

HEDDON GLOSSIP

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

OCTOBER • NOVEMBER 2023



Premier Award for Halls of Heddon

Fresh back from Harrogate Autumn Show at Newby Hall where once again Halls of Heddon were pleased to be awarded a Premier Gold Award for their display of over 600 Dahlia blooms.

These were all grown at our fields at West Heddon where, despite the season, and particularly after the cold, wet July, the Dahlias are now in full bloom and attracting visitors from all over the country. Halls have exhibited at the Autumn Show since the late 1950's, and it is now held in the grounds of Newby Hall, where Dahlias are well featured in the gardens, many of them being supplied from the nursery. Being at the show is a great chance to meet customers from many areas of the country but it's good to see people we know from the village who always pop by to say hello.

OUT NOW! Halls of Heddon 2024
Dahlia and Chrysanthemum
catalogue



Northumberland
County Council

Northumberland County Council have set up a hot line 'Fix My Street'

This new online service is for people to report problems on the county's streets has gone live. Issues can be reported straight from a mobile phone, computer or tablet.

If you consider the problem to be dangerous or an emergency, please call us on: **0345 600 6400**. Otherwise, by submitting the report online we will deal with it in line with our agreed timescales.

How to report a problem

All you have to do is go on line or on the phone and click on the link:

Enter a Northumberland postcode, or street name and area

Locate the problem on a map of the area

Enter details of the problem

Confirm the report and Northumberland County Council will investigate

Heddon Village Show success after 3 year break

The Heddon Village Show committee would like to say a great big thank you to everyone who helped to make our 2023 post covid comeback such a success.

After a 3 year hiatus we worried that the Show may have lost some of it's previous steam, however we were proved wrong. When doors opened to entries at 9am there was a good steady stream. Growing season may not have been optimal this year, but the turn out in the Floral category did us proud. Vegetables may have been slightly fewer in number but the quality of produce was excellent. The standard and range of Handicrafts this year was second to none, Beers, Wines and Spirits went down a treat, Floral Art and Photography showed real flair, and the Children's categories showed a lot of talent and enthusiasm. Of course we cannot forget Cookery and Preserves, a little short on entries this year, but as tasty as ever.

The weather was in our favour and the sun shone bright just in time for the dog show to begin on the Welfare Field, we had our largest number of entrants to date, everyone had a fantastic time including the judging team from Blythman & Partners Ltd, Veterinary Practice who had the incredibly difficult job of picking winners, all of whom received a rosette, and the judges favourite took the winners cup, all supplied by Home from Home.

The show was opened by the amazing Hat Band, outside of the Knott Hall in the glorious sunshine, a real crowd pleaser, we hope to get them back for an encore next year.

All of our judges did an amazing job and now would be the time to extend our thanks to them for their help, the show wouldn't be a show without them. Prizes awarded and prize money collected it was time to award the cups. Bryn Tailford who for many years served as Chairman before retiring after the last show, kindly agreed to act as honorary president and give out the cups.



Exhibits of baking and vegetables from the show.

Photos: © Amber-Sarah Britton-Dyer



'Bouncy' Bertie - winner of the 'Most Handsome' category
Photo: © Amber-Sarah Britton-Dyer

Finally a huge thank you to the WI for providing refreshments in the hall, and to all of those who donated prizes for the raffle and bought tickets. We have a few outstanding winners who have still to collect as well as some unclaimed class prizes - please contact us via the Heddon Village Show Facebook page, or email: heddonshow@gmail.com.

See you all next year to do it all again.
Heddon Village Show Committee.

More images and list of prize winners on page 11

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL -

A Place for Everyone

St. Andrew's Church continues to be open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays 10am - 3.00pm to welcome anyone who would like to visit and spend some time admiring the building or simply to enjoy some peace and quiet.

The Church is a beautiful setting for weddings and baptisms, if you would like to enquire about either please contact Revd. Rachel.

r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org

We had a wonderful occasion at St. Andrew's Church recently when a prospective Godparent expressed a desire to be baptized prior to his niece's baptism and his sister, the babies Mum, also chose to be baptised. Six family members arrived one evening for the service. Revd. Rachel led a very informal but also very special service.

Two weeks later, Revd. Rachel, baptized the baby and presided at the wedding blessing service held for the baby's parents.

At the beginning of September, after months of careful planning, Heddon Village was buzzing with the Annual Village Show and the Culture Festival which was organized by Revd. Rachel, David Blackett and many other volunteers. The whole weekend was a wonderful occasion, enjoyed by many people from the local community and farther afield.

Please see separate articles with lots more detail and photographs of the event.

At the end of September, we welcomed Heddon on the Wall St. Andrew's Primary School to church for their annual Welcome Service, Messy Church took place at the Methodist Church and St. Andrew's enjoyed their Harvest Festival with all the donated produce once again going to The People's Kitchen.

One of the recent expenses St. Andrew's has had to meet has been the repair of the wall bordering the lower churchyard. By the time this edition of Gossip reaches its destinations, this will have been repaired.

A beautiful, Grade 1 Listed Building and its grounds cost a lot of money to maintain and run, please see the separate article about our Generous Giving Appeal.

You may just receive this edition of Heddon Gossip before the following event!

30th September 5.30 - 8.30 pm - We are organizing Heddon Harvest Ceilidh Party to raise funds for St. Andrew's Church. Panhaggerty Ceilidh Band will be providing the music and baked potatoes with a chilli or vegetarian filling followed by apple crumble and cream will be served. Drinks will be available to purchase from the bar. There will be an adult and a children's raffle.

Please come along. Donations will be welcomed on the night. A suggested amount of £10 per adult £5 per child would be appreciated.

To help with catering, please book tickets by e mailing Revd. Rachel. r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org or sending a WhatsApp to 07916681128


Dates for the Diary

Sunday 29th October at 10.30 a.m. - As this is a fifth Sunday, the Service will be held at Ryal for all five churches in the group.

Saturday 4th November at 4 p.m. - in St. Andrew's Church - All Souls Day Service. This is an opportunity to have our loved one we see no longer remembered in this special service.

Lynda Henderson

Sunday 12th November at 9.45 a.m. - A joint Service for Remembrance Sunday to be held in the Methodist Church followed by a Service in the Memorial Park at 10.45 a.m.



Sunday worship every week 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.

2nd Sunday of the month: Holy Communion.

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.

Details will be shown on the various notice boards and via social media.

Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/upperpontchurches - this is a Facebook page so can be accessed like a website even if you don't normally use Facebook.

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

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Tuesday pm 1.00 - 4.00

Friday pm 1.00 - 4.00

Saturday am 10.00 - 12.00



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Heddon Methodist Church

Ministers: Methodist Ministers for Heddon Methodist Church:

Deacon Maggie Patchett, living in the village:
Tel: 01661 854073 email: deaconmaggie@gmail.com

and **Revd Lynda Coulthard**, based in Westerhope:
Tel: 0191 271 1587 email:
lynda.coulthard@methodist.org.uk

In the first instance, contact Maggie if you would like a visit, or to arrange a baptism, wedding or funeral.

Email: deaconmaggie@gmail.com

Facebook: @Heddon Methodist Church

Letter from Lynda

It's easy sitting on the sideline watching but it's another thing when you are involved.

I'm preparing this just hours after the completion of the Women's Football World Cup when the nation had such high hopes that England would be bringing the cup home with them. I see that the recriminations have already started about the team chosen and the way the team played in the final especially the chances that they missed and the mistakes that they made.

Just days ago some students got their 'A' Level, B Tec or T Tec results. Those who were hoping to go to university to study in September were depending on their results. These students didn't sit their GCSE's because of Covid so this is the first real taste of exams. Many of them may well have got the grades they needed for their course but there will be some that haven't and need to consider their next step – a different course, defer and resit next year, or do something completely different. We are already being told to prepare that the results will not be as high over the next few years.

*Today there is so much pressure to be better than anyone else. At all levels of sport there is pressure to win regardless whether it is a local team/school team. The expectations of the fans is for every match to be won. With exam results regardless of whether there is an expectation for an individual to do better than a peer there is pressure on the school for their students to get more A*s. As etcetera than the previous year students &/or other schools. With all this pressure to succeed is it any wonder that those who don't feel as though they have failed. For them as an individual they may well have surpassed their expectations but that means little to them compared with others.*

God wants everyone to be the best that they can be. He has given us all different gifts & skills with no gift or skill better than any other. The women may not have won the cup but they are the first team in almost 60 years to appear in a Football World Cup final of either male or female team. They will be disappointed to come home as runners up rather than winners. The students may not have achieved the grades that they hoped (or others hoped) they would but what appears as failure doesn't have to be the end – it can be the start of something new.

Many thought that when Jesus was crucified that was the end. His followers thought that their hopes and dreams were also over but 3 days later they discovered that it was actually the start of something new, something better. We may be disappointed in the football result, we may be disappointed that a family member hasn't achieved what they wanted to achieve but we need to help them celebrate what they have achieved. Whilst they (and us) may not recognise it at the moment the outcome is not the end. God has a better plan for them and us if we put our trust in Him.

God bless - Lynda



Church Sunday Services: 10.30-11.30am

Peace Garden & Poustinia: Why not pop into the Garden at the back of the Church?

The **Garden** offers plenty of seating amongst the flowers and trees, and the **Poustinia**: a small sparsely furnished cabin or room - Come and find out its origins, on your own or with friends and family.

You are welcome any time, all year round.

Enter through the Church or from the side garden gate . . .

Home Group: A new name for our Bible Study. In the

'Garden Room' of the Chapel. Every Tuesday 7-8.00pm

Warm Space Community Coffee Mornings: Thursdays 10.00-12.00am - Coffee, Scones and Chat



Messy Church: Held on Sunday 23 September where the theme was: Harvest. We had lots of fun with craft activities, story-time and songs for all the family. Fish-fingers or baked potato - and beans was on the menu for the day!

Ad Murum Choir Practice: Tuesday evenings 7.00pm

Helping those in need: Donations for Foodbank can be placed in the large box at the front door of the Church, or inside whenever the Church door is open.

Heddon Methodist Church have Rooms to Hire.

Contact: Muriel 01661 854788



A box for donations to the Newcastle West End Foodbank is located outside the side door of the Methodist Chapel. The response from Heddon residents continues to be good with some very generous recent donations of food and other items. Over 60 kg has been taken to the warehouse at Lemington over the past few weeks.

Many Heddon Gossip readers will be familiar with the consumer champion, Martin Lewis and his website, MoneySavingExpert. This has a page dedicated to Food Bank donations. It's based on its own Food Donation thread and conversations with the Trussell Trust (who are responsible for the Newcastle West End Food Bank as well as many others). Here's the webpage address:

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/team-blog/2023/08/food-bank-donation-tips/>

It gives a few pointers for donations:

- **Multipacks of individually-wrapped items.**
 - **Items that don't need to be cooked.**
 - **Items that already include herbs and spices.**
 - **Items that can turn pasta/rice into a full meal.**
 - **Toiletries**
 - **Household items - liquid detergent, laundry powder, washing up liquid**
 - **Feminine products**
 - **Baby supplies**
-and things to avoid....

- **Items past expiry date.**
- **Items no longer in original packaging or without the shop's own labelling.**
- **Anything you wouldn't eat yourself.**

So please donate, if you can.

Heddon Methodist Church

Sunday 12th November at 9.45 a.m. – A joint Service for Remembrance Sunday to be held in the Methodist Church followed by a Service in the Memorial Park at 10.45 a.m.





REGULAR EVENTS

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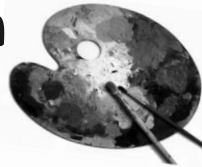
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SPORTS

(Available)

*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

Heddon Art Group



It is that time of year again. Heddon Art Group will be showcasing a selection of members' art work at their Annual Exhibition at the W.I. Hall on Saturday 7 October, from 10am to 4 pm, followed by a viewing day on Sunday 8 October, from 11am to 3 pm.

As usual there will be a wide range of beautiful pictures in different mediums, ranging from landscapes to portraits and still life, many of which will be available for sale; ideal unique Christmas presents! On Saturday you will be able to vote for your favourite picture, the winner being presented with the coveted Rose Bowl in the afternoon, and a raffle held in aid of Tynedale Hospice at Home.

There will, of course, also be a splendid range of refreshments on offer, including many home-made delicacies such as scones, cakes and quiche. An ideal opportunity to catch up with relatives, neighbours, friends and other visitors.

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 from late February until the end of November each year.

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 an earlier love of drawing and painting and would like to find out more about Heddon Art Group, please contact: David Chambers on chambers497@btinternet.com.

**ANNUAL EXHIBITION
Saturday 7th October
Sunday 8th October**



John Stobart winner of the Reg & Edna Hewling Memorial Rose Bowl, 2022

AD MURUM *Singers*

Ad Murum Singers were involved twice during the "Culture Weekend" in Heddon. A few of the members accompanied the school choir singing in St Andrews Church on Saturday morning, and then a larger group presented a small concert in the church on Sunday afternoon. It was a good opportunity to sing to an audience who may never have heard the choir before, and it generated some welcome interest from prospective new members.

The new term for the choir began on Tuesday September 5th and we welcomed four new members! After some "warming up" our Musical Director introduced us to some of the songs and carols we will sing at our next concert, and the practice began in earnest.

For many Gossip readers Christmas must still seem a long way away! For Ad Murum Singers this is the time to commence practices for our Christmas Concert to take place in December.

If you are interested in joining a choir, don't hesitate. Come along to a practice at the Heddon Methodist Church on a Tuesday evening at 7-30pm. You can be assured of a warm welcome.

Chris Rand

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the WI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Welcome to the latest W.I. update.

We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at Sandra's Cottage Flowers, Stannington for our August outing. We wandered around her 'flower arrangers' garden, spoke to the variety of hens, ducks and guinea fowl wandering around then found a seat in the barn to watch Sandra demonstrate floral arrangements. There followed a scrumptious home-made afternoon tea and a raffle when five lucky members came away with a beautiful arrangement each. This visit was made all the more memorable because of the torrential downpour that happened when we were inside the barn, forcing us to move back our tables as the water crept underneath the barn door. By the time to leave came the weather was dry so we travelled home safely, repleat and with a little goodie bag of cakes and scones which we hadn't had room for at tea time.

Mr. William Cumming came to our September meeting to give a talk on tracing family history. He based his demonstration on a postcard addressed to a Miss E. Amos, who lived in Wylam. Little did he know how well known the Amos name is in Heddon, this was just pure coincidence, quite uncanny, but it made his talk even more interesting.



'Heddon WI - tea and flower arranging at Sandra's Cottage Flowers, Stannington

Our WI belongs to the West Hadrian Group, which consists of five WIs in Tynedale. It was our turn to host a meeting and so, on Wednesday 6th September, we held a social evening with entertainment which included Elena, a Ukrainian lady, who talked about her country and customs, this was followed with Jennifer King giving us a short demonstration on using handbells. We had a go and even managed to produce a well known song, playing all the right notes, but necessarily in the right order! The entertainment came to an end with an Arabian dance. We had refreshments, social time and a raffle. The evening seems to have been well received by our visitors from four other Institutes, Wylam, Ovingham, Hexham Town and Great Whittington and Matten.

Our October meeting is entitled 'Petting Dogs' and David Stone will bring along his canine friend and tell us all about the job of a petting dog, visiting care homes and bringing comfort to residents.

In November our very own Aileen Rand will show us how to make a table decoration in readiness for the Christmas table.

Notices of future meetings are on the village notice boards and if you see anything that takes your fancy do come along as a visitor, we'd love to welcome you.

Pauline



THROCKLEY DRAMA GROUP – REMEMBERING SUSAN

Throckley Drama Group have been performing plays in the W.I. Hall at Heddon since the Methodist Church Hall in Throckley was demolished many years ago.

Anyone who came to the plays will remember Susan Emmett. Susan had been a member of the Drama Group since she was a teenager and was definitely one of our 'stars'. As well as taking lead roles and always being word perfect, Susan was in charge of entertaining everyone in the interval with her jokes.

Sadly, in May, after a short but serious illness, Susan died.

We decided to remember her by organising an evening of entertainment entitled:

'The Drama Group Remembers Susan'

There will be sketches and monologues, a raffle and a quiz, supper and singing with everyone getting a complimentary glass of wine on arrival.

The event will be held in the:

W.I. Hall, Heddon on Friday 13th October 7.30pm – 9.15 pm.

All profits raised will be sent to Susan's chosen charities: **The Smile Train** and **Brooke Animal Sanctuary.**

Tickets cost £8 for adults - £4 for children under ten and are available from **Lynda Henderson (07907574575)** or **Olive White (0191 2674827)** or any member of the Drama Group.

Lynda Henderson



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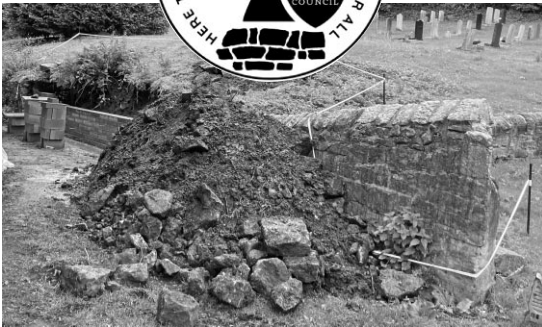
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HEDDON ON-THE-WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Our Mission
Statement:



October/
November



Work has started on repairing the walls on Chare Bank - please take notice of the signs and warnings

Parish Council Updates

Welfare field/MUGA/Playground

We are still working through your comments and the results of the QR questionnaire. Once this is complete, we can update you all.

Chare Bank

Happy to confirm that all approvals have been received and by the time you read this, the repairs to Chare Bank will be well underway. Once the wall is repaired then the resurfacing can take place.

Lower Churchyard

Just a reminder that a final meeting will be held at St Andrews Church at 6.30pm on 18th October to discuss a way forward on the options available as mentioned in the previous Heddon Gossip.

Councillor vacancy

Following the resignation of one of our Councillor's, Alan Turnbull, Heddon Parish Council have a vacancy.

This is a great opportunity to make a difference in your community.

Supporting the Parish Council and community to deliver the Strategic Plan. Working together to support the maintenance and improvements within our village. You will need to be a resident within the Parish and must be 18 years or older.

Further information is available on the notice boards, or for an informal discussion with our Parish Council Chair,

Di Keller, please contact Lucy Barton heddonpc@gmail.com or call on 01661 854583. Closing date is Friday 6th October.

We would like to thank Alan for his support and commitment during his time as Parish Councillor.

Heddon Village Show & Cultural Festival

We were so proud to support the Heddon Village Show and Cultural Festival which took place over the weekend of 1st September. Both were very well attended, and the atmosphere was amazing. It was lovely to see so many people out and about. A big thank you to everyone who had an input into making these events a huge success.

Dates for the diary:

Parish Council Meetings

11th October 2023
8th November 2023
13th December 2023

Organised Litter Pick

Meet at the Memorial Park at 10.30am
Saturday 21st October 2023

Celebrations

Remembrance Sunday 12th November 2023



Contact us:

Parish Clerk: Lucy Barton t: 01661 886853 e: heddonpc@gmail.com

Asset Officer: Lorraine Twizell t: 07735 246381

e: heddonassetofficer@gmail.com

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

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HEDDON GOSSIP

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

December/January 2023/2024

November 20th for articles and advertising

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- Email: ianscottdesign@btinternet.com
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Hadrian's Head

They are digging the hole...
..... well nearly

The restrictions have been placed on Chare Bank in anticipation of work commencing, a slight delay due to cemetery wall subsidence and Parish Council wall repairs, however this is currently underway and the work on the surface of Chare Bank and installing the mosaic is imminent.

As mentioned in previous updates, to enhance the project and ensure a local element, it has been decided to provide an opportunity for the purchase of engraved paving blocks, which will be installed running parallel to the boundary wall alongside the mosaic.

It is anticipated the installation of the mosaic will generate a significant amount of media interest and demand from various sources for blocks.

Do you want a block

Due to the delay, it has been decided to extend the purchase period available to Heddon residents prior to opening up the sale to others.

The blocks will retail at £40.00.

The sale of the blocks commenced on 1/6/2023 and will proceed in three Slots:- **Slot 1 5/6/2023 – 31/10/2023**

Heddon residents will have priority and will receive a discount of £10.00

Slot 2 31/10/2023 – 30 /11/2023

Residents along the Wall, will receive a discount of £5.00

Slot 3 General Sale to any purchaser 1/12/2023 –

To register interest, please contact: **D Blackett 07770666744**

Email: **dblackett@aol.com** or Hadrian's Head Facebook page

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.



Celebrate with us this

Launch Night

“London Essence Company”

join us for live music from

“Two for the Road”

and tasting samples from

The London Essence Company to

mix with your favourite spirits.

Sat 7th Oct from 7.00pm

New Autumn dishes coming to our
Menu from the 12th October

Quiz night every Monday
Starts 8.00pm



Christmas and Festive Menus
are here!

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Heddon-on-the-Wall

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swannewcastleupontyne@vintageinn.co.uk

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St Andrew's Church – The Future and How You Can Help



Aren't we lucky to have had a beautiful, warm, welcoming, well maintained Grade 1 Listed Church here at Heddon on the Wall for over 1,500 years

At least once every week there is a public service and we are fortunate in that we have two priests available for our children's baptisms, family weddings and loved ones funerals.

However, not many people realise that the church can only remain open and functioning if we are prepared to help fund it. Contrary to belief, the church is not funded by the Government. The Church Commissioners are not hoarding their money but making it available to the National Church who use it for the benefit of all our parishes and activities.

The sad reality is that if the voluntary funding becomes insufficient the church will have no option but to close its doors and simply become a tourist attraction.

I would like to simplify the basic facts of church finance in this article:

Currently St. Andrew's Church costs £37k per year to run. This includes utilities, consumables, clergy expenses and insurance. A major part of our cost is a sum of money we are asked to pay called 'Parish Share' this is an annual sum of money paid to the Diocese who appoint the clergy and employ a few administrators. Like any employer it must pay the salaries, National Insurance, pension contribution as well as providing housing for the clergy. We try to give as much as we can in Parish Share but we know we won't be asked for something we can't afford.

Where does this funding come from?

I am sure this fact will surprise you but the majority of funding comes from generous donors: the church members and members of the community and the public who choose to financially support their local church, for a variety of reasons.

We receive a small amount of income from special services – weddings and funerals

The government fund the Gift Aid scheme and we are able to reclaim VAT on certain expenses because the building is 'listed'.

The National Church provides the funding of our two Bishops, Cathedral Clergy, it pays all clergy pensions and contributes towards church finances but the Parish Share is the main source of income for our Diocese from the generous donations of local people.

So to the nitty gritty. The population of the parish of Heddon on the Wall has in excess 1,600 people, the number of donors who regularly contribute to the running of St. Andrew's Church is 41!

If you would like to ensure the church will be there for you when you need it, would you like to consider some form of giving? Either a regular amount or perhaps a one off donation?

No matter how small a contribution, it will be gratefully received and will help to ensure there is a fully functioning church in Heddon on the Wall for future generations.

If you would like to chat further about becoming a donor or if you would like the finances of this church explained in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact:

Robin Brims our PCC Secretary via: robinbrims@hotmail.co.uk or on 07791 571562.

Lynda Henderson

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

HETT - Heddon Education & Training Trust

The Heddon on the Wall Education & Training Trust (HETT) was set up by St. Andrew's Church in Heddon more than twenty years ago for the benefit of the people of the parish. Each year the Trust awards grants for the education and training of people in the village. One of the main beneficiaries is St. Andrews C of E Primary School, which benefits from contributions from the Trust in a variety of different ways. Two examples include:

- funding the cost of a Bible for every child in Year 3, which children are allowed to keep as their own once they leave the school;
- purchases such as a garden shed for use by the school's Gardening Club, Read Write online literacy support resources, as well as musical equipment.

In addition, awards are also granted to former pupils of the school, as well as current residents. One example is Amy Anderson, a former pupil of the school who also grew up in the village. She successfully applied for a grant to cover the cost of the software, materials and trips that form a mandatory component of her degree course at university. This support enabled Amy to continue her education while defraying the cost of her course fees.

Anyone can submit a request to the Trust, as long as the request is directly related to current or imminent education and training needs, and as long as you meet one of the following criteria:

- you are a current pupil at St. Andrews C of E Primary School;
- you are a former pupil of St. Andrews C of E Primary School;
- you are a current resident of Heddon.

In order to submit a request, please contact Freda Phillipson: fredaphillipson04@gmail.com

Covid test kits

Primary Care Supplies is an approved NHS supplier, who stock Flowflex COVID-19 test kits. They currently have stock available for next-day delivery, including single tests, packs of 5 or packs of 25, ensuring flexibility to meet your specific requirements. To view their range or to place an order online, please visit this website: [Primary Care Supplies Flowflex COVID-19 Test Kits](https://www.primarycaresupplies.co.uk). Alternatively, you may reach out to **Joanna Finn** via email: joanna.finn@primarycaresupplies.co.uk or by phone: 07956 767273 Direct / 0845 862 9500 General Helpline.

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Also available from independent retailers and visitor attractions

Nature Notes - Forays for fungi

Ruth Oatway

Most of these articles have focused on the animal kingdom and occasionally plants, but this time I'm taking a closer look at a fascinating group of organisms which are neither plant nor animal. Fungi are in a kingdom of their own, inhabiting a wide range of environments and taking very diverse forms. They do not have chlorophyll like plants so they can't make their own food. Instead they release enzymes to break down organic matter which they can then absorb. They reproduce by producing spores, often in great numbers. The fungi we are familiar with such as mushrooms, toadstools and bracket-fungi are actually the fruiting bodies of the organism designed to disperse the spores and are really just the tip of the iceberg. The majority of the organism consists of a network of thread-like hyphae which are collectively called the mycelium and are hidden from sight within the soil, rotting wood or other organic material they are feeding on, busily absorbing nutrients.

We now know that over 95% of plants live in symbiosis with fungi, a natural example of the phrase 'you scratch my back I'll scratch yours'! The fungi act as extensions of the fine rootlets of trees and other plants, and both species benefit from an exchange of nutrients. The role of fungi as natural recyclers of dead plant and animal material is critical to the survival of all other forms of life on Earth. Not all fungi are beneficial, some are parasites and crop pests, but others are used in food and medicine such as the yeasts that are involved in the production of bread, wine and beer, and antibiotics which mostly come from fungi.

Fungi can be found all through the year but tend to be associated with autumn and this is the best time of year to find the fruiting bodies of many



Above:
Fly Agaric.



Above:
Meadow Waxcap.



Above:
Yellow Stagshorn.

species. A good variety can be found in and around Heddon-on-the-Wall and they can be quite colourful and attractive. Here are just a few examples:

Fly Agaric – this is the typical 'fairy toadstool' that features in many children's books and illustrations. With its striking red cap and white spots it is probably the best-known toadstool of them all and is usually found in woodland, often associated with birch trees. It is present in Heddon Common and Slacks Plantation woods.

Meadow Waxcap – there are several species of waxcap in the UK, mostly found in grasslands and often very colourful. The meadow waxcap is orangey-brown in colour and has quite widely-spaced gills under the cap which hold the spores. Waxcaps can be a good indicator of grasslands that have not been cultivated or disturbed for a long time so are valuable for other species too. This one was found near Rudchester.

Yellow Stagshorn is a very different type of fungus – not a mushroom or toadstool but a coral-like structure with orangey-yellow branches found growing on deadwood of conifers, often in mossy habitats. This is another species that can be found in the woodland of Heddon Common and Slacks Plantation and for me it really lights up an otherwise dull woodland floor.

When the flowers of summer are gone, fungi can bring colour, beauty and interest to our woods and grasslands throughout the autumn and winter. I hope this has inspired you to see what you can find. If you want to find out more, try these websites:

<https://www.first-nature.com/fungi/>
and <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/fungi-and-lichens/>

WARNING - while some fungi are edible, some are deadly poisonous so avoid handling them and never eat anything you aren't 100% sure of!

Sustainable Heddon

The planet is facing an environment crisis and a climate crisis. We are a newly formed residents' group welcoming new members and ideas. Our goal is to achieve net zero carbon emissions for the village and measurable improvements to the local environment.

Rob Oatway

Get a Water Meter – Save £100-£350/yr

Only 60% of households have a water meter but most will save money by getting one. For average users, this is how much your water will cost:

Users	m ³ per year	Cost per year
1 person	56 m ³	£240
2 people	90 m ³	£310
3 people	120 m ³	£375
4 people	150 m ³	£435
5 people	170 m ³	£475

Check your bill to see how much you could save. Apply here: www.nwl.co.uk

FREE stuff

Northumbrian Water has a free water saving guide and products they give away to help you save water.

This includes products for showers, taps, toilets and gardening.

We are so lucky to have enough clean water, but every little we save can save us money and benefit the environment.

Find out more at: www.nwl.co.uk

Next Meeting: 7pm Wednesday 25/10/23
@ The Three Tuns

 [sustainable.heddon](https://www.facebook.com/sustainable.heddon)

 sustainableheddon@gmail.com



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Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall

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Autumn is always a interesting and exciting time at Knott Hall, with the regular classes once again in action there is the choice of Ballroom Dancing, Keep Fit, Dancercise and Carpet Bowls and of course the opportunity to hire the hall for an activity of your choosing.

The season has begun with the hosting of the Heddon Village Show, which made a welcome return to the village. It was good to see the many and varied entries and applaud the winners and all entrants who made the show a success.

The Hall was also an integral part of the Heddon Culture Festival, hosting the opening event, where Hadrian's Head Mosaic was unveiled for those who had not had the opportunity to see it.

Following the Heddon Show the hall was the venue for the highlight concert 'Prelude' where an audience of 100 were entertained by the amazing vocals and music of a superb band.

Hopefully the energy and enjoyment can be sustained with the remaining events of the year.

Future Events for your diary:

(Further details will be in 'the Gossip,' noticeboards, village diary and Heddon Matters (Facebook Page)

Make do and Mend Drama Production - 13th October 2023

Music, song and visuals looking at life in the 1950's

Big Science @ the Knott - Half term Activity 30th October 2023

Beat the Drum - 10th November 2023

Christmas Market - 24th November 2023

Knott Memorial Hall - Contact Details

www.northumberlandvillagehalls.org.uk/heddon-villageknott-memorialhall

General Info: D Blackett: 07770666744 dblackett@aol.com

Bookings: Hazel Thompson: 01661 85368

Home Educators' Craft Fair

Following on from the hugely successful Summer Craft Fair, and last year's Christmas Fair, the Home Educating Crafters and Entrepreneurs are back with more to delight and enjoy.

Saturday December 2nd, 1.00pm-4.30pm - Knott Hall

Free entry. Donations welcome - profits are donated to the Knott Hall.

Food, cake, decorations, cards, gifts, etc, and live music from our very own Isla Thompson.

Culture Festival Success?

Heddon-on-the-Wall Culture Festival 2023, when the decision to have a festival was made, there was some ambition, lots of enthusiasm and some trepidation.

The festival built on the success of last years, Hadrian 1900 celebrations and the desire to continue to showcase the culture of Heddon.

The festival commenced on Friday 1st September at 6.30pm with the unveiling of the Hadrian's Head Mosaic prior to it's installation in Hadrian's Wall Path, the mosaic was a legacy item from Hadrian 1900 and is designed as a tactile art installation. this was followed by two gigs at the village pubs The Swan and 3 Tuns with differing but complimentary music styles on display

On Saturday 2nd the festival got into it's stride, with St Andrews Church becoming the focal point with The makers market, around which the workshops were being held in the WI, Methodist Church, Library and the Swan. Ukulele, Hand Bell Ringing, Water Colour Art, Mask Making, and Kite Making, Busking and Poems. Talks by Children's Author Lorna Windham from her book 'Once upon a time in Northumberland, and by Local Historian Don Miller 'Insights into Heddon Street Names', Archaeology Roadshow, 'Have a go with English Heritage at Hadrian's Wall and 7.30pm Prelude in Concert, at the Knott Hall.

Around the village the displayed art and poems of the every child at St Andrews School displayed the amazing talent of the next generation.

Sunday 3rd St Andrews once again the focal point, a entertaining and poignant family history of 'the Amos Brothers', Hymns and Pims, Andy Curtis talk 'the history of the Tyne local to Heddon' and a Choir recital by the Ad Murum Singers and at Selman Park 3.30pm Kites, Ice Cream and Burgers - what a finale.

This all running along side the village show with flowers, vegetables, crafts and a band.

A somewhat dry description of a wonderful weekend of activities, everyone had fun there were smiles and the odd tear, there was much energy and a few tired bodies at the close

People who had never considered art or ukulele or ringing a bell suddenly found that they could, The music performed at the concert or at the buskers enthralled the audiences often to silence before applauding the joy of the experience.

Items brought to the Archaeology Roadshow, simply astounded the experts, civil war cannon balls, roman and amazingly neolithic artifacts.

And Kites, flying above Selman Park.

Was it a success, was it worth the effort, did we get it right NO, there were things which could be improved and there have been comments about scheduling etc.

But from those who sat in the sun watching kite flyers of all ages enjoying the sunshine, the musicians who stepped up to the buskers challenge and the amazing young lady who read her poem in public and everyone who simply enjoyed the experience, the answer must be YES. **And..... Will we do it again?**

Heddon Fluito

ODE TO HEDDON

The soft rustle of the leaves
All the birds chirping happily
Daisy's dancing in the breeze
The waltzing lazy peaceful common,
Sweet scents filling the air
Victrix is still standing proudly
Hadrian's Wall hasn't crumbled
Kind laughter of Children
It's the hidden gem of Northumberland
Heddon!

*Author a year 5 Student
Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrews School*

Sit and watch the view
When you tie your shoe, relax
On Heddon's big hill

*A Haiku Poem
Author a year 3 Student
Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrews School*



Postcard painting in the WI.

HEDDON SHOW- Results

Bryn Tailford who for many years served as Chairman before retiring after the last show, kindly agreed to act as honorary president and gave out the cups. Winners as follows:

- Vegetables - Ken Urwin
- Garlic - Lorraine Twizell
- Dahlias - John Jobling
- Sweetpeas - Joan Barber
- Flowers General - Bryn Tailford
- Floral Art - Pat Watson
- Floral Art Novice - Jennifer Johnson
- Cookery - Ann Hotchkiss
- Men's Cookery - Tim Parcell
- Preserves - Jessica Taylor
- Handicrafts - Joan Barber
- Wine & Beer - Janet Hart
- Photography - Freda Phillipson
- Special Award Under 14's - Abigail Parcell
- Dog Show Judges Favourite - Rachael Davidson with Polly
- Brian Selman Memorial Trophy (Most Entries) - Lorraine Twizell



Bryn Tailford presents Lorraine Twizell with the overall winners trophy for most exhibits in show. Photo: Ian Scott

If you have one of the following tickets or class numbers, please contact us via the Heddon Village Show Facebook page, or email: heddonshow@gmail.com.

Class	Place	Winners Initials
Veg 38	1st	467
Handicrafts 40	3rd	BT
Wine & Beer 66	3rd	SR
Photography 80	2nd & 3rd	CW

Raffle Ticket Colour Number	Prize
Yellow	254 Notebook & Pen
Pink	313 Bottle of Wine
Yellow	251 Bracelet
Pink	274 Scarf



Bryn Tailford - presenting Ken Urwin the winner of the Vegetables Cup. Photos: Ian Scott



Exhibits from Handicrafts, Childrens Cookery and the Flowers General classes from the show.

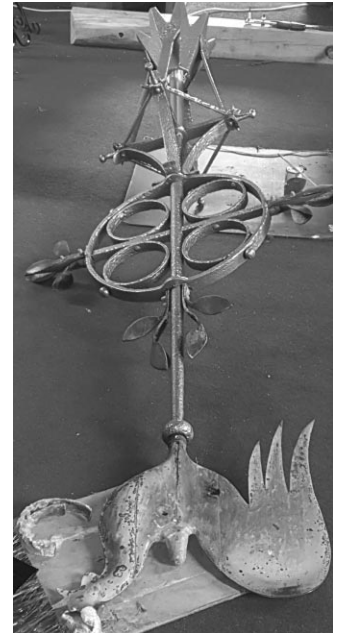
Photos: © Amber-Sarah Britton-Dyer



Matfen church weathercock & spire repair completed

Since the article on Rusty Restorations in the last issue Michael Amos and others have finally finish the restoration project at Holy Trinity Church in Matfen. Michael gives extra special thanks to his other customers who have patiently waited for there own jobs whilst been involved with this project has been ongoing.

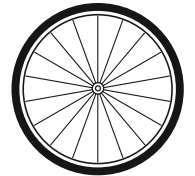
He told me, the holes in the Cockerel were from soldiers who had been rescued from WWII taking target practice while garrisoned at Matfen. The contractors were **Rusty Restorations**, **Northern Steeplejacks** and **John S. Lunn & Sons** for the Cockerel repair.



The repaired spire with weathercock complete with bullet holes

BICYCLES FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

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



RUSTY RESTORATIONS

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HANDBELL GROUP

Two lovely groups of complete beginners came to our Festival workshops - and they worked! They brought their sense of fun with them which made our job so much easier as we steered them through an hour's whistlestop introduction to handbells. A few exercises to get rid of tension (fear!), examining the bells, a bit of marching to keep us steady (we had to include something Roman), learning the gentle action which produces the beautiful sound (imagine the bell is full of water), reading and responding to visual symbols, letters and numbers, and then notes as in conventional music notation and some rhythm practice. We hope we have led them on a journey to the point where with a bit more practice they could see the way ahead to becoming confident to find the notes for the one, or two, bells assigned to them and so join in as a member of a team reading from the lines and spaces of printed music and - NB! - without having to learn any musical jargon or theory! The closing performances of Bobby Shaftoe with some harmony added were enthusiastic. Well done all of you! We'd be very happy to see you again.

We can also report that some WI members from Heddon, Wylam, Ovingham, Matfen and Hexham have learned something about handbells.

There is no group meeting regularly in Heddon at present but it would be wonderful to see a new one beginning. The bells are here for anyone wanting to play them and we are keen to pass on the skills we have learned or to let you know where else you can find ringing on Tyneside. Six is a good number for a team but even only one or two can learn to make music with handbells.

Contact:- **Jennifer**. Tel. 852926 or more information on handbells, meetings.

Jennifer King.



Heddon Carpet Bowls

Friendly game against Riding Mill on Thursday 23rd November at the Knott Hall 7.00pm.

Residents of Heddon are welcome to come along to watch and support. (hot drinks and refreshments free at interval)

Also we would like to encourage some of the younger residents of the village to come and try playing carpet bowls ie. teenagers upover!

Basic tuition will be given, carpet bowls can be skillful, non competitive and played in a friendly atmosphere.

Refreshments tea/coffee and biscuits free at the interval.

1st night FREE - Anyone interested in joining Heddon Carpet Bowls contact:

John Curtis, Tel: 07951 131904 for more information on the club and meetings.

John Curtris



Heddon Residents Association

We hope everyone is enjoying this edition with recollections of the wonderful Culture Festival at the beginning of September! Very well done to the organisers!

Our Speedwatch campaign has reached the Police vetting stage for those members who have continued to wade through the long list of requirements in order to qualify for being a volunteer. By the time you read this there may have been a response. It is long overdue and definitely needed to ensure a safe environment for all!

Peter Chapman
Chair

HEDDON PATCHERS



Heddon Patchers quilting group meet in the W.I. on alternate Wednesdays.

In light of recent events we find ourselves with

2 openings for anyone who may be interested in joining us.

For more information contact Ann Allsopp on 01661 820568 or on the e-mail address: allsopprayann@btinternet.com

Thank you. *Ann Allsopp*

£8 for 1hr class (2 sessions combined)
£6 for 45 min class
£4 for 30 min class
Discounted packages available

Scott Miller Fitness

Tuesday

Heddon - Knott Memorial Hall
09:30-10:00 - LBT
10:00-10:30 - Stretch

North Shields - John Spence Community High School
17:45-18:15 - Body Conditioning
18:15-18:45 - Stretch

Thursday

Fenham - St James and St Basils Church Hall
09:30-10:00 - Body Conditioning
10:00-10:30 - Stretch

North Shields - John Spence Community High School
17:45-18:30 - Step

Sunday

Zoom/Online
09:00-09:45 - Spin

Aircraft Noise Action Group (ANAG) – UPDATE

NOISE: This year has been really noisy. Complaints shows that aircraft noise is a health issue with “woke me up”, “made me anxious” and “made me angry” appearing a lot. You can get a copy of our report on this at: <https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/downloads> - it's first in the list.

Keep complaining <https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/complaints-form-2>

AVIATION'S FUTURE: The aviation industry being aggressive about expansion right now. A number of airports across the UK are seeking to but not Newcastle (yet!). We think this is plain wrong. It's dangerous for climate change, it increases atmospheric pollution and the noise will get a lot worse.

Aviation would like us to think that it can fly ever more planes with no effect on us. So, it uses Greenwashing to try to persuade us that this can be done ...

GREENWASHING - ELECTRIC FLIGHT: The industry is promoting electric flight as a long-term alternative to fossil fuels (which it continues to use). Electric flight is too far off to make any difference to climate change and, because of the weight of the batteries, it's never going work. Why? Well, the Chief Technology Officer of Airbus has said: "even assuming huge advances in battery technology, with batteries that are 30 times more efficient and 'energy-dense' than they are today, it would only be possible to fly an A320 airliner for a fifth of its range with just half of its payload".

GREENWASHING - SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUELS (SAF): Aircraft need fuel that has a lot of energy in it for every kilogram of weight. Fossil fuel comes from vast amounts of living matter concentrated underground over many millions of years. It's proposed that SAF can be made from crops grown for the purpose. To produce fuel as energy dense as fossil fuels this way would need enormous amounts of agricultural land at the expense of growing the food the planet's population needs.

WE THINK that aviation needs to start shrinking as soon as possible. Aircraft Noise Action Group supports Stay Grounded, an international campaign aimed at getting aviation to do just this.

Find out more here: <https://stay-grounded.org/>