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

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

4 THE EDITOR'S SPACE: Carol Morgan, 22 Wheatlands, Gt Ayton. 722897

Assistant Editor: Sylvia Wall

Advertising Manager & Printer: Marian Button

Final Proof- Reader: Peggy Friend Business Hours Researcher: Liz Greenhalgh

Technical Genius, Tower of Strength, Supremely Patient Husband... Peter Morgan!

All the hours devoted to The Stream by the Editorial Team would be wasted
were it not for the support of many more people throughout the village:

The **Contributors** are clearly indispensable! I am very grateful to them and always feel guilty if I have to press for an item when the writer is obviously extremely busy – or if I have to edit ruthlessly, which I hate to do when time & effort have been spent on producing an article.

Christ Church welcomes us to print there over 3 days. **Yatton House** welcomes us to collate there over 2 days. A number of **Collators** (more always welcome) commit themselves to helping with that vital but painfully repetitive work. Once collated, the carefully counted, labelled & boxed consignments will go to the members of the next willing team, of **Deliverers**, to be given out House-to House in Great Ayton, Little Ayton, Newton and Easby before Good Friday.

The **Advertisers** and **Page Sponsors** fund the whole production of the magazine, as well as creating a profit for the CCA, and **Miss Juler** generously continues to donate the Large Print A4 copies for the Library, Day Centre & Hollygarth. As ever, I pack each issue as fully as I dare – to the despair of Marian as she imposes her will on a machine objecting to the amount of print per page! I promise sincerely to mend my ways each time, but as material comes in... Sorry, Marian!

My grateful thanks to my very hard-working, very supportive collaborators, whatever their sphere of operation.

This time, you have an extra-large issue of **15** sheets, making **60** pages (including the cover). I am well aware that this means longer printing & collating hours, but it developed as generous & enthusiastic advertisers asked for a whole page, rather than 1 square of the 6 on a page. This provides much increased profit for the CCA and enough to justify the extra paper to keep the balance of advertising, Information & editorial items as we like it. I have also been able to use some photographs & some longer articles in full.

I give warning that the next issue will be in preparation during **September** & delivered by the end of **October**. Ideas and comments always welcome. **REGULARS, PLEASE STAND BY!**

* * * * *

Sadly, since the Autumn issue, the village has lost a number of people well known to many of us, including both **Alan & Joyce Suggitt**, proprietors of the Ice Cream shop & Café in the centre of Ayton, a favourite venue of visitors & residents alike, demanding the investment of long hours & almost daily availability over many years. May their son Alan continue their achievements. **CM**

Saturday 1st June The bi-annual **FÊTE**.

To be held on High Green, preceded by the Procession from Low Green.

To mark the Queen's Jubilee, the theme for the floats and fancy dress is

'Royalty through the Ages'

The Parish Council hopes that many people will make a special effort to participate.

Monday 3rd June **A FAMILY PICNIC**

On High Green in the afternoon - entertainment to be arranged.

Keep your fingers crossed for fine weather!

Tuesday 4th June **THE MOSAIC SINGERS**

Choir concert in Christ Church at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 6th June **JUBILEE REVIEW** in the Parochial Hall.

and An entertainment by talented locals for your enjoyment.

Friday 7th June At the time of writing, arrangements for the Review are on-going.

Councillor Frances Greenwell

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For a definitive programme of events during Jubilee Week,
keep an eye open for poster displays in shops and on notice boards.

Events are also being planned by other organisations in the village.

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As we all look forward to getting out into the garden, spare a thought for those who find this a very frustrating time of year - gardeners who are housebound. Can you spare an hour to tidy someone's garden?

It is this side of Community Care which can be overlooked. We have a small army of volunteers who offer a Befriending service. They may pop in regularly to chat, go shopping, collect prescriptions, help to fill in forms, share information and generally watch out for someone. Could you offer an hour a week to make someone feel less isolated?

If people are more mobile they often enjoy meeting friends at our luncheon club on Thursdays and, judging by the laughter coming from the room, Chairbics is a thoroughly enjoyable way to ease stiff joints and improve circulation. Why not try it?

Our premises in Stokesley are well used by a variety of organisations including the Citizens Advice Bureau: available every Friday from 10am - 2pm to deal with a wide variety of queries. They have also been available through the Health Centre at Great Ayton to advise people how to claim benefits to which they are entitled. For the housebound they offer to visit, to give advice and to help fill in forms. Ann Dewar of the CAB gives more details on pages 12 & 13. Many people do not claim the benefits to which they are entitled. Could you be one?

Some of you will already have met Sue Simpson who joined us recently to take over the organisation of Carers' Relief, Befriending, and the Luncheon Club. I am sure you will make her welcome, and hope she enjoys her time with us.

We have secured funding for 3 years to develop this side of our work, which is becoming increasingly necessary as a result of government policy to support people in their own homes and reduce residential provision. There is universal praise for the professional carers and amazement at the amount of work they do in the very short time they are able to spend with each individual. However, many people spend very long hours on their own between the carer's visits. This is where the Befrienders are so appreciated.

Whatever your problem, Sue Allan, Margaret and Freda, and now Sue Simpson, are available. Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm, to listen and to see if there is any way that we can help.

Kath Murray

The Youth Club runs on a Friday evening in the Church Youth Hall which offers a range of spaces that are all used to provide members with a variety of activities such as videos, disco, tuck shop, playstation, board games, face paints, crafts, ball games, friendship groups & more.

An **Indoor Football Tournament** gave members a chance to show off their skills and over the weeks gathered spectators who cheered on their favourite teams. Well done to the winners! - Bobby Dee (Captain), Andrew Johnson, Robert Wilson, Chris Snowdon, Drew Johnson, David Harland and Stephen Slater. Each received a certificate and a medal for their achievement. Running at the same time was a **Pool Competition** with over 30 games played. The final was fantastic – “just like TV” - there were hushes from the audience and claps when balls were potted. One black ball left on the table made for breathtaking suspense. Well done to the winner Chris Snowden and runner up Bobby Dee who both received certificates and a trophy.

Listening to the members and their wishes is of utmost importance as it is their club. The club tries to meet, within reason, requests made via a suggestion box or meetings held in the youth sessions. Members and youth worker have enjoyed outings to Club M, Wet 'n' Wild and Stokesley Swimming baths. Those who braved the Wet 'n' Wild have memories to last forever, especially those who rode the Ultimate!

There have been rumours that the club needs to find new premises, but that is all they are. The Youth Club has no immediate plans to move premises but is working closely with those who are holding talks about providing more provisions for younger members of the community. Once again a thank you to all those who give up their time on a volunteer basis and those who support the Youth Club by giving donations. Since its opening the Youth Club has gone from strength to strength and it's encouraging to see many new faces each week and the returning of old ones. Our policy is Safe from Harm and we provide a safe, fun environment for our members.

**If you read this and feel you would like to be involved in any way,
please contact me, Jackie Walker, Youth Club Co-ordinator, on 01642 723178.**

* * * * *

FOOTBALL FOR THE FUTURE

My son plays football for Bedale Under 11's.

On Sunday 10th February they played against their rivals at Great Ayton.

It has to be said that the setting for young people to play sport is one of the best, if not **the** best in Hambleton. Against the backdrop of the North Yorkshire Moors and the Cook Monument, the newly formed **Great Ayton Junior Cricket and Football Club** have done an impressive job of providing high quality opportunities for young people in the area. Whilst the playing fields and pavilion were secured by the Parish Council, Hambleton District Council and Wimpey Homes, the real credit for this major step goes to a group of visionary altruistic ex-footballers and cricketers.

In **Norman Thurlow, Denis Readman, Barry Sanders and Keith Wilcox**, the village has four people who have been prepared to put themselves out in order to improve things for future generations. Together, they have planned for the future, by submitting grant applications, negotiating leases, drawing up constitutions - and having done all this, they have turned to practical matters of restoring a derelict playing field to former glory, buying new equipment, recruiting players and organising coaching sessions.

And so to the match - the Great Ayton players conducted themselves in a manner that parents and coaches could be proud of, the game was competitive but fair and what was pleasing to see was each and every player shaking hands with the referee at the end of the game. Whilst the players were in the pavilion at the end of the game, the entourage of Bedale parents, grandparents and coaches could be heard talking enviously of what Great Ayton had achieved.

Dave Goodwin

Hambleton Citizens Advice Bureau is running a project to help older people to ensure that they are getting all the money they are entitled to. Would you like our help?

The project was originally set up to run for one year from April 2001, to try to make it easier for people in your area to access information and help to apply for benefits. The idea was that a trained worker would be available in **Great Ayton Health Centre**, to advise and assist with application forms for disabled people and their carers.

The response to this has not been as good as we had hoped: despite extensive publicity we have had very few requests for appointments at the surgery. Our workers have, however, been successful in getting many claims for disability and carers' benefits accepted, through visiting people in their own homes and seeing them at our **Stokesley** and **Northallerton** offices. They are also able to do general benefit checks to make sure that any means-tested benefits such as Income Support (now called Minimum Income Guarantee), Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit are claimed when appropriate.

We would like to finish off the year in the knowledge that we have reached as many people as possible and that no-one is missing out on their rightful entitlement. If you would like to discuss any aspect of welfare benefits, you can:

- call at our **Stokesley** office, in the **Community Care Association** building (behind the library), on **Fridays between 10am and 2pm**.
- Telephone or visit our **Northallerton** office to discuss entitlement or to make an appointment with an advisor. Our office is at **277 High Street**, in the former doctors' surgery, behind the Parish Church. Our opening hours are **Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 4 pm, & for telephone contacts only, Fridays from 10am to 1pm**. Our telephone number is **01609 770309**.
- If you are unable to leave your home, a visit can be arranged by telephoning our Northallerton office. Due to limited resources, it is helpful if home visits are requested only if you cannot visit either of our offices or the Health Centre at Great Ayton. You do not have to be a patient at that practice to get our advice and help.

Although the project involving the Health Centre officially ends at the end of March 2002, we are pleased to be able to continue to offer our other services from our Northallerton and Stokesley offices. We can also offer help if your application is turned down, by writing letters and gathering evidence on your behalf, and representing you at tribunal hearings if your case goes to appeal.

Everything you tell us is in the strictest confidence, and our service is entirely free of charge.

SO DON'T MISS OUT ON WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY YOURS: GET ADVICE!

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE?

WHICH BENEFITS COULD YOU BE ENTITLED TO?

If you are **over 65** & long-term sick or disabled, you could qualify for

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Attendance Allowance. You can claim the lower rate (currently **£37** a week) if you need:

- frequent help, at intervals through the day, with personal care. Help with shopping, cooking or

housework does not count, unless you are blind, **OR**

- continual supervision during the day to prevent a serious risk of danger to yourself or others.

Short breaks are allowable. You are likely to qualify if you suffer from dementia or have a tendency to fall without warning, **OR**

- you need someone to be awake during the night to watch over you or to help you e.g. to use

the toilet, get comfortable in bed or soothe you back to sleep.

If you need help both day and night, you may qualify for the higher rate, currently £55.30 a week.

If you are **under 65** you should claim **Disability Living Allowance (DLA)** instead of Attendance Allowance (AA). DLA has two components, one for care needs and the other for mobility problems. The rules for the top two rates of the care component are the same as for AA, but there is also a lowest rate which is paid if you need some help with personal care (at least an hour a day) or if you cannot plan and prepare a cooked main meal for one person, given the raw ingredients. The mobility component is paid at two rates:

- most people qualify for the higher rate because they are unable, or virtually unable, to walk. To qualify as virtually unable to walk, you must usually not be able to walk more than about 50

yards before suffering severe discomfort.

- the lower rate is for people who can walk, but who cannot safely walk outdoors in places they

do not know well, without guidance or supervision.

The rules for both DLA and AA are too complicated to give more than a rough overview here: that is why it is important to get advice from an experienced adviser.

Some people are wary about applying for the benefits they are entitled to, because they do not want to divulge details of their financial circumstances. This is not necessary if you are claiming Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance for help with care and mobility needs. It does help us to know these details, however, because an award of one of these benefits can give you increased entitlement to means-tested benefits such as Income Support, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit. The rules on income and capital are quite complex, so it is important to have full details in order to do an accurate assessment of everything you could claim.

Example: Mary is 76. She gets Retirement Pension of £72.50 a week, topped up to **£92.15** including her Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). Her savings are less than £6,000, so she gets full help with rent and council tax. She claims AA because she has severe arthritis and has to be

helped to get out of bed, wash, dress, move around the house and use the toilet. She gets the lower rate of **£37** a week. Because she lives alone, and no-one claims Invalid Care Allowance for looking after her, she also gets an increase of **£41.55** per week MIG, bringing her total weekly income to **£170.70**. **PLEASE CONSULT US.** **Anne Dewar, Hambleton CAB**

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1st Great Ayton Scout Group



Beaver Colony: The colony continues to be strong and active, well supported by boys and parents. It gives boys aged 6-8 years an introduction to Scouting with crafts, games, & activities based on the Beaver Scout Promise, and outings in the summer months. This year we had fun with a night trail up Captain Cook's, football at the Rainbow Centre, making bird feeders and clay animals as well as Christmas crafts and a party. Food-based activities always go down well! We are looking forward to making mosaics, tie-dying T-shirts and badge making, before the lighter nights enable us to get out and harass the local wildlife once more!

Monument Cub Pack: With outdoor activities curtailed due to Foot & Mouth restrictions, this Pack has concentrated on badge work during the summer term. Highlights included the building and racing of Go-karts, or Bogies, and the completion of the Local History Badge. The cubs learnt about Robert Stevenson and steam engines. We visited Margaret Cumbor in the village, who is distantly related to Robert Stevenson - and it was with excitement that we discovered a link with one of our cubs. Young Richard Bilcliffe's great-great-grandfather worked in Robert Stevenson's factory from the age of 16 until he retired as foreman! He will have seen all the great engineering works for bridges and railways and steam locomotives destined for Great Britain and her Empire pass before his eyes!

Endeavour Cub Pack: In spite of Foot & Mouth, the pack has enjoyed a day of action at Carlton Minniott outdoor centre, trying their hand at kayaking, Canadian canoeing, archery, climbing & orienteering, not to mention chariot making and racing! A highlight of the indoor programme over the winter was an Australian evening, complete with Didgeridoo and bushman "tucker". Summer camp is already planned at Crag Bank, Kildale & the pack is looking forward to attending the "Cubantics" event at Ripon, enjoying fun & activities with cubs from all over the north east of England.

Scout Troop: Activities planned for the coming year include gliding, summer camp in the Lake District, windsurfing, sailing & canoeing. In April, some of the older boys will be participating in an outdoor challenge weekend in the Lake District. Already this year the troop has enjoyed cooking over open fires at Toft Hill, & attempting some unusual "challenges". Many boys have now changed to the new style uniforms. Two scouts, Chris Harrison & Tom Hollin, have been selected to join the North Yorkshire Contingent attending the World Jamboree in Thailand in January 2003.

A number of successful fundraising activities have been held - thanks to the work of the Supporters' Committee. These have included our annual Bonfire Night in November (reinstated after a gap of two years - sorry the venue was changed at the last minute!), Bag Packing at Sainsburys, Prize Draw at Christmas, Quiz Night and the continuing Bonus Ball Draw.

The Group is grateful to the many people who support our fundraising activities.

We always welcome new Leaders - if you think you can offer to help, please contact any of the Leaders.

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

The Leaders

Beaver Colony:	Boys aged 6-8 years	Fridays	6.15pm - 7.15pm
Cubs: Endeavour Pack	Boys aged 8- 10 ¹ / ₂ years	Mondays	6.30pm - 8.00pm
Monument Pack	Boys aged 8- 10 ¹ / ₂	Wednesdays	6.30pm - 8. 00pm
Scout Troop	Boys aged 10-15 ¹ / ₂ years	Thursdays	7.15pm - 9.00pm

Chairman: Ken Nicholson Tel: 722740 Waiting Lists: Jean McWilliam Tel: 722358

GUIDING



IN GREAT AYTON

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WE NEED YOU!! Are you a girl over 5 or an adult with an hour or so to spare each week? Guiding in Great Ayton continues to thrive but we are always looking for **new members**. At the moment we are short of **adult helpers**, not necessarily to run a unit but to **help** the Guiders with weekly meetings etc.

Rainbows - for girls aged 5 to 7, meeting on Monday or Thursday evenings.

They enjoy lots of craft, games and songs.

Brownies - are aged 7 to 10. They meet on Monday, Thursday or Friday evenings and like to learn new skills to gain badges, as well as play games, go on days out and weekends away.

Guides - for girls aged 10 and over. They meet on Monday and Friday evenings and plan a lot of their meetings themselves using a new programme. They also enjoy outdoor activities and camping trips etc.

Then there are the **Leaders!** We are all ages! We are a team, all willing to help out elsewhere if required. It is hard work sometimes, juggling home, children, work and Guiding, but it is **very rewarding**. We also have fun!

If you would like to join a unit or come and lend a hand please ring **Linda Davey**, our District Commissioner, on **723467** or ring me on **724382**.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

ALISON SELBY, Brownie Guider

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	Fridays	6.00 – 7.15pm	Parochial Hall
2nd Brownies		Mondays	6.00 – 7.15pm	Methodist Hall
3rd Brownies		Thursdays	6.00 – 7.15pm	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: Linda

Davey, 723467

THIS PAGE HAS KINDLY BEEN SPONSORED

STOKESLEY AREA AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN



Funding has been made available for towns and villages in North Yorkshire to improve the area and quality of life for residents. The process to access funding is driven by steering groups formed in each of 6 areas in Hambleton. The groups are composed of local Councillors and volunteers. Councillor **Mike Richardson** from Stokesley chairs the Stokesley Area Community Plan Steering Group. Other members include Councillors and volunteers from Great Ayton.

To enable the funding to be accessed, each area must produce a Community Plan: this is a development plan for the next 10 years, but it is to be an evolving plan. Our local Area Plan is a vital contribution to the future development of this area, and without it we will be unable to access new funding. Money from funds such as the Lottery, Central Government and the European Community will need the backing of a local plan.

To produce a local plan there is a need to find out what local needs are.

A QUESTIONNAIRE has been circulated to every resident in Great Ayton and to focus groups in the Great Ayton and Stokesley area. **A visit by a mobile exhibition** to Great Ayton, Stokesley, Hutton Rudby and Swainby revealed a far-reaching desire by many residents to enhance the facilities available to the community. Suggestions from visitors to the Great Ayton event included the provision of youth facilities, a new village Hall and a cycle path from Ayton to Stokesley.

Clearly it will be impossible to fund every Idea that is tabled, however it is hoped that a priority list can be established and a plan developed for implementation of the projects that achieve funding.

The Steering Group is mindful that the **Community Investment Prospectus** (CIP) process may raise expectations beyond what is immediately achievable – nevertheless, the community will no doubt benefit and, by setting targets and priorities now, achieve, in terms of enhancement of community facilities, **real** prospects for the future.

If you would like to be involved in the development of the plan please contact **Lisa Bennington**, Community Link Officer (01609) 767212, or e-mail lisa.bennington@hambleton.gov.uk.

Councillor John Fletcher.

Over many years I have heard it said that Great Ayton has too many small halls but not a large one, which would be of greater use. When the Village Hall was looking decidedly dilapidated, the Parish Council decided to have a comprehensive survey. The result was quite horrifying and repairs, if possible, would be extremely costly.

I suggested that perhaps this would be a good time to look at the possibility of an alternative hall. It is possible to locate a site but all the central sites have gone as it is impossible to compete with Developers. When the idea was floated at a meeting of other hall users, questionnaires were distributed and also left in the library, but it was obvious that there are many obstacles. All existing hall operators were understandably protective of their own halls and worried in case they would lose the "lets" they had and consequently their halls, although it was accepted that no hall lasts forever.

So, if a new hall was built, what type of hall should it be? I was obviously out of date with the size of the hall; the days of big bands, dances and balls are long gone and very large rooms no longer required for that purpose. They may return but we haven't a crystal ball! We mustn't be selfish and think of our own needs: we do need to think of what is required now and also try to think and plan for the future.

It is apparent that **sports facilities** are required, also somewhere else for **young people**. If the village hall is to be demolished and rebuilt there would be difficulties with the criteria now imposed for new buildings. Disabled access and car parking would be difficult issues to resolve and given the site restrictions, the hall could not grow to meet future demand. The Dramatic Society would be the main sufferers as they rehearse in the Village Hall, as do Youth Drama, and they have provided entertainment in the village for over 50 years.

I have been asked to tell you where the thoughts of the Parish Councillors are heading - maybe we should cry a halt now and concentrate on the problem of the Village Hall, or perhaps we could try for facilities for sport, or a place for a club for youth - but we still haven't a central location.

We have received the views of some people - mainly those in organisations - but nothing conclusive, and we would like to know what other people in the village think.

I've given you the question - do you have an answer?

Councillor June Imeson

Following the dedication of the new Church of St Margaret Clitherow by Bishop John Crowley, Monsignor Charlton and the Catholic community in Great Ayton were delighted to welcome many members of the Village of all denominations to the Open Day on the 9th February.

One of the local places associated with St Margaret Clitherow is the Lady Chapel at Mount Grace, above Osmotherley. The Lady Chapel has been a place of pilgrimage since medieval times and is a haven of peace and quiet reflection for all. Each year many people continue to come to this sacred site. The Chapel has been closed for the past year - one of the many victims of the Foot and Mouth epidemic – but it is now open again to the public.

A mystery surrounds the chapel - why was it first built? Who built it?

The contents of a grave found under the chapel floor clearly indicate the Tudor burial of some special person. The Lady Chapel was rediscovered (its origin is unknown) in June 1942 during an air raid, by two young priests, Fathers Peter Storey and Michael O'Sullivan. Fr Peter Storey later served as the Parish Priest in Stokesley and Great Ayton.



The earliest records of the Chapel's existence are lost to eternity, though archaeologists are still looking for evidence. It was certainly established by 1476, but the spring around which it is built may have been consecrated and venerated centuries before.

Although originally a Carthusian foundation, the Lady Chapel has in recent years been cared for by the Benedictine monks from the nearby Monastery in Osmotherley. The monks continue to work tirelessly, offering hospitality to pilgrims who master the hill to reach the Chapel at the summit.

Fr Anthony Storey has recently published a history of the Chapel incorporating much of the earlier research undertaken by his brother, Fr Peter Storey. If you have a moment, you might wish to visit it yourself. The walk up the hill from Osmotherley takes around half an hour and provides spectacular views.

P. Scrope

What springs to mind if somebody mentions Yatton House ? Bottle bank ... paper bank ... July fete ... bonfire party ? The answer of course is yes to all of these things - but this is really only the periphery. So here's a request to all our readers - whether you have been part of the local community all your life, or whether you have just moved in – **please read on**.....

In an age when so many national and international appeals reach the media to plead for help from the man in the street, the generosity of the great British public seems almost endless. Ironically, but unsurprisingly, hundreds of small local charities exist almost unnoticed outside their immediate locale and find it increasingly difficult to balance their books year on year. Invariably groups of 'Friends' are formed to assist with a variety of tasks including fund-raising.

At this point, let's backtrack by about 25 years.

In **1976** a youth club was formed in Great Ayton specifically to serve the needs of the disabled and handicapped in the community. Research during the next few years indicated a lack of permanent day care facilities for children once they reached the age of 16, whilst very few disabled adults in the area were receiving any form of continuous day care. From these roots Yatton House Society was formed in **1981** - a voluntary organisation responsible for '**Yatton House**'. The aims are simple: to maximise **individual development** through personal growth, community knowledge, fellowship, self help, social skills, community service, further education, counselling..... the list just goes on. Very significant progress has been made during the past 20 years. Affiliation to MENCAP and MIND proved invaluable and early registration as an official charity was duly granted. (No. 511721) Generosity and help from local people and businesses facilitated the purchase of the present property and so Yatton House flourished into an integral part of the community. Further expansion during the 1990s enables long term day provision for handicapped adults.

So here we are at the beginning of the 21st century and despite excellent progress the fund-raising requirements remain every bit as important now as they were 20 years ago. Only part of the annual financial target is funded through the significant link with local authority and other related bodies. A project is now underway to raise the profile of Yatton House with industry in the region with an appeal target of **£10,000**, but the links with our local domestic and business community remain of paramount importance. Without the generous and invaluable assistance from staff, individuals, groups and institutions Yatton House could not continue.

If you are interested to learn more about Yatton House Society, or feel you could volunteer time and skills, please call **David Kent on 01642 722380**. Contributions to the **Yatton House Appeal** may be forwarded to the Hon Treasurer, Yatton House, Guisborough Road, Gt Ayton TS9 6QJ

Our stated aim is "develop the individual" - please help share in our task to achieve this aim.

Philip Udall, Independent Representative, Yatton House Society

Volunteer members of the Great Ayton Community Archaeology Project have been successful in obtaining nearly £30,000 from the Local Heritage Initiative and the Nationwide Award. Our project will investigate and record archaeological features in the village's open spaces, the surrounding fields, woods and moors, and will also study maps, aerial photographs and other documents. A professional archaeologist, Kevin Cale from Pateley Bridge, is leading the group, which meets every Wednesday in the Friends' Meeting House on High Green.

The project began after a public meeting in May 2001 to launch the Great Ayton Local History Group, which was followed by an Archive and Archaeology Training Day in September. These sessions were organized by Dan O'Sullivan and kindly sponsored by the Yorkshire Museums Council. It was clear that there was popular support for two projects; this Community Archaeology Project and also a separate Photographic Archive.

Many Aytonians are really keen on local history, and this project provides a unique opportunity for local people to contribute directly to our understanding of the village through "hands-on" activities. As the investigations develop over the next two years, it is hoped to involve Marwood and Roseberry schools and other groups of interested young people. Already the Great Ayton Wildlife Association has agreed to help the project by studying and recording hedgerows.

Professional and amateur archaeologists have previously investigated and recorded some key sites around the village, such as the Neolithic chambered cairn and the whinstone and ironstone mines. However there is great potential for collecting and recording significant archaeological data over the remaining areas in and around the village. Some examples would be

- Evidence of the open-field boundaries of pre-enclosure agriculture
- Changes in agricultural use of fields
- The effect of the building of country houses with their gardens and estates
- The development of railways, roads and footpaths
- Quarrying and mining of alum, jet, whinstone & ironstone not previously recorded in detail
- 19th century water supplies to the village

There is no digging or collecting of items! Our aim is to record what exists, and eventually to publish this information in a format that will be of value to other local historians and of interest to everyone living in the village. We will work from the upstairs room in the Friends Meeting House, meeting on most Wednesdays and occasionally at weekends. We appreciate that meeting during the week excludes many interested people from joining us, but it is necessary because our professional leader is only available during the week.

The Local Heritage Initiative is a scheme run by the government's Countryside Agency, making grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund (which uses some of the proceeds of the National Lottery). The Great Ayton Community Archaeology Project has been given almost £25,000 from this fund, plus a further £5,000 from the Nationwide Building Society Award.

Anyone interested in the project can contact: Dan O'Sullivan on 723358, Sally Dennison on 723897, David Taylor on 722748, or Ian Pearce on 722964.

Funds are available from the Local Heritage Initiative to support other local projects. Details can be obtained by phoning the LHI Information Line on **0870 9000 401** or by visiting their website at www.lhi.org.uk

Ian Pearce

It was an especially cold evening last year when we in Great Ayton celebrated Women’s World Day of Prayer. Always held on the first Friday in March, it seems mostly to fall on a wintry day rather than a spring-like one. Last year frozen snow underfoot prevented many regular attenders from venturing out of doors after dark, so this year we thought it would be kinder and wiser to hold the service in the afternoon, sad though we were that those who were out at work would not be able to join us. By way of compensation we decided to provide a crèche so that mothers of young children might feel able to come.

So it was that on 1st March (a sunny spring day after all!) Gt Ayton Friends were delighted to welcome over 60 women and one man, from the four local churches & beyond, to the newly refurbished Meeting House. Though no-one had responded to last year’s appeal for regular singing practices to be held beforehand, the hymns were sung with confidence and joy! As usual, representatives from all four churches took part in reading from the programme, composed this time by the women of Romania, whose theme “Challenged to Reconcile” was based on the experience of their daily lives. The Service was deeply moving, evoking strong feelings of unity with the Romanian women, and the women all over the world who were sharing the same Service and sentiments, as well as with each other. We in the Meeting House all appreciated this opportunity to share at such a deep level, and afterwards spend “quality” time in friendly communication over a cup of tea!

The theme of reconciliation moved one Friend to refer, in spoken ministry on the following Sunday, to her recent rediscovery of some Gt Ayton wartime history. Some Italian Prisoners of War had been living in the village and in 1945, on the day they left to return home, a large hand-written notice was pinned up in the chemist’s shop window. It read as follows:

“To the inhabitants of Gt Ayton.

We, Italian P.O.W. Collaborators, going away from Gt Ayton, where we have been stationed for about seven months, we want the people of this lovely centre of natural beauty know that we were very touched in our hearts because we have found here a warm and friendly comprehension.

*The seven months past in this village will rest in our souls
as one of the most beautiful and dear chapters of our life.*

We Will Never Forget That.

We Thank You.”

What an accolade for those villagers in time of War! Did any keep in touch with the Italians? Does anyone know any of the Italian names? Perhaps it might be possible to contact them today?

Do share with us any memories you may have.

Carole Avison, Ayton Friends’ Meeting

1. MUSHROOM & BACON SALAD (Serves 4 as a Starter with hot crusty bread)**Ingredients**

1 Tablespoon groundnut or corn oil. 4oz/125gms Chinese leaves, sliced
 1 ½ lbs/650gms Mushrooms, chopped. 4 leaves of Lollo Rosso or Oak Leaf Lettuce, torn
 2 Tablespoons French dressing 8 baby Sweetcorn, lightly boiled & each cut into 3 pieces.
 2 Tablespoons light soy sauce 8oz/225gms lean back Bacon, grilled & chopped.
 1 bunch Watercress, divided.

Method

Heat the oil in a non-stick pan & stir-fry the mushrooms, stirring continuously. Remove from heat. Combine the dressing with the soy sauce. Arrange the salad leaves in a serving bowl. Toss the dressing into the frying pan with the sweetcorn & bacon, & mix in the mushrooms. Transfer the mushroom salad into the serving bowl & garnish with the watercress. **Mary Brown**

* * * * *

2. HONEYED CARROT LOAF**Pauline Turner****Ingredients**

5 Tablespoons Clear Honey 4 eggs 5 Tablespoons Muscovado Sugar
 4 fl.oz/120ml Walnut or Vegetable Oil 8oz/240gms Wholemeal Self-Raising Flour
 12oz/360gms Grated Carrots 1 Teaspoon Mixed Spice
 Rind of ½ orange, finely grated 1 Teaspoon Baking Powder; Pinch of Salt

For the Topping

8oz/240gm Low-Fat Soft Cheese 2 Tablespoons Low-Fat Natural Yogurt
 1 Tablespoon Honey Fine strips of orange Rind, to decorate
 2 Teaspoons Orange Juice

**Method:** Pre-heat Oven to 180° C/ 350° F/Gas Mark 4.

Heat the honey, sugar & oil, stirring until sugar melts. Allow to cool. In a food processor, or blender, blend the honey mixture with the eggs and grated carrots. In a separate large bowl, mix together the flour, salt, baking powder, spice & grated rind. Pour in the honey & carrot mixture. Beat together. Transfer mixture to a lined 2lb/960gm loaf tin. **Bake** for approx. 1 hour until well-risen, golden brown & firm to the touch. Leave in tin for 10 minutes. Turn out to cool.

Topping: Beat together the soft cheese, yogurt, honey & orange juice. Spread mixture over the top & sides of the cake. Decorate with the strips of rind. Store in the fridge. Eat within 2/3 days.

* * * * *

3. TOMATO RICE **Ingredients:** 9oz/275gms dry weight Basmati Rice; 13oz/400gm can Tomatoes; 1 small onion, finely chopped; 15fl.oz/450ml vegetable Stock; 1 small Carrot, grated; 1 level teaspoon of Ground Cumin; Salt & Pepper; Juice of 1 Orange (optional)

Method: Put all ingredients in pan. Simmer, covered, for 20 minutes or until the liquid is absorbed & the rice is tender. Delicious with a plain grill. Serves 4. **Mary**

Brown

The season of Lent has taken us back to the lovely reading of Adam and Eve eating the forbidden apple in the Garden of Eden. The Book of Genesis was written to answer the “Why?” question, and not always the “How?” that we ask today. Nevertheless, the story of the fall of man has great truth for today.

As soon as Adam and Eve are found out, they resort to the basic human trick of pushing the blame onto someone else. “It’s not my fault, it was the woman.” says Adam. “No, it’s not, it was the serpent that tricked me.” says Eve. We always seem to have difficulty in facing up to our own faults and failings, and it is far easier to see instead the failings in others.

Politicians are always doing this, finding the words “I’m sorry, but I got it wrong,” impossible to say, and finding every way to put the blame on others.

Nationally we often do it, pushing the ills of society onto the victims. Would the “yobs” in our inner cities terrorise, resort to drugs, go on the rampage, vandalise etc., if they were in gainful employment? The devil does find work for idle hands, but why are they idle?

Internationally we try to demonise a group, to save us looking at ourselves. The communist world fitted the bill for many years, but when their empire collapsed we needed a replacement. Saddam Hussein came along to fit the bill, having previously been armed, trained and supported by the West in the war with Iran. The terrible events of September 11th have now given us another demon, International Terrorism, and some in the West seem determined to pursue this conflict into many other countries. I find this worrying. Do you?

Whilst not condoning in any way the appalling happenings of September 11th, or any other terrorist attack, millions more people die of hunger, Aids or preventable disease, lack of clean water, poor sanitation, and grinding poverty made worse by the unfair nature of world trade. With so much suffering it is surely a scandal that we spend far more on weapons trying to destroy each other, than we do trying to help. The demons at our door save us from looking at ourselves, but if we are to make the world a better place we must start by looking at the demons within ourselves, by taking responsibility for our own actions and facing up to some uncomfortable questions. Adam and Eve still have a great deal to teach us.

Revd Paul Peverell, Vicar of Great Ayton

No doubt admitting to being a motorcyclist will conjure diverse thoughts dependant on your perception or age group. For example, if you live in or near Bilsdale you will be affected by people riding replica race machines, travelling - or aspiring to travel - at great speed, with little or no regard for others; you may imagine 'Hells Angels' riding either downright scruffy bikes or, alternatively, 'Easy Rider' Harley Davidson types. This listing however is by no means exhaustive!

My personal initiation started at an early age via my father, who was a lifelong enthusiast for all modes of personal transport, be that 2, 3 or 4 wheels. I have early recollections of riding in his various cars or riding pillion with him to the various motor or motorcycle sport venues throughout the area that existed 45 or 50 years ago. Being privileged to witness, at close quarters, the likes of Geoff Duke, John Surtees & Bob Macintyre at Oliver's Mount made a lasting impression upon me, as did the numerous grass track, 'scrambling', or sand racing stars of their day.

At 16 an 'autocycle' came & went, being replaced by a James Cadet upon which my test was passed. At this point my father gave me a 1949 BSA 350, sold for a 500 AJS, which was replaced by an OHC Velocette - all before I was 17! Clearly, serving a mechanical apprenticeship with Dorman Long helped develop my interest in all things mechanical. The meagre wages also assisted: as money was short, most motorcycle problems were overcome by a combination of in-house manufacture & improvisation.

Day to day riding & leisure requirements were catered for by numerous other good old British machines during the following years. A trip to the Isle of Man as a spectator during the TT races cemented my sporting aspirations however. I decided that to compete on the world's most arduous road racing circuit was to be my ultimate goal.

Clearly it is not possible to just turn up & ride at a race meeting of any description, let alone one held on the world's premier circuit. An 'apprenticeship' has to be served via experience gained whilst riding in 'short circuit' meetings, held at various venues throughout the country, where points are awarded against your finishing order gained in respective races.

My first speed events were sand races held at Saltburn, Redcar, Filey & Seaton Carew riding either Scott, Velocette, AJS or Dot makes of machines. Perhaps my results could be described as 'outstandingly mediocre'. However, road racing was my goal so a BSA Goldstar was purchased for £25 (it needed work!). My first meeting was at Croft. Whilst results were poor it was like food & drink to me just to be part of the scene - and I perceived that I was a member of the road racing fraternity! During the following 2 road racing seasons I competed at numerous meetings held throughout the country, with some minor success, but the enjoyment factor was still as high as ever. During one Bank Holiday, I competed in meetings held in Derbyshire, Cheshire,

Lincolnshire & Westmorland, transport being an ex GPO mail van, my father's Riley & trailer or a sidecar combination with the body removed in order to accommodate the race bike.

Once sufficient points were gained whilst competing, a national licence was awarded via the ACU, the controlling body of all 2 & 3-wheeled sporting activity, then it was possible to submit an entry in order to be considered for a ride in the Isle of Man. The first 2 were unsuccessful: possibly because they considered me too young, or because my entry was for the senior or 50Occ class. I collected parts in order to construct a 25Occ capacity bike & following completion & subsequent testing a successful entry was made to compete in the 1969 Lightweight Manx Grand Prix. I have entered races conducted on the TT course every year since, with the exception of 2001 due to postponement because of Foot & Mouth.

For the uninitiated, races on the IOM mountain course are usually of 4 laps duration, each lap being 37.75 miles long on closed public roads with all attendant hazards, and there are no gravel traps or run off areas as on modern circuits. Several years ago races were of 6 laps duration: 226 miles - a true test of man & machine. These days I concentrate on 'Classic' classes, but please don't form the opinion that the entry list is comprised of old misty-eyed nostalgics staggering round at a snail's pace waving to their friends - the lap speeds achieved are normally higher than when the machines were new. It is possible to purchase a replica 1950's machine manufactured to modern standards but my bikes are the genuine article with a nice battle-scarred patina. These days I ride a modern bike on the road, usually every day to work, winter & summer in all weathers, though I draw the line at snow or heavy ice as modern car drivers drive far too fast & close in poor conditions, I also compete in hill climbs & standing start sprints, principally locally, mainly on pre-war bikes, with again some minor success.

However, as with the previous 32 years it is the prospect of competing yet again in this year's Manx Grand Prix that gets my adrenalin flowing & because I own & prepare the bikes myself I gain even more satisfaction than those fellow competitors who either pay others to work on their machines or have sponsors paying the bills.

The bonus, however, is meeting the numerous super people encountered in association with motorcycling in general, from all over the world, some of whom have become close friends. It is my intention to continue for a number of years to come, health & finances permitting, not to mention the tolerance of my long-suffering wife Marion!

So, if you have the desire to compete in speed events - do it! Don't just sit back, probably being critical of others who are competing & most likely enjoying themselves more than you are! Should you want any advice on the matter please give me a call:

Grant Sellars: 711349

As the nights grow lighter and the snowdrops raise their heads our thoughts turn to Spring after the long dark winter. Although we are always busy at the Health Centre, **Winter**, as you will appreciate, is one of our busiest times of year. A large percentage of Doctor/Nurse time is taken up by requests for treatment of minor coughs and colds. Usually these have to run their natural course but here are a few helpful tips which may make an appointment unnecessary.....

Coughs & Colds: The symptoms, which can include cough, nasal catarrh, sore throat, headache and a raised temperature, usually last for no more than 2 weeks and are self limiting. There are numerous different cold viruses around and it is not uncommon for someone to be infected by more than one in quick succession, giving the impression that the condition is not settling. Antibiotics have no effect at all on the disease although they often make the patient feel worse. Simple remedies such as Paracetamol (in syrup form for children) help bring down a temperature and ease aches and pains, and a simple linctus can ease a tickly cough, It also helps to increase fluid intake.

For patients who use our **Chiropody Service**, I would like to confirm that this facility is going to remain, being provided by Northallerton Trust from 1st April 2002. Unfortunately, the finer details have yet to be confirmed. If you are due to come after this date the Health Centre can advise you.

Many of you will have met our Registrar Dr. Linda Smith who was with us for six months from last August. In February she went on to the 2nd half of her training at James Cook University Hospital (i.e. South Cleveland). Hopefully she will return to us in 2004. Still in "**Training mode**" the practice will have a 5th year Medical Student here, from 4th - 28th March, working alongside Dr. Green and Dr. Blackledge. If asked, "Would you mind seeing a student and then a Doctor?" I hope you would co-operate as this is a very important part of their training.

At some point in our lives we all need a little extra help. Many of you will already be looking after a relative, friend or neighbour, without thinking of yourself as a 'Carer'. At Great Ayton Health Centre on the second Wednesday of every month at 2pm we have a '**Carers Group**' where Carers can get together over a cup of tea, discuss their problems and get advice from qualified staff. This is open to everyone, so please feel free to come along.

Appointments are always at a premium and whilst we appreciate that the majority of patients only come to see the Dr/Nurse when necessary, I would ask that before you make an appointment, just take a minute to think "Is this really necessary?" Also, it would be a great help if, when you cannot keep an appointment, you contact the Health Centre to let us know. You may not be aware that the reason you cannot always get an appointment is that we do have a large percentage of "Non-Attendees" - the Receptionists are not being difficult.

Finally, on a brighter note - we can all look forward to Summer and experiencing fewer ailments!

Ann Howard, Practice Manager, Great Ayton Health Centre



Donald Petch (recently semi-retired from his Butcher's business in High Street)

1. **How long have you lived here?** All my life – 72 years so far!
2. **What do you most enjoy about living here?** I've been in business here for 60 years and consequently know many people. Now, on meeting them, I have more time to enjoy their friendship. Ayton is a unique village with a wonderful atmosphere, as well as its natural beauty, and with assets such as our wonderful Health Centre.
3. **What is your favourite book?** "A Town Like Alice" by Neville Shute. Having spent my two years' National Service in Malaya & Singapore, where much of the story is set, as I read I can almost smell the jungle, & sweat at the thought of the heat and humidity.
4. **What is your favourite music?** Literally any music by Tchaikowsky and any song sung by Shirley Bassey (& lots of music in between!)
5. **What is your favourite food?** Roast beef (Petch's of course!) roast potatoes, roast parsnips, with cauliflower & leek in white sauce, followed by trifle & a snooze – that's all – I'm on a diet!
6. **What is your favourite pastime?** The Theatre.
7. **What has been your most memorable holiday?** Several – all in America.
8. **What would be your dream holiday?** I would love to re-live my experience of Malaya and Singapore.
9. **What is the best advice you have ever been given?** "If you can't say something good about someone, don't say anything." - a little from a lot of good advice from my Mother.
10. **Which famous living person would you like to have dinner with?** The Surgeon who performed the quadruple by-pass on me 4 years ago – a wonderful gentleman.
11. **Which famous historical person most interests you?** George Washington.
12. **What is the most useful skill you have learnt?** I have found that gardening is not all that it's cracked up to be – my fingers are definitely not green!
13. **What achievement are you most proud of?** With a lot of help, from a lot of people, over a long period of time: I have achieved a degree of success with my business.
14. **What might surprise people about you?**

I have always enjoyed work – it has never, ever, been a chore to me.

* * * * *

As Margaret, who suggested this feature and was the first to be "revealed" in it, suggested that Donald Petch should be asked next, I have asked Donald to suggest the next person to ask. Ed.

The National Trust's Mark Bradley with Roseberry School:

We are creating a small native woodland at **Roseberry School** with funding from Norwich Union Guardianships. We also use the funds to transport the children to **Saltburn Woodland Centre** (Mark's base now) to compare the history and wildlife of the area with that of Great Ayton and Roseberry.

The tree-planting in progress!

A Year 2 class wrote some poems about various forms of Transport – very topical!**The Bus**

*The bus goes zooming along the road,
Ppsh, bang, ppsh, bang,
The bus goes slowly along the road,
Ppsh, bang, ppsh, bang.
Through the town,
Over the bridge,
Past the airport,
Next to the bus stop,
Near the houses,
Beside the sea,
Up the hills,
Across the racetrack
Ppsh, bang, ppsh, bang,
Ppsh, bang, ppsh, bang,*

The Boat

*The boat goes running down the stream,
Shwish shwash, shwish shwash,
The boat goes running past the green,
Shwish shwash, shwish shwash.
Out of the river,
On to the sea,
In to a cave,
Watch out it is spooky,
Out of the river,
On to an island,
Off the island,
Back home.
Shwish shwash, shwish shwash,
Shwish shwash, shwish shwash.*

By Becky

The Car

*The car goes speeding along the hills,
Vvvvv vvvv vvv.
The car goes zuwmming through the town,
Vvvvv vvvv vvv.
Out of the town,
Through the hills,
Under the bridge,
Next to the track,
Near the sea,
Through the tunnel,
Into the fields,
Over the ridges.
Vvvv vvvvv vvvvvv vvv
Vvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvv....*

By Lucy

The Wagon

*The wagon goes quickly into a yard,
Vroom psh vroom psh.
The wagon goes flying out of the yard,
Vroom psh vroom psh.
In to the town,
Over the bridge,
Around the hill,
Next to the sea,
Along the road,
Next to factories,
Along past the houses,
Under the tunnel.
Vroom psh vroom psh.
Vroom psh vroom psh.*

By James

With flowers and shrubs breaking into bud and Spring just around the corner there has never been a better time for getting into those wellies and heading out into the garden.

Now I know that may sound a little rash but I promise you a little effort put into the garden now will save you a lot of effort later in the year.....

Start by getting yourself a compost bin - if you haven't already got one of course!

- This simple addition to your garden will save you many a trip to the tip and, better still, provide you with the best soil conditioner money can't buy.
- You will need to be careful about what you put into the bin: stick to uncooked kitchen scraps and garden waste and be sure to go easy on the grass clippings.
- I find I get the best results by mixing approximately half kitchen scraps and grass clippings to half dry garden waste. Keep the heap damp - the odd can of water usually does the trick and before you know it your garden rubbish will have turned into black gold!

Even the keenest gardener can get bored with **weeding** and for those with no interest in gardening at all it can be a complete nightmare. The simplest way to stop unwanted plants from growing where you don't want them is to cover the bare soil with something that will **stop light** from reaching the little weed seeds and allowing them to germinate. The term used to describe all such materials is a mulch and by far the most popular mulch around at the moment is **composted wood chips**. Available in 80 litre bags this simple and, most importantly, cheap, material can be spread around the base of trees and shrubs and will go a long way to solving your weed problems. For best results make sure you clear the ground to be covered of perennial weeds such as couch grass and thistles and then put on a layer of wood chips about three inches deep.

Finally, how about something for the wildlife in your garden? Now I could recommend that you should put up a bird box, picking a shady corner away from the neighborhood cat, but I had something smaller in mind: **Bees**. Collect some **wine corks**; you see gardening isn't such a chore after all! String them together on a piece of wire and form a cork ring. Drop the ring into your water butt and any bees that fall in whilst having a drink can clamber onto the corks, dry out and fly away. Your very own bee life raft!

Simon Cross

of The Botanic Centre, a WEA Course in Ayton, & now a Television series!

(– not that Simon mentioned any of these activities, but I thought you would like to know! Ed.)

42 Guisborough Forest & Walkway Events – March to December 2002

From Deborah Jefferson

Tel: 01287 631132 for ALL enquiries & bookings

EASTER HOLIDAY EVENTS

Wed 27th March: Mad March Mosaics, 10am – noon & 1pm – 3pm. £1. Please Book.

Thurs 28th March: Bunny Bonanza, 1pm – 4pm. £1. Please Book.

Tues 2nd – Fri 5th April: Events daily. (Orienteering, painting, making kites, dens & pottery)
£1 per event, but free on production of a valid bus ticket. Please ring for details.

Wed 17th April: Capt.Cook Trail. 9 mile walk. Need stout footwear & packed lunch. Please Book.
Walk in the Woods Weekend (National Event)

Sun 5th May: 10am. 8 mile circular walk via Highcliffe Nab. Need stout footwear & packed lunch.

Mon 6th May:10am. 2 mile walk: suit families with small children or people with mobility problems.

Sun 26th May: Dawn Chorus & BBQ Breakfast: 5am – 7am. £3.50. Please Book.

Wed 5th June: The Wild Side of the RSPCA: Time to be arranged. £1 for RSPCA. Please Book.

Thurs 6th June: Corn Dolly Creations: 10am – noon & 1pm – 3pm. All ages. £1. Please Book.

Wed 12th June: Summer Scenes: 10am – 4pm. Watercolour Workshop. £5. Please Book.

Wed 12th June: On yer Bike: 6pm start. First Annual Bike Orienteering Event. £1.

Thurs 20th June: Tees Forest Trail Run: 7pm. Second series of 5km runs being held at various
locations within the Tees Forest. Price not yet known. Please ring for details & entry forms.

Thurs 27th June: Badger Watch: 6.30pm - 10.30pm. Join us for a night of badger watching from
specially constructed hide, Cropton Forest. Transport provided. £8. Limited places. Please Book.

Wed 10th July: Wildflower Wander: 8 miles:Eston Nab. Stout footwear, own lunch. Please Book.

SUMMER HOLIDAY EVENTS: 2 separate weeks of daily camps:

Mon 22nd - Fri 26th July: DAY CAMP ONE & Mon 19th - Fri 23rd August: DAY CAMP TWO

7th successful year. A week of fun environmental activities. 9am – 4pm.

For 8-12 year olds. £35 per child per week. Early booking essential.

Wed 31st July: Teddy Bears' Treasure Hunt. Noon – 3pm. 50p. Ring for details.

Wed 7th Aug: Wet n Wild. 1pm – 4pm: Explore our ponds; make a minibeast. £1. Please Book.

Wed 14th August: Get Shirty. 1pm – 4pm: Design & paint your own T- shirt. Prizes. £1.

Fri 30th August: Nocturnal Neighbours: 7.30pm – 10pm. Spend an evening discovering more
about the bats and owls in Guisborough forest. £3 with BBQ. £1 without. Booking essential.

Wed 4th Sept: Focus on Photography: 10am-4pm. 6 miles. Stout footwear; own lunch. Pl. Book.

Sun 6th October: Fantastic Fungus: 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm. Ceramic model making with a
fungus theme or join our annual Fungus Foray. £1 per half day session. Fired ceramic models
to be collected the following Sunday. Please Book.

Sun 13th October: Seed Gathering Sunday: 10am – 4pm. To help us, please collect a container
at the Centre, collect seeds from our trees & return them to the Warden for future planting. Free!

Sun 20th October: Appealing Apple Day: 11am – 3pm. To celebrate national Apple Day. Free.

Thurs 24th October: Wild about Wood: 10am – Noon and 1pm – 3pm. **43**

Watch an expert woodcarver in action then try it yourself. For adults, & children over 8. £1.

Thurs 31st October: Halloween Spooktacular: 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Terrifying Trail through Guisborough Forest. Fancy dress? 50p, incl. hot drink.

Wed 6th November: Map Reading made easy: 10am – 4pm. £1. Booking essential.

Sat 30th November & Sun 1st December: Guisborough Forest Fayre: 9am – 3pm.

First ever, to celebrate end of National Tree Week & Tree Dressing Day. Stalls, demonstrations, entertainments, childrens' activities, etc. Location to be arranged. Please ring for further details.

Sun 15th December, 1pm – 3pm & Thurs 19th December, 5pm – 7pm: Crafty Creations:.

Create Christmas decorations using natural & recycled materials. £2. Please Book.

Sun 22nd December: Choral Christmas: 11am – Noon & 1pm – 2pm. Local Choir & Brass Band.

Mince pies & hot drinks afterwards. No charge, but donations for local charities welcome.

December Weekends: 10am – 3pm. Forestry Commission-grown Christmas Trees on sale.

LOCAL EVENTS from our NATIONAL TRUST AREA WARDEN, Mark Bradley

Tues. 2nd April: Traditional Games at Saltburn **Woodland Centre, 1pm – 4pm**

FUN time: Games the Victorians would have played (with a countryside twist).

Organised by the NT + Redcar & Cleveland.

Wed. 17th April: Roseberry to Saltburn Walk **Booking essential. Lifts available from**
Walk the Cleveland Way from Roseberry to Saltburn. the Woodland Centre to Roseberry, 9am.
Join the Wardens of the National Trust + Redcar & Cleveland Council. Tel: 01287 626795.

21- 23 June: Festival of Walking: Roseberry

A weekend of walks with the NT + R&C.

For a programme ring NT: 01287 626795

Accommodation available.

or Redcar & Cleveland: 01642 444187.

Thurs. 27th June: Saltburn Flower Walk **Meet at Cat Nab car park 11am.**

See what flower species can be found in Little Dale. Steep hillsides.

Mon. 8th July: Landrover Safari: Roseberry **£15 includes buffet lunch & entrance**
Travel by foot & Landrover round Roseberry & the NT's to Tom Leonard Mining Museum.
coastal properties, looking at the mining history & wildlife. Meet at Newton under Roseberry car
Steep hills on walks. park, 9am. Book on 01287 626795.

Sun. 14th July: River mini-beast Open Day: Saltburn

Look at the beasts living in the river. Guess the tools. Saltburn Woodland Centre, 11am – 3pm
Have a go at Drystone Walling.

Mon. 15th July: Rock Pool Safari: Saltburn

Delve into the underwater world of rock pools. Meet the warden outside the Ship Inn, 1pm.

Sun. 28th July: Circus Skills Workshop: Saltburn

Learn various juggling & balancing skills with help Saltburn Woodland Centre, 1 – 4pm
from the Wardens. Also, learn about the work of the National Trust + Redcar & Cleveland Council.

44 News from the RSPCA Great Ayton Animal Centre



The RSPCA centre was opened on 25th June 1990, to serve Cleveland, North Yorkshire and surrounding areas by supporting the already established RSPCA local branches in their work, to assist the RSPCA Inspectors and deal with the re-homing of unwanted animals.

The original facilities included 52 kennels to house up to 75 dogs, and 24 cat pens to house up to 40 cats. These facilities have been greatly improved by the addition of a small animal unit, housing rabbits, guinea pigs and most other small animals and wildlife, a stable block comprising 2 loose boxes and a tack room for larger domestic animals, and a further block of 6 kennels increasing our limit to 81 dogs. More recently there has been a new car park built and a further 2 paddocks created, with the existing stable block in one paddock and a brand new stable block in the other, purchased by **THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA GREAT AYTON**.

The Friends are a fund-raising group of volunteers who tirelessly raise money for the benefit of the animals in this centre. Their biggest fund-raising event is the Centre's annual GALA DAY, including stalls, children's rides and a fun Dog Show. They also continually raise money throughout the year at Coffee Mornings and other local shows and events. The money they raise has helped us in many ways over the years with the purchase of equipment such as computers, digital scales, a laminator, re-vamping the cattery and small animal house, providing veterinary treatment, and paying for 2 YTs.

This year our GALA DAY is on SUNDAY 30th JUNE, which hopefully will be well attended (weather permitting!) as last year's had to be cancelled due to Foot and Mouth. We are also holding a **MICRO-CHIPPING EVENT** on the weekend of **13th & 14th APRIL, from 2 – 4pm**, when members of the public can bring their cats and dogs along to be micro-chipped at a special reduced rate. The Friends will also be holding a Tombola Stall in Reception. We have recently increased our Volunteer base at the Centre and our Volunteers help out with everything from dog walking to fund-raising. **We will continue to welcome new Volunteers**, and are running regular Health & Safety Induction Sessions.

Whilst we no longer require donations of newspapers, we are now in desperate need of your **OLD BLANKETS AND TOWELS** to use in the kennels and cattery as bedding for the animals.

The Centre is open from 11am – 4pm daily except Mondays.

Tel: (01642) 724016. Please ring before coming.

We are very grateful for the continued support of local people. Thank you.

Debbie Adams, Centre Manager.

The Methodist Church in Great Ayton and the Manse at 30 Guisborough Road will soon be alive with a different foreign accent! For six weeks Dermot and Charlene Thornberry will be swapping homes with a Methodist Minister and his family as part of the annual pastoral exchange existing within the Methodist Church.

Having done this once before, in 1998, when we exchanged with a couple from Ohio, we are really looking forward to enjoying the experience. This period will see Dermot taking on the usual pastoral duties e.g. visiting, funerals, counselling, etc, as well as taking the Sunday services. Drawing on past experience there is also an expectation to be involved in the Vacation Bible School, as our time there will coincide with the school holidays. Added to this, there are usually queues of locals wanting to show us around the places of interest, to ensure that we return to England with a basic knowledge of the area where we will be based, which is Wrightsville Beach (on the Atlantic Coast) North Carolina.

The exchange couple are **Tim and Pam Russell**, who will be arriving some time in June with their two children, **Holly** aged 13 and **John** aged 11. This will be the Russells' first trip to England as a family and they, too, are most enthusiastic about their visit. Between now and their arrival it is hoped that some of the young people in our Rock Club, etc, will start communicating with Holly and John.

Obviously the Russells will be part of the Ayton community for the 6 weeks just as we will be part of the Wrightsville Beach community – so if you come across them in the village do make them feel welcome – they're the Methodist family without the golden retrievers!

Charlene Thornberry

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Further News of Claire Stainsby

After nearly 3 years of training for the Methodist Ministry, I now know where I am going: to **Scarborough**, to take charge of 3 churches in a circuit of 12 churches and 5 ministers. I am really pleased and excited about the appointment. I will be living in Falsgrave, in a late Victorian house with 4 bedrooms and a cellar! I am already planning barbecues in the very nicely situated back yard! I know that I can expect lots of visitors, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

Two of the churches are in Falsgrave; my third is at Burniston, 5 miles north of Scarborough. All three churches are very "happening" places. All have music groups. All have run Alpha courses. With so much going on, I expect that life will be very busy from September, but then that's nothing new to me! From the moment I heard about the appointment it has seemed very right for me in every respect. I'm looking forward to getting started.

Firstly, a note on staffing at Stokesley Police Station: Sergeant Dave Merritt, well known after many years service in the area, has had his temporary Sergeant's post confirmed as permanent. I myself transferred across from Whitby on promotion in November. One of the things about moving into an area is that you tend to look upon things afresh. One point which has impressed me in the short time I have been here is the level of Public/Police support, the number, activity and effectiveness of the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, and the willingness of the local people to notice, and report as suspicious, things which they recognise as unusual locally. With the best will in the world we can not be everywhere, all of the time. Such co-operation by members of the public can give us a real head start by increasing our chances of being in the right place at just the right time.

Summer draws near with the promise of better weather. Our lifestyles alter, spending more time outdoors and maybe going away on holidays. While relaxed or preoccupied we sometimes get caught out by forgetting basic security principles. Don't leave valuables on view in your car and lock it at all times (even if you're only away from it for a minute or so). Be aware that while you are busy at the top end of your garden you may not be able to see or monitor who is going through your front door. On an evening, tidy round and lock things up.

If you are going away, leaving your home unoccupied, there are many simple ways in which you can help to protect the security of your property:



1 Make arrangements to avoid the obvious signs of the property being unoccupied.

Milk/papers being left on the doorstep, a build up of mail in the letterbox or on the hallway floor.

If you're away for a long time can someone mow your lawn?

2 Make the premises look occupied. Leave some of your lights on a timer. If your neighbours have 2 cars on their drive, why not get them to leave one on yours while you are away?

3 Chosen entry points are usually out of view at the side or rear. Consider having security lights, and lowering hedges and shrubs to increase visibility from the road and neighbouring properties.

4 Make your neighbours aware that you will be away and leave a key with one.

Inform Stokesley Police Station that your house will be unoccupied.

5 If you have an alarm fitted, set it!!! You would be surprised how many people do not.

6 Is any of your property security marked? Advice & equipment is available through the Police.

Finally, on a slightly different note: over the last couple of months about 25% of all the incidents in the village reported to the police have involved complaints over the behaviour of **children and young persons**. With the onset of summer, children and young people will naturally be spending more and more time around outside.....

Do you know where yours are tonight, who they are with, and what they are up to?

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Please do not hesitate to contact us on any policing matter. Call in & see us or ring **01609 783131** (Central Switchboard) and ask for Stokesley Police Station. **Sergeant Martin McLachlan**

Family, Friendship and Fun



The Masonic lodge was formed in 1996, as a result of conversations to the effect that: "There are enough Masons in Ayton to form a Lodge".

Our first meeting was held in the Music Room in the Friends School and it was unfortunate that, just as the Lodge was settling down, the school closed and we lost our home. However, the members were determined that Ayton Lodge would remain in Ayton, as opposed to moving to existing Lodge premises in either of the adjacent towns. After some study, searching and enquiry, we found a new home in the Women's Institute Hall in Newton Road. Having moved in there, we have recovered and are now thriving.

We have 40 members, with the majority of them living in the village and the rest in the surrounding area. We would welcome enquiries re membership from elsewhere – but despite our meeting place we are Men Only, as opposed to the W.I. who are Ladies Only.

Our Masonic life is not intended to be inward looking and we are determined to play our part in village life by offering support, both physically and financially, to activities and groups within the village. Nor are our Ladies forgotten as we organise social events which bring our families and friends together – our rallying call is: Family, Friendship and Fun.

A National Masonic Initiative is being conducted from within our ranks, and directed by Grand Lodge in London, to increase awareness of Masonry amongst the general public.

For our part, we are holding an Open Day on Saturday 6th April, between 10.30am & 2.30pm. Our Lodge Room in the W.I. Hall will be open to all, the Temple will be set out ready for a meeting, and a number of Brethren will be on hand to talk about Masonry and what it means to them.

I take this opportunity to issue an invitation to all the people in the village:

Come and see Masonry as it exists in Great Ayton.

S. M. Kayley

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF DOREEN JAGELS

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, our main event in 2001 was a visit to our twin village of Ouzouer by a group of 6 of the Bradley School of Dancing, with friends, parents & members of the Association - 48 in all. This year, from **APRIL 5th - 7th** we shall, in return, play hosts to a group of Ouzouer's dancers who will give a performance in the Parochial Church Hall. The group will consist of 20 dancers and, as in France last year, our traditional ballet & tap dancing will alternate with modern jazz dance from the French group: "Orajazz". The people of Ouzouer are so enthusiastic in their support of the twinning scheme that 38 friends & association members will accompany the dancers. We thought that we should have difficulty finding families to accommodate such a large party but, thankfully, hosts have been found for almost all. This was made easier because several families whose daughters danced in France last year were anxious to repay the hospitality they received there and some have now joined the Association.

Although some members drop in for unofficial visits during holidays, I mentioned last time that we are planning **a group visit to Ouzouer this year during the half-term holiday at the end of October**, as visits in alternate years seem inadequate to maintain enthusiasm & friendships. We have already had an encouraging response. As usual we shall be travelling by coach & staying with host families in Ouzouer. The cost is usually about £60 & children are subsidized. We like to include as many young people as possible, for the future of the Association lies with them - hence the football matches in 1999 & 2000 & the visits by young dancers last year & this.

We welcome anyone who is interested in meeting ordinary French families living in a village not so different from Great Ayton. Ouzouer is not the picturesque travel-brochure village of old moss-covered houses nestling round a chateau, with ancient peasants in berets playing boules in the village square. Though surrounded by agricultural land, not many of the inhabitants are engaged in agriculture but work for the "EDF" ie "Electricité de France" &, as in Great Ayton, live in modern houses. While Ayton sits at the foot of the North York Moors, bisected by the River Leven, Ouzouer lies on the banks of the River Loire at the edge of one of the largest forests in Europe, the forest of Orleans, where the rare Osprey has recently returned to nest. Ouzouer has an elected (part-time) mayor, a purpose-built modern Town Hall & excellent sports facilities. Like Great Ayton, Ouzouer has no secondary school but does have a primary school and steps are being taken to establish links between their school & ours. At Christmas the Ouzouer children made Christmas cards which they sent, with messages, to our children. If plans for foreign language teaching in primary schools materialize, this link should provide a real incentive & opportunity for Roseberry's pupils to make use of what they learn. **There is still room on the list for the visit to Ouzouer next October, so if you are interested or would like further information, contact me, on 722585, or any member of the Association.**

Daphne W Hull, Secretary

Our next concert will be on Good Friday, March 29, at Great Ayton Methodist Church, starting at 7.30 p.m. Please ensure that you have a ticket (available from choir members) if you wish to attend, to avoid disappointment. Tickets are free, but there will be a collection for the Bible Society. The concert will consist of music by Buxtehude, Bach, Brahms and Handel, including solos from the Messiah sung by Carol Morgan (choir member) and visiting soloists Val MacConachie, Brian Hague and Gareth Neal. The accompaniment will be played by Stephen Maltby on the organ.

Next September we will be short of tenors because of young people leaving to go to university. We like to encourage new singers – if interested, please contact **Margaret Heaton: 723046.**

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Marwood Church of England V. C. Infant School

The School, of 60 pupils, is celebrating an excellent report from November's Ofsted inspection. The report describes a "very good school where pupils achieve well and attain high standards in reading, writing, mathematics and religious education". In describing what the school does well, the report drew attention to the very good teaching throughout the school, the head teacher's excellent leadership and the very good links with parents. These are supported by the caring "family" atmosphere underpinned by Christian values. The school gets the best out of pupils of all levels of attainment. Pupils' behaviour is good and their attitudes, personal development and relationships were all found to be very positive.

The school enjoys very good links with the parents and a thriving PTFA is very supportive providing additional funds to benefit all pupils. Plans are already underway to address the one key issue raised by the report regarding the improvement of outdoor play provision for the younger children in order to follow national guidance.

Head teacher, **Mrs Vivienne Smith**, said how thrilled they all were at the extremely positive report.

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AYTON TODDLERS

Bring your baby, toddler or pre-school child to Great Ayton Methodist Hall on Thursdays:

10 – 11.30am & 1.30 – 3pm. Term time only. £1 per session & we share the jobs.

A cuppa, biscuit & chat for the Mums, Dads, Grans, Grandads, Nannies and Carers!

Toys & activities for the children. Occasional outings & Fun Days.

Margaret Hopper (722044) & Julia Jewitt (723636)

BE SEEN!

Calling all local organisations, clubs, schools, playgroups and individuals!

Gt Ayton Library would like to hear from **YOU** if you would like to put on a **display** in the **Library**. This service is **FREE** and we have plenty of display space available both in the adult Library and in the children's section.

Contact the Library on **723268** for more information

NOT JUST BOOKS...

While books remain the staple stock of the Library we also loan out videos, children's storytapes and adult audio books.

VIDEOS cost just £1.80 per tape per week and as well as classic feature films, such as Psycho, Guns of Navarone, The Piano and Zulu, we regularly add more recent titles to stock (American Beauty, and What lies Beneath to name just two). Popular TV series such as Sharpe, Heartbeat, Inspector Morse and Friends are also available at Great Ayton Library. The children's Library also has a varied selection of films, television programmes, songs and rhymes, all on video.

AUDIO BOOKS cost 60p per tape per week (free of charge to visually impaired customers) We have a large stock with titles ranging from classics by Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins to thrillers by John Grisham, Dick Francis and Stephen King and lighter novels by Catherine Cookson, Rosamund Pilcher and many more.

STORYTAPES in the children's Library sometimes come with accompanying books and cost 60p per title for a 3-week loan. We have stories suitable for all ages of children and they are ideal for a long car journey.

So, next time you visit Great Ayton Library, remember - **NOT JUST BOOKS!**

Gt Ayton Library is also pleased to host the Community Care Association's **JIGSAW LIBRARY**.

This operates **here** every **THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 2pm – 4pm** (now in its 11th year). Borrow Children's Jigsaws for up to 3 weeks, Adult puzzles for up to 6 weeks. Only **25p** to join.

<u>Tel: 723268</u>				
<u>OPENING TIMES:</u> (Closed MONDAYS)			<u>REMEMBER....</u> EVERY VISIT	
<u>TUESDAY</u>	9.30 - 12.30 & 2.00 - 5.00		<u>USE IT OR LOSE IT!</u> COUNTS!	
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	only	2.00 - 5.00	OUR LIBRARY IS STILL EVERY	
<u>THURSDAY</u>	9.30 - 12.30 & 2.00 <u>until 7.00</u>		<u>UNDER THREAT IF UNDER USED!</u> TIME!	
<u>FRIDAY</u>	only	2.00 - 5.00	Use the Internet, borrow books, videos,	
<u>SATURDAY</u>	9.30 - 12.30	only.	tapes, read papers & notices, seek information	

As Dictators & sleazy politicians come & go, we are envied our distinguished Queen. When you have found all **20 WORDS about her** in the Square (some convoluted: reversed, upside-down, diagonal, bent – sometimes all within one word! - sharing letters..)

13 LETTERS WILL REMAIN UNUSED.

They make **TWO WORDS** which sum up the mood of the occasion for many of us.

TO ENTER: please send **THE 2 WORDS** 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: SATURDAY 27TH APRIL Results in the Library by Sat. 4th May.

**BE GRATEFUL: CELEBRATE HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN: DEDICATED SINCERE
LIFELONG SERVICE, DIGNITY, DIPLOMACY, COMMON WEALTH EXPERIENCE
FIFTY YEARS GOLDEN JUBILEE**

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RESULTS OF THE "COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS" WORDSEARCH, AUTUMN 2001

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

MRS Y BENTLEY

MRS MAUREEN SANDERS

MRS KAY ROBINSON

Farm Garth

Roseberry Crescent

Rosehill

The other 24 correct entries were received from: Mrs E M ARMITAGE, Beech Close; Mrs Eleanor BATCH, Wainstones Drive; Eric BOYCE, Marwood Drive; Mrs G BROWN, Hollygarth; Mrs Joyce BRUNT, Churchill Close; Mrs V BULLIS, Beech Close; Marina CHARLTON, Addison Road; Mrs A J CLARKSON Whinstone View; Mrs J CUMBOR, Sunnyfield; Mrs Margery CUMBOR, Station Road; Jo DEAN, Dikes Lane; Mrs M de WARDT, Hunter's Lodge; Mrs M DERWENT, Newton Road; Rebecca DUNN (9), Roseberry Cres; Mrs M E DUNNING, Hollygarth; Malcolm GOAT, Langbaugh Close; Eunice A HUGILL, Sunnyfield; Mrs A JOHNSON, Linden Grove; Miss Tracy JOHNSON (12), Addison Road; Irene MacDONALD, Hutton Rudby; Mrs Maureen THOM, Skottowe Crescent; Mrs Molly TURNBULL, Easby Lane; Mrs L WALKER, Roseberry Crescent; Mrs V WINTERSCHLADEN, Romany Road. **THANK YOU ALL FOR ENTERING.** Sorry all can't win! I always hope you all have fun doing my Puzzle!