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THE SUCCESS OF THE HAYDON NEWS DURING ITS 41+ YEARS SINCE THE FIRST ISSUE, HAS BEEN DUE TO A SINGULAR COMMITMENT OF INDIVIDUAL EDITORS WHO HAVE TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTENT AND PREPARATION OF THE MAGAZINE, WITHIN BROAD BOUNDARIES SET BY AN EDITORIAL COMMITTEE OFFERING THEIR WILLING SUPPORT BUT WITH A MINIMUM OF INTERFERENCE.

IT WILL BE WONDERFUL IF THERE ARE RESIDENTS IN THE PARISH WILLING TO UNDERTAKE THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES AGAIN; EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR ON A SHARED BASIS.

THE HAYDON NEWS EDITORIAL COMMITTEE NEEDS HELP IF YOUR PARISH MAGAZINE IS TO CONTINUE.

WE REQUIRE IMMEDIATELY:

A NEWS EDITOR: WILLING TO REPORT ON VILLAGE EVENTS.

A DESIGN EDITOR: WITH COMPUTER CAPABILITY WHO CAN ASSEMBLE ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TOGETHER IN PREPARATION FOR PRINTING.

CONTRIBUTORS: TO THE HAYDON NEWS

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Donations of any value are always gratefully received, and will help us to keep this publication going. For people living outside the Haydon News delivery areas, we can arrange delivery by post of the Haydon News for the year at a subscription cost of £20.

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The September/October editions of the Haydon News will be printed and distributed early in the month.

Please submit any articles for inclusion by the 12th of the previous month.

Thank you

Cover Note

Michael Sadgrove's beautiful photograph of the Honeycrook Burn, close to which lived old Joe Hodgson. (See page 17)

ALL CORRESPONDENCE, CONTRIBUTIONS, ADVERTS AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS TO: editor@haydon-news.co.uk or by hand to: Claire's Newsagents 11, Church Street.

The Haydon News Committee

Alex Kinsey(Editor). Pauline Wallis (Chair). Pat Hirst (Secretary). Mark Weldon (Treasurer). Richard Woodley (Distribution co-ordinator). Peter Parker. Dennis Telford. John Wallis.

The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editor. 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 Chair and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee. Complaints other than those made above will not be entertained. The Editor reserves the right to decide which letters/articles are to be published, and to alter or shorten letters/articles when necessary.

Parish Council Notes

Online video technology has allowed your Haydon Parish councillors to continue their business - at a distance - during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Firstly, however, the minutes of the council meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday April 23rd, 2020.

Present: Cllrs. E. Faulks (Chair), K. Richardson, J. Bates, E. Charlton, A. Kirsopp, B. Howard, R. Snowdon, J. Thompson, D. Thornhill, A. Sharp.

Apologies for absence – None received.

Declaration of interest – None received.

Confirm minutes of last meeting – having been circulated the minutes were agreed, with the alteration supplied by Cllr Snowdon.

Report From Northumberland County Council:

Ratcliffe Road Scheme - Cllr Sharp had again spoken to Neil Snowdon regarding progressing the above scheme and had been informed that David Potter from Northumberland County Council who is leading on this project was due to meet the construction team at the area office. Unfortunately, the site meeting did not take place due to the lockdown. He had confirmed that the scheme has been finalised. Cllr Sharp asked if a virtual meeting could take place to move this work forward or a site meeting within the social distancing requirements. Cllr Sharp is keen to get this project completed.

New Alston Road Safety Scheme - As previously reported, the new signage at New Alston is being progressed and a design brief has been issued to the design team. Cllr Sharp hopes that this will be done when the opportunity arises after the lockdown.

Shaftoe School, Road Improvements and Road Crossing Safety Scheme - Cllr Sharp had agreed to fund the feasibility study from his Members Allowance Scheme, this will cost up to £2,000.00. The design brief has been issued but due to the Coronavirus outbreak a further site meeting had not taken place. Cllr Sharp had asked for the plans to be sent to him as soon as they were available.

Hopefully they will be available for the meeting in May. Cllr Sharp had spoken to Wise Academies but again due to current problems, had not been able to arrange a further meeting with the school head teacher.

The Showfield - Further additional 20 mph signs and road markings are going to be provided at the Showfield as discussed at the last meeting of the Parish Council. In addition a speed survey is going

to be carried out to check how bad the speeding problems are in this location.

Spa Footpath – Cllr Sharp had had further discussions with Tim Fish about re-opening the public footpath and he is hoping to progress this long outstanding scheme when things get back to normal. Tim Fish had reported that the other issue with the footpath on the Straker Estate has been resolved. The roadside gate has been locked by Roadlink so this gate is secure.

Greenwich Gardens Development - Alex Campbell from the Northumberland County Council had now confirmed that the garden wall at the rear of the Greenwich Garden properties would be reinstated by the developers. The developer had confirmed to Alex Campbell that there was no soakaway constructed on the site.

Highways Report - Due to the ongoing restrictions NCC are working under with regard to the coronavirus, they are not carrying out any non-essential works which will have an impact on some of the outstanding jobs in the Tynedale area as a whole. Highways staff are continuing to fill potholes that the inspectors identify throughout the Tynedale area, whilst other staff are undertaking duties including deliveries to vulnerable people within Tynedale and the recent delivery of the COVID 19 NCC magazine, as well as providing support to our neighbourhoods team where the need arises. The Highways Dept. have also been advised to stand down staff who have underlying health issues and are currently at home 'shielding' in line with government guidelines, which has had some impact on staffing levels. They are also operating a rota so that staff are not at work for a full week, in order to attempt to minimise their potential exposure. These are very difficult and demanding times and the Highways team is doing their utmost to deliver services whilst trying to keep staff safe.

Martins Close drainage: CCTV works are needed and this had been planned to take place a few weeks ago but was then put on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Road to Shaftoe First school: Resurfacing planned but dates to be confirmed once restrictions are lifted.

Finger post: This was programmed in to be installed the week that restrictions were imposed and will be reprogrammed once restrictions are lifted. (See page 6)

Continued on page 4

Potholes between A69 and the village (east side):

Staff are currently working in the area and these will be addressed by the end of this week.

Bins installation at various locations: Again, this work was programmed at the same time as the finger post but was put on hold due to the ongoing restrictions.

It was confirmed that the Northumberland County Council continue to carry out the following works -Grass cutting, emptying litter bins and bins are being collected as usual.

If any litter bins had not been collected this should be reported and it would be chased up. Cllr Sharp is still pressing for improvements to be made on the A686 road, particularly around Langley, and also on the road up to Threepwood. Glen Harrison had confirmed that the work required on the road junction at Elrington would be carried out, along with the camera survey re. the water problems on the road, as soon as the restrictions are lifted.

Other issues - Stephen Rickett the Chief Officer from NALC has written to say that there is no requirement to hold an Annual General Meeting in May this year and the legislation has been extended for Terms of Office for Chairman etc., to May 2021 if that is the best way forward for Parish Councils.

Highways -

Kerb stone on Church Street – Cllr Richardson had reported a dangerous kerb stone on Church St. The Clerk has reported this to NCC.

The bin next to the railway tunnel on Station Road had not being emptied. This was raised by Cllr Richardson. The Clerk has reported this to NCC.

Cllr Kirsopp had said that earth is encroaching on the footpath up to Esp Hill, (east side). Raised by Cllr Kirsopp. The Clerk had passed this on to the Handyman.

Cllr Kirsopp said that a gully, just before the cemetery, (on east side) is blocked to the top. The Clerk has reported this to NCC.

Cllr Kirsopp asked whether the sign at the entrance to the Showfield could be altered to include "leading to Tyne View Close". This has been passed to the Highways Team, who will look at it once things return to normal.

Cllr Kirsopp reported that potholes are reappearing in the centre of the road between Watson's Garage and the Haydonian Club. The Clerk had reported this to NCC

Cllr Burrows said that the sign at the entrance to Hordley Acres was coming off the posts. The Clerk had reported this to NCC.

Cllr Burrows also said that potholes in the road, as you enter the village from the east, had still not been repaired. This was passed to Cllr Sharp.

Lighting - Nothing to report.

Planning applications -

19/00805/CCD - Discharge of Conditions 14

(Method Statement), 18 (Landscape Planting Scheme) and 21 (Tree Planting Scheme) - pursuant to planning application for Haydon Bridge High School and 19/00805/CCD—of conditions 4 (Details of Vehicular Access) and 8 (Details of Refuse) on approved planning application for Haydon Bridge High School - OBJECT - The PC supported objections returned by Mr D Ferguson of Belmont Gardens regarding the security fence surrounding the school and sports hall, which had been installed without planning approval, and wished to remind NCC that the school/sports hall lie within the conservation area; and also the closure of the existing means of access to the west end of Belmont Gardens, which has always provided an alternative means of access should the lane be blocked behind Belmont Gardens.

19/00676/FUL - Discharge of Conditions 6, 7, 8 (materials), 12 (ecology), 13, 14 (ground gas protection), 15 (contamination), 17 (water supply), 20, 21 (highways), 22 (refuse) relating to approved planning application for Vauce Farm – there was **NO OBJECTION.**

Accounts - as in budget.

Audit – The audit has been postponed. The Clerk has completed the Statement of Accounts, and this along with the payments book, cheques and statements have all been checked by the Chair. There should be more news this week on how to complete the Internal Audit given the current circumstances.

Risk assessment and review of Internal Audit - these documents had been circulated and agreed, and were adopted.

Correspondence – Playdale Playgrounds had carried out an inspection of the play equipment. Although they recorded each play item as either low or very low risk, they had made specific recommendations for small things that needed to be attended to and the Chair had requested that they be instructed to carry out the work when the current restrictions are lifted. The cost quoted is £1264.45 (net). Topping up of woodchip in the play area at

Shaftoe Green has been postponed for the time being.

Mr D Crellin, Chair of Allendale PC had contacted the Clerk about a closure notice on the footpath to Staward Peel. The Clerk reported this to the Area Countryside Officer who said, "There are no closures in place on any public rights of way as a result of the current Coronavirus situation, and national guidance issued yesterday emphasised that it is still unlawful to erect notices to that effect or which deter users from accessing the footpaths," and he left a message for the landowner concerned.

Parish projects -

Development Trust – Cllr Faulks said that there had been no meetings of the DT, but the Haydon Hundred which was the biggest fund raiser for the library has had to be cancelled. The library itself is closed under the current restrictions.

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Charlton said that the housing survey had been delayed, and that the date for the first draft back is the end of April. It is possible the whole process will have to be delayed but at present the various groups were proceeding their individual topics, whilst adhering to the restrictions.

Repairs at Shaftoe Green – Cllr Faulks said that the first part of the joinery repairs at Shaftoe Green had been carried out, and the next tranche should take place when it is permitted to do so.

Any other business -

Cllr Charlton said that there was a dead sheep in the river beside the joiner's shop. The Clerk will report this.

Cllr Charlton said that the glass bins had been emptied, but a lot of rubbish had been left lying by people. Barbara Wardle litter picks the path up to the bins and has an arrangement with the bin men that they will pick up any bags left at the tunnel top. They will also pick up at the car park Martins Close.

Cllr Charlton also said that a vast amount of litter and larger items had been left on the roadside south side of the river, near the bypass bridge at the west end. The Clerk will report this to Roadlink.

MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THURSDAY 28th MAY 2020 (ZOOM)

Present: Cllr J. Bates, E. Charlton, E. Faulks (Chair), A. Kirsopp, K. Richardson, B. Howard, R. Snowdon, and J. Thompson; C. McGivern (mins.).

Apologies for absence - were received from Cllr Keyte. Cllrs Burrows and Thornhill were unable to join the meeting.

Declaration of interest - None received.

Minutes of previous meeting - having been circulated the minutes were agreed and signed.

Report from Northumberland County Council - Cllr Sharp said "Unfortunately due to the present lock-down arrangements it is proving difficult for any work to progress due to the social distancing requirements and also many of the employees have been asked to do different duties such as delivering urgent PPE supplies etc.

This last week they have been carrying out risk assessments to enable work to progress in the future. Some work has been carried out on both the east and west accesses into and out of the village but this work is only temporary and further work will be carried out. The bins and the finger post should be done in June.

Many of the other schemes I outlined in my report last month I would hope also can be progressed but obviously it depends on lockdown regulations at the time."

There are three road improvement schemes which we have been notified of by Northumberland County Council to carry out improvements at the following locations.

- a. A686 road around Langley Wood/Sawmill.
- b. The road between the Langley Castle junction to Deanraw Farm
- c. The area leading up to Shaftoe School and surrounding area.

Cllr Sharp was pressing for all three schemes to be done at the earliest opportunity although I realise there will be other works to be done in other parts of Tynedale. He is also pushing for the work to be done on the Elrington junction and the road up to Threepwood as he feels this work needs to be done as soon as possible.

Cllr Sharp had spoken to the planning department regarding the Planning Application at Haydon Bridge High School and had made the same observations as the Parish Council did at their recent meeting. As this is a Northumberland County Council application it will need to be determined by the Local Area Council and he asked

for feedback from the Planning Officer on this but was told that due to the lockdown they had not been able to visit the site.

Cllr Sharp had discussed all of the other highway matters and projects with the various officers and said that, "progress is understandably so slow".

Highways - Seat in front of bungalows at Greenwich Gdns - Cllr Richardson said that the seat had not been replaced. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Karbon Homes.

Lighting - nothing to report.

Planning applications - none received.

Accounts - as in budget.

Correspondence -

Mr and Mrs L. Davison had written to express their concerns about the rocks in the river. They said: "As a household along with many others our home and ourselves were devastated by storm Desmond. We are aware that the council worked extremely hard to enable the extraction of some rocks from the river which we believe had a massive impact on the river levels during subsequent flood alerts, but this year during the flood alerts and warnings we have had the river levels have been much higher and the river has been much, much higher. We are residents of Martin's Close and see the river daily from our house and it is obvious that the rocks are piling up again." They asked if the PC would consider applying for a permit to allow Thompsons to extract rocks again. It was noted that the EA are reluctant to allow the removal of gravel.

Cllr Snowdon said that he was in regular contact with Mr Pitman of the EA and this was one of the issues that he raised. Although the EA are currently affected by the lockdown, Cllr Snowdon will continue to raise this matter.

Mrs Flanagan had written to the Clerk to say that she often visited her relative's graves, but at the moment her daughter is putting flowers on them. She said that: "the cemetery looks neat now but I would like to know what has been done to my Aunty's headstone. There seems to be a lot of soil to level the grave, but her headstone has been knocked down and it's lying backwards ... It's very upsetting. Can you see if it can be straightened please?" The Chair had visited the cemetery and

could find no problem with the grave. It was agreed that the Clerk would reply to explain the work that had been carried out and say that the Chair would be happy to meet Mrs Flanagan in the cemetery, once this was possible, to discuss this.

Parish projects -

Bridge and Development Trust — Cllr Faulks said that The Bridge had been closed for the last two months. The DT had not had a meeting either, but a zoom meeting was planned soon. Cllr Charlton raised the issue of reduced funds for the library as the Haydon Hundred had had to be cancelled this year. Cllr Faulks said that Mr Fletcher would be investigating this.

Hanging baskets – Cllrs Thompson and Kirsopp had been discussing this. It as agreed that businesses should be asked whether they would like hanging baskets this year before an order was placed. Cllr Howard will liaise with Cllrs Thompson and Kirsopp.

Any other business -

Cllr Faulks said that the community spirit in Haydon Bridge during the current crisis had been excellent. There had been many jokes and photos on the Haydon Bridge Matters Facebook page. He went on to say that he had written a short article for the June edition of the Haydon News about this.

Cllr Kirsopp said that overhanging branches above the path from the Shaftoe Academy to the Showfield were making access difficult. Cllr Richardson promised to raise this issue at the forthcoming school governors' meeting.



Haydon Bridge Finger Post

Note! These minutes have been edited for The Haydon News. The substance of the minutes has not been altered.

Haydon Bridge & Allendale Medical Practice

Monday to Friday: The Health Centre is open continuously from 8.00am until 6.00pm

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CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

Clergy Message: from Father Christopher Warren

The arrival of the summer break and the end of another school year usually signals a mass exodus of those seeking a change of scenery for some rest and relaxation. I suspect this summer will be very different. For many, this summer will be spent closer to home and will be an opportunity to enjoy the wonderful places on our doorsteps. Part of any holiday is the opportunity to pause and reflect upon life. Following the devastating and continued effect of Covid-19 on our lives, our reflection takes on a very different quality.

The Christian Year with seasons and feasts connects us to the mystery of God who shares in our lives in Jesus who became a human being like us. The month of August in the Church Calendar is relatively clear, the exception is the Assumption of Mary which is celebrated on 15 August. For many Christians, Mary plays an important role in their lives and her example of courage, prayer and humility is a constant inspiration. The Feast of Mary's Assumption celebrates the promise God makes to all people; a promise which he fulfils. Mary accepted her invitation to serve God and became the Mother of Jesus. Her life was filled with trials and struggles; as a refugee, seeing her Son rejected and then holding his lifeless body in her arms beneath the Cross. Mary remained faithful and faith filled in the face of struggle, she is a witness to Christian Hope. During these days Mary can inspire us to hope and teach us to trust that everything is in God's hands. We need not be afraid.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Father Christopher Warren

Methodist Church Updates

At the time of writing, our building remains closed, however throughout the Methodist Circuit as a whole, we are in the process of completing a number of Risk Assessments at our Churches and are planning a staggered opening of Churches throughout the Tynedale area and beyond over the next couple of months.

In the meantime we are continuing to distribute weekly Pastoral letters and Home Service Sheets to

our members and friends in and around Haydon Bridge and have recently started an 'on line' Bible Study through the marvellous technology of 'Zoom' with some of our Church members.

We look forward to the time when our Church in the village will be open again so we can welcome everyone and share fellowship with all.

Deacon Anne Taylor

St. Cuthbert's Church in August 2020

2 August: 9am: Morning Prayer

with Hymns and Reflection on:

www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall

10.30am: Morning Prayer,

All Hallows' Henshaw

10am-12noon: Private Prayer

St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

9 August: 9am: Morning Prayer

with Hymns and Reflection on

www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall

10.30am: Parish Eucharist,

St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

10am-12noon: Private Prayer,

All Hallows' Henshaw

16 August: 9am: Morning Prayer

with Hymns and Reflection on

www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall

10.30am: Parish Eucharist,

All Hallows' Henshaw

10am-12noon: Private Prayer,

St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

23 August: 9am: Morning Prayer

with Hymns and Reflection on

www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall

10.30am: Morning Prayer,

St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

10am-12noon: Private Prayer,

All Hallows' Henshaw

30 August: 9am: Morning Prayer

with Hymns and Reflection on

www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall

10.30am: Parish Eucharist,

All Hallows' Henshaw

10am-12noon: Private Prayer,

St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

Churches Working Together Continued on page 10

CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER (Continued)

Returning to Public Worship in the Parishes by the Wall

As some of us begin to move back to familiar patterns of daily life following the lock-down we have begun to worship regularly again in our churches. To ensure that we do so safely we are limiting ourselves initially to one service at 10.30am on Sunday alternating between Haydon Bridge and Henshaw. If you would like to come to one of these services we are asking people to follow certain simple procedures and to record their attendance with us for the purposes of track and trace. Recognising that many people are still not able or willing to mix more widely with other people we are also maintaining our pattern of Morning and Evening Prayer at 9am and 6pm everyday streamed on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall. If there is any other way we can support you during this changing period please do get in touch as well as posting weekly resources to those who we have postal addresses who are not online.

With every best wish,
The Rev'd Dr Benjamin Carter
Vicar of Haydon Bridge and Beltingham with Henshaw

St. John of Beverley

As St. John's Roman Catholic Church in Haydon Bridge is closed at the moment, all masses are being streamed online from St. Mary's in Hexham and can be followed on St. Mary's website: www.stmaryshexham.org.uk

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(admin@stmaryshexham.org.uk)

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WHO AND WHERE

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

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter,

St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church The Vicarage, Station Yard. Tel. 01434 688196

Deacon Anne Taylor, (with the Methodist Church)Woodville' Redesmouth Road, Bellingham NE48 2EH,

Tel: 01434 220283

Father Christopher Warren, (With St John's Catholic Church)

c/o St. Mary's, Hexham. Tel. 01434 603119



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Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge

By Dennis Telford

VJ DAY

In the July issue of The Haydon News, I celebrated THE 75TH Anniversary of the Allies Victory in Europe. VE (Victory in Europe) Day.

World War II was not over in May 1945, however, and many of our brave servicemen fought on until the collapse of the Japanese and the official end of the conflict, on August 15th, 1945: 'VJ (Victory Over Japan) DAY'.

VJ Day was celebrated quietly in Haydon Bridge in August 1945.

Special services were held in the village churches, a combined choir gave a special programme in the Elmfield Church (*The Methodist Church in 2020*) and there was a bonfire at Hordley Acres.

A headstone erected by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, in St. Cuthbert's Church graveyard extension above Alexandra Terrace, is a reminder that there were those who continued the war against the Japanese until their surrender on August 14th 1945.

Horace (Harry) Lax of Haydon Bridge, who worked at Langley Barony before joining the forces, died on October 23rd 1946 aged 37 years, his early death attributed to the horrors and disease he was subject to in the jungles of the far east.





Corporal H. LAX Royal Air Force

A LOYAL AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

The overnight intruder who attempted to break into Alan Scudamore's garage on John Martin Street, did so clearly unaware that the occupier's World War II training would be such an effective deterrent. When Mr. and Mrs. Scudamore awoke in the morning they were soon able to piece together the events of the previous night a damaged window, an obvious sign of an attempted burglary, and a window sill covered in blood.

And, maybe, hints of a job well done on Bonn's salivating tongue.



Older residents of Haydon Parish will recall Bonn striking a much friendlier pose, as he lay day after day, unconcerned but with a watchful eye, at the base of a petrol pump in the Anchor Garage yard.

Bonn was the twelve-year old Alsatian dog pet of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Scudamore and for two and a half years he gave 'loyal and faithful service' as a R.A.F. police patrol dog in the Second World War. Bonn guarded various Air Force stations in Britain and received a certificated award, recording the part played in the War by one of the best-known figures in Haydon Bridge in his many years at the Anchor Garage.

The Hexham Courant reported Bonn as the only four - legged Haydon Bridge serviceman in the War, and the only Haydon Bridge serviceman who got no medals for the part he played in the War. We are all aware that the horses who served their country so well during European conflicts were feted in the film 'War Horse', but, maybe not so the four - legged friends like Bonn? So, I will play my part in righting that wrong by publishing the letter sent to the Scudamore family after the conflict.

Continued on page 12

Provost Marshal's Dept., Air Ministry, London E.C.2.

Dear Sir or madam,

I have pleasure in enclosing a certificate as documentary recognition of the admirable work done by your dog during the War as a R.A.F. Police Guard Dog.

Although the work done by these animals has been mentioned publicly from time to time, few people who were not actually in touch with them know of the extraordinarily valuable services which they performed. Night after night, over a period of years, vital R.A.F. property and equipment in isolated situations was safe-guarded by them and their handlers in a manner, and with an efficiency and economy in man-power, which would have been impossible by any other means.

Theirs was one of those essential jobs which had to be carried out in terms of long, arduous, sometimes boring, often exacting, duties which, even though they may not have come within the public eye so much as others, were none the less an important and positive contribution to winning the war.

I hope that the realisation that your dog played its part so splendidly in this work will be as great a cause of satisfaction to you, as the success of the guard dog scheme is to the R.A.F.

Yours faithfully, Air Commodore. Provost Marshal.



Thank you to Martin and Simon Scudamore for providing the photograph of Bonn and the record and acknowledgement of achievement so richly deserved.

THE ROAD TO THE NORTH (Part 2)

In March 2020, I followed the North Road above The Tofts farm and called in at two farms: 'Cruel Syke', covering an early C19th period to 1938, and 'Westley Bank' from 1819 to Gawen Anderson's tenure there in 1851. This month I am returning to Westley Bank:

We know that Gawen Anderson moved from Westley Bank to West Haydon, and by 1861 farmed 70 acres there. It also seems likely that Gawen Anderson was farming both Haydon and Westley Bank at this time as, by 1861, the occupier of the farm at Westley Bank - following a short tenancy by labourer Thomas Henderson and wife Elizabeth - was Mathew Armstrong. Mathew was Gawen's son in law, having married Margaret, Gawen's daughter, in 1853. Mathew and Margaret Armstrong had four children at Westley Bank and Mathew was a lead ore miner from Rookhope. (Maybe, he was working at William Benson's Stonecroft lead mine, as Bewick's mines at Honeycrook Burn weren't producing until 1873.) I wonder if Mathew also helped his father in law on the Westley Bank farm? Certainly, by 1871 he had left for Newbrough ... as a butcher! A strange move, perhaps.

Before leaving Gawen Anderson the farmer at Westley Bank and West Haydon, it is worth mentioning another snippet of Haydon Bridge history for which Gawen has become noted.

Read on

A New Burial Ground:

On Thursday June 3rd, 1869 an application was made to close the burial ground attached to St. Cuthbert's Chapel (today's St. Cuthbert's Church) in Haydon Bridge and on July 21st 1869, it was agreed that a new burial ground would be provided through a public subscription, and a door to door collection in the village raised £329 towards the new burial ground.

Initially, there were three locations considered: 'Hungry Haugh' (Where Greenwich and Langley Gardens were built eventually); Land 'to the north side and adjoining the existing St. Cuthbert's Chapel cemetery'. (Part of the station yard, perhaps?); a site to the north and adjoining the

California Gardens (Where Alexandra Terrace stands in 2020).

On September 9th, however, it was reported through their agent Mr. Grey that the Greenwich Hospital was in favour of, and had offered the parish, a field above the 'California Gardens'.

So it was that on September 16th, 1869, at a meeting of the Chapelry ratepayers held in the Vestry of St. Cuthbert's Chapel, a proposal by Mr. Drydon seconded by Mr. Dinning, that Mr. Grey's offer of the acre and a half of land above California Gardens should be accepted, was carried, and in response to a circular, an impressive total of £500 was provided to the chapelry through parishioners' voluntary subscriptions for the new cemetery.

On March 20th, 1871 Haydon Chapelry's new burial ground was consecrated above California gardens, by the Bishop of Durham.

Gawen Anderson, who died on June 20th 1871 may not have been the first person to be buried in the extension to St. Cuthbert's Church burial ground, on the Lords of the Admiralty land above California Gardens, but his was the first headstone to be erected there; on April 11th 1873.

If you would like to share in this piece of Haydon Bridge history, follow the west boundary wall for about 50 yards from the gate at the south west corner of the cemetery above Alexandra Terrace, until you reach the headstone of Gawen Anderson his wife and son (See below) erected against the western boundary wall enclosing the cemetery.



The weathered inscription reads

Gawen Anderson
Of Haydon
Who Died June 20 1871
Aged 59 Years
Gawen His Son Died
April 19 1875 Aged 24 Years
Mary His Wife Died
Jan 1 1876 Aged 71 Years

(Read more about the St. Cuthbert's cemetery extension, above Alexandra Terrace, in my Haydon News' Notes of June 2010. Available at 'The Bridge' Library or, on The Haydon News Archive at: www.haydon-news.co.uk)

And now, I return to Westley Bank:

On July 10th, 1861, there is a Haydon Chapelry record of the burial of William Hetherington, of Westley Bank. Who was William Hetherington? Of this occupier we have no further information, unless one of our readers can help.

The next occupier of Westley Bank, who followed Mathew Armstrong (and, presumably, William Hetherington), was George Carr with his wife Mary and their six young children, and they were at Westley Bank in 1868. George Carr was a described as a husbandman (i.e. a person who cultivates the land) and was 55 years old; Margaret his wife was aged 37 years and before moving to Westley Bank, George and his family had been living at 'Queen's Letch' in Hexham where he was a farm labourer. By circa 1881, the Carrs had left the farm and were living in the village, where George earned his living as a mole catcher.

Around 1877, Joseph Mitchell, a 74 year old farmer, and his brother Mathew with his wife and family had moved into Westley Bank. It seems that Joseph had improved his lot as, In 1871, he had been an 'indoor farm servant' on a farm at Newbrough, while his brother Mathew was a lead ore miner living in Haydon Bridge. Joseph's father John Mitchell was a Haydon Bridge shoemaker. In 1878, (August 23rd) a 20 year old Joseph Mitchell of Westley Bank was buried at Haydon Bridge. - We have no more details; but, a son of 77 year old Joseph, perhaps?

By 1891, Joseph Mitchell snr., now an 85 year old retired farmer, was living on his own in two rooms in Haydon Bridge where he died four years later in 1895, aged 89 years.

Following Joseph Mitchell's occupancy at Westley Bank, the farm was in the capable hands of William Veitch (circa 1885) who, having previously lived at Crindledykes, moved there with Elizabeth his wife and, in 1891, children: Frances; John, who was a lead ore washer; Sarah J, William, a lead miner; and Hannah, a housekeeper at Chesterwood. William Veitch was a 55 year old agricultural labourer from Low Morwood and he and Elizabeth raised twelve children and a thirteenth who had died aged only eleven months, at Crindledykes in 1861.

Elizabeth Veitch died at Westley Bank in December 1910 aged 76 years and William died there in February 1912 aged 80 years. William and Elizabeth Veitch of Westley Bank were the great grandparents of William Veitch, our regular Haydon News contributor, and they are both buried at Haydon (Old) Church.

Westley Bank was then taken over by John Veitch; John was the youngest son of William and Elizabeth. John married Sarah Elizabeth Smith from Wigton and they lived at Westley Bank well into the twentieth century before moving to East Land Ends Farm.

William Veitch (William of Lancashire, in the twenty first century!) recalls some oddities relevant to the two farms, Cruel Syke and Westley Bank, and their early occupants:

<u>Firstly</u>: The two farms were created relatively recently compared to many in the area. <u>Secondly</u>: the farmhouses were not always occupied by farmers. Labourers, lead ore miners, a builder and a butcher had all been tenants of the farmhouses at one time or another - this situation suggests the land was often in the hands of neighbouring farmers. <u>Thirdly</u>: It is clear a number of 'agricultural labourers' who had lived in the properties had improved their status by becoming 'farmers'. And <u>fourthly</u>, of interest to William on a personal note; for a large part of the last century, the farmer at each of the two farms was a Jack Veitch (William Veitch's uncle) and his nephew.

Twentieth century Northumbrian author and one of my paternal ancestors, Miss Nancy Ridley, wrote that she was treated to one of the finest views in the county when she walked west between her grandfather's home at Peel Well Farm, Haydon Bridge to her own birthplace at Lipwood Well. I am not about to dispute Miss Ridley's opinion, given that I enjoy that view every day from my home at 'The Buildings'. (A name given locally, at least three generations ago, to the Peel Well Farm buildings and two hinds' cottages that were officially called West Rattenraw.) However, there is another view in Haydon parish, that competes with that from Peel Well to Lipwood Well

described by Miss Ridley as 'the finest in the county', and you can enjoy it on a clear day looking west from the North Road, beyond Cruel Syke and Westley Bank - the former farmhouses which have been the basis of my Historical Notes this month and in March 2020.



A fine view of the landscape looking west from Westley Bank

Beyond Westley Bank and the New Alston crossroads, on the North Road from Haydon Bridge, the next former farm is named 'Cubstocks' and I will return there for a closer examination in a future month. In the meantime, as I reach the New Alston crossroads, it is an opportunity to recall a time when there was little but open country between The Tofts farm, the Military Way (the present 'Military Road') and beyond.

COMMON LAND

The uncultivated land in question, of the C18th and long before, was 600ft and more above sea level, much exposed and hardly accessible, with soils of heavy clay and peat bog often relying simply on natural drainage, if drained at all, and only the thinnest of soil cover on the ridge tops. tenants of Langley Barony and later Haydon Chapelry did, however, lay claim to these 'out bye' lands as their 'Common Ground', and we have documentary evidence that as early as 1600, the inhabitants of the Barony, even though the ground was uncultivated, used their 'common rights' to access these ancient lands as a source of summer pasturage - known as 'shielding'; or the seasonal movement of stock and herdsmen to higher ground, before a return to lower ground in the autumn.

'Common Land' (Continued from page 14)

To access these 'common' lands and bring them into profitable use required a formidable pioneering effort, and it was not until the end of the eighteenth century that the division of this common land into sustainable 'allotments', surrounded by walls, fences or earth mounds, was undertaken by the Governors of the Greenwich Hospital.

This development was termed: 'Enclosure of the Commons' and Grindon Common, where I stand

today at New Alston crossroads, and further to the north, was officially 'enclosed' in 1797.

New access roads to the common land allotments were necessary, of course, and the main enclosure road built across the common from the bridge at Haydon Bridge to the Military Road, was the 'Great North Road', (today's North Bank/North Road) and alongside this road, Cruel Syke, Westley Bank and Cubstocks were built in the following century.

To be continued

Keeping Chickens as Pets Part 2

In July's Haydon News, Peter introduced you to the pleasures of keeping chickens as pets. If you decide to follow Peter in his hobby, where will you keep the chickens?

Before purchasing chickens, you will need a chicken coop and run, I have made a purpose built one but it was quite expensive due to the price of good treated timber, however, it will last for many years.

To start, you could look on a chicken keeping website and for very little money you can purchase a coop and run combined. They might look good, but most are of very poor quality and with only enough space for 2 chickens – this is o.k. if you have a garden where they can spend a minimum of 4 hours exercising (I will explain more about exercise next month).

If you have lots of money there is a website (Eglu Cube), they have everything you need to keep chickens at a cost of many hundreds of pounds. To keep financial outlay to a minimum, try advertising for a second hand coop but it has to be in a reasonable condition and must be cleaned and washed with an appropriate disinfectant or you will inherit other chickens' problems.

Why not have a go at making a coop? To provide for 4 to 5 hens it should be a minimum size of 1m square and made out of OSB board from a builders merchant. Roof it with corrugated sheeting or paint with wood stain, but do not use roofing felt as bugs will live between the timber and felt and at night they will attack the chickens. The door and window must be capable of preventing Mr. Fox gaining access to your precious pet hens. Most important, the perch should be 50mm/2inches wide for them to be comfortable and not fall off in the dark. As chickens prefer to sit on the highest point, make sure perches are placed at a higher level than nesting boxes. That way they'll poo from the perches and not inside the nesting boxes.

Finally, an alternative would to purchase a small shed and alter it to your requirements.

Talking of suiting your requirements ... as getting up early on a winter morning to let the hens out is not for me, I have set up two pulleys and a length of cord which runs from the coop door through the wall of my house to my bedside. I can open the coop door and go back to sleep without getting out of bed.

If that is not lazy, I don't know what is!

More next month.

Peter: peter.p7744@gmail.com



HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB





Meetings usually take place at Haydon Bridge Methodist chapel On Thursdays at 7.15 pm

At present we plan to open the new season during September or October. This however is subject to Government guidelines relating to COVID-19.

One of the Club's programme secretaries,
Ann Nicholson, passed away recently so
we have yet to complete our new
programme for 2020/21
Watch for announcements.

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY BINN



CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS AT THE GENERAL HAVELOCK HAYDON BRIDGE

All quizzes start at 8.15 pm
cost is £1.50 per person
In addition to the Quiz, the evening includes
the infamous 'Beer Question',
Refreshments and a Raffle
Team size from 2 to 6 (optimum 4-5)
Tables can be booked in advance over the bar.

Unfortunately, because of Covid-19 restrictions we have been unable to offer Charity Quizzes since February.

As a result, we shall be retaining the planned quiz dates and the list of supported charities, and will resume once permission has been given.

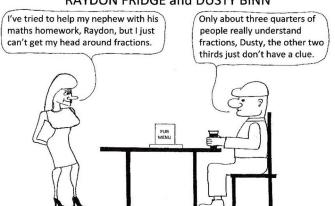
Quiz Dates – start date subject to Government guidance – August 18th, September 15th, October 20th, November 17th, December 15th

Charities Listed

Breast Cancer Care, The Brain Tumour Charity, Dragonfly Trust, Haydon Old Church Restoration Project, Haydon Bridge New Year's Fireworks, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hexham Youth Initiative, Blood Bikes, Haydon Bridge Playgroup.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: If you wish to nominate a charity then please contact John Harrison (aka Queenie) via the General Havelock or on Johnandaveril@aol.com.

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY BINN



THE NOSTALGIA OF NATURE IN HAYDON PARISH

When Haydon Bridge naturalist and raconteur, Bill Tait died on August 4th, 1998 his loss was felt by many nature lovers across the district; indeed, across the world thanks to his articles in the 'Awake' magazine, which had over 34 million copies printed in 87 languages.

When Bill passed away, I was given permission by his wife Jean to edit and publish his writing and, as stories of nature and local memories never age and were a pleasure to read years ago, they are more than likely a pleasure to read today.

Join me this month in June 1980, with Bill and Joe Hodgson, another Haydon character, in the north of the parish.

I like nothing better than to roam alone the wild wooded valleys of the South Tyne and Allen and the heather clad hills away to the north and south, seeking out wild nature and her ways.

The day was warmer than usual for this time of year and, although early, I found my first grouse nest of the season where the heather grew dense. The moor was alive with the song of the skylark yet above that I could hear the twittering of meadow pippits chirping away among the heather.

Old Joe Hodgson, a countryman and naturalist, was an old friend of mine who died in the spring of 1980 at the age of 86. He enjoyed country life to the full, following the Haydon Hunt one day, the next sitting close to a stone crag watching dog fox and vixen, then later spending hours on end watching cubs at play.

Many were the secrets of nature I learned from old Joe, for as a boy I would sit alongside him away out on Barcombe Fell, waiting for the fox, enjoying the stillness of the evening listening to the distant call of the cuckoo and the whistle of a curlew as the sun glowed red in the western sky.

I remember some of Joe's words — pearls of wisdom to he who would wait and watch nature.

With a twinkle in his bright blue eyes he would say:

"Bill if yer haven't gat patience ti wait by the craig ti watch for owld fox, yer might as weel gan heam."

Joe Hodgson had stored many memories away in all his years as a countryman and naturalist, and in the years when I first knew him he lived in a humble cottage below Cubstocks, north of Haydon Bridge, standing close to the Honeycrook Burn that twists and turns its way through meadow and woodland before reaching the River Tyne. (See front cover)

Joe spent the years of his youth here when it was a paradise for plant and wildlife. I remember him speaking of it as a place of great beauty where honeysuckle draped the hazels and greater knapweed grew to perfection. Always, the old ruin held a pair of nesting kestrels, and on warm still evenings fox cubs would play amongst the tumbled rocks.

Old Joe often spoke of "old brock" the badger, passing that way from Haydon Fell to Whitechapel Dene; but what used to make his blue eyes twinkle most of all was the sight of the green woodpecker, for the first pair he ever saw was down on the Honeycrook when he was eleven years old.

As he came to be an old man, Joe Hodgson's love of nature never diminished. I would still find him following the Haydon, or waiting by the ash trees watching the woodpeckers.

Eighty odd years of Joe Hodgson and his memories have come and now are gone, but that which gave him so much joy is still there: Barcombe Fell on a still evening, the dog fox lying out in the bracken, and the winding Honeycrook Burn are real even to this day.

Although Joe has now gone, his memory will linger with those country folk who knew him. They will have memories of a man whose needs were few and simple; a contented man who was rich in knowledge and joy because of his love of nature and a very patient person.

Talk to anyone who studies and watches nature and you have a very patient person. That was Joe Hodgson.

Bill Tait 1980

First published in the Hexham Courant in 1980.

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A VIEW FROM UP THERE

John Harrison

In an environment dominated by the battle against disease we hear of bleaches and disinfectants that "kill 99% of known bacteria", so it was amusing to read a notice outside a small golf course in south-west Scotland which claimed to be "99% midge-free". What is their secret I wonder? On the subject of which, have you noticed how few midges there have been this year? The exceptionally dry April and May this year limited their opportunities to breed, which requires cool and damp conditions. How long we can remain bite-free depends on the weather and how many ketones there are in our bloodstream (positively related to diabetes).

Midges aside, May was dominated by anticyclonic weather with some very warm days but also some cold nights, with frosts. Rainfall was again well below average, so the ground became extremely dry; sufficiently so to result in a significant forest fire at Haydon Fell on May 31st. The weather over the first three days was unsettled with heavy showers, which were accompanied by thunder on the 3rd, the month's wettest day (4.7 mm). As pressure began to rise, days were warm and sunny, often after a relatively dull start. When night skies cleared, temperatures fell to below freezing point, too cold for midges. Frost early on the 6th caused damage to early crops such as potatoes. A weak cold front brought light rain after the 9th which heralded a long spell of weather affected by a fresh to strong westerly breeze which was quite cold at times. The daytime temperature rose only to 8.1 degC on the 10th but recovered to hover between 10.0 and 15.0 degC for several days. Milder air approached the British Isles from the 16th which eventually introduced light rain to Haydon Bridge early on the 18th. The heat wave which had affected the south of the UK then moved northwards. And air temperatures rose in very warm tropical air reaching 25.5 degC on the 20th (although local readings of 27.0 degC or more were reported). An active depression to the north-west of the British Isles brought very strong winds, gusting to gale early on 23rd, which damaged some of the more fragile garden plants. After a short spell of unsettled weather, anticyclonic conditions became re-established from the 24th and the remainder of the month was very warm and dry.

Month	Average Maxi- mum Tempera- ture (Daytime) deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Average Mini- mum Tempera- ture (Night-time) deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Rainfall mm	Percentage of long-term average
May	16.6	+1.3	6.0	0.0	17.5	35
June	18.2	+0.5	9.8	+1.1	67.3	129

The statistics for June tell us that this was a relatively warm but rather damp month. While atmospheric pressure and cloud cover were remarkably consistent, there was considerable day-to-day fluctuation in daytime temperature. Rainfall was mainly showery in nature and often fell during long spells of dull weather. For the first two days warmer conditions persisted from late May, brought by hot tropical air and hazy sunshine arriving from the south. However, cloud amount increased later on the 2nd and there was heavy overnight rain (10.0 mm) as a broad area of cyclonic weather arrived. Not only did this persist for the following ten days but it also brought about a remarkable fall in daytime temperature. In contrast to a maximum of 23.8 deg C on the 2nd, the average daytime maximum temperature between the 3rd and 7th was 13.8 degC, more typical of April and early May. A fresh breeze made it feel somewhat cooler than this. It is worth noting that the rain on the 2nd and 4th represent the largest falls since mid-March. Anticyclonic conditions were firmly in control from mid-month, pressure remaining remarkably consistent until the 25th. With the wind coming from a generally easterly direction, conditions were frequently very dull, tending to clear during the afternoon. A pulse of very warm tropical air was drawn into the UK from the south after the 20th and air temperatures across the UK exceeded 30 degC. The hottest day in the Tyne valley was the 24th when Haydon Bridge logged 29.1 degC. A complex low pressure system began to take

Continued on page 20

Continued from page 19

over on the 26th which, as is often the case, was heralded by thundery conditions. Complex fronts brought a period of unsettled and much cooler weather for the remainder of the month and the wind turned towards a more westerly direction, which was very strong on the 28th /29th.

And finally, Gladys sent me a report which appeared in the local newspaper while she was visiting a friend in the USA. The police surrounded the bank in the local town while a robbery was going on, making sure that they secured all the exits. Unfortunately, the robbers escaped through one of the entrances.

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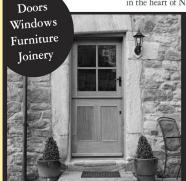


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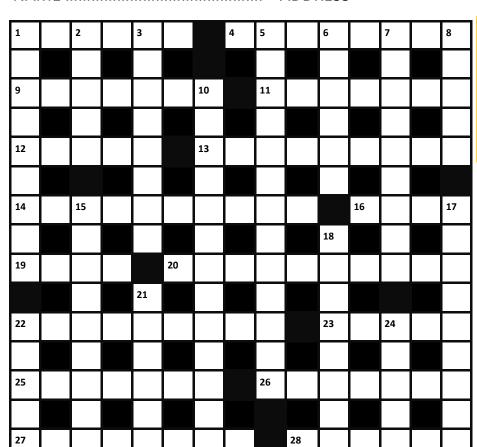
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July 2020 Answers

ACROSS

- 1. DRACONIC
- 6. PEDLAR
- 9. CARDIGANSHIRE
- 10. STINGY
- 11. RECYCLED
- 13. PREVALENCE
- 15. NOSE
- 16. SPAR
- 18. CHUCK BERRY
- 21. WRESTLED
- 22. LETHAL
- 23. TREASURER CHEST
- 25. OSTEND
- 26. OVERTURE

DOWN

- 2. RICHTER
- 3. CORONAVIRUS
- 4. NOISY
- 5. CHAGRIN
- 6. PASS-CHECK
- 7. DAI
- 8. AGELESS
- 12. CONTENTMENT
- 14. LOCALISED
- 17. PYRITES
- 19. UNDERGO
- 20. REALTOR
- 22. LOCKE
- 24. EKE

ACROSS

- 1. To talk informally with some of the characters in this puzzle takes the biscuit (6)
- 4. Dealings at university gets one a better model (6-2)
- 9. Repayer broadcast annually (3,4)
- 11. Intimidate young lady, Calamity Jane? (7)
- 12 & 24 dn. Ruin a kiss all over first of Hunt this one's next door to 2 dn (5.5)
- 13. In the Hebrides, maybe curable (right away) under Scottish mountain (9)
- 14. Currently 12 at No.11? (10)
- 16. This one is 26 ac not getting eyes tested at Barnard Castle... (4)
- 19. ... while this one lacks the gloss of Sheila or Tony (4)
- 20. At home, this one leapt around following one sounding attractive (5,5)
- 22. One infers they're all Tories, and more honest (9)
- 23. Copper on short time measuring the flow (5)
- 25. School in one varnish remover (7)
- 26. First name of arrivals heard (to the NE, Durham in fact) (7)
- 27. Seeds rip apart and scatter (8)
- 28. Winds treacherous people (6)

DOWN

- 1. Plant is endlessly valuable to St. John (9)
- 2. At ten, at last, yob to savour amaretti biscuits (5)
- 3. Solo part, nowadays it's a onesy (3-5)
- 5. No iron erected around recce done in the US (13)
- 6. This Oliver confuses new and odd (6)
- 7. Amphetamine possibly affecting slim taunt (9)
- 8. In Sebastopol, Kafka danced a dance (5)
- 10. Bob's rulers are becoming demagogues (6,7)
- 15. Listening companions are present (9)
- 17. Loudly cry, boat steerer, but they're only valves (9)
- 18. Spring cemented without Edward may be found in a rocket (8)
- 21. Dress on the way to the flashing light (6)
- 22. Veg a bit overdone, you say? (5)
- 24. see 12 ac

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