



THE HAYDON NEWS



TIME PLEASE

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Issue 09

November
2005

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Thank you.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

At a time when our politicians are promoting the use of public transport, it seems ludicrous that proposals are put forward by the SRA to withdraw train services from Haydon Bridge and other intermediate stations between Hexham and Carlisle.
More, not less, is needed.
Of the 15 Carlisle to Newcastle trains (Monday –Saturday) only 8 stop at Haydon Bridge. It's slightly better in the other direction with 9 trains to Carlisle. If more people are to use the train then an improved service is required. The timing isn't much good either with long intervals between trains. There are no trains to Newcastle between 09.14 and 12.14 and again between 13.14 and 17.14, with another 4 hour gap between trains in the evening.
Then the fare doesn't encourage use either. Why is it almost £2 cheaper to purchase a return ticket from Haydon Bridge to Hexham, and then a Hexham to Newcastle return, than it is to buy a through return from Haydon Bridge?
Improving access to the car park, and promoting Haydon Bridge as a 'park and ride' station could help improve passenger numbers. Hopefully the closure proposals will go the same way as the Strategic Rail Authority and disappear into oblivion. With such a wonderful new access ramp they can't possibly close the station, can they?

The Editors.

editors@haydon-news.co.uk

HAYDON NEWS contributions and crosswords to:

J & M CLARKE
(newsagents)

Church Street.

W & M MARSH
(newsagents)

Ratcliffe Road.



CO-OP LATE SHOP
Ratcliffe Road

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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/articles are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters/articles when necessary. Anonymous letters/articles 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,
Catherine Hall, Storey Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES. October meeting 2005.

8 Parish councillors attended &
2 Tynedale councillors &
1 NCC councillor.

Langley Gardens Play area.

Tricia Ashford and Ken Storer, from Milecastle Housing, attended the meeting to discuss the play provision at Langley Gardens. At present this is in poor state of repair. They explained that they did not have a duty to maintain the play equipment, but were required to ensure its safety. Due to lack of funding this often meant removing, rather than repairing, worn out equipment. Mr Storer told the council that Milecastle's annual budget for play areas throughout Tynedale was £4,700.00. and that like for like replacement of the present play facilities at Langley Gardens would cost over £6,000.00. This was clearly beyond their budget. Tricia Ashford suggested the best way forward was to develop the area as a community project, as this would give access to funding not available to businesses. She said that Milecastle Housing would prepare a questionnaire to gain a profile of the ages of the children likely to use the area and the type of provision needed. Following this, an event could be held for children and parents to look at the types of play equipment available. The council agreed that this was probably the best way forward, but that a letter would be sent to Milecastle Housing querying the adequacy of the funding made available by them for play areas in Tynedale. This was supported by the two Tynedale councillors present at the meeting.

Public Participation

A question was asked about replacing the seat on the corner of Church Street and Strother Close. This was removed when the redevelopment of the Foundry Yard commenced. The council are to write to the developers asking for the seat to be replaced. Following a question about the church clock, it was stated that it could be many months before the necessary repairs are completed.

Council Meeting. Matters arising from last month's meeting.

Following complaints about the state of the cemetery, some councillors visited the site along with the person responsible for maintenance. The possibility of purchasing a new mower was discussed. However, it was noted that maintenance problems were presented by the number of ornaments on and around some of the graves. A decision was taken to inform the bereaved about the regulations regarding headstones etc. The council also agreed to go ahead with the proposal for a 'green cemetery' at the south end of the site. Preparatory work for this would begin soon.

Christmas lights are to be hung in Church Street again this year, local businesses and the parish council sharing the costs. However, the trees will need to be trimmed before the lights can go up. The lights will be on for a two week period over Christmas.

Nothing has been heard yet from the developers of the Foundry Yard regarding compensation for the loss of the bus shelter.

The council was informed of a public meeting, to be held on November 2nd. at 6.30pm in the Community Centre, with representatives from the Environmental Agency, Tynedale Council, Northumberland County Council and Northumbria Water, to discuss responsibilities, and measures to be taken, when flood warnings are received, and improvements to flood defences in Haydon Bridge.

Tynedale Council Notes.

The parish council was informed of the likelihood of future wind farm developments in Tynedale. As part of the continuing air quality monitoring process in Haydon Bridge, the council was told that air quality in Haydon Bridge is improving.

Highways.

Haydon Bridge by pass.
There is to be a public enquiry

possibly in April/May 2006. Concern expressed, once again, that the regional body, with responsibility for deciding whether or not the finance is to be made available for the scheme, is not yet in place.

Illuminating St Cuthbert's Church.

Enquiries are to be made by the planning department of Tynedale Council regarding whether or not planning permission is required to illuminate the church.

A lighting demonstration is to be arranged so that a decision can be made on the type of lighting to be used.

Northumberland Life.

Northumberland Life is an online searchable directory of community groups in our area. It offers clubs, voluntary groups or any not-for-profit organisation the opportunity for free promotion.

The service was launched on 10th October 2005. To find out more visit www.northumberlandlife.org or telephone 01670 533477.

Withdrawal of train services from Haydon Bridge.

Councillors objected to the proposal by the Strategic Rail Authority, that all rail services from Haydon Bridge be stopped and replaced by a bus service. Their objections are to be made known to the Secretary of State for Transport.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Esmond Faulks (chairman)

Mr. D Charlton 684505

Mrs. E Charlton 684505

Mrs. V Fletcher 688872

Mr. M R Parkin 684340

Mrs. C Duffy 688818

Mr. D Smith* 684480

Mr. A Johnson 684686

Mr. R Snowdon 688871

Mr. T Stephenson

Mr. E Brown.

(* also a Tynedale Councillor)

Parish Clerk

Mrs. C McGivern 688020(after 6pm)

HISTORICAL NOTES OF HAYDON BRIDGE - Dennis Telford
STAWARD PELE continued from October 2005

In my Notes last month I took a stroll through the history of Staward Pele, from **Roman times to George Bacon's purchase of the pele for £450 in 1664.** Before we follow the story of an itinerant occupier of the pele and eventually join the famed 19c Staward Pele picnic, I will attempt to unravel the years of the Bacon family's ownership.

The Bacon pedigree, written by John Hodgson in 1840, has more branches than an ancient Willow, but I will strip out for you those descendants who were successors to the pele, and played their part in our parish.

George Bacon's second son, **'John Bacon of Staward'**, a mining speculator, raised a large fortune out of the lead mines of Alston district. John and his wife Isabel had twelve surviving children, four sons and eight daughters. At least two of the daughters were baptised at Haydon. Isabel (26th February 1696) and Dorothy (20th May 1699).

John Bacon was High Sheriff of Northumberland in 1693. A position that his second son William was to hold in 1745. More importantly perhaps from our historical perspective, John was a trustee to John Shaftoe's school foundation deed in 1685.

The marriages of the Bacon children make interesting reading, in that they brought together a number of famous northern families.

The Forsters, Blenkinsopps, Ords, Fenwicks, Blacketts, Bates' and Erringtons.

Four of John's daughters were married in our old church at Haydon. Susannah to William Fenwick: 29th December 1698.

Ann to Thomas Orde: 1st May 1709.

Elizabeth to John Blackett: 16th May 1709.

Isabel to William Errington: 17th October 1731.

John Bacon died on 25th November 1736 aged 81 years of age and was buried on 30th November in 'Haydon old chapel'. There is an inscription on marble on the north wall in the old church; to the

memory of John **and** his eldest son George. George had died on 9th January 1702 aged 26 years.



On John Bacon's death, Staward passed to his second son **William** and when he died on 20th April 1748, to his eldest son, another **John** who lived until the 26th June 1752.

The next member of the Bacon family to own the pele was the son of John junior, **John William Bacon Forster**, he having taken the surname of his uncle Ferdinando B. Forster on his death. This J.W.B. Forster was owner of Allendale smelt works as well as Staward Pele, and in 1763 was sheriff of Northumberland.

Following J.W.B. Forster's death on the 2nd May 1767, his eldest son and heir was **William Bacon Forster** who died on 15th April 1780 aged only 21 years old and yet was married twice in his young life.

His only son and heir, another **William Bacon Forster**, died childless on the 4th April 1810, and his father's brother **Charles Bacon** succeeded his nephew to the family estates.

Are you still with me ? I'm almost there!!

On Charles Bacon's death (18th September 1830), the estates were willed to his second son **Charles Bacon Grey** of Styford. (This Charles Bacon had taken the surname of his uncle Marmaduke Grey, having been

left numerous estates by his will of 1823).

Charles Bacon Grey is remembered unfavourably in the history of the Newcastle to Carlisle railway line. As a landowner at Styford he refused to agree to the use of locomotives on his land and three weeks after the line opened on the 9th March 1835, traffic had to be stopped due to an injunction by him.

By the 6th May 1835, Grey had been persuaded by intense public pressure to withdraw his opposition, and on 17th June 1835 parliament sanctioned the use of locomotives on the line.

Charles Bacon Grey was succeeded as owner of Staward by his son **Henry Bacon Grey** born on July 25th 1837.

DICKIE of KINGSWOOD

A history of Staward Pele would be incomplete without mention of the itinerant fellow who made the pele his occasional home. As far as I can gather, this was in the early 1700's.

Of all the important events throughout the remarkable history of Staward Pele, it appears that the story which has most captured the imagination of scribes over the years is the tale of one, Dickie of Kingswood.

That Dickie was a felon and a rogue, there is no doubt, and yet, as his misdeeds were achieved by cunning and deception, rather than brute force and bloodshed in the manner of his ancestors, Dickie has achieved lasting fame as a romantic of 18c Staward Pele.

The King's Wood and Kingswood Farm and cottage lie to the west of the River Allen and as such they are outside the boundary of our parish which follows the middle of the Allen on its way to the Tyne. Nevertheless, because Dickie made his 'home' at Staward, we can justifiably claim him as one of ours!

We are told that Dickie travelled far and wide in search of his ill-gotten gains and it is in a farmer's field at Denton Burn that our story begins.

Grazing on this lush pasture, Dickie spied two fine, fat oxen. The more he

looked at them the more he admired and coveted the beasts, and he was happy to wait until nightfall when he would 'lift' the animals and drive them westward towards his home territory.

Morning came, bringing with it a great hue and cry as the farmer discovered his loss and he set off in pursuit.

Dickie, having set a false trail to the north, toward the Tweed, was well into Cumberland before the farmer himself turned to the west in his efforts to catch the thief.

Arriving at Lanercost on his way to Carlisle, Dickie met with an old farmer riding a fine bay mare. The Cumberland farmer was quick to appreciate the quality of the two oxen and Dickie, mindful that the enraged fellow from Denton Burn would by now be back on his trail, let it be known that he was willing to negotiate a price. A deal was eventually done and the farmer drove the oxen into his field.

When the money for the deal was handed over, Dickie and the gentleman from Lanercost sat down to a fine supper and a bottle or two, during which time Dickie was planning his next move.

"Yon's a bonnie mare ye were riding. Wad ye sell hor?"

"Sell!" cried the farmer. "No' for the value of all o' Cumberland. Her like canna be found."

Following further encouragement from the Staward rogue and as the Brandy loosened his tongue, the old farmer let it be known, that to him his mare was of: "Sec value, not for her the stable but a secure spot tied to ma ain bedpost o'er the neet."

"Mind thor's some cunnin' yens about," ventured Dickie. "But ye'll hev a gud quality lock for yon door nee doot."

"Aye aa hev that, an' ye shall see it. Noo what do ye think o' that for a lock?"

Dickie carefully scrutinised the lock and key - he wasn't unskilled in locks, and he pronounced it, "a gud lock. Aye a vary gud lock. It'll be a clivvor yen te pick yon lock!"

And so, after another drink or two and one more for the moss an' the mire and a last one for the syke, Dickie took his leave and the two of them parted the best of friends.

The old farmer locked the door, tied his mare to the bedpost and fell into a deep sleep, the Brandy having taken its toll.

When dawn broke and the old farmer stirred, everything was strangely still. Even the mare made no sound.

Shivering with the cold, the old man felt for his blankets but there was no sign of them.

Stumbling out of bed, he was astonished to find that the door to the room was wide open, the lock having been picked. The blankets had been strewn across the floor to deaden the sound of hooves and the favoured mare led out without making a sound.

As the Lanercost farmer cursed his own foolishness and searched the land around the farm for the mare, Dickie was long gone, riding as the wind by Narworth, Tindale Tarn and towards the burn to the South Tyne. On crossing Haltwhistle Fell, the mare reared up and came to a sudden halt as a man approached on foot.

"Hev ye seen ony stray cattle on yer travels? A've lost yen yoke of fine oxen."

"An' what are they like?"

Asked Dickie, recognising the fellow from Denton from where he had stolen the beasts.

The farmer proceeded to describe the oxen in great detail.

"Noo that ye mention it," said Dickie. "Aa hev seen a pair just like yer describing, only yesterday on yon farm by Lanercost".

"Man, 'am gay obliged te ye, but 'am deed tired wi' waalkin'. Mind that's a fine mare yer riding. Ye waddn't be for sellin' hor wad ye?"

"Oh I, aa'll sell," said Dickie.

"But aa'll be wanting a canny price. Thor's not another yen like hor in aa'll Northumberland."

A bargain was struck to both men's satisfaction. Coins were exchanged and the Denton fellow rode off in the direction of Lanercost.

Sure enough, when the farmer reached Lanercost, there were his missing oxen grazing in a field.

"Man! What are ye deein' wi' my oxen?" he shouted angrily to the flummoxed elderly farmer nearby.

"Your oxen!" Bellowed the farmer. "If it comes te that, what are ye deein' riding my mare?"

The two farmers from Denton Burn and Lanercost, were soon to realise that they had both met their match, in a fellow neither had seen before nor were likely to see again.

They accepted with good grace, their parts in the affair and exchanged their animals, before bursting into roars of laughter at the comical side of their misfortune.

Meanwhile, Dickie was also smiling as he made his way across the fell, down through the King's Wood, across the fast flowing River Allen and up the steep rise to the Staward promontory, where he settled down contentedly, to plan his next foray.

But first maybe, an easy walk past Harsondale, Deanraw and the Land Ends, to Haydon Bridge.

After all, he could afford a Brandy or two in the Royal Anchor Inn that night.

My history of Staward Pele will be continued in a future issue.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON IT

In the July issue of The Haydon News, I reviewed the Highways Agency By Pass Exhibition, and I referred to a favourite Maurice Armstrong story.

A young lad looking into Dave Jeans' shop window was told by his father to: "Keep yer eye on that bike son 'cos you'll nivvor get yer backside on it."

We now know who the lad was!

Acomb.

Dear Editor,

It was me that saw that Raleigh bike in David Jeans' shop window, and I did get my backside on the saddle that Maurice Armstrong talked about.

On April 20th 1951, I paid £8 10s deposit to David Jeans for a green Raleigh Lenton Sports bike (Model 28). I paid weekly until it was paid for. I think it was about £23. Then on June 22nd 1951, I bought a new Dyno Hub set for £4 4s 8d, that went onto the front wheel. I sold the bike after many happy miles, to a work mate at Bardon Mill.

From: Wm. Arnold McVay.

Arnold is well known in Haydon Bridge. He worked at Bardon Mill pit, lived in our village for 27 years until 1956 and still visits us, from his home at Acomb.

OUT OF AFRICA

If I continue to relate my remarkable coincidences in these columns, (e.g. 'War Geordie' March 2005 and 'Time Gentlemen Please' June 2005) you will begin to think that I am making these stories up.

Well..... that isn't going to stop me sharing with you my latest and in some ways my most extraordinary holiday tale, with a Haydon Bridge connection.

On Monday 5th September 2005, the view from the top of Table Mountain was magnificent. Overlooking the city of Cape Town 3,500 feet below where 4 million inhabitants were going about their daily business.

As an introduction to South Africa's legislative capital, Betty and I took a leisurely stroll through 'Company's Gardens', a green oasis in the centre of Cape Town laid out in 1652 as market gardens, from where trade in fresh produce for passing ships was conducted.

At the top of this pleasant park stands a large imposing building housing the South Africa Museum. We entered the museum, the oldest in the country.

Following a brief introduction to southern Africa's tribal culture, we left the building to continue our walking tour of the city, only to be confronted by a blanket of cloud, Cape Town's famed 'tablecloth', that had covered part of the mountain while we were inside.

The rain fell in torrents.

Incidentally, this was the only rain we saw during our 22 day holiday — fate perhaps?

Betty and I quickly retraced our steps, intending to wait in the museum café until the deluge subsided. Many others had made the same decision however and all the tables in the room were occupied.

As we stood in the doorway to the café, contemplating our next move, a kindly lady on the opposite side of the room recognised our dilemma and waved us across to where she was sitting. She offered us two remaining seats at her table. We thanked her and ordered a tea and a coffee.

"Do you live in Cape Town?" I asked.

"Ja. In Kenilworth. And where do you come from?"

"We live in England. In the North East, near Newcastle upon Tyne." I replied.

"Oh! I have a very good friend who moved to England from Cape Town and has bought a stone built cottage in a small village near Newcastle. It is called **Haydon Bridge**. I wonder if you know it?"

"Know it !!!"

Can you imagine our absolute amazement?

When we had recovered our composure, we assured the lady that we did know Haydon Bridge, **very well**.

A chance meeting with Adri Minnaar whose friend in Haydon Bridge is Dr. Aron Mazel, got our South African journey off to a wonderful start and Betty and I spent a most enjoyable hour in Adri's company.

Adri told us how much Aron, his wife Ann and their daughters Rebecca and Nicola are enjoying life in our village. How they have been made to feel so welcome in our community, and how appreciative they were of the practical help offered, by neighbours and others in Haydon Bridge, when they first moved in.

We regaled Adri with stories of Haydon Bridge, its locality and its inhabitants, albeit two continents distant. We promised to call on Dr. Mazel and Ann on our return, to pass on her best wishes, and we assured Adri that the November issue of 'The Haydon News' would be despatched to Cape Town without delay!

When eventually we had to say our goodbyes, it was with some sadness, but Betty and I returned to our remarkable meeting many times in conversation with fellow travellers over the next few days.



Adri Minnaar and Dr. Aron Mazel in Cape Town before Aron moved to Haydon Bridge with his wife Ann and daughters Nicola and Rebecca.

Adri Minnaar, a lovely lady, was as incredulous as we were at our chance encounter, and she left us determined to email Dr. Mazel immediately with news of how we had met.

That being the case, we assured her that before the day was out, our encounter would reach the ears of the residents in the Railway Hotel and The General Havelock, and a notice outlining our story would be posted in John and Maureen Clarke's newsagents' window!

A city with a population of 4 million.

6,330 miles from Haydon Bridge.

An unexpected shower of rain.

Adri Minnaar, an administrative assistant at South Africa's National Art Gallery, invites two complete strangers to share her lunch table.

Adri's good friend and former Director of Cape Town's Cultural History Museum, is Dr. Aron Mazel.

Who just happens to live next door to Iris Waugh and James Brown, on Ratcliffe Road in Haydon Bridge.

You couldn't make it up, could you!!

Since our return from South Africa, I have enjoyed a very pleasant couple of hours in the company of Aron and Ann. As so often is the case with those who move into our village, Aron and Ann speak with a genuine affection for Haydon Bridge our local people and our beautiful countryside.

I welcome all those who have joined our community in recent years. There is no doubt that through their positive and refreshing attitude, they remind us all that we live in a wonderful place.

It is so easy for those of us who have lived here a lifetime, to take for granted the joys we share in our parish.

Haydon Bridge Nature Group

The winter season started in September when Keith Bowey gave an interesting talk on the re-introduction of the Red Kite, to Gateshead's Derwent valley. On the 6th October, Phillip Gray of the Cumbrian Countryside Agency made a welcome return and almost 60 members enjoyed an evening with Badgers, in the warmth of the Methodist Chapel ! **Betty Hargreaves** replaced the advertised speaker on the 20th October, to share her memories and fine images of a journey to Southern India.

3rd. Nov. 2005 Diving in the Caribbean: Peter Horsley.

17th Nov. 2005 The Appalachian Trail: Mike Hall.

1st Dec. 2005 Birds of the River Bank: Dave O'Hara *R.S.P.B.*

Our guest contributor this month is Gill Valentine.

Gill works as a fashion and colour consultant, lives on Ratcliffe Road and has some advice for the ladies.

There probably is not much that goes on at the London Fashion Week or Milan that immediately influences our lives in Haydon Bridge.

Yes, if we read the Sunday papers we know that black is making a big come back this season (did it ever go away?) and that waists are now to be found back up underneath the ribs, where traditionally they always were before we discovered hipsters.

I remember puffball skirts from the first time and all I can say is wearer beware! We also have something called a tulip skirt similar to the puffball with not so much puff!

We now know a lot more about the life style of Kate Moss and the other super models; my question is why is everyone so surprised?

How do thirty something's stay that slim and maintain such a hectic lifestyle without aid?

Personally, I wouldn't choose cocaine but haven't superstars always been

associated with excesses and don't we need them to be extraordinary in some way? Elton John without his excessive spending and elaborate clothes would surely be just another sad camp singer!

Trinny and Suzannah, our TV style gurus, have a new book out and a new T.V. series starting soon, it addresses what happens when women get in a rut.

We have all been there, about all sorts of aspects of our lives, we continue to do the same thing in the same way because it is safe or easy. So, here is this month's challenge:

Find one aspect of your life that you feel ready to change and act on it. Go to a different hairdresser for a good hair cut. (*unless you already go to Tulas! — Editors' note*)

Try a different clothes shop, have a long hard look at everything in your wardrobe.

What do your clothes say about you,

are they ready for a change?

Start with the things that you haven't worn this year-will you wear them next year if you haven't worn them this year? You may even have found some things that you did not remember you had.

As you sort out you make more room, think about what you need in your wardrobe and try to get the most value from one purchase e.g. a suit that can be broken up and each piece used individually.

If you really love a trouser suit, buy two pairs of trousers to the one jacket! Allow yourself a treat and take some time to look for clothes that suit your body shape, age and life style. Remember that window-shopping doesn't cost anything and can be great fun.

One word of caution, in your enthusiasm to adopt a new style please don't be tempted by the puffball skirt!

Gill Valentine

SHAFTOE GREEN

After Shaftoe Green's successful opening in September, things are progressing well.

'Bare' areas have been reseeded and this will enhance the look of the site when the new grass grows.

There are plans to plant spring bulbs, trees and shrubs, as well as put in some extra benches and a few picnic tables. Some people have expressed an interest in contributing towards these, so we have looked very carefully at the models available.

Many were simply not robust enough to withstand life in a public place, so we have opted to ask the gentleman who crafted the benches currently installed on Shaftoe Green, to make the new furniture for us.

These will be securely fixed on paved bases and we are asking anyone who wishes to contribute towards one of them to contact us for prices and information. Memorial plaques can be attached if desired.

An extra litterbin will be added soon, and this will be positioned within the play area. Please note that this will be emptied by volunteers, not by TDC.

On the subject of volunteers - anyone who would like to be trained on how to inspect the equipment, and to join the inspection team, can come along on **Sunday, November 6th at 10am**, when the quarterly inspection will take place. Training will be given there and then, 'on the job'.

Each team member (and their family) will then be responsible for one month of the year to do weekly inspections and litter picks, filling in a simple form afterwards.

It really is not a difficult task and a small payment in return for this wonderful asset to our community. If our children are involved in it's care and development from an early age, then hopefully vandalism will not become an issue.

Please come along and help us, the more people we have, the easier the job.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the project so far.

**Shaftoe Green Steering Group
Contact Pauline Wallis 01434
684061**

TIME PLEASE

Can anyone remember when "TIME" was last called at The Haydon Hotel?

Well, from Sunday October 30th., the doors of one of our oldest public houses will have been locked again. (To keep folk out !!)

*We've had Leek shows, antique shows and barbeques with beer,
There's been weddings, there's been funerals and birthdays to cheer,
Henry's played the accordion and I've done a turn,
And Jeff's served the 'residents' 'till yon time o' the morn.*

*We've had quizzes, fancy dress, disco's, quoits, darts and pool.
Geoff Dixon's at the corner of the bar as a rule,
It's twenty five years with Betty's name over the door,
And the grand times we've had, now are village folklore.*

Even though events have prepared us for it, it's still sad that our popular village pub is closing.

Thank you Betty, your staff over the years, the world's best barman, Jeff, and all the 'residents' who have shared in so many happy times, but:

"I'm afraid the Black Bottle is done".

Wake me up at half past springtime...

Trouble with chaps.

It's all very well poking fun at the real and imagined differences between men and women but it should be kept in mind that each gender's insight into the other's world is very slight - no matter what any may claim. Neither can truly conceptualise the experience of the physical, psychological and social reality of the other. The differences arise from nature and nurture, from genetics, environment, experience, prejudice, ignorance, excessive intellectual endeavour, unwise assumptions (the only kind), good intentions, malice...

Medical practitioners, nurses, counsellors, priests and a handful of other groups may have more experience of striving to bridge the gap but the insights gained are only partial, the experience vicarious and the resulting exchange necessarily imperfect. This does not mean that making the effort is pointless; to the contrary, I feel that the opportunity to reflect on one's own experience through the lens of the alternate gender's psyche may be of value, especially when the cause of one's own discomfiture has some basis in gender difference.

It can reasonably be claimed that men and women become unwell equally frequently but it is an objective fact that men consult doctors very much less frequently than women. Does that mean that all women are hypochondriacal or helpless in the face of adversity? Is the 'weaker sex' condemned to kick it's heels endlessly in the nation's waiting rooms because of fragile constitutions? Hardly!

Does it mean that men are too bone headed and obdurate to acknowledge weakness? Are men burdened with bottomless fortitude and noble, lantern-jawed forbearance? Does that 'thousand yard stare' betoken an indomitable spirit, untouched by intimations of mortality? Far from it, there's a marshmallow inside every one of them - often well concealed, it's true. So what goes wrong with men? How can they and their partners identify problems? What can be done to encourage men to look after their health, to prevent problems and prolong

disability-free life?
Are men reluctant to see doctors or just too preoccupied?

The other point of view

1. VULNERABLE
(vul-ne-ra-bel) adj.

Female.... Fully opening up one's self emotionally to another.

Male.... Playing cricket without a protector.

2. COMMUNICATION
(ko-myoo-ni-kay-shon) n.

Female... The open sharing of thoughts and feelings with one's partner.

Male... Leaving a note before taking off on a fishing trip with the boys.

3. COMMITMENT
(ko-mit-ment) n.

Female.... A desire to get married and raise a family.

Male..... Trying not to hit on other women while out with this one.

4. ENTERTAINMENT
(en-ter-tayn-ment) n.

Female.... A good movie, concert, play or book.

Male..... Anything that can be done while drinking beer.

5. FLATULENCE
flach-u-lens) n.

Female.... An embarrassing by-product of indigestion.

Male..... A source of entertainment, self-expression, male bonding.

6. REMOTE CONTROL
(ri-moht kon-trohl) n.

Female.... A device for changing from one TV channel to another.
Male... A device for scanning through all 375 channels every 5 minutes.

7. He said Shall we try swapping positions tonight?
She said . That's a good idea - you stand by the ironing board while I sit on the sofa and fart!

8. He said What have you been doing with all the grocery money I gave you?
She said Turn sideways and look in the mirror!

9. He said Why don't you tell me when you have an orgasm?
She said I would but you're never there.

10. He said Why don't women blink during foreplay?
She said . . They don't have time

11. She said . . How many men does it take to change a roll of toilet paper?
She replied . We don't know; it has never happened.

12. She said . . Why is it difficult to find men who are sensitive, caring and good-looking?
She replied They already have boyfriends.

13. He said Why are married women heavier than single women?
She said . . . Single women come home, see what's in the fridge and go to bed. Married women come home, see what's in bed and go to the fridge.

Keep fit!

It's the same old messages, no rocket science involved – Keep physically active every day – walk a bit more, hide the TV remote, get the bicycle out, use the stairs not the lift, walk or bicycle to the shops/pub/work. Physical activity is good for the body and the mind – it makes you happier as well as fit. Going to the gym or swimming pool can be fun. When did you last kick a ball about with your friends or neighbours? How about a good long weekend walk in the fresh air – the dog needs airing even if you don't? The test for adequate exercise is – do you sweat briskly for twenty minutes each day? At the very least – move every joint in your body through a full range of movement to keep supple.

Eat well!

That does not mean stuff your face with anything you fancy. It means a bit of everything – some meat (lean) – fish is very good for you indeed, some fruit and veg, some bread or pasta, some chocolate (70% cocoa solids or greater, unsweetened), some more fruit and veg, not more than 28 units of alcohol weekly (14 pints, 28 spirit singles or glasses of wine)... NO FAT - NO SUGAR - NO SALT! And yet more fruit and veg. It is OK to have a fry-up on your birthday but the rest of the year you must be a stranger to fatty foods. Did I mention plenty of fruit and vegetables? Tomatoes are said to work wonders for the prostate – there's no such thing as too many tomatoes. Almost everyone in Western society eats far too much, simply eating less would, in most cases, be an improvement. If you're eating a sensible diet then

supplements and vitamin tablets are of doubtful benefit.

Is that normal?

Pain anywhere, unexplained weight loss, breathlessness, bleeding from anywhere, change in the way bladder or bowels work, change in sight or hearing, loss of muscle power, loss of feeling anywhere, change in personality or mood, erection or other sexual problems – including unprotected intercourse, undue sadness with or without obvious cause, sleeplessness, despair, depression, skin blemishes that are new or changing or bleeding or growing, relationship problems, any lumps – large or small ... how long do you want the list to be? You know if something is different.

All of the above should prompt you to get checked straight away and we are always happy to see you. No need to hang back and hope it will go away. Anything and everything is up for discussion.

The other stuff

Would you Adam and Eve it? I've almost finished and not mentioned smoking. Can there be anyone anywhere who does not know, at least in their hearts, that smoking is lethally bad for you and for those around you? We are bursting with enthusiasm to help you stop. No one is going to scowl at you – just good advice, encouragement and support. You know it makes sense! If your wife, partner, significant other, live-in-lover or spare floozy says they are worried about you, it really is a very bad idea to ignore them. If they weren't at least a bit fond of you they wouldn't have said anything but just

glanced, instead, at the terms of the life insurance and checked the premiums payments. The men who look after themselves are the smart ones. Looking after yourself means asking advice from time to time – it is not a sign of weakness.

We send loads of invitations for 'Well Man Clinics' but get only a modest number of takers. If you would like to get put on the ramp for an MOT just ask the receptionist for a 'Well Man' appointment – any time to suit you.

Hearing voices

I don't know about you but hearing that the man with his finger on the planet's biggest nuclear button is prone to hearing voices and acting on their advice, I am inclined to cancel all expenditure on domestic power generation and invest instead in a deep, deep bunker. M. Le Vent is welcome to join me and we can reminisce together about the times when we thought that global heating meant only hotter summers and no more icebergs, as we survey the view from our bunker periscope of a landscape of glowing radioactive slag.

Whilst we're enjoying a little light xenophobia: I was mildly diverted to hear of France's various states of security alert, analogous to Hollywood's DEFCON 1 etc., they are:
Run!
Hide!
Surrender!
Collaborate!

Steve Ford

HAYDON LOCAL ARTISTS PRESENT

A CHRISTMAS ART AND CRAFT FAIR.

A TABLE TOP ART AND CRAFT SALE.

AT

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

ON

SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER FROM 10am—5pm

ADMISSION FREE.

SOUP AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE.

RAFFLE

ARTISTS WISHING TO HIRE A TABLE AT THE FAIR SHOULD CONTACT BARBARA WARDLE ON 688 886 BEFORE NOVEMBER 19TH

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From

Judith Hampson



November can be a sad time of year. In church we begin the month with a celebration of All Saints. As with many celebrations it is tinged with sadness. The next day we will have a service when we commemorate All Souls. It gives time for quiet reflection and remembrance of all those we have loved but have died. We read aloud the names of those we knew. We light candles and probably shed a few tears. Somehow sharing our grief gives us strength to carry on. Death is part of life but it still hurts. On 13th November the whole country will commemorate those who have died in the service of their country. We need to remember the cruel effects of war. For some it is a memory, for the young people it is history. We need to tell the next generation about the young women and men who gave their lives for our future. In the dark days of November, as the trees lose their leaves we should take time to think about our past. If we live only for the moment we will continue to make the same mistakes again and again. It is good to acknowledge those we cared for, those who loved us, those who inspired us. Let each one take time to think of the past and commit to a better future.

This is the will of him who sent me that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me. and I will raise them up at the last day. Hear us, O merciful Father as we remember in love those whom we have placed in your hands. Acknowledge we pray, the sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming. Enfold them in the arms of your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and in the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

Blessings from

Judith

WHO AND WHERE

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

Rev Judith Hampson,
with St Cuthbert's Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard
Tel. 01434 684307

Rev David Hasson,
with the Methodist Congregation
Wesley Manse, Moor View, Haltwhistle
Tel. 01434 320051

Father Leo Pyle ,
with St John's Catholic Church
St John's Presbytery, North Bank
Tel. 01434 684265

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 19th November
2.00pm

Haydon Bridge Methodist Church
Refreshments and various stalls.

Winter Fayre

Saturday 26th November
2.00pm

St Cuthbert's Church
Please come along and support
The Church

**METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES**

Sunday 06 November
10.30am Family Service
Rev David Hasson
6.00pm Evening Worship
Mr J Wall

Sunday 13 November
10.15am Remembrance Service
St Cuthbert's
6.00pm Evening Worship
Mr Mark Knowles

Sunday 20 November
10.00am Holy Communion
Rev David Hasson
6.00pm Evening Worship
Fr. Leo Pyle

Sunday 27 November
10.00am Morning Worship
Mr David Stabler
6.00pm Evening Worship
Mr David Campbell

Sunday 04 December
10.00am Morning Worship
Mr Bobby Cooper
6.00pm Circuit Service
Trinity Hexham.

Sunday 11 December
10.00am Family Service
Mrs Joyce Short
6.00pm Holy Communion
Rev David Hasson

*Quiz Night
In Haydon Bridge
Methodist Church*

**£4.00 admission
Includes Pie and Peas**

**Saturday 26 November
7.30pm**

**Quizmaster
Alan Borthwick**

**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

**HAYDON BRIDGE
HOLIDAY CLUB
2006**

The dates are Saturday 22 July to
Saturday 29 July 2006. It is to be
led by Bobby and Rachel Martin
who, while still in their 20's, have
lots of experience of working with
young people. Bobby was a Junior
Leader at Haydon Bridge having
grown up near here.

Ideas are currently in the pipeline
for day-time activities for children
aged 4—16years, evening activities
for the 11+ and maybe something
for the adults.

Bobby and Rachel need help in a
variety of ways. Can you join the
team? Do you live locally and can
be a helper? Can you pray for the
Holiday Club? Bobby and Rachel
would love to here what you will
do. Their telephone number is 0191
565 8660. We need 30 adult
helpers (i.e. over 18) for each
session which takes place, no
previous experience necessary.

Bobby and Rachel would also like
to hear from you if you have any
ideas or comments which we ought
to take into consideration during
the planning stages. Your church
leader can pass this information on
for you.

**ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
SERVICES**

Wednesday 02 November
7.30pm Commemoration

Sunday 06 November
10.30am All Age Service
John Carr

Sunday 13 November
8.00am Holy Communion
BCP—Judith Hampson
10.15am
Remembrance Service
Judith Hampson

Sunday 20 November
10.30am Morning Prayer
Mike Fry

Sunday 27 November
Beltingham 10.15am
Joint Benefice Service
Beltingham

Sunday 04 December
10.30am All Age Worship
John Carr

Sunday 11 December
8.00am Holy Communion
Judith Hampson
10.30am Holy Communion
Judith Hampson

**BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW
CHURCH SERVICES**

Wednesday 2 November
Henshaw 6.00pm
Commemoration

Sunday 6 November
Beltingham 10.00am
Holy Communion BCP
Judith Hampson/Keith Rutherford

Sunday 13 November
Henshaw 9.45am
Remembrance

Sunday 20 November
Henshaw 10.00am
Holy Communion Order 1
Judith Hampson/Keith Rutherford

Sunday 27 November
Beltingham 10.15am
Joint Benefice Service
Judith Hampson

Sunday 4 December
Beltingham 10.00a
Holy Communion BCP
Judith Hampson/ Keith Rutherford

Sunday 11 December
No Service

A NEW WEB SITE FOR HAYDON BRIDGE AND AREA.

www.visithaydonbridge.co.uk

Due to open early 2006.

under construction

THE AIM OF THE WEB SITE is, as the name suggests, to encourage visitors to come to Haydon Bridge and the parish of Haydon, whether for a day visit or an extended holiday. The site will provide support and ideas for those planning a visit, and information on what is available when they arrive.

PROMOTING THE VILLAGE/PARISH as a tourist destination. From the attractive setting of Haydon Bridge by the River South Tyne, to the National Park and Hadrian's Wall; the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Allen Banks/Staward Gorge National Trust sites; Hexham and many other places a little further a field, our village has much to offer visitors. We intend to let them know.

SITE CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT.

The **Home** page is almost completed. This gives general information about Haydon Bridge past and present.

CHAPTER headings are likely to be:

Accommodation listing hotels, guest houses, B&Bs, self catering and caravan/camping sites, with basic details about each including address, telephone and, if available, a link to their own website.

Activities and places to visit listing providers of sport and recreational facilities with contact information, and giving basic information about the National Park, NT sites, Roman sites etc, providing links to their websites where available.

John Martin Heritage Trail information guide and map with a link to the John Martin website for those interested in finding out more about John Martin.

Village amenities listing pubs, café(s), shops, other businesses with a tourist interest, health centre and schools.

Clubs, groups and associations general information and contact links.

Haydon News with basic information about the publication and a website link when available.

Getting to Haydon Bridge with transport information and telephone/website links.

The initial set up costs, and first year running costs, will be met from the John Martin Heritage Project funding.

The site is being designed and developed by the project committee.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING ON THE WEBSITE, OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT TO THE EDITORS OF THE HAYDON NEWS VIA THE VILLAGE NEWSAGENTS OR THE CO-OP or e mail editors@haydonnews.co.uk

NAME
ADDRESS.....
CONTACT NAME/TELEPHONE/EMAIL.....
BUSINESS /ACTIVITY.....
OWN WEBSITE (if already existing).....