



THE HAYDON NEWS

APRIL
2000

Published by The Friends Of Haydon Bridge



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Tel: 01 434 684 289

Issue: 04

APRIL

2000

WHIST DRIVES – Langley Village Hall

Fortnightly on Saturdays at 7pm.

50p entrance

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB ACTIVITIES
(MAY 2000)

11 th May	Haydon Bridge Circular	3 miles A Howard	684 524
25 th May	Gilsland, Birdswald.	3 miles M Moffitt	
	Meet at Railway Inn, Gilsland	D DeStefano	683 124

(Walks start at 6.30pm on Thursdays from Church Street unless stated otherwise)

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For further information please contact:Dot & John DeStefano
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Hello everyone

Well, it was inevitable, wasn't it? In last month's editorial, I was daft enough to mention "sunshine", "warmth" and such like – and we all know what has happened ever since! My wife and I now have an unspoken agreement, born of years of bitter experience, that I never make remarks about good weather (particularly pretty sunsets), because it always proves the kiss of death. I have just finished watching the lunch-time TV news which mentioned firstly that rainfall in the North East was already double the average for the month and secondly that play had been abandoned for the day in all of the eight first-class cricket matches starting today! 'Nuff said?

I know that readers have enjoyed the serialisation in four parts of Dennis Telford's *Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge*, with the final part in the March issue. We have been lucky enough to secure a fresh article by Dennis on the subject of St Cuthbert's Church, and I am pleased to say that this will feature in next month's issue.

Can I invite your attention to changes to the format of Committee Meetings of 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'? These were decided at the last meeting of the Committee; details can be seen on Page 13.

To finish with, may I thank those who have already paid their advertising fees and/or renewed their subscriptions; and remind others that advertising fees and membership subscriptions for "2000" are now due? Details of how to proceed can be found on Page 12. Thanks!

Charles Thomas, Chairman, 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'

HAYDON NEWS

Advertising Rates

Single Column – Variable Width

12 months (10 Issues) starting
February - £12.00

6 months (5 Issues) starting
July - £7.00

Single insertion - £1.50

No charge for:

Forthcoming events
Results of Collections
Acknowledgements
Club News
Reports of Local Functions

(see also Page 12)

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 Editorial Committee 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.

The Editorial Committee reserves the right to decide which letters are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters when necessary. Anonymous letters will NOT be published. A nom-de-plume may be used provided that the Editorial Committee has been advised of the writer's name and address.

Charles Thomas, (Chairman)
South View, Heugh House Lane,
Haydon Bridge, NE47 6ND

10 PENCE ONLY *** DO YOU ENJOY THE HAYDON NEWS ?**

The 'Friends' would like you to consider joining as an inactive member by donating 10p a month or active, which means giving a commitment for occasional help in organising various functions. Please see page 12 now and find out how to wisely spend 10p a month.

Organisations to benefit from the Prize Bingo Sessions this year are: 'Out & About Club', Canada 2000 Project, The Fire Service Benevolent Fund, 'The Sunshine Panners Steel Band, Haydon View Residential Home, St. Cuthbert's Church, The Mothers' Union, Archive 2000. December's Prize Bingo Christmas Party will be funded from the sessions in September, October and November.

If your organisation would like to benefit from one of these sessions please contact Chris Sim on; 01 434 684 704

COPY DEADLINE: All contributions to the Haydon News to reach the Editor no later than Monday 22nd May.

HAYDONIAN WORKING MEN'S CLUB

The Concert Room can now be booked by Members for any occasion.

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This meeting is also open to members of the public.

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Joyce Sim

Chris Sim

Alistair Bowen

'Mitch' Mitchell

Pauline Tulip

Sylvia Mitchell

Richard Snowdon

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHOPS. THEY NEED OUR CUSTOM TO SURVIVE.

TINY TOTS*From Birth to 3 years.*

The sessions, run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, from 9.30 to 11.30 at St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, aim to provide a friendly environment where parents / carers can meet, have a coffee and chat, whilst the children play and have fun.

Cost: £1 for the first child, 50p for each additional child.

For further information contact Genevieve Stone on: 01 434 684 537 or call in at one of the sessions.

PLAYGROUP*From 2 years 6 months*

Playgroup currently runs on Monday and Friday mornings from 9.15 to 11.45. Each session provides your child with the opportunity to learn through play and to experience a wide range of activities. Children learn, through play, to communicate effectively and happily, at their own pace, with other children and adults. Playgroup is run by a qualified Nursery Nurse Teacher plus assistants.

Cost: £3 per session.

For further information contact Helen Easby on: 01 434 674 371 or call in at one of the sessions.

St Cuthbert's Playgroup is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

**MESSAGES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Dear Editor

I wonder whether you would allow my wife Inès and I to say 'HELLO' to some old acquaintances in Haydon Bridge?

We lived at 8, New Alston from 1992 until 1999. I was, very briefly, on Tynedale Council, stood for election for the Hexham Constituency in the 1997 General Election, and was, again rather briefly, involved with the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge' and the *Haydon News* during Mitch's period as Editor.

I am now Professor of Linguistics at the Université Paul Valéry in the South of France (Montpellier), but have very fond memories of Haydon Bridge in general and New Alston in particular.

We have swapped the Tyne Valley for the Hérault Valley, where the locals in our village are clamouring for a by-pass! (Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose!)

We would like to say 'HELLO' to our ex-neighbours Pat and Neville, Mick and Anne, and the Bainbridges. Bonjour also to Steven Ford, Enid Garrow, Mitch, the Clarke's at the Newsagents in Church Street, Gunter at the other newsagent's, Tony Petts at the Post Office, Eileen Charlton at the Co-op, Mike Fry at Chesterwood, and Ted and John who lived just up the road from us.

I'm sending off my membership fee today, and look forward to keeping up with the Haydon Bridge news on the net.

Yours faithfully

Phil Carr

Mitch replies

Glad to hear from you Phil. I will pass your letter over to the Editor of the hard copy edition of the *Haydon News*.

(Continued on page 6)

A.D.A.P.T.

Action by Differently Abled People in Tynedale

Are you retired or semi-retired?

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Visit me or I'll come to your home

(Continued from page 5)

I still look after the Internet edition – which currently needs up-dating.

You will be pleased to note that membership of the 'Friends' is now over 210 – thanks for rejoining.

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards, flowers and presents for my 90th birthday.

It was a very momentous occasion.

Florence Turnbull

A Hexham charity shop, working flat out to raise money for the Mozambique flood victims, urgently needs new volunteers so that it can extend its opening hours.

OXFAM's store in Battle Hill needs two people every afternoon who are willing to work until 5pm.

Shop Manager, Dodo Weetman says that, at the moment, she has no cover between 4 - 5pm and this is preventing her from extending the shop's hours from 9 - 4pm to 9 - 5pm. Dodo says that she is flexible about the hours any new volunteers might wish to work.

"If they want to work from 3 - 5pm or from 4 - 5pm then that's fine with me - the crucial thing is that we have the 4 - 5pm slot covered every afternoon so that we can keep the shop open longer and make more money to help people overseas," she said.

Dodo's problem is, that as part of new National Retail Standards being introduced by OXFAM, the Hexham shop should be opening for 48 hours a week - currently it is not reaching this figure. She says that volunteers can benefit from working in the shop in three main ways:

- by gaining experience of retail work
- by supporting OXFAM's work with poor people at home and abroad
- by taking the opportunity to make new friends.

All travel costs will be reimbursed and OXFAM offers a meal allowance for 5 hours or more worked in a day.

Founded in 1942, OXFAM works with poor people regardless of race or religion in their struggle against hunger, disease, exploitation and poverty in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East through relief, development, research overseas and public education at home.

Anyone wishing to volunteer should ring:

01 434 606 529 or call at the shop and have a friendly chat with Dodo.

Chris Sleight

Volunteer Media Co-ordinator
Newcastle and Teesside Districts.



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Friday 12th May

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LANGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A talk by Mr Robin Crews of the Energy Saving Trust was well received by members at their April meeting.

This Trust was established as part of the Government's action plan in response to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro which addressed world-wide concerns on environmental issues such as climate change. The main objective of the Trust is to improve the efficient use of all forms of energy in the UK.

The good news is that we can all do our bit to help limit emissions of greenhouse gases and save money at the same time.

One of the easiest and most cost effective ways of improving the energy efficiency of a house is to install loft insulation to a depth of 200 mm. After loft insulation, cavity wall insulation is the most cost effective measure – it can reduce heat loss through the walls by up to 60%. Draught proofing windows and doors and even filling the gaps between skirting boards and floorboards will add to the savings. Energy saving lightbulbs not only produce light using a fraction of the electricity that ordinary bulbs use, but also last up to 10 times longer. Room thermostats, time switches and thermostatic radiator valves can also make considerable savings. When a boiler needs replacing, it is worth considering purchasing a condensing boiler as this converts 88% of fuel into heat as compared with the 72% that standard boilers manage. Up to 23% of heat lost from a home can be through poorly insulated frames and single glazing. Double glazing can reduce this loss by half. But obviously because of the expense involved the time required to recover the cost is considerably longer.

Members filled out energy efficiency questionnaires and later received individually tailored information packs and action programmes.



Rainbow Writers Workshop



Hello everyone,

Apologies for not submitting a writer's page in last month's *Haydon News* – Chris and I were enjoying a fortnight's holiday in Majorca at the time.

Since our return the weather here has taken a turn for the worse with March winds and April showers dampening everyone's spirits. However, I hope the poems and prose featured below will cheer you up a little, perhaps even bringing a smile to a few despondent faces.

Sylvia and I wish to offer our congratulations to Marjorie Copleston of Bellingham who penned the winning poem entitled '*The Mother*' in last year's poetry competition.

The Mother

*When you are to see me no more,
I want no mourning mood.
No cloudy eyes of rain, or shadowed smiles, remembering.
I brought you to the world with hope
Of beauty, love and peace,
Showing you stars along the way
Whenever I could push the clouds aside.
Lessening that grief, tempering that woe,
Shielding you from reality,
From those truths I had not even known myself.
I painted you bright colours from my life,
And tried to hide the greys and greens and browns,
Which covered the canvas.*

*But trying to push the world away, I failed,
And doubt and disillusion drifted in our lives
Like clouds
And separated us from the space beyond.
So many things I wished to leave to you
But my life washed them away.
The tides of tears, the storms,
The shallows and the deeps,
Conspired to drown
All but the slender raft on which
Survival was the only way I knew.*

*But love was salvaged, moments here and there,
Ebbing and flowing, but constant as the seasons are
And the leaves in Spring.
There is no end to love, nor ever will be,
So I leave it behind as I go,
To fill up every corner of your life
When you feel hunger, or the day's dull emptiness.*

I'm sure you would agree Marjorie's poignant words echo every mother's hopes, fears and love for her children. A lovely piece of writing.

At our January workshop we asked the ladies to write a criticism of a pantomime, good or bad, that they had attended or seen on television. This is Myra Bowen's recollections entitled '*Local Panto*'

Local Panto

*Come on to the pantomime, come along,
Come listen, come join the dance and the song.
Watch the Sugar Plum Fairy, ten stone six,
Open-mouthed see her twirl into a fix,
Thumping the boards like a ten-ton lorry.
Proud mum's tears make one feel quite sorry.*

*Publicised for weeks as Cinderella,
Lions, tigers and a green umbrella.
In fairy tales it never, never rains
Odd little twist this, a test for the brains.
Perhaps the hall roof is leaking again,
Looking at the ceiling, there's quite a stain!*

*Hero, the Prince, has a bum like a drum,
Has the poor producer under her thumb.
He would be her husband so there you are
All they could do was just nod, grin and bear.
Beautiful Princess could do with a wash
There's uglier I know, but what a hash!*

*The two Ugly Sisters, two huge great blokes,
Were enough to frighten off the poor folks.
They huffed and they puffed and roared at the kids,
Tits were constructed of tin saucepan lids.
The grannies all shook their heads in disgust
Especially when they click-clanked their busts!*

*They produced a red dragon, long black tie
Costume in hand, I suppose that is why.
Baron Wiggly Woo, a fine cockatoo,
Completely in character, feathers too,
Voice like a strangled owl screeching away,
No different from how he speaks all day.*

*Two-man horse fell apart in the middle,
Cat played 'Hey-diddle-diddle' on fiddle.
Oh dear! Fairy God-mother got stage fright,
You've never seen anyone turn so white!
But otherwise everything went all right,
It always does when it comes to the night.*

February's workshop comprised of 50 word sagas, prose and poetry. Each piece of work had to combine a smell

(Continued from page 7)

and touch the writer either loved or hated. Fifteen minutes were allowed for each exercise. Here are some examples from Mabel McCoy.

Fifty Word Saga

(contains the pleasant smell of lavender and the disliked surface of horsehair)

Every Sunday, Aunt Ethel came. She was very elegant and well-dressed, but had a disfiguring birthmark covering one cheek. Her great interest in the theatre helped her to disguise the discolouration with cosmetics, along with a copious spattering of Yardley's Lavender Water. I would sit, continually being pricked by the horsehair sofa, listening to her describing stage shows she had seen, and actors she had met, that week. Such glamour was magic to a little girl's imagination.

A September Song

(A piece of prose associating the unpleasantness of brambling with the recognisable smell of chimney fires)

I associate late September with brambling and chimneys going a-fire in the cooling evenings. They not having been swept during the Summer months, when not in use.

We would spend the afternoon getting scratched and torn, trying to reach the less accessible bunches of fine, large, purple-black berries, our clothing and hands stained with the rich oozing juice, until our containers were full of fruit. We would return home as the mist began to collect and the sharp, Autumnal evening air, chilled our bodies.

Reaching the houses, we saw their chimneys already puffing grey smoke into the sky, and the occasional soot-laden stack would take light and fill the air with the unmistakable smell of a chimney on fire. Consequently, September, brambles and chimney smoke are forever associated, one with the other, in my early memories.

The Blacksmiths' Brew

(A poem combining horsey smells with the unpleasant touching of nettles)

*In times before the horseless carriage,
When equine cabs and carts were the thing,
The local smithy with blacksmiths to farriage,
Shaped metal shoes on their anvils, with a bell-like ring.*

*George, their friend, wracked with rheumatic pain,
Collected bundles of nettles to brew on his fire,
And with secret herbs, yeast and grain,
Made welcome beer for the men to taste and admire.*

In March we attempted HAIKU and ACROSTIC HAIKU. "What's that?" I can hear you ask. Well, HAIKU is a Japanese verse form in 17 syllables and ACROSTIC HAIKU is a number of lines of writing, such as a poem, in which the first or last letters form a word or proverb.

Here is one member's very commendable try:

HAIKU

*Tiny dustmotes do dance
a happy dance within the sun
beams radiant light.*

ACROSTIC

*Do all you young men
aspire to be free only
yoked to liberty.*

The ladies really enjoyed HAIKU. Why not have a go yourself and send your attempts along to me? I'll give £5 to the best effort and publish the first six entries on the Rainbow Writers page in next month's Haydon News.

Bye for now.

Joyce Sim

Millennium Letter – (February 2000)

Coming up to the age of 97, I feel that I should make some contribution in writing about Haydon Bridge in the past, including Altonside, near the village where my late husband and his parents lived for many years. It is believed to date back to the 6th century.

The walls inside the house are 3 feet in depth; a stone window still exists at the back of the house with carvings on it. The first roof was thatched and later stone slated, before blue slates were introduced; water came from a well outside the house before piped water was installed.

It was a Poor Law work house. The east sheds were the old bath house. Tramps used it when resting for the night at the work house. They were given a pot of tea and a change of clothes. Lighting was tallow candles before paraffin oil lamps were introduced. Papers and old documents were found in a cracked wall inside the house revealing much of what Altonside was like in the past.

I remember seeing two ladies dresses, over a hundred years old, owned by the Thompson family, but which previously belonged to aunt Anna Thompson, housekeeper to the Allgood family of Nunwick, Humshaugh. They were indeed museum pieces. Unfortunately they were loaned out for a concert and were not returned.

There is a story about the servant girl working at the work house. She was challenged to go to the little old church along the Tofts Bank at 12 o'clock midnight when she would learn something, and receive a length of tweed to make a costume. She accepted the challenge and as she was approaching the church she heard voices and slipped behind the church door, when two men walked in carrying a dead body. It was her lover. The story is believed to be true, as highway men did murder people in those far off days.

As a point of interest, my late brother and sister were baptised in the old stone font which is still there today in the little old church. Many years ago I had the occasion to visit the old work house in Hexham, now part of the hospital, and as I walked in tramps were sitting on a bench resting before going on to Prudhoe workhouse. We do not have tramps walking the roads to day as they did in the past. People are now provided for.

Daisy Thompson

HORSE RACING NIGHT SHAFTOE TRUST FIRST SCHOOL

A good time was had by all at the Horse Racing Night held recently at Shaftoe Trust First School. A total of £300 was raised on the night, which was 'fund matched' by the Halifax Bank, making a grand total of £600. The money is to go towards improvements to the outdoor area at the Nursery.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event either by participating on the night or by purchasing a horse prior to the event. Also to the PTA members and Friends for providing such a splendid supper.

A special thank you goes to all who sponsored the races or donated prizes for the raffle.

The winning horse owners were:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. Dawn McVay | Lunch for two donated by the Haydon Hotel. |
| 2. Barbara Convery | £15 petrol voucher donated by Scudamore's Garage |
| 3. Julie Slater | Meal for two donated by the Cart's Bog (Langley) |
| 4. Judith Telfer | Crystal Vase & Golf Umbrella donated by Robbs of Hexham and the Halifax Bank. |
| 5. Vera Hope | £15 meat voucher donated by WMH Butchers |
| 6. Stephen Kennedy | Meal for two donated by the George Hotel (Chollerford) |
| 7. John Kirkup | Cut & Blow Dry donated by Antonio Roma (Hexham) |
| 8. Deb Elliot | £50 cash. Horses auctioned on the night to the highest bidder. |

Kathryn Lowdon - Shaftoe Trust PTA

OUT & ABOUT CLUB

**Meet on Mondays from 2 to 4.15pm
at the
Methodist Church (Haydon Bridge)**

Varied programme. All welcome.

The 'Out & About Group' will be starting again on Monday 8th May.

The Summer programme includes popular activities such as Computer Basic Skills, learning to draw, Decoupage and other crafts.

The group will continue to work on a model of the village in clay. Club members may have seen photographing and measuring up local buildings. The finished product will deserve a good display if it comes up to the standard of the paintings "Through the windows of Haydon Bridge" which have recently been on show at the Health Centre and the Haydonian Club.

New members are always welcome. While the group is specially equipped to make things easy for people who are disabled, there are no restrictions on who attends as there are jobs for all.

Is there any interest in having chess or other board games for people who feel that artistic activities aren't quite their "thing"?

For more information please speak to Patsy McDougall on 01 434 684 482 or call in one Monday afternoon. There is a charge of £1 which covers the tea, tutor's costs, materials etc. Transport can sometimes be arranged.

Haydon Bridge United Football Club

Away v Harraby CC	lost	3 - 0
Away v Wallington	draw	1 - 1
Away v Newcastle BT	lost	6 - 1
Away v Wallsend Utd	won	2 - 3
Home v Harraby CC	lost	0 - 1
Away v North Sunderland	lost	0 - 1
Home v North Sunderland	draw	1 - 1

A win, a draw and two defeats from the four away games on the trot isn't too bad. Although the 6 - 1 defeat at Newcastle BT was a bit of a shock, considering Haydon Bridge won the reverse fixture 2 - 0 at the start of the season. Dan Clarke's goal earned a valuable point against Wallington at Scots Gap, and a good win 2 - 3 away at Wallsend United saw Haydon Bridge consolidate in mid-table in 8th position, the game also saw a rare Graham Figg goal! That win at Wallsend was the first league away victory of the season.

Harraby, who look like they will win the division visited Low Hall Park on Wednesday 19th April, and sneaked away with a 0 - 1 victory.

Did you hear about the team that turned up to play Haydon Bridge in a Cup Competition that Haydon Bridge weren't entered into? No? I bet the fixture Secretary of the Northern Alliance did!

The 100 Club

Winning numbers from the April draw were:

049	A Borthwick	£30
096	J Oliver	£15
106	I Forster	£10
203	M Clarke	£5
155	D Irwin	£5

(Continued from page 9)

There are still a few numbers left if you would like to both support the village football teams and be included in the monthly draw. Call in at J & M Clarkes on Church Street and ask about the '100 Club'

Horse Race at the Working Men's Club

Haydon Bridge Football Club are having a Horse Racing Night at the WMC on 13th May starting at 7.30pm.

Giddy up along and place a bet. Prizes include signed pictures of Newcastle United and Sunderland and two match day tickets for Carlisle United, and more besides.

News from the Club

Construction of the new Multi-games Arena is due to start in mid-May, and is expected that 6 - 7 weeks work will see it complete. Just in time for the 2000/2001 football season.

Representatives from Tynedale District Council attended the HBFC monthly meeting at the Railway Hotel, to discuss the possibilities of the Club raising enough funds to be allocated a 16 seater mini-bus. The cost of which would be around £20,000, which means the Club, possibly joining with others in the village would need to find something in the region of £10,000. Sounds like a fair idea, but it might be an option just to go out and buy a second-hand one for a fraction of the cost!

I'd just like to express thanks to everyone who donated (in lieu of flowers) towards the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, especially to Jackie for the collection held at the Railway Hotel. A total of £200 was raised overall and has now been sent off.

Also, thanks for all the kind words and friendly support received over the last couple of weeks, and for the mountains of cards. They were all very much appreciated.

Evelyn Burrows and family



DISABILITY NORTH ABSEIL

Sunday 9th April 2000, chill north-easterly ruffling the Tyne and three hundred and twenty-six intrepid abseilers, including one wheelchair user, mastering their emotions and the gear, lined up for the 90' drop over the Tyne Bridge on the Gateshead side.

Edward Waite Trophy

Following last month's appeal in the Haydon News, the Edward Waite Trophy has now been found. It was in the Haydon Hotel.

The long-lost trophy had indeed been awarded to an U12 player at a time when the team were winning everything in sight in 19 ?? .. ehm .. quite a while ago! Thanks John Fletcher for getting in touch.

The trophy will now be re-presented to the Haydon Bridge Sports Personality of the year who's identity is currently top secret!

Unlucky 13?

A note this month must go to our gallant U13's for their refusal to just give in. With three games left for them to play / endure this season, they have so far played and lost all of their 21 encounters. They've scored 13 goals, but conceded 247. And at one point suffered the indignity of a manager walking out on them mid-way through a game! They are currently trailing 53 points behind league leaders Gosforth. Perhaps it's just unlucky 13? But if these lads don't deserve some encouragement, then I give in as to what does.

Finally. A minute's silence

Each of our teams from the U10's through to the seniors held a minute's silence in tribute to one of our greatest ever players.

Alan White - age 55

Died: Thursday 13th April 2000

Inside left - Number 10.

It proved to be the most successful abseil in the five years since it began and has raised over £21,000 for *Disability North*.

All those who volunteered had pledged a minimum of £50. With the help of fellow students from Carlisle College and many people from Haydon Bridge, Louis raised £130 and qualified for a Northern Disabilities 'T'-shirt. Probably the most expensive 'T'-shirt he'll ever possess! Louis wears it with pride and would like to thank everyone who supported him.

Photographing the event was not without its difficulties as the men of the Royal Marines would insist on posing at every opportunity. But who could begrudge them a place in one's album, when without their good humour, patience and skill the event would not have taken place. At the time, I was too concerned to get a decent photo of my son to ask them for their autographs.

E.P

NOTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Thursday 27th April 2000

Condition of the Land at Tait's Yard. The Chair had spoken to the Head of Planning at Tynedale Council, and reported the following:

The land at the Yard was said to be contaminated. There were said to be two tanks buried under the Yard which would need to be filled with sand, and if used for housing, the land would need to be skimmed first. An earlier potential buyer had apparently surveyed the land for housing development, found it to be contaminated and withdrawn their bid. The land is still available for housing. It is unlikely to be used as a play area as it wouldn't necessarily get Planning Permission. The Head of Planning had, according to the Chairperson, apparently suggested that the current tenants should try to buy the land.

The Chair said that, in her opinion the Parish Council is not able, therefore, to withdraw their remark made last month about contamination of the land.

Community Centre. The debate about this issue was long and complex. It concerned firstly, the Contractor and Architect's underestimate of the cost of building the Centre; secondly, the attempts by residents of adjacent properties to raise their concerns before the building work began; thirdly, the Parish Council's role in relation to the Community Association.

The initial concerns about the construction of the Community Centre were raised in a long and detailed letter from residents of properties adjoining the Centre which was sent to both the Parish Council and the Community Association in November 1998. At this stage, initial trial borings were being done, prior to the start of the building work. The letter expressed concern about the stability of the ground along Ratcliffe Road. It requested that the residents see a copy of the site survey and detailed building plans, before the building work began. It also sought assurance that a guarantee of structural stability of the neighbouring buildings would be sought before the demolition of the existing building.

The Parish Council do not have any recollection of receiving this letter and it does not appear to be in the current files. Some members of the Council do, however, remember discussing the stability of the ground at an earlier meeting.

[**Editor's note:** since the meeting, research reveals that the matter was discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 26th November 1998, and reported in the *Haydon News* of December 1998.]

A letter from the Community Association's Consultant (Architect) to the Community Association had been copied to the Parish Council in response to last month's discussion of the situation about the Community Centre. This long letter was read out to the meeting. It pointed out that the trial borings which had been sunk two metres from the existing buildings, prior to the building work starting, had not revealed any problems and that more trial borings had been done after the neighbour's wall collapsed. It suggested that the neighbour's garden wall was already in poor condition prior to the start of the building works.

However, the main issue of concern is that the Contractor of the Community Centre building is now asking for £50,000 extra money over and above his original estimates and has eliminated some of the internal features of the building whilst reducing the scale of others, namely the front porch. Does the responsibility for this rest with the Contractor, the Community Association or both? One problem which was raised was that the Architect (Consultant) is employed by Northumberland County Council who also won the tender and then sub-contracted the work to the building company. This means that there is no independent Consultant involved in the building work.

The Parish Council is unsure of its role in relation to the Community Association. It was pointed out that the Parish Council had applied for Planning Permission for the building on behalf of the Association. The Secretary of the Community Association at the time was a former Tynedale Councillor who represented the Parish Council on the Community Association. There are only two effective members of the Community Association left and they are felt to be in a very vulnerable position and the Parish Council would like to offer them its support.

Additional problems have arisen with the back lanes and roads adjoining the Community Centre. There is a large puddle in one back lane, whilst drainage problems have occurred with changing road levels near the estate, with mud and gravel being washed along the roadway.

The outcome of the debate was that the Parish Council will set up a meeting to discuss the issues between the contractor, the Community Association and the residents, to be chaired by a Parish Councillor who is a law expert. The former Chair of the Parish Council will be asked for a report about his response to the letter of November 1998. The Council will attempt to trace back the assurances which were given by the Contractor and local residents were asked to supply copies of any documents that they have.

Northern Electric do not want to provide matched funding for underground cabling. They do not think there will be any maintenance savings from this change.

H.E.R.S. £5,000 is still needed for the Riverside Play Area. Three tenders are needed and the Chair is not sure whether it will qualify for regeneration (HERS) funding.

Clean Up Day This was poorly supported but the job was done. The clean up exposed the extent of dog fouling along the riverside.

Whittis Crescent potholes have been cleaned up. **Fourstones Road** has still not been cleaned up. There is a large puddle between the **Heugh House Lane** and the **Peelwell** which needs draining.

Pelican Crossing The lights will only change to let people cross the road when there is no traffic coming. The sensors and sequencing need adjusting.

Martin's Close Speed humps need putting in.

By-Pass/Draft Local Transport Plan The Plan recommends an urgent appraisal of the by-pass needs. The new appraisal will take account of environmental and safety is-

(Continued from page 11)

sues in addition to those of traffic volume and congestion. The village need to be pro-active about it. The By-Pass committee will be re-activated after the Millennium celebrations.

Shaftoe Street There are three lights out. The location of the new **Brigwood** light was discussed.

Hanging Baskets The location of these was discussed. Britain in Bloom will visit next week.

Restoration of the Old Bridge Still no sign of work starting. Should have been completed by May 1999.

HSBC (Midland Bank) have applied for planning permission to put in a cash machine.

Plans for the Churchyard Computer simulations were passed round showing what the Churchyard would look like if it were opened up onto Church Street and some of the gravestones moved back.

Resignation of the Chairperson The Chair announced that she was stepping down as from this meeting. The job has not worked out as she envisaged. She has not been able to get all the village people behind her. She will remain as a Parish Councillor. A new Chair will be elected at the next meeting of the Council in May. **S.H**

HAYDON NEWS ADVERTISING

ANNUAL ADVERTISING FEES FOR THE YEAR 2000

Advertising costs for Parish businesses remain at £12.00 per column block.

(See also the box on Page 3 for other rates)

Please cut out box below, enclose it and the appropriate fee in an envelope as shown in the paragraph opposite.

I wish to continue using my present advert which uses blocks.

Cheque to the value of £12/£24/£36/£48 made payable to 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge' is enclosed.

Name of Business:

Paid by:

Name:

Address:

Post Code: Tel:

Do you require a receipt? YES/NO

New advertising or any queries should be addressed to **The Treasurer** at the address shown opposite, or please phone:

01 434 684 035.

FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

As the subscription to cover the current year is now due please cut out box below, enclose it and appropriate subscription (Cheques payable to *The Friends of Haydon Bridge*) in an envelope addressed to:

The Treasurer
Friends of Haydon Bridge
High Brindles
Heugh House Lane
Haydon Bridge
NE47 6HJ
Northumberland

If you live locally just use the top two lines of the address and leave it at Haydon Bridge Post Office from where it will be collected.

You may pay more than the standard subscription of £1.20 if you so desire – all donations are used by 'The Friends' in supporting voluntary and charitable causes in the Parish of Haydon.

UK readers of the *Haydon News* may join 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge' for a subscription of £6.00 which includes a postal delivery. Again you may donate more if you can afford it.

Enclosed is the sum of being mine/our subscription and donation to 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge' for the calendar year 2000.

Name:

Address:

Internet readers can of course read the special Internet Edition of *The Haydon News* on:

<http://www.haydonbridge.org>

Although this world-wide service is free we do welcome voluntary donations. At the moment the whole enterprise is funded by the Internet Editor Mitch who makes no charge to the 'Friends' for either telephone charges, software, hardware, site registration and license fees. This situation will be reviewed during the coming year. All donations are used by 'The Friends' for their general budget.

Thank You

S.B. Mitchell

*'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'***Bingo**

St. Cuthbert's Church Hall

Saturday 27th May 2000

7.00 – 9.00pm.



WHAT'S ON

Whist Drive

Langley Village Hall

Saturday 6th May 2000

7.00pm.

Whist Drive

Langley Village Hall

Saturday 20th May 2000

7.00pm.

Langley W. I.

Talk by Mr Michael Lees

'Wine Making'Tuesday 9th May 2000

7.30pm.

New Members welcome.

Contact: 01434 684 419

If you would like to submit
diary dates for the
"What's On" page
please leave your copy with
Tony at the Post Office
or with any member of the
Committee of the
'Friends of Haydon Bridge'

(please see page 4)

Haydon Bridge Football Club**Monthly Meeting**Tuesday 2nd May 2000

Railway Hotel

7.30pm

**Congratulations to Steven and Jean Ford****on their 25th Wedding Anniversary (Wednesday 17th May 2000)****FORMAT OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF 'THE FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE'**

I would like to bring to your attention some changes to the format of Committee Meetings of 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'.

Dates and Times of Meetings

Committee Meetings are now held on the **MONDAY** following the fourth Thursday of each month – not Tuesday. The time stays the same at 8.00pm, as does the venue.

Public Participation

Our invitation to members of the public to participate continues, but it must be remembered these are the monthly meetings of a constitutionally-based committee which are run on formal business lines (agenda, minutes, reports, etc). For this reason, public participation will in future be restricted to a maximum of the first 30 minutes of every meeting only. Items for discussion must be notified in writing to the Chair one week in advance of the meeting so that Committee members can be advised, enabling worthwhile discussion to take place. The Chair will then advise the person concerned of the right to attend.

After the allotted time we ask that you leave the meeting so that the Committee can continue with their formal agenda.

Charles Thomas, Chairman, 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'

COPY DEADLINE: All contributions to the Haydon News to reach the Editor no later than Monday 22nd May.

CHURCH PAGE



CLERGY MESSAGE

Revd Vincent Ashwin

There has been a lot of talk about Section 28 and Sex Education in schools. How seriously should youngsters take the issue of homosexuality? How can schools help to set in place the 'building blocks' of society? There were two debates in the House of Lords recently, and on both occasions the Government's more liberal position was defeated. The Church of England bishops, who had consulted with other Church leaders, had tried to promote a compromise which would teach the great importance of life-long relationships, and also stop discrimination against homosexual people.

The Catholic Education Service and the Church of England Board of Education recently stated what they believed should be taught:

- "1. Pupils should be taught from an early age to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others. They should be given accurate information. This will enable them to understand difference and help to remove prejudice.
2. Human sexuality is a gift of God and finds its perfect expression within loving life-long marriage. Any other physical sexual expression falls short to some degree of that ideal. It follows that human sexuality is not fulfilled in self-gratification or in promiscuous or casual relationships.
3. Traditional marriage should be promoted as the fundamental building block of society, and of family life, and as the proper context for the nurture of children.
4. Pupils have a right to develop without being subject to any physical or verbal abuse about sexual orientation or to the encouragement of sexual activity.
5. Life-long celibacy can be fulfilling. In this way of life, and individual's sexual instincts may be channelled into generous love and service of others.
6. Life-long human friendships are an important gift and should be honoured and cherished.

May 2000

AN INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENT
TO THE HAYDON NEWS

7. Human beings fall short of the ideal, but the admission of failure can bring forgiveness and reconciliation. People can change their behaviour. Couples working through problems within marriage can find deeper love and strengthened character."

(It's me writing now!) Readers of *Haydon News* will recognise that this is basically a traditional re-statement of the Church's position on marriage and family life. But there are slight differences:

- ◆ The statement is child-centred: that is, there is deep concern about the best homes for children to be brought up in.
- ◆ There is great concern about prejudice; the report recognises that gay men and women suffer discrimination.
- ◆ Para.4 shows the concern of parents and the Church that young people now are pressurised into sexual activity by their peers at a very early age.
- ◆ I don't know what lies behind Para.6 about life-long friendships. It could be saying that deep friendships do not depend on sex. It's not clear. But the emphasis on friendship must be welcome.

The Church has difficulty in dealing with issues like these. If we recognise, and even bless, life-long homosexual relationships, we are accused of 'going soft'. If we speak too strongly of the value of marriage, we are accused of discriminating against unmarried couples who do a great job in bringing up their children.

It seems to me that the Church's task is have ideals based on Christ. One of those ideals is to accept people as they are.

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

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

May 3rd

2.00 pm Womens Own - Mr T North

May 7th

10.00 am Mr Trevor North
6.00 pm Prayer Fellowship

May 14th

10.00 am Rev David Perkins (S)
6.00 pm United Service at St Johns RC

May 17th

2.00 pm Womens Own - Mrs C Perkins

May 21st

10.00 am Mrs M Gazzani
6.00 pm West End

May 28th

8.30 Prayer Breakfast
10.00 am Rev David Perkins (F)
6.00 pm Rev J Errington

May 31st

2.00 pm Womens Own

June 4th

10.00 am Rev B Cooke
6.00 pm Mr M Fry

June 11th

10.00 am Rev D Perkins

6.00 pm United Open Air Celebration at
Vindolanda

Palm Sunday was a very special occasion for us all with the now traditional meeting at St Johns for the start of a service together. With the reading of the Passion Narrative and the blessing of the palms prior to processing to St Cuthberts a wonderful time as Christians Together In Haydon Bridge.

CALENDAR FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

May 7th 3rd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (Canon Prins)
10.30am All-Age Service (Lindsay Gray)
6.00pm Old Church Evensong (M Fry)

Tue 9th 7.30pm Church Council meets

Wed 10th 1.30pm Vindolanda C'tee

May 14th 4th Sunday of Easter

10.30am Parish Communion
6.00pm Christian Aid Service

May 15th - 20th. Christian Aid Week

May 21st 5th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Prayer, Sermon (M Fry)
6.30pm Deanery Evensong, Hexham.

May 28th 6th Sunday of Easter

10.30am Parish Communion

June 1st Ascension Day

7.30pm Holy Communion

June 4th 7th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (Rev J Linton)
10.30am All-Age Service (Lindsay Gray)
6.00pm Old Church Evensong (L Gray)

The lent study Groups held a very fruitful and interesting series of meetings during Lent. One group met at the vicarage (thanks to Vincent for his hospitality) to listen and discuss music and prayer with lively discussion and singing of new songs. The other group met at St Johns (thanks to Fr Leo for his hospitality) on Tuesday evenings to listen to and discuss a course on tape by Gerard Hughes based on his inspirational book "God of Surprises". Again lively discussion and debate was entered into by all, a very beneficial time for us all.

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.

Easter Monday walk for CAFOD

Glorious sunshine put the 35 (or so) walkers from different churches in a good mood for the CAFOD sponsored walk on Easter Monday. The event was arranged by St John's Church, and Father Leo Pyle struck up a good pace. Grand Prix crowds had slithered in the mud at Silverstone, and Hexham was drenched in a spectacular thunder-storm. But Hadrian's Wall was peaceful and bright. The walkers were from 2 to 70 years old, and set out from the Brocolitia car-park to try and walk the 13 miles (Was it really only 13 miles?!) to Walltown near Greenhead. Some people walked only part of the way, but the stalwarts began arriving at Walltown less than six hours after starting off. Next month we hope to publish how much money was raised. CAFOD is Christian Aid's sister organisation, and works for development and famine relief.

QUACK

THE END OF CIVILISATION - AS WE KNOW IT....

There are aspects of this item which put me in mind of a definition I was once given of a cynic - "one who stands on the touch line of life and jeers at both sides." Yet, in taking a mildly cynical stance I seek only to highlight the hazards present in the taking of unduly zealous positions on issues close to the heart.

Today's sermon concerns that fragrant hardy perennial that is such an enduring and endearing feature of, even an ornament upon, the provincial press - the dog turd. A subject of limited aesthetic appeal or utility, though our, then toddler, daughter was once observed to be more than ordinarily absorbed by a new lump of play-dough that she had found in the garden - warm too! The ubiquitous dog turd has, over the years, provoked legions of outraged citizenry to take up the pen and compose stiff letters to their local organ, the prose becoming almost incandescent at times.

There is abundant evidence that pets are good for you but owners do bear a duty to the rest of us to prevent harm being caused by their charges. Both regular worming, especially of pregnant and newly whelped bitches and puppies and the scrupulous clearing of faeces from public areas are the very important.

A number of diseases are potentially transmissible via dog faeces:

Toxocara canis, a nematode larva that emerges in the human gut after the eggs are ingested from contaminated soil. The nematode larva burrows out of the gut and wanders widely around the body until it finally dies after 6 - 18 months. If the number of larvae is small then the disease may pass unremarked. If the number burrowing around the body is very great then there may be symptoms relating to the organ(s) affected. The creature's natural life cycle cannot be completed in a human host.

Toxoplasma gondii, a protozoan, can be transmitted via any warm blooded animal though it only completes its sexual cycle in members of the cat family. Up to 90+% of the general population can be shown to have had this infection. It is of major concern in women who are or hope to be pregnant, in whom the outcome can be catastrophic for the foetus, and in young children.

Echinococcus granulosus, the eggs can be transmitted to humans from dogs. The worm burrows out of the gut and takes up residence in the liver or lung, usually, where it forms a cyst (hydatid cyst) that slowly grows over the years until it causes symptoms due to its size when surgery may be attempted.

Dipylidium caninum, dog tapeworm, a debilitating but not ordinarily fatal condition.

I cannot immediately identify any literature on the transmission of bacterial or viral diseases from dogs to humans via faeces but no doubt this is a contributory factor in the burden of illness in the community.

People with impaired vision are particularly vulnerable to the unpleasant consequences of the soiled pavement.

Last month I mentioned cognitive behavioural therapy. The therapist who came to lecture us at Hexham incorporated a pleasing example in her talk:

Bloggs steps in a dog turd as he leaves for work. If anxious he will think "Oh No! I'm going to be late, I'll lose my job, the boss will be mad at me, Oh Help!". If obsessional he will think "Got to wash, got to wash, got to wash.....". If depressed he will think "Typical, everything bad always happens to me, I'm no good, I'm hopeless, there's no hope." However, the person who has just been received cognitive behavioural therapy will shrug their shoulders and think "Thank heavens I was wearing shoes."

QUACK

THE MOTHER OF ALL HEADACHES

Approximately one person in ten has migraine, women more often than men and there is a clear tendency for the condition to run in families. Different things, stress, periods, foods, VDUs, the pill etc., can cause the problem in some susceptible people.

Classically the attack will begin with a prodrome (a set of symptoms that comes before the main attack) which is usually easily recognised by the patient. This could be problems with vision, flashing lights or jagged lines, strange smells or tastes, hunger, weeping from one eye, running nose. This followed by an intense, usually one sided throbbing head pain. This can be sufficiently severe to cause the sufferer to cower in a dark room and can even be associated with loss of consciousness or paralysis.

There are however a number of different forms of migraine and some require the experience of a specialist to sort out.

A tension headache, which in some people can be very debilitating, is usually described as being across the brow or nape of the neck and into the lower part of the back of the skull. Some people have both types of headache.

The exact cause of migraine has not yet been fully worked out. It is almost certainly something to do with the blood vessels in the brain becoming first narrowed and then excessively dilated.

Part of the treatment of migraine is avoiding the things that bring it on - if possible. If the sufferer is quick enough to get somewhere quiet and dark for a lie down the attack may not develop. Taking painkillers, either regular ones or special anti-migraine ones, will often help if the dose is taken at the very start of the attack. Medication taken when the attack is well under way may well not be absorbed and will therefore not work.

Paracetamol (acetaminophen) or aspirin are often sufficient. Taking a tablet, such as metoclopramide, to help absorption of the painkiller is often helpful. The nausea and vomiting that accompanies migraine can sometimes make taking things by mouth quite pointless. Suppositories can be given for those with a fondness for such things but most people would prefer self administered injections of drugs such as sumatriptan or its nasal spray version. These work almost magically in many people and giving the injection is not half as bad as people imagine. There are tablet forms of sumatriptan and its like for the faint hearted. A variety of complementary treatments are available too.

Those with very frequent or predictable attacks may benefit from taking medication to prevent the problem rather than treat it when it arises.

PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE

Every so often someone asks if they should take out private medical insurance for themselves or their families. Some companies offer it as part of a remuneration package. In the very roundest of round terms it seems to cost about fifty pounds per person insured per month, two hundred pounds per month for a family of four. I don't have private medical insurance and I have no plans to do so.

What I would suggest is that if you might wish to use private medical care then you should start your own savings scheme (high interest deposit account with bank or building society or perhaps an ISA if you're feeling adventurous). Don't bother accumulating more than about ten to twelve thousand pounds - if you're that sick you'd be better off with the NHS. The interest will help but you do have to be disciplined about saving. The money then remains yours rather than disappearing into the awful gaping maw of freemarket capitalism. SF.