



haydon news

No 31 April 82

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That Weather

'Young Towny' has noticed that there is always a marked change in the weather at Stamfordham crossroads on the A69.

When she has served a few more years of her apprenticeship to rural life she will become aware of a "fact" known to every Football, Golf and Cricket widow in the village. It works like this:

In winter, the sky can turn as black as night in the middle of a Saturday afternoon and rain, hail and snow can lash the village unmercifully.

"Good," you think, "he will be home early and we can get that shelf fixed (or door catch mended or tap washer replaced)."

What happens? He comes home later than ever, claiming to have had a wonderful game in glorious sunshine.

In summer, on the other hand, you may be looking forward to the time on your own. You get a quick lunch, stack the dishes and settle down in deckchair and sunglasses for a lazy afternoon in the garden.

What next? The peace of the afternoon is shattered by the lawn mower starting up. He has come home because the match was rained off.

There is no doubt about it (or is there?), the weather in Haydon Bridge is unlike that anywhere else in Tynedale!

EGR

Haydon Bridge Junior Footballers

On Friday 5 March we had a successful night at Haydon Bridge High School. Newbrough Concert Party entertained the audience with sketches, singing etc. At the interval a nice refreshing cup of tea and home-made biscuits were provided by a willing band of helpers. Many thanks to the people who contributed prizes for the raffle and thanks also to those who helped to sell raffle tickets at the door and in the village.

The money made was over £100 and will be put to good use in running the football teams by paying for travel, footballs, strips and other things.

Once again, many thanks.

Raffle Prize Draw

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Dressed doll | Mrs Snowball |
| 2. Martini | K Waite, Highfield |
| 3. Chocolate egg | B Telford |
| 4. Vase | J Oliver |
| 5. Talc | Mrs Johnson, Brigwood |
| 6. Cigarettes | Newbrough Concert Party |
| 7. Towel holder | Dora Fletcher |

Jeff Marshall

For Sale

2 arm chairs £20 each (ono)

single Z bed £45 (ono)

nest of tables (3) £20 (ono)

Call any evening after 5 o'clock (no phone)

Mrs V Renney
20 Strother Close
Haydon Bridge

Can somebody please explain -

How the cat always manages to lie on the seat just before you land on it?

How the pan you want to use is always full of dog hairs - just after you pour the milk in?

How those metal coathangers get all twisted up together in the wardrobe the day after you hang them up neatly?

How gloves always congregate in odd pairs - and you only notice when you shake hands with somebody important?

How the seam on your left stocking is always twisted - and the right one hasn't got a seam at all?

How the TV manages to break down only when the programme you've waited for a week to see is on, and you had to bribe the kids with £5 to get them out of the house for an hour?

How the only time you get company is when the carpet hasn't been hoovered for a week and you've got your curlers in?

How your plants were growing all right and your clever neighbour told you to talk to them, so all the plants died?

How the loop on the back of your coat always breaks the first time you hang it up?

How a very hefty seagull always waits till you've JUST done the windows?

How there's never been a chimney on fire near you till you decide to wash ALL the curtains?

How that shelf has stayed up for YEARS till you put a stamp on it?

How the dog hears you open the lid on the chocolates when you thought he was fast asleep upstairs, on your bed?

Sitting looking at the sky,
I think the wind will blow.
The stars shine through the little gaps -
It's dark and going to snow.

The frost cries "Crackle" all around--
I wish somebody cared
Enough to pick me, take me home--
A cabbage very scared!

The Last Hunt

Old William Lee had not been feeling at all well for the past month and he was glad when he turned his horse and hounds for home at the end of the day, for the cold east wind had got right into his bones and every joint ached in the saddle as he led his pack across the cold bleak Haydon country. It was February 1875, and the Haydon had had a good day, making a kill at Miss Mary's wood then taking a second fox west to kill at Lady Shield.

William Lee had been master of the Haydon Hunt for the past 17 years and was respected by farmer and gentry alike, for he knew every inch of the country and every wile of the fox. But now he was getting old and at 72 he knew it. A thin evil wind whistled through the old stone wall as William Lee pulled up the collar of his red hunting tunic around his ears as he hacked along Haresby with hounds alongside the horses and a long string of riders discussing the day's hunting. "You've given us a jolly good hunt" said William Bewicke of Threepwood Hall, as he passed a silver whisky flask to old William. "AYE AND I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MORE GOOD HUNT AFORE THE END OF THE SEASON" said old William in a loud voice as he raised the flask to his blue lips and noticed a cold white moon rising above Elrington.

Old William Lee had a restless night as he lay soaked in sweat in his cold bedroom. Patterns of frost formed on the small panes of the window from his tortured breath as he struggled for life. As the first cold light of dawn shone through the frost-coated window William Lee lay dead and the silence of the cold morning was broken by a long chilling scream of a vixen.

On 13 February 1875 the remains of William Lee were interred at the old church. A long sad procession of gentry, farmers and village folk followed the black, creaking, horse-drawn hearse as it swayed from side to side, as in silence they struggled up hill towards the old church. The coffin shuddered as the large narrow wheels shook and the small front wheels trundled on the hard uneven road with the silver thread tassels swaying in a morbid manner behind the engraved glass sides. The driver sat huddled in his black coat and hard hat, gripping the reins against a cold thin wind.

Nicholas Woodman of Crow Hall, himself a hunting man, spoke in an undertone to William Bewicke of "How the deceased was a kindly man of genial presence and a man of the country who will be greatly missed" while the Miss Bensons of Grindon Hill spoke of him as an "Honest man and a supporter of religious and social progress, for had he not been a sidesman at the church and on 14 April 1874 when the Lord Bishop of Durham held a confirmation in St Cuthbert's church Haydon Bridge, had not William Lee been there and witnessed 24 candidates take that solemn ordinance of the church". Quietly he was layed to rest towards the south-east corner of the churchyard, the only sound being the soft moaning of the wind in the leafless trees and the hollow thud of stone and clay on the coffin as the sexton filled in the grave in the fast failing light of late afternoon.

A cold wintery sun shone through the trees at Threepwood Hall as William Bewicke closed the back door and crossed the cobbled yard to the stable to saddle up the cob ready for the meet at Chesterwood. And as he hacked down Threepwood Lonnen he could not help thinking of what it would be like without old William Lee, for it was Saturday 16 February - only 3 days after he had been laid to rest.

The Miss Bensons looked fine seated on their horses in a dignified manner, and "rather fetching to the eye" he thought as he noticed their slim shapely figures in their well cut riding attire as they sat side saddle waiting for the field to move off.

Nicholas Woodman of Crowhall had agreed with the whip John Thompson that he would master the Hunt for the day as they put in at the Honeycrook below Chesterfield. As they approached the woods the hounds followed the course of the burn before turning up into the wood. "Lea in, Lea in there Bracken. In yer gan Brandy, hunt him oot." shouted John Thompson as the hounds began to weave amongst the trees.

Half a mile away up on Colleylaw the dog fox stirred from his warm couch of bracken, and as he rose he shook himself, his red coat glistening with frost. As he turned to listen to the baying of the hounds his amber eyes glowed in the morning sun. He was in no hurry as he stretched first one leg then the other while arching his strong back and yawning to show his sharp white teeth set in pink gums. For a few moments he sat down to scratch behind his ear with his hind leg, then stood up and cocked his leg to relieve himself before setting off at a gentle trot towards Haydon Fell.

Hounds soon found on the Honey Crook and took their fox north to Colleylaw where they lost scent, but soon took up that of the dog fox who was now sitting looking down from Haydon Fell, beyond Cubstocks, at the pack of hounds as they threaded their way east amongst the bents towards him. Bracken gave a deep throated howl as he led the field. "Their music is good to the ear" said Nicholas Woodman as he galloped towards New Alston. Suddenly the line took them to the old quarries above Plunder Heath, where for a moment scent was lost as hounds cast about amongst the tumbled rocks. Suddenly William Bewicke looked up from his steaming sweating horse to see the dog fox looking down at him from a grassy bank. "Halloo there, in Brandy" he shouted as the dog fox set its mask towards Plunder Heath and splashing through the Silly Burn where it ran on to West Haydon, stopped to look back on now tiring riders and hounds.

Waiting until the riders and dogs were about on him the dog fox slowly ran the three fields between West Haydon and the old church with the hounds only yards behind.

William Bewicke led the field and was only feet away when the dog fox leapt up onto the moss covered stone wall that encloses the old churchyard. For a second or so the fox lay along the top of the wall appearing to be the only creature not tired, sweating or out of breath. Then, slowly turning its head it fixed its burning gaze directly into the eyes of William Bewicke before dropping out of sight into the churchyard. By now riders and foot followers alike surrounded the old churchyard and as hounds leapt the wall no fox had bolted, William Bewicke sat frozen to his saddle for the eyes that had burned into his were not the amber elliptical eyes of a fox - but that of a human, that of a MAN. Quietly he watched the hounds follow the scent around the side of the old church and on towards the new grave of William Lee where hounds stood howling as if their quarry had gone to ground. William Bewicke felt the blood drain from his face as the cold icy fingers of death slowly ran a chill down his spine and he broke out into a cold sweat as he remembered William Lee's last words to him four days ago ... "AYE AND I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MORE GOOD HUNT AFORE THE END OF THE SEASON".

Owld Tawny

This is a true story - over the years this same fox has been seen on Haydon Fell and in the fields around the old church at different times of the year and by different people.

Haydon Bridge Floral Horticultural and Industrial Society

As there were only 8 members at the meeting of 4 March 1982, mainly committee members, it was decided to hold a further meeting on 15 April to arrange the winding up of the society and disposal of the funds. In the constitution of the Society, committee members are responsible for disposal of the same funds.

W Dawson

Cumbrian Run

On Sunday 25 April Dave Wright and Dent Oliver are competing in the Cumbrian Run. If anyone would be keen to complete a team of three to run with them would they please contact the Editor as soon as possible.

They are hoping to be sponsored to raise money for the Community Centre. Sponsor sheets will be circulated around the village.

Council notes - Thursday 25 March 1982

County Councillor Mr Derwent Gibson was present.

Social event in aid of the disabled sports centre, Hexham

In the public participation session, the council was asked to give its approval to a carnival event centred on the old bridge on 5 June. This was given and permission for use of the bridge is to be sought. (Further details of this event will be publicised in future issues of the Haydon News.)

Highways

The defective A69 surface will be repaired when the contractor is next in the area. The siting of the 30 mph speed limit sign at the west end of the village has been investigated by a Chief Inspector from the Traffic Commission at Cramlington. He is to recommend that the sign be moved a little further west and that road markings to stop overtaking by vehicles entering the village be considered. The fatal accident at East Wharmley was also discussed and councillors hoped that some warning could be given either by double white lines or a 'road narrows' sign to prevent further accidents there.

Factories

The brick dust disposal is now satisfactory. There was discussion on whether the empty factory should be advertised locally. It was agreed to contact Bellingham Council to find out what they did about theirs.

Library

It is hoped that the library will be opened for 12 hours spread over 2-3 days with one member of staff in attendance.

Grants

£25 was given to the WEA and £10 to Northumberland Playing Fields Association.

Buses

Anomalies in charging by United have now been resolved.

Sports Centre

Concern was expressed that traffic was using the Belmont road to get to the Sports Hall, although members have been told not to use it. This is because of the danger to young children who live there and who could very easily run out in front of a moving vehicle.

Community Association

Many people are inquiring as to when the Centre will be open again. I regret I am unable to give a firm date at present. All I can say is that it should not be long.

I am sure all who use the Centre will appreciate the fact that one major repair has already been completed this year, so we are now faced with having to raise another substantial sum. What that sum will be will not be known until all estimates have been examined. This task will be completed within the next few days -- only then will we know the cost.

With regard to fund raising - we have already received offers of help from organisations using the Centre. I hope others will follow when they read this letter.

I apologise for lack of real information in this letter. This however is only a preliminary notification and you will be kept informed either through the courtesy of the Haydon News or through your own organisation.

I appreciate your efforts in the past and regret to have to ask for your help again. I am however sure that those people who have the interest of the village at heart will again help to maintain the Centre, by restoring the building to its proper place - the centre of village life.

A Duncan
Chairman

Women's Institute

At the 58th birthday party of the Haydon Bridge group Mrs Horne, the president, welcomed members and guests. A short business meeting was followed by a buffet supper. Mrs E Routledge, a member for 36 years, cut the cake which was made and iced by Mrs E Oliver. Mrs Mary Newman and party provided the entertainment which was enjoyed by all. The competition for a pretty jug was won by: 1st Miss E Foster, 2nd Mrs E Routledge, 3rd Mrs Willis. Miss D Todd won the antique and raffle prizes were won by Mrs Willis, Mrs Benson, Mrs Martyn and Mrs Parkes.

For Sale

Two kitchen chairs with red leather seats. In very good condition. Offers. phone HB 702.

Forthcoming events

A disco is to be held by the Wednesday Badminton Club at the Anchor Hotel on Friday 7 May. proceeds are in aid of Community Centre funds. Tickets are available from either Audrey Wright or Judy Irwin.

A disco will be held in the Community Centre on Saturday 24 April for the younger members of Haydon Bridge, between 7.30 and 11.00 pm at a cost of 50p. The disco will be run by Mr Tom Baker.

Mr Baker would like us to make it clear that the discos mentioned in last month's Haydon News were run by the Haydon Bridge Buffs and not by him personally.

1st Haydon Bridge Scouts

Have you heard of us? Do you know what we do? Do you know what the scout aim is? Do you know who keeps us going? Most of all, are you interested? If you are, then read on, and even if you aren't, your eyes could be opened!

Well, if you haven't heard of us bow your head in shame because the people of Haltwhistle, Hexham, Newcastle, Keswick, Ambleside, Ullswater, Ennerdale (do you know where that is?), Pooley Bridge, Skiddaw (not many people up there - 3000 ft), Morecambe, Blackpool, Great Yarmouth and the Norfolk Broads and even London have as these are all places we have been. Next stop? Europe? The World ... ? Quite possible. We could do almost anything because the Lads of this village are the BEST at getting things done and having fun at the same time. The progress of the Lads through the scout training scheme has been staggering. In the past 2 years only 7 scouts from the Tynedale District have achieved the top award in Scout Section, the chief scout award, and 5 of them were from the 1st Haydon Bridge Troop, and another 4 this year.

Keeping all this in mind, look at the aim of scouting (and every scout leader should know this) - laid down in our official Rule Book it says "The aim of the Scout Association is to encourage the physical, mental and spiritual development of young people so that they may take a constructive place in society". We, the leaders, believe we are achieving this at Haydon Bridge, and membership of 31 scouts and 12 assistant leaders proves we must be doing something right for these lads when most groups around us are struggling or falling!

Now we come to the crunch! Who keeps us going? Well, in 1967/68 the scout leaders Richard Waugh and Bob Hubbuck set up a fund raising Ladies Committee, thus taking the money pressures off themselves and future leaders (me). This committee is made up of any mother who has a lad in the cubs or scouts and over the years they have done an amazing job.

Mrs J Brown (Church St) is at present head of the committee which has in 18 months raised £2000 enabling me to go out and buy our prized mini-bus (without which we could not have gone to the places listed above.) The Ladies Committee has worked well in the past because when they organised some event nearly all the parents would support it, but now the committee organise events and hardly any parents turn up to give or support. The last event they arranged was the Christmas Fair. 10 parents and many senior citizens turned up and we made £105 profit. Not bad you might say, but the 10 parents had spent on average £10 each on prizes and baking etc so were rather upset by only making this small amount for all their hard work and agreed that it just was not worth it!

If you are a parent with a lad in the cubs or scouts (who has the world at his feet) - Remember the saying 'Boys will be boys'? This is not true, as boys will be men! Do you believe in what we are doing? Do you care? If you do, please prove it by helping our ladies committee who do

believe in us, or YOUR Village Troop will fall to nowt! (and I hope you will come and visit me at the mental hospital).

J S Dixon
Scout Leader

After years of criticism for doing nothing for the village, the scouts are starting a small task force to help old and disabled persons with heavy jobs.

The scouts do in fact do things for the village but they get taken for granted - like collecting all the wood on foot for the bonfire.

Being in the scouts since I left the cubs I am sick of people who think the scouts just drive around in the scout van, which I can say is not true. In 1981 the scouts had a successful year. We had a night hike every month, and six camps which were great fun for everyone who went. But the greatest success for the scout leader was in a competition for groups all over the district. Haydon Bridge had four teams entered and they came first, second, third and fourth.

So please help us to help you. Any jobs for the task force?

Contact : T Fletcher
HB 756

And Finally ...

May I draw the attention of the readers of the Haydon News to a very pleasant experience I have just had regarding the Haydon Bridge scouts.

A member of the scouts came to my house and asked if I would like my garden weeded and tidied up. He went on to explain that a number of scouts under his leadership had formed a 'Task Force' to assist the elderly and disabled within the village with heavy tasks such as gardening etc.

Four scouts arrived, as promised, and set to work on the garden and after 2 hours of hard labour left the garden neat and tidy, and me a very happy and grateful person.

K Lees

The Methodist Church invites you to the following services and meetings

- | | | |
|----------|----------|--|
| April 4 | 10.45 am | Rev G Forster |
| | 6.00 pm | Rev A Wignall |
| April 11 | 10.45 am | EASTER Mr T Willis (Family Service) |
| | 6.00 pm | Rev A Wignall (Sacrament) |
| April 14 | 2.30 pm | Women's Own - Mr L C Coombes |
| April 18 | 10.45 am | Mrs McConway |
| | 6.00 pm | Rev A Wignall |
| April 25 | 10.45 am | Rev A Wignall |
| | 6.00 pm | Mr S Rutherford |
| April 28 | 2.30 pm | Women's Own - Mrs R Hudspith (Haltwhistle) |

St Cuthbert's Parish Church - Services for April 1982

Palm Sunday	4 April	10 am	Parish Communion (in the Church hall)
		6 pm	at the Methodist Church
Good Friday	9 April	2 pm	United service (in the Methodist Church)
Easter Day	11 April	8 am	Holy Communion
		10 am	Parish Communion (with sermon)
		6 pm	Evensong and address
NB : All Easter Day services will be held in the PARISH CHURCH and on every Sunday thereafter.			
Sunday 18 April	Easter 1	10 am	Parish Communion
		6 pm	Evensong
Sunday 25 April	Easter 2	8 am	Holy Communion
		10 am	Mattins
		6 pm	Evensong

Parish Church Heating

As many people will already know, the heating system has been out of commission since the extreme frosts of early January, and we have been holding our morning services in the Church hall. At long last, after argument and protracted discussions with the insurers, we are able to go ahead with the complete renewal of the heating system at a cost of over £4000 of which the insurance will contribute rather less than half the sum we need. With certain additional funds available, we shall still have to find over £1,700 to pay for the new system, and that on top of our planned expenditure in 1982 of around £6000 to keep our Parish Church going and contribute to the Diocesan Quota.

We do need all the help possible from the people of the parish at this time and we would appeal to every parishoner to help our small but faithful congregation in its present task of raising the money to pay for our new heating. Several people have expressed their concern about the temporary closure of the Parish Church during the last three months and we are grateful for their interest. The reason we are determined to replace the heating system and re-open the Church for services is quite clear: the Church is the meeting place for all Christian people and must continue to be used for worship, for baptisms, weddings and funerals, as a living expression of the love of God and presence of Christ in the local community. We sincerely hope that many more of our people will agree with these sentiments and use their Parish Church for the purpose for which it was first provided nearly two hundred years ago. And if you are able to help us pay the bill, we shall be doubly grateful.

Alec Beniams
Vicar

Going Away

"Are we nearly there, do you think, Billy love?" "Yes, pet; if you look over there you can just see the tops of the chalets." "OOOOOH! I never thought Butlins would be so big - look at all those buildings and all the

people. And that must be the funfair - won't the kids have a great time!" "Aye, pet, it's nice to get away from it all for a whole fortnight. We need a good break." "At least your mother'll not be around ...". "How many times have I told you to leave OFF my mother? Now just shut up and let's get on with this holiday!"

(Later) "Isn't this a grand place, Sheila? The size of this pool ... it must hold a million gallons ... glad it's not my job to clean it out! And look at that man on the diving board ... well I never, it's Fred from the works. Hey Fred! It's us!" "Hello there, Billy and Sheila - I didn't know you were coming here - have you seen young Mac from the office? He's here with his family and his new in-laws. Well, see you later - Marge is waving for me." "Billy, that man over there is looking at me sideways - do you think this swimsuit's a bit ... er ... do I need a cardi on?" "It looks all right to me - good grief, that's not a man, it's Basil from two doors up the street - I don't mean he isn't a man, I mean we know him - hey, Basil! It's us! "What are you doing here? I thought the South of France was more your scene." "Hello Bill, hello Sheila, just taking a long weekend away from the same old faces - it's quite nice here, isn't it?" "Yes, just what we were thinking. See you later perhaps?"

(Later) "That was a smashing meal, pet. And you don't have to wash the pots!" "Billy, isn't that Mrs Pugh from the corner shop at that table by the window?" "So it is - I hope she doesn't see us - oh, no. She's coming over."

(Later) "Fancy a drink before we go to bed, pet?" "That's a good idea. I'll have a dry sherry, please." "A pint and a dry ... hey, aren't you John Black's lad, the one who works during the college holidays?" "Hello, Mr Brown, yes, it's me. I've been here a week in the bar and they've asked me to stay till I have to go back in September. Have you seen Mam and Dad? They came here for a weekend and pop in to see me at night ... "

(Later) "Turn the light off, Billy love. This looks like it's going to be a great holiday - all the cooking done for you and all we have to do is laze around." "Yes, pet - it's the best thing we could have done, to come here. Getting away from it all and meeting new people, away from that lot at home ... "

The deadline for the May issue is Friday 23 April 1982. All contributions should be sent as soon as possible and not later than that date to

Martin Scudamore : The Anchor Garage (tel 345)

or

Lintley, Belmont Gdns (tel 587)

Because of the time involved in preparing the Haydon News, it is not normally possible to increase the number of pages in each issue. You are therefore strongly advised to send your contribution in as early as possible to ensure publication.

THE HAYDON NEWS WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT

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Haydon Bridge 227

"GOOD BEER - GOOD CHEER"

Riverside Lounge available FREE for Weddings, Parties, Meetings, etc. Morning Coffee & Meals served in Riverside Lounge. Dining Room available for that Special Pre-Booked Party Accommodation available for your Visiting Friends.

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I enclose my subscription/donation of £

Please return to Mr. L. Carey, Park Cottage, Chesterwood, Haydon Bridge or give to any member of the Committee.