

HEDDON G SSIP

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

DECEMBER 2024 • JANUARY 2025

Paying respects to the fallen

In today's dangerous World with all its conflicts, the Act of Remembrance Service held on Remembrance Sunday was a poignant time to remember and reflect on the sacrifices people have made in the Armed Forces and supporting services.

The service was held at the War Memorial in the Knott Memorial Park.

The last post sounded at 11am followed by a two minutes silence, the reveille and the laying of wreaths by various organisations and individuals. During the service Mr Keller read out the names of those recorded on the War Memorial who lost their lives in the two World Wars.

After the service tea, coffee and biscuits were served in the Knott Memorial Hall.

Also a big thank you to Di Keller, chair of the Parish Council for organising and pulling all the parts together and all the groups who participated in the service and helped in the Memorial Hall.



Wreaths and poppy crosses laid on the village War Memorial



Villagers observing the two minutes silence

Heddon's Carpet of Poppies

What started as a idea grew into this amazing effort, with every stitch having a personal link to remembrance.

The two sculptures depicting the temporary resting place of fallen soldiers on the battlefield caused many to pause and reflect.

Well done and thank you to everyone involved.

Margaret Blackett

The Carpet of Poppies flowing down the battery onto the lawn at the Knott Memorial Hall.

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

A Place for Everyone

By the time this edition of Gossip reaches our doorstep, we will almost be in the month of December so I thought I would start this article by mentioning some of the events and activities everyone is most welcome to attend to celebrate both the run up to Christmas and Christmastime itself:

Members of St. Andrew's Church and the Methodist Church have been planning and preparing an '**Advent Journey**'. This will be an opportunity for children and adults to find out about Advent, the journey to Christmas and beyond, get involved in an exciting design project, enjoy refreshments and spend some time together. There'll be stories, games, and songs too so please come along and add your ideas. This will be held at Methodist Church on **Saturday 30th November at 10a.m. until 12 noon.**

Please book places by emailing: r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org or **WhatsApp 07916681128**

If you fancy a run out to the beautiful historic church at Ryal (which is one of the churches in our group), there is an **Advent Carol Service** with Advent Hymns and Carols (not Christmas Carols) and readings on **2nd December at 6 p.m.**

Our village **Carols by Candlelight Service** which will be a joint service with our friends from the Methodist Church will be held in **St. Andrew's Church on Saturday 21st December at 4 p.m.** A real Christmas tradition.

The popular **Christingle and Crib Service**, which is when we experience the Christmas Story, learn the meaning of the Christingle and all children have the opportunity to make their own Christingle Orange. This is a lovely service and lots of fun! This will be held on **Tuesday 24th December at 3 p.m.** An ideal way to spend Christmas Eve afternoon as little people are getting more than excited.

On **Christmas Day** we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus by singing Carols and holding a **Service of Holy Communion** at St. Andrew's Church on **Wednesday 25th December at 9.30 a.m.**

Our Priests, Churchwardens, PCC and Members of St. Andrew's Church would like to wish you all a blessed Christmas and a Peaceful and Happy New Year.

We would like to sincerely thank those who have supported our fund raising events and those who have generously given a donation to assist our efforts to fund the expensive but essential roof repair. To date our fund raised total is approximately £16k which is absolutely fantastic and certainly demonstrates that St. Andrew's Church is 'A Place for Everyone'.

We intend to apply to grant giving bodies once our architect has received all tenders and a contractor is appointed to do the work, hopefully in the spring. Meanwhile we have more exciting fund raising ideas for 2025.

The first event, will be a 24 hour music event. More details about this in the next edition of Heddon Gossip. If you would like to donate to our Roof Appeal, please contact our Treasurer, Jane Tiffen m.tiffen@btinternet.com or any church member about ways to do this. We would be grateful for any donations no matter how small. Thank you.

We hope you will have noticed that the wall between the Church

and the Library car park has now been repaired. We are sure you will agree that the stonemason **NJC Masonry** made a fantastic job and we would highly recommend him.



Repaired Church wall

We continue to enjoy joint worship with our friends from the Methodist Church and have already several dates in the calendar for 2025. We recently enjoyed a service led by Revd. Estwar at the Methodist Church. The service was excellent and led with great enthusiasm. We learned a lot of facts about the life of the eagle and Estwar expertly told his story so that we could relate it to God in our lives today.

Revd. Lynda led the Remembrance Day service in St. Andrew's Church when we were joined by the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

Once again we enjoyed our All Soul's Day Service, a gentle service where we had the opportunity to remember our loved ones who have died whether recently or many years ago.

One of the groups which was formed prior to the Culture Festival was the Proggly Mat making group. Trish led the group and taught several ladies to make a mat which read WELCOME in the seven colours of the rainbow and which would lie in Church.



St Andrew's Church puts out the welcome proggly mat

The group was a great success and it was decided to continue to meet not just to make proggly mats but any crafts. If anyone would like to hear more about the group, please contact Eileen Hyder (ehyderm@gmail.com)

On **29th December** we will be joining all the other churches in our group for a service of Holy Communion at Stamfordham Parish Church at 10.30 a.m.

On 19th January we will be holding a joint service with the Methodists at St. Andrew's.

St Andrew's Church is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays throughout the year from 10am - 3.00pm. 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

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.

Lynda Henderson

Useful Points of Contact :

Revd. Rachel Scheffer ... 01661 886853
r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org

Revd. Tom Birch ... 01661 853254
revtombirch@gmail.com

Church Warden: **Jane Tiffen** ... 07305594059
m.tiffen@btinternet.com

Church Warden: **Lynda Henderson** ... 07907574575
lhndrsn56@gmail.com



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AD MURUM *Singers*

Ad Murum Singers are hard at work, practising for our Christmas Concert entitled "Sing a song of Christmas." It is to be held in the Knott Hall on Friday 13th December at 7-00pm, and on Saturday 14th December at 2-00pm. Posters are displayed around the village.

Tickets for the concert cost £6-00 and can be obtained from choir members, from The Swan, the Three Tuns, or by e-mailing: AdMurumSingers@gmail.com

This year, proceeds from the sale of tickets and the raffle will go to "St Andrew's Church Roof Fund" and "Tynedale Hospice at Home."

We look forward to bringing some "Christmas cheer" to everyone in December.

The choir will also be singing in "The Swan" at 7-00pm on the 17th December, and in the "Three Tuns" at 7-00pm on the 19th December.

Happy Seasons Greetings to everyone, from Ad Murum Singers

Chris Rand



Heddon Mobile Hairdresser retires

As my long suffering customers know only too well, I've had several serious health issues over the last few years.

Not really having recovered from them I have had an awful bout of Covid which has left me absolutely exhausted. Unfortunately this has forced me into early retirement.

I have been honouring remaining bookings, but come the New Year I will be retired completely.

It remains to say, a very big thank you for your patience and understanding of my erratic appointment keeping. Thank you so much for supporting my business for the last 36 years.

Beverley

Heddon Methodist Church

Methodist Minister for Heddon Methodist Church:

Revd. Lynda Coulthard, based in Westerhope:

Tel: 0191 271 1587

email: lynda.coulthard@methodist.org.uk

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Even though the shops have had Christmas stock in for several weeks now that Halloween & Bonfire Night have past the shops are gearing up for Christmas along with their adverts on television, although there is Black Friday at the end of November.

Church Sunday Services: 10.30-11.30am (unless otherwise stated)

Advent Coffee Mornings: 5th, 12th, 19th December. 10.00am to 12 noon with mince pies.

Carol Service: 22nd December 3.00pm
(no morning service)

Christmas Day: short service from **9.30am**.

Other Church Notices:

Tuesday Group: Every Tuesday 7.00pm-8.00pm

This is an informal gathering for discussion and sharing.

Do come along and join us, even if you can't make every week. *ALL are welcome!*

Men's Fellowship: First Saturday of the month from 10.00am.

Warm Space Coffee Mornings: continue in January for coffee, scones and chat **10.00am - 12 noon**.

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 or to shelter from the rain. You are welcome anytime, all year round to experience peace and creation. Enter through the church or through the side garden gate.

Ad Murum Choir Practise: Tuesday evenings 7.00pm

Helping those in need: Donations for the 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.

Rooms to Hire: contact: Muriel 01661 854788.



As I'm preparing this we have had the first covering of snow & the temperature has dropped. I hope that you are managing to stay warm. If you have been affected by the loss of the winter fuel payment then don't forget that Heddon Methodist Church is registered as a warm space on Thursday mornings from 10.00 am to 12 noon. It's not just the refreshments that people enjoy, they also come for the fellowship with one another.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Having checked my diary it's five weeks today (I'm preparing this on 20th November) so it will be here before we know it. Are you ready or are you someone who waits until the last minute or perhaps someone else in the family organises things for you?

Each year I find it harder to think of presents to give to family & friends. It's very different from when I was growing up when you only got presents when it was your birthday or Christmas and often those presents were not just toys but practical things.

At one of the churches where I am the minister, one of the schools come on a visit at Christmas & each year they are asked to write something based on a topic such as a journey as Mary, Joseph, the shepherds & the wise men all had to travel to the manger at Bethlehem, one year the theme was 'Follow the star'. This year I've asked them to write about their best present ever & why it was the best present ever. I'm sure that some of the items will be things that I have never heard of but I'm also hoping that there are some simple things mentioned amongst the children who have been chosen to read what they have written.

I wonder what you would choose as your best present ever. I have a photograph of me on Christmas morning proudly showing two presents that I had received (a hairdryer & the film Grease soundtrack album). I also remember the year that some people in my class got televisions for their bedroom. I still have the bedside cabinet & lamp I received but I wonder how many of them still have their televisions?

As Christians we believe the gift of Jesus, born as a baby, a long way from his parent's home was the greatest gift that God has given us. It's that gift that we celebrate each Christmas. At Christmas we can feel guilty when we receive an unexpected gift from someone because we haven't got a present to give in return or their gift to us is more valuable than the one that we have given them. In November we pay homage to those who have laid down their lives for us in World War I & subsequent wars. We can't repay them for what they did just as we can't repay God for the gift of Jesus who also went on to sacrifice his own life for ours. However Christina Georgina Rossetti in her Christmas Carol 'In the bleak mid-winter' encourages us all to do our part by giving our heart.

So whether we receive the best present this Christmas or not let's give the gift of love, hope & kindness because they will be remembered long after the other presents have been cast aside, forgotten or broken.

God bless
Lynda



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.

Over 90% of the food distributed by the Newcastle Foodbank is donated by the public. Food donations are absolutely vital to the Foodbank's ability to give everyone referred to them a balanced three-day supply of food. The list below shows the items that are most needed right now.

Christmas can be an especially stressful time for individuals and families who are suffering from food insecurity. So please donate if you can. Items urgently required 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.

Please. Non-perishable food items only. No clothing, bedding etc
Heddon Methodist Church

The PEOPLES KITCHEN need **BAKED BEANS** and for meals and food parcels.

Also needed: sleeping bags or back packs you could donate to help our friends. If you could help, drop them off at the Peoples Kitchen on Bath Lane.



AWARDS FOR TWO OF HEDDON'S BUSINESSES

WPG Lettings: A Proud Moment at the EA Masters 2024

We're thrilled to share some exciting news about our small independent business based here in Heddon-on-the-Wall!

WPG Lettings had the incredible privilege of attending the prestigious EA Masters in London, held on Tuesday, 5th November 2024. This is the UK's largest estate agency event, and we were honoured to be a part of it.



Hannah picking up the award for WPG Lettings

The event, hosted by BBC One Show's Alex Jones and SAS Who Dares Wins' Jason Fox, gathered leading figures from the real estate industry to celebrate the best in the business.

It was an inspiring day filled with networking, learning, and recognition of the outstanding work happening in the estate agency world.

But the best part... WPG Lettings has been officially ranked in the Top 20% in the country for Best Lettings as part of the Best Estate Agent Guide 2025!

This is a huge achievement for us, and it reflects the hard work, dedication, and passion we put into serving our clients and managing properties. We pride ourselves on offering a personal, professional service, and it's incredibly rewarding to see our efforts recognized at such a national level.

About WPG Lettings

Since opening in June 2020, WPG Lettings has made a name for itself as a trusted, family-run agency.

Despite being relatively new to the industry, we've worked hard to establish ourselves as a leading name in lettings, consistently achieving high standards and customer satisfaction.

For more information about us, please visit www.wpglettings.co.uk or social media, [Watsonpropertygroup20](https://www.facebook.com/Watsonpropertygroup20)

Tom Watson AARLA
Managing Director



Bell e Buon wins Best Café/Deli at 2024 Italian Awards

Biagio Mozzillo, owner of Bell e Buon, won the Best Café/Deli at the Eighth Annual Italian Awards 2024.

The event is regarded as the Oscars for UK Italian food businesses.

Mozzillo was also a runner-up for the Best Pasta Chef category and a finalist for the Best Chef of the Year.

The competition saw the chef travel to Manchester in September for a live cook-off and Leeds in October for the gala final.

Biagio spoke saying "We love our customers and they seem to love us, and after just two years we can only go from strength to strength."

We are absolutely thrilled to be bringing back with us the award for Best Deli/Cafe and with a Highly Recommended award for Best Pasta Chef!!

Bell e Buon was also recently awarded for another year, the 5 Star Food Hygiene Rating!

Thanks to all our hard-working team.



Biagio Mozzillo with 'Best Pasta Chef' runner-up award.

CUSTOMER NOTICE

Over the coming weeks we will be making some improvements around the pub, culminating in a short closure (6th January 2025) for 3-5 days to allow damp proofing to be completed.

Please bear with us whilst these improvements are taking place and we hope that you all approve and any inconvenience incurred is worth it.

Phil, Sophie & the team.



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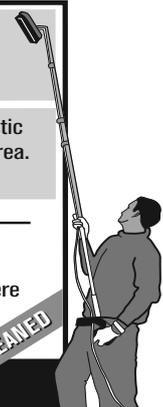
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DRIVES CLEANED

We Remembered

It was another well attended Act of Remembrance service at the memorial for Remembrance Sunday. We were joined by Reverend Lynda Coulthard who we recently welcomed to the village into the Methodist church. Lynda shared prayers and thoughts of those that had been impacted. We had a refreshed order of service, introducing a different, but popular hymn and poems read by the confident brownies and guides who had marched from the church. And this year The Last Post and Reveille was played for us by a very talented youngster from Ponteland High School, Dom Masters. It was good to see the bringing together of generations to ensure that meaning of remembrance and the memories felt by many are not lost.

Being joined and supported by veterans and serving personnel is a huge honour and privilege in our community service.

Laid on our Memorial Cross, beautifully dressed as always by Halls of Heddon, alongside the more traditional, we had some beautiful, handcrafted wreaths from the Brownies and the Guides. I had enjoyed spending some time a couple of months ago teaching the guides some handicraft skills that they used for their wreath. The star of the show however was the amazing Heddon Carpet of Poppies. Not only did it have a stunning impact in the village it was the result of a community coming together to work on a collaborative project. I can't wait to see it grow and grow.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined the service and for the volunteers who supported the organisation and delivery of the event and refreshments and for those who've made every single poppy that have adorned our village. And of course a huge thank to those who have served, those who are still serving and those that we have lost who give so much, some paying the ultimate price so that we can stand in safety and remember.

Parish Council Membership

At our meeting in November, we welcomed Julie McGreevy to the Parish Council. Julie currently works in HR and has lived in the village for over 4 years. She has volunteered at a number of the village events and the team are looking forward to working with her bringing her skills and ideas to the council. Julie has taken the only open vacancy on the council but there are always opportunities to get involved so please let us know if you'd like to find out more.

Have Your Say

Join us at the village library on Saturday 14th December between 1.30pm and 3.30pm to have a look at the proposals for improvements to the Welfare Field. We've collected your feedback and ideas in number of different ways to find out what ideas you have for improving the Welfare Field. The ideas have been shared with three suppliers, and they've taken our information and drawn up some proposals.

We'd like to share these with you and get your feedback before we decide on a final design. In the meantime we're working to secure any opportunities for funding and donations to support the delivery of the project.

Season's Greetings

The festive season is always a good time to reflect on the previous year and celebrate and recognise the achievements of our village. We have a thriving village with some great businesses on our doorstep offering a huge range of services to our community and tourists.

The school have collaborated with us on some great projects where we've been looking at traffic management where the council have just completed their consultation to introduce a pedestrian and cycle zone on Trajan Walk to improve the safety at peak school start and finish times. The ideas they shared with us for the Welfare Field have been incorporated into the session we're running on the 14 November. The school have also been

HEDDON ON-THE-WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Our Mission Statement: December/January 2024/25



Also helping to keep our village look fab, we have a number of volunteers who regularly litter pick, look after our planters, help us to keep our green spaces welcoming and those who help us during the frosty months keeping roads and paths clear. Our community litter picks will start again in the new year.

The Culture Festival and Heddon Village Show continued this year with lots of new and traditional activities included. Both events were well patronised bringing the village together and using the many facilities across the Parish including Selman Park. There are opportunities for any village groups to apply to use this space, so please get in touch.

The churches both get involved in lots of the activity across the village opening their doors and welcoming people to join them.

And finally there are my colleagues on the Parish Council who give a significant amount of time to support the activities in the village, ensure that our precept is used to benefit the village and work with and respond to the needs of our parish.

There are probably things that I've missed as I reflect on the year, but I am grateful to each and every volunteer that give their time however small or large and for those in the community that show a true community spirit. On behalf of the Parish Council we send you our heartfelt thanks and wish you all of the very best for the festive season.

Di Keller - Parish Council Chair

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/>

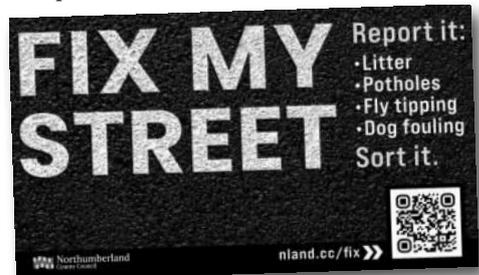
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HEXHAM COURANT CORRESPONDENT

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](https://twitter.com/heddononthewall)



Heddon-on-the-Wall village Bin days - December, January

3 Black - Rubbish bin -
generally collects on a Tuesday

8 Blue- Recycling bin -
generally collects on a Tuesday

December 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
25	26	27	28	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					

January 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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			

From the end of November to March there will be no Garden Waste Bin collections

HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECOVERY CENTRES
Check on the Northumberland County Council website for your nearest local Household Waste Recovery Centres for opening times and the NEW RULES on what you can dispose of and if you need a permit.



More Anti-Social behaviour in Heddon

After vandalism in the Welfare field thanks to local residents Jodi Armstrong, Lucy Barton and Maria Blake for their help in cleaning the graffiti off the slide.

Also it was reported the bin at the bottom of the common has had the same treatment.

On the same evening the gates at the top of the Welfare Field were vandalised with the ripping off of the access sign.

I hope parents will see this and realise the cleaning bill will come to the Parish Council and therefore out of all of our pockets



BICYCLES FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

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

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MacMillan Coffee Morning

The MacMillan Coffee Morning held on Friday morning 27th September raised £1,200.00

Thanks to all the raffle & tombola prizes donated and THE CAKES!!!

On a sad note Jean's little team are older & in not so good health, so with sadness have called it a day.

However some wonderful ladies have volunteered to take over.

Look out for more news in the Heddon Gossip

Jean Amos

HANDBELLS



A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all from the Handbell Group. For more information and joining our group: Contact- Jennifer. Tel. 01661 852926

Jennifer King.

HEDDON PATCHERS

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

We have 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: **allsoppayann@btinternet.com**

Thank you. *Ann Allsopp*



Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom dancing classes at Knott Memorial Hall

Tuesday evening, two classes

7.00pm - 8.00pm & 8.15pm - 9.15pm.

Beginners welcome.



The Past, Present and Future of the Heddon on the Wall Education and Training Trust (HETT)

The Old School and the Old School House (opposite 'The Swan') in Heddon-on-the-Wall were built in 1851. They were later conveyed in a deed to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St Andrews Church, Heddon-on-the-Wall, for a school for the parish of Heddon on the Wall, and the adjacent villages, and for a schoolmaster's house.

Heddon on the Wall School was then transferred to its present site in 1963. The Vicar and Churchwardens ('the trustees') sold the old schoolhouse during 1989 and the old school in 1993, paying Northumberland County Council an amount to cover the cost of building a new school - Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrew's First School. With the remaining funds, Heddon-on-the-Wall Education and Training Trust (HETT) was established!

The aim of the Trust is to support the education and training needs of residents of the parish, pupils of Heddon-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE Primary School and its past pupils. Over the years the Trust has supported many, many applications including a teaching assistant course, learning materials (for school), sports equipment to pursue elite training programmes, a refereeing course and even, Heavy Goods Vehicle training!

It has been most successful for many years. However, as financial times become so unsettled, two things have occurred; It is no longer possible to invest capital and earn enough interest to meet the application demand and concurrently, the number of applications have increased each year as more and more people require financial support with their education and training costs.

At the last AGM, the HETT Trustees made the exciting decision to develop and grow the Trust. To do this, the Trust needs to protect current assets whilst generating new income. As such, for the next year, HETT will only be able to award grants from the monies earned on interest through investments. This is to protect the longevity of the Trust.

Since we sent the flyer with the last *Heddon Gossip*, we have been heartened by all the kind donations received and would like to take this opportunity to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to those of you who have already donated. Your generosity and willingness to support the work we do is incredibly appreciated.

If you would like to support the work of HETT and consider either a one-off donation or a regular contribution, then the Trust would love to hear from you! Please contact Michael, our Treasurer, at: **The Treasurer, 18 Remus Avenue, Heddon-on-the-Wall, NE15 0BT.** or at **mtwilson18@hotmail.com**. Alternatively, you could contact our Chair, Revd Rachel Scheffer, at **r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org** or Secretary, Freda Phillipson, at **fredaphillipson04@gmail.com**, even just for a chat to find out more about HETT.



Home Foot Clinic

Lorraine Hodgson FHCP DIP SAC

foot health care practitioner

M 07850 429064

E lorraine_hodgson@yahoo.co.uk

Contact me for an appointment

Lorraine Hodgson FHCP DIP SAC Registered Foot Health Practitioner (RFHP) 07850 429064

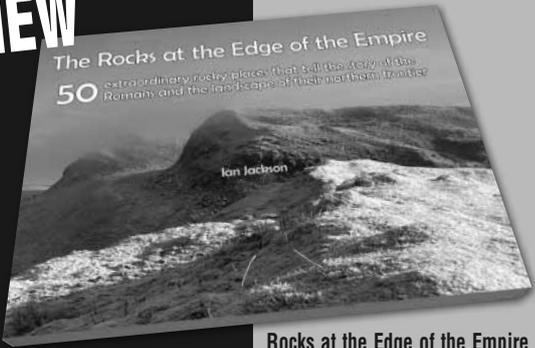
A mobile business based in Heddon-on-the-Wall and covering the surrounding areas.

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How the landscape of the northern frontier shaped the Roman occupation
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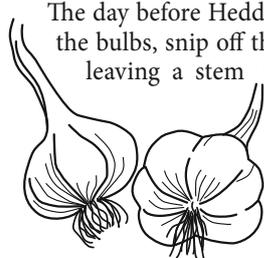
Open Mon-Sat 9am-4.30pm & Sun 10am-4pm.

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Tel 01661 852445
email: enquiry@hallsofheddon.co.uk
www.hallsofheddon.co.uk

Champions tips on growing garlic

I am embarrassed to see my name so often on the garlic cup, so may I share my own practice?

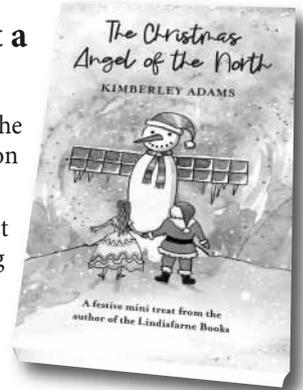
I buy named varieties from a reputable seed merchant and I always plant the cloves before Christmas, earlier if possible. As garlic is not greedy for nitrogen I choose land where the previous summer's peas and beans have been removed, so no compost or fertiliser is needed. If the soil is acid, a sprinkle of last year's wood ash lowers the PH. I plant the cloves 8" apart, at least their own depth in the soil. A spear of green might show after about 8 weeks or into the New Year. I weed the bed by hand frequently, as garlic do not like being crowded. By late June, for earlies, or July-August, for late varieties, the leaves begin to yellow. I dig up one to test. If ready, I keep them, as they are, in a dry place.



The day before Heddon Show I remove outer loose leaves on the bulbs, snip off the roots carefully, and cut the leaves off, leaving a stem long enough to bend over and tie with a thread. I present them neatly, with the name of the variety.

Alisoun Gardner-Medwin

Heddon writer brings out a new Christmas book!



The Christmas Angel of the North is the latest book by author Kim, a Heddon resident for many years.

Kim writes books set in the Northeast and her latest is no exception, being based in a department store in Newcastle! After the success of Kim's two romantic comedies set on Lindisfarne, Kim thought that readers might expect her to return to the island for a third book in the series but she wanted to do something fresh and a little different.

'I love the characters in this mini book,' said Kim. 'It's about Nana and her granddaughter applying to become Christmas Elves in Santa's grotto. It's another romantic comedy and full of fun and just the kind of easy, light-hearted read for Christmas - and makes a great stocking filler!'

You can buy the book online from Amazon by searching for Kimberley Adams - The Christmas Angel of the North - or locally you can find the book in the Hearth Café in Horsley, or Forum Books in Corbridge. It's also available from a host of other stores across Northumberland - or you can ask Kim direct if you see her about the village or by emailing: lovelindisfarne@gmail.com



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CHRISTMAS EVENTS

**TUESDAY 17TH DEC 8PM
XMAS QUIZ NIGHT**

**THURSDAY 19TH DEC 7PM
ADMURUM
CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**FRIDAY 20TH DEC 8.30PM
LIAM TURNER'S
XMAS JUMPER PARTY**

**SATURDAY 21ST DEC 11AM
CAROLS AROUND
THE XMAS TREE,
HOSTED BY REV COLIN**

**TUESDAY 24TH DEC 3-5PM
KIDS XMAS EVE PARTY**

**FRIDAY 27TH DEC 8PM
KARAOKE NIGHT**

**TUES 31ST DECEMBER
NEW YEARS EVE PARTY!**

*Merry Christmas to all our friends, regulars and our wonderful village.
We hope the New Year brings you all everything you want. Love from Phil, Katy,
Bethany, Sophie, Anthony, Rory, Chip, Barney, and all our fantastic team at*

"The Soul of Heddon."

sky sports

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T: 01661852172 M: 07894562964 E: threetunsheddon@gmail.com

HEDDON LIBRARY - OPENING HOURS

Tuesday 1.00pm—4.00pm

Friday 1.00pm—4.00pm

Saturday 10.00am—12.00 midday

Library news;

BFI (British Film Institute) replay, and Press Reader have been added to the sites accessible for free on the Library computers via the Northumberland Library site.

A guide to digital audiobooks and 'Borrowbox' will be offered by Northumberland Library staff at Heddon Library 2.00pm—3.00pm on Tuesday 7th January, Friday 17th January and Tuesday 21st January. 2025.

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

We are now filling drawers 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 library will be shut Christmas week (23rd December) and re-open on Friday 3rd Jan.



Aircraft Noise Action Group (ANAG) - UPDATE December/January 2024/25

Noise: If you can, complain whenever the noise affects you (<https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/complaints-form-2>).

Climate change? Fly less, not more. Best of all, don't fly at all: see Flight Free UK (<https://flightfree.co.uk>)

Complaining? We've got a survey online that asks if you're bothered by aircraft noise and about if and how you complain/don't complain. You don't have to be a supporter of our campaign or bothered by aircraft noise but it would help us a lot if you could spare a few moments to do it. It's here: <https://tinyurl.com/ytehxdjw>

We already know there's a lot of feeling about the noise aircraft make when they fly overhead **BUT** most people it affects don't complain each time – or never complain. This isn't surprising – if you're not poised over a computer or a smartphone each time aircraft noise affects you, you probably won't send in a complaint. Which is fair enough though it lets the Airport get away with thinking it's doing okay. We think that most of our supporters see their support for the campaign as being one continuous complaint about the noise which is fine with us. We also think a lot of people who are bothered just resign themselves to it. Anyway, if you're not already a supporter, we'd really like you to sign up – all we'll ever do is send you occasional updates via email. You can sign up here: <https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/join-us>

The Airport's attitude. There's been a change of personnel at the Airport. The manager who used to come to public meetings (some of you may know who that was) retired a while ago and a new person appointed in his place. We had an informal meeting with this new person - not an aviation specialist - a little while ago and it seemed to go well, friendly and helpful with the offer of further meetings to build up trust and understanding. We followed up this meeting by trying to explain what's gone on in the past and how things are working/not working now and asked for another informal chat in the near future in the hope of making some progress.

But, no chance, we've been brushed off with an offer of a meeting maybe sometime in the middle of next year. We view this as typical of the behaviour of the Airport over the years and of the contempt it has for people affected by aircraft noise. **We're pushing back and will let you know how it goes.**



Soup & Bun Morning

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

As we approach the end of 2024, we look forward to all our meetings as we enter our 109th year.

In October we had an enthralling talk from a very enthusiastic speaker about The Victoria Tunnel, which was more engaging because of his family connections. If you are interested

in local history, it is certainly worth a visit.

Aileen brought her creative talents to the fore for our November meeting. We made a seasonal door hanging using a variety of greenery which was embellished with cones, berries and bows. Everything we needed was provided...including help and guidance! Everyone took home their own masterpiece to be kept alive with a regular spray of water.

On Saturday 9th November we held our Soup and Bun morning. It was a fairly quiet event, but those who attended not only enjoyed some delicious homemade soup and sweet treats but the opportunity for a chat with friends and neighbours.

Thank you, as usual, for supporting our events.

In December we will be in "The Swan" for our Christmas gathering. We always have a great evening with good food, company and, of course, the mandatory raffle all of which lend themselves to a lovely introduction to the festive season.

Our resident Keep Fit expert Pauline will be starting off the New Year with some seated exercises to try to encourage us to keep active. A great way to "jump start" the year after all the over-indulging during the Christmas period.

The history of the City Hall is the theme for our February meeting. Paul Brennan will join us to give an insight into things past and present in this iconic building.

From all at Heddon W.I.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for 2025.

Maybe this is the year you'll come and join us for at least one of our monthly meetings!

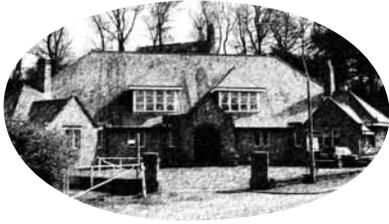
Pauline.

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Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall

Registered Charity No 10120

Winter has arrived and with Christmas around the corner. The Trustees of Knott Hall would like to wish all in Heddon 'A very merry Christmas and a Happy new Year'

As the year comes to an end, it is time to look forward into 2025 and beyond. Whilst the Hall has been integral in many activities throughout the year either as sponsor or host, the simple logistics of supporting and maintaining such a grand old building can at times seem unsurmountable. This can only be achieved by the support we receive.

As Chair, I would like to thank all those who give their time and efforts to supporting the Hall. None of the activities would happen or be successful without you.

When Knott Hall was built and donated to the Village, the premise was to provide somewhere to allow the parishioners to gather, socialise and learn but primarily to improve their lives. This today seems a somewhat vague and aspirational aim but one which is probably just as important in the current climate. The challenge is to continue with that aim. Whilst the Trustees can ensure the Hall remains viable, it is up to YOU, to find ways to use the hall to benefit Heddon on the Wall.

Looking forward the Annual General Meeting of Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall Charity will take place on 31st March 2025. This is your opportunity to find out about the activities of the Hall over the previous year and to become involved.

At last Knott Hall has WiFi, it has taken some time and a considerable amount of work to get there but the black hole is now buzzing with bytes.

Future Events for your diary:

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

Future Events for your diary

(Further details will be posted on: - noticeboards, village diary and Heddon Matters (Facebook Page)

Art In Village Forum Coffee and Cake 10.00am -12.00noon 07th/Dec/2024

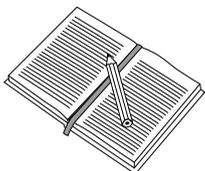
Knott Memorial Hall - Contact Details

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

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

Bookings: Hazel Thompson: 01661 853684

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.

Heddon Festival Plans...

As the dust settles on yet another amazing and successful festival, it is once again time to roll up the sleeves, get the post-its out and the big board.

Yes it's planning time for 2025

Whilst the Art installation which spanned 2024/25 festival continues, the festival plan will soon be prepared.

Once again there is an opportunity for anyone and everyone to become involved in helping, either with ideas or more practically, we would especially like to see some young people and their views incorporated.

Watch out for details of meetings and please come along.

Art in the Village

Inspire and enable Legacy artwork

The work to develop and produce the two artworks is moving along nicely and to ensure we have covered all comments there will be a drop-in 'Coffee and Cake Session' on **December 7th 2024** between 10.00-12.00noon @ the Knott Hall.

This free event will enable you to look at the progress and comments which will form the basis of each artwork and still have the opportunity to make your own comments to be included and see where you can become involved.

Contact: D Blackett

D Blackett: 07770666744 dblackett@aol.com

Heddon Carpet Bowls



We can now accommodate 6 more members, we have a friendly match against Riding Mill in November, also our Christmas knock out competition starts in November. Residents old and young come and try carpet bowls. Basic tuition will be given, carpet bowls can be skillful, non competitive and played in a friendly atmosphere.

New players welcome and we play through the summer every Thursday 7.00pm in the Knott Memorial Hall.

1st NIGHT IS FREE, no membership fees, only £3.00 per session.

Anyone interested in joining Heddon Carpet Bowls contact:

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

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Nature Notes

Winter Ladybird Spotting

Ruth Oatway

As the leaves are falling and temperatures dropping, winter may seem a strange time for an article on ladybirds. However, for the past few years the Natural History Society of Northumbria (NHSN) have been running a citizen science project called the North East Ladybird Spot and they reckon winter is one of the best seasons for finding these colourful insects. This is because ladybirds hibernate, tucked away in sheltered spots, and if you know where to look you have a good chance of finding them.

Ladybirds are a type of beetle with the family name Coccinellidae. They are one of our most familiar insects, featuring in folklore and as characters in books and nursery rhymes. They represent good luck and legend has it that farmers in the Middle Ages prayed to the Virgin Mary when pests kept destroying their crops. Their prayers were answered with hordes of 'beetles of Our Lady' which devoured the pests and the name became shortened to ladybirds.

I was surprised to discover we have around 47 species in the UK. Their colours and the number and shape of spots are very variable. Many have bright colours to warn predators that they are unpleasant to eat. If you've ever picked up a ladybird you may have seen it excrete a bright yellow smelly liquid. As children we called this 'ladybird wee' but it's actually a form of defence called reflex blood which makes it more difficult to eat. Several



species are named for their number of spots but this can be misleading. The two-spot ladybird is typically red with two black spots, but can also be black with four or six red spots. It's one of the more edible ladybirds and these 'melanic' individuals mimic more toxic species. We found one of these on our roses this year. The harlequin ladybird is a non-native species recently introduced to the UK which has spread rapidly and has a very variable appearance.

Ladybirds stir from their dormant state in spring and look for mates. They lay tiny yellow eggs on vegetation which hatch into larvae that look nothing like the adult beetle. The larvae go through four stages, increasing dramatically in size before pupating into adults. Our most common species are known for feeding on aphids making them popular with gardeners, but some species feed on other insects, plants and even fungi like mildew. As the weather grows colder they look for a place to hibernate and sometimes gather in clusters for protection which can contain multiple species. Cracks and crevices in stonework and fenceposts are a good place to look. Some hide in tree holes, behind flakes of bark and in the tips of conifers and the leaves and stems of over-wintering vegetation. We find large numbers along the window frames of our shed. NHSN suggest cemeteries are one of the best places to search with plenty of stone structures and secluded spots. You can help ladybirds in your garden by avoiding the use of pesticides and delaying the cutting back of vegetation until spring.

If you find a ladybird this winter, ideally take a photo and submit your record on an app like iNaturalist. These records provide vital information on the distribution of species and could contribute to a first ladybird atlas for the North East! See www.nhsn.org.uk/finding-ladybirds-in-winter

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 Otway

Hexham Road Speeding Petition

Drivers speed through Heddon on the Wall, on Hexham Road between the 30mph signs. They cause danger to pedestrians especially to those who cross the broad road between the bus stops. Speeding is monitored by Heddon Speedwatch, who report to the police. The present road configuration enables speeding, however. Please sign our petition to Northumberland County Council for traffic calming measures to be built on this road.



The Impact of Motor Vehicles on Wildlife

Join us for a talk by local Green Party County Councillor Nick Morphet.
Link for the talk: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1084510814039>
7.00pm, 22nd January
Heddon Methodist Church **Free tickets:**



Don't forget a single fare is just £2.00 to any destination, this has been extended until 31/12/24

Next Meeting: 4th December 7pm at Heddon Library

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

OUT NOW!!

Ponteland 2025 Red Squirrel Calendar



Ponteland RS is a red squirrel conservation group determined to make our area a safe haven for our native red squirrels. We have been established for many years

and rely on local residents to report squirrel sightings to help us to keep our area red.

*"We need funds so that we can feed and monitor our reds but also remove grey squirrels from red areas as the two cannot coexist."
"We created calendars to help raise funds for group and to raise awareness of the plight of our native reds".*

2025 Red Squirrels UK calendar. 100% goes to PONTELAND RED SQUIRRELS charity!

Calendars are available from Ponteland Red Squirrel Group: pontelandredsquirrels.co.uk at £8.99 each

Ponteland RS is a Registered Charity No. 1204829 pontelandredsquirrels@yahoo.co.uk

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What's on at **The Swan**

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**Festive light switch on -St Andrews choir pupils Christmas Carols
3:30pm 2nd December- launching the festivities at The Swan**

2/3 course Festive Menu
from £27.95

2nd December throughout
the month

Wreath Making 4th
December 6pm

Santa letter workshop
7th December 12-2pm

Breakfast with Santa
14th December

Christmas Carols from
Ad Murum Choir
17th December 7pm

Santa on his sleigh join
us to see the big man
(milk and cookies for
the kids)
20th December

Live Music
Two for the Road
21st December 7:30pm

Big End of Year Quiz
28th December 7pm

**NEW YEAR'S
EVE PARTY**
with DJ Gordan Bird

Don't miss out, drop into book/purchase your tickets over the bar.

THE SWAN

Heddon-on-the-Wall

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Northumberland NE15 0DR

swannewcastleupontyne@vintageinn.co.uk

VINTAGE INNS



Heddon Art Group

Annual Exhibition Success

Heddon-on-the-Wall Art Group had another fabulous Exhibition in October.

Not only did visitors enjoy a wide range of unique, original artwork by local artists, but raffle prizes and generous donations also raised funds for Tynedale Hospice At Home.

Visitors also took advantage of the opportunity to have original personalised caricature drawings of themselves, loved ones and a few pets by renowned illustrator Mike Giblin.

Huge and well deserved congratulations to Ian Scott for winning the public vote for Best Picture with his hyper realistic painting of Blue Row.



Heddon Art Group, based in the W.I. Hall, provides the opportunity for over 20 local artists to express and develop their artistic skills in a friendly socially supportive setting. Genres include portraits, landscapes, abstract and calligraphy, in media such as pencil, watercolour, acrylic and oil.

Over the winter meetings are held on alternate Tuesday afternoons until a full program of meetings and guest tutors etc starts again in late February. Anyone interested in joining the Group can find out more by emailing chambers497@btinternet.com.

David Chambers.

Ian Scott with the rose bowl for the Best Picture in show - Blue Row.

STAY & PLAY - All Welcome!

Heddon-on-the-Wall, 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.

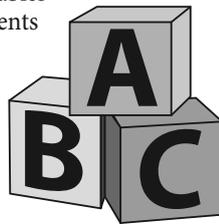
£1.00 donation per child

For more information visit:

www.heddon-school.co.uk.

email: stayandplay@heddonschool.co.uk

Tel: 01661 853350



Heddon Residents Association

The committee would like to wish all village residents a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Our snow wardens have already made a start to the winter demands and our Speedwatch team will continue their efforts to keep the village a safe place to live.

Should we have any further snow in addition to what we have had as I write, happy sledding and snowballing but also safe getting about! on hotwall1@yahoo.com

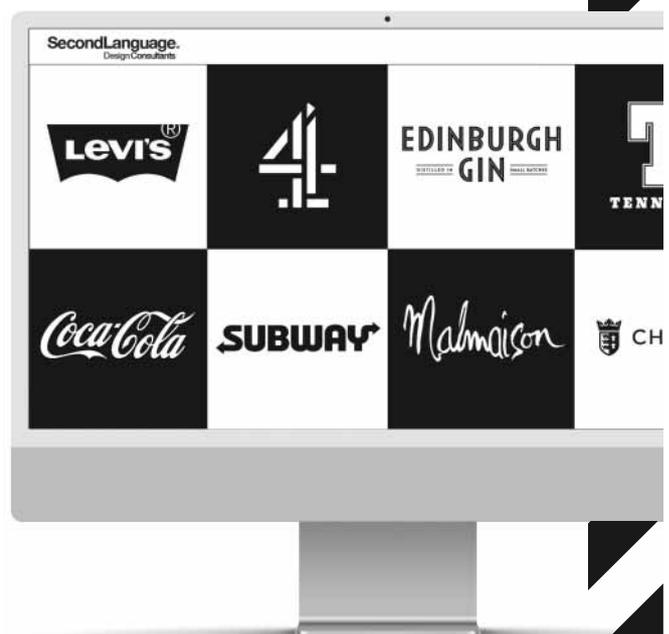
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TEST your knowledge with this Northumberland TOWNS and VILLAGES anagram puzzles

Find the Northumberland Towns and villages hidden in the anagrams below

- 1. LACK WIN
- 2. THE PROM
- 3. DODGY BRIE NAH
- 4. WET HITS HALL
- 5. A LEAN DELL
- 6. BAN HILL GEM
- 7. MALT CORN GIN
- 8. RUDE HOP
- 9. WE POCKET WEIRD BUN
- 10. STING NOAH
- 11. TONED BLING
- 12. USES A SHOE
- 13. NOTED PLAN
- 14. HELLS A DANE
- 15. RUB ROTTEN
- 16. LOB FRED
- 17. BLAME
- 18. SO FUN STORE
- 19. GO RED CRIB
- 20. NELL DODO HEN WHAT
- 21. MAD FARMS HOT
- 22. RUBY THOR
- 23. SHY ROLL GONE
- 24. FAT MEN

Answers in next issue

Countdown to Christmas

- 10 Miles to travel on a Winter's night
- 9 Crowded houses could not help their plight
- 8 Angel voices singing from afar
- 7 Cities wonder at a bright new star
- 6 Simple shepherds run to find the place
- 5 Faithful oxen breathe upon his face
- 4 In their fleeces worship at his feet
- 3 Through the desert carry spices sweet
- 2 Weary travellers rest among the hay
- 1 Holy infant born on Christmas Day

L. Waugh



SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER

DEAR HEDDON,
 I'M COMING AGAIN TO HEDDON THIS YEAR!
 THE ELVETTES & I CAN'T WAIT! COME AND
 HAVE A JOLLY HOLLY EVENING AS I VISIT YOUR
 WONDERFUL VILLAGE. SHOW US AS ALWAYS,
 YOUR COMMUNITY AND CHRISTMAS SPIRIT! WE
 WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR CHILDREN,
 EVERYONE, YOUNG AND LESS YOUNG WAVING
 FROM YOUR DRIVES, GARDENS AND WINDOWS
 AS SANTA PASSES THROUGH.
 PLEASE SEE FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES.

LOVE SANTA X



Decide.

HELPING BRANDS
BE BOLDER.



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