terfenadine - just in case. There are a number of alternatives available both to purchase over the counter and on prescription. There are antihistamine sprays for the nose too.

Steroids taken as nasal sprays or drops can give excellent results for those with symptoms confined to their nose. The dose is tiny and therefore these steroids be used with absolute confidence that they will not have any unpleasant effects elsewhere.

There was a time when injections of long acting steroids were used, one injection in May lasting until July or longer. These certainly worked and are still available but I am rarely asked for them now. They are useful in particular circumstances such as to cover exams or honeymoon etc.

There are nasal decongestants which appear to promptly relieve symptoms but with repeated use actually make the situation worse - your pharmacist will be pleased to advise you about how long different products should be used.

Eye drops of various kinds are available for eye symptoms, they work well but may need very frequent application which can become tedious.

Desensitisation to pollen and other allergens has been fashionable in the past and can still be attempted but is rarely offered these days because of the limited benefit and risk of severe reactions and even death.

We are now well into the pollen season and so far this year things have not been too bad. Those who are known to suffer are well advised to get their required medication early as I have known years when supplies run short in periods of hot dry weather - yes, even in England.

ICE CREAM HEADACHES

Many people will have experienced a sudden and very intense head pain when eating ice cream or drinking a very cold drink. The same effect can sometimes occur when mouth breathing in very cold weather. The pain is felt in the front of the head and lasts for a short period only.

This condition is not the same as the pain occurring in teeth which require attention. Recent research has suggested that ice cream headache may in some respects be likened to migraine in that the effects are due to problems with the blood vessels in the skull.

It will come as great relief to sufferers to know that it is not necessary to avoid ice cream. A Dr R O Smith has selflessly devoted himself to a scientific analysis of the subject and concludes that it is necessary merely to avoid contact between very cold ice cream and the back half of the hard and soft palates.

Given the erotic overtones given to ice cream by Häagen Daz advertising it is perhaps worth mentioning that there are other benign forms of intense head pain which are associated with orgasm, both male and female. These are sometimes simply called coital headaches but have been more descriptively called thunderclap headaches. Truly - the agony and the ecstasy.

SUN TANS - better to be pale and interesting

It is sometime since I have found a melanoma on anyone and I would hate it to be YOU! So - don't forget the long sleeves, big hats and sunscreen. Any sunscreen above factor 20 is probably of limited benefit and may cause some skin irritation. It is equally possible to get sunburnt on the snowy slopes of ski resorts as it is amongst the sizzling sands of summer holiday resorts. Be careful. SF.