



THE HAYDON NEWS

MARCH
1999

Published by The Friends Of Haydon Bridge

Britannia Triumphant

THE MOST DECISIVE and GLORIOUS NAVAL VICTORY

That has ever been obtained

THE Victorious BRITISH FLEET

Commanded by the most RENOWNED, most GALLANT,
and ever to be LAMENTED HERO,

Admiral Lord Viscount NELSON

The defeated combined Enemy Fleets of FRANCE & SPAIN
Commanded by Admirals Villeneuve and Gravina

This memorable Action was Fought off Cape TRAFALGAR
near the entrance of the
Straits of GIBRALTAR on the 21st. October last - 1805

THE ENGLISH FLEET Consisted of - 27 SHIPS OF THE LINE

	GUNS	MEN
VICTORY	110	837
ROYAL SOVEREIGN	110	837
BRITANNIA	100	800
TEMERAIRE	98	738
PRINCE	98	738
TONNANT	84	650
BELLEISLE	74	590
REVENGE	74	590
MARS	74	590
NEPTUNE	98	738
SPARTIATE	74	590
DEFIANCE	74	590
CONQUERER	74	590
DEFENCE	74	590
COLLOSUS	74	590
LEVIATHAN	74	590
ACHILLE	74	590
BELLEROPHON	74	590
MINOTAUR	74	590
ORION	74	590
SWIFTSURE	74	590
POLYPHEMUS	64	500
AFRICA	64	500
AGAMEMNON	64	500
DREADNOUGHT	98	738
AJAX	80	650
THUNDERER	74	590

TOTAL 2,178 17,706

Victory was commanded by
Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson
Royal Sovereign was commanded
by Vice Admiral Collingwood

The combined FLEETS OF FRANCE & SPAIN - 33 SHIPS OF THE LINE

	GUNS	MEN
SANTISUMA TRINIDAD	140	1200 s
BUCENTAURE	84	800 f
RAYO	100	1000 s
PRINCIPE de ASTURIAS	112	1100 s
INDOMTABLE	84	800 f
FOUGOUEX	74	700 f
ACHILLE	74	700 f
SANTA ANA	112	1100 s
MONTANES	74	700 s
HEROS	74	700 f
SAN LEANDRO	64	600 s
SAN JUSTO	74	700 s
SANILDEFONSO	74	700 s
LE SWIFTSURE	74	700 f
ALGESIRAS	74	700 f
PLUTON	74	700 f
NEPTUNE	84	800 f
BAHAMA	74	700 s
SAN NEPOMUCENO	74	700 s
MONARCA	74	700 s
SAN FRANCISCO de ASIS	74	700 s
ARGONAUTE	74	700 f
LE BERWICK	74	700 f
L'AIGLE	74	700 f
INTREPIDE	74	700 f
SAN AGUSTIN	74	700 s
REDOUTABLE	74	700 f
ARGONAUTA	80	800 s
FORMIDABLE	80	800 f
MONT-BLANC	74	700 f
SCIPION	74	700 f
DUGUAY-TROUIN	74	700 f
NEPTUNO	84	800 s

TOTAL 2,652 25,200

The Combined Enemy Fleet superior in Guns 474 in Men 8,124

EDITORIAL

The ageing Boeing 737-400 approached Gibraltar at about 7:30 pm on Friday 26th. It flew over Cape Trafalgar, just as your Editor was finishing his umpteenth rum and coke. Well folks we had left Newcastle on the 10:30 a.m. flight to Gatwick and had a 4 hour wait at London's second airport, for our Gibraltar connection.

As I gazed out of the window Sylvia was engrossed in conversation with a young Scottish lass on her way to take up an appointment at the Naval Hospital on that piece of disputed land near the end of the European continental land mass and inhabited by a staunchly British population of Gibraltarians and expats. The country also houses a couple of packs of those famous Barbary apes.

Sylvia doesn't really like flying every slight lurch on the aircraft's approach resulted in another blood stopping tight grip on my right hand, contents of my glass shooting up my nostrils. A guy in business class white knuckling the back of the seat in front. If that chap all but knew it - had we slammed into 'The Rock' no gripping of that seat would save him - perhaps the only recognisable bits of him left in the wreckage would have been his hands still gripping the head-rest as the rest of him hurtled and somersaulted through the cabin - rock and eternity bound.

Of course we landed safely, you usually do. As we disembarked I thought of Nelson, who after being killed a few miles offshore, was pickled in a barrel of rum, and brought ashore not far from where the plane had landed. Perhaps I was emulating the distinguished Admiral as I staggered and wobbled down the steps on this warm February evening, for after all I did have rum sloshing all around me. Difference being that the alcohol pickling me was inside my body.

As a mark of respect we did visit the Trafalgar Cemetery and on the way picked up the poster shown here - thought you might be interested. See also letter on page 6.

EDITORIAL -continued

Surprise Announcement – The Chairman of the Parish Council, Michael Loyd, gave notice at the Parish Council Meeting in February, that he would not putting his name forward for the May election. He felt that the next four years would see a lot of activity relating to the proposed Haydon Bridge bypass – the recommended A69 route would cross his land thereby causing a conflict of interest and for this reason he had decided not to stand for re-election.

Mr. Loyd has been Chairman of the Parish Council since May 1995 when he took over the position from Mr. Bates who stood down in April 1995. During this time I have observed him to be a Chairman with understanding, tolerance, sense of humour and balanced judgement. I have witnessed Council meetings where tempers have flared, Prima Donnas have performed and others have sulked yet under the stewardship of Mr. Loyd things have been kept under control and generally a satisfactory outcome has resulted.

The parish were fortunate that when Mr. Loyd's predecessor stood down in April 1995 such a qualified candidate for the Chairman's position was available to take on this unpaid job. Alas, in my view, no suitably experienced candidate is waiting in the wings to take over. Here I speak as an observer of some 40 or more Parish Council meetings during the last four years or so.

Politics aside I believe that the Community and Parish of Haydon would be well served if the outgoing Chairman reconsidered his position and once again put his name forward for election in the Parish Council elections. Failing this perhaps there are suitable people that you know who could be persuaded to stand in the May local elections. At the last local elections votes were not required as only eleven people put their names forward to fill eleven positions on the Parish Council. To be truly representative I feel that a ballot should be held and to this end would encourage candidates of all political persuasions to consider putting forward a nomination form. Mind you once you are in the public domain expect some attention from the present editor of the Haydon News firing across your bows – it won't be all plain sailing. A bit like my job really.

Because of our holiday, personal bereavement, and other pressing requirements I'm afraid that this month's newsletter is a tad late as it is now 16th March, now I know you will not want two newsletters in a fortnight so I will delay the April issue for ten days and the May one for five days. Meanwhile I must steer a course well past Rattenraw or its the gangplank and Davey's locker for me. Sing with me folks *"If I were a blackbird I'd whistle and sing; I would follow the ship that my true love sailed in; And in the top rigging I'd there build my nest; And pillow my head on her lily white breast."* **Bye for now .. Mitch**

HAYDON BRIDGE CRICKET CLUB

I would like to thank everyone who came and supported us at the PRIZE BINGO at the Haydonian WMC on 13th February. Special thanks to the following who donated prizes.

J&M Clarke
Langley Castle
Railway Hotel
Anchor Hotel
Haydon Hotel
Haydonian Club
Members of H.B.C.C.

A total of £260 was raised

Many Thanks

Barry Hope – Bingo Caller

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

The Haydon Bridge branch has been less active. Age is creeping up on some of us and others have left the area.

Even so, we still managed to raise £360 this past year.

But we do need new members who can spare just a few hours of their time, usually in the evening or weekends, once or twice a year.

Also, our magazine can be delivered within the village, 4 issues annually, for a subscription of £2.00 a year. If anyone would like a copy, do ring me on 684335.

Hilary Rutherford

THE MEETING PLACE

AT
THE METHODIST CHURCH

Come and Join your friends for

Coffee and Refreshments
on

Tuesdays and Thursdays
10 a.m. – 12 noon

Newspapers to browse
FAX facilities

Warm welcome to all

WORKSHOP TO LET

Stonebuilt

Centre of Village

817 sq. ft.

Was used by furniture maker.

Suit Joiner / Potter / Crafts

Tel: 01434 684461

NEED HELP

with
Tax Returns
Accounts
Book-keeping etc ?

Ring
**BASSETT HERRON
& CO.**

Chartered Accountants
Tel: (01434) 605666
3, Market Street, Hexham

We Can Help YOU

Letters to the Editor & Readers Viewpoints

Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Mitchell,

You are a living angel!

What a treasure trove! Words almost fail me - but then I am not known for being at a loss for words. Thank you for marking all the locations I would be likely to ask about, you have amazingly anticipated my queries. With the aid of my old Ordnance map of Haydon Bridge c.1860, I am able to form very clear pictures of the daily to-ing and fro-ing of the inhabitants going about their daily business. I only wish my Dad was with me as I look at his past and was able to share with him the reading of the Haydon News and all I have discovered about his ancestors, facts which he never knew.

I intend sending off all the bits and pieces I promised you tomorrow and ask you please to excuse my poor Great Aunt Mary for her persistence regarding our family's connection with Sir Walter Scott. Total hogwash! More of that seductive mythology that somehow builds up, based on simple mis-construction of facts. We did, in fact have a Walter Scott as an ancestor but that's as far as it goes. Breckon Bank was in the family, but had nothing to do with THE Walter Scott. Poor lady, she was quite stirred up by it all and had a lot of research done in Roxburgh, at no little cost, I dare say. It's just as well she never knew the truth of the matter. The value of her letters lies in the names she mentions and prices of things - a hint of the tenor of the times.

My great grandfather Joseph's manuscript and the new one I am including from my grandfather George, were in my father's old dispatch box for years before I got them and have heavy stains from spilled red ink, so I am sending the originals to you in case you can have them copied better than I can.

You won't believe it, but Edmund Charlton has already written to me and I have replied.

Apart from my thanks, you have earned my good opinion for the time you take to visit people who obviously enjoy your interest in their daily lives and the stories they have to tell and the assistance you obviously proffer to those who come to you with their concerns.

My very best wishes

Elizabeth Reay Le Page

Ed's note

I have exchanged a number of e-mails with Elizabeth and via the Internet, have sent her some marked up photographs of the village in the 1920's and today - these have given her the insight into her Haydon ancestors which neither she nor her father had before. For her part she has sent me some excellent photographs and original manuscripts which I shall copy and place into the electronic archive of Haydon Bridge in the 20th Century. The interest shown in the village since I placed the Haydon News on the Internet in 1997 has been tremendous - as the site <http://www.haydonbridge.org> becomes more widely known this will no doubt escalate.

Brian Harrison, a neighbour of mine provides complimentary pages giving information about the village on <http://www.badrise.u-net.com/haydon.htm> If you haven't yet visited our sites please do so now. The Haydon News site now contains RealAudio recorded by local musicians.

From the U.S.A.

Dear Mitch,

You have probably forgotten about me, I had written you about finding my ancestors the Robsons. One of which was John William Robson of Haydon Bridge and his two daughters (whom never married) Meg and Edith. To make a long story short (ha which I've never been able to do) We are coming to England. We should be in Hexham June 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20. I was hoping we could meet you and also the person that provided the pictures of "Bill" Robson and his daughters. I would like to see where they lived and where they're buried.

Is there more info. on them at the library or historical society? I have been writing [names removed Ed.] of Hexham and they have graciously offered to show us about. We hope to see you in a few months,

Pat and Walt Mielnicki

Ed's note

Thank you for your note - I haven't forgotten you, indeed I still have your e-mails on file. I look forward to meeting you sometime in June - you will have to remind me closer to the time as I have a memory like a sieve at times.

Sadly my friend Bill Tait, who provided the photographs, died suddenly last autumn.

John William Robson is actually buried in the plot adjacent to my own grandfather although neither has a headstone above their grave, nor have the graves of his daughters Edith and Margaret.

I know the house the Robson's lived in and have spoken with the present owner to see if they mind you nosing around the outside in June. Of course the dwelling is much changed since your relatives lived there as three of the cottages have since been turned into one residence.

Unfortunately I am not aware of any specific records relating to the family but if anything comes to hand I will let you know. In the meantime if anyone in the village knows more about this specific Robson family please contact me and I shall pass on the details to Pat and Walter.

Letters to the Editor & Readers Viewpoints

All at Sea

23 February 1999

A letter from West Rattenraw

Dear Mitch

Your February 1999 editorial described the Parish Council meeting on 28 January and the response to your question about the new Community Centre. The account makes interesting reading but it is incomplete and therefore misleading. Those residents on whose behalf you asked the question may wish to be acquainted with the facts the editorial omitted.

The meeting began, as usual, with the Chairman asking for any member of the public present to raise issues with the Council. You remained silent. One and a half hours later you "scribbled a note" and gave it to the councillor nearest to you. Shortly afterwards, at the end of business on the agenda, one councillor left. The member holding your note then re-opened proceedings, asking why there had been no public consultation on the design and location of the new Community Centre. Another councillor departed. After some discussion the Chairman gave a concise statement of the Parish Council's position and the Community Association's responsibilities leaving no doubt as to where the complaint should have been addressed.

Your assertion that "the remaining members of the Parish Council weren't able to offer a satisfactory response" is inaccurate. The criticism that "the silence has been deafening" would be more appropriately applied to the editor of the Haydon News than the Parish Council.

Yours sincerely

John Irving

Ed's response -- written on 25th February

John Irving regularly attends Parish Council meetings and usually he and I are the only two members of the public there -- together with Courant and Haydon News reporters.

Taking his final paragraph first sentence -- the Parish Council certainly did not in my view provide a 'satisfactory response' to the question raised, which I remind him was:

"The Village Appraisal only spoke of refurbishing the Community Centre. When it was discovered that the place would need to be rebuilt why weren't the views of the Parish as a whole sought concerning design and location."

It was right and proper for this question to be addressed to the Parish Council as it was they who, in collaboration with the Community Association, applied to Tynedale District Council for planning permission to demolish and replace the existing Community Centre with a new building.

Turning now to the second sentence of his final paragraph

"The criticism that "the silence has been deafening" would be more appropriately applied to the editor of the Haydon News than the Parish Council.'

My February article certainly **DID NOT** refer to the Parish Council when using the words that offend the writer. The Haydon News has been far from silent during the past year concerning other people's views on the siting of the Community Centre. As a Haydon News reader and regular attendee at Parish Council meetings the writer is well aware that a question from the public gallery has in the past been construed by one or two Councillor's as personal criticism.

On the 28th January I thought that the particular question should be raised during any discussion the Council had on the subject of the Community Centre. The note I handed the Councillor was not one and a half hours into the meeting but as I clearly recall, much earlier than that -- in fact at about the time I thought they would be discussing the issue. In the event the Community Centre was not the subject of debate.

When they arrived at Any Other Business the question I had scribbled earlier was raised -- my report in the February Haydon News accurately recorded events. Had the writer been more attentive he would have heard me say to the Chairman that I had not brought the matter up during the Public Participation as this was not a personal issue - I had been asked by others to ask the question. If you read the question you will see it was **NOT** answered. All I heard was 'woolly' response diverting the question to another source -- who's spokesperson had conveniently left the room a few minutes earlier. My February article concluded:

'Sorry folks I did try my best to get you an answer but I'm not going to grab Marion and throw her to the floor in a half-Nelson screaming threateningly : "Damn you -- speak woman speak!" I save that sort of activity for the privacy of my own home -- and anyway Bill was there.'

Perhaps the former sailor didn't like me mentioning naval legend Nelson in the manner above! Talking of whom, I'm off to Gibraltar tomorrow -- remember Trafalgar?

When I disembark from the aircraft, suitably topped up with generous measures of Rum & Coke, courtesy of GIB Airways -- will the welcoming cry from those ashore be:

"What will we do with the drunken editor?"

"What will we do with the drunken editor?"

"What will we do with the drunken editor?"

"Earlye in the morning"

"Gag the Haydon News - Keel-haul the rascal"

"Gag the Haydon News - Keel-haul the rascal"

"Gag the Haydon News - Keel-haul the rascal"

"Earlye in the morning"

Mitch

**An e-mail from Stockholm
Bangemann Competition**

Dear Challenger,

Welcome to Stockholm on June 9 - 11 for the Global Bangemann Challenge conference and exhibition. The activities will take place in the Stockholm Exhibition Hall, not far from the city center.

Your project is one of the 458 challengers that are now being evaluated by the jury. As such you are cordially invited to come to Stockholm in June and show your project or projects on the exhibition floor.

In the evening of the 9th of June the winners and finalists will be presented with their prizes in the Nobel Hall in the presence of the King of Sweden. Around 80 projects are estimated to be chosen as finalists, out of which the winners will be announced on the evening of the ceremony. The runners up in each category will also receive Challenge Awards. The finalists will be contacted in early May

Don't miss the opportunity to show your project to an international audience and to peers in your field, from all over the world. Join the Challenge exhibition!

Ulla Skidén
Project Manager
The Global Bangemann Challenge

1st HAYDON BRIDGE GUIDES

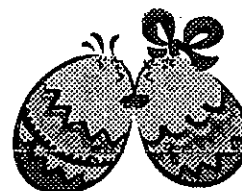
**EASTER EGG & BONNET
COMPETITIONS
&
DISCO**

Saturday 3rd April 1999

Please submit your entries (free) to the Haydonian Working Men's Club between 2 - 3pm on any day. As usual there will be two age groups.

- (a) First School age and under
 - (b) Middle School age and over
- Competition categories include:

* Paste



* Decorated

* Eggs-tee ordinary



* Bonnet



**Wheelbarrow Race
Easter Monday
5th April
1 pm prompt**

£40 - 1st Prize
£20 - 2nd Prize
£10 - 3rd Prize

You can't win if you don't go



Disco for all

£1 entry

7 - 10 pm

will include prize giving

Under 18's only

No Alcohol

An entry of £2 per person is to be paid at the Railway by March 29th

Start at the Club

Haydon

Anchor

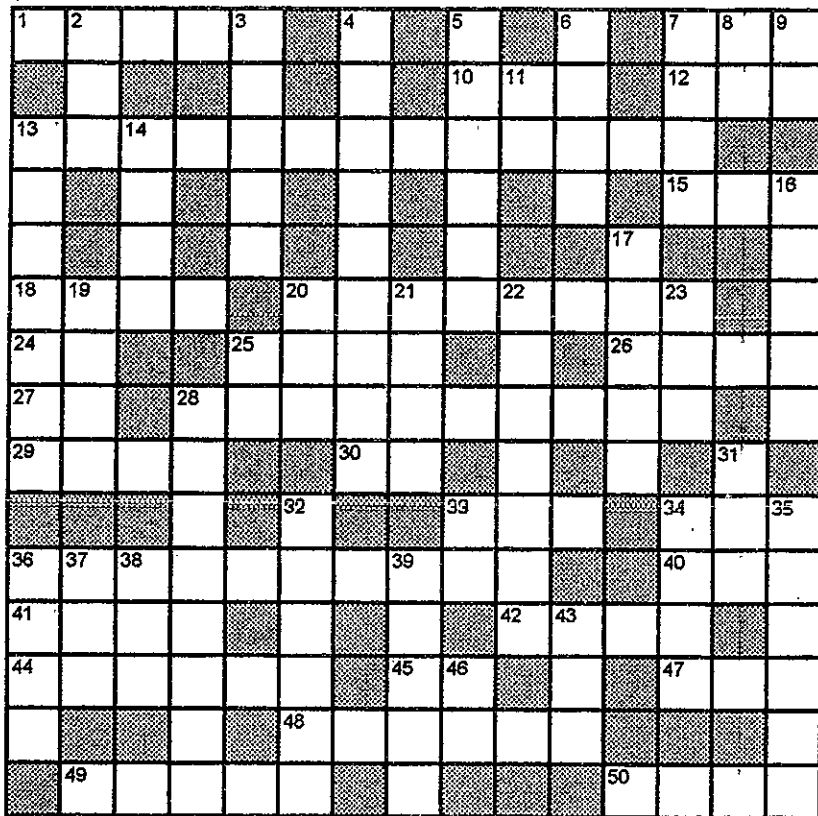
Subway

Railway - Finish



ROUTE THE WHEELBARROW RACE IS SUPPOSED TO FOLLOW

The £10 Crossword



This crossword is compiled by the Editor with the help of Websters 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 1999 - the entry level being determined by the number of 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 NEWCASTLE'S RED BRIDGE (5)
- 7 ROUT (3)
- 10 REVERSE RESISTANCE MEASURE AND GET CONDUCTANCE (3)
- 12 GIVES A MINERAL SOUNDING CHOICE (3)
- 13 RUNS UP SCREENS IN NORTHERN PART OF PARISH (6,7)
- 15/14 LOCAL DRINKING PLACE (3,4)
- 18 HAYDON AND WHINNETLEY HAVE ONE OF THESE (4)
- 20 GOOD EWES MOVING AROUND EASTERN SIDE OF VILLAGE LOCATION (8)
- 24 SOBER PEOPLE RACE AROUND THE ISLE OF MAN? (2)
- 25 WHAT THEY DID WITH THEIR WASHING ON THE SIEGFRIED LINE (4)
- 26 PERIODIC RISE AND FALL CAUSED BY THE MOON (4)
- 27 PERFORMING OR SCHEDULED FOR DUTIES (2)
- 28 PARISH LOCATION YOU WOULDN'T OFTEN NOTICE (6,4)
- 29 CARDINAL COMPASS POINT (4)
- 30 DUE SOUTH (2)
- 33 OMINOUS (3)
- 34 EXTREME END (3)
- 36 MOTHER SUPERIOR HIDES PARISH DWELLING WITHOUT A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME (5,5)
- 40 EPOCH (3)
- 41 DISPARAGING TERM FOR SMALL PEOPLE (4)
- 42 AN ENCLOSURE (4)
- 44/17 IN THE OLD DAYS THEY USED TO HANG PEOPLE IN YARD OF THIS PLACE (6,5)
- 45 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN SHORT (2)
- 47 DIVOT? (3)
- 48 DEDICATED BUILDING (6)
- 49 THIS BANK LEADS TO 13A (5)
- 50 THIS ARMY IS BLACK AND WHITE (4)

Down

- 2 LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN GHANA, TOGO AND BENIN (3)
- 3 STERILE OFFSPRING OF A MALE HORSE AND A FEMALE DONKEY OR ASS (5)
- 4 LOCAL NAME FOR OLD ROAD EAST OF 15A (4,5)
- 5 TERRACE CLOSE TO 20A (6)
- 6 KIDDS ---, BRIGWOOD RIVER LOCATION (4)
- 7 KENNELS WHERE YOU'D FIND NO ROLLING STONES (4)
- 8 INTRODUCE AN ALTERNATIVE (2)
- 9 HAVE AN EXISTENCE (2)
- 11 MALE PRONOUN (2)
- 13 1685 TRUST (7)
- 14 See 15 Across
- 16 9680 SQUARE YARDS IS TWO OF THESE (5)
- 17 See 44 Across
- 19 EUROPEAN VOLCANIC MOUNTAIN (4)
- 20 WOMAN AND SHORT LIQUID MEASURE (3)
- 21 INFLATED FEELINGS OF PRIDE (4)
- 22 NORTH ROAD LOCATION (7)
- 23 CACOPHONY (3)
- 25 OBJECTIVE PRONOUN (2)
- 28 CLOSE IN VILLAGE (8)
- 31 MAKE PUBLIC (3)
- 32 BASILICA (6)
- 33 BE SOMEWHERE (2)
- 34 EDWARDIANS DRESSERS OF THE 50'S (4)
- 35 TEMPLE HOUSES (6)
- 36 FLESHY PART OF BODY YOU SIT ON (4)
- 37 A REGULAR TRIP (3)
- 38 BRIEFLY INCORPORATED (5)
- 39 EXCRETORY PRODUCT (5)
- 43 YES (3)
- 46 EPHEMERIS TIME (ASTRONOMY) (2)

DUE TO THE LATE ISSUE OF THE MARCH HAYDON NEWS THIS CROSSWORD DOES NOT NEED TO BE IN UNTIL 6th APRIL

This month's crossword has many answers requiring local knowledge easily obtainable in the village.

There were 13 Correct entries for February's Competition

R. Armstrong, D. Bell, D. Corbett, C. Gardner, W. Howard, M. Mitchell, A. Phillips, M. Porter, E. Rumney, A.M. Scott, B&R Shout, D. Telford, J. Tucker.

How's about joining the Friends of Haydon Bridge - only costs £1.20 for the year. It may not help you win the competition but it may help in ensuring the continuity of the crossword.

Thanking you in anticipation - Mitch

HAYDON NEWS ADVERTISING RATES

- Single Column - Variable Width
- 12 months (10 Issues) starting February - £12
- 6 months (5 Issues) starting July - £7
- Single insertion - £1.50
- No charge for: Forthcoming events
- Results of Collections: Acknowledgements
- Club News: Reports of Local Functions

Honeycrook

A short story by Alistair Burrowes

This short story won 1st prize in the recent competition held by the Rainbow Writers

"Come on you pancake." Jody knelt by the stream stripping bark from a long thin branch, "If you don't get across now, we're going to leave you here!"

"I can't Jody, it's too far." Barry tottered mid-stream on a large black rock.

"Well your half-way now," said Jody standing up and slinging a piece of bark into the moving water, "so you might as well just jump."

Barry was eleven, younger than us three and always in last place, he gritted his teeth and prepared to launch himself the remaining four foot gap or so between his stepping stone and the safety of the soft bank side where we waited. With a great yell of encouragement from Jody, who was our leader, he jumped and missed the edge of the bank by a good twelve inches splashing us all in the process.

Barry stood with his arms out like a scarecrow with cold water galloping past just below his bare and trembling knees. "I knew I couldn't make it." He wailed, unsure of his next move.

"You'd better make it now though 'cos that water's full of Piranha!" Davey said with some authority and the look on Barry's face changed from shivering defeat to ridged terror. "Let me out of here!" He yelped and scrambled out slipping and sliding and falling on the muddy bank. His cries of anguish out done by ours of mirth. Poor Barry, he never learned.

Jody took up the lead as usual, hacking the way through mature nettle plantations, rich and thick, high and poisonous. I followed swishing my stick at any he'd missed or taking the heads off others that caught my eye. Davey was behind me and I could hear him constantly encouraging Barry to "get a move on," or "hurry up." Even so, Barry never seemed to be quite able to catch up to us. Whenever he did it was because we waited, but he soon lagged behind again. I could hear him mumbling to himself as we marched on through uncharted woodland, but couldn't hear exactly what he was saying as Jody was issuing murderous curses at the falling nettles, and Davey was singing. I could only make out some of Barry's words, such as "hold-on a bit." or, "I wish I hadn't come with you now!"

The ground beneath us began to slope away and it became harder not to slip. At least the undergrowth was becoming more passable, I was grateful for that as I was tired of being stung. Davey came flying past me with a shout fit for the battle-front as he careered downwards then used a tree as a brake. Even Barry discovered the quick way down was just to sort of take-off. Like a squadron of WW II fighter planes, the four of us zoomed and yelled our way down that soily bank, every now and then using a tree to slow down an out of control pilot.

Reaching the bottom with our hands on our knees and panting, Jody declared that just over this next fence, then a small stream and we would be there.

"Oh no!" Said Barry, "Not another stream."

The fence even though it was barbed caused no problems to us. Barry, we helped over using linked hands as a step for him. We were though, back into more undergrowth, and what looked to be an ancient rubbish tip.

"Hey, look at these!" Called out Davey as he held up two old glass bottles. "There's hundreds of them." Jody wasn't too impressed. "You think the miners must have drunk a lot of pop?" asked Barry. He might have been right; there were bottles everywhere. I didn't know enough to be able to say if they had anything to do with the old miners or not, or the ruins we were heading towards, but images of old grey men in shirt sleeves and waistcoats, puffing away on clay pipes under large flat caps came to mind.

"I bet they're beer bottles." Said Davey as he picked one up that was half filled with soil.

Our leader was crossing the second stream some distance ahead of us, he'd seen it all before. "Hey Barry, watch this." With a hair raising scream, Davey threw a bottle into the sky, then quickly and most masterfully followed it with a second causing the two to smash directly above himself, getting showered in glass much to Barry's and my own amusement. With a whoop, I copied, although I managed to break both bottles without getting showered from above. I laughed out encouragement as Davey and Barry screamed and smashed, not noticing as Jody with glum expression walked back towards us.

"Hey you idiots. I said shush a minute - Listen!"

We froze as a last unbroken bottle bumped to earth. There in the foggy distance we could hear dogs howling and yelping.

Baying for the kill. "Jumpin' Jehovah!" Said Davey. "What the heck's that?"

Jody with his hand out flat towards us as a command for silence, listened intently. He was good.

"I don't like this." Said Barry. The fun forgotten.

"Might be the hounds?" I said.

"What if they're on the loose. What if they come here?"

Jody looked at us then dropped his hand. "I bet there's some kennels somewhere up here and you idiots have spooked the dogs with all that noise."

The painful sound of those dogs was unnerving. I had visions of them coming tearing through the undergrowth at any moment, bounding over the fence as though it wasn't there with their bloodied teeth and their blazing mad eyes. "Doesn't sound as if they're getting any closer."

Jody added. "Come on lets go."

We continued in relative silence over the next stream towards the ruins, apart from the distant sound of a hundred dogs baying for blood ringing in our ears. Interrupted only once by Barry seeking out confirmation from our leader that we were safe. To which he didn't reply.

At last some hard ground came back towards us, and it was welcome. Much easier to walk on than the soft soily ground we'd been traipsing over. It was like an old road. Long ago fallen into decline, grass and gorse pushing up through its broken surface, mosses giving it an almost carpeted effect. Then there right in front of us was what we had walked here for. Jody beamed and threw his rucksack onto the moss covered ground then brushed some of the clinging weeds from the stone carved name plate.

"Honeycrook 1874" It read.

"Whoa!" Davey called out. "It's ancient."

"Nearly a hundred years old." Nodded Barry.

"You sure it's safe?" I asked. Jody pointed to the date on the stone again, "It's been here since 1874, if it's stood here that long why would it choose today to cave in?"

I could see his point I guess. Already he was pulling out a torch and our supply of chalk. Barry already with his head and shoulders into the entrance calling out hoping for a dull echo, which he didn't get.

The arched stone entrance built into the bank side was like a miniature castle gateway, but was almost hidden away completely by the grasses and creepers.

"This mine," began Jody as he was testing the torch, which by the way looked big enough to direct a ship into harbour with on a stormy night, "was closed in 1893. Eighty-eight years ago. I'll bet there's been no one in here in all that time."

"At least living" Whispered Davey.

As usual Jody lead the way.

"What about poisonous gasses?" I asked still not convinced, as we stepped through the stone arch into a dripping darkness. Jody looked over his shoulder at me as Davey and Barry almost collided close behind.

"That's just a tale to scare dumb kids away from places like this." He said, then turned forward again shinning a powerful white arc of light across a concave bricked ceiling. It seemed a bit late now to think of excuses not to go further now that we were here. Reluctantly I accepted our leaders words. I didn't want to be the one to spoil the day. Jody handed Barry the chalk and told him to mark the walls at regular intervals.

"Just in case," he had said, "we should get lost."

Slowly onward as a small whispering crowd we stepped and stumbled over wet then dry rocks and rubble. Unaware of the incline until Davey slipped, sending a scattering of pebbles rattling away ahead of us, sounding like two dozen mice in pit boots. We noticed the arched roof was getting closer to our heads as we rounded a long sweeping curve. Leaving behind the receding arch of daylight which then quietly snuffed itself out.

I could feel Davey's hot hands reaching out, searching the way, touching my back every now and then and his whispered words seeming close, yet bouncing off old walls and hissing at us making us laugh quietly and nervously at whatever it was he was saying.

Every now and then, under the guidance of our leader, Barry would chalk an arrow onto a suitable patch of wall. Even this he had managed to get wrong. Jody almost brought him to tears for chalking an X instead of an arrow. "What happens if we get lost you pan-cake?" He'd said. "How do you know from an X which way we came?" Again, I could see his point.

We passed quite a few entrances gouged out of the rock, but decided to keep on the main tunnel for as long as we could. This had forked a couple of times, so we'd always opted for the largest looking passage to follow, marking with an arrow accordingly. Of course.

"You think there'll be any treasure down here?" Asked the small voice of Barry in the blackness.

"Who knows!" whispered Jody. Not entirely ruling out the possibility.

It didn't look to me like there was to be anything down here but darkness and rubble. We'd seen the odd piece of twisted iron and some long forgotten wood posts, but never anything more interesting than that. Although earlier on we'd heard some strange frightened screeching, which we decided must have been bats, or some small animal we'd disturbed, apart from that, at least so far, it just looked like an old mine. Jody's torch showed us that the tunnel was narrowing and lowering further.

"Watch your heads." He said, and we all stooped, still inching forwards following the ever decreasing circle of bright light.

To our right came another entrance, not unlike the one at the opening. Which we decided to take to see where it went, it ran about 25 yards then branched off in about another 12 different directions. It was hard to count them in the moving torch light.

"You make sure your marking these walls right." Jody said pointing the torch beam at Barry, who looked smaller than ever standing there in the sudden spotlight.

"I am Jody." He said, his tiny voice sounding strangely hollow in the tunnel.

"I hope so. We get lost down here now, and we might never get out."

I looked towards where I thought Davey was in the darkness, but couldn't see him. Which was probably just as well because I imagined he was as unsure of all this now as I had been from the start.

"Come on," said Jody, whipping the light away from Barry, and taking in the dimensions of one of the arches running either side of us. "Lets try this one, and see what's down here."

Through the small doorway, we lowered our heads, feeling just above us with our hands as Jody shone the torch around the cavern that had opened up before us. It wasn't huge, but it was bigger than the tunnels we'd seen so far. I'd say it was about the size of a living room. Nothing special about it, only piles of rock, and shadows. There was another opening on the far wall, where a stack of wooden posts and planks were leaning close to by. The floor was littered with stones. It felt like being on a river bank at night, just before a thunder storm. I guess it must have been the quietness down here as well as the heat. Neither of which we'd planned for that had made it feel so Erie.

Then on the edge of the torch beam we saw the perfect white of what at first I thought was a clean branch, but it wasn't. As Jody shifted the beam more, slowly uncovering the bones of a foot, then a leg, two legs, up a bit to a rib cage, the arms connected but listless sprawled at the sides and a tilted skull on top, hollow eyes, hollow nose and mouth.

Jody high-lighted the frame work of pure white bones as it sat motionless against the wall, the torch beam steady. Then when Davey realised what it was I heard him yelp and try to run, although where to exactly in the darkness, I'm not sure. He scrambled on loose stones and rocks falling and skinning his knees, getting nowhere. Barry let out a scream, which I thought for a moment was going to bring the roof down, that must have been in the mind of Jody as he quickly threatened Barry with his very life if he didn't quieten it down.

"Lets get out of here Jody."

I said and once more he swung the beam right at me, blinding me. I wondered if he had already known about this heap of bones, and had brought us here to see it for what ever reason. "Come on lets go!" I couldn't see his face as he was hidden behind the strong beam, but I felt that he was smiling. I turned from the beam to see Davey rubbing his elbows, and Barry sobbing and sniffing.

For a few seconds as Jody shone the torch around the cavern, then at the three of us standing there with our black streaked faces, then back at the skeleton, I thought he was going to do something crazy. Perhaps run from us with the torch, or smash it deliberately on a rock. It wasn't a good feeling. "Jody. Come on lets go. Lets get out of here." "Your scared aren't you." He said, I could hear the madness in his voice. "Yes, I'm scared. But not of you, or your damn skeleton."

There was a long pause where I began to feel around with my feet on the ground for a rock in case I needed a weapon. Then he started to laugh. "OK!" He laughed simply. "Lets go."

Thankfully, the route out of there seemed a lot quicker than the journey in. Possibly because we were so much keener to escape from there, possibly as keen to escape from being so reliant upon Jody as well. We wondered if he was crazy, or was he just out to scare or impress us. I do know that not long after this event he returned to the mine and removed the carved stone name plate for some reason. A trophy of some kind perhaps?

Even though we remained friends for a lot of years, until we eventually drifted apart and away from each other. We never discussed this incident. If word had found its way back to our parents of our adventure, there would have been all hell to pay. Some things are best forgotten. It was only recently when out on one of my walks with my own son, who is now the age that I was then, when we ventured onto this old mine site, and the memories came flooding back. I wasn't going to take him through that arched stone entrance, but I was going to show him where it had been, and to see if Jody had in fact taken the carved stone away as he said he had. But, I could not find the opening anywhere. The mossed over road was still there, unchanged in over 25 years, but the entrance was gone. I wondered if Jody had caved it in for some reason. I also wondered if that skeleton was still in there, and even if it wasn't, then exactly who it might have been.

THE END

DO YOU WANT TO SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE?

Membership is a nominal 10p per month so a subscription for the year is £1.20. If you would like to join please complete the form below and enclose with your membership subscription. You can give it to any member of the Committee or leave it in an envelope at the Haydon Bridge Post Office addressed to *The Friends of Haydon Bridge*. If you are a non-resident of the Parish of Haydon the annual U.K subscription £6-00 which includes a postal delivery of the Haydon News - please send cheque for £6-00 or donations to the Editor, High Brindles, Haydon Bridge NE47 6HJ Northumberland

I wish to become an active / non-active member (delete as appropriate) of *The Friends of Haydon Bridge* for the period 1st January 1999 - 31st December 1999. Please find enclosed a cheque/cash to the value of

Name

Address

Phone

Please note that donations greater than minimum amount are welcome - All monies received will be used for the benefit of Parish inhabitants. Cheques payable to *The Friends of Haydon Bridge*

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE

MEMBERSHIP CURRENTLY STANDS AT

152

HAYDON BRIDGE W.I.

FEBRUARY

MARCH

Haydon Bridge W.I. Enjoyed a talk and slide show by Mr. K. Watts entitled 'Northumberland in Bloom'. Mr. Watts, a judge for the 'Keep Britain Tidy' group explained the aims of the group, amongst other things, were to improve the environment and to encourage a spirit of pride in one's surroundings.

It also aims to get children involved in the hope that they will take an interest in their own area and indirectly learn this way, to respect other people's property. When judging villages, and many participate throughout Northumbria, the judges look for fifty percent tidiness and fifty percent flowers.

The slides were very colourful, but of the towns judges, darlington seemed a long way ahead of every other one.

There were several slides of the bowling green at Hexham which everyone viewed with great admiration.

The Raffle was won by Mrs. M. Bowen, the competition - A Flower Ornament - by Mrs. Ohlson.

Myra Bowen

This month the Haydon Bridge W.I. Celebrated its seventy-fifth birthday and a wonderful time was had by everyone despite the weather which was wet, cold and miserable.

We boarded a coach mid-morning for a mystery tour ending up at the Royal Quay's Shopping Outlet Village at South Shields for a coffee stop and some shopping. From there we continued on to Harry Ramsden's in Gateshead for lunch.

We returned early evening to the home of our members, Mrs. Flo Ord. A magnificent cake, beautifully iced in green and white with the emblem of the W.I. On top was cut by the longest serving member, Mrs. Florence Turnbull. She has been a member of this institute for sixty-three years.

Everyone was given a slice of cake to take home in a specially decorated serviette and a bone china commemorative beaker.

A wonderfully memorable day to celebrate a very special occasion.

Myra Bowen



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Letters to the Editor & Readers Viewpoints

8th February 1999

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

Thanks for this month's Haydon News, which was as ever an interesting and fun read. Unfortunately for you this may indeed be your problem. You've simply done too good a job. Quite an act to follow! So, with this in mind I wonder whether it would be a good idea to look for a small editorial team, rather than just one person, to take over from you. That way the task may seem less daunting. What do you think?

Also I read in this month's edition that there is a plan to put another lamp on the old bridge. What a shame! Its the one place in the village where you can still get a half decent view of the stars. Its quite light enough there and another lamp would only blot out half the night sky.

And finally..... what about the bit of land behind the pavilion on the football field for a childrens' play area? Its already mostly fenced and grassed so the cost would be minimised. Alternatively, and an even cheaper option, would be to re-vamp the existing facilities with some new swings, a bigger slide {like the mega-slide at Allendale would be good} and a low fence round to keep the dogs out.

Yours,
Genevieve Stone

Ed's note

My response opposite (sent to Mrs. Stone by e-mail) elicited the following reply from Genevieve

9th March 1999

Regarding young reporters have you tried the High School? Unfortunately everyone I know is far too tied up with small children. However I am sure you could maybe find people prepared to write up specific things on a more adhoc basis from among the youngor not so young!.....mothers. The other thing that crossed my mind was how about a column of parenting tips written say by our health visitor, whose name temporarily escapes me but who could be easily tracked down at the health centre. There are loads of children in the village, some very young mothers, and the health visitor will know the issues currently interesting to them. It also may get some of the younger people reading the paper and taking more of an interest.

Have done the deed and am now an official 'Friend'!

Yours,
Genevieve Stone.

p.s. I don't think people do 'volunteer' for these things but there are a few people maybe who might be interested in helping if approached direct. I wouldn't mind helping you find them but we'd need to work out how people could realistically help given the time constraints imposed by children etc..

Editors response

Thanks for the compliment - Of course I agree with you on the need for an Editorial Team and would welcome support in that area - unfortunately volunteers are hard to come by - we need some younger people on the Friends Committee to act as reporters. As I have now established links with Wolf-Fm they can provide training for young reporters - indeed have a look at the link to Wolf-FM and you will see their write up on a group of musicians I took to Walker a couple of weeks ago - that's the sort of reporter I would like to pick up Haydon News stories.

Fortunately I live above the light pollution but understand the problem. It would be good if they could use mercury-vapour lamps instead of these horrible sodium ones that fill the sky with such an intense glow. I seem to remember that at one Parish Council meeting it was indicated that lighting of lamps on the old bridge would be by gas cylinders inserted into post) - that would help.

At the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council last Thursday (4th February) they seemed to reverse their decision of the week before - it is not now their intention to have a Village Green on the riverside! Many people, including Councillors, think it a crazy idea to put a purpose built play area at the riverside but they do seem to be going ahead again with that approach. Many people will agree with your suggestions about the present children's play area site and they have been voiced at meetings - for some reason they insist on proceeding along their present path. On a personal level I would prefer the riverside Village Green concept as I can visualise how nice the area could be if it were tidied up - similarly

I am personally horrified at the thought of youngsters being encouraged to go down to the riverside to play. Not only because of the obvious dangers of a fast flowing river but the moral danger small children could be in at this quiet spot. It is a sad reflection on our residents that they do not go to the Parish Council Meetings and voice their opinions - I get into enough bother already by being outspoken on other matters so I am reluctant to raise these issues at the meetings I go to observe.

Thanks for your interest in the Haydon News
Ed.

PS It only costs 10p a month to become a Friend of Haydon Bridge in either an active/inactive role - we need more supporters.

**Why don't YOU do as our reader here did?
Join *The Friends of Haydon Bridge***

see application form elsewhere in this issue.

ANOTHER READERS LETTER

Hey Mitch

Kan ah ask? - Whey the bugger reets the Medical Miscellany for thee. Ah nearly allwis reed thi Dokters collum in the paypars an' Marjorie Proops as weel wen she war alive. But aave outlived hor and started on the Haydon News fer medical assistance.

Hooever the collum last munth taalked about "prurient fermentation of the tabloid press" and boiled in thu bag morality and gimcrack opinions. Aah cud weel understand aboot Gimcrack - he is the Daily Mirra racin' tipstor and aah sumtimes hev a wee flutta on the Gimcrack Stakes at York - but boiled in the bag prurient fermentation has ME beat. Dista think its the name of a horse? Aal keep a gud look oot furrit.

And aye the allsa mention Viagra - weel thi allsay need ti' worry aboot that as weel. Wor Geordie hes just sent is a cuttin ootov a Yankee payper reportin a borgellry at the Viagra factory. The Pollis thowt it was just some bairns but was eventually traced ti sum *hardened crinimals* we wor fund waalkin aboot wi trailin legs - apparantly evorything had stiffend up!

Sykee Attrick

Newbruf

The eighty-year old man had gone to see his doctor for pre-marriage tests,

"I'm marrying a twenty-year old," he said.

"Why are you doing that?" asked the doctor.

"I want a son and heir. Can you give me any advice?"

"Yes, get a lodger," said the doctor, smirking.

A few months later, the old fellow returned to the doctor.

"Is your wife pregnant yet?" queried the doctor.

"Yes." replied the old man.

"So you did take in a lodger?"

"Oh yes," replied the old man, "and she's pregnant too!"

LANGLEY W.I.

The February meeting at Langley W.I. Was an open meeting as the topic of the talk given by Mr. Paul Williamson was of much interest to both the W.I. Ladies and the men present.

Mr. Williamson, gamekeeper at the Chesters estate of 4,000 acres, took the audience through a typical working year.

Once the shooting season is over, it's time to start preparation for the next season. In February trapping starts and Mr. Williamson demonstrated various legal snares and traps. Pheasants are caught in a lobster pot type trap and in April they start to lay, the eggs taking 24 days to hatch. The chicks are then kept in heated sheds until they are 6 - 7 weeks old. Their feathers are then clipped and they are released into the woods where they are fed in pens for a few weeks until they regard it as their home and will return there.

In all there are 12 - 14 days shooting - usually in November when there is good visibility as the trees have dropped their leaves. This is a busy time for the gamekeeper as he has to arrange transport, beaters, teams of guns, teams of pickers up with dogs, and notify tenant farmers.

Mrs. M. Nagel
Westley Bank

A local took his dog for a walk down to the Anchor on Sunday night. He was having a drink when the football results came up on the television set. Newcastle had won and the dog started running around in circles barking with delight.

"What does he do when Sunderland or Middlesborough win?" asked the barman.

"Somersaults." said the man.

"How many?" asked the barman

"It all depends on how far I kick him!"

EDITOR WANTED

In 1997 the Editor of the Haydon News agreed to stay on until the end of 1998, by which time he completed four years in the post. The Friends of Haydon Bridge are now looking for a suitable replacement.

If you have any interest in doing the job please contact either:

Chairman of the Friends : 684022
Vice Chairman of the Friends : 684340

Alternatively you can contact any member of the Committee who are:

Judith Brown Alistair Bowen
Sylvia Mitchell Mary Nagel Elena Parkin
Joyce Sim Pauline Tulip

You can ring the present Editor on 684035/684980 if you want to find out more about this ex-officio job.

THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE

EDITORIAL POLICY OF THE HAYDON NEWS

The editorial policy of 'The Haydon News' is ultimately the responsibility of the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, although day-to-day responsibility is delegated to the Editor of 'The Haydon News'. Our intention is always to ensure that the content of 'The Haydon News' is as fair and factually correct as possible. Any complaints concerning editorial policy should be addressed in writing to the Chairman of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge. Complaints other than those made above will not be entertained.

Charles Thomas, Chairman
The Friends of Haydon Bridge
South View
Heugh House Lane
Haydon Bridge
NE47 6ND

PARISH COUNCIL PICKINGS
Thursday 25th February 1999

9 Councillors, and two members of the public were present.

Matters Arising - The new flag pole has been erected and the Northumbrian Flag raising ceremony on Saturday February 13th 1999 was attended by the Scouts and Guides. [The Editor has been giving some material about the flag and ceremony - unfortunately space does not permit it to be presented in this month's Haydon News]

- The Highways Agency have accepted responsibility for the maintenance of the white fences at entrance to village - they will repair in due course.

- A Councillor complained that Pelican crossing lights were not working after the workmen left each night during recent roadworks. It was also said by the same Councillor that the safety fencing had been erected badly outside Marsh's shop. This apparently confused a couple of nine year olds who ended up by being nearly stranded in the middle of the road.

- The contractor responsible for grass cutting is having problems with the number of large molehills which can cause damage to the blades of his machine.

Highway Matters - A Councillor said that rabbits burrowing under some local roads may eventually cause a road hazard.

Lighting - nothing discussed

Tynedale District Council - A Tynedale District Councillor reported that at a recent meeting it was agreed that the TDC will take every opportunity to state the need for a bypass for Haydon Bridge.

Planning - A number of planning applications were discussed and passed without comment.

Accounts - Approved

Correspondence - An unexciting batch of correspondence was dealt with, however one request from Northumbria Police to financially support temporary moveable CCTV cameras on village streets was rejected.

- It was agreed to send a donation of £100 to the Queens Hall - this is for the "A Bridge Too Far" project which will involve The Shaftoe Corale, High School and Scouts. The money will come out of hanging baskets budget.

AOB - A letter had been received asking for funds to towards providing a tarmacadam surface in Temple Houses Lane now that it has been declared a public right of way. Following discussion it was agreed that this request should be refused as this would create a precedence with regard to non-adopted roads. The back lane, Brigwood and Alexandra Terrace were just three quoted as an example.

Projects - It was confirmed that the Parish Council will NOT be going for a 'Village Green' project for the riverside picnic area but will support the development as a play area for children. Some councillors have strong feelings against this proposal, especially as they are having difficulty in obtaining public liability insurance cover. One Councillor said that the land would be better in the hands of the Parish Council where it would be safe from development, however another reminded him of the Station Yard fiasco.

- A draft booklet on 'Village Walks' was discussed - it is anticipated that this will be published before Easter.

The Chairman reminded councillors that with the Council elections in May there would only be one or two more meetings. For his part he would not be standing for re-election.

SBM

"Out & About"

For the last two years on Tuesday afternoons a minibus has travelled up hill and down dale to attend the weekly Arts Group at Allendale Village Hall. This is specially for people who suffer ill health or have a disability which makes it difficult to go to evening activities. Some use wheelchairs and feel awkward attending classes or being people who are not aware of their special needs.

The Group which is organised by Tynedale Care Centre Charity has proved very popular as there is a varied programme of activities to suit different interests and abilities. Added to that there is the opportunity for making new friendships and having a chat over a cup of tea and home baked goodies!

As Allendale is bursting at the seams a new **"Out & About"** Group is to start on Monday afternoons after Easter (12th April) at Haydon Bridge Methodist Church Hall. Anyone interested in joining the group or in helping with the arts activities, the tea or in bringing people by car are invited to an **OPEN DAY** on Monday 22nd March between 4 p.m. Some of the art or craft tutors will have work on display and will be available to discuss what people would like to do. The Allendale members say "Please don't be put off thinking that its not for you or that you don't have any skills or can't use a brush, mould clay or what have you. That's what we all thought and every week we surprise ourselves!"

Please come to the Open Day and see what you think. If you need transport please contact Alistair on 608860 not later than Tuesday 16th March.

If any local artist, writer or musician would like to be involved on an occasional basis please contact Elizabeth on 602418. We may have need of people willing to teach computer skills and stick dressing!

"Out & About"

"GROUPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS"

Supporting people whose lives are restricted by disability or illness

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHOPS - THEY NEED OUR CUSTOM TO SURVIVE

NEWS FLASH . Read all about it. . Read all about it

OYEZ . . . OYEZ OYEZ

HAYDON BRIDGE CARPET BOWLS CLUB

The last time a win was enjoyed by the Haydon Bridge Bowls Team was back in January 1998 at home against Allendale. Our ambition over the past year or so has been to be victorious before the Millennium. And no. . . it's not April Fools day. YES, you've guessed it. Haydon Bridge have WON!

On a rather windy Pancake Tuesday, the bowls club took the trip to tiny Simonburn who had won at the Community Centre earlier in the season. Remarkably, the first six games were won by the visitors which included a 5-2 win for the A team, a 5-1 win for the B team, a 10-0 win for the C team and a 7-3 win for the D team. The unbeaten run wasn't broken until the C team suffered an 8-2 reverse in their second game.

The A team won every game except their fourth, including a 7-1 win with their third. The B team ended the night undefeated with three wins and a draw, with the D team doing the same. Team C added a 11-0 victory to the Haydon Bridge tally and also won their final game.

In my four years or so of playing carpet bowls, this has got to be the best performance I have ever witnessed or took part in. Full credit should go to every player for a magnificent performance which took the 'Burn' out of Simonburn. The final score was:

SIMONBURN 39 - HAYDON BRIDGE 84

On the 5th of February, we played for the Kathleen Waite Singles Trophy which was surprisingly won by recent signing Jamie Eales, who played very well throughout the night. Runner-up was Edna Rumney, who won last year.

Once again, it's time when I try to pick on all you readers to having a go at playing carpet bowls. It is 50p, and 25p for juniors. Just come along at 7:30pm, to the club nights mentioned below and have an enjoyable evening.

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME

Here are the teams which lined up for the Simonburn match.

A	B	C	D
Michael Rumney	Peter Tweddle	Joseph Tulip	Audrey Phillips
Jean Oliver	Winnie Golightly	Joyce Tucker	Ike Tallantyre
Gladys Henderson	Jamie Eales	Doreen Taylor	Mary Lockhart
Edna Rumney	Susan Taylor	George Hutton	Edith Benson

FIXTURES FOR MARCH

Tuesday 2nd	Club Night
Thursday 4th	Slaggyford - Away
Tuesday 9th	Club Night
Thursday 11th	Allendale - Home
Tuesday 16th	Bellingham - Home
Tuesday 23rd	Throckley - Home
Thursday 30th	Club Night

White Jack

HAVE A SMILE ON ME

"Doctor, Doctor. I need some pills. I've become a kleptomaniac."
"Try these," said the doctor, "and if the don't work, get me a CD Player."

"Doctor, Doctor. Every time I sit down, I see visions of Pluto and Mickey Mouse. And when I stand up, I see Donald Duck."
"And how long have you been having these Disney spells?"

MILLENNIUM NEWS

A working group meet on the second Wednesday of each month to co-ordinate the raising of funds and make plans for Haydon Bridge's Millennium celebrations, we are trying to hold at least one fund raising project each month.

January's Quiz was a great success but February's Memories Night failed as we had to cancel due to no tickets being bought, as supper was to have been included in ticket price we could not go ahead with it. A quiz about the village was prepared in preparation so we intend to sell these quiz sheets for £1 and award a prize for the winner. In the event of several correct entries a draw will take place for prizes.

March's fund raising event will be a Beetle Drive on the 20th., it should be a fun family night - please try to come.

Future events are treasure hunts, dance, craft fare and we need prizes for raffles could anyone donate a prize or perhaps your group could sponsor one of our events. Has anyone plans to run their own fund raising effort? We would love to hear from you.

REMEMBER

**THE MORE WE RAISE THE BETTER
THE VILLAGE CELEBRATION WILL BE.**

We still have some numbers left in the bonus ball sweep £1 per week - £30 prize money each week for the holder of the bonus ball in Saturday's lottery.

We also would like to produce a Doomsday Book of all houses in the village at the turn of the millennium and will be asking each household to fill in a questionnaire; who lives there; are there any interesting facts relating to each property; have your family dwelt there for a long time; was anyone born there; has it got history.

We are still needing sewers for the village map.

**IF YOU CAN HELP US IN ANY
WAY COME TO OUR MEETINGS
AT 7:30 P.M.
IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

CHURCH NEWSLETTER



CLERGY MESSAGE

Vincent Ashwin, Vicar of St Cuthbert's

Do you remember Glenn Hoddle? That sounds like a silly question, but in the popular press people stop being 'famous' very suddenly. Poor old Glenn made the mistake of speculating in public about his religious beliefs - which included reincarnation. One of his questions was: *Was there a connection between people being disabled now and what they had done in an earlier life?* This was a hurtful thought, and so he lost his job as manager of the English football team.

Glenn Hoddle's beliefs raise an important point. Many people like him hold a mixture of religious beliefs. This is a side-effect of living in an age when we have the freedom to make choices about many areas of our lives. At its lowest level, we are free to stop buying milk from the milkman, and to buy it more cheaply from the Co-op. Most people are free to live where they choose and to travel to work. We have more money to spend on what we choose. These freedoms are very valuable to us as individuals, though they usually affect other people too - like the milkman.

People easily jump from "I can buy what I like" to "I can believe what I like". What's the harm in that? There is no harm in digging deeply into the beliefs we are presented with - for example, by the Christian Church. The Church of England has always taught that Reason is as important in our faith as Scripture and Tradition. Our own thinking builds up on what the Bible and the Church have taught for 2000 years. All Christians are encouraged to think deeply.

The difference between the pick-and-mix religion of individuals (like Hoddle) and the theological explorations of the Church is that there is little security and little authority for the individuals. The Christian faith has stood the test of time, though it has had to be interpreted in different ways, and has been able to take on board new scientific theories and some changes in society. Individually-assembled faiths leave the believer very much on his/her own. When Christians are going through a crisis of faith, we know that the Institution can carry us for a while. The individual has only got the authority of his / her own intellect.

March 1999

AN INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENT TO THE HAYDON NEWS

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

"We commit ourselves..."

We print the text of the Commitment made by **CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN HAYDON BRIDGE**, worshipping together in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in late January

We commit ourselves to live and witness for the unity of the body of Christ. We promise to continue to work towards communion in faith, life and witness, so that united in one body by the one Spirit we shall witness to the perfect unity of your love..

We commit ourselves to engage in mission in faithfulness to Christ, to take up the cross, to proclaim the gospel, to love and serve others, to resist evil and struggle for peace and justice, to ensure a responsible use of the earth's resources, and to risk ourselves in faith, hope and love, for the sake of the kingdom.

We commit ourselves to build up the ecumenical movement so that, through united witness and service, we may become effective voices and instruments in the expression and fulfilment of the will of God.

A recently-produced pamphlet, Authority in Science and Religion, puts it this way: "A between unthinking conformity to majority opinion, which may be prejudiced or may be well-founded, and the individualism that believes it has nothing to learn from others. Whether we like it not, we do not start all our thinking from scratch; we stand upon the shoulders of all past and present fellow searchers for truth and wisdom." Finally, belief is not just a private possession, because it affects others in the attitudes we have towards them.

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

March 7th

10.00 Mrs Barbara Rowarth
6.00pm Rev David Perkins:
Bible Teaching, Sacrament.

Mar 9th 7.30 Men's Christian Fellowship

Mar 10th 2.00? Women's Own

March 14th

10.00 Rev D Perkins, Family Service
6.00pm Mr R Reay

March 21st

10.00 Mr Trevor North
6.00pm Prayer Service

Mar 23rd 7.30 Men's Christian Fellowship

Mar 24th 2.00? Women's Own

25th 7.30pm Celebration, Worship
and Ministry.

March 28th

10.00 Rev David Perkins: Palm Sunday
ecumenical service & procession
6.00pm Mr Dickenson



PALM SUNDAY

Haydon Bridge's churches are celebrating Palm Sunday (March 28th) together this year. We will meet at St John's Roman Catholic Church at 10.00, where palms will be distributed, the story told, with some prayers. Then we will come down the street (though without the Catholics) to the Methodist Church for about 10.20.

There, we shall more Bible reading and prayer, and a short address from the Methodist minister. Then at 10.40 or so, we will cross over to St Cuthbert's for the final part of the Holy Communion, led by the vicar. Children are asked to come straight to St John's, and to join in the procession and service, carrying banners which they have made beforehand.



"God bless him who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matthew 21.9)

CALENDAR FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

3rd (Wed) Parochial Church Council, 7.30

5th (Fri) 2.00pm World Day of Prayer

Mar 7th 3rd Sunday in Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

10.30am All-Age Worship; Dr L Gray.

13th (Sat) Music Day at Henshaw School

Mar 14th Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)

10.30am Family Communion & presentation of flowers.

16th (Tue) 2.30 Funding visitors, vicarage

19th (Fri) St Joseph; Communion; 7.30am

March 21st 5th Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

10.30am Morning Prayer, Sermon; M Fry

24th (Wed) 7.30 Mothers' Union

25th (Thu) The Annunciation to Mary
10.00am Holy Communion

26th (Fri) Church Dance, C'ty Centre

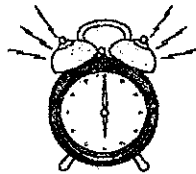
March 28th. Palm Sunday

See separate notice: joint morning service

Every Thursday in Lent

Holy Communion at 10.00am

Every Friday 7.30am Holy Communion.



**DON'T FORGET; CLOCKS CHANGE
THE MORNING OF PALM SUNDAY**

INTER-CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

Women's World Day of Prayer: Friday, March 5th. The Haydon Bridge service will be at St Cuthbert's at 2.00pm. The speaker will be Mrs Enid Garrow. The Women's World Day of Prayer was revolutionary when it was founded, both because it was ecumenical, and because it insisted that the service should be led by women. It is still a good occasion, and reminds us today of the importance of women in the life of the Church.

Every Monday in Lent, at 2.00pm 'Emmaus' Study course, 45 Strother Close. The course is also being run on different evenings.

Prayers Together: every Wednesday at the Methodist Church; eat our sandwiches at 12.30: pray from 12.55 - 1.20.

SERVICES AT ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am.

Mass at 11.0 at Haltwhistle each Sunday.

Mass on weekdays (except Mondays), at 10.00am, either at St John's or at Haltwhistle Two Churches.

The Friends of Haydon Bridge

The churches in the village continue to be grateful to the Friends of Haydon Bridge, to the advertisers who pay for it all, and to the editor of Haydon News and his team of compilers and staplers and distributors, for allowing us to attach our page each month. Each of the three churches simply pays a third of the cost of printing our own page. Many thanks. VA.

DID YOU KNOW?

- that the Methodist Church has a shower for disabled people, available (under supervision) for anyone who needs it?
- that the Methodist Church also welcomes people to drop in on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, for a coffee, or to work on the computer?
- that the Roman Catholic parish cared for by Father Leo Pyle extends to Allenheads and Greenhead?
- that a toddler group and a playgroup meet four mornings every week in St Cuthbert's Church hall?

A Prayer for Mothering Sunday

*Thank you, God, that you are
tender as a mother
as well as strong as a father.
You give us life, and care for us
like a mother
who will not forsake her children.
We pray for our mothers today,
putting them into your hands
for time and for eternity;
and we ask your blessing
on all our relationships
in the families of our homes,
our churches,
and our community. Amen.*

If you want YOUR church news to be included, send it by the 20th of the month to the Editor, Revd Vincent Ashwin, at the vicarage: Phone 684.307; Fax: 684.152, or by email: vashwin@lineone.net

MEDICAL MISCELLANY

UPPERS

With a bit of luck the BMA should have wrung some sense out of the Department of Health by the end of January on the subject of Viagra. It was originally thought that an announcement would be made on Christmas Eve - so as to avoid a prurient fermentation in the tabloid press, prone as they are to boil-in-the-bag morality and gimcrack opinions.

We have had a number of requests for Viagra already and I am sure that it will prove very helpful for some men and women but it is not to be regarded as either a miracle or an aphrodisiac or a lifebelt for relationships in difficulty.

Soon there will be a second product - Vasomax - that is said to work more quickly.

DOWNERS

There was some quite devastating statistical information in the British Medical Journal in mid December; one American in five, over the age of twelve, has genital herpes (one in four females), by the age of twenty four one in three Americans has had a sexually transmitted disease, sixty eight million Americans have an incurable sexually transmitted disease (herpes, HPV, hepatitis B or HIV).

Europe usually trails America by a few years at most.

Moral - beware of Americans bearing cigars...

PARACETAMOL - THE LAST WORD

Its not called paracetamol anymore! We all have to get used to calling it acetaminophen now, if we want to be truly cosmopolitan in our speech and good Europeans to boot.

GRASSING UP THE NEIGHBOURS

I am pleased to report that the local spliff harvest is progressing nicely. Parishioners of a Samaritan disposition will find the News Editor's visiting hours at Durham are quite flexible.

THE MILLENNIAL MIDWIFE

Our midwife, Helen Shield, has bade me publicise her general proclamation about procreation. There's to be none of it - during the months of February, March and April - unless you really want to deliver your baby by candle light.

A PLEA FROM PETER ROBERTSON

It is now a legal requirement for the reverse of every prescription form to be filled in fully by the person collecting the medication. Could you please assist your pharmacist by completing the form - carefully.

Thank you.

NORPLANT

The implantable five year contraceptive was introduced about four and a half years ago. We now need to begin removing them and, if desired, replacing them.

Would all those women who had a Norplant fitted check the date of their fitting please and remember that the devices MUST be removed after five years.

Nurse Mary will be sending reminders.

WHIPLASH

Car accidents are a frequent cause of neck injury and some of the problems are avoidable. Anyone who does not wear a seatbelt at all times in a moving vehicle deserves to be used as food or landfill - there are almost no exceptions to this observation.

Airbags are - on balance - a good thing, though there are remaining controversies about them. If a passenger airbag is an option go for it. Follow the manufacturer's instructions about putting babyseats in cars with airbags.

The item of equipment that is least regarded but most often contributes to neck problems is the head restraint - not rest - restraint.

A head restraint should be adjusted so that it and the seat occupant's head are at the same level - if the occupant leans back, the back of his/her head should contact the centre of the restraint.

Leaving the restraint in its lowest position may enable the rear seat passenger (or driver) to have a better view or conduct a conversation more easily or may make reversing easier but it also ensures that in a crash the seat occupant's head will be snapped over backwards, to a potentially fatal degree.

Whiplash injury is common, painful and longlasting. Prevention is better than cure.

BANDAGING SPRAINS

Its official - bandaging sprained ankles makes no difference to the outcome. An article in the Christmas British Medical Journal gave the results of a detailed survey on the subject. The number of cherished beliefs that are being demolished is quite stunning.

FRAMINGHAM

A small town somewhere in the USA made famous by being the most intensively studied community in the world. Health data on the inhabitants have been collected for some decades now. One of the results has been the creation of a scoring system - The Framingham Score - that gives a numerical value to a person's risk of having a heart attack. We are starting to calculate the Framingham scores for our patients now - we'll let you know...

Haydon News

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TEATIME & EVENINGS

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Tuesday	CLOSED FOR ALL OF THE DAY	
Wednesday	11.30 - 1.30	5.00 - 9.00
Thursday	11.30 - 1.30	5.00 - 9.00
Friday	11.30 - 1.30	4.30 - 9.00
Saturday	11.30 - 1.30	5.00 - 9.00

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