

# Haydon News

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



## October 1997 / 8

In this issue: Editor reveals reveals medical secrets as Doctor fears castigation - or worse. Owd Tawny takes his pleasure of local women. Why don't they leave us in peace - plea from local residents. More reflections on days gone by. Tynedale relax rules on housing in the village. And much more inside.

## Fun Day River Race

In last months Haydon News the winners were not accurately listed - they were:

**Peter Mead - Jason Skerret  
Dwain Parker - David Newton**  
Apologies for the mistake



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Thursday	11.30 - 1.30	5.00 - 9.00
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## EDITORIAL

Hi Folks - I really do hope you're all in fine fettle and have enjoyed the late September sunshine.

Many of you have asked for me to respond in detail to 'Concerned and Frustrated Haydonian's' anonymous letter last month, and even more have said I should not have published it. The writer had a viewpoint which I was more than pleased to print alongside Father Power's alternative view of the Haydon News - it is therefore unnecessary to add further comment.

As I have said in these columns many times over this is a newsletter of YOUR views which I am happy to expose to readers - under a pseudonym if you wish. Whilst I am Editor criticism or praise on the work of elected Tynedale Councillors will continue as and when the circumstances warrant it.

I did intend to ask for an open consultation with Dr. Ford regarding the sad business of the joint Allendale/Haydon Bridge practice, even more so after the letter in the Hexham Courant of 19th October by Dr Mary Jo l'Anson - I changed my mind a couple of days ago when he slipped the Medical News sheet through my letter box. His penultimate paragraph contains the supposed death bed utterings of Voltaire - "Now is not the time to make new enemies!" Although the Doctor has said there is no war his obsession with armoured personnel carriers scares me - would you knock on his door and ask for an interview? Now is certainly not the time!

*"Why don't they just leave us in peace?"*

This is the cry coming from some Temple Houses residents when they received letters and also read in the Hexham Courant in mid September that on Tuesday October 14th at 10am there will be a Public Local Inquiry at the Auction Mart Function Suite, Tyne Green. One of the agenda items is to add Haydon Footpath No. 46 to the definitive map - this path will extend from the A69 at Low Hall to the existing Footpath No. 36 joining it at the entrance to the sports field. If approved this will end the 30-odd year battle which has been going on regarding this subject. I do understand however that objections have already been made.

There is certainly a lot going on in October as the many notices in this month's newsletter testify - please have a good read of each of them and try to get to as many as possible, one thing is certain - Sylvia and I will get to as many as we can. The organisers put a lot of effort into these fund raising activities - the least we can do is give them the support needed.

I understand that there has been a lukewarm response from villagers to help set up a Bowling Green Committee in order to generate a business plan so that funds can be obtained for the facility to be laid down at the High School site. Give either Clr Bill Howard a ring on 684 535 or Roy Lockhart on 684 260 if you are interested in a bowling green.

See you a bit later on ..... Mitch

HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Display your brains!!!



## PTA Quiz Night

Saturday 4th October 1997  
7:30 pm

at Ridley Hall

£2.50 per person

4 members per team required.  
Buffet supper included in price

All enquiries and ticket sales to:  
High School Office  
Tel: 01434 684 422

## HAYDON BRIDGE POST OFFICE

Your local Post Office accepts payment for a whole range of bills over the counter.

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Post Office Counters Ltd.

## JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 25th October

Community Centre  
at 10:00am

All proceeds to Rainbow Trust

Refreshments Available  
For collection of toys, books etc.  
Tel: 688 825

## RNLI Lifeboats

Saturday 1st November  
Autumn Fair  
at  
**MOWDEN HALL**  
Newton

Special Christmas Gifts & Fare  
Everyone welcome  
Light Refreshments  
10 a.m - 4 p.m.

A guy walks into the local Post Office with a giraffe under one arm. He walks over to the counter, places the giraffe on the floor, and goes towards the counter.



The postmaster looks at the animal on the floor and then says "You can't leave that lying there!". At this comment the guy replies "It's not a lion it's a giraffe."

## NEXT ISSUE OF THE HAYDON NEWS IS IN NOVEMBER

All copy to

S.B. Mitchell  
High Brindles, Heugh House Lane, HB

Tel: 684 035  
email: mitch@haydonbridge.demon.co.uk

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Thursday 23rd October 97

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## MOBILE VALETING SERVICES

**PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS**  
Thursday 25th September 1997

8 Councillors present and 7 members of the public. **Council Business**

Mrs. Susan Batey the new Parish Clerk was introduced. From the Public gallery a vote of thanks was given to the outgoing Clerk Mrs. Christine Swaddle. At the end of the meeting the Chairman Mr. Michael Loyd also thanked Mrs. Swaddle for the excellent job she had done over a number of years - she was then presented with a large bouquet and a present from the Council.

**Public Participation** - An estate resident thanked the absent Councillor Howard for getting the gullies of the estate cleared of weeds earlier in the year but alas the problem is back and the gullies are again filled with weeds. The resident then proposed that to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Spa Well this year a sturdy stone-built seat should be installed by the Spa with an engraved plaque commemorating the occasion. Everyone thought it was a good idea and the Council will try to find the funds to do it before the year is out.

Representatives from Martins Close again raised the question of traffic calming measures to slow down the traffic racing down the street. They are fearful of someone being injured or killed by the high speed of the traffic more often than not on its way to the football pitch. The Council said that the County Council do not have the funding which disappointed the residents who have been lobbying for some time for a 'sleeping policeman'.

It was agreed that the shrubs in the West End flower border would be removed and redistributed elsewhere in the village. The path on the western side of the village to the tunnel top was overgrown with the hedge and grass requiring a severe pruning. Complaints were also made about the speeding cars and motorcycles around the estate and other village roads - the Council will speak to both the police and schools.

- **High School** had failed in their bid for Sports status however they are encouraged by comments and will be re-submitting bid in October.

- **A69 Bridge.** The expansion joints are sound but the jointing seal on the road and footpath needs replacing.

- **Drug Problem** in village has been funded by Council. HB High + Alledale Middle Schools will be targeted.

- **Bypass.** Government study will look afresh at proposals and are asking for ideas and plans Their published traffic figures seem to fall short of our own actually measured counts.

- **Shaftoe School.** Flashing amber light needed near both entrances - still no sign of promised lay-by. 30 m.p.h. sign needs to be moved.

- **Planning Applications.** A number of non contentious were agreed.

- **Village Appraisal.** Due to absence of the Howard's no report given.

- **Public Toilets.** Parish Council will not support new facilities on the North side because of costs, nor will they accept responsibilities for funding of south side toilet.

- **Public footpath 46.** [See Editorial] Following a lengthy description by the Chairman of the history of the 'right of way' issue through Temple Houses and the case being put forward against the path's inclusion on the Definitive Map there now seemed to be only tepid support for the Parish Council's 1981 request for it's inclusion. Following debate it was agreed that the Parish Council would allow the action to continue however the Chairman reminded those Councillors who may go to the Public Local Inquiry on October 14th supporting the application that they must be very well briefed. Forms should shortly be available via Councillors to obtain more views.

PAT/SBM

**STOP PRESS** There is local concern about the public row currently taking place between Dr Ford and Dr I'Anson - see Courant 26th and 19th September. I will try to cover this next month - your comments please. **Mitch**

The *Friends of Haydon Bridge* are actively looking for new members in either active or non-active roles. If you would like to join please fill out slip below, place in a sealed unstamped envelope addressed to Friends of Haydon Bridge and hand in at the Post Office. Please ring the Chairman, Charles Thomas, on HB 684 022 for further information. **Thank You**

I wish to become an **ACTIVE/NON-ACTIVE** (delete as appropriate) member of *The Friends of Haydon Bridge*  
Please find attached membership fee of £1 for 1997/98.  
Please print your name, address and telephone number below:

**CROSSWORD**

The number of correct entries was 17. After seven competitions points standing is:

- D. Corbett(7), P. Irving(7),
- R. McVay(7), E. Rumney(7),
- B&R Shout(7) R. Armstrong(6),
- A. Phillips(6), M. Robson(6)
- A.M. Scott(6), M. Hindle(5),
- N. Gilholm(4), M. Moore(4),
- M. Nagel(4), N. Pretswell(3),
- S. Stephenson(3), P. Tomlinson(3),
- J. Tucker(3), E. Jukes(2),
- M. Porter(2), D. Telford(2)
- P. Tulip(2),

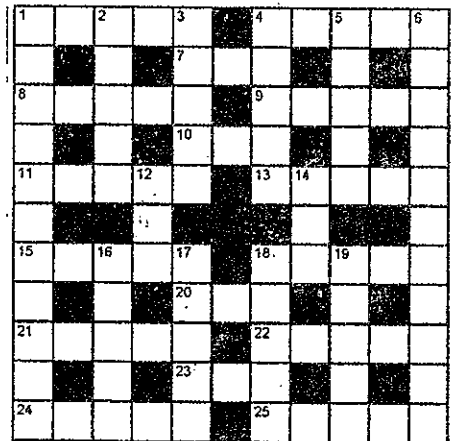
I have again included a quick crossword for those people who find the £10 Crossword too difficult - no prizes, just for fun.

If you would like this crossword to appear each month please let me know.

This month's winners drawn out of the hat were Joyce Tucker and Neil Gilholm.

SBM

**THE QUICK CROSSWORD**  
Answers on Page 8



- Across. 1 SANCTIFY (5),  
4 YOUNG PRINCE (5), 7 POOL TOOL (3),  
8 PAUL ANCHOR SONG (5), 9 GOODBYE (5)  
10 TOP COVER (3), 11 EDIT (5),  
13 --- HAMPSHIRE - ACTRESS (5),  
15 PROCESSED IN BLENDER (5),  
18 COCK-EYED (5), 20 CURVE (3),  
21 MOUTHS OFF (5), 22 BE SICK (5),  
23 THE DAY BEFORE (3),  
24 BE AFRAID OF (5), 25 BURNT OUT (5)

- Down. 1 CRABBY (3,8), 2 EFFACE (5),  
3 BURN (5), 4 CHIEFS (5) 5 LAYS WASTE TO (5), 6 QUESTION BEFORE STATEMENT (3,4,4), 12 BORN (3), 14 YOU GET THESE WITH DOWNS (3), 16 COOKING STOVE (5), 17 MOVED GENTLY (5), 18 LAND AREA (5), 19 LIQUID MEASURE (5)

Readers letters and Viewpoints

Haydon Bridge Football Club

Fund raising for All Weather Pitch

Please try to help with the following events

A GRAND AUCTION

Saturday 25th October 1997

H.B. W.M.C - 10am

We need any item that could be sold (except jumble!). Large or small Toys - Furniture - Books Any Household Goods Garden equipment Home Produce

The list is endless - you must have something you want to get rid off!

Pledges are also very popular Baby sitting - Cake baking/icing Flower arranging - Car washing Load of manure or an hours gardening etc

Collections can be arranged

Any Articles you have or pledges to be made or need more information

Please contact Shirley Philips 684576

A QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 25th October 1997

H.B. W.M.C - 8.00pm

Hosted by Mr. Alan Borthwick

Tickets £2.50 incl. supper

Available from

A.Borthwick, A.Kirsopp, S.Phillips

This will be a fun night - if you have not participated in a Quiz before - make this your first (normally teams of 4), it will not be your last.

For your Diary

Christmas Coffee Afternoon

Saturday 29th November

Tombola - Raffle - Cake Stall

The Church Hall

S.Phillips - On behalf of H.B.F.C.

A written response to last month's Concerned & Frustrated Haydonian

I refer to the letter in last months Haydon News concerning the unknown cowardly person who saw fit to write a letter without name and address and to challenge the Editor to print it.

The Editor was accused of using bad language towards Councillors Mr. and Mrs. Howard. Let it be known, the Editor expressed his views, in the manner he thought right. It seems to me people are not satisfied with Mr. and Mrs. Howard as their representatives, it must be made clear, the general public are not against the Editor's remarks in this matter. They very much agree and appreciate his views. I condemn the accusing letter and the manner in which it was written.'

Name and address given

Editors Note - I have covered the above matter in my page 2 Editorial.

A Baldy ex-Haydonian now residing in Hexham writes:

'Dear Mr Mitchell - The letter of James Harold Brown of Filey in the September issue of the Haydon News interested me greatly.

Could this be the 'Filey Jim' that his uncle Stigum asked the late Charlie Cowing and me to call on when we spent a holiday in 1936 in nearby Scarborough?

I remember going to Filey but don't remember meeting him. I think he worked as a barber there, if he gave me a haircut he made a good job of it as I am as bald as a coot even now 60 years later. Incidentally I also remember his grandfather Jacob Brown and his Uncle Alan accidentally poisoned at New Alston in 1927 or 1928.

I do hope he still enjoys the best of health and good fortune as he must be getting on a bit now.'

C. Charlton

Editor's note. I sent a copy of the above letter to Filey Haydon News reader, and Friend of Haydon Bridge, Jimmy Brown who responds:

'I have read the letter of Mr. C. Charlton with interest and can confirm that I am the Filey Jimmy that Stigum mentioned to you and Charlie Cowing in 1936. I did have my own hairdressing shop in Filey for over 47 years but never did a haircut that lasted over 60 years.

You were right about my grandad Jacob at New Alston and also about my Uncle Alan who was accidentally poisoned by taking the wrong medicine in 1930, this turned out to be fatal. He worked in the Haydon Bridge Co-op and was engaged to be married to Miss Laura Telford who is at present in a residential home in Haydon Bridge. She worked for many years at Harding's newsagents in Church Street. Another member of the family was my uncle Jim Brown who worked for Appleby's in Haydon Bridge before moving to their branch in Prudhoe.

Glad to know that my fore-parent's family are not forgotten after all these years. Of course Stigum will be remembered for many years in the village - he had a fund of stories and an amazing memory for the past.

Hoping to hear from you again Mr. Charlton.'

'Jimmy Filey'

Jim's late Uncle's fiancée Miss Laura Telford died on Sunday 14th September 1997 - She was 95 years of age. After 67 years they'll now be together again.

If any exiled Haydonian would like to join the Haydon News mailing list please let the Editor know. Current cost is £5 for 10 issues inclusive of U.K. postage.

MEMORIES

I recently visited the Shaftoe Trust 300 year celebrations to sign my name in the visitors book at the age of ninety-four years. As I looked around it brought back many memories so I decided then to write down some of my recollections.

Along with the Editor's mother, childhood friend Millie Philipson and many others, alas no longer living, I was educated at the old Shaftoe Trust School. However we were all moved to the Primitive Methodist Chapel school-room to be educated while the old school was being rebuilt. There used to be a bell on the tower ringing out every morning before nine o'clock but when we returned to the new school the bell was no longer there - where did it go I wonder?

There was a porch with an arched door at the entrance to the school, inside were cement and flagged floors - the heating was an old black metal coke stove in the centre of the classroom and attended to by the caretaker Mr. Hicks.

When I visited the school this summer I easily found my old classroom with it's high wall and corded windows, unaltered for historic reasons I believe. My teacher all those years ago was Miss Betty Wells who always kept her cane resting on the desk when she was not using it to thrash some pupil for their misdemeanours. In those days thrashings were a common occurrence. Miss Wells was a suffragette and is believed to have taken part in Mrs. Pankhurst's London March for Votes for Women.



My first teacher was Miss Jane Telford who was engaged to another teacher, Mr. Sutherland who died in the 1914 - 1918 War and to this day his photograph still hangs in the corridor of the school.

My brothers and sister were also educated at the Shaftoe Trust School, my elder brother Thomas was baptised in the old stone font at the old Haydon Church, believed to be the second smallest and oldest church in this country? Thomas was called up at the age of 18 to serve in the Great War and joined the 4th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers and became a non-commissioned Lieutenant. He spent his 21st birthday in the front line trenches in France and I well remember my mother baked him a large fruit cake for his 21st, packed it in a tin box and sent it to him though the Red Cross - he did receive it. In the Battle of the Somme where he was wounded and sent back to England. He was in the Durham Home Guard in the Second World War.

During that same period of time I remember my mother buying me a pair of black-buttoned boots at Johnstones boot-shop in Church Street at a cost of two shillings eleven pence (2s 11d) along with a pair of black wool stockings price one shilling and sixpence (1s 6d).

How times have changed!!

Mrs. Daisy Thompson

The photograph below shows Mrs. Thompson's brother (right) in the trenches before he was wounded and returned to Britain - sorry about the reproduction quality. Ed.

HAYDON BRIDGE W.I.



September Meeting

Members meet on 2nd Monday of the month in Haydon Bridge Community Centre at 7pm - new members welcome.

Mrs. Daphne Thompson showed how to 'Decorate an Egg'. We were shown all the different types of eggs used - Goose Esna Rhea, Pidgeon, Duck, Guinea Fowl and more - the size determined the amount of decoration and the complex cutting process to provide either hinged tops or petal effect openings.

One egg was illuminated with an old fashioned street lamp to show carol singers inside the egg - there was an egg for every occasion either on a stand or a card. Patience - steady hand and an eye for colour and style are needed for this hobby.

Competition for Teapot won by Mrs. A. Sparke, Mrs. F. Turnbull and Mrs. B. Clarke, many winners in the raffle.

Mrs. B. Clarke  
Millbrook Acomb

Tel: 609709

A Medical Tip from the Editor

16th September - Having breakfast the letter box rattled as the postman made his delivery - amongst the correspondence was a Hexham General card for a specialist appointment at 2pm the next day. That was quick, thought I, having visited the Doctor only a couple of weeks earlier.

17th September - The Consultant was a cheerful fellow and when he'd finished his examination he enquired if I'd spent much time in hot climates - I responded by telling him that I had spent getting on for 17 years in warmer climes - he nodded knowingly then said: "In the same way that Rotweilers and Poodles are both dogs cancer is the same." This was his way of explaining that the 1/4" to 1/2" seven year old cyst on my nose, now very close to the eye was a rodent ulcer or Basal cell carcinoma which is the most common type of skin cancer. This can be removed by surgery and I should not suffer from re-occurrence.

Why I mention this in the Haydon News is because as I have ignored this small cyst that would not go away. I now need specialist hospital surgery to remove the offending item. If I had used a bit of common sense earlier it could have been safely removed by my Doctor before it grew so dangerously close to my eye.

PLEASE TAKE MY TIP ..... Mitch

## BACK TO THE CHAMBER

Monday 15th September was a terrible day, rainy and windy - but isn't it always windy up in Heugh House Lane? This didn't help my raging toothache, each time I opened my mouth the biting wind set my nerves jangling and gums to ache as I made my way to my vehicle for a 4:45pm emergency appointment in Hexham. There were three other people from the village there as I waited my turn - after the gaggle of school-children had been attended to. Remembering that I must be brave and set a good example to the kids I chatted merrily to Sylvia who was there for a routine check-up.

Sylvia was in and out before you could say dental floss and I laid myself on to the still warm dentists chair. I pointed out the tooth causing the problem then as dentists always do he picked up his stainless steel scraper and started to play tooth xylophone with it - going from left to right it wasn't long before he hit the problematic tooth. Through the open door the people in the waiting room will have observed my involuntary action as both legs lifted about a foot above the chair - they may also have noticed my muffled scream - muffled because the dentist had half a hand and part of his toolkit in my mouth.

He reached the other side of my jaw and then proceeded to play his merry tune returning along the same row, noticing my apprehension he said: *"Don't worry I won't hit the aching tooth again."* I replied *"If you do I'll be looking for another dentist in about 15 seconds time."* Mindful that I was paying good money for this treatment he didn't touch it. After an X-ray I was sent packing with a prescription for penicillin and told to come back after a few days. It was by now 6pm.

The next day at precisely 6pm I was again leaving High Brindles for Hexham, still with raging toothache despite 24 hours on the penicillin. I usually tart myself up a bit and give myself a squirt of 'Joop' before going to the Chamber - on this occasion I felt so wretched that I didn't even bother. As I drove into Hexham methank *"Mitch you're barmy - you should be at home feeling sorry for yourself."* However *The Enchiridion (IX)* by *Epictetus* was my guide.

My mission to the Council Chamber on this occasion was to report back on the Housing Services Committee meeting which would be discussing some matters which may be of interest to readers of this newsletter.

I entered the Chamber at 6:20 where the paid Tynedale Executives were already milling around the podium - I took a seat on the public bench near the door - ready for a quick getaway once the open session was finished. I spent the next few minutes reading the interesting report by the Director of Housing and Environmental Services - this report being the discussion document for the meeting. The elected Councillors quietly filed past me, the Chairman took his seat, Her Majesty's portrait high on the wall behind - shortly before 6:30 Cllr. Mrs. M.J. Howard shuffled past to take her place in the back row of the Labour benches.

A major item of discussion was the change in the Allocation of Housing Regulations, by the former Tory Government, which now prohibits ward councillors from the decision making process in housing allocations on their own patch. Apparently the Government thought that nationally some locally elected representatives were abusing the use of their powers and influencing voters. The principle underlying the new regulations is that the proper role of elected councillors in the allocation of housing is to set down policies rather than make individual allocation decisions, which should be made by professional officers in accordance with those policies. The Tynedale Councillors at the meeting generally agreed that they were against the new regulations particularly as they were now not happy that in some cases they are not finding out council house allocations until after the event. They then agreed to set up a six person working group consisting of the Chairman, vice-Chairman and one representative from each of the political groups to discuss the matter further rather than it cropping up at all housing committee meetings.

You may be interested to know that some £14,597.92 was being spent on major capital works on a house in Strother Close, presumably planned maintenance which had not been done in previous financial years.

Another interesting item was the application from a resident to buy 31 sq. metres of land from the Council - actually part of someone's garden. The Haydon Bridge Parish Council had already submitted their opposition to the proposed sale on the grounds that they felt it inappropriate that the land be taken from the garden of another house. In the report to the Housing Committee the Tynedale executives had listed three additional reasons in recommending to the committee to refuse the application.

These were:

- (a) If it was to be used as an 'open plan' drying area it may encourage car parking.
- (b) A precedent could be created if the Council were to sell land which was not immediately abutting the property to which the land was being transferred.
- (c) If the land were used as a parking area for a vehicle this would cause some very difficult manoeuvres into an area of Parkers Terrace which has no suitable turning area.

Cllr. Howard left the Chamber when this item of the Agenda came up. The Executive then gave a short flimsy presentation which seemed to concentrate only on (c) above. The application was then rejected on the nod. No discussion took place and Cllr Howard returned to the Labour benches.

[Editors Viewpoint] You may recall that earlier in the year I mentioned that Tynedale Councillors had rejected a Lib Dem proposal that members of the public ought to be allowed to speak at Council Meetings. This particular case was a one where the applicant may have been interested in having their say as my understanding is that they did not intend to use the space as a car parking area. However having said that, the three other reasons given for rejecting the proposal would appear to give the land purchase request no real hope of being approved.

The meeting then considered the case of unlet flats normally reserved for the over 60's. In Langley Gardens there are 8 such flats which are in low demand by the elderly the Council apparently have difficulty in letting these. A recommendation to redesignate these flats so that they can be occupied by the over 40's was agreed. The situation will be reviewed in one year's time.

There are also rare occasions when no demand exists on the housing register for one bedroom aged persons bungalows. The meeting agreed that where no demand exists from persons aged 60 or above for this type of accommodation, then allocations be made to persons below this age subject to approval of the Director of Housing and Environmental Services.

In the past, because of the Right to Buy provisions, persons slightly under the age of 60, often with medical problems were precluded from being allocated aged persons bungalows - hopefully this will not happen in future. At 7:30 I'd had enough and left the silent empty public benches! **SBM**

## October Garden

**Berried Treasure** - Berries are one of the glories of autumn and as this is the best time to plant new trees and shrubs it is worth considering a berrying plant to brighten autumn days.

The mountain ash berries reliably in our climate. A small tree, it is widely planted amongst the trees flanking the A69, its scaling wax red berries jewelling the landscape for a few weeks of autumn. Garden birds favour red and leave pink, white and yellow berries alone so *Sorbus hupohensis* or *Sorbus cashmiriana* would be a better choice than the common mountain ash.

Crab apples like *Malus John Downie*, red fruit, or *Golden Hornet* yellow-red, will create an autumn feature. I have a ballerina crab, *Maypole*, which grows as a very pretty single-stemmed pillar. It has dark pink spring flowers and plum coloured autumn fruits and would fit in the smallest garden. This is the only ballerina tree I would recommend - I persevered 'fruitlessly' with other ballerina apples for years.

There are too many good cotoneasters to list, but consider these - *cotoneaster franchetti cornubia*, bright red berries which the birds ignore, 10' high; *cotoneaster pendula*, a small weeping tree bedecked with red berries in autumn; *cotoneaster horizontalis*, you can see this in the beds at Safeways car park, Hexham. Some of the old fashioned shrub roses which flower early in the season are grown as much for their scarlet hips as for their flowers. These roses should not be pruned until spring. The roses at the library in Church St. always give a fine autumn show of hips.

Holly, skimmia, viburnum davidii, pernettya only produce fruit if males and females are planted. Buy now, while they have berries, to be sure of getting a female. You can plant several female plants to one male.

**This month** - Move tender plants like pelargoniums under cover. Even hardy plants growing outside in pots may be damaged by severe frost. Wrap bubble polythene round the sides and tops of any that have to be left in the open.

Lift and divide perennials. If you don't complete this month, wait until spring.

Move shrubs or conifers growing in the wrong place.

Continue planting daffodils and dwarf bulbs outside.

Rambler roses - Cut out old stems that have carried flowers.

Cut back old growth to soil level to encourage new growth in spring.

Apply autumn lawn food. Spike compacted lawns. Repair damaged lawns and lawn edges by re-turfing or re-seeding.

Start tidying herbaceous borders for the winter

Rake up fallen leaves and store in plastic bin liners for leaf-mould.

Take hardwood cuttings of trees and shrubs. The best time is immediately after the leaves have fallen

**James Thin**

You're so ugly, you mother had to get drunk before she breast fed you.

You're so ugly, when you were born they put tinted windows on your incubator.

**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.

The Annual General Meeting for Langley W.I. was held in September and members were pleased to welcome Mrs. A. Burdon as their V.C.O. for the evening. Business was preceded by supper which was provided by the Committee members.

The Treasurer's Report revealed a healthy balance and members nominated The Rainbow Trust as the charity they wished to support in the coming year.

Mrs. M. Nagel stood down as President and the post was taken up by Mrs. M. Brown. Mrs. K. Rutherford agreed to remain as Secretary, as did the Treasurer Miss E. Martin.

After Mrs. S. Mitchell had thanked the outgoing committee for their hard work the new committee agreed to meet later in September to finalise the arrangements for the annual Pie & Peas Supper in November, and the Birthday Party in October when members plan to have a meal at the Hotspur Hotel in Allendale.

**Mary Nagel**

### Epictetus The Enchiridion

#### IX

Sickness is an impediment to the body, but not the will unless itself pleases.

Lameness is an impediment to the leg, but not to the will; and say this to yourself with regard to everything that happens.

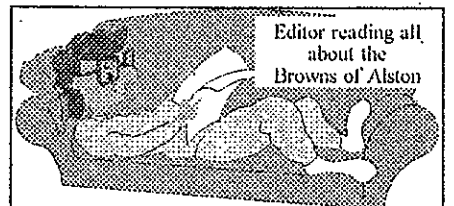
For you will find it to be an impediment to something else, but not truly to yourself.

#### XX

Remember that it is not he who gives abuse or blows, who affronts, but the view we take of these things as insulting.

When, therefore, anyone provokes you, be assured that it is your opinion which provokes you.

Try, therefore, in the first place, not to be bewildered by appearances. For if you once gain time and respite, you will more easily command yourself.



## May I have the pleasure?

Old Jerry Attric had a far away and contented look on his wrinkled face as I sat down next to him to enjoy my first 'Broom' of the evening. Evidence of his many fried breakfasts and fish and chip suppers stood out in greasy sculptured relief on the knees of his trousers and lapels of his tweed jacket as he raised his glass high to drain it of the last few drops of McEwans best bitter that dribbled down his stubbly chin onto a faded tie that seemed permanently knotted.



Jerry Attric told me that most of the girls that went to the dances at Langley were farm lasses, either farmer's daughters or servant lasses, but he said you could tell the real hoxin type from 'Oot Bye' because THEY were "Heather bred, cowdy fed, and feathery legged" and had a permanent dark ring around the calf of their legs from constantly wearing wellies during their day's work. Although the dance floor at Langley was dimly lit by oil lamps I could spot the difference between the 'In bye' lasses and the

'Oot Bye' ones because I could easily see the dark ring around their legs, but even when they were swung high off their feet doing the 'Spanish Waltz' try as I may I couldn't see the feathers on their legs.

With nicotine stained fingers he dumped his Woodbine in the ash tray and saying at the same time - *"Does thuw think ballroom dancing will iver mek a cumbak?"* Taken aback by such a question I went on to ask - *"What's set thuw off thinking about that hinny?"* Jerry responded *"Wey, as aah was hevin me tea and listening to the wireless when aah hord two tunes that tuk me right back to the days of my youth ..... 'Always' and 'Love is my reason for living.'"* He went on *"Can thuw mind son when we wad glide roond the dance floor just esta the War, to the likes of them tunes - Aah divent think the young-uns that gan to the discos in Hexham will ever discover the glamour we enjoyed, shaking a wicked hip to the haunting melodies of Berlin and Gershwin at the village hops."* Referring to the local dances.

The highlight of the week for the Haydon Bridge lads and lasses was the Saturday night dance in the Church Hall or Olympic Ballroom at Haltwhistle or a dance in the Town Hall Haydon Bridge on a Friday. Bands from Haltwhistle such as 'Stan Hankin' or 'The Lyrics' bringing with them their camp followers. The 'North Tync Melody Makers' from Bellingham and the 'Wansbeck Rhythm Band' from Morpeth way proved very popular, and now and again 'Jimmy Shand' from the 'Scotch side' would draw the dancers on a Friday evening.

The 'Village Hop' used to be held on a Friday evening from 10pm to 2am in various halls, depending on the village, and was always well attended. Langley reading room situated amongst the row of whitewashed cottages behind the saw mill was one such place where the well known knotted floor boards creaked and groaned under the weight of sweating heaving bodies of buxom farm lasses and long gangling farm lads as they strutted their stuff to the strains of 'Express Tango' or 'Twilight Waltz' wafting the strong smell of mothballs into your nostrils as they glided past.

The Friday night 'Hop' in the Town Hall was made more interesting for the local lasses when one or two 'foreigners' from a neighbouring village dropped in. Standing just inside the doorway, they surveyed the choice of girls who stood in groups on the edge of the floor, well aware of the presence of the newcomers but never casting a glance in their direction.

Jock King's accordion band from Haydon Bridge was always the favourite to play at Langley. It consisted of Jock King and a lassie by the name of Turnbull on the accordion. Kitchy Moore on the banjo, and Herby White on the drums. Kitchy Moore was also the band's 'crooner' as they were called in those far gone days and many a country lass sobbed while others swooned when 'Red Sails in the Sunset' was sung while the Modern Waltz was in progress.

When one of the young men with hair sleeked back with Brylcreem nipped out for his cigarette, straightened his tie and buttoned his jacket, the girls waited breathlessly as he crossed the floor to find out which of them was going to be asked for the pleasure. No formal request was being made, only a "Shall we have this one?" was the usual approach from a stranger. Not like young Jerry Attric, he would invite a girl to dance merely by raising his eyebrows or jerking his head in the direction of the floor and off he would go putting all the cuts and fancy footwork that he knew, amid a flurry of skirts. He in his brown pin-striped double breasted suit with 21" trouser bottoms and a flow of wavy ginger hair that had the hearts of all the girls fluttering - he had the confidence to go with it, and why not? For now 18 year old Jerry was in control and master of the Terpsichorean Art.

It was here at Langley that old Jerry and I learnt to do the steps of the 'Bradford Barn Dance', a progressive dance where both partners move around the floor to their left until they meet again. The favourite tune for this dance was 'Maybe tonight she'll hold me tight in her dreams I know, my dreams are getting better all the time.' Soon the whole floor was a mass of sweating heaving bodies while while the floor went up and down to the beat of shuffling feet. As you began to master the steps you could hear the banjo ringing out the timing of the steps . . . . . "Plinkety, Plinky, Plinkety, Plinky, Plink, Plink, PLONK!!" And then you would pick up the beat of the kettle drum . . . . "Dratity-Tat, Dratity-Tat, Drat-TAT-TAT - my dreams are getting better all the time" sang a great hoxin dark-haired farm lass as she grabbed me and swung me like she would turn the mangle handle on washing day as a waft of sweat came drifting from the cleft of her blouse as I grimly held on and discovered for the first time the strength of corsets worn by women.

Saturday night found many in Hexham, some would dance in the ballroom of the Abbey Hotel while others chose the Queens Hall, the floor of a thousand springs. The Queens Hall was ever so posh, instead of a knotted and splintery floor where seats and tables had to be pushed back before dancing could commence, this floor was well polished in an area surrounded by alcoves and with a broad staircase leading to a balcony area where one could sit and watch the dancing below. The stage area accommodated the five-piece band, the MC wore a dinner jacket and conducted the proceedings in a sophisticated manner to the beat of the 'Glen Eagles' dance band belting out 'In the Mood' as the flashing feet of youth in their prime tried to outdo one another with natty footwork, twists, cuts and what have you as they snaked around the floor to the 'Quick Step'. >>>>



*May I have the Pleasure - continued*

>>>> Style and effect played a big part amongst youth of the late '40's as they emulated their screen stars into their own lives. The young men hoped they looked like Clarke Gable when they grew a pencil thin moustache blackened with a little soot from the fire-back to give that little extra dash as a Romeo, while the girls after getting changed in a freezing cold bedroom sat in their camisoles pulling on a pair of Nylons and slipping her dance frock over her head. The frock previously ironed - and since materials in those days creased easily - she tried to avoid sitting down for the rest of the evening by responding to the request "Will you have this dance?" and so moving languidly into his hold would, with a blase expression on her face and a twenty packet of Players Navy Cut cigarettes held in her right hand, at just the right angle making it rather difficult for her partner to grasp her delicate hand. Nonetheless that was the fashion for girls of breeding in the '40's as they glided sedately around the floor hoping she looked like Betty Grable. In the Queens, she could, however, at the end of the dance expect to be conducted to her side of the floor with a "Thanks, we'll have another later." - conversation would progress with each successive dance. In the Village it never got further than "Floors bad the neet." And she would probably be abandoned in the middle of the floor as soon as the music stopped.

As the band struck up for the last waltz the Crooner would come into his own "Now is the Hour when we must say Good-Bye" etc. etc. And as the evening built up to a crescendo it was the cause of some broken hearts. Asking a girl for this dance signified a young man's intention to take her home, and the floor would be filled almost as soon as the music started. Now the violins came into their own making the most of a sentimental tune. The lights were dimmed and girls held more closely. The ones left unpartnered would rush off to the cloakroom, changing their shoes and putting on their coats they would try to hide the burning jealousy they felt on seeing some other girl chosen by a partner they fancied. . . . Ah well! It was so long ago and I can well understand that look of contentment on Jerry Attric's old and wrinkled face as he drained his glass and said:

*"Does thuv think Ballroom Dancing will iver mek a cumback?"*

**OWLD TAWNY**

**In Aid of  
Haydon Bridge Methodist Church  
Development Fund**

*A Conducted Tour*

Of the unique and fascinating

*Trinity House*

(off Newcastle Quayside)

Historic Centre of the North East's  
Maritime Activities

**Friday 24th October 1997**

Leaving Church Street by coach at:

**6:30pm**

After the visit

*The Maritime Museum*

and a

*Finger Buffet*

**£15 all inclusive**

Book Now on: 684207/684560/684757

*Craft Fair*

Moot Hall, Hexham

(Lockhart Room)

**Saturday October 18th**

**2.00pm onwards**

Refreshments Available

**GRAND JUMBLE SALE**

**United Reform Church**

Childrens Toys

-  
Books

-  
Bric-a-Brac

-  
Clothes

**Friday 14th November**

**Doors open 6:30pm**

**Long John Silver**

An old pirate walked into a pub. He was a typical looking pirate, with a peg leg, a hook in place of a hand, and an eye-patch.



The barman said: "By God you look like you've had a hard time of it. How did all this happen?"

"Well," said the pirate, "my leg was blown off by a cannonball."

"A terrible thing!" said the barman.

"Then I lost the hand in a sword fight," said the pirate.

"Bad luck!" said the barman.

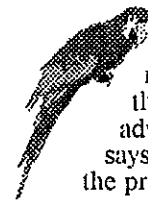
"And then, a fly flew into my eye," said the pirate.

"But that doesn't seem so bad" said the barman.

"Well, I'd only had the hook a week."



**A Parrot Which Never Talks**



There's a bloke who owns a parrot which never talks so he goes to the pet shop to get some advice. The pet shop owner says he knows exactly what the problem is.

"Your parrot has too much hook in its beak, what you have to do is file its beak back and it will be able to talk great however you've got to be careful not to file it too far though, because if you take too much off the bird will drown the first time it has a drink."

The parrot owner asks how much the pet shop chap charges to do this beak modification and he says £25. So the parrot fancier decides he'll do it himself.

A week later they bump into each other in the street. The pet shop man asks if the parrot is talking yet? The parrot owner responds with "The parrot's dead". Pet shop guy says "I told you not to file the beak back too far, did he drown when he had a drink?"

Ex-parrot owner says:

"Hell no, he was dead before I got him out of the vice!"

# CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## CLERGY MESSAGE

*The new priest at the Roman Catholic Church of St John of Beverley, Father Leo Pyle, introduces himself in the first edition of the new-style Church Newsletter. Each month we will bring news from all the village's churches, and a regular contribution from each of the clergy who ministers here..*

Dear friends,

Thank you for a wonderful welcome to Haydon Bridge. I am surrounded by cards, "Warm wishes for you in your new home", "As You Begin Your New Appointment", "A New Home", and so it goes on. Anglicans, Methodists, and URC have been most kind and affirming in their greetings of welcome. Shopkeepers, passers-by and callers at St John's all make me feel it is good to be here.

It is said that moving home is one of the most traumatic human experiences. Not to be underestimated! Maybe I have been much less traumatised, because I have been expecting a move for some time now. Personally I think that 10 years in a parish is long enough for the people and the priest. Obviously this is not an absolute, but my life has worked out in decades, more or less.

After my ordination in 1957 I was asked to spend 9 years on the staff at Ushaw College, Durham. Then after a year of further study I was appointed in 1967 to be the first Director of the Roman Catholic Religious Education Centre in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. I held this post until 1978, when I was appointed parish priest of St Cuthbert's, North Shields. In 1986 Bishop Lindsay asked me to take over St Mary's, Sunderland. And in 1997 Bishop Ambrose suggested St John of Beverley, Haydon Bridge for the last decade!

And so we start the fifth decade. If we are thinking in Rosary terms, we can look forward to 'The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple'. That's for joy. 'The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord'. That's for sorrow. And finally, 'The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Heaven, and the Glory of all the Saints'. That's for glory. And I'll settle for that.

Leo Pyle

### AN INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENT TO THE HAYDON NEWS

#### WHO AND WHERE

The names and phone numbers of the clergy who minister in Haydon Bridge

- Rev David Arthur with the URC congregation  
2 Leazes Terrace, Hexham 604.379
- Rev Vincent Ashwin, with St Cuthbert's C of E  
The Vicarage, Station Yard 684.307
- Rev David Perkins, with the Methodists  
39 Elvaston Road, Hexham 603.139
- Father Leo Pyle, with St John's RC people  
St John's Presbytery, North Bank 684.265



**Village Harvest Festival**

Sunday October 5th  
6.00 pm  
**ST CUTHBERT'S  
HAYDON BRIDGE**  
with  
your favourite  
harvest hymns  
Preacher: Rev David Perkins  
CHURCHES WORKING  
TOGETHER  
**All welcome**

**METHODIST CHURCH AND  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
SERVICES**

**Oct. 5th**

10.00am Mrs S Lamb  
6.00pm United Harvest Festival (C / E)

**Oct. 7th**

7.30pm Men's Christian Fellowship

**Oct. 8th**

2.30pm Women's Own Birthday Party

**Oct. 12th**

10.00am Rev. J. Errington  
6.00pm Rev D. Arthur (Sacrament)

**Oct. 19th**

10.00am Rev D Perkins (Family)  
6.00pm Mrs M Gazzani

**Oct. 21st**

7.30pm Men's Christian Fellowship

**Oct. 22nd**

2.30pm Women's Own AGM

**Oct. 26th**

10.00am Miss N Garbutt  
6.00pm Rev D Arthur

**Wednesdays:** 12.45 Prayer time

**Wednesdays:** 7.00pm Youth Club (11-14)

**Fridays:** 6.30pm Youth Club (5-11)

**HOSPICE HELPERS NEEDED**

- Tynedale Community Hospice is asking for volunteers to help with their Bereavement Visiting Service. Pioneered in South East Northumberland, good listeners are needed in South Tynedale -
- who possess good communication skills;
- who like people;
- who could commit a few hours each week to visit the recently bereaved;
- must attend a support group meeting once a month;
- must be prepared to undertake a course of training.

Informal enquiries are welcomed by Elizabeth Pinkerton, Care Coordinator at Tynedale Community Hospice, 19 Battle Hill, Hexham: Phone: 600388.

**NEW YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

An inter-church club for 10-12 year-olds is being run at the URC church on Wednesdays, 7.00 - 8.30 pm, by leaders from 4 local churches. Just turn up!

**CALENDAR FOR  
ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH**

October 1st 2.30 Women's Fellowship

**October 5th: HARVEST FESTIVAL**

10.30 Holy Communion & Sermon (VA)

6.00 Inter-church Harvest Festival:  
Preacher: Rev D Perkins

October 7th Vicar's harvest appeal sponsored walk.

October 9th 7.30 Deanery Synod, HBr.

**October 12th:** 21st after Pentecost

8.00 Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

10.30 Worship for All (Mike Fry)

October 15th 7.30 Joint parishes' PCC

October 16th 7.30 Harvest Supper

**October 19th** Last after Pentecost

8.00 Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

10.30 Morning Prayer and Sermon  
(One World Week begins)

**October 26th** 9th before Christmas

10.30 Holy Communion & Sermon (VA)

October 30th 7.30 Church Council meets

November 1st Day conference on ministry

**November 2nd** 8th before Christmas

10.30 Holy Communion & Sermon (MF)

6.00 'All Souls' service for the departed.

**BELTINGHAM & HENSHAW  
SERVICES**

**Oct. 5th** 9.00 Belt Communion BCP

**Oct. 12th** 10.0 Hens. All-Age

Harvest Communion

6.00 Hens Evensong BCP

**Oct. 19th** 10.0 Belt Communion ASB

& Baptism.

**Oct. 26th** 10.0 Hens. Mattins BCP

**NEXT MONTH**

There will be a joint village Remembrance Service on Sunday November 9th at the URC Church. After a short service, the congregation will go in procession to the War Memorial for the reading of the names of those who died in the two World Wars and for the Act of Remembrance at 11.0 a.m.

**SERVICES AT ST JOHN OF  
BEVERLEY CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

**Sundays** Mass every week at 9.30

**Weekdays** Mass most days at 10.00

**NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES**

**TAKING SHAPE:** the new Methodist church is going on up. The bold cross at the front was put up early, so passers-by could see that this is a confident new church. Opening date? It depends on the winter weather.

**ALL SOULS SERVICE:** St Cuthbert's will be having a service on Sunday evening, November 2nd (before the next Haydon News is distributed) to remember those who have died. The vicar will visit those who have had deaths in the family during the last year. And people are invited to hand in the names of any of their departed relatives and friends they would like mentioned at the service.

**Indian Goat Project**



Vincent Ashwin will be doing a 25-mile sponsored walk on Tuesday, October 7th, to raise urgent funds for a goat project in India. Following the deaths of Mother Teresa and Princess Diana, this is a chance to help some of the world's poorest people. He will be glad of any sponsors.

*He will catch the early train to Brampton, and walk back via Lanercost, Gilsland, Haltwhistle, Henshaw, Beltingham and Chesterwood.*

**25 YEARS ON**

The United Reformed Church is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its founding, on October 5th. In 1972, the new denomination was set up from former Presbyterian and Congregational churches, and URC was a set of initials that became known throughout England.

The Haydon Bridge congregation will be celebrating quietly on that day, with special prayers of thanks and hope at the United Harvest Festival service at St Cuthbert's. Haydonians from all churches will gather there, to thank God for the harvest, and also to ask God's blessing on the future of the URC congregation here.

## HAYDON & ALLEN MEDICAL NEWS

### THYROID PROBLEMS

The thyroid gland is shaped like a butterfly's wings and its two parts lie either side of the windpipe in the front of the neck. Normally the gland cannot be seen or felt. It produces a hormone called thyroxine which is essential in governing the speed of the whole body's chemistry.

Disorders of the thyroid gland are very common, especially amongst women - 15/1000 as against 1/1000 in men. There is a tendency for the problems to run in families and there is a clear association with other diseases such as pernicious anaemia, vitiligo (patches of white skin), rheumatoid arthritis, colitis and diabetes - amongst other things.

The thyroid gland is controlled by the pituitary gland, a pea sized gland nestling beneath the brain. The pituitary is controlled in its turn by the hypothalamus - part of the brain near the pituitary. The hypothalamus, when it detects a low level of thyroxine in the blood, secretes "thyroid stimulating hormone releasing factor" which, as its name suggests, causes the pituitary to release "thyroid stimulating hormone" - TSH. TSH promoted the release of stored thyroxine from the thyroid gland and steps up production too.

The thyroid may produce too much or too little thyroxine when diseased. The effects can be very slow - years - in onset and difficult to spot. Rarely are the effects sudden.

The gland can become inflamed for a number of reasons. The commonest cause is called autoimmune thyroiditis - in effect the thyroid is attacked by the body's own defence system and slowly destroyed. Iodine deficiency (Derbyshire neck), several drugs and radiation can also cause problems. When diseased the gland can become larger, this shows as a swelling in the front of the neck called a goitre.

Too much thyroxine causes the body's chemistry to go faster, leading to weight loss, increased appetite, feeling hot and sweaty, easy fatigue and/or overactivity, tremor, fast pulse, diarrhoea, muscle weakness and bulging eyes (Marty Feldman was probably the best known celebrity with the problem). Swellings over the shins and bulging finger ends can occur but are not common.

Too little thyroxine causes exactly the opposite effects. The patient becomes tired, slower and slower, cold, gains weight, has a slow pulse, is constipated, the voice becomes low pitched and hoarse, depression may occur, hair may become sparse and the skin dry.

The diagnosis is very easily confirmed with a blood test. Other blood tests done at the same time can establish the cause of the trouble and detect problems which can arise with other aspects of the body's chemistry as a consequence of the thyroid problem. A scan of the neck, a chest X-ray and sometimes a sampling of the gland itself can add to the accuracy of the diagnosis. Where the diagnosis is in doubt or the condition does not seem straightforward the patient can be referred to hospital for a consultant opinion.

Treatment is usually with tablets but occasionally an operation or a radioactive drink may be recommended. Regular tests will be taken to monitor the progress of the disease and its treatment.

Usually all of the symptoms resolve very nicely with treatment but the bulging eye problem mentioned above can

be troublesome and need hospital attention. Elderly patients need to be treated carefully because they can be very sensitive to the hormone and develop additional problems, even on modest doses as their bodies adapt.

One of the tests done on all new babies checks the level of thyroxine or TSH in the blood. 1/3500-4000 babies have a deficiency of the hormone which, if it is not corrected, causes very severe problems - cretinism.

Hexham General Hospital has recently started to report thyroid tests in line with the latest scientific advice and this should help us to help get the doses of tablets as accurate as possible. Measuring TSH is much more accurate than directly measuring thyroxine. Once treatment is established a blood test should be done not less than annually and preferably every six months.

Cancer of the thyroid is rare but often treatable and may not cause any of the symptoms mentioned above. Very, very rarely cancer of some other part of the body can produce effects on the thyroid which mimic overactivity.

Chernobyl released, amongst other things, a great deal of radioactive iodine into the atmosphere. Nuclear weapons do the same thing. Unfortunately thyroid glands are exceptionally efficient at mopping up iodine from the blood and virtually all of the iodine that a body absorbs will lodge very quickly in the thyroid. This is why one of the expected long term after effects of nuclear warfare and releases from nuclear accidents is a rise in thyroid cancer. Just such a rise has been reported from the most heavily contaminated areas following Chernobyl.

Potassium iodide tablets taken before exposure to radioactive iodine will fill the thyroid to the point where it temporarily loses interest in absorbing any more iodine. This will give a some protection against later thyroid cancer - probably.

### LAST WORDS

Voltaire, lying on his death bed, was asked if he wished to renounce the devil.

"Now is not the time to make new enemies!" he replied.

### YES, NO AND MAYBE

Are we going to have a flu epidemic this year? Answer given above! Just like accidents, one only really knows that one is in the midst of an epidemic during or after the event.

We shall endeavour to provide a flu jab for all vulnerable groups. This includes those with lung or heart problems, the elderly, those who have had their spleens removed, those whose immune systems are not working well, diabetics and those with kidney failure. At present immunisation of people not in the above groups is not recommended.

Do you think its safe for me to mention paracetamol again yet? Or will the editor castigate me? - I think that's the word I want.

For pain and temperature in colds, sore throats and flu take paracetamol, plenty to drink and, if you really feel rough, rest in bed.