



THE HAYDON NEWS

Issue: 02

**FEBRUARY
2000**

Published by The Friends Of Haydon Bridge

Editorial

In the last edition of the *Haydon News* I mentioned that there had been a fair amount of activity in the village during the winter months. Since then the pace has quickened with many long-planned schemes achieving success

While there may have been ‘torrid times’ at Haydon Bridge Football Club (see report on page 15) the club has achieved outstanding results in their fund raising activities to improve facilities at Low Hall Park. After a well played first half, raising £27,000, they went on to score again with a successful Lottery Bid. A tremendous achievement that will bring long lasting benefits to the people of Haydon Bridge. (Full report on page 9)

Still in the Sports field, the High School has been granted “Sports College” status. Again, this has only been achieved through much hard work by all involved. The new facilities will provide additional benefits to the pupils and the wider community. Congratulations on their success.

The first meeting of the Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme (HERS) was held in February. Through this scheme money from English Heritage and Tynedale

Council will be made available over the next three years to carry out environmental and economic improvements to the village.

The first allocation of money is to be used to repair the structure of the Old Bridge and provide floodlighting. This is in addition to the scheme for new lighting and floorscaping of the bridge and replacing the bollards and fencing at either end.

Under the HERS project money will be made available for improvements to the frontage of businesses and properties in the conservation area of the village but this must be matched by a similar amount from the owners.

In this edition the historical saga of the Wesley Chapel continues; there’s a reminder from our Treasurer that subscriptions and advertiser’s fees are now due. There’s also an article on ‘The Friends’ proposal to develop Tait’s Yard for community use. Your views and comments on this idea would be appreciated.

We don’t seem to get many letters now-a-days!!

MRP

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 14)

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.

The Editor 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 Editor 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 14 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 Tuesday 21 March.

??? DID YOU KNOW ???

Haydon Bridge Library has a new computer for Public Internet Access.

The service offers several FREE information sites and only costs £1.50 for 30 minutes on the World Wide Web (www) which I have been informed is very cheap, as some Cyber Cafes charge £4 for 30 minutes.

So come on down to the Library and have a go.

We are open:

TUESDAY 10.00 to 12.00
13.00 to 17.00 (1pm – 5pm)
THURSDAY 13.00 to 17.00 (1pm to 5pm)
17.30 to 19.30 (5.30pm to 7.30pm)

See you there!!

Lesley Archer Senior Library Assistant

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Residents and Staff at Haydon View would like to express their thanks to all who gave £150 in donations in lieu of flowers for the late Mamie Clark.

We have purchased a set of garden table and chairs which will be put to good use during the summer months.

Dear Friends

My family and I would like to thank you for the beautiful flowers and card from 'The Friends' of the village I received when Arthur died.

Living in a close community people care. Knowing that helps you to get through your grief.

Thank you all again.

Kathleen Fulton 7 Martin's Close.

MISS J. TEASDALE BA

State Registered Chiropodist
Member of the Society of Chiropodists

Treatment available at the Haydon Bridge Health Centre and at

25, Burswell Avenue, Hexham

For appointments and enquiries.
Telephone: 01 434 608 612

THE MEETING PLACE

AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

Come and Join your friends for Coffee and Refreshments on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am – 12 noon

Newspapers to browse FAX facilities

Warm welcome to all

HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

HBUFA hold their monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm where representatives of every football team in the village are invited to attend.

This meeting is also open to members of the public.

NEED HELP WITH Tax Returns, Accounts, Book-keeping etc ?

Ring

BASSETT HERRON & CO. Chartered Accountants 3, Market Street, Hexham

Tel: 01 434 605 666

We Can Help YOU

Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'

Charles Thomas (Chairman) Mike Parkin (Vice Chairman)
Elena Parkin Joyce Sim Chris Sim Alistair Bowen
'Mitch' Mitchell Pauline Tulip Sylvia Mitchell Richard Snowdon

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHOPS. THEY NEED OUR CUSTOM TO SUR-

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.

SEAL CLUB

Come and join the Seal Club!

What is it and where is it held?

The Society for the Entertainment and Amusement of Locals is held at St Cuthbert's Church Hall.

The name **SEAL** represents St Cuthbert who lived amongst them.

We have slide shows, demonstrations and talks.

We meet nine months of the year March to November at 7.30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the above months.

In October of every year we organise the Harvest Supper.

New members are most welcome so do come and join us and see for yourself.

M. Curry

RURAL ADVICE AND INFORMATION SERVICE

TYNEDALE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

With the financial assistance of the Rural Stress Initiative (RSI) and the co-operation of the GP practice it has been possible to provide an information and advice service within Haydon Bridge Health Centre, which reflects the Government's directive of Healthy Living Centres.

The RSI is a group comprising of both statutory and voluntary organisations concerned about the current stresses in rural areas and farming communities, which is co-ordinated through the Community Council of Northumberland.

Tynedale CAB has already successfully collaborated with other GP practices, including Wark, Bellingham and Allendale – and we hope to replicated this in Haydon Bridge.

Often it seems to be accepted that rural dwellers must put up with sub-standard services because of their location and it is often assumed that those who live in the country have an idyllic life without hardship or problems. In fact, country people experience much the same problems as those living in urban areas and with the changes occurring in farming their current needs and stresses have rarely been so great. Problems in rural areas are often made

worse by long journeys to reach services and sources of help.

One of the aims of the CAB is to ensure that people do not suffer through ignorance of their rights or services available, or through an inability to express their needs effectively. The rural project supports this by taking the service to the people.

We can offer advice and assistance on money matters, housing, legal, employment, personal, benefit applications, reviews and appeals and where appropriate in association with the GPs and other Health Care professionals.

Our service offers free, confidential and impartial information, guidance and support to all individuals.

Sessions are held at Haydon Bridge Health Centre every Monday from 2pm – 4pm by appointment only.

For an appointment: Call at the Health Centre Reception
or

telephone: 01 434 684 216

SPORTING STATUS FOR HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

We were given Sports College Status as a result of our school's success and achievement in Physical Education and Community Sport. The written submission, including a three year development plan, an HMI visit to the school and achievement of the English Sports Council Awards Sportsmark and Sportsmark Gold provided the evidence required by the DfEE. This confirmed our current level of development and illustrated beyond doubt the ability and commitment of the school and community partners to increasing curriculum provision, participation and academic/vocational success for students at the High School, within the pyramid of schools and for the population of this community at large.

The journey taken to achieve Sports College Status started in October 1996 with the DfEE announcing the expansion of the Government's Special Schools Programme to include Sport as an addition to Technology and Languages.

The decision to embark on this journey was taken following consultation with students, parents, governors, staff and community partners. Immediately following this, a team of people including a parent governor, LEA and County Council representative was assembled to plan the project with the first task being the project requirement to secure £100,000 of sponsorship. In just six weeks this was accomplished; a truly outstanding school and community achievement. At the same time as the sponsorship was being sort the planning team were hard at work putting together the written submission for a December deadline.

Then in March 1997 came the devastating news that our bid had not been successful. The feedback received suggested that the submission was good and it had met the criteria. However, Treasury funds were insufficient to award all schools that had applied for Sports College Status. This news was followed by a period of reflection when many questions were asked, with the resulting outcome being an even greater determination to see this project through to a successful conclusion no matter how much work was involved or how long it would take. The school and the community were united in support of this project.

During late 1997 and 1998 we were again unsuccessful in our quest, yet belief in this project never faltered and in fact we even became more determined. We did acknowledge that rural communities have fewer people but would not accept that those people deserve anything less than access to quality sporting facilities equal to those located in urban areas, and it was this fact that drove us forward.

Then in late July 1999, two years and ten months after setting out on the journey, we received over the phone the good news:

"The Minister has confirmed designation of Haydon Bridge High School as a Specialist Sports College from 1st September 1999".

The numerous benefits of being a Sports College will over time impact on the community at large and most certainly will benefit all schools, First, Middle and High in our pyramid. The benefits will include: extra facilities, equipment,

resources including access to specialist coaches, coach education, transport, and access to sports not currently available locally i.e. gymnastics, dance, movement and indoor climbing. Additional specialist PE staff will be timetabled at specific times to work with children in our First and Middle Schools. Additional community staff will assist in the development of sports programmes for children and young people after school and during school holidays and will also develop a sporting programme with adults for adults. Specialist coaches will be employed to develop skills and talent, additional sports equipment will be purchased to enable the development of gymnastics, climbing etc. Books, CD ROM's, videos and ICT hardware and software will be purchased to support teaching and learning in physical education and sport. The list just goes on and on and on.

Not everything will be immediately visible or available, for example, the new gymnasium, improved changing rooms and climbing wall, but they are all part of the approved plan and will be built soon.

How soon these facilities will be built is directly linked to our Sport England Sports Lottery Bid. A successful Sports Lottery Bid would slightly delay the start of the building work linked to the Sports College. However, ultimately the final development would be far superior, as the amount of finance available would be greater. We should by April 2000 have a much clearer idea of the timescale associated with building works.

The task of managing the Sports Lottery Funding Bid is daunting but it is without doubt worth doing for the benefits it will bring to this community. These are exciting times and the future of sport in our community is looking good.

To all those people who provide regular positive words of encouragement and support – thank you, it is your words that provide the incentive to persevere with the task and without doubt help in bringing about success.

Community Education Haydon Bridge High School

Bridge Learn how to play – places available on Thursday evenings **7.00pm to 9.00pm.**

NEW COURSE – Hill Skills Learn the skills required for taking part in expeditions or just for family camping!

For further information on these or any other courses please contact Lesley Robson on: **01 434 684 422**

Suggestions for courses always welcome!

HISTORICAL NOTES OF HAYDON BRIDGE

By Dennis Telford

'Whether you knew it as the Wesleyan Chapel, the Wesley Hall or the Community Centre, memories are all that remain as the old stones are rebuilt for a new Millennium. A new beginning!'

Part 3 – The Wesley Hall

By the time the old Wesleyan or Central Methodist Church was dedicated as a Community Centre, to be known as 'Wesley Hall' the soldiers who had commandeered it as a war time billet had left, the cook house at the rear had been dismantled, the pulpit and pews had been removed and sold for £60.

The military authorities were none too keen to pay for damage to the premises while they had been in occupation although they did grudgingly admit eventually, that a radiator which had gone missing was probably their responsibility!

In June 1946 the Community Centre, generally called the Methodist Youth Club at the time, was a venue for 'V' Day celebrations. If you were one of the children entertained to tea, you may well have been sitting next to one of the winners of the Fancy Dress Competition which had been held earlier in the day: Muriel Watson, Ronald Moran, Peter Routledge, Margaret Gilchrist, Rhoda Brown, John Bond, Norma Brown, Bobby Beckwith, John Oliver, Doreen Brown, Marlene Turnbull, Margaret Hill, Rene Lax, Pat Ridley, Kathleen Robinson, Aileen Hill, Dorothy Paul, Margaret Bond, Kathleen Burrows and Sandra Moore.

The Church leaders and Trustees' vision to maintain strict spiritual purpose to each of the disparate activities which the premises now hosted inevitably led to tensions.

Compromises were made!

Smoking was allowed in the 'Club room and Games room' but not in the Hall which had previously been the Chapel. Limited dancing was sanctioned when 'public dances, Whist Drives or similar types of public entertainment' had not been allowed on Methodist premises previously.

The Youth Club was a constant source of concern as it sought its independence from the Chapel and the Trustees did their best to keep control.

It was pointed out to the Youth Club that the Wesley Hall had not been handed over completely to them, they had no right to sub-let the hall and perhaps to show who was in charge, the Trustees decided to impose a curfew, closing the canteen at 9.30pm. and the premises at 10.00pm, to avoid nuisance or annoyance to the occupiers of neighbouring property.

On the 23rd. of November 1950 the Trustees made another attempt to assert their authority. The Youth Club was given one month's notice by the Church and then asked to re-apply for the nights they required.

By April 1951, a Youth Management committee was formed to attempt a re-conciliation. The leaders of the Church were: Noel Shaw, Bobby Todd, E. Brown, Mrs Watson, Misses K. Liddle, Eileen Cooper, Sybil Telford

and Laura Telford. The Youth Club representatives were: John Corbett, David Corbett, Stephen Westall, Jeff Reynolds, Misses Mary Stokoe and Margaret Watson.

This was probably an uneasy truce because on 29th. October 1952 the Methodist minister discussed a proposal to re-open the Youth Club under Methodist control, in the Elmfield premises rather than the Wesley Hall.

The Wesley Hall would be used for purposes of evangelism, films of an evangelical nature, services, club work and church socials.

Following a meeting with the Youth Club members however, the minister reported that they ***"Showed no inclination to meet at Elmfield and revealed a marked reluctance to be under Methodist control!"***

The Wesley Hall Community Centre was home for many activities other than the Youth Club of course.

Access and exit from the Hall was made easier by removal of the entrance partition and replacing it with swing doors.

Bazaars, Bring and Buy Sales, Beetle Drives and Jumble or Rummage Sales were held at regular intervals, as volunteers gave hours of their time to raise finance to support village organisations.

Every year flowers and vegetables were laid out row upon row on trestle tables for the Haydon Bridge Parish Gardeners' Annual Show.

In 1949, the 1st. Haydon Bridge Boy Scouts were given permission to use the hall on Friday nights. The large, high room with solid wall and little furnishing or decoration to speak of, was a wonderful location for boys with energy to burn.

In the late 40's and early 50's the Haltwhistle St. Cecelia Choir sang to capacity audiences when they visited.

In spite of the social activities which took place in the Wesley Hall, it became clear to the Methodist Trustees that it was becoming impossible to finance both the Ratcliffe Road and Church Street premises adequately, and after the Methodist Badminton Club disbanded in January 1952 and re-formed as an independent club, the Trustees sought permission to sell the Wesley Hall.

Having decided that it was surplus to requirements, the Trustees sought a purchaser for the property.

During the ensuing years only essential repairs were carried out, general maintenance was left to God and good neighbours and the fabric of the building deteriorated. The hall continued to be used. There will be many who

(Continued from page 7)

remember the raucous meetings of the Langley and Haydon Bridge Boy's Club for which Ralph Pickering gave up so much of his time so readily.

The wonderful nights with the more structured 1st. Haydon Bridge Boy Scouts of which we were so proud to be members and where Bob Campbell set a fine example to those in his charge. Perhaps you were in the 'Peewits', the 'Hawks' or the 'Wood pigeons' patrol!

Or maybe your fondest memories are of the Badminton Club which flourished. Where old friends met, new friendships were born and blossomed and where more discrete liaisons took place!

Or was it all village rumour and gossip?

Oh, happy days!

(part 4 – in next month's issue)

DANCE CLUB NEWS

The Church Hall is bursting at the seams with 9 new members recently. These last few weeks we have an attendance of over 40 members.

Iris says the club started in 1977 and was run by Len Han-nant's mother-in-law. In 1981/82 Len took over and in 1983 he asked me to assist him. He was poorly at the time. He finally handed the club over to me. Daphne and I carried on until 1992 when we left after a lot of harassment to us both. From July 1992, Helen Donnelly took over with Philip. After some disagreements they left in March 1996. Ken Bennion struggled on for a few weeks doing his best to keep things going until Iris approached Daph and I to ask if we would consider taking over again. Which we did with great success as things have proved.

Thanks go this time to Margaret and Dora for their work in collecting Lottery money etc. and sorting out the winners at the end of the year. No easy task with a full hall.

Audrey, Jose and George are all gallivanting at this time.

Jim Biggs

The Editor

Dear Sir

May I please use the columns of the *Haydon News* to re-ply to Mrs D Thompson's letters in the January edition where she seems to argue a case for and against change on Church Street?

Firstly with regard to the Old Foundry, Church Street be-ing untidy. I live on Church Street and I have never heard visitors to the village, nor locals, make any disparaging remarks about the site. It is an industrial site, a former foundry used more recently as a haulage contractor's yard not a shrine to those lost in the wars – for that purpose we have a memorial further south along the street.

Secondly I do not wish to be included in an imaginary list of villagers who are objecting to the metal cross on the Methodist Chapel. Comments about the cross and Chapel refurbishment have been positive, the building and facili-ties are now an asset to the village.

Finally Mrs Thompson's comments regarding her altera-tions to the railings at Parker's Terrace that the Parish Council "*should know better than to interfere in a private matter on private land*". This reminds me of the old prov-erb – **practice what you preach**. The Foundry owner un-doubtedly has the same rights to his property and is al-lowed to do with it as he likes within constraints of the law of the land.

Haydon Bridge, for such a small village, seems to have more than its share of upheaval and change and with change seems to come objection and criticism. We must all keep an open mind and take other points of view into account when forming opinions and presenting our opin-ions.

Mrs J Brown

**17 Church Street
Haydon Bridge**

***Pierre Lang
Jewellery***

***Weekenders
Ladies Clothes***

Gill Valentine

River House

Telephone: **01 434 688 199 or 01 434 688 999**

Visit me or I'll come to your home
(New seasons colours and styles now in – for March)

COMMUNITY CENTRE PROGRESS

I am sure that everyone has seen the progress being made at the Community Centre. It now looks like a proper building, rather than a pile of rubble, which it seemed to be for a long time.

The building programme has experienced some delays, the main reasons being: the collapse of a neighbour's wall, un-derpinning adjacent boundaries and last but not least the inclement weather.

With these events behind us, and fingers crossed for the weather to be kind to us over the next few weeks, a provisional completion date is expected to be the end of March 2000.

Mary Douthwaite

Chair: Community Association

HAYDON BRIDGE ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB LOTTERY BID

Well, as I'm sure most of you will already have heard, we have been successful in our Sports Lottery Bid. We have been granted 55% of the total cost of providing a 5-a-side Artificial Surface Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at Low Hall Park.

This has been a mammoth task, as I am sure anyone who has been involved in Lottery Bids will understand only too well.

This one started as an idea plucked really out of nowhere, stemming from when we were told that the Bowling Club didn't want the land offered by HBFC for use as a bowling green. At a Committee meeting in February 1997, David Kirsopp suggested a 5-a-side artificial surface area, knowing the land was available and that it would be a huge attraction to the youngsters of the village. After much discussion it was decided to make enquiries into how a Lottery Grant might be obtained. Maybe if we had known then what we know now, that might have been as far as it went, but we had just no idea of the 'whys' and 'wherefores' of the procedures that were going to be needed.

After talking to the Reverend David Perkins about how well the campaign for the new Chapel was going, he loaned us some literature containing the names and addresses of various Charities who may or may not be willing to help us. We then wrote a project brief, outlining what we were aiming for and enclosed with that a letter before posting to around 80 of these Trusts, as well as to the major companies in our area. We then contacted Tynedale District Council who carried out a feasibility study in May 1997. They advised us to go ahead and apply for planning permission. We did, and it was granted in August 1997. We were on our way.

John Maud, and his team from Tynedale Leisure met at our house every month for about a year, working closely with Keith Carruthers, Alan Borthwick, Shirley Phillips and ourselves to try and wade through the mountain of paperwork and legislation necessary to complete the Bid. We also applied to the Football Association in London for a grant while HBFC carried out ambitious money raising events around the village. For which, we have to thank the residents of Haydon Bridge, and in particular Eileen Charlton and her By-Pass Committee for their sincere generosity. Without all of this support, we would just not have managed.

In December 1998, we were invited to meet the local representatives of the Lottery Commission. They had a copy of our aims, development plan and project brief. We duly set off one cold evening, our hopes and expectations high, thinking that we were almost there, ready just to send all of this paperwork off to London then sit back and wait. Never could anyone have been so wrong. We met up with John Maud again and were summoned into the Committee Room to meet the Lottery people. They advised us at the very beginning of the meeting that several areas of our plans needed to be altered if we stood any chance of being

successful. The main discrepancy was that as we had planned for male, female and the disabled to use the playing area, but had not considered the facilities of the old Pavilion, which were seriously lacking. Especially for the disabled. It was back to the drawing board. In fact, Brian Bell's drawing board. Brian very generously drew up new plans for a complete Pavilion refurbishment. He donated his time and expertise to the Football Club, for which we remain extremely grateful.

We eventually sent off our Bid to London, and hoped this time everything would run smoothly. Each time a letter came through our door we thought "This is it!" but month after month there were just technical hitches that needed ironing out.

Meanwhile, we were advised to apply to the Football Association for a grant. Which we did, and met their Area Representative and Funding Officer – Miss Penny Millar – who travelled here from London to talk to us. She recommended that we apply for the maximum grant of £31,000. So we did!

After being informed we would be contacted at the end of January 2000 with the final 'yes' or 'no' decision from the Lottery, our contact in the Post Office – Mr Colin Banks – (Haydon Bridge United team manger) phoned us at 7.10am on Friday 4th February informing us that the long awaited letter was at last here! It was delivered, and opened with shaking hands. As soon as I read the opening line of the letter .. ***"I am please to inform you ..."*** I was elated. In fact the excitement even got to our son Steven, who is normally as cool as a cucumber!

A breakdown of the money obtained:

Haydon Bridge Football Club	£27,225
The Sports Lottery Bid	£71,942
The Football Association	£31,000

Total: £130,167

Our sincere thanks must go to the people of the village for their fantastic support, not only for this scheme, but for all the years they have supported the Football Club, often through thick and thin. Special thanks also to Jackie at the Railway Hotel, Betty and Maurice at the Haydon Hotel, John Clarke for his help with the '100 Club', the Parish Council, Tynedale District Council, Thompson's of Prudhoe, the Environmental Trust and Major Robert Clutterbuck, for his most generous donation which was reported in the August 1998 *Haydon News*.

All being well, the development will commence in the Spring. It will provide the community with much need facilities which will be available for use long into the future.

David and Avril Kirsopp

TAIT'S YARD - A PROPOSAL FOR A COMMUNITY PROJECT

Tait's Yard has been for sale for over five years, except for a short period in 1999 when it was withdrawn from the market. In the Tynedale District Plan it is earmarked for housing. However, 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge' are proposing that the site be purchased for the people of Haydon Bridge.

NOTE: THIS IS ONLY A PROPOSAL.

The aim of the proposal is to improve the facilities in the village and the quality of life of local people.

The object is the purchase of Tait's Yard, transforming it into an area for recreational use, and presenting it to the people of Haydon Bridge for their enjoyment.

Why Tait's Yard?

1. It is for sale.
2. It is easily accessible from all parts of the vil-
- lage – there are no hills to climb.
3. It is away from the main road and riverside - a safe environment for its users.

What plans do 'The Friends' have for the site?

NONE

We do have some ideas though:

1. A secure toddlers play area – we know there is a real need for one.
2. Perhaps a bowling green – if there is interest.
3. Perhaps a landscaped area of raised flower beds and seating aimed particularly at the erly and infirm – but only if this is what the local community want.

PLANS will only be developed when we know what you, the residents of Haydon Bridge, want to be included in them. Plans must not duplicate existing or planned recreational facilities in the area but make new provision for groups or individuals for whom facilities are inaccessible or unavailable.

Where's the money coming from?

'The Friends' have been told that their proposal could be viewed as a "Healthy Living Project" i.e. A project that would help improve the quality of life of local people.

As a "Healthy Living Project", application for a grant to carry out a feasibility study and develop a project plan could be made to the area Health Action Zone. If after carrying out the feasibility study it is shown that the proposal has the support of the local community then a project plan will be developed for a grant application to be made to the New Opportunities Fund.

How will 'The Friends' get the views of local people?

1. Through a survey questionnaire distributed to every household in the village asking if you are in agreement with the proposal and for you ideas on what you would like to see included in the plans for the site.
2. Through presentation to local groups.
3. By holding an exhibition once draft plans are drawn up to ask for your views and to ensure the plans meet the needs of the local community.

'The Friends' know that their Community Project proposal is ambitious and if the feasibility study indicates community support for the proposal then a great amount of work will be involved in drawing up the plans for grant application.

They also know that many applications for grant funding do fail.

However, 'The Friends' feel that with the support of the local community their proposal could be developed into a successful project.

Should the Tait's Yard Project succeed then the property would be handed over to Trustees to retain the area for community use in perpetuity.

LANGLEY W.I

At their February meeting, Langley members welcomed PC Andrew Easby from the Police Air Support Unit in the North East. After describing his training, PC Easby went on to recount the history of Air Support in this country. The first time this was used was in 1920 at Epsom Down races. After a chequered history over the years a permanent support system was set up in 1990. Northumbria, Durham and Cleveland combined to form a Regional Support Scheme based at Newcastle Airport where it still remains. There are two helicopters and a staff of ten pilots and twenty constables and an engineer. Most of the pilots are ex-military with wide experience of flying. When the helicopter is airborne there is one pilot and two observers on board. It costs £600 an hour to operate.

PC Easby showed slides of the helicopters and described many different aspects of their uses as well as video foot-

age of various crimes in the area. Members were fascinated to discover that the observers can see surprisingly minute details from the helicopter. They can watch criminals climbing on roofs to break in, watch them running through gardens and can follow the progress of stolen cars thus aiding their colleagues on the ground in the fight against car crime.

Members were also told about a heat-sensitive camera fitted on to the helicopter. This can be used to search open spaces and mountain sides. Interest was intense by the number of questions asked and the talk was greatly appreciated.

The competition for an 'Aerial Photograph' was won by: 1st Mrs Peggy Dakers and 2nd Mrs Frances Wise.

A successful raffle was held in aid of "Fun with a Fiver"

Myra Bowen

HAYDONIAN WORKING MEN'S CLUB

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

(Birthday Party, Wedding Reception, Engagement Party,
Retirement Party, Presentation etc.)

Such bookings will receive 10% of all monies spent in the Concert Room

For example: Spend £500 – Receive £50.

To arrange a booking please contact:

B. Chipchase (Secretary) on:

01 434 684 383

Don't miss this great offer.

Phone *NOW*

CAN YOU HELP?

*This request was passed on to the Editor by the
Headmaster of Haydon Bridge High School – Mr D Thompson*

Hello!

I am 57 years old and my father is 88 years old. His father, George Batey, was born in Haydon Bridge on 14th August 1857.

I have been trying to find Haydon Bridge on maps for several years, but finally came up with your address on the Internet!!!

I am seeking information about my grandfather, George Batey, and his family, in order to try to trace our family roots etc. Any piece of information that you could provide would be appreciated very much.

I have two grown children and two granddaughters, and it would be wonderful to learn more about my family.

George's parents, his brothers John and Isaac and their sister Isabella, all came to America in 1879. We have no information prior to that time.

Again, thank you in advance for any information you might be able to provide.

Don Michael "Mike" Batey

17723 Shadow Valley Drive
Spring, TEXAS 77379
U.S.A

Telephone: **00 1 713 376 4274**

CAN YOU HELP?

Mr William Veitch asks if anyone might have details of Haydon Bridge Golf Club which existed in the early part of the last century.

He thinks that it was based at Chesterwood and the old Bastle House was the Club House.

He also believes that his grandfather was greenkeeper and his grandmother was involved in the refreshments and that C T Maling (of the Pottery Firm) who lived at Chesterwood Grange, was the Club President.

If anyone can throw any light on this subject please contact Mr Veitch at:

'Haydon'
39 Ivinson Road
Darwen
Lancashire
BB3 0EN

**NOTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 24th February 2000**

Tait's Yard Proposals. A group of village residents attended the meeting to present their concerns about the ideas for the development of Tait's Yard. These were outlined in a letter from the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge' to last month's Parish Council meeting. The resident's main concerns are around their jobs and livelihoods. Their current businesses take up about half the land area and there are no suitable alternative sites on which to relocate their businesses. The problems with the site were reviewed - the site has been for sale for some time; the existing planning permission has expired; the land is contaminated to a depth of 17 feet; it is not suitable for a children's playground because there are no children living on the south side of the A 69; housing would be expensive because the land would need to be excavated first; a plan for a health/fitness centre would duplicate developments at the High School. The possibility of small business units was discussed, but it was acknowledged that either a long tenancy or ownership of the site would be needed in order for that to happen. 'The Friends' will present their proposals for a Healthy Living Area to the Parish Council when they know more details.

The drugs problem is still an issue in the village, and although Haydon Bridge has been described by the police as a very safe place to live, some Councillors felt that we should continue to be vigilant about the problems

Website. A questionnaire is to be produced to ask people what they want from a village website.

Military Road, proposed downgrading. Tynedale Council is to undertake a feasibility study regarding this proposal. Concern was expressed that it is needed as a relief road when the A69 is blocked - a relatively frequent occurrence due to the number of traffic accidents on the A69. It was noted that even if the by-pass is built, the Military Road still shouldn't be downgraded.

Traffic Problems at Shaftoe First School. There are increasing concerns about parking. It has recently got much worse with parents wanting to park up the hill beside the school instead of parking at the bottom and walking up the hill to the school. The corner by the Social Club is very dangerous now at school start and finish times. A number of proposals have been presented to solve the problems and a site plan was circulated to the meeting. The School is also concerned and would like improved car parking for teachers. Options will be examined for work to begin in 2001.

The A69 pedestrian crossing outside Marsh's newsagents is not working properly. There is not sufficient time allowed for people to cross the road.

A new larger free-standing litter bin is to be placed outside the Co-op in the next financial year.

White lines have been painted on the road humps in front of Mrs Thompson's properties.

The Cemetery tap is blocked and will be mended by the end of February.

A new street light and fittings has been installed. in Langley Gardens.

The next Heritage Economic Regeneration Strategy (HERS) meeting will be on 22nd March 2000. It could be combined with the Village Design meeting.

Britain in Bloom Contest have written to the Parish Council about this year's competition. It was agreed to contact Roadlink for permission to put two large tubs at the west end of the village on the A69.

Planning Applications The telecommunications mast proposed for East Mill Hills has been lowered; a garage and car park is sought to be built in Heugh House Lane; amendments have been proposed to the Altonside barns.

Church Youth Worker. A reply to the Parish Council's letter has been received from the Methodist Church expressing reservations about broadening the job description and thanking the Parish Council for their interest.

The new Community Centre is expected to be finished by the end to March 2000.

Haydon Bridge Football Club have been awarded lottery money and were allocated £1,000 towards their new football pitch.

Riverside Area It was agreed to put crushed stone surfacing on the area, together with two large boulders to block vehicle access. Northumbria Wildlife Trust have advised against any alterations to the river bank.

Old Bridge Renovations will take place in June 2000.

Spa Well Footpath has been partially washed away. It was agreed to find a source of funding for the repairs.

And Finally... molehills are a problem in the village. It was agreed to contact the moleman.

NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for both help with National Spring Clean week which begins on 8th April and for the newly reformed By-pass Committee. (Contact Eileen Charlton).

THE DOG FOULING PROBLEMS are increasing rapidly and are now found in areas which haven't formerly had them eg in the grounds of both schools. Residents need to be made aware that according to local by-laws they can be fined up to £1,000 for dog fouling on grass which has been mowed; on the pavements; or in areas where traffic speed is under 30mph. This effectively covers the whole village. The Parish Council are to contact the Dog Warden at Tynedale District Council to get help with law enforcement, and to get additional waste bins. The Highways Agency have agreed to locate a sign about Dog Fouling by the bridge on the A69.

PLEASE BE PATIENT The forms for the Millennium Book are gradually being collected. Please hold on to your form until someone comes for it.

YOUR VIEWS ARE SOUGHT ABOUT LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT The Public Transport Strategy are seeking people's views about timing, bus stop location and fares. The bus services will be maintained at their current level despite concerns about the low level of evening usage during the early part of the week, but the Parish Council is also concerned about the trains not stopping and the possibility of a request stop; the issue of public safety on trains and a new opening for the station car park. Please let the Parish Council know your views.

SH



RAINBOW WRITERS WORKSHOP



Hello everyone

I'm sure at one time or another most of us have kept a diary or journal of special events and memorable happenings in our lives.

Alistair Burrowes' Great Grandmother, Granny Urwin, was just such a person. She recorded an event passed down to her by her Grandmother, dating from November 1771, which Alistair has used as a basis for his latest winning entry in the 'Rainbow Writers Short Story Competition. It reads

Thomas parted the sacking that was tacked onto the window, screwed up his eyes, cupped his hand to his ear, and listened. He could only see the dark. It was black as the grave. But he could hear the rumble. The rumble of boulders, a thousand hooves, a mountain sliding by, the king's army tramping past. It was none of those. Yet still he didn't know what else it could be. His wife, Sarah, clutched her tattered blanket about her tightly, her face grey and frightened in the light from the small oil lamp, the same light which in its shadows showed a tightly wrapped baby asleep in a wooden crib, and Ann, not yet of a schooling age sitting in her bunk also wrapped in a thick blanket, hugging her knees. Sarah scooped her up from the floor, a lightweight bundle, and put her inside her own blanket and held onto her tight.

They heard the sound of a tree snap and the branches

as they flayed about in an attempt to catch the sky before tilting sideways for good then being carried away on an unstoppable wave. They heard a distant yell in the night, but were unsure if it had been from a man or woman or an animal. They heard another crash in the distance almost buried below the rumble. Again they had no idea what it could be. Then with the strength of a landslide, the stone and wood built cottage jolted. The pressure almost flipped out the light of the lamp. The walls oozed water. The door groaned and leaked water and the window, currently a square pressed against the face of Thomas, burst inwards taking him and the sack cloth with it as a black fist of water punched through and rebounded off the opposite wall. Sarah screamed, gripped her child even harder as the mass of angry water began to admit itself rapidly into their small abode

Alistair's story in its entirety will be included in "Mixed Grill", the second anthology compiled by the Rainbow Writers.

Bye for now, **Joyce Sim**

JUNIOR FOOTBALL 50 YEARS AGO

It is good to see Junior Football flourishing in the West Tyne area despite the apparent decline in Saturday afternoon football. Or is Newcastle United to blame for this? Fifty years ago things were rather different – for a start Sunday football was illegal. In the 1940's there was no organised Junior Football – indeed even Senior Football was only just beginning to be re-established as players returned from the war.

As teenagers, we would organise our own soccer matches. This usually involved someone cycling to a nearby village (usually Haltwhistle or Newbrough (to issue a challenge for the following Saturday. One team had to wear white shirts and the other team coloured shirts, often multi-coloured ones. You had to provide all your own kit, including the ball. When you were the HOME team you also had to find somewhere to strip although it could involve changing on the field itself if nowhere could be found. Sometimes we used the Band Room behind the Havelock Inn. If no match could be arranged it often ended as North of the River versus South of the River – usually with no referee which resulted in some very serious stuff at times!

Fortunately we were always allowed to use the school playing field although I often wonder whether the school actually knew about this. Travelling to away matches usually meant using the local bus service – or your bicycle. We had to fend for ourselves. However, out of this background evolved a local

Youth Club League which enabled matters to become rather more organised. Later, Eddie Waite lent a guiding hand which yielded the added benefit of allowing us not only to use the school cloakroom as changing rooms (convenient for the pitch) but also borrow wither the school football shirts or those of West Northumberland Schoolboys. At last we all looked the same from the waist up even if the shorts and socks were in a variety of colours.

Later we were told that we could have a set of shirts of our own provided we could supply the clothing coupons. For the benefit of younger readers all clothing was rationed (as was virtually everything else – food, sweets etc.) and you couldn't even purchase a handkerchief without the requisite coupons. There followed a concentrated effort by team members to "cadge" enough precious coupons from anyone who could be persuaded to part with them, which was not an easy task as they were scarce. Eventually enough coupons were obtained and we became the proud possessors of our own set of shirts – black and white stripes, naturally, although shorts and socks remained very much a mixed bag.

Among my team mates were: Norman Forster, Ken Osleton, Matt Reed, Alan Peel, Roland Lowes, Dennis Duffy, Eric Turnbull, Len Wilkinson, Arnold Robinson, David Armstrong, Derek Beavers and David Brown (with apologies to anyone omitted – it was 50 years ago after all). Unfortunately some of these are no longer with us.

William Veitch

Hi Folks,

'Tis Mitch here again to say hello – this time as Treasurer of 'The Friends of Haydon Bridge'

I am finalising the books for the financial period ending 31st December and want you to know that we have a healthy balance sheet. This is because of the tremendous support we receive from both advertisers and the general membership, which continues to grow. At the end of last year 'The Friends' had a membership of 190 and already this year we are up to 195 – I am please at this encouraging start.

It is now time to start collection your subs and advertising fees and the appropriate forms are shown on this page. It would help us immensely if you could fill out the appropriate form and send it in as soon as you can, this will enable 'The Friends' to decide on their activities for this Millennium year

On the Tuesday following the 4th Thursday of each month we have a meeting commencing at 8pm in the Lounge of The Railway Hotel where anyone can come – at each one of these meetings the current balance sheet is shown and discussed and in this way we account exactly what is happening to your money. At the meeting we also decide what organisations will receive half of the income from the popular Bingo sessions. Please come along if you are interested.

Thanks in anticipation.

Mitch

HAYDON NEWS ADVERTISING

**ANNUAL ADVERTISING FEES
NOW DUE 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 appropriate fee in an envelope as shown in adjacent paragraph

I wish to continue using my present advert using 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 address shown or please ring 01434 684 035.

FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE

**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS
NOW DUE FOR THE YEAR 2000**

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:

Post Code: Tel:

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
Treasurer**

Haydon Bridge United FC

Season so far

HOME			AWAY		
Newcastle BT	W	2-0	Otterburn	L	3-1
Northern SC	L	0-2	Forest Hall	D	3-3
Walker Stack	L	1-5	Walker Stack	D	2-2
Northumbria Univ.	D	2-2	Cowgate Sport	L	0-1
Wallsend United	W	3-1	Northern SC	D	2-2
Cowgate Sport	W	3-1	Blyth Spartan 'A'	L	1-0
Forest Hall	W	3 - 0			
Stobhill Rangers	W	3-2			
Blyth Spartan 'A'	D	2-2			
Wallington	L	1-5			

Watch out for Match Day posters around Haydon Bridge. Come and support us, there's hot Bovril and Tea!!

League & Cup Top Scorers

Jeff Clarke	7	Alastair Thirlwell	3
Dan Clarke	6	Stuart Bell	3
Dan Robson	3	Chad Alder	2

Recent Form

Since defeating Stobhill Rangers 3-2 at Low Hall Park, HBFC have had a torrid time in both League and Cup. Amble Vikings ended any NFA Minor Cup plans with a 3-0 home victory. That was always going to be a hard game against Amble who are pushing for promotion from Division One into the Premier League. Haydon Bridge remain mid table in Division Two.

The league matches haven't gone the way of HBFC either. Having conceded a last minute goal at Cowgate Sports to lose 1-0 and having a player sent off. High flying Northern Social Club of Ashington could only manage a home 2-2 draw against HBFC though. Our two goals that day came from top scorer Jeff Sparke. Unfortunately he has since left for a long break in Australia.

There was a chance of taking all three points against Blyth Spartan 'A' on home soil in January, but they stole a late equaliser with virtually the last kick of the game. An away game against Northumbria University was abandoned on the hour with the score 0-0 because of high winds and will have to be replayed.

A real Jeckyl & Hyde performance on the 5th February saw HBFC defeated 1-5 at home by Wallington. After a storming first half hour and taking the lead, HBFC were stunned by 5 rapid fire goals in a 15 minute spell either side of the half time break.

Lucky Numbers from the '100 Club'

£30	J Carruthers	Number 69
£15	A Young	Number 246
£10	R Curry	Number 282
£ 5	J Worthington	Number 84
£ 5	R Curry	Number 279

Next meeting and Draw 7th March at the Railway Hotel
Lottery Latest.

Work on the new Multi-Use Games Arena (MUGA) and the complete refurbishment of the pavilion is expected to commence in April or May now that the Club's Lottery Bid has been accepted. The MUGA will be an Astro-turf, floodlit arena bringing much needed all year round facilities to the village such as volleyball, basketball, indoor hockey, netball, tennis and more. It will be an ideal centre for 5-a-side football tournaments with its dual pitches enabling two games to go ahead simultaneously. The English Sports Lottery Fund have provided £71, 942 for the project, while another £31,000 came from the FA in London. HBFC raised a further £27,225. An overall total of £130,167.

(see page 9 for the full story)

The Club Shop

Haydon Bridge United wear is NOW available. Items can be ordered from Avril Kirsopp, telephone: **01 434 684 745** or call at Waterside House, Rock-springs.

Stylish Sweatshirts in Black/Royal/Navv £15.00
Popular Polo Shirts in Black/Navv/White/Sky £15.00
Woollen Hats £ 7.50

All have the Haydon Bridge United FC logo and traditional Red Robin motif. And, of course, are of superb quality.

HALL OF FAME

A Profile on: George Anderson
Born: Haydon Bridge 1889
Position: Goalkeeper
Height: 5'10"
Weight: 12st.0lb.
Career: **Haydon Bridge United**
Mickley (Debut 8th Oct, 1910)
Sunderland. (Transferred 1911 for £10. Signing on fee was £5.
Wages were £2. 10s. per week. When reaching the First Team rising to £4.
Aberdeen. Signed on 26th May, 1914.
Became Manager of Aberdeen and then for Dundee.

George made 10 appearances at Roker Park during the 1910-1911 season. In 1911-1912 made 8 and in 1912-1913 had 2 games.

His debut was an away game against Middlesbrough on 30th December, 1911 which ended 3-3.

His final game for Sunderland was against Tottenham Hotspur at Roker Park on 28th September, 1912

Haydon Bridge Nature Club

Talk by Mr Richard Myerscough

***'Tropical Forest Project'
(Mexico)***

Methodist Church Hall

Thursday 2nd March 2000

7.15pm

**WHAT'S
ON*****Whist Drive***Langley Village Hall
Saturday 11th March 2000
7.00pm.***Whist Drive***Langley Village Hall
Saturday 25th March 2000
7.00pm.**Langley W. I.**

Talk by Mrs A Burton

'Calvert Trust'Tuesday 14th March 2000

7.30pm.

New Members welcome.

Contact: **01434 684 419****Haydon Bridge Nature Club**

Talk by Mr P E Harrigan

'Belsay Hall Gardens'

Methodist Church

Thursday 16th March 2000

7.15pm.

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

St. Cuthbert's Church Hall

Saturday 25th March 2000

7.00 – 9.00pm.

Haydon Bridge Nature Club

Talk by Mr P E Harrigan

'Belsay Hall Gardens'

Methodist Church

Thursday 16th March 2000

7.15pm.

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 7th March 2000

Railway Hotel

7.30pm

WEST SIDE STORY

Haydon Bridge is not like New York – especially it is not like New York in the fifties when Street gangs roam the areas, each claiming a piece of the action – just like their gangster idols did. A lot of lads and girls – having nothing better to do – having no families, found their friendships on the streets.

From this bleak social problem Leonard Bernstein and friends created a stunning, lively show which will move you and offer you the theatrical experience of a lifetime. There are fabulous tunes, stirring dances, powerful acting, acted out for you by a young talented cast, who you will be telling your friends about for years to come.

WEST SIDE STORY is not far away in London, or even Newcastle or Hexham, but **HERE** in Haydon Bridge.

This month – (**Wednesday to Saturday**), **March 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th**

The production team have closed everything else down to concentrate on this one magnificent show. It is in the High School Hall – and only costs £5 (£2.50 for kids, OAP's and the unwaged). Performances start at **7.30pm** and last about 2½ hours. We would love to see you there supporting our kids – but also cheering a genuine Tynedale product.

Tickets on sale from the School Office: **Telephone: 01 434 684 422**

COPY DEADLINE: All contributions to the Haydon News to reach the Editor no later than Tuesday 21st March.

CHURCH PAGE

March 2000

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
9 Elvaston Road, Hexham 603.139

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

CLERGY MESSAGE

Rev David Perkins, Methodist Minister

It was great to be involved in many of the Millenium Celebrations that took place in the village over the new year period. I really sensed a desire on the part of many people to make a fresh start, especially in their spiritual lives. An Old Testament writer discovered the amazing truth that God offers a fresh start every day, to those who seek him. In the book of Lamentations it reads, "the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning. Great is his faithfulness."

When again, what's the point of stating such a truth about God if I don't experience it? So many of us "believe" but the Faith appears irrelevant so long as it remains on pages of the Bible and is not lived out in our experience. If it is true I ought to experience it! Take Jesus's statement of intent in Johns Gospel chapter 10 - "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly." When? Now of course! If this promise of Jesus is true then I should be living an abundant life now, so what stops me? Two things :-

I cannot live in the abundance of the present with God, if I am caught up in the bitterness, guilt or pain of the past. It is

impossible to live a full abundant life now if the hurts from the past, if the guilt of sins unconfessed or unforgiven remain to be dealt with. These and more rob me of the present abundance.

2 I cannot live in the abundance of the present with God if I am held captive by my fears for the future. If I am not at peace about the days that lie before me. I cannot have the present abundance.

Only when I come before God to find healing and forgiveness for the past sins and hurts, and only when I come to know that a relationship to God is sufficient for life, come what may, can I then experience the truth of the word of Christ, that he has come to give me abundant life now. Thank God that His mercies are new every morning, I do need them NOW.

WELCOME TO DAVID MATTHEWS

Churches together in Haydon Bridge will give a formal welcome to the new church youth worker, David Matthews at the evening service in the Methodist Church on Sunday March 26th. David has already begun his work here, making contact with young people in the village and the schools. He and his family come from Seaham in County Durham, and are hoping to find a house here in Tynedale. We wish them an enjoyable stay with us.

Millenium Cross

The specially designed millenium cross will be in Haydon Bridge from March 26th (David Matthews welcoming Sunday) until April 2nd. It is a focus to remind people whose millenium it is, and is being carried from parish to parish along Hadrians wall. On April 2nd Mothering Sunday, people from Warden will attend the family service at St Cuthberts and take the cross to Warden to catch the end of their Mothering Sunday service in St Michaels.

We hope many people will take the opportunity to view this magnificent example of glass artistry

Abseil for a good cause

The Methodist Chapel is striving to raise the final amounts for the new Chapel and some more adventurous (or mad!) members and friends are to attempt a sponsored abseil down Langley Castle, thanks to the generous agreement of the owners and management. This momentous event in some lives, i.e. "a lifetimes ambition" or a cajoling "if you do it I will" hopefully will raise large sums of money, give generously please if you are approached by one of the intrepid adventurers.

The event is programmed for 23rd June
a date for the diary?

Vindolanda Songs of Praise

Sunday June 11th at 6.00 pm at Vindolanda Roman site, a massive Songs of Praise event for the Millenium will be held. (Further details to follow). All are invited and we are aiming to sing songs, share in prayers and hear readings from every century. If anyone would like to suggest possible hymns from any age then just pop your selection through the chapel letterbox over the next two weeks

METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES

March 5th
9.30 am Rev David Perkins (S)
10.00 am Mr M Knowles
10.00 pm Local Arrangement

March 7th
7.30 pm Mens Christian Fellowship

March 8th
10.00 pm Womens Own

March 12th
10.00 am Dr Lindsay Gray (F)
10.00 pm Reader

March 19th
10.00 am Rev D Perkins (S)
10.00 pm Mrs B Mearns

March 21st
10.00 pm Mens Christian Fellowship

March 22nd
10.00 pm Womens Own

March 26th
10.00 am Mr B Elstob
10.00 pm Rev D Perkins

March 28th
10.00 pm Mens Christian Fellowship

March 29th
10.00 pm Womens Own

CALENDAR FOR MARCH,
ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

March 1st 7pm Healing service
March 3rd Women's World Day of
Prayer service

March 5th Sunday before Lent
8.00am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
10.30am All-Age Service (Dr L Gray)

March 8th **Ash Wednesday**
7.00pm Holy Communion & Ashes.
March 10th 7.30pm Churches Together.

March 12th First Sunday of Lent
10.30 am Parish Communion & Sermon

Tuesday & Thurs: Lent programme starts

March 19th Second Sunday of Lent
10.30 am Parish Communion,
and Sermon (M Fry)

March 23rd 7.30pm Pie & Pea Supper
March 25th Lady Day service,
Cathedral.

March 26th Third Sunday of Lent
8.00 am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

March 30th 7.30pm Annual Parish
Meeting

Apr 2nd Mothering Sunday
8.00 am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
10.30 am All-Age Service (Lindsay Gray)

St Cuthbert's Bits and Pieces

Henshaw Church Room is to be opened by the Archdeacon of Northumberland, the Ven Peter Elliott, on March 26th. There will be no mid morning service here that day, as we are all invited to their 10.00 am Holy Communion, and to the official opening afterwards. The meeting room is mostly paid for from money obtained by selling an old church hall in Bardon Mill some years ago. The Archdeacon will also plant the Millennium yew tree. The people there hope that the new premises will enable many different activities to take place.

Lenten services: There will be an extra Holy Communion each Thursday in Lent at 9.45 am, ending in time for the *All Together Now* Lent group at 10.30 am. This is in addition to the regular 7.30am Communion each Friday.

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 Lent courses

Haydon Bridge's churches are running two courses in Lent this year. Lent is traditionally a time when Christians learn more about their faith, and make extra efforts to come close to God.



Beginning on Tuesday March 14th, 7.30-9.00pm, one group will study the book *God of Surprises* by Gerard Hughes; his book is a spiritual best-seller. The heart of the course is a cassette, on which he develops the theme that we find God within ourselves. It will be led by Clare Dawson of St John's Roman Catholic Church.



The other group will meet at the vicarage on Thursday mornings, 10.30-12.00 am, starting on March 16th. The course offers the chance for local Christians to share their common faith, and looks especially at the hymns and music we use in our different services. The vicar will lead this one.

GUESS WHAT I GOT FOR CHRISTMAS ?

Yep -some new fonts and WP software.

PRESCRIPTION REQUESTS AT THE PHARMACY

Peter has kindly consented to have a collection box for repeat prescription requests on the counter in his shop. We hope that this will prove convenient for those who do not wish to traipse all the way up to the Health Centre.

Requests can be made by phone – AFTER 10.00 am please, or by fax (01434 684144), or by e.mail (sford-hb@dircon.co.uk) or in person at the Health centre.

FTA, DNA.

These initials stand for “failed to attend” and “did not attend”.

Comparatively few people do not turn up for an appointment with a doctor but quite a few miss their appointments with the nurses. The nurse's time is just as valuable as the doctor's and we really would like to encourage people to take the time to ring up to say if they will be unable to attend. We put a lot of time, effort and money into running the clinic appointment system and its very upsetting when its all just casually chucked away. We will always be happy to make a new time for you.

Every week we receive letters from the hospital about people who have not turned up for appointments. Even if you don't turn up you still cost the NHS well over a hundred pounds and have deprived someone else of the chance to be seen earlier.

IF YOU CAN'T GET TO AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE RING UP AND SAY SO. THANK YOU.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

As you will have noticed the big children's play room has been divided by a wall. The small room will be used as a Health Visitors room when children's clinics are in progress, as a staff room between times and as an interview room for the CAB who will now be attending regularly for those who wish to see them.

Every Monday, 2 – 4pm, a CAB person is in attendance. Please make an appointment with the health centre receptionists – stating clearly that it is the CAB you wish to see. We hope that this will be a useful addition to the services at the health centre.

BLOOD, BLOOD, GLORIOUS BLOOD.

We don't make black puddings with it – honest!

Over the year we must take several bath tubs of blood. The blood is used to test for literally scores of different things, even on small samples. The tests can be used both to make or exclude a diagnosis and to monitor the progress or control of disease.

Ideally samples should be received by the laboratory within a couple of hours. This is why we ask people to attend for samples in the mornings, so that the delay is minimal. At about 11.00 every morning a courier collects all the samples and takes them to Hexham Hospital.

Another reason for taking samples in the morning is that some values are best checked when the patient is fasting for a number

of hours – ie. overnight. This applies particularly to glucose and cholesterol.

There are some tests that will stand some delay in analysis which is why it is sometimes OK to do the blood taking later in the day.

Some tests are so delicate that they really have to be done actually in the laboratory and the sample immediately placed in ice or, alternatively kept at body temperature.

So, if you are asked to attend for a blood sample, please make the appointment in the morning. Thank you.

KEEPING IRREGULAR HOURS

One of the consequences of being in the out-of-hours co-operative is that once or twice every month each of us has to do a night shift. This might be from 8pm to 8am or 11pm to 8am depending on which day of the week is involved.

Amongst the motivations for the creation of co-operatives was a recognition that tired doctors don't function at their best. Now we are on duty overnight less often but when we are on call it can reasonably be predicted that we shall be out and about most of the time. Accordingly we have arranged things such that when one of us has been on duty overnight we start a short morning surgery at 10.00, do a share of the visits and then have the rest of the day off.

This will explain the occasional absence.

In addition, with Michelle now being three quarter time we are each able to devote half a day to administrative tasks. So, you may see us in the building but not actually seeing patients at times.

SEXUAL HEALTH FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Since 1989 we have produced our own booklets for distribution to young people seeking advice on sexual health matters. This is to take account of the fact that they are sometimes too flustered to remember what is said. Having a booklet at home can also allow them to check up information as the need arises.

Parents can get very troubled when their children become sexually active. We always encourage the young people to take their parents into their confidence and we emphasise the legal aspects of age. We feel that parents can be reassured that their interests are served by our approach to these issues.

If any parents would like to see a copy of the booklets we hand out then they are very welcome. At the time of writing we are in the process of revising the booklet to fit onto a single A3 sheet which will save much anguish with the duplicating, folding and stapling of the current *magnum opus*.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU -

-to all of you who did NOT attend the health centre with coughs, colds, sore throats and “flu” during the recent alleged outbreak of respiratory illness across the nation.

There is a distinct suspicion that the outbreak was of “political flu” – an expedient way of explaining the perennial deficiency in hospital beds. Surprise, surprise then that the proportion of GDP that is to be expended on health is set to rise to equal that of other developed nations. All pigs fed and ready to fly.....
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