

Well that was Summer 2023! A very mixed picture weather wise. Never the less, there were a lot of visitors to our County, making it a busy time. September, the beginning of Autumn and lots of tidying up before Winter.

Here is a last call to ask that hedges are cut, particularly near roads and pavements; and a last Thank you to everyone who has kept the flower tubs and baskets looking so good.

There is a UVA meeting on the 3rd of October, in the WI Hall at 7pm. Everyone is welcome. There will be a catch up around recent events and the main discussion will be about arrangements for Firework night. It is good to see new people and get different ideas. If you can help in any way please let Helen (01670 790170) or Lynne (lynne.scott@hotmail.com) know. See you there!

The Ventient Sisters and North Steads Windfarm Community Benefit Fund at the Community Foundation - receives an annual donation of £133,500 to support a programme of community grant making. The Fund will make grants of between £1,000 and £20,000, normally for projects of up to one year's duration. Pete Barrett Senior Programme Advisor at the Community and Fund Manager said, 'to date, the Fund has made 92 awards totalling £816,543 for charitable activities, including a recent grant award for a new apprentice position at Hadston House for an 18-month period, and we are very keen to explore other apprenticeship opportunities which can support avenues to employment for local residents within the Funds area of benefit'.

The Fund will support grants to a wide range of voluntary and community organisations. You don't have to be a registered charity, but the work you want funded must be legally charitable contact the Community Foundation if you are unsure. Grants are available for the following purposes:

advice and support for families, carers' and those experiencing hardships; arts, culture and heritage projects; community activities and events; development of local amenities; education and training provision, and in particular support for apprenticeships; environmental projects; healthy living activities; sport and physical activity provision.

The Fund will next open for applications on 28 August 2023 with an application deadline of 02 October 2023 - link to apply - www.communityfoundation.org.uk/apply). Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their applications at the end of November 2023. If you have any questions, please call Pete Barrett on 0191 222 0945.

The presentation on The Forge as a Community Asset on 15th August was again well attended. The presentation is available for download on Ulgham Website. Dave will now work with those who have volunteered to form the steering group, who will provide further updates in due course.