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*** AS OUR PRINT IS SO SMALL WE PUT A LARGER VERSION IN THE LIBRARY, AND, THANKS TO SPONSORS, ALSO IN THE DAY CENTRE AND HOLLYGARTH.**

Please ask for them & tell others who may need them.

WHY NOT ADVERTISE IN "The Stream"? £10 per SQUARE. Ring Marian: 723014

Welcome to the 25th issue of "The Stream" edited by Assistant Editor, Sylvia Wall, and me!

To mark the occasion I have given the Library an "Archive" of 23 of the 24 issues; (we have only 1 copy from Autumn 1990 left so I am keeping that in my own "archive". If anyone happens to have one in their loft the Library and I would be grateful to have it!). I have also deposited an outline of The Stream's history – I am the 4th Editor, & I have a sprinkling of earlier copies, the first edited by Mary Makepeace for Christmas 1969 (though not the first ever, I think.....?)

I took over in 1982 & asked Sylvia to help. **Peter Bell**, assisted by **Phil Jagels**, organised the distribution (until 1995), and **Philip Ross** designed our first cover. In 1984 **Jenny Wall**, then 13, designed a new cover for the Year of Youth issue. **Julia Jewitt** designed the current cover in 1989, when the Community Care Association took over from the **Council of Churches** as the publisher, and **Joan Rowland** and **Ray Hopper** slaved over the printing pre-'89. We first took advertising, encouraged by **Martin Reed**, in Autumn 1990. **Marian Button** took on organising the Advertising in 1991, (assisted by **Dick Stainsby** & his computer for several issues), and the Printing in 1993. **Meg Hoggarth** and **Estelle Scott** have been our illustrators. Many of those on Peter Bell's list of **Distributors** are still doing the job, and some of them are also on the list of **Collators** we have developed since **Yatton House's** altered way of working meant they could not promise a team of workers, even though we can still use their huge room for the 2-day operation. **Peggy Friend** began the difficult job of doing the final proof-reading from Autumn 1997, and the latest recruit to the team is **Liz Greenhalgh**, newly liberated from Work, who has checked all those Business Hours for our yellow Pages (& says she's happy to do it again!). My thanks to everyone who has helped in the production & delivery of all 24 previous issues – including the **Contributors**, all busy people involved in interesting things – I always feel guilty if I have to nudge about Deadlines! - and the **Advertisers** who now provide a small profit for the CCA after our costs have been met.

Several people now make regular donations – **Miss Juler** covers the costs of the large-print A4 copies in The Library, Hollygarth and the Day Centre; **Mrs Nancy McLellan** has covered various extra stationery needs, while an Anonymous Donor provided the bulk of the 2 new heavy-duty stapling machines we had to buy half-way through collating the last issue!! A donation in appreciation of an extra copy to send elsewhere, plus Nancy's gift, covered the rest of the cost.

The CCA, Sylvia, Marian and I are immensely grateful for such support.

Looking through those early issues I noticed a thank you to **Peter Russell**, then recently resident in Ayton, for lending an electric typewriter to improve the readability of the Easter 1984 issue. Now, I am delighted to thank his wife **Sonia** for giving up a day of their New Year visit to us in order to create the Business Hours Section as you now see it – I haven't mastered "tables" on my machine yet & Sonia was eager to solve the problem. All I have had to do this time is enter the alterations. A real friend – it would have taken me much more than one day!!

Saying thank you can backfire at times – Peggy Bean wanted to thank everyone who supports the CCA's Jigsaw Library, either by donating Jigsaws, joining & borrowing, or actually housing the whole operation, as the Library does, because it was exactly 10 years since the Jigsaw Library was set up. As many of you will have seen in the local papers, it turned into a well-deserved celebration of Peggy's dedication, much to her embarrassment, once others realised that she hadn't missed a week in 10 years!! Well done, Peggy. Here's to the next ten!

I decided not to ask anyone to write about the current Foot & Mouth crisis. The situation changes daily, and the suspense and anguish for anyone with their livelihood at risk must be appallingly hard to bear. If anyone would like to write about it for the Autumn Stream, please let me know.

My thanks to everyone who has had a hand in this issue, in whatever capacity. We will be planning the Autumn issue in September, so if you want to offer an item, or help, please ring me. Finally, **thanks to my lovely husband** for another period of supporting me while I'm "Streaming". Twice a year it takes over his life too, now that he is liberated from Work – he'll be scanning pictures, photocopying, delivering - & whatever else it takes to produce a Stream and stop the Editor from despairing when the flow looks threatened or threatening - he's my lifebelt!!

Did you know ?

At Great Ayton Library you can ...Borrow a book – FREE!
Read a newspaper – FREE!
Surf the Internet – FREE!
Listen to a Story – FREE!
Find Information – FREE!
Put up a display – FREE!

It's FREE to join the library, too!

We also

- * Stock videos, audio books and story tapes
- * Hold weekly story times for the under 5s
- * Offer regular holiday activities for children
- * Provide a service to housebound readers
- * Organise a variety of events for adults

.....so what are you waiting for?

To join, or for more information, call in, or phone 723268.

We look forward to seeing you.

Chris Bower, Librarian

USE IT OR LOSE IT! Your library is still under threat if under-used...

OPEN:	Tuesday	9.30am – 12.30pm	and	2.00pm – 5.00pm
	Wednesday			2.00pm – 5.00pm
	Thursday	9.30am – 12.30pm	and	2.00pm – 7.00pm
	Friday			2.00pm – 5.00pm
	Saturday	9.30am – 12.30pm		

*** Make sure your visit is recorded, whatever the reason,**
whether borrowing, enquiring or browsing. Editor

GREAT AYTON BABIES & TODDLERS

Are you a Mum, a Dad, a Nanny or a Granny –
or, in fact, anyone who has a baby or a toddler to entertain?

If you are, then come along on a **Thursday** with your child or children to **Ayton Toddlers** and join in the fun! Ayton Toddlers is a place where babies, toddlers and pre-school children and their Mums or carers can meet together in a friendly, informal atmosphere and play together.

There's always a drink and biscuits, too!

It's a great place for Mums to meet, and for new Mums to make new friends or just to be "out of the house"! Enjoy a cuppa and have a chat. You will always be welcome.

There's a range of toys and activities including paints, playdough, baby toys, ride-on toys, slides, books and sometimes soft play. We usually have a trip out in Summer and a party with Santa at Christmas. There is a small charge of £1 per session to cover costs and we tend to share the jobs.

WHERE? The Methodist Church Hall (off Chapel Steps)

WHEN? Thursday morning 10.00am – 11.30pm & afternoon 1.30pm – 3.00pm
Term time only. We start again after Easter on **Thursday 26th April.**

JUST COME ALONG – WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.

Julia Jewitt

THE CCA CHAIRMAN WRITES



From time to time people ask me about the Community Care Association
– What does it do? How many people are involved? How big is it?

“How big is it?” is difficult to answer because size means different things to different people. The Association has certainly grown “bigger” over the years, but in becoming bigger it has not become rigid or inflexible. **Caring for people as individuals is our aim.** We try to meet their particular needs.

This is especially the case in our transport operations. Door to door transport is a feature of this work. Our volunteer drivers are not only trained to be safe drivers, but they are also trained in the correct way to assist those who have difficulties in getting in and out of vehicles.

From June of this year we shall cease to receive a substantial proportion of the annual grant from Hambleton District Council to operate our transport. This is because it is now a Government requirement that Councils shall introduce a general subsidised travel scheme. It is not yet clear how this new arrangement will work but, from what we have learnt so far, it is likely that we will not be able to continue to provide the transport services as we operate them at the moment. The Trustees wrote to all the members of Hambleton District Council pointing out the ways in which our transport operations differ from public transport, and members of the management also attended the Council meeting at which the issue was debated and voted upon.

The closure of Stokesley Town Hall has led to flexibility of another sort: this time in trying to accommodate many of the groups and organisations who normally use the Town Hall for their meetings. Finding rooms for these meetings has been quite difficult and on occasions it has become very crowded in the vestibule as one group leaves and another arrives, not quite certain if they will be in the same room as for their last meeting.

We are very grateful to a local charity for a donation to pay for improvements to the heating. A completely new system has been installed in one part of the building and an improved control system in the other part. The cold period at the beginning of March proved the effectiveness of the changes.

The Association badly misses the cheerful help of Volunteer and Advisory Committee member **Phil Page** who died recently. He willingly turned chef in the kitchen and had green fingers in the garden. He made very generous use of his retirement for the benefit of others.

Ian Scott

MUSIC IN MEMORIAM

The **Angrove Singers**, conducted by Margaret Heaton, will perform Fauré’s “**REQUIEM**”, Mendelssohn’s Motet “HEAR MY PRAYER” and Bach’s Cantata “JESU, JOY OF MAN’S DESIRING” in the Methodist Church on **Good Friday at 7.30pm**. The organist will be Steven Maltby.
Soloists will be Katherine Bean, Soprano, and Matthew Rolands, Bass;.

The music will be dedicated to the memory of **Mrs Marian Constable**, Accompanist to the Singers since 1990, whose untimely and unexpected death was announced on March 9th.

The retiring collection will be donated to Imperial Cancer Research, the charity Marian supported.

10 Christian Aid

We believe in life before death

- **The 30th Annual Great Ayton Christian Aid Sponsored Walk!!!!!!**

F A I R T R A D E

Guarantees a better deal

Yes it's here again - Christian Aid Week is nearly upon us and we are again planning a Sponsored Walk which will take place, hopefully, on the **13th of May**. As I write, there are no signs of the foot and mouth epidemic abating; we are making hopeful plans for the usual arrangements, ie a local walk of 12km with a bit of hill and a bit of low-level walking, starting and finishing at the Methodist Church here in Great Ayton, but should this prove impossible it would be a great pity for Christian Aid and all the poor and marginalised people it represents to be deprived of the £1,500 or so we would expect to raise, so keep your eyes open for possible alternatives. One possibility would be a beach walk - Redcar to Saltburn and back, perhaps. So what I'm saying is, **please decide to walk for Christian Aid on the 13th of May** and support a village effort that goes back a long way, and of which this village can be justifiably proud. I promise to keep you posted, and you can contact me for the latest information on

722279.

Many of you may be wondering what happened to **Jubilee 2000**, which was a time limited campaign aiming to do away with "third world" unpayable debt at the Millennium. Well, although two thirds of the world's unpayable debt remains to be cancelled, **\$100 billion** of debt cancellation has been agreed, and ordinary people in places like Uganda are already beginning to feel the benefit, for example by being able to send their children to school for the first time. Also, the issue of debt has certainly been put on the agenda worldwide, and it has been amply demonstrated how the actions of ordinary people can make things happen!

The debt campaign continues, but this year has been broadened somewhat to include the issue of **unfair trade**. It may interest you to learn that:

- the three richest people in the world now control more wealth than all 600 million people living in the least developed countries
- millions of local producers worldwide suffer because they are forced to compete with powerful foreign companies, and find themselves without work or food security
- millions of people, particularly in Africa, are unable to afford life-saving drugs (consider particularly Aids drugs) because of international patent rules.

The United Nations estimates that poor countries lose **\$700 billion** every year due to trade rules which limit what they can sell internationally, rules which are shaped by rich governments and companies to their own advantage, often ignoring or even harming poor people.

THERE IS A LOT THAT YOU OR I CAN DO ABOUT THIS. We can:

- **Raise money** for organisations such as Christian Aid or WDM which are involved in campaigning work
- **Buy fairly traded goods** from Oxfam or Traidcraft - you can order Traidcraft goods through me!
- **Look out for the Fairtrade Mark** in your local supermarket. This has been independently validated by the Fairtrade Foundation
- Look out for how you can take simple action like **sending postcards or writing a letter**. Never underestimate the power of a letter or card to someone in a position of influence - remember MPs have elections to win! Oxfam Campaigns make this very simple.
- **Look at www.christian-aid.org.uk** - my source for a lot of the information on this page.

The Christian Aid website is very informative and has lots of ideas.

WALK ON SUNDAY 13TH MAY!!!! SEE YOU THERE!

Best wishes to you all, and thanks for taking the time to read this.

Kate Harvie

"WITNESSING"

The Methodist Church has always been known for its singing. Great Ayton Methodists intend to prove that they can maintain this great tradition by performing the musical **"The Witness"** on **16th and 17th May**. This is a musical with drama. It tells the life of Christ through the apostle Peter. Details of tickets and times can be obtained from Charlene Thornberry, (telephone 722437) or may be seen on posters.

Late in 2000 we offered a video of the life of Jesus to a limited number of people in the village. It is of excellent quality and was provided free. There was an encouraging response, and more videos will now be offered free of charge. We hope that those who receive it will give their comments in a short questionnaire after they have seen it.

We cannot leave the Methodist input without a word about one of the village's characters, **Edith Buckton**, who was a staunch member of the Church and who has recently died at the age of 84. She was not just a leading Methodist in Great Ayton - she was a "mother" to the whole village.

She was brought up at Whitehouse Cottage in Dykes Lane; her father drove a steam loco to carry ironstone from the mine to Great Ayton station. From an early age she attended the High Street Methodist Sunday School. It was during those early years that she committed her life to serve Jesus and his church. On leaving school Edith went to work for the old family firm of Dickson and Benson's in Middlesbrough. Later her war service took her into the WAAF where she was stationed near Blackpool.

She never married, but the local Methodist Church became her close family; she was loved by all and she gave her love to all. For many years she was leader of the Sunday School where her love of, and interest in, the children (who she called her "cherubs") extended to the homes from which they came. As a Methodist local preacher she was often called upon to conduct Services in adjoining circuits and further afield. Her life was one of service and she held almost all the offices open to a lay person during some period of her life. All her work was thoroughly and carefully executed; immaculate in dress she expected those who occupied our pulpits to have a similar regard for their appearance when conducting worship; many a preacher at Great Ayton had his jacket straightened by Edith before entering the pulpit!

Health problems curtailed her activities in her final years but she was able to help with the Friday Luncheon Club and when she became disabled she acquired a motorised wheelchair and continued her ministry of encouragement from that.

The village will miss her cheery face and words of encouragement and her witness to her beloved Lord. We give thanks to God for her life.

Mollie Locke

<u>THIS PAGE HAS, KINDLY, BEEN SPONSORED</u>

It's hard to believe that it's almost a year since I was cramming my rucksack with mosquito repellent and factor 35 ready to jet off to the wilds of Namibia. I decided to apply for a place on a Raleigh International expedition when I realised that my gap year was likely to drift past without me noticing it. I decided that I wanted to do something adventurous and beneficial. I had no idea what I had really let myself in for. Raleigh is a Youth Development Charity, taking volunteers aged 17-25. I was accepted onto an expedition after completing a survival weekend. Three months later I was at Heathrow Airport with 100 strangers.

A very long flight and the usual airport chaos brought us to Namibia. Southern Africa – and it was raining! Our first few days were spent at field base, not far from the capital, Windhoek. After a crash course in camp craft, first aid, and what to do if you find a snake in your sleeping bag, we were “dispatched” to our first projects. Raleigh splits your 10 weeks of expedition into 3 projects of roughly 3 weeks in length, with 2 or 3 days between each phase to catch up with “old” friends and meet your new group.

My first phase was trekking up the Brandberg Massif, the tallest mountain in South West Africa. Trekking. Very worthwhile? Well, we weren't trekking for the good of our health (at the beginning I was convinced it was doing my health no good whatsoever!). We were working with a scientist from Leeds University and the Namibian National Trust, doing biodiversity surveys, mostly on invertebrates, but some time was spent under the stars trying to catch bats. The information is being compiled to try to have Brandberg recognised as a National Monument. The last expedition found a beetle only previously found on the East Coast of South America, suggesting that it had been isolated there since the continents split.

Due to the heat in the desert we had to start walking at 5.30am, stopping for a couple of hours during the hottest part of the day, then carrying on till the evening. The remoteness of the location meant that we had to carry all our own food and water. We all became very good at pack-horse impressions! This left little room for luxuries such as clean clothes. It also meant no little girls' room. Digging “long drops” would soon become an unpopular chore, although not as unpopular as filling them in! The recommended depth was 4 foot. Try digging more than 6 inches in rocky ground. Tricky. Our long drops became affectionately known as “short plops”! The fantastic scenery was the reward for our efforts. We spent a night on the summit and woke up to the most fantastic sunrise that is now burnt into my memory.

At the end of the phase I was genuinely upset to leave Brandberg. However – I soon cheered up when we stopped to buy chocolates on the way to the Lodge where everyone was meeting for “change over”. Two days were spent sitting around a pool in a little African oasis. At the end of a phase each group reports back to the Expedition Leader, to give them feedback on the phase. This did take up some of our sunbathing time!

For phase 2 I was sent to the north of the country. We were building a new schoolhouse for a village that had previously used a mud hut. The first group had laid the foundations and our task was to build the walls. Brick-laying proved to be a lot trickier than I had imagined. Keeping the local cattle from destroying our newly laid walls was even more of a problem – as was keeping them out of camp at night! I grudgingly gave up my bed under the stars to sleep in a tent, due to fear of being trampled to death by the nightly stampede.

The population of the north of Namibia is predominantly black so we were quite a novelty to the children there. Other groups had been given the opportunity to take classes with some of the kids. Unfortunately during the period we were there the schools were on holiday; we did have regular visitors to the site, however. The children were keen to help us as much as they could, in return for a ride round the site in a wheelbarrow!

The school phase was extremely hard work. We did, literally, work from dawn till dusk. Our one day off in the 3 weeks was spent in the main town in the north where we met some very friendly (and undeniably drunk) locals, who made us feel very welcome and even sang us their AND OUR national anthems.

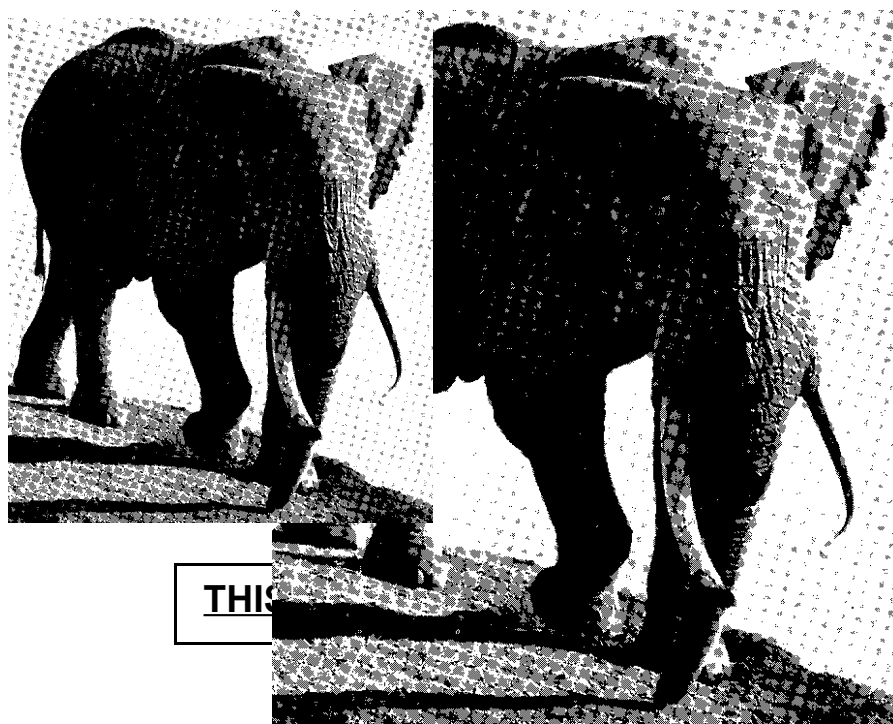
Changeover was spent in Etosha National Park. We had special permission to drive into the Park from the north along roads closed to the public. It was a spectacular game drive. We saw baby elephants, zebra, springbok, wildebeest, giraffes, lion and vultures devouring a carcass. Etosha was a beautiful place to spend a couple of days until we were put into new groups and sent off on our third and final phase.

I was put on a conservation phase based in the very south of the country. The phase was run by Wardens from the Ministry of the Environment and Tourism (MET). We spent the first and third week camping by the lake which formed the central point of the Naute Dam National Park. Our tasks included Game Counts, mainly ostrich and springbok, Alien Plant Clearance, which involved becoming a dab hand with a machete, and Erosion Control.

This phase was one of the most wanted among venturers. The second week was the reason. We were removing illegal fishing nets from the Orange River in an attempt to control the declining fish population. The most practical way to do this was to canoe down the river. I had never canoed before. Learning was fast, though! The river was flooded from the rains and there were some mean rapids. The worst part (after actually hitting the water) was trying to swim against the current to get out of the river before the next section of white water. Fun, yeah, but very scary. The men who caught us taking their nets out of the river were pretty scary too but the MET Wardens dealt with that. As with the other phases the time was over before we knew it. The last few days of our time with Raleigh were spent back at field base cleaning the equipment and recovering. More importantly, we partied hard and had our first beer since the expedition had begun!

I was very sad to leave Raleigh, although the rice and porridge diet was starting to get to me. I had some amazing experiences. Raleigh gave me the opportunity to do things I would otherwise never come close to. I also met people who, I'm sure, will be friends for life. I spent a few weeks travelling on into South Africa with some of them. I'm going to my first Expedition Reunion next month and I'm excited already. I would urge anyone to join Raleigh. Over 25s can apply as staff. It really is the experience of a lifetime. I think about my time there often.

I couldn't have done it without the generosity of my friends. £2,995 is a huge target to meet in less than 3 months, but the unbelievable support I received made it happen.



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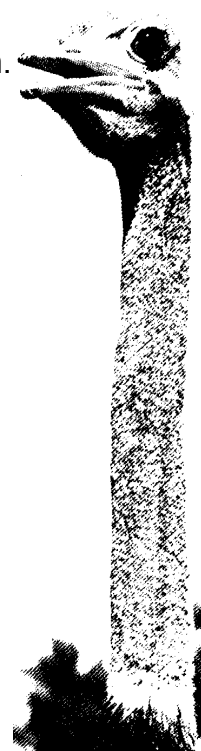
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LY LEWIS





All sections in the Group have continued to offer an exciting programme for boys between 6 and 15½ years.

There is still a waiting list for Beavers, so parents are advised to put their boy's name on the list as soon as possible.

The Venture Scout Group has temporarily closed owing to all the Ventures having left for University and the next intake from Scouts not being due until later in the year because of the age profile of the current Scout Group.

The Group has recently lost the services of Richard Webber who for a number of years acted as the Group's Transport Manager, organising the administration, servicing and repair of the Group's transport. As Richard has taken up new employment, he and his family have moved out of the area and we wish them well.

The Group has submitted a planning application to Hambleton District Council for permission to replace the current Scout Hut.

This is an exciting development which, if successful, will not only ensure the continued provision of scouting for the boys of the village well into the new century, but will also open up new scouting opportunities for both girls and the disabled.

The Group's income and reserves are insufficient to meet the cost of rebuilding and it is intended to submit a Lottery Fund application during the summer. If this is successful it is anticipated that building work will commence in about 2 years time.

The Group currently has vacancies for:

Group Scout Leader

Leaders

PR/Publicity Officer

Transport Manager

If you are an ex-Scout, parent or grand-parent and can offer some time to the Group in any of these posts, please contact me:

Ken Nicholson, 722740
Chairman, Group Executive

SCOUTING IN GREAT AYTON

All units meet in the Scout HQ in Christ Church grounds.

Beaver Colony	<i>Boys aged 6-8 years</i>	<i>Fridays</i>	<i>6.15 -7.15 pm</i>
Cubs: Endeavour Pack		<i>Boys aged 8-10½ years</i>	<i>Mondays</i>
	<i>6.30 -</i>	<i>8.00</i>	<i>pm</i>
Monument Pack	<i>Boys aged 8-10½ years</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>6.30 - 8.00 pm</i>
Scout Troop	<i>Boys aged 10½ -15½ yrs</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>7.15 - 9.00 pm</i>
Venture Scout Unit:	<i>Young men & women 15½ -20 yrs</i>	<i>Fridays</i>	<i>7.30 -10.15 pm</i>

Chairman: Ken Nicholson Tel: 722740

Waiting Lists: Jean McWilliam Tel: 722358



Guiding for Life!

15

I've already been in the Guiding association for about 10 years. I started as a Rainbow at the age of 5. We had a lot of fun playing games, cooking, doing craft activities and many more things. When I was 7, I moved on to Brownies for three years. As well as doing similar activities to those done in Rainbows we also went on Pack Holiday for the weekend once a year. I especially enjoyed this because you were able to stay away with your friends. We stayed at Marske, Swainby and Grosmont. We did a lot of activities out of doors including walking, treasure hunts, wide games etc. When I moved up to Guides at the age of ten it was certainly different. Every year we would go on camp. I learnt how to cook on a real fire and how to put up tents. We had to fend for ourselves a lot of the time so making washing up bowl stands with wood and string was a definite challenge.

The best camp I have been on was Tookay last year. This was for both Scouts and Guides and the activities were more adventurous. I tried kayaking for the first time as well as archery, bell boating and tomahawk throwing! This was definitely an experience never to forget. You got to see other Scouts and Guides from different countries and how they did things differently to us. The camp finished with everyone at a large campfire. I also had the opportunity to go on a weekend music course in York with people from all sections of the Guiding movement from the whole of North East England.

Now, as a Young Leader, I get to help others achieve and enjoy all the things that I got out of guiding. I help at Brownies on a Monday night. I have also been on a couple of Pack Holidays with them. I have found these most enjoyable and it has helped me learn how to look after children for the future. It has also made me realise how difficult it can be keeping everybody busy and happy. There are still opportunities to do activities as a Young Leader. Last year I went on an activity weekend at Marrick Priory with other girls from all over North Yorkshire. Some Young Leaders have been on international camps abroad.

Having a mother as a Guider has advantages and disadvantages. My interest in Guiding is helped by my mother having the same interest. However, one of the drawbacks has been that I always had to go on the walks that we did on pack holiday or camp twice, once as a trial and then again with everyone else. I didn't enjoy that!! I have also always been there when the hard work had to be done such as loading and unloading the trailer with all the camp equipment. At least I know what to expect now that I am helping as a Young Leader. Other advantages have been that I was sometimes allowed to help in the planning and choosing of activities that the Brownies and Guides did. It was interesting to see how much work was actually put in. I am hoping to complete the Young Leaders scheme so I can go on to become an adult Leader at 18.

I have made many friends through Guiding, many doing the same as I am doing now. There are opportunities for all girls and women in the movement. Why not come along and try it?

Catherine Harrison

GUIDING IN GREAT AYTON

1^s Guides	10 & over	Fridays	7.15 – 8.45pm	Parochial Hall	
2nd Guides		Mondays	7.15 – 8.45pm	Methodist Hall	
1st Brownies	7-10 years	Friday	6.00 – 7.15pm	Parochial Hall	
2nd Brownies		Monday	6.00 – 7.15pm	Methodist Hall	
3rd Brownies		Thursday	6.00 – 7.17pm	Roseberry School	2nd
Rainbows	5-6 years	Mondays	4.45 – 5.45pm	Methodist Hall	
3rd Rainbows		Thursdays	4.45 – 5.45pm	Roseberry School	

If you feel that you would like to be part of this great movement please contact

District Commissioner Julie Harrison: 598159,

Leven Division Commissioner Betty Breckon: 724228, or any of our Guiders.

FLOODING IN GREAT AYTON - A Report by COUNCILLOR JOHN FLETCHER

Last Autumn the village suffered from flooding, especially on the evening of Thursday November 1st. As most of us will remember, the day was very wet and when we thought it couldn't get worse - it did. During the early evening the rain falling in the area was exceptional and it was soon apparent that flooding was going to occur.

The River Leven was in full spate and rising by the minute, threatening to burst its banks at Easby, the High Street in Ayton, the Low Green and at Stokesley. Calls for sand bags were soon being made and Hambleton District Council moved quickly into emergency mode. As well as the River rising it was apparent that water pouring off fields, gardens and roads in the village was taxing the drainage systems in Roseberry Avenue, Roseberry Crescent and Angrove Close.

By 9.00pm the River Leven was in full flood and houses were being inundated in the High Street and Leven Side. Water was pouring through gardens and garages in Angrove Close, Roseberry Avenue and at the bottom end of Roseberry Crescent. In Little Ayton, riverside homes were flooded - Clifford and Phyllis Petch watched helplessly as brown evil-smelling water swirled into their farmhouse. Water crept relentlessly across lawns towards houses in Low Easby. The Low Green was a vast fast-flowing mass of water.

High Street was well over 2 feet deep and Station Road, from the Wimpey development towards the station, a torrent of water indistinguishable from a river. Park Rise behind the High Green was a similar scene of devastation. Across the District similar scenes were being witnessed as **Hambleton Council** struggled to deliver the much-needed sandbags from the Northallerton Depot. Across the County emergency services were mobilised to assist in the growing crisis. The water continued to rise until almost midnight when the rain eased off. The rapid fall in the level of the River was at the time thought to be related to operation of Sluice Gates at Stokesley. Indeed, severe flooding around Stokesley raised questions about the actions of the **Environment Agency**.

At a meeting held in Stokesley the Agency explained to a packed assembly that the Sluice Gates at Stokesley were shut to divert water along the relief channel into the Eller Beck, then back into the Leven. The water is prevented from flowing "wrong way" into Stokesley by flap valves which are kept shut by the rising water from Eller Beck. The relief channel and Eller Beck flooded into nearby houses, fields and the Industrial Estate. Stokesley itself was threatened by rainwater running off roads into the Leven, which rose relentlessly, to reach levels which were the highest recorded since the relief scheme was built. The gradient of the riverbed between Ayton and Stokesley is such that whatever happens at Stokesley is not going to effect the level of the River in Ayton.

What does affect the level of the River here, however, is the very short distance between the source of the Leven, above Kildale, and Ayton. A deluge on Warren Moor above Kildale quickly shows on the Agency's **Level Gauge** at Easby and a passing peak reaches Stokesley only 1½ hours later via Ayton!

On the night of Thursday November 1st the Environment Agency's Level Gauges at Low Easby, Ayton and Stokesley peaked **SIMULTANEOUSLY**, such was the amount of rain falling on fields and subsequently decanting into the River. "This was an exceptional event," said the Environment Agency. **The County Council Divisional Engineer, Mike Roberts**, also at the meeting, confirmed that the exceptional rain meant that the road drains couldn't cope, especially when debris flowing off the fields, gardens and roads choked the gullies and gutters. He did, however, agree to make arrangements to clear any gullies which were thought to be blocked.

The Agency, the meeting was told, is responsible for the main Rivers but only within certain limits. For example, the River Leven above the waterfall in Great Ayton, and the watercourses which caused the flooding in Angrove, were **not the Agency's responsibility**.

The roles and responsibilities of various bodies with an interest in watercourses - Councils, landowners, Drainage Boards and the like – obviously need to be clarified by the Government. It was also clear that the Environment Agency is grossly under-funded to provide essential maintenance and capital works to the water courses it is currently responsible for - despite a recent increase in funds provided by **North Yorkshire County Council**. An added complication is the role of Northumbrian Water within the village as sewage and storm water ("wastewater") joined forces to wreak havoc, especially in the "Roseberries".

If you want to know if your house is at risk, maps marked up by the Environment Agency can be viewed on the Agency's web site: www.environment-agency.gov.uk or at the District Council offices. Many Houses in Ayton are at risk from flooding from the Leven; there are many more in Stokesley. The Agency says that almost 5m people in 2m homes and businesses are at risk from flooding nationwide. (Click on the floodline & type in your post code to see if you are at risk)

Two new emergency sandbag storage areas have been provided in the village by Hambleton District Council - near to the **Low Green** and at **Little Ayton**. The sandbags will be issued in the event of any future emergency arising from flooding in the village. **JF**

THE NEW GREAT AYTON JUNIOR CRICKET & FOOTBALL CLUB

Great Ayton Parish Council has negotiated a lease of 17 years for the land immediately adjacent to the village's existing Cricket & Football grounds - the former Friends' School Field. We are planning to develop this land to provide junior cricket & football opportunities which on the football side are non-existent.

We have established a "GREAT AYTON JUNIOR CRICKET & FOOTBALL CLUB" which incorporates representatives of existing clubs but we are always looking for new committee members. We are presently applying for grants to obtain playing equipment and looking for sponsors. Our overall long-term objective is to provide Cricket & Football for 5 – 18 age groups. Our immediate plans are to provide at least 1 small sided soccer team and an Under-11s League soccer team. We plan to have an open day during the Easter holidays to gauge the level of interest and see which age groups are most in demand.

The field still needs a bit more care and attention but we are confident that we will have Football this year, and Cricket by next year. The cricket square has been badly neglected but we are hopeful that we can salvage the cricket square to play Under 11s & 13s Cricket next season.

The Great Ayton Junior Cricket & Football Club would like to thank both the Parish Council and Hambleton District Council for their help in setting up the facilities and helping to obtain grants for equipment.

Anyone interested in being part of Great Ayton Junior Cricket & Football Club should contact:
D READMAN 724136 for FOOTBALL & D. PENNOCK 723646 for CRICKET

APOLLO MEETS THE MINOTAUR

Long, long ago in Ancient Greece lived a warrior god named Apollo. He was heavily armoured with sharp sword, golden helmet, invincible breastplate and magical shield. Apollo was a powerful giant of a god, as strong as a marble temple. His wish is to banish evil from the world, and to this end his quest is to kill the Minotaur.

Deep in a cave lived the fierce monster the Minotaur. His glowing horns are the sharpest on the planet, and he can breathe fire out of his nostrils. He is as tall as a windmill, with huge muscles. His power is AMAZING! He has the ability to petrify his enemies, one of whom is Apollo.

Apollo's burning desire could last no longer. Confidently he sat off to challenge the Minotaur. He travelled far and wide, searching for the monster's cave. Sounds of snorting nostrils guided him to a dark gloomy lair. The Minotaur at last.

The battle commenced. The Minotaur charged out of his lair, bending his head, his glowing horns blinded Apollo. Apollo raised his magical shield to protect himself and drew out his sharp sword to wound his enemy. The Minotaur in fury stormed towards Apollo, Apollo stood firm. Would his invincible breastplate protect him?

The Minotaur charged at Apollo. Apollo raised his sharp sword and sliced off the monster's arm. The Minotaur tried to petrify Apollo, but only his sword was turned into stone. Apollo took his magical shield and sharp edge sliced the Minotaur's head off. Apollo had won, he was the victor.



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SPICY SAUSAGE CASSEROLE

from Dulcie Jones

Ingredients:

1 lb / 454 g Pork Sausage
14 oz / 400 g tin Chopped Tomatoes
14 oz / 400 g tin Baked Beans
1 Onion, finely chopped
2 dessertsp. Golden Gravy Granules
1 tablesp. Worcester Sauce

Method: (casserole dish needed!)

1. Preheat oven to 400deg.F / 200deg.C / Gas 6
2. Grill sausages until well browned.
3. Place sausages, onion, tomatoes & beans in dish.
4. Put in oven for 15 minutes.
5. Remove from oven. Add gravy granules. Stir well.
6. Add Worcester Sauce.
7. Return to oven for 45 minutes.
8. Stir & serve with creamy mashed potatoes.

CROWDIE

from Mary Petch

Ingredients:

2 oz medium Oatmeal
10 fl.oz Double/Whipping Cream
4 tablesp. Clear Honey
3 tablesp. Whisky
12 oz Raspberries

Method: (tall individual glasses needed)

1. Place oatmeal on base of grill pan & roast until golden. Keep turning. Allow to cool before use.
2. Whip cream until softly stiff.
3. Stir in honey, whisky & cool oats.
4. Layer raspberries & cream mixture in tall glasses.
5. Cover with cling film & put in fridge until needed – preferably, use same day.

LEMON MOUSSE (serves 6 – 8)

from Shirley Benson

Ingredients:

12 fl.oz / 375 ml Condensed Milk
10 fl.oz / 315 ml Whipping Cream
Grated rind & juice of 4 large Lemons
Lemon slices & Mint sprigs to decorate.

Method: (individual dishes needed)

1. Put condensed milk & cream into large bowl; whisk with electric beater until it thickens to leave ribbon trail
2. Continuing to whisk, slowly add lemon rind & juice: The mixture will suddenly thicken.
3. Spoon mixture into individual dishes; chill overnight.
4. Decorate with lemon slices & mint sprigs.
- * Can be put on a crumb base for a cheesecake.

RICH ALMOND CAKE (serves 12)

from Shirley Benson

Ingredients:

6 oz / 175 g Margarine
7 oz / 200 g Caster Sugar
4 large Eggs
4½ oz / 125 g Ground Almonds
2½ oz / 70 g Plain Flour
3-4 drops Almond Essence
Flaked Almonds
Icing Sugar/Apricot Jam to finish

Method: (Deep cake tin: 8" / 20cm diam. needed)

1. Blend margarine & sugar until light & creamy.
2. Beat in eggs one at a time.
3. Fold in ground almonds, flour & essence.
4. Place mixture in greased & bottom-lined cake tin.
5. Sprinkle with flaked almonds
6. Bake in pre-heated oven at 350deg. F / 180deg.C. / Gas 4 for 1-1¼ hours. Cool on wire rack.
7. Dust with icing sugar
ORbrush with warmed apricot jam.

HOUSEKEEPING LOAF

from Mrs E B Ferguson

Ingredients:

2 oz Margarine
2 cups Self-Raising Flour
1 cup Sugar
2 dessertsp. Black Treacle
1 cup Milk
1 Egg
1½ cups dried fruit (any mixture e.g. dates/cherries)

Method: (8" x 4" loaf tin needed)

1. Mix margarine & all dry ingredients.
2. Add milk & egg then mix.
3. Add treacle.
4. Put into lined tin (8" x 4").
5. Bake for 50–60 mins at 350deg F / 180deg C / Gas 4

GUISBOROUGH FOREST & WALKWAY: EVENTS 2001 Tel: 01287 631132

* sadly, some events may have to be altered because of the Foot and Mouth outbreak.

YOU'D BE A FOOL TO MISS IT!**SUNDAY 1ST APRIL, 12 noon – 4.00 pm**

Guisborough Forest & Walkway's 5th Birthday today - Falconry displays, games, trails, face painting, storytelling, guided walks & much more. Small charge for some activities. Ring for further details.

FIRST STEPS TO HEALTH**SATURDAY 7TH APRIL, 2.00 – 3.00 pm**

World Health Day –improve your health: start with a gentle walk in Guisborough & a FREE Health Walks pack. Meet at Guisborough Rugby Club, Belmangate. **PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**

NESTLING DOWN FOR EASTER**WEDNESDAY 11TH APRIL, 10am-12noon & 1pm-3pm**

Is it hard for birds to make nests? Try it yourself & find out! Afterwards, make a chocolate nest to take away, & join in a decorated egg competition.

Cost: £1 + a hard-boiled egg. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.

DAWN CHORUS & BBQ**SUNDAY 13TH MAY, 5.00 am – 7.00 am**

Experience the dawn chorus in the Forest. Warm up afterwards with a delicious BBQ Breakfast.

Cost: £3.50. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.

WILDFOWL AND WETLANDS**WEDNESDAY 23RD MAY, 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm**

Illustrated talk by Chris Francis of Washington Wildfowl & Wetland Centre.

Cost: £1. All proceeds to the Trust. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.

MAP READING FOR BEGINNERS**WEDNESDAY 16TH MAY, 10.00am – 3.00pm**

Basic map-reading course in Guisborough Forest. Improve your skills & confidence in navigation.

Cost: £1. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE. Please bring packed lunch & dress for outdoors,

FLOWER POWER**TUESDAY 29TH & WEDNESDAY 30TH MAY, 1.00-3.30pm each day**

Learn through games, crafts & outdoor activities in a fun-filled afternoon. Suitable for 5–12 year olds

Cost: £1. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE. Under 8's **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

GOLDILOCKS' PICNIC**WEDNESDAY 1ST AUGUST, 12 noon – 3.00pm**

Activities & entertainment. Follow trail, bring a teddy, something to sit on to watch show, & a picnic.

Cost: 50p each, payable on the day. Ring for further details.

DAY CAMPS**MONDAY 6TH – FRIDAY 10TH AUGUST, 9.00am – 4.00pm daily**

Imagination & sense of adventure run wild: a fun-filled week of activities. Theme: "The Seasons".

Cost: £35 per child. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE. For 8 – 12 year olds.

A BUG'S LIFE**WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST, 1.00pm – 4.00pm**

An afternoon of bug-hunting & recycled-material creepy crawlies to take home. For 4-12 year olds.

Cost: £1. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE. Under 8's **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

JURASSIC JAUNT**WEDNESDAY 29TH AUGUST, 1.00pm – 4.00 pm**

Visit our Regionally Important Geological Site & discover creatures of the past on a fossil hunt.

Suitable for all ages. **No charge. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**

COUNTRYSIDE COLOURS**WEDNESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER, 10.00am – 4.00pm**

Learn how to paint watercolour landscapes: tuition by local artist. All materials provided.

Cost: £5. Please bring packed lunch. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.

STARLIGHT DELIGHTS**FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 7.30pm – 9.30pm**

Discover how magical the Forest is at night. Try astronomy, bat detecting & humane moth trapping as well as looking for other nocturnal wildlife. Wrap up warmly & bring a torch.

Cost: £1. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.

FUNGUS FORAY**SUNDAY 7TH OCTOBER, 2pm – 4pm**

Discover more about fascinating fungi, & their importance in forest life, with local experts.

Cost: £1. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**HALLOWEEN HOOTS** **FRIDAY 26TH & MONDAY 29TH OCTOBER, 5.00pm-7.00pm each day**

Bats & owls are the theme for this crafty Halloween session. Suitable for all ages.

Cost: £1 per session. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**HARUM-SCARUM HALLOWEEN****TUESDAY 30TH OCTOBER, 6.30pm and 7.30pm**

Be prepared to be scared in a spooky Halloween performance in Guisborough Forest.

Cost: £1 per session. Places are limited so PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**SEASONAL SAUNTER****SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER, 1.00pm – 3.00pm**

Learn about forestry and growing & harvesting Christmas trees during this bracing walk.

(Christmas trees will be for sale at Pinchinthorpe throughout this & the following weekend.)

Cost for walk: £1. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**CHRISTMAS CREATION****SUNDAY 23RD DECEMBER, 10.00 – 12 noon and 1.00–3.00pm**

Decorate your home with natural materials from the Forest . Make wreaths, garlands, logs

Cost: £2 per session. PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE.**NATIONAL TRUST PROGRAMME OF EVENTS** **JUNE 2001– JANUARY 2002**

Mark Bradley apologises that the programme is “a bit thin” this year as he has been made Area Warden for the Yorkshire North Coast as well as for Roseberry - back to normal next year!

*** Some events may have to be curtailed because of the Foot & Mouth outbreak.****COAST WALK****SATURDAY 9TH JUNE**Walk with the Warden from Skinningrove to the Loftus Alum Works and back, looking at the history & wildlife. Please note: steep climbs; sturdy footwear essential. Dogs on leads. Meet at Skinningrove car park at 10am. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL. Ring 0787 9417797 or 01723 870423.****LANDROVER SAFARI****MONDAYS 4TH JUNE, 9TH JULY, 6TH AUGUST**Meet at Newton car park for a day of riding and walking, looking at the history and wildlife found on National Trust properties. Sorry – NO DOGS. **TOUR ITINERARY:****9.30 am** Walk to the top of Roseberry (& back!). **12.00 noon** Drive to Buffet Lunch in Saltburn.**1.00 pm** Drive to Warsett Hill to see the Fan House & remains of the mine-working in situ.**2.00 pm** Visit Loftus Alum Works. **3.00 pm** Visit Tom Leonard Mining Museum; see life as a miner.**5.00 pm** Return to Newton car park.**Cost: £12. Includes Buffet Lunch & entrance to Mining Museum as well as transport.****BOOKING ESSENTIAL. Ring 0787 9417797.****FESTIVAL OF WALKING****SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 23RD & 24TH JUNE**

Join in the Festival of Walking held in & around the Borough of Redcar & Cleveland.

Meet the National Trust Warden for a number of walks along the coast & around Roseberry.

Ring 0787 9417797 for a list of walks.**ROCK POOL MINI-SAFARI****MONDAYS 13TH AUGUST, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1.45 pm**

Bring the children for a fun day looking at life in the rock pools of Saltburn. See how many species you can find. Meet the Warden at Cat Nab car park, Saltburn.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL. Ring 0787 9417797 or 01723 870423.**WINTER WANDER****WEDNESDAY 23RD JANUARY 2002**

See what's new in 2002 on Roseberry's Winter Wonderland. Find tracks & signs of wildlife.

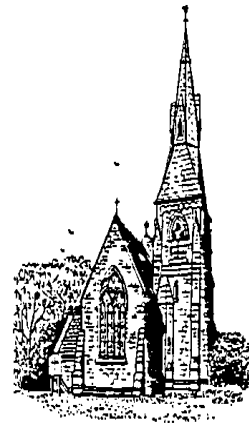
Meet at Newton under Roseberry car park at 9.00am. 4 miles. Sorry – NO DOGS.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL. Ring 0787 9417797.

On 19th May 1876, the doors of the new Parish Church at Great Ayton were opened for the first time for worship. The old 12th Century Church of All Saints was no longer big enough for what was even then a growing village. Thankfully, the design of All Saints made it difficult to enlarge, so the decision was made to build a new Church which cost over £5,000 to build!

Those who designed Christ Church incorporated two very powerful messages that reach out to all, not just those who go inside.

The slender spire, pointing like a finger to the heavens, reminds us to remember God and His creation. When we forget our roots, when we treat this world just as if it belongs to us alone and not held in trust, then we can so easily help things to go wrong. How many wonderful species of animals and plants will become extinct in our lifetime because of how we treat the earth? More importantly, how many millions of people will suffer and die in situations they cannot change, because the rich have forgotten that we share a common Father?



The peal of bells that ring out every Sunday calling people together for worship say, “We need each other.” Society can’t flourish if we are just a collection of individuals doing our own thing. We need communities prepared to give for the benefit of their weaker members, whether they be congregations, families, charitable organisations or clubs, for the Rights we expect in life can only be delivered if we also take on our Responsibilities to each other as well.

Jesus once said that the two greatest commandments were to Love God and to Love our Neighbours. Those who built Christ Church 125 years ago have ensured that we are constantly reminded of that message.

Paul Peverell

The **CCA** and the **Editorial team**, especially Marian Button, in charge of Printing, are immensely grateful to **Christ Church Parochial Church Council** and the **Vicar**, Paul Peverell, for making their printing facilities available to The Stream since Spring 1999 – so this is our 5th issue to be produced there. From 1989 we were thankful to print at South Park College, then appreciated being able to arrange to print at Stokesley Parish Church, before being able to come “home”, where the village magazine should be.

Thanks. Paul.

We all cope with grief in our own way. After a loss you may want to talk about your thoughts and feelings with someone who is sympathetic and prepared to listen. *Bereavement Care* is a registered charity comprising a team of experienced trained volunteer counsellors who can provide individual counselling sessions in your home or at an agreed suitable venue. The counsellors adhere to the British Association of Counselling (B.A.C.) Code of Ethics and Practice in order to ensure confidentiality and a professional approach to their counselling service.

Each counselling appointment will be no longer than one hour. Initially, sessions may be once a week, although the frequency and number of visits varies from person to person. Counselling is not for ever; like grief, it comes to an end.

Bereavement Care is recognised and used by health professionals including local hospitals, GP practices and Macmillan nurses. However, anyone bereaved may contact us directly. The service covers Northallerton & District which includes Great Ayton, Stokesley and surrounding villages.

You can contact us on our telephone Helpline **01325 378 988** when a volunteer will take your details and arrange for a counsellor to contact you directly. If no one is immediately available please leave your own telephone number and you will be contacted as soon as possible.

Alternatively, you can write to us in confidence at, Bereavement Care,
c/o V.S.A., Community House, 10 South Parade, Northallerton, DL7 8SE

HOLISTIC CANCER CARE PROJECT – UPDATE

The Holistic Cancer Care Project (HCCP) is entering a new phase as the Holistic Centre is due for completion this October. Once the building has been handed over we anticipate that we will soon be able to take up residence providing enough funds remain to furnish the Centre with treatment couches, chairs etc. We hope that with more fund-raising events the further development of the therapies will be possible. All the funds raised go to support the services provided, such as aromatherapy, reflexology, acupuncture, the funding of a Manager/Co-ordinator, as well as providing the building. We currently provide 36 hours per week of complementary therapies to patients who attend the Radiotherapy Department for treatment. Such therapies are aimed at helping people to cope with the emotional issues associated with an illness such as cancer.

The HCCP will be starting its first research project next month when an investigation will be started into how effective acupuncture can be in reducing sickness associated with certain chemotherapy drugs. It will be a small pilot study made possible by funding from Health Action Zone (HAZ). Such studies may well help in the future integration of complementary therapies into the NHS.

We are fortunate to be able to add Reiki Healing to the choice of therapies available, courtesy of Wayne & Bernadette Gibson, two Reiki Masters. They have very generously given their time and skills on a voluntary basis and see patients at their Stockton based Clinic. The word 'reiki' is of Japanese origin, evolved from the words 'rei' meaning universal and 'ki' meaning life energy; it is a form of healing that aims to promote health and well-being. It has its foundations in ancient Tibetan Buddhism and practitioners draw on 'reiki energy', channelling it to areas of need. Its main uses are with stress related conditions and low energy, as well as helping with emotional distress and pain control.

If you require further information about the HCCP and its work contact:

Sue Stephenson, Manager HCCP on 01642 854839

36 **“Come for tea,” said the invitation. “The three of you.”**

That meant my brother, his wife Betty, and myself. “Now what’s going on?” was the thought in all our minds. “Why the invitation and not just the usual casual drop in for a chat and a cup of tea?”

Came the day for our “tea party” and everything was made crystal clear and we came away thinking, “This can’t be happening to us.”

My brother and myself were part of a large family of six boys and three girls who had been born and spent the early part of our lives in the cottage in our village which had been built by the father of James Cook, the renowned world explorer and navigator.

When the replica barque “Endeavour” sailed into Whitby three years ago I jotted down some memories of my young life as I remembered it, living in Cook’s Cottage or Garth House as it was known at that time. These jottings found their way to Australia and, to cut a long story short, led to the most amazing invitation. “Would you like to go to Australia to be part of the Captain Cook Millennium celebrations which are being held on Cook’s birthday by the Friends of Cook’s Cottage?” Alan and I were to be made honorary members, numbers one and two of the “Friends”, something that I still find it hard to believe. What an honour to be linked, be it ever so loosely, with Captain James Cook.

On October 23rd we travelled to Cheshire where we joined our children and their families for a celebration and “bon voyage” lunch. They escorted us to Manchester Airport from which, at 7.30pm, after a tearful but excited farewell, we finally boarded the plane that was to take us to Australia. After an exciting if tiring thirty-six hours we arrived in Australia at about 6.30 on Wednesday morning, October 25th. We knew we were to be met, but didn’t know by whom. Sure enough, though, there was a bright eyed, dark haired girl standing in the arrival lounge with two placards. One said, “Welcome to Melbourne, Mrs Ivy Hines and Mr and Mrs Alan Simpson.” The other said, in big capital letters, “WELCOME HOME”. That was the beginning of two busy and exciting weeks during which we met hundreds of people of all colours, creeds and nationalities.

On October 26th we took a phone call in our apartment at about 10 am and the voice on the line said, “We have three television crews here waiting for interviews and pictures, and hundreds of tourists just wanting to say Hello.” As we were quite close to Fitzroy Gardens we were soon over there and we were totally overwhelmed with emotion to see our old home looking so good, so cared for, so respected, and most of all so obviously loved. We didn’t see the crowds of visitors who were in and out of the rooms, only brothers, sisters and parents who are no longer with us. Memories came flooding back of a Mum who was always baking (or seemed to be), brothers who were always hungry for whatever came out of the oven, and evenings spent making clipped mats to cover the stone floors downstairs. So many wonderful memories.

We met members of Melbourne City Council and chatted to them of Cook’s Cottage as it was in its first home in Great Ayton, and about our beautiful village. A large fruit cake was waiting to be cut, beautifully iced in white and gold with the words “Welcome home Alan and Ivy”. We met many visitors during the actual birthday celebrations, amongst them two ladies, each on her own, and both from Guisborough. What a small world!

Over the next week we attended a lecture at Melbourne University on the removal of the cottage from Ayton to Melbourne. It was quite odd to see the letters from various Councillors of those days from our village, and their thoughts on the sale of the cottage. One in particular was very well known to all three of us as he had been headmaster at my sister-in-law’s school. We did two live radio broadcasts and spent one afternoon with the archivist for the city of Melbourne.

A journalist flew in from Sydney to interview us for the Daily Mail; we had phone calls from Darlington for our own local papers (so we had first hand information about the local flooding) and of course an interview with Tyne Tees Television. Everyone we met was so kind and helpful, and after our first busy week at the cottage we were inundated with offers to take us out and about.

Melbourne is a splendid city, so wide open, so spacious and so clean. There are some very modern buildings and lots of green space. The Yarra River is very impressive, swift flowing and overhung with beautiful trees dripping into the water. My favourite venue was Studely Park – could that be an association of ideas?

We were taken out for a drive on the route of the Melbourne Grand Prix and then went on for coffee at St Kilda's and lunch at Ricketts Point. We had a day in Melbourne at the Collins Centre and the new Chadstone Centre, both beautifully clean and like Alladin's Cave – everything one could wish for and more. We spent two days in the Dandenong ranges; one day in the magnificent rhododendron gardens which were at their very best, and one day with the Rosella birds: beautiful birds with bright red or green plumage, and so tame that you were covered with the beautiful creatures in no time. It is quite odd to see such beauty flying around as do our crows and magpies here in Ayton.

We went to the Zoo, where we saw lots of kangaroos and koala bears, and one day called at "Ramsey Street", or Pitoak Street, as it is to the people who live there! We spent a day at Williamstown – quite a big bay with a Marina and lovely greens with picnic tables. Here we tasted for the first time flake and chips or, as we were to find out later, shark and chips.

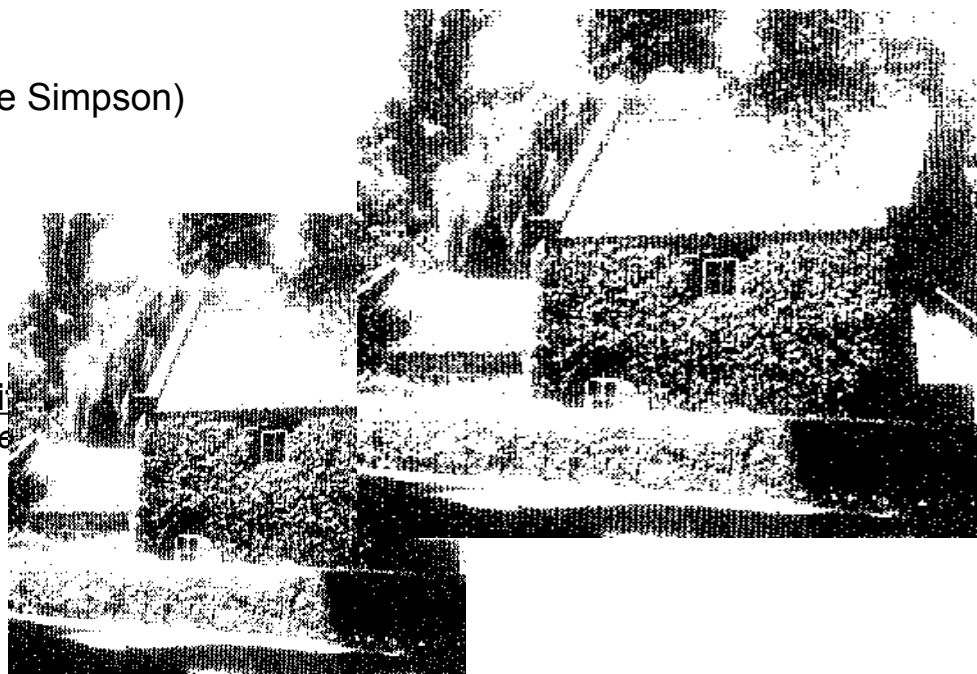
The buildings were lovely, with lots of balconies and wrought iron lace-work, probably part of early Australia. Just a point to make here – Cook's Cottage is the oldest building in Australia! It's hard to take that fact in, living in this country with so many old buildings. We had breakfast in Fitzroy Gardens. What a beautiful memory! The trees are so tall and straight and are protected from the hundreds of possums, who come out at night, by big plastic collars.

We went to see our old home every day and were quite content to sit in the garden, drinking it all in. We had an experience we never in our wildest dreams could have anticipated. It was like winning the Lottery, only better, because we had talked about it and wondered about it for so many years. It was a dream come true. How many people can say that! We have been three very fortunate people and our most sincere thanks go to anyone and all who were involved in making all of this come alive.

Can I finally say how well and truly settled our cottage looks in Fitzroy Gardens,. A little bit of Heaven for my brother and myself and, as I said when I met the Melbourne City Councillors: "Your house, our old home."

Ivy Hynes (née Simpson)

**The cottage as it
in Melbourne**



This was going to be our best run to date. Our training was going to plan (or so we thought). The time was getting nearer and nearer. The weather had been good to us so we felt like we were doing really well. It was a week before the great North Run – our rest period. Well, it should have been, but I decided to give it one last go.....to cut a long story short – I fell over a tree root and pulled the tendons in my right ankle.

It was Thursday evening when it happened. Friday afternoon was spent in the General Hospital. The Great North Run would be on the Sunday. Well! Can you imagine how gutted I was? Then Val came up with the idea of me being pushed in a wheelchair. I was definitely up for it, but then, I wasn't the one doing the pushing! So, we all decided that Val and Stephen were going to take turns pushing me.

Sunday morning came. We were waiting for Val to pick us up. Then I just decided I couldn't do it – I felt like a fraud. I knew that there were going to be Disabled people in wheelchairs raising money for various charities – people who were born with disabilities or have been left disabled after an accident or illness. There was I with a fat ankle. I was feeling really sorry for myself, because I couldn't walk, but I felt like a proper fraudster. A friend of ours was getting a lift with us and I think if it wasn't for him pep-talking me round, I wouldn't have done it.

We had over £1,000 in sponsorship – there was no way we were going to let people down, so we arrived in Newcastle and parked the car. I got into the wheelchair and then my life, from that moment, changed. The sympathetic looks or averted gazes – it was a really strange feeling. The praise and enthusiasm of the other runners was amazing. They were behind us 100%. One chap even helped to push me. Being put in that situation made me realise just how lucky I am.

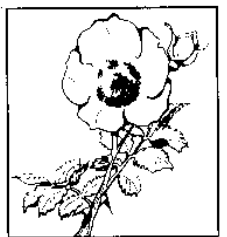
Falling over and hurting my ankle was like the end of the world to me, but then I was only out of action for 6 to 8 weeks before I was back running again. It takes something like this accident to make us realise how lucky we are.

I would just like to say “**THANK YOU**” to everybody who supported Val, Stephen and myself, for all their encouragement, and for helping to produce a magnificent sum for Yorkshire Cancer Research.

Catherine Smith

Yatton House, Guisborough Road, Great Ayton, TS9 6QJ Tel: (01642) 722380

Patrons: Sir Leon Brittan QC, Rt Rev Gordon Bates, Baroness Masham of Ilton
Registered Charity No 511721



FRIENDS OF YATTON HOUSE

We are a small group of volunteers working to raise money for the direct benefit of the users of Yatton House.

Recent events include a car Boot Sale, Christmas Craft Fayre and Jumble Sale - the proceeds paid for re-decoration and partial refurbishment of the lounge.

We would be grateful for volunteers willing to help with future projects - including further re-decorating.

If YOU are interested, PLEASE CONTACT

PAT on (01642) 722967 or **KATH** on (01642) 722007

EASTER REFLECTIONS

As a young monk-priest I was frequently sent out from the monastery to help out in parishes for Holy Week and Easter. One Easter Day I set out from the parish in Warrington and, taking my life in my hands, crossed the very busy Manchester road. My purpose was to pay a visit to the very large civic cemetery. I have a vivid memory of the varied collection of tombstones – not all paragons of beauty, and miscellaneous wrought iron crosses. But it was Easter Day and the whole cemetery was a mass of daffodils. The noise of the traffic in the background did not detract from the message of love and hope.

On another Easter Day I walked from the parish and, again taking my life in my hands, crossed a busy road from Cardiff to Port Talbot. A little bit further on there was quiet and peace, a cemetery with stone walls and, in the background, the grey shape of Llandaff Cathedral. Here was a rural silence. Once again the whole cemetery was ablaze with daffodils. Once again the daffodils spoke the Christian message. Firstly, it was a witness to love and loving memories of family and friends, but I dared to think there was at least an implicit act of Christian faith and Christian hope that one day there would be a wonderful reunion and a joy that no one can take away. For me, Daffodils and Easter victory are inseparable.

Our Easter hope and joy does not stop there, but needs to extend to a much wider horizon. Humankind is closely bonded with the earth. We are made from the dust of the earth; Adam's vocation was to till the soil for food; our clothes come from wool and cotton. Just as we can not be separated in this life, so we and our earth will both be transformed at the end of time. The earth that we know, the countryside which we love and enjoy, is disfigured by human greed and exploitation. It groans (Rom viii) for healing; for redemption from this "slavery". Our earth will come "to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of god". (Rom viii)

Nor must our vision stop there. Very recently, in a book entitled "Other Worlds", I came across the following lines: "perhaps the most important thing we have learned is that we are not separate from this spectacle (of the heavens) but are an integral part of it. Subatomic particles from space continuously strike our planet and pass through our bodies The calcium in our bones and the iron in our blood were not created on earth but forged in explosions of now-distant stars, billions of years ago. All of us are quite literally at one with the stars. We are not just observers in our universe, but participants. "Mankind" is reaching out in exploration of the heavens. Around us in orbit are a very large number of "spacecraft". In the book of Revelation we are promised a New Heavens as well as a new earth. In some way, too, the heavens will join the earth and mankind in celebrating the ultimate victory of God's Kingdom. The Seer of Revelation looks forward to a new heaven and a new earth. All will be caught up in the final victory.

On Easter Day that human nature of Jesus Christ took on the full dimensions of divinity. God "raised Him from the dead and made Him sit at his right hand in heaven He has put all things under his feet and made him as ruler of everything, the head of the Church, which is his body, the fullness of him *who fills the whole creation*." The triumph of Christ is not only a personal triumph but involves both heaven and earth, transformed and made new.

There is a tension between that of God's Kingdom which is "already" and the final consummation of the "not yet". May our celebration this Easter include both and bring all readers special blessings of joy and of peace.

Father Edmund OSB

Proper preparation and planning prevent poor performance was the motto I had drilled into my Gold Duke of Edinburgh group before their final assessment expedition in Torridon, Scotland. Arriving a little late to meet the group's Assessor (who in fact was a member of Torridon Mountain Rescue Team) was Teacher's fault, as she had not quite calculated the time it would take her to return from an expedition climbing unclimbed peaks in Bolivia, S. America. Never mind, all was well and the group set off on their 4-day trek whilst the staff made plans to visit the group and take on their own adventures. Adventures it was to be!

After seeing the group off, three of the five-strong staff team hurriedly made their way to the magnificent and awe-inspiring Triple Buttress on Beinn Eighe. With a 6-mile walk and 300m of climbing to do, we excitedly reached the bottom of the climb at about 11.00am. A little late for such adventures but we did think we could cut the route short at the grassy terrace and return to pick up the others, who were also enjoying the Torridonian mountains.

The route we had chosen was not hard by rock climbing standards and was a grade we could all climb comfortably; the guide book did mention route-finding difficulties however!! The first part of the route resembled caving rather than climbing and we emerged on the terrace covered in black slime from scrambling up wet greasy rock - but that's what Scottish climbing is all about! A failed attempt to find the continuation, and threatening weather, found us wandering along the terrace on treacherous slippery grass to find a possible descent. Bounded by two deep-cut gullies I decided that the only way of retreat was to abseil back down our route of ascent. As I was a little nervous of this proposition (another story!!) one of the others began to take control. After 20m we heard whimpers of fear and then I saw a helmet re-ascend like a whippet. "No way!! We will kill ourselves!!" were the only words spoken. In silence and now at 4.30pm we had no option but to continue up the buttress. I suppose we could have cut our losses and stayed on the terrace for the night but the thought of a possible rescue and the embarrassment of the Assessor tut-tutting as he plucked us off the crag was too much. Not to mention the possible headlines: Teacher rescued as D of E group roam Free! It's amazing what the papers make up!!

The adrenalin was now in full flow. There must be a way up!! I set off, determined that this mountain was not going to beat me. With vengeance I climbed, intent that we were going to make it. Pitch after pitch, it just did not get any easier. Oh God, were we ever going to reach the top? It was now 9pm and the light was fading..... just another pitch and I should be there.... Whey hey, this was it, the top of Triple Buttress - but it was now dark!! Remembering that I had failed to pack a head torch I was confident that the others would have one. As two dark figures pulled over the top, jollity and relief were bubbling in the air. Who was I to spoil this moment by asking for a head torch? As we packed up and ate all the food we had left, I noticed the absence of any lights. Not one torch between us!!

It was a long way down in the dark, stumbling over boulders, slipping over and disappearing down hidden holes, but we made it. By 1.30am we were back at the bus, raiding the pupils' bags for food and driving back to meet the others. On the way down, two thoughts had been circling my mind. Firstly, I had been hoping that the others had not called the Rescue Team and, secondly, that I had put my rock boots back in my rucksack!

On returning to the cottage, we found a white van parked outside. Oh no! My secret was out - the Team must have been called. A little embarrassed, I wandered into the cottage to find that the van belonged to two snoring bodies on the living room floor. So that was fine: no embarrassment or headlines - but, yes, you've guessed - £60 of boots were sitting on their own at the top of Triple Buttress!!

Ok, go on - what was that about proper preparation and planning?!!

Dr Adele Pennington

GREAT AYTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Twinning Association was very active during the year 2000. We entertained two visiting groups from our twin village of Ouzouer-sur-Loire: a Spring visit from a group of cyclists and a Summer visit from two football teams. In all we hosted 70 guests, all staying with families in and around Great Ayton.

We know that there are people who believe that the town Twinning movement has a hidden agenda, that establishing friendships between communities in Britain and other European countries will persuade us to accept entry into the Euro, the EU, etc. As far as Great Ayton and Ouzouer are concerned this could not be further from the truth. Among the people we have met we have found opinions on the European problem to be as sharply, even violently, divided as in Britain. One would have to dig deep to find a political meaning in our group tour last year of the Black Sheep Brewery or the picnic the previous year in the forest of Orleans.

The aim of our two associations is to have fun (which we certainly do) and to get to know and understand people in another country. For this reason we try to include as many young people as possible. In 1999, 13 young footballers from our village lived for three days with families in Ouzouer, and last year 14 young Frenchmen returned the visit.

In the 21st century Political Correctness forbids all forms of sexism but since, alas, we do not seem to have any female footballers, our visits in 1999 and 2000 favoured the male of the species. This year we intend to redress the imbalance. On Thursday April 19th a party will leave Great Ayton for France and will include a dance group from the Bradley School of Dancing. The girls will be accompanied by one or both parents, and members of the Association will make up the party of 45. All will be staying with families in Ouzouer.

On the evening of Friday 20th April the girls, aged between 11 and 16, will perform a mixed programme of dances, some solos, some including the whole troupe. The dances will vary from tap to modern classical ballet, accompanied by music from Abba, the James Bond film score and classical orchestra. We have been promised all facilities including lighting, staging and music. Ouzouer has its own Jazz Dance Group who will alternate their items with our girls' dances. This should be interesting!

In some towns the Twinning visits are purely formal affairs involving only local officials who stay in hotels in the host country and attend ceremonial functions. Our approach is very different. We stay with families, our groups include anyone who is interested and we are trying to involve more and more young people. So, if you would like to stay with a French family or receive a French guest some time, why not join in?

Daphne Hull (Hon. Sec.)



This is just a very tentative enquiry to see if there are some people who would be interested in setting up such a group.

The sort of projects we might possibly undertake (not all at once!) are:

1. To make a database of photographs, old and new, of the village and surrounding area.
2. To make (or start making) a database of persons who lived in the village, from parish records, property deeds and other sources.
3. To record the landscape of the parish, field by field, using maps, aerial photos and observation on the ground.

What would be ideal would be to start with a small group, and expand in the future if necessary.

For the first and second projects, no special knowledge is needed, except that it would be a great help if several members of the group were good with computers, and even better if some had their own laptops. For the third project we would definitely need one or two people with geographical and/or archaeological training (though we could also get experts in to advise us).

Local history groups and community projects seem to be very much the flavour of the moment, and there are good chances of getting help (e.g. to buy software or do photocopying) from bodies such as *Awards for All*, which gives out Lottery funding.

If anyone is interested, please contact me at 723358: Dan O'Sullivan

This letter reached me in January. I know that, since then, the writer has had some response through the Evening Gazette, but he is still anxious to appeal directly to all the residents of Ayton.

Please help if you can

Willow Cottage
Hatchett Lane
Edingale
Tamworth
Staffordshire
B79 9JG

Dear Mrs Morgan,

I wonder whether any of your readers could kindly help me in my search for information about my grandmother and her family. As she died a few weeks after giving birth to my father, I know nothing of my grandmother or her family, apart from the basic information I have obtained from death certificates and censuses. I know that much of her life was spent in Great Ayton and I wondered if some of your readers are descendants of the same family or know something of it.

My grandmother was born **Norah Hopper** in 1891, the daughter of **William** (a whinstone miner) and **Mary Jane Hopper**, who lived in the California area of Great Ayton. She married my grandfather, **Frederick Lythe**, an ironstone miner, and gave birth to her only child, my father **Leonard Lythe**, in July 1918. Norah died, at the age of 27, probably of Spanish influenza, in November 1918, at which time she and her husband lived in Cliffe Terrace in Ayton. Her brother, **George Hopper**, was mentioned on the death certificate and he lived in Race terrace, Ayton. He died in 1919. Norah had at least one other sister, **Ann**, born in 1880.

If anyone has information about this family, I would be extremely grateful if she or he could contact me at the address above, by telephone (**01827 383343**) or via e-mail (lythes@aol.com). I will gladly reimburse people for the cost of phone calls or postage.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Lythe

NEW BEGINNINGS ?

Great Ayton Friends are celebrating the re-opening of the Meeting House after the 6-month long refurbishment.

A special Meeting for Worship is planned for **Saturday 5th May at 2.00pm**, and a programmed **Open Day on Saturday 16th June**, to which all are invited. There will also be “drop-in” days for anyone interested in just looking around, having a cup of tea and a chat; these days will be advertised later around the village.

Now a new era begins for local Friends who can start to focus on the right use of our beautiful building, whose interior space, so efficiently designed, appears to be bigger than before! We hope previous hirers will return and new hirers will be forthcoming, but the Quaker community also now has the opportunity to grow in new ways. An idea has recently occurred to me!

During the recent Women’s World Day of Prayer (held annually around the world on the first Friday in March) it transpired that several women present had in past years enjoyed belonging to the choir which used to practise, under Mary Donaldson, specially for this annual service. They regretted the choir’s demise, which perhaps has led to the dwindling numbers of supporters for the event. Those who do attend the Day of Prayer see it as a treasure, an invaluable opportunity to share in a world-wide network of prayer created by women in response to the underlying motto “Informed prayer, prayerful action”.

Quakers do not sing hymns in Meeting as a rule, but many have enjoyed doing so earlier in their lives. Some local Friends have often proposed “getting together to sing”, but without much success!

Perhaps the Meeting could now host a “Singing Together” group to which anyone in Great Ayton who likes to sing could come and join in singing favourite hymns, songs from Iona, Taizé chants, etc. Such a group could meet, say, monthly, and in due course, with a few extra practices close to the time, provide choral support for the Women’s World Day of Prayer service, and perhaps other village events too.

Such a group clearly would need musicians to lead it, and I am not one! Does the idea appeal to you?
Would you like to take part in “Singing Together”? Could you lead it?

If you are interested in joining such a group, please contact me:

Carole Avison, 710736

I feel that singing in the Meeting House would have met with the approval of our Friend, Anne Pease Fry, of Cleveland Lodge, who sadly died recently. She had in earlier days been a member of Bourneville Meeting where hymns were regularly sung, and she missed them!

There will be a memoir of Anne Pease Fry’s life in the Autumn issue of The Stream.

Her family have asked that donations in her memory should be sent to
Great Ayton Trefoil Guild, a cause always important to her. The treasurer is:

Mrs Joan Groves, 67 Wheatlands, Great Ayton, North Yorkshire, TS9 6EE

Tel: 722598

Recent efforts to find ways of recycling clean “white” paper, such as used envelopes, to needy organisations in Eastern Europe have revealed that there are several national charities that deliver to **Romania** but that local collection could be difficult. However, occasional collections are organised by local churches or community groups on a “one-off” basis in local villages. There is also the work of **ABC AID TO POLAND** which operates from **Thornaby**. They send medical supplies, clothing, furniture, toys and could take white paper to orphanages and hostels too.

The report of a delivery in October 2000 by 7 local volunteers, driving 3,380 miles to innumerable orphanages, hospitals, rehabilitation centres, family homes and friends throughout 15 locations in Poland, is both inspiring and humbling. Goods in clean and usable order, especially clothes for teenagers and toiletries (including soap, sanitary towels, toilet paper, disinfectant, etc) are welcomed. These can be taken to their base near the Police Station on the old Thornaby Airfield, or “one-off” collections can be arranged in the village. Their next delivery is to be mid-April, the Foot-&-Mouth outbreak permitting.

There is obviously a constant need for funds & Coffee Mornings are held regularly. Donations, together with practical help of all kinds, are greatly appreciated. Further details are available from:

ABC AID TO POLAND, MASTER ROAD, THORNABY, CLEVELAND. TS17 0BE.

Tel: (01642) 750607 / 823 989

Anyone wanting to pass on paper, cardboard, wood, paint, or any other materials for use by **local play groups** should contact : “**PERCY**”, **8 WHORLTON RD, RIVERSIDE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Tel: (01642) 230100.** This is a Play and Educational Resources Centre and it is open Mon-Fri and one Saturday per month – check by phone for details.

Meg Hoggarth



POLICING MATTERS

The **Annual Policing Plan** has now been formulated and this year’s targets have been agreed for the Stokesley and Great Ayton area. The objectives this year are to reduce domestic burglary by 5%, non-domestic burglary by 10%, and auto crime by 10%. The target to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour has been set at 5%, but after consultation at a recent Community and Police Group meeting, we are aiming to increase this target to 10%.

How are we going to achieve this? The answer is that we can’t - if we operate alone.

We require the support and involvement of the community.

How can you help us?

- You can do this by being more security-conscious with your possessions, your home, or vehicle. Cars are less of a target if valuables are not left in them on display, or if garaged.
 - If you see a suspicious vehicle in your area take careful note of the registration number then telephone us as soon as possible.
 - If you require advice about security matters we can provide the necessary information.
- We are here to help so if we are needed, or can help, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ring 01609 783131 (Central Switchboard) and ask for Stokesley Police Station

Thank you.

Sgt Walls, Stokesley Police

AN ACTIVITY WORDSEARCH!

45

All the names below are from the list of Organisations serving Great Ayton – a few of the many we are so lucky to have. When you have found all **20 WORDS** in the Square (some reversed, upside-down, diagonal, bent, sharing letters) **9 LETTERS WILL REMAIN UNUSED.**

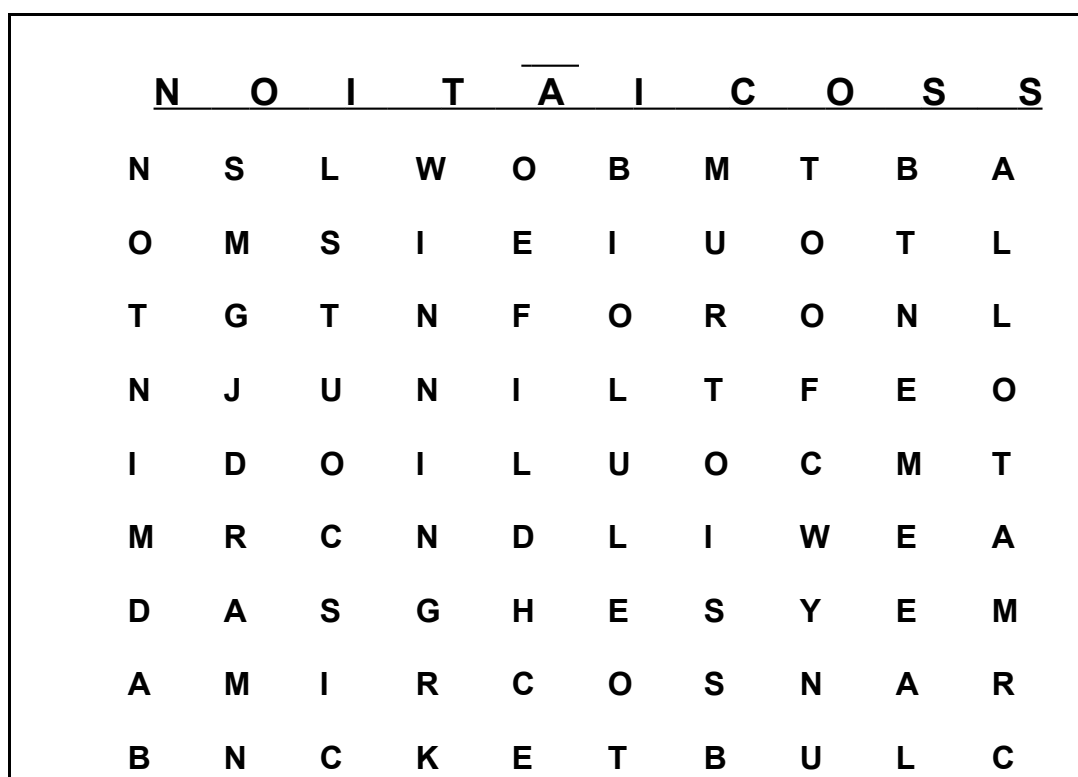
They make **ONE WORD** which is at the heart of our village.

TO ENTER: please send **THE 9-LETTER WORD** with your **NAME & ADDRESS** to;

THE EDITOR, 22 WHEATLANDS, GREAT AYTON, TS9 6ED
or hand it in at Great Ayton Library. There will be 3 small prizes.

CLOSING DATE: **THURSDAY 10th MAY.** Results in the Library by 17th May.

ALLOTMENT	TWINNING	WILDLIFE		—		BADMINTON	
ASSOCIATION				BOWLS		FLOWER	
DRAMA	FORUM	M.U.	U.N.A.	CHESS	CLUB	FOOTBALL	
GUIDES	SCOUTS	W.I.	W.E.A.	CRICKET		JUDO	



RESULTS OF THE AUTUMN APPRECIATION WORDSEARCH 2000

THE ANSWER WAS: GLORIOUS. The 3 winners, drawn from the correct entries, were:

MRS GWEN BUCKINGHAM

Hillside, Newton

MRS M DERWENT

Newton Road

SAMANTHA ROBERTS

Farm Garth

Consolation Prize: **MATTHEW STURDY (10), Guisborough Road**

Entries (16) were also received from: Mrs G BROWN, Hollygarth; Mrs J CUMBOR, Mrs M CUMBOR, both Sunnyfield Nurseries; Mrs de WARDT, Hunter's Lodge; Mrs DOCHERTY, Newton Road; Mrs O HALL, Hollygarth Close; Mrs J HARBOTTLE, Addison Road; Mrs J HEY, Byemoor Close; Mrs J HOPWOOD, Wainstones Close; Mrs E HUGILL, Sunnyfield; Mrs J MARSDEN, Roseberry Cres; Mrs A MARTIN, Manor View; Mr T B REYNOLDS, Roseberry Road. Mrs M SANDERS, Roseberry Cres; Mrs K STEWART, Marwood Drive; Mrs L WALKER, Roseberry Cres. [Andrew Jacott (6) completed the Wordsearch, but didn't find the Answer Word.]

THANK YOU ALL FOR ENTERING – I hope you had as much fun solving as I had devising!