



Feb 84.

h a y d o n n e w s

No 50

The Haydon News wishes to thank the following for their support:

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| <p>THE FISH SHOP FRYING TIMES:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>MONDAY</td> <td>Evening only 7.30-11 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TUESDAY</td> <td>Closed all day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WEDNESDAY</td> <td>11.45-1.00, 7.30-11 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THURSDAY</td> <td>Closed all day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FRIDAY</td> <td>11.30-1.30, 7.30-11 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SATURDAY</td> <td>11.30-1.30, 7.30-10 pm</td> </tr> </table> <p>QUALITY FISH & CHIPS R & K DOBSON</p> | MONDAY | Evening only 7.30-11 pm | TUESDAY | Closed all day | WEDNESDAY | 11.45-1.00, 7.30-11 pm | THURSDAY | Closed all day | FRIDAY | 11.30-1.30, 7.30-11 pm | SATURDAY | 11.30-1.30, 7.30-10 pm | <p>R. REED ELECTRICIAN Tel. Haydon Bridge 516</p> <p>Langley View, Heugh House Lane.</p> <p>All types of electrical work carried out - friendly and efficient service</p> |
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Editor's Letter

Dear Friends

Once again we are able to say Hello due to the generosity of the people of Haydon Bridge. Until the accountant gives me an exact figure to fix to that generosity, I cannot say how much was donated.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED SO GENEROUSLY.

At the last committee meeting of the Friends of Haydon Bridge, plans were discussed to hold a fund raising event the Wednesday before Easter. Details of this event will be in the March issue.

This is a short editorial; the newsletter is far better than anything I can write. Ould Tawny is back, please read him with goodwill - laugh, don't cry. If you don't like what he has to say, let me know and then I can clip his wings.

This news is yours - please write in, complain if you must, advertise your items for sale, but don't just use it to light the fire!

Best ^wishes,
Marion Howard

* * *

Haydon Bridge Library

Dear Editor

The present position is that the total cost of the scheme will be £7950, of which the County Council will pay £4950. This is as agreed when Mr. J. Dryden and I met County representatives some twelve months ago.

Quote from a letter I received from the County Librarian on 20th January 1984:
"I have checked with the County Architect and as I informed you the work on the Library should be completed by the end of February which will allow the Library to open towards the end of March".

On checking with Mr. Hugh Davies, Tynedale DC, I find that he agrees with the County Librarian but stresses that it all depends on the date of arrival of new doors.

The date of completion agreed between County Officers, Tynedale DC Officers and Mr. Dryden and Mr. Waite of Haydon Parish Council was to be April 1984. Perhaps it might be wise to expect the opening before Easter 1984.

Yours sincerely
Edward Waite

* * *

Music in the Methodist Chapel

Paul Croft, guitar, and Katrine Heath, flute, made a return visit to Haydon Bridge on Saturday 21st January 1984.

Those who braved the weather were treated to a mixture of 17th Century European music composed for the lute, combined with Bach, Guuiline, and the Mexican composer, Tedesco.

Katrine Heath's solo was the lightly haunting piece by Debussy, "Syrinx". All those holidays in Spain were brought to life when Paul Croft played a piece by Tarrega.

In the end it was the final piece by Tadesco which left the audience hoping that their musical guests, Paul and Katrine, will some day soon return and delight us once more.

Music Lover

* * *

Guitar and Flute Concert

Paul Croft and Katrine Heath travelled from Alston to give the concert in the Methodist Chapel. On so wintry an evening they managed to make the journey down and back.

Their musical evening raised £35.71 for Chapel funds.

Much of the credit for the smooth running of the concert must go to Mr. Ernie Swinburn, who arranged the musical entertainment. Thanks must also be given to the band of ladies who provided supper after the concert.

* * *

Haydon Bridge Nature Club - Winter/Spring Programme 1984

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| January 5 | AGM and Members' Slides | |
| January 19 | The Urban Fox | Dr. J D S Birks |
| February 2 | Far Away Flowers | Dr. A J Richards |
| February 16 | Coal | Mr. J Destefano |
| March 1 | Frogs, Toads and Other Things | Mr. A M Tynan |
| March 15 | The Ordnance Survey | Mr. R D Cummings |
| March 29 | Butterflies and Moths | Dr. J Parrack |

All meetings to be held in the Community Centre, Haydon Bridge, at 7.15 pm.

John P. Brogdon
Hon. Sec
The House
Catton

D.V. Orton
Hon. Treasurer
Greenbanks
Westwood
Bardon Mill (Tel. Bardon Mill 219)

Hexham. (Tel. Allendale 383)

* * *

A Remarkable Event

Living in Haydon Bridge to this day is a remarkable and very clever man. At one time in his life he was a pigeon fancier - winning many races with his birds (to which his loft and home give testimony by being adorned with trophies and silver cups). His strain of racing bird was always superior to any other in the land, no-one else being able to attain the quality of bird as he, yet he made most money from his birds, not by racing, but by breeding and selling the fertile eggs to Americans who had heard of his worldwide reputation.

He made it a rule not to sell birds or eggs to any other pigeon man in this country for he alone was champion and it would not do to be beaten by a bird from his own strain - but to America that was different - it was far, far away so whenever his very best hen laid that beautiful white egg he would look up his order book, pack

The egg in a box of cotton wool, pop around to the Post Office and send it off to America - in due time a cheque to the value of £500 would arrive as the egg had safely arrived across the Atlantic and placed under a broody American pigeon for incubation.

After 17 days the chick would hatch, much to the delight of the American, who boasted to all his friends in Northbrook, Illinois, about his champion purchase from England. After another 20 days the young bird was ready to fly ...and as Mervin and his friends gathered to watch the young pigeon's first flight it left the loft and circled in the clear blue sky above Northbrook, before finding its bearing and direction and within a week or so it was back sitting in the loft at Haydon Bridge where it had been laid as an egg weeks earlier - while old Charlie sat in the "Railway" drinking brown ale with another £500 in his pocket and another prize pigeon on the books.

Isn't the homing instinct remarkable?

Owld Tawny

* * *

Activities at Peelwell Rest Home.

For the senior citizens living at Peelwell, life begins at over 60 years. Mary and Tot are providing a restful environment in which to pass their days of retirement. To keep the ladies entertained and educated, the hosts at Peelwell have arranged for the authoress, Nancy Ridley, to give an historical talk. Miss Ridley's grandfather once lived at Peelwell, and she will be talking about his memories and other historical facts about the area. Later in the year Francis Templer and David Reay will provide a musical entertainment, playing the Northumbrian pipes. Second time around, Owld Tawny will be showing some of his films.

I am sure that the ladies are enjoying their lives with Mr. and Mrs. Moore and their many helpers.

* * *

Burns' Night

At a not-too-secret venue in Haydon Bridge, mine host Maurice cut a fine figure in a kilt of unknown clan origin. He made a grand entrance carrying a humble haggis on a tray of silver. In keeping with Burns' Night tradition the procession was escorted by a skirl of pipes, courtesy of Mr. Francis Templer.

This scene was enhanced by the youthful presence of Margaret Youngman who addressed the haggis in true Scottish fashion. Using the Bard's own words she saluted this bag of wholesome food with a dramatic flair seldom witnessed in this Sassenach village.

Traditional singing followed to the accompaniment on the accordion by Johnny Handle. (Never fear, readers, it was not long before the nature of the evening changed.) A song or two of Northumbrian origin was heard to drift from the lips of Denise Telford, who enjoyed the community singing as those present joined in. What humour, what delightful untapped talent and Oh! what fun!

Our hostess provided a supper of haggis, tattie and mashed neep. The entertainment continued as Francis Templer, David Reay and Johnny Handle had a conversation on the Northumbrian pipes. Celebrating Burns' Night is a truly wondrous Northumbrian Evening!

* * *

"A Scorching Story"

The side room of the "Haydon" looked inviting and warm as I entered from the chill of the night and closed the door behind me. A good old fashioned coal fire burned in the grate, radiating heat to every corner of the room, as I sat down upon a seat that once graced the interior of a chapel at Horsley - an old pew. Wall lights added a subtle tone of relaxation to the tastefully redesigned lounge, and I noted how no juke-box, Bandit or space invader threatened the peace and quiet of a room where the art of conversation could still be carried on without the pollution of noise.

I had come here this evening to investigate a report I had overheard in the "Railway" a few weeks back while I stood amazed and wide-eyed at the skill, movement and poetic flight of the darts of the (Bridge Inspector) Billy Alexander and his brother Keith, who is the master of all darts players in Haydon Bridge and taking all before them in pints and more pints. An "Exclusive Club of Elegant Ladies" had been formed that meets every Wednesday evening in the "Haydon Hotel" and are a cut above the "Jet Set" that also frequent this very fine establishment, they are known as the "Haydon Exclusive Ladies Club". Not any peasant or bondager woman can join this band of cultured ladies, for she or her husband have to be in business or be a member of a profession and be an equestrian or at least have a little knowledge about horses to qualify for membership. As I sat enjoying the cosy lounge the Brigadier and his lady sat in a relaxed mood enjoying each other's company, while another group unknown to me sat around the open fire. Tucked away in the corner, close to the window, were a group of elegant and cultured-looking ladies. "Ah, yes!" said I to myself, "this must be them - and that little one must be the President", for she looked a cut above the rest, a picture of elegance as she sat in the most prominent seat, not a hair out of place and sipping her wine as all top ladies do with cigarette held high at just the right angle with thumb slightly bent and about 1 inch from the tip just for effect. By now I had learned that the meeting could not get under way until Annie, the Vice-President, arrived from her yoga class - so there sat other members of the committee: the plumber's wife, the farmer's wife and others, munching crisps and drinking ale.

Suddenly the door opened and in breezed Annie, looking rather hot and flustered. "Where's thuw been?" chirped up the farmer's wife, as the vice-president wandered towards the corner with her usual half-pint of lager. After a few more drinks and many more bags of crisps our elegant little band began the story-telling - for this is the whole purpose of the club, to have a good natter and tell a good story and, if time allows, to discuss the activities of the men of the Railway Saturday Morning Club.

I wandered over to help them with a story.

"Now girls, listen to this - and mind, it's true" said one lady. Amidst sniggers and the crunching of crisps the little president was heard to say "Now, ladies, let's have order", as she puffed on her cigarette with a grace befitting a duchess. And with order restored, all heads turned first to the right then to the left and then all in towards the centre of the table, and when they thought no-one could overhear them the story was told amidst great hoots of laughter, sniggers, titters and splutters; munching crisps flew in all directions as this group of raucous ladies sat in kinks. Well, being the quiet type as I am, I hope they do forgive me for telling the story over in the paper, for it is too good to miss.

Well now, as it turned out in the story, the one concerned lives in Haydon Bridge and is a nurse by profession. She is also a very fastidious housewife, spotless in every way and, being a nurse, she is knowledgeable about the cleaning power of ether-meths on glass, windows and wounds. Well, this being her day off from duty she had decided to clean out the bathroom and the wall-cabinet, pouring out the remainder of the old ether-meths bottle down the toilet and replacing it with a new bottle - but overlooking the point of flushing away the toilet before going downstairs to prepare the evening meal for her husband, Thomas. Come 5 pm, in rushes Thomas, throws off his overalls, rushes upstairs with a quick "Hello, luv",

then sighs with relief as he sits there with his trousers draped around his ankles, arms folded across his knees, lost in meditation and smoking the Woodbine down to the last ... Well - most people know that ether-meths has a very high flash point and when old Thomas threw the dump between his legs into the pot ... WHOOOOOSH!" A sheet of flame and Thomas was blown clean off the pot to lie howling on the bathroom floor with a well-scorched backside, skin red raw and blistered and hanging in shreds. His wife, hearing the howl and thud, rushed upstairs to find Thomas lying on his stomach and his feet tangled up in his trousers. She realised what had happened - the gas build-up from the ether-meths had concentrated in the pan of the toilet, "Ah tell him afore about smokin on the netty", she muttered as she dashed downstairs to phone an ambulance. In the meantime Thomas lay, eyes watering, and biting hard on a towel as his backside throbbed and pulsed, until the ambulance screeched to the door, followed by the rushing of feet as the two attendants dashed to the bathroom, whereupon Thomas was gently laid, stomach down, upon the stretcher. Half smiling to himself and wondering how a backside could receive such a hiding in a bathroom, one of the ambulance-men asked Thomas' wife what had happened while they carried him downstairs. When he heard the answer, the attendant burst into fits of laughter and dropped his end of the stretcher, whereupon poor old Thomas rolled off and broke his right arm.

The ladies of the Exclusive club were still sniggering and tittering over the Thomas story as I wandered up to the tastefully designed bar, trying my best not to let them see me smiling as Betty the landlady served me. As I raised my glass to drink I got my eye on three very old flowered chamber pots standing on a shelf behind a row of well polished horse brasses above the whisky bottles. On asking Betty whence she had obtained such beautiful and delicate relics of past bedroom history, she replied "Oh, the pots ... they don't belong to me. You see, some of the lads won't drink out of an ordinary glass like any other civilised gentleman, they much prefer something that they can get their lips around that will give them a long, cool plentiful drink". I finished my drink and wandered off, smiling, into the cool of the night.

PS. Anyone seeking a good musical evening, try to be at the Haydon whenever Henry Robson (accordion) and his musician friends are in attendance - usually a Friday - but be there sharp, the room gets full.

Owld Tawny

* * *

Shaftoe Young Farmers' Club

The Christmas festivities began for members of Shaftoe YFC when we held our annual Dinner Dance at the Beaumont Hotel on 14th December. This was well attended by both past and present members and was a very enjoyable evening. Our Carol Singing evening in aid of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund was unfortunately postponed due to the bad weather at that time. I'm sure Haydon Bridge residents should be very relieved! Our next fund raising venture was a Charity Stall in Hexham Market Place on Christmas Eve. Yet again, the weather was against us, but we still managed to raise approximately £100 for the Cavitron Appeal. We would like to thank everyone who supported the stall and members of our Advisory Committee for donating cakes and home produce.

After Christmas we held a "Caribbean Night" fancy dress party at Turnbull's Nightclub. Despite the cold weather everyone entered into the spirit of things with some very tropical costumes! The New Year began with a Quiz between members, and a visit to the pantomime was the venue for our next meeting, when we travelled to the Theatre Royal to see Bernie Winters and Schnorbits in Aladdin. Unfortunately the bad weather postponed our recent visit to Hexham Police Station. We are also currently involved in learning our lines for a play to be held in Hexham High School on 23rd February as our entry for the County YFC Drama Competition.

Forthcoming events are:

Jumble Sale and Coffee Morning on 4th February at The Monastic Workshop, Hexham Abbey.
Supper Dance with the Smurthwaite Brothers on 10th February at the Community Centre, Haydon Bridge.

Polly Armstrong
Secretary

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Special Announcement

WHO GOT A SINGING TELEGRAM for his Birthday? ! ? ! ? ! ? ! ? ! x 4

ON A HORSE

X X X X X X

* * *

Haydon Bridge Methodist Church

You are cordially invited to the following services and meeting:

| | | |
|---------|----------|--|
| Feb 5 | 10.45 am | Mr A.G. Bell |
| | 6 pm | Rev. G. Forster (United Service in Parish Church) |
| 8 | 2.30 pm | Womens Own - Mrs M. Rowarth |
| 9 | 7.30 pm | Mens Fellowship (Ladies Night). Slides on "Cliff College" by Mr John Carrick. <u>Please note this meeting is on Thursday and not Tuesday</u> |
| 11 | | Home Missions Meeting at Hexham |
| 12 | 10.45 am | Rev. A. Wignall (Family Service) |
| | 6 pm | Mr. J.W. Johnson |
| 19 | 10.45 am | Rev. G. Forster (Sacrament) |
| | 6 pm | Rev. A. Beniams |
| 21 | 7.30 pm | Mens Fellowship - Rev. Peter Wright |
| 22 | 2.30 pm | Womens Own - Miss B. Harrison |
| 26 | 10.45 am | Rev. J. Cox |
| | 6 pm | Mrs E. Reay |
| March 4 | 10.45 am | Readers Service |
| | 6 pm | Rev. A. Wignall (United Service in Parish Church) |
| 6 | | Mens Fellowship (Visit to Post Office at Newcastle - meet outside Chapel - 6.16 pm prompt) |
| 7 | 2.30 pm | Womens Own |
| 10 | 7.15 pm | Chapel Anniversary Concert |
| 11 | 10.45 am | Rev. A. Wignall |
| | 6 pm | Rev. M.M. Adams BA (Wylam) |

* * *

Carol Singing Around the Village

The Methodist Church raised £101.72 from collections made before Christmas as they sang carols for your pleasure around the village.

* * *

Parish Council Pickings

The January meeting was not held until 2nd February, due to the heavy snowfall on the previous Thursday.

Eight Councillors were present in the Parish Hall. No member of the public present apart from reporters from Haydon News and the Courant.

The first thing to be done was to amend the minutes of the previous meeting which had fixed the Parish Rate at 2p. At the previous meeting the Council had assumed that expenditure on the Library, which was provided for in the estimates for 1984/85 would probably not all be required. Now, however, it seems that the capital contribution of £3000 is required before 31st March 1984 and Tynedale Council is objecting to the resulting level of the Parish overdraft with the District Council. So the Council perforce agreed to raise the level of the rate by $\frac{1}{2}$ p to $2\frac{1}{2}$ p in the pound - adding about £830 to the year's revenues. The Library, by the way, is due to open, on schedule, in April.

The December meeting had been told that Mr. Rippon had written to the Minister, the P.O. Users National Council and British Telecom about the maintenance of rural telephone kiosks in general and the one at Langley in particular. BT has now responded to say that the kiosk will be replaced (in spite of the very small annual takings) but they would prefer to re-site it where there was a smaller risk of vandalism.

On Highway matters, the County Surveyor has written to say that he can't see any case for altering the A69/Church St. junction. The survey team is already out looking at the Alston road junction at "Watsons Garage". It appears that the County has some money available to improve this area. The Parish Council understands that expenditure here will not influence the decision on the by-pass.

A planning application to convert the substantial outbuildings at Woodhall Mill into four houses was welcomed by the Council as a potential increase in the rateable value of the Parish.

A review of the National Park Plan has been published and will be considered at a Consultative Conference on 28 February. As the next Parish Council is on 23 February, there will still be time to raise a question, if anyone wants to.

* * *

DR. HIGH - NEW SURGERY HOURS

5.00 - 6.30 pm weekdays
(not 5.30 - 7.00 pm)

* * *

The Parish Council meeting will be held on February 23rd. Please let me have all your literary contributions by Monday 27th February.

Marion Howard,
10, Radcliffe Road,
Haydon Bridge.
Tel. HB 535

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