



Northumberland Day

Sunday 28th May 2017

"Show your independent spirit"

Show Your Love On 'Northumberland Day'!

If you love everything about Northumberland, from its history to its landscape and all things in-between, get the calendar out and circle Sunday, May 28 2017, as that's a milestone date for the county – the very first 'Northumberland Day'!

'Northumberland Day' – an idea championed by Langley Castle Hotel and Restaurant in Langley-on-Tyne, is set to be celebrated across the county, as communities, schools, businesses, individuals and parishes all express their passion for life in a county with an amazing heritage, compelling culture, passionate people and incredible scenery.

There is nothing you 'must' or 'have to' do. 'Northumberland Day' is all about communicating your pride in the county and expressing that however you wish. 'Northumberland Day' will take its inspiration from Yorkshire Day, which every self-respecting Yorkshire-born person celebrates with great gusto, at a grass-roots level, every August.

Langley Castle – and the idea originator, Catapult PR – are doing all they can to mobilise communities and networks, so as many people as possible can be involved and not miss out on the fun. Fun is what they want it to be and that starts with a call for everyone to dress in the colours of the county flag, so that Northumberland is turned yellow and red for the day.

In Haydon Bridge, we know how to do this, having embraced the Tour of Britain and decorated the village with bunting, banners and bikes. 'Northumberland Day' is an opportunity to repeat that, but do even more!

'Northumberland Day' is intended to be an occasion that can bring economic benefit to the county, by attracting visitors and encouraging spend, whether that is from people visiting for the day, or for the week – after all, it is half-term. For that reason, events will be staged throughout the 10 days around May 28, or even longer, with children able to celebrate in school with classmates and teachers, before breaking up.

There are so many opportunities around on which to base activity, whether that is by holding a street party, staging a historical re-enactment, putting on menus that showcase Northumbrian produce, creating a special sporting occasion or musical concert, getting the Northumbrian pipes out, or dressing up a shop window. There's no reason why every man, woman and child shouldn't be celebrating!

Events in planning include a 'Northumberland Day' meeting at Hexham Racecourse (Tuesday, May 23) a medieval fair at Hexham Abbey (Saturday May 27), a food market (May 27) and rock concert in Ashington (May 28), a special Haltwhistle Walking Festival walk,

an event at Headway Arts, Blyth and something special from the Northumbrian Tweed Company.

Meanwhile, at Langley Castle, there will be a 'Reivers event' on Saturday May 27, complete with camp scene and cookery, Warden's Court, ballads and storytelling, a pike drill for beginners, period food and medicine and children's battle.

Catapult PR is staging workshops to inspire more. One is on February 15 (Newton Hall) and another on March 15 (Headway Arts, Blyth). It is also rallying networks, to ensure there are multiple and undeniably Northumbrian things to do and see over a few weeks of May.

One will be the County Show, taking place the day after 'Northumberland Day', on Monday May 30. The County Show has been a huge supporter of Northumberland Day and is planning its own celebrations.

So what can you do? The first thing is to get involved with a network like the Haydon Bridge GITS, who are planning an event. You can also spread the word. Organisers are keen to see schools participate, so if you have a child at school, mention it to their teacher. Pick up the phone to friends in other parts of the county and see if they know about 'Northumberland Day'. Challenge them to lay on something as good as Haydon Bridge and see if they're up to it! Finally, don't forget to sort out your yellow and red outfit for the big day!

But don't do this without letting the organisers know! A special website is being created at www.northumberlandday.co.uk thanks to free support from web designers Bitlab, whilst tourism-based events can be posted at a new page created by Northumberland Tourism. If you email your news, ideas and pictures to NDay@catapultpr.co.uk you and your network will get the credit you deserve. You can also request 'Northumberland Day' logos, for use on printed or online materials.

In the run-up to 'Northumberland Day', there is also a special challenge. Organisers want to see the Northumberland flag photographed in as unusual, or unexpected a spot that you can manage, whether that is on the beach in Australia, on a ski slope, or atop a mountain. Get creative and email your pics to NDay@catapultpr.co.uk 'Northumberland Day' should all be a fabulous day on which to show your pride in Northumberland. Fired up now? Get planning!

Jane Hunt. Catapult PR

The Haydon News

MARCH 2017



Tony's patch is definitely worth a visit in spring.

SEE BACK PAGE



Northumberland Day

Sunday 28th May 2017

"Show your independent spirit"

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

Haydon Bridge Businesses

A new Facebook group has been set up specifically for local businesses in and around Haydon Bridge! This includes pubs, shops, services, B&B and entrepreneurs.

For our local businesses;

If you have an offer on – post it!

If you have something new – share it!

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For our locals;

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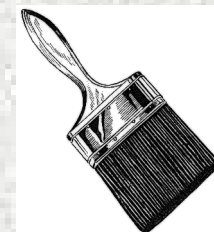


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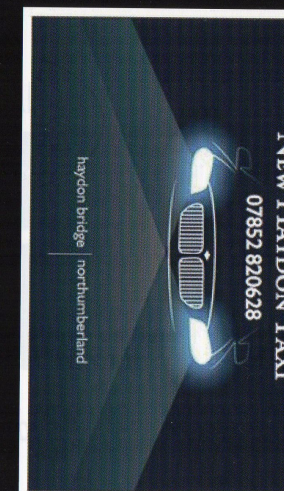
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Due to an over whelming response and need for my services for the elderly, I am pleased to announce I'm adding an extra day. I am now available on a Monday too. Thank you everybody for your support. It's very much appreciated. Karen x



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US

Nicholson Clark was set up by two former solicitors, Anna Nicholson and Caroline Clark who both live locally. We decided to retrain as Willwriters and, having qualified with the Institute of Professional Willwriters, we are regulated and insured by them. We follow their Code of Conduct, which is approved by Trading Standards, and remain members of the Law Society.

Having taken a career break to bring up our children, we wanted to find a way to return to work which used our legal qualifications and experience - at the same time as providing the flexibility needed for our young families. But what mattered most to us was to be able to offer a very personal service. We visit our clients in their own homes, or offices, to give them enough time to discuss such an important aspect of their lives in a familiar environment.

YOU

Everybody needs a Will and yet over half of the adults in Northumberland do not have one.

Without a will:

- You do not get to choose who will sort out your affairs after your death.
- Everything that you own will be distributed in accordance with rules set out by law. This will not necessarily achieve what you would expect or want.
- Following your death, if there is no one with Parental Responsibility for your children under age 18, the Court must decide who should be appointed as their Guardian. It may not be who you would choose and no one else has the right to make that decision. Appointing Guardians is best done within a Will and will provide certainty for your children.

Please call us for advice on Wills & Lasting Powers of Attorney and enjoy the peace of mind that follows knowing that your affairs are in order.

RUFFLED FEATHERS

My husband has lived in this land for many years now yet still manages to mix up his idioms, proverbs and even well-known people.

Not for nothing do we call him Mr Malaprop.

This week we were discussing what to order for Christmas dinner. Being Scandinavian he wanted goose. While the rest of us preferred something more traditional.

Eventually we reached a compromise. Or so I thought.

He said "OK. Let's have a small goose from Waitrose. And a Bernard Manning frozen turkey".

Which left me drawing one of two conclusions: either Bernard Manning has taken up poultry farming from beyond the grave or hubby thinks my cooking is hilarious.

Marita



Latest News! The gravel in the river will disappear in July-ish. This really has been a very protracted ordeal. It is impossible to escape the suspicion that there must be much better ways of dealing with local matters, such as planning, that directly influence the community. Decisions taken in Haydon Bridge would command much greater confidence than those taken in faraway Morpeth.

My most grateful thanks to all of those who contribute articles and pictures to the Haydon News, both the regular, occasional and past contributors. The aim is to have the widest variety of voices and opinions, together with all the local news that is fit to print. Everyone should feel invited to join in.

We all owe a very particular and large debt of gratitude to Mike Parkin who served our community in such a variety of ways over so many years. Dennis Telford has contributed a warm appreciation of the man and his efforts which you can read on page 11. The Haydon News is, in substantial measure, still going because of the efforts that Mike and Dennis made over the years. Their job was so much more demanding than the task I now have and I am struck by their determination and dedication. The Haydon News offers its sympathy and support to his remaining family members - especially Elena, Alexis and Louis.

Dan Dowling's description of his trip to aid the refugees continues this month and should finish next month. I am filled with admiration for what he has accomplished. Here is compassion and bravery in action together. It behoves us all to conduct a thought experiment: if we were running for our lives, how would we wish others to respond to our plight? By closing borders? By 'passing by on the other side of the street?' The problems that refugees pose to the world community are very large but their flight to sanctuary is fuelled by even greater and more pressing problems than any we might suppose we have. 'Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.' (Hebrews 13:2)

Hidden shops in Haydon Bridge - How many people know that **Jobson's Animal Health** is more than the shop at the front? Go through the shop or to the entrance round the back and there is a huge amount more to see.

New advertisers this month include **Pets Portraits** and **Red Onion Kitchen Design Studio**. Read their introductory articles - very interesting.

Some months ago I mentioned the advent of a new magazine in Tynedale called **ReadMe Haltwhistle**. The editor (*Mel Lewin melanie.readmepublishing@gmail.com*) has been in touch to say that she would welcome making contact with local people and that their main fundamental purpose is to promote and highlight our beautiful area and talented local individuals that make some difference to people's lives or the area. If you would like to take advantage of her offer or know someone who ought to grace their pages be in touch with their editor directly.

As can be seen opposite, the local business community now has its own Facebook page, organised by Laura Thompson. It is the avowed policy of The Haydon News to do all that it can to support local businesses of all descriptions and sizes. We welcome new advertisers and articles describing new businesses or new developments in existing businesses. Lets all support our local economy as much as possible.

Not long now 'til the first of 2017's lambs are gambolling about. Snowdrops, daffodils and other seasonal 'what have yous' are all in gay profusion. This is the moment to get out into our countryside and enjoy it. Some people actually pay to visit the place and we live here! Hurrah!

Steve Ford

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NEXT DEADLINE: Third Wednesday of each month.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE, CONTRIBUTIONS, ADVERTS AND CROSSWORD ANSWERS TO:

The Haydon News, Five Stones, Heugh House Lane, Haydon Bridge. NE47 6HJ email: mail@stevenford.co.uk

Or: CLAIRE'S NEWSAGENTS 11, Church Street.

The Haydon News Committee
Steve Ford (Chairman and Editor) Brian Alderson (Deputy Editor) Pauline Wallis (vice chair) Peter Parker (treasurer and diarist) Pat Hirst, Sheila Adams, Marcus Byron, John Wallis
The editorial policy of the Haydon News is the responsibility of the Committee, although day to day responsibility is delegated to the editor. Our intention is always to ensure that the content of the Haydon News is as fair and factually correct as possible. Any complaints concerning editorial policy should be addressed in writing to the Chairman and will be considered by and receive a formal response from the Committee. Complaints other than those made above will not be entertained. The Editors reserve 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.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

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Parish Clerk	Mrs. C. McGivern 07543 912 113
County Councillor:	Cllr. Alan Sharp
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A meeting of the Haydon Parish Council was held on 23 2 17 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Public participation

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter. Attended to tell the council that following a meeting of all three churches there is to be 'An Act of Witness' on the Old Bridge on Good Friday at about 11am. This will involve the placing of a cross and a short service. The proposal was warmly welcomed by the council.

It was mentioned that the bags to make sand bags are present in the sand bins already.

Blocked drains at various sites around the parish, lidless bins with blowing rubbish and blocked culverts by the school farm were reported to the council. Cllr. Sharp is to take these matters in hand.

Apologies.

Received.

Declarations of Interest.

Were invited.

Previous Minutes.

Agreed.

NCC

An horrendously long NCC budget meeting was reported by Cllr. Sharp who sadly remarked on the preponderance of political influence. The rates will rise by 4.99%. Central government funding has been falling for years and it is rural areas that are most at risk. A payment of £8.5million to the Alnwick gardens has been stopped. The new core strategy document will shortly be published and public comment invited. 600 new homes may appear at the west end of Hexham.

A recent meeting about the Haydon Bridge High School was attended by 9 parish councillors. Cllr. Sharp reported that he had remonstrated at not being kept informed. The Department of Education is now in charge. NCC is only footing the bill. Bright Tribe now has a clear run at the job. Dilapidations at Ridley Hall will be paid for by NCC. Transport will be arranged for the students. Their time in transit will be monitored and the terms of the law covering the need for boarding will be checked.

Two street lights remain to be replaced

White lines by Shaftoe Mews remain to be painted.

Two trees still require pollarding in Church Street.

The debate about the bollards at the end of Church Street continues and pressure will be maintained to ensure their removal.

The Low Hall bin is in place.

Threepwood Road remains to be repaired.

The identity of the putative purchaser of the old fire station is to be ascertained.

The continuing presence of residential caravans at Willow Gap is giving rise to concern. Options for action are to be examined.

Highways.

The new sign that has been erected at the east end of the village on the bypass, facing west bound traffic, is having some effect. A slip road to Alston and a sign for east bound traffic remain desirable.

A zebra crossing outside the Co-op, across Ratcliffe Road, is thought to be highly desirable and steps will be taken to bring it about.

Lighting

The new lighting scheme for 2017 remains on schedule apparently. The need for accurate maps to assist in the development of ideal solutions is now acute and the website that should hold them is unusable. The department concerned are to be invited to attend a meeting.

Planning.

No applications.

Accounts.

Agreed.

Correspondence.

Major arboricultural works are proposed in and around the parish but mainly to the south of the Tyne.

Parish Projects.

The Bridge is on an even keel financially and functionally.

The Haydon Hundred and Northumberland Day planning is proceeding apace.

A further public meeting about the Northumberland Day arrangements will be held in the Community Centre on 13th March. A Fair in Church Street is proposed and a link up with the Reivers themed pageant at The Castle is hoped for. As a number of Reivers were hanged in The Anchor Car Park, as it is now, it is thought that a tableau illustrating the event could be arranged. A fancy dress event for younger persons is proposed.

The parish sewing machine in The Bridge is reported to be red hot from the production of bunting. Local businesses are encouraged to join in with the events.

The picnic area will be restored.

Planning permission has been granted for gravel removal in July, though there is some suggestion from the angling community that June would be better.

HAYDON BRIDGE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.

Old bridge, throngs of excited families, sparkling lights and children singing..... **Christmas magic!**

After a creative and imaginative competition judged at the Shaftoe Trust Christmas Fair, Lewis Sim, Rebecca Wardle and Ethan Crowe emerged successful and together they switched on the Christmas lights to the delight of everyone present. On Church Street the children sang a beautiful selection of songs. Many thanks to the pupils and staff for their continued help and support. You make this a really special village event.

After the lighting up and singing everyone enjoyed hot soup, hotdogs, mince pies, mulled wine and hot drinks. The refreshments were thoroughly enjoyed and we much appreciated; thanks to everyone who helped in providing them. Excited children queued to chat with Santa and our thanks go to all of Santa's helpers.

Once again our thanks to all those hardy helpers who work tirelessly erecting trees and hanging the lights. The workers were kept well fed and watered due the generosity of the Railway Hotel and as always Harry's Fish and Chips. **We are always in need of more volunteers so if you think you might be able to help next year please look out for notices mid November!** Ralph Marshall continues to store all our boxes which is much appreciated and thanks to Paula and Kevin for their help in moving equipment around. Also Mike Cooke and Richard Hood who delivered the trees. Finally thank you to Reverend Benjamin Carter who once again led prayers and blessed the proceedings.

The community's generosity continues to amaze, the jars this year raised **£781.23**. The 'Big Count Up' was once again led by Joyce Brown ably assisted by Rene Armstrong. This year local businesses raised a further staggering **£455** through sponsorship. We are extremely grateful to The Haydon Bridge Festival who donated **£200** and the Parish Council who donated **£500**. Collectively this amounts to a grand total of **£1936.23**. This year our expenditure was; £200 for trees and £40 for electricity.

Because of everyone's generosity we now have a substantial pot of money to support this annual event and feel it unfair to ask for business sponsors this coming Christmas; many thanks for your great generosity in the past and we may need help in the future! **£400** (just over half the jar money) has been donated to the 'Get it Together Society' for The New Year's Eve firework display, another event thoroughly enjoyed by the whole community. We are also exploring the possibility of positioning some trees with battery lights on the large green in Strothers Close. The boxes used to house the trees are in need of large scale repair so it has also been decided to press ahead with this. **As such we are asking for quotes from any village joiners who think they could help. Please contact Dennis Oliver for more details about the job before the end of March (01434 688132).**

The following people and businesses kindly sponsored the trees:

Haydon bridge Cricket Club, Brian and Ruth Welch of UK Industrial Tapes Ltd, Martin and Simon Scudamore, Greame Murphy and Jimmy Carruthers, Animal Health, Safe and Secure 24, George Gamble, JP Westalls Ltd, Haydon Bridge Pharmacy, Paul Brown – Tiler, Kevin Williams Building and Electrical Contractors, Alan Tweddle – Joinery, Eden Beauty and Holistics, Jamie

Eales, Haydon Bridge Football Club, Stephen Hornby – Hexham Machinery Centre, Ken Tulip – Electrician, David Edwards – Joiner, Peter and Shirley Watson, Dennis and Jackie Oliver, Railway Hotel and Vicky Oliver.

Again many thanks for all your generous support over the years.

Julia Cooper

Cafe Scientifique comes to South Tynedale

Cafe Scientifique is a place where, for the price of a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, anyone can come to explore the latest ideas in science and technology. Meetings take place in cafes, bars, restaurants and even theatres, but always outside a traditional academic context. The newest cafe has opened at Bardon Mill and Henshaw Village Hall and is proving popular amongst locals, curious about all things scientific, technologic and philosophic.

Meeting bimonthly on the first Tuesday, the cafe so far has taken us to the Solar System, explored Nuclear Medicine, explained Learning without Teaching and most recently delved into The Science or Craft of Brewing. The aim is to cover a wide range of topics to suit all tastes and draw people together with a shared passion for the unknown, the unexplained and the unconventional! Talks are aimed at the lay person – strictly no jargon – and speakers are drawn from their field of expertise either as a career or as a lifelong passion.

The cafe is sponsored by the Let's Get Together project which aims to help village halls in South Tynedale stay open and financially viable by putting on and supporting events that bring the community together be it through shared interest, learning or social activities. The Cafe has been set up by Maureen Lawrie who wanted a local cafe that bridged the gap between Newcastle in the East and Cocker mouth in the West.

It's an informal and friendly atmosphere and everyone is welcome to attend to just listen or, to join in, over a cup of coffee, a pot of tea and some cakes and biscuits.

The next cafe is on Tuesday 4th April with Dr Robert Bluck on Buddhism: Science, Philosophy or Religion? As the author of British Buddhism: teachings, practice and development, Dr Bluck will elucidate on the arguments around the categorisation of Buddhism. Tickets are £5 and can be booked in advance by emailing maureen.matters@gmail.com. The evening starts at 7 pm to around 9pm.

Future cafes include - Curious Naturalists – a talk by David Hirst on his favourite heroes – local naturalists who have contributed to the fields of science, medicine, conservation etc.

We are always looking for passionate and knowledgeable speakers. If you are interested in speaking or, know of anyone who might, please get in touch at maureen.matters@gmail.com.

See advert on page 14

NB. These Parish Council Notes are NOT the formal records of the meetings. They have no status other than that of notes taken by a member of the public in attendance.

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The proposed parking area behind the Community Centre will be the subject of a pre-application visit to check the feasibility of the idea.

The proposal for The Lions to fund works on the river-side requires further development.

AOB.

Cllr. Sharp will liaise with Tim Fish about the restitution of access at The Spa Well. Some funding has been located.

The wild flower meadow is being wholly remade this year after last years failure.

The Parish Precept is being raised by 5% this year. This figure compares exceptionally favourably with the rises in other parishes.

The hanging baskets are going to be provided by the business at Ridley Hall. Local businesses are to be invited to defray the costs.

The fund established by the Co-op to assist local com-

munities is proving helpful to a number of projects.

The recent uproar on the Haydon Bridge Matters Facebook page was lamented by a number of councillors. It was noted that one of the contributors was from elsewhere. A separate Facebook page for local businesses has now been established.

The next full meeting of the council will be at 7.30pm on 23rd March 2017 in the Community Centre.

News From The Bridge

The volunteers at both 'The Bridge' and The Development Trust were very sorry to hear of the death of Mike Par- kin this month. As part of the team responsible for the creation of our community library, Mike's contribution was paramount. He did an untold amount of work for Haydon Parish with the village plans and the two John Martin Projects, which acquired funding for the John Martin Centre and the ever popular walks which will continue to attract visitors for a long time to come.

Mike worked tirelessly for our village – a true unsung hero. Our thoughts are with his wife, Elena, and his family.



Six year old Oliver Gilhespie, the lucky winner of the Christmas Golden Ticket Reading Challenge, is presented with his prize of a book and a bag of goodies by librarian Sonja Bailes.

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Saturday	9.30am - 12.30pm

**HAYDON BRIDGE FIRE BRIGADE
Part 8**

In my previous Historical Notes (June 2016 to February 2017 - Parts 1 to 7) I have followed the story of Haydon Bridge's commitment to a fire fighting service from 1898 to 2011.

On January 7th 2011, our retained firemen, supervised by Sub Officer Michael Lowdon, were: Craig Tulip, Stephen Todd, Richard Hines, Alan Batey, John Storey, Kevin Duffy, Stephen Beadle, John Alder, Michael Johnson and Paul Makepeace.

As well as fires, floods and road accidents in our parish, Haydon Bridge firemen attended incidents during 2011 at Hexham (10 incidents), Haltwhistle (6), Allendale (3), Corbridge (3), Humshaugh (2), Plenmeller (2), Coanwood (2), Bellingham, Dilston, Riding Mill, Chollerford and Prudhoe. More than thirty incidents outside the parish and, not included here, fifty four other occasions when they were called upon to 'stand-by' to provide cover at Hexham. All these incidents in addition to the events that took place in our parish.

Did somebody say that Haydon Bridge Fire Service was not needed? It is no surprise that adjacent fire fighters were very much against the closure of Haydon Bridge fire station in 2016.

I have written previously, of how individual commitment to the role of a fireman has resulted in few changes to the make-up of the crew during the lifetime of the service.

The majority of our firemen have remained loyal to the brigade until an age limit forced them out or, perhaps, moving away from the area, illness, or a change in their full time working environment.

During almost five years, from 2011 to our fire station's closure in October 2016, there were eight new members recruited and six firemen left:

On June 20th 2011, Lee Lowdon and Martin Kammeier were enrolled and in December of that year, Craig Tulip and Stephen Beadle left the service. Lee McVay and Stephen Kirsopp joined in May 2013, bringing the crew numbers up to twelve. Jeavon Scudamore's recruitment in October 2013 meant the Haydon Bridge had its full complement of thirteen firemen; Lee McVay and Stephen Kirsopp had relatively short stays in our fire service, however, and both left in February 2014. Stephen Elliott was recruited in November 2014, but, Lee Lowdon (February) and Craig Tulip (August) attended for the last time in 2015. The last two recruits before the Haydon Bridge Fire Service was disbanded were Dave Nelson and Steve Hornby, both of whom attended officially for the first time on October 9th 2015 after an extensive period of voluntary training.

The Haydon Bridge firemen on October 4th 2016, the final day of the brigade, were: Watch Manager Michael Lowdon; Crew Manager Paul Makepeace, Crew Manager Richard Hines, Crew Manager Stephen Todd; Firemen Stephen Elliott, Alan Batey, Martin Kammeier, Jeavon Scudamore, John Storey, David Nelson & Steve Hornby.



A full complement of Haydon Bridge firemen on a final parade for me on October 4th 2016

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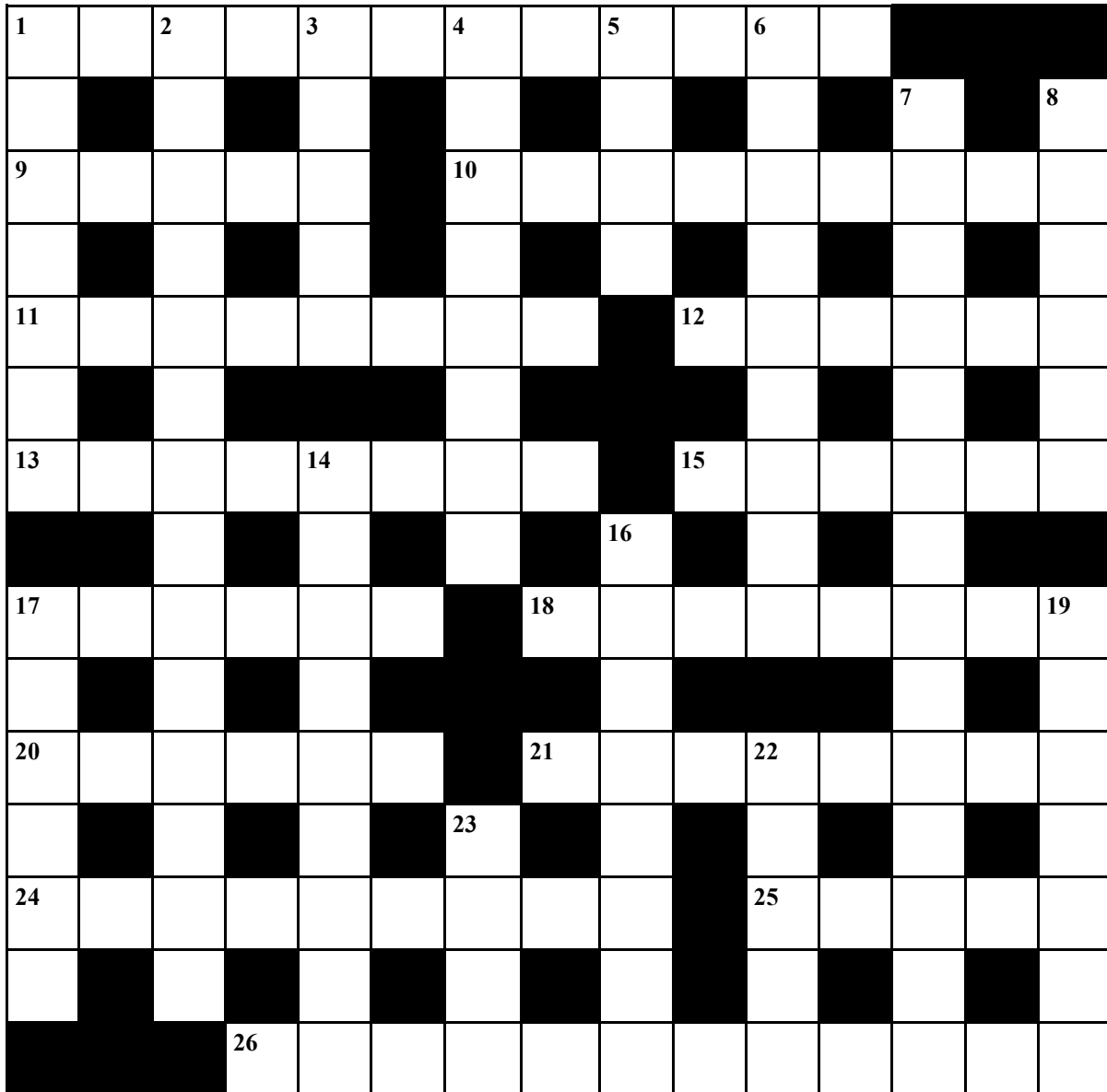
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ACROSS

1. The only trading place? (6,6)
9. Agitated in diner vying with manager? (5)
10. Helmet sounds asleep with an oar (9)
11. Got holy drug confused when studying moral practices (8)
12. Blunt French one on the brink (6) UNEDGE
13. 70's sweet victory of old Greek battle (8)
15. Princess's PM – shock, horror (6)
17. Nowhere collapsed heartless before today (3,3))
18. Last month journalist chased up nothing so was turned down (8)
19. International body judging rightly. Not at all. (6)
21. Oust from dat location? (8)
24. Concealing Calvin Klein, alien and I in a dreadful smell (9)
25. Sprite from adroit Ella, oddly (5)
26. Fruit cake combined a Scots side (6,6)

DOWN

1. Shaft of light old car (7)

2. Jubilee underground not south of the verdant old village (5,9)
3. Dependable mix of metal ? (5)
4. Restore a barrel in temper (4,4)
5. It's true about gangster (4)
6. Crucial for German town to sit on spilt foreign milk (9)
7. Ten maids flaunt all over the place for literal believer (14)
8. Spot outside shelter – in your dreams! (6)
14. It's accurate so we hear the bride can wear it (9)
16. Two spirits dance about a Scottish eye, so sweet (8)
17. Fully furnishes with English gibes (6)
19. Crossed swords over what the A69 should have been, we hear (7)
20. Crustacean right in the piece (5)
23. Blew up, you say? Take care (4)

Please drop answers off at Claire's by 20th March (or post to the editor)

FEBRUARY'S WINNER

Barbara Lee

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Many of us owe thanks to our firemen and their selfless commitment over many years. As well as being in the Haydon Bridge Fire Service myself, for five and a half very satisfying years, I found it necessary to call on the services of the Haydon Bridge crew on two occasions; at 3 Elliotts Buildings (a chimney fire) and Chesterwood (a chip pan fire). After this incident at Chesterwood Farm House our neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. Carey, decided we were in need of a fire extinguisher - maybe with their own safety in mind as well as ours. Mr. Carey arrived the next morning with one for us. That's what neighbours are for; to look after those who have difficulty in looking after themselves! Now that we are without fire fighting cover in Haydon Bridge, maybe we should all buy our neighbours a fire extinguisher?

My history of Haydon Bridge Fire Service may run on and on; as long as there are former firemen willing to speak of their experiences; and here are a couple of thoughts to be going on with, that struck me as coming close to revealing how traumatic the role of a volunteer fireman can be:

-John Storey's vivid memory of a serious vehicle accident at Lipwood during his watch, when he was first on the scene and was able to give comfort to the relatives of a victim of the accident, he having talked with the victim through his last moments alive. An experience John tells me he will never forget. John was a fireman at Haydon Bridge for thirteen years.

-And, Dennis Bradley's memory of a breathing apparatus training course, and the instructor's introductory remarks that created such a big impression: "As a fireman, your next job could be rescuing a cat from up a tree, or maybe scraping your best friend from off the road. If you cannot deal with that, it would be best if you leave now!" Dennis stayed and did nine and a half years service with Haydon Bridge Fire Service, four of those as a Leading Fireman.

Training and equipment has much improved since my days in the fire service in the 1960s; and earlier. Health and safety is to the fore in the modern service and each fireman has to undergo a probation period and regular training and testing to ensure their skills and knowledge are up to date. In my five years in the Haydon Bridge Fire Service, 'breathing apparatus' was a handkerchief tied over your nose and mouth!!

LANGLEY CASTLE (Again)

Last month (February) I said “goodbye” to Anton Phillips and Lynda. Coincidentally, I have come across this poem in a Hexham Courant of August 1890 and, remarkably, it was written by Mr. Phillips; Mr. C. Phillips that is. An ancestor of Anton? I doubt it, but interesting nevertheless.

Thou ruined pile; what scenes thou hast observed,
When in times long past thou hadst thy day;
Knights thou hast seen by maiden’s glance unnerved,
And Cupid reigning with enchanting sway.

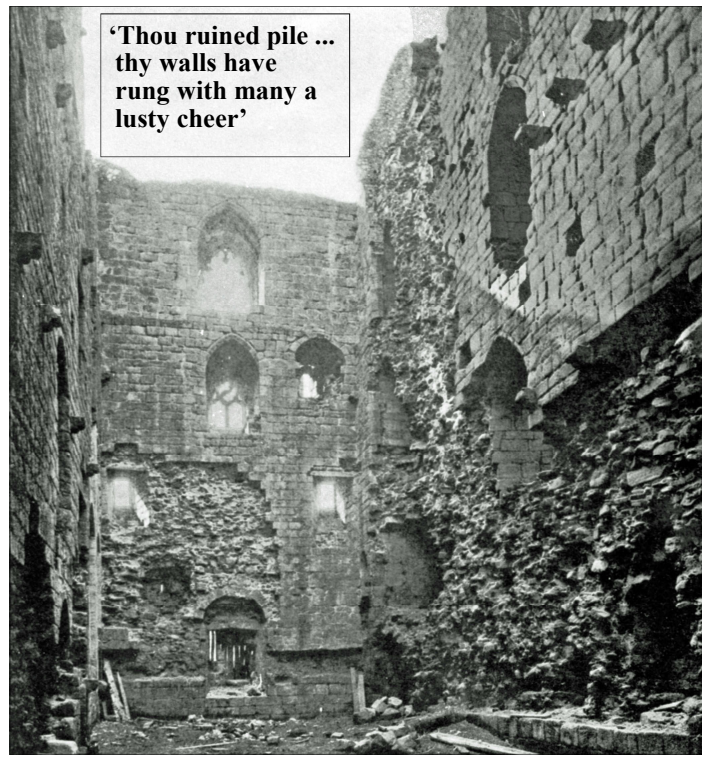
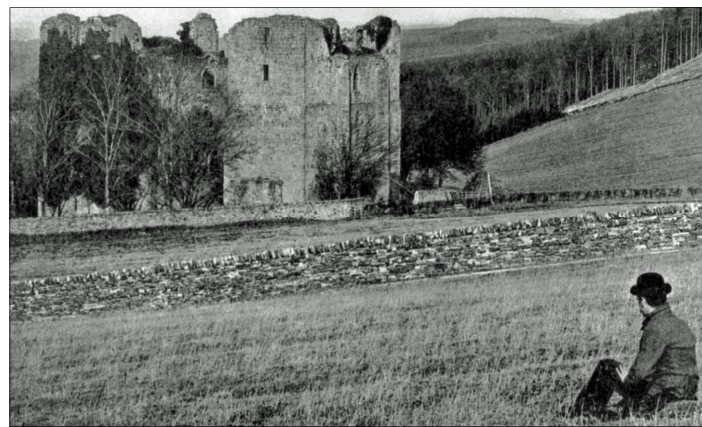
Thy walls have rung with many a lusty cheer
When in thy hall the tempting feast was spread,
And each one toasted wife or sweetheart dear,
Alas! Each one now in his earthly bed.

And thou hast looked on maids and weeping wives,
When to the wars were summoned bravest men,
Leaving behind the dearest in their lives,
Never perchance to meet with them again.

From out thy watch tower, hath the peering eye,
Seen foe approaching; or the beacon flame,
Gone shooting upward toward the lowering sky,
As though an equal altitude to claim.

These all are past, whilst thou remains to tell,
In silent language, with unspoken tone,
Of transient joys, of woes, of dark deeds fell;
All have been seen by thine enduring stones,

These stones will live when all have passed away
Who now are living round thee in their prime;
Till thee thyself shall live thine own last day,
And fall to earth; in falling thou hast died.



‘Thou ruined pile ...
thy walls have
rung with many a
lusty cheer’

HAYDON PARISH ‘HOME FRONT’ : 1939 - 1945

Looking back at our parish events during the Second World War, I have reached events in August 1942.

Methodists Tie the Knot: A presentation was made in August 1942 on behalf of the Haydon Bridge Sunday School by the Rev C.R. Ransome, to Mr and Mrs R.R. Todd on the occasion of their marriage.

William Birnie: Mrs Birnie of Broadstone Cottage, John Martin Street, received word that her son Corp. William Birnie, Reconnaissance Corps. (NRF) was missing in the Middle East. A territorial, William was mobilised on the outbreak of war and served in France and at Dunkirk. *Corporal Birnie turned up later as a POW and lived for many years after the war.*

Just for the Girls? The ladies of the parish were given some interesting advice in an advertisement in 1942: ‘Why not give your daughters California Syrup of Figs and your girls will recover health and energy and new cheerfulness will replace nervous crying spells, headaches and listlessness.’

Just for the Girls: During the first week in August 1942, a Garden Party was held in the grounds of Linton House for our local Women’s Institute; by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Sillitoe.

A Matter of Conscience: On Tuesday, September 1st 1942, a Jehovah’s Witness, Miss Kathleen Jupp of 12A Ratcliffe Road, was charged with failing to attend for an interview. Miss Jupp replied: “Technically I am guilty; morally I am, not guilty.” Mr Charlton, chairman of the magistrates replied: “We only deal with technicalities here.” Prosecuting, John Batey of Hexham said that he understood that Miss Jupp had: “Some peculiar religious belief which made it difficult for her to take up munition work, but, to make it easier for her to accept employment, she was directed to attend for interview at Hexham’s Children’s Sanatorium.” Miss Jupp refused to attend the interview, even though it was pointed out that the work had nothing to do with the War.

A Sad Case of Drowning: On September 5th 1942, as thunder clouds gathered in the west, heavy rain caused the South Tyne to flood, as it had done many times before and, as we all know, has since. Unaware of the pending situation down-stream, a party of six volunteer soldiers attempted to cross the river on a training exercise held down the Eiland - just below today’s picnic area at a spot where the old gas house stood. The operation was to get a rope across the river, to guide the other men taking part onto the opposite river bank. A 19 year old sergeant, Hugh Weir, from Londonderry, wearing slacks and a gym vest, waded into the water with a wire attached to his belt

invaluable in a world ruled by worth. I believe that many who read this will understand this bond, whether it be of past memories or current blessings. Such a small and often overlooked thing that not only defines who we are as an individual, but reflects how we treat others as a community. Our pets are an important part of Haydon Bridge and can often make a world of difference through just one look.

For me, Tia has been the definition of home. Ensuring an ecstatic welcome, no matter how long I have been gone. Providing warmth during our spectacular, but cold, frosty mornings. Her mood never falters, despite the strife and struggle that life regularly presents. A simple answer to our woes, that provides a bedrock of reassurance. She has been immortalised in my heart, forever the energetic puppy I fondly remember. Always the silent companion who, without a moment’s hesitation, wishes to share my burdens.

I have not always been there for her, travelling and studying to achieve my dreams. Science has been my educational focus, providing many answers to life’s peculiar occurrences. But never has it revealed why her unwavering devotion is entrusted to the likes of me. Logic seems to fall short. A mystery indeed, but one I will not question.

In an attempt to capture this purity I have turned to the Arts, a refreshing revelation for my mind. Now that she hesitates to get up, walks rather than runs, and is dusted in white, I am captured by a sense of urgency. If I can preserve that look of loyalty, I can harness a miracle. I know I am not alone in this sensation, my adoration for one so selfless. It would be my honour to share this with you, and capture that look of loyalty from your companion, preserving that small miracle that graces this world only for a short time.

I look forward to hearing from other pet owners who would like to have their pet’s portrait drawn. Together we can chose the sort of image you favour and which you will be able to treasure in the years ahead.

A man’s life is seven dogs long, so the old aphorism has it, but memories endure far beyond what nature permits. The companionship, the devotion, the fun, the solace - all these things pass but are never forgotten. It will be a pleasure to help you celebrate and commemorate the life and love of a very special friend.

Send me an email or a text - see advert above - and let’s discuss your wishes.

Stefan Drummond

Woven Stories Open to New Artists

Edit & Doodle, a collaborative arts group based in Haydon Bridge, would like to invite any interested artists to join their project *Woven Stories*. It’s a collaborative project in which visual artists and writers respond to each other’s work. The ultimate goal is to exhibit the resulting images and literary works together in Hexham, with an accompanying publication. The platform is open to any medium or style. Images – paintings, linocuts, drawings, photography; literary works – poems or flash fiction (50 - 300 words). Our group intends to support local talent and create an opportunity for development and growth.

If you are interested, please contact Natalie at 01434 688 174 or 07933 285103; email: natalienewriter@gmail.com. You can also find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/editdoodle.

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The business was established in 2009 by Chris Charlton (Katherine’s father). Chris has retired and now Katherine is at the helm bringing with her more than 15 years’ kitchen design experience in both the private and contract sectors of the market.

Katherine acknowledges that the key to the success of the business is the high level of client involvement in any project and she understands the vital role that the kitchen plays in our daily lives. As well as being the engine room, the kitchen is also the social hub of today’s living.

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In addition to our retail customers, Red Onion is currently working with Newman Developments, supplying and installing kitchens at their South Gables development in Haydon Bridge and we’re delighted to be working with a local developer for the benefit of local people.

Please contact Katherine to arrange a studio visit and discuss your requirements in more detail. Katherine can produce design proposals, enhanced with quality colour visuals and provide you with an estimate to include any appliances you may require.

So, when choosing something as essential as your dream kitchen, be sure you make the right choice. Choose quality above inferiority, simplicity above complexity and value for money above all else.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Visit www.redonionkitchens.co.uk for more information.

Brendan Healy

International linguist.

They say that music is the one true international language but I don't think so. I am sure that the Tongans, who quite naturally sing in harmony, must think that 'One Direction' are some sort of western practical joke. (Fill in your own comments here.) We, in the west, would find it difficult to spend even an hour listening to Japanese music played on the koto (a stringed instrument, not Inspector Clouseau's sidekick) and the shakuhachi (which is not a high-powered motorbike but a flute.) I think one could even go as far as to assume that there are probably many Inuit drummers, Tuvan throat singers and Amazonian frog twangers who think that Mozart is pants. Here in the west, the love and understanding of music does not follow one single path. I like big band jazz, country music and Andrea Bocelli, the wife likes folk music, Christmas songs and 'Take That' whereas my kids like death metal, '50 Vanilla Diddly' and anyone who gets their kit off in the video.

There is, I think, one true international language. Magic. The magician is loved and understood in every corner of this earth. He doesn't even have to be very good, as I have proved, most notably in a Venetian restaurant when I pulled a coin out of the ear of the little Italian kid on the next table and then dropped it in his pudding, rendering it inedible. His family still had the decency to go 'Ooooooh' before calling the police.

Reasonable magicians can go anywhere in this world and entertain. They don't need to speak or even have a personality, look at Dynamo and David Blaine, they have managed to bore all over the world and then, at the last minute, wake up their audience with a magic trick.

Is Uri Geller a mystic? No, he was a dodgy magician with one trick who did really well out of it.

I do like the endless debates about whether magic tricks are real or not. They're not. Spoons do not bend spontaneously. If they did there would be Angel Delight all over your cardigan.

I do, however, have an old Victorian magic book called 'Stranger Than Fiction' which brings magic close to reality. At one point, it describes how to put a hat pin through your arm. It says that you should make sure that the pin is very sharp and sterilised, then you should pinch a bit of skin and stick the pin through it. If the pin is sharp enough there shouldn't be much blood. It also says that it will hurt but, in time, you'll get used to it. Imagine going 'Da Dah' at the end of that lot.

There was, in the days of Music Hall, a man who advertised that he would eat someone live on stage every evening. He would come out to a packed house, put a bib round his neck, sharpen his knife and ask for a volunteer. If nobody responded he would be unable to do his act and would still, presumably, get paid. On the odd occasion when there was a volunteer he would put them on the table and stick his fork in them. They would then jump up and run off terrified and he would be unable to do his act with the same financial result. He only ever toured the act once and probably made a killing in the process, or hopefully not. My type of fellah.

The Masked Magician who has been on the telly telling everyone how everything is done is an idiot. He is making his living from telling the gullible public one easy way to do a limited amount of tricks. Nothing of finesse just bog-standard trick boxes and mirrors. Even then it is always wrong to tell people how tricks are done. If we know the answers there will be no magic left in our lives and we will be forced to grow up. Also, if you do happen to find out how things are done thanks to the rank amateurs on the internet, you will inevitably be disappointed. Never ask how a trick is done. Just enjoy the skill of the magi-

cian and enjoy being a kid again.

Usual New Year's Eve conversation.

"Get in! It's New Year's Eve. What're you doing?"

"Dunno really, where you going?"

"Not sure, but it's gonna be brilliant."

"Yeah it is, mega brill. So what do you fancy then?"

"Let's party, eh?"

"PARTAY! Do you know any?"

"No, you?"

"No."

"Then it's off to the local. It'll be great!"

"Lot of drunks though."

"Yeah, including us. Ha ha!"

"I'm really tired from all the Christmas partying, mind."

"Me too."

"Stop in?"

"Yeah."

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Loyalty.

Despite now being considerably older, she still has that same look in her eyes that was there the day we picked her up, frantically running between each of our legs in a frenzy of excitement. Although that energy seems less, her love for us has remained unchanging. The small, lop-sided puppy that chose us all those years ago has remained our dutiful companion each year after. Through the excitements and the hardships we face, never has her loyalty wavered.

My family have had the fortune to share in her story, to make it our own, and to be part of her world.

Tia Maria Drummond, an often smelly but always happy resident of High Lipwood, has passed unnoticed to the Haydon Bridge public eye since she first moved here. However, I can say that her presence is fitting for such a mystic corner of the British Isles. Despite being surrounded by views of unparalleled beauty, it is all too rare to find unconditional love in this world. But one thing is for certain; she is the purest form of that uncommon treasure.

The benefit that our pets give us is uncountable, a gift

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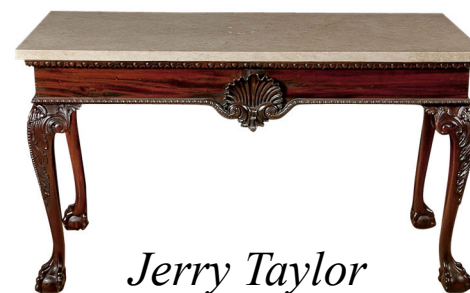
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Haydon Bridge, Northumberland. NE47 6DF
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Email: jerryte500@googlemail.com

Haydon Bridge Playgroup and Tiny Tots

Monday and Friday - 9.15 to 11.15

Leader plus assistants playgroup

£6.00 per session

Tuesday 9.15 to 11.15

Parents lead baby and toddler

£1.50 per family includes juice and snacks

Further information call

Nicola Grint 07879999289

or call into one of the sessions at The Community Centre

and the other end fastened to a drum on the bank. Three or four yards into the river, the strong current took hold of the young sergeant and the wire that was attached to his belt unrolled from the drum. Although four or five other soldiers kept pace with Weir and tried to intercept him as he was carried down-stream, he soon disappeared from view and his body was recovered about fifty yards from where he had entered the swollen river. The River Tyne at Haydon Bridge had claimed another life; 19 year old Sergeant Hugh Weir.

A verdict of 'accidental death while engaged on Military Duties' was recorded; the river having risen very rapidly.

The War Effort: A number of activities took place in Haydon Bridge during September and October 1942 to support the War effort, including:

-Two parties at Prior House held by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs William Wilkinson, for the British Red Cross. Jimmy Hunter and W. White provided the music and £5-7s-6d was raised.

-A social evening at Park Cottage, hosted by Mr and Mrs T. Wilson also raised funds for the Gift Fund (£6-18s-4d),

-A Town Hall dance on behalf of the Local Soldiers' Gift Fund, where eighteen guineas was raised and music was by Jock King's Dance Band.

-A Town Hall dance organised by Haydon Bridge WVS, the W.I., Haydon Parish Council and ARP in aid of the Empire Fund for Bombed Areas.

Lots of worthwhile activities locally for the War effort then, and no doubt each one helping to keep up the spirits of those at home whose thoughts were with those abroad. Maybe, especially, perhaps, Pilot Officer Sidney Melvin, the only son of Mr and Mrs Melvin of Brigwood and an Assistant Master of the First Haydon Bridge Scout group, who was reported missing from operations on September 12th 1942. And, Lance Corporal William Foster, the only son of Mr and Mrs Wm Foster of Cubstocks, reported on September 19th 1942 to have been taken prisoner and to be in Italian hands.

CORRESPONDENCE

It is always a great pleasure to receive a response to my Historical Notes from our Haydonian reader, William Veitch; now living in Lancashire, but, still living in 'Haydon', and still keeping a close watch on events in our parish through the Hexham Courant and The Haydon News. I completed my Notes in the December 2016 issue with winter views of the parish, on the River Tyne and in 1947 at Elrington. William was quick to respond:

December 2016

Hello Dennis,

The latest (December) magazine set my old grey matter working (Not easy!) The winter of 1947 was tremendous for young lads in the village. Living on Heugh House Lane, every morning on opening the front door we would be faced by a complete wall of snow and have to dig a way through it. From Peel Well corner the roads were levelled from dyke top to dyke top. Despite that, I don't recall losing a day's schooling - we walked down the front field from Heugh House Lane. I think there is a

lesson there for today, when the schools appear to close the minute the first snowflake falls. Your photograph in the snow at Elrington reminded me that it was possible in places to walk off the snow straight onto the roof of some of the houses. I believe the largest snow drift was the bend in the Allendale road to the south of Langley where the snow was around twenty feet deep.

In his December email, William also referred to my Haydon 'Home Front' item on the crowning of Amy Stokoe, the 1942 Haydon Bridge Show Queen:

I have a small photo of the crowning of the Show Queen in 1942, showing Amy Stokoe on her throne with all the children etc., on a raised platform - including yours truly in short trousers and wearing a tricorne hat. The Reverend Ransome and Elizabeth Veitch are also on the platform. (See William's photograph below)

Peter Brooks of Elrington also commented on my 'Snow' photographs in the December 2016 issue, in an email to your editor:

Hello Steve/Dennis,

We were fascinated to see the photo's of the snow at Elrington in 1947. (Page 10, December 2016 HN.) The caption, 'Elfoot, snow bound in 1947' is incorrect though. The photograph is at Elrington (the first house you come to on the road after Elfoot). We have lived at No. 4 since 1995. The appearance has changed somewhat since the photo, as the larger lean-to has been built up to the full height of two storeys. The brick chimney visible on the end wall now passes through an upstairs bedroom but the porch and landing windows are unmistakable.

Seasons Greetings! Here's hoping not for a repeat of 1947.

Peter (Brooks)

Thank you Peter. The walk I took with my dad in the snow, and remember so well - or I thought I had - was in March 1947. Seventy years later, maybe my memory isn't quite as good as I thought it was, but I'm pleased I'm just

a few hundred yards out! And more importantly ... I'm pleased somebody reads this stuff!

Incidentally, a Sunday afternoon walk in-between Sunday School and the evening service at our Methodist Chapel, was a regular event in my early years.

On the South Side: a few miles from Haydon Bridge to Elrington and following the Crossley Burn, back down to Haydon Bridge. Or, from Elrington, continue along to Threepwood, by Dinnetley, and back to the village through the Spring Wood; or, following the old line to Langley Castle and a return alongside the Langley Burn.

On the North Side: circular routes around Plunderheath and Haydon. Or The Tofts, Haresby Lonnin, Hill House and Chesterwood.

And many more. I cannot quite believe it now, but, in the 1940/50s a walk up Elrington or Pagecroft banks, or up the Catholic field to the Tofts, was a relaxing stroll!

I do remember these walks so well and, until I had other things on my mind, enjoyed them so much. I wrote a verse or two about them in my song: 'The Places Aa Knew as a Bairn'.

From Brokenheugh, Lipwood and south to Deanraw,
To Elrington on the old line,
We'd walk there on Sundays and they were sec fun days,
If aa'd only known that at the time,
But me mind used to wander, of young girls aa'd ponder,
On Humbleton Fell there's nee doot,
It's a grand place to be just afore Sunday tea;
But there's not many lasses about.

There's the times aa remember; November, December,
With snow piled high ower the door,
From Threepwood and Elfoot to Peelwell and Pagecroft,
They'd keep food for three months in store,
It's the place aa belang to, the home toon aa'l gan to,
And when the Lord says; "It's time to gan yem."
From the field below Crook Hill aa'm sure that aa'll see still,
These places aa knew as a bairn.

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY DARMAID

I'm supposed to water the hanging baskets outside the pub, Raydon,

Don't worry, Dusty, it's your lucky day, you can borrow my umbrella.



Annual Wheelbarrow Race

Monday 17th April. 1pm.

£180

in prizes

More info next month.

REGULAR VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS

Saturday 10am Community Centre

A different local organisation each week.

EVERYONE WELCOME

IF ANYONE KNOWS OF ADDITIONAL COFFEE MORNINGS PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

RAYDON FRIDGE and DUSTY DARMAID

What did that new doctor say when you told him about the pain in your knees, Raydon?

Well, Dusty, when I told him I had knee pain he told me to stop wasting his time and come back when I had some.



Crowning the Haydon Bridge 'Show Queen' 1942

William writes; The 1942 Queen is Amy Stokoe. On the left is Rev. Ransome and Elizabeth Veitch. Holding the Bible is Margaret Ransome (The Reverend's daughter) and me (William Veitch) on the right, with tricorne hat and short trousers. [Thank you William ... Does anyone recognise or know others on the photograph?]

Regular Activities in the Community Centre

Monday

- Playgroup – 9.15am
Nicola Grint. 07879999289
- Yoga – 10am
aliciafearon@btinternet.com
- Dance Club – 7.30pm
Audrey Phillips. 01434684452
- Craft class - 1pm (bi monthly)
Joyce Sim. 01434 684704

Tuesday

- Tiny Tots – 9.15am
Nicola Grint. 07879999289
- Karate – 6.30pm
David Beales. 07561153485

Wednesday

- Yoga - 7pm
aliciafearon@btinternet.com
- Art Group - 6.30pm (bi monthly)
Barbara Wardle. 01434 688886

Thursday

- Bowls Club – 7.30pm
Sandra Bough. 01434 684372
- Parish Council - 7.30pm (4th Thursday)
Eileen Charlton. 01434 684505

Friday

- Playgroup – 9.15am
Nicola Grint. 07879999289
- Keep Fit – 10am
caroleannprice@hotmail.co.uk

RNLI - Bridge Afternoon - 1pm (as arranged)

Saturday

- Coffee mornings - 10am
Various parish organisations.

Sunday

- Hornby Model Railways -10am
(Every 2nd Sunday)
grant.robinson@tiscali.co.uk

For new bookings and information:

Valeriebell2@gmail.com

NOTICES & WHAT'S ON?

HAYDON BRIDGE UNITED ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB
HBUAFC hold their monthly meeting on the first **Monday** of every month at **7.30pm** in the Lounge of the **Anchor Hotel** where representatives of every football team in the village are invited to attend.
 This meeting is also open to members of the public.

WEST TYNEDALE JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 5yrs-12yrs
 TAG/CONTACT RUGBY
MEET AT HAYDON BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
ON SUNDAYS 10.30am- 12.00noon
 Contact Dave on 07810 336 537
 or dave.thornhill@tiscali.co.uk or the website
www.pitchero.com/clubs/westtynedalejuniors.
ALL WELCOME.

HAYDON BRIDGE DANCE CLUB

SEQUENCE DANCING
 EVERY MONDAY
 7.30 to 10.00pm
 Haydon Bridge
 Community Centre
 Only £1.50 inc. tea & biscuits
 DANCING IS FOR FUN
 Ask for details at:
 01434 684 452



VICTIM SUPPORT

Working for victims of crime.
 If you are a victim of crime, we can offer support in practical and emotional ways. Just a phone call away.
 Call **Leanne** at:
 01661830770
 82, Front St. Prudhoe,
 NE42 5PU
 Or
 0167082234 (Bedlington)

HAYDON BRIDGE LOCAL ARTISTS' GROUP HAYDON ART CLUB

Open to all, first session free.
 Meets 6.30 - 9.15pm every other Wednesday at
HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE
 8th and 22nd March

Haydon Bridge & Allendale Medical Practice

Monday to Friday: **The Health Centre is open continuously from 8.00am until 6.00pm**
 (except for the afternoon of the **fourth** Wednesday of every month)
Doctors consult between: 8.00am and 11.00am
3.00pm and 5.30pm
 All phone calls for appointments and visits, including 'out of hours': **01434 684 216**
 All phone calls for dispensing or prescriptions: **01434 688351**
 E-mail address: Admin@GP-A84045.NHS.UK
 Website www.haydonbridgesurgery.co.uk

HAYDON BRIDGE JUDO CLUB

Keep Fit, Have Fun! Young or Old.
 Tuesdays at HB High School
 Juniors: 6pm - 7pm Seniors: 7pm - 9pm
 BJA Qualified Coaches
 Contact Michael on: 01 434 684 783

WHIST DRIVES

Langley Village Hall
 Fortnightly on Saturdays at 7.00pm.
 £1.00 entrance (Everyone welcome)

Haydonian Social Club

HYPNOTIST
International Comedy Hypnotist
 Sat, March 11th, 8pm.
 Tickets £3.50 in advance. £5.00 on the night.

Prize Bingo
8th April
Eyes down 7.30

SHAFTOE SINGERS

(used to be The Shaftoe Chorale)
7.30pm Friday evenings
 - term times only
 Very wide ranging repertoire.
 All voices welcome — experienced or not.
Methodist Church Hall

Computer Club

(Beginners Welcome)
Catton Chapel Tuesdays 2-4pm
 Why not come and join a group of people who would like to improve their digital skills by sharing knowledge between friends.
01434683154
 (Free entry but donations for heating and refreshments welcome)

CHESS CLUB

at the
 Haydonian Social Club
NEW PLAYERS WELCOME
 Phone Dave 01434 344844 (evenings)

POLICE

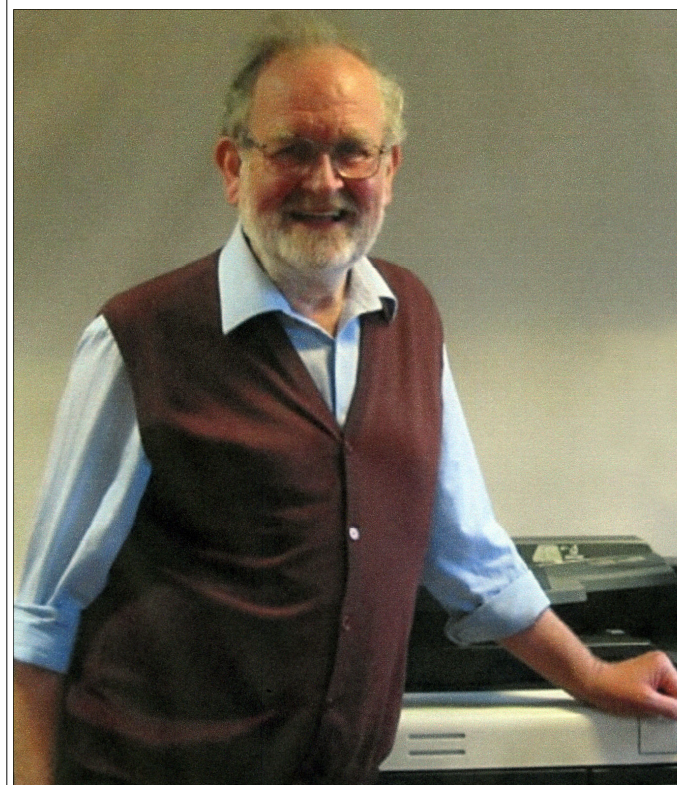
At The Methodist Chapel coffee morning every five weeks an opportunity to chat to two police officers.
 E mail for these ladies is:
Yvonne.Clement.8526@northumbria.pnn.police.uk
 Tel 101 Ask for 8526
 The dates for the next Police surgeries are; 10-11am

Hexham Beacon Club

8th Mar 80 years of electronic microscopy
 15th Mar The Devils Porridge
 22nd Mar Newcastle Building Society & FREE LUNCH
 29th Mar Talk/members stick
 5th April Long range desert group

On Wednesdays 10-30 to 12-00 at
 Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Hexham

MIKE PARKIN



Mike Parkin died on Sunday, January 29th 2017 and if you are reading and enjoying The Haydon News today, you can be sure you owe a debt of gratitude to Mike.

Mike first became involved with The Friends of Haydon Bridge in 1995, having moved to Haydon Bridge with Elena, Alexis and Louis from Newcastle where he was headmaster at Chillingham Road School. Mike was planning for his retirement and we are fortunate that he selected Haydon Bridge in which to spend it. Mike's willingness to help make a difference in the parish he and Elena had chosen for their retirement was soon to come to the fore and his administrating and organising skills were put to good use for the benefit of us all through his involvement with the Parish Council, the Community Association and The Friends of Haydon Bridge - to name just three. Mike's early support for The Friends' activities included the monthly Prize Bingo - raising funds for local groups, the village hanging basket competition and the annual Christmas meal for pensioners. In 2004, The Friends of Haydon Bridge undertook a joint project with the Parish Council to celebrate the life of John Martin and Mike had a major input and was the treasurer of this John Martin Heritage Project. The Haydon Bridge 'John Martin Trail' is a permanent and successful reminder of Mike Parkin's influence on this project.

Mike had become directly involved in the production of The Haydon News in 1999, and in 2005 he took on the role of joint editor. A task he undertook with typical diligence, from February 2005 until August 2013.

Mike Parkin's commitment to our parish will have been much appreciated by all those who worked with him in our social groups during his time at Haydon Bridge; and he will be remembered especially fondly by those who shared a regular pint and conversation with him socially.

COUNSELLING

- Home or work problems getting you down?
- Feeling lonely or misunderstood?
- Not sure where you want your life to go anymore?
- Want to talk about something in confidence?

Personal counselling, face2face, email, Skype or phone

Justine Oldfield-Rowell

01434 684522

www.personal-counselling.co.uk
justine@personal-counselling.co.uk

HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

a great venue for:

Club activities
Meetings
Celebrations
Parties
Concerts
Plays

To make a booking contact Valerie on
01434 684705

D & J OLIVER ELECTRICAL

ALL TYPES OF ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN
 Tel. 01434 688132
 Mobile 07730 533 348

HAYDON VIEW

Residential Care Home. North Bank, Haydon Bridge.
 Long Term Residential Care/Respite/Holiday/Day Care
 For more information please contact: Chris or Audrey Kay

Tel 01434 684465



CHURCH STREET
TUESDAYS, 1pm-4.30pm
 homemade cakes, pies
 & ready prepared meals.
Tel. 07957 571 885
 for orders, bookings
 & quotations.

SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SERVICE

A. MacDonald.
 For a competitive quote
 Call **07801 308 006**

CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

CLERGY MESSAGE

From: *Deacon Anne Taylor*

‘As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease’

(Genesis Chp. 8 v.22)

As I write this, (mid February), the days are getting longer and the long awaited snowdrops are appearing in the gardens and hedge-rows, these signal the fact that Spring is just around the corner.

The times and seasons created by God in the beginning **will never cease** till the end of history and on that we can depend. Glimpses of light and life signifying that God is in control and at work even when we cannot see it.

We have assurance that God’s hand is at work, day will follow night and summer will follow spring, the trees will blossom and the fruit will come.

The warmth of the sun **will return!**

These seasons may also be reflected in our own lives, a glimpse of light after a bereavement or a long illness, a beautiful sunrise after a sleepless night, signs of life in the garden when things for so long have looked dead, perhaps we just need to go and have a look!

We look forward to all that God has to share with us. Some things we will be expecting, but other things may take us by surprise whether these are things we have planned for or something very unexpected.

Through the days ahead let us remember that the one who created the universe, the one who controls the sun and the moon and tells the birds to prepare their nests, **is the same one who is very much in control and in whom we can put our trust.**

Deacon Anne Taylor

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.**

Words taken from a Christian hymn written by

Thomas Chisholm (1866-1960)

Lent Course At the Methodist Church.

This course will run on the following Wednesday nights 7.30 to 9pm.

1st March, 15th March, 29th March and lastly either 5th or 12th April. *(date to be confirmed)*

All Welcome to come along.
The Course will be led by:
Deacon Anne Taylor

Services in the Benefice of Haydon Bridge and Beltingham with Henshaw.
Rev. Dr. Benjamin Carter. St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church
The Vicarage, Station Yard Tel. 01434 688196

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 1 March, 2017

7.30pm: Eucharist with Ashing, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

First Sunday of Lent:

Sunday 5 March 2017

9.30am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Beltingham

11am: Parish Eucharist with Storybook Church, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

Second Sunday of Lent:

Sunday 12 March 2017

9.30: Parish Eucharist with Storybook Church, All Hallows' Henshaw

11am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

Third Sunday of Lent:

Sunday 19 March 2017

9.30am: Parish Eucharist, All Hallows', Henshaw

11am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

Saturday 25 March

10.30am: Messy Church, All Hallows' Henshaw

Mothering Sunday:

Sunday 26 March 2017:

9.30am: Parish Eucharist, All Hallows' Henshaw

11am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

5pm: Evening Worship, Haydon Old Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Sunday 2 April, 2017

9.30am: Parish Eucharist, St Cuthbert's Beltingham

11am: Parish Eucharist with Storybook Church, St Cuthbert's Haydon Bridge

Haydon Bridge Churches Together

Christmas Collections

£531 was collected at the Village Nativity, Carol Service and Crib Service over the Christmas period. This has been split between the three nominated charities which were: CAFOD, Action for Children, and Motor Neuron Disease Association.

Thank you to everyone who attended those services and donated so generously.

Women's World Day of Prayer

At St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church

Friday 3rd March 2.00 pm

Followed by refreshments

All Ladies Welcome

A VIEW FROM UP THERE

John Harrison

Out shopping in the run up to Christmas a friend looked for the gents loo in a large department store only to be confused by the sign which told him "This toilet is closed. Please use the floor below." I can imagine that it made quite a mess !!! It was clearly not his day; when he arrived at his origami class he found that it had folded. Talking of disappointments, what have you all been making of our winter weather? Grey, damp and raw don't make for a winter wonderland do they? But it has demonstrated, yet again, how important wind direction can be in determining our weather. Air drawn in from Scandinavia at this time of year is invariably cold, and having crossed a relatively mild North Sea, contains low cloud and an unpleasant murkiness. At least we gained some benefit from being further away from the intense cold of central Europe which has brought such low temperatures to the south of England.

January was a real roller-coaster of a month with some remarkable day-to-day changes in temperature. As far as rainfall is concerned this was a dry month but with relative humidity very high in the lower atmosphere the ground remained quite wet. Key to the sequence of weather events was the cloud cover. When the skies cleared at night the temperature fell, resulting in relatively frequent frosts although on the whole these were not particularly severe. During the daytime there was some very pleasant warmth, notably on the 25th which was almost spring-like. The first ten days were relatively mild with the occasionally light frost. Dull and gloomy were the usual descriptors. An Atlantic weather system approached late on the 10th and cold polar air moved across the country. Sleet fell on higher ground on the 10th followed by more widespread snow on the 11th. By the morning of the 12th there was a general cover of snow, which persisted into the 13th. This brief cold spell was basically the only excitement the January weather had to offer. A warm front brought persistent rain and a marked increase in temperature late on the 14th. With pressure increasing, conditions became milder but rather grey on the 15th. The following 11 days were cloudy and dull but generally rainless. When the cloud cover cleared at night, the high relative humidity resulted in hoar frost (and the need for a windscreen scraper!!). On the 24th the arrival of warm air during the evening saw a remarkable rise in air temperature, and the following day was sunny and warm. With the sky relatively clear of cloud there were moderate night frosts. The wind shifting to the east from the 26th heralded a return to a typical North Sea coast mix of low cloud and mist for the remainder of the month.

A term which began to appear in the news media was *thundersnow*. This is very intense snowfall accompanied by thunder and lightning. It is caused by very strong upwards vertical motion in the atmosphere (convection) when the atmosphere is sufficiently cold for precipitation to remain in ice-crystal form. Not only is the snow very heavy but the high density of ice in the atmosphere means that the sound of the thunder doesn't travel very far – possibly as little as a couple of miles. The ice crystals reflect the lightning so there is a very strange optical glare. On high ground *thundersnow* can be a profoundly disorientating experience. Fortunately, the snow in January here in Haydon Bridge occurred during relatively stable weather conditions.

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

Month	Average Maximum Temperature (Daytime) Deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Average Minimum Temperature (Night-time) Deg C	Relative to long-term average degC	Rainfall mm	Percentage of long-term average
January	6.1	+0.3	1.4	+0.1	26.6	32

And finally Gladys tells me that on a recent trip to London, she decided to catch the bus to her destination but was slightly unsure as to which one to catch. When a bus drew up at the stop and the door opened, she asked the driver "Is this the Barking bus?". To which his reply was "No darlin', this one just goes vroom, vroom."



HAYDON BRIDGE NATURE CLUB



TALKS DURING MARCH

MARCH 9TH WHITEBEAKED DOLPHINS

MARTIN KITCHEN – NORTHERN EXPERIENCE WILDLIFE TOURS

MARCH 23RD SPRING IS HERE: NATURE'S RE-BIRTH

GRAHAM BELL OF NORTHUMBERLAND WILDLIFE TRUST

MEMBERS FREE

VISITORS £4.00

THE NATURE CLUB'S ANNUAL EXCURSION, OPEN TO ALL, WILL BE TO RABY CASTLE ON SATURDAY MAY 20TH - £20 PER HEAD INCLUDES COACH TRAVEL AND CASTLE ENTRANCE – SEE NOTICES TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

AT THE GENERAL HAVELOCK

HAYDON BRIDGE

All quizzes start at 8.15 pm - cost is £1.50 per person

In addition to the Quiz, the evening includes the famous "Beer Question",

Refreshments and a Raffle Team size from 2 to 6 (optimum 4-5)

Tables can be booked in advance over the bar.

Programme for 2017

March 21st Breast Cancer NOW Queenie 'Wear it Pink' Quiz

April 25th West Tynedale Junior Rugby

May 23rd Haydon Bridge Playgroup and Tiny Tots

If any local charity would like to be supported by the Havelock Charity Quizzes then

contact John Harrison (aka Queenie) via the General Havelock

or on Johnandaveril@aol.com.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

Father Leo Pyle St John of Beverley Catholic Church
St John's Presbytery, North Bank Tel. 01434 684265

Mass each Sunday at 9.30am

Mass each Sunday at 11.00am at Haltwhistle

Mass on weekdays (except Mondays) at 10.00am either St John's or Haltwhistle.

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

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

5 March

10.00am

Morning Worship
Tom Dodds

6.00pm

Evening Worship
Rev. David Goodall

12 March

10.00am

Morning Worship
Andrea Mayland

6.00pm

Communion Worship
Supt. Paul Dunstan

19 March

10.00am

Readers Service
Christine Thompson

6.00pm

Evening Worship
Rev. Jane Cook

26 March

10.00am

Mothering Sunday
Family Worship

6.00pm

Deacon Anne Taylor
Local Arrangements

2 April

10.00am

Morning Worship
Sandra Martin

6.00pm

Communion Worship
Rev. David Goodall

Messy Church Methodist Church

3.30 pm — 5.45 pm

Wednesday 8th March

New children always welcome.

All children welcome, under 8's to be accompanied by an adult.

Methodist Church

1st April 7.30 pm

Concert by Hexham Brass

Supper to follow - All welcome

Coffees at the Methodist Church

Every Tuesday and Thursday 10 am to 12 noon

These sessions are run by local Church members in turn and take place around the Coffee Tables.

Please come in for a friendly chat - tea/coffee/biscuits

Stay as long or as short a time as you wish

A warm welcome is given to everyone.

Come and join us for



Storytelling and crafts
during the morning service
at St. Cuthbert's, Haydon Bridge
and All Hallows', Henshaw
All children are welcome

Sunday 5 March, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 12 March, Henshaw, 9.30

Theme Lent - Temptation in the wilderness

Put your hand in the sandy feely box!

Try some drama

Sunday 2 April, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 9 April, Henshaw, 10.00

a joint service with Haydon Bridge Storybook

Church group invited

Theme Holy Week - Passion and Palm Sunday

Sing songs, make some palm leaves and do some

noisy drama!

Sunday 7 May, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 14 May, Henshaw, 9.30

Theme The Good Shepherd

Could you be a shepherd?

Make some woolly sheep

Sunday 4 June, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 11 June, Henshaw, 9.30

Theme Pentecost - Wind and Fire

Crafty fun - a dove mobile, kites, windmills.....

Sunday 2 July, Haydon Bridge, 11.00

Sunday 9 July, Henshaw, 9.30

Theme Doubting Thomas

Play a listening game

Make a large collage of Jesus

Learn and grow
together with Jesus

Children must be accompanied by an adult

For more information, contact the team at

storybookchurch@gmail.com

Buddhism



Science, Philosophy or Religion?

Dr Robert Bluck

Author of *British Buddhism: teachings, practice and development*

Tuesday 4th April, 7-9pm

Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall, £5

Call 07981 101651 to book

Café Scientifique



Let's Get Together



VILLAGE MEGA-QUIZ

- SUPPORTING

**HAYDON BRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR**

**Tuesday March 7th
at 8.15 pm**

at

**THE ANCHOR HOTEL
Haydon Bridge**

£1.50 per person

Refreshments, 'Beer Question' and Raffle

Featuring your regular village quiz leaders JOYCE G and JOHN H



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Staward**

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Phone: 01434 683030 or 07856 971167
Email: stevefromstaward@icloud.com

JOBSON'S ANIMAL HEALTH

You will know us as the pet shop in Haydon Bridge but what many don't seem to know is that the farm shop (under the same name) is still here, around the back of the pet shop.

We stock a range of waterproofs and warm clothing for adults and children, hardware, gardening, equestrian, products for the small holder as well as the larger farms.

Everyone is welcome to come in and browse, you never know you might find what your looking for on your doorstep rather than a trip to Hexham...

**6 Church Street, Haydon Bridge
01434 684248**



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Fully qualified and insured therapist.
Treatments include:

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Massage including deep tissue, Swedish, Indian head, and hot stones therapy
Gelish Gel nail technician
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Facials
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Reflexology
Reiki healing therapy
Special pamper packages available
Gift vouchers available



Eden beauty and holistics

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07557977307
32 Ratcliffe Road
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Hexham
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secure 24**

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Syrian mountains on the edge of town, it seemed unimaginable to think fighting had flared up in Aleppo again, some 40 miles away. There was a young puppy, my guess 6 weeks old, terrified and starving. It was making tiny puppy howls as it stepped toward the main road looking for its' mum. There are stray dogs everywhere. We saw its mum 50 yards away across some toxic looking waste ground. Mick took action and reunited them. Silly thing is, with the level of human suffering we had witnessed on Thursday, I knew if he hadn't that would have haunted me – it seemed more important somehow in the context of raw human suffering all around us. The micro-scale of that action was such a massive contrast to the massive distress, harm and hurt we saw.

We walked further and passed a number of refugee families walking through town carrying large cloth parcels at sunrise. A family of refugees – infants and all - gets paid about £5 per day for working in the fields. They only eat if the farmer feels like paying. That's the difference between life and death for most.

Child labour is everywhere

A machine gun fire echoed across town from the border. The border is at the edge of town, kind of running semi-circularly around about 30% of town. No big border gates, just small fences, with red, highly sinister sniper warning signs placed on the Syrian side. We learned that gun fire we were hearing were snipers imposing the shoot to kill policy. Nobody seems to care. It's the people without cars, money or extended families abroad who are left in Syria – literally abandoned now by the rest of the



world to die in a bloody war.

I needed this walk – 4 hours sleep last night, 3 the night before, but I simply had to buy a moment in time where I wasn't staring in to the eyes of someone who is fighting for their life in one way or another. I needed to get perspective and gather myself.

Thursday morning – the day before, we visited a camp. It was very different in nature to the Greek camps I went to with RAN, in that these people have neither the means or the desire to get further away and they had run for their lives at some point over the last 6 years. Many have extreme and urgent medical needs.

We gave out small boxes in the camp, containing a month's food for a family. I saw a boy in the end of one of three derelict looking sheds. I went over to say hello. Abu told me he is an orphan living there on his own. He is about 7 years old. He smiled and beckoned me in. There is a mat and a neat pile of clothes, with a stool in

the corner. He offered me a berry he had picked from a tree outside. His entire life had been decimated by war – he is such a young child. In one instant of one day, when he was a small dependent infant, he lost his mum and his dad and they died in front of his eyes. Try and add to that trauma, being picked up and rushed away from your home and everything you have ever known, then being left, alone, as a 7-year-old child, living in a dark, small shed in another country. That's his story, everyone else's is as equally tragic. He has never known anything else but loneliness, death and trauma yet it was instinctive for him to engage with me, invite me to his home, smile and give me a gift. This gift was almost the only thing he had to give. I just wanted to pick him up and take him home and say sorry. He's still there on his own.

One of many Syrian Orphans I met – with my 6'6" friend, an ex-Syrian soldier who gets us to where we need to be.

We left the camp resolute to go back before we came home. We had seen a family with very young triplets and only a short supply of milk, and a boy about 12 years old with bad burns. Lots of boys raise their t-shirts to show you horrific scars when you drive through camp.

We drove away from the border and back toward town, where we stopped at a house. In there lived a family of Syrian refugees, four children in their 20s, all of whom had cerebral palsy. They are completely dependent and living a life not fit for human beings – living on cushions



on the floor all day, unable to move to even look out of the window.

Cont'd in April.

Dan Dowling's Refugee Aid. *Cont'd from February.*

The crush surrounding the van seemed to make the central locking break temporarily. All the refugees knew there was £2000 plus things in the van and any one could have opened any door and helped themselves. Not one thing was taken. The crush was those trying to form a queue next to the window I was passing things through. You could do it only for maybe 5 minutes until it became really dangerous.



As we made it into the far end of the camp, and Mick stopped the van, I jumped out and took this picture. These were people who followed the van before the crowds formed. I could not have even got out of the van if I tried 30 seconds after this photo was taken.

I saw something very few will ever see. I saw literally thousands of peoples' faces, all be it temporarily, go from abject fear and misery to smiles - just for a moment. All withstood the crush - a crush strong enough to bring down concrete posted high security fences, to thank us for what we had done, in part for the small relief we offered and in part because we were the ones who had got passed the riot police to be there with them. I am absolutely certain that being one of three who carried through that plan was one of the best thing I had ever done in my life.

We left ourselves 1 hour to do a 2 hour journey - the brand new hire van was in pieces, covered in blood and dents, but the hire man worked out where we had been and sent us on our way with a smile. We dropped Selim in an aid worker safe house about 10 miles from the border. He is still there now doing night shift aid work. Our names were being called on the tannoy as Mick and I ran across the airport departure lounge.

The flight to Athens was a huge adrenalin dump; like the feeling you get when you get off a rollercoaster. Transfer to the London flight for me was only a short wait, Mick stayed in Athens one more night to see if he could find out where people were being taken under the new EU plan before he travelled home.

I got on the London plane and started to write this. I got my first stable mobile phone signal in 3 days, so I sent a quick text to my 2 year old son and his mum back in our village, who I hold just a little closer to me as a result of my experience. I missed them massively. I took the opportunity to look at the newswires. There were pictures of Idomeni all over the news again. This time though, I spotted RAN tents (the yellow ones are ours) I spotted RAN ponchos (ours are the blue ones) and all the tarpaulins across the site were from RAN. I could see people we had met. That set me off. The tears flowed down my face. I was too tired, bruised and battered to compose myself. I could see fellow plane passengers looking really worried! A baldy weird scruff talking muslimic with tears rolling

down his face on a plane near refugee camps....I don't blame them.... It took six and a half hours to drive from Heathrow home to Haydon Bridge, I was back at 2.30am, 9am start work again. In terms of life changing experiences, I hadn't had many greater.

Already, I had been asked to go into Syria itself. I work with government weasels and general chinless paperwork is my day job, so I seem to be the choice, playing the "diplomat" role when the danger missions come around. I'm neither trained nor brave to go to where the fighting was, but after Idomeni, I knew I had to. Trips around and inside Syria have to be quick and direct - ISIS fighters are all around you - and they don't wear badges - so being a white guy, it doesn't take long to be identified and ISIS to hatch plans so - in and out as quick as possible. It is my family who suffer worse with the security issues.

After a few trips to camps in Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, France etc this year, we realised how little support is actually there. A bunch of volunteers in a group a few months old, and we are fulfilling needs that nobody at all else is involved in; big agencies pulled out of our camps because of the EU - Turkey deal. Little groups don't really have much impact. We fill that void.

I have now seen things too horrifying to share. I have had experiences I wouldn't have volunteered to even read about, let alone witness. One thing I can now confirm - every single refugee I have met (thousands) just wants to go home to bring their kids up in safe environments. Non wanted to leave their country. If you want to meet someone who REALLY hates ISIS, I can introduce you to many Muslims who have watched their family die at the hands of these disgusting murderous cowards. ISIS main targets are Muslims so I remind myself it's important to remember the level diversity within one religion; should all Christians be tarred with the Klu Klux Klan for example because they are both Christian?

Every time someone brings a bag of clothes to my house, I see the shivering little girl who will wear those clothes in my head; Every time someone offers help like my fantastic friends from our village who are selling a poetry pamphlet for RAN, I well up with tears. This is literally lifesaving stuff - and so massively essential; I have now seen those little kids who haven't made it because there wasn't anyone there. I was infected by that trip - and next one was the Syrian border two months later....

I kept this diary.

We went for a 6am walk to see the sunrise around the city of Reyhanli on Friday morning. Reyhanli, is a town on the Mediterranean coast of Turkey. It is a border crossing point with Syria, 40 miles from Aleppo. About 60,000 people used to live in Reyhanli. The population is now 150,000. Most of the population are refugees who have made it across the border here over the last 6 years - oh yes - these are the ones who have taken refuge in the first safe country and they are all waiting for the war to end and should they still be alive, to go home and rebuild their country yet again. They aren't "migrants", looking for an easy life - even in the new media interpretation of the word - they are people just like you and your family, except they have all personal experiences of atrocities so shockingly abhorrent, after witnessing this, my heart is still thumping in my throat some 15 hours after getting off the plane home.

As we walked in the early morning air, through the strong smell of orange trees waking up in the sunrise, listening the majestic and beautiful call to prayer echo across the

THE NORTH EAST IN TWELVE IMAGES

3. ALNWICK



In this series I'm writing about some of my favourite North East places. You'll understand that I'm especially drawn to those that hold personal memories for me, or with which I have a connection. So this month I want to revisit the town that was our home for five years - Alnwick.

I was appointed Vicar there in 1987, exactly thirty years ago. We had three young children. A fourth was born the following year. We lived in a fine Victorian vicarage opposite the church, built by the Duke of Northumberland in the 1840s. It was a great place to live as a young family. We soon made good friends there whom we still see all these years later.

Alnwick has some of the best countryside in Northumberland close at hand. On one side, the heritage coast is a short drive away while on the other the Simonside and Cheviot Hills are equally accessible. I wrote about Edlingham in the first article. When I went out there across the moor to take services, I could scarcely believe that I was lucky enough to be driving around such glorious landscapes.

In this series, I deliberately chose not to stay on the tourist trail. So I won't say much about the big must-sees. Most of you will have visited the Alnwick Garden. It came into being after we had left the town but has certainly put it on the map when it comes to tourism. Likewise Barter Books in the old railway station - if this vast secondhand bookshop had been there in my time, would I ever have done a proper day's work? The great Alnwick Castle, the "Windsor of the North", historically made the place what it is, the ancient ducal town of Northumberland complete with its own Shakespearian hero, Henry Percy, better known as Harry Hotspur (Henry IV Part 1). Tottenham Hotspur FC is named after him because the Percy family originally owned the land where the club was founded.

Not enough people find their way to the Parish Church. It's one of Northumberland's finest. It's situated on the northern edge of the town at the end of the fine street called Bailiffgate: that tells you that the outer bailey of the Castle extended to the church yard gate. In that respect it's similar to Durham where we went to live twenty years later. Like many Northumberland churches, Alnwick has a fortification built on to the south east corner, a kind of vicar's pele that would have provided a defensive look-out against impending attacks by Scots or bor-

der reivers.

There are hardly any churches in the county that were mainly built in the Perpendicular Gothic style of the 15th century (but there's another in our neighbouring parish of Beltingham). It's dedicated to St Michael, the patron saint of the town (a good name, that!): there's a sculpture of the archangel on a pant (fountain) in the town centre. The church is grand as befits its ducal status, wide and spacious, a joy to worship in and walk round. Inside you'll find some remarkable sculptures on the capitals (or tops) of the piers in the chancel, and also what's said to be one of the finest medieval parish chests in England.

Like Berwick-upon-Tweed, Alnwick has a strongly enclosed feel to it, thanks largely to its fortified gateway known as Bondgate Tower. You drive into the town from "Bondgate Without" to "Bondgate Within" - here, the word "gate" means not what we tend to think but a "street" or road. (Once upon the time, all traffic on the Great North Road had to squeeze through this narrow pinch-point causing long traffic jams on either side. The A1 bypass was built only a decade or so before we arrived.)

As you wander round the centre of Alnwick, you might be tempted to think of it more as a Georgian market town than a medieval settlement. Many buildings date back to the 18th and early 19th century. The elegant Lion Bridge over the River Aln, from which you get an unrivalled view of the Castle in Capability Brown's landscaped setting, dates from this period. But look carefully at the street patterns and the long narrow burgage plots behind the buildings. They tell a story of a much more ancient place that originated in Saxon times, even though there are no visible traces of that era now.

Outside the town past the Church, you reach the gate to Hulne Park. This exquisite park belongs to the Northumberland Estates (i.e. the Duke). You are welcome to walk there (between 1100 and sunset - no cars are permitted). A couple of miles inside you come across the lonely ruins of Hulne Friary where a Carmelite community lived in the middle ages. It's a fascinating muddle of medieval and early Gothic Revival buildings. We used to have parish harvest services and suppers there. They were good days.

Michael Sadgrove



Haydon Bridge United AFC

Season 2016/17 – February Update



As everyone will be aware, over the last few months' disturbing revelations of abuse in football have prompted inquiries across the country. Haydon Bridge United FC is an Football Association Chartered Standard Club. To achieve and maintain that standard, the club has to ensure it complies with all of the FA's regulations, especially those relating to the protection and welfare of children. Since the revelations in the media, the FA and Northumberland FA have introduced more stringent checks and rules, all of which Haydon Bridge United continues to comply with. Nothing is more important to this club than the safety and welfare of its players.

It's been a couple of months since the last article from the football club, so there's a few things to catch up on. Firstly, a huge thanks to everyone who came out support the club at our quiz night back in November. It was a great night, raising over £450 for the football club, thanks also to the Haydonian Social Club for hosting the event and our fantastic quiz master Alan Borthwick.



We've also redesigned our club badge over the last few months.. Thanks to Kev Liddle at TopSigns for his creative talents and patience!!

Our Teams

Development Squad

The development squad has progressed well so far this season. We are now in the process of arranging friendly games for some of our players who will make up our Under 7's team for next season.

Under 7/8's

The Under 7/8s have had a busy couple of months, continuing to enjoy playing for the club and scoring lots of goals. They moved up a division at the end of December and are now playing in a more challenging league, but continuing to play well.

Under 9's

The Under 9's have played some tough games over the

last couple of months, with battling performances required, the team have continued to play good football and their understanding of the game is developing well.

Under 10's

Our under 10's gave a fantastic performance during their first games of 2017 throughout a 5aside competition held at the Wentworth.

Top Goal Scorer of the day was Tom Taylor who led the Team to victory during a closely fought battle against Hexham Sporting, while both Charles Younger and James Sowerby had some powerful shots on goal testing the oppositions defence. Good positioning and clever footwork was seen in Midfield by Noah White alongside well thought out passing sequences by both Ryan Brown and Robert Harrison. Kristian Parker displayed some solid defensive skills assisting Goal Keepers Luke Scorer and Wilf Daykin to save a collective 23 goals on the day!

Coaches Tony Sowerby and Dan MacMillan were impressed with the team work and hard effort throughout the tournament

Under 13's

Our U13's are through to the Semi Final of the West Youth Division Cup after beating Hexham Whites 4-3 Goal scorers Kian McKinnell 2, Niall Buchanan 2, MOTM James Hare

We were back to league action for Haydon after a few weeks absence. Winning 7-0 Away to Newcastle West End Blacks. Goal scorers Jamie Connor 3, Kian McKinnell 1, Brandon Bland 1, Niall Milburn 1 Will Thornhill 1 MOTM was Scott Hawkins

The following week we lost 5-2 at home v Newcastle West End Blacks on Sunday. Goal scorers were Niall Buchanan and Brandon Bland. MOTM Brandon Bland

A great all round performance secured a good win for the Under 13's away to North Shields Whites. Man of the match Niall Buchanan scored a Hatrick, 2 goals from Will Thornhill with Kyran Smith, Niall Milburn, Kian McKinnell, Brandon Bland, Jamie Connor and Shay Dickinson also finding the back of the net. Well done - great team work

Under 14's

U14's progressed to the next round of the league shield with victory over Red House Farm Kites by 6 goals to 4. Goals for Archie Richardson, Josh Burville, Ben Doughty and a hatrick for Cameron Robson. Some important saves from MOTM Matty Scott ensured the RHF fightback was restricted to 4.

A great finish to 2016 saw the U14's today qualify for the final of the League shield, after a pulsating 1 - 0 derby

Goals for Archie Richardson, Josh Burville, Ben Doughty and a hatrick for Cameron Robson. Some important saves from MOTM Matty Scott ensured the RHF fightback was restricted to 4.

A great finish to 2016 saw the U14's today qualify for the final of the League shield, after a pulsating 1 - 0 derby win at Corbridge. A single strike from Archie Richardson was all that separated the teams in an end to end encounter. But we managed to hang on thanks to some solid defending and another MOTM performance from Hal Hodgkinson. An impressive end to the year with the squad completing a 6 game unbeaten run and clean sheets in the last 2 games.

The first league game in 2017 for the U14's resulted in a 5 - 1 victory away at North Shields. A hatrick from Harry Crowe and strikes from James Percival and Cameron Robson secured the points. Another MOTM performance went to Matthew Koranteng who helped to prevent Shields from adding to their tally

U14's travelled to top of the table Montagu yesterday and came away with all 3 points thanks to goals from Harry Crowe and Cameron Robson. Montagu are unbeaten in the league this season which made the result even more impressive. The home side pushed hard but Bridge defended with great determination, and the MOTM award went to Matthew Koranteng

Another top of the table clash away at Red House Farm for the U14's and another victory thanks to an impressive 5 first half goals without reply. Goalscorers Archie Richardson, Aaron Davidson, Harry Crowe and James Percival (2). A much tighter 2nd half saw no goals but a good defensive display from the Bridge and especially MOTM Matthew Koranteng

Under 15's

After 3 weeks with no game Haydon Bridge u15s were back in action with a home fixture against Redheugh.

Redheugh had the edge in the first half but we did well to keep it a score of 1 each at half time. We kept ourselves in the match with a good defensive performance especially from MOTM goalkeeper Tommy Hagger with 2 crucial saves to keep us in match.

As we have done in so many games the last half an hour we seem to get on top of teams and went on to win 7 2 with goals from:- Owen White 2 with one assisted by Joey Robson, Steven Heslop 2 with one assisted by Joey Robson and one by Tom Anderson, Ewan Wishart 2, Liam Oliver 1 assisted by Ewan Wishart. Well done lads.

The Under 15s followed up with a home game against West Denton. It was a good entertaining game of football but unfortunately we were the losing side going down 3 1. The lads battled well and they deserved a point. Our only goal was scored by Owen White. MOTM Tom Anderson

Haydon Bridge u15s first home game of 2017, was a good overall team performance led to a 5-2 win. Goals from Liam Oliver, Ethan Dickinson, Shay Stoker, Jason

Arnup and Steven Heslop. MOTM in centre mid Jason Arnup. Well done lads

A trip to Ellington followed, unfortunately a battling second half performance wasn't enough to get us any of the points losing 2 1. Goal from Ewan Wishart. MOTM Joey Robson for a tenacious performance in centre mid

The Club

Continuing our introduction of those involved behind the scenes, this month we focus on **Alan Borthwick**.



Alan first signed for Haydon bridge in 1976 and was part of the team until, in his own words, "I was to old to bend down and fasten my laces". They won a number of cups but never won the league although they were nearly always challenging for top spot in the Hexham and North Tyne League. Alan played in every position for the team but when they had a good team in the late seventies he was substitute on a number of occasions.

Alan has been on the committee for forty years and has held the offices of treasurer, Saturday team manager, Sunday team manager and chairman (chairperson nowadays!). Now he continues his involvement as a committee member and is glad of the lack of responsibility !!

For more info and contact information check out:

www.haydonbridgeunited.co.uk

www.facebook.com/haydonbridgeunited/

Haydon Bridge United FC

Season 2017/18



The 2017/18 season starts in September, but the football club are already planning for next season. If you are or have a child interested in playing for Haydon Bridge United please get in touch with the club. Contact details for all of our coaches can be found on our website or send us a message via Facebook.

Alternatively contact our Club Secretary:

Paula Collis on 07715 733178