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November 2021

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Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this month's magazine. We still need some help with putting the magazine together, particularly if you are good with Powerpoint! If you could give just a few hours each month, please get in touch.

If you'd like to contribute anything to the December issue, please send it to us by November 12th.

All the best, Alex

editor@haydon-news.co.uk



"We've been double-jabbed, have you?"

Thanks to Mark Royston McGovern for the photo

Local author Iona Daley with the children of Wise Shaftoe Academy to showcase her new children's book 'Big Whale, Blue.'

Read more in the school's article on page 9



Community News

Friday Lunch is back on!

After a long break we are delighted to announce that the Friday Lunch is back on. Same time (12 noon) same price (£5) as before for homemade Soup, Sandwiches and Sweet. We always have a choice of 2 nutritious items at each course, and we try ensure one is vegetarian.

Lunch is held in the Community Centre's Coffee Lounge and it is a friendly, quiet(ish) place to meet up with old and new friends in a relaxed atmosphere. Come along and join us.

Fridays are run by volunteers, and we are very keen to see new people. There is no need for previous experience or expertise, we are happy to share the way we do things. Please just come along one Friday or email me at caroleannprice@hotmail.co.uk

New Gardening Group

You might have noticed that the flowerbeds on Ratcliffe Road, Church Street and the "Heatherbeds" on John Martin Street have been undergoing a tidy-up. We are an informal group of gardeners who have recently come together to invest a little of our time and energy in making an improvement in our surroundings. Hopefully we will build on the great work that has been done by individual residents, the local scout movement and the fabulous hanging baskets this year.

We have the blessing of the Parish Council who have voted a small annual amount for maintenance of these sites, and we have raised funds from a summer Plant Sale/Swap sufficient to pay for spring bulbs to be planted in the Heatherbeds. Donations have been and will be gratefully received.

We have submitted a bid to the County Council's Community Chest to pay for the replanting of the Ratcliffe Road site, they make a decision in November so fingers crossed. The plan is to have a formally planted garden with flowers and shrubs but also herbs and fruit trees and bushes for all to pick and share (Edible Haydon?). It will be as low maintenance as we can make it. Bids such as this are only possible due to the Haydon Development Trust agreeing to take us under their wing for administration purposes. Many thanks to them.

Volunteers and ideas for other sites to be tidied are very welcome. At present we have a regular email newsletter for supporters (you don't have to come and dig, you just have to be interested) and this indicates where and when the next event will take place. Each Tuesday at 1.15 in the Bridge library there will be an opportunity to make suggestions in person, help plan future work or find out more about what we are doing. If the weather permits there may be some work to do at the time or volunteers can plan to meet up at other times.

If you want to know more just drop in on a Tuesday or email me at caroleannprice@hotmail.co.uk

MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL ON THE 16th OF SEPTEMBER 2021, AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Present : Cllrs J. Bates, I. Burrows, E. Charlton (Chair), J. Keyte, A. Kirsopp, R. Snowdon, and D. Thornhill; Carole Price and Rachael Duffy, members of the public and C. McGivern (mins.).

1. Rachael Duffy – Member Pioneer at the Co-op

Rachael explained that she was keen to support and facilitate community work. Her area covers Haydon Bridge, Haltwhistle and Allendale. She has been involved with the Football Club, Scouts and the Tyne Rivers Trust. Elsewhere bee bus stops have been set up, starting in Manchester, providing plants for pollinators. Rachael said that some people still feel cautious about going out and she was keen to get the community engaged again. One project that has worked well elsewhere is the Community Fridges. At present unused food from the Co-op goes to the Little Badgers, but some surplus could be put in a community fridge for people in need. The difficulty is finding an available space. Cllr Thornhill wondered who paid the running costs for the fridges. Rachael explained that whoever put in the application for the project would be responsible. Cllr Thornhill said that the PCC was committed to keeping St. Cuthbert's Church open every day. He promised to ask about this as a possible location. Cllr Charlton thanked Ms Duffy and she left the meeting.

2. Carole Price – to discuss the proposals for the rose beds

Option 1 – wildflowers – Carole did not think this would work as the soil was enriched when the plants bought with funding from the Co-op were put in. Also this is a very visible location that needs to look good for as long as possible. Cllr Charlton agreed, commenting on how long it has taken for the wildflower meadow at the cemetery to begin to look nice.

Option 2 – grassed areas on the two beds with fruit trees and flowering plants. The downside of this is that the grass would have to be regularly mown.

Option 3 – to incorporate a mix of herbs, fruit and flowering plants, with two seats (facing the road). This was very popular at the consultation event, particularly the suggestion of seats. However, if seats were to be installed the nearby residents would need to be consulted.

An explanatory board would give advice on what is in the beds and when to pick. There is now a group of around 12 volunteers to care for the site. Carole explained that the ground is cleared and covered with a membrane, but she needs this back for her own allotment fairly soon. Also, this is the best time of year to get the site planted up.

The PC now needs to decide what they want done with the beds and decide on a budget. Carole suggested that £250 per annum would be needed, but perhaps a bit more this year to pay for plants etc. Cllr Charlton thanked Mrs Price for her presentation.

3. Declaration of a climate emergency –

The PC had received a message from NCC saying that they had declared a climate emergency in 2019. They asked whether the PC intended to do the same and what plans they had to address climate change, and what help would they need from NCC to put plans into action. Cllr Charlton said that the team working on the Neighbourhood Plan had put climate change at the centre of everything they had done, and as a result of this Siobhan Stephenson had produced a draft response to NCC and this was circulated. Cllr Thornhill said that the PC had already been considering the introduction of electric charging points and was also working with the EA/NCC and Northumbrian Water to try to protect the parish from flooding. He suggested that the PC respond to say that they will declare an emergency and then work as a council to consider the climate implications of everything that it does. There was a unanimous vote to proceed on this basis. The Clerk will circulate the draft response to the PC/P. Fletcher and S. Stephenson.

(a) Public participation – Brian Welch wondered if there was any news on his proposal for a dropped kerb and plastic grid on the grass to create more parking. The Clerk will ask Cllr Sharp about this.

(b) Apologies – were received from Cllrs Faulks, B. Howard, A. Sharp, K. Richardson and J. Thompson.

5. Declarations of interest – none were received.

6. Minutes of last meeting – having been circulated, were agreed and signed.

7. Report from Northumberland County Council – Cllr Sharp was unable to attend the meeting but had sent his report as follows –

The surface dressing works have been completed on the roads at the west and east ends of the village. The resurfacing of the road to Threepwood has been completed and it has made a big improvement. The road repairs on the cemetery road and along John Martin Street and Shaftoe Street will be carried out in October. This work is being done as part of the Highways Investment Programme. There are some further road works still required going up to Lipwood, and to the road to the west of the bridge at Standalone but the work is all programmed. The road to West Rattenraw is also still to be done and hopefully this work will be carried out under the local transport programme as one of Cllr Sharp's priorities. The damaged iron fence opposite the Show Field has now been repaired. The drain on Church Street has been inspected and some work has been carried out but the water is still pooling in this location so Cllr Sharp has asked for a further survey to be carried out. The pothole at the junction leading to Strothers Close has been repaired. Potholes on the road to West Deanraw Farm have also been repaired. The grids on the footpaths on Church Street have also been cleaned out but it had been reported that the work looked awful and Cllr Sharp will investigate this.

The old trough to the side of the highway between the Club and Shaftoe School has been repaired. The road markings have now been completed on the B6309 road from Haydon Bridge to Fourstones.

Cllr Sharp was still awaiting the report from Northumbrian Water regarding the water coming down West Mill Hill bank which is a problem in bad weather. The footpath outside the old Tandoori on Shaftoe Street has been sorted and Mr Armstrong is very happy with the work.

Cllr Sharp had attended a site meeting with Cllr Charlton and Richardson to discuss the play area where equipment had been removed. The following play equipment has been suggested -

The creation of a zip wire / Replacement swings / Underground trampoline / and a new bike facility to be created on the area of grass on the eastern end of the play area. Karbon Homes have agreed to replace the fence for the green area behind the Community Centre and they also agreed to sort out the Pensioners' seat at Greenwich Gardens.

The weeds have been attended to on the footpaths around the estate and the sweeper has also been around and it now looks a lot better. The metal grids have also been cleaned out on Ratcliffe Road. The cemetery behind Alexandra Terrace has been mowed and tidied up; this is done four times per year. Cllr Sharp had not been able to visit the cemetery but would like to know if parish Cllrs are happy with it. The flashing speed sign is still saying 30mph, Cllr Sharp has asked for this to be attended to many times. Now that all of the Officers have returned from holiday, Cllr Sharp will be having further meetings next week so if there are any further highway issues he can address them at the same time. He is also still awaiting the feasibility study for the road safety scheme from the junction on the A69 at Haydon Bridge to the top of the hill at Lowgate, and this has also been chased up.

8. Highways -

Brian Welch said that visibility as drivers emerge from the Showfield is poor, he wondered if a mirror on the opposite side might be helpful. It was thought that vegetation needs to be cut back at the entrance to the Showfield.

Cllr Bates said that the road surface of the A686 was in a terrible state – this will be reported by Cllr Sharp.

Cllr Kirsopp wondered why the old dog bin was still in place below the Showfield. The Clerk explained she was waiting for NCC to remove this bin.

Joyce Brown had written to the PC to raise problems with paving in Haydon Bridge, the drain at the war memorial which is blocked again, and paving being replaced with tarmac on Shaftoe Street. These will all be reported to NCC.

9. Lighting –

Christine Harris had contacted the PC to say that a street light below the Showfield was hidden by branches etc. Cllr Kirsopp reported that 2 more lights were hidden in this area. The Clerk has reported these issues to NCC.

10. Planning applications –

21/03117/FUL – Retrospective – construction of pergola at 2 Stone Halt – NO OBJECTIONS

21/03019/FUL – Erection of stable block for horses on land North of Altonside Barn – NO OBJECTIONS

21/03129/FUL – Proposed kitchen extension at North Cottage, Lipwood Hall – NO OBJECTIONS

21/03130/LBC – Listed building consent for proposed kitchen extension at North Cottage, Lipwood Hall – Proposed kitchen extension at North Cottage, Lipwood Hall – NO OBJECTIONS

21/01475/FUL – New aluminium shop front etc at the North-Eastern Co-op – NO OBJECTIONS

21/03204/FUL – Demolition of existing conservatory, single storey rear extension. Relocation of garden boundary with external terraces, change of use of rough grass field to garden at Brambridge House, Heugh House Lane - NO OBJECTIONS

11. Accounts – as in budget.

The external auditors had completed their review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and this was accepted by the PC and will be displayed online and in the notice board.

12. Correspondence –

a) Campervans staying overnight at the picnic area – Savills had responded on behalf of Greenwich Hospital Estates to say that they would share concerns about people staying overnight at the picnic area. This was discussed and it was agreed that as there had not been an issue in the past, the PC would continue to monitor the situation rather than acting hastily. It was noted that littering has been a particular problem at such sites recently.

b) Network Rail had replied to a request to remove rotten wooden fencing between homes and the railway, saying that this fence was the responsibility of NCC – Cllrs felt that this was incorrect and it was actually an issue for Karbon Homes. The Clerk will contact Karbon Homes.

c) Cemetery – Geraldine Newton had contacted the PC to compliment Alan Batey on the condition of the cemetery.

13. Parish projects –

a) Development Trust – Cllr Charlton said that it was vital that as many people as possible respond to the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Fruit bushes around the patio area at the library have produced a bumper crop. Cllr Charlton said that she had picked the blackcurrants and made crumbles with them. She wondered if people were unsure what to do with currants now.

14. Any other business –

a) The hedge outside Vicky Oliver's garden on Whittis Hill needs cutting again. The Clerk will report this to NCC.

b) Cllr Keyte said that he felt that it would be best to install a gate in the fence around the play area at the Showfield. He will find out what the locals want. The work will go ahead later, as the joiner has been unwell.

c) Cllr Kirsopp said that the trees over the road from Douglas Gardens were leaning over the road. The Clerk will find out who owns the land and report this.

For Councillors contact details see back cover.

Community Plan Update

What happens now after the Haydon Parish Neighbourhood Plan public and community Consultation?

52 households and 9 organisations submitted formal comments on the pre-submission draft of the Haydon Parish Neighbourhood Plan. A further 18 people completed the separate consultation form about getting involved in taking forward some of the community actions.

The pre submission draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has now been updated to take account of all the comments received and the revised plan went to the 28 October meeting of the Parish Council for approval. The submission plan and supporting documents are being submitted to Northumberland County Council during November. The county council then checks that the submission draft plan and supporting documents meet the legal requirements publicises the plan for a period of 8 weeks.

The county council appoints a planner to undertake an independent examination to assess the plan and see if it conforms with national and local planning policy and the basic conditions for a Neighbourhood Plan. The plan will then come back to the Parish in 2022 where the county council conducts a referendum of all residents in the parish. The plan is approved by a simple majority of all those people who vote. Finally, if the plan receives majority support in the referendum, it then goes back to the county council for adoption. The plan then carries full weight and its policies will be used by the County Council to determine planning applications in the Parish.

Updating the plan and community actions to take account of feedback during the consultation

A number of really helpful suggestions were received on the draft pre-submission plan. Plan changes/additions in the new updated submission plan to the county council include:

- Designating the green area behind the community centre as an additional Protected Open Space
- Providing more explicit references to Langley
- Addressing non designated heritage assets through a community action – see below – rather than through a specific policy on the plan

Changes and additions to the Community Actions set out in Annex 1 of the plan include:

- A new community action to identify non designated heritage assets that are of importance to the local community which are not currently identified on the Northumberland Historic Environment Record and request their inclusion
- Strengthening the gardening and enhancement projects community action to improve the general appearance of the village
- A new community action about working with the police to address anti-social behaviour
- A rework of the action about supporting local business to take account of: the emergence during the consultation period of a new Buy Local Campaign: support for new business development, including businesses working from home: and feasibility around setting up a Farmers Market
- Addition to the Haydon Bridge to Hexham cycle route action so that it would also be accessible to horses
- Addition to the action about work on improving parking to include reference to traffic management
- Broadening the action about improving north and south links to a broader action about promoting more and more affordable public transport.

Update on WeFibre gigabit speed broadband initiative

In late September DCMS (the Department of Culture, Media and Sport) approved the WeFibre application for gigabit speed broadband installation in Haydon Parish using funding from the rural broadband voucher initiative. Households who had earlier expressed an interest should have received emails from DCMS asking them to activate their interest in using the voucher.

In terms of network roll-out, there is always a period of what appears to be delay from the voucher project being awarded until WeFibre begin network build. This is because they can only begin the detailed network design, establish the necessary wayleaves and approvals and order power connections etc to infrastructure once the approval has been granted. These activities have some lengthy lead times with them which creates this 'pause' in progress. This means that it is likely to be 6 months or so from project approval to when they are in a position to connect the first customers.

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After the Fire

Steven Ford

People are very kind – expressing sympathy and offering real helpfulness when disaster strikes.

Since about 15.5 acres of The Haydon Fell plantation was razed by fire in May 2020 several hundred trees of many different species have been donated by well wishers – both locally and from further afield in the north east. Even now, more than a year later, a few more trees appear from time to time. We are grateful.

We also had many offers of volunteer help with the replanting and this led to any entirely unexpected discovery. Though third party liability insurance is in place this does not cover volunteers for death or injury. If unpaid volunteers are at work then they must be covered by separate employer's liability insurance. "All professions are conspiracies against the laity" – especially the law! Exceptions included the local Scout Group who have their own insurance and who put in several hours of quite serious effort.

Forestry is a long term project. In ten years time it will be as though nothing had ever happened.

The main 'crop' is oak (*Quercus robur*) and by the time they are ready for harvesting, between 2300 and 2400AD, the tiny hiccup at the start will be completely insignificant. The trees with the longest projected lifespan, *Fitzroya cupressoides*, may still be standing in 6021AD – try to imagine what they might live to see...



Roe Deer on the plantation



Before...



After the fire...

Looking on the bright side – with clear ground we can replant to better effect and with a wider variety of species which will encourage maximum biodiversity. Hundreds of tons of brushings, dry heather and dry reeds have been cleared revealing the bare earth for the first time, showing that the previous plantings had been in the leaf litter layer rather than the soil – hence their poor growth.

It is worth bearing in mind that the progress of climate change over the centuries-long life of a woodland is uncertain. Nobody really knows what will prosper in the new environmental conditions that are coming. It is probably a bit premature to be planting date and coconut palms in Northumberland but further south people are planting Mediterranean crops already... On the other hand, by the time the Fitzroyas are achieving their last few decades of life, current projections suggest that the Tyne at Hexham will be tidal and brackish and Brampton will have become 'Brampton on Sea'. When we bought the wood more than a decade ago it had about 8 tree species present. We have since planted many more. The total of species known to be or to have been present is now well over 70. How many of these have survived or prospered is not known but time will tell.

To the north of the original forest there is now developing a brand new woodland that is mainly oak but with a mixed species semi-natural fringe and one mixed conifer block. The Ordnance Survey have recently confirmed its new title – “The Forest of Jean”.

By the time the current round of planting and replanting is complete we will have put in about 30,000 trees over the years.

Woodlands are filled with both plants and animals. No evidence of large scale loss of animal life was found after the fire. Amongst the larger species to have been seen are: Roe deer, fox, badger, stoat, weasel, hare, shrew, vole, rabbit, dragon flies, butterflies, frog, toad, common lizard, Barn owl, Buzzard, Kestrel, Woodpeckers, duck, geese, Teal, Moorhen, pheasants, grouse, coots and many tits – we’ll try to keep this non-political.

Photos courtesy of Kev Hilton.



Dragonfly at home in the plantation

Elyse’s fundraising ride



Elyse Alexander recently completed a sponsored bike ride with her dad to raise money for cancer care and research. Aged only 8 years old, Elyse rode 8.2 miles and raised an amazing £341.41 for Action Bladder Cancer UK charity - in honour of her grandad who is currently undergoing treatment. Elyse and her family would like to thank the local shops, school and local community for their help and support. Well done Elyse!

Diversity in the Making

EJK Collective at the Allendale Forge Studios

Eileen Anderson, Jenny Higgins and Kay Leech have collaborated to create an eclectic exhibition which celebrates their diverse styles and approaches to art.

Eileen produces contemporary landscape pieces representing the *feeling* of a time or place through mixed media abstract paintings based on local landscapes and the natural world. She has successfully shown her work at a number of juried exhibitions in Cumbria, Newcastle and London.

Jenny is a landscape artist who works mainly in oils and pastels, using colour and light to interpret the energy and atmosphere observed in land, sea and snow. Her work has been selected locally for Upfront Gallery and Lake Artists Society Open Exhibitions and shown in Cumbria, Northumberland and the South West.

Kay is a quilter and embroiderer, producing highly textured pieces which frequently incorporate found objects collected when walking in the Cumbrian landscape. She has been awarded prizes at the Scottish Quilting Show and by the Contemporary Quilt Group. Her work has also been selected for the Upfront Gallery and shown in Cumbria and Northumberland.



Eileen Anderson
Jenny Higgins
Kay Leech

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Wise Shaftoe Academy

What a great start to the school year we have had here at Shaftoe as staff and children picked up where they left off last year, resulting in another jam-packed half term.

Upon our return we were delighted to be able to pop our Covid-19 bubbles and return to some sort of normality around school. It's been great to see the children being able to mix around school and in the playground and it has allowed us to begin to welcome some special visitors into school. We were very lucky to have local author Iona Daley join us for the day, as she showcased her new children's book 'Big Whale, Blue.' The children got the chance to listen to the story read by the author herself before having the opportunity to ask their most probing questions. This gave them a real insight into the process of producing a book and undoubtedly got their creative juices flowing as we have seen some excellent pieces of writing this half term.

We also welcomed some familiar faces back to Shaftoe when ex-pupils Indie, Jack and Nancie returned to school with Haydon Bridge High School teacher Mr Smith to talk to the year 5 and 6 children about life at high school. This was coupled with an open evening where children were able to visit the high school and both events will serve as great preparation for their transition next year. It's been great to see and hear about their recent transformation and we will be continuing to work alongside them as we strengthen our partnership with local schools.

Reading continues to be of paramount importance across school as we look to explore a range of different avenues to promote a love of reading amongst the children. We've been thrilled to have Christina join us in school on a Friday afternoon to do some voluntary reading with children and paired reading has been a bit hit with both our year 5's and 6's and the year 1's and 2's who they have had the opportunity to read with. Should anybody like to come into school to read with the children please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

It's a testament to all the children the way in which they have settled back into learning as we strive to promote a well-rounded curriculum. The start of the school year saw the launch of a number of new topics, including The Great Fire of London in year 1&2, The Stone Age in year 3&4 and The Civil Rights Movement in year 5&6. The children's learning has been supported by the availability of chromebooks across school and we are very lucky to have almost enough devices for one per child. This enables us to utilise numerous online programmes including; Times Table Rockstars, Spelling Shed and Freckle Maths, all of which are accessible from home.

We are hoping to be able to roll out a new Times Table Rockstars club after half term, which will be the latest addition to our timetable of extra-curricular activities. Charlotte Potts, a British kickboxing champion, has been holding a weekly 'Get Fit' session for KS2 children, with the aim to promote mental health and general fitness through a kickboxing bootcamp. Mr Sim has also held a football club, which we hope to offer to further year groups over the coming months and we are looking forward to 'DT with Mr T,' a Christmas crafts workshop held by John Turner.

It has also been a busy few weeks in Early Years as they have been exploring the human body. Reception found a skeleton in their book corner which they used to help them identify some of the bones and nursery have been investigating their taste buds, identifying sweet and sour tastes. All the children also took part in an autumn walk, looking at the changes in the seasons and recognising our school's position in the local community. We still have spaces in our Early Years unit and welcome children from their third birthday so please contact the main office for more information or to arrange a visit.



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You involve me, I understand”
Edward O. Wilson**

Although ‘Health and Safety’ procedures were not as stringent then as they are now, there was a fairly lengthy and boring introduction to basic paddling and river etiquette before the flotilla of Canadian canoes began their epic descent. Despite this, some of the party still managed to go around in circles, ram other canoes or run aground, so to get some 30 canoes heading in the right direction was no mean feat. There was always an instructor at the front and at the rear to ensure that no-one got left behind and there were frequent stops, mostly so that the instructors could point out the best route to take through rapids.

One of the first stops, however was to pay homage to Mad Jean-Pierre; this was a life size model of a rock climber, complete with safety ropes, half way up a sheer cliff-face. However, the instructors related the legend that Mad Jean-Pierre was attempting to break the world record for hanging from a cliff-face, All were encouraged to yell ‘Bonne chance, Jean-Pierre!’ from the opposite bank and his lack of response was always explained by the fact that he was concentrating hard to maintain his stance. A raucous ‘Au revoir, Jean-Pierre!’ was usually followed by one of the instructors telling us that he had seen Mad Jean-Pierre’s hand move in recognition of our greeting and it never ceased to amaze me that a number of pupils would always say that they had seen the hand movement too. The power of auto-suggestion.

A leisurely lunch stop gave the opportunity for children to let off steam in the water and staff to snatch forty winks. Food was simple: a selection meats, cheeses and salads, along with hunks of baguette, were spread out on the upturned hull of a canoe and all were invited to form an orderly queue and make their own sandwiches. An exhortation to re-apply sun cream was followed by a call to paddles and the journey continued. There was a requirement to make the descent of several minor rapids in different ways, notably ‘Standing Up Rapid’ and ‘Backwards Rapid’; another was renamed ‘Upside Down Rapid’ after two members of the teaching staff capsized and completed the rapid under their canoe. While one prevented paddles, watertight barrels and canoe from floating off downstream, the other, impeded by the fact that he was as blind as a bat without his spectacles, doggy-paddled his way to the bank and, as I managed to haul the equipment to safety and empty the canoe, the other had scrounged a cigarette from a friendly native and was busily practising his conversational French. Harsh words were exchanged.

The scheduled descent of the Ardeche lasted two full days and the night was spent under the stars on a beach. Sleeping bags and the very minimum of personal equipment had been stowed in watertight barrels, and once the sleeping area had been reached, the children were instructed to find an area to spread out their sleeping bag and then construct a trench around it to prevent scorpions attacking during the night, as scorpions are unable to climb. One lad found some string and, with the addition of some twigs, fortified his trench with the string suspended about two inches from the sand, so that any scorpion which managed to breach the trench would catch its tail on the string! When the staff were challenged because we were not heavily involved in digging, the usual excuse was that we had bought some scorpion repellent spray with us and that would suffice.

Dinner consisted of stew heated up on a camp fire and was usually pretty bland and forgettable, resulting in a number of complaints. But there was a solution. The River Leader explained to those disaffected youngsters that the McDonalds boat came down the river at precisely 8.00pm and, in order to purchase a burger and fries, they would need to put on a buoyancy aid and tread water in the middle of the river, waving a five franc note as no change was given. Cue a mass exodus into the river, much to the bewilderment of others on the beach and on the water. Their gullibility was matched only by the disappointment which was partly assuaged by marshmallows, hot chocolate and story-telling around the camp fire.

The night’s sleep was pretty uncomfortable but waking up to the bright sunlight reflecting off the cliffs opposite was memorable. Sadly, the overnight bivvy was removed from the itinerary in later years due to concerns about health and safety, replaced by an 800 foot ascent to the nearest access point where the ‘bus was waiting to ferry us back to the camp site and then a descent the following morning to continue the journey. Most youngsters, when asked to state their favourite part of the trip, would mention their night out under the stars.

Christmas Craft Fayre

A craft fayre to showcase the local artisans of the area will take place in November, with the aim of creating a thriving craft market for the village. Stalls will include sweet treats, tie-dye, bath bombs, seasonal décor, woodwork, pocket-money toys and more. All proceeds from the traders’ booking fees will go to local causes, including the Haydonian’s Children’s Christmas party and the Shaftoe School PTA. For more info or to book a stall, contact Hayley Ellen Watson on Facebook.
10am – 3pm, Saturday 27th November - Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar

SUDOKU

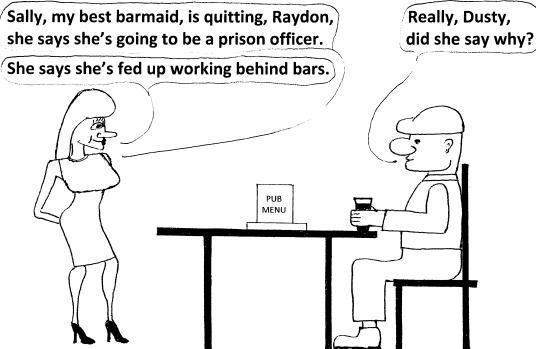
Sudoku is played on a grid of nine by nine spaces. Within the rows and columns are nine squares (made up of three by three spaces). Each row, column and square (nine spaces each) needs to be filled out with the numbers one to nine, without repeating any numbers within the row, column or square.

								2
		2						9
	4			3		7	1	
			8	1		2		
		7	9		3		5	
				4		1	3	7
		5	4		6			3
	6	8		7	1			
3					2	9		

WORDSEARCH

C	R	U	N	C	H	Y	L	E	A	V	E	S	S	F
H	D	V	W	H	C	X	Y	M	Z	A	D	B	T	I
O	E	U	D	A	R	K	N	I	G	H	T	S	A	J
T	W	S	O	N	I	N	S	T	R	T	S	O	R	F
C	Y	R	O	G	S	I	T	T	A	C	O	E	R	L
H	M	E	R	I	P	T	R	E	I	G	U	S	Y	U
O	O	P	W	N	W	T	S	N	N	N	P	Y	S	F
C	R	M	R	G	A	E	R	S	B	I	S	A	K	F
O	N	U	E	C	L	D	E	Q	O	T	S	D	I	Y
L	I	J	A	O	K	H	K	P	W	F	H	Y	E	S
A	N	K	T	L	S	A	N	O	S	A	T	N	S	O
T	G	C	H	O	H	T	O	L	I	R	A	I	M	C
E	S	I	S	U	G	S	C	K	J	C	B	A	N	K
D	B	H	E	R	A	G	I	N	G	F	I	R	E	S
C	A	T	F	S	T	E	W	S	E	L	D	N	A	C

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY BINN



This months wordsearch is inspired by seasonal favourites:

- CRUNCHY LEAVES
- CHANGING COLOURS
- DARK NIGHTS
- HOT CHOCOLATE
- RAGING FIRES
- FLUFFY SOCKS
- CRISP WALKS
- FROST
- DEWY MORNINGS

- KNITTED HATS
- THICK JUMPERS
- STARRY SKIES
- DOOR WREATHS
- RAINY DAYS
- MITTENS
- SOUPS
- STEWES
- CRAFTING
- RAINBOWS
- BATHS
- CONKERS
- CANDLES

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CROSSWORD

November 2021

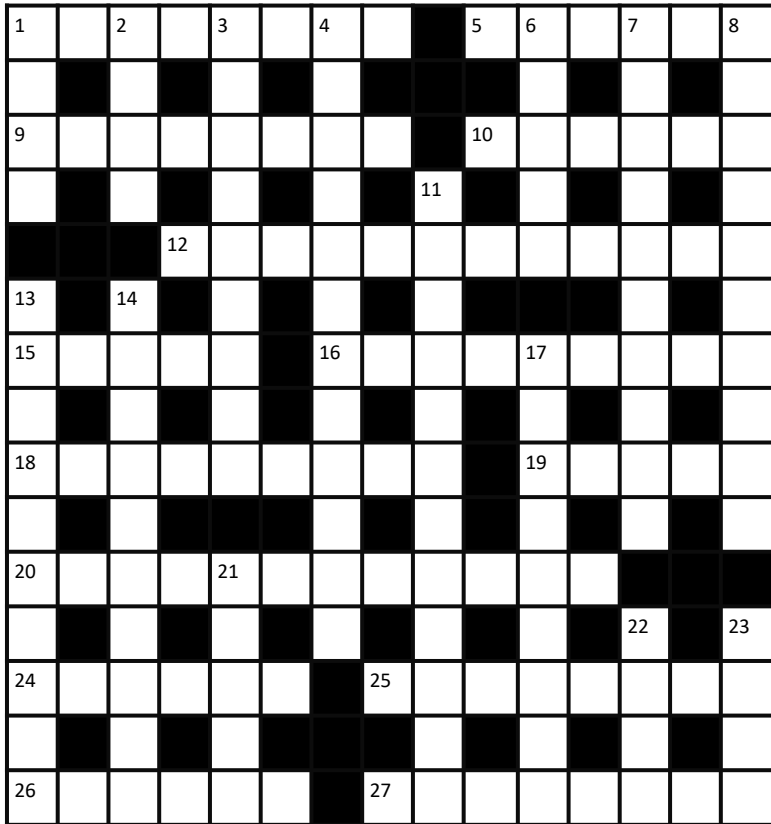
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Please drop answers off at Claire's by 20th November

.....

ADDRESS



ACROSS

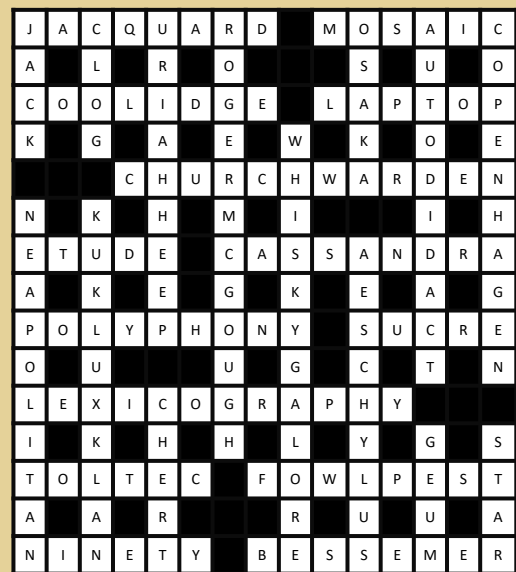
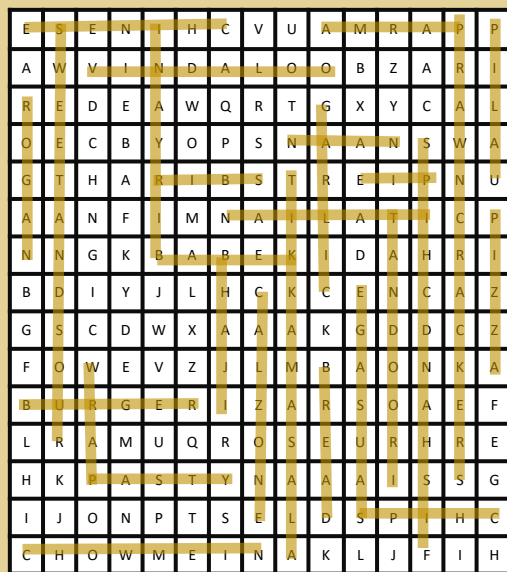
1. Type of brandy produced in Gascony (8)
5. Sebastian __, author of "Birdsong" (6)
9. The saltiness of water (8)
10. French word for "boat" (6)
12. Tadej Pogacar won this race in 2020 and 2021 (4,2,6)
15. Earthquake-prone island, capital Port au Prince (5)
16. Steep rock face or cliff (9)
18. Classical female singing voice of low vocal range (9)
19. The bear in "The Jungle Book" (5)
20. Scottish actor who portrayed a heroin addict in "Trainspotting" (4,8)
24. Nomadic pastoral people of (mostly) the Sahara (6)
25. Wild plums related to sloes (8)
26. Type of map indicating elevation (6)
27. He said "Wait a minute...you ain't heard nothin' yet" in The Jazz Singer, the first words Spoken on film (2,6)

DOWN

1. Lhasa __, long haired terrier from Tibet (4)
2. County town of Flintshire (4)
3. Person who propels a particular Venetian boat (9)
4. "The science of humanity" (12)
6. Red __, US oil well firefighter who died in 2004 (5)
7. Rifle used by British military in both WW1 and WW2 (3,7)
8. Slang word for an accordion or concertina (10)
11. Person attracted to the opposite sex, romantically or sexually (12)
13. Surname of the first person to sail solo around the world (10)
14. Irish republican party founded by Eamon de Valera in 1926 (6,4)
17. A confused, complicated or embarrassing situation (9)
21. __ Binchy, contemporary novelist (5)
22. "__ and Galatea", Handel opera (4)
23. Abbreviation of a commercial book identifier, given to separate editions and variations of a publication (4)

October puzzle answers:

8	6	2	4	1	5	9	3	7
9	5	7	3	2	8	1	6	4
4	3	1	9	7	6	8	5	2
3	7	8	5	4	1	6	2	9
6	2	5	8	9	3	4	7	1
1	4	9	7	6	2	3	8	5
2	1	3	6	5	9	7	4	8
7	9	6	2	8	4	5	1	3
5	8	4	1	3	7	2	9	6





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As Long As Your Remember – a story by Annabel

...Continued from last month

Alice went inside first to set up an obstacle course. She moved some clean clothes off the tumble dryer and put them in the corner. She then arranged the washing baskets, some boxes and a little stool to form a course. She used the stool to reach the dog treats from the shelf first and accidentally knocked over some laundry detergent as she grabbed them. She picked up a dirty sock from the floor and quickly used it to wipe most of it up from the top of the washing machine. Finished, she grabbed the treats and let in her excited little beagle.

She started by encouraging her to jump over the little stool. It took a few attempts to get Beanie to do it despite it being something she had done before. She seemed more eager to just jump around her feet trying to get the treat. She eventually did it, before jumping onto and off from a box and diving into the pile of clean clothes. Alice attempted to calm her increasingly hyperactive dog down to little effect. She had made the obstacle course so her dog could use up her energy and eventually calm down but it seemed to be having the opposite effect. She was just getting more excited. Alice was getting more and more disorientated trying to keep up with the hyper beagle as she dashed around the room, knocking over several things as she ran around. It seemed hopeless that she was going to get the dog to do her obstacle course; it would probably be better if she just let her out again. As Beanie began to once more jump at her feat trying to get to the box of treats, Alice stumbled backwards and clumsily put them on the tumble dryer. They fell over as she let go, spilling treats over its surface. Beanie jumped at it, trying to get them, but couldn't reach. The girl tried to drag her out of the room so she could clean up the mess before her parents saw it but the dog broke free of her grip and jumped onto a basket. It moved up to the taller box in front of the basket and began to complete the course. The course that usually ended on top of the tumble dryer. Alice went to grab her again before she got there but before she could reach her the dog got to the top and jumped the gap from the tallest washing basket onto the side of the washing machine. The little girl could only watch what happened next. Beanie landed on the machine only to slide on the remaining spilled detergent. She scrambled around, only to try to jump the gap onto the tumble dryer before she had steadied herself. Alice never forgot how she missed the jump, her head hitting the side of the dryer. She always remembered how the crack of her neck seemed like the loudest sound in the world. She would never forget how she was only a metre away from catching her before she jumped, a few centimetres away from catching her before she hit the ground. Her tangled legs and twisted neck would forever be burned into her gaze.

She would see her beloved pets broken body many times in the few days ahead. Whenever her mind and gaze would wander, she would see Beanie dead on the ground just as she was that day. Even after the body was buried, she would see her dogs corpse on various surfaces as her mind wandered back to that day. It was like she was still alive with her, sleeping on the ground, if not for the unnatural angle of her neck. Her parents and various family members tried to comfort her after the tragedy, but it never helped her feel better. As she zoned out as her dad was trying to have a heart to heart with her after the funeral, she could only stare at Beanie behind him. As he finished whatever he was saying, she swore she saw a paw twitch.

Soon she saw her more and more everyday, laying somewhere in the room she was in. She no longer had to become engrossed in her thoughts to see her; she was always in her peripheral vision. From the corner of her eye she swore she moved, her paws twitching and stretching as though she was leaping through the air. But whenever she stared at her she was always still, quiet: broken. She would look away again, trying to ignore the movement she thought might be there. One night Alice swore she could hear whining from downstairs. Some scrambling and scratching too. She got up and crept into her parents room. She shook her mum awake, asking her dim, groggy form if she'd heard anything like that. Her mum said it was just in her imagination and let her into their bed. Alice hugged her and quietly asked if she was sure that they'd buried Beanie. Her mum seemed confused by the question. She said "of course they'd buried her, that's what you do with dead dogs and people." She told her she was gone but she would always be with Alice as long as she loved and remembered her. Her mum fell back to sleep but Alice stayed awake all night. She couldn't forget what her mother had said. Those words again, everyone kept telling her those words. "She will always be with you." "I'm sure you'll never forget her." "As long as you remember them, the ones we lose never leave us." She would never leave her.

They were the words that swirled around her head the next day, as she went down to the washing room for the first time since the accident. She was dead. She was buried. She wasn't going to be with her forever. Outside the door, she prepared herself to enter. Her mum said she was gone. She was about to see that she was right. Maybe once she saw that empty room herself that limp body would leave her gaze. So would that broken neck. The broken neck she caused. She put her hand on the doorknob and steadied herself. Beanie was gone; she was about to see that she was gone. Alice opened the door.

"As long as you remember them, the ones we lose never leave us."

The phrase that every one of them said swirled around her brain all the time, as much as she wished it wouldn't.

She looked out at the room, tidy now, until her gaze rested on the spot between the washing machine and tumble drier. Beanie was laying there. They didn't know how true their words really were. Beanie stood up and walked over to the little girl. Her tail was wagging. How easy it was for some innocent phrase to take on a twisted meaning.

It was almost like she was alive, whole again.

As much as she wished it wasn't reality.

Almost. She was whole apart from her twisted neck. Her broken body was walking again.

No-one ever understood the power such simple words possessed. "

'As long as you remember them, the ones we lose never leave us.'"

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Well, guess what, a few of us went to Hexham races lately - the first meet for a while.

It just goes to show how things can change over a few weeks - we even created a Whatsapp group for it! Suddenly there's much more freedom and much more fun to be had with this lockdown coming to an end.

Thankfully, on the evening of this event it stayed dry. I spent quite some time studying the form prior to the event - little good it usually does me because I inevitably pick the one that refuses, falls or comes last!

I checked out my horses of choice in the paddock and actually chose an extra horse to bet on (because to my untrained eye) it looked good and it was a grey. I have a friend whose father did very well some years ago, betting on greys, so nothing ventured, nothing gained.

I was in absolute trepidation throughout this race - sweaty palms, the lot! I nearly had an Eliza Doolittle moment - felt like yelling "move yer arse" when the two lead horses, mine being one, were neck and neck.

But you know what? My grey actually won and as a result I was £24 better off! Needless to say, the luck didn't last and factoring in the cost of copious amounts of wine - it was sold by the pint - I was lucky I broke even!

The last race came, but the evening wasn't over yet. The merriment continued over a meal. More drinks needless to say, punctuated by trips to the loo. One trip to the loo was particularly significant to this story, so please bear this in mind. The evening continued well into the night.

Eventually our taxi arrived, we all got dropped off at our respective homes and almost straight away I realised my mobile was missing. I rang the restaurant and was told a phone had been handed in by someone - found in the loo - and I could pop in tomorrow, identify it and hopefully it would be mine.

The next morning, our newly created Whatsapp group were messaging to endorse the fact we'd all had a lovely evening. "My only misgiving" I replied, was that I had lost my phone!

"Was it blue?" one of the group asked. "Yes" was my reply. "Well it was me that handed it in" was her response.

What a coincidence and what a relief - I was sure it would be my phone and indeed it turned out to be the case! The lovely lady that handed the phone in surely deserves at least another pint of wine, my treat. My husband made the comment that at least it had been found in the loo and not down the loo as apparently happened quite often with his first wife!

Goodness knows what might happen on our next escapade. A decision (probably made in our cups) that night, was to try out the Escape Room activity recently arrived in Hexham. I wonder what may get lost, left or misplaced then?

Even worse, we may never get out.

Haydon Bridge United

A new flag is flying high above Low Hall Park with the new season well underway for Haydon Bridge United AFC.

Like many other organisations, the football club is delighted to be up and running again after a lengthy lay-off due to the pandemic. And the return to action could not have come at a better time, with the historic club celebrating its 140th anniversary in 2021.

A special commemorative flag is now on display, while the club's junior and senior teams make the most of the first class facilities at Low Hall Park.

There are now superb footballing opportunities for people of all ages to get involved with the beautiful game, with no fewer than 10 teams ranging from under-7s to senior level, as well as a development squad for children aged 4-6.

There are opportunities for girls and boys, men and women. The ladies' team has shown great courage following a tough start to the season, with signs that better results are ahead.

After a 9-0 defeat to Cullercoats in a cup match, a much-depleted Haydon Bridge side took on the same opposition in a league encounter. Despite missing several players due to injury, they lost 4-3 and were close to returning home with a point.

The men's senior team got off to a good start to their division one season in the Hexham and District Sunday League, with a 3-3 draw against Haltwhistle Railway in their opening game, followed by a 3-1 away victory at Crawcrook Fox & Hounds.

The past three games have not gone their way, but there is much to play for this season. Junior teams have also enjoyed some fantastic results and performances at all levels.

On and off the field, the football club continues to grow and has a committed team of coaches and other volunteers - all working to maximise playing, coaching and tournament opportunities.

Whether you're a footballer of any age or ability, a parent or carer with a girl or boy interested in playing football, or a would-be coach or volunteer, the club is always keen to hear from you.

Contact details are available on the club website, haydonbridgeunited.co.uk or email contact@haydonbridgeunited.co.uk

Read next month's Haydon News for a special feature to mark Haydon Bridge United's 140th anniversary.



Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge

By Dennis Telford

“CHEERS”

Part 2

Last month, William Veitch and I started a ‘pub-crawl’, during which we will attempt to call in at most of our early public houses where we will recall some of their earliest innkeepers. In Part 1, in October’s Haydon News, we visited the Carts Bog at Langley.

Nineteenth century Langley was a thriving industrial district - within the Chapelry of Haydon until 1879 and thereafter Haydon Parish. Hundreds of men were employed in the Langley area in agriculture; the lead industry; coal mining; and fireclay manufacture and brick making. Add to this itinerant farm workers, carriers of lead ore from Alston mines, and earlier Scottish drovers who passed this way travelling south to market their beasts, and it will be no surprise that Carts Bog was not the only ale-house in the district within easy reach of these prospective customers, who sought to slake their thirst after a hard day’s work, or on their journey.

The surprise is, maybe, that business opportunities had not been exploited by other entrepreneurs and that more than two Inns had been opened in the district. The village of Haydon Bridge was within easy reach, of course, and the fact that Langley was in the forefront of the Wesley brothers’ eighteenth century Methodism along with, from 1831, the temperance movement, may have been significant. We also know that the employers at Langley Smelt Mills positively discouraged their workers from visiting public houses and drinking alcohol after work; even to the extent that they provided houses, cow byers and allotments on the Mills’ site, where the men could spend their evenings rather than straying to a pub.



18C Langley Mills where the Greenwich Hospital owners built houses with gardens to encourage workers to stay on site rather than visit a pub on the way home from work

NILSTON RIGG

In the event, it was left to the farm at Nilston Rigg (or Rigg) that joined, or competed with, nearby Carts Bog to provide the beverage required.

Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital, landowners of most of the land in the district, reported in 1805 that while the tenant at Nilston Rigg was well on the way to create a good and useful farm, the land he had to contend with was the poorest in Langley Common. Perhaps the eighteenth century tenant at Nilston Rigg found it necessary to diversify and develop other sources of ‘off-farm income’?

The first ‘Langley Mill’ was being built in 1765 and the second, ‘Blagill Mill’, in 1785, and the transport of ore from Alston raised many problems. The absence of good roads, the nature of the countryside, and severe weather, could halt any movement completely and wheeled carriage was impossible; so, lead ore carriers transported their goods on the backs of small horses or Galloways.

It seems likely that the Nilston Rigg ale-house would be open in the early years of the Langley Mills, and by the nineteenth century Commissioners reported that Nilston Rigg was much used as an Inn by the carriers coming to and fro from Alston. So much so, that additions to the Nilston Rigg house were made and new buildings erected to cope with this trade; and the rent was raised by £17.

Between 1820 and 1830, the Alston turnpike was constructed and after completion, resulting in less onerous travel from Alston to Langley and onwards, the Nilston Rigg farm and Inn rent was reduced by Greenwich Hospital on the grounds of loss of brew house trade.

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, those responsible for the onerous task of preparing the ‘poorest land’ in Langley Common and tending to the innkeeper’s duties at Nilston Rigg Farm, were William and Mary Bell. William and Mary had a daughter, Mary, who was baptised at Nilston Rigg on November 7th, 1802.

(As a personal aside: Mary Bell, the Nilston Rigg daughter, married my 2x great grandfather George Tailford of Standalone, on May 17th, 1823 at Haydon Bridge St. Cuthbert’s Church. George and Mary lived at Standalone, Haydon, Tofts Bank, Chesterwood Fell and Cubstocks, and they had five children: George, James, William - my great grandfather, John and Edward. By

this time, the family name was Telford.)

I have no clear knowledge of when the Inn at Nilston Rigg Farm closed, although it seems likely that the October 1830 Beerhouse Act, allowing any ratepayer to buy a licence from the Excise for two guineas and brew beer and sell it, may have given encouragement to the tenant farmer/innkeeper who, by then, was William Martinson, whose wife was Elizabeth (nee Burnett).

By 1851, William Martinson's son, twenty four year old William, was the tenant and innkeeper at Nilston Rigg; with his widower father William, wife Margaret and twin sisters Mary and Hannah also living there. William was the last officially named innkeeper at Nilston Rigg and as it seems that the original farm was comprised of 300 acres but eventually extended to 1,000 acres, it was, maybe, an adequate income from agricultural activities, along with the demise of the Langley smelt mills that closed around 1888, that led to the calling of "Time please", at Nilston Rigg Inn.

(Note! The farm/Inn has been variously called Nilston Rig, Nilstone Rigg, and on today's Ordnance Survey Maps, is Nilston Rigg.)

Next month I will visit our most recent 'alehouse'. Why not join me in the queue down Shaftoe Street to gain entry?

"School days, school days

Happiest days or so they say.

School days, school days, happiest days of all. "

Reading, and thoroughly enjoying, Mark Weldon's monthly reminiscences of his school-days, recalled in The Haydon News, has brought back memories of Shaftoe Trust School and my eleven years there. Nothing like Mark's schooling experiences mind!

For a start, by 1946 Latin wasn't on the curriculum; although it had been when the Rev. John Shaftoe's foundation school was first established in 1697/98, as a Grammar School *and* an English School. Until the demise of the Grammar School in 1878, a succession of headmasters had taught Latin, Greek and Roman and Grecian history to a mere handful of Haydon and Woodshields pupils, in a fifteen roomed house next to a less salubrious English school; on the same site as today's Shaftoe Academy.

So, what were Shaftoe Trust pupils in the midst of while Mark was immersed in his 'Classics'?

Firstly, we had to choose between Agriculture and Horticulture as a topic for our study. Mucking out a Wessex Saddleback, the deep litter, and bullocks at

Haydon Park, milking Jersey cows, and caring for the poultry. Or, - *the curriculum I chose* - the theory and practice of crop rotation, planting potatoes and peas, sowing seeds, and growing tomatoes. Each in our individual garden plots and heated greenhouses in Bill Foster's walled garden.

Thinking about it today, just a hint of Latin might have also been useful in my years at Shaftoe Trust School, as it would have helped make some sense of the inscribed stone panel, externally on the east wall of the school building (*still there today but illegible*), or the much clearer panel still fixed in the school hall. Remarkably, in my eleven years at the school I don't recall a single teacher ever providing a translation of the memorial to our school's benefactor. (*Maybe, just as disappointing, looking back, it never occurred to me to ask my teachers what on earth the strange words meant.*)

<p>Haec schola fundata et Munifice dotata fuit anno Domini, MDCXCVII. A Reverendo et doctissimo viro domino Johanne Shaftoe. A.M. ecclesiae Netherwarden in hoc agro vicario: In tam benigni capitis elogium Deese nequit. hoc unum opus pro Cunctis aliis suis beneficiis fama loquetur.</p>
--

Maybe Mark can give us a clue?

I have a strong suspicion that our outdoor curriculum was more appropriate for a rural school population than Latin and/or Greek. Although, it is likely that I would have been in a position to offer a little more in conversation with our Greek friends in Rhodes than: "Kalimera, Kalispera, Kalinicta and Yamas".

Outdoor educational activities were not confined to school hours when I was at Shaftoe Trust School and the school Nature Club, organised by Mr. Coombes, was a special pleasure.

We would follow the Honeycrook Burn north and examine the remains of our earlier lead and coal industries on its banks; before reaching Muckle Moss and searching for the Sundew Fly Trap as it digested its insect prey *How cruel nature is.*

To the south of the district, High and Low Force were our preferred destinations, where we would stay overnight at the Langdon Beck Youth Hostel.

And, much closer to home, we would clamber through Lees Cleugh and Robbs Dene, searching for birds' nests, recording their position, counting the eggs and recognising them by pattern and colour.

"Happiest Days Of All"

Methodist Church Services 10.30am

7th Nov. Peter Smith

14th Nov.

Remembrance Day Service

(at St. Cuthberts Church 10.15 am)

21st Nov. Tom Dodds

28th Nov. Deacon Anne Taylor

Mid week Informal Worship 7pm

3rd November

17th November

Services in the Parishes by the Wall

7th Nov. Eucharist

Rev. Lesley Chapman

14th Nov. Remembrance Day (Earlier start 10.15 am)

Rev. Gill Alexander

21st Nov. Eucharist

Rev. Nigel and Mary Warner 28th Nov. Eucharist

The Archdeacon

(followed by discussion re Re-organisation of Parishes)

There is a short said Evensong at 3pm on Wednesdays

All Hallows, Henshaw 10.30am

7th Nov. Eucharist

Rev. Jan Van Der Burg

14th Nov Eucharist/Remembrance

Rev. Michael Jackson **(time 10.00 am)**

21st Nov Eucharist

Rev. Keith Teasdale

28th Nov Eucharist

Rev. Elaine Ryder

Morning Prayer is streamed Tues/Thurs 9am via

www.facebook.com/parishesbythewall

St John of Beverley

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St. John's Haydon Bridge 9.00 am

St. Oswald's Bellingham 11.00 am

Thursday Morning Mass at St, Wilfred's Haltwhistle

9.30 am

(to book your place please visit Heavenfield Bookings and choose a Church)

St. Mary's, Hexham Public Mass and Live Stream, please check St. Mary's website

Letter from Deacon Anne

October is very much the time when we celebrate harvest in the church but this year, we have been asked to look at climate change and the impact it is having on creation. This is leading up to the COP 26 conference on Climate change in Glasgow in November.

Back in 2015 there was the Paris agreement when promises were made by nations as to what they were going to do regarding climate change. COP 26 will highlight what promises have been met and where they are still lacking. People have been talking about climate change for decades but not much has happened. One possible reason why not much was done is that if it's not really affecting your neck of the woods then you don't really see the necessity or urgency to do something about it. But this also depends on your view of the planet and who we see as our brothers and sisters.

As the words of the hymn say, 'God in his love for us lent us a planet, gave it a purpose in time and in space: small as a spark from the fire of creation, cradle of life and the home of our race.' (Fred Pratt Green 1973)

Scripture tells us of God the creator. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth and throughout the first chapter of Genesis we are told how God created all that was needed to sustain life on earth. And God saw that it was very good, perfect in fact.

Genesis 1: 26 says 'Then God said let us make man in our own image in our likeness and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over livestock over all the earth and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' Humans are the climax of Gods creative activity and God has crowned them with glory and honour and made them ruler over the rest of his creation. We are called to be good stewards of the earth to care for it, look after it and preserve it. This was a precious gift. The only way this could be done was if we obeyed the makers instructions. Sadly, that has not been the case and now we are seeing the extensive damage that has been done.

We have a faithful God and what he says happens and he also keeps his promises. The question is will the leaders of the world keep their promises and will we be good stewards of God's gift to us ?

'Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to enjoy it, ours as God's stewards, to farm and defend. From its pollution, misuse and destruction, good Lord deliver us, world without end! Fred Pratt Green, (1973) Stainer and Bell Ltd, London

[For Church contact details see back cover.](#)

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Tales of holiday injuries are beginning to arrive back in the village as those who have been away for an annual break return from their travels. It never ceases to amaze me how quick-witted some local doctors and nurses can be when their advice is sought. Jimmy had been taking this year's holiday with his young children in a very cluttered campervan when, almost inevitably, he stood barefooted on a very sharp object, which turned out to be a diver's watch. He hobbled to the local health centre where the nurse on duty said that she wasn't surprised at his pain as time inevitably wounds all heels.

September is a month equably capable of attaching itself to the fading summer months in the guise of an Indian Summer, or laying out the stall for the approaching winter with cold nights and early frosts. In the event, we received a ragbag of weather containing very little of either. Although there were a few notably warmer days such as the 8th, (28 deC), daytime temperatures under cloudy skies hovered in mediocrity while there were no signs of there being any risk of frosts overnight. My garden showed little sign of bringing the growing season to a close and we were cropping steadily well into October.

A dominance of relatively high pressure until mid-month resulted in slack winds and little rainfall, much of which was showery in nature. The first sign of a more disturbed weather came with the arrival of a complex system which brought the strongest winds (persistent north-westerly) and almost half of the month's rainfall between the 26th and 30th.

Surface waters were still running low as we approached winter but over the first week of October, Haydon Bridge received 54.6 mm (2.15 inches) of rainfall with 40 mm over the 4 and 5th.

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

Month 2021	Average Max. Temp (Daytime) deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Average Min. Temp (Night-time) deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Rainfall mm	Percentage of long-term average
September	18.3	+1.7	10.9	+2.6	62.2	66%

Gladys was recently at an international business conference in London during which a small group of the most influential business dealers decided to continue their meeting at one of the most famous restaurants. In the group were, an Australian, a Turk, a Mexican, Brazilian, a Frenchman and a Scotsman. Unfortunately the doorman refused them access as they didn't have a Thai.

Correspondence...

Dear Editor,

Reading Dennis Telford's Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge ('Howay The Lads' August 2021) made me think about my own football memories, including my first ever match, which turned me into a Haydon Bridge Sunderland fan (sorry, Dennis).

It was Tuesday night, 27th February 1973; a 5th round FA Cup replay against Manchester City. We got to Roker Park early; early enough to see the Man City players disembark from the team bus. Famous names including Francis Lee, Rodney Marsh, and one of my all-time favourite players Colin Bell.

Manchester City were the red-hot favourites. Before the game Malcolm Allison, the City manager, said: "Sunderland have no chance - we'll murder them in the replay". And Francis Lee apparently said he would give up a week's wages if City didn't beat Sunderland!

Sunderland won of course, 3-1. The atmosphere was incredible; something that I'll never forget. I also remember arriving back home to Haydon Bridge late that night and the highlights were on TV – in black & white.

I believe that match has been voted the best ever game at Roker

Park in its 99-year history and it was my first ever match, so that's how and why I became a Sunderland supporter. I was 9 years old and will be forever grateful to the late Johnny Heslop for taking me to that match and many more in the years that followed.

I'm sure most Haydon News readers will know that Sunderland went on to win the FA Cup that year, but they might not realise that a well know Haydon Bridge couple who were and still are avid Newcastle supporters, were spotted on 'Wembley Way' that day wearing red & white scarves, by fellow Haydonians and Sunderland supporters, Ernie Edwards and David Kirsopp,

Over to you Dennis. An explanation please!
Yours sincerely,
David Tait.

100,000 at Wembley and the first people the 'couple' met on this clandestine trip were from Haydon Bridge! By the way; never then, before, or since, 'red & white scarves'. The two black and whites will admit only to rosettes of Sunderland manager Bob Stokoe who played for the magpies from 1947 to 1961. And the opponents at Wembley that day were Leeds United, so secret support for the lesser of two evils, maybe?

Clarty Boots

So this is the first of (hopefully!) a series of articles that stem from conversations rooted in the climate and ecological crises, going back to a drunken New Year's Eve in the Havelock in 2019 (or was it 2018?)

Ali farms in the Parish and is concerned about impact of farming on the environment. I have no technical/educational/practical background in farming or anything related! However, I have a deep interest and a sometimes overwhelming anxiety about the implications of the Climate and Ecological Emergency, and a fairly logical brain which concludes that how land is managed has a huge impact (both negative and potentially positive) on this, and farmers manage very large amounts of land – and so are in a potentially very powerful position.

'So what actually is the difference between 'conventional' farming and 'regenerative' farming? I ask – and quickly discover there are NO simple answers to anything! Ali describes the land that farmers manage as being a 'resource'....but that this 'resource' has, over many generations, become 'depleted'. This is increasingly so since World War 2, accelerated by the need to provide a large amount of food, combined with the availability of a much wider range of chemical aids e.g. fertilisers and pesticides, and complex machinery. (Cue for a long tangential discussion on petrochemical companies and capitalism...!)

Farmers, due to the ways they have been trained (by educational establishments and governments), combined with some 'but this is the way it has always been done' (often 'wisdom' handed down by previous generations of their family farming the same land), are *further* depleting the very resource they rely on.

But, Ali says, 'Why would you want to sustain a depleted resource?' I wonder if maybe an equivalent would be if you had asthma due to poor air quality and instead of improving the air, you heavily medicate your body to cope with the pollution. People, the media and establishments are using the 'Sustainable' buzz word, but do we really want to keep this status quo? What Ali is trying to convert to is a 'Holistic/Regenerative Agricultural Management.' This includes the many aspects of husbandry and the environment, but also includes the economic

and social aspects. My understanding is that it is largely about having healthy soil – but wider than that – a 'healthy soil web'. I wrote about this in an article in Haydon News in March 2021. The wider ecosystem, including humans, trees, plants, animals etc is all totally interdependent, with soil being a massive part of this. Our soil, however, is becoming increasingly less able to provide food for us.

So regenerative farming methods address this, literally at the roots. The 5 tenets are:

Armour the soil
Living root at all times
Animals
No till
Diversity

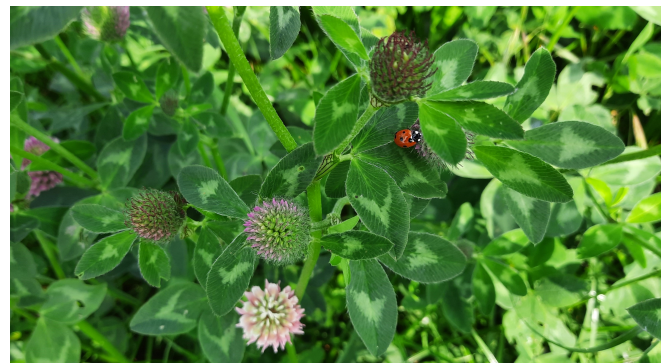
There is a *huge* amount to understand here, all of it very fascinating and hopefully more will follow about different aspects in the coming articles.

As Ali points out 'The problem is it'll take at least 5-10 years to get the whole farm working effectively, that is, holistically – and I still need to make money.' So he is going through a gradual process of working out what works on his land – 'grow what thrives on your land, where you live.'

In late August I had an excited message inviting me to visit some of Ali's fields. They were absolutely buzzing with numerous types of bees and butterflies, beetles, flies, and a massive variety of plants – and just felt lovely to be there.

Siobhan and Ali

Comments welcome to siobhansib@protonmail.com



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On behalf of The Parochial Church Council, we would like to thank all who came to the Market, all who had stalls and everyone who helped and contributed in some way. We had a wonderful morning and are extremely grateful to all who supported this event. The grand total raised was just over £1700! There are calendars for sale at Claire's shop and in the Bridge. They are photographs of the surrounding area taken by Michael Sadgrove to whom we are very grateful. They are £6 each including an envelope.

Many thanks once more.

Julia Cooper & Avril Kirsopp

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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.

Anonymous letters/articles will NOT be published. A nom-de-plume may be used if the Editors know the author's name and address.