

HEDDON GOSSIP

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

AUGUST • SEPTEMBER 2025



www.facebook.com/hadrian1900

Heddon Culture Festival 2025

29th August – 31st August

Heddon Culture is almost here!!! Getting Bigger and Better

Delivered with this issue of the Heddon Gossip, will be your guide to the 2025 Heddon Culture Festival.

This year's Theme: - Health and Well Being

Pre Festival Activities: - Water Colour Painting Course
Mural Painting Workshops

School:- St Andrews School has designed and produced a variety of projects for display during the festival. You will see these at the venues and around the village.

English Heritage:- Tending the Wall, 'come and have a go' session - come and have a look and possibly a go at caring for our section of 'The Wall' 28th August 11.00a.m.-1.00p.m. with coffee and cake.

Other activities which may become available will be notified ASAP.

If you wish to be involved in any of these activities, please contact:
(dblackett@aol.com or
r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org)

The festival programme will commence on 29th August 2025 and will include:-

@ the Knott/Memorial Park - 17.00 FRIDAY 29th AUGUST

Off with a bang, music and much more: Barbecue, a Marching Drum Band and The Open Mic, Growing Talent night at the WI.

@ the Village - SATURDAY 30th AUGUST

Heddon Methodist Church:

Ukulele workshops, Ocarina workshops, reading by author Kim Adams

Heddon WI: Cyanotype - Making willow bird feeders

Knott Hall: Tai Chi & Chi Gung - Medicine by movement.

Cheerful Dance with Lucy Robinson.

Dancercise with Pauline Wright.

@ the Knott - SATURDAY 30th AUGUST

Richard Kain Band in Concert.

St Andrews Church

Makers Market Arthur Gormley clay figures (grab some clay make one, display one).

Around the Village

10a.m.-12 noon March like a Roman with Curius Compass.



@ St Andrews Church SUNDAY 31st August

Singing is good for you If only stones could talk Archaeology talk.

@Selman Park SUNDAY 31st August:

Party in the Park including: Bottle Rockets, Music, Food – Hot Dogs/Burgers, Games, Golf and other fun stuff.

The intention is to make all workshops as accessible as possible; a £2.00 booking charge will be required for each workshop to ensure the availability of places.

We are grateful for the support provided by the Parish Council and other organisations in making this possible.

We still need volunteers to help with the festival, if you are interested, please contact.

(dblackett@aol.com or r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org)

Come & have a go at demossing

English Heritage will once again be having a Come and have a go session of demossing our section of Hadrian's Wall in conjunction with Heddon's Cultural Festival. It will be on Thursday the 28th August from 1-3 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and see what we do and have a go themselves. Also if you find this of interest you could talk to us about becoming a volunteer with English Heritage and helping to preserve the wall for future generations.



Bottle ROCKETS

We have had Kites, Parachuting Teddy Bears and now it is **Bottle Rockets**

Rules

- All rockets must be made from a 2 litre plastic fizzy drink bottle.
- All rockets will be charged with the identical quantity of water.

- All rockets will be launched on the same trajectory.

The competition will be judged on

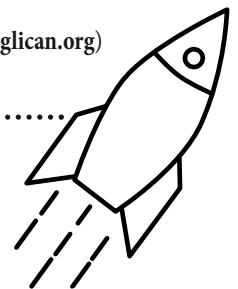
- Length of flight • Time of Flight • Best designed Rocket

What you need

- One 2 litre plastic fizzy drink bottle.

This would be the basics for your rocket, however the addition of fins and a nose cone would help it fly further.

SAFETY: This rocket uses air pressure to fling a bottle at high speed 20–50 metres.



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

A Place for Everyone

As I write this article, I can confirm that we have a provisional start date for our roof repair.

By the time you receive this edition of the Gossip, the work should be well underway.

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way to our Roof Appeal. Our fund raising efforts have been successful but we now wait with bated breath to see what lies beneath the slates and hope no major problems are revealed.

Just before you receive this edition of The Gossip we will have had a good old fashioned bus trip to the beach on 29th July. We are currently in the last planning stages for a trip to Bamburgh and over 50 people are booked in to have a lovely day at the seaside. We are hoping for good weather or Revd Rachel's home is going to be very full of soggy people.

Hopefully you will receive this edition in time to be reminded of our Open Garden event at the home of Sheinaz and Mike Stansfield (North Farm House, Throckley) from 11a.m. until 3p.m. on Saturday 2nd August. This year, any profits raised will be shared between the Church Roof Appeal and St. Oswald's Hospice – a charity very close to the heart of Sheinaz.

We always enjoy the experience of shared services with both our friends from the Methodist Church here in Heddon and with the congregations from the other churches in our partnership. We also enjoy welcoming visiting leaders to church for our services. In June, Gwen McKenzie led our worship and on Pentecost Sunday, Jane and Helen gave a very informative talk on Food Banks and Poverty.

We are sure you will have read the article by Alisoun Gardner Medwin about bringing your surplus fresh produce to either church or her home so she can take it to the Foodbank on Mondays. We wholeheartedly support this venture and hope to see lots of gifts in our church porch on Sundays.

With this Gossip you will receive a full and informative schedule for the Culture Festival 2025. As part of this event, you will be invited to come to St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 31st August when we will be singing our favourite hymns on the subject of the Natural World. Please watch out for ways to vote for your favourite hymn. Healthy and interesting drinks and nibbles will be served at the event which we are sure will be a lovely occasion. We hope you can come along. Everyone is welcome.

On 28th September at 10.30a.m. we will be holding our Harvest Festival. All welcome. We will once again be collecting non-perishable foods for People's Kitchen in Newcastle. These can be brought to the service on the Sunday or if you are not able to make it, can be brought into church any time it is open during the week leading up to Harvest.

St Andrew's Church is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays throughout the year from 10a.m. - 3.30p.m. 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, and it has been wonderful to welcome a good number of couples this year for weddings that have been steeped in tradition but uniquely theirs. If you would like to enquire about either please contact Revd. Rachel.

Revd. Rachel. r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org
or WhatsApp 07916681128



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.

Sunday worship every week at 10.30a.m. 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.

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.

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

OPEN GARDEN

A Party To Raise Funds for
St. Andrew's Church, Heddon
and St. Oswald's Hospice

£5 Admission for adults
Children free
Includes cup of tea/coffee
and piece of cake

WHEN & WHERE

- North Farm House, Throckley
- 2nd August 11am-3pm

We invite you to an Open Garden with refreshments, stalls, raffle, a variety of entertainment and a beautiful garden to explore.

The poster features a map showing the location of the garden at North Farm House, Throckley, near Ponteland. It also includes two circular photographs: one showing a group of people standing in a garden, and another showing a close-up of a garden path with plants.

In Memory...

On behalf of the Clark family, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended Brian's funeral and for the many kind expressions of sympathy we have received. Your flowers, cards, messages, love and support have brought us great comfort during this difficult time.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to Tom Birch for leading the funeral service, and to J. Dickinson Funeral Directors for their care and professionalism. A special thank you to all who generously donated to Brian's chosen charities - the Sir Bobby Robson Foundation and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Having lived in Heddon-on-the-Wall for over 48 years, Brian loved the village and would not have wanted to live anywhere else.

The Clark family

Heddon Methodist Church

Methodist Minister for Heddon Methodist Church:

Rev. Lynda Coulthard, based in Westerhope:

Tel: 0191 271 1587

email: lynda.coulthard@methodist.org.uk



Church Sunday Services: 10.30 - 11.30a.m. (unless otherwise stated)

Other Church Notices:

We continue to enjoy joint worship with our friends from St. Andrew's Church, look out for dates on the 2025 calendar. and activities taking place at both venues over Culture Festival Weekend.

Tuesday Group: Every Tuesday 7.00p.m.- 8.00p.m.

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: The next meeting is **Saturday 6th September** from 10.00a.m.

Warm Space Coffee Mornings: continue on Thursday's for coffee, scones and chat **10.00a.m. - 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 Wednesday evenings from 7.30p.m.

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

Letter from Revd Lynda

By the time you read this the 'schools will be out for summer'. Speaking to primary teachers I know the formal lessons may not be happening during the last week of school but the children will still be learning skills if not facts in the activities that they are taking part in.

Not having school age children I don't tend to take holidays when the schools are off. Each summer I hope to get on top of some of the jobs that need doing whilst it is, hopefully, quieter as it is the end of the Methodist Church year on 31st August just like the school year. Unlike other denominations where ministers can move throughout the year, all Methodist Ministers who are starting at a new/different church move during the month of August ready to start on 1st September. For the last 12 months my colleague & I have been grateful for the help of two retired ministers covering a vacant post but we are looking forward to welcoming a new colleague based in Ponteland.

Last month my husband and I spent 17 days in Canada during which we spent some time travelling on trains, visiting different cities before going to see a friend. We hadn't seen our friend for 10 years so we had lots of things to catch up on. We usually go to Europe for our holidays so this was very different and somehow we didn't miss any of our connections. I was surprised at how relaxed I was on my return.

Although I'm not on holiday over the summer I'm hoping that we have some dry sunny days especially on 29th July when I'm joining the bus trip to Bamburgh but also the last weekend of the school holidays when the Heddon Festival takes place. Both events will be a new experience for me after sharing ministry with Deacon Maggie until last year. I've heard a lot about the Heddon Festival and I'm looking forward to joining with some of the activities.

For a lot of people life seems to be lived at a frantic speed with not enough hours in the day whilst for others they wish they could still be as active as they used to be. Finding time to rest, to restore our souls is important as we otherwise become tired, we become less productive and it can lead to illness, physical or mental. The Bible begins with the creation of the world. It tells us that for six days God created the world and on the seventh day he rested. The gospel stories of Jesus tell us that Jesus frequently went off on his own at the start or the end of the day. Psalm 23 which is often read at funerals speaks of God leading us beside still waters, making us lie down in green pastures to restore our soul. Having a rest, doing something different even for a short period can clear the mind and perhaps clarifies our thinking and helps us solve a problem (or even just that last crossword clue). A few years ago holidays at home were popular with some organisations offering alternative activities for those who might find the summer too long with their usual activities taking a break over the summer. Spending time with friends and/or family, spending time in nature or, if you are able to, visiting somewhere new can all refresh and renew us.

Whether you have plans for the summer or not I pray that we may all find time & space to restore our souls even if our bodies struggle to keep up with the younger members of the family.

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 facility in Benwell (or occasionally to the West Northumberland Foodbank in Hexham).

In addition to seven distribution hubs across the City of Newcastle, the Foodbank has now opened three **Community Pantry shops**. These aim to offer low-income households an affordable shopping experience with dignity to help people deal with the high cost of living. It is membership based. Donations of the following are currently sought:

- **Milk (Long Life)**
- **Cereals**
- **Pasta/rice and curry sauces**
- **Tinned Tomatoes and other Vegetables**
- **Soup**
- **Rice Pudding and custard**
- **Tea Bags/Instant Coffee**
- **Tinned meat and fish**
- **Tinned fruit**
- **Jam**
- **Biscuits**
- **Toiletries**
- **Sanitary Towels**
- **Nappies**

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

Heddon Methodist Church



ALL SEASONS

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www.allseasonsindependentfuneraldirectors.co.uk


theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

In June, for the first meeting of our new year we were pleased to have Don Miller a local historian, come and speak to us at length on the origins of the Roman street names in Heddon. We were surprised to learn that many had been named after dubious characters. He concluded that whoever had been given the task of naming streets within the village had not done much prior research!

We welcomed Emily Payne to our July meeting. The title of her presentation was "Sex is hard work!" Wow! What did we expect? What we got was a no holds barred explanation/revelation of how the sex industry works, from a very honest, eloquent speaker. It made us laugh, at times made us feel repulsed and was also tinged with sadness. Certainly was a memorable evening leaving us with lots to reflect upon.

Our annual Charity Coffee Morning was in aid of SUDEP (Sudden Unexpected Death In Epilepsy). The event was well supported by a wide section of the local community. We would like to say a big thank you to all who came along, raising funds for a very worthwhile, but not so well known charity.

SUDEP Action 
Making every epilepsy death count

August: Instead of our usual outing we are going to have Afternoon Tea at the Swan. A way of ensuring our members can socialise locally and even enjoy a glass or two of Prosecco without anyone having to drive....

September: Ian Chisholm from St John's Ambulance is coming to give a talk on general First Aid and how to use a defibrillator. This is in line with the resolution passed at this year's National W.I. A.G.M. and should be a very interesting and informative meeting.

Eating, crafting, chatting and laughter will as always be included in further meetings this year. Join us, enjoy the atmosphere and make some new friends at the same time.

Pauline.



Left: Lesley Amos, who died last year, just short of her 52nd birthday from SUDEP (Sudden Unexpected Death In Epilepsy).

Below: Heddon residents enjoy tea, sticky buns and a natter at the SUDEP Coffee Morning.

For more information on SUDEP - [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SUDEPAction.org) @SUDEPAction.org [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SUDEPAction) @SUDEPAction

Footnote:

A cheque for £800 has been sent from WI to SUDEP, a great result!

MAKERS - Summer Fayre

For the last three years, the lovely folk of Heddon-on-the-Wall have welcomed a growing group of young creative people aged between 5 and 17, as they practise their entrepreneurial skills at our annual Summer Fayre. These brilliant young people make, create and gather all year long and then set up their stalls at the Knott Memorial Hall to showcase crafts, leatherwork, artwork, woodcraft, baking, jewellery making and so much more. The event provides them with the chance to find out what it takes to run a stall, as they plan their offerings, gathering or making their stock to sell, dealing with cash handling and chatting to customers. All the families involved love being part of it and are so grateful for all the support that comes so generously from the village for this event and the young people who take part.

On **Saturday August 9th** these creative young people are bringing you an afternoon of fun, where you can browse their stalls and buy original art, hand-tooled leather goods, homemade fudge, hand carved wooden gifts, crochet, fibre work, jewellery, plants, knitted goods, origami, preserves, and even 3D printed items they've designed and made themselves. You'll find toys, games, books and sweet treats, cards and lino prints too.

There will also be a cake stall, a raffle, ices and refreshments, with all money raised going to the Knott Memorial Hall and the

Tynedale Home Ed Choir. Please come along and see all the amazing stalls that these fantastic young people have created and support their entrepreneurial journeys.

**Knott Memorial Hall,
Saturday 9th August,
1p.m. until 4.30p.m.**

Free entry

This is a CASH ONLY event, please bring change as our young people won't have card readers!

Fiona Thompson



TAKE-AWAYS NOW AVAILABLE



Your favourite Italian's, Bell e Buon now offer a take-away. Take-aways are available every evening they are open from 5.00pm till late, order via phone 01661854325 or on JUST EAT.

ALL CLEAN Window Cleaning Services

ALL CLEAN provides a friendly professional domestic and commercial window cleaning service in your area. We can also clean your UPVC Fascias Soffits and Conservatory Roofs

ALL CLEAN cleans gutters up to 15 metres or around 50ft high.

We clean gutters valleys and downpipes on jobs where the gutters are more than 2 floors high from the ground using our **Guttervac System**

If you require a reliable service then give us a call
Tony / Bob on 07831 568114



Heddon-on-the-Wall Education and Training Trust (HETT) Update

The main objective of HETT is to support the educational and training needs of residents of the Parish, pupils of Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrew's C of E Primary School and its past pupils.

To support the longevity of HETT, Trustees at last year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May 2024, made the exciting decision to further develop and grow the Trust. By promoting and raising awareness of the work HETT undertakes through providing updates in Heddon Gossip, distributing letters to both residents and local businesses and by having a stall at the Village Christmas Fair. We can report that we have been successful in receiving both one off and monthly donations, the majority of which has been further enhanced by the giving of Gift Aid. Trustees feel truly heartened by all the kind donations received to date and would like to say how appreciative we feel through the generosity and willingness of individuals to support the work we do. Moving forward, the Trust will continue to protect current assets while at the same time generate new income, thereby protecting and supporting the longevity of the Trust.

Over the past 12-18 months, HETT continues to help and support many people achieve their aims and objectives through enabling attendance on various courses and contributing to Read / Write books for School, donations towards the purchase of training equipment and paying towards examination fees.

Trustees like nothing more than hearing back from successful applicants on their progress through their various courses.

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 or, you could contact our Chair,
Rev'd Rachel Scheffer, at r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org
even just for a chat to find out more about HETT.

Michael Wilson, HETT Treasurer

STAY & PLAY - All Welcome!

Heddon-on-the-Wall, St Andrew's CE Primary School

Every Wednesday during term time

9.00a.m. - 10-30a.m.

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

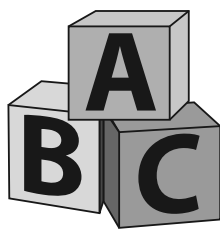
For more information visit:

www.heddon-school.co.uk.

email:

stayandplay@heddonschool.co.uk

Tel: 01661 853350



Heddon-on-the-Wall, St Andrew's CE Primary School are looking for dolls and prams/pushchairs for OPAL.

Piano and Guitar Lessons

My name is Jonathon Milner and I live on Hexham Road. I am 16 years old I am about to start Sixth Form. I have been playing the piano and classical guitar for over ten years, and am working towards Grade 8 in each instrument.



In Sixth Form, I will be going on a 'World Challenge' trip to Morocco, where we will participate in charitable work in deprived areas of the Moroccan Sahara.

As part of my efforts to raise money for this trip, I am looking to start giving piano and guitar lessons to people who would like to learn or perhaps haven't played for some time.

If you are interested in learning either of these instruments, please contact me. My details for enquiries are:

e-mail: jonathonamilner@gmail.com. Telephone: 07521696986

Address: 264A Hexham Road NE15 9QX.

Lessons will be £13.00 per half hour.

Jonathon Milner

AD MURUM Singers

Ad Murum Singers "Bring me Sunshine" concert in June was a great success. The choir, in good voice, performed to a full house. The diverse selection of songs in the programme was much appreciated, and the Fellside Brass Ensemble provided alternative music in each half of the evening's entertainment.

With the proceeds from the sale of tickets, and the Raffle, the choir were able to send £500 to both Tynedale Hospice at Home and St. Andrew's Church for their Roof Fund.

Members of the choir are currently having a break, but looking forward to recommencing practices on **Tuesday September 9th at 7-30pm** in the Methodist Church. New members are always made welcome, so if attendance at our concert inspired you to join the choir, don't hesitate, come along.

admurumsingers.org.uk

Chris Rand

HEXHAM COURANT CORRESPONDENT

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

News must be to him by 5p.m. on a SATURDAY

email: heddonnews@yahoo.co.uk mobile: 07713 646623

twitter account: @heddononthewall



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Contact Jane on 07914 001 336

Welcoming Our New Councillors



We're delighted to introduce five fantastic new members to Heddon Parish Council:

Suzy Walker, Sarah Harris, Sarah Harrison, Lila Pendragon, and Lorraine McMaster joined at the July meeting, with Liam Harrison joining in due course. This brings the Parish Council back to full capacity—*excellent news for our village!*

Each new councillor offers different expertise and plenty of enthusiasm. Together, we aim to shape a thriving future for Heddon-on-the-Wall.

A quick reminder of what the Parish Council does:

Heddon Parish Council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of parish residents. We sit within the broader framework of Northumberland County Council, and a small portion of your council tax—called the precept—is allocated directly to parish activities.

Our key responsibilities include:

- Reviewing planning applications.
- Managing and improving green spaces and village assets.
- Campaigning for improved services and facilities.
- Collaborating with partners on issues like roads, signage, and pathways.

Importantly, **all Parish Councillors are volunteers** who give their time freely. Please extend a warm welcome and your respect for the vital role they play in preserving our village's independence.



Improving Village Signage

It's been on our "*wish list*" for some time—upgrading signage throughout Heddon, especially around the **Hadrian's Wall site**.

Feedback from residents and tourists has been invaluable in identifying issues, and we've worked alongside **Northumberland County Council**, the **Borderlands Project**, **National Trails**, and **English Heritage** to address them.

Here's what we've learned:

- The Hadrian's Wall trail curves around Heddon in a peculiar arc that doesn't reach the Wall's actual site.
- Walkers using Station Road can end up feeling stranded.
- The Wall site lacks visibility for both drivers and pedestrians.
- Existing signs are worn, outdated, and sometimes misleading—especially with newer landmarks like Victrix and the Hadrian Mosaic not properly represented.

We're making strong progress in updating and replacing key signs to improve navigation, showcase village identity, and ensure safe and welcoming routes for all.



Supporting Local Festivities

We're proud to support both the Culture Festival and Heddon Village Show, two cherished events that highlight the heart of our community. From live music to local crafts, these gatherings are opportunities to connect, support local talent, there's truly something for everyone.

The Parish Council has offered financial support to help bring these celebrations to life. Massive thanks to the hardworking volunteers who make it all happen—we encourage you to attend, enjoy, and get involved!

HEDDON ON-THE-WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Our Mission
Statement:



August/September 2025



A Word on Antisocial Behaviour

With summer in full swing, energy in the village naturally rises—but so do instances of antisocial behaviour. A gentle reminder to help us keep Heddon safe and respectful for all.

This includes:

- Excessive noise • Littering and graffiti
- Public nuisance activity

Let's protect the spirit of our village by being mindful of one another and our shared spaces.

Traffic Management Update

Your concerns on speeding and congestion have been heard, and action is underway!



- A **speed survey** has been completed, thanks to support from local councillor **Michaela Horncastle**, and the results have been forwarded to **Northumbria Police's Road Safety Unit**.
- **Alisoun Gardner-Medwin** has gathered further evidence, including a petition many of you signed, which will be formally presented to **Northumberland Council**.
- Our **Community Speedwatch Team** continues to collect data on speeding incidents.

Interested in joining the Speedwatch Team?

- Search "**Northumbria Police Community Speedwatch**"
- Read more and apply online
- No set time commitment required — full training provided

Your involvement could make a real difference!



Stay Connected

Your ideas, concerns, and stories are what shape our village. Don't hesitate to reach out—whether it's through email, our website, or social media.

Together, we're building a **vibrant, respectful, and caring** Heddon.

If you'd like to get in touch to find out more or get involved with any of the projects including standing as a Parish Councillor, please contact our clerk, Lucy.

Lucy Barton | Clerk, Heddon-on-the-Wall Parish Council

Telephone: (01661) 854583 (message service available)

email: heddonpc@gmail.com Website: www.heddon.parish-council.com

Asset Officer: **Lorraine Twizell** t: 07735 246381

email: heddonassetsofficer@gmail.com

Di Keller - Parish Council Chair

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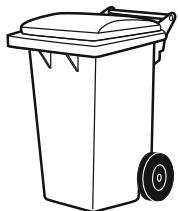
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Heddon-on-the-Wall village Bin days - August/September



12 Black - Rubbish bin - generally collects on a Tuesday

5 Blue- Recycling bin - generally collects on a Tuesday

5 Garden waste bin Collection Dates

August 2025

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 | 31 |

September 2025

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 | | | | |

Garden waste bin Collection Dates

August 2025

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 | 31 |

September 2025

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 | | | | | |

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.

Anti-social behaviour

It's disappointing that the anti social behaviour (ASB) has reared its ugly head in the village again. Please can I ask everyone to be vigilant and report as appropriate.

It is good to make everyone aware through Facebook channels, however, it's important that we alert the correct authorities too.

Please report: Fires to the Fire Service they may appear small, but in many areas in the village, could be disastrous if they take hold.

Vandalism and Anti Social Behaviour to the Police via their online form unless you are in direct threat then via 999.

Vandalism should also be reported to Northumberland County Council on **FixMyStreet** and to the parish clerk: heddonpc@gmail.com

We have contacted our neighbourhood police officer for their additional support and to increase their patrols.

We're also working to get the graffiti removed as soon as possible. To help collate all of the vandalism please post your photos and info regarding its location on **Heddon Matters** or contact the **Parish Council**.



FIX MY STREET

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.

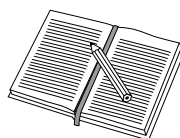
Locate the problem on a map of the area. Enter details of the problem.

Confirm the report and Northumberland County Council will investigate.

FIX MY STREET

Report it:
• Litter
• Potholes
• Fly tipping
• Dog fouling
Sort it.

nland.cc/fix



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.

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

POSH PAWS
DOG GROOMING

By Amber

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Mobile: 07920148380



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.

I am a qualified foot health care practitioner able to carry out routine foot care treatments in the comfort of your home.

My services include:

- Cutting & filing nails
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- Corns & callus removal
- Verruca treatment
- Treating & preventing fungal nails
- Athletes foot
- Fully insured

Heddon Art Group

HEDDON ART CLUB MEETINGS:

August/September 2025

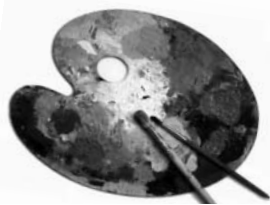
Tuesday afternoons: 12th August, 26th June
1.30 - 3.30p.m. 9th September, 23rd September

Wednesday evenings: 6th August, 20th August - Charlotte Thompson - Watercolour
7.00 - 9.00p.m. (Landscape/Floral)

3rd September, 17th September

Saturday 13th September Bob Woolley - Watercolour (Landscape)

Dates for your diary: 11th - 12th - October Members Annual Art Exhibition



Above:
A selection of Heddon Art Groups
interpretation of 'View of Dunstanburgh
Castle'.



Above:
Josie McLaughlin with one of the art groups
watercolour.

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Coming to Heddon Art Group in the next two months to give tutorials will be Charlotte Thompson, who will be doing watercolours followed in September for a Saturday session in watercolours from the renowned Bob Woolley who specialises in rural scenes mainly of his home county of Yorkshire and the Lake District.

Non members are welcome to the tutorial classes where a fee is paid for the tutor.

In July we had a evening watercolour class with Josie McLaughlin where the subject was 'View Dunstanburgh Castle' in watercolour.

When there is not a tutor, members have free-choice sessions where they cover a wide variety of subjects in various mediums.

Heddon Art Group meet in the Heddon W.I. Hall on alternate Tuesday afternoons between 1.30p.m. and 3.30p.m. Also on every other Wednesday evening between 7.00p.m. and 9.00p.m. when there is no Tuesday meet.

Ian Scott

New Members are always welcome. If you are into pastels, pen, ink, pencil, watercolour, acrylic, oil or mixed media, whether you are just beginning, experienced, or revisiting an earlier love of drawing or painting and would like to find out more about Heddon Art Group, please contact Ian Scott by email: ianscottdesign@btinternet.com

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Nature Notes

Butterfly life-stories

Ruth Oatway

Butterflies are some of our most familiar and best-loved insects. They are a welcome sign of spring and summer, associated with warm sunny days. They are also known for the amazing transformations they undergo through their lifecycle, from egg to caterpillar to pupa within a chrysalis, finally emerging as a beautiful adult butterfly.

But, have you ever wondered why different butterfly species are more abundant at different times of year? It's partly to do with the different foodplants required by the caterpillars, but also their breeding and winter survival strategies. Butterflies and other insects rely on external heat to warm their bodies which is why they are most active on warm sunny days and can often be seen basking in the sun. This makes it difficult for them to be active in winter. Storms and a shortage of food also pose problems. Most enter a form of hibernation called 'diapause' and shut down over winter. Depending on the species, this may be as an egg, caterpillar, pupa or adult butterfly. Some butterflies are 'univoltine' meaning they have a single brood within a year, while others are 'bivoltine' with a brood in early spring and a second brood later in summer. Some species can mix both strategies.

A few species even migrate to escape the cold. The painted lady is a UK butterfly which migrates to Morocco and crosses the Sahara. This migration is really a relay, taking three or more quickly-reproducing generations to make the journey of up to 7,500 miles. Some years we see very few of these butterflies and other years we get a large migratory influx, depending on weather conditions. I haven't seen any this year at the time of writing, but there's still time yet.



Small Tortoiseshell Butterfly.

One of the first butterflies I see each year is the orange-tip. Only the males have the distinctive bright orange tips to their white wings, the female has dark grey wing tips, but both have a mottled green-grey pattern on the underwing. Orange-tip caterpillars love garlic mustard, cuckooflower and hedge mustard plants so they are often found in meadows and along verges and hedgerows. The caterpillars pupate in July and overwinter as a pupa, emerging as butterflies the following spring. This is why they can be seen as early as April but then disappear from July onwards.

Another species visible early in the year is the speckled wood, a dark brown butterfly with cream spots. These are abundant in the woodland edges of Heddon Common as they like partially shaded woodland with dappled sunlight. They are very territorial and pairs or small groups can often be seen spiralling upwards chasing each other as they battle for their patch. The caterpillars feed on grasses and the adults feed on the 'honeydew' excreted by aphids

feeding in the treetops. Adults can be seen from March all the way through to October because they can have two or even three broods in a year, with the adults of each generation living only a few weeks. They can over-winter as a caterpillar or as a pupa.

Peacock, small tortoiseshell, comma, and red admiral are species that spend the winter as adults, tucked away in a sheltered spot. They can therefore be seen at any time of year but with peaks in spring and mid-late summer. Their caterpillars feed on nettles (though comma caterpillars can also feed on other species such as elm and hop). Small tortoiseshell caterpillars build a communal web for shelter. The adults can feed on flowers and rotting fruit. Late flowering species such as buddleia, bramble and ivy are important for these species to build up their fat reserves to last the winter. The Heddon Butterfly Haven is a great place to see these four species and others. I hope you get a chance to enjoy these fascinating and colourful insects over the summer and into autumn.

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

How to make your outdoor clothing last longer!



Outdoor clothing and gear company **Alpkit** offer a 'repair station' for items in need of new life. They aim to 'fix, wash, transform or adapt gear' and offer services such as patching, repairing zips, washing and reproofing.

Alpkit have a branch in the Metrocentre but you can also book repairs online (go to **Alpkit.com** and click on 'Start a repair' at the top of the page).

They also fix gear from all brands, however other brands do offer similar services.

Tin Foil Recycling – No Thanks!

Don't put tin foil or foil food trays in the recycling, as they are hard to sort from the paper and plastics. We are advised to put them - unwashed - in the general waste where they will be sent to the Energy from Waste plant. The energy recovery process creates a bottom ash from which the aluminium and steel can then be extracted for re-use.

NCC bin guide:

<https://beta.northumberland.gov.uk/bins-recycling-waste/bin-guide-what-goes-each-bin>



Slow Cooker & Energy at Home Workshop

Tue 16th Sept, 6:30pm, Heddon Library

An interesting and enjoyable session exploring:

- The versatility and energy efficiency of slow cookers.
- Hints and tips to get the most from your slow cooker.
- Practical advice on reducing energy use at home.
- Guidance on the Priority Service Register and Carbon Monoxide safety.
- Information on retrofit measures and renewable energy options.

Provided by the Climate Action in Rural North East project (CAIRN) from Community Action Northumberland, and Sustainable Heddon.

A limited number of free slow cookers will be available to take away on the day!

Please email sustainableheddon@gmail.com so we know how many people are coming

Slow Cooker & Energy at Home Workshop

Abi Mansley

Next Meeting: 3rd September at 7.00pm. at Heddon Library



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



sustainableheddon@gmail.com



Rudchester Township

Andy Curtis

Based on an article by V.L.B. in 'Vision'

In 1892 the boundaries of the parishes of Ovingham and Heddon on the Wall were altered, so that the township of Rudchester, which was previously in the ecclesiastical parish of Ovingham, was included in the parish of Heddon-on-the-Wall.

Rudchester is about one and a quarter miles from Heddon, situated at the first cross roads on the Military Road. *John Collingwood Bruce* writing in his *'Handbook to the Roman Wall'* in 1863:

"When the Pretender's forces appeared before Carlisle in 1745, the Royal Troops were lying at Newcastle, where the enemy had been expected. At that time, no road that could bear the transit of artillery existed between Newcastle and Carlisle, so that General Wade was obliged to leave Carlisle to the mercy of the enemy, and proceed in search of them by a southerly route. After this the road between Newcastle and Carlisle, now known throughout the district as 'The Military Road' or the 'West Turnpike' was made. For miles together the Wall was pulled down to form it. Formerly the facing stones were in many places seen protruding through the metal; but in part they have been removed to supply material for mending the turnpike, and for the rest they have been hidden by the covering of tarmacadam".

The antiquarian, *William Stukeley*, wrote at the time that an Act of Parliament allowed Wade to "...demolish the Wall and beat the stone into pieces, to make the road withal. Every carving, inscription, altar, milestone, pillar, etc. undergoes the same vile havoc from the hands of these wretches".

John Wesley writes on May 21st 1755, "I preached at Nafferton near Horsley, about thirteen miles from Newcastle. We rode chiefly on the new western road, which lies on the old Roman Wall".

The fact that this road is on the Roman Wall accounts for its straightness.

Having thus digressed, I return to Rudchester, and for information, to Paul Brown's Friday Books of North Country Sketches (a selection of 'Friday Articles' from the 'Newcastle Journal' published from 1934) , although I have a certain amount of personal knowledge having lived there for close upon 26 years.

Rudchester means '**Red Camp**' and there is a reason for its name. It stands, in fact, upon the site of **Vindobala**, one of the Wall forts, and when in 1924 part of that fort was excavated it was found that many stones had been turned red by burning. Here was evidence of a tragedy long before the first of the Rudchesters built his tower out of the ruins.

The present Rudchester Manor is to all outward appearance 18th century, but mixed up in the building are parts of the ancient tower, and strangely enough a Saxon window was discovered not very long ago; it had been built up and its discovery came as a great surprise. How had it come to be incorporated in a tower erected in the late 13th century?

The site of the fort of Vindobala lies north of the house, which stands therefore within what was the civil settlement in Roman times.

There have been many finds in the fort itself - altars, statuary, pottery, coins, etc., including an altar which *Lucius Sentius Castus*, a centurion of the 6th legion, dedicated to Mithras and, departing this life, left the ornately-carved stone to be discovered by inquisitive people some fifteen hundred years later. I was instrumental in 1953 in initiating the excavation of the **Temple of Mithras**, thanks to the co-operation of Mr. J.P. Gillam and others interested in work of this nature.

Those who undertook this work were fortunate in the fact that when

found (in 1844), the position of the altar was marked on the Ordnance Survey Map produced in 1919. It was at this spot that the first trial trench was dug, but without success, a second trench was then tried a short distance away and some stonework was encountered which turned out to be the face of the north bench of the temple.

If my memory serves me aright, this is the third Mithras Temple to be found on the site of the Roman Wall, the other two being at Housesteads and Carrawburgh, both of which are kept open for inspection, whilst that at Rudchester has been filled in again. One must remember that stonework deteriorates if exposed to the weather, and is also disturbed by people walking about on it, so most of the excavation work done today after it has been photographed and recorded is once more covered up in order that it may be preserved.

A full-sized reproduction of the interior of the Temple of Mithras, discovered at Carrawburgh in 1950, complete with a tape recording which gives a detailed commentary on the temple, is on view at the Museum of Antiquities at Newcastle University (now the Great North Museum)

The items found at Rudchester are on display there, including the so-called '*thurible*' or flat-bottomed vessel with elliptical holes in its side. No similar vessel has ever before been found. A visit to this collection of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon antiquities is most rewarding, and of interest to all whatever their age.

In what was once an orchard west of Rudchester Manor is to be found what is often referred to as the '*Giant's Grave*'. This is a cistern or tank carved out of the solid rock, which was discovered in 1766. It is of considerable size, being 12 feet long, 5 feet wide and 2 feet deep, and must have taken quite some time to fashion with the tools available in those days. It has a groove cut in its base, terminating in a hole to let out whatever liquid it was made to contain, which can be plugged in the same way as one plugs the waste hole of a bath today.

At p. 60 of Dr. Bruce's *Wallet Book of the Roman Wall* is the following passage, which may probably interest your correspondent J. L.:—

"To the west of the farm-house (at Rutchester, near Heddon-on-the-Wall, in the county of Northumberland) on the brow of the hill a trough-like excavation has been made in the solid rock. Its use is not known. It was once popularly called the Giant's Grave. Another account of its use is recorded in Sir David Smith's MSS. now preserved in Alnwick Castle. 'The old peasants here have a tradition that the Romans made a beverage somewhat like beer of the bells of heather (heath), and that this trough was used in the process of making such drink.' The opinion long prevailed in Northumberland, that the Picts had the art of preparing an intoxicating liquor from heather-bells, and that the secret died with them."

E. H. A.

Giant's Grave Rudchester in *Notes & Queries* (1863)

It is not known what this large trough was used for; one suggestion is the making of mead, which is a fermented liquor made from heather honey, water and spices. If this was the case, I can only think that the Romans were a thirsty lot!

It was to Rudchester that *William Hutton* came one day more than a hundred years ago, and met with such a poor reception that he wrote the following in his records of his visit to these parts:-

*"I saw old Sir at dinner sit,
Who ne'er said "Stranger, take a bit",
Yet might, although a poet said it
have saved his beef and raised his credit."*

That may have been the state of things in those days, but I know your

reception would be very different today, and whilst I don't want to embarrass the present occupiers, an arranged visit could be most rewarding. As one enters the house by the front door, the room on the right possesses a big fireplace and oak-beamed ceiling. The room on the other side of this doorway is the drawing room, and contains an interesting fireplace adorned with sculptured ornament. This room is in the oldest part of the house, a portion indeed of the medieval tower. The walls here are of great thickness and it was in this part of the building that the little Saxon window was discovered.

The whole site of the Roman Camp has not yet been excavated and none of it which lies north of the Military Road. I hope some day this work will be done as one never knows what of interest might be found.

The earliest part of the manor house is a 13th century Pele tower set within its south-east corner. Evidence for the date of the tower is restricted to historical references which suggest there was a hall built on the site around 1285. The only remaining medieval window within the tower, however, contains a cusped ogee header indicative of the 14th century. This may of course be a later insertion. The tower has been largely modified to accommodate the 18th century manor house which has resulted in many of the original openings and features being removed or replaced.

The manor house appears from the outset as a comfortable late 18th



Rudchester Hall

A very interesting old hall from the C18th, its south-east corner built onto elements of an earlier hall and tower built on the site in the C13th by Simon of Rudchester. It is unclear whether the tower incorporated into the current house was a stand-alone residence or a solar tower of a larger hall. *Photo: Andy Curtis*



Military Road east of Rudchester

View along the B6318 (Military Road) towards Heddon on the Wall. The road was built (1752-57) on the course of Hadrian's Wall whose stones were broken up to provide a surface. The bend left at the bottom of the hill is a modern diversion to a bridge over the A69 dual carriageway but rejoins the original course just beyond before it reaches Heddon. Here again the modern route again diverts to the left around the village.

The Rev. William Stukeley incensed at the destruction of the Wall by the road builders wrote in *Carausius* (1757-59):

'The overseers and workmen employed by Act of Parliament, to make a new road across the kingdom ... demolish the Wall, and beat the stones to pieces, to make the road withal. Every carving, inscription, altar, milestone, pillar, etc., undergoes the same vile havoc, from the hands of these wretches.'

Landowners complained that too many stones were being used, not leaving enough to use for their farm buildings and field walls. *Photo: Andy Curtis*

century residence and displays many features of the period including the gothic windows, Tudor arched doorway, plan form, symmetry and overall construction methods. This likely construction date would correlate with other historical developments at the end of the 18th century including the Rudchester Manor House and Barn: *Historic Building Report* © AOC Archaeology 2009 | PAGE 15 OF 25 | www.aocarchaeology.com discovery of many Roman artefacts suggesting some groundwork and construction was being carried out. The Military Road was constructed in 1752 which would have allowed increased accessibility to the property as it operated as a gentleman's home. The site was bought by Aysgarth Fawkes in the later 18th century and remained under the Fawkes family ownership until it was sold again in the early 19th century to William James. It remained with the James family for the majority of the 19th and 20th centuries. It was one of these major families who were responsible for the construction of the manor house and associated farm buildings including the barn.

The barn to the north-west of Rudchester Manor, like the majority of the buildings at Rudchester, was probably built of stone from the Roman ruins that once dominated the area. In particular, the large dressed stone blocks set against the centre of the east elevation at ground floor level seem to date from this period with evidence of tooling to the western face of the stones. The stones have been re-used in this area of the barn in order to hold a hopper which has since been removed. The stones were probably set in this location in the late 19th and early 20th century. The Roman Mithraeum was discovered in 1844 and stones from that site were used in the fireplace of the manor house. It is likely that such large stones came from the same area if not from the fort itself.

If you are interested in the history of Heddon-on-the-Wall its people, facts, myths, maps and old photographs then heddonhistory.weebly.com is the place to visit. Many thanks to Andy Curtis who runs and regularly updates the site.



Rudchester Farm

Seen from Hadrian's Wall National Trail. As the "-chester" suffix implies, of Roman origin; Vindobala Roman Fort on Hadrian's Wall. *Photo: Andy Curtis*

Vindobala Roman Fort, Rudchester

There is little now to see of the remains of Vindobala apart from a raised area of grass and low banks hinting to the buildings below. It was the fourth fort from the eastern end of Hadrian's Wall. Excavations in 1897, 1902 and 1924 revealed much of its history. It was built as part of the Wall and was in use for some 400 years. Around the fort there was an extensive civilian settlement. The photo shows the southern, largest part of the fort which is cut in two by the Military Road built on the foundations of Hadrian's Wall. *Photo: Andy Curtis*



Aircraft Noise Action Group (ANAG) - UPDATE August/September 2025 TAXATION

Many of us grumble from time to time about being taxed. Some of us grumble about the way our taxes are used, about what they get us. However, we mostly agree that some things are worth being taxed for. For example, most of us think that the NHS is one of the key benefits that we get from paying taxes, especially because it's free at the point of use (many of us might otherwise stay sick and/or be bankrupt as in the USA).

One of the things about taxation is that we generally agree it should be equitable, that everybody should pay their fair share for the greater good. As you know, many of the really large global companies don't pay their fair share - Amazon is one example.

AVIATION TAXATION- A FAIR SHARE?

Aviation also doesn't pay its fair share of tax, with no tax on jet fuel (road fuel is taxed at 50%), and no VAT on airline tickets. The benefits of aviation are felt by only a few, yet we all suffer the negative consequences and the industry contributes little to the things we all need via taxation.

Similarly, aviation - which is a major and growing contributor to the climate change and the global warming emergency - pays none of the costs associated with the damage it does. Offsetting, i.e. the planting of trees as a way of cancelling out the carbon emissions aviation generates, has long been proven not to work. It can make airports and airlines look good but it makes little or no difference.

Maybe the Chancellor, who is currently struggling to find the money needed to run the economy, should take a serious look at taxing aviation.

So, just a thought to bear in mind next time you take a flight anywhere - if you do.

Enjoy the summer!

As always: noise: If you can, complain whenever the noise affects you

(<https://www.aircraftnoiseaction.com/complaints-form-2>)

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



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HEDDON

VILLAGE SHOW



SEPTEMBER 6th 2025

The Village Show will be held on **Saturday** on the **6th September**. Hope to see you all in September with all your exhibitions for the show.

Linda

Heddonshow@gmail.com

HEDDON LIBRARY - OPENING HOURS

Tuesday 1.00p.m.—4.00p.m.

Friday 1.00p.m.—4.00p.m.

Saturday 10.00a.m.—12.00 midday

Library news;

BFI (British Film Industry) replay, and Press Reader have been added to sites accessible for free from Northumberland library computers.

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

Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom dancing classes at Knott Memorial Hall

One class: Tuesday evening - 7.00p.m. - 8.00p.m.

For more information: Tel: 07936542226.

Beginners welcome.



Heddon Carpet Bowls

New players welcome and we play every

Thursday 7.00p.m. 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.



OFF THE BEATEN TRACK NORTHUMBERLAND

Local writers Ian Hall and Stephen Platten have collaborated to create this unique travel guide of twelve separate tours of hidden history, which take you off the beaten track to some of their favourite places in Northumberland.



Paperback 116 pages £12.99

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Coffee morning raises over £1,000



A grand spread of cakes of all descriptions at the GNAA Coffee Morning

Big thank you to the people who attended the coffee morning held in the WI Hall on July 5th in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance Service and to the people who handed in donations. A cheque for £1061 has now been handed over to the GNAA.

Thank you once again.

Macmillan Coffee Morning Save the Date!!!!

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

This year's Macmillan Coffee Morning will take place on:

26th September 10a.m. - 12noon in the W.I. Hall

As well as a chance to come together for coffee and cake, there will be a raffle and we're also planning a stall selling home-made craft items and second-hand books. Please come along and support this very worthwhile event.

Eileen Hyder



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

YES we are doing it again... NORTHUMBERLAND MIGHTY HIKE

Full Marathon 13th September 2025 - Half Marathon 14th September 2025

Two years ago Team Tuns completed the Northumberland Mighty Hike. Most of us swore it was the hardest thing we had done and swore never to do it again....

But here we are, two years older but definitely not wiser! As we attempt to complete the hike once again. Some of the old team and some new faces to help us along the way.

This time we will be walking in the memory of a much loved, treasured friend, and regular, Heather, who we sadly lost in February 2024.

Macmillan were there for her in her last week, supporting her at home, where she wanted to be with her precious family and friends.

Please give as much as you can to help us achieve our target.

Thank you, Team Tuns

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/tthreetunsheddon...>



BICYCLES FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

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



LIVE MUSIC

TOMMY & THE ODDBALLS

Saturday 6th September 8.30pm

THE TROUBLESHOOTERS

Friday 26th September 8.30pm

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



Heddon Village Knott Memorial Hall

Registered Charity No 10120

Summer is well and truly here, with the village basking in unusually warm weather, a godsend for Knott Hall as it provides a slight respite from increasingly high energy costs.

As the summer break reduces activity at the Hall it is worth a quick look back at the events which took place in June and July. In a change of format the annual Ad Murum mid-summer concert moved to a more formal style of audience seating, which by the numbers who attended was a wise and well received decision.

The 80th VE Day celebrations were simply amazing! Whilst we are used to the wonderful catering at these events and support provided by Trustees and the Ladies of the WI, this event was at a completely different level and displayed the village at its best. There were lots of smiles, laughter and memories shared, some amazing stories and people. The students from St Andrews provided personal family accounts of grandparents and great grandparents during WW2. Most humorous some not so, but told with such confidence to an attentive audience. Well done St Andrews School.

We are still working with Community Action Northumberland Knott Hall to get our 'Warm Hub' status. Once we have, the aim is to have regular openings to enable residents to come in and have a warm drink or possibly a bite to eat, and simply relax and, or take part in whatever activity may be happening. To enable this to happen of course we will need volunteers, not for every occasion but to ensure we can staff the events we plan. It is our intention to hold a coffee event to encourage volunteers.

If you are interested, please contact: **D. Blackett 07770666744**

As most of you are probably aware either by conversation or on the notice boards, the Parish Council is in need of support, the 'Use it or Lose it' comment is no vague issue but a distinctly potential outcome if the PC folds. At which point the various functions of the PC would be undertaken by **Future Events for your diary:** matter, local accountability, local democracy but also the damaging effects which could occur. Heddon Parish Council is the Custodian Trustee for the Knott Hall and is managed as a charity by the trustees, so its ownership is vested in the Parish Council. If we lose the Parish Council, would a remote authority be as supportive? By not supporting the Parish Council we may lose much more.!

Future Events for your diary:

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

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Heddon Culture Festival - 29th - 31st August 2025

There are less events programmed this year for the Hall, this is due to a number of reasons:- Support, whilst we have had offers of plays by Northumberland Touring Theatre and other entertainments, the lack of support makes these productions non-viable.

Logistics, the limited number of volunteers places a high demand on those continually involved.

A vibrant village Hall is something we should all aspire to, it is ours to use but sometimes it needs your help.

Knott Memorial Hall - Contact Details

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

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

Bookings: Fiona Thompson:
knotthallheddon@gmail.com

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

Art in the Village

Inspire and enable Legacy artwork

What a start, despite some tropical weather HOT and WET, the painters have been out and the mural is taking shape.

There have been some slight modifications to the plan, St. Andrews School has been invited to contribute a interesting element to the Mural also the Students from Heddon who attend Ponteland High School have also been given a very specific challenge for the mural. This will be done during the new term.

As the painting continues, photographs of progress and the painters is to be recorded and deposited at Northumberland Archives at Woodhorn. A book has been acquired which will hold photos of the progress as well as signatures and comments from each painter.

There is still time and opportunity to paint.

Please watch the notice boards in the village for information on painting days, the artist will guide those who are interested in the process.

But when it is complete, it will be 'Our Mural'.

If you would like any more information about the Art in the Village

Contact: **D Blackett: dblackett@aol.com tel: 07770666744**

The painting of 'Our Mural' is progressing well.



Painting 'Our Mural' dates

A schedule of dates have been arranged to provide an opportunity for all who would like to participate.

The maximum number feasible at each session is five. To book your session contact Trish at alexanderandpatricia@gmail.com or David at dblackett@aol.com tel: 07770666744

| August dates | | | Session |
|--------------|------|--------------|---------|
| Friday | 1st | 14.00 -16.00 | 10 |
| Saturday | 2nd | 14.00 -16.00 | 11 |
| Monday | 4th | 14.00 -16.00 | 12 |
| Thursday | 7th | 14.00 -16.00 | 13 |
| Saturday | 9th | 14.00 -16.00 | 14 |
| Thursday | 14th | 14.00 -16.00 | 15 |
| Saturday | 16th | 14.00 -16.00 | 16 |
| Monday | 18th | 14.00 -16.00 | 17 |
| Thursday | 21st | 14.00 -16.00 | 18 |
| Saturday | 24th | 14.00 -16.00 | 19 |

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Garden Patios

WANTED!!! Knitters and Sewers



English
Heritage

To join the English Heritage, Make and Mend volunteers.

The Make and Mend group (based in Heddon / Throckley) originally created a selection of outfits for the education department at Carlisle Castle for children to wear as part of an educational experience at the castle. They have since gone on to create several outfits for children to dress-up while visiting the castle, making their visits great fun and memorable.

Due to the success at Carlisle the group has been asked to provide outfits for both Belsay and Tynemouth Priory. The current group is very small and would welcome new volunteers to help with both making new outfits, knitting hats and helmets (grey balaclavas) and creating accessories.

Funding for the project is minimal and all the outfits to date have been created with donated or recycled fabric. The garments for Carlisle Castle were medieval in design and created in colours and fabrics appropriate to that era, however those for dressing-up have been more imaginative and have enabled the group to use a wider variety of fabrics. Our sole purpose is to enhance the experience of children visiting our English Heritage sites.

- We would also welcome fabrics:
- White cotton/linen for Knights Tabards
- Dark coloured brown, black or grey to make Monk's cassocks and tunics.
- Velvet for dresses, cloaks and tunics (velvet curtains)
- Plain coloured satin, cotton, linen etc for dresses.
- Haberdashery – thread, lace, leather belts.

If you enjoy sewing, knitting or crafting and feel able to help please contact: **Ann Tulip: Mob 07900925587**
Email: pa1tulip@aol.com



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Heddon Business Wins National Award!

Under the Rowan Trees Wins Best Online Retailer at the 2025 Stationery Awards

Founded by Danielle Stanley in 2015, Under the Rowan Trees began as a hobby and has since blossomed into a thriving online shop and community for stationery lovers, known for its curated selection of journaling supplies, creative subscription boxes and its signature personal touch.

"As a teeny tiny business, I was shocked to be a finalist for the Best Online Retailer category, and I still can't believe we won!" said Danielle.

"Under the Rowan Trees has grown and changed over the last 10 years, as have I as a business owner, and I'm so proud that I'm able to show that 'us little guys' can be just as amazing (if not more so) than the big brands with huge teams and deep pockets."

Samantha joined the team in 2020 and has helped us grow into a successful small business rooted fully in the Heddon community.

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported us so far, and remember that you can visit us at undertherowantrees.co.uk and use code HEDDONFREECOLLECTION if you would like to arrange to pick up your order (appointment only).



Danielle Stanley, Under the Rowan Trees
07740347454

undertherowantrees.co.uk

F: @UndertheRowanTrees

T: @UndertheRowans

I: @UndertheRowanTrees

Notice on my Retirement

After formally winding up my business last year I have continued producing Heddon Gossip with no charges, with just the advertising and the Parish Council page covering the printing costs.

But due to the high costs of the software packages I use to produce Heddon Gossip is no longer feasible to continue producing Heddon Gossip. So it is with great regrets I have decided to stop producing Heddon Gossip with the last issue being the December 25 January 26 Issue

If any one would like to take over the baton of producing Heddon Gossip then could you let me know along with the Parish Council.

Contact details: Ian Scott

ianscottdesign@btinternet.com

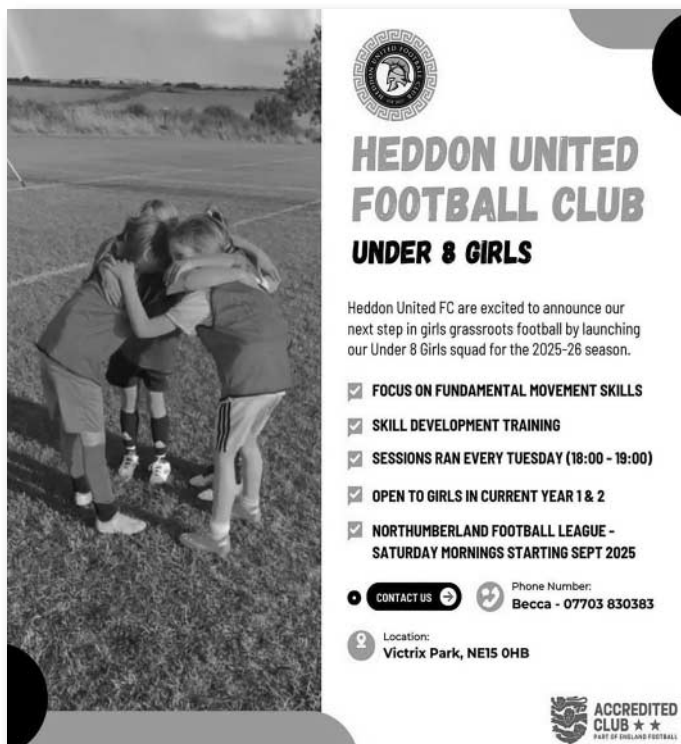
tel: 07743 285502

Parish Council: Lucy Barton

Clerk, Heddon-on-the-Wall Parish Council

Telephone: (01661) 854583

(message service available)



HEDDON UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB
UNDER 8 GIRLS

Heddon United FC are excited to announce our next step in girls grassroots football by launching our Under 8 Girls squad for the 2025-26 season.

- ✓ FOCUS ON FUNDAMENTAL MOVEMENT SKILLS
- ✓ SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING
- ✓ SESSIONS RAN EVERY TUESDAY (18:00 - 19:00)
- ✓ OPEN TO GIRLS IN CURRENT YEAR 1 & 2
- ✓ NORTHUMBERLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE - SATURDAY MORNINGS STARTING SEPT 2025

CONTACT US Phone Number: Becca - 07703 830383

Location: Victrix Park, NE15 0HB

ACCREDITED CLUB ★ ★
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Under 8 girls wanted!

New set up, looking to add 1 or 2 more to complete this lovely little bunch!

Training sessions are Tuesday 18:00-19:00.

Interested? Contact Becca - 07703 830383



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