

HEDDON SSIP

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

FEBRUARY • MARCH 2022

Heddon residents fight goes on !

After a long and successful fight last year by village residents, the Parish Council, and the County Council, they were dealt a kick in the teeth in early January when a letter from Northumberland County Council dropped through their letterbox's, informing them that the developers were appealing the refusal of planning permission.

Despite an online petition signed by over 60 people, and dozens of letters of objection, the planning application for a development of 4 two storey dwellings to the South of Centurion Way, will go to the Secretary of State for a decision. The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.

The developers, Hamilton Williss Land & Development, claim amongst other things, "That the site does not have local significance to the community as open space", that the views are often obscured by a hedgerow up to 2 metres high, that the views are not unique within the village and that there are other benches which take advantage of the view. That the specific view from Centurion Way does not have a wider regional or national significance and is not visited by tourists. They also claim that there was trespass and the hedge was vandalised during the application process (which seems strange when they flattened any remaining fences to gain access to the land for their machinery during surveying)

They say that the loss of view will mostly impact the private residents and the public views do not impact a significant amount of people. There will be "Viewing Corridors" and "Framed views" for people to see the valley.

The residents claim that it is not just the views that would be compromised but also the amount of traffic on Centurion Way, which was clearly not meant to accommodate this amount of vehicles. The extra pollution, damage to parked cars and danger to children playing, that a possible 16 extra vehicles would bring is concerning. The new proposals would also mean the loss of a much-needed parking space as they intend to shorten the parking bay and use it for their visitor parking.



The view as it is today across the valley to Clara Vale and beyond

You can inspect the appeal documents on the Northumberland Planning website, Planning ref no 20/03389/FUL or on call 034356006400 for further information.

The appeal commenced 4th January 2022 and all representations must be received within 5 weeks of this date by 8th February.

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EDITORIAL

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

With Covid cases on the decline and restrictions being eased hopefully a normal life will resume where clubs and organisations can meet.

In this issue we have tried to add a few more general interest articles such as a walk and a potted history of Heddon Football Club. Also local historian Andy Curtis has lent his wealth of knowledge on the village to write another article on the history of Heddon.

It would be great to hear from people in the village to share your story, whether it's sport, music, climate change, volunteering... whatever it is, we all have a story let's hear yours!

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

Ian Scott

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Sunday worship at 10am follows this pattern:

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 half an hour.

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.

During 2022 we would love to hear from you to find out if we are offering the right opportunities for people to find out more about your local parish church: the mystery of faith: the love of God: and the promise of everlasting life. Many people are busy on Sunday mornings on a wide range of activities. Should we offer events on a weekday evening, or at lunchtime or Saturday? What sort of event: getting together or worship or teaching or creative or something different? would you like question and answer sessions? The Church of England is open to everyone and offers a wide range and style of worship. We need to know what you want from us.

Useful Points of Contact :

Reverend Rachel Scheffer. **Tel: 01661 886853** email: r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org

Reverend Tom Birch: **Tel: 01661 853254** email: revdtombirch@gmail.com

Church Warden - Ann Hotchkiss: **Tel: 01661 831324**

Church Warden - Lynda Henderson: **Tel: 07907 574575** email: 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 half an hour.

2nd Sunday of the month: Holy Communion led by either Fr. Tom or retired Priest.

3rd Sunday of the month: Holy Communion led by a Fr. Tom or retired Priest.

4th Sunday of the month: Holy Communion led by Reverend Rachel Scheffer.

In a month that has a 5th Sunday all 5 parishes gather at one location for collective worship. This will usually include the option of a walk or lunch together.

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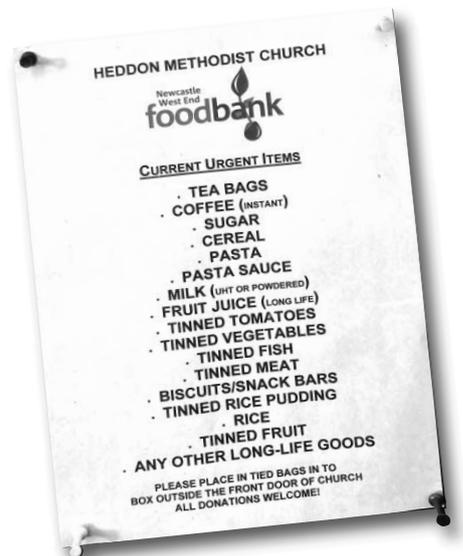


HEDDON METHODIST CHAPEL

FOOD BANK

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



Tyne Valley Foot Care

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Gone but not forgotten...



Ridley Amos

Beryl, Martyn and Craig Amos would like to say a heartfelt 'Thank you' for all the flowers, letters and cards (187 of them) received after Ridley passed away on December 5th. They have given us much solace. We were staggered and humbled by the amount of villagers and friends who managed to completely fill St. Andrews Church for the service. Thank you all so much for taking the time to say your goodbyes.

The magnificent sum of £900.00 was taken, in memory of Ridley, at the service and that was shared between St. Andrews Church and Macmillan Cancer Care. We miss him SO much, but his legacy lives on in all of his beautiful and artistic works that will probably outlive all of us!!!! Someone wrote in one of their cards to us... 'Another village legend gone...but not forgotten, ever'

I would love to think that could be true. Our love and sincere wishes to all, stay safe and take care of each other.

Beryl, Martyn & Craig Amos

Goliath Hall

Goliath Hall (Johnny), of Heddon-on-the-Wall, passed away on December 11 - just six days short of his 101st birthday.

Born in December 1920, the former aircraft fitter, who served in the RAF during World War II, grew up in Dunston and Derwenthaugh, Tyne & Wear.

Johnny, who was a much-loved brother, father-in-law, grandad, great grandad and great, great grandad, remained active and independent throughout his long life - something his daughter Jackie put down to a good, healthy breakfast of fruit!



Ron and Jeanne Watt

Jeanne Watt

Jeanne Watt often sat with her late husband, Ron, on their front bench on Towne Gate, greeting every passing neighbour, dog-walker, horse & rider, cyclist, hiker with a loud and friendly "Hello there!" sadly she passed away in mid December

There was a sizeable gathering of Heddon friends & neighbours on the Thursday morning 30th December to pay their respects to Jeanne as the funeral cortege passed what had been their home for many years.

It was a year to the day that the funeral for her late husband Ron left from the same place.

Ad Murum Singers

At the time of writing I regret to say that owing to threatening "Covid" infection figures, choir members have felt uncomfortable about meeting in an unmasked group, to sing. So no practices have taken place during January of this New Year.

The members of Ad Murum Singers are really keen to begin singing again, and when we do commence practices it would be with a view to putting on a concert at the Knott Hall on May 21st 2022

Members of the choir will be informed by phone or e-mail when practices at Heddon Methodist Church are re-starting.

Provisional date for your new diary - **Ad Murum Spring/Summer Concert May 21st 2022**

Stay safe, *Chris Rand*

POSTAGE STAMPS

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

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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.

DELL CLOSES

Due to the unprecedented circumstances that COVID-19 has inflicted on the hospitality business and after very careful consideration it is with great regret that we have decided to close Dell Saturday 15th January. We know from the feedback we have had from our many loyal customers just how much you have appreciated our presence in the village and for that we thank you. Our hope from the beginning was to create a bistro that would showcase Andrews exceptional cooking and to a certain extent we have done that despite the restrictions. However looking forward Andrew is finding it difficult to continue in his present role so we have no option but to close.

It leaves us with a fully equipped coffee shop/bistro and upgraded kitchen to let. Anyone interested give us a call on (07393212690)

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Eyebrow	£7.50	1 Hour facial	£25.00
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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		
Full leg (inc bikini line)	£25.00		
Full leg (thigh to ankle)	£20.00		
Half leg (knee to ankle)	£15.00		

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Memorial Park Farewell

I've spent just over ten happy years helping to keep the Memorial Park looking tidy, but now I'm getting old and stiff so I have retired from being a volunteer gardener. I shall miss all the friendly people who spoke to me, especially on Sunday mornings.

Thank you, all of you, *Alisoun Gardner-Medwin*

Thank you

We were involved in an accident on the 1st December 2021 opposite the Three Tuns, we would like to thank everyone for their help and kindness, especially Phil and Chris at the Three Tuns, we really appreciated it, Keith & Helen, Remus Avenue.

Regards
Helen Smith

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

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.

HEDDON LIBRARY UP-DATE

February – March 2022

Most people living within or around the village, will be aware that the Community Library has recently re-opened and, for a trial period, has increased the days it is open to 4 per week.

Because the library is run entirely by volunteers on behalf of the Parish Council, we are limited to the hours we can open, so we are trying the following pattern:

Tuesday 13.00 pm -16.00 pm

Wednesday 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

Friday 13.00 pm - 16.00 pm

Saturday 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

We hope that this range of days will help people to access the library and its facilities, which includes books for loan, local information and computers for public use. We can also obtain books from other libraries around the county on request.

The use of the library will determine how often and when we open, therefore popular days and times will be reviewed early in 2022 in order to change hours if possible.

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.

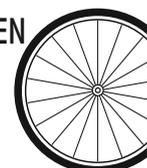
Any people wishing to join the volunteer team, please let us know by calling in when you can, you will be welcome.

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)

BICYCLES FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

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



Heddon Art Group

AGM - 23rd February

Heddon Art Group is holding its AGM on 23 February and is looking forward to getting its usual range of popular activities back on track after recent disruptions. These include a series of guest tutors in a range of media and styles, themed subject evenings and free choice sessions. Hopefully the Annual Exhibition will also be back in October with its fascinating range of original local art (and very popular home-made scones and cakes etc.)

Members from in and around Heddon cover a wide range of experience, skills, ages and interests with a shared interest in painting and drawing etc. Meetings are held in the Heddon W.I. Hall on alternate Tuesday afternoons and alternate Wednesday evenings until late November.

New Members are always welcome. If you are into pen, ink, watercolour, acrylic, oil or mixed media, whether you are just beginning, experienced, or revisiting and earlier love of drawing and painting and would like to find out more Heddon Art Group, please contact David Chambers on 01661 852740 or at chambers497@btinternet.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)



theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Welcome to the first W.I. update of 2022

Firstly let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy, Prosperous and safe New-year. It's been nice seeing the village returning to some form of normality... long may it continue!

In November our meeting was another opportunity for us all to get together again and enjoy many quizzes and games that stretched the little grey cells to their limits and beyond. Throughout the evening there was much laughter and banter and also time for a catch up on what had been a very disruptive period for many.

In December a group of our members enjoyed a lovely meal at the Swan, made all the better by the very warm friendly atmosphere created in no small part by the attentive staff. A good time was had by all.

January meeting was a seated exercise session overseen by Pauline Wright (our Secretary and KFA instructor). She certainly put us through our paces in a fun and light hearted manner, encouraging us, through dance to move every part of our bodies whilst remaining within our own personal limitations.

In February we have a talk scheduled from, the Northumberland Honey Company, giving us the low down on the operation of a honey farm and its workers.

March 7th sees Heddon on the Wall's W.I, reach its 105th birthday and to celebrate we will be entertained by The Silver Shanty Men, followed by a light supper and of course birthday cake !!

Finally I would just like to remind the women of Heddon that the WI is open to all without commitment so if you're interested just pop along for a taster session or two and see how we run, what events we are planning and answer any questions you may have.

You will be made most welcome.

Lesley Hawdon

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contact details and keep them safe for when you are

A Busy Month(s) in review!

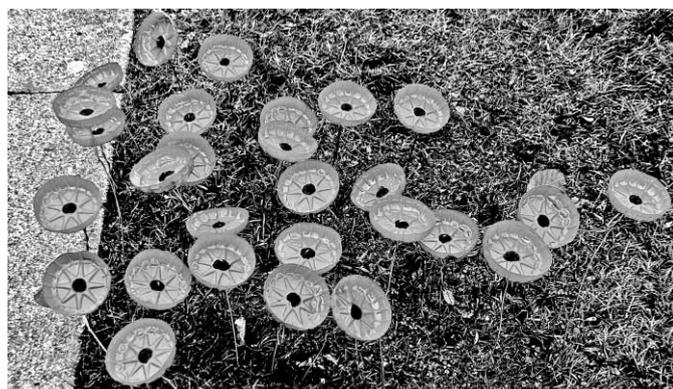
A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Heddon Parish Council! The last couple of months have been a busy few for our village: from a thoughtful Remembrance Day effort from our village, bracing ourselves and recovering from Storm Arwen, and welcoming Christmas/New Year after a long, challenging year.

Starting off, praise must be given to the youth of our village from Heddon St Andrews and Heddon United for their beautiful contribution to Remembrance Day in our village. Creatively they planted a display in the Memorial garden of poppies from recycled bottles for the Remembrance service on November 11th. Not only did this give the children of the village a lot of creative fun, but also displayed the gratitude of the village to the fallen of past conflicts and veterans of conflicts today.

Our thanks goes to Maria Blake who not only came up with the idea of reusing bottles in such a meaningful way, but also for the organisation to make Remembrance Day unique and especially memorable for all of us.

Storm Arwen

Blowing our way into December with Storm Arwen, not many people will forget the often horizontal rain and gale force winds that damaged several properties around the village and uprooted trees with many public paths in the village being made hazardous. Luckily for the village due to the quick response from **Batson Groundcare Ltd**, which many of us would have seen working around the village that day, tended to most of the areas on the day making them safe. Following the storm and the subsequent meeting of the Parish Council, many ideas were floated with how we could replace the trees we lost in the storm, with an idea being put forward for 'memorial tree' in the Memorial Park to



Poppies made from recycled plastic bottles for Remembrance Sunday



Storm damage from Storm Arden, Knott Memorial Hall

remember those lost and affected during the pandemic; however as ever, any and all suggestions are welcome of how we replant the missing trees in Heddon!

Rounding out the year, the Parish Council held an open day for all Parishioners to come and talk directly to the Councillors about concerns or upcoming plans involving the village. Understandably, COVID meant that not many people managed to make it to this event, however, the Parish Council is in agreement that they want to continue

to keep offering these events to allow everyone to be involved in the Council's plans to put forward suggestions and concerns. **Keep an eye out on Facebook and the notice boards for the next open day.**

In the run up to Christmas, the Parish Council looked to our neighbouring Parishes for inspiration to make our own Parish feel even more festive. As such the decision was made to allocate more effort to make the village appear (and hopefully feel) more festive by wrapping the trees in the Memorial Park in lights to have a more festive welcome into our village. Again,

many thanks to the wider village for their magical Christmas efforts, from the Methodist's Church's "messy Christmas Eve" service, to the Heddon elves who managed to get Santa to the village for a festive tour. We hope that Christmas 2022 can be even more festive than last!

Looking Forward into the New Year

Moving into the New Year, the Parish Council still has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. All Heddon Parish Councillors strive to meet our mission statement to *maintain and improve our village for all*; any unique skill or strength you can add to the Council will be a well received addition to the maintenance and improvement of our village. If you think this is you, find the details on the Heddon Parish Council Facebook page, on the notice boards around the village, or send your details into the Parish Council at heddonpc@gmail.com.

Striving to maintain and improve the village *for all*, Di Keller of the council has championed the idea of setting up a youth council in the village to not restrict the village's strengths to the over 18s. If you are passionate about your village and between the ages of 15-18, make yourself known to the Parish Council and hopefully we can get you involved in one of our projects! Not only will this add to the maintenance and improvement of our beautiful village, but also strengthen future CV's and applications would it be college or university. If this sounds like you, contact Di via Facebook or email at heddon.keller@gmail.com.

Looking even further forward, Heddon has two events diared in to look forward to. On April 2nd the village has a 'big spring clean' scheduled; grab a bag and help collect the rubbish around the village, or help the thirsty volunteers by supplying hot and cold drinks. It can be an event to help spruce up the village for the next big event: the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**.

Any Ideas?

In preparation for the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** in June (and an extra long bank holiday) the Parish Council have been in discussion about how we can use this event to bring the village together in a joint project. A main suggestion would be the planting a Jubilee tree, or organising a village wide event to bring people together (and again, all suggestions are welcome, the Parish Council are all ears!).

Looking to Now: projects around the village

The Parish Council are always undertaking projects within the village, and even more due to the results shown to us following the return of the village survey. In the goal to maintain and improve the village for all, the budget subcommittee of the Parish Council met in late November to approve further increase in spending to important areas of the village such as the Memorial Park and gardening services.

HEDDON ON-THE-WALL PARISH COUNCIL

February Edition

Our Mission Statement:

To maintain and improve our village for all.

Maintaining our village the Parish Council identified the need for having enough in the contingency coffers. With the increase in the budget in this area, we have better protected ourselves from any Storm Arwen-esque sequels that we will see in the future. In improving the village, the Parish Council has started projects in the Welfare field and the Memorial Park in regards to rejuvenation and maintenance. For the Welfare field we have established a Facebook page where the hope is that discussion of the ideas highlighted in the village can become a reality, and should there be enough interest, we can meet up as a group in person to coordinate this effort. The same interest is given toward the Memorial Park where the Parish Council is actively seeking a volunteer(s) to keep up the maintenance of the grounds.

As ever, if there are areas in which you think the Parish Council can get involved with to help, get in contact so we can discuss this at our monthly meeting to see what we can do!

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: Kim Pearson t: 01661 854583

e: heddonasestsofficer@gmail.com

GLASS RECYCLING BINS

On behalf of Heddon Parish Council - Due to insurance issues we have been informed that the County Council will be removing the recycling bins from the garage this week. They are looking for somewhere else to re-site the bins that will be able to cope with a large influx of cars and residents and accommodate the wagon which comes to empty the bins. If you can accommodate the bins and would like to drive traffic to your business then please let us know, or if you can think of anywhere suitable please contact the Parish Council and we will pass your comments on to the County Council.

In the meantime the nearest recycling points are at Riverside Park Wylam or Pontland at Murton Way Car Park or the Leisure Center. heddonpc@gmail.com.

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.

Why not treat your beloved pooches to a nice relaxing groom at

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undertherowantrees.co.uk
Online independent stationery shop based in Heddon-on-the-Wall



Heddon Show late 1940s before Centurion Way was built. The show was held in Crag Field that now form part of the Bainbridge Estate and Killiebriggs

Killie Brigs and other field names

Andy Curtis

Nearly all fields have a name, and these names can sometimes tell you about the history of the field and its use over the centuries. Old field names act as a memorial, telling the story of a place, connect you with the history of your area.

Nearly all fields have a name, and these names can sometimes tell you about the history of the field and its use over the centuries. Old field names act as a memorial, telling the story of a place, connect you with the history of your area.

The names originated in a very practical way to identify them for farm labourers who had to go out to work on them. It was clearly important that they did not go out and plough or build a dyke in the wrong field.

The Hexham historian and archaeologist, Stan Beckensall, published a book on Northumberland place-names and field-names in 2016.

A sense of place was fundamental in the days when virtually everybody lived on the land, and did not move far from where they were born. People worked small fields, often divided into strips for allocation so that all got an even share of good and not so good land.

Fields were named after individuals, natural features, their size, whether the land was fertile or not, animals and crops, and proximity to important locations like springs, roads or buildings.

You can see examples on the old plans of Heddon Banks Farm which extends south from the village to the River Tyne. Field-names are recorded on estate plans in 1789 and 1827. The land was shown as in the possession of Nathaniel & John Clayton in the Tithe Award Map of 1848.

Heddon Banks Farmhouse was built around 1850 although the farm was in operation much earlier. The farm has a gin-gang at

the rear attached to a large barn, byres and a granary.

Crag Field had been sold by the 1960s as the site for building the Bainbridge Housing Estate (so called from the builders; to differentiate it from the Vallum Estate on the east side). *West and East Close*, near the farmhouse, were developed for Killiebriggs, and more recently, the new builds on Heddon Banks.



OPS 1:10,560 First Edition (1864) annotated with field-names taken from 1827 plan of Heddon Banks Estate (NRO 00309/M/69)

Slack Whins below the uppermost *Crag Field* would later become *Slacks Plantation*, the site of *Killiebriggs Quarry*. *Whins* refers to an area of scrub, probably gorse growing on the thin soils where rock lies near the surface. Trees are shown there in 1827.

Below the track to *Close Lea*, on the west boundary of Heddon township, two fields are recorded in 1789 as *High and Low Killay Bridge*. They are shown as *Killy Brige* on the plan dated 1827.

Bank Field south of the farmhouse would change name to *Whinny Pasture* in 1961. Below are *Oak Tree Field* and *Bean Field*. To the east lie, *Bull Well Field*, *Long Bank* and *Fallin Pasture*.

A curving body of water below *Low Wood* (which became *Clayton's Wood* on the first Ordnance Survey map) on the flood plain of the river (*haughs*) is named as *The Lough*. It looks very like an oxbow lake from a long lost meander of the River Tyne. The fields below the wood (*North and South Haugh*) were bought by *Close House Estate* to provide playing fields for use of the University and are now part

of Close House Golf Course, as now too is *Low Killie Brig*.

The triangular area shown as *Rough Haugh* (1789) or *The Island* (1827) between the Wylam Waggonway and River Tyne is no longer shown as part of the farm on the 1960s plans and is now farmed from Heddon Haughs at the bottom of Station Road.

All of the streets on the new Bainbridge estate were given Roman sounding names: *Trajan Walk*, *Remus Avenue*, *Aquila Drive*, *Campus Martius*, *Mithras Gardens*, *Taberna Close*. Similar names were used on the Vallum Estate and of course for *Centurion Way* that connects the two. Killiebrigs didn't follow the Roman naming but we can now see where the name came from. It was derived from the names of the two fields, *High and Low Killy Brigs*. What, however, could be the origin of the names given to the fields?

Brig clearly indicates a bridge. There is still today a very well-built stone bridge, just east of Close Lea, close to the location of these fields. It took the course of the quarry incline under the track from Heddon Banks to Close Lea. However, the field-name was in use well before the quarry was opened.

Killiebrigs sounds Scottish or Irish. Indeed, there is a town in County Donegal called

Killybegs. It is the largest fishing port on the island of Ireland. Its Irish name, *Na Cealla Beaga*, means 'little cells', a reference to early monastic settlements.

Gaelic *cill* (pronounced *keel*) originally meant 'cell, church' from Old Irish *cell*, and now usually means 'chapel, churchyard' in modern Gaelic. It is found in a large number of place-names, whose widespread distribution reflects the spread of the both Gaelic language and Celtic Christianity across Scotland. It is frequently used in combination with the name of the saint to whom the church is dedicated (e.g. Kilmartin, Kilmory, Kilpatrick).

Although no remains have been found, there was a chapel just west of the field of *Low Killy Brig*, west of the Heddon township boundary. It was first referred to in 1313 and pulled down in 1779 when Close House mansion was built. Could there have been a bridge somewhere in the vicinity of the fields, providing access to the Close House Chantry?

It seems perhaps much more likely that the origin of the field-name was rather more prosaic. Richard Oliver Heslop in *Northumberland Words* (1894) describes the term, *Killy-couper*, as *an upset, heels over head*. *Killicoup*, being a *somerset* or *somersault*.

He quotes the following from Jamieson's *Scottish Dictionary* (1808):

Killie is a plank or beam placed on a wall so that one end projects a good way further than the other. A child then places himself upon the long end, while two or three press down the short end, so as to cause him to mount."

This suggests that *Killie Brig* could be just a memory of a simple plank bridge, perhaps across a ditch or small stream and maybe one that was prone to accidental upending. It seems a little similar in this folk-lore origin to the name of Bays Leap Farm.

Aircraft Noise Action Group (ANAG) – Update

There is little to report about ANAG's activities over the last two months, because departure flights from Newcastle Airport over Heddon have been markedly fewer than they were before the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the Group remains active in watching for potential developments which may affect noise pollution levels over the village. With the Group's additional concern about the major contribution that aircraft make to CO2 emissions, it will continue to campaign with other groups on this important issue.

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



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Make it your new year's resolution to volunteer for **Citizens Advice Northumberland**

Citizens Advice Northumberland is calling for volunteers of all backgrounds to deliver advice and support to local people.

The charity is launching a January appeal for new recruits who can give their time to help people struggling with *housing, benefits, fuel poverty, debt and other problems* they face.

Last year the charity supported over 16,000 people across Northumberland. It can only do this work thanks to its team of 70 volunteers, but they need more.

The charity says no experience is necessary as full training will be provided, though basic IT skills (email, internet use) are required.

As well as volunteers to offer advice to people in person, online or over the phone there are opportunities for people to join the Research and Campaigns Team. Citizens Advice Northumberland have offices across the County so wherever you live you won't be too far away and travel expenses are paid.

Citizens Advice Northumberland volunteers come from all walks of life and choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. They include students; people getting back into work after career breaks; people with part-time jobs; carers; and people who have retired.

Volunteers are often looking for new ways to gain valuable experience and enhance their skills, or to enjoy the opportunity to work with and meet different people.

Abi Conway, Chief Executive Officer at Citizens Advice Northumberland said:

"We're urging people to do something great this year and volunteer with Citizens Advice Northumberland."

"As well as doing something positive for the local community, we know people who give their time get a lot back, be it enjoying the camaraderie of working in a team, learning new skills or campaigning on issues that are important to them."

"We'll give you all the training you need and would love to hear from you."

A volunteer adviser said: *'I volunteer for Citizens Advice to try to assist people solve their problems, and because working within a Team of friendly and positive people is very satisfying and supportive'*

To find out more and apply, visit:

<https://www.citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk>

email: volunteer@citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk or phone: 01670 339985

With kind regards

Lesley Barrick

Learning and Development Coordinator for Hexham and Research and Campaigns

My working days are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday a.m.

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Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall

Registered Charity No 1012011



Annual General Meeting 2022

The Annual General Meeting of the Knott Hall Charity will take place in the Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 28th March. The last years activities will be reviewed accounts will be presented.

About The Knott Hall Charity

The Knott Hall Charity and the Hall itself is run by Managing Trustees who are members the local community, members of regular user groups and representatives of the Parish Council and Parochial Church Council. The groups nominate members whilst Trustees from the local community are elected at the Annual General Meeting, which is held in late March. Trustees need to change from time to time for various reasons and to allow this to happen without a cumbersome legal process, ownership of the Hall rests with a Custodian Trustee, the Parish Council.

Trustee Vacancy

Two of the current Trustees are standing down at the AGM after serving for a number of years, creating a vacancy in members from the local community. It is important that such vacancies are filled as otherwise the Trustees shrink in number and this can reach a point when the management of facilities such as the Knott Hall becomes unsustainable. Unfortunately, this is happening with community halls closing elsewhere in the country and being lost as local resources. If you are interested in becoming a Hall Trustee and helping to sustain an important village facility please contact the Chairman, Mike Laker (mikelaker@btinternet.com), for further information.

Secretary of the Knott Hall Charity

The current secretary is one of the Trustees who is stepping down. If anyone is interested in becoming secretary please contact the Chairman, Mike Laker: mikelaker@btinternet.com

Mike Laker

Chairman



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Gardening Notes - February/March

It is a sure sign that Spring is just around the corner when Snowdrops poke their heads through the cold winter soil. Their white flowers dangle enchantingly announcing to the world to dust down your tools, pick up your gardening gloves and get out there and start gardening! It may still be cold outside but there is still plenty that could be done in readiness for the busy months ahead.

Roses

Roses can be pruned back in March to outward facing buds which keeps the centre of the plant open, aiding air circulation and helping prevent diseases. Be sure to clean up old leaves as these can still carry fungal spores. A good mulch of compost or farm manure will help smother any spores on the ground and also help improve soil conditions over time. A dressing of Toprose or other Rose Fertiliser will certainly help your roses, or any other flowering plants or shrubs, produce better displays throughout the summer months.

Vegetables

February and March are the months when we all should start thinking of starting off young vegetable plants from seed. There is nothing like the fresh taste of baby carrots pulled from the soil, or peas popped from the pods. These are both easy crops to get children growing. You don't necessarily have to have a vegetable garden. You could try growing a

few in pots when the weather warms up, or just filling in the odd bare spot in the flower garden. First Early Seed potatoes can be potted up and started in the greenhouse to give an early crop now. This brings about the age old argument whether to chit or not to chit- that is a question we are often asked. Trials that have been carried out remain relatively inconclusive although there is evidence that the yield of early varieties can be up to 50% more when they are chitted. The difference is negligible in maincrops.

Peat or Peat Free

With all the debate continuing to go on around the use of peat we ourselves are consciously aiming to move more towards peat free composts for all our growing but it will take time. We are having good success with Melcourt Peat Free Multipurpose Compost and finding that we are getting repeat sales from our customers which surely shows they are getting good results as well. It does tend to dry out a bit quicker so be wary of that. This is available in 50 litre bags which means they are not too heavy for carrying.

AS we head into Spring our Plant Area is filling up with a wide range of home grown plants with deliveries also turning up on an almost weekly basis from our regular quality suppliers. There isn't a month goes by when there isn't some plant in flower to catch your eye. See you soon!

Happy Gardening from the team at Halls of Heddon.

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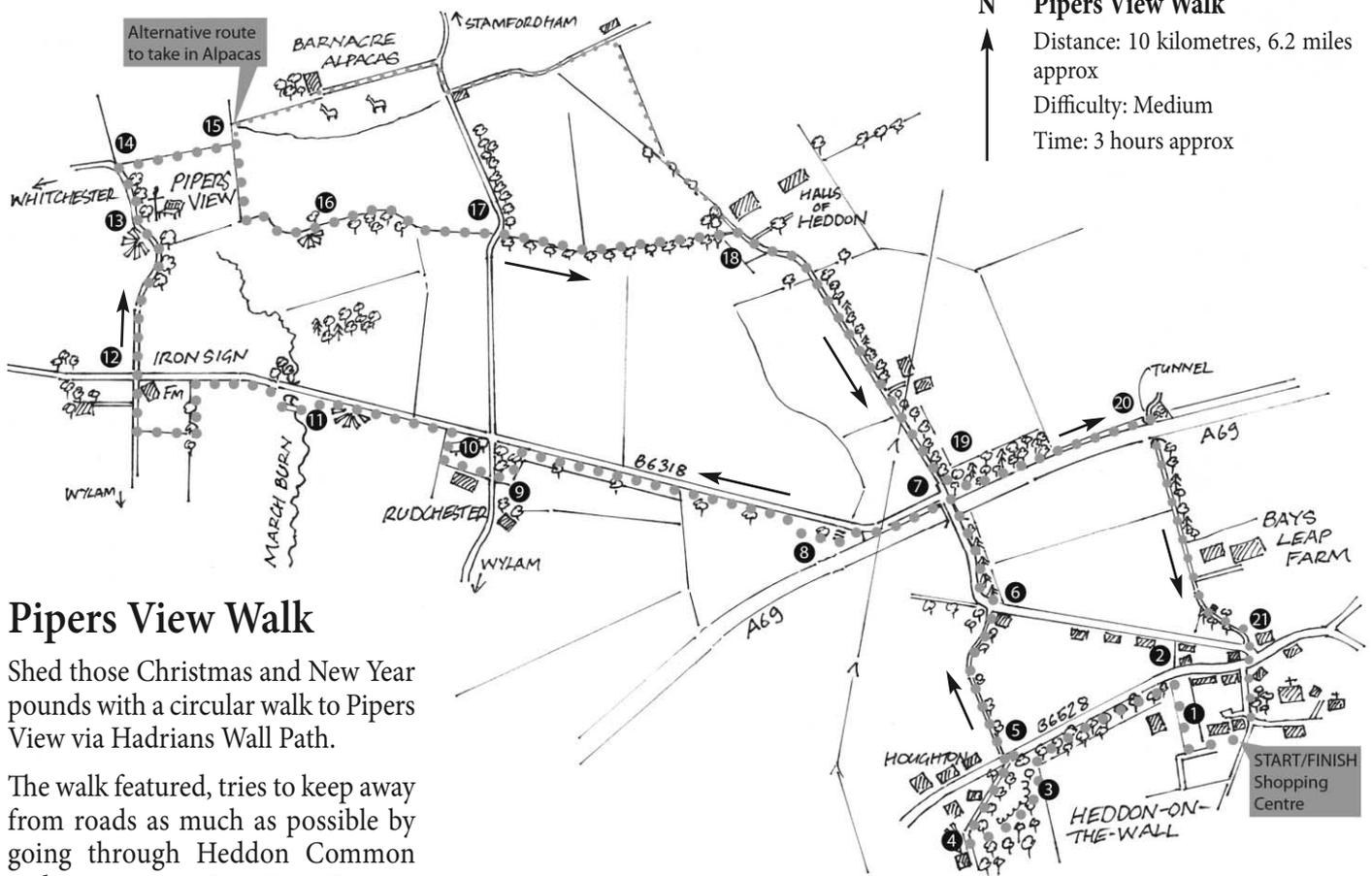
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N Pipers View Walk
 Distance: 10 kilometres, 6.2 miles approx
 Difficulty: Medium
 Time: 3 hours approx

Pipers View Walk

Shed those Christmas and New Year pounds with a circular walk to Pipers View via Hadrians Wall Path.

The walk featured, tries to keep away from roads as much as possible by going through Heddon Common and returning via Bays Leap Farm.

The route can start from anywhere in Heddon - but for this walk we start at the shopping centre, head west turning right up the path through the Welfare Field ① to the gate at the top of the field.

Go through the gate ② at the top of the Welfare Field and follow the main path up through the top common. Follow the path alongside the quarry until it forks ③ take the right hand path to Hill Head ④ where you can enjoy the view west. Take the metalled road down to the B6528 (old A69) cross the road and head towards Houghton until you come to the farm track ⑤ that takes you to the Military Road ⑥. Cross the Military Road (B6318) and follow the path over the bypass, cross the road and climb over the stile to join Hadrians Wall Path ⑦.

Go through the kissing gate ⑧ down the steps and continue west. The path can become boggy for the first 100 metres in wet weather. Follow the path until Rudchester ⑨ cross the road and follow path passing Vindobala Roman Fort ⑩. Go

through gate following the path taking in the view south west across the Tyne Valley. Cross the March Burn ⑪ and onwards to Iron Sign Farm when reaching the fence the path turns sharply South along the fence then right along a narrow path until you come to the minor road.

Take the minor road North until you reach the crossroads ⑫ carefully cross the Military Road as the traffic can be travelling fast and head towards Whitchester. Reaching Pipers View, ⑬ spend a few minutes to take in the view in all directions. Continue past Pipers View until the road bends left, take a right hand turn ⑭ and follow the farm track up the side of the field. At ⑮ you can turn left a take the alternative route and follow the finger signs to Turpins Hill home to Barnacres Alpacas. Our route turns right at ⑮ along the side of the field following the track taking in another viewpoint ⑯ before heading downhill until you reach the Stamfordham Road ⑰. Take care crossing the road and head down 'Green Lane' until you come to Heddons House and Halls of Heddons Nurseries ⑱. Follow the road towards the A69 until you come to the finger post at ⑲ take the path down into the small wood that goes alongside the dual carriageway until you come to a gate at ⑳. Turn right and head towards Heddon going through the tunnel under the A69 and along the farm track (which can be very muddy and heavy underfoot when wet, as far as Bays Leap Farm) until you come to the junction of the B6138 and the B6528 ㉑ at the Three Tuns. Cross the roads and back to the start.

The view south west before crossing the March Burn at 11



Wylam Waggonway - Temporary Closure

Resurfacing work on the Wylam Waggonway /Hadrian's Cycleway (NCN72) is planned to start on 17 January and last 7 weeks.

The path from Stephenson's Cottage to Blaney Row will be closed during the duration of this work.

Pedestrian access between Newburn and Wylam is along the unsurfaced riverside footpath.

Signs in village show alternative routes.



Pipers View - The seat and weather vane, looking towards Simonside.

Why the name Pipers View?

We once met 'the piper'

He explained that he can't practise at his home because of the noise so as he is a friend of the farmer, the farmer said he could come and practise there any time and wouldn't bother anyone.

The weather vane has been there a while but the piper just put the other sign up during lockdown.

It is wonderful to hear him if you are lucky enough to be there at the same time.

Lynda Henderson

Hi all, I put the seat there for the piper.

He used to stand and play his pipes.

It was also in memory of my late mother who used to push the children along the road when they were babies!

It gives me great pleasure to see that it is used to enjoy the views of the countryside.

The piper still plays and on a still evening I can hear him from my house.

Emma Spence

The Countryside Code

Respect everyone

- Be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- Be nice, say hello, share the space
- Follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Protect the environment

- Take your litter home – leave no trace of your visit
- Do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can
- Always keep dogs under control and in sight
- Dog poo – bag it and bin it – any public waste bin will do
- Care for nature – do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- Check your route and local conditions
- Plan your adventure – know what to expect and what you can do
- Enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory

For further information visit www.gov.uk/countryside-code



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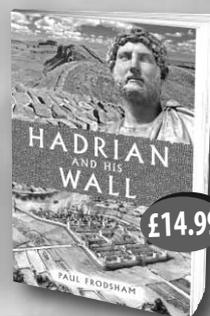
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Hadrian and his Wall

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

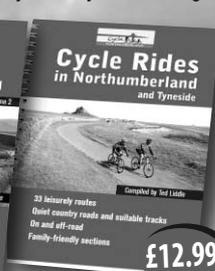


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HEDDON Residents Association

The HRA would like to wish every resident a very happy, safe and prosperous 2022 as we reach the end of January. The HRA has been unable to resume our regular meetings in recent weeks due to continuing Covid issues and we do not plan to do so before March at least. We are constantly assessing the situation though and we will be able to move quickly when we deem it safe to do so. Of course, we can still be contacted via e-mail at - hotwall1@yahoo.com.

With the wintry weather still with us, our volunteer snow wardens, "trained up" by the county council, have been busy spreading salt on the village footpaths whenever ice is threatened. At the time of writing there have been a couple of really bad black ice days and some residents have suffered injury in the past from slipping on the ice, so hopefully the efforts of the wardens will help to reduce this risk. Overall, we have got off quite lightly so far and last year the final bad spell was in mid-February. We remain optimistic! Of course, we cannot cover the whole village, so if anyone is interested in joining the group, more paths could be treated. Training and equipment is provided free by the county council. Again, if interested in helping please contact us via e-mail.

Some drivers persist with speeding whilst driving through the village. A big thank-you is due to the vast majority for not only driving safely, but sticking to the speed limits. The HRA have always supported the work of Northumbria Police on ways to combat speeding. Whilst we are hopeful, we have not yet had a recent update regarding the planned training for Community Speed Watch. We have a few volunteers awaiting training but there's always room for more! If anyone is interested in receiving training, please contact us via e-mail.

Finally, although the County Council has agreed to deal with the large damaged road junction sign coming into the village along the Military Road, we cannot offer an update on progress. Land ownership and power supply to the sign have made this matter less than straightforward! The Parish Council have done all they can by way of frequent reminders so we can but await action.

Peter Chapman - Chair HRA

Hedley Rogers - Secretary HRA

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Falcons Academy for Isaac

Let's throw aside the challenges of the pandemic and the chat about dog poo for a moment and take some time to recognise the talent that we have in Heddon, especially our young people who are the future of the village and who we are entrusting our future and heritage with.

Talent comes in a diversity of forms and in this issue we are putting the spotlight on talent in sport. Local lad Isaac Keller has recently been successful in his professional rugby career securing a sought after place in the rugby union Under 18's Falcons Academy team based at Kingston Park.

Isaac has lived in Heddon most of his life going to school at Heddon First School then moving through the Ponteland School system. He started off as a football player and after seasons at Wylam Football Club, Prudhoe Junior Football Club and only recently leaving Throckley Magpie junior football club to focus on his rugby career. He started playing rugby at a young age and his coaches recognised something in him even then. His first coach was his Dad so there's no surprise there.

However, Isaac continued to grow and excel at the sport proving to be a versatile player that not only had strength but also great technical ability and although often sent footballs sky high over the goal, this proved to be his strength in rugby conversions.

Isaac is now part of Gosforth Academy where they have a structured elite rugby pathway and combining academic studies with his rigorous training schedule for both school elite rugby and the Falcons academy.

He is travelling far and wide for his games but on his home turf, Kingston Park, after just 15 minutes on the pitch, Isaac scored his first home try! This was definitely one to celebrate!

He keeps himself in tip top shape with regular physiotherapy sessions with his sponsor, Kura Therapies based in Newburn.

Alongside his studies and his rugby, you will regularly see Isaac behind the bar at The Soul of Heddon - The Three Tuns. You can't miss him - he's normally the one wearing shorts whatever the temperature!



HEDDON UNITED F.C. - A Football family!

To celebrate their 5th birthday Heddon United are delighted to bring to you, an evening with 'Blistered Molly' Saturday 5th March 2022

For more details and tickets contact: HeddonUnitedFC@gmail.com

Heddon St Andrews FC folds

Sadly as Heddon United celebrate their 5th birthday, Heddon St Andrews Football Club folded at the end of 2021 due to lack of players and interest.

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A brief potted history of Heddon A.F.C.

Founded in 1904 Heddon AFC morphed into various disguises over their 100 plus years history.

Over the years they were know as: Heddon A.F.C., Heddon Hibernian, Heddon Welfare, Heddon Institute before they amalgamated to P & G Heddon FC

Heddon played for many years at Houghton and in the 60s had two teams with the second team playing their home games on the show field opposite Heddon garage.

After Heddon moved up to Northern Alliance the pitch they had played on at Houghton was not up standard and had to move. They moved grounds several times: Blue Star Ground at the Wheatsheaf, Bullocksteads where they amalgamated with Proctor & Gamble Newcastle to form P & G Heddon FC in 2002. The club was renamed Heddon FC for the 2002/03 season, a season which concluding with promotion to the Northern Football Alliance Premier Division.

Finally they moved to Newburn Recreational where they remained until they sadly folded in 2017 due to running costs after being in existence in various forms for 114 year

Bryn Tailford reminiscing, recalled the story of Heddon's first game after the Second World War an away game at Haydon Bridge. The team travelled to and from the game in the back of local coal hauliers (Tulips) wagon.

On the way to the game the heavens opened and the players who were getting wet hid under the tarpaulin that was lying in the back of the wagon. When the players climbed out of the back of the wagon they were black with wet coal dust. Those were the days!

1904 - The 'First' Heddon Football Club



Heddon Hibernian A.F.C. 1924



Wylam/Heddon Boys 1951 - 52

Back Row:

Bryn Tailford, Thomas Tulip, Alan Graham, Les Wilson, Jimmy Turnbull, ? Sawyer

Front Row:

Gilbert Noble, Bryan Urwin, Norman Anderson, ? Sayers, Trevor Barron



Heddon A.F.C. circa?
Back row: Stan Gibson, ? Muse, unknown, Kit Smith, John Jackson, Stan Laws

Front: 'Bouncer' Stewart, ? Young, Jacky Graham, Charlie Burns, Fred Smiles



Heddon Supporters Branch.
Left to right: Hubert Laws, Wilf Charlton and Raphy Barron tucking into tea and sandwiches.
Combination Cup Final 1980 at St James's Park



Heddon Ladies circa ??

*If you know the names of the players we could not put a name to please let Heddon Gossip know.
We are also looking for information old photographs of Heddon A.F.C. in their various names.*

Heddon FC football pitch at Houghton from Heddon Common.
The view is now blocked by tall trees and vegetation





Hadrian's Wall 1900th Festival

Just sharing this as a village resident and self-confessed Wall-nerd!

Monday 24th January marked the start of the Hadrian's Wall 1900th Festival. That's 1900 years since the building of Hadrian's Wall and a chance for communities to celebrate their connection with

the Wall through a variety of local events and activities, between January 24th (Hadrian's Birthday) - December 23rd 2022.

<https://1900.hadrianswallcountry.co.uk/get-involved/>

I currently work on the Hadrian's Wall Community Archaeology Project (WallCAP) funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. I've met some of you before when we've been investigating Wall stone, doing geophysical survey of the fields immediately east of the village or doing the excavation in the fields between Heddon and Throckley last year. I also worked with the Parish Council and Local History Group a few years ago on the 3 interpretation boards across the village. Basically, I love the Wall and the village and see the Festival as a great opportunity to celebrate living so close to our fabulous World Heritage Site!

For any Festival activity, Activity Organisers must secure their own funding and have a team in place to be able to deliver the activity. I do have an idea (with its own funding!) via my day-job to bring to the table, so thought a chat over a cuppa would be a good way to pool all of our ideas!

Reverend Rachel has kindly offered us the church to meet in so please come along to St Andrew's Church on Tuesday 8th February 7-8.30pm if you'd like to share your ideas, hear more or get involved. Everyone welcome!

Kerry Shaw



Hadrian's Wall, Heddon-on-the-Wall

Anyone for Chess

I realise you might think it's not very local, but to anybody in the village who might be interested in joining a chess club with the chance to play competitive games, it is their nearest and best option.



Ian Chester

Gosforth Chess Club
New Members Welcome

Meet at Empire Club (upstairs room),
Salters Road, NE3 1DX

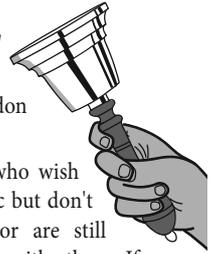
Mondays from 7pm

Juniors. Saturday mornings 10am to 12noon

More info: www.gosforthchessclub.co.uk

Email: enquires@gosforthchessclub.co.uk

HANDBELL GROUP



Greetings to all in Heddon who are making music!

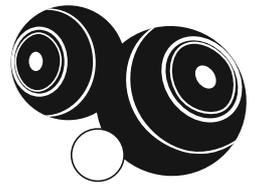
Greetings also to all who wish they could make music but don't have an instrument or are still "Covid-wary" of singing with others. If that's you, do get in touch. The bells are here for you to ring and if you would prefer to form your own little group of family or friends we would certainly like to guide you towards something to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee!

Contact: Jennifer King. Tel: 01661 852926

Heddon Carpet Bowls

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYBODY. 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.

Lil Cruickshank.
07810 473460



HEDDON GOSSIP DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

April/May 2022

March 21st 2022 for articles and advertising

Contact: Ian Scott

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

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