

Heads - Up!

The newsletter for Headon, Upton, Grove & Stokeham

July 2026



Headon Village Hall

Summer Barbecue

Saturday 11th July
From 4pm until late.

Bring family, friends and an appetite!

Vegetarian options also available

Licenced Bar

All proceeds go towards keeping our hall at the heart of the community

Headon Microlight Airfield Fly-In / Open Day & Hangar Bash

Saturday 22nd August

11.00am until late

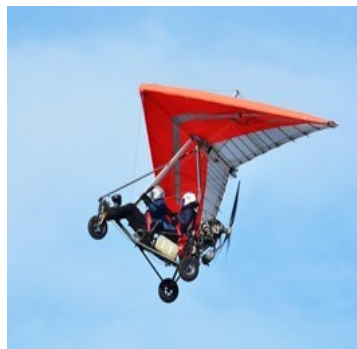
Hangar Bash starts at 8pm

Free Day Event

Evening event £15—pay on entry

Live music from Beggar's Belief and Steve Clements

Licensed Bar and Food



*Clover Close Lane,
Headon,
DN22 0FR*

Trial flights available throughout the day (subject to weather)

In support of Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance

For more information call Martin on 07802 232555



Headon Village Hall

Wallace & Dough Pizza Van

Friday 17th July 5.30pm - 8.00pm

The Village Hall Bar will be open from 5.00pm

Come along and join us for a drink while you are waiting for your pizza to be prepared and cooked in the pizza van's wood oven.

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

The Parish Council held its latest Parish Council meeting on the 6th June at Headon Village Hall, and welcomed Nicola Thornton as their new Parish Councillor. I'm sure many of you will know Nicola and she looks forward to working in the community.

The Parish Council also approved the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. This is a statutory duty for all Parish and Town Councils to ensure they are compliant with legislation and are accountable for all income and expenditure. All relevant paperwork can be found on the Parish Council website.

In the last newsletter the Parish Council mentioned that it had written to Claire Ward (East Midlands Mayor) to make her aware of the potholes and road damage locally. The Parish Council have received a response showing what projects are currently in progress.

Parish Councillors have arranged a meeting with your Nottinghamshire County Councillor – Warren Limber in early July and they hope to talk through some of the many current road issues that they hope to help resolve.

Talks with Bassetlaw District Council continue regarding the small parcel of land (Church Street, Headon) for additional car parking for the Village Hall. The Parish Council is keen to obtain this land and will continue to try for the benefit of residents.

The Parish Council would like to remind residents about reporting on the 'MyNotts' app. This can be downloaded from the Nottinghamshire County Council website, and makes the reporting of potholes, road and pavement issues much easier. You can also report a faulty streetlight or damage to road signs.

Finally, there is now a small cabinet (near the bar area) in Headon Village Hall where the Parish Council will be displaying historical minute books, the first dating back to when Parish Councils began back in 1894. It's an interesting read and we hope that residents will take a look. Parish Councillors intend to keep moving the pages so that the history continues.

The next Parish Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 6th July 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

Bird Wise

Welcome to June's edition of bird wise. As I write this draft spring migration is slowly starting to peter out and the breeding season is rapidly gaining impetus. Early June typical see's good numbers of young fledglings start to leave the nest. Our nest of young blue tits left their box yesterday and are situated in various bushes in the garden. They are judiciously being fed by two overworked and very disheveled parents. In contrast, the blackbirds, robins and dunnocks we see on a daily basis in the garden have yet to produce any evidence of success. In all likelihood they have not been helped by the very dry spring we have experienced this year. Typically, our resident species are the first to see their young leaving the nest. Long-term studies of breeding great, blue and willow tits at an Oxford wood show that 2026 has seen the earliest ever fledgling dates for all three species. Nonetheless, in recent days I have heard from birding colleagues of several broods of young swallows fledging; this is very early compared to previous years.

Is this a response to global warming? In all likelihood, almost certainly. Traditionally, many tit species would time the hatching of their eggs to coincide with the first caterpillar bloom of the year. Warmer springs however, mean that the first hatching period for caterpillars are more protracted and therefore availability more variable. As a consequence, any period of cold and wet weather (as short as 24 hours) can have a detrimental effect on breeding birds. So much so that they struggle to provide sufficient food for their young. In such circumstances the entire brood may perish. In some instances, the effect can be widespread and chick mortality can be significant. Furthermore, in those species that are largely single brooded then this is commonly the end of their breeding season. For those species that are multi-brooded then they simply start the process over again. This month's websites are: www.fairislebirdobs.co.uk and www.falstabrofelstation.se

Glen Thomas glenthomas8075@btinternet.com

Blessing of the Ladywell

About 30 people attended the blessing on a hot June Sunday afternoon. Most of these had chosen to walk across the fields from the church, as people did in days gone by. In recent years the well site had become very overgrown but we were very grateful to Nigel Greenhalgh for clearing the site and a pathway to the well. On our arrival we were delighted to find a miniature well dressing! Above the well was a depiction of the well made entirely of flower petals and leaves. Many congratulations are due to Amanda Ogle for the idea and for its creation. It was a challenging project requiring a lot of time and ingenuity, so Amanda was grateful that Anne Varley and Jill Walker stepped in to help in completing the picture.



The short service was conducted by Rev. Dick Lewis who blessed the well and spoke of the importance of the well in the past. He encouraged us to consider how essential water is and how fortunate we are to have access to a clean and plentiful supply, emphasising that we should not take it for granted and waste or pollute this precious gift. During the service Jill Walker read her poem about the well, (see below).

After the service we returned to the village hall for cakes and drinks. It was wonderful to be able to sit outside in the sunshine and chat with neighbours and visitors. More thanks are due to those who served the drinks and cake. Thank you to all who helped. Maybe next year there will be a full well dressing! Wouldn't that be lovely? We await volunteer helpers.....

The Lady Well - Jill Walker

1. Across the planted fields,
of pea shoots and of wheat
we sought the secret bower
where water springs so sweet

2. The ground was cracked and dry
despite the winter's damp
the parched red soil stretched far and wide
as far as Headon Camp

3. The track was faint and undefined
but heading for the bridge
we trod so lightly on the earth
until we reached the ridge

4. A second bridge in sad decay
then led the track ahead
towards a deep wooded ravine
and remains of a quarry bed

5. And in this densely tree lined spot
a special spring was found
it lay beneath a high clay bank
in muddy, watery ground

6. It had been there since ancient times
and used by beast and man
a source to slake the tired and thirsty
where holy water ran

7. An arch of bricks and shallow trough
housed water that was clear
it bubbled up from underground
and fed a stream just near

8. One Hardolph Wasteneys had it built
in seventeen eighteen
where villagers had come from miles around
for water pure and clean

9. In praise of goddess or mother Mary
It was known as the Ladywell
a sacred site, a holy place
in the secret, green, wooded dell

10. For 200 years the locals came
to fill their pails to drink
but when water was piped into peoples' homes
into neglect it did sink

11. Much later on when left untouched
the villagers did say
let's dress the well to celebrate
our own St Peter's day

12. For many years the well was honoured
with seeds and leaves and flowers
and a picture of a local church
emerged amongst the bowers

13. Then even this fell by the way
and spring and well were lost
the trees and ivy and undergrowth grew
and arch and trough became mossed

14. And yet the spring was still alive
and badger setts were spread
in that shady romantic sylvan glen
along by the brick well head

15. And now the spot it has been cleared
so it's time to bless the spring
to thank the universe for cool, sweet water
and the succour that it may bring

16. May its life giving waters
nurture the plants and the earth
and continue to bubble up from the rocks
to mark the place of its birth

17. Oh holy well, oh sacred spring
may your waters always flow
let this place be forever blessed
and remain one that people will know.

Headon Church Garden Party

Save the date! The Friends of Headon Church will be having a garden party on **September 19th**, at the village hall. There will be skittles for a copper kettle, various other games, a tombola and a barbecue, with great food from Home Farm in Grove.

The highlight of the afternoon will be a visit from the Sheriff of Nottingham! (Shh, don't tell Robin Hood!) He will tell you what he does when he isn't trying to find Robin, and he will have a variety of weapons and other things to show you and maybe he'll have stories to tell you, too.

P.S. We would be grateful for any donations of tombola prizes. If you have any items to donate, please leave them with Jill Walker in Upton or with Janet Landon in Headon.



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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5th July, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, St John, East Markham

12th July, 10.30am, Benefice Holy Communion, St Peter, East Drayton

19th Jul	10.30am Holy Communion					10.30am Morning Worship			
26th Jul				10.30am Morning Worship			10.30am Holy Communion		

2nd August, 10.30am, Holy Communion, St John, East Markham

Residents invited to shape the future of the Trent Valley

Residents living in the Trent Valley area are getting the chance to make sure their voice is heard on the future of the region. 'Know Your Place Trent Valley' aims to give people living in the area the chance to say what matters most to them both now and in the future, as plans for redevelopment and related projects move forward at the former power stations at West Burton, Cottam and High Marnham.. Details, including roadshow dates can be found at www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/kyptv/

Puzzle Corner

You are making fruit smoothie drinks. How many items of fruit, both individual and in total were used?

Half the fruit was made of limes and oranges, with 2 oranges for every lime.

Of all the fruit used 20% were bananas.

The remaining 45 fruits consisted of equal amounts of mangos, melons and pineapples.

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)



Answer: 150 fruits were used in total. 50 oranges, 30 bananas, 25 limes, 15 mangos, 15 melons and 15 pineapples.