

Heads - Up!

The newsletter for Headdon, Upton, Grove & Stokeham

March 2026

Friends of Headdon Church

Present



A MUSICAL EVENING



in Headdon Church

Friday 20th March at 7.30pm

featuring local musicians

‘A Certain Age’ - Folk duo Sue and Pam.

‘Slurs and Trills’ - An eclectic mix of Baroque, Renaissance, Folk and Klezmer music with cello, recorders and keyboard.

‘Curate’s Egg Band’ - A mix of folk and contemporary songs and music.

Tickets £10 per person, children under 12 free.

Pay on the door.

Hot drinks and cake in the village hall afterwards, but all donations for church funds welcome.

Bar open

Marathon Effort



On the 26th April Rachel Silcock, of Gamston Wood Farm, will be running the London Marathon for Macmillan Cancer Support, in memory of her late husband Tim.

Tim was a larger than life character, well known in our area, who also ran the London marathon back in 2023 for Macmillan. He also helped stage the Mac-Fest music festival last year as a fund raiser for the same charity.

Rachel would very much appreciate your support in her challenge and donations can be made via her Just Giving page:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/rachel-ashworth-2?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Headdon Cum Upton Cinema Club Presents

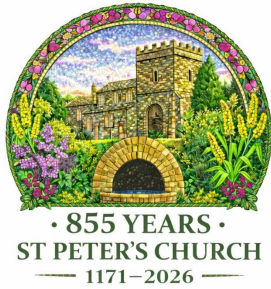
The Ballad of Wallis Island (12)

An eccentric lottery winner who lives alone on a remote island tries to make his dreams come true by getting his favorite musicians back together to perform at his home. A 2025 British comedy-drama film starring Tim Key, Tom Basden and Carey Mulligan.

Saturday 7th March

Headdon Village Hall 7.30pm. Entrance £3.50

Contact Pat - paddythorpe@btinternet.com or on 248368



Did you know that St Peter's church, Headon, is at least 855 years old this year? We have seen documents which prove that it existed in 1171, but it must have been here even before that, we just don't know when. So, imagine the events it has witnessed!

It has experienced many changes of fortune in this time: it has been neglected, renovated, reduced in size, extended; it has been Roman Catholic and Puritan; it has been extravagantly decorated and plain. But one thing it has never been – it has never been disused. Throughout these many years it has always been a focal point of village life, though less so today than in the past.

Once it was larger than it is now and was not just a place for religious services but also a meeting place and social centre. In the Middle Ages it was common practice for the nave of the church and the churchyard to be the venue for meetings, plays and celebrations. Important notices were pinned to the church door, where everybody would see them, because nearly everybody came to church.

The next time you are in the church, look around and imagine the body of the church thronged with people, maybe in mediaeval dress; the arguments, the laughter, the flirting, and the dismay or delight at some ruling from church, lord or jury. We know of at least one fight in the churchyard when, in 1612, a Claborough man came with a heavy staff and threatened to dash out the vicar's brains!

Find out more about our church and its story at our Festival weekend on May 15th - 17th. More details to come!

Gardening for Pollinators - March

After the recent very brief sunny spell, you may have already seen a few flying insects out and about. Honey bees always respond quickly to the weather and so do queen bumblebees who will emerge from hibernation and start looking for a new home,

This month you can begin to sow seeds under cover or think about what plants you might buy for the season ahead. The RHS has recently updated its 'plants for pollinators' advice and a very comprehensive list can be found at <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/research/plants-for-pollinators>. This list can be useful for checking what is not on the list and hence what to avoid.

This is also a good time to buy or make a solitary bee house or bug hotel. Some solitary bees nest in tubes that, in the wild, are holes in rotten wood or hollow stems. Any bee house installed needs to have tubes at least 4 - 6 inches (10-15cm) long. Any shorter and the bees lay too many males. Because solitary bees have the ability to choose the sex of the egg, they will always lay several males closest to the entrance and hence likely to be sacrificed to prey as they emerge first. Tube diameter can range from 4 - 10mm and this will help attract different species, and if you are making your own make sure the tubes are smooth as bees will reject any with splinters. As you cut back plants in your garden look for any with hollow stems and use these, along with bamboo, to make your hotel.

Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

In November 2025, councils across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire submitted three different proposals to Government setting out alternative models for how services and decision-making could be organised in the future. All three options propose, the abolition of district councils, creating two new unitary councils responsible for all local services in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, however each option proposes different geographical boundaries.

Residents are now being offered a chance to have their say via an online consultation, which will run until 26th March. Details can be found at www.lgrnotts.org

Solar Project Public Consultations

Land East of Upton & Land North of East Drayton

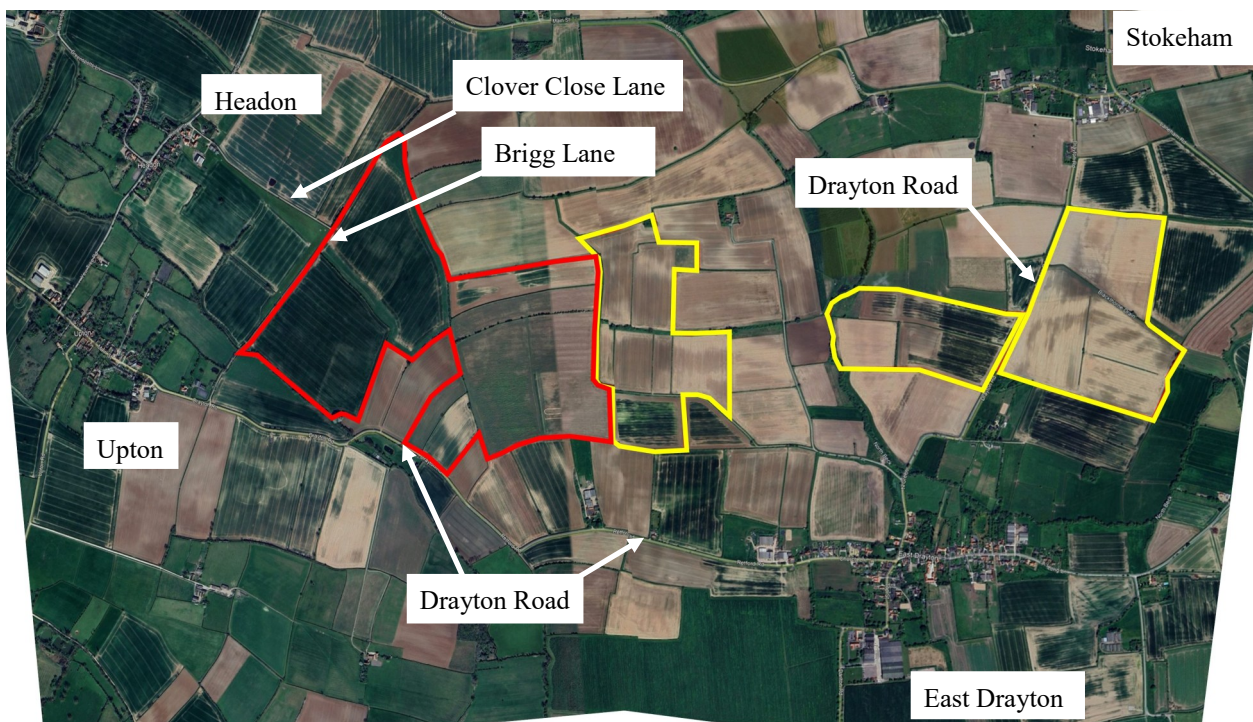
Emery Planning instructed by High Marnham Renewables Ltd, and working with a number of local landowners, are preparing to submit two full planning applications for the development of a 49.9MW solar farm on land east of Upton and also a 49.9MW solar farm on land between East Drayton and Stokeham. Both will feed into the grid at High Marnham. The two schemes run adjacent on land between Upton and East Drayton.

The proposed developments each comprise the installation of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic panels and associated infrastructure, including access tracks, inverter stations and fencing covering an area of approximately 75 hectares, (185 acres) at Upton and 69 hectares (170 acres) at East Drayton.

Emery have launched an initial public consultation and details can be found at: <https://emeryplanning.com/public-consultation/eastupton/> and <https://emeryplanning.com/public-consultation/east-drayton/> The closing date for comments on both schemes is Wednesday 11th March.

Following completion of these public consultations it is intended to submit separate Town and Country Planning applications to Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) seeking full temporary planning permission for a period of 40 years (this includes approximately 30-36 weeks for construction and 30-36 weeks for decommissioning).

Following the submission, BDC will undertake a formal period of consultation. At that time you will also be able to make further representations regarding the proposed developments.



*East of Upton Scheme
outlined in red*

*North of East Drayton Scheme
outlined in yellow*

Puzzle Corner

At an airport, seven people are waiting to collect seven suitcases, which must be collected in the order in which they are piled on the trolley—top one first. Each suitcase has a different colour: black, blue, brown, cream, purple and red. From the attendant's comments can you work out the order in which the cases should be collected.

- The cream suitcase is directly below the purple and directly above the blue suitcases
- There are three suitcases between the purple suitcase and the grey suitcase
- The black suitcase is above the grey suitcase and there are four other suitcases between them
- The red suitcase is the fifth in the pile

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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1st March, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, East Markham

8th Mar		10.30am Holy Communion						10.30am Morning Worship	
15th Mar	10.30am Holy Communion					10.30am Morning Worship			
22nd Mar			8.00am Holy Communion				10.30am Holy Communion		

29th March, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, St Helen, Grove

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, 8.30pm, Easter Vigil, St Nicholas, Askham

5th April, 10.30am, Easter Day 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)

