



## January 2026

### Welcome

The village looked very festive over Christmas with the Christmas trees on the old Bridge and by the War Memorial and lots of houses with decorations. And thanks a million to the GITS for the spectacular New Year Firework Display.

The Newsletter editorial team hope our readers had an enjoyable Christmas. We wish you a Happy New Year and all the best for 2026.

**Spread the word:** please tell everyone you know about the Newsletter

**Sign up to receive each edition automatically** just [follow this link](#) to our sign up form or use the QR code at the foot of the page.

**Large print copy:** you can get a 14pt large print copy at The Bridge Library and Community Hub on Church Street

**To make a donation:** You can donate at The Bridge towards the Newsletter running costs

### What's going on

#### Nights Out

Sat 10 Jan	Singer Vicky Barber	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 9pm
Thu 22 Jan	Film & Food Night: The Ballad of Wallis Island	General Havelock 7.30pm
Fri 23 Jan	Charity Quiz: W Northumberland Food Bank	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 8.30pm
Tue 27 Jan	Charity Quiz: Tynedale Hospice	General Havelock 8.15pm
Thu 29 Jan	Uketeers	General Havelock 7pm
Sat 7 Feb	Singer Jack Reed	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 9pm
Fri 20 Feb	Charity Quiz MIND	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 8.30pm
Tue 24 Feb	Charity Quiz: Riding for Disabled	General Havelock 8.15
Thu 26 Feb	Film & Food Night: I Swear	General Havelock 7.30pm
Sat 7 Mar	Singer Sophie Danielle	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 9pm
Fri 20 Mar	Charity Quiz: HB Football Club	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 8.30pm

#### Weekly Events

Thursdays	HB Carpet Bowls Club: Club Nights – everyone welcome Dates are: January: 8, 15, 22; February: 5, 19; March: 5	Community Centre 7pm
Sundays	Bingo	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 7.45pm

#### Nature Club - 7:15pm in the Methodist Church: £4 including tea and biscuits

Thu 29 Jan	The South Tyne and Mining Legacy by James Fielding
Thu 12 Feb	Beekeeping in Northumberland by Wendy Gregory
Thu 26 Feb	AGM (members only till 7.45pm); and Protecting Adders in the North Pennines by Henry Barrett
Thu 12 Mar	The Work of the Woodland Trust by Rachel Penn

#### Churches

Catholic Church	Sunday services at 9am	
Methodist Church	Sunday services at 10:30am	Friday 6 March 2pm World Day of Prayer led by Henshaw Mother's Union Tuesdays 10-12 Meeting Place teas and coffee Alternate Wednesday evenings 7pm informal worship/prayer Tuesday 17 Feb 7-8.30pm First of 6 weekly bible study course contact Rev Michael Holland (01434 683732) or Kathleen Armstrong (07788 988162)
St Cuthbert's Church	Regular Parish Eucharist 11am	Look at noticeboard outside the church for upcoming services

#### Langley on Tyne WI

If you would like to know what's on, give one of us a call or send us an email:

President: Diana Bell 01434 688055

Secretary: Cathie Burke 07986005956

Email: [langleyontynewi@gmail.com](mailto:langleyontynewi@gmail.com)



[Join our Newsletter Mailing List!](#)

## The Bridge Library and Community Hub

The Bridge would like to thank the local community for all their support over the past year. In case you were not aware The Bridge receives no funding from the County Council for running the county library service (and much more) in the village. It is run entirely by volunteers and managed by the Haydon Bridge Development Trust, again through a team of voluntary unpaid Directors.

We get our income to cover the running costs of The Bridge from three main sources. The Parish Council provide an annual grant to cover the rent and insurance of our building on Church Street (the other side of the railway line from the signal box).

Another key source of income is from our very successful annual cyclo sportif the Haydon Hundred, which takes place on the second Saturday in June and has three different routes in the North Pennines – 60km, 100km and 140km to cater for the varying experience and fitness levels of cyclists. The 140km route covers five of the six highest tarmac roads in England! Thank you to all the local people who take part and to The Bridge volunteers for running this very popular event. The third and increasingly important source of income is from fundraising activities at The Bridge itself. In 2025 the volunteers at The Bridge, and the local community, raised the amazing sum of £4,562! The main ways this money was raised were through:

- The weekly bonus ball lottery. There are 59 numbers and the winner receives £30. THERE ARE 4 SPARE NUMBERS SO IF YOU WANT TO PLAY THE BONUS BALL AND SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY DROP IN TO THE BRIDGE AND SIGN UP

- The plant, fruit and vegetable stall outside the Bridge, which runs with support from the allotment holders and the Nurture Project (and other local residents with gardens) who donate produce, flowers and plants
- Sale of second-hand books
- Individual donations
- Quiz and raffle proceeds
- Income from photocopying, and sale of arts and crafts
- Renting out The Bridge to local organisations

WE WELCOME YOUR SUPPORT – THANK YOU

### **DO YOU KNOW THAT THE BRIDGE OFFERS?**

- With the Northumberland County Council Library Card, The Bridge provides a FULL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE including, audio and large print books, E books via Borrowbox and Pressreader for newspapers and magazines – ALL AT NO COST
- Children's library area with toys for younger children
- Tourist and visitor information, including walks and cycling leaflets
- Social activities such as knit and natter (Tuesday 1:30-3:30)
- Local archive (see next page)
- Coffee and warm hub
- Computer use
- Book and craft sales and display space for artists
- Office services
- Cycle hub
- Study space
- And more

### Opening hours

Monday	9-12	Friday	3-6
Tuesday	1-4	Saturday	9.30-
Wednesday	1-4		12.30
Thursday	CLOSED		

### **The Weather from John Harrison**

The first twelve days of November started on a very mild note with night-time temperatures remaining higher than 11.0 between the 4th and 6th. (cf average for this time of year 3.5°C) as warm fronts crossed from the west under cyclonic conditions, bringing intermittent rain. As pressure began to rise after the 12<sup>th</sup> there was a wet finale in a lengthy spell of heavy overnight rain, causing local flooding. As a ridge of high pressure moved across northern Britain bringing a change to colder polar air, Storm Claudia brought heavy rain and severe floods in South Wales. By the 18<sup>th</sup> polar air had extended further south bringing the first winter air frost and sleet late on the 18<sup>th</sup>, which persisted throughout the day on the 19<sup>th</sup>. A thin layer of snow (less than 1 cm) lasted until the 20<sup>th</sup>. As pressure began to fall again from the 22<sup>nd</sup>, slighter milder weather returned with persistent light rain, although clearer night skies ensured that frost was never far away.

As Christmas approached the weather remained under the control of relatively lower atmospheric pressure which kept winter conditions at bay. The first three weeks of December were generally rather wet and windy with a mixture of strong blustery showers and more persistent dull and drizzly spells. Almost all of the December rain fell in this period and daytime temperatures remained above the seasonal norm reaching 14.6°C on the 9<sup>th</sup>. However, night-time air temperatures remained above freezing with only occasional light ground frost. A developing ridge of high pressure began to take control from the 20<sup>th</sup> which heralded the start of a more persistent spell of colder winter weather as arctic air moved southwards across the British Isles. Although Christmas remained devoid of snow, the weather forecast at the end of the year promised the arrival of snow early into the new year.

## Local Archive

### A New Year and a New School Term: Shaftoe Trust School

In 1685 Reverend John Shaftoe set up a charity which included provision for a school. In 1697 Shaftoe Trust School was built providing a free Grammar School and also an English School, all in one room, and a house for the master. Latin and Greek were taught to the Grammar school pupils, but only the basics of reading and writing to the English school pupils. By 1737 the school had 80 pupils. In 1785 a mistress for the girls in the English school was appointed. By 1830 there were two rooms for 143 boys and one room for 118 girls. By 1869 there were 5 or 6 rooms for the Latin School, Upper Boys School, Lower Boys School, Girls School and an Infants School. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century a wider curriculum with a rural focus began to develop. A 1919 proposal included poultry keeping, bee keeping, gardening and forestry, woodwork and metalwork. In 1947 the new headmaster, Edward Waite, decided to make agriculture and horticulture a core focus and it became renowned as a farm school. Senior schooling ended when the new County Technical School opened on the North Bank, in 1962. The Bridge digital photo archive has many 20<sup>th</sup> century Shaftoe Trust class photos.



*This brief summary of Shaftoe Trust School is drawn from Dennis Telford's articles in his Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge originally published in the Haydon News in December 2013 and October 2020. You can read these in full online at <https://haydon-bridge.co.uk/news/the-haydon-news-back-issues/>*

## Community Action

### Haydon Bridge High School



During December, an artist has been working with a number of Year 9 pupils to create a mural, which is original, pupil designed and painted and unique to Haydon Bridge High. Inspiration has been drawn from not just the school, but our locality and its cultural and historical past. At present, the mural is a rough design using spray paints and graffiti art techniques. Once finished, the mural will act as a timeline, documenting renowned and creative points in history.

We hope to invite members of our local community to view the mural once it is finished, early in the new year.



Two members of the Sixth Form have recently taken part in the Lesson from Auschwitz project, organised by the Holocaust Education Trust. Dylan and Keira attended a workshop in Newcastle, along with over 100 fellow sixth form students from across the North East. At the workshop, they explored the theme of remembrance and legacy and were fortunate to meet and listen to a Holocaust Survivor who shared her family's story. In the coming weeks both pupils will work within the school and with our feeder primaries to support the learning of younger pupils in the run up to Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January 2026.

### Nurture Project

**Sessions for adults** – we had a fabulous time connecting with nature through learning bushcraft skills e.g. fire lighting, tool making and using, campfire cooking, knotting and more, and experiencing a very special sound bath in the yurt by the fire in Nov/December, fully funded by the Royal Countryside Fund. One elderly participant declared they should be available on the NHS!

#### Coming soon at Nurture Project CIC:

An evening of Winter wellbeing, including a soundbath date tbc  
A Saturday afternoon of bushcraft and herbs date tbc

**Coming soon for families** - there will be a monthly Saturday afternoon Family Fun Forest School - arts and crafts, stories, adventure and sensory play - including mud kitchen, campfire snacks and songs. *Start date TBC.* The garden will re-open for public visiting on Saturday mornings from March. We will also have at least one afterschool open time, day and *start date to be confirmed*.

Finally, if you would like to volunteer in the garden there are a range of activities to suit - including tabletop and seated jobs. All enquiries to [lydia@thenurtureprojectcic.co.uk](mailto:lydia@thenurtureprojectcic.co.uk)

### Greening the village – Community Orchard

If you did not see the planting on Saturday 6 December, look to your right as you drive out of the village heading west. You will see a new plantation of fruit trees which have been planted and grown by local volunteers – can't wait to see the fruit growing!



## Businesses and Services

Beauty Therapist	Sparkles Cleaning	Anchor Garage	<a href="https://www.jpwestall.com/">https://www.jpwestall.com/</a>
Eden Complementary & Beauty Therapies 07557977307	Charlotte Dunn 07817 807919 01434 688445 <a href="mailto:c.dunnhb@outlook.com">c.dunnhb@outlook.com</a>	049147 Gas (Calor, Propane, Butane)	Post Office
Bingo	Coach Tours and Hire	Poplars Caravan Park Haydon Bridge (delivery if required) 01434 684427	Co-op Late Shop and Post Office 01434 684327
Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 01434 684383	Amble Coaches 07904 412378 <a href="https://amblecoaches.co.uk/">https://amblecoaches.co.uk/</a>	Hairdresser	Residential Care Home
Building & Property Maintenance	Coal Merchants	Debs Mobile Hairdressing 01434 684890 07889 261360 <a href="mailto:dbrburgess@yahoo.com">dbrburgess@yahoo.com</a>	Haydon View 01434 684465
Brian Howard Properties 01434 688999 07711 033590 <a href="mailto:brianhoward7561@aol.com">brianhoward7561@aol.com</a>	Stephen Brooks (formerly W.G. Duffy) 01434 684348	The Barber Bus 07712 609057	Security
Conservatories Made Superior Chris Sim 01434 684704 07916 334154	Confectionery	Homeopathy	Safe and Secure 24 01434 688423 <a href="http://www.safeandsecure24.com/">http://www.safeandsecure24.com/</a>
E & R builders Brian Ray 07854 043082, Ken Eales 07793 655925	The Petite Sweet Company 07939907360 <a href="http://www.thepetitesweetcompany.co.uk">www.thepetitesweetcompany.co.uk</a>	Patricia Haggie 01434 688687 <a href="mailto:pat_haggie@homeopathy-soh.org">pat_haggie@homeopathy-soh.org</a>	Septic Tank and Drain Jetting
George Gamble 01434 688804 07710 193144	Electricians	Home Care	A Macdonald 01434 684491 07801 308006
James Ritchie Architect 07785 915687 <a href="https://www.jamesritchie.com/">https://www.jamesritchie.com/</a>	D & J Oliver Electrical 01434 688132 07730 533348	Helping Hands 0333 060 5211 <a href="http://www.helpinghands.co.uk/">http://www.helpinghands.co.uk/</a>	Shotton Waste Services 01434 681219
Jamie Eales Plastering & Damp Solutions 07742750463 <a href="mailto:jamie_eales@yahoo.com">jamie_eales@yahoo.com</a>	Financial Services	Locksmith	Shops
Langley Furniture Works 01434 688977 <a href="http://langleyfurnitureworks.co.uk/">http://langleyfurnitureworks.co.uk/</a>	Foresters Financial 07341 962577	Hexham Locksmith 07485 221076 <a href="http://hexhamlocksmith.co.uk/">http://hexhamlocksmith.co.uk/</a>	Claire's Convenience Store 01434 684303
Graeme Murphy Joinery 07985 482452	Food & Drink	Milkman	Co-op Late Shop and Post Office 01434 684327
M R Cook Construction 01434 688222 <a href="https://mrcookconstruction.com/">https://mrcookconstruction.com/</a>	Anchor Hotel 01434 688121 <a href="http://www.anchorhotelhaydonbridge.co.m">http://www.anchorhotelhaydonbridge.co.m</a>	P & G Phillips <a href="mailto:melkelter@btinternet.com">melkelter@btinternet.com</a>	Haydon Bridge Pharmacy 01434 684354 <a href="http://www.haydonbridgepharmacy.co.uk">http://www.haydonbridgepharmacy.co.uk</a>
RH Joinery Richard Hines 07999 787948	General Havelock Inn 01434 684376 <a href="mailto:generalhavelock@aol.com">generalhavelock@aol.com</a>	Nursery	Taxis
Stephen Todd Joinery & Glazing 01434 688726 07736 671612	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 01434 684383	Little Badgers Childcare Ofsted Registered Day Nursery 01434 684446	Haydon Taxis 01434 671197
Steven Elliott Stonemason 07921 726000 <a href="mailto:seoldnew@gmail.com">seoldnew@gmail.com</a>	Langley Castle Hotel 01434 688888 <a href="https://www.langleycastle.co.uk/en/">https://www.langleycastle.co.uk/en/</a>	Painters and Decorators	Langley Taxis 01434 684658
Cashpoint	Oddfellows Coffee 07904 411054 <a href="mailto:oddfellowscoffee@yahoo.com">oddfellowscoffee@yahoo.com</a>	P Coats 01434 688739 07940 429920	Travel Counsellor
Co-op Late Shop and Post Office 01434 684327	Railway Hotel 01434 684254 Now open 11-midnight 7 days a week	Gary Cunningham 01434 684041	Janice Cumberland 07576 202402
Cleaning	Haydon Bridge Fish & Chip Shop 01434 684289	Jamie Dunn 01434 688445 07584 192647 <a href="mailto:j.dunnhb@hotmail.co.uk">j.dunnhb@hotmail.co.uk</a>	Tiling
	Garages/Motor Repairs	Plumbers and Heating Engineers	Paul Brown 01434 684890 07769 537513 <a href="mailto:paulbrowntiling@yahoo.com">paulbrowntiling@yahoo.com</a>
		D C Oil Heating & Plumbing Services 07582 864066	Watch Repairs
		Haydon Plumbing and Heating	Mr George's Museum of Time 01434 688055 <a href="http://timeforgeorge.co.uk/">http://timeforgeorge.co.uk/</a>
		Kevin Thompson 07904819998 <a href="mailto:haydonplumbing@hotmail.co.uk">haydonplumbing@hotmail.co.uk</a>	Yoga
		J.P. Westall Ltd 01434 602740	Gill Valentine <a href="https://gillvalentine.co.uk/">https://gillvalentine.co.uk/</a>

To give us feedback or have your business or service listed on the back page email us at: [admin@haydon-bridge.co.uk](mailto:admin@haydon-bridge.co.uk)

### Haydon Parish Council

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month: Community Centre  
Carole McGivern, Parish Clerk, Tel: 07543 912113.

Email: [haydonbridgeparish@gmail.com](mailto:haydonbridgeparish@gmail.com)

David Thornhill Chair: 07810 336537 01434684329  
[dave.thornhill7759@gmail.com](mailto:dave.thornhill7759@gmail.com)

Brian Howard Vice Chair [brianhoward7561@aol.com](mailto:brianhoward7561@aol.com)  
07711033590

Avril Kirsopp [avril\\_kirsopp@hotmail.com](mailto:avril_kirsopp@hotmail.com) 07866614149

Kelly Richardson [richardsonkelly00@gmail.com](mailto:kellyrichardson00@gmail.com)

07732260415

Tessa Simmonds [tessaloyd@gmail.com](mailto:tessaloyd@gmail.com) 07947008345

Anne Suddes [suddes62@gmail.com](mailto:suddes62@gmail.com) 07761 908793

Charlie Morshead

Louise Alderson [louise.haydonpc@gmail.com](mailto:louise.haydonpc@gmail.com)

Sue Jackson [suejackson.hbpc@gmail.com](mailto:suejackson.hbpc@gmail.com)

Caitlin Kendall

Danielle Webster [danielle.haydonpc@gmail.com](mailto:danielle.haydonpc@gmail.com)

### Useful Contacts

**Flood Group:** Lead Flood Warden. John Alder 07587 174552. [boulders1975@gmail.com](mailto:boulders1975@gmail.com)

**Health Centre:** North Bank, Haydon Bridge, 01434 684216

**Schools:** Shaftoe Trust Wise Academy 01434 684309 [shaftoe@wiseacademies.co.uk](mailto:shaftoe@wiseacademies.co.uk)

Haydon Bridge High School 01434 684422 [hbhs@hbhs.co.uk](mailto:hbhs@hbhs.co.uk)

**Local Groups meeting at the Haydon Bridge Community Centre:** Valerie Bell 07809 609166

Yoga – Tuesdays 7.15pm and Qi Gong Thursdays 9:30am. Gill Valentine 07711 110850

Boot Camp session with Abbie Oldham, tel 07507 118216 Wednesday and Friday 6.30pm-7.30pm £5

Bowls Club – Thursdays 7.30pm. Joseph Tulip. Tel: 07534 214365

Keep fit – Fridays 9.45am. Carole Price. Tel: 07939 202930

Hornby Collectors Assn – 10am 2nd Sundays bi monthly

Friday Lunch, 12 noon at the Community Centre. Carole Price 07939 202930

**Ist Haydon Bridge Scout Group:** [Robert.copley@northyberlandscouts.org.uk](mailto:Robert.copley@northyberlandscouts.org.uk)

Meets at Catholic Church Hall, just off North Bank – Squirrels (4-6) Monday 4.45pm-5.45pm

Beavers (6-8) Monday 6pm-7pm; Cubs (8-10.5) Tuesday 6pm-7.30pm; Scouts (10.5 to 14.5)

Wednesday 6pm-8pm.