

Hedleyhope Newsletter

Spring 2015

This Newsletter is produced jointly by the Hedleyhope Community Association and the Hedleyhope Parish Council. It brings you news of what is going on in the village of East Hedleyhope and the surrounding area.

What's Been Happening

CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

The Community Association ran a children's Easter party in the village hall on Sunday 12th April. Despite the terrible weather, which put paid to our plans for an Easter egg hunt around the village, the children instead enjoyed an Easter egg hunt in the village hall, crafts and games, face painting and refreshments.



Making tasty chocolate Easter nests

Thanks to Chrissy, Philippa, Dorothy and Sarah who made it all happen on the day.



Searching for prizes in the bran tubs

MEADOW SEAT BACK IN PLACE

The seat in the meadow has been mended and was re-instated on 17th April.

Let's hope it is now tough enough to withstand the attentions of the sheep that graze the meadow later in the year!



DRAMA AT THE GREEN HUT

Last month when there were several days of ice and snow, the main electricity cable into the village hall shorted and scorched the outside near to the insulator. As a result the electricity linesmen had to come and fit a new cable. All is now back to normal but it was a near miss.

News of the Nature Reserve

from Clare Ross

The contractor has replaced the Sculpture and completed works on the footbridge near Rose Terrace.

Thanks to Mark Connelly for doing a really great job.

A Plea for the Birds

During bird nesting between April and August PLEASE KEEP DOGS ON A LEAD in the Nature Reserve.

Disturbance by dogs is preventing a number of birds including Skylark from nesting on the Meadow.

It is really important not to let dogs run in the main Nature Reserve Wood as this threatens the breeding success of some important woodland birds.

A litter pick organised in March (albeit on a Saturday at fairly short notice) was attended by **just one person!**

This is YOUR ENVIRONMENT - if walking on the Nature Reserve and in the area please help by doing a bit of litter picking.

Spring Flowers

There is the usual spectacular display of Primroses in the Wood near the village.

These were planted by children in the Village some years ago - they grow to gigantic proportions - possibly as a result of the poor soils and really brighten up our walks!

Look out too for the Bluebells and other wonderful flowers growing in the main Woodland - many of these are indicative of flowers found in Ancient Woodlands.



It won't be long before the Meadow is full of flowers again - including the Cowslip which usually makes the first show.

Stanley Wood

The owner Ward Timber has obtained a felling licence for the forestry felling at Stanley Wood as detailed in the last Newsletter.

We have asked for a meeting with the owner to try and find out how the work will be programmed and await a response.

We will post information on the Hedleyhope Community Association Facebook page.

If you would like us to raise any issues with the owner (if they agree to meet with us) then speak to a Community Association member or post on the Facebook page.

Are YOU a Member of the Community Association?

You may have noticed that most of the things mentioned in this newsletter were provided by the Hedleyhope Community Association. We are a group of local residents who manage the nature reserve and organise a programme of events in the village.

Over the past few years we have lost several members who have either moved from the village or sadly died. If you are new to the village why not consider joining our Community Association?

The more members we have the stronger is our voice in obtaining grants from funding organisations, and in our defence of our village and its facilities.

To become a life member of our Community Association all you need to do is pay £1 and give your name and contact details to Chris Ruskin (01388 730113) You will then be kept up to date on parish social events and news about the developments in Stanley Wood.

The Annual General Meeting of the Community Association
will take place in the village hall at 7 o'clock on Tuesday 16th June.

Green Hut Art Group

Chris Ruskin writes



The Green Hut art Group have just had a successful exhibition at The Botanic Garden in Durham for a month. The exhibition was entitled “Durham – Town, Country and Coast.”

If you wonder what all the cars are doing parked outside the village hall on a Wednesday morning – it’s the art group. We have such a thriving membership we can no longer

accommodate any more new members.

(Thanks to Chris also for several of the other pieces in this newsletter)

Chrissy Stobart and Philippa Rothwell are planning to take part in the **Pretty Muddy 5K Race for Life**, in aid of Cancer Research on Saturday 11th July. Since it starts at 10.45 in the morning they may be home in time to shower before the Village Sports Day and Barbeque in the afternoon *(or we may change the date of this event - see overleaf)*

Perhaps you would like to sponsor Chrissy or Philippa as they get covered in mud for this good cause?

Dog Waste

Several complaints have been made to the Parish Council about dog mess. As a result, two dog waste bins have been erected for dog owners to deposit their dog waste: 1. Near the village hall and 2. At the exit from the meadow nearer to Rose Terrace (pictured, right)

It is not acceptable to put dog waste in plastic bags and hang it from trees. Neither is it acceptable to let your dog mess on the meadow. Dog waste contains parasites which can cause toxocariasis in humans, especially children.

Please be responsible and put your dog waste in the appropriate bin or take it home with you.

Thank you.



Events Yet To Come

Family Fish & Chip Evening

Friday 15th May at 7pm. There will also be a mini quiz and beetle drive. Bring your own bottle. £3. Children welcome.

Guided walk and afternoon tea.

Saturday June 20th at 2pm. Meet outside village hall for a gentle stroll on one of the footpaths in our parish. Followed by afternoon tea in the hall at around 3.30.

Village Sports Day and Barbeque

Saturday 11th July – *date may be changed because of Pretty Muddy Race for Life*
It is hoped this will follow the same pattern as the first family sports day held on the same weekend last year, with races and other energetic activities for the kids and barbeque cooking for the men, with a feast for all!



Memories of the 2014 village sports day and barbeque