

Heads - Up!

The newsletter for Headon, Upton, Grove & Stokeham

May 2026





• 855 YEARS •

ST PETER'S CHURCH, HEADON
— 1171–2026 —

855 Year Celebration Weekend

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
15TH, 16TH & 17TH MAY 2026

SATURDAY 16TH MAY AT 7.00PM ADRIAN GRAY WILL BE GIVING HIS TALK <i>'Secret Bassetlaw'</i> FREE ADMISSION DONATIONS WELCOME	SUNDAY 17TH MAY AT 6.00PM LYDIAN CHOIR  PERFORMING <i>Music for a Summer Evening</i> ADMISSION £10 UNDER 12s FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR
FLOWER FESTIVAL & HISTORY OF THE CHURCH <i>'WALK THROUGH TIME'</i>	TEA, COFFEE & CAKE SERVED IN CHURCH 2.00PM – 5.00PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY PLANT STALL

 Church open all weekend 
Come in and explore • All welcome

FOR DETAILS CONTACT

Janet Landon
01777 248282
janet@thorpe-house.com

Headon Cum Upton Cinema Club Presents

Song Sung Blue (12)

Lightning and Thunder, a Milwaukee husband and wife Neil Diamond tribute act, experience soaring success and devastating heartbreak in their musical journey together. Starring Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson.

Saturday 2nd May

Headon Village Hall 7.30pm. Entrance £3.50
Contact Pat - paddythorpe@btinternet.com or on 248368

An update from Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council

The Parish Council held their last meeting on the 13th April at Headon Village Hall.

The Parish Council would like to thank the resident that kindly cut the grass on the triangular area at Stokeham, it is much appreciated. Thanks, would also like to be expressed to Mr Brown of the 'Little Dog Building Company' for the construction of a wall cabinet to enable the Parish Council to exhibit their historic minute books in the Village Hall. These will be displayed for residents to view and will be rotated periodically. We hope you enjoy looking at them.

The Parish Council has been notified recently of issues with fly tipping. The Parish Council request that any that is seen is reported straight away directly to Bassetlaw District Council. The easiest way is to visit their web page online: <https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/> and click on 'Report Fly Tipping'

The Parish Council is also aware of the pot holes and road damage locally. Councillors have not yet been able to meet with the County Councillor, Cllr Limber to discuss this and other issues, but will keep you updated over the next few months. In the meantime, please report anything on the 'MyNotts' app. This can be downloaded by going to: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/news-and-media/mynottsassp>

Finally, the Parish Council has received two Planning Applications to comment on regarding the Construction and Operation of a 49.9 MW Solar Photovoltaic ('PV') Farm with Associated Infrastructure and Landscaping, at Land East of Upton, and Land North of East Drayton'. The Parish Council has asked Emery Planning for a meeting prior to this being discussed and will let residents know if and when this meeting takes place.

The next Parish Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 11th May at Headon Village Hall, Church Street, Headon, DN22 0RD. As always, Parish Councillors welcome you to attend to ask questions and raise issues. Further details can be found on the Parish Council website: www.hugsparishcouncil.gov.uk

If you are unable to attend a meeting and would like to make contact, full details for your Parish Councillors are located in the village notice boards, or the Parish Clerk is contactable at clerk@hugsparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clare

Clerk to Headon-cum-Upton, Grove & Stokeham Parish Council

Solar Project Planning Applications Land East of Upton & Land North of East Drayton

Planning applications were made on both of these sites on the 30th March. Details can be found on the Bassetlaw Council Planning Portal should anyone wish to comment on the schemes. The reference numbers are:

East of Upton: 26/00354/FUL

deadline for comments 7th May

North of East Drayton: 26/00353/FUL

deadline for comments 12th May

Headon Church Flower Festival

A flower festival will be part of the celebrations on the weekend of May 15-17th. If you enjoy making floral arrangements, and we know there are some very talented artistic people in our villages, would you be able to assist?

If you would like to help, or can offer flowers from your garden, please contact Amanda on 07961 012899.

Headon Church Spring Clean

We will be meeting at the church on Monday 11th May at 2.00pm to give it a good clean in preparation for our Festival weekend.

Any help will be gratefully received. It would also be good if any helpers could bring their own dustpans, brushes and dusters!

Calling All Bakers

Tea and cake is an integral part of Headon Church's celebrations over the weekend of the 16-17th and the organisers would be very grateful for any donations of cakes or scones over this period. If you are able to help then please contact either Janet Landon 01777 248282 or Jill Walker 01777 248285

Bird Wise

Through a regular feature in this newsletter, I hope to share with you some of the interesting aspects of bird life that we see and hear in our local area. Firstly, a bit of context: for over fifty years I have been fortunate to be involved in the licensed catching and ringing of wild birds for the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). Bird ringing, which is just one aspect of the BTO's work is licensed by the statutory conservation body which for England is Natural England. The vast majority of ringers are amateur ornithologists who go through an extensive program of training. This training can take a number of years before an individual is allowed to operate under their own auspices. I would also like to make clear that all views and opinions expressed in this and any subsequent articles are my own and are in no way representative of the BTO.

As you read this brief piece, millions of birds are on the move attempting to reach their breeding grounds across the Northern Hemisphere. Moreover, while not all birds migrate, many cover considerable distances and the time spent on migration can vary considerably depending upon the species involved. Migration is a complex subject and birds can pursue a range of strategies while undertaking such a mission. Weather is a key factor which can influence a bird's migration. Adverse conditions such as heavy rain, sandstorms and strong winds can have a significant impact on a bird's ability to reach its breeding grounds. For those of you eagerly watching out for your first swallow of the spring please be mindful that the bird likely left South Africa sometime in early March. We know from BTO ringing recoveries that British Swallows overwinter principally in South Africa. To cover the nearly 6,000 miles back to the U.K a swallow will have likely employed a range of tactics. This will likely include them stopping off and feeding up and resting at suitable locations on the way. Although swallows can feed as they migrate this does not enable them to fly non-stop to their destination. Furthermore, it will have had to cover the flight over the Sahara in a single attempt. For a bird that weighs around 18-20 grams and a wing span of 240mm that is a significant achievement. Perhaps more staggering is how the bird navigated that distance and managed to get back to the same location where it was likely raised the previous summer. BTO ringing recoveries of British swallows show that the majority of birds return to the natal area in subsequent years.

GLEN THOMAS



Have you seen the grotesque on Headon's church? If you have ever walked around the outside of the church, you may have seen this face scowling down at you! Though you might have missed it – it's not easy to spot.

In architecture, he is known as a "grotesque" and it's thought that he is there to ward off evil. For the last 700 years or so he has made it his business to keep a watchful eye and scowl threateningly at anyone loitering on the north side of the church.

Our church contains many fascinating surprises. Come and have a look round – it's always open!

Why not come to our Festival weekend of May 15th- 17th? Several exciting events are planned! The church will be beautifully decorated with flowers and there will be a "Walk through Time", directing your walk around the church to discover how it evolved through the centuries.

On May 16th at 7pm, the well-known local historian, Adrian Gray, will give a talk on Secret Basstlaw, which will be fascinating!

The Grand Finale to our festive weekend will be a performance by the Lydian Choir on Sunday May 17th at 6 pm. Some of you may remember that they sang for us a few years ago and were absolutely delightful! We are so pleased that they are coming here again!

Surplus Plants?

Do you have any spare plants or are over run with excess seedlings? Then why not donate them to Headon Church who are running a plant stall as part of their celebration over the 15-17th May. Just leave them in the church porch on the 13 –14th May, or bring them on the day and they will be gratefully received.

Church News & Services

Following the retirement of Rev Canon Bronwen Gamble in January 2022, there is still no news on the process of appointing a new Rector. The Church will continue as near normal as possible during this time.

The Church contact is Reader Gill Rann on 07518 543868 or riversretfordgill@gmail.com. Gill will be able to help with enquiries on matters such as baptisms, weddings, funerals, or home visits by putting you in touch with the appropriate person.

The Parish of The Rivers, Retford

serving the villages, hamlets and communities of :

Askham, Cottam, Darlton, Dunham on Trent, East Drayton, East Markham, Fledborough, Grove, Headon, Nether Headon, Laneham, Church Laneham, Ragnall, Rampton, Rockley, Stokeham, Treswell, Whimpton Moor, Woodbeck, Woodcoates, Upton.

	St Nicholas Askham	St Peter East Drayton/ Dunham on Trent	St John the Baptist East Markham	St Helen Grove	St Peter Headon	St Peter Laneham	All Saints Rampton	St Peter Stokeham	St John the Baptist Treswell
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3rd May, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, East Markham

10th May, 10.30am, Holy Communion, St Peter, East Drayton

17th May	10.30am Holy Communion					10.30am Morning Worship			
24th May			8.00am Holy Communion	10.30am Morning Worship			10.30am Holy Communion		

31st May, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, St Peter, Stokeham

7th Jun	10.30am Morning Worship					10.30am Holy Communion			
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Puzzle Corner

Here are the number of runs made by the first five batsmen in a cricket team arranged from lowest to highest.

4,6,12,15,18

Can you work out which batsman got which score?

- Batsman's one score is three times more than batsman four.
- Neither batsman two or batsman four's score contains a 2 or a 4.
- The score of batsman two and batsman five are divisible by 3.

Answer at the bottom of the page

Headon Village Hall Social Club

The bar is open every Friday night between 8pm - 11pm. Why not come along and have a chat with neighbours and a relaxing drink at the end of the week?



Re-cycled Cycles

All in very good condition and various sizes available
Contact John Parker 07939 412542 (East Drayton)

