



THE HAYDON NEWS

Photo: Aron Mazel



JULY 2015



On-line: www.haydon-news.co.uk

Editor: Steve Ford

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Photo: Aron Mazel

THE HAYDON NEWS
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More explanation and an advert next month.

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sary.

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lished. A *nom-de-plume* may be used if the Edi-
tors know the author's name and address.

ADOXOGRAPHY



There's so much happening around the village at present! Scruffy and unkempt sites are now being built on, potholes are being filled in and village events are proving very successful. It's all very encouraging.

Tait's Yard and the West End Joinery site are rapidly developing, which will dramatically improve the appearance of both locations as well as providing much additional housing.



The picture is somewhat complicated by the existence of a small number of Mary Celeste type houses close to the new developments, which have been, as far as I can tell, empty for many years, despite being first class properties to outward appearance. Very mysterious!



The battle against potholes is endless but Cllr. Sharp's efforts have extended as far as the road up to the Lonnen from Standalone. Some of the holes on this road were epic in scale but now are gone.

It is good to see work progressing on the new bridge over the railway from the estate too. This will dramatically improve safety.

A huge field of entrants turned up for the Haydon Hundred. Such an acreage of taut rippling Lycra! Such mighty thews, bulging lallies and other impressive body parts... This is turning into a major annual event now and attracting entrants from all over.

Many congratulations to all of those involved in whatever capacity and the very best wishes for future developments of the event.

A nice Thank You to Ms. Shirley Brennan for her kind gift to the community of a handsome willow tree. All six feet or so of it are nestling elegantly on my front drive at present, awaiting a decision about where best to plant it. The Parish Council has some ideas but if anyone wishes to propose a site they are most welcome to be in touch.

Free beer seems to be the most effective means of ensuring attendance at the occasional meetings of the Friends of Haydon Bridge committee. All those who have paid their subscription are always welcome at the meetings of course too. Peter Parker has taken it upon himself to decide when future meetings will occur and he is now the official Haydon News diary keeper.

At a recent packed meeting (!) a decision was taken to simplify things enormously by calling the group that produces The Haydon News by the same name as the publication. We are very keen to welcome new members to the committee, new contributors and advertisers to the magazine and, from time to time, new distributors of the magazine around the community. Do be in touch if you would like to join in in any way - and don't forget the free beer.

At the conclusion of the most recent meeting the committee members lurched out into Ratcliffe Road and were last seen weaving uncertainly amongst the evening traffic. Its a hard life in the fourth estate.

Suggestions for developing the magazine, that had been aired during the meeting, included: a "hatched, matched and dispatched" section, for sale and wanted ads, "free to a good home" ads, notice of and reports from any and all local organisations and events, opinion pieces, rants, polemics, poems, short stories, photos of things of relevance or interest locally, a youth section, a women's section, hobbies and pastimes, artworks, veterinary/dental/fire/police/CAB/WI/MU items, recipes, 'Wot I did on my Holidays', gardening... So many possibilities.

Do join in with The Haydon News - this is your community magazine and it depends on you for content and support.

Steve Ford

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

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A meeting of The Haydon Parish Council was held in the Community Centre at 7.30pm on 28th May 2015.

Public Participation

The council was informed that the minutes of the evening's meeting would be held over for publication in the following month's Haydon News due to changes in the printing arrangements.

The Vicar mentioned that during the Tour of Britain, that is due to happen on 10th September, he is very keen for the Church yard to be used for any and every useful purpose. Liaison on the matter was offered.

The fate of Haydon Bridge High School was the subject of a very extended discussion, as befits its importance to the community. At present it is in 'special measures' and its future dependent upon central government rather than not the local authority. The threat of closure was deemed to be severe and the impact upon the community to be very concerning. The parish council was urged in the strongest terms to take steps to secure the school's future.

That the circumstances leading to the imposition of special measures had been engineered covertly over recent years seemed to some present to be unanswerable. The impact upon the community and local businesses, should the school close, would be very severe. The complex antecedent events, over a period of about four years, were rehearsed for the benefit of those present.

The whole parish was urged most strongly to write or email to their MP, the Local Education Authority and the Secretary of State.

A wide ranging discussion followed during which overwhelming support was expressed for the school, the students, the staff and the erstwhile governors. The parish council agreed to add its weight to the correspondence to the relevant people.

Apologies

Were accepted.

Declarations of Interest

Were sought.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Were agreed.

Election of Chair and Vice-chair

The incumbents consented to continue in post.

NCC

Cllr. Sharp reported that there were now 4 area committees but only one planning committee which functioned in Morpeth.

The problem of the bins outside The Anchor was to be further investigated. The lines outside the Co-op and on Shaftoe Street are in hand, as are the drainage improvements near Shaftoe School. Potholes on the road to Threepwood, Church Street, Shaftoe Street are mended.

The A69 has been litter picked recently and drainage has been improved on the Allerwash road.

A one hour parking restriction during daylight hours for the parking bay to the east of the village is under consideration.

Highways

New bins by The Club and at the West End are agreed but installation details are to be settled. The installation of white lines at Land Ends Road are incomplete due to a parked car but rectification is in hand. The overhang of a sign at this junction creates a problem for large vehicles and it will be adjusted.

Lighting

A light near The Haydon Hotel needs repair.

Planning

Tait's Yard section 106 discharge - Objection.
4 dwellings to west of Innerhaugh - Objection.

Accounts

Agreed.

Correspondence

Road Link report received.

The possibility of buying specified plots in the cemetery ahead of need was raised. The council chose to maintain the existing rules after a discussion.

Parish Projects

Development Trust and The Bridge continue a main. The parish archive continues to grow and the Haydon Hundred and the September event are very successful.

Grave digger - progress being made.

Defibrillator - progress being made.

AOB.

Old Bridge free of dog faeces! Hurrah!

A meeting of The Haydon Parish Council was held in the Community Centre at 7.30pm on 25th June 2015.

Public Participation

None.

Apologies

Received.

Declarations of interest

Invited.

Minutes of previous meeting

Agreed.

NCC

Consultations about Shaftoe Street arrangements are still awaited.

The drain at Shaftoe School Bank remains to be dealt with.

A meeting with parents at HBHS on 9th June was reported. The meeting was very well attended. It is possible that a sponsor has now been found but that remains to be confirmed. A large catalogue of planned changes has been developed. It is emphasised most strongly that the school is not closing.

Highways

It was reported that the bin at the Ratcliffe Road end of the old bridge has been completely destroyed and that the culprit may have been recorded on local security cameras. A completely new bin is going to be needed. It is proposed that the police be requested to treat this a crime to be formally investigated.

Lighting

Nothing to report.

Planning

Alterations at 49 Strother close - no objections.

Accounts

Agreed.

Correspondence

Haltwhistle swimming and leisure centre has been open for 40 years and its finances are currently precarious. The Haydon Parish Council has been invited to consider making a donation to the centre in recognition of the usage made by residents of this parish.

Following a discussion it was agreed that help with a specific capital project would be the preferred option.

The wild flower meadow in the cemetery has taken a step closer with the ploughing and seeding of the area nominated.

The War Memorial's new bayonet has been given as a gift by its maker Dan Jackson. The parish council offered grateful thanks for this very kind gesture.

The recent fun fair on the field to the west of the estate has been enjoyed by many of the young people

of the parish but its presence has not been without some troubles. The field fence was removed to give access and the livestock allowed to escape. It has been discovered that Smiths Gore are the agents and The Greenwich Hospital the owners.

One of the nearby residents described the situation as 'three days of hell'. The proposal was made that a letter of complaint be drafted to send to the agents and owners.

Parish Projects

The Development Trust's recent Haydon Hundred has been an even bigger success than the previous year. Despite the windy weather there were no injuries reported. It is anticipated that a profit will be forthcoming.

The Bridge is continuing happily.

The Shaftoe Green Play Area equipment has been reported to be damaged and/or worn. Cllr. Ridley has been to investigate and reports that significant repairs and possibly replacement will be required in the next year or two. It is proposed that a craftsman be engaged to further assess the situation.

Negotiations with the Haltwhistle councillors have resulted in the Haydon parish agreeing to subcontract their grave digger as required at £350.00 per grave.

Repairs to the Riverside path to the west of the north end of the old bridge are envisaged.

On Thursday Sept. 10th between 11.00 and 11.40am (approx) The Tour of Britain will be going through the village. A full description with a map of the route will follow in next month's Haydon News. The affected roads will be closed to all traffic and all cars parked there will be towed away.

An NCC representative will be invited to address the council next month.

The problems at Willow Gap continue with a caravan settlement having been present for some time. The matter is now in the hands of lawyers and a site visit is proposed. In due course a planning enforcement notice may be served.

The willow tree that has been donated is in safe custody and will be planted when a site has been chosen.

Cllr. Sharp offered to help with the cost of the proposed bus shelter on Ratcliffe Road. The planters and hanging baskets around the village are to be offered help with maintenance if required.

It was noted that the Community Centre windows need cleaning. SF will chase this up.

Next meeting of The Haydon Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on 23rd of July 2015.

I continue my notes from the Home Front during the Second World War; 1939-1945.

(My Great War (1914-18) 'Home Front' records, from August 1917, are continued on page 8.)

By the end of 1939, and following the declaration of war on Germany by the UK on September 3rd, our Haydon Bridge folks' fears that the German bombs, paratroopers and clouds of poisonous gas would fill the skies from Humbleton to Haydon fells, came to nought. In our parish, the residents settled down to a period of 'Phoney War'; and my dad and mam's gas masks, that had been carried religiously for a month or two, ended up in the bottom of the wardrobe.

There were changes, of course:

Soldiers training for action were billeted at Langley Castle, in the Town Hall, in the Wesleyan Church Hall, and in nissen huts on the 'show field'.

Our road signs were removed or turned, to confuse any invaders.

Blinds were drawn and lamps dimmed - the Co-op purchased a rear light for the errand boy's bicycle, but, he was told: "Do not switch it on at night!"

Boys and girls from Newcastle and Gateshead, who had never before set eyes on a cow or a sheep, were adjusting to life in the countryside.

And, mothers, wives and sweethearts worried that their sons and young men would leave home never to return.

There were changes, but stoic Haydonians, resigned to their fate whatever it might be, did their best to carry on as normal.

In November 1939, a Central Methodist Church sale of work at Haydon Bridge raised £145 and 'Poppy Day' collections by members of the Haydon Bridge branch of the British Legion totalled £27-4s-9d.

Store Dividend: The half year report and balance sheet of the Haydon Bridge Co-op showed sales of £16,271-7s-8d. This was an increase of £1,126 on the corresponding period in 1938. A dividend of 2/6 in the £ was paid to 800 members.

Gallantry: The gallant and successful efforts of two Haydon Bridge men, in rescuing two boys aged nine and ten from drowning in the River Tyne near Clara Vale cricket ground on June 17th, were recognised in Mr Stoddart's Town Hall Cinema on November 4th 1939, when George Hector Sim of 'Springfield' and Edward (Ted) Raine of 'Riverdale' were presented with certificates from the Royal Humane Society.

A Dying Provision: The Haydon Bridge hearse fund showed a balance of £9-4s-3d. The hearse had been used on only five occasions in 1939.

Cyril Stuart Clemitson - Merchant Navy

The steamship 'Dalryan' was sunk by a mine a few miles off the south-east coast on December 1st 1939. The thirty eight crew members and the pilot were all saved and one of the survivors was Haydon Bridge's Cyril Stuart Clemitson; the only son of Thomas and Mary Stuart Clemitson (nee Curry) of Brigwood. The Dalryan was due to dock at a British port after being away from home waters for ten months during which time it covered 50,000 miles, calling at ports in China, Japan and India. Cyril left an account of his survival, published in the *Hexham Courant* on December 9th 1939.

'I was down below in my cabin, having forty winks before preparing to get the landing gear ready. I was aroused from my sleep by a terrifying noise. The metal side of the ship was ripped like so much paper. Metal spars and other heavy deck materials were thrown into the air. Those who were unfortunate enough to be on deck were blown clean off their feet, several sustaining broken bones. I was thrown from my bed and my cabin was totally shattered, my portable radio, wardrobe and other furnishings being turned to matchwood. Broken glass was strewn all over the cabin and the contents of the drawers were scattered. The electric current was cut off, together with all radio communications.

I groped around for my torch and lifebelt and ran up on deck where we re-rigged the radio mast and our wireless operator got the radio going again.'

Once on deck, there was a second explosion and Second Officer Clemitson and his shipmates had to take cover from the falling pieces of wreckage.

'The ship by this time had gone down bow first, my cabin being one of the first places submerged, and before we left in the ship's boats she was half under water.'

Fortunately, the coastguards had seen the ship's plight and the crew and pilot hadn't been in the ship's boats for long before they were picked up and landed on shore.

Sadly, Cyril was not so fortunate in August 1943. By then a Chief Officer, he lost his life when his ship the SS Dalfram, was torpedoed in the Indian Ocean.

Cyril Stuart Clemitson went to sea in 1931 after leaving Hexham Grammar School and gained his First Mate's Certificate in June 1938 and, at the time of the Dalryan incident, was completing his training before entering for his skipper's ticket. Before going to sea, Cyril was a member of St Cuthbert's Church choir and actively involved with the 1st Haydon Bridge Boy Scouts, leading the troop to the World Jamboree at Birkenhead in 1929.

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Thomas Pearson: Obituaries written in November on the death of Haydon Bridge's ex Quartermaster Sergeant Thomas Pearson (76), recalled memories of his fascinating career in the army. Thomas Pearson joined up aged eighteen and spent six years in his home country and Ireland before a term in India. From India he went to China where he took part in quelling the 'Boxer' rebellion, in which a Chinese secret society of athletic young men, practiced in the art of martial arts, turned against missionaries and Chinese Christians. Sergeant Pearson returned to India before sailing to South Africa when hostilities broke out with the Boers who were seeking to escape British rule. At the end of the conflict, he returned again to India where he completed his service before returning to England and home in 1908.

On the outbreak of the Great War, in 1914, Sergeant Pearson was one of the first in Haydon Bridge to be recalled to the colours.

Two of Thomas Pearson's sons served in the Great War, in the Machine Gun Corps; as did his daughter, firstly in the Women's league and then the W.A.A.C.



Sgt. Thomas Pearson
Photo Hexham Courant

January 8th 1940 introduced Haydon residents to war time rationing of butter, bacon, ham (4 ounces/week); and sugar (12 ounces).

Supplementary sugar supplies were available for:

- Members of the public who made marmalade - this being the season for the domestic preserving of oranges.
- For those who kept bees and needed winter feed.
- For those buying meals away from home without parting with any coupons.
- And, sugar could be supplied with purchases of tea.

Lights Out: Haydon Bridge's PC Scott continued his 'war' on un-obscured lights in the village and Elsie Ann Burns of 'St Aidans', Belmont Gardens, was fined £1 in January 1940 at Hexham, for a light that PC Scott said could be seen through her window blind, 'from a considerable distance'.

Nor Any Drop to Drink (again): The failure of the Haydon Bridge water supply continued to be a major issue for the parish council, when higher parts of the village were without water for eight days in January 1940. (*Earlier problems of a similar nature were described in my Notes published last month.*)

The problem was caused by burst pipes and a great increase in the population due to the presence of the military. It was agreed to make a connection into a tank at Chesterwood - if a spring could be found to feed it - to supplement the supply from Elrington.

1939 and Me: Born in 1941, my only connection with 1939 was my first car; a 4 door black Morris 10 Series M, with a JR number plate, a starting handle, a sun roof, and even a heater - after I had connected a length of two inch copper pipe with hoses to and from the radiator and fixed it below the shelf under the dash board.

Engineering has never been my strong point, but a seventeen year old car owner's financial austerity meant adjusting tappets, plugs and points, replacing gaskets, and understanding the inner workings of an SU carburettor were soon second nature; while a Haynes car maintenance manual and a large tin of jellied Swarfega became my close companions.

I bought my Morris 10 for an 'expensive' £85, after passing my driving test in 1958, and paid for it out of my £2:10 shillings weekly wage as an apprentice joiner. I say it was 'expensive', when recalling that my college friends at Newcastle, John Johnston of Gateshead and Michael Elliott of Winlaton, bought their Ford 8 cars from dealers on Blenheim Street for £15. *(I wonder where John and Michael are now? Maybe they'll read this piece on the world wide web and get in touch.)*

I paid more for my motor because I knew its history. I knew where it had been and I knew, for example, that my passengers couldn't lift the gear stick out of its mounting when we were waiting at traffic lights or during a journey, and refuse to return it. A trick we used to play that always caused much merriment when we travelled as teenagers through the town in Michael's Blenheim Street banger. I knew where my 1939 Morris 10 'had been', but ... I wasn't aware that one of the 'careful owners' had been a certain Mr Charlton, whose fast driving and ability to go round ninety degree corners on two wheels was legendary locally - a qualification required to open a driving school in Hexham in later years, perhaps?

So, owning an automobile on £2:10 shillings a week was a strain on financial resources but, nevertheless, worth every penny and, at a cost of eighteen shillings for four gallons of petrol - paid for out of my twenty one shillings a week fee as a retained fireman at Haydon Bridge - my Morris 10 introduced Jeff, Joe, John, Leonard, Raymond, Eddie, et al and me to new haunts, north, south, east and west of Haydon Bridge where there were fresh pubs, clubs, dance floors and girls to explore!

Happy happy days!

Wonderful memories, tinged with sadness only in that not all my friends are here today to share them.



A black 1939 Morris 10 Series M, the first car I owned, that sold for £198 when it was first manufactured in 1939.

Goodbye to the Regiment: Before they left for another posting in January 1940, the CO, officers and men of a regiment stationed at Haydon Bridge, entertained the children at Shaftoe Trust School as a token of the kindness shown by the residents during their stay. According to Nanna Veasy and Thomas Armstrong; 'the departure of the regiment (was) viewed with genuine regret as, by their courteous behaviour, they had won many friends'.

More about the 1939-1945 'Home Front' in our parish next month, but I return here to continue my 'Home Front' series during the Great War.

August 1917: Two deaths recorded in the village in August were those of George Harding, on the 10th, and Mathew Kirton, whose funeral was on the 16th of August.

George Harding of Shaftoe Terrace, the husband of Jane, died in his 64th year. A native of Bardon Mill, George worked for the North-Eastern Railways from 1869 for a period of forty eight years, coming to Haydon Bridge as a signalman in the west cabin in 1891, a position he held until March 1917 when he retired due to ill health. *(Did you know Haydon Bridge had both west **and** east signal boxes?)*

Mathew Kirton died at Newburn, to where he had moved from Haydon Bridge on his retirement.

Mathew's place in our parish history is significant through a partnership and the management of the Haydon Bridge Whinstone and Ganister Quarry at West Mill Hills. The whinstone works were opened officially in 1902 and for ganister in 1916 and they were operable until 1920, after which the parish council acquired the abandoned quarry for use as a refuse tip. When the tip closed, the whole area was filled in and returned to pasture.

Frank Elliot: News reached Haydon Bridge that one of our soldiers, Lance Corporal Frank Elliot, son of Mrs Elliot of Ratcliffe Road, had been wounded in his right leg by a bullet. Lance Corp. Elliot went to the front with his battalion in April 1915 and had been through much severe fighting. Frank was the grandson of Dr. Elliot of Haydon Bridge who had his surgery at No. 22 Ratcliffe Road. Frank's daughter, Audrey (Philips), is one of our best known residents.

Regular readers will recall Frank's letter home from France in 1915 - published in my May 2015 Notes; and the sad news of his two year old daughter's fatal accident on John Martin Street in 1931 - published in my June 2015 Notes.

Langley Barony Coal & Fireclay Company made an appeal against the call up papers served to their secretary and manager, in August 1917.

The company's capital was £25,000 and the entire dealing with the commercial part of the business was

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undertaken by the secretary; while the manager had an expert knowledge of the technical aspects - for example the glazing. It was pointed out that the company was doing government work and before the war there were 81 employees whereas in 1917 there were only 33. The manager was given conditional exemption and it was agreed that the secretary would not be called up for three months.

Mathew Southern: A memorial service was held in the Congregational Church in October, for second Lieutenant Mathew Southern, a teacher at Shaftoe Trust School who died on the night of September 12th 1917, while leading his men in an attack on the enemy trenches.

A Brass Memorial Tablet on grey marble was placed against the west wall of the Congregational Church on September 27th 1917, in memory of the Reverend Richard Edward Kershaw, 'beloved pastor of the church' who died at Salonika in active service on December 11th 1916.

Sergeant Charles Thompson had been wounded on September 24th and died from his injuries in Dover hospital on October 2nd 1917. Thirty two year old Charles, the champion shot of his battalion for three years, had been employed since he was eighteen by the North-Eastern Railway Company as a greaser and then a carriage and wagon examiner at Haydon Bridge. The burial was in Alexander Tc. cemetery on October 13th and, as a mark of respect, the blinds in all the businesses and houses on the route between the Wesleyan Church and the cemetery, were drawn. Charles Thompson left a widow and three children.

To be continued next month

THE HAYDON BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY LTD

Part 16

1946 to 1948

My Haydon Bridge 'Store' history Parts 1 to 14, from 1875 to 1945, can be found in the February 2014 to June 2015 issues of the Haydon News.

In January 1946, the Haydon Bridge Store committee agreed to pay employees the full wages as laid down by NUDAW. Previously, the committee had insisted upon the NUDAW wage less 10%, as the business was in a rural district. 1946 was also a year when former employees were returning from active service and it was agreed that they would be reinstated as members of staff wherever possible. Johnny Brown, Eddie Moffatt, Charlie Cowing, John Wardle, Ridley Telford, L. Harrison and Maurice Armstrong, all former employees, were reinstated within the year, and in 1947 Norman Heslop returned to the Store.

Not so fortunate were the ladies who, following the war, were now deemed surplus to requirements and received notice of a termination of their services: for example, Mrs Snowball, who had been working part time, and Joan Curry.

The drapery manageress Miss Lee also gave notice of her impending retirement, after twenty one years of service. Miss Lee received the same donation (£26) as had Mr Swallow in 1945, 'in recognition of the goodwill and honourable service (she) had always attached to the position of manageress of the drapery, boots, shoes and crockery department'. Miss Lee was replaced by Alma Telford, appointed to the drapery manageress's post at £4-9s-4d a week. On the advice of Shaftoe Trust School headmaster Mr Walker, sixteen year old Miss Theresa Humble was appointed to Miss Telford's former post as a check girl. In May 1946, Miss Telford resigned from her employment with the Store and Mrs Brown of Gateshead was appointed; soon to be replaced by Mrs Bentham of Hexham as drapery manageress.

Over the period of the war, the Society had stood still commercially, annual sales being almost identical (about £37,000) in 1940 and 1945 in spite of price increases during the period. Membership (850) and staff (15) also remained static.

Things didn't improve substantially at the end of the war, with further cuts in supplies and the rationing of bread in July 1946. At the Haydon Bridge Store, the bread supply was kept in the slaughter house at this time, until the committee decided it would be better kept in the boot repairing shop!

In June 1946, a new 15cwt van was received after a delivery period of eighteen months. The van was painted blue, not the Society's usual colours. At the Half Year Meeting in June 1946, concern was expressed that members weren't coming forward for the management committee and there were only five committee members appointed for the remainder of 1946: G. Briggs, M. Adamson, J. Leathard, E. Raine and J.S. Armstrong; along with George Graham, secretary/treasurer and Mr Melvin, Store manager. At the half year meeting, the president Mr Briggs spoke of the assistance given by female members of staff during the period of the war when the men were away, and proposed the meeting express appreciation for their services. Mr Geo Robinson, a member of the public, thought otherwise, as they had been paid for their work and that should be sufficient. Another member of the public, Mrs Campbell, objected to Mr Robinson's remarks and the rest of the meeting agreed that thanks were due to the lady assistants, 'whose services could not have been done without'.

In September 1946, Johnny Brown resigned from

his employment as lorry driver for the Store, having accepted a position as caretaker at Shaftoe Trust School. Mr Weymes was appointed in his place, but, close scrutiny of the staffing levels and associated costs, resulted in his employment being terminated and Messrs Wardle and Armstrong being employed as lorry drivers.

William Johnson was appointed as secretary to replace George Graham, from December 1946. Mr Johnson was also secretary for the Shaftoe Trust governors and believed he could combine the jobs. Within a short time, however, he had decided he didn't have time to do both jobs and was replaced as secretary/treasurer by Mr A.E. Watson of Station Square, Hexham.

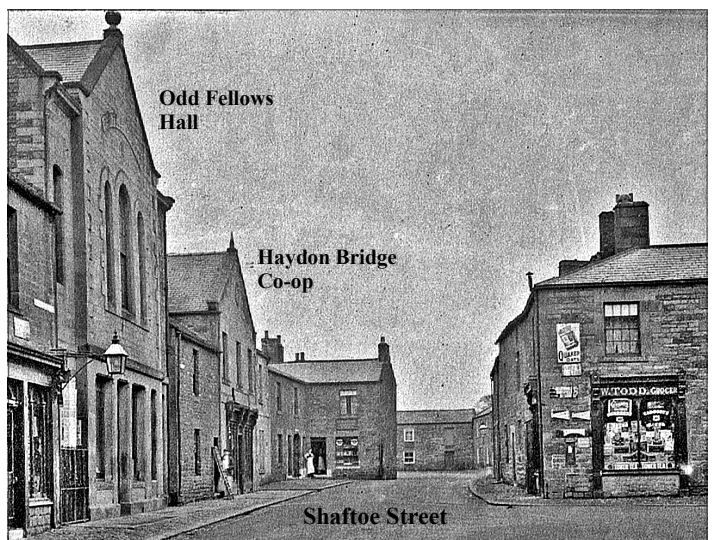
Mr Watson seems to have had an immediate effect and 'modern technology' was introduced into the Store office in the shape of a Remington typewriter (£19-10s-0d) and, eventually, an adding machine.

Three additional committee members were appointed for 1947: Jack Veitch, 'Cruelsyke'; Stanley Brown, Settlingstones; and Jos R. Law, Ratcliffe Rd.

At the half year end in 1947, it was agreed that sport and arts goods would be stocked, in small quantities, along with toys at Christmas. It was pointed out, however, that supplies of china, men's underwear and shirts, men's and ladies shoes, and sheets and blankets were limited in the drapery department. And ... 'rats were breaking into the butcher's shop'.

The half year meeting was especially significant as members ratified the committee's decision to buy the Oddfellows' Hall on Shaftoe Street, for £650.

Lottie Gladstone, who had a knitwear and wool shop on the ground floor of the Oddfellows' Hall, was offered a new tenancy at £2 per calendar month, but, by February 1948, she had moved her business to a new home in No 7, Church Street.



The Haydon Bridge Co-operative Society bought the Odd Fellows Hall in 1947 for £650



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In September 1947, Mr Brown, the manager of the butcher's shop, was given one week's notice and employee Ridley Telford was the unanimous choice of the committee to take over as manager, on October 4th 1947. Local boy Arnold Robinson was appointed as the butcher's apprentice.

TELFORD and CHARLTON

Ridley Telford continued in his position as manager of the Haydon Bridge Store butchers from 1947 until 1953, when he formed a partnership with the former Co-op apprentice **Edmund Charlton** and together they opened their own butchers' shop at 7 Ratcliffe Road; in premises formerly occupied by the village's independent butcher, Frank Storey.

The Haydon Bridge business 'Telford and Charlton' was born - and, incidentally, a young Dennis Telford received five shillings for delivering meat on the butcher's bike every Saturday morning, up and down the North Bank and along our village streets in all weathers, to his uncle's customers.

So successful was the business that it outgrew Frank Storey's former shop and moved into Church Street; in premises where Thomas Stephenson and 'WMH Meat' are in business in 2015. Eventually, Ridley and Edmund were joined in their enterprise by Tommy Storey, from Tyneside, who managed the business's new pork shop at 15 Church Street.

In October 1947, Mrs Bentham handed in her notice and was replaced as drapery manageress by Mrs Currie who had previously worked for F. Robinson & Sons Ltd., at Hexham.

It seems, that, about this time Mrs Makepeace the owner of the branch premises at Ratcliffe Road was eager to sell the property. The Society committee members were reluctant to buy, however, and they renegotiated the lease for five years at £52 per year. Number 6 Ratcliffe Road did come into the Society's property portfolio eventually, of course, and having been extended is the Co-op that we have in 2015.

Unless one of our readers knows differently - and I'd be delighted if you do - the final available minute book charting the history of the Haydon Bridge Co-operative and Industrial Society Ltd., ends with a meeting on Friday March 5th 1948, and, once again, I want to thank Jim and Jean Smith for taking care of the ledgers that have helped me to tell the story of our 'Store' from its origins in 1875, in such detail.

The Haydon Bridge Co-op's story doesn't end here, of course, and perhaps another resident would like to take this fascinating history forward from 1948 into the twenty first century.

Next month I will provide an outline of more recent events, to help get any volunteer started on this worthwhile research.

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 fiftieth casualty, in 1918, was **Louis Spark**

(50) Louis Spark



Photograph courtesy of Haydon Bridge Community Centre

Louis served as Private, 200249, 1/5th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers. He died on 27th May 1918, aged 22.

Born in Haydon Bridge, the youngest of at least five children of Elizabeth Spark.

Louis was employed at the Langley Fireclay Works and enlisted at Haydon Bridge.



Louis has no known grave and is, therefore, commemorated on one of the panels on the Soissons Memorial, France.



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

If you have any information relating to Louis Spark, 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.

THE HAYDON HUNDRED : SATURDAY JUNE 6th 2015



Peter Fletcher gives the riders a last minute risk assessment.

A massive "congratulations" to 260 riders who completed either one of the three routes of the 'Haydon Hundred' this year; in conditions described by seasoned cyclists as the windiest/wildest they had ever experienced. Thanks again to originator and organiser Mark I'Anson and to his team of administrators, to the route marshals and all those who helped to make this third 'Haydon Hundred' such a success ... in spite of the tempest!

And they're off!

The Voice of an Unknown Soldier

You walked past my grave, this morning,
Searching each row with care.
Your lips were moving, though silent,
As you studied each name that was there.

Who were you seeking, dear lady,
Was it Samson, or Matty, or me?
Young Pete's over there with his best pal, Jim,
Side by side neath the limb of a tree.

No one has stood at my graveside to weep
Nor laid a wreath at my feet,
Though that doesn't really matter to me,
As this plot, which is mine, is kept neat.

No name adorns my headstone,
Nor the age I had reached, when I died.
My identity disc remained on the beach
To be washed by the blood-red tide.

Now there's nothing but dust, where you recently trod,
For my spirit has long been free.
I am one of the thousands, known "Only to God"
And He takes care of me.

A Sacred Place

Above my head, a skylark sings,
Hovering on fragile wings,
A relative of those long past
Who flew above the thunderous blast
of belching guns, which spat out shells
To inflict pain on men,
who tried to crouch, in vain,
While calling to God with piteous cries,
As limbs were torn and
vision wiped from sightless eyes.

Blessed bird, your voice now heard,
above the golden fields of wheat,
Where blood red poppies raise their heads,
A symbol now of those long dead,
Who trod these fields and shed their blood.
In craters filled with putrid mud.

Let homage be paid above this land,
Where golden wheat and poppies stand,
For underneath these nurtured fields,
which still regurge past battles' yields,
Lie those whose courage knew no bounds
amid the chaos, mud and sounds
of pounding guns.
Nameless ones, without a grave
to mark a life they freely gave,
That I might live to see this day and watch
The skylarks as they play,
Hovering above my head,
While guarding heroes in their bed
of golden wheat and poppies red.

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For more information on the above sessions or an informal chat please contact Kelly Richardson 07732260415

HAYDON BRIDGE TINY TOTS

TINY TOTS - from birth to three years

Tiny Tots runs on Tuesday mornings from 9.15 'til 11.00 (term time only) at Haydon Bridge Fire Station.

The sessions offer a chance for babies/toddlers, parents and carers to meet, play and try crafts. Followed by a snack and a drink, music or story time.
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For more information on the above sessions or an informal chat please contact:
Kelly Richardson 07732260415
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CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

CLERGY MESSAGE FROM:

Father Leo Pyle

‘We had the experience, but missed the meaning’
(Eliot).

We experience the prophet and constantly miss the meaning but then prophecy and prophets are always ignored or even despised in their own time, surroundings and among their own people.

We come together Sunday by Sunday, listen to the words of the prophets, Ezekiel, Paul, Jesus and then it’s ‘This is the Word of the Lord, Thanks be to God’ and it’s business as usual!

It seems we can often only come to know THE prophet and his message when we experience some kind of dying, some loss or bereavement, a sense of fear or hopelessness. The answer then is in the pain, which reveals to us our poverty and our need of God and his prophet.

If we acknowledge our poverty, the prophet shows himself, Jesus shows himself in his full meaning and glory. The truth slowly dawns, the prophet Jesus is a living presence in every detail of our lives.

Now, can we accept such a prophet and his word?
If we are developing in faith, we come to know our risen Lord and prophet as the now happening and find that he is always emerging and materialising in our lives and throughout our universe.

The prophet Jesus Christ is continuously coming through our closed minds, closed that is through fear, fear of ourselves and others.

And the words of the prophet are ‘Peace, peace be with you’ Shalom my friends.

Jesus power gives us hope, hope in a situation where before we felt hopeless. Jesus gives us courage to face the task we have been running away from all our lives.

Jesus gives us the strength to be open, the ability to be vulnerable when before we could only think of our own security and our own protection.

So yet again we have the experience, let’s not miss out on the meaning.

And the meaning is quite simply **JESUS**, Jesus Christ, the now prophet and the prophecy in person.

**JESUS CHRIST, THE WAY, THE
TRUTH AND THE LIFE.**

Amen

Father Leo Pyle

WHO AND WHERE

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

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter
with St. Cuthberts Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard
Tel. 01434 688196

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

Father Leo Pyle
with St John’s Catholic Church
St John’s Presbytery, North Bank
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5 July

10am Morning Worship
Rev John Howard
6pm Evening Worship
Rev. David Goodall

12 July

10am Communion Worship
Rev. Marian Olsen
6pm Evening Worship
Mrs. Holly Craigs
Community Church,
Hexham

19 July

10am Morning Worship
Local Arrangements
6pm Evening Worship
Deacon Anne Taylor

26 July

10am Morning Worship
David Stabler
6pm Evening Worship
Father Leo Pyle

2 August

10am Morning Worship
Marie Hutchinson
6pm Communion Worship
Rev. Jenny Wilkes

ANGLICAN SERVICES

5 July

Beltingham
9.30am Parish EucharistBCP
Haydon Bridge
11am Parish EucharistBCP

12 July

Haydon Bridge
10am **Joint Eucharist with
Confirmation
Bishop Frank White**

19 July

Hexham Abbey
10am **Deanery Service**

26 July

Beltingham
9.30am Parish Eucharist
Haydon Bridge
11am Parish Eucharist
Haydon Old Church
5pm Evening Worship

2 August

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News from the Old Church

We have been working to develop and increase the use of the Old Church over the last few months. We now have a monthly service in the Old Church (usually on the last Sunday of the month) and about twenty gather for these simple services to which everyone is welcome. Last month children from Shaftoe School spent a morning exploring and learning about the ancient and sacred place in our village's life. We also held a service of Baptism in the Old Church. We have also begun to survey and work on the burial ground surrounding the Old Church. Through this we have identified some of the monuments which are unsteady and need some attention to make them safe. The Church Council is working to ensure this is dealt with quickly, but in the mean time those which are unsteady have been clearly marked with signs. I will write more in a future Haydon News about the exciting opportunities there are for the development of your Parish Churches. In the meantime if you have any thoughts on how we could use and develop the use of your churches I would be delighted to hear from you.

The Vicar – Benjamin Carter

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.

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continued project funding:

Thursday 9th July 12 noon – 1.00 pm

Thursday 10th September 12 noon – 1.00 pm

Thursday 12th November 12 noon – 1.00 pm

All sessions at the Haydon Bridge Health Centre.

HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB SUMMER WALKS PROGRAMME 2015

All walks start from the given meeting place at 6.30 pm. prompt unless stated different. If in doubt of a walk taking place due to bad weather, please confirm with the walks leader or walks programme secretary Cynthia Bradley on 01434 684622. Please come properly equipped with hiking boots and waterproofs and car share where possible. Thank you.

Maps Ordnance Survey, Explorer OL43, Land ranger 87

July 2nd. Anne Carter 684856 6.45.pm.

"Crindle Dykes" Meet on Staingate. GR 785670

Circular fell walk. 3-4 miles

Beautiful wild flowers/ Geology.

July 16th. Cynthia Bradley 684622 6.45.pm.

"Steel Rigg & Craighaugh" Meet at Steel Rigg Car Park at GR NY752677. Circular which includes some of the Hadrian's Wall and the Tree at Sycamore Gap. 4 miles

July 30th. June Rumney 684562

"Haresby Lonnen" Meet at the Library

6.30.pm.Circular. Partly road & bridleway. High view point. 5 miles. Various wild flowers.

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

Programme of Charity Fund-Raising Quizzes at the General Havelock, Haydon Bridge.

All Quizzes start at 8.15 pm £1.50 per person

Refreshments, 'Beer Question' and Raffle

July 14th Motor Neurone Disease Association
Please note change of charity.

-----Summer Break-----
Assuming we get a summer

Sept. 22nd Macmillan Cancer Support

****Queenie Quiz****

Oct. 20th RNLI

Quizmaster

John Harrison (johnandaveril@aol.com)

JULY IS AS USUAL BALSAM BASH MONTH

Haydon Bridge River Watch Group will be working to clear more of our river banks of the weed. Volunteers would be very welcome, even half an hour helps.

We will be working near the turning point on the picnic area every Sunday from 2pm and near the Football field on Monday 6th Wednesdays 15th, 22nd and 29th from 6pm

**FOR MORE INFO PHONE
BARBARA ON 688886**

OPEN GARDEN SUNDAY JULY 19TH

For Red Cross

East Deanraw

Langley on Tyne, near Haydon Bridge. NE47 5LY.
(1 mile west of the Castle along the back road signed West Deanraw. The house is signed on the drive end.)

FRUIT & VEG SHOW

August 29th 2015

at The General Havelock, Haydon Bridge

All entries by 12. Judging at 1pm

Categories in next issue -- Preserves /cakes /veg/ etc.

"Kevin Roberts" singing from 9pm

All produce auctioned at 10pm

Proceeds to charity.

Put this date in your diary all you great British bakers

DOG EGGS!

In the Parish Council meeting it was reported that the Old Bridge has been free of dog faeces but emailed reports of problems elsewhere in the village continue. Bag it and bin it!

- Council can also issue dog control orders against individual dog owners for offences including allowing a dog to foul a public space.
- Councils can issue fixed penalty orders in relation to dog control orders. Where there is no local rate, the fixed penalty is £75.
- In very serious cases, magistrates can issue a maximum penalty of £1,000.

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY DARMAID

Some of the girls and I are going on a luxury cruise, Raydon. We even dine at the Captain's table.

That's not fair, Dusty, just because you and your mates are common and loud and uncouth is no reason to make you eat with the crew.



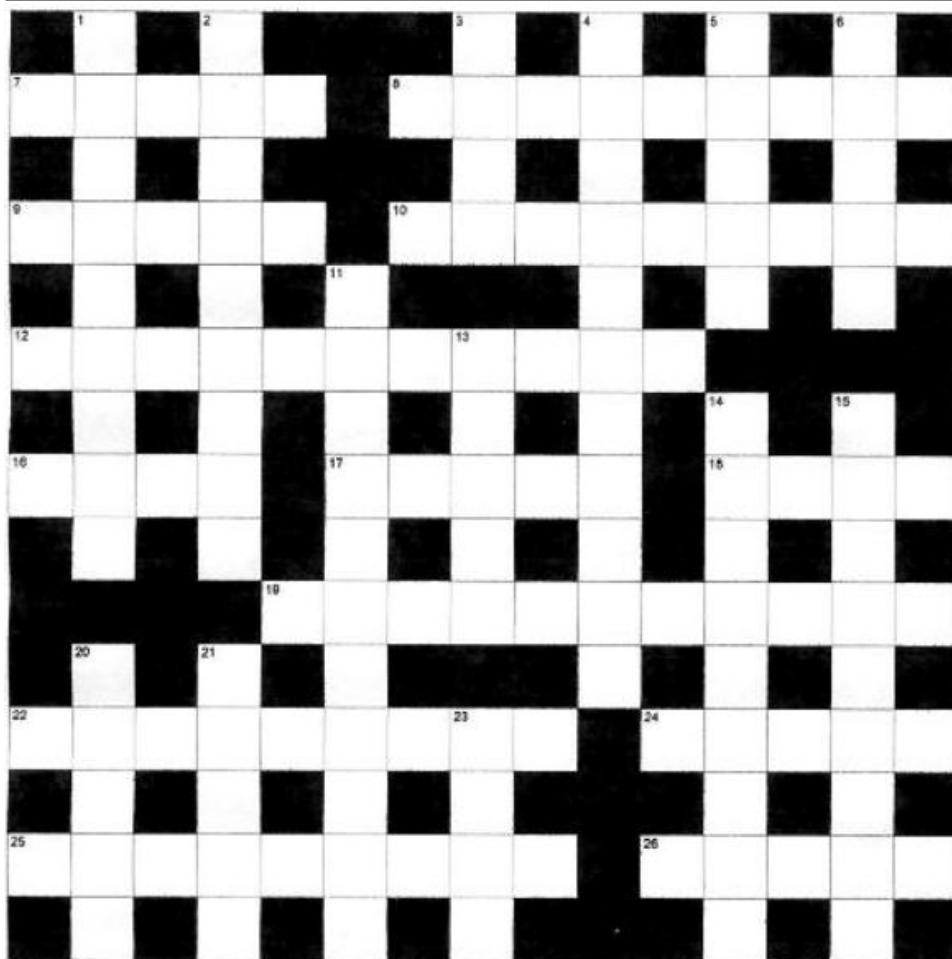
THE HAYDONIAN CRUCIVERBALIST

July 2015

£10 PRIZE EVERY MONTH!

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....



Across

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7. Heaths are for rent (5) | 22. Trace line and weave together (9) |
| 8. Speak my church (9) | 24. Spare parts analyse a sentence (5) |
| 9. So teachers turn and inform the police (5) | 25. Lancashire city chap can include the varsity (9) |
| 10. Holy man was sick for longer (9) | 26. Blooming machinery (5) |
| 12. Think carefully and draw together (11) | |
| 16. Tribe added ornament (4) | |
| 17. Quiet, droopy, wooden (5) | |
| 18. Three orientals quietly put to the sword (4) | |
| 19. Aphoristic nursing shelter promises to pay (11) | |

Please drop answers off at Claire's or post to the editor.

Down

1. Brer Olson never wins (4,5)
2. Where to lie in wait (9)
3. Left winger at less than a gallop (4)
4. Burying ones agreement (11)
5. Drink or blow comic character (5)
6. Corn god makes loose stones (5)
11. It's not attractive for international body asking if he's out (11)
13. The first lady member makes a joint (5)
14. Bed is real and wanted badly (9)
15. American leaving school transport (9)
20. Sounds as if he will want to make dough (5)
21. Instruct how cheat works (5)
23. Talk of a bird (4)

MAY'S WINNER:

Barbara Lee

NUMBER OF ENTRIES:

3
2 correct

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor

I wonder whether you could publish the following in the hope that awareness might be raised of the damage done when rubbish is thrown into local streams.

On 2nd June I looked over the north side of the road bridge over Langley burn near the bus-shelter. I have been following with others, including Tyne Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency, the progress of trout and sea trout fry and parr in the burn over the past few years. I was confronted by the sight of a large amount of garden waste dumped along the entire width of the bridge (photo enclosed). This was the equivalent of at least 4 or 5 wheelbarrow loads and must have taken some effort. It took me 30 minutes to clear the stream.

This is fly-tipping and pollution of a watercourse. The culprit/s are liable to prosecution, fine or worse.

The impression given to any visitor to the village is that little regard is had to appearances of public areas - one person's selfish, lazy and criminal conduct tarnishing the efforts of the many who try to make the village attractive. There is another issue here though. The Langley burn is used by trout and sea trout as spawning habitat from October to December. A pair of sea trout were visible spawning at just this spot mid-November. Others were doing likewise elsewhere in the burn. In May we found significant numbers of fry above and below the road bridge.

This is a step forward for this burn which used to have many more spawning fish in the 60 and 70's when I was taken, as a child, by my grandfather to watch them. In recent years the fish population in the burn has declined, but there are signs of improvement. The adult fish need clean gravel in which to lay their eggs. When they hatch, the aelvins (young fish) hide in the gravel for weeks until strong enough to swim up and occupy a spot where they can feed and grow.

June's answers.

ACROSS

- 1 PHILLIP
- 5 MIDRIFF
- 9 NET
- 10 TRIP ADVISOR
- 11 IRRISION
- 12 STAPLE
- 15 FROG
- 16 ADMINISTER
- 18 TRADE PRICE
- 19 HOOP
- 22 RHEUMY
- 23 ONE TO ONE
- 25 UNDER ARREST
- 27 LEI
- 28 HATCHED
- 29 THEOREM

DOWN

- 1 PONTIFF
- 2 INTERROGATE
- 3 LATEST
- 4 & 15 POISON DART
- 5 MEAT
- 6 DOVETAIL
- 7 IOS
- 8 FORBEAR
- 13 PETRODOLLAR
- 14 DISCONTENT
- 17 BESMIRCH
- 18 THROUGH
- 20 PREMIUM
- 21 STATUE
- 24 BRAD
- 26 DOT

Throwing garden waste into the burn smothers the gravels, causing silting of the fish redds, so starving the young fish of oxygen. Rotting vegetation pollutes the water and kills insect life on which the young fish feed. The net effect is to reduce the fish population and the health of the stream.

If enough rubbish/waste is thrown into the stream, flooding results at some pinch point downstream usually, so householders are affected.

Last year garden waste was thrown into the same burn at the same place and Northumberland County Council had to attend and dig out the stream bed - a needless consumption of their time and resources, for which we all pay via council tax.

The E.A. sent letters to residents in the vicinity. Someone surely must have seen someone tipping this rubbish into the burn. Perhaps people could be vigilant and report anyone seen so offending to the Environment Agency hotline 0800 80 70 60 or me through the Haydon News.

It may have been historic practice to dump rubbish in streams, but we live in different, arguably better, times now and this sort of environmental vandalism is just not on. There are plenty of places to dispose of garden rubbish in a rural area without polluting watercourses. Hopefully, with a bit of community effort this practice can be stamped out.

Yours sincerely
Keith Harrison

(of this parish)



Dear Editor

I loved your piece on Danish culture, no doubt this is why Danish women over 65 are the happiest in the world. I and they would drink to that, SKOL!

Carole Price

Co-op fancy dress

"If you go down to the woods today.... tra la la la la"

Never mind about the woods - it's the Haydon Bridge Co-op which is full of surprises.

Take today: as I entered, Caroline was holding a platter dressed as a carrot. The boss wore a giant banana outfit (typecast or just a wardrobe malfunction?).

It appears they are promoting the new low prices of their fresh fruit and veg.

Caroline was embarrassed (can't think why) and asked how she could stop people from recognising her. I gently suggested she turn the costume around. But she immediately pointed out in which case she wouldn't be able to see.

So it's not true about carrots and eyesight then?

As I approached the till I spotted my new best friend Anne. She was wearing the standard Co-op green uniform over her slender frame and her hair was tinted a fetching blonde.

"No, no don't tell me!" I said 'Let me guess. You've come as a Spring Onion?'"

Her look said it all as she threw a withering glance at the 6' banana now making its way round the store - almost demolishing the Coca-Cola display.

Yup I figured it would take an awful lot of money for the lovely Anne to come to work dressed as one of your 5-a-day. And the Co-op would need to shift tons of the stuff to make it worthwhile.

PS

In fact some Swedish tourists arrived at that very moment - who must now be marvelling at our quaint British customs. They could not know it was an one-off. At least I hope it's a one-off.

Another Cream Courgette Éclair Vicar?

Euphemia Whaletrouser



Sorry that some of this is old/belated news but we missed last month's Haydon News due to an unavoidable glitch. So here's a catch-up.

It seems a long time ago since we had the Easter Eggstravaganza but it was a great success and we even managed to have an Easter Egg Hunt despite the horrible weather.

There won't be a Performing Arts Festival week this year as we've decided that it may be better to spread events out throughout the year and then people will be more likely to support more of them. We may be wrong but we'll try it.

We had a great Family Treasure Hunt on June 14th starting out from the Havelock. 15 teams took part exploring the village to search for the location of some very tricky photographs. Some people discovered parts of the village they hadn't seen before. Back at the pub we had very welcome refreshments and the winner was announced. Well done to The Beasts who won a Treasure Chest of goodies. Many thanks to all at the Havelock and to Ian Foster for his great photos.

On July 11th there'll be another **Songs From Stage and Screen** in St. Cuthbert's Church so watch out for posters, and tickets are available in Claire's, the Havelock or from me.

We still have space for performers for this event, so if you know anyone who can belt out a show song please contact me asap.

We're planning a **70's Disco** at the Haydonian in September so start searching for your old platforms and white suits. More info nearer the time.

The **New Year Fireworks** are organised - we just need to pay for them! John Harrison is having a quiz break in August so we're going to do a quiz in the Havelock specifically for the Fireworks. Please come along and support it - New Year will be here before we know it!

If you see a bucket around the village for the Get It Together Society, the money is for future events including the fireworks so please pop a few coins in. Thank you.

We've had some very generous donations recently from the Bowls Club and Joyce Brown [the bonus ball] so thank you very much to them. Thanks also to Irene Cunningham who is always very supportive and generous.

Thanks also go to everyone who has supported recent events. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

As always, we would love to welcome more members and ideas to the Get It Together Society. We meet on the 1st Monday of the month in the Havelock at 8pm.

Pauline Wallis

The Get It Together Society

Tel: 01434 684061





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Haydon Bridge High School

A message from Whitehall

Along with a number of other people I emailed the Minister and others, following Genevieve Stone's recommendation in last month's Haydon News that we do so. Here is the reply that came back (others received very similar responses):

Dear Mr Ford

Thank you for your email of 3 June, addressed to ministers. I hope you can appreciate that ministers receive a large amount of correspondence and cannot always respond personally. On this occasion, I have been asked to respond.

Let me first explain that the purpose of the Education and Adoption Bill is to make sure that every child gets the best start in life.

With this in mind, the Department for Education wants every child to be educated in a good or outstanding school. To achieve that ambition, the Queen's speech committed to taking more action in failing and coasting schools. The measures to achieve this were set out in the Education and Adoption Bill, which was laid before Parliament on 3 June.

At the heart of the Bill are measures designed to speed up the process by which failing schools, those rated inadequate by Ofsted, will be turned into sponsored academies.

Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College was judged by Ofsted to be inadequate for overall effectiveness (Grade 4) on 10 February 2015, and has been given a judgement that the school requires "special measures", following an Ofsted inspection under section 5 of the Education Act 2005. Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College is therefore a school which is eligible for intervention. Where a school is eligible for intervention by virtue of this judgement, there is a clear expectation that conversion to an academy with a strong sponsor will be the normal route to secure improvement.

The department is working with Northumberland County Council and the school to secure a strong sponsor with experience of improving schools with similar challenges to those facing Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College, such as their rural location. The Secretary of State also approved an application from Northumberland County Council to appoint an Interim Executive Board (IEB) to replace the governing body at Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College on 3 March 2015. The IEB's main function is to secure a sound basis for future improvement in the school and this includes the promotion of high standards of educational achievement.

As mentioned above, we endeavour to secure a strong sponsor for Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College and once in a position to do so, a full consultation will be done by the sponsor on their proposal for school improvement at Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College.

Haydon Bridge Community High School & Sports College faces numerous challenges, not least owing to its rural location, boarding facilities and falling pupil numbers. We therefore need to ensure that the right sponsor is identified with experience of turning schools with similar challenges around. This is not a quick process and requires the IEB to be in place during this interim period I appreciate that the closure or conversion of a school can cause sadness and undoubtedly place an increased burden on other schools within the surrounding area. With this in mind, parents have the opportunity to express their views on the school at:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Your correspondence has been allocated reference number 2015-0025472. If you need to respond to us, please visit: <http://www.education.gov.uk/contactus> and quote your reference number.

As part of our commitment to improving the service we provide to our customers, we are interested in hearing your views and would welcome your comments via our website at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/pctsurvey>.

Yours sincerely

Brian Ward

Ministerial and Public Communications Division

JAMES JOYCE' ULYSEES

Have you read Joyce's Ulysees? Even a page or two? Well you've done better than me. I now have a challenge from a friend in Dublin to read (and understand) the book by Blooms Day in June 2016. I am daunted, I have to say, and hope there might be strength in numbers. Would anyone like to join me on this odyssey? We could meet regularly and help each other through. It may be at home- it may be in a pub, who knows? The sky is the limit! We could even all go over for Bloom's Day 2016 to round it all off! I understand if there is no-one out there with an appetite for this undertaking but, if you do, then please help me out by becoming a Joyce groupie.

You can contact me on:

comop49@gmail.com

I look forward to hearing from you very much - help!!

Jill Fenwick
Haydon Bridge

On the Power of Deception and Belief

Rachel Dolezal, the US race activist, is having a hard time.

Her name and all unpleasant details of her life are being smeared across the world media as if she was a serial killer. This case is worrying for number of reasons, not least that any punishment should fit the crime. Ms Dolezal has already lost her job and reputation, so why do we wish to see more blood?

In my opinion we should all think of the biblical stone throwing if we are innocent, if I may be pardoned for paraphrasing the famous quote, before we condemn the woman who has apparently done a lot of good, to eternal hell. I also think that Ms. Dolezal truly believes she is black. And she is not unique in her own conviction of her invented life-story. Besides, it could have been much worse.

Like this recent scandal from my country: One of the most celebrated photographers of his generation who is now in his eighties, Jan Saudek, has been mentioning in every interview given to the journalists in the past twenty years how he and his twin brother suffered in a concentration camp during the second world war. After records of his school attendance in Prague were uncovered proving that he had a rather cozy childhood, he started saying that he was misunderstood. To many this is baffling – why would an artist, regarded by many as great, have the need to invent such lies that are clearly a huge insult to genuine victims of Holocaust?

Incidentally, one of the girls I studied with at the University, was obsessed with anything Jewish. All her boyfriends were and had to be Jewish. She kept creating her own family mythology about murky Jewish origins, including fabulous disappearances, secret marriages and unexplained name changes. I knew from her brother that none of that was true. As time progressed, her stories became more elaborate. People loved listening to her as the plots thickened. At times she sounded like a script of a Hollywood movie *à la* Saving Private Ryan.

You know that a person is lying when they keep changing details. No one questioned it, though, because she came across as convincing. Never mind that if she were really of Jewish origin, due to the decimation during the Second World War, she wouldn't have had an extensive family all over the country. Never mind number of claims that could have been easily verified as nonsensical. She was believable because she believed it herself.

Another young woman I used to know as a teenager, was aware of her infertility problem since the age of fifteen. She was told by doctors she would never be able to conceive or carry a child. However, she forgot to mention this tiny detail to her husband. It was heartbreaking to witness him in tears when he was describing their struggle to have a family. I nearly said something when he was talking of his wife's period pains – as far as I know women with no womb have no periods. She was crying with him, utterly convincing as someone who'd only just been told that they were infertile.

One more figure of the Prague Panopticon: Miss J. She was a six foot two inch tall transgender woman, with a fondness for high heels, miniskirts and lots of makeup. I did feel incredibly sorry for her as she was disowned by her family. After desperate attempts to find love online, usually across the Pond, and various rather unsavoury adventures across Europe, she moved to Vienna to reinvent herself as an aristocrat.

She bought herself a title of baroness and charmed number of people who never dared to question her blue blood entitlement. Her career amongst European nobility ended abruptly when one of her Austrian amants came to Prague with her: they were unlucky to bump into Miss J.'s old school friend in one of many Art Deco cafes in the centre. Unfortunately, that particular friend was also fluent in German. Baroness von So-and-So was uncovered as Jenny from the block, from Prague suburbia, with mother a secretary and father a railway man. And by the way, she was born a man.

The point is that we all do something similar, perhaps not to such an extreme. We present the improved versions of ourselves to the world, re-invent our pasts, „jazz up“ episodes of our otherwise boring and mundane little lives. Hands on heart, how many of you have altered your account of say a holiday to make it more entertaining and interesting for your friends and family? After a while and if you repeat it often enough, it becomes true.

Rachel Dolezal is in fact us. By all means, go on throwing the stones if you hate the mirror.

Natalie Nera

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COUNTRY PURSUITS

When chatting to a Firearms Officer I was amazed to learn just how many firearms there are in Northumberland. Many, many thousands! The department works flat out to keep on top of the new applications and renewals. We live in a rural area and a variety of people have sound reasons for possessing and using firearms. Most obviously those whose work involves land management - farmers, foresters etc. Gunfire is common in our parish and it need not be a source of anxiety - usually.

However, here we have evidence of recent stupidity, vandalism, illegality and recklessness.

The holes are 7mm across, a reasonably common calibre. Although given the softness of the sign's metal it might have been a .243 or .270 which are more common. The rounds have been fired along a well used road - which is both startlingly dim witted and illegal. They have been fired with no back-stop to catch the bullets - and these could still kill at a couple of miles or so. Public property has been destroyed too.

Given that there are deer nearby, I suspect that poaching with an illegally held firearm has been going on - because no responsible certificate holder would behave like this.

It is in everybody's interests to catch those who do this sort of thing. Obviously, don't intervene personally (!) but do contact the police immediately with registration numbers and descriptions of those involved.

Steve Ford





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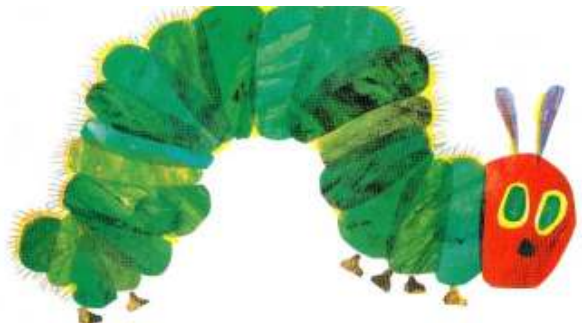
“Les Petits Loups”

and the children of the French club in Haydon Bridge invite children(2-10 y) and adults to their end of year performance based on Eric Carle's book

Please call to let me know, how many people are coming to the event so we can organise the room.

Refreshments available!

« LA CHENILLE QUI FAIT DES TROUS »



Place: Methodist Church, Haydon Bridge

When: Tuesday 7th July 2015

Time: 4.20 pm- 4.40 pm

Register by 30th June, for a free entrance on
lespetitsloups@btinternet.com)

or call Lydia Mills on 07958053479.

Merci!

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Add character to your home with bespoke wooden windows. Available in traditional and contemporary styles to suit your requirements, our expertise includes box sash windows and casement windows. Take a look at our gallery for some examples of the high-quality work we have completed across Northumberland. At Ochiltree Bespoke Joinery we are domestic and commercial wooden window and door specialists

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- *Can be opaque coated or transparent coated to display the natural look of wood*

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Brendan Healy

Who will be swimming to France next year for his holidays.

The wife and I were away on holiday recently and we flew with an airline known as "Delayed for two hours 'cos of the French." Last year they were known as "Delayed for two hours 'cos of the Spanish." The wife doesn't mind flying and usually falls asleep which really gets on my wick because I can never sleep. My legs are 6ft 4ins long and airlines hate them, so unless I pay a lot extra I can't sleep for the discomfort.

Got her back this time though. After she had been asleep for five minutes I put on my life jacket and urgently shook her awake.

Here is a breakdown of the cost of the flights:

Thank you for booking 2 tickets at the discounted price of: **£99**

Would you like to sit down during your flight? Yes/No. You have chosen Yes. **£56**

Would you like to sit down on the way back? Yes/No. You have chosen Yes. **£72**

Would you like your legs to fit in the seating area with you? Yes/No. You have chosen Yes. **£82**

Will you be wearing clothes on your holiday? Yes/No. You have chosen Yes and you will therefore need bags to put them in. **£52**

Will your companion be wearing clothes as well? Yes/No. You have chosen Yes. **£52**

Do you have your own insurance? Yes/No. You have chosen Yes therefore the compulsory insurance will now be discounted by 10% as our gift to you. **£64**

Will you want to insure the wife? Yes/No. You have answered No but you have to. **£64**

(You are nearly half way to booking the flight of you dreams!)

Are you both taking golf clubs, skis, hand luggage or any other specialist equipment? Yes/No. You have answered Yes. **£82**

Will you both require the in flight meals? Yes/No.

You have answered Yes. **£34**

After the meals will you both require the use of the on board toilet? Yes/No. You have answered Yes.

£34

Will you be doing number ones or number twos?

(Due to the data protection act we are not allowed to show your answer but please be assured we have noted your requirements and have priced accordingly.) **£196**

Would you like to give us a little bit more money under the guise of a green tax which we will pretend

helps the environment? Yes/No

You have unsurprisingly answered No. Fair enough!

YOUR GRAND TOTAL

£887

(Nearly finished!)

One final question, will you be paying with a card?

Yes/No. You have chosen Yes.

£88.70

YOUR FINAL GRAND TOTAL

£975.70

TOTAL BILL (including airport taxes)

£1073.27

Finally if you would like to pay for any extras on the flight you may wish to examine the page entitled 'Little luxuries.'

Moving on to your hotel.

Will you be requiring beds?

Next year we are going to Seahouses.

People who live and work in places where the main, if not sole income, is tourism should learn to be nicer to tourists. Sounds obvious doesn't it?

But most of the bar staff and waiters I have come across in the Algarve, the Costa del Sol, Costa Brava, Costa Blanca, Provence-Alpes-Cote D'Azur, Languedoc-Roussillon and the Lake District have faces like smacked Rsez. Do they not know that we tourists are the reason they have jobs? In more rural and therefore less popular parts, things seem to be different. I have met some glorious people in little French and Spanish Villages but, of course, they appreciate your business.

In America it seems to be very different. Is it the tipping culture? Of course it is. Americans tip 15% as standard, 20% if chuffed and 10% if disgruntled and the staff know that a 10% tip is like saying they were cack at their jobs. I suppose they aren't paid very well and rely heavily on tips but doesn't that make things better all round? We're happier, the good servers thrive, the bad ones disappear quickly and the tourist income is much safer.

I have spent a lot of time in the US and on one occasion overheard two waitresses arguing as to which of them was going to serve an English couple in the corner; neither wanted to because they knew the tip would be bad. As a result of this, when I am in American restaurants I open with "Hi, I'm English but I tip like a Yank." Many Brits think that tipping is wrong but if this is the case, why do we automatically tip taxi drivers and hairdressers?

Do yourself a favour, put a smile on the face of the Lake District.

Telephone Appointments

If you are unable to get to the surgery and feel that you will benefit from advice over the telephone, telephone appointments are available every day and bookable in advance.

Telephone appointments are for medical queries and not administrative matters.

You can book a telephone appointment/consultation with one of the GP's by telephoning either surgery on 683280 or 684216.

Both receptions have access to the same appointment system and can book an appointment at **either** site.

Repeat Prescriptions

You can order repeat prescriptions in one of 3 ways:

1. Telephone 688351 (24 hour line) and leave a message.
2. Go to www.patient.co.uk to order on line.
3. Tick the box on the right side of your existing prescription and hand into either surgery.

NHS Breast Screening Programme

Your local NHS breast screening team is now working in this area, inviting women aged about 50-70 who are registered in this practice for routine breast screening.

A research trial is also being done to help access the benefits and risks of screening women slightly younger than 50 and older than 70. About half the women aged 47-49 and half aged 71-73 in this area are being sent letters inviting them for screening and giving them information about the trial.

You can discuss breast screening with your doctor. If you are aged 47-49 or over 70, the staff in this practice can tell you how to contact the local screening team if you wish to opt out of the trial or if you have not been invited but would like to be screened while the team is in the area.

More information about screening and the trial are at: www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk

The Friends and Family Test

From 1st December 2014 it has been a contractual requirement that all GP practices undertake the NHS Friends and Family Test (FFT).

The FFT question asks if patients would recommend the services they have used to their friends & family and offers a range of responses.

When combined with supplementary follow up questions, this provides a mechanism to highlight both good and poor patient experience.

You can take the FFT using a card at the front desk in both receptions or via the Practice website.

Patient Participation Group

Annual Open Meeting

Wednesday 9th September 2015

Date for your diary - the PPG is hosting an inaugural annual event at Langley Village Hall on Wednesday September 9th at 6.30pm. All the GP's will be in attendance. It will give patients a chance to chat to the GP's in an informal setting and to find out more about what the PPG does.

All patients are very welcome.

Any suggestions for topics for discussion can be passed to the Practice Manager.

More details to follow nearer the time.

Carers

Carers are people who, without payment, provide help and support to a family member, friend or neighbour who cannot manage on their own due to physical or mental illness, disability, substance misuse or frailty brought on by old age. Caring roles can include administering medication, lifting and handling and personal or emotional care.

If you are a carer you may find it difficult to access our services without extra support.

Are you a carer? Please let us know we may be able to help you.

Carers Northumberland Information

You may look after a husband, wife, partner, child, parent another relative or a neighbour or friend. You probably don't stop to think about yourself while you are so busy every day.

You are not alone. There are an estimated 35,500 carers living in Northumberland.

Carers Northumberland is a charity dedicated to improving the lives of carers by responding to the needs of carers, informing carers of their rights and entitlements, supporting carers to access help for the person they care for, reducing the social isolation that so many carers feel and empowering carers to have a voice.

See more at: www.carersnorthumberland.org.uk

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The Bridge and Visitor Information Point Children's Corner



Summer Reading Challenge 2015 begins on Saturday, 11 July running until 12 September. Last year's very successful venture was themed Mythical Maze. This year the Challenge has combined with the Guinness Book of Records to produce a **Record Breakers** theme.

So, readers, go for a personal best in 2015 and sign up at the Bridge. The SRC is aimed at young people aged 4-11 years. The sooner you enrol (on or after 11 July) the longer you will have to read the six books required—**your** choice: fact or fiction; joke book or graphic novel; your favourite author and so on—as long as they are borrowed from the library.

This event is completely free. Each person receives a fold up poster to fill with smelly/scratchy stickers, and other materials are received after each visit. In addition, go online to the SRC website www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

in order to log the books that you have read during the summer and beyond. There are also book recommendations there, written by young people, as well as competitions to enter and games to play.

We look forward to seeing returning readers, some for the fifth year as well as children enrolling for the first time. The Bridge's friendly volunteers will enrol you; keep you right and give you some fun materials to get you started!

Produce Stall

Despite the duff weather and practically no spring season at all, our Allotment Association gardeners are coming up trumps again. We've had aubergine, parsley, tomato and celeriac plants to bring on; wonderful rhubarb and, this week, the first cut sweet peas arrived; two boxes of gooseberries and two enormous lettuces. My own homegrown sweet peas are stalks measuring 15cm and my lettuces ... well, I haven't bought the packet of seeds yet!

Haydon Hundred

Once again, this most successful cycling event began at the Bridge with registration taking place in the building. It seems to me that the registering process becomes more and more efficient each year. This year, the nationally famous flapjacks (usually only available at the stations along the way) put in an appearance too and I can reliably inform you that they taste just as good, as described by the cyclists.

Interestingly, one cyclist returning this year, to take part spotted the honey for sale in the Bridge and having enjoyed the jar he bought last year so much, he bought two jars this year! Happy reading ...

Set fares

Haydon bridge - Hexham £11
 Haydon bridge - Newcastle £45
 Haydon bridge - Freeman £45
 Haydon bridge - Haltwhistle £20
 Haydon bridge - Carlisle £55
 Haydon bridge - airport £38
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 Hexham - Newcastle £33
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The Haydon Hundred - After It Had All Blown Over

Saturday 6th June was the date set for the third running of the Haydon Hundred, and as is often the case with such things, people had been learning what to look out for on such occasions. After a glorious sunny first day followed by persistent rain on the second outing, everyone was well aware that this time strong winds with very strong gusts had been forecast.

Now wind is one of the cyclist's main enemies. It has wrecked many a promising career in cycle racing when a team has been caught out in strong crosswinds, and when it gets to the speeds predicted for this year's event it can be positively dangerous. In the days before the event there was much agonising on the part of the organisers as to whether it would be necessary to call it off and, in these days of social media, much discussion among the participants both for and against this proposition. In the end, the decision was made to go ahead with a strong warning to entrants to consider their capabilities carefully and plan accordingly.



On the day this proved to have worked well. For the first time over 50 entrants thought discretion the better part of valour and did not turn up on the morning. Of the 250 or so who still did, many opted to downgrade the ride they had selected before setting off, while others made this choice when out on the road. While this made it impossible to keep accurate records of which route was done by whom it did result in everyone getting back safely and in a fit state to make their way home. Those who did were full of praise for the stunning scenery they had encountered, and not without a few tales of their struggles against the elements. In the end, only 20 riders retired on the



day, many of those for mechanical rather than meteorological reasons.

It was breezy enough down in the village, but up on the summits winds were gusting at their predicted 60 mph. Generally recognised as the most difficult section for all was the long drag over the Allendale moors where the wind direction as much as its force made cycling particularly tricky, but special praise must be reserved for the hardy souls who did the full Sky rider route, some of them even being compelled to push their machines downhill from the summit feeding station to a more manageable spot.

All in all though, we can consider the 2015 Haydon Hundred a great success. Once again the quality of the welcome and the tastiness of our famous flapjacks earned high praise, and we cannot thank enough the efforts of all our volunteers who probably expected a nice summer's day out in the countryside rather than the windswept reality which confronted them. Next year we hope for the super conditions which greeted the first event, and why not – we seem to have had everything else in between!

And don't forget, for full results and to keep up to date, visit: www.haydonhundred.co.uk

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Social
Club**

**OPEN GARDEN - for The Red Cross
SUNDAY JULY 19th**

East Deanraw

- at Langley on Tyne, near Haydon Bridge. NE47 5LY. (1 mile west of the Castle along to back road signed West Deanraw. The house is signed on the drive end.)

East Deanraw, behind and west of the Castle was one of the smaller farms on the Langley Estate which is 650 feet up on the fell that is approached from the north down a lengthy drive. The steading faces south with its garden in front. The farm was merged at the end of the last tenancy in 1991 when the house and buildings became occupied by a member of the Bates family, the Estate owners.

In 2004/5, after the house had been partly restored but the outbuildings were still in extreme disrepair, the current occupiers, continuing to be part of the Bates family, embarked on a total renovation project of both house and outbuildings, plus the creation of a new 3 acre garden carved out of the surrounding accommodation land.

The south facing slopes were re-landscaped, a new front drive and parking area was put down to the east, whilst in the south a small lake was dug out to take advantage of a healthy flowing burn that runs through the new garden. Extensive lawns were laid out around the house and lake, nearly 100 specimen trees were planted in both garden and park, and then subsequently herbaceous borders facing the lawns.

The situation had been intended to become a quiet haven within the remote surroundings of fell land and previously laid out forestry as the backdrop.

The old farm buildings around an internal courtyard have been restored or converted into a stable block and kennels, all of which are now in active use. The house even benefits from a porch over the front door which previously came from Halton Castle.

Before the garden work started, a large terrace was constructed along the south face of the house with a large conservatory at the west end which overlooks the lake and the garden. The terrace is embellished with pots and urns full of annual flowering plants in support of the borders.

After 10 years of establishment the garden is finally maturing and should be in full bloom by this July. **It will be open to visitors, on behalf of the Red Cross, on Sunday the 19th July from 1-5pm. The entry fee is £3.50 for adults, with children under 12 free.** There will be teas and food available as well as a plant stall and entertainment provided by the Cherry Pickers singing group.

Tom Speir



The lake and terrace



Terracing



Lawned track



Lawns



Front aspect

New Bar terrace

opening soon.

For you to have an inexpensive drink in the sun

Haydonian Social Club

Haydonian Golf Society

Twelve very brave and optimistic golfers arrived at Bellingham Golf Club on Saturday 6th June, amidst gale force winds and heavy drizzly rain. After sustenance of coffee and bacon sandwiches we strolled out to the first tee (some of the more delicate hired buggies).

The event was highlighted by the 55 - 60 mph winds and even the most sturdy of players found it difficult, not only to stand on the tee but to control the little white ball.

We were fortunate enough to get through the front nine holes fairly dry but the back nine was more than challenging when we were thoroughly drenched by a down pour containing hail stones. We were frozen and trolleys were blowing over more times than they were standing.

Although overshadowed by the weather, Matthew Gilbertson won with a great score of 34 points - a feat applauded by the rest of us as we expected scores to be low.

Johnny Craig was second with 26 points narrowly beating Joyce into third with 25 points.

There were two nearest the pins, the first won by Matthew Gilbertson and the second by Mark Sadler. David Coxon and Mark had their best round to date - they obviously like a bit of rough!

It was a difficult day in savage conditions but everyone finished 18 holes so well done and thanks to all who played.

Thank you also to the Haydonian Social Club for their continued sponsorship.

There will be another outing in August - for information please contact Joyce - 07983566901

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