

HEADS-UP!

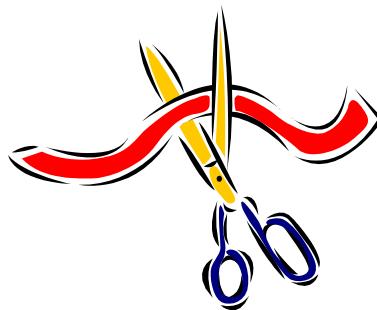
The newsletter for Headon-cum-Upton

January 2002

A Happy New Year

to all our readers!

At the start of a New Year we tend to review the events of the past year, and wonder what the coming one will bring. We all hope for peace, for health, love and prosperity, for each other and for ourselves. The producers of this newsletter hope for all of these things for all our readers. Illness always seems to be present at this time of year, when the cold and the dark depress our spirits, and this season is no exception. We send our best wishes to those who are ill and to their families.



Royal Visit – 22 January 2002

This coming month is certainly going to provide an exciting start to the New Year for our village! We are being paid a great compliment by the visit of HRH the Princess Royal, who, in agreeing to come here, recognizes the fact that even small communities like ours can work together to achieve great things! We hope that you will give her a rousing welcome - after all, a Royal visit to Headon has never happened before and will probably never happen again, so it is an occasion for all of us to enjoy, and for our children to remember.

Present indications are that the Princess Royal will arrive here at approximately 12.05. She will be here for about half an hour, then, after she leaves, the doors will be open to all! There will be food available, hopefully right through until later in the evening, so, even if you are not coming to the actual opening, we hope that you will come to the hall to catch sight of her and then come and join us inside. If you can't get during the day, or even if you can, please come along in the evening when we will be having a disco, to round off the day.

Right now, those of us who are most involved are starting to feel the signs of panic setting in. There is still so much to do, and time is flying by. Offers of help would be gratefully received. It is going to be a very busy time, but such an historic occasion is surely worth the effort!

Parish Council News

Although there has not been a Parish Council meeting since the last issue of the Newsletter, residents may be interested in the following:

Road Safety

The Parish Council has been trying, without success, to persuade the County Council to introduce lower speed limits, and to enforce existing ones, and to improve safety at road junctions, particularly in Nether Headon and near The Clump. Neighbouring Parish Councils have been similarly frustrated, particularly Rampton, which has been trying to achieve improved safety at Rampton crossroads. Most local people who use this crossroad agree that it is an accident blackspot – not so the County Council, who are not prepared even to replace the ‘Give Way’ signs with ‘Stop’ signs. Even if they were, they say that there is no money available. However, they appear to have unlimited funds to strengthen bridges so that lorries of up to 44 tonnes weight can use totally unsuitable roads and to create cycle routes! It has become increasingly clear to the Council that it is unlikely to make progress with the County Council and that action is needed by the Government. The Council will be calling a public meeting with our MP, John Mann. Although a date has not yet been arranged, Mr Mann is keen to come to such a meeting. It is encouraging to note that he, and his colleague representing the Newark constituency are keen to work together even though they represent different parties and we hope that Mr Mann will invite Patrick Mercer to the meeting. We hope that as many village residents as possible will come to this meeting so that our elected representatives are aware of the strength of feeling on this issue. It is likely that representatives of neighbouring Parish Councils will be invited to the meeting.

Electricity Supply

Two years ago representatives of East Midlands Electricity came to a meeting of the Parish Council to explain how their programme of investment would lead to an improvement in the power supply and a reduction in the number of power cuts. In December, there were two scheduled power cuts, one in Headon and one in Upton, to allow maintenance work to take place. With notice most people can accept and cope with power cuts. However, in the same week that the scheduled power cut in Upton took place, and on the shortest, darkest and most miserable day of the year, the power was off from late morning until late afternoon. On top of this, we lost our electricity supply again at lunchtime two days later, apparently because the

Electricity Board had to complete the repairs they had started two days previously! This simply is not good enough and a representative of the company has been invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council on 28 January to explain what they are intending to do to stop this happening again. The Council would encourage as many village residents as possible to attend this meeting which will be held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Let’s give them some earache!

Speed of traffic to and from Rampton Hospital

Following an earlier meeting at which a number of village residents raised the issue of the increase in both the volume and speed of traffic at around the change of shift times at the Hospital, I wrote to the Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust. The following is an extract from his reply:

‘I do acknowledge the problem of speeding traffic which was raised in your village appraisal and I am sure that with the number of people working at Rampton Hospital (which is, of course, the major local employer), this must be a difficulty. We are aware of the concerns of road safety in the area and, whilst you are absolutely right that we cannot control our staff once they have left the Hospital premises, we can send notices to them and will do that. We will ask our staff to be more considerate in the future and will remind them on a regular basis.’

I have written back asking him to send me a copy of the notices sent to members of staff.

Property Marking Kits

Some years ago the Parish Council acquired two property marking kits. One of these has gone missing and the Council is trying to locate it. If anyone knows its whereabouts, please let me know. The other kit is held by one of the councillors representing Grove but is available for use by anyone in the villages. If you wish to borrow this, please let me know.

David Landon

Letter

Many thanks for all the good wishes I have received for the recovery of my granddaughter, Georgia. She is just three months old, and was rushed into hospital on New Year’s Day with meningitis. For a few days she was gravely ill, but God willing, she now seems to be recovering. She will be in hospital for some time yet.

Janet Landon

Village Hall News

Christmas Spirit by Blaize

The Blaize theatre group lived up to their reputation at this show, last Friday evening. We laughed till we cried at the antics of the four players, preparing and then producing a Christmas play in their village hall. During the first half, they were getting ready for the play, arguing, reminiscing and fooling around. The second half was their production of A Christmas Carol – sometimes scary, sometimes funny but always riveting!

A wide age range made up the audience, from 1 to 80 years, and all enjoyed it equally. This was a superb family show.

Evening Classes

North Notts College will be running two 5-week courses in the New Year. The first will be on “Essential Food Hygiene”, starting on Thursday 10 January. “First Aid” starts on 21 February.

Please come if you are interested, and support your Village Hall.

Cyber Café

Work starts in the Village Hall on Monday Jan.7th to provide a dedicated IT area. This should be finished within the week. After that will come the installation of equipment. Fingers crossed, it will all be finished in plenty of time for the opening!

It will be available for use by any resident of the parish after the Princess has left the hall. Please come and see for yourself the opportunities this can offer you.

Landscaping

Leverton Landscapes will be starting work on January 14th, tidying up the area to the rear of the hall. They began work before Christmas when they started to erect a boundary fence in place of the unsightly wire fence and dead hedge, which have been there for so long. Unfortunately, work had to stop because of a disagreement as to the line of the boundary.

Recipe of the Month

Cauliflower Soup with Blue Stilton

(Adapted from Delia Smith)

1 medium size cauliflower
2oz crumbled blue stilton
2 ½ pts water
2 bay leaves
1oz butter
1 medium onion, chopped
2 sticks celery, chopped
1 large leek, chopped
1 smallish potato, chopped into dice
2tbs crème fraiche
salt and freshly milled black pepper

Make a stock with the cauliflower trimmings. Divide the cauliflower into small florets and place the stalk and leaves in a large pan then add the water, some salt and the bay leaves and simmer for 20 mins. Meanwhile, in another large saucepan, melt the butter over a gentle heat and add the onion, leek, celery and potato and sweat gently (the veg, not you!) for about 15 mins. When the stock is ready, strain into the pan to join the vegetables, add the bay leaves and the cauliflower florets and simmer for 20 mins until the cauliflower is tender. Liquidise, return to the pan, add the Stilton and crème fraiche and reheat gently, stirring, until the cheese has melted.

This is, more or less, Delia's recipe (Delia's uses Roquefort – a fine cheese but French!) but I have made it without the leek and celery and using vegetable stock from a cube or packet. If you don't have any crème fraiche, use cream, if you have some left over, or milk. The essential ingredients, apart from the cauliflower and Stilton, are the potato, onion and stock of some kind. The essential parts of the process are sweating the vegetables (I've often sweated the cauliflower as well) and the gentle reheating so that the cheese doesn't curdle. This soup freezes well.

Forthcoming Events and Other Notices

Headon cum Upton Village Hall

GRAND OPENING
Tuesday January 22nd
From 1.30p.m to 11.00 p.m.

DISCO
From 8.30
All welcome
Refreshments available
Bar open

Come and see our new computer facilities!

Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham Parish Council

The next meeting of the Council will be held on
Monday 28 January
at 7.30 pm
at the Village Hall

A representative of East Midlands Electricity has been invited so this is your opportunity to let him know your views about power cuts

200 Club December Draw

1 st	£25	Carole, Wine Rack
2 nd	£15	Betty Westnidge, Askham
3 rd	£5	Margaret Braithwaite

Baby-sitting

Responsible 14 year old girl, available for baby sitting.
Contact Sophie McGlen
01777 248187

Headon-cum-Upton Village Hall HELP!!

We know that there are plenty of people out there who can make superb desserts – are you one of them? Actually, it needn't be superb – OK will do! Would you make one or two for the Open Day? Perhaps you have a speciality which you always make for special occasions. Would you share it with us?

We will happily reimburse expenses!

Phone 248282 if you can help.

Advance Notice

New Perspectives presents

“Summer Comes and Life Changes”.

27th February

in the Village Hall

Tickets at usual prices

Photographs

We are looking for photographs which will show the different stages of the Village Hall's existence. Any pictures, of the inside or outside, from when it was a school right up to the recent building work, re-opening and the present. These are wanted to create displays in the hall on January 22nd, and would be returned to their owners after that day.

Need to lose weight after Christmas?

Try some enjoyable exercise-
LINE DANCING

More recruits are needed for this class!
Phone Julie on 710057 if you are interested

For further details of any notice, phone 248282