

HEDDON GOSSIP

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

APRIL • MAY 2024

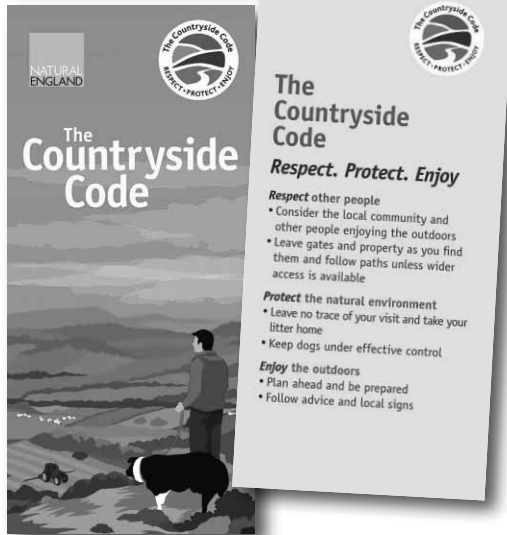


Please be responsible!

Please be responsible for your dog and stick to 'The Countryside Code' by keeping your dog on a short lead around sheep especially after a local incident in which a pregnant ewe was attacked by a someone letting their dog off the lead in a field of sheep. The dog attacked one sheep and a lamb, ripping the ewes face apart leaving its cheek and ear hanging off and ripped the lambs tail off down to the spine.

If you are walking your dog through a field, even if you think there is no stock in it or you think your dog wont attack sheep, KEEP IT ON A LEAD!! Dogs have instincts to chase and attack animals, so please please please keep your dog on a lead!! The police have been informed.

Jack Cannon



The NFU the RSPB and Wildlife Trusts are urging dog owners to keep their pets on short leads now that birds are nesting, species are emerging from hibernation and to protect grazing livestock.

Experts say loose dogs are one of the biggest causes of wildlife disturbance – this is particularly problematic when many species are breeding and vulnerable either on or near the ground.



Some good news (and some sad) Mothers Day, reunited after her trauma with dog, lost her ear and sadly one lamb didn't make it but a mothers bond is so strong.

Cheryl Lawson-Croome

Are you eligible to vote?

New ID requirements in force since May 2023



Northumberland County Council have a scheduled election on the 2nd May 2024. Since May 2023 voters in England now need to show an accredited form of photographic identification in order to receive their ballot paper(s) to cast their vote at polling stations.

Voter ID

Voters in England now need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections.

This applies to:

UK parliamentary elections, including general elections, by-elections and recall petitions.

Local elections and by-elections.

Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

The deadline to apply for free voter ID for the elections on Thursday 2 May is 5pm on Wednesday 24 April.

Check if you have accepted photo ID or for any queries please contact the Elections office on 01670 624811 or on Northumberland Council website: elections@northumberland.gov.uk

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

A Place for Everyone

As previously reported the Lower Churchyard at St Andrew's is nearly full. We now know about the process and rules for closure. We can make an application to the Ministry of Justice only when the 3 remaining spaces are used. Within this application Northumberland County Council and Heddon Parish Council will be given the opportunity to comment. The process permits the use of a grave reserved by faculty to be used after closure is approved; as is the burial on top of a family site where depth permits. The burial of ashes in family graves remains possible for both open and closed churchyards subject to Diocesan approval.

As mentioned in the previous edition of Heddon Gossip, our morning service on a Sunday is now 10.30 a.m. This means that Revd. Rachel can lead more Sunday services at St. Andrew's each month which is a great blessing.

The other exciting change is that we are going to hold more joint services with the Methodist Church throughout this year alternating between St. Andrew's and the Methodist Church.

We began the season of Lent with our Ashing Service on Ash Wednesday and by the time this edition of Gossip is distributed we will have travelled through the season and Holy Week with a variety of services and started to celebrate Easter. We hope you will have been able to join us for some or all of them.

The school held their Mothering Sunday Services and Easter Service in Church. As always the services were well attended and the singing excellent. The children also enjoyed making Easter crafts in Church at a Coffee and Craft Morning in March.

We are having a meeting to discuss what families and children's ministry in Heddon will look like going forward - It will be held on 24th April 10.30am at the Methodist Church. It would be wonderful if a few parents could come along and share any ideas or comment on any points we may raise at the meeting. Please contact Revd. Rachel if you would like to hear more about the meeting.

Early in February we held an after service party for David Potts who was celebrating a milestone birthday. As well as helping many people around the village, David is a much loved and valued member of St Andrew's Church. He always ensures the grounds are kept in good order, the church is heated and his extensive knowledge of the village and Church is put to good use when anyone has any queries.

We would like to thank him for everything he does and wish him a very happy year ahead.

Our beautiful Church is a treasure for the village of Heddon-on-the-Wall but the costs to keep a Grade 1 Listed Building in a good state of repair, adequately heated for services and preserved for future generations is understandably high and the costs increase steadily all the time.

If you feel you would like to contribute to the upkeep, (either regularly or as a one off payment), of this wonderful building, please do not hesitate to contact our treasurer:

Jane Tiffen (07305594059 m.tiffen@btinternet.com) for more information on how you can do this, your link to take you straight to our page: <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/> then scroll down to Parish Search add our code **250625048** click Find Your Church and then Give Now.

Thank you.

Dates for Your Diary (other than our regular weekly services)

Sunday 21st April - Joint Service with the Methodist Church at the Methodist Church at 10.30 a.m. - no service at St. Andrew's that day.

Thursday 9th May - Ascension Day Holy Communion at St. Andrew's Church at 9.30 a.m.

Sunday worship every week at 10.30am 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.

Your village Church continues to be open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays throughout the remainder of winter and the spring months from 10.30am - 3.30pm. It offers a welcome to anyone who would like to visit, admire the building or simply enjoy some time for prayer in 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

Lynda Henderson

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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Martha Rosa Graham

29.10.1925 - 03.02.2024

Mam lived in Heddon since 1969 and was a well-known figure around the village.

I think to write about her, I will elaborate on a poem written for her funeral by her Granddaughter Clare – see below:

Mam did indeed enjoy a glass of Harvey's Bristol Cream or Baileys Irish Cream. Only one but every day. She was very quick when asked about the secret of her longevity to attribute it to her tittle. Even to tell the

ambulance driver who questioned her after a mishap with her car!! A statement which clearly caused his eyebrows to be raised. However this was at 2.30 p.m. and 'sherry time' was always 6 p.m. while watching the news.

She spent her days doing crosswords and puzzles to keep her brain active and she enjoyed a daily stroll. She loved our dogs and would pile them into her little car every afternoon and take them out for walks whatever the weather.

Her main aim was never to be a burden and to remain independent for as long as possible, all these pursuits helped her to achieve this.

She was always very broad minded and did enjoy a joke not even flickering if a naughty word was uttered – in fact laughing all the more at the 'naughtiness' of it.

She was a widow for almost 31 years. Though she missed Dad terribly, she did have a life after Jock. She began carpet bowling and made new and lifelong friends there. This led to whist drives, domino rallies and a Saturday night get together having supper and playing cards.

She never travelled abroad and only flew in a plane once to Heathrow after winning two flights in a charity raffle but she was extremely happy and contented with her life. She loved the countryside, her garden, the village of Heddon, Tipping Point, The Chase and Strictly Come dancing on TV and writing poems for friends and relatives to commemorate their birthdays and special occasions.

After a fall in November 2022, her life changed. She preferred to sit in her bedroom or bedsit as she called it, on an armchair which had belonged to her Mam. A big treat was to come to my house and have egg and chips - the chips being cooked the old fashioned way in a pan of dripping!

One of the main loves of her life was her family, she had only me but had three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She accompanied us on holidays and climbed Old Man of Coniston at the age of 75.

Another was St. Andrew's Church where she worshipped every Sunday. She said her prayers every night and had an unshakeable faith in God.

She had a long and happy life and died peacefully in her own bed after a short period of discomfort. Like the Queen, her death certificate gave only one cause of death: Frailty of Old Age.

*A Poem for Grandma by Clare
Grandma loved sherry and crosswords and bowling,
Our dogs, daffodils, Baileys and strolling.
She loved a joke, the ruder the better.
She loved to ask us about the day's weather.
She loved playing the lottery and The Chase on TV,
And egg with chips for her Sunday night tea.
She loved writing in rhyme and Marks and Spencer,
And flirting whenever the opportunity was presented to her.
She loved Heddon, her garden, this church, and her chair.
Strictly Come Dancing and a chocolate éclair.*

*But her heart was filled with love to overflowing
For her family and friends who kept her world going.
And her love for the Lord brought the comfort of faith
The promise that now in his home she is safe.
And we who so loved her now gather to mourn.
My Grandma, dearest Martha,
In your love we go on.*

Lynda Henderson

Care4Calais Volunteering

The notorious Calais 'Jungle' was disbanded in 2016 by the French authorities, but with nowhere else to go, and persistent global instability, the refugee presence at the border remains.

The people who find themselves here are fleeing war, persecution, and oppression in their countries, yet after all that they have endured, their welcome by the state is not a compassionate one. There is no state provided access to drinking water or sanitation in Calais or Dunkirk and communities face the regular and systematic destruction of their living spaces by the authorities. Police conduct evictions in the middle of the night, wearing full riot gear, and sometimes resorting to use of tear gas or even physical violence to force refugees onto buses. They are then driven sometimes hundreds of miles away and left on the side of the road at their arbitrary destination. As most of these people aim to reach the UK, they inevitably return to Calais, where they find their camps have been bulldozed and burned and they are left to start again. Again.

The sense of desperation is palpable and is growing with the increasing hostility of the political environment and the plummeting temperatures, as a brutal winter has set in. Frostbite and trench foot are rife and it is common to see groups of people huddled around fires, burning plastic and litter in an attempt to keep warm. Unfortunately, desperation leads people to take greater risks to reach safety, and since my first trip to Calais in September 2023, at least twenty people have lost their lives at the border. These deaths were all tragic and preventable and have barely gleaned a second of attention from mainstream media.

In stark contrast to all the misery in Calais is so much hope and here, hope is more than just a feeling, it is a survival skill. I was struck repeatedly by the resilience and positivity of the communities I met and even on the worst days there were beautiful moments. A South Sudanese dance party. An Arabic lesson in exchange for an English one. The offer of breakfast around a camping stove. A cup of tea. It was an honour to get to know these individuals and hear their hopes and dreams – their plans to work, to study, to live in security and dignity, to not let this experience define them.

On my safe, warm, comfortable train journeys back to the UK, I can do nothing but reflect that there are no safe and legal routes to the UK for the people I have spent time with in Calais and Dunkirk. Their crossings will be far more perilous, made in small flimsy boats or lorries. Seeking asylum is a human right, yet our system has forgotten that human rights are, by definition, universal and has come to treat certain groups trying to access this right as criminals.

The real crime being committed here is one of lack of compassion.

Maddy Tiffen, Care4Calais Volunteer

<https://care4calais.org/the-refugee-crisis/>



Heddon Methodist Church

Methodist Ministers for Heddon Methodist Church: Deacon Maggie Patchett, living in the village:

Tel: 01661 854073

email: deaconmaggiep@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: deaconmaggiep@gmail.com

Facebook: @Heddon Methodist Church

Church Sunday Services: 10.30-11.30am

April

7th - Rev'd Lynda Coulthard – Communion Service

14th - A Service from Methodist Women in Britain - 'Let Justice Roll' – led by our Church members.

21st - Deacon Maggie Patchett – St Andrew's will be joining us

28th - Rev'd Tim Woolley

May

5th - Service led by Church members

12th Mr David Forrester

19th - Pentecost Rev'd Jona Sewell – Communion Service

26th - Deacon Maggie Patchett

Men's Coffee Fellowship: First Saturday of the month

Warm Space Community Coffee Mornings:

Thursdays 10.00 - 12.00am - Coffee, Scones and Chat



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

Come in on your own, with friends and family

Shelter from the rain . . .

You are welcome anytime all year round to experience peace and creation. Enter through the Church or the side garden gate . . .

Admorum 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 is open – thank you for your kindness . . .

Heddon Methodist Church have **Rooms to Hire.**

Contact: **Muriel 01661 854788**

A word from Deacon Maggie Patchett

With Easter over, and signs of spring well on the way, many will start to think of the garden. I'm writing this in the middle of March, the month with all that rain, but it was actually dry enough for me to cut the grass today, and to notice all the new buds and plants starting to grow. It has reminded me of a story I used recently at a retreat day – and thought I'd share it with you. Some of you may have heard it before, and it can be found easily on the internet.

A water bearer had two large buckets, each hung on an end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the buckets had a crack in it, and while the other bucket was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the leaky bucket arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half buckets full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect bucket was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor leaky bucket was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of feeling a bit of a failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream.

"I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your masters house" the bucket said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old leaky bucket, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old leaky bucket took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again the Bucket apologized to the bearer. The bearer said to the bucket, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other buckets side? That's because I have always known about your cracks, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my masters table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

We need to be conduits, not just containers! Leaky buckets - sharing our blessings with others. Each of us has something we can offer to others, even if it's only a smile or a kind word – drops of water which might make all the difference to someone.

"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back." (Luke 6:38).

I hope we can all be 'leaky buckets'!

Maggie



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Newcastle Foodbank

Collection Point in Heddon

A box for donations to the **Newcastle Foodbank** is located outside the **side door of the Methodist Chapel**. The contents of the box are taken regularly to the Foodbank warehouse at Lemington. They are gratefully received. This is how the Foodbank works.....

Food is donated

Schools, churches, businesses and individuals donate non-perishable, in-date food to the foodbank. Large collections often take place as part of Harvest Festival celebrations and food is also collected at supermarkets.

It's sorted and stored

Volunteers sort food to check that it's in date and pack it into boxes ready to be given to people in need. Over 40,000 people give up their time to volunteer at foodbanks.

Professionals identify people in need

The Foodbanks partners with a wide range of care professionals such as doctors, health visitors, social workers, DWP, Newcastle City Council, mental health providers and police to identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

Clients receive food

Foodbank clients bring their voucher to a foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days' emergency food. Volunteers meet clients and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve their longer-term problems. Currently, the most urgently needed items are:

- Tinned fruit
- Instant mash/tinned potatoes
- Baby milk and formula
- Nappies (size 4 and larger)
- Toiletries (sanitary towels)
- Tea/coffee
- Soup – tinned and packet
- Custard and rice pudding
- Cereal
- Tinned meat
- Curry Sauce and rice.

But please also, no perishables and no clothing.
Heddon Methodist Church

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

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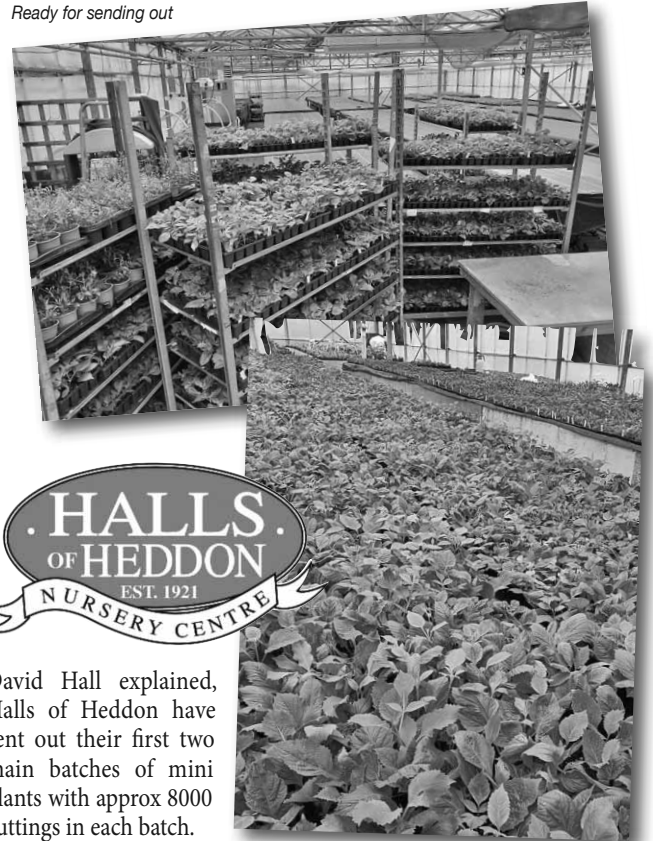
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DRIVES CLEANED



Ready for sending out



David Hall explained, Halls of Heddon have sent out their first two main batches of mini plants with approx 8000 cuttings in each batch.

We have only 9 more batches to take before we start taking cuttings for our own stock!

We aim to start sending Dahlias out week commencing 18th March, though most orders will not be going out until April and May, depending on when plants were ordered and what facilities customers have available. Just hoping the weather warms up a bit soon, and we start to see more of the sun, as growing conditions over the last few weeks have been far from ideal!!

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SCHOOL TIME

A Celebration of Poetry at St Andrew's School

This year, for the first time, St Andrew's Primary school entered four children into the Verse Speaking class of the Ryton Festival. The competition took place on Saturday March 2nd. The four children were, Finn Cassidy, Emmeline Seward, Alex Milner and Poppy Dark. All four children, worked very hard in school and at home on the test pieces provided.

This hard work paid off and St Andrew's is celebrating the arrival of more silver. Poppy Dark was awarded the Rupert Wright Cup for her reciting of *Bella Had A New Umbrella* by Eve Merriam. We're so proud of Poppy and the other children who took part. They were all so confident and composed in their performances. The judge was very impressed with the standard of entry and her remarks were very encouraging and complimentary.

Here in Heddon, we know how much the children at St Andrew's enjoy writing poetry. We saw evidence of this at the Hadrian Festival last year. Some of that poetry is regularly published in the Gossip. This new success bodes well for this year's Festival.

Congratulations once again to all four children. We are already looking forward to next year.

STAY & PLAY - All Welcome!

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St Andrew's CE Primary School

Every Wednesday during term time 9.00am - 10.30am

Make new friends, socialise with other parents and carers, enjoy a range of toys, crafts and songs, suitable for babies and toddlers from birth to 3 years, refreshments included, baby change facilities available.

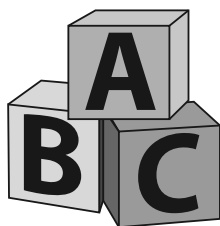
£1.00 donation per child

For more information visit:

www.heddon-school.co.uk

email: stayandplay@heddonschool.co.uk

Tel: 01661 853350



Left: Winners of the Verse Speaking class of the Ryton Festival.

Below: St Andrew's School Choir who competed at the Ryton & District Music Festival



Singing Success for St Andrew's Singers

St Andrew's Primary School choirs took part in the second week of the Ryton And District Music Festival. They competed in both the Song and Hymn classes. There were seven other choirs taking part.

The Junior choir (Years 1 and 2) were congratulated by the judge for their lively performances and their sweet tone. They achieved a merit in both classes which is quite an achievement. This was their first appearance at competition level and we were so proud of their eagerness to perform and the confidence they displayed on the day. The Senior choir (Years 3-6) impressed the judge with their dynamic contrasts, tone quality, clarity of words and their commitment to expressing the meaning of the words. In the Song class they were awarded second place, and in the Hymn class, they were placed first, returning to school with the R. and M. Bisset trophy.

It was a wonderful and exciting afternoon, well supported by parents whose cheers could be heard after every performance. The children deserved the success they achieved at the Festival. They listen, they work extremely hard and they are focused on giving their best performance every time. They are an absolute credit to the school and we are all very proud of them.

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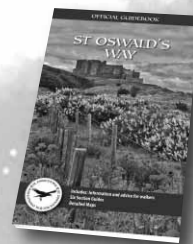


UPDATED & Revised 2024

St. Oswald's Way - Official Guidebook

St. Oswald's Way is a 96-mile long-distance walking route, exploring some of the finest landscapes and the fascinating history of Northumberland. The route links some of the places associated with St. Oswald, the King of Northumbria in the early 7th Century, who played a major part in bringing Christianity to his people. From Holy Island to Heavenfield on Hadrian's Wall.

Paperback 120 pages. £12.99



UPDATED & Revised 2024

Northumberland Coast Path - Official Guidebook

The Northumberland Coast Path follows this stunningly beautiful coastline for 112 kilometres (70 miles) from Cresswell in the South to Berwick-upon-Tweed in the north. Along sandy beaches, over rocky headlands, past dramatic castles and through attractive coastal villages, the Northumberland Coast Path offers a constantly changing landscape, which is a pleasure to explore.

Paperback 64 pages. £9.95





Horseshoe bat - Photo by unknown author is licensed under CC BY-SA-NC

Nature Notes - Beautiful bats

Ruth Oatway

As spring turns to early summer I like to take an evening stroll and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of dusk. Suddenly, out of nowhere, little flitting shapes appear, fast and elusive like flickering shadows. The bats have emerged to hunt! If I stand and watch they'll often patrol the same area repeatedly and I'll get a better view, but never more than a vague impression of size and shape. Somehow this makes these delicate little creatures even more enchanting.

UK Bats hibernate through the winter, lowering their body temperature and metabolic rate to survive on their fat reserves. They might start to emerge from hibernation as early as March but will become fully active by April or May. Their mating season is in autumn before hibernation so in May the females gather in colonies within a suitable 'maternity roost' where each gives birth to a single 'pup'. The pup is fed on milk until it is old enough to start catching insects at about 6 weeks old. All UK bat species feed exclusively on insects which makes them valuable for pest control. A tiny pipistrelle can eat up to 3000 insects a night!

Bats are the only true flying (rather than gliding) mammals in the world and form a unique group, the Chiroptera (meaning hand wing). This name is apt because the bones which support the wing membrane are simply

extended 'fingers'. While the front limbs are adapted for flying, the small hind limbs are used for gripping when roosting upside down.

Contrary to the saying, bats are not blind and have reasonable vision, but for hunting at night they rely on their superpower of echolocation to pinpoint the position of their insect prey and capture it in mid-flight. They are incredibly acrobatic fliers. Echolocation allows bats to 'see' with sound. They emit very rapid high frequency calls, mostly beyond the range of human hearing, and detect the way these sounds bounce off objects to build up a picture of their surroundings. Each species emits a slightly different call and this can be used to identify the species using a 'bat detector' sound recording device.

Bats make up more than a quarter of all mammal species in the UK with 18 species (17 breeding) in total. Sadly bat populations have declined considerably over the last century with threats including building and development work that affects roosts, loss and fragmentation of habitat and a reduction in insects. All bats and their roosts are protected under UK law. There are eight species known to be present and breeding in the North East: the Whiskered Bat, Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle, Brandt's Bat, Natterer's Bat, Daubenton's Bat, Noctule Bat and Brown Long-eared Bat.

On summer nights we often see pipistrelles flying around our back garden and a larger species with longer wings zooming up and down outside the front window. I'd love to find out what this species is. Heddon Common and Gorse Hill are also good areas for bat-watching.

You can attract bats into your garden by growing strongly scented flowering plants such as honeysuckle, sweet briar and white jasmine. These will attract insects, which in turn attract bats. You can also help by gardening organically without insecticides, installing bat boxes and ensuring you don't disturb roosting bats.

The Bat Conservation Trust has lots more information about UK bat species and advice regarding bats in buildings, tree maintenance and building work: <https://www.bats.org.uk/>

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



Make money from Solar Power

We've added a new section to the library to inspire you to help the planet. We have added:

- Magazines for nature organisations – free to take away, these include local visitor attractions and ideas for you to encourage wildlife to your gardens.
- Books with a sustainable theme – borrow from the library in the usual way
- Magazines for sustainable living – free to take away.



Good news, Britain leaves the ECT

The Energy Charter Treaty was created in 1991; we joined in 1994. It allows fossil fuel companies and investors to sue governments for introducing laws which harm profits. This has damaged efforts to take action on climate change.

After the failure of attempts to revise the treaty to make it less damaging to national sovereignty, several countries, now including Britain, have decided to leave entirely. This will take about a year to complete, but after that we shall have greater freedom to make green policies.



New Library Section

We've added a new section to the library to inspire you to help the planet. We have added:

- Magazines for nature organisations free to take away, these include local visitor attractions and ideas for you to encourage wildlife to your gardens.
- Books with a sustainable theme – borrow from the library in the usual way
- Magazines for sustainable living – free to take away.

Next Meeting: 7pm Wednesday 24/04/24 @ The Three Tuns



sustainable.heddon



sustainableheddon@gmail.com

Update from our meeting with Peter Jackson, our local councillor.
Peter joined us at our meeting this week and was able to provide and update on the latest news with Northumberland County Council (NCC).

There have been a number of changes in education with the school system moving from 3 tier to 2 tier and the rebuild of Ponteland High School which is one of our main feeder schools. This all appears to have had a positive impact as our schools are now ranking in the top 25% nationally.

Roads and Paths

Despite the rises in costs, NCC have agreed their budgets for the forthcoming year without impacting the delivery of the front line services that we benefit from locally.

They've also invested additional funds into repairing the roads in the area. He also mentioned that the introduction of FixMyStreet, should help the council to identify where the repairs were needed most. We asked Peter what that would mean for Heddton on the Wall. Whether we would directly see the benefit of the increased budgets and that despite reporting on FixMyStreet, we know that some residents have been disappointed by the service and the lack of response. Peter agreed to take this feedback to NCC and to work with them to progress this.

Some of the long running fix my street problems in Heddton-on-the-Wall



Above: Blocked drain flooding beside the garage.



Above right: Damaged kerb, Hexham Road.

Right: Which way to Newcastle? Still no sign on Military after nearly two years.



Welcome to Heddton-on-the-Wall!

Gateway to Hadrian's Wall

In late March some unsavoury person/persons dumped their rubbish next to the 'Welcome to Heddton-on-the-Wall' sign as you come into Heddton from the by-pass.

Please keep your eyes peeled for fly tippers and rubbish dumped in the Parish.

You can also report fly tipping on the: Northumberland County Council hot line 'Fix My Street'

Northumberland County Council 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



Above: Blocked drains, Station Road

HEDDON ON-THE-WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Our Mission Statement:



April/May 2024

Speeding and parking

Similarly for speeding in the village which I know is a huge concern for us was also discussed. We've already been working with St Andrew's School, NCC Highways and NCC School Safe Street Scheme to address concerns around school car parking on both Hexham Road and Trajan Walk leading up to the school entrance. Peter will take a further look into this and will work with us to take this forward.

Further updates will be provided as and when information is made available.

As a Parish Council we get as frustrated as some of the residents we hear from regarding parking, speeding and road conditions. We want to reassure you that we continue keep this conversation open with both NCC and with Peter.

Peter joins our meetings every 2-3 months, but you can contact him directly on :

Correspondence address: Peter Jackson

County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF

Mobile: 07779 983422 Email: Peter.Jackson@northumberland.gov.uk

Community litter pick!

A huge thank you to all of our volunteers in the village who we regularly see litter picking and keeping the village tidy in general. Your efforts don't go unnoticed and are very much appreciated. We have our next community litter pick on the 27th April. Meet at the Memorial Park at 10.30 to collect your equipment and join for as long or as little time as you have.



Pampered Pooches
— DOG GROOMING —

🐾 Clipping 🐾 Hand Stripping 🐾 Nails Trimmed
🐾 Ears Cleaned 🐾 Bath & Brush up

 Pick up and delivery service  Contact Jane on 07914 001 336



May Parish Council Meeting

In May we have our AGM. We'll share an update of key activity from the year, in line with our Business Plan, and what we're expecting to focus on for the next 12 months. It's an open invite for residents within the parish to join us and ask questions or provide feedback on the matters that are important to you. We had a very vibrant meeting last year, and we're hoping to see as many of you as possible this year. The meeting will start at 6pm on the 8th May.

Head to the website

All of the latest minutes and agendas from our Parish Council meetings and those from the Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee, are held on the website and are updated as soon as we can.

We have office space available

We have vacant office space available to rent at the Business Centre on Towne Gate.

We want to support businesses to thrive and offer value for money with rent only £300 per month which includes WiFi, heating, lighting and water. You also have an allocated parking space at the business centre to use between 6:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

To find out more or have a look at the space, contact our asset officer Lorraine Twizell

The better weather is coming!

It's great as we head through spring to see the better weather and the lighter nights. This brings the laughter of children as they're playing in the village and more people and out about. We want to keep our village safe and accessible for everyone, so as a reminder, for those who are dog owners to make sure that you pick up and dispose of any dog waste using the numerous bins around the village and to make sure that dogs are kept on a lead at all times in the Welfare Field/MUGA. Responsible dog owners can show their commitment by joining the Green Walker scheme operated by NCC. Find out more on their website.

The great outdoors!

Don't forget that Selman Park is available. To get things up and running and encouraging people to use the facility for the next 12 months, the Parish Council will subsidise the hire costs with the initial hires being free. We're open to exploring ideas that you might want to use the facility for and how we can accommodate usage by smaller Heddon groups and activities. Contact Lucy Barton our Parish Clerk for more information.

Welfare Field Improvements

It's disappointing that the storage container at the MUGA has been vandalised recently, as these types of incidents can impact our funding and opportunities to make improvements.

As you know from previous editions of the Heddon Gossip, we've been working over a number of months to understand from residents what improvements you'd like us to consider for the Welfare Field. We now have enough information to start to obtain quotes from suppliers and look at the possibilities to bring your ideas to life. If you'd like to volunteer to be part of this project, then please contact the Parish Clerk to let them know.

Memorial Park Improvements

We're also working on an improvement plan for the Memorial Park now that Chare Bank has been resurfaced. Again, if you'd like to volunteer to be part of this project, then please contact the Parish Clerk to let them know.

Dates for the diary:

Parish Council Meetings – Held at the Library, meeting 7pm

15th February 2024 No meeting in August
13th March 2024 11th September 2024
10th April 2024 9th October 2024
8th May 2024 13th November 2024
12th June 2024 11th December 2024
10th July 2024

Organised Litter Pick

Meet at the Memorial Park at 10.30am

● Saturday 27th April 2024

● Saturday 3rd August 2024

● Saturday 26th October 2024

Events

Festival of Remembrance 10th November 2024

Contact us:

Parish Clerk: Lucy Barton t: 01661 854583

e: heddonpc@gmail.com

Asset Officer: Lorraine Twizell

t: 07735 246381

e: heddonassetofficer@gmail.com

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



Heddon-on-the-Wall village

Bin days - April, May, June

9 Black - Rubbish bin -
generally collects on a Tuesday

16 Blue - Recycling bin -
generally collects on a Tuesday

April 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

May 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

June 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

16 Garden waste -
generally collects on a Tuesday

April 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

May 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

June 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



The Gangs all here!!!

60 years ago the Newburn and District Boy Scouts Association presented 'SHOWTIME 1964'

The article and photographs were taken from the programme of the Gang Show which was held in the West School Hall, Wallbottle Campus in November 1964.

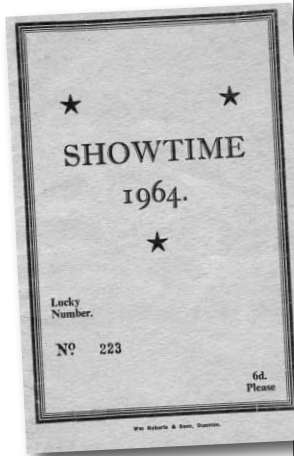
An interesting 'From the District Commissioner' article on the '6 thriving Scout Groups' that participated in the Gang Show and their plans for the future.

Like the Scout Groups a lot of 'The Gang' are no longer with us but will be fondly remembered.

There are quite a few on the photograph from Heddon and still live in Heddon including the Gossip editor - can you spot him!

Programme: courtesy of David Potts.

Below: Two adverts featured in the programme advertising two of the original shops on Taberna Close shopping precinct.



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FROM THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER - - - -

To the audience I should like to say 'thank you' for the support you are giving us. That you are reading these notes at all indicates that you have an interest in Scouting - we welcome this, and hope that you enjoy your evening amongst us.

As the County Commissioner mentions, in his introduction to the programme, we need support - financial support - on a much increased scale in the next few months. We already have 6 thriving Scout Groups, 2 in the Denton area, and one each at Heddon, Lemington, Throckley and Westerhope. The Chapel House Estate has grown rapidly, and a further estate will soon be built between here and Westerhope. To provide Scouting for boys in these areas we also plan to grow, and negotiations have been proceeding for many months with the County Planning Authority which have recently resulted in our being offered the farmhouse and about an acre of land at Denton Hill Head. This we intend to develop to provide headquarters for a new Scout Group - Cubs, Scouts and eventually Senior Scouts - which, being fairly central will also be used as a District H.Q. for meetings, competitions, and special training activities for all Groups in the District. Whilst the basic structure of the old farmhouse is sound, it has been rendered almost derelict by the ravages of vandalism, and will cost several hundreds of pounds to restore and develop to meet our needs.

Besides this building, the Groups at Throckley and Heddon have plans to build their own headquarters - Throckley, as many of you know, have been raising money with this in view, for several years - and hope to be able to start shortly. Funds we are raising on a District basis will also be available to assist these Groups. Whilst applications are being made for Grant Aid from several sources to raise a large part of the sum required, and the individual Groups are continuing their own money-raising schemes, we shall still need considerable further help. This is required in several forms - money; materials and labour (skilled and unskilled) for glazing, plumbing, joinery and electrical work; furniture; and eventually a keen and hard-working Group Committee (for Chapel House) of parents and friends of the boys who will be joining the new Cub Pack and Scout Troop. We already have the nucleus of leadership but again, further help will be required as the new Group grows, and ex-Scouts willing to take on a job as a Scout Leader will be needed. All offers of help should, in the first place, be addressed to Mr. Brian Chater.

Finally, a few words of thanks. To all those good people who for many weeks past have been making and painting scenery, rehearsing the cast, making costumes etc., and during the show are helping in so many ways both in front of and behind the curtains - a very big THANK YOU.

J. K. WATERHOUSE
District Commissioner.

Blayney Row & Moore Court

by Andy Curtis

Both of these rows of houses when built were in Heddon parish but later moved with the boundary to Newburn. The terraced houses of Blayney Row were built for the employees of Heddon Brickworks by Bates of Heddon Hall in 1889 and sold to the Throckley Coal Company in 1895.

Cadwallader John Bates (1853–1902), was a notable antiquarian who inherited Heddon Hall, and the nearby Colliery and Brick Works from his father, Thomas Bates.

The Bates family had been established in Northumberland since the fourteenth century, but their connection with the Blayneys of Gregynog, Montgomeryshire, introduced a strain of Celtic blood, and Cadwallader himself was named after a cousin, the twelfth and last Lord Blayney (d. 1874).

This was the connection used by Cadwallader John Bates in his naming of Blayney Row.

There is another row of terraced houses nearby, Moore Court, also now in Newburn parish, close to Ryton Island, and the site of the former Ryton Ferry. This row was named for the maiden name of the mother of Cadwallader's great uncle, Thomas Bates (1775–1849), a famous stock-breeder.

The lane behind (north) of Blayney Row was the former parish boundary between Newburn and Heddon on the Wall and is named on the first edition 6" scale Ordnance Survey map as 'Seal Lane'. The map was surveyed 1858-1869 and published in 1864.

The surveyors for the first Ordnance Survey recorded: "A part of the old road between Newcastle and Carlisle, a seal was killed here, hence the name, of course the road has no traffic now."

Seals are nowadays often seen in the river as far upstream as Ryton Willows. In 1900, seals in the river were a rare enough sight to make front page news in the Saturday Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.

"On Sunday morning last a seal of average size put in an appearance at Lemington much to the astonishment of a number of men, who thought it was some queer fish or other, though none of them could give it a name."

As shown in the accompanying illustration, it didn't end well for the seal at Lemington Point either as it was shot by Mr Christopher Smith of the Tyne Iron Hotel, Lemington, "a well known sportsman". The article finishes: *"Naturalists are, of course, much interested in the fact of a seal having come so far up the Tyne as Lemington, but all regret that it met with an untimely death."*

The fields to the north of Blayney Row were known as 'Reigh' (after the nearby Reigh Burn): "A small district, principally in cultivation, it was formerly (being nearly level) a standing pool of back water from the Tyne."



Blayney Row. Photo A Curtis.



Moore Court. Photo A Curtis.



A Seal in the Tyne at Lemington.
Newcastle Weekly Chronicle (Saturday 15th December 1900).



Home Foot Clinic

Lorraine Hodgson FHCP DIP SAC

foot health care practitioner

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E lorraine_hodgson@yahoo.co.uk

Contact me for an appointment

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Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall

Registered Charity No 10120

It's officially Spring and Knott Hall has shaken off the dark winter nights. All our regular activities are back in full swing and hopefully there may be new additions. We look forward to welcoming all users to the Hall for what ever activity or event you choose to support.

As mentioned in the last edition of the Gossip, this year is the centenary of the trust which originally gifted the Hall to the Village and continues to support it. Sir James Knott had an affinity for the village and even when his plans were ended by the loss of his sons in World War 1, he maintained the relationship, with Lady Knott providing an entertainment each year for veterans of WW1. Perhaps this could be the basis of our event to commemorate the centenary

Information will be available once details have been confirmed.

2024 is also interesting date in respect of the Hall, it is 70 years since the Hall was returned from requisition during WW2.

Knott Hall was originally requisitioned by the War Department in 1940 to be used in conjunction with billeting of personnel operating the searchlight battery at East Heddon, when it became clear that major bombing would not be occurring the Hall was transferred to the Ministry of Food as an emergency feeding depot. At the end of the War in 1945, it was anticipated that the Hall like many other would be returned to the village, however it was transferred once more, this time to the Ministry of Education to use for the production of school meals, whilst this ceased in 1951. Northumberland County Council retained the Hall as a possible Emergency Feeding Station in the event of a nuclear attack, this was in fact an unlawful action. Only after much effort was the Hall released in March 1953, however it was still not fully returned as claims had to be met for the restoration. London Departments and Northumberland spent a year fudging the claims and stated that any damage occurring through rain damage due to holes in the roof, which they had been responsible for was not their responsibility. The Hall was finally back in village hands in late 1954..... without the piano, which had some how gone astray.



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Heddon-on-the-Wall

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swannewcastleupontyne@vintageinn.co.uk

Tel: 01661 853 161

Future Events for your diary:

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

Table Top Sale 2pm - 5pm

6th April 2024

Old King Coal 7.00pm

26th April 2024

A celebration of *mining history - especially in so far as it impacted the little people - the miners, wives, and their children. Their stories, the conditions they lived and worked in, and how they let off steam are the subjects of this show. Lots of opportunities to join in as well as the stories and of course, some compelling visuals.*

Heritage Project Presentation TBA

Mid-Summer Afternoon Tea June 2024

Heddon Culture Festival 30th August - 1st September 2024

Ceilidh (St Andrews) 28th September 2024

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

D. Blackett

Vacancy

There is one vacancy for an Officer on the Knott Hall Management Committee.

Secretary

To undertake the general administration of the Memorial Hall
The Secretary handles the day to day activities of the Hall reporting to the Chairman.

If you are interested in either of these vacancies please contact:

D. Blackett: Tel: 07770 666744

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Heddon Culture Festival 2024

We are off and running, Well No! We are off Sprinting, and even going digital

At the first planning meeting it was decided to retain the idea of a celebration of the many different kinds of culture that are either related to Heddon, Northumberland or Hadrian's Wall but in a format which provide an opportunity for all to participate.

This is quite a challenge and needed a touch of focus... so Heddon Culture 2024 central theme is:- **History Heddon**

Whilst the core programme will still include:-

A Major Music Concert, Ukulele Workshop, Hand Bell Ringing Workshop, Water Colour Workshop, Archaeology Roadshow, Fluito, Book Reading by Author, Life in the Fifties/Sixties Presentation, Parachute Making, Poetry/Buskers Corner, Makers Market, Hymns and Pymys @ St Andrews Church, Ad Murum Concert and much, much more.

The overall activities will be Art and performance based around the History of Heddon. The art installations will be located at the bus shelters and other identified locations. It is hoped to provide the opportunity for everyone to become involved in the creation of Art productions and installations to celebrate Heddon history and that of Hadrian's Wall in particular Sycamore Gap.

It's rumoured that there may even be teddy bears floating down from the sky.

Whilst the planning is underway there are still opportunities for suggestions and getting involved in what we hope will become an annual event for Heddon-on-the-Wall.

Come and be part of the planning, give your opinions and ideas, volunteer, become involved.

D. Blackett

Heddon Fluito

Heddon is where memories build and grow

School is where we meet new people and make new friends

The common is where we play and laugh, especially on the rope swing.

Guides is where we express ourselves and get to earn badges

The fields are where we run free, as the red poppies twirl around our legs

Heddon is home, a place to feel safe.

The cross in the memorial garden will forever be with us and our traditions will never stop

The Roman Wall is a beauty attracting all kinds of tourists

The Three Tuns and the Swan, cooking great meals for us, as we play and run on the fields outside.

The church is a place for worship and calmness.

This is why Heddon is the best!

Author a year 5 Student

Heddon on the Wall St Andrews School

The glittering sword

In the dark moonlight

It's a giant Roman

A Haiku Poem

Author a year 3 Student

Heddon on the Wall St Andrews School

Hadrian's Head The Big Review



Hadrian's Head has always been there. The comments from residents and the increasing number of walkers highlight the value and drama of our piece of 'Art on the Wall'

Now that the installation is complete we have been able to proceed with publicity to showcase our mosaic., it is already highlighted in a book about Northumberland Village Halls and part of an exhibition at County Hall.

As mentioned in previous updates, to enhance the project and ensure a local element, it was 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.

The first tranche of blocks is due to be ordered and installed in the near future.

Do you want a block?

The blocks will retail at £40.00.

To register interest, please contact:

D. Blackett 07770666744/dblackett@aol.com or Hadrian's Head Facebook page

D. Blackett

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.



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Dog Grooming

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Heddon-on-the-Wall, NE15 0BW

Tel: 01661 853000
Mobile: 07920148380

In February, Irene Britton gave a talk on economical meals and the use of energy efficient appliances; she was more than ably assisted by her technical husband who also acted as her foil. It was a lighthearted and entertaining evening, giving us many tips and new ideas.

On Saturday 17th of February, we held our annual Pancake morning. A great opportunity to enjoy fresh pancakes, traybakes and tea/coffee whilst catching up with friends both new and old.

Thank you to all who attended and contributed in any way to make this a very successful event!

March saw our 107th Birthday. After a brief business meeting we enjoyed pie and peas, birthday cake and petit fours. We raffled primulas sourced from Halls of Heddon then settled back to be entertained and educated by Hop, Skiffle and Jump. Their line up included a few new members, one of which was a clog dancer. We sang along, tapped our feet and demonstrated our prowess at playing Kazoos!

It proved to be a great celebratory evening!

In April we are holding a social night with a Beetle Drive. These evenings are always well anticipated not only for the game but also for the chatting and laughter that surely will ensue amongst friends.

Do come and join us for this informal gathering and take the opportunity to get to know our group.

May already! Our Annual Meeting seems to roll around more quickly with each passing year. We enjoy wine and cheese, whilst listening to reports delivered by the Secretary, Treasurer and President. It is also time to elect committee members and select the President. There is a Federation Adviser present who will deliver a talk. Although this all sounds very dry it's usually a surprisingly lighthearted evening.

The programme for the new year begins in June and as always will provide members and visitors alike with a wide variety of events. We hope to see some new faces at our meetings throughout the coming year, all are very welcome.

Lesley

AD MURUM *Singers*

Ad Murum -a newbies viewpoint

Now that the days are warmer and the evenings are lighter, Ad Murum Singers are again practicing each week. If you enjoy singing and have thought of joining a choir, come along, and you will be assured of a warm welcome. The choir is rehearsing, in preparation for our Spring Concert. This will be at the Knott Hall on Friday May 24th. Publicity, detailing times and ticket- costs, will be displayed in early May.

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

For more information about the choir, view our website at: admurumsingers.org.uk

Chris Rand



Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom dancing classes at Knott Memorial Hall
Tuesday evening, two classes
7.00pm - 8.00pm & 8.15 pm - 9.15 pm.
Beginners welcome.



Heddon's Carpet of Poppies

Over the last few years when passing through or visiting the various villages in Northumberland, just prior to Remembrance Sunday, the variety and number of poppy displays supporting the event have been amazing. It has been an itch which I could not ignore, why not one in Heddon.

So this year I have started, some of you will have noticed the poppy boxes in various locations:-

The Swan, The Tuns, Library, WI, Heddon Methodist Church, Knott Hall, St Andrews.

These are for donations of knitted or crochet poppies or simply wool for some to use. There has already been an amazing response and the poppies are growing but we will need lots, so if you would like to be involved, knit or crochet a poppy it's that simple.

What will it look like and where will it be?

The size is of course dependant upon the number of poppies. These will be attached to a net and will flow down the grassed area at the side of Knott Hall flowing down the bank from St Andrews Church. Additionally there will be two artworks to enhance the display, these are being sponsored by a Heddon resident and made by Michael Amos of *Rusty Renovations*.

Can you be involved - yes! it's all on the poster

Let see what we can achieve for Heddon

For more information please contact:

Margaret Blackett 01661 852801

HANDBELL GROUP winter break

There is no group meeting regularly in Heddon at present, but the bells are not idle and are preparing for some Easter family fun in Jesmond. Handbell ringers locally are keeping in touch with each other and hope that a little rally can be arranged for us to meet and play together later this year. A scratch team from Heddon would be more than welcome to come to observe - and join in! Please don't wait until the Festival - the bells can be in the hands of you and your friends during the Spring and Summer months and we'll answer any questions you may have.

Contact:- Jennifer. Tel. 852926

Jennifer King.



HEDDON

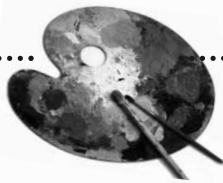
VILLAGE SHOW 2024

The Village Show will be back again this year on the 7th September. We are currently working hard creating the schedule. The Hat Band have agreed to return this year to entertain us again, following popular demand following last year's show.

The Strawberry Tea will be held in the WI hall on Saturday 6th July.

We are looking to hold a tombola instead of a raffle this year, so we would love to receive any new and unwanted tombola items you may have which you are willing to donate to this cause. If you have anything you wish to donate, please contact us via email: Heddonshow@gmail.com or Facebook [Heddon Village Show](#) and we will arrange collection from you.

Thanks in advance.



Heddon Art Group

The Art Group is back in full swing after the winter break.

We have a range of guest professional tutors lined up for a selection of Wednesday evening sessions and Saturday workshops. We are also planning visits to local galleries, exhibitions and 'plein air' (outdoor) painting at local beauty spots.

Our regular meetings are held in the Heddon W.I. Hall on alternate Tuesday afternoons (1:30p.m. to 3:30p.m.) and alternate Wednesday evenings (7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.) until the end of November each year.

The ever popular Annual Exhibition will be held over the first weekend in October, displaying a fantastic range of unique work in varied styles and media; many of which will be for sale.

We are hoping to arrange 'open' sessions where anyone interested in drawing, painting etc can come along and try for themselves. No need to be a member of the Group, just come along and have fun in a safe and encouraging environment. Watch out for further details.

If you would like to find out more about Heddon Art Group, please contact:

David Chambers on: chambers497@btinternet.com

HEDDON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

It seems that we have got through the Winter fairly unscathed in Heddon with regard to snow and ice! This has meant that the village volunteer snow-wardens have virtually had a year off. However, time does not stand still and by November or thereabouts it will all start again. I mentioned in the last edition how we could really do with some new blood. The work will suit anyone recently retired who is still active. The County Council provide the salt as well as suitable outdoor clothing, head-torch and shovel. We started out operating as a group 5 years ago but have gradually changed to operating individually due to convenience. We have found over the last few years that dusk is a good time to do this depending on the weather forecast, hence working people may not be available with dusk as early as 3.30 in the darkest period. However, anyone is welcome to join up if they can spare the odd hour or even half-hour at a time to suit themselves. Please message hotwall1@yahoo.com if interested.

In other news, Northumbria Police have finally appointed a small group of volunteers from the village to their Speedwatch campaign. Training will be in the Ponteland area and is imminent so could well have started by the time you read this. Persistence has been key as due to Covid and a shortage of resources it has taken 5 years to reach this point from their original applications.

Peter Chapman Chair, Heddon Residents Association



Saturday 25th May

ANNUAL VILLAGE MATCH & KIDS MATCH

Three Tuns V Heddon United
1pm Kick off Victrix Park
Followed by BBQ
@ The Three Tuns

REGULAR EVENTS

TRADITIONAL ROAST SERVED EVERY SUNDAY 12-4PM

(delivery & collection slots available)

QUIZ NIGHT EVERY TUESDAY 9PM

BEER DRAW EVERY FRIDAY



(Available)

A warm welcome awaits at the Soul of Heddon!

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

Aircraft Noise Action Group (ANAG) – UPDATE April/May

Noise: As always, keep complaining whenever the noise affects you (<https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/complaints-form-2> . Also, if you know people who are affected by the noise, persuade to become campaign supporters <https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/join-us> .

Aviation's impact affects the whole planet so not all the issues we report are just about Newcastle Airport or about noise – though Newcastle is a part of the whole problem. So:

Greenwashing. The aviation industry (along with other industries that pollute) wants you to think everything is okay when it isn't. Climate change is happening and accelerating but, in this context, aviation plans to triple in size globally by 2050. If this happens, we could see aviation greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions more than double – is this a sensible thing to do? So, governments and the industry try to pull the wool over your eyes by telling you that electric flight is viable and will happen soon (it isn't and it won't) and emission free (it isn't) and that sustainable aviation fuel will reduce emissions (they won't) and that growing crops for fuel won't eat up the land we use for food (it will).

They also tell you that aviation is vital for economic growth (it isn't - it's used mostly for holidays and leisure) which justifies subsidies and tax breaks for aviation and the fuel companies. All in all a disaster for climate change. This is aviation's version of Greenwashing.

Freedom of speech suppressed. Farnborough Airport is planning a massive expansion of flights, mostly of private aircraft (we've already reported to you how bad private aviation is for the planet). Local resistance is growing and, as a result, one of its leading figures, Colin Shearn, a 62-year-old retired executive, had the police knocking at his door. They claimed he had conducted an "aggressive and relentless campaign against Farnborough airport" and he was accused of "bombarding the airport with endless questions about air traffic", "adopting a belligerent and aggressive style, distorting or misrepresenting a point of view to suit his agenda". He was issued with an ASBI (AntiSocial Behaviour Injunction) – the successor to the ASBO. He was ordered to stop "causing any harassment, alarm or distress, nuisance or annoyance to any person" in Surrey or Hampshire, or face jail or a fine, or both. The law was used to silence the legitimate questions he was asking.

Shortly after Shearn, the chief critic of its expansion plans, was silenced Farnborough announced that it planned to **double** weekend flights.

Next time: How planning permission practice for airport expansion ignores climate change; Aviation and Net Zero

<https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com>



Table Top Sale Knott Memorial Hall

Saturday 6th April
2.00pm to 5.00pm

Turn unwanted gifts and pre-loved stuff into cash or grab a bargain!

HEDDON GOSSIP DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE June/July 2024

May 20th for articles and advertising

Contact: Ian Scott ● Email: ianscottdesign@btinternet.com

● Mobile: 07743 285502

HEDDON LIBRARY - OPENING HOURS

Tuesday 1.00pm—4.00pm

Friday 1.00pm—4.00pm

Saturday 10.00am—12.00 midday

Free access to Ancestry, Find my past, British Newspaper archive and other sites.

We are now filling draws for the seed exchange scheme situated in the Library.

Volunteers needed for the Library-could you spare time once or twice a month to help us keep the Library functioning.

Pop in and speak to the current volunteers.

WE NEED YOU!

Ted Burt (joint library co-ordinator with John Gillott)

HEDDON PATCHERS

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

In light of recent events we find ourselves with openings for anyone who may be interested in joining us.

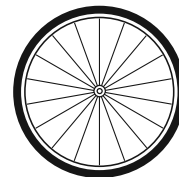
For more information contact **Ann Allsopp** on 01661 820568 or on the e-mail address: allsopprayann@btinternet.com

Thank you. *Ann Allsopp*



BICYCLES FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

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



Scott Miller
Fitness

Knott Memorial Hall
Heddon on the Wall

Tuesdays

09:30-10:00 - Legs Bums and Tums

10:00-10:30 - Stretch

£8 for 1hr class (2 sessions combined)

£4 for 30 min class
Discounted packages available
www.scottmillerfitness.co.uk