

May 2026

Welcome

Summer is coming – time to get outside

DON'T FORGET: Three outdoor community events for your diary: Northumberland Day on Sunday 31 May; The Nurture Community Garden Celebration on 7 June; and the Haydon Hundred Cyclo-Sportive on Saturday 13 June – see below.

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



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

Join our Newsletter Mailing List!

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

What's Going On

Nights Out

Thu 21 May	Film and Food night: H is for Hawk	General Havelock Inn 7.30pm
Fri 22 May	Bingo Bonanza	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 7.30pm
Tue 26 May	Charity Quiz: Blood Bikes	General Havelock Inn 8.15pm
Thu 28 May	Uketeers	General Havelock Inn 7pm
Fri 29 May	Music with Meg	General Havelock Inn 7.30pm
Sat 30 May	Disco	Railway Hotel 8pm onwards
Sat 6 June	Singer Miranda Newton	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 9pm
Thu 18 June	Film and Food Night tbc	General Havelock Inn 7.30pm
Thu 25 June	Uketeers	General Havelock Inn 7pm
Fri 26 June	Music with Meg	General Havelock Inn 7.30pm
Sat 27 June	Disco	Railway Hotel 8pm onwards
Tue 30 June	Charity Quiz: Breast Cancer Now	General Havelock Inn 8.15pm
Sat 4 July	Singer Kev Roberts	Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar 9pm

Also Weekly

Thursday 7pm HB Carpet Bowls Club: Club Nights – everyone welcome – no experience needed: Community Centre

Dates are: May 14, 21; June 4, 18; July 16

Sundays 7.30pm Bingo: Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar

World Cup Football: All England matches will be on the giant screen in the function room at the Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar

Churches

Catholic Church	Sunday Mass at 9am	✚ Church and grounds open on Sundays 11am-3pm in June/July/August
Methodist Church	Sunday services at 10:30am contact Rev Michael Holland (01434 683732) or Kathleen Armstrong (07788 988162)	✚ Sunday 31 May 10.30am Joint Methodist and Anglican Service
St Cuthbert's Church	Sunday services at 11am (Matins 4 th Sunday of the month)	✚ Tuesdays 10-12 Meeting Place teas and coffee
		✚ Alternate Wednesday evenings 7pm informal worship/prayer (1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Wednesdays of the month)
		✚ Thurs 14 May 6pm Ascension Day Service at Haydon Old Church
		✚ For baptisms/weddings contact the Rev. Ollie Dempsey 01434 671649
		✚ Look at noticeboard outside the church for upcoming services

OUTDOOR EVENTS

Northumberland Day – 2-5pm Sunday 31 May

The Get It Together Society are holding a Northumberland Day Family Fun and Picnic Day on 31 May, 2-5pm on The Green at Strother Close. Live music, games, stalls, face painting, ice cream and pizza will all add to the fun.



Nurture Community Garden Celebration – Sunday 7 June 1-4pm

See next page for more information

The Haydon Hundred Cyclo-Sportive Bike Rides: Saturday 13th June.

There are 3 different challenges to choose from, 60, 100 and 140km. They all start and finish at The Bridge with snacks and water stages along the way. This is a huge fundraiser for the running costs of The Bridge so why not give it a go?

[Go to the Haydon Hundred website to sign up](#)



The Bridge: Library & Community Hub

Our Annual Plant Sale – will be held on Saturday 30 May on the patio at The Bridge. If you have any plants or seedlings to donate, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Donations accepted from 8.30, Sale starts at 9.30. Proceeds support the planting in the village

Plant and Produce Stall – is back up and running on the patio. Donations can be left on the stall, and buyers are asked to donate what they can for the items they take.

National Year of Reading – We have obtained a small collection of Quick Reads, full stories in fewer pages. Call in and pick one up, when you are finished pass them on to a friend or bring them back to us for recycling to others.

World Cup – a great way to get youngsters into reading is to find books about subjects they are interested in. We have a selection of football reads at the Bridge and more can be ordered from around the County.

Police Drop-In: On 27 June come along to the Bridge to meet your neighbourhood police officer, Catch up with a Copper will be from 2 to 4.

Local and Regional Tourist Information - Whether you are planning local or regional trips there is a great collection of leaflets and tourist information at The Bridge.

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

Opening Hours

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

The Weather from John Harrison

March: Winter 2025-26 continued to follow a generally unsettled path dominated by cyclonic weather patterns tracking eastwards and a marked absence of characteristically cold and crisp landscapes. Over the traditionally chilly winter months December through to March, Plunderheath weather station logged only 17 air frosts (at thermometer screen height) almost none of which could be counted as lethal to winter plant life. Dominating the weather were spells of fresh

to strong breezes with squally hail or sleet showers bringing an uncomfortable wind-chill. Spells of clearer skies allowed for the development of slightly milder sunny spells and some earlier flowering of spring plants such as daffodils. The most severe weather event during March was the rainstorm late on the 24th which brought about a very rapid rise in local river levels and was followed by squally hail showers.

April: At this time of year there is an expectation that the weather will be at its most variable as we move forwards from the unsettled weather typical of the winter months towards the warmer, drier and more settled spring and early summer months. In 2026 this has been particularly marked with air temperatures fluctuating from significant warmth down to frost. As the countryside changes to an attractive carpet of green, the onset of the growing season, while encouraging seeds to germinate and put on early growth, can also come to a premature halt during a cold spell. Scientific opinion has suggested that the growing season was widely two or more weeks ahead of usual. April is frequently the driest month of the year with much of rainfall coming as light showers, with occasional bursts of damaging hail. The wind during the first three weeks of April was frequently from the south-west and quite fresh but the arrival of anticyclonic conditions from the 19th onwards resulted in a change to an easterly breeze which was occasionally quite chilly (except when sheltered and warm (e.g. 24th).

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

Parish Council Update

Some recent activities:

- Ongoing repairs to roads in the area include:
 - West Land Ends green lane has been resurfaced and drainage repaired
 - The white lines have been refreshed from Innerhaugh to Hordley Acres
 - Drains on Ratcliffe Road have been cleared
- This year some parts of the verges will be left un-mown to create insect and wildlife corridors
- We discussed the need to continue to keep the wellbeing of the river and waterways central to decision making
- Northumberland Day will be celebrated on 31 May from 205pm on the Green at Strother Close, all are welcome

Further details and contact information are at

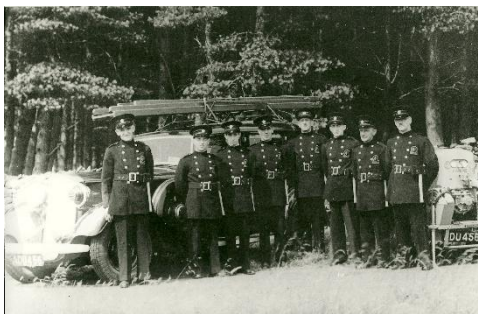
<https://haydon-bridge.co.uk/about/haydon-parish-council/>



Local Archive – Haydon Bridge Fire Brigade

In the late 1890s the first attempts by the Parish Council to bring fire services to the village failed because of cost. In August 1911 the Council agreed to get a fire hose and requested prices for an “extinguishing appliance”. The appliance was being tested in early 1912 and the first official Haydon Bridge Fire Brigade was formed.

WW1 affected the numbers of men available for the fire service. In 1920 a reformed Brigade was attempted. Volunteers were appointed and 3 practices held a year. In 1926 the Council decided to invest in a new Fire Brigade. 12 volunteer members were selected to carry out monthly fire practices and paid 5 shillings for each practice. The first fire station was housed in a stone built stable on Belmont



In January 1932 the village Brigade was merged into the Hexham Brigade and in 1941 it became part of the new National Fire Service. In 1947 responsibility for fire services passed back to local authorities. Around then the fire station relocated to an old Nissen Hut on John Martin Street. In the 1960s it moved to a new building west of California Gardens. In 2015 the County Council proposed the

closure of the fire station. Despite vigorous local opposition the station closed on the 4th of October 2016. **This brief summary of California Gardens is drawn from Dennis Telford's Historical Notes of Haydon Bridge originally published in the Haydon News in May to July 2006. Read these in full online at <https://haydon-bridge.co.uk/news/the-haydon-news-back-issues/>**

Community Action

Wanted: Experience, Wisdom and a Sense of Adventure!

Join 1st Haydon Bridge Scout Group as a Volunteer Team Member

Are you recently retired or looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community?

Do you have time, life experience, and a desire to make a difference?

We'd love your help!

All of 1st Haydon Bridge's current team members have children in the group and are balancing full time jobs. We are looking for reliable, enthusiastic adults with more flexible time to help support weekly meetings, share skills, stories and life experience, help organise activities and trips and to be a positive role model for young people. We are especially in need of help in our younger sections like Squirrel Scouts who are 4-6 years old and are a total delight and in Beaver Scouts who are 6-8 years old and are full of curiosity and energy. You need zero prior experience, full training and support is given and you can volunteer as much or as little as you like. You'll make new friendships, fun and laughter is guaranteed and as well as a chance to pass on your knowledge our team members always mention feeling a sense of purpose and community.

For more no obligation information please drop Rob a line on robply@gmail.com or call 07792 949961



A Letter from the New Head of School at Haydon Bridge High School

It is with great pride and excitement that I write to you as the new Head of School at Haydon Bridge High School. Since joining the school, I have been incredibly impressed by the warm welcome I have received and the positive start we have made together as a school community.

Our students have been fantastic. They have shown enthusiasm, respect and a real commitment to their learning, and we are working hard to develop a positive culture at Haydon Bridge High School. I have also been delighted by the support from parents and carers, whose encouragement and engagement have already made a significant impact. It is clear that this is a school where families and staff work together for the benefit of every child.

What has stood out most to me since arriving is the passion with which people speak about 'community'. Whether within the school itself or across the wider Haydon Bridge area, there is a genuine sense of pride, care and togetherness that makes this such a special place to be. That strong community spirit is something I value deeply and one of the many reasons I am so excited to be here.

As I move forward in my time at Haydon Bridge High School, I am fully committed to building strong and positive relationships within our local community. By working closely together—students, families, staff and local partners—we can support one another in ensuring that the next generation of Haydon Bridge become the very best versions of themselves.

I look forward to meeting many more of you in the months ahead and to building on the strong foundations already in place as we continue to move Haydon Bridge High School forward together.

Kind Regards, Richard O'Connor - Head of School HBHS



Nurture Community Garden Celebration

Nurture Project would like to invite everyone in our local community to a celebratory event on Sunday 7th June, 1-4pm

What are we celebrating? The last 18 months has seen lots of work made possible by funding from The Royal Countryside Fund to 'Bridge People through Nature'. The Nurture Project has worked with other groups in the community to:

- ✿ put planters and benches on bridges and bus stop as part of what will become 'The Bee Friendly Walk'.
- ✿ set up a fabulous Plant and Produce Stall at The Bridge: Library & Community Hub
- ✿ which offers plants and harvests grown by local people, including allotment holders and The Easy Garden Group at Nurture Project, and raises donations to help support The Bridge Hub, which includes the community library and public space garden group.
- ✿ enable the whole community to enjoy the garden and learn about nature friendly gardening at public open times, and events.
- ✿ work with the High School Duke of Edinburgh volunteers weekly for a term
- ✿ work with the Scout groups and Shaftoe Trust Academy school on special events in the community garden
- ✿ set up Easy Garden facilities including a large potting and picnic table, and plant nursery platforms.



There will be yummy food, ice cream, garden tours, sound baths, crafting for children and adults, nature drawing, raffle and more.



Easy Garden Group

Adults are welcome to join us in the garden on Thursday afternoons 3-4.30pm for easy and accessible gardening and refreshments around our huge table!

Super Saturdays 10-1pm

All welcome to come to Nurture Community Garden to play, help in the garden, explore, sit, chat and find out about Nurture Project.

Wonderful Wednesdays 3-4.30pm

All welcome. These sessions are particularly good for winding down after school!

Volunteers

Nurture Project NEEDS you! Please get in touch, or just pop in to any of the above sessions and have a chat. Our special forest food garden is still very young and in need of more hands to help establish it. A great opportunity to learn about gardening to increase biodiversity and soil health.

Let's go POTTY – The Haydon Bridge Flower Pot Festival

Enter the competitions to: grow the tallest sunflower - £2.50 gets you 5 premium giant sunflower seeds with a trophy to the tallest; or £5 entry fee for your creative flower pots with prizes for the best displays. Both judged On the August Bank Holiday weekend.



Businesses and Services

Beauty Therapist

Eden Complementary & Beauty Therapies

07557 977307

Bingo

Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar

01434 684383

Building, & Property Maintenance

Brian Howard Properties 01434

688999 07711 033590

brianhoward7561@aol.com

Conservatories Made Superior

Chris Sim 01434 684704 07916

334154

E & R builders

Brian Ray 07854 043082, Ken

Eales 07793 655925

George Gamble 01434 688804

07710 193144

James Ritchie Architect 07785

915687

<https://www.jamesritchie.com/>

Jamie Eales Plastering & Damp Solutions

07742750463

jamie_eales@yahoo.com

Langley Furniture Works 01434

688977

<http://langleyfurnitureworks.co.uk/>

Graeme Murphy Joinery

07985 482452

M R Cook Construction 01434

688222

<https://mrcookconstruction.com/>

RH Joinery

Richard Hines 07999 787948

Stephen Todd Joinery & Glazing

01434 688726 07736 671612

Steven Elliott Stonemason 07921

726000

seoldnew@gmail.com

Cashpoint

Co-op Late Shop and Post Office

01434 684327

Cleaning

Sparkles Cleaning

Charlotte Dunn 07817 807919

01434 688445

c.dunnhb@outlook.com

Coach Tours and Hire

Amble Coaches 07904 412378

<https://amblecoaches.co.uk/>

Coal Merchants

Stephen Brooks (formerly W.G. Duffy)

01434 684348

Confectionery

The Petite Sweet Company

07939907360

www.thepetitesweetcompany.co.uk

uk

Electricians

D & J Oliver Electrical 01434

688132 07730 533348

Financial Services

Foresters Financial 07341 962577

Food & Drink

Anchor Hotel 01434 688121

<http://www.anchorhotelhaydonridge.com/>

Carts Bog Inn 01434 684338

<http://www.cartsbog.co.uk/>

General Havelock Inn 01434

684376

generalhavelock@aol.com

Haydonian Community Lounge & Bar

01434 684383

Langley Castle Hotel 01434

688888

<https://www.langleycastle.co.uk/en/>

Oddfellows Coffee 07904 411054

oddfellowscoffee@yahoo.com

Railway Hotel 01434 684254

Now open 11-midnight 7 days a week

Haydon Bridge Fish & Chip Shop

01434 684289

Gardening

AJ Gardening Services 07957

400196

alstairbarker321@yahoo.co.uk

Garages/Motor Repairs

Anchor Garage 01434 684345

07903 049147

Gas (Calor, Propane, Butane)

Poplars Caravan Park Haydon

Bridge (delivery if required)

01434 684427

Hairdresser

Debs Mobile Hairdressing 01434

684890 07889 261360

dbrburgess@yahoo.com

The Barber Bus 07712 609057

Homeopathy

Patricia Haggie 01434 688687

pat_haggie@homeopathy-soh.org

Home Care

Helping Hands 0333 060 5211

<http://www.helpinghands.co.uk/>

Locksmith

Hexham Locksmith 07485

221076

<http://hexhamlocksmith.co.uk/>

Milkman

P & G Phillips

melkelder@btinternet.com

Nursery

Little Badgers Childcare Ofsted

Registered Day Nursery 01434

684446

Painters and Decorators

P Coats 01434 688739 07940

429920

Gary Cunningham 01434 684041

Jamie Dunn 01434 688445 07584

192647

j.dunnhb@hotmail.co.uk

Plumbers and Heating Engineers

D C Oil Heating & Plumbing Services 07582 864066

Haydon Plumbing and Heating

Kevin Thompson 07904819998

haydonplumbing@hotmail.co.uk

J.P. Westall Ltd 01434 602740

<https://www.jpwestall.com/>

Post Office

Co-op Late Shop and Post Office

01434 684327

Residential Care Home

Haydon View 01434 684465

Security

Safe and Secure 24 01434 688423

<http://www.safeandsecure24.com/>

Septic Tank and Drain Jetting

A Macdonald 01434 684491

07801 308006

Shotton Waste Services 01434

681219

Shops

Claire's Convenience Store 01434

684303

Co-op Late Shop and Post Office

01434 684327

Haydon Bridge Pharmacy 01434

684354

<http://www.haydonbridgepharmacy.co.uk/>

Taxis

Haydon Taxis 01434 671197

Langley Taxis 01434 684658

Travel Counsellor

Janice Cumberland 07576

202402

Tiling

Paul Brown 01434 684890 07769

537513

paulbrowntiling@yahoo.com

Watch Repairs

Mr George's Museum of Time

01434 688055

<http://timeforgeorge.co.uk/>

Yoga

Gill Valentine

<https://gillvalentine.co.uk/>

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

Haydon Parish Council

Meets 4th Thursday each month: Community Centre

Carole McGivern, Parish Clerk, Tel: 07543 912113.

Email: haydonbridgeparish@gmail.com

David Thornhill Chair: 07810 336537 01434684329

dave.thornhill7759@gmail.com

Brian Howard Vice Chair Brianhoward7561@aol.com

07711033590

Avril Kirsopp avril_kirsopp@hotmail.com 07866614149

Kelly Richardson richardsonkelly00@gmail.com

07732260415

Tessa Simmonds tessaloyd@gmail.com 07947008345

Anne Suddes suddes62@gmail.com 07761 908793

Charlie Morshead

Louise Alderson louise.haydonnpc@gmail.com

Sue Jackson suejackson.hbpc@gmail.com

Caitlin Kendall

Danielle Webster danielle.haydonnpc@gmail.com

Useful Contacts

Flood Group: Flood Warden John Alder 07587 174552 boulders1975@gmail.com

Health Centre: North Bank, Haydon Bridge, 01434 684216

Schools: Shaftoe Trust 01434 684309 shaftoe@wiseacademies.co.uk

Haydon Bridge High School: 01434 684422 hbhs@hbhs.co.uk

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

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

Boot Camp with Abbie Oldham, 07507 118216 Wed & Fri 6.30pm-7.30pm E5

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@northumberlandscouts.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.