

HEDDON GOSSIP



THE INDEPENDENT FREE PAPER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL

APRIL • MAY 2022

Aghhhh! The fence the fence!

Although no planning decision had been made by the Secretary of State, contractors for Hamilton Willis turned up early one March morning and over two days erected a two metre plus high fence along the northern boundary of the proposed building plot.

The fence has blocked all views across the valley and with feelings running high Lorraine Twizell met Northumberland planning who came and took measurements.

We have shown and told the planning officer that we think the fence is actually on council land.

Going forward, the officer is going to check with the highways dept that the lay-by qualifies as 'highway', he's going to check out the boundary dispute with his boss.

The land is not owned by Hamilton Willis, but remains in the hands of the original owners family - Mr Gilbert.

Mr Hamilton, one of the developers, has said that the fence has been erected to keep trespassers off their land and so avoid public liability insurance. It is there in preparation for their building work to protect US from noise and dust. They do not think they need permission for the fence.



MP for Heddon - Guy Opperman visiting 'the fence'
Photo: Courtesy of Guy Opperman

After seeing an article in a local newspaper and getting into the national press Heddon's Parliamentary MP - Guy Opperman paid a visit to the fence and pledged his support in the campaign to remove 'Heddon fence'

Guy Opperman statement reads...

'Over the weekend, I spoke with residents in Heddon-on-the-Wall on Centurion Way.

There is a pending planning application for 4 houses, but the developers have unilaterally put in a boundary fence which is:

- clearly on council land
- is too high

- without permission
 - encroaches on Karbon Homes land and possible prescriptive rights
 - and against basic good manners to the residents who are rightly upset
- I have urged Northumberland County Council to take urgent action on this. It is irrelevant to the planning application.*
- I have spent time on Sunday speaking to very upset residents. I share their upset.'*

Realistically, with the directorate's decision being made within the next few weeks, nothing will be done until that's made.

If it goes with them, then the fence will stay there until the build is complete. If it goes with us, then they'll probably be forced to lower/take it down.

The decision really is 50/50. We were lucky to get it refused first time around, we may not be so this time.

I feel I've done all I can. Thanks for your support !

Footnote: Lorraine has been back in touch with Northumberland planning and Guy Opperman on any progress but has heard nothing as we go to press.



The view across the valley to Clara Vale and beyond from Centurion Way before 'the fence' went up



The same view today from Centurion Way

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DRIVES CLEANED

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

St Andrew's Church is there for everyone not just for occasions like Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

We are currently making arrangements to have the church open at certain times during the summer. This will enable members of the community and tourists to call in and rest awhile, to marvel and admire the historic building and enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat or to spend some time in quiet reflection and prayer.

We have had three very successful social occasions recently when we have served lunch and discussed various topics. On Tuesday 5th April, we will be serving soup at noon and having a 'Palm Party' when we will be making palm crosses in preparation for the start of the Easter season.

Details of our Easter Services are at the end of this article.

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee we are organising an Everyone Project. This project was a very successful venture done by Stamfordham and Matfen Parish recently. The aim of it is to make a pom pom for every member of the Parish and display them in St. Andrew's Church in June. We think this will involve making approximately 1,700 pom poms. The Everyone Project is a wonderful opportunity to create a beautiful display which will celebrate every single individual who is part of our community. It will celebrate our individuality, our togetherness, our diversity and our similarities.

This is hoped to be a community project and Revd. Rachel is planning on visiting several groups and organisations around the village to encourage pom pom making – (look out the Football Team)!! It will provide an ideal opportunity, especially in these worrying times, to get together with friends, enjoy a coffee, have a chat all the while making a few pom poms. They can be any colour, plain or a mixture of colours, any texture of wool and any size. We do some have wool and pom pom makers in Church, so please contact a church member if you would like some supplies.

Collections of pom poms can be dropped off and stored at Church. Nearer the time of the Jubilee, we will count them up and have a meeting to discuss innovative ways to display them in Church. Thank you in anticipation of your support for this fun venture.

Useful Points of Contact :

Revd. Rachel Scheffer	01661 886853	r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org
Revd. Tom Birch	01661 853254	revdtombirch@gmail.com
Church Warden: Jane Tiffen	07305594059	m.tiffen@btinternet.com
Church Warden: Lynda Henderson	07907574575	lhndrsn56@gmail.com

1st Sunday of the month: Lay Led Worship. This is not Holy Communion but familiar prayers, Bible readings and hymns. The service usually lasts for about forty minutes.

2nd Sunday of the month: Holy Communion or Lay Lead Worship.

3rd Sunday of the month: Holy Communion.

4th Sunday of the month: Holy Communion.

When there is a **5th Sunday** in the month we all gather in one of the 5 parishes sharing 2 priests. Details will be shown on the various notice boards and via social media.

Easter Services

Sunday 10th April	Palm Sunday	Lay Led Worship at 10 a.m.
Thursday 14th April	Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion including washing of feet and stripping of the altar at 4 p.m.
Friday 15th April	Good Friday	Service at 10 a.m.
Saturday 16th April	Easter Eve	First service of Easter, a joint service which begins in Matfen Village Hall at 7 p.m. and concludes in Matfen Parish Church. We even have a bonfire in the middle of the service.
Sunday 17th April	Easter Day	Service of Holy Communion at 10 a.m.



Peace Dove and Ukrainian ribbons. St Andrews Church

EDITORIAL

A big thank you to everyone who sent in articles, club news and events and also to the businesses who advertised, as without the advertising and contributions Heddon Gossip would cease to exist.

After last months favourable feedback we have produced another walk starting and ending in the village, along with the usual history and gardening features.

With spring here we have including nature articles, featuring House Martins from Ruth Oatway and making 'seeds bombs' from Halls of Heddon.

Also inside are details of events for the Queens Platinum celebrations and Hadrian's Wall 1900 festival.

Heddon Gossip will do its best to be impartial of disputes in and around the village.

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TRUST FUND

To all pupils and former pupils of St. Andrew's school, Heddon-on-the-Wall, and any resident of the Parish of Heddon intending to take further education or training HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL EDUCATION AND TRAINING TRUST was set up nineteen years ago to award grants for the education and training of people resident in the Parish.

To provide items and services and facilities for the Heddon-on-the-Wall Church of England School as may from time to time be agreed by the trustees and the governors of the school. To promote the education (including social and physical training) of pupils and former pupils of the said school.

If you feel this applies to you and you wish to apply please contact Freda Phillipson on 01661 852287

The next deadline for consideration of applications is 18th May.



15th-22nd May, 2022

Christian Aid has been responding to humanitarian emergencies and disasters around the world since 1945, providing urgently needed immediate relief and long-term support. Christian Aid Week was founded more than 60 years ago to fight for justice. Today the crisis in Ukraine, climate change and the increasing number of natural disasters mean the work of Christian Aid and the people it supports is needed more than ever.

We hear a lot about refugees in the news but there are many more people who are displaced within their own countries, for example families who have lost everything due to natural disasters. Christian Aid is based in countries affected by disasters so they can be there before, during and after an emergency to save lives and support people long term. Through their work with local organisations in these countries, they can talk directly to the people affected to provide the most useful emergency response.

The world isn't getting any fairer. The income of some multinational companies exceeds that of entire countries whilst almost half the world's population live on less than £1.40 a day. For every pound Christian Aid raises, 86p goes directly into fighting poverty. Of this, 43p supports long-term development projects, 35p is spent on humanitarian aid and emergencies and 8p on campaigning, advocacy and education. The remaining 14p is invested in fundraising.

For more than 35 years Christian Aid week has been marked in Heddon with a house to house envelope scheme, which in 2021, despite the challenges of COVID, raised in excess of £1,600. Last year many people chose to return their envelope to the Post Office at the Shell Garage in Heddon which has generously offered to act as a collecting point again this year. Although the challenges are enormous, every penny is a step closer to a fairer world. If you are able to give a contribution when the red envelope comes through your door in May, you will be helping to ensure this essential work continues. Thank you.

Diane and Trevor Darwin

Wanted/Looking for

Most weeks residents are posting on Heddon Matters for recommendations or names of businesses or tradesmen who can carry out various jobs. Not all residents are on Heddon Matters but with Heddon Gossip you can reach every household in Heddon. From plumbing, to dog walking, making cakes, advertise your business in Heddon Gossip with a small sixteenth page advert with the small outlay of £9.00 per issue.

Ad Murum Singers

Spring Concert.
Cancelled

Now that the days are warmer and the evenings are lighter, Ad Murum Singers are again practicing each week. If you used to sing with the choir but have not yet returned, please do so. Covid restrictions are less restricting now. If you enjoy singing and have thought of joining a choir, come along, and you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Regrettably, the Ad Murum Concert which normally takes place in late May, is not to happen this year. This is due to the vagaries of "Covid," which has affected many events in various unfortunate ways. We optimistically hope that we will be able to perform for the village in December

The choir meets on Tuesday evenings at 7-30pm in Heddon Methodist Church.

Stay safe, *Chris Rand*

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Mobile: 07920148380

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

We had an interesting evening in February when two members from the Northumberland Honey Company, Luke and Anna, gave us an illustrated talk on their work as bee keepers, producing their wildflower honey, beeswax candles,

honey mead and handmade chocolates. March saw us celebrate 105 years of Heddon WI, the oldest in Northumberland. Twenty two members enjoyed a light supper followed by birthday cake then the entertainment provided by the Silver Shanty Men. We have a talk on 'Newcastle Old and New' for our April meeting given by Mike McCoy then in May it is our Annual Meeting when the election of officers takes place. We have an interesting programme planned for the year ahead and notices will once again appear on the noticeboards giving you information on what is coming over the next three months. If you see anything that takes your fancy please don't hesitate to come and join us, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Pauline.

VILLAGE DIARY

Please note the Village Diary is now held in The Swan

The diary is for the whole village to use in order to avoid, wherever possible, two events happening on the same day.

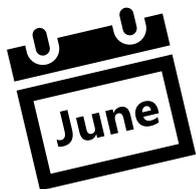
BICYCLES FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

Contact Mike Wall on 07734 807733
who is still collecting bicycles to recycle for under-privileged children



HEDDON CELEBRATIONS 2022!

Save the DATE – GET involved



Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: 2 – 5 June

<p>Thursday 2nd Coronation Tea Dance at the Knott Hall supported by the WI. Beacon lighting in the evening.</p>	<p>Friday 3rd The Swan will be leading our activities for the Friday.</p>	<p>Saturday 4th The Three Tuns will lead activities for the Saturday including their annual football match.</p>
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Tea Dance

If there is enough interest, we are looking to provide transport within the village for the Tea Dance to make it accessible for everyone. It's a great way to reconnect, celebrate and have fun.

If you're interested in finding out more about the **tea dance**, contact;

David Blackett: dblackett@aol.com – tel: 01661 852801

Jane Tiffen: m.tiffen@btinternet.com – tel: 07305 594059

Lynda Henderson: lhndrsn56@gmail.com



Fancy dress competition

Pick your best fancy dress, it can be anything related to our celebrations over the weekend and join us at the 'Tea Dance' for the competition.

STREET PARTIES

Let us know if you are planning a street party in Heddon, it would be great to share ideas and plans with other streets and let the community know.

Bunting making

Whether you're having a street party or joining one of our celebrations, we want to fill the village with bunting! We will be in touch with details soon!



GET INVOLVED

If you want to get involved there are lots of ways;

- Businesses can run or sponsor activities.
- You can volunteer to support an existing activity or run one of your own.
- Help us to co-ordinate the activities and spread the work.



Contact Di Keller

heddon.keller@gmail.com
t: 07739316158



Life on the Wall – Hadrian 1900 Festival: 3 September

This year we are celebrating 1900 years since Hadrian's Wall was built. There are hundreds of activities taking place throughout 2022. In Heddon, we are working on our plans, and would love you to get involved and help us to create our festival weekend, this can be through sponsorship or giving your time and ideas. We are looking to have some of the Heddon Show classics included. Here are some of the things we are currently working on.

Art Festival	Mask making workshop	1900 Pom Pom project	Village Tourist Trail	Food and drink	Heddon Show classics
Handwriting workshop	Dog show	Photo competition	Your ideas!!!		
Roman herb garden	Writings on the wall	Hadrian Stone Mosaic	Music – calling all musicians		



Heddon Parish Council Update

At the time of writing our articles for the Heddon Gossip, we have just learned that our long standing Parish Council member Lil Cruickshank passed away on 23 March after a short illness.

We are deeply saddened by the news as Lil was an integral part of our Parish Council and our community. Lil (and her late husband Derek) were extremely generous in supporting the village.

Paul Edwards, chair of the Parish Council said, *"It seems quite unbelievable that someone as vibrant as Lil could have fallen so ill so quickly, she will be a huge miss to the Council and to village life as a whole, I know I speak on behalf of all of our Parish Councillors when I say she will be sorely missed but fondly remembered."*

Heddon Celebrations 2022

It's been another busy period for the community with plans developing for the big events we are looking to celebrate this year. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated in the village on the extended Bank Holiday 2-5 June and although Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival is running throughout the year, we're holding a festival day on 3 September.

The community is working together with local businesses to support the event and looking for volunteers to help to run some of the activities and for any ideas that you might have. The Parish Council are working closely with the community groups to support the activities where they can, but both celebrations are community led events.

Check out the 'Save the Date' article for more information. Keep checking for updates on the Heddon Matters page on Facebook, the Heddon Parish Council website and Facebook page and the local notice boards. Alternatively we can add you to our mailing list.

Spring Clean Litter Pick

In readiness for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations - we have delayed the litter pick. This will now take place on 21 May 2022. Get in touch if you want to get involved, or if you want to run your own community litter pick event on a different date and need our support.

Environment and Climate Change

Northumberland County Council (NCC) have launched their approach to tackling climate change. We've had some early conversations with them, but it would be great to have more people involved in this conversation to understand what is important to you. We already know that losing the recycle facility in the village has been disappointing and we are still working with NCC to look for an alternative.

Electric charging points have also been mentioned both in the village survey and through contact from residents. We'd like to set up a community group to help us with this work - please get in touch with heddonpc@gmail.com to register your interest and we will be in touch.

A new member of the team!

After a number of years as the Heddon Parish Council Assets Officer, Kim Pearson has retired, and we would like to welcome Lorraine Twizell in their place. The village 'assets' include our library building and business unit, activity spaces such as the Welfare Field, Memorial Park, MUGA and Selman Park and many of the green



spaces, bins and decorative planters in the village. We'd like to thank Kim for the great job she has done and look forward to working with Lorraine.

We need you!

Thank you to everyone who has shown an interest in our vacancies and the volunteer opportunities. If you want to get involved in village life and your community, we would love to work with you and will find opportunities that utilise your skills, or something that you are interested in.

Village Planters

It is fantastic to start to see the early signs of the village coming into bloom and some of the planters are looking fantastic. Thank you to our lovely community who support us with this. We still have some planters that are a little unloved, or you might have an area near you that would look great with a planter. Let us know and we can find ways to get you involved, whether you have green fingers or can just help with watering!

Concerns over safety

On a serious note, we have some concerns over safety around the bus stand on Towne Gate. We have had a number of reports of some of the younger members of the village climbing up and sitting on the roof of the bus stop.

If you have younger people in your household, please can you talk to them about how unsafe this is, we will hate for there to be an accident or someone to get hurt.

Unfortunately if this continues, we will have to take some additional measures to prevent this which we would prefer to avoid.

Equally, this is classed as anti-social behaviour. Although the Parish Council don't have policing powers, residents can call the police to report this behaviour. Please help us to keep our village safe.

Contact us

We want to keep communication with the Parish Council accessible and open so there are multiple ways in which to get in contact should that be social media, telephone, email, or keeping up to date with what we are doing via the village notice boards or the Heddon Gossip!

Council Clerk: Louise Pringle t: 01661 854583

e: heddonpc@gmail.com

w: <https://heddon.parish-council.com/>

Asset Officer: Lorraine Twizell t: 01661 854583

e: heddonassetsofficer@gmail.com

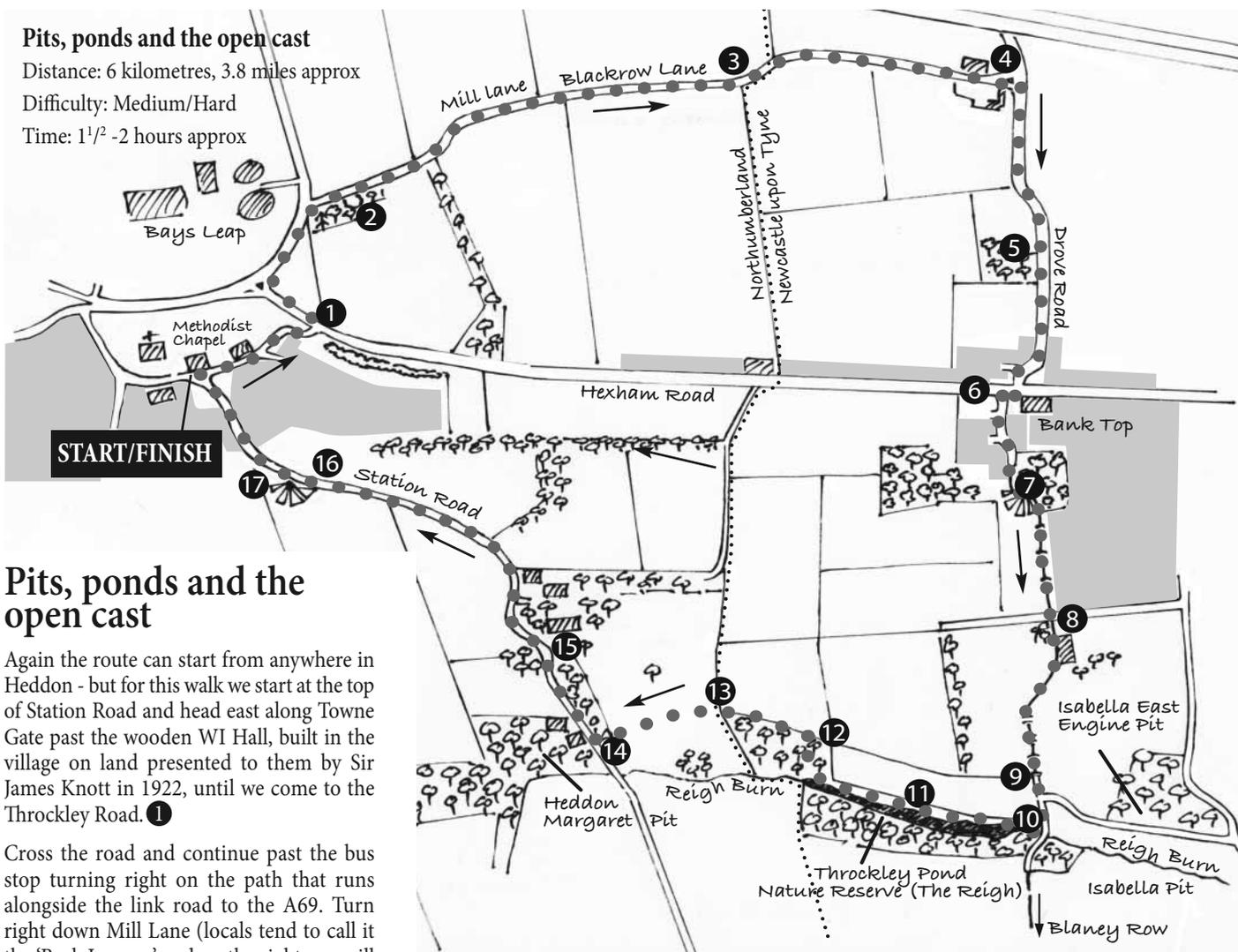
The Pampered Pooches logo features a stylized paw print with the word 'Pampered' in a large, bold, serif font and 'Pooches' in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font below it. Underneath, 'DOG GROOMING' is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo, a list of services is provided: 'Clipping', 'Hand Stripping', 'Nails Trimmed', 'Ears Cleaned', and 'Bath & Brush up', each preceded by a small paw print icon. At the bottom, there are two icons: a van for 'Pick up and delivery service' and a telephone for 'Contact Jane on 07914 001 336'.

Pits, ponds and the open cast

Distance: 6 kilometres, 3.8 miles approx

Difficulty: Medium/Hard

Time: 1½ - 2 hours approx



Pits, ponds and the open cast

Again the route can start from anywhere in Heddon - but for this walk we start at the top of Station Road and head east along Towne Gate past the wooden WI Hall, built in the village on land presented to them by Sir James Knott in 1922, until we come to the Throckley Road. **1**

Cross the road and continue past the bus stop turning right on the path that runs alongside the link road to the A69. Turn right down Mill Lane (locals tend to call it the 'Back Lonnen' and on the right you will notice a big rock **2** which when I was young was told it was called Huntsman's Leap - don't know if there is any truth in the story associating with it. The landscape is quite boring along the lane with few trees, after being landscaped when the open cast coal mining ended in the sixties.

The Mill Lane changes into Blackrow Lane half way down, cross the County Boundary into Newcastle-upon-Tyne **3** just before Black Row Farm. **4**

Turn right up Drove Road heading towards Bank Top. As the road rises up to Bank Top there in the stand of trees on the right hand side is a old wooden building and a tennis court. **5**

When reaching Bank Top and the main Throckley Road, cross the road and head south down Hill House Road. **6** Reaching end of the road follow the waymarker between the stone posts and take the path through the trees which opens up to superb views across the valley. **7**

Follow the path down the steps **8** passing the converted farmstead noticing the bricks from the local old brickworks underfoot. Continue down the footpath and steps until the path opens out onto a gravel road, **9** ignoring the path signposted towards Station Road. Head a little further down until you reach the wood and Reigh



Throckley Pond (The Reigh)

Burn with the notice board on the right. **10**

Turn right past the notice board and along the side of Throckley Pond also known as the 'Reigh'. The pond was used as a water supply for Isabella Pit and the water feeding it and the Reigh Burn comes from old mine workings of the Heddon Margaret Pit situated in the wood near the bottom of Station Road. Throckley Pond is now a Nature Reserve. **11**

Walking along the side of the 'Reigh', you might be lucky to see Kingfishers along with Mallard ducks and swans. The water contains a great variety of coarse fish. Follow the path as it turns uphill until it meets the path **12** from the bottom of the 'steps'. Turn left and take the path through the boundary kissing gate **13** to enter Northumberland and the Parish of Heddon-on-the-Wall. Cross the field keeping to the path and observing the Countryside Code go through the kissing gate **14** at the other end of the path and onto Station Road. Now the hard graft starts as you steeply climb Station Road taking in a breather as you pass Heddon Hall **15** in the trees. The Hall was built in the 18th century

and now is a Grade II Listed Building protected by law. Station road snakes around Heddon Hall before it rises steeply again for a short stretch then levels into a steady climb passing the old coal depot on the rough ground to the right. 16

As the road gently curves into Heddon take in the view behind you and across the valley 17 before you enter Heddon and finishing your walk at the top of Station Road outside the Methodist Chapel



Looking east from the top of Station Road. On the left of the photograph is the site of the old coal depot



'The Writings on the Wall' Story Competition

This is your chance to share your creative flair!

Hadrian's Wall has a very special anniversary this year, celebrating 1900 years since it was built. There are going to be lots of events to mark this special year and we hope Heddon's budding writers of all ages will want to be involved.

We suspect that since the Wall was built there will have been some amazing stories that have been told, written and shared in our village and we'd like to invite you to be part of this story tradition. Can you write a story for our special event? We are asking adults and young people under 16 to write a story but with the twist of a maximum word limit. For adults that is 1900 words and for children and young people under 16, it's 190 words.

Your story can be handwritten or printed but somewhere in your story there needs to be a wall! Real or imaginary, physical or emotional, a wall of some kind should feature in your tale. Ideally your story would be emailed to us so we can share it more easily with the judging panel.

There will be a prize for the best story in each age group (5-7yrs, 8-10yrs, 11-13yrs, 14-16yrs and adult) and in addition, each winning story will be published in the Heddon Gossip for everyone to read and enjoy. Entries are invited from any adult or child resident in Heddon or attending St Andrew's Primary School.

Your story needs to be your own work, previously unpublished and to have the title, your name and contact details at the top of the first page. (If you're under 16 please include your age as of 30th June, 2022.) Stories can be handed in at the library, Heddon Primary School or emailed to heddonstorycomp@gmail.com The deadline for finishing your story is Tuesday, 30th June. In the best literary tradition, a panel will select the winning stories which will be announced and prizes awarded on the day of our Wall celebrations, Saturday, 3rd September.

Good luck! We're looking forward to reading some fantastic stories.

Diane and Trevor Darwin

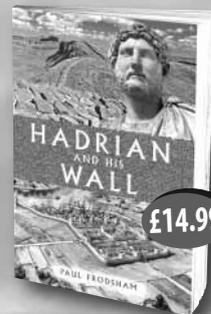
Thinking of selling

or renting out your property in Heddon? We are a couple looking to buy the right property for us in the village, or find somewhere to rent whilst we are looking. Genuine enquiry. Confidentiality assured.

Call Bill 07971852684

Northern Heritage Gift Ideas

Walk, cycle and explore Northumberland and discover its natural beauty, history and heritage.



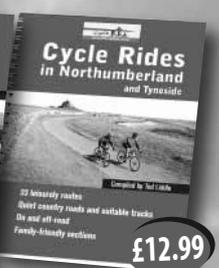
Hadrian and his Wall

Paul Frodsham
Who was Hadrian? What exactly is the Wall and why was it built, this book should be of interest to anyone seeking a better understanding of the wall
Softback 136 pages



Cycle Rides Volume 2

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This second volume of carefully selected cycle rides in Northumberland and beyond, rideable on a gravel bike, mountain bike or a suitable e-bike. Also includes delightful 2-day and 3-day Northumberland adventure rides.
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Heddon Water Mill

Andy Curtis

The Lesson of the Water Mill by Sarah Doudney (from Wikipedia)

*Listen to the water mill
Through the livelong day;
How the clicking of the wheel
Wears the hours away.
Languidly the autumn wind
Stirs the withered leaves;
On the field the reapers sing
Binding up the sheaves;
And a proverb haunts my mind
And as a spell is cast,
"The mill will never grind
With the water that has passed."*

We have no photos of the original Heddon Mill but you can still find it on old aerial photos, maps and archived plans.

The corn mill was powered using water taken from the Dewley Burn and stored in a mill pond just west of the Mill buildings.

The original site of the Mill was erased by open-cast coal mining and the building of the new A69 dual-carriageway. Few people notice the burn now channelled under the slip-road where the road from Heddon passes under and joins the main road. You have to concentrate there on the sharp bend and the possibility of oncoming traffic from the narrow lane which comes down from East Heddon.

NLS Side by Side showing OS 2nd edition map 25 inches to 1 mile (1899) and Bing satellite (2021)

Although the proverb of the opening poem is of course true, it doesn't tell the whole story. Water passing over the water-wheel at Heddon Mill rejoined the Dewley Burn just below the Mill and is then of course available down-stream to power further mills.

Further east, north of Throckley, was another corn mill, Dewley Mill. Water was taken from the Dewley Burn and led from a mill pond to the east of Burnside Farm by a long mill race in the fields now north of the A69. The mill itself was just west of Dewley Farm.

Dewley Burn passes Dewley Farm and runs south through Walbottle Dene. Its waters were in use again further down to power the mills of Spencer's Steel Works in Newburn before they join the River Tyne. Much of the lower section is now hidden in a culvert.

The original road route to Heddon Mill was from a junction on the Throckley Road near the bus shelter, over Charlton Hill (where the Bay Horse Leap'd) to join Mill Lane. Just along Mill Lane was another old lane connecting with the start of the current road up to East Heddon at what is now the Heddon sliproad to the A69. The old lanes north of the modern A69, running west via Whitchester, may have all connected up and probably predate the Military Road built on the line of Hadrian's Wall.

The manor of Heddon was one of the six townships which comprised an isolated portion of the Barony of Styford and bestowed by Henry I on Hugh de Bolbec during the period 1100-1135, becoming known as the Bolbec Barony.

Following the death of Hugh de Bolbec, an extent (inventory) of the manor of Heddon was made: *"There are in demesne 160 acres at 6d per acre, sum £4; 3 acres of meadow at 8d per acre, sum 2s; 5 bondmen each of whom holds 24 acres worth yearly 18s 2d and they hold between them 12 acres 9s 1d; of the fishery of the said manor, 5 marks; the mills are worth yearly 5 marks; 22 acres worth yearly 15s 2d for farm and works; 13 acres worth 11s 1d; 5 acres of land which a certain widow holds worth yearly 2s 6d; 14 cottages worth*

yearly 26s 2d; Office of the smith worth yearly 2s 0d; of the Brew-house 4s 0d; Rent in hens yearly is worth 21d; pannage is worth yearly 2s 8d; birds taken at Wydestokes yearly 2s 0d; herbage of the same close yearly 12d; sum of the sums of Heddon £18 5s 5d."

The common lands of Heddon, amounting to 1,020 acres, were divided by award on 28th September 1717:

504 acres on the west side of Heddon on the Wall township were assigned to the Earl of Carlisle

260 acres on the north-east to Julian Hindmarsh

256 acres on the south-east to Thomas Bigge, son of Isobel.

The Manor Mill and Miller's House which belonged to all three participants were left undivided, the rents to be divided in proportion. 12 acres of land was set aside to continue in common use, undivided for the use of villagers, in lieu of several stints [the proportion of a man's cattle which he can keep upon the common] adjoining the Mill.

Tenants of the lands of Heddon retained the liberty to come to the Mill Dams with their cattle in a storm to fetch their water as was their usual practice.

William Smith, died at Heddon Mill in 1801 aged 81. In 1828, the millwright was named as Ralph Laws; the corn miller was John Smith. William Laws succeeded Ralph in 1856. In 1886, John Smith was farmer at Heddon Mill Farm.

In 1918, the widow of John Clayton, grandson of Nathaniel, sold the farms of Bays Leap, Heddon Mill and Towne House to Adam and James Hedley of Newcastle. East Town Farm and several other pieces of land were sold to Sir James Knott for £13,345.

In 1924, Sir James Knott sold East Town Farm to Adam and James Hedley for £2,800. A portion of East Town Farm was given over to the Ministry of



OS 1865 map showing Heddon Mill and approximately where the modern roads go shown as grey overlay



The Original Bays Leap Farm before open-cast mining c1900. Newcastle Central Library.



Ridley Mill near Stocksfield in 2006 (Photo from Geograph © Bill Cresswell (cc-by-sa/2.0))

Works to protect the Roman Wall as an Ancient Monument.

In 1957, the heirs of the Hedleys sold Bays Leap, Town House and Heddon Mill to the National Coal Board for open-cast mining. 70 acres of land was excavated to a depth of 200 feet to extract 2.5 million tons of coal. The land was returned to farming and Bays Leap was sold to Mr. J. Moffitt in 1965. In 1959, a portion of East Town Farm was sold to Grady's the builders to build the Vallum housing estate.

The property currently bearing the name, Heddon Mill, is further west of the original Mill Farm location, on the lane that leads up to Halls of Heddon close to the interestingly named, Hassockbog Plantation (old maps show a small cottage called Hassock on the old lane just opposite Heddon House).

I can only assume that Heddon Mill was reinstated in this new location at the end of open-cast coal mining, as indeed was the farm of Bays Leap, also in a different location from the original property, presumably taking into account the proposed line of the new by-pass.

The common land at the former Heddon Mill was lost forever, and we can no longer lead our cattle there in a storm to use the water!



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Gardening Notes - April/May

Normally April would be the month when we start seeing plants coming back into growth with the fresh spring green leaves emerging on trees and shrubs all around us. New shoots break through the soil on herbaceous perennials and early spring flowers are everywhere. The mild weather throughout the winter just gone has already thrown the season out of kilter with some plants flowering almost 3 weeks ahead of normal. The next 2 months are some of the busiest in the gardening calendar with time spent now reaping its rewards later in the season.

One of the best ways of controlling weeds in the garden is not to allow them to set seed so make sure they are removed before they get a chance to establish themselves. A general fertiliser applied to the borders followed up by adding a good layer of mulch will help feed you plants for better performance and prevent new weed seedlings emerging. A layer of mulch will also help conserve moisture as well as encouraging the build up a better, healthier soil.

It is still not too late to rejuvenate old clumps of perennials and reinvigorate them though this is best done before the middle of

April before growth is too advanced. Make sure plant supports are added early in the season rather than risk plants collapsing later on when they are coming into flower.

Home-grown vegetables taste superb, and there is a real sense of satisfaction to be had from eating vegetables that you have grown yourself. It is a good idea with most crops to sow little and often. Now's the time to plant first early, second early and maincrop potatoes and to sow broad beans, peas, beetroot, carrots, radish, spring onions, swiss chard, spinach and lettuce to name just a few. Cabbages, Cauliflowers, and other brassicas can all be planted out now. With a greenhouse, poly tunnel or a small cold frame it's possible to sow seeds of sweet corn, courgettes, marrows and squashes in early May, which can be grown on to produce good strong plants before planting out in late May/early June when the threat of frosts has passed. Tomatoes are one of the most popular greenhouse crops but will still need a heated greenhouse to be on the safe side until May.

It will soon be time to start planting out summer bedding plants but if you have protection available you can get a head start by planting up hanging baskets and patio pots now so that they are well established for going outside at the end of May or early June.

A few other gardening jobs for April and May-

Plant up a small trough and create a miniature Alpine landscape which will look amazingly colourful, using rocks and stones to mimic natural rock strata. Use John Innes No 2 compost plus 25% horticultural grit mixed in, and once planted, top dress with horticultural grit or decorative rocks, stones or pebbles.

Alpine plants provide interesting flowers and attractive foliage. Some easy plants to try include Pulsatilla vulgaris (its common name is Pasque flower) with its feathery foliage and purple flowers or one of the Saxifragas in all their many shapes and forms. To cascade over the sides you could use Armeria which has pretty pink and white flowers or dwarf Campanula with its bluebell-like flowers, or perhaps some thyme, with its golden yellow foliage.

Sow some sunflower seeds and see who can grow the tallest one!

Pot up some bush Cherry Tomatoes and challenge for the biggest/heaviest truss of Tomatoes.

Heaviest crop of potatoes grown in a bucket.

Looking forward to a blooming beautiful summer! Happy growing.

Happy Gardening from the team at Halls of Heddon.

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How to Make Seeds Bombs (Eggs) for Easter

April to June or this Easter weekend is the perfect time for seed bomb-making. It's a great activity for children, who will learn about different types of seeds and flowers, how they grow and what wildlife they attract.

You Will Need

- Flower seeds- ideally wild flower seeds
- Compost
- Flour
- Water
- A bucket
- A mixing bowl
- A wooden spoon
- A mug for measuring
- Plastic apron(s)
- Somewhere to grow your seed bombs!



Method

- **Step 1:** Using your mug as a scoop, add 3 mugfuls of compost to the bucket.
- **Step 2:** Empty the seeds into the bucket and mix everything together with your hands.
- **Step 3:** Fill your mug with flour and add this to the empty bowl.
- **Step 4:** Add some water, a little at a time, and stir with a wooden spoon – keep adding water until your flour mixture is thick and gloopy.
- **Step 5:** Pour the flour and water mix into the bucket containing the compost and seed.
- **Step 6:** Mix everything together with your wooden spoon – it should form a thick 'dough'.
- **Step 7:** Break off a piece of 'dough', gently roll it in your hands and make a golf-ball-sized seed bomb. Repeat until you've used up all the dough.
- **Step 8:** Place the balls on a tray (or in a box) and let them to dry for 24 hours.
- **Step 9:** Head outside to the garden to scatter/throwing your seed bombs!



Heddon-on-the-Wall TREE PLANTING PROJECT



We've seen some devastating effects to the trees in our village following the recent storms and some of our villagers have shared their sadness about the trees that have been lost in the Welfare Field, Chare Bank and the Memorial Park.

Trees play a big part in our environment, from our wellbeing to supporting our commitment to climate change. So we have a plan to replant and replace the trees we have lost, but also to plant more!

We've had requests for a memorial tree both during the covid pandemic and also as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations and have seen some great examples of trees being used as memorials in other villages. So we are bringing all of your requests and ideas together for our 'Tree Planting Scheme'.

Initially, we have space for 5 new trees in the **Memorial Park** and 5 new trees in the **Welfare Field**.

We are buying young trees rather than saplings to give them the best start and each tree costs £150. There are 2 ways that you can support this project.

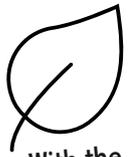
All requests to Sponsor a Tree can be made directly to the Heddon Parish Clerk via cheque – contact: heddonpc@gmail.com or 01661 854583.

If you want to support our Crowdfunding - donations can be made to the Parish Clerk or directly via <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/heddon-parish-council>.

Check out Heddon Parish Council website for more information.



Crowdfunding
Working together to raise funds to replace the trees whatever you can afford



Sponsor a tree
With the option of having a memorial plaque next to your tree **£150**



£ for £ matched funding
For every £ donated either by Sponsor a Tree or Crowdfunding, the Parish Council will match this amount – so we can replace our trees twice as quickly.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans

Northumberland County Council are currently consulting on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans. This consultation seeks views on the councils plans to enhance the walking and cycling infrastructure in the county and the proposed walking and cycling networks for our 12 main towns (Alnwick, Amble, Ashington, Bedlington, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Blyth, Cramlington, Haltwhistle, Hexham, Morpeth, Ponteland, Prudhoe).

These plans represent the long-term blueprint of the proposed walking and cycling network for each town, which we'll use to target our investment to support a fundamental behaviour change to how we travel.

This consultation is the start of our conversation, we are seeking views on the principles we are following when designing these walking and cycling networks and the walking and cycling corridors that have been identified in the main towns.

The views collected through this consultation will help shape active travel in Northumberland over the next 10 years.

This consultation will run from 7th March 2022 to 15th April 2022.

The consultation can be accessed at: <https://haveyoursay.northumberland.gov.uk> Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans



Become a Wall Jammer!!

Firstly, a bit of background:

I am part of the local guitar group, known as The Wall Jammers. It is a fairly relaxed group of people of varying musical abilities (Novice to experienced) and instruments. We formed, originally, from a Northumberland College adult learning group that went by the wayside and a few of us carried on, acquiring new members on the way. Although the group is primarily for pleasure we have played a few gigs, at the Knott Hall for village events, and for the local history group. We also played at a local wedding in the Hall, last July. Primarily we do this for the joy of playing music together.

The musicians comprise a bass player (Me), 2 guitarists, a drummer (Who helps out when we need him) and 2 ukulele players (Both ladies. One also plays a keyboard and the other a cajon (Seated drum)).

We meet on a Monday evening at about 7pm in the Knott Hall for rehearsal (Up to 2 hours, typically). Everyone contributes £5 per session they attend which goes towards paying for the hire of the hall, bits of equipment we might need and the odd celebration. We have a bank account which I maintain for the group where we keep the funds from each week and I pay the bills, etc.

All of us (6) are from the village except one. I am also a Trustee for the Hall, representing the guitar group as a user group.

We are always keen to see new members (Last one a year ago) and would like to invite villagers who are interested to come along (Any Monday), see what we do and join in if they are interested. As I said, all abilities welcome and no pressure at all. We would be particularly interested in anyone who is a singer (Male or female) and also if there are any music teachers in the village who might be interested in helping us develop our skills.

Happy to chat through. I can be contacted on: pocock716@gmail.com or 07801-439372.

Aircraft Noise Action Group (ANAG) – Update

Once again there is little to report about ANAG's activities over the last two months, as departure flights from Newcastle International Airport (NIA) continue to be relatively light. However, as the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic hopefully diminish, this will obviously increase the activity at NIA. While this will certainly be beneficial for the Airport staff, the flight companies and passengers, ANAG will maintain its objective in campaigning for the interests of those affected by noise pollution levels over Heddon. Can I reiterate that ANAG is not anti-Airport, but only its management's intransigence in addressing the issue of a more equitable distribution of aircraft flight paths over our part of the Tyne Valley.

If Gossip readers want to keep up to date with what ANAG is doing, and/or register a particularly noisy aircraft, they can do it on the group's website. This can be found at: www.aircraftnoiseaction.com or just type, "aircraft noise action group newcastle" in a search engine (Chrome/Google/Edge etc.)

Robin Brooks Heddon Banks



Nature Notes

Homes for House Martins -

Ruth Oatway

Heddon-on-the-Wall is a great place to live if you're a wildlife lover and one migratory species we are lucky to have returning to

the village every year is the house martin. House martins (like swallows and swifts) are adapted to aerial feeding, catching and eating insects on the wing. Watch out for them returning in April or May from their over-wintering grounds in Africa. They are incredibly acrobatic in flight and build amazing cup-shaped nests out of thousands of beakfuls of mud, usually under the eaves of houses or other man-made structures.

Sadly these charismatic little birds are in decline and were added to the UK Birds of Conservation Concern Red List for the first time in 2021. We have lost over half our house martin population since 1969. The reasons are not fully understood but may include:

- Limited aerial insect availability during the breeding season
- Reduced suitable habitat and food during the winter in Africa
- Increase in adverse weather conditions during migration
- Limited access to mud for nest-building due to drier springs and summers
- Restricted nest site availability. On newer houses the soffits and fascias tend to be made of PVC instead of wood, which the house martin's nests can't adhere to

So how can we help? Growing plants that are good for pollinating insects and avoiding the use of pesticides may increase their insect food supply. We can also address the shortage of suitable nest sites and mud for nest-building by installing artificial nest cups which are available from RSPB and other online retailers. I've experienced how effective these can be.

When we moved into our house there was an old nest on the security alarm box and crescent-shaped muddy marks on the fascias showed where martins had tried to nest. We watched a pair move into the existing nest, tidy it up, and successfully raise chicks. We had incredible views from an upstairs window of their social interactions and of the adults feeding the chicks. It was also heart-breaking to watch another pair spend a lot of time and energy trying to build a nest against our plastic fascias. Every time the nest was nearly complete it would fall off and smash. At the end of the season we installed an artificial nest. Next season the artificial nest was ignored, but the season after that I noticed mud had been added around the top edge to create a tighter seal to the eaves and the nest was in use!

Tips for installing artificial nests:

- An artificial nest should come with instructions about positioning but try to get it close up under the eaves and, if possible, close to where birds have already tried to nest.
- Don't worry if the artificial nest isn't used at first. It can take a season or two for the birds to get used to it.
- There will be droppings directly under the nest – they are small and dry and can be swept away, but best not to position a nest over your car or front door!
- Knocking down an active nest or preventing birds access to their eggs or young is illegal. If droppings are a problem RSPB advice is to fix a shelf about 250 mm wide about two metres below the nest to catch them. Use key-hole brackets so you can remove the shelf for cleaning.

I think the pleasure of watching these little birds and the satisfaction of helping them far outweighs the inconvenience of sweeping the drive while they are nesting. Let's make Heddon a haven for house martins!

Heddon Carpet Bowls

NEW TO THE VILLAGE! For anyone new to the Village did you know there has been a Carpet Bowling Club in Heddon for over 30 years. So why don't you come and join us and have a try? Like all local clubs we need new members to keep the club going so, come and join us at the Knott Memorial Hall any Thursday night from 7pm. Have fun and make new friends. Hopefully see you soon.

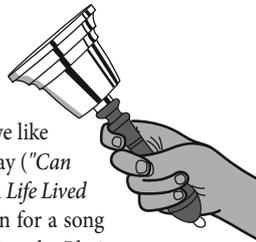
Footnote: Lil Cruickshank one of our most loyal bowlers sadly passed away on 23 March after a short illness.



HANDBELL GROUP Rings to the Ukraine National Anthem!

Following the seasons and topics of the day as we like to do, we have moved on from St. Valentine's Day ("Can You Feel The Love Tonight?") and are practising "A Life Lived With Grace", the winning entry in a competition for a song to be sung throughout the Commonwealth during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. A bit of change-ringing also seems appropriate so we are exercising the grey matter with the easiest which is plain hunt. Then the war in Ukraine happened so the Ukrainian national anthem has become work in progress. A spirited rendering of our arrangement of "O Sole Mio" the "ice-cream" song never fails to help us to let off steam after some hard work on other items. In future we will be remembering that it was composed in the Ukraine by a visiting Italian inspired by a beautiful scene in Odessa.

Contact: *Jennifer King*. Tel: 01661 852926



HEXHAM COURANT CORRESPONDENT

John Stewart is the contact for NEWS to be included in the Hexham Courant.

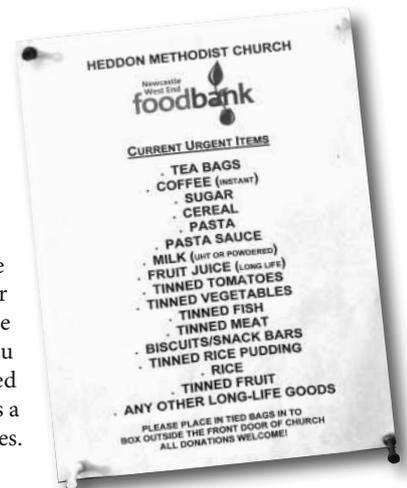
News must be to him by 5pm on a SATURDAY
email: heddonnews@yahoo.co.uk mobile: 07713 646623
twitter account @heddononthewall

HEDDON METHODIST CHAPEL - Food Bank

Hi all, I recently handed the donation box in Heddon chapel porch to the West End Foodbank. The total donated was £293.57, it's an amazing total from the chapel folk, but, I know visitors have also donated from time to time. Thanks Joy Lockhart for passing on the information on the total and your continued support with the food-bank matters. Thank you everyone for your continued support of the food-bank. Makes a massive difference in peoples lives. Blessings Colin

There is a box outside the main door of the Methodist Church to put in all food donations.

Donations can also be left: Reverend Colin Barrick, 20 Aquila Drive



Just to let everyone know some of the exciting and fun events organised by Messy Church in Heddon. On Easter Saturday April 16th at 1030 to 1200 we are having a Pet Blessing and Easter Activity event in the garden at Heddon Methodist Church. All pets are welcome to come and receive a blessing. If you have lost a beloved pet please feel free to bring a photo for our memorial board and remember them by painting their name on a stone which we will place in the Easter garden. There will be other activities for the children and tea and cake will be served. Keep an eye out for future events including a Messy Summer Sports and BBQ event in July and a Nature Walk with Storytelling in September.

Sue Perry

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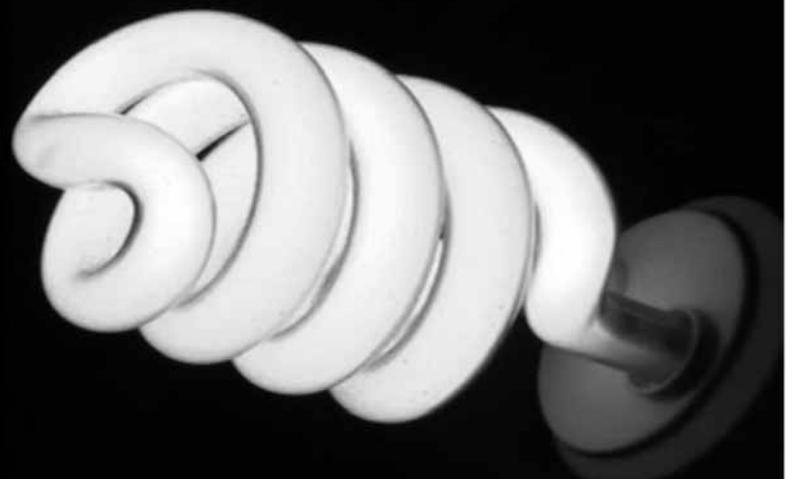
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we meet fortnightly
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 and alternative Wednesday's
 7.00 - 9.00pm

Wed 6th April guest tutor
GORDON LAMB

Heddon Art Group

Heddon Art Group is back up and running after recent restrictions. A fascinating programme of themes and special guest tutors has been arranged throughout the year. Meeting in the afternoon and evenings on alternate weeks in the WI Hall offers opportunities for anyone interested in painting and drawing, whether beginning or more experienced.

Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall

Registered Charity No 1012011



With the removal of mandatory Covid-19 restrictions, Knott Hall trustees are looking forward to enabling events and entertainment in our village hall, whilst ensuring that reasonable precautions are maintained to protect all users.

Enquires and Bookings can now be made via the Northumberland Village Hall Website, www.northumberlandvillagehalls.org.uk/heddon-village-knott-memorial-hall.

Unfortunately it has been necessary to increase charges for the use of the Hall this year, the cost basis on which the Hall has been operating is to achieve as far as possible a balanced budget, this has enabled a low fee regime with expenditure being carefully constrained whilst maintaining the integrity of the Hall. Whilst it has been possible to maintain this since 2016, current and potential future issues make this no longer viable.

The scale of Charges are available on the website and on the Hall noticeboard.

Forthcoming Events in the Hall

Friday 22nd April 2022, 7.30pm – 9.30pm Fashion @ the Knott,

Ladies High Street Fashion Brands at up to 70% reduction.

Tickets £5.00 includes glass of Prosecco and raffle ticket.

Tickets available From:- **Knott Hall Wednesdays 11.00 – 12.00,**

The Swan and dblackett@aol.com

Thursday 28th April 2022 10.00am-12.00am Knott Hall

Heritage Coffee Morning

The first event to discover the Hall past, an opportunity to chat about the happenings in our hall with drink and cake. If you have memories of events in the Hall or photos and any thing else, please help us with this research. Please come along and discover what we are doing and your Hall's history. for further information please contact: D. Blackett: 01661 852801 dblackett@aol.com

Heddon Photography Group

- Share an interest in photography
- Be inspired by others
- Learn what your lens is capable of
- Get involved in photo opportunities

For more info and future session dates and times

Email: admin@heddonphotographygroup.co.uk

Keep an eye on Village Notice Boards and follow us on Facebook: [@heddonphotographygroup](https://www.facebook.com/heddonphotographygroup)



POSTAGE STAMPS

Please take the used postage stamps you have collected to the Post Office (in Heddon Garage) where will be collected and sent off to a charity making good use of them.

A Touch of Beauty
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<u>Nails, Hands & Feet Treatments</u>		<u>Eye Treatments</u>	
Jessica manicure	£17.50	Eyebrow shape	£4.00
Jessica pedicure	£20.00	Eyebrow wax	£7.50
Nail reshape & polish	£10.00	Eyebrow tint	£8.50
Gel nails on natural nail	£20.00	Eyelash tint	£10.00
Gel soak off	£6.00	Eye package inc : lash tint, brow tint & wax	£21.00
Soak off & manicure	£22.00	Eye lash lift	£30.00
Soak off & pedicure	£25.00	Eyebrow lamination	£25.00
Soak off & reapplication	£24.00		

<u>Waxing Treatments</u>		<u>Facial Treatments</u>	
Eyebrow	£7.50	1 Hour facial	£25.00
Lip	£5.00	Facial inc head massage	£27.50
Chin	£6.00	Facial inc hand massage	£27.50
Lip & chin	£9.00	Facial Inc foot massage	£27.50
Underarm	£8.50		
Bikini line	£12.00	* Based in Heddon on the Wall, happy to travel to surrounding areas.	
Full leg (inc bikini line)	£25.00	* Please note a travelling charge will be incurred for treatments under £6.00, outside of a 5 mile radius.	
Full leg (thigh to ankle)	£20.00		
Half leg (knee to ankle)	£15.00		

Appointments: 07593 151226
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VINTAGE INNS



Heddon comes to the aid of Ukraine

Thank you so much to Phil and team at the tuns for storing, and all the community for all these donations. A van and trailer full and still some to collect. So many kind generous people.

Local Councillor Kathryn Rooney has a local haulage company who are taking items to Poland for them.

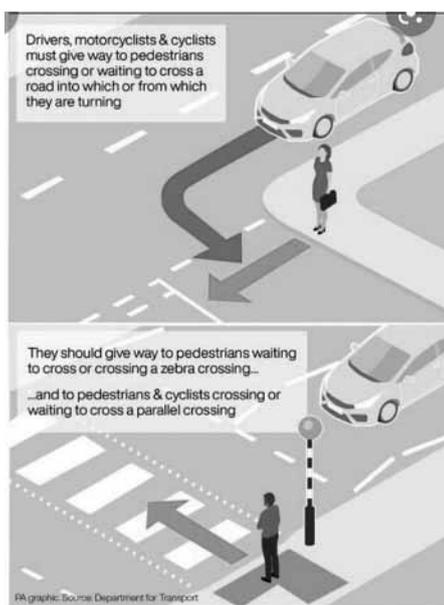
They need decent clothes & shoes for Adults & Children. Warm clothes where possible as the temp is getting as low as -11 degrees.

Toiletries, Nappies & Baby Milk, sleeping bags, pillows, blankets, duvets, children's clothes, (new) underwear for women and children, baby bottles, dummies, baby food in jars, formula, nappies, baby wipes and creams like sudocrem, toiletries and hygiene products and if we can colouring books and crayons - anything like this for children as they have nothing to play with. Also first AID items ie. bandages, antiseptic creams.

I have just found out that there are 31 children under the age of 3 years. Most of whom haven't been able to have their nappies changed for 3 days. Many of these people were just like us last week with warm homes, food in the fridge and jobs.

Thanks for reading, our community can pull together and help out a little bit

D.R Paving, Landscape and Groundwork's



New Highway Code rules

Car drivers in the village be aware of the new highway code obligation to give way to pedestrians.

The rule is not to honk the horn so they get back on the pavement. This is especially prevalent turning unto the village opposite the Three Tuns.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

**CHELTENHAM
TIPSTER COMPETITION**

**GOLD CUP DAY
CELEBRATIONS**

*A warm welcome awaits at
the Soul of Heddon!*

Phil Doyle, Three Tuns, 1 Military Road
Heddon on the Wall, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE15 0BQ
T: 01661852172 M: 07894562964
E: threetunsheddon@gmail.com



Which way Newcastle??

Heddon Residents Association

We are looking forward to some street sign repairs in the village, particularly those on Station Road, Campus Martius and Remus Avenue following communication with County. Damage to road signs at the village entrance by the Wall (rust) and on the Military Road (the long-term one pictured above) have also been reported.

We strongly support the action of Centurion Way residents in the ongoing planning appeal issue - you may have seen some of the considerable local and national newspaper (including on-line) publicity in March - but we cannot offer updates on this or any other matters at the time of writing.

As ever, please bring any issues to our attention via email at: hotwall1@yahoo.com.

Peter Chapman - Chair HRA
Hedley Rogers - Secretary HRA



Also time to get the drains cleaned out in Heddon before the summer downpours

HEDDON GOSSIP DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

June/July 2022

May 21st 2022 for articles and advertising

Contact: Ian Scott

- Email: ianscottdesign@btinternet.com
- Mobile: 07743 285502

HEDDON LIBRARY - CHANGE TO OPENING HOURS

We have reviewed the opening hours and due to a lack of visits we are removing the Wednesday morning, 10-12, session. All the other sessions remain unchanged; i.e :

Tuesday pm 1.00 - 4.00

Friday pm 1.00 - 4.00

Saturday am 10.00 - 12.00

Supporting your library is very important as we need to keep the county informed of our activity and to convince them of our continued support.

Any people wishing to join the volunteer team, please let us know by calling in when you can, you will be welcome.

There is still a Fines amnesty for anyone who still has pre-lockdown books that they have not yet returned.

Ted Burt - (joint Library co-ordinator with Pauline Buckley) Kind regards,

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