



THE HAYDON NEWS



John Martin Heritage Trail

Cover Note see page 7

**THIS MONTH'S ISSUE INCLUDES THE FIRST OF
OUR REGULAR HAYDON BRIDGE BYPASS
UPDATES FROM THE HIGHWAYS AGENCY AND
CVC HIGHWAYS SOLUTIONS.**

(See page 8)



Issue 09
November
2006

Published by The Friends Of Haydon Bridge

FRIENDS OF HAYDON BRIDGE
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 J.& M. Clarke (newsagents) for collection.
 Addressed to The Haydon News

Thank you.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The Haydon News just got thicker (no comments in the back row!) It takes additional effort to get as thick as this !! It also costs more!!
 There are extra pages in the Haydon News this month to accommodate the additional articles and advertising.

There's an update on the by pass. This will be a regular monthly feature and be issued directly from the Highways Agency to the Haydon News. Then there's further information about the library issue, an article from Langley WI (the first for along time), news of the Spa Well, Shaftoe Green, a treasurer's retirement and Tula's 30 years Anniversary. All this as well as our regular features.

Of course those extra pages are costing The Friends of Haydon Bridge more money and in a year when donations to the Friends are down. We don't ask for a big donation. **PLEASE.**
 If you haven't made a donation to the Friends this year , or any year, please do so. Just pop it in an envelope, address it to the Friends and leave it with either of the village newsagents. Thanks.

The Editors.

eeditors@haydon-news.co.uk

HAYDON NEWS contributions and crosswords to:

J & M CLARKE
(newsagents)

Church Street.

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(newsagents)

Ratcliffe Road.



CO-OP LATE SHOP
Ratcliffe Road

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 households 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.

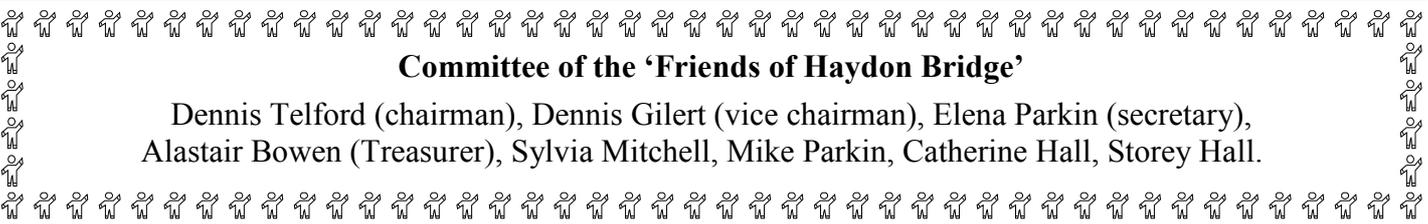
The Editors reserve the right to decide which letters/articles are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters/articles when necessary. **Anonymous letters/articles will NOT be published.** A nom-de-plume may be used provided that the Editors have been advised of the writer's name and address.

Dennis Telford (Chairman). West Rattenraw, Haydon Bridge, Hexham. NE47 6ED

Editors: Mike Parkin and Dennis Telford.

Committee of the 'Friends of Haydon Bridge'

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



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES from the meeting in October 2006

Public Participation

Referring to the ideas discussed for Ratcliffe Road once it is de-trunked, a member of the public objected to the idea of closing the subway. She pointed out that the road would still be busy with buses and vehicles heading for the High School, just when children and parents were needing to cross the road to get to the First School. A councillor did respond by stating that the subway was in need of repair and that NCC may object to taking it over unless repairs were carried out by Road Link beforehand.

Reference was also made to the Library forms, sent to all households in the village, as part of NCC's survey to gain public views on the closure of the library and proposals for the future.

Meeting

7 councillors were present

Matters arising from the previous meeting

The council was told that the trees in the church yard have been trimmed and no longer presented a problem to the neighbouring property.

A report was read of the meeting with Tynedale Council on the library proposals. (See report on page 9) It was made clear that the Parish Council would discuss the whole issue of the library once the financial situation was known and before any feasibility study was undertaken or commitment made to take on the library revenue costs

The council was informed about the progress of the work near the Spa Well (See report on page 14).

The raised manhole cover near the junction of Ratcliffe Road back lane and Ratcliffe Road has now been repaired.

There was mention of the Christmas lights being on the old bridge this year, but no decision has yet been taken.

Tynedale Council Matters

Nothing to report as the council meeting isn't until next week.

Highways

(See by pass report on page 8).

Accounts

These were agreed.
A councillor asked for clarification regarding the parish council's funding of repair and maintenance work at Shaftoe Green, now that the main work on the Green was completed. It was agreed that the council would fund maintenance. It was noted that the council already pay for the grass cutting at the Green.

Correspondence

Two letters were received from village residents regarding proposals for the de-trunked Ratcliffe Road. The first gave a list of ideas including.... planting trees along the road, introduction of bike racks near the shops, chicanes to slow down traffic, widening the pavements to enable tables and chairs outside shops and the possible development of a small farmers market, resurfacing the road with cobbles, introducing a large illuminated (possibly wind powered) good quality sign on the new A69 to attract motorists to use the village amenities.

The second letter raised objection to the idea of having a lay by outside the Coop for use by delivery vehicles, as proposed in the extraordinary council meeting last month. The correspondent put forward a proposal for a dedicated loading bay on Church Street to serve all the businesses in that area. A discussion followed that highlighted the problems caused by delivery vehicles in Church Street/Ratcliffe Road. Further discussion will take place on this and all other ideas and issues raised when the meeting takes place with NCC Highways Dept to draw up specific, realistic and affordable proposals for Ratcliffe Road.

The following legal notices, relating to the by pass, were received from the Highways Agency; De-trunking order, Side Roads Order, Compulsory Purchase Order.

A letter was received from the Land Registry informing the parish council that its ownership of the cemetery land was now registered.

AOB

A collection was made of council members for a poppy wreath.

Councillors discussed the creation of a Parish Plan. The Parish Council have been waiting for a decision on the by pass before starting work on the new Parish Plan. The council decided to invite a speaker from the Community Council of Northumberland to the next parish council meeting to discuss sources of funding, to enable the council to start work on a development plan for Haydon Bridge.

The council was informed of a fire in an area of the riverside where scrap is stored. Due to concern over the danger the remains present to the public, particularly children, the council are to write to the land owner requesting the area be cleared.

A councillor reminded the meeting of the 'Drop in' session, organised by the Environment Agency for Thursday 2nd. November, when members of the public will be able to question EA officers on flood alleviation and risk management issues. (See notice on page9)

It was noted that the seats outside the Community Centre were still awaiting repair. It was suggested that if the parish handyman did not have time to repair them, a local joiner be approached to carry out the necessary work.

Next meeting November 23rd at 7.30pm.

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. R Snowdon	688871
Mr. E Brown.	
Mr. M Zellas.	684254
Vacancy	

(* also a Tynedale Councillor)

Parish Clerk
Mrs. C McGivern 688020(after 6pm)

THE VISITOR

I recall him as a big man, smart in appearance. His large frame filled the doorway that opened up into the workshop from the riverside.

As he stepped down into my young working world of sawdust and wood shavings, he would thrust out his hand to my father with a hearty greeting. He never forgot me either, with a strong handshake and a welcoming smile. I may not have been certain then what the word ‘aura’ meant, but I kind of knew that he, ‘had it about him’.

As I continued with my apprentice’s tasks; planing the sides of a piece of beautifully figured Elm with an old wooden jack plane, or cutting the saw kerfs to allow the wood to bend easily around the solid coffin bottom, the visitor would talk in hushed tones with my father.

He visited us once every year without exception and on each visit placed a small white envelope in my father’s hand. The envelope was pushed into dad’s deep white apron pocket and wasn’t spoken about again.

Before he left, the visitor would fill my imagination with larger than life tales from his vast experience. I listened intently.

The stories he re-counted were given more credibility in my young mind because I knew that in his younger days he had had a close friend, a spiritualist and student of the ‘after life’. One Arthur Conan Doyle, the Scottish short story writer and physician whose Sherlock Holmes stories held pride of place on the bookshelf in my bedroom.

As the visitor left, he moved his hand slowly across the piece of solid Elm. He winked knowingly at my father and then he was gone for another year.

“There was more to this man than meets the eye,” as they say!

On the 4th day of October 1966, the blinds were drawn across the windows of a house in Dilston Avenue at Hexham. The master of the house had passed away after a full life spanning almost 87 years.

Seven miles to the west, in our pre war semi detached home on John Martin Street at Haydon Bridge, my father opened the neatly carved door of the sideboard he had himself constructed from pieces of well seasoned English Oak.

From off the shelf he removed a bundle of small white envelopes bound together with a length of rough brown twine. He untied the string and opened the envelope he had received most recently, almost one full year earlier, and read its contents:

Dilston Avenue
November 1965

Dear Cecil,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your consideration in being discreet in respect of the subject of my annual visit. If during the following year it turns out to be my turn to pass from this life to the next, I have updated my instructions to you, to ensure that my time in this world is completed with the minimum of fuss and publicity.

Thank you again.
F.J.C.

There followed a brief list of personal instructions which my father carried out to the letter.

And so it was that forty years ago, on October 7th 1966, I helped my father lay to rest the body of Frederick James Crawley, on a dark, cold, wet and windy day in Jesmond Old Cemetery, with, as I recall it, only two other mourners present. I remember one of them, Mr. Crawley’s daughter, commenting upon her father’s fame, popularity and place in North East history, and regretting the lack of ceremony that October day. I agreed, but it was as my father’s annual visitor had requested it.

Fred Crawley lived in our parish at ‘Hill House’, until moving to Hexham late in life. His life story and especially those years from 1915 until his retirement in 1944, is part of North East, Newcastle, and Haydon Bridge folklore.

Even now, more than sixty years since his retirement as Chief Constable at Newcastle upon Tyne and forty years

last month since his death, he is remembered with a sense of awe and indeed fondness by the few remaining who worked with him or knew him.

There are many more who have heard about Frederick James Crawley through official papers, newspaper headlines, rumour, gossip and stories handed down over the years, and yet there is no point in searching for his burial place.

It is unmarked!

Even a well researched book by Alan Morgan, for Newcastle City Libraries, listing those of fame and fortune buried in Jesmond cemetery, fails to mention our famous Haydon Bridge resident.

So you read it here first!

Frederick James Crawley was born at Hounslow in Middlesex in January 1880 and as a boy of fourteen he went to sea, rounding Cape Horn seven times under sail, and before he was twenty one years old he was mate of a square rigger.

The big man’s career on land started with the Metropolitan Police in 1901, he was 21 years old and his pay was one pound four shillings and sixpence. His talent was soon recognised and he had seven commendations in seven months and was quickly elevated to sergeant and transferred to the Special Department. In 1911 Frederick Crawley moved to Lincoln as Chief Constable and Director of the Fire Brigade. He remained there for three years and eight months, until his appointment as Chief Constable at Sunderland and River Wear Police Forces in 1915.

There is no doubt that Chief Constable Crawley quickly made his mark on a number of fronts in his new post, as he had done throughout his earlier career. He does however have one particular claim to fame during his time at Sunderland for which he will forever be remembered and for which his name is written into the history of the British police force.

As Chief Constable, Frederick James Crawley pioneered the first full, British, town wide system of Police Public Call Boxes.

The system was introduced in Sunderland on Friday 13th July 1923.

These Police Public Call Boxes eventually contained a telephone, an incident book and a first aid kit. A stool and table, a fire extinguisher, a small electric heater and a brush and duster to keep the Box tidy.

The telephone link allowed policemen on the beat, usually on foot or on bicycles, to keep in direct contact with the Police Headquarters. They could report back, call for help, or respond to calls from the Police Station, indicated by a flashing light on the top of the box. The telephone link was accessible from outside the box and members of the public could also call the Police Headquarters in an emergency.



The Sunderland system introduced by Fred Crawley consisted of twenty two call boxes which were made by Binns of Sunderland.

The boxes were made from wood and in 1923 cost twelve pound eighteen shillings and sixpence each. Chief Constable Crawley also introduced a city wide Police Box System in Newcastle when he moved there from Sunderland in 1925, and following his success with the North East systems, Crawley's brainchild was adopted by police forces throughout England.

In July 1933, Fred Crawley's initiative was further recognised in Scotland when he was introduced as the, "Pioneer of police box organisation" and he was acclaimed at the inauguration of the 'City of Edinburgh Box System' as, "An honoured guest, in unstinted acknowledgement of the help and

advice he has afforded in the development of the Edinburgh scheme."

The Scottish boxes were of a more sturdy construction than those in Sunderland and Newcastle (*perhaps they needed to be?*) and were made from reinforced concrete, apparently weighing over two tons each.

Police call boxes were generally phased out between 1959 and the late 1960's, when the police started to carry two - way radios and other personal communication systems.

It may be of interest to 'Dr. Who' fans, that the trademark to the later 1950's British design of the police box, first introduced on a city wide basis by one time Haydon Bridge resident Fred Crawley, is currently held by the BBC and replicated as the TARDIS in its science fiction series.

When Fred Crawley resigned the Sunderland post to take over at Newcastle, he was recognised as one of the country's most forward thinking Chiefs.

Frederick James Crawley, one of fifty nine candidates, was appointed as Chief Constable of Newcastle upon Tyne Police, on May 18th 1925. His acceptance speech is recorded in Newcastle City Council reports.

"My Lord Mayor, lady and gentlemen. This is a very proud moment in my life. I have for many years aspired to the High Office of Chief Constable of this ancient and important metropolis of the North and I can with considerable emotion assure you that it is a matter of extreme pride to myself....."

Chief Constable Crawley made an immediate impact at Newcastle, as he had at Lincoln and Sunderland, and he soon introduced new and modern methods and created a positive atmosphere within the force and with the public.

One of his first instructions to his men was to stop persecuting motorists. Constables were told, "If a motorist has a dirty number plate, tell him to

wash it, don't bring him to court."
(*No targets to meet in 1925 then!!*)

Frederick Crawley's physical presence combined with his hands on approach and his common sense attitude was often seen to good effect.

During the general strike of 1926 for example, some men began barricading the High Level Bridge, they were in an ugly mood. Even his most trusted Superintendents advocated force. "Not yet," he ruled.

Walking unaccompanied to the offenders he said quietly, "Stop this nonsense at once, it will lose you all public sympathy. Clear this stuff away like sensible chaps and let things take their course." And they did.

Chief Constable Crawley had a reputation for dealing firmly but sympathetically, during years of depression and unrest.

Those who knew Crawley as a Chief Constable, invariably comment upon his smart appearance and his liking to be seen on horse back.



He is remembered as a 'go-getter' and built up a spirit of confidence and initiative in his force. The men under him knew who was in charge and he was respected because of that. In 1931 he was awarded the King's Police Medal for twenty eight years of exemplary service.

1966 obituaries in the North East press, point out that Frederick Crawley did not enter into close relationships lightly and he was probably, 'too free with the rough edge of his tongue for genuine popularity.'

It may be that because of his single mindedness and 'his spells of taciturnity, alternated with forests of talk,' he was occasionally misunderstood and made enemies in some quarters, but once his confidence was won he was without doubt an invaluable friend.

The Lighting and Watch Committee of Newcastle had been formed in 1763 against a background of poverty and crime in the city, and paid watchmen, along with constables, patrolled within the city walls. These watchmen continued in their role until May 2nd 1836 when 'Newcastle Police' was formed.

(As a matter of interest, the first Chief Officer was a John Stephens, who had at one time been valet to Robert Peel. – no connection to my story, but worth a mention perhaps.)

It is relevant to my continuing story that even with a 'new' force, the Newcastle Watch Committee maintained its independence within the city's corporation and continued to have responsibility for the strategic and financial affairs of Newcastle Police.

The reputation of Newcastle Police was considerably enhanced under Frederick Crawley's leadership. His demands to the Watch Committee for men and money to finance his modernisation initiatives, were invariably successful, and the benefits gained by the force and the city earned him the respect of his men and his employers.

The new police box system was fully operational and a new Police Station was built on the corner of Market Street and Pilgrim Street during his stewardship, it opened in 1933.

Six smaller stations closed and forty nine fewer policemen were required, saving the Watch Committee revenue. The fire brigade moved into new premises at the original Pilgrim Street Police Station, re-locating from the bottom of Westgate Road where they had been since 1885.

Chief Constable Crawley took a special interest in an increasingly important aspect of policing, that of managing vehicular traffic. In 1930, following a visit to America, he published his proposals for traffic congestion remedies in Newcastle.

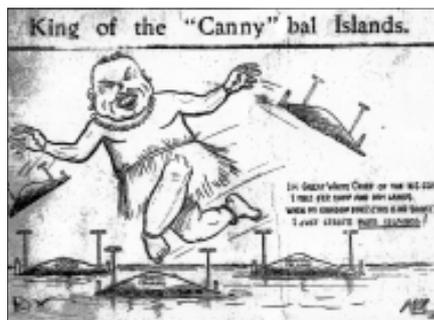
Once again, most of Fred Crawley's innovative proposals were implemented by Newcastle City Council, and many are still with us today.

Automatic traffic control signals, one way streets, illuminated road markings, traffic control at busy intersections, marking of traffic lanes, restriction of loading vehicles, development of off street parking and by-passing of through traffic. *(Yes. I know! we're still waiting for the last two in Haydon Bridge!!)*

Even those on the footpath were not safe

in the new era of the motor car. People gathering in groups on the pavement were pushing pedestrians onto the road, so the Chief Constable made it his duty to move on 'window gazers' and 'street corner loungers'.

One of the Chief Constable's ideas which did not meet with immediate approval was the introduction of traffic 'islands' in the centre of the road, 'to offer protection for those alighting from trams, and pedestrians when they were unable to entirely cross the street without stopping'.



Mr. Crawley and his plans provided a subject for press cartoonists of the day, but of course, over seventy five years later the 'island' is still an important part of traffic management, and just one more example of our Haydon Bridge resident's successful initiatives.

As he streamlined and modernised the Newcastle force, finger printing and photography facilities were improved and Fred Crawley's men were better trained, more mobile, more mechanised and more efficient than most police forces across the country.

Even the formation of a Newcastle Police Band in 1929 was deemed one of his big successes, being credited with fostering good relations with the public as it supported and played at local events.

Frederick James Crawley's star could not have shone brighter.....and then!

To be continued

Regular correspondent William Veitch recalls the Haydon Bridge Library building in earlier times, as he reflects on our recent report in The Haydon News.

A Report in the August issue of 'The Haydon News' has jogged my memory and I thought your readers may be interested.

The item concerns the potential closure of the library, where the cost of leasing the building from Network Rail was quoted as £2,350 per year.

My grandfather and later my father rented a large workshop in that block. The workshop was 66 square yards in extent (larger than the library) and the cost in 1935 was £10 per annum.

How times change or maybe the old L.N.E.R. was a more considerate landlord than Network Rail, although admittedly, my father had to pay for the cost of drawing up the leasing contract - four shillings and sixpence

(That would be 22p today!!!)

In those days, that block of buildings in the station yard, starting at the south end, consisted of the workshop, then the permanent Weigh Inspector's office, then the old blacksmith's shop (later used by Lloyd Brown for his painting business), then the wash house for the cottage plus the station coal house (for the fires in the waiting rooms - who remembers those?).

Part of the agreement was that: *'The tenant shall not be entitled to access to the premises except during such times as the yard adjoining the premises is open to the public'*

The large gates leading to the station yard from Church Street were regularly closed and locked in those days.



Our photograph shows the library building as it is remembered by William Veitch

JILL CLARK LAWSON

It is with sadness that we report the death of Jill Lawson (nee Rogan). Born in February 1935, Jill lived at 'Cleveland' on John Martin Street with her father and mother John and Connie Rogan.

John was one of many Haydonians who worked at Langley Barony until its closure, and Connie was a hairdresser. The family will be well remembered by older residents still living in our village and parish.

Jill Rogan attended Shaftoe Trust School until she was eleven, before going to Hexham Grammar School. In 1956 she married Stanley Lawson and they settled in Newcastle where, Jill once told me, they were enthusiastic members of Johnny Handle's first jazz and folk club. Eventually Jill and Stanley moved to Romford in Essex.

Jill has kept in touch with Haydon Bridge over the years, through the Haydon News and has been one of our regular subscribers. I have a letter from Jill in front of me now, which she wrote in 2002, telling me how much she looked forward to the delivery of her Haydon News and how it evoked 'fond memories of (her) childhood in the village'.

The pools in the River Tyne just east of the Spa Well were a favourite place for Haydon Bridge children in the 1940's and 50's and I can recall clearly the Rogan family and the Leathard family, who also lived on John Martin Street, sharing in the many happy hours we enjoyed swimming and diving off the rocks there. It was no surprise to me then, to receive a letter from Jill seeking to subscribe to any restoration fund that might exist for the Spa Well where, along with Limestone, she recalled the joy of her youth in Haydon Bridge. As recently as April this year, we published a letter from Jill in which she again expressed her thanks for The Haydon News and she included a welcome donation towards our running costs.

Jill died suddenly and unexpectedly on Friday 22nd September from a massive heart attack, leaving her husband of over 50 years Stanley, twin sons Douglas and Clifford and daughter Hilary. We hope that it will be some comfort to them at this sad time, to know that memories of Jill are still in the thoughts of people in the village of which she was so fond.

CORRESPONDENCE

In our October issue we examined proposals for the de-trunking of Ratcliffe Road and asked for your comments/ideas.

Haydon Bridge.
11th October 2006.

Dear Editors,

I agree with the general ideas put forward in the article on page 9 in the October Haydon News and have some additional comments on the following. **Speed limit:** At present the dangers of walking along or crossing Ratcliffe Road are quite evident. After the bypass is built there will be much less traffic on Ratcliffe Road and pedestrians may have a much reduced awareness of the dangers. I would submit that although traffic will be reduced, traffic speeds may still be high because the road has straight sections. Consequently this will still be a dangerous road unless modifications are made.

I understand that there are proposals for various traffic calming measures. Clearly there is a balance to be made between calming the traffic for pedestrians and making it difficult for drivers of vehicles. Is there any feedback available from other locations? Are the measures taken in other bypassed villages relevant to Haydon Bridge or do we have some unique circumstances?

Lighting: There is now a growing realisation of the undesirable effects of wastage of energy caused by inappropriate lighting. Personally I would not like to see an increase in light pollution in Haydon Bridge as I am an astronomer. However sky-glow and obtrusive waste upwards lighting detract from the character of the night time scene and are detrimental to local amenity, not just for astronomers but for the public in general.

Unwanted light shining into windows of houses is an unwelcome intrusion and can interrupt sleep. Therefore I would suggest that attention be given to achieving adequate lighting of Ratcliffe Road by the use of downward pointing lighting. The same consideration should be given to any lighting at the bypass junctions

Yours sincerely,
Graham Fraser.

HAYDON BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

November 21st
AGM followed by a quiz.
7.30 pm
In The Community Centre

Newcastle upon Tyne.

Dear Editors,

I enjoyed reading in the October HN about the celebrations for the 125th Anniversary of Haydon Bridge F.C. and was disappointed I couldn't attend.

I also enjoyed reading about Haydon Bridge players past and present who went on to become professional footballers (August HN).

I have been to a variety of professional sports events this year with my family; such as basketball, ice hockey, athletics and speedway and I was tempted back to the Stadium of Light after an absence of several years. The sporting highlight of the year for me however was at Kingston Park on Friday 8th September when Newcastle Falcons won their first home game of the season under the leadership of Haydon Bridge lad, John Fletcher.

Having followed John's career from a distance over the years (which included a trial at Sunderland) I was delighted to hear that he had succeeded Rob Andrew as Director of Rugby at the Falcons. I was also interested in the programme notes for the game - I recommend you read them if you get the chance.

My son Jack and I thoroughly enjoyed the match and congratulate John on his appointment and hope he has many years of success.

Yours faithfully,
David Tait.

COVER NOTE

John Addison and Pauline Nichols are photographed walking our John Martin Heritage Trail. John is a North East artist who takes his inspiration and themes from walking. Previous work has featured a coastal route from Sunderland to South Shields and he is currently researching a similar venture in the John Martin Trail area. Pauline is a walks leader for the Bluebell Walkers and Ramblers. Trail leaflets are certainly in demand. A further print run has been necessary and now 3,000 leaflets have been distributed to tourist centres, libraries, hotels, local retailers etc.

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB

2nd November: Mike Hall.
The Bibbulmun Track. West Australia.
16th November: Peter Carruthers.
The Eagle Owl. (BBC film show.)
30th November: David Brooks N.C.C.
Rights of Way and the Right to Roam.

7.15 pm
In The Methodist Church

We are delighted that the Highways Agency and CVC Highways Solutions have chosen 'The Haydon News' to keep residents of Haydon Bridge informed during the construction of the Haydon Bridge bypass. We know that you will all appreciate and look forward to these regular updates.

Maybe this ditty, written following an earlier proposal for the 'bypass' in 1978 and sung with gusto on many an occasion since, can now be consigned to the archive of Haydon Bridge folklore.

News Release 

A69 HAYDON BRIDGE BYPASS KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Dear resident,

The Highways Agency is keen to involve the people of Haydon Bridge during the process of building the new bypass around the village and 'The Haydon News' provides us with a fantastic opportunity to keep you informed about what we are doing.

A Liaison Group meeting was held on Thursday 5 October 2006, attended by the Highways Agency, our Contractor CVC Highway Solutions, resident groups, council officers and a representative of your local MP Peter Atkinson. At this meeting it was confirmed that Ministers have given the A69 Haydon Bridge bypass the go-ahead and have asked the Highways Agency to 'make' the Orders for the scheme that were published in draft and considered at the Public Inquiry last April.

The Highways Agency believes the project will significantly improve quality of life for local residents, drastically reducing heavy traffic through the village and unifying the community. We look forward to beginning work on the scheme.

We do listen to residents' concerns and one issue that arose during the public inquiry was a wish to include lighting on the eastern junction where the A69 currently meets the A686 Alston Road. As part of the on-going development of the bypass we will now be including lighting at this site.

You may have noticed some work taking place in the river during October. We would like to assure residents and anglers that this was merely advance survey work to assess the nature of the riverbed where the bridge will be built. We understand the river's importance in terms of salmon breeding which is why we carried out the work before the spawning season began.

The Highways Agency is expecting to begin advanced work on the site in the New Year, once it has agreed costs with the contractor. At this point the site will be secured, the compound built and land will be cleared. The major road building work will begin in Spring 2007.

In order to provide more information to residents, a Start of Works exhibition is planned for January 2007. This will give you the opportunity to meet with the Highways Agency and CVC Highway Solutions when we can explain more about the schedule for the scheme and endeavour to answer any questions you may have.

The Highways Agency is keen to work with the whole of the community to explain exactly what we are doing. If any resident or group has any ideas as to how we could work together to both encourage interest in the scheme and emphasise safety issues (particularly for children), please get in touch.

You can contact Kevin Walsh
(Liaison and Communications Manager)
CVC Highways Solutions
Tel. 01228 673099
kevin.walsh@cvc-highwaysolutions.co.uk

Yours sincerely,
John Atkinson.
Project Manager for the Haydon Bridge Bypass,
Highways Agency.

Now aa live in a place on the banks of the Tyne,
And the road that gans through it's the A69,
When aa was a young lad the council would say,
"We'll get a by-pass to gan round here one day,"

—
"That stone bridge was built afore Hadrian's wall,
And any more traffic it surely will fall,
The wagons and cars'll gan into the Tyne,
But when we get the by-pass, everything'll be fine."

—
"Now we cannot afford te gan right round the toon,
So a big concrete bridge we'll put up very soon,
But ye divvent need worry it's not here for long,
When the by-pass comes that bridge'll be pulled down son."

—
"So, which way do ye want the by-pass to gan?
If ye make your decision we'll get on with wor plan,
Ye can choose from the yellow route the blue or the red,"
Well, we thought that things were just forging ahead.

—
Now a few months went by afore we heard owt more,
Then the news came from London and we really got sore,
"The route that you chose we just cannot afford,
So the by-pass'll have to gan up Ratcliffe Road !!"

—
So all we can do now is just sit and wait,
'Till the bulldozers come to determine wor fate,
Wor houses and shops'll be pulled down one day,
And the rubble that's left'll be hardcore they say.

—
So if ye pass this place one day in your motor car,
Ye might think it's a shame it's all covered in tar,
But ye divvent need worry 'cos the council men say,
They'll rebuild wor village, **round** the by-pass one day!

Post Script:

**Mind, new things are afoot that I have to relate,
To bring this old story of mine up to date,
They've held an inquiry and if it aa'l gans fine,
The by-pass'll gan round here in two thousand and nine.**

The hottest autumn yet – are we taking note?

Genetics

Everyone has heard about genes, chromosomes and DNA but how many people know that one in twelve conceptions are chromosomally abnormal? Such is the immense amount of data in our genetic structure and so complicated the process of cell division and fertilisation that it is a miracle that we can reproduce at all.

At 25 years of age 5% of people have a manifest genetic disorder. So far 16,313 disease genes have been identified.

As the science of genetics picks up speed in the wake of the Human Genome project an increasing emphasis will be placed on using genetics based diagnostic tests and treatments. We will actually be able to get to the root cause of many illnesses rather than merely waiting for disease to appear and then treating the symptoms.

Already we can say that everyone should give a few moments thought to their family history of disease and draw a quick family tree back as far as anyone can remember, showing who died of what and at what age. Putting such information into your notes will be valuable. Already we make notes of obvious things like heart disease and cancer but that is only the tip of the iceberg.

It is alleged that as many as one in ten people were not fathered by the person they have been used to thinking of as their father. For this reason and for those who know that they have been adopted or are aware of some other discontinuity in their lineage, family histories need interpreting with care and sensitivity. DNA testing, when it becomes routine, will give clear and incontestable evidence about paternity for as many generations back as DNA samples can be found – everyone must understand that.

Bad Breath

Imagine if you will, the state of people's breath before teeth cleaning and oral hygiene became popular. Think of those decades after sugar was introduced when mouths full of rotting stumps were the

norm and the diet was mostly made up of meat. The stench must have been appalling and that was before one considers the taking of a bath no more than annually – whether you needed it or not.

So why, in these enlightened days, when real paint blistering breath is truly rare, are people so sensitive about their own and other's odours – especially mouth odour? Everyone wants to be nice to know, peer and advertising pressure induces insecurity and the fear of ridicule, humiliation or rejection completes the picture – this does not take account of those who just don't care or have never given a moment's thought to the effect their breath has on others, of course.

The first-thing-in-the-morning parrot's cage mouth, complete with overnight guano accumulation, is not abnormal and reflects lack of change of secretions and lack of oxygen to reduce bacterial growth during sleep. The bacteria in the mouth, when left undisturbed, produce classes of chemicals called amines and sulphides that are responsible for the smell. A good tooth clean and mouthwash will resolve this completely.

Poor dental hygiene and health is the most common cause of bad breath and this is often accompanied by the accumulation of food debris between teeth and behind the gum margins. The development of plaque on the teeth makes these problems worse. The importance of attending a dentist regularly can hardly be overstated. Not only will a dentist keep your gnashers in the best possible state but s(he) will also check for signs of other more widespread disease and be able to offer good advice about the health of pretty much everything above the collarbones – dentists are not just tooth doctors!

Brushing, flossing and interdental brushing should occur, respectively, three times daily, daily and a couple of times each week. Mouthwashes are optional but many find them cleansing. Tongue cleaning, with a toothbrush, is recommended by some but use the brush gently or the cure may prove worse than the problem.

Fear of dentists remains quite widespread. Given the huge advances

made in dentistry this is both surprising and unfair. If you are one of those who is afraid then at least go and talk to a dentist and explain how you feel – they will do everything possible to put you at your ease before offering to do anything and at any point you can run away if you need to. If you are really paralysed by fear then we could offer to tranquillise you.

Obvious causes of bad breath include smoking and dietary excess. Herbs and spices, especially garlic of course, can be quite devastating. Alcohol on someone else's breath can be not a good experience, depending on the type and quantity.

Dry mouth, due to disease or dehydration, can be troublesome – both in terms of smell and discomfort. That's why sick people, especially those with a high temperature, sometimes suffer from bad breath.

Infections of the airways, sinuses and lungs can cause trouble. Untreated diabetics can smell of pear-drops. Those with liver failure can smell sweet. A cause of bad breath that was new to me was mentioned in the British Medical Journal recently – menstruation – never noticed the phenomenon at all myself.

Very, very rarely bad breath can point to serious disease in the mouth or airways or lungs. So if a trip to the dentist does not help then you are well advised to check a little further by seeing a doctor. A handful of people get the mouth odour problem very much out of proportion and need psychological help.

Alzheimer's Society

Though I am sure that I have mentioned it before I would like to draw your attention to the local branch of the Alzheimer's Society again as it is such an important condition and sufferers and their carers need all the help they can get.

750,000+ people in the UK are affected by dementia. 18,000 are below the age of 65. One person in twenty above the age of 65 and one person in five above the age of 80 are affected. As the population ages these numbers will increase.

There are meetings and newsletters as well as a wealth of helpful information available at or from the Society. A handful of the newsletters is in the waiting room.

Mrs. June Horne is currently leading the local branch. She will be delighted to hear from anyone in connection with the condition or any carer. Make contact via: Mrs. June Horne
Alzheimer's Society
Tynedale Branch
8-9 Market Place
Hexham
NE46 1XF

Tel. 01434 601555

alzheimers@tynedalebranch.plus.com

So old I'm nearly dead!

I have just attended my Medical School Year's thirty-year reunion.

Oh dear!

Everyone was preoccupied with intensive moisturisation and pensions. It doesn't seem more than a few months since we were all students and young and optimistic and carefree-ish. My hair used to hang below my shoulders over my frilly leather 'Easy Rider' jacket – at least I've still got most of my hair and in its original shade too, more or less.

During the speeches after dinner a couple of good stories were related:

Professor Snooks came up to me the other day, big grin all over his face. 'Still having sex at sixty seven you know!' he confided with a louche wink. He lives at sixty two.

The other story was better but I regret to report that, despite a determined effort to

fix it in my mind, I have forgotten it – better give June Horne a ring – see above.

Old fossils

Whilst we're on the subject of old fossils:

I have just taken delivery of a *Wollemi nobilis*. This is a type of primitive pine that has recently been discovered, in a tiny grove of trees in Australia, which was previously known only from fossils in coal seams.

Anyone with an interest in rare trees is welcome to make contact.

The wider point that I wish to make in mentioning this is that, whilst species of biota are becoming extinct literally by the hour, others are being discovered. The importance of maintaining the greatest possible biodiversity is overwhelming. From the medical point of view we have much to gain by studying the effects of molecules derived from all manner of plants and animals – many very useful drugs have been discovered that way.

A reminder

Please may I remind everyone that we need a whole forty eight hours – two working days – between receiving a request for a repeat medication and its being ready for collection from either the health centre dispensary or the pharmacy of your choice. Thank you for your co-operation.

Party Conferences

Did we all enjoy the Party Conferences this year? Are we any clearer about things? Thought not.

Both New Labour and the

Conservatives made a point of mentioning the NHS but how much of it will be left by the time we get to the next election? Not a lot I fear.

The need for continuous reform has never been in doubt but for the last three decades successive governments have taken off in lemming-like stampedes in a multitude of directions on the issue, none of them the right one.

If only the political energy and money were spent usefully there would be no problem. Why isn't it? Because those who have next to no familiarity with the practical realities set direction, they bolster their prejudices with partial advice and studiously ignore the objective facts. I wonder if it would be possible to influence events at the next general election?

Child with a problem?

Any child or person concerned about a child, their health or safety especially, can ring
CHILDLINE on 0800 1111 (FREE).
or write to:

Childline
Freepost
NATN1111
London E1 6BR

Or web access: www.childline.org.uk

Need help with health costs?

Get leaflet HC11QG or call the helpline number 0845 850 1166 – local rate calls.

An aphorism

Health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

HAYDON LOCAL ARTISTS PRESENT

A CHRISTMAS ART AND CRAFT FAIR.

A TABLE TOP ART AND CRAFT SALE.

at HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE on SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
from 10.00am-4.30pm. ADMISSION FREE.

SOUP AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

RAFFLE

ARTISTS WISHING TO HIRE A TABLE AT THE FAIR SHOULD CONTACT
BARBARA WARDLE ON 688886 BEFORE NOVEMBER 5TH

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From

Les Hann

Hello everyone.

Just a few words of introduction. My name is Les Hann and I'm the new Methodist minister for Haydon Bridge.

Jill And I are living in the Haltwhistle Methodist Manse, we have spent the last nine years in Stanhope living and working in Weardale, County Durham. We have two children, Alastair and Charlotte both living in their own homes.

We have been made very welcome in this part of the world and we are looking forward to working with the people of Haydon Bridge.

It is now Autumn; summer is over and another winter is approaching(I write this in October and you may be reading it in November) the holidays are just a memory and you may be looking forward to or dreading Christmas but what about today? The Psalmist says "This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it".

I write this looking at the Canadian Rockies which are covered in snow. We came for a wedding, months of preparation and planning beforehand and months perhaps years of looking back with the help of photographs and the video, but very few of us are able to actually enjoy the moment - too anxious, too nervous. Jesus said, "do not be anxious about tomorrow; who of you by worrying can add a single hour to their life...therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself, today has enough to be going on with."

Today, now, is the gift you have been given by God to enjoy and to share.

As a poet once said, "This is a day, a golden day, be lavish as you spend it.

Enjoy the goodness of God.

Les Hann

CHURCHES TOGETHER

**NOVEMBER
2006**



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 Les Hann,
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

DINNER AND DANCE

Friday 24th November 2006
at
GILSLAND SPA HOTEL
Dinner 7 pm for 7.30 pm

TICKETS £15 PER HEAD

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT**

**PAT AND JAN PEACE
TELEPHONE 01434 320471**

**PROCEEDS TO
The Ali Johnson appeal**

**METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES**

November 5

10 am Morning Worship
Brian Elstobb
6.00pm Evening Worship
Les Hann

November 12

10.15am Remembrance at St Cuthbert's
6.00pm No Service

November 19

10.00am Holy Communion
Les Hann
6.00pm Evening Worship
G Hall

November 26

10.00am Morning Worship
Patrick Eavis
6.00pm No Service

December 3

10.00am Family Worship
Margaret Weatherson
6.00pm Evening Worship
David Flavell

**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**

November 5

Beltingham
10.00am BCP Communion

November 12

Henshaw
10.00 Remembrance Service

November 19

Henshaw
10.00am Matins

November 26

Henshaw
10 am Joint Family Service

December 3

Beltingham
10.00am BCP Communion
Bishop Stephen Pedley

**ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
SERVICES**

November 5

8 am BCP Communion
10.30 All Age Service

November 12

10.15 Remembrance Service

November 19

10.30 Communion

November 26

10 am Service at Henshaw

December 3

Service at Beltingham
10 am Bishop Stephen Pedley

**HAYDON OLD CHURCH
SERVICES**

Sunday 7 January

6 pm Epiphany Service

**HAYDON BRIDGE
METHODIST CHURCH**

**A GRAND CONCERT
GIVEN BY
PRUDHOE GLEEMEN.**

**Saturday 11th. November
At 7.00pm.**

Tickets available from Church
members £5.

Proceeds to Church Funds.

All very welcome.

Saint Cuthbert's
Winter Fair
In the Church Hall
Saturday 25th November
2 pm
Stalls, Tombola, Baked
Goods etc
There will be a prize draw
(tickets available)

All Souls Services

Thursday 2nd November

6.30 pm All Hallows',
Henshaw

7.30 pm St Cuthbert's,
Haydon Bridge

There will be quiet contemplative
services at each church on Thurs-
day 2nd November to remember
all those who have died. We will
give thanks for those who loved
us, supported us and inspired us.
If there is a name of a loved one
you wish to have read out then
add them to the list in the church
or ask the Vicar 684307 to in-
clude them.

CONFIRMATION There will be a confirmation service at All Hallows'
Henshaw (provisionally booked for Sunday 28th January 2007).

Please contact the Vicar 684307 if you wish to consider being confirmed.

Ideally there will be groups to enable all ages explore the meaning of Christian Discipleship.
Once the number of people wishing to take part is known appropriate meetings will be
announced.

Please let me know if you are willing to assist with these groups.

Come for a refresher course and act as a supporter to the newly confirmed.



Looking down from the old road onto the new platform.

WORKS NEAR THE SPA WELL

By the end of October, work will be completed reinstating the river bank to the west of the Spa Well. Following a landslip in 2001, the path to the Spa Well became impassable. Further landslips encroached onto the old A69 and threatened, over time, to damage the present A69. The work was funded by the Highways Agency as the old road was never de-trunked and so remained their responsibility. The river bank has been reinforced and a fenced platform created a few feet above river level (centre right in picture). This will be accessible via the upper part of the old graded engineered steps (centre, above and left of the roller) and then down a short flight of wooden steps. Access to the Spa Well may not be possible as there is a further landslip to the west of the current works. This is to be investigated by NCC Highways Dept. as it is responsible for any further repair works to the remainder of the path.

TREASURER FOR 42 YEARS.

Geoffrey Johnson, treasurer of Haydon Bridge Community Association for the last 43 years, hands over the books to the new incumbent this month.

Geoffrey moved to Haydon Bridge when he was 6yrs old. Previously he had lived at Ravensworth, his father being in the employ of Lord Ravensworth. After a few years at Shaftoe Trust School, Geoffrey went to the Grammar School in Hexham. He then spent five years in the navy before taking up a post with Lloyds Bank in Hexham, where he worked for 43 years.

Charlie Coombes, a founder member of the Community Association, persuaded Geoffrey to become Honorary Treasurer in 1964, following the resignation of Michael Leppington. (Michael's father was the station master at Haydon Bridge).

Charlie and Geoffrey shared an interest in cricket, Charlie playing for the Haydon Bridge team and Geoffrey for Tynedale.

In the 1964 the Community Association used to meet in the Congregational Church and most of their activities were concerned with fund raising. The following year Geoffrey signed the cheques that finalised the purchase of the Wesleyan Chapel in Ratcliffe Road for use as a Community Centre. Geoffrey was still treasurer when the old centre was demolished 35 years later and the new Community Centre built.

Mary Douthwaite (Chair), on behalf of the present members of the Community Association, thanks Geoffrey for all his hard work as treasurer over the last 43yrs and wishes him all the best for the future.

Geoffrey, a keen traveller, has his case packed ready for his next holiday!

CELEBRATING THIRTY YEARS

Little did I realise that when I first set up my hairdressing shop in Haydon Bridge, that we would, this month, be celebrating thirty years in business. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all customers, past and present for their long and loyal support.

My very first customer was Mrs Beniams, the then vicar's wife. Many characters have since walked through the doors. One in particular comes to mind, Mrs Felicity Bell, a very colourful and entertaining lady.

Over the years the shop has become more than just a hairdressers. It's a place where you can relax, catch up with friends, in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

So, once again we would like to say a big thank you to all our customers.

Tula, Heather and Margy.

Did you know Irvings run an express bus service from Haydon Bridge to Newcastle & Metrocentre from Mondays to Saturdays. It only calls at the Bridge End bus stops. The fare is £4.50 return. Concessionary travel passes are not valid on this service.

To Newcastle. Haydon Bridge Martin's Close 09.50 Arrs N/cle 10.40
Arrs M/centre 10.55

To Haydon Bridge. Departs M/centre 16.30
Departs N/cle John Dobson St. 17.00 Arrives Haydon Bridge 17.37
(This is a non stop service between Haydon Bridge and Newcastle)

a highlights rural touring scheme presentation.

THE NEW ROPE STRING BAND

('achingly funny and great musicians')

at

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

on

FRIDAY 15th. DECEMBER at 8.00am.

Tickets; Adults.....£7

Children.....£4

Concessions..£4

**ADVANCED BOOKING
ESSENTIAL**

From Val Bell. tel. 684705