



Sitting Pretty... Hetton's Green and Pleasant Land



For those of us who enjoy walking, or even if you drive there the jewel in Hetton's crown is the spectacular view of the district and beyond, that can be seen from Valley View, High Moorsley. Hetton Town Council has recently installed a seat (photo opposite) in this location which will allow for an opportunity to relax and take in the splendour. Many

visitors do not realise the rural nature of our Town. The nearby newly installed weather station was located at High Moorsley as the highest land point between the Scottish borders and North Yorkshire. Who could believe the photo above of the poppy field was taken by council leader Keith Hepple whilst on Moorsley Road, thus

bringing a rural view right to your doorstep. Both city councillor David Tate and Hetton town councillor Dianne Storey are proud to be long term residents of Moorsley and work tirelessly in the area with such groups as Gentoo, Barnardos and of course Morosely Residents Association in order to develop and foster wellbeing of residents.



What's happening in the Hetton downs renewal area?



Many Hetton readers will be aware that an area action plan is being drawn up for Hetton Downs which will set out a housing led regeneration strategy for the next 20 years. The plan is currently being developed with full consultation with the local community at every step of the way.

The plan is at its 'preferred option' stage and has one or more stage to go before moving towards its adoption in its final version of approximately 450 new houses for the 'Downs', a new access road from the north of the area, environmental improvements (including the extension of the country park into the quarry) and external improvements to some older terrace housing in the area.

While the plan is progressing to adoption, there is still plenty going on up the downs. Market Street has received a facelift with new paving, an improved car park, brand new street furniture and as the icing on the cake Christmas lights funded by Hetton Town Council.

A path has been laid in the country park and a new access gate put in. While these physical improvements are taking place, the sites that are being proposed for new housing are being prepared.

Downs lane has recently been demolished and the demolition of Henry Street will recently commenced.

The plans and the regeneration works are laying the foundations for the future of Hetton Downs community spirit is sure to be a recipe for a bright future.



If anyone enjoys local history and heritage you may wish to purchase the 'Hetton Heritage 2010 calendar' which features 12 old Hetton photographs a unique gift for anyone. Copies are priced at £3.50 and are available at Hetton Centre Library and Hetton Town Council's office.



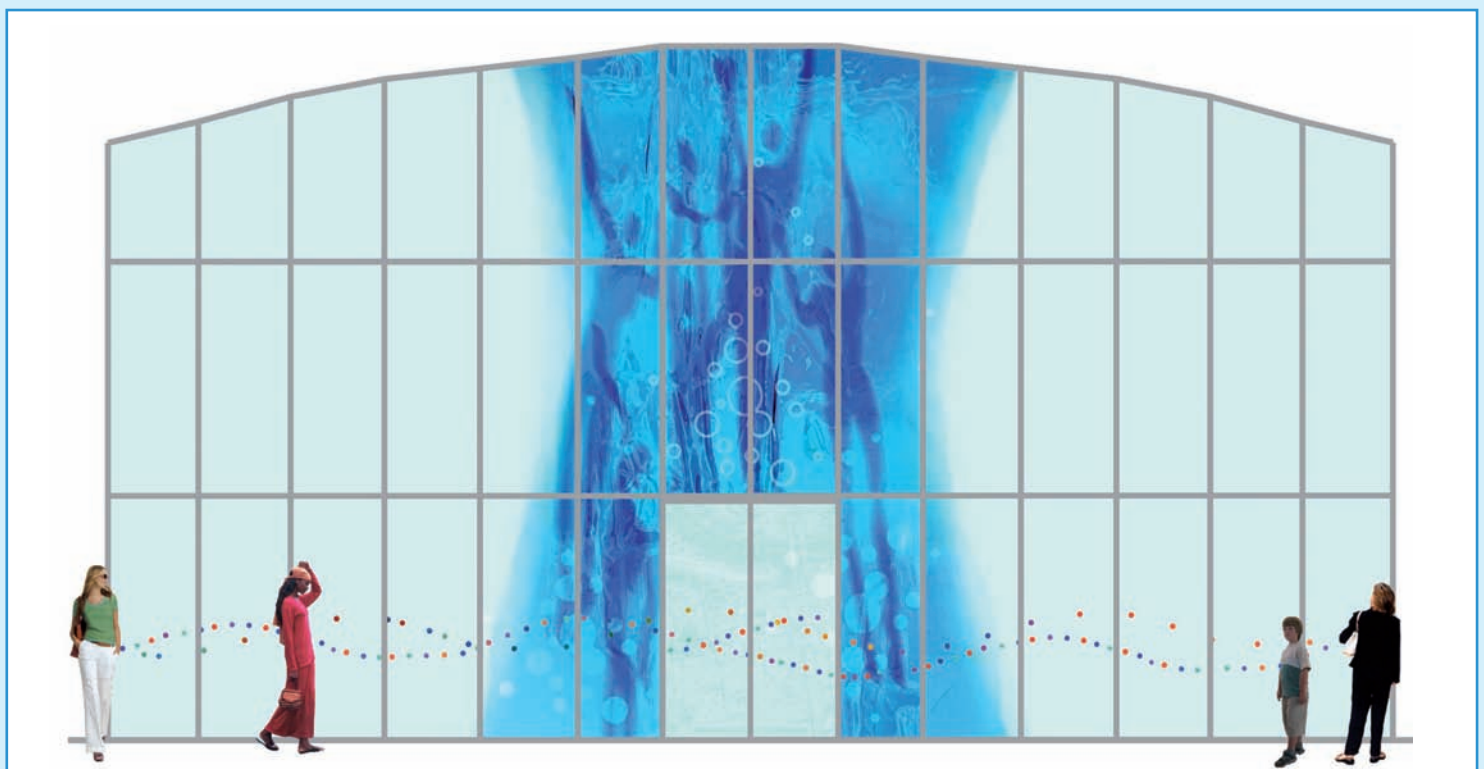
Once again we enjoyed success at the regional Northumbria in Bloom competition. At the presentation ceremony held at Durham City, the Mayor accepted awards where a gold medal was awarded to Hetton Lyons Country Park. In the best conservation project the silver medal was awarded to Hetton-le-Hole in the best large town category.

Publicise Your Group...

If you want to publicise any community group event or information, Hetton Town Council have recently erected a new public notice board in Front Street, Hetton Town Centre. Which will feature a notice of all council meetings and much information about the town will be available for all to see.

Hetton Fellowship Event...

Hetton Fellowship of Churches are holding an event with John Wesley starring Mark Topping as John Wesley. All are welcome to this unique event to be held at 7.00pm Friday 6th November in Hetton Methodist Church.



Designer Makes Splash With Pool Artwork

Work is nearing completion on the impressive new pool that is currently being built on the site of the former community pool on Welfare Road. The new pool and Wellness Centre will be handed over to the Council shortly, this will be followed by a period of operational testing, with the facility expected to open to the public early in 2010.

In addition a major piece of public art is due to be installed within the entrance foyer of the new building. International Glass Artist Martin Donlin has been

commissioned by Sunderland City Council to produce an artwork that reflects the contemporary architecture of the building, whilst at the same time commemorating the regions historic past in glass. The artwork has been incorporated into the main entrance of the building, and can be seen by visitors to the pool from both inside and out.

From the inside, visitors can also view a historical map that represents the areas' coal mining heritage, and Martin has recreated a number of mining badges and pit tokens in glass, these will be

interspaced with the glass circles that have been designed by local children along the entire front of the glazed entrance, creating a colourful and vibrant addition to the building.

Martin Donlin has an international track record, and examples of his work can be seen throughout the UK and as far a field as Germany and the USA. Full details of Martins work can be seen at www.martindonlin.com. Additional information regarding the 25m pool at Hetton can be found at: www.sunderland.gov.uk/25mpools