

THE HAYDON NEWS



Published by the Friends of Haydon Bridge

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Editor: Steve Ford

Issue 10
December 2013



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See page 17 for Christmas Services



THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE HAYDON NEWS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY 2014

All copy to the editor as soon as possible but not later than Saturday, 18th January. Thank you

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**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW
YEAR
TO ALL OUR
READERS!**

This is our third edition under new management. We now have a two month mid-winter gap in which we will undertake further revisions of the layout and a rationalisation of the advert sizes.

It is a great pleasure to welcome new contributors and new advertisers to the magazine and I hope that more will appear as the months go along. If there is anyone or any group that would like to organise a new feature - such as a women's page or a nature page or a farming page, for example - we would love to hear from them.

A lot of hot air and much ink has been spilled over the subject of energy costs in recent months. I doubt that I am alone in thinking that nothing worthwhile will emerge from Westminster on the subject. So, as usual, it is down to individuals and households to deal with the problems as best they can.

Warm clothing has to be the first step for everyone. Boob tube and hot pants are not suitable garments for a Northumberland winter - especially for men. Don't forget, many layers are better than a couple of thick ones. Hats and gloves, even indoors and in bed, make a big difference. Thick socks and boots are better than stockings/tights and dainty fashion shoes. Hot water bottles (wrapped in a towel to prevent burns) are great comfort. Regular hot drinks and meals are important too.

Please keep an eye on friends, relatives and neighbours who are elderly or infirm. A greeting, a wave, a gentle enquiry after wellbeing — simple things can make all the difference. **Steve Ford**

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PARISH COUNCIL NOTES
from the meeting in November 2013

At the Friends of Haydon Bridge committee meeting on 18 11 13 a decision was taken to postpone the publication of the November and January Parish Council meeting minutes until the February 2014 edition.

This is because a/ the PC meeting was held so late in the month and b/ our new printer is nadered (a technical term familiar to all engineers) after the last edition.

We set great store by getting the December issue into people's houses before the events listed take place. We hope you will agree that we have taken the best decision in the circumstances.

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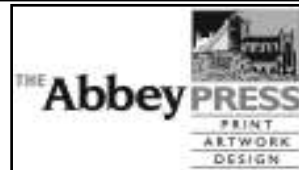
The Friends of Haydon Bridge Association Committee
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EDITORIAL POLICY OF THE HAYDON NEWS.

The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editors. Our intention is always to ensure that the content of the Haydon News is as fair and factually correct as possible. Any complaints concerning editorial policy should be addressed in writing to the Chairman of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee of the Friends of Haydon Bridge. Complaints other than those made above will not be entertained. The Editors reserve the right to decide which letters/articles are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters/articles when necessary. Anonymous letters/articles will NOT be published. A nom-de-plume may be used if the Editors know the writer's name and address.

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THANK YOU

Another year draws to a close and, for me, a significant one at that. After ninety issues of The Haydon News, over a period of nine years, I am relinquishing my editorial and associated roles with The Haydon News and the Friends of Haydon Bridge. I guess I was like many readers, before I became involved in the production process, welcoming The Haydon News through the letter box - arriving as if by magic - with little idea of the immense amount of time consumed in research, writing, desk top publishing, printing and delivering a monthly magazine. Now I know!

After nine years of sharing the responsibilities with Mike, and providing a community publication together of which, hopefully, you could be proud, it was important that the future of The Haydon News was secured for many more years to come. Having spent some time with Steve, your new editor, to facilitate a seamless - well, almost - handover of responsibilities, I know that, with your continuing support, The Haydon News is in safe hands.

It just remains for me to thank everyone who has supported me during the previous nine years. Your willingness to provide information for my social history columns, your smiling faces when I've brought you bundles of Haydon News's to deliver in all weathers, ("It's never a month since you brought the last lot! Is it?" Was the usual cry.) and your understanding when I - or the machine (that's my excuse) - got it wrong.

Thank you.

As I'm not going anywhere, I will continue to contribute to the pages of The Haydon News as long as Steve and his committee want me to. I might run out of puff eventually, but I'm never likely to run out of Haydon Parish stories, whether historical or of recent origin. That's the kind of village and parish we live in; and long may it remain so!

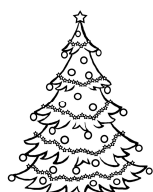
Thank you so much for your help in the past, and I look forward to your continued support for The Haydon News, and my pages as a part of it, in the future.

Best wishes to everyone for Christmas and the New Year.

Dennis T.

Email:

dennistelford636@btinternet.com



SHAFTOE - YOUNG FARMERS

There seems to be much ado at present about the future of Haydon Bridge School Farm. To sell or not to sell? That is the question!

An appropriate time, maybe, to look back at the history of agriculture within the curriculum of our village education establishments.

Shaftoe Trust School, at Haydon Bridge, was founded, as the name suggests, in accordance with the **1685** deed of a Mr. John Shaftoe. For fifty years prior to his death, John Shaftoe was the Vicar of Warden; within the Parish of which was the Chapelry of Haydon until June 1879 when the Chapelry became a Parish in its own right.

It is not my intention to reflect on the chequered history of John Shaftoe's Free Grammar School as it was called, except to recall that from its beginnings until around 1870 the school, and especially the headmaster's house there, had a reputation as a place of classical education. We do know, however, that in practice this element of higher learning applied to only a few scholars; the rest, according to John Hodgson in 1840, were 'content with a low modicum of learning'.

In **1872**, the trustees of the Shaftoe Charity responded to a letter published in the Newcastle Journal by a committee of prominent landowners and clergy, who sought to establish some form of higher education in rural areas.

Encouraged by the Endowed Schools' Commission of the day, the Shaftoe trustees looked favourably upon a scheme for a 'middle school' providing: 'Sound and practical education for the sons of farmers, tradesmen, merchants and professional men in Northumberland'.

For the first time, those with responsibility locally for the provision of education seemed to recognise that the needs of our rural community should be addressed in the school curriculum. Local support for a draft scheme in **1874**, based on the 1872 proposals, was not forthcoming, however, once it was realised by the trustees that they would lose control of the charity's income and the management of the charity's affairs.

Just as significant, was the Parish residents' protest that, if the scheme was implemented, the sons of land-owners would share in funds of a trust founded to provide support for the poor.

The indignation expressed by the working class is, perhaps, best summed up by the verdict of William Lee, a local resident and author in the nineteenth

century:

'It seems ludicrous that well to do farmers who, as in this neighbourhood, can keep a subscription pack of hounds should be deemed fit recipients for a charity plainly intended for the poor.'

As a result, local opposition to the proposals - a fascinating story in its own right, by the way, and one for another month maybe - meant that, although 'above average facilities for domestic crafts and woodwork' had been reported in 1910, and 'botany, horticulture, and estimating the volume of a stack of hay' were included in the 1912 curriculum, it wasn't until 1919 that the first serious efforts were made to develop Shaftoe Trust School on 'definite lines that were applicable to the district'.

This 1919 model for the future of the school included plans for poultry keeping, bee keeping, gardening and forestry, woodwork and metalwork.

The progress towards a curriculum that provided this rural bias was slow in the extreme, and it appears to have been 1928 before a rural science course, based on a newly built science room and the existing school gardens, was introduced to partially fit the bill. The course was to provide not only practical proficiency, but also the understanding of the principles involved. The headmaster responsible for introducing the 1928 course was W.W. Ridley.

It was 1935, before an education committee commitment to 'agricultural instruction' in rural senior schools moved progress, with a curriculum that provided 'a rural bias' and with clear objectives.

To implement this policy, adequately, in a 'Senior School' at Shaftoe Trust, a new building housing a model dairy and a workshop for agricultural engineering was constructed on the Charity's land to the east of the school - formerly 'Chapel Hill Close'. (See Note opposite.) The building work was finally completed in 1939.

Although butter and cheese were produced as a first development in the life of the new dairy, the school's ambition - encouraged by the headmaster Robert Walker since his appointment in 1933 - to introduce agriculture into a curriculum which already included horticulture and poultry keeping, was thwarted by a Second World War.

In the event, the new dairy block was used as accommodation for infants classes and there will be many of my generation who remember, as I do, starting school at Shaftoe Trust as four or five year olds and being taught in 'The Dairy' by Miss Telfer and Miss Davison. (Your memories will be most welcome.)



The 1939 Dairy to the left and the Engineering Workshop to the right. Both a little the worse for wear in 2013

Note

CHAPEL HILL CLOSE

Chapel Hill Close has an interesting history.

When the trustees of the Shaftoe Charity decided to build almshouses in 1803, as a replacement for cash payments, or 'dole', to the poor of the Chapelry - as allocated in John Shaftoe's 1685 Foundation Deed - they reached agreement for a land exchange with Greenwich Hospital who owned Chapel Hill Close to the east of the school. Greenwich Hospital took an allotment of the common at Grindon, that had been awarded to the Shaftoe Charity as a result of the common enclosures, and they added that land to their recently created Grindon Hill Farm; while the Shaftoe Charity received, from the Hospital, the Chapel Hill Close site adjacent to the school and where they built their almshouses.

An exchange advantageous to both parties.

The almshouses were built between 1804 and 1810, when applications for letting were received, and the first tenants - William Corbett, Thomas Coats, Thomas Fairlam and Jane Bennet - moved in. There were twenty single roomed almshouses in all, with two usher's houses and one for the mistress of the school.

In 1971/72, pairs of houses were put together to provide each house with a bathroom and toilet, and a Shaftoe Trust Charity office is also accommodated on the row. (Today's Shaftoe Terrace.)

The Chapel Hill Close site was so called as the ancient Langley (Barony) Chapel of St Mary and St Katherine seems to have stood there, and is noted in documents as early as 1570.

The Chapel has long ago disappeared, however, the most recent mention being circa 1715, when the antiquarian and cartographer, John Warburton, referred to a 'neat little chapel' on the south side of the bridge.

After the war, Robert Walker resigned and in 1947 Edward Waite, a former pupil and assistant master was appointed headmaster. Edward set about in his own inimitable style to make his mark, and he chose agriculture as the defining subject of the school curriculum at Shaftoe Trust; a school that now included senior pupils from Newbrough and Fourstones.

In his 'History of Shaftoe Trust School and John Martin's Charity' (Pub 1981), L.C. Coombes, the author and a former teacher at the school who was there at the time, introduces us to Edward Waite's unique and ambitious project:

'The difficulties and obstacles were formidable. To be a practical success equipment was needed, stock purchased, land acquired and the local authority won over to the idea. One feature of the school during the whole of this period was the degree to which outside bodies or individuals with special knowledge were consulted, or came on visits to see what was going on. Farm Institute staff, agricultural advisers, fertiliser manufacturers, all made their pilgrimages. This outward looking attitude, apart from being sound public relations, was a stimulus to pupils. Much was owed to the willing co-operation of local farmers who loaned implements or made land available. In 1948 the engineering workshop (*built in 1939*) came into use, and at the same time the headmaster purchased a Ferguson tractor.'

It was 1948 when Shaftoe Trust School received its first intake of pupils from across Northumberland, attracted in the main because of the agricultural and horticultural courses being offered. These pupils, many of whom were living away from home during the week, lodged in private house. Mrs Wilson of Park Style House; Mr and Mrs Colin Ward, Robin and Winnie Armstrong, and Mrs Moore, all of John Martin Street; and Lizzie Philipson of Rose Tree Cottage, behind the present day Community Centre, were among the first to welcome the new pupils into their homes during term time. The Haydon Bridge school became a second choice for parents whose children had failed to gain a place at their local grammar school, but for whom they sought the best available public education in the county. The pupils, other than those who lived within the local catchment area, were selected by interview.

A Young Farmers' Club was established at the school in 1948 and it made a valuable contribution to the agricultural bias of the school's teaching, becoming Shaftoe Trust School's most successful extra - curricular activity, with pupils taking part in regional, county and national competitions. Pig

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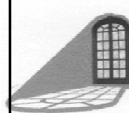
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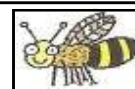


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judging, farmhouse crafts' proficiency, ploughing, public speaking, and quizzes were just a few of the competitive activities undertaken by members of the school Young Farmers' Club. Competition between pupils was considered a positive method of learning during Edward Waite's headship and pupils were all members of 'houses' - Martin (blue), Stephenson (red) or Shaftoe (yellow) - that competed against each other in school sports and other events.

In 1955 a senior 'Young' Farmers' Club was formed on the initiative of former pupils.

Shaftoe Young Farmers' Club, in its present form, is still a thriving group today, of course and, on June 8th of this year, the Club entertained almost four hundred young farmers in competitions with a 1950s theme, at Beamwham Farm; a remarkable sixty five years since its formation.

In 1949, Haydon Park, a house which was to provide residential accommodation for twenty pupils - ten boys and ten girls - was purchased to supplement the lodgings provided in private houses. Equally important was an area of garden with greenhouses and five acres of grassland that came with the residence; as did the village cricket ground.

In 1950, pig keeping was introduced to Shaftoe Trust School with the introduction of a Wessex Saddleback presented to the school by the father of pupil Ben Atkinson, the buying and feeding of twenty weaners, and the purchase of two pedigree Large White gilts from C.L. Meadows, the Director of Education - one of which reared 100 offspring before her life was cut short by suffocation in a fire.

With agriculture, poultry husbandry, botany, farm engineering and horticulture all part of the curriculum, it is no surprise that Haydon Bridge Shaftoe Trust School became known county - and indeed country - wide as a 'farm school'. However, while the school's initial reputation was built on the unique rural curriculum, Edward Waite knew that academic and sporting achievement, allied to the publicity it brought, would provide longevity to his project - and, perhaps, his personal stock.

It was, clearly, with this in mind that pupils from across the county who were encouraged to continue their education at Shaftoe Trust were not all chosen for their interest in agriculture or horticulture, but on the basis of prospective academic or sporting success. Junior athletes Ann Oliver and Billy Carr, county soccer star Roy Maddison, and Raymond Thompson, a promising fast bowler for Tynedale Cricket Club come immediately to mind.

New friendships were formed between local boys

and girls and those from across the county: David Renton, Bryce Rennison, Edward Shield, Derek Nuttall, Andrew and Hugh Brown, Richard Taylor, Ian Ledgerwood, Billy Nesbitt, Alex Pulsford, Robert Keenlyside and George Dobson; to name just a few among many boys in my age group.

'New' girls were always welcome into our circle of friends, of course. Aileen Thompson, Marianne Little, Ann Anderson, Judith Brodie, Dorothy Bell, Gillian Baynes, Dorothy Weymes, Carol Johnson, and Bridgette Brown; I could go on Dreaming!!

That the Shaftoe Trust 'Farm School' population was drawn from far and wide is amply demonstrated if I tell you that of thirty three pupils in my school class in 1954, only two others, Ian Stewart and Linda Ridley, were from Haydon Bridge.

With regard to the boarders at Haydon Bridge, a teacher at the time, Charlie Coombes, has this to say:

'The influx of outside pupils had a beneficial effect on the school for, on the whole, they were well motivated with strong parental support and above average academically. The many practical activities associated with the care and feeding of stock and poultry, could hardly have been done without the aid of these borders.'

Haydon Bridge school was praised across the northern counties and beyond, and successive Directors of Education in Northumberland revelled in its status. As a result, Edward Waite was able to attract at least a fair - and, probably, more than fair - share of Local Authority funding, and attract and keep some of the best staff available.

In May 1954, a general inspection of the school, its facilities, curriculum and teaching was carried out by H.M.I., and even though the school lacked some facilities - a dining room, library and gymnasium for example - and some of the accommodation was 'make do and mend', the result of the inspection was a complete vindication of the work and conduct of the school.

The agricultural resources of the school at the time of the inspection consisted of the large walled garden with two heated greenhouses, two acres of land under arable and, at Haydon Park, four acres of short leys and arable. Bullocks were fattened over the winter months in the 'steading' built by the pupils. Pig keeping, as started in 1950, continued and two flocks of poultry were kept. One hundred adult birds were managed on deep litter, battery and semi-intensive systems and formed the basis for the normal school course, while sixty adult birds were reared at Haydon Park by a recently formed 'Poultry

Club'.

The idea of keeping cattle was often discussed, but lack of buildings was the chief deterrent. However, in **1955** some of the older boys under the direction of a member of staff erected a cattle shed, and a former coach house at Haydon Park was converted into a byre and dairy. The Young Farmers' Club raised the money to purchase one Jersey cow and, with the generous assistance of the English Jersey Cattle Society, a small dairy herd of five Jersey cows and heifers were bought from the well known herd of Professor R.W. Wheldon, a one time Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at King's College at Newcastle,

It was at this time that marketing of cream and milk and the rearing of young dairy stock for sale became major features of the school farm activities, and the pedigree herd of Jerseys had an annual production of 1,000 gallons per cow at 5.7 per cent butter fat. When Jeff Crozier, a past pupil, was appointed farm steward, the school was well equipped with farm machinery and excellent instruction was given to pupils in the handling and care of such equipment. The agricultural courses also included study of nutrition and the anatomy and physiology of the animal.

In the first year, the school dairy herd used the limited grazing available at Haydon Park, but in **1956**, twenty three acres of land, formerly the Bookless' market garden, were rented at the 'Tunnel Top' west of the village on the north side, and christened 'Newlands'. A name that has all but disappeared following the building of the Langley and Greenwich Gardens estates on much of the land. 'Newlands' proved especially useful for cropping - including early potatoes - and demonstrations; information about which was displayed on boards along the roadside leading into and out of the village.

In all the farming and horticultural activities undertaken at the school, detailed records were kept with strong emphasis on the need for making each activity or section a paying proposition.

Shaftoe Trust Pupils took the General Certificate of Education and Advanced Levels in Agriculture, but other subjects were not neglected. External examinations such as the Pre National and Pre Technical Certificates of the Northern Counties Examining Board, and G.C.E. examinations in academic subjects which had previously only been available to those who attended Hexham Grammar School, all added to Shaftoe Trust's developing status.

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In the mid 1950s, the Ministry of Education agreed to a plan to build a County Secondary Technical School at Haydon Bridge that would accommodate five hundred boys and girls from eleven to eighteen years of age. Before 1955, the local authority's development plan didn't include Haydon Bridge as a home for the technical school, but the success of the Shaftoe Trust project, and especially the recognition that 'a gifted head, an able staff, and an army of well-wishers from local farmers to university and advisory service staff were never likely to come together again', convinced the authority to build on those foundations. The new school was to provide for one stream having a strong agricultural and horticultural bias with pupils drawn from all parts of Northumberland, for which the boarding facility would be extended to take one hundred pupils. In the early 1960s, Haydon Lodge, Bank House and the former primary school at Deanraw were bought for use as additional pupil accommodation. The new school was included in the authority's 1958/1959 building programme and work began on land at Haydon Park on March 14th 1960. The main part of the school was brought into use on June 25th 1962.

In 1961, the Royal Agricultural Society of England made special mention of the Shaftoe Trust School and gave major credit to Edward Waite for, 'one of the most successful attempts to provide a counter

drift of young people from the land; and whose sustained enthusiasm and inspiring leadership contributed so much through this country school to the cause of agricultural education'.

In 1962, Edward Waite was honoured by the award of the O.B.E. in recognition of his services to education.

In September 1964, the new Technical School became a comprehensive school under the name of Haydon Bridge High School and, in 1971, a significant move was made in the development of agricultural education at the school when the adjacent farm, Peel Well, was purchased by Northumberland County Council from the Catholic Trust. This was not the first purchase from the Catholic Trust as, in 1962, Edward Waite had acquired eight acres on the south east boundary of the Peel Well estate. Not for an agricultural education facility on that occasion, but as the Technical School playing fields.

It seems to me that Peel Well was an appropriate farm in which to develop further Edward Waite's agricultural education project, as its 389 acres had been farmed in the nineteenth century by Mathew Ridley - *my two times great grandfather* - who had a national reputation as a farming innovator. He would have been delighted to see the farm he made his life become a unique training ground for young

HAYDON BRIDGE WAR MEMORIAL by Pam and Ken Linge

We continue our series of articles on those individuals who died in the Great War. The biographies are published chronologically and the thirty third casualty, in 1917, was
John William Reed

(33) John William Reed



Photograph from
Hexham Courant

John served as Private 242120 (2342), 4th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers. He died on 26th October 1917, aged 20.

Born in Hexham, he was one of six children of Joseph John and Margaret Reed (nee Nelson) of Silly Wrea Farm, Langley.

John worked on the family farm and then later at the Langley Brick and Tile Works.

Enlisted at Hexham, John was killed by a sniper.

As well as having his name on the War Memorial and the Reredos in St. Cuthbert's, John is also commemorated on the memorial in the Shaftoe School and the organ in the Methodist Church.



John is commemorated on the
Tyne Cot Memorial.

If you have any information relating to John William Reed, or any of those individuals on the Haydon Bridge Memorial, then please contact Pam & Ken Linge at: Drystones, Heugh House Lane, Haydon Bridge, NE47 6HJ, phone (01434) 684050 or email: pam_ken.linge@btinternet.com.

students in agricultural practice.

It was the well known and respected Davison family, however, who were the last tenants before the sale of Peel Well to Northumberland County Council. John Davison (Snr.) had moved to the farm from Greenside in 1930 - following the previous occupation by Wm Laidler & Sons - and the Davison tenure lasted for forty years having been continued by John Davison (Jnr.) until 1971, after his father's death in 1953.

The school farm, or 'Waite Farm' as it was named in recognition of Edward Waite's service, was managed by Jack Mitchell and the additional facilities gave agricultural education, including farm management, a new impetus.

In 1976 the original Peel Well farm buildings were sold by Northumberland County Council and the farm's accommodation was centred around the former 'Broom Hill' estate which was situated in closer proximity to the school.

Today:

I cannot write with any authority on the agricultural provision at the school since Edward Waite's retirement, although I do know that pupil activity in and around the farmland, which surrounds my own home, has decreased over the last thirty years and it seems that for a number of years previously, under the management of Kirkley Hall Agricultural College, the farm was unsuccessful as a commercial enterprise.

Successive headmasters at the school have had different priorities to Edward Waite, of course, and, maybe, the arts, performing arts and sport have each been encouraged at the expense of the range of agricultural tuition available in Edward Waite's day. That is not to say that different priorities or a range of greater opportunities in a changing school and society environment are a bad thing.

As for the future of the 'Waite Farm', it should not be forgotten that for a number of years following Edward Waite's departure, the school farm was ploughing thousands of pounds of cash into a very deep hole. As rate payers and council tax payers we should be grateful that that hole was filled and under the stewardship of farmer Peter Telfer the 'Waite Farm' has been run on a businesslike basis and the requirements of today's school pupils and courses in agriculture have not, as far as I am aware, suffered.

Whatever the future holds, the past is a place that has special memories for me and, I don't doubt, those boys and girls from Haydon Bridge and across the county who developed in mind and body within Edward Waite's unique project.

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TONY PETTS



There are many dwellings where prints of Tony Petts' paintings adorn the walls, so that Haydonians here and abroad can enjoy the pleasures of a reminder of home. In October, following Tony's death in May, his daughter Claire (seen in our photograph) exhibited her father's original paintings in the Community Centre; a last chance to see Tony's work hung together in one place.

Claire said: "The exhibition was a great success and I want to thank everybody who came to look at Dad's paintings. I'm also delighted that so many have gone to very good homes in the village. Using the proceeds, the family have decided to have a memorial seat placed by the river at Allen Banks and, as a thank you, will donate £1,000 towards the £100,000 the National Trust need to raise to repair the swing bridge damaged by floods." Claire gives special thanks to Barbara, Deborah, Sandra, and The Haydon News team, for all the help given to make the exhibition such a success.

"WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS"



Haydon Bridge Cricket Club Captain Graeme Pigg receives the Justsport West Tyne Championship Trophy from Club and League President, Bill Foster, in the Club's 150th year.

Langley Castle played host on Friday, November 8th, to players past and present, officials, and supporters, as our village Cricket Club celebrated 150 years since it was founded; and a championship success.

Following a delicious meal provided by Anton and his staff, an appreciative and vocal audience were bowled over by an entertaining double act, as Barry Hope and

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Graeme Pigg mixed thanks to everyone involved in HBCC's 150 year history and its successes, with a rustic humour matching anything provided by 'medieval' jesters of the 1960s/70s who once played on this stage.

On a night when 21st century taboos were given "Out!", and shots close to the boundaries were played with a straight bat and accepted with good grace; well done to all concerned and here's to the next 150.

The Bridge and Visitor Information Point

Children's Corner:

We are off to another fine start this school year with several four years old and under joining the Bookstart Club.

One can never be too young to join and the procedure is very simple, resulting in a Bookstart pack that includes lots of fun things for young ones to join in and/or listen to. Remember that their "passport" (in the pack) needs to be brought to the Bridge each time books are returned. That way, your child receives a certificate every time they "read" six books.

Sad to say for the second year running, there will be no Christmas Crafts for the children, at the Bridge: it is just too near to Christmas by the time the schools break up for the holiday. Hopefully, next year, timings will change again.

Archives:

After the visit to Woodhorn Archives Service, two of the Bridge volunteers have been on the move again. This time, they have attended a free course at Bellingham, concerning Oral history i.e. recording the memories of village inhabitants for future generations.

The course was a massive success and the two volunteers, now equipped with a Dictaphone, are raring to go. Recordings will be transferred to the Bridge computer (with the participant's permission) for anyone who visits, to listen to.

In the near future, there is another course being held at Bellingham, to help us with storing and indexing the Archives that we have.

We are very grateful for the opportunity to join the group involved in the Bellingham Viaduct project. Information concerning the people, places and events of Haydon Bridge in the past is continually and constantly being updated and proves to be very interesting. We aim to be as professional in our storage as possible

Statistics:

Each year, the income from each area of the Bridge is recorded and compared with the year before. The good news is that we are holding our own even though the electricity company, which supposedly served us has not been satisfactory.

Now, we have changed to another company ... hopefully for the better.

Our second-hand book sales have remained steady, this year, and the Jigsaw Lending Store has expanded! We continue to attract new members to the Bridge, most for borrowing books but some to use the computers (The computers come in very handy for families whose e-mail has suddenly stopped working ... that sounds familiar!).

There are others who just come to read the "Courant" and have a cup of coffee OR just want to look at the new Art work on display OR pop in to buy a jar of honey. Each day is different, which is why we, the volunteers,

enjoy working here. Now that there is no longer a charge for ordering books, library members have not been slow to respond; I think we may need a special shelf to hold the orders!

Christmas:

As Christmas approaches, we hope to have a Christmas hamper raffle. If you have a small item to contribute, please drop it in at the Bridge. And, if you would like to join the Lottery Bonus Ball, we do have some spare numbers-still £1 per week!

Many thanks to the person who gave us a Joicey's Shaft book-much appreciated!

Happy reading ...

LANGLEY WI

Seven ladies from Langley WI spent the day at Newbrough recently to watch a demonstration of Christmas wreaths and table decorations during the morning. After a lovely lunch of soup, sandwiches and puddings, kindly provided by the ladies of Newbrough WI, we all made our own wreaths and table decorations.

A thoroughly enjoyable day which was organised by Northumberland Federation WI.

Continuing the getting ready for Christmas theme, during the November meeting of Langley WI, Joyce Simm and Pauline Tulip showed some beautiful hand made cards and Joyce told us a little bit about the history of giving cards.

Some say the tradition started in Rome when it was customary to send greetings at the start of a new year, others say the giving of cards at Christmas was started by Queen Victoria's husband Albert.

Joyce and Pauline then handed out two packs of card making materials to everyone.

The first contained an old fashioned father Christmas picture and various embellishments. Although everyone had the same things in their pack, each card was slightly different.

The second pack contained a cute Christmas picture and again the ladies used the contents of their packs to produce lovely cards of which, again, no two were alike.

Joyce then judged the cards declaring Sheona the winner with Moira in second place.

Details of the annual Pie and Pea Supper on 22nd November at Langley Village Hall (tickets £5 available from WI members, please bring own knife, fork and spoon) were discussed over supper.

Next months meeting is The Christmas Party on December 10th. The competition for that evening will be "A Poem".

Cath Duffy.

Haydon Bridge Pharmacy Ensure You Get Your Medicines This Winter

As the weather conditions deteriorate it can be difficult to make it to the Doctors to get your prescription and to the pharmacy to collect the medication. It is important to ensure you are able to get your medication when it is needed. Missing doses of medication can lead to deterioration in your health.

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I look forward to talking to you.

Tom McCullough

(Owner and Pharmacist, Haydon Bridge Pharmacy)

To All Our Customers
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
& A HAPPY NEW YEAR

A VIEW FROM UP THERE

John Harrison

Once again delving into unfortunate church notices, I came across the following note “Mrs Brown, a faithful member of our congregation has fallen upon very hard times and now has absolutely no clothes to wear. The vicar and his curate have been visiting her regularly”. We know what they mean !!?

Well, talking of visits, winter has paid its first visit as I write this report. The frosts have arrived and sensitive plants are now looking sorry for themselves. However, the frosts haven’t been sufficiently bad to affect plants still in the greenhouse so there may yet be some life left in the tomatoes. From now on, our weather will be dictated by the wind direction. From SW to NW comes relative warmth, with rain and wind; from N to SE comes the cold, with low cloud and possibly snow. So far this autumn westerlies have been dominant.

Most of October was dominated by mild air from a generally southerly direction but mid-month there was a brief foretaste of winter between the 8th and 17th as colder air moved in briefly from the north. The weather was generally rather dull and damp with large amounts of cloud and frequent rain. Although the monthly total rainfall was slightly below average, rain was recorded on 24 days, on 17 of which 1mm or more fell. The first four days were cloudy and dull in a light easterly breeze, but as the wind moved around to the west conditions brightened a little. Cold air had moved in by the 10th, bringing about quite a sharp drop in temperature, reaching only 9.8 degC on the 10th. Although generally quite cloudy, there were some sunny spells. Night temperatures fell which resulted in heavy dew and early morning mist or fog. Milder air returned behind heavy rainfall on the 17th and the remainder of the month was mild and wet. The wind strength increased from the 22nd and much of the rain fell as blustery showers, which were thundery on the 25th.

Monthly Weather Summary (Haydon Bridge : Height 162m asl)

Month	Average Maximum Temperature (Daytime) Deg C	Relative to long-term average DegC	Average Minimum Temperature (Night-time) Deg C	Relative to long-term average DegC	Rainfall mm	Percentage of long-term average
October	13.4	+0.7	8.7	+2.7	78.9	91

And finally Gladys tells me of a conversation in a local pub well-known locally as a bit of a gambling den. She was sitting at the bar chatting to the locals when in came two native North Americans, a very large woman and what appeared to be her daughter. “We’re looking for a card game and we’ve been told that this is where the action is” they said. The locals looked at each other and after a moment told her that on Thursdays the card game was usually at The Red Bull down the street. With a brief “OK” the women left. “Who the heck was that?” said one local to the other. “Beats me” replied the other, “but it could be Pocahontas”.

And a word to the wise – remember that Noah started building the ark before the rain started.

WHIT CHARITY WALK 2014

On June 7th next year The Get-It-Together- Society (GITS) is organising a charity walk on Hadrian’s Wall on Saturday June 7th (from 2.00pm after the cycling event). This will be a fundraiser for The Tynedale Hospice and the Haydon Bridge Performing Arts Festival 2014. The theme is a ‘Wacky Wedding Walk on the Wall’ – the task of the bridal party will be to get their bride to the altar on time – the ‘bride’ is 110kg of gorgeousness in the shape of John Harrison, who some may remember as the ‘Queen’ at the Jubilee celebrations in 2012. We shall be seeking sponsorship early in 2014 and there will be a fun-and-fund-raising wedding ceremony and reception at The General Havelock in the evening, to which you are ALL invited. Watch out for notices and strange brides!!

CHARITY QUIZZES AT THE GENERAL HAVELOCK

The programme of Charity Pub Quizzes at the General Havelock over the next few months will be as follows. Would you please note that nominations are invited from charities for the quizzes on February 4th and April 15th. We are also seeking raffle prizes for all quizzes – please leave any offerings at The General Havelock.

December 10th Josie’s Dragonfly Trust

January 7th Tynedale Hospice

February 4th *Nomination sought*

March 4th Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign (Wear-it-Pink Queenie Quiz)

April 15th *Nomination sought.*

West Tyne Federation News

We have an extremely busy and exciting autumn term in our three West Tyne Federation Schools – Greenhead, Henshaw and Herdley Bank Church of England Primary Schools. Here are some of the highlights from the children...

Haltwhistle Paint Factory Project

We are developing our interview and reporting skills with Marc and Vicki from the Haltwhistle Film Project. They are doing a project about the old paint factory in Haltwhistle. There are lots of people in the community who worked at the factory so we are learning how to interview them and be involved in the filming of these interviews. Some of our families have shared their memories with us and we have also discovered that one of our families lives in the Factory Manager's house. We will be going to the Film Project in Haltwhistle to interview some of the retired workers from the factory after Christmas. Class 3 at Henshaw

Children in Need

Every year we support the Children in Need appeal. This year, everyone dressed in spots at Henshaw and Greenhead and we all came to school in our pyjamas at Herdley Bank! We also covered three huge Pudsey Bears with loose change. We had made Pudsey Bear cookies which we decorated with lots of yummy things...we sold them to each other and really enjoyed eating them! Altogether we raised £225 for Children in Need – well done everyone. Class 2 at Herdley Bank

“Going Green” Greenhouse

Earlier this year, we started collecting plastic 2 litre bottles with the plan of building our own greenhouse. We needed 1500 bottles so we had to ask everyone we know to collect their empty bottles. The bottles came into school very quickly and soon we ran out of space to store them! So we had to get them washed, labels taken off and the bottoms cut off so we could stack them ready for the building work. We had the other materials donated to us by our family and friends in the community, including wood for the frame and paving slabs. On the Teacher Training Day at the start of term, last year's Year 4s came back for the day to help us start the building work. And wow, soon the greenhouse was taking shape! Our teachers and friends finished the building work at half term and the greenhouse is finally complete. It is awesome! Now we are looking forward to starting growing in our greenhouse in gardening club in the spring...watch this space!

Year 4s at Greenhead

What's happening next...

Year 3 and 4 children are visiting the Houses of Parliament at the end of November and will be reporting back in the next issues. They are really excited about visiting Westminster and meeting our local MP. Mr. Guy Opperman.

Our Christmas Coffee Morning takes place on Saturday 30th November in Haltwhistle Methodist Hall between 9.30 – 11.30 am. We hope our friends and families can join us for the morning as there will be a cake stall, raffle, tombola, bric-a-brac and lots more.

We are joining with our friends from the West Tyne Church Schools, Newbrough and Whitfield, on Wednesday 18th December for our annual Carol Service in Holy Cross Church, Haltwhistle. This year will be our first shared Christingle Service, led by Father Neil Wilson.

And finally, we will be celebrating Herdley Bank's 150th anniversary in 2014. If you have any information/photographs which could be used by the children, please contact school [01434 320469]. There will be several special events and celebrations throughout the year – watch this space.

A very merry Christmas & a happy New Year from the West Tyne Federation!

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CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

CHURCH PAGE

CLERGY MESSAGE

From
Deacon Anne Taylor

It doesn't really matter which Church you attend when it comes to Christmas it's a big celebration all round. That's why at our last Messy Church we got the children to draw pictures of Christmas some of which can be seen on the front cover of this magazine. It might seem a bit early to be thinking about Christmas but some things are a long time in planning but then well worth the wait. What-ever Christmas means to you it's a very special time in the Church.

Our next Messy Church will be held on Wednesday 11th December 3.30—5.45 pm at the Methodist Church when we will be 'Getting Ready' for Christmas and the coming of Jesus. If you really want to know why this is such a big event then come and join us and bring an adult - they might want to know as well. We'll be making all sorts of Christmassy things and will have some food together too.

In the Church, Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas is seen as a time of preparation. Just like everyone else there is a lot to do leading up to Christmas. But in the Church it is about preparing our selves for the biggest event ever. It was something that had been in the planning for a long time and then just at the right time God sent his son to earth to live his life amongst us and to set us an example to follow. In the hustle and bustle leading up to Christmas it is good to take some time to think just what Christmas means to you.

Jesus came to make right our relationship with God. Sending his son Jesus was really the only way it could be done. To show us just how much God loves us and to offer us forgiveness for all the things we have done wrong and the promise of eternal life. That sounds like the best present ever, but we have to accept the gift by receiving Jesus into our lives.

When you think of it like that then we might well need time to prepare our selves for all that Christmas means but it does mean we really can celebrate Christmas. Look out for the various events going on in the different churches and around the town and come and join in the celebrations.

Churches Together in Haydon Bridge would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas.

Deacon Anne Taylor

DECEMBER '13 AND JAN '14

My farewell party was fantastic. I wanted to say a big thank you to all of you for your generosity. I am enjoying making my little house into a home. I have been emptying boxes non-stop. There are six more to go! At last I can sort out the chaos and find where I have put things. I'll be able to display my cards and show some heart warming messages, photos and presents to my parents. My time in Tynedale is very precious and I thank all of you for allowing me to serve you all. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a peaceful 2014.

Judith Hampson

WHO AND WHERE

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

St Cuthbert's Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard
Tel. 01434 684307—message only

Deacon Anne Taylor
With the Methodist Congregation
Woodville, Redesmouth Road, Bellingham
Tel: 01434 220283

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

METHODIST CHURCH
CHRISTMAS FAYRE 7th Dec 2pm
Various stalls/tombola/teas/SANTA
All welcome—please come and join us.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2013

Sunday 22nd December
6.00pm United Village Carol Service
Methodist Church

Christmas Eve (Tuesday)
4.00pm United Crib Service, *Methodist Church*
9.30pm Christmas Carols, *St John's R.C. Church*
10.00pm Nativity Vigil Mass
St John's R.C. Church

See St. Cuthberts Noticeboard for Services

Christmas Day (Wednesday)
9.30am Mass of the Nativity of the Lord
St. John's R.C. Church
10am Christmas Family Service
Methodist Church

See St. Cuthberts Noticeboard for Services

**METHODIST CHURCH
SERVICES**

December 1

10.00am Reader's Service
6.00 pm Tony Buglass

December 8

10.00 am Family Service
Tom Dodds
incl. collection of toys
for Salvation Army
6.00pm Local Arrangement

December 15

10.00am Marie Hutchinson
6.00 pm Supt Tom Quenet
(Communion Service)

December 22

10.00am Keith Box
6.00 pm **United Village
Carol Service**

Deacon Anne Taylor

December 29

10.00am Local Arrangement
6.00 pm Rev. David Flavell

January 5

10.00am Graham Wilson
6.00pm Café Style
Worship Deacon A. Taylor

January 12

10.00 am Family Service
Deacon Anne Taylor
6.00 pm Kevin Williams

**BELTINGHAM/HENSHAW
CHURCH SERVICES**

December 1

Henshaw
9.30 am BCP Communion

December 8

*10.00 am Joint Service
At Haydon Bridge*

December 15

Henshaw
10.00am Joint Service of
Nine Carols and Readings

**PLEASE CHECK
ST. CUTHBERTS CHURCH
OUTSIDE NOTICEBOARD
FOR DETAILS OF
FUTURE SERVICES
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE.**

**Messy Church
At Methodist Church**

3.30 pm — 5.45 pm

Wednesday
11th December

Wednesday
8th January

**ST JOHN OF BEVERLEY
CHURCH SERVICES**

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am
Mass each Sunday at 11.00am at
Haltwhistle

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

**ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
SERVICES**

December 1

11.00 am BCP Communion

December 8

10.00 am Joint Service

December 15

*Joint Service of Nine Carols and
Readings at Henshaw*

**PLEASE CHECK
ST. CUTHBERTS CHURCH
OUTSIDE NOTICEBOARD
FOR DETAILS OF
FUTURE SERVICES
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE.**



HAYDON BRIDGE REMEMBERS

At 11.00am on the morning of Sunday 10th of November a large group of local people assembled at the Haydon Bridge War Memorial to commemorate the sacrifices made by the men and women of our armed services in all the wars and conflicts of the last century and this. This was the largest group attending the event that I can recall. There were those aged above one hundred and those still babes-in-arms, men and women, some uniformed but most not. It is very good that so many in our community make the effort to honour the dead.

Rev. John Harrison conducted the event.

Wreaths were laid, prayers and responses spoken, the names of the fallen recalled and a two minute silence observed.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

The Parish Council have had a bayonet on the war memorial temporarily fixed for Remembrance Sunday. Daniel Jackson of Lipwood has made good job.

Long term plan is to have the monument cleaned and have the bayonet permanently replaced for 2014 (grant application's are in progress).

NOTICES & WHAT'S ON?

HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB
HBUAFC hold their monthly meeting on the first **Monday** of every month at **7.30pm** in the Lounge of the **Anchor Hotel** where representatives of every football team in the village are invited to attend.
 This meeting is also open to members of the public.

WEST TYNEDALE JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 5yrs-12yrs
 TAG/CONTACT RUGBY
MEET AT HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
ON SUNDAYS 10.30am- 12.00noon
 Contact Dave on 07757362309
 or dave.thornhill@tiscali.co.uk or the website
www.pitchero.com/clubs/westtyndalejuniors.
ALL WELCOME.

THE BRIDGE LIBRARY & TOURIST INFORMATION POINT

Telephone 01434 688658

OPENING TIMES

MONDAY: 9.00am-12 noon
TUESDAY: 1.00pm-4.00pm
WEDNESDAY: 1.00pm-4.00pm
FRIDAY: 4.00pm-6.30pm
SATURDAY: 9.30am-12.30am

Coffee and tea available

HAYDON BRIDGE DANCE CLUB **SEQUENCE DANCING**



EVERY MONDAY
7.30 to 10.00pm
 Haydon Bridge
 Community Centre

Only £1.50 inc. tea & biscuits
DANCING IS FOR FUN

Ask for details at:
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Call **Leanne at:**
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82, Front St. Prudhoe.
NE42 5PU

Or
0167082234 (Bedlington)

COUNTERFEIT SIXTIES TRIBUTE BAND

6th December at 8.30pm

HAYDONIAN CLUB (tickets also from Havelock)
£10.00 in aid of the AIR AMBULANCE

HAYDON BRIDGE LOCAL ARTISTS' GROUP **HAYDON ART CLUB**

Open to all, first session free. Meets fortnightly at
 HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE
 Wednesdays, 6.30pm-9.15pm

The Art Group's next meetings are in the autumn

For details/enquiries please contact Barbara on
01434 688 886

HAYDON & ALLEN VALLEYS MEDICAL PRACTICE

(Haydon Bridge Health Centre)

Monday to Friday: The Health Centre is open continuously from 8.00am until 6.00pm
 (except for the afternoon of the **fourth** Wednesday of every month)

Doctors consult between: 8.00am and 11.00am
3.00pm and 5.30pm

All phone calls for appointments and visits, including 'out of hours': **01 434 684 216**

All phone calls for dispensing or prescriptions: **01434 688351**

E-mail address: **Admin@GP-A84045.NHS.UK**

Website **www.haydonbridgesurgery.co.uk**

THE MEETING PLACE

at THE METHODIST CHURCH
 Come and Join your friends for Coffee and Refreshments **Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am - 12 noon**
Warm welcome to all

ZUMBA!

Aerodance is a fun fitness dance class which is suitable for all abilities. Our class has both adults and teens. We have high and low impact options available. Every Monday night 6:15pm. Only £4.

HAYDON BRIDGE JUDO CLUB.
 Keep Fit, Have Fun! Young and Old welcome.
 On Tuesdays at Haydon Bridge High School
 Juniors: 6pm - 7pm
 Seniors: 7pm - 9pm
 BJA Qualified Coaches
 Contact Michael on: **01 434 684 783**

WHIST DRIVES
Langley Village Hall
 Fortnightly on Saturdays at 7.00pm.
 £1.00 entrance
 (Everyone welcome)

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

a great venue for club activities, meetings, celebrations, parties

To make a booking contact Valerie on 01434 684705

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB

Meetings are held in Haydon Bridge Methodist Church and commence at 7.15pm. Annual subscription is £15. Fee for non-members is £2 per meeting. Includes refreshments.

5th. Dec. Colin Scrutton

Orchids the art of seduction & deception.
2014

9th. Jan. Chris & Ian Hills

Blue chickens & Three Puffs of Smoke in New Zealand.

23rd. Jan. George Proud

Wildflowers, photography & folklore.

Further information please contact John DeStefano, Hon Sec. 01434683124 or the programme secretaries Hazel and David Hughes 01661843848.

SOLUTIONS TO NOVEMBER'S CROSSWORD. (87)

ACROSS

1. Blackpool
6. Impel
9. Australia
10. Plumb
12. Bonesetter
14. Steamier
15. Parrot
17. Abseil
19. Admitted
22. Precaution
23. Ludo
26. Raise
27. Plantains
28. Delft
29. Elemental

DOWN

1. Beano
2. Absolve
3. Kirk
4. Onlooker
5. Leader
6. Impresario
7. Poulter
8. Liberated
13. Ambivalent
14. Scampered
16. Advocate
18. Special
20. Tourist
21. Staple
24. Ousel

NUMBER OF ENTRIES

11—8 correct

LAST MONTH'S WINNER

Denis Bell

Entries in before the 20th
January 2014

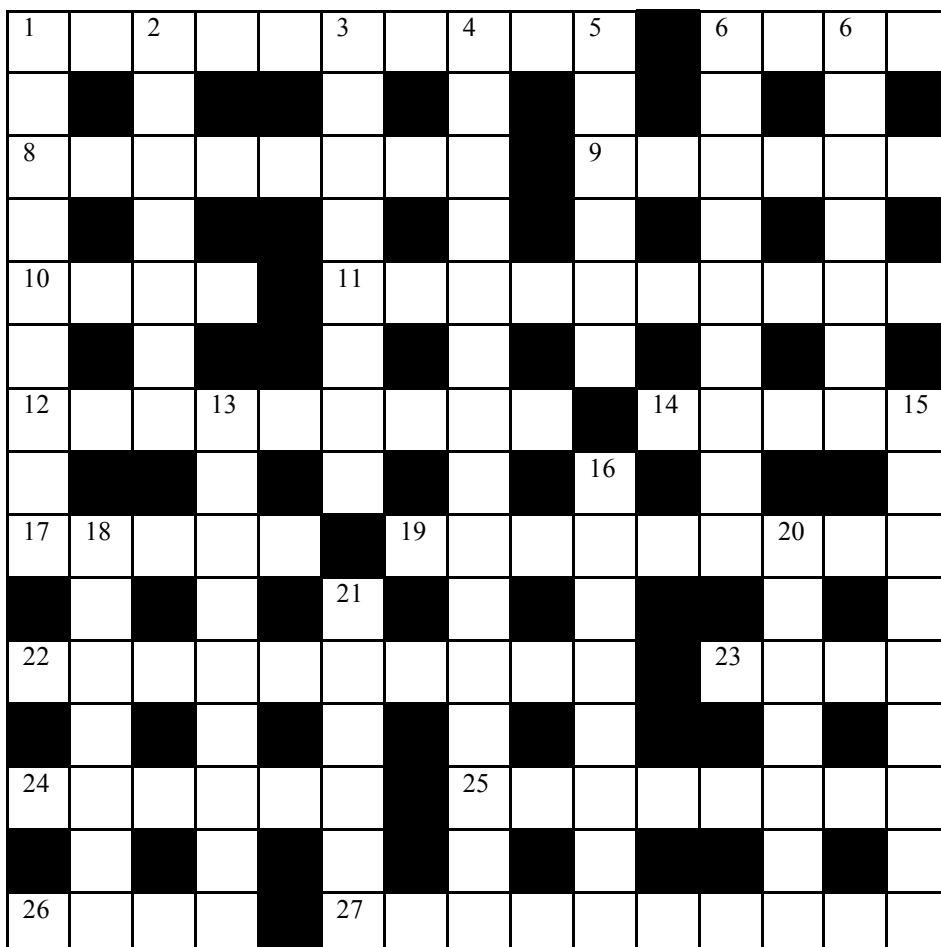
Please hand in your entry to
Claire's Newsagent or post to the
editors — see page 2.

The £10 Crossword

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

88



ACROSS

1. Order spies into the tank (10)
6. So great the screaming lord sounds (4)
8. Hear the college heavyweight in charge of moving plates (8)
9. Craft back to upper-class military academy is a shock (6)
10. Small particle for a cat (4)
11. International army? No. (10)
- 12 & 14. Sharp's ploy to find the lady? (5,4,5)
17. Ready stashed away. (5)
19. Takes responsibility for the roadsides (9)
22. Endurance of penne and cream concoction (10)
23. Nearly a house (4)
24. Five in gaze perish of cold. (6)

25. Big British Mini on the move, supping alcohol (8)
26. Shetland freehold in feudality (4)
27. Meat pounder is net back of French step (10)

DOWN

1. Purifier of Albigenian with twitch (9)
2. Relief from hearing that gullible person (7)
3. Publicly reject odd corn rune (8)
4. Hon. nine comprise bewilderment (15)
5. Let ten irk (6)
6. Splashed O'Connor back, full of sales talk (9)
7. River ahead of endless building blocks fabric (7)

13. A mere help becomes transient (9)
15. Henry embracing monarch (9)
16. Royal competition creates buzz (5,3)
18. Helped out in a Bette Davis film (7)
20. No friends see mine (7)
21. Introduce Rex to fashionable group (6)



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B&B EN SUITE ACCOMMODATION

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Book Group

Book group meets monthly in the Havelock on Thursdays at 8pm. We have been meeting for almost 4 years.

We read a variety of books from classics to recently published novels, most of which come from the resources section of Northumberland County Library service. It holds a large selection of sets of books specifically for book groups to borrow at no cost.

The discussions can cover a wide range of topics depending on what each book offers, and everyone has something they want to contribute. Even if everyone enjoyed the book (which doesn't happen very often), there is always plenty of interesting observations and often contentious points of view.

Our programme is already decided for the coming year, since there are now over 70 book groups in the county, and some titles are much in demand. We currently have 17 members on the list, though not everyone comes to every meeting. We have so far more or less managed to find books for everyone who wants them.

With so many people obviously interested in joining a book group, it would be good if another one could get off the ground on a different day and at a different time (during the day?). Not everyone can make the time to come on every 4th Thursday at 8pm.

If anyone would like some information about the resources available from county stock, and what a book group entails, I'm sure the very helpful volunteers in 'The Bridge' would be more than happy to assist you. There could be a 'Bridge Library Reading Group'! Alternatively, I'd be more than willing to share the information if you e-mail me on pat.hirst@northumberland.gov.uk.

Looking forward to hearing from you - and happy reading!
Pat Hirst

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to

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Saturday & Sunday 12.00noon-11.00pm

FOOD TIMES:

	Lunch	Dinner
Monday	Closed	Closed

Tues- Friday	12noon-2.00pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
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Saturday	12 noon-2.30pm	6.00pm-9.00pm
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Sunday	12noon-4.00pm	5.30pm-8.00pm
---------------	---------------	---------------

STEAK NIGHT 1st Tuesday of each month

Please call 01434 684338

email: cartsboginn@hotmail.co.uk

MUSINGS ON CIDER WITH ROSIE

The nine of us were all comfy and cosy discussing Lee's classic 'Cider with Rosie'. We'd all read the book, and for once we agreed, it was on the whole a fairly good read.

Lee's childhood was spent in the village of Slad, with his mother and siblings, but not his old dad, who sent money home to help with the basics while enjoying the highlife in disreputable places.

We read of Jones' goat who came in the night dragging his chains; they got such a fright! Of murders and rapes, playing doctors with Jo in secret, they thought, but it wasn't so. We learnt of two widows like chalk and like cheese, one of whom still went for relief in the trees. She was quite considerate, if a little deranged, always taking along her rusty old spade.

The bossy old teacher was lifted up, and left on a cupboard with a desperate cry, 'You'll pay for this, you wicked young men'. An incident never mentioned again.

Topical really, the old died of cold, of hunger and illness, it was part of the mould of life in a village in a far distant age, a more simple way portrayed on the page.

His story is touching and made us nostalgic, though life at the time was far from poetic. But young Lee found a comfort in Rosie and cider under a wagon, where he lay down beside her.

We're left to imagine that delicate sight—perhaps just as well for our book group night. **Ms. Lucretzia Mouseporridge.**

LANGUAGES ARE GOOD FOR YOU

Latin is a language
As dead as dead can be,
It killed off all the Romans
And now it's killing me.....

I'm sure that many of you will be familiar with that verse, it may bring back memories of dusty grammar books, endless vocab tests and pedantic teachers!

I have been teaching Latin and Greek in a variety of schools for nearly thirty years and I'm pleased to report that both languages are very much alive and well today – teaching techniques, particularly those which include the use of IT, have changed considerably over those years and there are even many on-line resources available.

But how relevant is the teaching of ancient languages for children today?

The study of Latin and Greek fosters precision in the use of words; Latin is read carefully and closely, often word by word, thus focusing one's attention on specific meanings. The habit of reading closely and with understanding is an important one to pick up at a young age – how many of us have been caught out by failing to read thoroughly the small print at the foot of an important document?!

Thanks to the emperor Hadrian, we are incredibly fortunate to live in an area rich in Roman heritage, and even a basic knowledge of the Latin language can enhance a visit to these places of enormous cultural importance.

The study of Latin has also been likened to a 'brain gym': the brain, like all organs of the body, requires regular exercise to keep it in shape, and the process involved in deciphering a Latin sentence can be a little like a serious work-out!

Some 60% of English words are derived from Latin and Greek roots and there is no doubt that a rudimentary knowledge of both languages increases vocabulary.....and can also be useful in solving crossword clues.

And for those of you who might doubt that Latin is alive and kicking – I have regular correspondence with colleagues and friends in Latin; in fact one of the easiest media on which to practise this art is Facebook!

More Classical musings to follow, if the editor allows.....

Mark Weldon

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Man walks in to a bar and asks the barmaid for a double entendre — so she gives him one.

Caesar walks into the bar and asks the barman for a Martinus. 'Do you mean a Martini?' asks the barman.

'When I want a double I'll ask for one!' growls Caesar.

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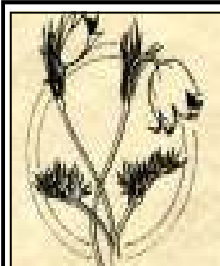


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email pat_haggie@homeopathy-soh.org



The Haydon Club Halloween Party

The winners were: 1st Little Dead Riding Hood. 2nd Baby Dracula. 3rd Purple Witch. 4th Little Devil



THE WEST TYNEDALE JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

18 years ago West Tynedale Junior Rugby Club was born, giving budding young rugby players in the area the opportunity to take their first steps with the oval ball. Now, with over 30 players registered with the RFU, flourishing links with neighbouring clubs and boosted by a brand new shirt sponsorship, the club is in good shape for the future.

Despite year-by-year fluctuation in player numbers, working alongside local schools and community coaches means the club now has children training and from the ages of five to 10 years. The club is committed to further expanding the age range to include U11 and U12 squads by the time the Rugby World Cup comes to England in 2015.

Unlike some bigger clubs, West Tyne embraces a friendly, family-run atmosphere, giving players an ideal environment for players to learn the basics of the game in a fun and healthy manner. Tag rugby provides the perfect springboard for the players to develop their skills on the pitch and only when they reach under nine level are they presented with a phased introduction to the contact aspect of the sport.

New players are welcomed all season round, with boys and girls of any ability from the ages of five to twelve encouraged to come along to training sessions which take place at the pitches at Haydon Bridge High School on a Sunday morning at 10:30. The sessions are run by a team of volunteer coaches, whose hard work and dedication has been invaluable in the clubs continued growth and development. Club Chairman and Coaching Coordinator Dave Thornhill is always on the look out for new coaches, with anybody from ex-players to those never to have played rugby before encouraged to get involved.

As like many other youth coaches in the area, Dave started out as a parent when he brought his son, Will, to a West Tyne training session and he is keen to encourage others to follow suit, with all new coaches receiving full backing from the club to take their level one and two coaching qualifications. The club play games throughout the season, both at home at Haydon Bridge High School and away at other side's grounds across Northumberland and at Carlisle and teams across the area also take it in turn to host cups and festivals during the season.

Players pay a season's subscription of £35 which includes a brand new shirt courtesy of the clubs new shirt sponsors The General Havelock. The club also regularly take the kids to the Newcastle Falcons to watch Premier League rugby and almost 40 players, coaches and parents made the trip to Murrayfield to enjoy the autumn international test match between Scotland and South Africa in November.

A lot of hard work has gone into creating a real sense of excitement around the club, with special mentions to Dave and his coaches, parents, players, Gary & Jo at the General Havelock and Haydon Bridge High School for the support in using their facilities.

Anybody who would like any more info can contact Dave on 07757362309 or at dave.thornhill@tiscali.co.uk or can visit the clubs website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/westtynedalejuniors.

With thanks from everyone involved with Haydon Bridge Playgroup & Tiny Tots"

For over 30 years, Haydon Bridge Playgroup and Tiny Tots has been at the heart of village life. Our sessions provide local pre-school children with an exciting journey of learning through play from birth to 3 years old. Utilising the fantastic facilities within Haydon Bridge Fire Station we have a huge range of toys, games, arts and crafts, our own library and a great outdoor area to entertain even the most demanding pre-schoolers. We are a non-profit making organisation run by a voluntary committee and rely heavily on local fundraising.

We have survived another financially challenging year thanks to the generosity of so many people connected to our village. Firstly, we would like to thank Cllr. Alan Sharp for his personal donation given so readily. We would also like to show our appreciation to Karen Roberts and her playground team, the Haydon Bridge Co-op and the Shaftoe Educational Foundation for on-going support which secures the provision of a playgroup learning experience for the next year. We would also like to thank Steven Newman for designing, creating and managing our wonderful new website at his own expense, www.haydonbridgeplaygroup.co.uk

And finally, one other important group of people that we need to thank is Haydon Bridge Cricket Club, who each year work so hard to organise, manage and raise funds through their annual Duck Race. Please remember to buy your ducks again this year and in doing so support our local pre-schoolers.

We need new people (and not necessarily parents) to help with the management and governance of Playgroup (in a voluntary capacity).

HAYDON BRIDGE PLAYGROUP & TINY TOTS.

TINY TOTS from Birth upwards

Tiny Tots sessions run on Thursday mornings, from 9.15 to 11.15 at Haydon Bridge Fire Station. These sessions are for parents and carers of young children and provide an opportunity for a coffee & chat, whilst the children play. Cost: £1.50 per family and includes a drink & biscuit.

PLAYGROUP - From 2 years

Playgroup runs on Monday and Friday mornings from 9.15 to 11.15 at Haydon Bridge Fire Station

The sessions give children a chance to learn through play and to experience lots of different activities. Playgroup is lead by a fully qualified Playgroup Leader & assistant(s). Cost per session is £6.00

HB Playgroup is a member of Pre-School Learning Alliance.

For more information on the above sessions or an informal chat please contact Jenna Martin 01434 688238

A native American Indian has three wives. The first he makes love to on a horse skin, the second on a bearskin and the third on a hippopotamus skin. All three fall pregnant. The first wife bears him a son, the second a daughter. The third produces twins a boy and a girl. This proves that the sum of the squaws on the other two hides is equal to that on the hippopotamus.

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CREATIVE & LOCAL

A short story by Euphemia Whaletrouser.

An enormous change in our circumstances necessitated a move from the Big City to Haydon Bridge.

I had only ever seen the place once and that was driving through at speed (sorry if you can still recall a noisy blur as this woman shot past your home in 1983) long before the bypass was ever built.

So my memory of it was based on that; a 10 second, thirty year old glimpse taking in a church, river and oh-oh speed camera. Too late.... braaaaaake!!

My teenage son - even more reluctant at moving to the village than I was - described us as "The Jetsons only in reverse". I have no idea who they are but I'm guessing it's not the Flintstones. I Googled the name Haydon Bridge and up came the words Library & Tourist Board.

My son groaned and asked about nightclubs. Oh dear; a hardback borrowed copy of Chekhov's Uncle Vanya was never going to have the same lure as ten rounds of Jäger-Bombs. And if you need to ask what they are then like me, you are Too Old!

The day of the move came. Reduced circumstances meant reduced possessions so we engaged Man-With-Very-Small-Van. We left the A69 and most of the 21st century behind and here we were.

I left husband and son to unpack our few belongings as I set off to explore with a heavy heart and a closed mind. "I'm just going to check out all the facilities - so should be back in 10 minutes" I called.

"See if you can find a Starbucks Mum" yells first-born adding; "If you do I'll have a double shot half-and-half skinny hazelnut latte machiatto. With extra cream and sprinkles....".

Mrs. Jetson-in-reverse knew this was as likely as finding Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo having a kickabout on Haydon Bridge Sports ground.

My walk took me past open fields, rickety wooden fences, stone cottages whereupon a blackened Coal Merchants truck rolled by and a train whistled on the bend. It was like a scene from Heartbeat. As I rounded the corner onto the High Street my spirits sank. I counted four shops. Whilst I wasn't exactly expecting anything to rival the Metrocentre, I did wonder in that minute how woman-without-car was going to manage with only 4 shops. None of which by the way, was a Starbucks.

It was starting to rain (now there's a surprise) so I ran towards the first store. 'Family Butcher' it said above the dark green door.

Family Butcher - whassat? I thought to myself, reared on Tesco's homogenised plastic meat counter. The door opened and it hit me. A wonderful smell of freshly baked pies. In I shot. Well, it would be rude not to! There displayed in full glory were pies of all description, shapes and sizes. Chicken & gravy pies, chicken & vegetable, steak & onion, minced beef, on and on. My oh my. Who needs Harvey Nichols with pies like these? But which to choose?

Then from the back through a cloud of steam emerged a Goddess carrying a tray. Piled high were gorgeous, golden brown, hand-made, proper pork pies. My new diet and heavy heart both evaporated as I ordered 4 of the little beauties. Yup, the Family Butchers were my kind of family!

Returning home to my own family I pushed open the door. On a pile of still-to-be-hung curtains sat a glum trio of husband, son and dog surveying the oh so small surroundings, in stark contrast to our previous magnificent house.

"Hi love, any luck?" asked husband mournfully.

"Hi Mum, any latte?" intoned son miserably.

"Woof!" barked Spot forlornly.

I triumphantly slapped my Family Butcher bag on the Formica worktop.

"No latte. Only freshly made roasted pork pies. And they're still hot!"

Dog, husband and son shot into the kitchen in that order. We didn't need plates and in any case we didn't know where they were. We grabbed a piece of kitchen towel each and sat back on the curtains. As we bit in to the warm, scrumptious pies I figured life in the village-that-time-forgot wasn't going to be too bad after all.

An itsy-bitsy teeny-weeny jokette.

Einstein, Newton, and Pascal are hanging out one afternoon. Einstein is bored, so he suggests, "Let's play hide-and-seek. I'll be it!"

The others agree, so Einstein begins counting. "One... Two... Three..."

Pascal runs off right away to find a place to hide. But Newton merely takes out a piece of chalk and draws a mid-sized square. He finishes and steps into the square just as Einstein shouts, "Ready or not -- here I come!"

Einstein looks up and immediately spots Newton standing in front of him. He says, "I found you, Newton!"

Newton replies, "No, you found one Newton per square meter -- You found Pascal!"

A WRITER'S GROUP

What about a new Writer's Group in Haydon Bridge?

Some time ago there was the Rainbow Writer's Group, led by Sylvia Mitchell, but that has been inactive for a while. Perhaps the time has arrived for a new group to form—new people, new ideas, new opportunities.

There is already a number of people who write professionally in the village and many more who burst in to prose or poesy at intervals. An email has arrived at The Haydon News HQ from a published author, proposing the formation of a group:

I am looking for like-minded people who would be interested in a writing group in Haydon Bridge and the surrounding areas. If you are interested in writing and making friends with similar interests, please contact Natalie at natalienera@yahoo.com.

Besides welcoming another newcomer to the village, I think this initiative represents a very useful development in our community.

I can promise in advance that we would be delighted to reserve space in The Haydon News for such a group. 400 words to a column or thereabouts, 12 point Times New Roman, 4 point inter paragraph spaces please.

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AN IMPORTANT REQUEST FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

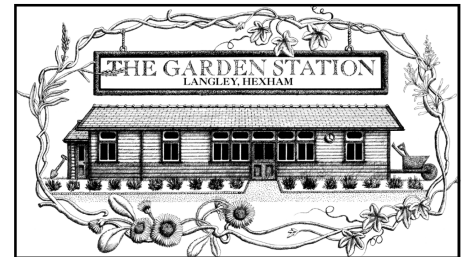
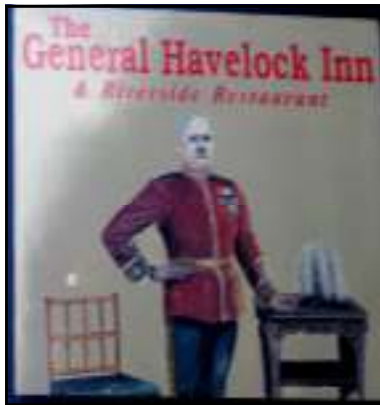
Could people who are not attending services at St Cuthbert's Church please park their cars elsewhere on Sundays and when other services such as weddings and funerals are taking place.

Over recent weeks elderly members of the congregation have been unable to park in the Church car park causing them great difficulty.

While we do not have our own Vicar we will be having visiting Clergy who will need to be able to park near the Church. We would be grateful for your co-operation with this matter.

Thank you. St Cuthbert's PCC

SEASONS GREETINGS TO ONE AND ALL FROM THE PROPRIETORS AND STAFFS OF ALL THE LOCAL PUBS, CLUBS AND HOTELS.



Christmas Fayre starts **2nd Dec.**
10 % discount for local groups.
Christmas puddings for sale.

10th Quiz Josies Dragonfly.

17th Pensioner's Lunch, book early

Christmas day 11.30-5

26th/27th/28th/29th 12-4 7-12

30th 7-12

31st 12-4 7-12

Fizz Quiz

fire works quiz starts 10.30

Jan 1st 12-4 7-12 BAR ONLY

Jan 7th Quiz Tynedale Hospice

25th January Burns Night Sat
£6 per head.

Feb 4th Quiz Haydon News

March 4th Quiz Breast Cancer
Awareness Campaign (Wear-it-
Pink Queenie Quiz)

Thanks for all your support this year

Complimentary Pensioners' Lunch at
the General Havelock. An annual event
provided **free of charge** by Gary and
Joanna to Haydon Parish pensioners.
Tuesday **December 17th from noon.**
Including 'joyous' carol singing round the
piano. Bookings must be made at the
General Havelock or telephone Jo on
01434 684376.

Christmas Fayre Menu throughout
December. Please call to book your
table.

Private function room on request.

Saturday 14th December

Cracking Christmas Party; free fes-
tive sparkly shot to all party revel-
lers, Christmas Cocktails, Disco9
'til late.

Christmas Day lunch

12 - 3pm (only a few spaces left)

Adults £40, Children £15

Boxing Day

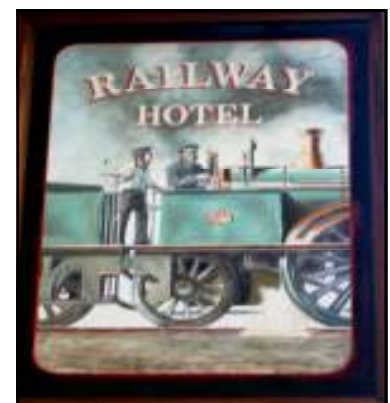
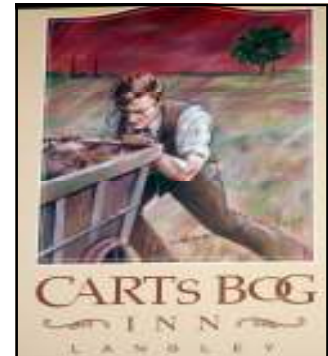
see the spectacle of the Haydon
Hunt, Bar open 9 am Complimen-
tary canapés.

New Years Eve

Address the haggis with our piper
10pm, complementary haggis neeps
and tatties. See in the New Year
with a glass of sparkly or nip at
midnight with our compliments.

New Years Day

Legendary all day Hangover break-
fast served 12 - 6 (full menu also
available)



The Allendale Forge Gallery Shop

www.allendaleforgestudios.co.uk

email@allendaleforgestudios.co.uk

01434 683975



The Allendale Forge Gallery Shop is expanding, offering even more handmade, high quality affordable arts and crafts by local businesses. Visit our OPEN studios where you can chat with artists and see them working.

Dec 17th is the

Allendale Market Square late night shopping event.

We are offering 10% off selected crafts, jewellery and art-work for one night only. Open from 9am to 9pm. There is a carol service and Santa on his sledge, from 6pm. The Forge cafe is offering lots of festive treats and free puddings with a glass of warm mulled wine - while they last!

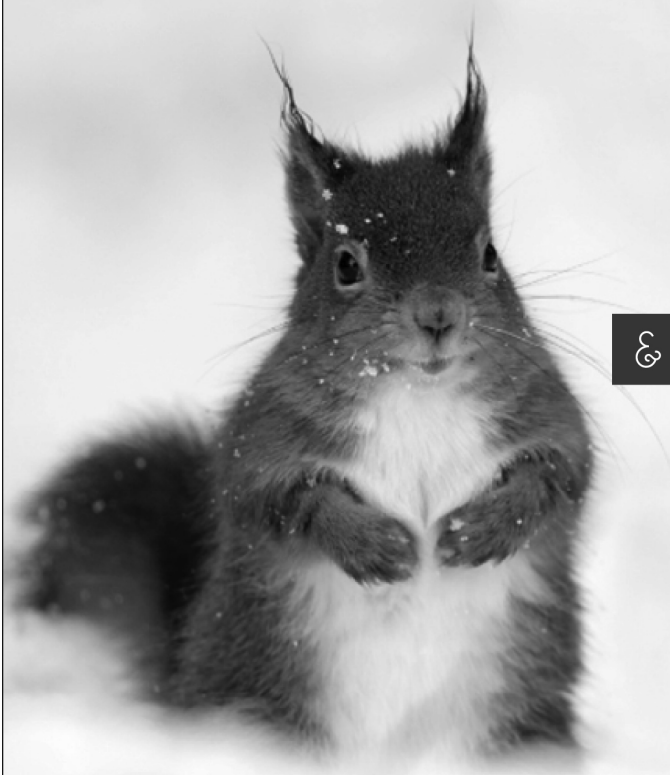


NEW WINTER WORKSHOPS

Book your place and let your creativity fly. We also offer Gift Vouchers so what would be nicer than a gift of learning a new skill with likeminded people to chat with.

**Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year
to all our Customers.**

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Haydonian Social Club

Shaftoe Street, Haydon Bridge, HEXHAM. Northumberland. NE47 6BQ

A SOCIAL CLUB FOR EVERYONE- CALL IN AND SEE OUR FACILITIES FOR YOURSELVES

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

Friday 6 th December 2013	Charity night in aid of G.N.A.A with fabulous live show 'The Counterfeit SIXTIES' at 8.30p (Ticket only) £10 each from General Havelock or at this club
Saturday 14 th December 2013	XMAS FAMILY PRIZE BINGO eyes down @7.30pm. Come along and have fun- you could be a winner!
Wednesday 18 th December 2012	BINGO + MEAT VOUCHERS EYES DOWN @ 8.30pm.
Saturday 21 st December 2013	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY 1.30pm.to 4.30pm. (list for names behind bar –before 7 th Dec.2011) REMEMBER SANTA WILL BE CALLING!!! (He could be early)
DATE TO BE ARRANGED DURING DECEMBER	CHARITY NIGHT IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH & MARIE CURIE- Great entertainment With LOCAL BAND –'KALOOKI' (Watch for posters around the village)
Sunday 22 nd December 2013	BINGO +WINE & CHOCOLATES 8.00pm + KEY DRAW 10.00pm (Draw tickets on sale until 9.30pm only)
Tuesday(XMAS EVE) 24 th December 2013	BINGO eyes down 8pm. Try and win some money for Christmas.
Wednesday(XMAS DAY) 25 th December 2013	OPENING AT NIGHT 8pm to 11pm. Come and have some Xmas cheer!
Thursday 26 th December 2013	BINGO + CASH ADDED Eyes down 8.30pm
Sunday 29 th December 2013	BINGO 8.00pm + KEY DRAW 10.00pm (Draw tickets on sale until 9.30pm only)
Tuesday (NEW YEAR'S EVE) 31 ST December 2013	Come and welcome the New Year In with fun at your club
Wednesday (NEW YEAR'S DAY) 1 st January 2014	HAPPY NEW YEAR! Open all afternoon and night til late. Welcome 2014 and Celebrate with us! +NORMAL BINGO at 8.30pm.
WEEKLY BINGO SESSIONS Everyone welcome to come along and enjoy a friendly so- cial night.	Every Wednesday eyes down 8.30pm. Every Sunday eyes down 8pm. Final flyer is all monies paid out approx.£50 + The more people that come the bigger the payouts.
LOCAL GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS	Have a fund raising disco/party here and get 5% of the Concert Room takings towards your funds at the same time as enjoying yourselves.
Membership subs are now due for 2014 Still only £2.00 each.	Join our Social Club for only £3 and take advantage of our cheaper prices for alcohol and have free hire of the Concert Room for parties.

*The Committee and members of Haydonian Social Club send everyone best wishes for
Christmas & the New Year*