

Heads - Up!

The newsletter for Headon, Upton, Grove & Stokeham April 2026



Public Duty

At the last Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd March at Headon Village Hall, two of our Parish Councillors received long service awards.

Photographed with their certificates are Cllr Eric Briggs for 30 years of continuous valued service, and Cllr John Mosley for an amazing 50 years.

EASTER SERVICE WITH A DIFFERENCE HEADON CHURCH SATURDAY 4TH APRIL AT 3.00pm

This will be a short family service with an easter egg hunt, hidden outside if the weather is OK or inside the church if not.

Do come along and bring your kids for a light hearted Easter story and a bit of fun! Chocolate will be involved!

Wallace & Dough
Pizza Van
Headon Village Hall

Friday 24th April
5.30pm—8.00pm

Bar open from 5.00pm



Headon Village Hall AGM

Will be held on
Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 7.30 pm.

80 years ago this year, the residents of Headon and Upton clubbed together to buy the school for use as a village hall, recognising what a valuable asset it would be for our villages. And so it has been, for 80 years! It has hosted many events, from the mundane to the memorable, and we hope that it will continue to do so.

But we need your support! We are looking for enthusiastic members of our villages to join and help take the village hall forward, hopefully through the next 80 years. Please come along and show your support for this valuable village asset. **Your village hall needs you!**

Headon Cum Upton Cinema Club Presents

Secondhand Lions (12)

A comedy-drama film, it tells the story of an introverted young boy who is sent to live with his eccentric great uncles on a farm in Texas. Starring Michael Caine, Robert Duvall and Haley Joel Osment

Saturday 11th April

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 its last Parish Council meeting on the 2nd March at Headon Village Hall.

Several residents have raised concern regarding the 'Solar Project Public Consultation for Land East of Upton, and Land North of East Drayton'. The Parish Council has asked for more information on this. In the meantime further information can be found at <https://emeryplanning.com/public-consultations/>

Parish Councillors hope to meet with the County Councillor, Cllr Limber in the next few weeks to discuss and view some of the issues that have been raised throughout the villages. We will keep you updated over the next few months.

The next Parish Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 13th April 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

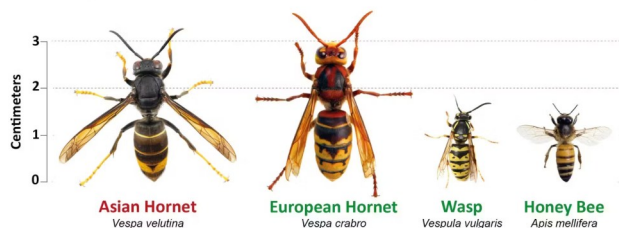
Music for a Summer Evening – Anniversary Concert

Join us for a special evening of music as the Lydian Choir performs Music for a Summer Evening, the grand finale of Headon's 855th Anniversary Flower Festival. Taking place at St Peter's Church, Headon on Sunday 17 May 2026 at 6.00pm, the concert will feature a beautiful selection of choral music conducted by Susan Hollingworth.

Tickets are £10, with free entry for children under 12, and will be available on the door.

Come along and enjoy a relaxed summer evening of uplifting music in a stunning historic setting. For more information, contact Janet Landon on 01777 248282 or janet@thorpe-house.com.

Think you've seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!



The first 2026 UK sighting of the Asian Hornet, also now known as the Yellow Legged Hornet, has been made in Doncaster. This is not very far away and everyone should be vigilant to ensure this non native insect doesn't become established.

These hornets are voracious predators of our native bees and wasps and can have a devastating impact on the local insect populations and our ecosystem.

Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport

VILLAGE LITTER PICKING



The following people are your local stalwart litter pickers – Michael and Sue, Kevin and Lyne, Sean and Estelle, Catherine and Frank, Bente, Rae, Jill and Louise, as well as Suzanne the local lengthswoman. We have all been working away to keep try and keep the verges clear of litter in the vicinity. The patches covered during the last 5 or 6 years range from Eaton corner to the woods, Westfields, Upton to Askham Bridge, Upton to Drayton bridge, Upton to Headon, Headon to Nether Headon and Thorpe Street.

It has become a massive task and is never ending. From fast food take away rubbish to cans and bottles, milk cartons, crisp packets and sweet wrappers. Why people think they can just ditch their rubbish is beyond reasoning. It seems to be a curse of the countryside. The ditches are full

of stuff as well as the verges and even bigger items like televisions have been retrieved.

We could do with more people to join the group so that we can share out the longer patches like the woods to Eaton corner. The more people who do it the easier the task. If anyone is willing to join us please contact Jill on 01777 248285. You will be very welcome and can be supplied with picker, refuse bags and support and advice! It can also be a very sociable and worthwhile activity. The photo above shows just one days collection on the Askham road.



Have you seen the effigy of the Sheriff of Nottinghamshire in Headon's church? Did you know that at least two of the early sheriffs came from Headon?

They were Simon de Headon and, a little later, his son Gerard de Headon. They were the lords of Headon and their manor house was probably where Headon Manor stands today. The remains of a moat can still be seen on that site.

Simon's effigy – or, strictly speaking, his demi effigy - was discovered in 1981, just to the north of

the chancel, in what is believed to have been a mortuary chapel. The effigy has been dated to the late 13th / early 14th century. Simon was High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire in 1259 and died in 1301. This effigy shows him wearing chain mail armour with a belted surcoat, spurs and armoured shoulder plates, while his feet rest upon a small dog.

Our church contains many fascinating surprises. Come and have a look round - it is always open!

We are hoping to make the weekend of May 16th/17th a special Festival weekend to celebrate the church's 855 years. More details will follow, but we are delighted that the Lydian choir will be making a welcome return on Sunday 17 May 2026 at 6.00 pm. They have been here twice before and we loved their music!



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.

Gardening for Pollinators - April

This is the month to get busy in the garden and here are some considerations when making your plans.

Remember that, most pollinators will only forage in sunshine, so adding plants to a very shady area is not likely to add much value. If the shade is dappled or under trees, spring flowering plants are best, because early pollinators will find them before the leaf canopy closes over.

Plant in blocks of at least three of the same plant. This makes it much more likely that the plant will attract pollinators because they can see the block from a distance and judge it is worth the effort to fly over.

Choosing the right plant for the growing conditions in your garden is always important because if the plant won't thrive neither will the pollinators

Puzzle Corner

Can you work out the 7 digit combination?

- The code is made up of digits 1 to 7, with each digit used only once.
- No two odd numbers appear next to each other.
- Numbers in sequence never appear next to each other. Eg you could not have a 1 or 3 directly before or after 2.
- The total of the first three digits is the same as the last four digits.

Answer at the bottom of the last page

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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2nd April, 6.00 pm Maundy Thursday Supper and Reflection, **St John the Baptist, East Markham**

3rd April, 10.00am – 11.30am, Messy Good Friday, **St John the Baptist, East Markham**
10.00am – 4.00pm, Stations of the Cross, **St Peter, Headon** - Church open for quiet Reflection

4th April, 3.00pm, Easter Egg Hunt, **St Peter, Headon**
8.30pm, Easter Vigil, **St Nicholas, Askham**

5th April, 10.30am, Easter Day Benefice Holy Communion, **St John the Baptist, East Markham**

12th April, 10.30am, Holy Communion, **St Peter, East Drayton**

19th Apr	10.30am Morning Worship					10.30am Holy Communion			
26th Apr			8.00am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion			10.30am Morning Worship		

3rd May, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, **St John the Baptist, East Markham**

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)

