

HEADS-UP!

The newsletter for Headon-cum-Upton
(website: headon-cum-upton.org.uk/Index/Village/Newsletter)

September 2002

Here we are again! We hope that you enjoyed your summer – it hasn't been too bad, has it?

A number of community events are planned, or about to be, for the coming months. Dates are to be finalised, but there will be the Harvest Supper, the Quiz, the Christmas Dinner for the Over 60's, a Christmas party, a New Year's Eve party and three theatrical productions are booked. The first of these is "Tartuffe", which is supposed to be very funny and is the forerunner of the Carry on films. More information inside!

Have you read the Church newsletter? What is your view on the proposal to move the font out of the tower? If you have a strong view on this, do let us know.

Summer Ball "A Night to Remember"!

Yet another amazingly successful Ball! The organisers and the Village Hall are so grateful to all those who supported this event. Because of you and your guests, £3,128 was raised for the Village Hall! It's hard to think of a more enjoyable way of raising funds. It was a truly village effort, as 82 guests, each one either a resident of the village or a guest of a resident, enjoyed a fabulous evening. It is testimony to the success of this event that this year we did not need to advertise, almost as soon as we said we would hold it again, we were fully booked. Although we know that an event like this is not to everyone's taste, it is tremendously important in boosting the Village Hall's funds, and so enabling the provision of other events which would appeal to others.

We are sure that the whole village will join us in thanking those who worked so hard, not only for the social success of the evening but also to raise funds for the Village Hall, which, in turn, benefits all of us. So, on behalf of us all, thanks go to the following for an absolutely splendid evening:

Organisers—Marian & Ken Philips, Rosie Mudford, Janet & David Landon, Pat Mosley.

Marian Philips and her friend Ruth for cooking a wonderful meal, Ken Philips printed the tickets, programmes, etc. and did the table plans, David Landon and Ken organised and took the wine orders, Ian Cawthorn took charge of the Bar, Rosie Mudford and her family provided the marquee and Rosie made the table decorations, Pat, Martin and Edward Mosley, Janet, David and Rosie set up the tables. Village youngsters—William, Thomas and Andrew Greenhalgh, Nathan Champion Lane, Edward Mosley, James, Sarah, Richard and Alastair Ogle and their friends were waiters for the evening. They all looked so smart, and did a very professional job. Many thanks to the donors of auction items and raffle prizes, they made such a difference to the evening, and to Andrew for being our auctioneer. Of course, thanks also to the guests for making the evening such fun, and for spending their money so freely in a good cause! And thanks, too, to the neighbours for their support and tolerance.

For those of you who were not there, you might like to know some more about the evening. On arrival the guests – who all looked splendid in their best bibs and tuckers! – were received in the marquee, and were offered Pimms (or orange juice) and canapes. At a little after 7.30 they were invited to take their seats in the beautifully decorated Hall, where their waiters introduced themselves and served their meals and drinks. Guests enjoyed a starter of trout and salmon pate with French Toast, followed by roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, roast and boiled potatoes, peas, carrots and sweetcorn, a dessert of profiteroles or fruit salad, then a cheese board and to round off the meal, coffee and mints. After the Loyal Toast, Andrew Silcock conducted an auction of items or promises donated by a variety of people which created a great deal of competition, interest and hilarity. The evening then continued with a whirl of dancing to the music of the Nigel Portass Quartet until midnight.

Parish Council News

Notes from the meeting on 3 September

Appointment of Clerk of the Council

Three people had applied for the position of Clerk of the Council, one of whom had subsequently withdrawn. The Council decided to interview the other two candidates and decided to appoint Graham Ward of Grove with effect from 1 October. On behalf of the Council Eric Briggs welcomed Mr Ward to his post and expressed the hope that his association with the Council was a long and rewarding one.

Road Safety

John Mann MP has been particularly busy on our behalf and has written to the County Council, the Police and Rampton Hospital. In particular, Inspector France had offered to carry out limited speed surveys and had suggested painting the carriageways to draw drivers' attention to the need to restrict their speed. I was asked to write to the County Council to ask to be included in the 'Gateway' project, to Inspector France to take up the offer of speed guns and to Mr Mann reminding him of his offer to ask the Secretary of State for Health about funding for improvements to the road infrastructure. Allan Dolby will again raise this matter at the Community Forum meeting at Rampton Hospital on 9 September.

Grass cutting

The general view of councillors was that the grass cutting is barely satisfactory. Some areas had been missed and, in other locations the contractor had tried to cut the verges at maximum speed leaving the verge looking ragged. However, the Council still felt that the verges look better than when they were scarified by the County Council. The Council would welcome feedback from members of the public about the value of employing contractors to cut the grass verges within the villages.

Car parking in Headon

The District Council had advised that, should the Parish Council wish to lease the car park, the annual rental would be £1 and the Parish Council would be responsible for maintenance. The District Council would welcome suggestions from the Parish Council regarding the term of the lease. The Council decided in principle to lease the car park, subject to the term and conditions of the lease being acceptable, whilst retaining the option to buy at some future.

Village Sign in Upton

Chris McGlen reported that he had sent a questionnaire to every house in Upton. He had received 14 replies all in favour of erecting a sign. The Council agreed to support the proposal by writing to the County Council in support of this project and by including the sign on its schedule of insurance in due course.

Best Value

At the previous meeting the Council received a 'Best Value' report from the District Council. This document, which was glossy and runs to 150 pages, purports to set out the ways in which Bassetlaw District Council is improving services. I was asked to convey to the District Council the Parish Council's view that the whole exercise is a waste of money. In a telephone conversation with the District Council Officer responsible, I stressed the Council's view that Council Taxpayers want to *see* improvements in services, not read about them in a document which cost thousands to produce. Of all the statistics included in the report, Parish Councillors are interested only in the level of the Council Tax.

Flooding in Nether Headon

Allan Dolby had been advised by the Environment Agency that landowners are responsible for keeping dykes free of obstruction and that District Councils have the power to enforce this, including, as a last resort, carrying out the work and sending the landowner the bill. I was asked to write to the owner of Mill Hill Farm and to East Drayton Parish Council regarding the clearance of the dyke downstream from Headon.

Accounts and Annual Return for 2001/02

The Council approved the accounts for 2001/02 and the annual return and attachments which will now be sent to the external auditors.

Appointment of Internal Auditor

Under the new audit arrangements, Parish Councils are required to appoint an internal auditor who is independent of the Council.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on 21 October at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

David Landon
Clerk of the Council
Tel: 249271

Other Village Hall news

The Village Hall has been quite busy over the summer. The computer group attended a week's summer school, in the Village Hall, and continued for two extra days as they completed their projects. Social Club has been well attended, including an occasion when children came to design T-shirt transfers, with the help of Ian Cawthorn.

The Bridge Club took a break when members were on holiday, but is now meeting regularly once more. Whist has continued throughout the month.

Sound System

A music system has now been installed in the Village Hall. As predicted, the microphone was invaluable for the Summer Ball auction!

A reminder

Please remember that we would like your old ink jet or laser printer cartridges for recycling. We can sell these when we accumulate a quantity, and all money received goes into Village Hall funds.

For Sale by the Village Hall

Industrial size Canon laser colour printer. In good working order. Ideal for large amounts of printing work. Offers.
Phone 248282.

Forthcoming Events

Oct. 10th at 7.30pm. "Tartuffe", a comedy by Moliere, performed by the NTC touring theatre company.

Harvest Supper – October, date to be arranged

Quiz— November, date to be arranged

Grass Cutting

Since taking responsibility for cutting the roadside verges, the Parish Council is pleased with the improvement. Although aware that the cutting is sometimes a bit hit and miss, overall the effect is good, and considerably better than when left to the County Council. The council would welcome feedback from the public on their views.

The Ton Class Association

A letter has been received from this group, which is an association of ex crew who served on wooden walled minesweepers/minehunters.

Apparently, each of the 117 of these were named after a village whose name ended in ton, including HMS Upton.

The letter asks if we know if any village/ ship affiliation was ever formed.

If anyone knows of such an affiliation, would they let Janet or David know.

Village hall computers

For the past year we have provided free access to the computers and the Internet, for everyone in our villages. We will now have to make a small charge for use of the Internet, to help cover running costs.

We will continue to provide free use of the computers, including the printers and scanner, with just a small charge for paper used.

The computers continue to be available each Friday evening from 8.30 or at other times by appointment.

Telly talk is available on Wednesdays, also by appointment, allowing you to talk face to face with someone from the County Council or the District Council about any concerns you may have.

Phone 248767 or 248282 for an appointment or more information.

Letter

Bassetlaw Hospice collection

I would like to thank the residents of Headon-cum-Upton who have once again given so generously to the Cedar House, Bassetlaw Hospice envelope collection which has raised £111.87p.

Cedar House, situated in the grounds of Retford Hospital, was purpose built by the people of Bassetlaw by means of such fund raising events, and provides In-Patient Care for up to 6 people and Day Care facilities for up to 12 people at one time, giving both patients and their carers a welcome break. A Hospice at Home service is also available to enable people to stay in their own home with their family.

All of these Hospice facilities are provided free of charge for all residents of Bassetlaw and are made possible by people like yourselves giving so willingly.

May I also thank all who donated home made cakes for refreshments or for sale at the Hospice Family Fun Day.

Thank you all once again.

Ann Pyper

Classes

Community Learning Courses

Garden Planning and Planting(OCN):

Thursday 7.00-9.00pm

For 10 weeks starting 26 September 2002

Total fees £33

Enrol at the first class. You may not have to pay fees- check with North Notts College, 01909 504504, ext 292

Use of the Internet

If you would like to know how to use the Internet, to send e-mails (a cheap and quick way to communicate, especially with friends and family abroad), or to shop on-line, then you should join this course. It is free, and runs for 5 weeks from September 23, every Monday afternoon, 1.30—3.30.

This course will be run by Tuxford's Mine of Information.

Headon-cum-Upton, Grove and Stokeham Parish Council

Appointment of Internal Auditor

Do you have a few hours to spare? Could you look through the Parish Council's accounts to check that they have been properly kept?

If you are interested please contact David Landon on 249271 or 248282

Best Wishes to John Mosley for a speedy recovery from his hip operation.



We don't expect it will keep him indoors for long!

200 Club winners

July draw:

£25 Ralph Burton

£15 Pete Weaver



£5 Janet Askew

August draw:

£25 Chris McGlen

£15 Paul Langhorn

£5 Janet Langhorn

Baby sitting

Responsible 14 year old girl available for baby sitting.

Contact Sophie McGlen on 248187

Cyber Café and Video Conferencing

The computers, printer and scanner are now available for use by any resident of the parish, on Friday evenings from 8.30, and at other times by arrangement. Contact Martin on 248767 or Janet on 248282.

Video conferencing/ Telly Talk is available on Wednesday mornings from 9.30a.m. to 12.00 noon, when members of the public can speak directly to a representative of Nottinghamshire County Council or Bassetlaw District Council. They will be able to help with enquiries relating to their respective councils and much, much more:

- Business and Employment
- Concessions for Senior Citizens
- Highways
- Council House Advice and Repairs
- Council Tax
- Education
- Environmental Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Housing Benefits
- Leisure and Amenities
- Social Services
- Trading Standards
- Pest Control

If you wish to make use of this service you will need to make an appointment in advance. Please contact Martin or Janet, as above.

For further details of any notice phone 248282