



# THE HAYDON NEWS



**UN-STABLE**

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June  
2005

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Addressed to The Haydon News

Thank you.

**EDITORIAL COMMENT.**

From the Friends of Haydon Bridge a 'THANK YOU' to all our advertisers for their prompt payment for adverts and their continuing support of the Haydon News.

A 'THANK YOU' is also due to the many people who have given their support to the Haydon News by paying membership of the 'Friends' and/or making a donation . All the money goes towards meeting the cost of producing the Haydon News.

Did you get to this years 'Haydon Local Artists' Summer Exhibition ? A great display of local talent.

There are several events in the village in the coming month all advertised in this edition.

Finally, can I draw your attention to the electrifying feature from our 'special correspondent' on page 12 ?

It should generate a great deal of interest !

P.S. Bright sparks will make the connection with the 'fair wind' item in Dr Ford's Page, though none was intended. On the other hand there may be possibilities !!

*The Editors.*

[editors@haydon-news.co.uk](mailto:editors@haydon-news.co.uk)

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The HAYDON NEWS is edited, published and printed by the Friends of Haydon Bridge.  
It is distributed free of charge to all but the most distant household in Haydon Parish.

The committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge thank those members who produce the Haydon News,  
people who contribute items for publication, our advertisers and distributors.

**EDITORIAL POLICY OF THE HAYDON NEWS.**

The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editors. 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 Editors reserve 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 Anonymous letters will NOT be published.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 Editors have been advised of the writer's name and address.

*Mike Parkin (chairman)*

**Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'**

Mike Parkin(chairman), Dennis Gilert (vice chairman),  
Elena Parkin (secretary), Alastair Bowen (Treasurer), Sylvia Mitchell, Dennis Telford,  
Charles Thomas, Catherine Hall, Storey Hall.

## SHAFTOE GREEN

**Work is progressing rapidly on Shaftoe Green; the play equipment is due to be installed at the end of June and should be completed by the summer holidays.**

We now need Haydon Bridge residents to help by volunteering to be part of the Health and Safety team who will be responsible for ensuring that the play equipment remains safe for our children. The idea is that an individual or family will be responsible for the weekly health and safety checks for just one month of the year.

Individuals or families can take part in the necessary training for this, which has been organised for  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 10am-4pm.**

The morning will consist of a powerpoint presentation for the adults, in the community centre, followed by an afternoon hands-on session at Redburn Park. Why not make the afternoon a family outing and bring a picnic?

Please help to make a success of Shaftoe Green by ensuring it is  
a safe environment for young and old.

Sign up by ringing Pauline Wallis on 684061 or visit our stand at  
**Shaftoe First School Summer Fair on Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> 10.am-12noon.**

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES JUNE 2005.

6 councillors and 3 members of the public were present.

### Public participation.

The loss of the bus shelter to make way for the housing development at the corner of Church St/Strother Close continues to give cause for concern. Members of the council talked at length about the steps taken to replace the shelter/get compensation and how little progress has been made.

Prevarication was the word used by one councillor to describe communications with departments responsible for school transport at Northumberland CC.

A member of the public described the present state of the cemetery as a 'disgrace' and that it made her feel 'ashamed' as other village cemeteries appeared better kept. The problem of sheep getting into the cemetery was also raised. The council are to take action to improve maintenance.

The huge heaps of stones in the river, left after the January flood ,is causing people to query the effectiveness of flood prevention measures. A councillor explained that this issue had been raised with the Environmental Agency . The reason given for no action being taken to clear the stones being that the river would clear them—water flowing faster where the river is

shallow. Clearing the river would cause it to flow more slowly and deposit more stones.

The clerk read a letter from Northumbria Water explaining that the disinfectant taste in the domestic water supply would be due to the chlorine added to ensure safe provision.

### Highways.

Members of the public were urged to attend the By pass exhibition next weekend (see page 9). Council was told of an extra public meeting on Saturday 25th June to organise support for the by pass proposals.

A councillor pointed out that funding for road maintenance by NCC had been reduced with the result that general standards of repair were to fall. Members of the public were requested to report roads in need of repair to the parish council.

The hedge beside the narrow pavement on the A69 between Innerhaugh and the tunnel top was reported in need of trimming.

The seat outside the Community Centre is to be repaired. The mossy condition of the two seats at the War Memorial was reported. These seats were donated some years ago by two local businesses.

The Shaftoe Green project is progressing well, the path and steps

from the school car park entrance have been completed. Due to some unforeseen expenses it may be necessary to delay the provision of picnic tables and some of the seating. The play areas and other paths are expected to be completed by August.

The clerk told the council of the valuable service provided by the Allen Valleys Phone & go bus service. However, problems with funding and lack of use had caused the scope of the service to be reduced.

People in Haydon Bridge were urged to make use of this service which operates weekdays in term time and Mondays Wednesdays and Thursdays in school holidays. To book phone **0870 043 3784** between 8am & 7.30pm at least 2 hours before travel and preferably the day before.

### PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Mr. R Snowdon

Mr. T Stephenson

Mr. E Brown.

(\* also a Tynedale Councillor)

Parish Clerk

Mrs. C McGivern

## HISTORICAL NOTES OF HAYDON BRIDGE - Dennis Telford

### TIME GENTLEMEN PLEASE

A visit to Burnley in Lancashire, where our son David and his wife Ruth live, and a chance meeting at a barbecue there, provided me with another unexpected opportunity to explore a brief interlude in our village's more recent history.

*"Where do you live then?"*

A very pleasant lady asked, as we chewed through succulent steaks and sausages on sticks.

*"We are from a small village in Northumberland called Haydon Bridge."*

*"Well I never!! I once lived at Haydon Bridge. I owned a pub there called the Haydon Hotel."*

**('Wherever ye gan you're sure te find.....someone from Haydon Bridge.'**)

Edna Boxall, or **Edna Maddison** as she was when living at Haydon Bridge, and her husband Ralph, bought the Haydon Hotel in 1965.

I visited Edna last month at her home in South Gosforth and spent a most enjoyable time in her company.

Edna is 90 years old in November, has a wonderful memory and is able to relate a fascinating life story including the two years living with her name, **Edna Maddison**, above the door of one of the old established ale houses in our village.

Edna's immediate cheerful welcome was my first indication that she had not forgotten a lifetime connection with the licensing trade.

*"What would you like to drink Dennis .....Oh but maybe you're driving?"*

I was..... I declined.  
After all, it was only half past ten in the morning!

Edna's mother and her mother's two sisters each married publicans, it is no surprise then, that her story recalls absorbing anecdotes of Newcastle and Gateshead licensed premises throughout the last century.  
Family connections with 'The Trafalgar' and 'The Crown and Sceptre' in

Newcastle, and 'The William IV' at the top of Bottle bank, 'The Rector House' where she lived with her father and mother when McEwans was 8d a pint, and 'Curley's Bar', all in Gateshead, provide a host of amusing stories.

Not to mention her uncle Will Curley, heavyweight boxer and owner of St. James' Hall.

And her cousin Hannah Anderson who was married to Hughie Gallagher.

### It is the Haydon Bridge connection however that I will share with you in these 'Notes.'

Edna had managed The Killingworth Arms for twenty three years before moving to our village.

She admitted to me that she didn't know much about Haydon Bridge before buying the 'Haydon'.

She knew Corbridge and assumed that our village would be much the same.

Edna's customers that first night she was behind the bar, when snow bleached in from the North and covered the ground down Shaftoe Street, were quick to dampen any early enthusiasm.

*"Like Corbridge? You've made a big mistake there hinny. They're posh in Corbridge. And anyway, there's nowt for anybody to do in this place!!"*

Had Edna and Ralph known at the time, even the previous owners of the pub were doubtful about its future. They had confided to locals that they were worried that the success of the new Working Men's Club would have a negative effect on their business. It was because of this that they had decided to sell the Haydon Hotel.

If Edna now had some early doubts about the new venture, occasioned by the negative locals, her husband Ralph was in his element in Haydon Bridge.

*"Ralph had his own Bookmakers business and generally only needed to visit his shops in Dudley and Burradon at the weekends. During the week he would scramble over the wall of the lovely garden to the West of the 'Haydon', and climb down to the river where we had the fishing rights. Ralph enjoyed all the*

*country pursuits that the Haydon Bridge locality had to offer."*

Edna's first reaction to the people of Haydon Bridge who were her early customers, made me smile.

*"I thought they were all sex-mad fools! Husbands, buying their lady friends a drink in the Bar room, and across the passage in the Lounge their wives cuddling up to their men friends."*

I promised Edna that I wouldn't name names. Those who drank in the Haydon in the 60's are safe.....for the moment!

When Edna and Ralph Maddison moved into the Haydon Hotel, there were two outside doors on the South elevation and a passage ran through the property separating the Bar room from the Lounge.

The narrow snug at the end of the passage was very much like a railway carriage, and it overlooked the river.

(I remember it well ! This was a favourite room for Flash, Jeff, Joe, John, Eddie, Raymond and myself, if we were in the Haydon in the late 1950's.)

Customers in the Lounge, like many other public houses in those days, had to ring a bell on the wall for table service. The first job the Maddisons did, was to get the builders in, to remove part of the passage and form an opening between the Bar and the Lounge so that both rooms could be served from the one bar. (And maybe so that Edna could keep a close eye on any hanky panky?)

There was a piano in the lounge and Edna remembers many a sing song. Especially when regular customers arrived from Hexham, or from the Foremen's Club at Vickers Armstrong on Scotswood Road.

Memories of friends and regular drinkers in the Haydon Hotel over 40 years ago are quite clear in Edna's mind.

*"The baker, who lived on the other side of the street. A big chap."*

*"Tot Barron?"*

*"Yes that's his name. Of course. Tot Barron. Tot was very friendly with Ralph."*

"The newsagent across the bridge"

"Robert Harding?"

"That's it. Robert. And his wife I think.  
Do they still have the newsagents?

The school headmaster always enjoyed a drink and he was one of my regular customers.

Then there was John Crozier who had the franchise for Sunday papers up the North Tyne.

He lived on Ratcliffe Road in the old Black Bull pub.

John was like a son to Ralph, they went everywhere together, fishing, hunting and shooting

And there was the village policeman. A really nice young chap called Bill, who enjoyed a drink after time."

**"Oh!! Is that right?"**

"Yes, of course. That was one of the things that surprised us about Haydon Bridge.

Everyone seemed to want to drink after time.

Even the customers from the 'Club across the street would arrive at my pub ten minutes before closing time and expect to drink into the early hours.

It was never like that at Killingworth. It was much stricter there, and a shorter working day for the publican I might add.

There were times when I wanted an early night when we were at Haydon Bridge but I couldn't get customers out. And I could hardly call for the Law could I?

Not when the village Bobby was in the Bar!"

Occasionally, drinkers **were** asked to leave.

"My husband was too quick to 'bar' my customers for assumed misdemeanours.

Sometimes he would come back to the Haydon late on a Saturday night, after his own work, and if I was in the pub alone with male customers he was never very happy.

One night it happened that my late customer was a top policeman from the Northumberland Force, I think his

mother lived in Haydon Bridge; anyway, Ralph was quite unnecessarily jealous; but that was the way he was. He immediately showed the fellow to the door and pushed him out onto Shaftoe Street telling him that he was barred.

Oh dear! That's the end of my business I thought.

Barring the Chief of Police.

Oh dear!

Fortunately by the next day everything was settled amicably.

The policeman returned to the pub, Ralph gave him a whisky or two and they became good friends.

Even one of our best friends and our best customer was barred after he was blamed for creating a bit of a disturbance in the lounge, after having too much to drink. That was Herman Pesara.

We had a good laugh about it the next day of course, when Herman was allowed back into the Haydon, and we remained good friends even after we left Haydon Bridge.

We had a bungalow built at Rowlands Gill and Herman travelled from Haydon Bridge every week to do our garden. He was a grand chap. I wonder how Herman's family are getting on?"

Less than two years after moving in, Edna and Ralph Maddison sold the Haydon Hotel for £11,000 and left to move into their new bungalow. For the first time, the licensing trade was not a part of Edna's family life.

"I wonder how much it's worth now. A bit more than £11,000 I suppose?"

As I left Edna at her home in Newcastle, we spoke about the changes in pub life over the last 40 years.

When we got round to the Government's recent proposals for flexible or 24 hour opening, Edna's reply was immediate and to the point.

**"Well, based on my experience, that'll not make much difference in Haydon Bridge will it!!"**

## MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

I'll leave you with a tale of which I am reminded by Ralph Maddison's propensity to show his customers the door.

William Shakespeare, wandering the dales of Allen and Tyne, seeking inspiration for a sonnet or two, perchance across an ancient inn. ('Ye Olde Haydene' in ye hamlet o' Haydene )

Seeking to slake his thirst, the bearded traveller crossed the threshold and called for the purveyor of the ale; a pleasant young fellow sporting a tanned complexion not normally seen in these parts, he hadst returned but a day, from a sojourn to the famed Palaces-de-Housey by the Levante-de-Mediterraneo.

"A quart of your finest ale young man." Summoned Will-de-Stratforde.

"Alas, I fear I am unable to serve you this day." Lamented the keeper of the fine barleycorn.

"Pray tell young fellow, why dash myne hopes in so wretched a manner ?"

"For thou art Bard kind sir."

## COVER STORY

Do you recognise the building on our front cover this month?

It has been demolished in recent weeks but pitched roof dormers above the hay loft are a sign of quality and prosperity. Perhaps the inscription on the stone lintel over the front doorway of the



## CORRESPONDENCE

From: The Haydon Bridge Nature Club.  
To: The Editors of the Haydon News.  
Date: 15th May 2005

Just to let you know that the advertising in the Haydon News has brought in a few more walkers. So thank you for that.

Pauline Nichols.

**It is always a pleasure to welcome William Veitch as a guest contributor. This month William recalls  
'BYGONE DAYS AT CHESTERWOOD'**

**In 1828 Chesterwood** was described as a hamlet in Lipwood Township.

(there were 9 Townships in days gone by - Brokenheugh, Deanraw, Elrington, Haydon Bridge North Side, Haydon Bridge South Side, Langley, Lipwood, Morallee and Whinnetley).

It is recorded as Chesterwada as long ago as the late 12th Century. Hodgson, in his 'History of Northumberland' states that in 1365 A.D. it was a hamlet in the Barony of Langley.

It was also said, at that time, to be a collection of 4 Peel Houses.

It is a possibility that Chesterwood is older than Haydon Bridge though it is unlikely to be older than Haydon or the original church would probably have been at Chesterwood.

In his 'History of Haydon Bridge' William Lee states that Chesterwood was, in the most part, Peel Houses which are irregularly built on a freestone rock with grey slates on the roof which are pinned down with sheep shanks -and most are in a dilapidated condition. Only one Peel House survived to modern times.

The height of the doors in these dwellings was only 5 feet 5 inches (1.65 metres) and they were only 2 feet 3 inches (0.7 metres) wide - there must have been many a bruise when negotiating these doorways although people were smaller than today.

In the past Chesterwood has been owned by, among others, the Ridleys, Nevilles and Blacketts but, oddly, never by the Greenwich Estates who owned most of the district at one time.

The first mentions of Chesterwood in the Haydon Parish Register are:

- (a) The burial of Elizabeth, the wife of John Henderson on the 5th January 1655
- (b) The baptism of William the son of Alexander Barrow on the 19th August 1655.
- (c) The marriage of Richard Atkinson and Mabel Eshton on the 10th June 1658.

The Eshtons and Hendersons were still living at Chesterwood well into the 1800's. The last of the Eshtons would probably be Ann who died at

Chesterwood Grange on the 9th May 1902 aged 78 years which suggests that the family had lived at Chesterwood for more than 250 years. They were usually referred to as 'living on their own means' which is wealthy but not telling!

In 1851 the population of Chesterwood was 74 with 25 of them being 14 years old or younger.

Not surprisingly 12 of the adults were agricultural labourers but what is more surprising is that 7 were employed in the iron ore industry, with several of them being iron ore miners who possibly worked at nearby Standalone and in the employ of the Haydon Bridge Iron Works which had been established in 1843 by Coulteras Dodsworth and were later owned by William Benson of Allerwash.

The ironworks were situated in 'Heslop's' Yard (before that it was the Blacksmith's Shop) and which has been the subject of much controversy in recent times.

Incidentally, does the footpath from Chesterwood to Standalone still exist as it was probably the route used by the iron miners (it was also a good source of hazelnuts as I recall) also the footpath from Chesterwood to The Tofts?

By 1871 the population of Chesterwood had reduced to 52 of which 20 were aged 14 years or younger. They were living in 12 separate households.

There were 3 farmers of which the largest was John Dickinson with 280 acres. Strangely, there were only 2 agricultural labourers but there were 10 lead miners (it probably paid more!) and these included 13 year old William Kent. There were also two female 'outdoor workers' aged 55 and 45 years respectively (such was life in those days). William Dickinson and his son Matthew were cartwrights and Jane Gibson was a dressmaker.

By 1891 the population had remained more or less stable at 55 of which 14 were under 14 years old. There were now 5 agricultural labourers and no iron workers but there were still 8 lead miners who, presumably, worked at either the Honeycrook Mine or Settlingstones.

The size of families must have

increased appreciably after 1891 as my father told me that in the early part of the last century he was one of 28 children who set out each day from Chesterwood to school.

The principal names at Chesterwood over the centuries have been Eshton, Benson, Brown, Charlton, Clemiston, Pigg, Dickinson, Lowrey, Nevin, Kent, Patterson and London.

In 1915 Chesterwood was the home of Haydon Bridge Golf Club (yes, one did exist). The existing Peel House was the Club House and the course was on Mr Henderson's land. One of the members (possibly the President) was one Mr Maling of the Newcastle Pottery firm, who then lived at Chesterwood Grange. The Grange was also, for a period, the home of the Haydon Hunt. Will it survive the current ridiculous laws?

Chesterwood today is a very different place from what it was even in my youth. Houses have disappeared, been modernised and new ones constructed. A prime example is that there is one house that, a 100 years ago, my grandfather and his family inhabited rent free for 6 months on condition that he 'did it up'. Its recent value was quoted as being in excess of £100,000!

Although Chesterwood has changed considerably from the 4 Peel Houses of old it still retains its aspect as a hamlet in the beautiful rural countryside of South Tynedale (touch of nostalgia here!).

**William Veitch**

**HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE GROUP**

Thursday evening walks

**7th July 2005  
Woodhall**

**meet Church Street 6.30pm  
3 miles**

Further information from Alan Howard  
Tel. 684524

**21st June 2005  
Whitley Chapel -Devils Water  
3 miles - GR 928578  
6.45 pm**

Further information from  
Ann Nicholson  
Tel.684639

**HAYDON NEWS**

## HAYDON BRIDGE CRICKET FIXTURES 2005/06

In line for titles in both first and second divisions until the final day of last season, both our teams got off to winning starts this season.

Why not pay a visit to Haydon Park and support our cricketers this summer.

### Officials

President:	W. Foster
Chairman:	R.C. Corbett
Secretary:	J.R. Oliver (01434 68433)
Match Secretary:	B. Hope (01434 684845)
Captain 1st X1:	G. Pigg
Captain 2nd X1:	J.R. Oliver

### Remaining Fixtures First Team

<b>JULY</b>		
Saturday 2nd	Humshaugh	Home
Saturday 9th	Mitton	Away
Saturday 16th	Haltwhistle	Home
Saturday 23rd	Wylam	Away
Saturday 30th	Stocksfield	Home
<b>AUGUST</b>		
Saturday 6th	Allendale	Home
Saturday 13th	Newton	Away
Saturday 20th	Benwell Hill	Home
Saturday 27th	Heslham Leazes	Away

### Remaining Fixtures Second Team

<b>JULY</b>		
Saturday 2nd	Humshaugh	Away
Saturday 9th	Stanfordham	Home
Saturday 16th	Haltwhistle	Away
Saturday 23rd	Wylam	Home
Saturday 30th	Stocksfield	Away
<b>AUGUST</b>		
Saturday 6th	Allendale	Away
Saturday 13th	Wark	Home
Saturday 20th	Newbrough	Away
Saturday 27th	Prudhoe	Home

### HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meetings held at Haydon Bridge Community Centre

ALL ARE WELCOME  
ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF  
EVERY MONTH AT 7.30pm

19th July 2005

## TULA'S TRAVELS (Chapter One)

*Give a girl the right shoes and she can conquer the world*

I have always been curious and fascinated with the country of India, and decided earlier last year that I would finally throw caution to the wind and go.

I mentioned it to my daughter Jane, who is a born nomad and has journeyed to many wonderful places, her father Roy and I had always wanted to travel to India.

Sadly we would not make this journey together but my passion to see the country remained and in February 2005, I set off accompanied by my son David and his girlfriend Melanie.

The hairdressing shop was taken care of by Heather and Margy who between them also fostered my dog, Lash.  
(Bless them)

The day of departure arrived and after a heavy night in one of the local pubs I was feeling a little bit delicate to say the least. However with rucksack packed, which I might add contained very little, mostly medication (I believe in travelling light), I closed the door on 17 Ratcliffe Rd, not knowing what the next five weeks had in store.

Our flight was on time and for once there were no problems checking in, we just had time to have a quick coffee before boarding and setting off on our adventures.

We flew from Newcastle to Charles De-Gaulle in Paris and then on to

Delhi (how easy is that?).

On arrival I remember getting off the plane and thinking My God is the whole world and his dog in the airport? I had never seen so much human traffic in my entire life.

We scanned the horizon looking for my daughter Jane and her partner Mickey who had been travelling and were in India to meet us.

Suddenly a banner appeared and in bold letters it read:

THOMPSON TOURS NAMASTA

In other words,  
'welcome Mam to India'.

After many hugs and kisses we were whisked off to our hotel which was situated in the Pahar Ganj (near New Delhi railway station). I remember Jane saying to me as the taxi drove up; "Mam, are you ready for this?"

As I stepped out into the street I thought my eyes were playing tricks, because everywhere you looked there were cows, flea bitten dogs and people sleeping anywhere. Little did I know that this scene would be repeated a hundred times over come morning.

As I climbed into my bed in a strange country I could not contain my excitement and apprehension as to what lay ahead for us all in the next five weeks. In two simple words:

UTTER CHAOS  
**(to be continued.)**

### SYLVIA'S POETS' CORNER

Hello readers!

There hasn't been a poetry page recently because I have been indisposed so to speak, but thankfully I am now up and running again.

There will be a full page of poems next month but we start (or try to start!) again with one true life ditty by **Clare Nicoll**

So many times the car has failed  
To start, there's something wrong.  
Its engine sneezes, snorts and groans  
And sings a death knell song.

'Oh bugger me, I cannot tell  
What causes this infection?  
Take it to the garage, please  
So they can make inspection.'

The garage man looks deep inside  
The workings of the car  
'I have to say,' in mournful tones,  
'Its travelled just too far.'

The knacker's yard is on the cards  
For this trusty old jalopy.  
To lose a motor of this age  
Is such a catastrophy?

## **WE'RE ALL GOING ON A SUMMER HOLIDAY...**

### **Anglicans au poivre or Jesuits en croute.**

Anthropophagy has been the stuff of adventure novels and films for a very long time. Flanders and Swan even wrote a song about it. Recent history contains numerous rumours and examples of human cannibalism and, for those whose gastronomic inquisitiveness extends to such lengths, I have heard it reported, that cooked human tastes much like cooked pig, hence the term 'long pig' said to be used by some cannibals to refer to humans on the menu.

The limitations of the out of hours service are being addressed and changes are afoot. Nonetheless, those of us who live in rural areas can feel disadvantaged with respect to access to services.

A patient who was obliged to go to Newcastle over a weekend made this point recently. The hospital doctor who saw him, when taxed on the access issue, replied to the effect that – Well, you live 'out in the sticks', what can you expect?

Do they think we still eat the missionaries out here?  
Can't speak for Haltwhistle, of course...

Sparingly populated areas cannot sustain an 'all services' hospital unfortunately and that does mean both patients and doctors have to adapt to circumstances. There is objective evidence that the results obtained by large units are technically superior to those of small units but this is small comfort when the time and money involved in getting to hospital is considered.

In the future, many of the services delivered in hospital will be delivered in general practice instead and the advance of technology will assist this. In fact, in a decade or two, general practice may well resemble a small hospital – *et voila!* – the local hospital is reinvented.

### **Redisorganisation.**

At a recent introductory meeting with the new chief non-exec of the Care Trust – at least I think that is his title – the man began his talk with a quotation from Gaius Petronius Arbiter (died AD66):

"We trained hard ... but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form up into teams we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganizing; and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency, and demoralization."

None in the room could dissent from this sentiment. The bad news is that Gaius Petronius Arbiter, whose Satyricon is the basis for Fellini's film of the same name, was a notoriously profligate voluptuary who said nothing of the sort. The earliest reference that scholars can find to the quotation is, in fact, 1970 and research suggests that it may have arisen from British soldiers in post war Germany, bemoaning their circumstances.

The good news is that the Care Trust appears to be back on an even keel financially, though that is tempered by the disclosure to me by another functionary that this stability has been achieved by one who is known to be 'brutally dynamic'.

The first benefit that comes in the wake of all the changes for this practice is that we may have secured some extra health visitor hours. A detailed analysis of her workload has shown that the funding provided hitherto has been insufficient to cover the basic legal minimum requirement for her duties. The new funding covers two thirds of the deficiency.

There must be a better way!

### **New evening classes for men.**

I am delighted to report that these classes, mentioned last month, have been very heavily over subscribed.

I would like to extend an invitation to readers to send in additional topics for the classes and, for balance, some topics for parallel classes for women too. All those legal, half-decent and eye-catching will be published.

### **A fair wind.**

Joseph Pujol (1857-1945), aka Le Petomane, was a star performer at the Moulin Rouge in Paris in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. His fame derived from his ability to imitate sounds and play tunes by farting.

His discovery of his talents almost exactly coincided with his premature demise. Whilst swimming underwater in the sea he became aware that he was taking on extra ballast in the form of seawater flooding in by the stern door unbidden. One can imagine the sinking feeling he experienced. Back in barracks he found he could demonstrate his newly found talents by hoovering water out of basins whilst sitting in them.

All this information and much more besides is to be found in a little book recently reviewed in the British Medical Journal. 'Who Cut the Cheese – a cultural history of the fart' by Jim Dawson. ISBN 1-58008-100-1.

The average fart consists of 59% nitrogen, 21% hydrogen, 9% carbon dioxide, 7% methane and 4% oxygen – a colourless, odourless and inflammable (with a bluish flame) mixture. Less than 1% of the ingredients are responsible for any odour. The smell has been timed as travelling at ten feet per second.

Fermenting complex sugars, such as are found in plant materials, are the key culprits.

It may be polite to hang on to the gas but problems will arise if it cannot escape.

The lower bowel is not well suited to containing gas under pressure.

### **Wasting money.**

In today's post were three returned referral letters for patients who had been sent a hospital appointment and failed to attend – and that's just one day's post. That's several thousand pounds straight down the pan, not to mention the extra delay caused to others who would be only too willing to take their places and the time we spent writing the letters when we could have been seeing someone else.

As many people have already noticed we now have weekly counts of people who have failed to attend their appointments at the health centre displayed in the reception area.

### **YOU WOULDN'T WANT IT TO BE YOU - WOULD YOU?**

If, for whatever reason, you cannot keep your appointment then please PLEASE let us know as soon as possible, so that someone else can have your slot. It's your tax money that's being wasted and your service that is being damaged.

### **Lost souls.**

Every so often we encounter someone who has lived in the village for years but who has remained registered with a doctor in some very distant place. There is considerable overlap between local practices – we have patients in Haltwhistle, Hexham, both Allen Valleys and Humshaugh and vice versa, but being registered with a doctor further off is not really wise. You never know when you'll need

help unexpectedly and then we'd be pleased to help but we'd know nothing about you and you would have had a period of time with no continuing care.

If you are living locally, but are registered elsewhere, we would be delighted to welcome you to the practice. If you know someone, perhaps an elderly person who cannot look after themselves properly, who is not registered, please extend an invitation to them to consider registering. We would like all those in the practice area to be properly provided for – it's what we're here for.

Steve Ford

# Shaftoe Trust First School Summer Fair

Saturday 9th. July 2005  
10am–12 noon

*Please come along and support us  
There will be plenty of stalls including cakes, raffle, tombola, coconut shy, beat the goalie, bran tub and many more.  
We look forward to seeing you there.*

## HAYDON BRIDGE BYPASS. DRAFT ORDERS PUBLIC EXHIBITION.

AT  
**HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
ON

**THURSDAY 30TH JUNE 6pm-9pm**

**FRIDAY 1ST JULY 10am-8pm**

**SATURDAY 2ND JULY 10am-2pm**

**Staff from the Highways Agency will be available at these sessions to answer your questions and hear your views.**

**CHURCH PAGE****CLERGY MESSAGE**

from  
**Judith Hampson**

Most people will be looking forward to a holiday. This year my long break has involved moving house, office and job. At present I am in limbo, neither visitor nor part of the furniture. As I become accustomed to times and places I shall probably need another break away from the domestic front. A holiday gives a break from the routine. It allows families time to relax and enjoy some freedom. Truly a time for harmony. For some it will be about as harmonious as lambing in a snowstorm. Experience of holidays often includes the usual worries over cancelling the milk and papers whilst loading suitcases that need a forklift to carry them. Traffic jams help car and occupants get hotter and hotter along with tempers. Eventually fizzy cans and drivers explode. Road rage and lemonade everywhere. A perfect start to two weeks of shared bliss.

Beach or countryside each has its own special advantages. Sand flies are marginally less aggressive than midges just like sangria is marginally less toxic than rocket fuel. At least we all smile for the colourful group photograph unless the mix of ice cream, fizzy drinks and a ride on a fishing boat has given everyone a delicate green complexion. Marvellous. Once the return journey is over it seems such a shame the mackerel was left next to

**WHO AND WHERE**

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

Rev Judith Hampson,  
The Vicarage, Station Yard                            684307

Rev David Hasson, with the Methodist Congregation  
Wesley Manse, Moor View, Haltwhistle            320051

Father Leo Pyle , with St John's Catholic Church  
St John's Presbytery, North Bank                    684265

the clotted cream but it is so good to be back. The milk and papers had been cancelled the house is still standing. Once back in familiar surroundings things get back to normal. As ever, some will live in harmony but for others the storms will return. Perhaps we should take note that even God took one day of rest in seven. We should learn to step back on a regular basis taking time to re-create our own world. Call a halt to the stress and strain. Take a day of holiday every week. Reclaim a weekly holy day.

*Lord we give thanks for times of relaxation and recreation  
Help us to forget our cares and worries for a time  
Give us strength and resilience to take up our tasks with new vigour  
May we have hope for the future confident in your steadfast care.*

## METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday 3 July

**10.00am** AAW  
at Trinity Methodist, Hexham  
**6.00pm** Evening Worship  
Mr Bod Cooper

### Sunday 10 July

**10.00am** Family Service  
Mrs Joyce Short  
**6.00pm** Evening Worship  
Rev David Macdonald

### Sunday 17 July

**10.00am** Morning Worship  
Mr David Stabler  
**6.00pm** Evening Worship  
Mr Mark Knowles

### Sunday 24 July

**10.00am** Holy Communion  
Rev David Hasson  
**6.00pm** Evening Worship  
Mr John Carrick

### Sunday 31 July

**10.00am** Morning Worship  
LA  
**6.00pm** Evening Worship  
Fr Leo Pyle

### Sunday 7 August

**10.00am** Morning Worship  
Mr D Campbell  
**6.00pm** Evening Worship  
Rev David Hasson or  
Summer Celebration  
at Haydon Old Church

## ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY CHURCH SERVICES

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am

Mass each Sunday at 11.00am at  
Haltwhistle

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

## ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday 3 July

**10.30am** All Age Worship  
Mr John Carr

### Sunday 10 July

**10.30am** Deanery Service  
Hexham

### Sunday 17 July

**8.00am** Holy Communion  
Rev Judith Hampson  
**10.30am** Holy Communion  
Rev Judith Hampson

### Sunday 24 July

**10.30am** Morning Prayer  
Mr John Carr

### Sunday 31 July

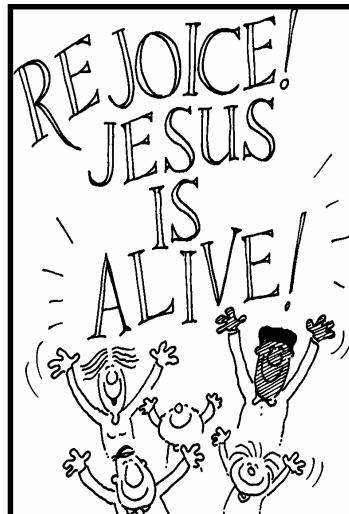
**10.15am** Joint Holy Communion  
Rev Judith Hampson

### Sunday 7 August

**10.30am** All Age Worship  
Mr John Carr

## HAYDON OLD CHURCH

SUNDAY 7 August  
**6.00pm** United Service  
Rev Judith Hampson



## BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday 3 July

**10.30am** All Age Worship  
Mr John Carr

### Sunday 10 July

**10.30am** Deanery Service  
Hexham

### Sunday 17 July

**8.00am** Holy Communion  
Rev Judith Hampson  
**10.30am** Holy Communion  
Rev Judith Hampson

### Sunday 24 July

**10.30am** Morning Prayer  
Mr John Carr

### Sunday 31 July

**10.15am** Joint Holy Communion  
Rev Judith Hampson

### Sunday 7 August

**10.30am** All Age Worship  
Mr John Carr

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Christian Aid Week \*

\* A most sincere thanks to  
\* all the collectors who  
\* gave their time to do the  
\* house-to-house collection  
\* and all those who gave so  
\* generously.

\* \* \* \* \*

Total

£1672.20.

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Thank you for your great  
\* effort.

\* \* \* \* \*

### HAYDON BRIDGE WIND FARM A REALITY

**In the previous edition of this periodical's Dr. Steve Ford Page, the good doctor proposed that Haydon Bridge would benefit economically by the installation of a wind farm development.**

The Haydon News has been informed of a feasibility study which has been undertaken as a result of this suggestion. This has provided a very positive case for the wind farm to be commissioned and we understand that adoption is forthcoming at the next meeting of Haydon Parish Council.

A French consulting engineer, Jean le Vent, has undertaken the work. M. le Vent explained the requirements were initially for a suitable location where it was very windy throughout the year and close to existing high voltage power lines to make the required connection to the National Grid.

The location of choice is the centre of Heugh House Lane above the village. This would have the added advantage of direct road access to the site for pouring of the 200 tons of concrete required for each base foundation.

Planning permission would not be required as the location is on the road verge.

Ground cost maintenance would be minimal as the residents already enjoy cutting this grassed area.

Initially, three units are envisaged to give a cluster, with visual intrusion to residents limited to only one or two properties.

*The photograph below, from the le Vent report, shows how the cluster will appear.*

In an interview with the Haydon News the Frenchman explained that opinion on the farm was sought from village residents and groups.

Of 900 questionnaires the study issued, the 3 returned were nearly all in favour.

Concern had been expressed by the Haydon Bridge Nature Club over the problem of birds.

It was confirmed that this would not be a difficulty as large containers would be located beneath the towers to collect their remains.

Residents would be requested to empty these regularly.

The problem of blade generated noise had also been considered.

Residents would not be subjected to levels higher than 150 decibels and ear protection would be freely available.

Any stress symptoms evident would be addressed by The Haydon Bridge Health Centre's new 24/7 class (for men only) 'Wind Noise Anxiety and You!'

Each unit would cost around £1 million and could be Carbon neutral in 60 years. Funding arrangements have already been approved with an increase in the Parish precept of £277.77 per month per household.

M. le Vent's final comments were that '...£277.77 est grande valeur, mes petits amis. Bientôt, nous sommes, how you say 'breaking wind' in Heugh House Lane'.



Since news of Jean le Vent's report came to our attention, the editors of your news letter have done some digging and we understand that construction work for the project is likely to commence on the **1st April 2006**.