



# THE HAYDON NEWS

APRIL  
1998

Published by The Friends Of Haydon Bridge

## CROSSWORD

22 correct entries for the March crossword were received, after 2 competitions the following points standing is:

R. Armstrong (2), D. Bell (2),  
D. Corbett (2), C. Gardner (2),  
W. Howard (2), P. Irving (2),  
R. McVay (2), M. Mitchell (2),  
M. Moore (2), A. Phillips (2),  
M. Porter (2), E. Rumney (2),  
M. Robson (2), A. M. Scott (2),  
B&R Shout (2), S. Stephenson (2),  
D. Telford (2), J. Tucker (2),  
P. Tomlinson (2), P. Carruthers (1),  
N. Gilholm (1), M. Hindle (1),  
M. Nagel (1).

The March winners drawn out of the hat were:

**Mrs. M. Moore and Mrs. A. M. Scott**

Please encourage your friends to participate by returning their completed crosswords - I know many who complete it and don't bother to send it in before the date shown below.

Thanks - Mitch

### NEXT ISSUE OF THE HAYDON NEWS IS IN MAY

All copy to: S.B. Mitchell  
High Brindles, Heugh House Lane  
Haydon Bridge NE47 6HJ

Tel: 01434 684 035  
e-mail haynews@haydonbridge.demon.co.uk  
or please hand in at the Post Office before  
Thursday 23d April 1998

The **HB NATURE CLUB** will meet in April on the following dates:

The Club meet from 7.15 to 9.15pm in the Community Centre

Last of the winter talks programme:

### THURSDAY 2nd April

*In Search of Meadow Flowers in Austria and Slovenia*  
by Mr and Mrs Jamieson.

Join us for leisurely spring and summer evening local rambles from April to August on alternate Thursdays.  
Meet at Church Street, Haydon Bridge at 6.30(prompt)

The first walk is on

**THURSDAY 16th APRIL**

### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

### Antiques Road Show

Friday May 8th at 8pm

Allendale Middle School  
with

**Maurice Reed**

Entrance £2  
incl. coffee and biscuits  
+ 2 objects Raffle

## EASTER FAYRE

St Cuthberts Play Group are holding an Easter Fayre  
**Saturday April 4th**  
**at 10am**  
**St Cuthberts Church Hall.**

Any donations of items suitable for the Tombola and/or the Raffle would be very gratefully received.

You can give them to Pauline Wallis at Scotch Arms, or leave them at the Church Hall any weekday morning 9:30 - 11:30.

All proceeds go towards the running of the Playgroup. Please come along on the day and support us

**St Cuthberts Playgroup**  
are holding a

**Children's Fashion Show**

**April 15th 6pm - 8pm.**

The clothes are well known High Street brand names, but the prices are well below store prices.

You will be able to buy the clothes after seeing them modelled by local children. If your child wants to join in the fun and dress up - no problem.

Sizes range from 0 - teens.

**Tickets are £1**

Available from Pauline Wallis at Scotch Arms or Church Hall any weekday mornings 9:30 - 11:30



*Come and enjoy the*  
**Northumbrian Traditional Music Nights**  
**Kings Head - Allendale**  
*Good traditional music in a friendly atmosphere*  
*Singers and musicians welcome*  
Friday 10th April - Singers Night  
Thursday 16th April - 'DROP THE BOX'  
Energetic, young and fun Shetland Band, who mix folk, bluegrass, traditional and rock. £5.00. Starts 8.30pm.  
Friday 24th April - Singers Night.

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## PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS

Thursday 26th March 1998

Reporter PAT was unavailable to take the notes so it was left to the Editor to be scribe again. Sat to my left was the Hexham Courant reporter, to my right three members of the public. Behind were another four members of the public with five of the seven being from Martins Close and Temple Houses Lane. To the front were eight of the eleven Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk.

Why were the public there? Well folks not this time about the bowling green or the public right of way issue even the question of speed measures was out of their minds tonight because this time the **BIG ISSUE** was the sudden

### ERECTION

of a

### FLOOD PROTECTION BARRIER

One morning in the middle of March the tranquillity of Martins Close was disturbed by the sound of heavy earth movers and trucks carrying tons of mud, on the hall floors lay a letter from Steve Wilkinson, a Project Engineer with the Environment Agency which said:

*"I am pleased to inform you that floodbank construction work will start shortly, and will last approximately three weeks ... The works will include strengthening and raising the existing bank along the South Tyne by approximately 0.5m for a length of around 85m and a new bank perpendicular to this in front of the field gate. This will raise the standard of protection to 1 in 100 years from flooding from the South Tyne and Langley Burn."*

The Chairman had already visited the site and was already aware of the residents' fears that this work could mean a worse danger, particularly for the Temple Houses residents.

During discussion the Chairman disclosed that the Environment Agency had admitted that there was danger of a 'slight' increase of risk for Temple Houses homes. These residents are furious that solely on grounds of cost their homes are not being given extra flood protection - particularly when they have had flooding 3 times since 1995. There is also the problem that the new protection measures include a new bank at right angles to river bank which, it was felt, will prevent ambulance access to football field as well as

preventing residents at the bottom of Temple Houses getting oil deliveries fire engines service to their homes.

Following discussion it was agreed that the best solution would be to have the Environment Agency come to the village and give a presentation of the measures and discuss residents' fears. Parish Council will invite them.

Space prevents me listing all of these fears in the Haydon News however it would seem that yet again those 'in authority' have gone ahead without considering consultation necessary - in my opinion a sad state of affairs.

It was agreed that £200 be transferred to Outdoor Bowling Club to meet initial minor expenditure.

The Tender price £900 +VAT for streetlamp in Land Ends Road was agreed.

Following removal of Electricity supply equipment beside Greenwich Garden Garages a small wall has not been removed - this is a hazard for playing youngsters. PC will request removal.

The estate play area has been inspected by TDC who are reported to have found no evidence of dog fouling, neither had they found any of the play equipment in a dangerous condition. This was disputed by Cllr Mrs Charlton, Cllr Bill Howard will discuss with Tynedale as well as asking if a fence around area, to keep out dogs.

TDC has approved A Douglas Gardens resident's planning application to change wasteland in Land Ends Road to a garden.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be in Langley Village Hall at 7:30 pm on Thursday 23rd April the PC hope there is a good public attendance.

### SBM

### Northumberland Visitors Guide

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/vg/>

### HAYDON BRIDGE

Population: 2,000. Small town on the River Tyne with a small but interesting range of accommodation and shops. It was the birthplace of John Martin, Northumberland's most famous artist. There is a fascinating virtual newspaper for the village, the "Haydon News", which is essential reading for anyone with an interest in the village.

## CARPET BOWLS Haydon Bridge v Bellingham

On Thursday 12th March 1998 Haydon Bridge Indoor Bowls Club lost by seven shots at home to Bellingham in an entertaining match. Here are the teams:

A	B
Jean Oliver	Peter Tweddle
Susan Taylor	Ike Tallantyre
Joyce Tucker	Joseph Tulip
Michael Rumney	Win. Golightly
C	D
Gladys Henderson	Rene Wallace
Audrey Phillips	Lily Pickering
Edna Rumney	Dennis Bright
Doreen Spark	Doreen Taylor

The first two games produced plenty of excitement as proven when the 'B' team played a 3-3 draw with the visitors 'B' team. The 'A' team had a very good night, winning their thirds game 9-1, winning their first three games they lost the last one. After losing their first three games heavily the 'D' teams never gave up and won their last game 6-1. The 'C' team also had a poor night, but also won their last game after taking four on the first end.

On Sunday 15th March, Michael Rumney, Jean Oliver, Gladys Henderson and Susan Taylor took part in a Rosebowl competition as a team of four. Edna Rumney also went and took part in the singles event. Unfortunately they didn't do well, but they did have a lovely day.

Haydon Bridge drew 63-63 away to Lambley on Monday 16th March.

### White Jack

### COFFEE MORNING - THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Open/ Coffee Morning in the Community Centre on Saturday 28th March.

A total of £313.60 was raised for Community Centre funds.

Thanks to all those who helped on the day and those who gave generously to the cake stall, raffle and tombola.

Raffle prizes not claimed were ticket numbers 155, 133, 254, 130, 263. Prizes can be collected from 10 Ratcliffe Road.

Valerie Bell on behalf of  
Community Association

## Letters to the Editor & Readers Viewpoints

In the March issue of the Haydon News the introduction to **PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS** read:

*'Neither of the reporters from the Hexham Courant or the Haydon News bothered to turn up and only me and one other chap were on the public seats. There being no public participation the meeting started promptly at 7:30, sadly it was one big yawn until it ended at 8:30 and I certainly wished that I'd stayed at home like reporters Peter and PAT.'*

**Eve Fuller, the Editor of the Hexham Courant writes:**

**Dear Mr Mitchell**

*Whilst I understand the opinion expressed in Parish Council Pickings in the March edition of Haydon News, I would be distressed if anyone were to think that it was a fact that a Hexham Courant reporter "did not bother to turn up" to a Haydon Parish Council meeting.*

*There are dozens of evening meetings throughout Tynedale every month and, as we only have a small team of reporters, it is not possible to get to all of them and difficult choices have to be made. We did take the trouble to inform the council that on this particular occasion we were unable to send someone.*

*Yours sincerely,*

**Eve Fuller,  
Editor**

I am more than pleased to include your letter explaining the situation to Haydon News readers. **Ed.**

**Dear Editor,**

It's great to see that Haydon Bridge is on the Web!

Out of interest I recently did a search on the village and was stunned to get a response. I often think about the village and remember growing up there - my first 16 years were spent in Langley Gardens. About 10 years ago my family moved from the village to our present location - Northern Ireland. Barring the obvious troubles, village and town life in N.I is very similar to that in England. I have visited the village a couple of times over the years and have been pleased to see the developments going on - mainly the new health centre.

I'm pleased to be able to read the Haydon News and spot the odd familiar name. I was desperately sorry to read of the death of Dr High, I remember him well and always had the greatest respect and admiration for him. I'm sure he will be sorely missed by those that knew him and my deepest sympathy goes to his family.

Pass on all my best wishes to everyone in the village and good luck in your future ventures on the "Web"

Regards,

**Ian Mulligan**

### THANK YOU TO AN UNKNOWN LADY

I would like to thank the lady who found my purse in the Haydon Bridge Co-op and handed it in to the staff. I made enquiries as to who the lady was, so as to thank her personally, but no one seemed to know her, so I can only say again many thanks and hope you see this in our local newsletter.

**E. M. Rumney**

An old man, believed to be of Scottish ancestry, hand delivered this letter and photograph to High Brindles on 18th March. I offered him a cup of tea which he declined, pushing the envelope into my hand saying "Perhaps maybe you've room in the next Haydon News for this" he then shuffled away to a waiting car and without a glance back sped away down the lane. The letter reads:

*'A most interesting grave can be seen in the old grave-yard next to St, Cuthberts Church in Haydon Bridge. It belongs to John Alexander of Middle Lipwood who died in March 1861 at the age of 58. Apparently as he went about his daily task as a farmer he had the habit of eating the wild fruits of the countryside as they came in season - this also included seeds from hedgerows and trees.*

*Following his untimely death, from appendicitis, it was found at the post mortem that the stomach contained a number of Sycamore seeds. One or more obviously took root in his remains long after his death resulting in the fine tree you can see today'*

### Strange but True ?



## HAYDON NEWS

Programme of events to celebrate the opening of the new Methodist Church building.

12th-18th April 1998

### 12th EASTER DAY SERVICES

09.00 am Prayer Breakfast

10.00am Christ is Risen Hallelujah!

6 00pm Christians Together Service

Preacher Fr. Leo Pyle

### 13th EASTER MONDAY

10am-4pm Open Day with guided tours and refreshments for all.

### 14th TUESDAY

7.30pm Flower arranging demonstration with John Dalton

### 15th WEDNESDAY

12 noon Holiday Luncheon Club

### 17th FRIDAY

6.30 pm Junior Disco for 6-11 year olds  
Evening Hike for 12+ year olds with supper at Chapel

### 18th SATURDAY

Celebration Meal and Cabaret to round off the week in style

### Further Dates for your Diary

Saturday 25th April

7.30pm All Saints Praise Band

Saturday 6th June

7.30pm Concert by Salvation Army Band

Thursday 11th June

7.30pm Al fresco evening at Ridley Hall.

A Shakespearean collage with Newcastle College

Sat - Sun 5-6 September

A weekend of celebration and thanksgiving at the beginning of the Methodist Year for God's New House

Saturday 5th September

Celebration by invitation with contributions from Rev. Richard Firth, Rev. David Perkins and Stephen Crichton - Architect.

Sunday 6th September

A Covenant Service at 10am led by our District Chairman, Rev. Robin Hutt.

For further information please contact:

M. Rowarth 684207 - T. North 684757

J. Wardle 684294 - M. Hindle 684275

## ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Those who did not make it to the Church Hall on Friday, 20th March missed a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Mr. John Wardle gave us a fascinating account of his travels through the wilder parts of Morocco, illustrated by lots of stunning photographs taken by Mrs. Claire Wardle.

The gains to Arthritis research were not great, but the entertainment certainly was.

Hilary Rutherford

Letters to the Haydon News are always welcome  
see address on page 2

A service on the Web for exiled Haydonians and other interested parties is provided jointly by:

Brian Harrison: <http://www.badrise.u-net.com/haydon.htm>

Mitch : <http://www.haydonbridge.demon.co.uk>

If you have links with Haydon Bridge please send us a note and let us know who and where you are. On a best efforts basis we will also try and answer genealogical queries about the local area.

## Congratulations to the Railway Hotel



Jackie & Joseph

Tenants of

Railway,

Haydon Bridge, Hexham

Have been voted

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In the category of

**PUB IN BLOOM**

Haydon and its vicinity share the first rank and high standards achieved in the public house which we commend to the tenant and the staff



A. ARKLEY  
General Manager



J. MORLEY  
Brewery Manager

## EDITORIAL

**Hi Folks** - It's me back again happy and cheerful, now the **SAD** season has finished, with fire in my belly and Bacardi in my veins. Quite a few of you missed my editorial last month and I'm sure quite a few didn't.

I'll start by asking for help on Haydon News deliveries. We need a couple of deliverers - one for North Bank and the other for Church Street, both of which I have been doing myself, please give me a ring on 684035 if you can spare the time each month.

One evening recently I was getting into my 4x4 in Church Street and noticed the lights ablaze in the new Methodist Centre, I decided it was about time that Mitch had a look around. On entering I noticed that all of those inside were women, Margaret Hindle approached me and explained that a meeting of the flower arrangement group had just finished - she kindly offered to show me around.

Although not quite finished internally I was most impressed with the building and the facilities it will offer to the community. Even more impressive was the low cost - some £240,00 building plus £80,000 fitting out. The stained glass windows, from the old chapel, have been refurbished and look beautiful in their new surroundings behind the altar. The main room has a unique sound reducing sliding partition which, when closed, provides a secluded chapel for 75 people. Seating is provided by individual seats which can be stored out of site in a large walk in storage room. The old organ has been refurbished and will be remotely controlled. Off the main room is a cosy tea room adjacent to a large modern and well equipped kitchen, nearby is a secure area where computer links will be installed.

Throughout the building there are no steps and the main access is via a ramp. Toilets and shower facilities for the disabled have been well thought out. Towards the rear of the building is a smaller meeting room and a one to one private counselling room. Why not pay a visit yourself - see page 5.

£320,000 spent seems to make nonsense of the £560,000 or more supposedly required to develop a new Community Centre. It is of concern that no alternative solution was offered for consideration.

As some of you know the Editor of the Haydon News is *persona non grata* as far as the bimonthly meetings of the Community Association are concerned. Because of this my knowledge of the proposals for the new building is restricted to what I read in the Hexham Courant on February 27th where the question of an alternative site (Option E) was not discussed. There is another option which I offer for public debate:

***I propose that the land adjacent to the new Methodist Centre be purchased at market value and a brand new Community Centre with realistic costs be built there.***

Some advantages are:

- Present Community Centre can continue to be used until the new facility available.
- Easier access to this site with car and coach parking in immediate area.
- Away from main road therefore safer for children.
- Being adjacent to the Methodist Centre duplication of facilities and services will not be necessary.
- No adjoining properties which may yet cause problems with the current proposals planning consent.
- Because there is no demolition involved the costs will be cheaper.
- It may be possible to sell the present Community Centre to offset land purchase costs.
- A start will be made on generating a nucleus of centralised modern facilities in the village
- It will look nicer
- I have already spoken to the owner who is amenable to the idea

#### What do YOU think?

The Football Club have done standingly well in their fund efforts for the floodlit all-synthetic pitch. So far £12,000 £20,000 they require to match Funding has been raised. I was, therefore, most surprised to get a phone call from the Secretary of HB AFC, David Kirsopp. Popping down to the Rock-springs home after Coronation Street

where over a cup of tea David explained that the committee and members were most depressed on hearing the news that their application to the Shaftoe Charities for a contribution to the cost of the scheme had been turned down by the Governors who:

*".... are of the opinion that the educational content of your project, when completed, is not sufficient for them to contribute....."*

Last Autumn the Friends of Haydon Bridge enquired of the Shaftoe Trust if it was worthwhile applying for funds to help with the capital cost of a new scanner/printer on which to produce the Haydon News. The polite response was that as the Haydon News could not be considered 'educational' an application for funds would be unlikely to succeed. A recent query from the newly formed Outdoor Bowling Green group met with a similar response.

I well understand that the Shaftoe Trust must adhere to strict regulations as defined by the Charities Commission. Perhaps there may be room for some flexibility in the interpretation of the rules that allow the Governors of The Trust to consider applications using the spirit of the rules rather than the strict letter of them. I would welcome an open letter from the Trustees explaining their interpretation of grey area between education and recreation and give us some guidance as to which applications are likely to succeed and conversely those which won't.

Finally, the Village Appraisal activities would appear to have all but fizzled out, this I predicted nearly 3 years ago in the May 1995 Haydon News when I wrote the following comments, addressed to Cllr Mrs. Howard:

*"The first objective of this proposed group [Village Appraisal] should be to define what the targets are, timescale, milestones etc. If this is not done a lengthy and aimless meander can be all that is achieved - you need to know where you're going, and why, before you start a journey."*

I fear that the same fate lies ahead for the New Community Centre project unless stock is taken of the present situation and other more cost effective alternatives explored. I give one example in this editorial, there are more.

See you next Month

Mitch

## March Garden

Time again for planting up baskets, window boxes, pots and other containers. The village floral display gets better every year and it's lovely to see our village waking up from a drab winter.

Haydon Bridge has been entered for the 'Northumberland in Bloom' competition so let's all make an extra effort to impress the judges. Because the centre of the village has few gardens, baskets and containers are essential to make a stunning impact. Even if you have a garden the picture will be enhanced by filling it with pots overflowing with colour and foliage. Put them at the gate and where they can be seen to advantage from the road. Hang baskets around the door. Brighten up dull borders with annuals and potted plants. The judges will be in the village on the 29th April, the middle of June and the end of July. They will also look at the gardens on the estates and the North Bank.

Container planting has become an art form. There are numerous books written exclusively about gardening in pots. Tynedale Park and Down to Earth have a variety of pots, urns and tubs. You can use anything as a container. Old chimney pots of varied heights look effective grouped together. Galvanised buckets (make drainage holes in bottom) look trendy. Scarlet geraniums in terra-cotta pots are traditional. You can fill a very large, cheap, plastic containers or bin with bulbs and bedding plants and use trailing plants around the edges for an exuberant, overflowing effect. An old wheelbarrow full of flowers will make an unusual and eye-catching display. So get started, exercise those artistic skills and show the judges a floriferous village.

Buy a suitable compost. The plants won't flourish in last year's compost and garden soil isn't suitable for containers. If the container is very deep - like a bin - fill it 3/4 full with polystyrene chunks such as you get in packing; 12" of compost in the top will suffice and the weight will be kept down. Any heavy container will be best planted up in situ. To maintain a container, dead-head regularly. Some flowers like primroses, which are lovely early in the year, won't flower all season so top up with new plants as others go over. The most important element in maintaining a beautiful display is to feed and water daily.

**This month** dead-head tulips and daffodils past their best. This diverts the plant's energy into the bulb and not into setting seed. Leave the foliage intact.

Ideal time, as the soil warms up, for planting evergreen trees, shrubs and conifers. Spray their foliage to reduce moisture loss if the weather turns warm and dry.

Prune roses. First cut out any diseased or crossing stems. Then remove a third of the old stems completely, cutting right down to base, to encourage new growth. Shorten remaining stems to about 12' - 18"

Divide congested clumps of snowdrops while still in leaf. Trim winter hedges as they finish flowering

Use slug pellets around delphiniums and hostas

*James Thin*

### MISS J TEASDALE BA

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### HAYDON BRIDGE W.I.

Committee members served up a lovely Ham Salad with extras followed by Apple Pie and Cream then Birthday Cake and sherry when the 74th Birthday of the W.I. was celebrated, it was a very relaxed and care free night.

Mrs Sparke won the competition for a Birthday Card with Mrs J. Heron and Mrs F. Ord.

There were many winners in the raffle when the table decorations were included in the prizes.

A Beetle Drive rounded off the evening where there were lots of moans and woops of glee - enjoyed by everyone.

B. Clark  
Millbrook  
Acomb

### LANGLEY WI

The title of the talk and demonstrations given at Langley W.I.'s March meeting was 'Tassels and Cords'. The speaker, Mrs. Mary Green, brought along a selection of her work and members were surprised by the variety of designs.

She then demonstrated the art of making cords, which looked deceptively simple, whereas the art of making tassels was more painstaking and complicated.

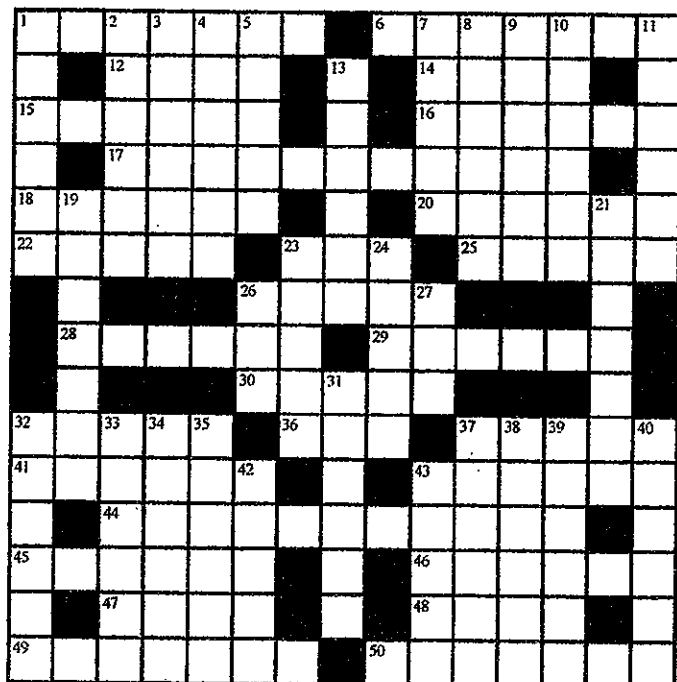
Mrs. Green, a member of the Weavers Guild has always worked in subdued colours, but was then inspired by Kaffe Fassett and ventured into making a multicoloured waistcoat for which she needed Japanese braiding. Being unable to procure this someone taught her how to make it, she got hooked and the rest as they say, is history.

Mrs. Green now spends most of her time teaching workshops and giving talks and demonstrations.

Mary Nagel

### STRANGE BUT TRUE

Hiram Cod invented a gas-tight bottle in the 1870's to preserve the fizz in lemonade. Wallop was a slang term for beer and because it was never kept in a Cod bottle the phrase 'Cods Wallop' was used to describe a non-alcoholic drink.



## The £10 Crossword

This crossword is compiled by the Editor with the help of Webster's Third New International Dictionary although local dialect and place names may also be used.

Entries must be received by the Editor on or before the date shown in the Next Issue of the Haydon News box elsewhere in this newsletter.

Two winners from all complete and correct entries will be drawn and £5 cash will be awarded to each of the two winners. In the event of there being only one complete and correct entry the sum of £10 will be awarded to this winner.

It is hoped that a special competition will be held in December 1998 - the entry level being determined by the number of correct correct entries sent in by individuals during the year. Winners names and correct answers will be published in the next issue of the Haydon News.

Only one entry per parish household. The Editor's decision is final. This competition is funded by a sponsor.

**Best of luck**

### Across

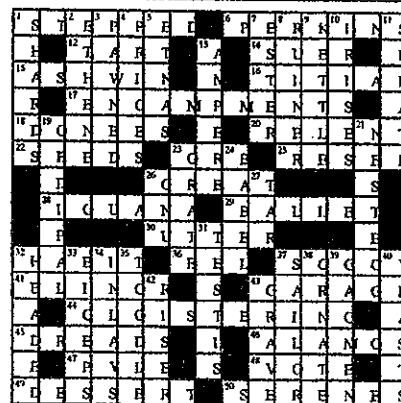
- 1 BUILT WITH TURRETS (7)
- 6 SYNTHETIC MATERIAL (7)
- 12 EVERLY BROTHERS ASKED THIS QUESTION (4)
- 14 LUSTFULNESS (4)
- 15 SERVING NO USEFUL PURPOSE (6)
- 16 SEE PROPER (6)
- 17 EDITOR OR HIS WIFE (2,1,8)
- 18 PORTSMOUTH TO THE MATELOTS (6)
- 20 NOTCH THE EDGE OF (6)
- 22 I'M A ONE MAN BAND SANG THIS LEO
- 23 IMPROVE CONDITION OF (3)
- 25 ANALYSE CHEMICALLY (5)
- 26 BECOME SUDDENLY EXCITED (5)
- 28 TENDING TOWARDS THE MIDDLE (6)
- 29 BE SUBJECT TO (6)
- 30 SLAMS HAIR STYLE (5)
- 32 MISTAKES - FISH RETRIEVERS (5)
- 36 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE (3)
- 37 ISLET FORMS TROPICAL PLANT FIBRE
- 41 FOREIGNERS (6)
- 43 POLLEN BEARING PART OF STAMEN
- 44 MAKE YOUR CHOICE THEN (8,3)
- 45 CRUDELY SOMEONE WHO LIES AROUND (6)
- 46 THINGYMAJIGS AND THE LIKES (6)
- 47 GROGINESS (4)
- 48 GREAT LAKE SOUNDS SPOOKY (4)
- 49 KIDNEY SHAPED NUTS (7)
- 50 MORE UNREFINED (7)

### Down

- 1 HORSES' HINDQUARTERS (6)
- 2 DIZZY FEELING VERTIGO ON VERTIGO
- 3 BEFORE GRIMOND, STEEL OR ASH-DOWN
- 4 SMALLER DEGREE (6)
- 5 HOSTILE GROUP OF PEOPLE (5)
- 7 CHINESE FRUIT (5)
- 8 GREEK GODDESS OF WISDOM (6)
- 9 BERATES (6)
- 10 ARCHAIC SUFFERERS IN THE GUN-WALES (6)
- 11 HAVING A WELL DEVELOPED BOSOM
- 13 COYPU FUR (6)
- 19 PORRIDGE (7)
- 21 AIRCRAFT ENGINE ENCLOSURE (7)
- 23 QUENCH (5)
- 24 SEDIMENTS (5)
- 26 EXTREMELY ENJOYABLE (3)
- 27 PRINTERS MEASURES HALF THE SIZE OF EMS (3)
- 31 CRUDELY NOT OLDISH (6)
- 32 STRONG FLAVOURED CLOVES (6)
- 33 BRANCHES OF KNOWLEDGE (6)
- 34 ARAB LABOURER (6)
- 35 INVOLUNTARY EXPULSION (6)
- 37 ASSASSINATED INDIAN LEADER'S FIRST NAME (6)
- 38 ASSIST STAGNATION IN FLUID FLOW
- 39 VARIOUS MINT LEAVES (6)
- 40 DEVICE FOR REMOVING (6)
- 42 CRUDELY A PRISON GUARD (5)
- 43 RATTIGAN LOOKED BACK IN THIS MOOD (5)



March winners and correct entry  
**M. Moore**  
**A.M. Scott**



Please encourage your friends to enter the crossword competition - make it worth my while - Ed.

### HAYDON NEWS ADVERTISING RATES

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# BSM

**Andrew Blake**  
Woodhall Mill  
Haydon Bridge  
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## W.G. DUFFY

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## Where have all the Fairies gone ?

It was a spring-like morning as I came out of the Post Office from collecting my pension, the Oyster Catchers had arrived back to the river and were clammering and giving their loud "Kleep - Kleep - Kleep" calls along the gravel beds below the bridge, quite oblivious to anything or anyone, as they performed their mating dance.



I remember sitting enthralled enjoying this pantomime on March 1st 1945, made more pleasurable because we knew all the cast to be local people who were amongst us every day. The pantomime was produced by Mrs. T. Snowball and Mr. A.J. Brightwell, a bank manager in Newcastle, but lived at 'Foxton' up the North Bank. He introduced the performance

Above the clammer of the Oyster Catchers another musical sound reached my ears as I wandered past the 'Street Fashion Shop', I couldn't believe my eyes as I drew level with the paper shop - for there stood three ancient gentlemen singing in perfect harmony outside of M. Armstrong's Groceries. It was Bowler singing in a most beautiful bass voice, whilst old Jerry Attrick sang in high pitched squeaking notes that somehow did not seem to detract from the melody, and M. Armstrong the grocer, who had the edge over the other two, singing in the wonderful tenor voice acquired from his days in the Church choir - under the watchful eye of the Rev. Salisbury and organist Mr. H. Myers. In perfect harmony they sang a song we had all been taught at Shaftoe Trust School in the 1930's - "Who Is Sylvia - What Is She ?"

and said the 'Welcome Home Fund' would benefit by £70 through their efforts, not a lot you might say but remember that was 53 years ago when £70 was a lot of money. (e.g. At that time the return bus fare to Hexham was 1/- shilling = 5p). The whole show was brilliant in its performance from curtain up to curtain down, with the change of scenes, an extravaganza of colourful costumes and songs holding our interest as it unfolded before our eyes. Mrs. t. Hall was responsible for the wardrobe, remember her husband Dr. Hall who died young, and whose ashes were placed alongside their infant son, buried at the Old Church.

"Wat's thuw think uv that son?" said old Jerry to me as the grocer vanished into his shop to serve a customer. "Aye, not bad for three owld gadgies!" grinned Bowler from under his deer-stalker as the song stirred memories from long ago. "Deek!" said old Jerry, "See hor there?" as he nodded his head in the direction of a little body coming out of the paper shop. "Aye, wat aboot hor?" said I as he went on to say, "Wey, she used to be a fairy." I responded "A wat? There's nee sec things as fairies!" - "She DID" went on Jerry, "She was a yen on yen've Mrs. Snaabals Pantomimes in the Toon Hall way back in 1945." And so as Bowler went off into the shop for a sit down, Old Jerry, on hearing the Church clock strike eleven and seeing the door of 'The Railway' open began a determined shuffle in that direction - leaving me alone with my thoughts in the morning sun.

The Principals were: H. Swallow - the local bandmaster; Mrs. D. Snowball (no relation) - producer of the show, but used to be Mollie Waugh of the station Yard whose husband Dennis was serving with the R.A.F. in Belgium at the time; Stan J. Armstrong and Miss Jenny Walton delighted everyone with their comical antics as two of the ugly sisters; C. Telford, local joiner; J. Bates, butcher at the Co-op; J. Mews, railway porter; Mrs. E.H. Walton and Mrs. S.J. Armstrong; E. Harrison from The Tofts delighted everyone with his rich baritone voice adding that extra touch of class to the singing.

'Mrs Snowball's Dramatic Society' - now there's something to stir the memory. She and husband Tom lived down John Martin Street in a house long gone, demolished to make way for the new bridge. He was the local water man and looked after the sewerage works then situated on the riverside below the Vicarage. She was a polite body who taught pianoforte, they had no family of their own, but she was rich in good works - hence she threw herself into all sorts of kindly deeds with the full support of her husband. Hence the Dramatic Society was founded with Village folk giving of their very best in her productions in hope of being discovered as another Ronald Coleman or Bette Davis.

Many others took part and I can well remember them to this day: Mrs. Baker from Belmont Gardens; Miss C.M. Drydon West Deanraw, Mr. & Mrs. Dinning from Ratcliffe Road; R. Campbell, J. Leathard from John Martin Street; J. Morton, Brigwood; P. Short; J. Longstaff, Brigwood; R. Rutherford, Mill Hills; W. Thompson, Pool Dale; Mrs. j. Bates; Mrs. Cooper, local decorator's wife; Mrs. P. Spooner, whose husband was away to war in Burma; Miss Ella Gibson and Miss Betty Shout.

During the blackout of the long winter nights of 1944 village folk practised their parts and committed to memory the lines for their part in the pantomime "Cinderella" to be staged in the Town Hall in aid of the 'Welcome Home Fund' to help local men on their return from the war.

Ah, but yes now - the fairies - where did they fit in? Well old Jerry was right, because I know of at least two flitting about the village, mind you not as sprightly now 53 years on as they flitted over the Town Hall stage all those years ago. But let me stir your memory and picture those cute little woodland nymphs, the very epitome of grace and charm as as they pranced and skipped in tinsel sparkling dresses - the picture of innocence with impish gossamer wings along with four tubby little elves to the theme of 'The Woodland' belted out on the piano by Mrs. Gordon Kay. The chorus comprised of: Maureen Armstrong, Eileen Graham, Jean Ridley, Maureen Ridley, Joan Cooper, Heather Campbell, Joy Sillitoe and Marlene Turnbull.

The elves were: Peter Snowball, Peter, Billy and David Routledge, and Allan Telford.

>>>

&gt;&gt;&gt;

## Where have all the fairies gone?

There was one other outstanding event that took place in that pantomime in March 1945, it was the highlight of the show that brought the house down, and had everyone standing on their toes for a better look when two four year olds gave an excellent performance of a "MINUET" - these were Lorna Dixon and Dennis Telford!

Oh the stylishness, the magnificence, the well timed body action of the pair as four little legs strutted their stuff across the boards of the Town Hall stage to the delight of everyone. With their deportment and fashionable elegance in white dress and suit of silk, satin lace and frills climaxing in an enthusiastic ovation that was to become the subject of conversation for many a month. In fact it was said at the time that Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were by no means any match to the pair!

Ah well, it only goes to show that if you start very young you will become proficient, skilled, qualified and thoroughly versed in the steps of dance, and become a Master of the Terpsichorean Art.

*A few steps in, a few steps out  
Gan roon the best ye can  
Move on tiv another lass  
and hor another man*

## Owld Tawny

## Music to Parents' ears

By Michelle Styles

What do Baa baa Black Sheep, Ring a ring a roses and the Ash Grove have in common? They are some of the songs and music that pre-schoolers are learning at the Music and Movement classes in Haydon Bridge.

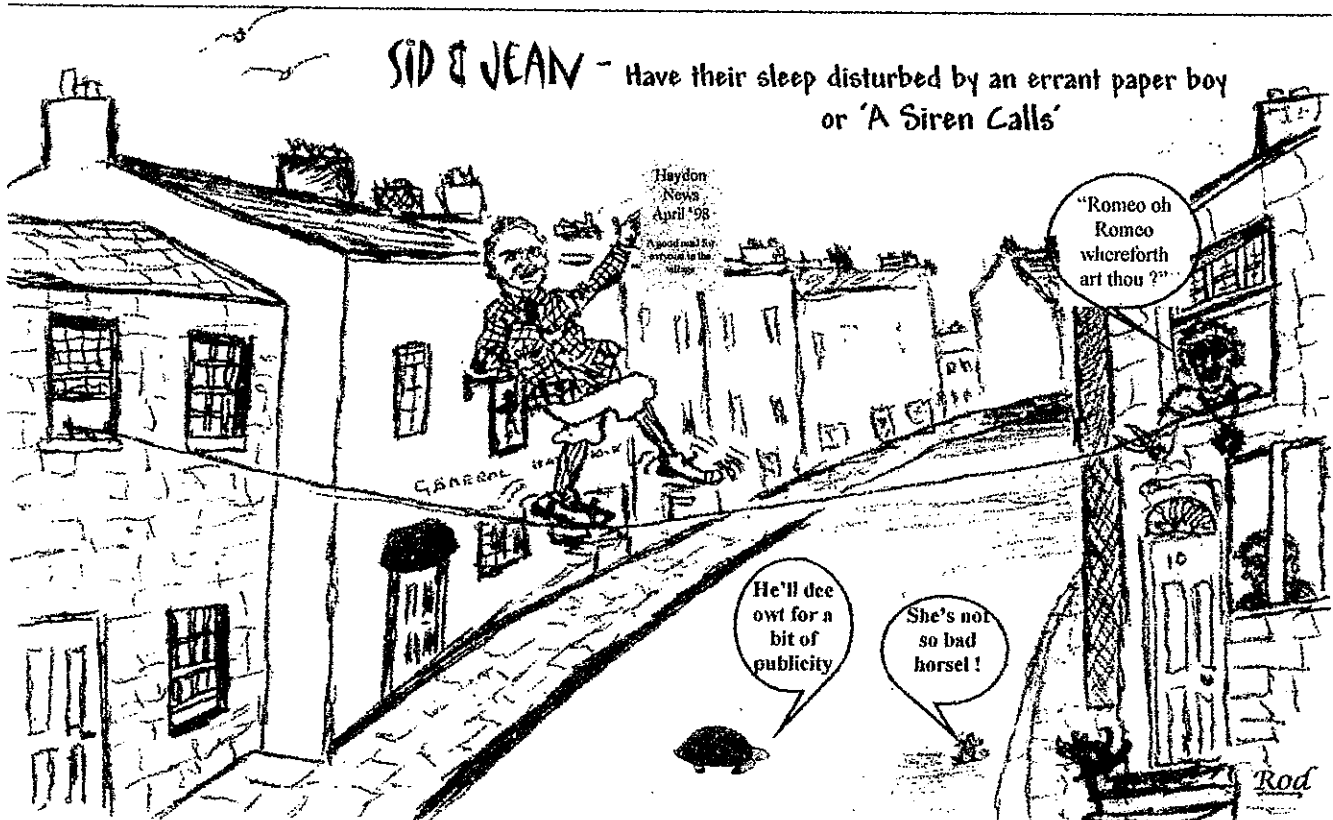
Music and Movement classes have been enjoyed in Hexham for the past twenty years. However, the leaders, Susannah Crump and Susie Steven felt that parents and children might benefit from having classes available in Haydon Bridge. A class started at the end of October and rapidly had to be split into two classes. Children from not only Haydon Bridge, but also from Allendale, Ninebanks and Haltwhistle have joined in the fun.

The sessions take place every Friday afternoon during term time at 1:10 PM and 1:50. Each session last a half hour. They have been held at the Community Centre. However, after Easter, they will be held at the new Methodist Hall. This change of venue will enable parents to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee after their class as well as providing more space for children gallop and dance about.

The children, aged between two and four, enjoy the singing and the chance to play a variety of instruments. "Now, whenever my child is a bit tired or upset, I find singing one or two of the songs from Moos and Move, as he calls it, helps calm him down," explained one mother. "When we went to a parent and toddler group, a boy from Music and Movement was there. This boy demanded songs and a drum from his mum as it had to be time for his favourite activity since John was there," said another.

While Music and Movement does not claim to produce musical prodigies, it tries to give an introduction to songs, action rhymes, and playing instruments such as drums, triangles and tambourines. The simple instructions and movements help develop co-ordination and a sense of rhythm. "It can provide a base," explained Susie Steven "for lifelong enjoyment of music."

There are still some places available. Further information can be obtained from either Susannah Crump (609 014) or Susie Steven (675 260). Hopefully these classes will prove as successful as the ones in Hexham and that the hills of Haydon Bridge will ring with the sound pre-schoolers music for many years to come.



# CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## EASTER MESSAGE

by Rev.D.J.Perkins  
HAYDON BRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

There are many disturbing and challenging 'pictures' of the Easter story, painted in words for us by the Gospel writers. None more so than by St.Mark, who tells us that the disciples who walked shoulder to shoulder with Jesus at the high points, now walk behind him as he makes his last journey to Jerusalem and with it certain death. Mark then tells us that James and John, urged on by their mother, ask Jesus for positions of authority and power in this new kingdom he ushers in. But they ask for a share, only *after* he says that his death will be followed by resurrection and triumph. Jesus then turns to them and says "Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or to be baptised with the baptism I am to undergo?" Clearly then the disciples desire to be in control and in comfort is not an option. There is a Cross to undergo not only for Jesus, but for those who would follow him. This puts an end to the illusion that Christianity is an escape from the reality of life with all its sadness and pain. It puts an end to the misconception that somehow, Christianity is the choosing of the soft option.

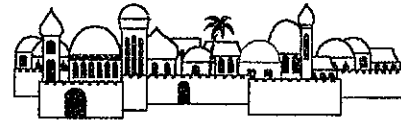
Holman Hunt painted a picture of Jesus as He worked in the carpenters shop at Nazareth, long before he began his teaching and healing ministry. Hunt has Jesus stretching out His arms to find relief from His toil - and there on the wall is the shadow that is cast in the shape of the Cross. For Jesus and for those who follow Him, the cross is always there, always seeking sacrifice, always denying the soft option.

The difficult path, but the pathway to true freedom and life. In a society which actively promotes self-assertion, from whose excesses we reap the unwelcome self-interest and selfishness, it is good that Easter reminds us of the power of self-sacrifice.

*Hallelujah!*  
*what a*  
*Saviour*

April 1998

## **AN INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENT TO THE HAYDON NEWS**



### **Holy Week in Haydon Bridge**

#### **Churches Together**

Palm Sunday	<i>Each church has its own service</i>
Monday 6th	7.30pm Stations of the Cross, St John's
Thursday 9th	7.30pm Maundy Thursday Communion, with Gethsemane Watch, St Cuthbert's
Good Friday	7.30pm Devotional Service, URC church
Easter Day	6.00pm Service of Repentance, Reconciliation and Rejoicing, Haydon Bridge Churches Together. New Methodist Ch.

*And each church has its own services at other times too  
Details over the page.*

#### **WHO AND WHERE**

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

Rev Vincent Ashwin, with St Cuthbert's C of E  
The Vicarage, Station Yard 684.307

Rev David Perkins, with the Methodist congregation  
39 Elvaston Road, Hexham 603.139

Father Leo Pyle, with St John's Catholic Church  
St John's Presbytery, North Bank 684.265



**A happy and blessed Easter  
to all our readers!**

## METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

### April 5th

10.00am Mrs B Rowarth  
6.00pm Mrs B Mearns

Apr 8th 2.30pm Women's Own  
Mrs Joyce Firth

Apr 10th 7.30pm Good Friday Service  
Rev David Perkins

### April 12th *IN THE NEW CHURCH \*\**

9.00am Prayer Breakfast  
10.00am Rev D Perkins (Sacrament)  
6.00pm United Service:  
Preacher: Father Leo Pyle

### April 19th

1.00am Mr T North  
8.00pm Praise, Prayer and Ministry

Apr 22nd 2.30pm Women's Own  
Rev A Beniams

### April 26th

9.00am Rev A Buglass S  
10.00am Mrs L Morton  
6.00pm Mr W Stoddart

### May 3rd

10.00am Mr T North  
6.00pm Rev AE Buglass BT S

\* From Easter Sunday, the new Methodist Church will be open, and all services and meetings will be held there from that date. Easter Week itself will be a time of meetings, meals, and celebrations to mark the completion of the building. For example, on Easter Monday, the church will be open for members of the community to see the facilities, the meeting rooms, the kitchen, the prayer chapel, etc. A full programme is available from church members.

**Many congratulations to Haydon Bridge's Methodists for completing this ambitious project.**

**CALLIGRAPHER NEEDED** by St Cuthbert's. We have discovered an oldatty notice board, with the history of the church on it. We are looking for a calligrapher who can inscribe it - probably on to thick paper which can then be glued on to the board. Please contact the vicar 884.3071 if you can help



## CALENDAR FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

### April 5th, Palm Sunday

No service at Haydon Bridge.  
10.15: Joint Benefice Communion,  
Beltingham.  
7.30pm Prayer Hour in the vicarage

Mon. Apr 6th, at St John's Church

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Tue. Apr 7th 10.00am Holy Communion

Wed. Apr 8th 10.00am Holy Communion

### Maundy Thursday

7.30pm United Communion of the  
Last Supper, Watch, etc.

### Good Friday

10.30am Liturgy of the Cross  
7.30pm United service, URC church

### Easter Eve

8.00pm Easter Vigil service.

### Easter Day

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Festival Communion.  
6.00pm United Service, Methodist C

### April 19th Easter 1

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Prayer (Dr L Gray)  
10.30am Sunday Club, 4-10 year-olds  
6.30pm Deanery Evensong at H Br

Apr 22nd (Wed) 7.30 M Union meeting  
Apr 25th (Sat) World Development Day

### April 26th Easter 2

10.30am Parish Communion  
6.00pm Evensong, The Old Church

Apr 30th (Thu) 7.30pm  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

### May 3rd Easter 3

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Worship for All (Dr L Gray)

**ST CUTHBERT'S ANNUAL MEETING** is on April 30th. All members of the church Electoral Roll are invited, to an evening to celebrate the life of the parish, to hear reports, to share future plans, to elect churchwardens and Church Council members, and to drink a glass of wine together. **Do come!**

**ANOTHER NEW BISHOP** has been appointed by the Anglicans! The Assistant Bishop Kenneth Gill is retiring in the autumn. Bishop Paul Richardson has been appointed to succeed him. He has served in Papua/New Guinea, and has been bishop in Wangaratta, Australia. He is returning to his native England.

## SERVICES AT ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Sundays** Mass every week at 9.30.  
**Weekdays** Mass most days at 10.00.

### Holy Week

(in addition to morning Mass)

Mon 7.30pm Stations of the Cross

### Maundy Thursday at Haltwhistle

6.30pm Confessions.  
7.30pm Last Supper Mass

### Good Friday

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

### Easter Eve

7.30pm Easter Vigil

### Easter Day

9.30am Easter Mass

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

### St Cuthbert's Parish Assessment

The *HAYDON NEWS* has an additional page about the Parish Assessment; many thanks to them. The Open Night planned for April 21st has been cancelled. The Parish Action Day happened after *HAYDON NEWS* went to print.

### Moving another step closer

On Easter Day evening, the village's three clergy and members of the three churches will be joining in a Service of Repentance, Reconciliation and Rejoicing at the new Methodist Church. This follows on from the successful AwayDay of reps from the churches a few months ago and joint church prayers during Lent, where the clergy shared the leadership. The preacher will be Father Leo Pyle from St John's.

**Rock Solid** is the name of the new programme run by the inter-church young group for 12-14 year-olds on Wednesday nights. Meetings will take place in the new Methodist Church from now on.

### All-Age World Development Day

Christian Aid and the Anglican Diocese have joined forces to arrange an all-age day to celebrate Jubilee 2000, and think about world debt. And it's to place in Haydon Bridge. Venue: the High School. Date: Saturday April 25th, 9.45 - 3.45. Book your place soon, via the vicar.

# St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge



## PARISH ASSESSMENT

*(We are grateful to the editor for allowing us to put an extra page into the March/April edition of the HAYDON NEWS. Here's a summary of the questionnaires which were filled in.)*

### **PARISH SURVEY**

Summary of the conclusions of the survey of church members  
and residents of Haydon Bridge

from the questionnaires they filled in, in January 1998.

The report is compiled by Dr Lindsay Gray, Reader at St Cuthbert's, Haydon Bridge  
*A copy of the full 18-page survey is available on request.*

#### **BACKGROUND**

It was decided in 1997 that a "Parish Assessment" was needed at St Cuthbert's. We needed to have a clear picture of who we are; what we do well as a church and what we do less well; what members of the congregation and residents of the village believe the Church should be doing.

#### **TWO QUESTIONNAIRES**

We prepared two questionnaires: a six-page one for those who are on the Church Electoral Roll. 90 forms were handed to this group; 55 were returned.

About 50 questionnaires went to those who live in the village but do not necessarily come to St Cuthbert's- to neighbours of church members, those we had contact with through baptisms, funerals, etc., and members of other churches. 28 were returned. So this is not a scientific survey - more a series of snapshots, to help us gain a general impression.

#### **"NOT EASY TO FILL IN!"**

We are very grateful to those who took the time and trouble to fill in and return their forms; it was not easy to rush through, ticking boxes, because half the questions asked for open answers. It is clear that many people gave a lot of thought to their answers. Thank you very much.

#### **VITAL STATISTICS**

The Report has an important number of statistics, and we get from them the picture of *Who lives where, Who goes to which service, Who likes which service, How long you have lived here, etc.*

- Of the 55 church members who filled in the questionnaires, one third were 16-49 years old; one third were 50-69; and one third were 70 and over; 29% were male, and 71% female.
- 69% live with another adult, and only 24% live alone.
- Most (73%) had attended a church before coming to live in Haydon Bridge.

In the community survey, half the respondents have lived in Haydon Bridge more than 40 years.

All had attended St Cuthbert's at one time or another -

75% for funerals

40-50% for Sunday services, and for weddings

30% for baptisms, school services, harvest services.

## GOING TO CHURCH

The great majority of those who come to services, whether regularly or occasionally, liked what they found, valued the sermons, and would ideally like more of the services which they attend:

Of the regulars, 70% said the services met their needs *well* or *very well*, 25% said *fairly well*, 5% *not enough*.

The majority felt that the present variety of services, and the present balance of traditional and modern music, were about right.

Those who come to occasional services, said they had felt welcome (90%), they could follow the service easily (100%), said the readings, etc. made sense (90%), but were less sure that the service connected with daily life (45%).

Half the people had been to the funeral of a close relative, and 95% found the service helpful.

## MAKING SERVICES BETTER

Many minor amendments (too numerous to list) to the way services are led were put forward; some were the idea of only one person. Well-supported ideas included:

Fewer words, and more short periods of silence, in services;

Services need to be more child-friendly, and more intelligible to visitors and the young.

## "I'M NEW HERE."

Part of the survey was about our response to those who come for Baptisms/Weddings/Funerals.

Various ideas were put forward, including:

Ask parents to attend a service before a Baptism, to help them understand what's going on;

Prepare a booklet or pamphlet to explain better what Baptism means;

Always include prayers by name for those who come to hear their Banns of marriage called;

Sends cards of sympathy from the church to those who have been bereaved;

Train church members to be bereavement visitors.

## TOGETHERNESS?

Though few members of St Cuthbert's attend inter-church services regularly (18%), most had positive ideas about things the churches could do together:

Share details of one another's activities, and publicise other churches' events;

Arrange joint fund-raising events for charities - e.g. Christian Aid;

Organise joint youth work (which is already done, on a small scale, two nights a week);

Use the new Methodist Chapel as a common resource.

## "WHAT I BELIEVE"

In the community survey, 75% said *I am a Christian*, 55% said they prayed regularly, and about 60% agreed *I believe in God, though I have problems with the Church*. Nearly 80% agreed that *the Church is a strength in time of trouble*. 35% would like to *find a faith that makes sense*; 35% didn't know, and 30% did not wish to find a faith. Yet 80% said the Church should do more to *help people find faith in God*.

## "CAN DO BETTER"

The life of the Church would be better if we tried using the building differently: e.g. having seasonal pictures on the side altar; re-equip the vestry as an office; keep the church open each day,

## CONCLUSIONS

Those of us who have already seen the report feel confident that most people believe we are doing a reasonable job at St Cuthbert's. But there are many new ideas for building up our life, and for reaching out. After the March 29th Parish Action Day, the Church Council will take those ideas, and make an Action Plan for the next five years.

# HEALTH CENTRE NEWS

## DONATIONS

It is possible, both in life and in death, to help others by donations of blood, marrow or other organs or body parts. Some people choose to leave their entire bodies to medical science. We are very keen to promote consideration of such donations and offer the following hints and tips to help you;

If you would like to become a **BLOOD** donor phone;

**0191 219 4444**

If you would like to be a **MARROW** donor, and if you are aged 16 - 40, phone;

**0171 284 1234**

If you would like to become a donor of any or all of your usable organs be sure to **CARRY A DONOR CARD** with you at all times. These can be obtained at the Health Centre and from many other places. Your relatives and maybe your legal representatives should be informed of your decision and it will be easier for relatives if your wishes are discussed and agreed with them first. The decision about what can be used will depend on your tissue type, the cause, place and circumstances of your death and the requirement for organs at the time.

Very rarely relatives of patients with organ failure will be contacted if there is a chance that their organs might be suitable for use whilst they are still alive. This applies to kidneys especially as it is perfectly possible to get by on one.

It will be some time before other animal's organs or cloned human organs come into widespread use but it will happen eventually.

Not only are there blood banks these days but in some countries there are also skin banks. Artificially cultured skin is used to treat severe burns in particular, as the ideal dressing for a skinned body is skin - not really all that surprisingly. However, the source of the skin may be a surprise - at least in some countries, especially the USA, it is cultured from circumcised foreskins. Until recently, when the rate of circumcision has begun to decline, it was reported that the USA had a "foreskin mountain" and that donations were being turned away.

## LAMBING AND PREGNANT WOMEN

Pregnant women and those trying for pregnancy should avoid close contact with sheep during lambing time. The number of problems arising as a result of such contact is tiny but it is an avoidable risk.

The infectious organism is *Chlamydia psittaci*, the most common cause of abortion in sheep.

Women should not assist with lambing, milking of ewes or feeding of lambs. Anyone experiencing flu like symptoms after such contact should see a doctor straight away.

Farmers should have abortions checked by the Ministry Veterinary Investigation Centre and in the interest of hygiene dispose of all carcasses, afterbirths and contaminated litter/bedding quickly and safely.

Leaflets P3071 and L648 are available from the Ministry to assist farmers. Advice is also offered by the Employment Medical Advisory Service which is listed under Health and Safety Executive in the phone book.

## BACK TO PLAN A

The issues underlying the decision to team up with Allendale are complex and difficult for many of the public to understand - though if anyone is interested I will try to give them a personal explanation.

The project has failed despite the investment by Mary and I of thousands of hours and thousands of pounds. Again, the reasons are many and various but it is certainly not for want of trying.

In five to ten years time General Practice will be almost unrecognisable. Tynedale is probably in the forefront of change and the redevelopment of Hexham Hospital will act as the springboard for radical local change. We had attempted to anticipate the future by merging the practices, with the hope that this would give our small communities a greater voice. The future is still going to happen and we must now work on new ways to shape it to meet Haydon Bridge's needs.

Henceforth, we shall return to the old arrangements whereby we consult only at Haydon Bridge. We no longer share out of hours cover with Allendale either.

Whilst the failure is a cause for sadness it will enable us to address some of the difficulties that working at two sites has caused.

This practice has always had patients in the Allen Valleys since before I came in 1989 and we remain entirely happy to continue to care for them in the future.

## THERE'S A LOT OF IT ABOUT

It must be something to do with working at the Haydon Bridge Health Centre but everyone's pregnant - again. Well - to be accurate - Dr Mary and Dr Mandy are and both should deliver in mid summer. I think I shall have to slip some bromide in the drinking water.

Mary will be having July to September off and thereafter will be half time. We shall have a new half time female partner coming to join us - of whom more later. During Mary's absence we shall have a part time female locum.

As Mary is planning to work right up to the moment of delivery, and she is prone to rather sudden delivery, we have postponed changing the carpets until the autumn!

SF