



THE HAYDON NEWS



HAYDON BRIDGE 2006 - TOWN OR COUNTRY ?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE PAGE

Editorial	2
Parish Council Notes	3/9
Historical Notes	4/5/6
News and Views	6/7/12
Dr. Steve Ford	8/9
Church Pages	10/11
Correspondence	12
H.B.Women's Institute	12

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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.

The picture on our front cover shows the view of Haydon Bridge that greets the traveller from the west. Lacking colour it doesn't have the same jarring impact as when seen in all its red brick glory.

It is such a pity that developers and our local planners (Tynedale District Council) seem to give little, if any, consideration to the style and traditional features of the area when planning/designing large new developments. New buildings should be designed to enhance the appearance and character of the village, not be generic, 'off the peg' developments.

Most of the stone built area of the village is a designated conservation area. Although changes to some buildings do not sit well with the original appearance, e.g. new doors and windows of more modern design, and overhead wires are a distraction, nevertheless, this part of the village does form a harmonious whole.

New housing in Haydon Bridge is be welcomed . New people making their home in the village make a positive contribution to the vitality of the place and prevent it becoming moribund.

The parish council should take a more active role in managing change in the village, to ensure the type of developments we see in the future contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the local environment.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES from meetings in December 2005 and January 2006

Meeting held on December 14th 2005.

5 councillors were present.

No members of the public attended.

Prior to the start of the main meeting, councillors held a discussion with Mr. M. Gilbertson, who has responsibility for maintaining the cemetery, about the creation of a 'Green burial' area in the southern part of the cemetery. Work is to commence in the new year, levelling the ground and creating new paths.

The council was informed that only Brigwood residents had requested and received sandbags from Tynedale Council. At the November meeting with the Environment Agency and other flood protection agencies, the public were told about the availability of sandbags from Tynedale Council, in preparation against future flooding. Letters are to be sent to representatives of the residents in other areas of the village flooded in January 2005, to remind them of this service.

Tyne Valley Rail Users group are monitoring the situation regarding the future of rail services from intermediate stations between Carlisle and Newcastle. The parish Council are to be kept informed of developments.

Tynedale Council are undertaking a consultation process on the introduction of a 'twin bin' scheme in rural areas of the district. This needs to be introduced as there are severe penalties for not meeting recycling targets. There are problems presented by access to some rural properties.

A letter was received from a Ratcliffe Road resident expressing concern over the number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit on Ratcliffe Road.

Meeting held on January 26th 2006.

8 councillors & a NCC councillor attended.

6 members of the public were present.

Public participation.

The Ratcliffe Road residents who had sent the letter to the December meeting

asked about the action taken by the parish council since receiving the letter. They reminded the councillors that the survey, carried out by the Highways Agency over a period of one week during 2005, had shown that nearly 41,000 vehicles exceeded the speed limit on Ratcliffe Road during the survey. This was out of a total number of 112,321 vehicles. The percentage of vehicles exceeding the speed limit (36.5%) was below that required to trigger measures by the Highways Agency e.g. installation of a camera.

The clerk to the council read a letter she had received from Horsley Parish Council in reply to an enquiry about the traffic calming measures taken in their village. They had received funding from NCC to install two interactive road signs, the type that are activated by an approaching vehicle to show its speed.

A Haydon Parish councillor informed the meeting that he had obtained information from a Norfolk firm manufacturing these signs. They cost £2,000 each.

The money made available to NCC councillors for funding small local schemes may be used to purchase interactive signs for Ratcliffe Road if this meets NCC criteria for expenditure. Enquiries continue.

In response to a question from a member of the public the meeting was informed that the church clock should be repaired by the end of March.

Matters arising.

The council was informed that very little money was contributed towards the cost of the Christmas lights this year, other than that raised at the switching on event. As a result the council are having to meet most of the cost.

In a letter received from the Tyne Valley Community Rail Partnership, members of the council were invited to attend a presentation of the findings of an in-depth study into the future of the Tyne Valley Railway Line. 'The study identifies realistic and economically viable opportunities for increasing rail patronage and improving rail services

along the Tyne Valley line'. (More on this in next month's Haydon News).

Tynedale Council Matters.

Due to changes in the proceedings of District Council Planning Committee Meetings, members of the public who have written to raise objections to a scheme may now participate in the meeting. Previously members of the public were not permitted to address the meeting.

Similar changes are being introduced for full council meetings from next month.

Highways.

A report was received about water pouring from beneath a manhole cover at the junction of the North Bank and Pelewell lane. Northumbria Water are to be informed.

Concern was expressed about the number of students' vehicles parked on the North Bank near the entrance to the High School. The meeting was told that the school is aware of the issue and is taking steps to resolve the problem. However, the availability of on site parking space at the school is limited. It was pointed out that parking on the North Bank outside the Health Centre created a similar problem as parking space at the Health Centre was also limited.

Parish Council Notes continue on page 9.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Mr. D Smith*
Mr. A Johnson
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

Welcome to my first 'Historical Notes' for 2006.

I am pleased that my recollections, of the Haydonian Working Men's Club in the 1960's (H.N. December 2005) brought back happy memories for a lot of readers, and it wasn't long after delivery of the Haydon News that I was being reminded of my omissions from the 'Go As You Please' cast.

Dennis Partis for example: Manager at Bardon Mill pit and a regular visitor to the 'Club concert room.

John Robson was another: Dennis Bradley reminded me that John would sing and perform a hilarious sketch dressed as Adolph Hitler, hair slicked back and a black comb used as a moustache. (We were easily pleased!)

Dennis also tells me that John 'Posser' Thompson always took his drum sticks to his place of work, at the Co-operative Laundry at Hexham, and rehearsed on any object at hand for his nightly 'Club performances; while at the same time entertaining his work colleagues.

Alex Scott of Newbrough: Jeff Marshall and I went to Shaftoe Trust School with Alex and Jeff tells me that Alex used to sing at the 'Club, but not before taking his chewing gum from his mouth and sticking it behind his ear for safe keeping! Well, I don't remember that, but if Jeff says that that's what Alex did, then it'll be right enough.

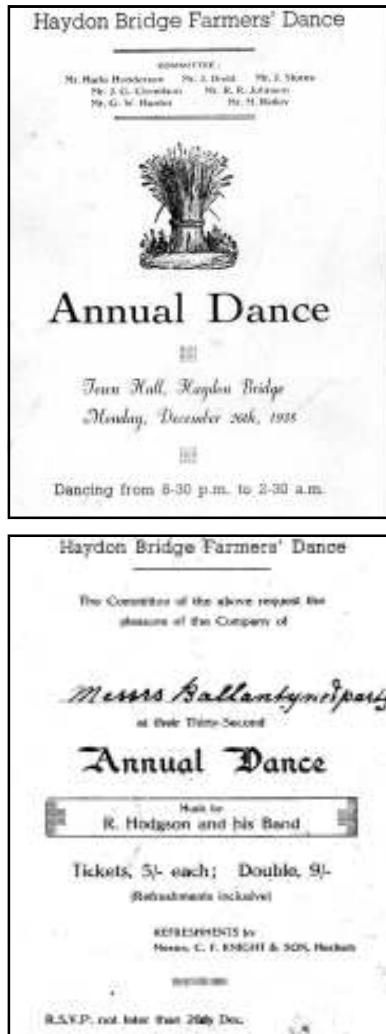
Alfie Kent: Our 'Club treasurer used to sing Al Jolson numbers. How could I have omitted to mention Alfie's memorable performances?

And finally, (until I am reminded by you of more Haydonian 'Club turns) what about those unforgettable stars of many a 'Go As You Please'. That's right, Percy and Nellie!

The Haydonian Workingmen's Club was established in 1957, although it wasn't until 1961 that the village's Town Hall was converted to 'Club premises and the concert room provided a new experience for would-be performers.

Built in 1908 as a venue for dances and community events, memories of the Town Hall are still very much alive in Haydon Bridge.

For example, I have an old invitation belonging to Ken and Joan Benson, for the Annual Haydon Bridge Farmers' Dance, on Boxing Day in 1938.



This event took place a few years before Ken and Joan started going to dances in the Town Hall may I say, but the invitation was accepted by Elliot and John Ballantyne who farmed at 'Sharpley' near Simonburn, and were cousins of Joan's father Billy.

Three hundred attended the dance in 1938 and it proved to be one of the most enjoyable in a thirty two years history. During the previous years, £300 had been raised for the Haydon Bridge Nursing Association, the Hexham War Memorial Hospital and the RVI at Newcastle.

And what did one wear at a dance in 1938 ?

Robbs outfitters at Hexham had the answer.

For the gentlemen:

A man's Lounge Suit: 50 shillings.

And for the ladies:

A taffeta and lace gown: 10 shillings, and a petticoat and French knickers set with dainty motifs: 6 shillings

Oo la la ! at the Town Hall in 1938.

Langley Castle

It has been my absolute delight to visit Langley Castle three times since I penned my last contributions, for the December issue of the Haydon News.

Once with friends, for a fine three course meal,

Again for soup, coffee and delicious scones, jam and cream.

And once more, just to savour the atmosphere over an informal mid-morning coffee by a roaring log fire.

The general manager of the Langley Castle Hotel and Restaurant, Anton Phillips, has for some time now been advertising in 'The Haydon News' that the 'Castle is "**not only for that special occasion**" and I can now assure you that whether you call in for a full meal or simply a refreshment, you will be amply rewarded. Especially if Anton is available, to round off your visit with an outline of Langley Castle's recent history and plans for the future. A story delivered with the enthusiasm of one so proud of the development of his unique hotel, all made possible by the vision of the owner Stuart Madnick from Boston U.S. and Anton's management.

The building of Langley Castle started in 1350, when Edward III was on the throne and after the owners of the Barony of Langley, the de-Lucy family, had, in 1346, been given compensation by the Royal exchequer. This followed the devastation of much of the Barony during an invasion by Robert the Bruce's son, King David II of Scotland.

The new 'castle', possibly built on or near the site of an earlier residence of the Tindals, had replaced Steward Pele as the Barony's military base and was designed to house the de-Lucy garrison.

Within 55 years, in 1405, the fortified building was destroyed; most likely by Henry IV's troops as they advanced into the county to put down a rebellion by Archbishop Scrope, of York. The Archbishop was supported by the then owners of Langley, the Percy's whose titles and estates were forfeited.

Langley Castle was subsequently recorded as being, 'little more than a roofless shell,' having been gutted by fire.

The Langley estates next became the property of the Nevilles and then the

Ratcliffes of Dilston (The Earls of Derwentwater), until they were confiscated by the Crown after the Jacobite risings of 1715.



The castle remained a ruin until 1860, when one tower was made habitable by John Grey, the chief land agent of the Greenwich Hospital Estates in the county of Northumberland.

(Although John Martin's story that he used to "feast his eyes on pictures," in one of the castle's ruined towers, and on one of the canvases, "painted his grandmother's cat," suggests that a rude shelter of some kind did exist within the building in the late 18c / early 19c.)

In 1882, Langley Castle was purchased by Cadwallader John Bates who set about a full restoration which was completed in 1914, twelve years after his death.

My own memories of Langley Castle are much more recent of course.

From 1946, the Haydon Hunt kennels were moved from Threepwood into the stables at Langley Castle where they remained until 1962. The Master was Roy Charlton of the Linnels, but my clear recollections of the Haydon Hunt at the castle, are of Mrs. Miller, a hunt employee from 1944, and Neil Miller.

Miss Hebron's St. Cuthbert's school at Langley Castle, for girls aged 5 - 17 years and a mixed kindergarten, has a history that would be best told by an ex. pupil.

I wonder, is there someone out there who knows one?

The two large halls in the castle became venues for medieval banquets with Tim Healey, early in his career, as the jester; and lively dances where villagers were welcome and we, 'let our hair down'.

Derek Robb then set up home in the castle until in 1985, it was purchased and converted into an hotel by Professor Stuart Madnick.

For fifteen years the luxury hotel, has been cared for by Anton Phillips, and his

staff, but as Anton reminds us, Langley Castle is **not only** for that special occasion.

Development work continues apace at the castle under Anton's supervision, and I hope that we can return to its fascinating history, in this column, when the ambitious restoration of the chapel in the south east tower is complete.

Langley Castle is our parish's history brought to life in a comfortable setting, and visitors travel from all over the world to savour its hospitality and historic charms.

If you choose to do the same, you will be assured of a warm welcome.

William Veitch has another contribution for my column this month. I am always pleased to share William's research with you.

Bygone Days At Shaftoe Terrace.

Shaftoe Terrace is an attractive, South facing row of cottages and houses whose outward appearance has changed little (apart from television aerials) over the years since they were built at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Older readers will remember when the accommodation consisted of only one room per dwelling until they were modernised in 1972 when pairs were put together to form desirable dwellings.

Despite their limited original size they were probably seen as excellent accommodation when compared to the ruinous state of many farm - and other - cottages of 200 years ago, many of which probably still had earthen floors.

The row was completed and available for occupation in 1810 and consisted of 20 Almshouses, 2 houses for Ushers (assistant teachers) and one for the mistress of the school.

The large wall on the north side of the row was not built until 1826.

The tenants received a weekly allowance and were expected to obey a set of rules as to their behaviour.

The building of the houses and the administration by John Shaftoe's Trust would undoubtedly ease any pressure on the Parish Rate in those days, long before Old Age Pensions and Social

Security.

A detailed account of the rules was given by L.C.Coombes in his book 'Shaftoe Trust School and John Shaftoe's Charity' published in 1981.

Looking at the inhabitants in 1851, the average age was 78 years with the youngest being 72 years old and the oldest 86 years old. The most elderly inhabitant was 91 years old John Oliver, a native of Haltwhistle.

Surprisingly, many inhabitants had not been born at Haydon Bridge but were natives of Allendale, Warden, Bywell, Ovingham, Haltwhistle and Simonburn.

Despite them being single rooms, eleven inhabitants had someone living with, or visiting them.

Twelve of the occupants were widows and five had never been married (2 male and 3 female). The principal occupants of the 20 rooms were 15 female, 4 male and 1 married couple.

The household of the Master of the Grammar School (as it was then known) is of interest. He was George Richmond (he was also curate of Haydon Bridge - a busy man!) who was a native of Simonburn.

His wife was born in Middlesex and the two sons at home were born at Leeds and Sedgefield so the family had moved around considerably. They also had live in servants, a cook and a footman - how times have changed as I'm sure current teachers will agree.

20 years later in 1871 the average age had dropped to 70 years with two inhabitants being 80 years old. 6 rooms had multiple occupants with only one of them being husband and wife (no, they weren't living in sin as they were same sex occupants). Their places of birth were still widespread - Humshaugh, South Shields, Durham, Simonburn, Hexham and Ireland.

Somewhat surprisingly five still appeared to be working - one of them as an agricultural labourer at 78 years old!

By 1891 the picture was very similar with places of birth being as diverse as Brampton, Alston, Slaley, Bywell, Allendale and Scotland.

The oldest inhabitants were Ruth Davidson and Susannah Wilkinson, both 87 years old and widows.

Some dwellings had 3 people living in the one room.

Looking at the Burial Registers for Haydon Bridge reveals an interesting situation.

From their inception until approximately 1900 they were called 'The Almshouses' although using early census returns they were listed as 'Charity Houses'. Then at the beginning of the last century they were re-named as 'Shaftoe Terrace'.

Between 1878 and 1893 no address for inhabitants was given in the register and this may have been a deliberate decision by the Vicar to ensure that no apparent stigma was attached - some early census returns used to list inhabitants of a workhouse by their initials only, for that self same reason.

The oldest inhabitant ever would seem to have been Jane Maddison who died in 1893 aged 102 years and who had lived at Shaftoe Terrace for well over 20 years.

Looking over an extended period the average life span of inhabitants was 75 years - comfortably beyond the three score years and ten.

Obtaining one of the cottages must have been a godsend for many of the inhabitants in those earlier times as their only alternative was probably the workhouse - or starvation.

So, after nearly 200 years the village continues to receive the benefit of the generosity of John Shaftoe and the forethought of the early governors of the 'Trust.'

William Veitch

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Church street was adorned with Christmas lights again this year, and a display of fireworks added to the evening when the lights were switched on, on Monday 12th December.

A welcoming supply of punch and broth was provided by Joyce Brown and family, and mince pies were supplied by the Railway Hotel.

A voluntary collection raised £92.50 to go towards next year's Christmas lights.

All those people who brightened up our village by decorating their windows, houses and businesses in lights, as a celebration of the festive season, also deserve a big thank you.

Long may our celebration of the light at Christmas, last and continue to shine.

WEATHER FORECAST

In spite of a satellite programme costing millions of £s, the up to the minute technology available to the Met. Office, and the combined intelligence of Bob Johnson, Paul Mooney and Trai Anfield, I read that it is the migration habits of the 'Haydon Bridge' swan, that has influenced the experts' long term winter weather forecasts for this year.

'Our' Bewick's Swan spends its summers in Northern Russia and is happy there until temperatures fall well below zero, when it begins its migration to warmer climates.

The 'Haydon Bridge' Bewick's Swan is on the move early this year.

The Bewick's Swans, named after a bird that was shot near Haydon Bridge in February 1829, (See HN Sept. 2004) have migrated to Slimbridge every winter for sixty years and their arrival is usually spread between October and January.

In 2004, 200 birds were at the reserve by 23rd December, but in one week commencing 11th December 2005, 188 birds had appeared, blown in via Holland on an icy blast from Siberia.

According to Neil Woodward, manager of the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust nature reserve at Slimbridge in Gloucester, an early arrival of the Bewicks' is a sure sign that some severely cold weather is on the way. (Brrrrr)



Cygnus Bewickii

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB 2006

2nd February: A.G.M. and speaker.
16th February: Phillip Hindmarsh Waste recycling. What happens to it?
2nd March: David Raeburn 'Kayaking on Vancouver Island.'

Meetings are held every other Thursday in the Methodist Church, commencing at 7.15pm, and include coffee/tea and biscuits.

CHEERS!

About the time that this February copy of The Haydon News is delivered to your door, Susan and Michael Zellas of the Railway Hotel, will be in London. Sue and Mick have been invited to the 'Best Pub Awards,' Sponsored by the 'Morning Advertiser.'

The Railway Hotel has been selected as the Tyne Tees winner in the category 'Best Village Pub.'

Susan and Michael took possession of the Railway' on Church Street, in October 2004, and have revitalised a village institution that was showing signs of being hungover!

Their pub is now a lively and pleasant place to visit in Haydon Bridge.

A welcoming husband and wife team, good company and crack, good food, regular live music and entertainment, a range of spirits and wine and the sale of large quantities of well kept ale, will all have influenced the judges.

Before leaving for the awards dinner at Old Billingsgate in the capital, Sue gave credit to all her staff and customers, for the Railway Hotel's success, and thanked them for their support.

"Congratulations Susan and Michael"



'The Railway Hotel'
From a painting by Tony Petts

ADDRESS TO A HAGGIS

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,
Great chieftan o' the pudding race!
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,
Painch tripe, or thairm:
Weel are ye wordy of a grace,
As lang's my arm.

The enthusiasm with which Robert Burns' birthday has been celebrated in Haydon Bridge this year, (at the Railway Hotel on 25th. Jan. and the General Havelock on 26th. Jan.) is an indication that there are those in our village happy to use any excuse for a night on the spree. And that's one reason why I love to live here!!

CAST IN STONE

If you visit the quayside at Newcastle / Gateshead, your first port of call may well be The Sage or The Baltic or maybe the many attractive bars and restaurants, but are you aware that our village plays its part in a Newcastle quayside attraction ?

Our famous six arched bridge has pride of place in Wesley Square, as part of Neil Talbot's relief sculpture of the River Tyne, built into the stone retaining wall where John Wesley preached his first sermon in Newcastle on Sunday 30th May 1742.



David, Ernie and Rhys Edwards survey the damage in January 2005.

Having spent over twenty years taking the utmost care of the facilities and pitches at Low Hall Park, David and the football club committee set about repairing the damage and getting the floodlit facility up and running again as soon as possible.

The work completed, their efforts were recognised by Tynedale Sports Council in December, and David accepted an award on behalf of the football club, in recognition of their endeavours.

David is seen here accepting the award from the former Newcastle United full back, Warren Barton.

*Red and white and black and white.
I'm sure they had lots to talk about!!*



Photographs of the floods at Haydon Bridge in January 2005 and the Tynedale Sports Council presentation, are printed here by kind permission of the Hexham Courant.



A wondrous sight indeed!



Unless, that is, it is pouring into your houses or places of work without invitation, flowing as a torrent down your back lanes and through your gardens and leaving devastation, of all but the sturdiest structures, in its wake.

Our thoughts are with those who suffered during the 2005 inundation, and for some, even one full year later, the deluge is still affecting their lives. It is good however to be able to report at least one remarkable recovery in which Haydonians can share.

Built after a tremendous amount of fund raising and community effort, Haydon Bridge Football Club's £130,000 all weather five-a-side pitches, the surrounding structures and part of the pavilion were ruined in the flood.

At the time, groundsman David Kirssopp said. "The facilities are a complete mess, it is just as if a bomb has dropped. The north wall has completely collapsed, half of the south wall is down, both east and west ends are damaged and five foot of water swept into the pavilion.

It is devastating for everyone involved because so much work has gone into building up the facility in the last few years."

LET US START THE NEW YEAR ON AN UP-BEAT NOTE.

Bad News 1

For years it has been said that moderate drinkers have a greater life expectancy and less heart disease. This has been the reason for suggesting that two glasses of red wine daily is a good idea for everybody.

Researchers based in New Zealand have now reinterpreted the data upon which this view was based and it turns out that the differences are more to do with the sort of people who drink no, little or much alcohol. They are inherently different and their life expectancy and health is more to do with other factors than the amount of alcohol consumed.

Rats!

Bad News 2

A rumour is doing the rounds that the next phase of the Hexham hospital is going to suck in such vast quantities of capital that all other capital projects, such as health centres, are on hold for the indefinite future.

More Rats!

Bad News 3

The influence of the Internet on health has been great and is set to become greater. More people learning more things, understanding more about their bodies and health, sharing more ideas with other people, more people being able to exchange ideas with more confidence with their doctor...The scope is great.

Except for intermittent gremlins in the system, we are very happy to send and receive enquires and information on-line. There is a prediction that on-line consulting will increase and that patients will take information from a wider range of commercial sites – possibly to their disadvantage. Will a potentially valuable development be impaired or can discriminating use and regulation combine to make the future brighter?

Some people are still not on-line, for whatever reason, and they will become increasingly disadvantaged. Or will they?

Commerce is apt to promote exploitation of the naïve and vulnerable but this will usually become widely known and reaction will set in. A rejection of e-health, as it is sometimes termed, has been raised as a real possibility; in rather the same way that there has been a general change of sentiment against genetically modified animals and crops. A return to face-to-face consultation may well occur – the wheel reinvented, again.

Bad News 4

Unsurprisingly, a proportion of my Christmas cards come from fellow medics, mostly GPs. One card this year from the East Midlands contained the astonishing revelation that at about the end of this decade all bar one of the partners (all in their fifties) in a large well-run practice will retire, more or less simultaneously, the practice be wound up and the premises sold.

Within the last two years two GP friends in the South West, younger than I and both well-regarded and influential people, have retired.

It's not a simple situation to explain, there being numerous interlocking factors and influences, and much may yet change in the years ahead but students of politics, sociology, management wonks and other 'ologists may do well to sharpen their note taking pencils now and observe events closely. There seem to be parallels in education and elsewhere too. The death of public services by an excess of good intentions will be the strangest show in town by far.

The confusion in the minds of the public and media is readily understood. The quantities of money going into the NHS are greater now than ever before and yet everyone is jumping ship, services are in disarray and discontent abounds. My own explanation is that, unlike manufacturing and some service industries, the 'shop floor' (doctors, nurses, professions allied to medicine etc.) is more highly educated and vocationally motivated than the management and imbued with an unquantifiable and ill-definable culture specific to care giving. Whereas in the past the 'NHS shop floor' has been

largely autonomous and the system administered, we now have top-down imposition of management systems and concepts that are alien to the culture and self-evidently inappropriate at best and more often barking.

The NHS was an example of a 'hive mind'. Each worker devoted to their task (self starting, regulating and motivating) yet indivisibly part of a greater whole and fully integrated with all other functions. If the top brass from the world's most profitable industries were put in charge of a beehive I am sure we can all predict the outcome. The secret is to refrain from fiddling and promote productivity by optimising the interaction between patients, professionals and the necessary resources. Attempting to make people perform in ways that are clearly and unambiguously incorrect is likely to foster disillusion and sap morale – hence the exodus.

This practice has a wide age range amongst the practitioners and the pressures are different from those in urban environments so I fear less for us. Let us hope for beneficial changes in the future.

Chest pain – when to get help.

It is often said that people having heart attacks recognise the particular quality of the pain and know what is happening. I have seen this happen. The patient tells you that they are having a heart attack and you can proceed confidently with treatment whilst awaiting confirmation by other means.

It is not always quite so easy and lately I have come across those who really should have rung the day before or simply dialled 999.

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) recently published a helpful paper about telling the important chest pains from those less worrying. If the pain is stabbing, worse with breathing, improved or worsened by changing position or brought on by pressing anywhere, then a heart attack is less likely – but getting advice promptly is still necessary.

If the pain is worsened by exertion and/or goes down either or both arms or

shoulders then get help without delay. The pain is often described as like a severe bear hug or having a heavy weight pressing against the front of the chest.

If in doubt – get help.

Breast-feeding.

This practice has more mothers breast-feeding for longer than most. This is excellent news for both mothers and babies.

Also from JAMA comes the news of a survey that shows that for each year that a woman breast-feeds she reduces her risk of diabetes by 15%.

In the next few weeks I will be conducting a small survey of new mums about their whole experience of pregnancy, birth and afterwards, including attitudes to breast-feeding. I will publish the results in due course.

What shall we call you?

A story about an elderly military gentleman being admitted to hospital has amused me. The colonel, a relic from the Raj, was ushered to his bed and the nurse took the accompanying relatives to the office to take details.

Trying to make the patient feel at ease and comfortable in their new

surroundings is a very important part of a nurse's role and so the nurse asked the relatives what she should note down as the colonel's preferred form of address.

'What should we call him? Should it be William or Will or Bill or is there a name by which the family usually know him?'

The relatives exchanged glances.

'Sir!' they replied.

A Canadian study illuminates the question nicely. There has been a politically correct tendency toward calling patients: consumers, clients, customers, partners and even, believe it or not, survivors – all of which evoked moderate to strong dislike in the study. The majority 'moderately liked' the term patient. Another wheel reinvented.

We will call you whatever you like – just let us know. Naturally, we would wish you to feel free to adopt whatever terms of address you wish toward us. I usually respond to 'Oi! You!'

Rinderpest.

This is a virus disease of cattle that I had heard of in the past in travel and adventure related books from decades

ago. Note should be taken of it now because it illustrates what may happen to avian flu. The Rinderpest virus jumped the species barrier and became measles in humans.

Zip's law.

Pi~1/i^a. This is an interesting little law that has applications to biology as well as linguistics – where it started life. It shows that human beings are approximately ten thousand times more numerous than we should be in the natural order of things. Whereas there are now approximately six billion humans there should only be about six hundred thousand of us – about twice the population of Iceland or seven times the population of Tynedale – occupying the whole planet.

Another interesting observation is that the biological carrying capacity of the planet was exceeded sometime around 1986.

The non-sustainable nature of our present situation and some achievable solutions are discussed in a very easy to read way in a book called 'Half Gone' by Jeremy Leggett, a man who used to occupy a very senior position in 'Big Oil'.

Steve Ford

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES (cont'd).

Correspondence.

The council received a request from DEFRA to carry out a survey of vehicles driving 'off road' in parts of the parish. Great concern was expressed at the amount of damage to the landscape done by vehicles being driven along old tracks and bridleways now classified as BOATS (Byways open to all traffic). Questions were raised about the purpose of the survey and what would be done with the results. Concerns were raised at the widespread increase in 'off road' driving as a leisure pursuit and the lack of action by DEFRA to what is already recognised as an environmentally detrimental activity.

Village Projects.

A brief report was given on the progress of the John Martin Heritage Project and the development of the John Martin Heritage Trail. Copyright permissions

are at present being sought for the use of images of some of John Martin's paintings on the six interpretive panels along the trail. Work on way marking the trail will be done in March, by which time the panels will also be ready for installation.

A o B.

The council was reminded of the preliminary meeting to be held in March about the Haydon Bridge By pass. This meeting is in preparation for the public meeting to be held at the Community Centre during the week commencing April 24th. It is hoped that a final decision on the bypass will be made during the summer.

The council recognised the need to undertake a 'village appraisal' as a prerequisite to making applications for funding to carry out improvements in the village. However, until a decision is taken on the construction of the

by pass, funding will not be made available to undertake the appraisal.

Milecastle Housing have produced a questionnaire about improvements to Langley Gardens play area. This is to be distributed to all the households on the estates.



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CHURCH PAGE**CLERGY MESSAGE**

From

David Hasson

Prayer for Christian Unity is an urgent issue for Churches Together in Haydon Bridge. Nor are we so preoccupied with Christian Unity that we forget the bigger picture. The Inter-faith issues are of such considerable importance, politically and theologically, that they must concern us all greatly.

Timothy Radcliffe O.P. in his new book What is the point of being a Christian? Gives us pause:

"As a Christian I can also imaginatively enter the stories of other religious traditions. I can read of Islam, or Jewish or Sufi encounters with God and find myself in their stories. They do not only teach me about God but also about Christ. If I believe that Christ is truly the Word of friendship in which humanity is reconciled, then I must be a disciple of other religions so as to learn from them the new words of the language of universal friendship that Christ is. Inter-religious dialogue is not a matter of being pleasant to one's neighbour for the sake of peace. It should be part of my religious quest precisely as a Christian. A muslim friend can open my mind, stretch wider my vocabulary so that I can draw near to Christ in whom God is reconciling all things to himself. So inter-religious dialogue is not about having some vague universal wishy-washy spirituality with a little bit of every

FEBRUARY**2006****WHO AND WHERE**

The names of the Clergy who minister in Haydon Bridge

Rev Judith Hampson,
with St Cuthbert's Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard

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

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

religious strand stirred into the pot. When I am attentive to Muslims talking about their faith, then I want to be touched by the intensity of their convictions, the specificity of their faith, its difference, for it is that which will stretch me open."

LENT COURSE

There will be a Lent course called consisting of five sessions entitled "Where is God"

- 1... when we seek happiness
- 2... when we face suffering
- 3... when we make decisions
- 4... when we contemplate death
- 5... when we try to make sense of life

There will be two opportunities

Monday evenings beginning 6th March at The Vicarage, Haydon Bridge 7.30 – 9.30

Thursday evenings beginning 9th March at All Hallows', Henshaw 7.30 – 9.30

All are welcome to join us.

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 05 February
10.00am Morning Worship
Mr Douggie Hogg
6.00pm Evening Worship
Rev David Hasson

Sunday 12 February
10.00am No Service
6.00pm Evening Worship
Rev David Archer

Sunday 19 February
10.00am Covenant Service
Rev David Hasson
6.00pm No Service

Sunday 26 February
10.00am Family Service
Rev David Hasson
6.00pm Evening Worship
Mrs Margaret Weatherston

Sunday 05 March
10.30am Morning Worship
Mrs Joyce Short
6.00pm No Service

Sunday 12 March
10.00am Morning Worship
Rev Russell Hilborne
6.00pm Evening Worship
Mr Mark Knowles

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

BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW CHURCH SERVICES**Sunday 05 February**

10.00am Henshaw Communion

Sunday 12 February
10.00am Beltingham Mattins**Sunday 19 February**
10.00am Beltingham Holy Communion BCP**Sunday 26 February**
10.15am St Cuthbert's Joint Communion Service**Sunday 05 March**
10.00am Henshaw BCP Rev Judith Hampson**Sunday 12 March**
10.00am Henshaw Morning Prayer Keith Rutherford**ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH SERVICES**

Sunday February 5
10.30am All Age Worship
John Carr

Sunday 12 February
08.00am Communion BCP
Rev Judith Hampson
10.30am Family Communion
Rev Judith Hampson

Sunday 19 February
10.30am Morning Prayer
Mike Fry

Sunday 26 February
10.15am Joint Service
Rev Judith Hampson

Sunday 05 March
10.30am All Age Worship
John Carr

Sunday 12 March
08.00am Communion BCP
Rev Judith Hampson
10.30am Communion
Rev Judith Hampson

Christians Together in Haydon Bridge would like to thank all the people who took part in, and attended, the events over Christmas. You all helped to make our celebrations of Christ's birthday joyous occasions.

Dependance

Dependance is a Christian rap dance & theatre company. They visited Haydon Bridge High School 16th – 20th January.

The assemblies, lessons and workshops were based on the theme “One Life”. They performed short 10 minute drama in the lesson splitting the young people into groups to discuss the attitudes and personalities of the characters in the drama helping them to see how it may relate to their lives today. Near the end of the lesson the team put across what they believe as Christians and gave time for the young people to ask questions.

The lessons had a song, rap or added drama to enhance the subject matter.

On Thursday evening they put on a performance in the School Hall with lights sounds and full effects. Their expertise and energy astounded the audience. Their free expression of genuine faith touched young and old alike. It was a privilege to watch them and share some of their Christian life experiences.

There are details of the company and some nice visuals on the website. www.dependance.tv

CORRESPONDENCE

CAN ANYONE HELP ?

We have two queries this month that require the help of our readers.

Allen Banks

Does anyone have a photograph of the original summerhouse with a bone floor, situated in 'Walks Wood' above the River Allen at Allen Banks?

If one is available, the National Trust would be grateful for a copy, to assist in their further development of this area of outstanding natural beauty.

Jennie Bond

Does anyone remember a Jennie Bond, who lived in Belmont Gardens until her death aged 85 years in 1963 ? Jennie's great nephew has written, in an attempt to find out a little about his great aunt. All he knows is that she was married to Thomas, a Quantity Surveyor and that she was originally from South Shields. She may have moved here to be near a relative who lived in the village.

If you have any memories of Jennie Bond and would be willing to share them with her descendants, her great nephew would appreciate it.

If you are able to help with either of these requests, please contact 'The Haydon News' Editors. Mike Parkin or Dennis Telford. editors@haydon-news.co.uk

HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Haydon Bridge Women's Institute has been in existence for just over a year, and a very busy one it's been. The meetings have been fun and lively with usually a laugh or two!

We have had talks on Denman College, the college that belongs to the W.I., Fire Prevention and Safety from our local Fire crews, Cups and Rings by Aaron Mazel, and Colours by Gill Valentine. These combined with Belly Dancing, a very entertaining Magic Show by young magician Steven Bridges, and visits to other W.I.'s, have made for a very interesting and entertaining year.

We have many more things planned for the coming year which include, Lotions and Potions, Hanging Basket's, Jewellery, Beeswax Candles and several social evenings including a BBQ and Quiz.

Ladies, the Women's Institute could be just what you are looking for especially if you are new to the village and don't know many people yet. Please be assured, jam and Jerusalem are not the order of the day and you don't even have to be able to bake a cake to join.

Many of our members are new to the village and have found it a great way to meet people and make new friends. Why not join us on the 3rd Tuesday of the month 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Karen Lumsden.

SCHOOL REPORT

Figures published in the local press last month made comparisons between the seventeen Secondary Schools in the Northumberland Local Education Authority area.

Our Haydon Bridge Community High School achieved the following rankings in various categories.

- GCSE or equivalent qualification. **Fifth** best out of seventeen.
- Combined A Level and AS Level. **Tenth** best out of seventeen
- Truancy: (Unauthorised half days missed). **Eighth** best out of seventeen.

Results of our neighbouring schools in the South Tyne valley, in each of the three categories, were:

Queen Elizabeth High School:
8/17 2/17 1/17

Prudhoe Community High School:
11/17 5/17 11/17

HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE COMING EVENTS IN 2006

Feb. 21st. Through the Vicarage Window.

March 21st. Lotions and Potions.

April 18th. Social Evening with Easter Theme.

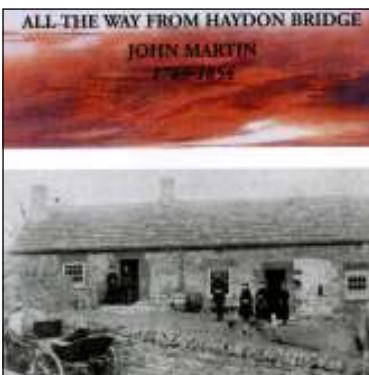
May 16th. Hanging Baskets.

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