

# Our Heritage Wheel

**A Day of Celebration  
2nd August 2008**



# Westerhope Village

The earliest existing house in the village is Primrose Cottage (1864) which was built for a farm hind from the Red Cow Farm which was on the opposite side of Stamfordham Road. This farm was once owned by the Montagus of Denton Hall.

In 1890, Mr Joseph Wakinshaw and associates formed the Northern Allotment Society and purchased land from the Red Cow Farm Estate to build substantial houses, with land, to develop as smallholdings. Mr Wakinshaw's first house was Runnymede, an impressive stone house with extensive gardens (now the Aldi site). In 1893, the Society changed the name from the Red Cow Farm Estate to Westerhope as these developments were their 'hope for the west'. With the red brick buildings of the miners' homes not being in keeping with their standards, the Northern Allotment Society abandoned their plans and moved on to develop Darras Hall.



Primrose Cottage



Runnymede

# North Walbottle Colliery

Although Westerhope area is riddled with ancient, shallow bell pits, the first deep mine sunk in 1891 was the Old Fred Pit. This first shaft was replaced by the Busty (1893) and Brockwell (1894) shafts, which were sunk to a depth of 124 fathoms (775 feet/238 metres).

All coal produced was by pick and shovel, with the hewers, putters and ponies being indispensable, until eventually mechanisation took over.

The North Walbottle Coal Company purchased land from the Northern Allotment Society and, in 1901, Beaumont, Rogerson and Boyd Terraces were built to house the miners and their families. Beaumont was one of the first coal seams and Rogerson and Boyd were directors of the Coal Company.

The colliery closed in 1968 having produced 21.5 million tons of coal and at one time employing 1300 men.



# Our Heritage Festival

on **Saturday 2nd August 2008**

11.00am Presentation of Our Heritage Wheel

**Then, at the Westerhope Community Association  
(formerly the 'Tute'), 12.00pm – 4.00pm**

## **FESTIVAL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS:**

Starts at 12.00pm with the opening of the refurbished Westerhope Community Association, incorporating the local Children's Centre, followed by the official opening of the Our Heritage Festival by the Lord Mayor.

The Festival will take the form of a family picnic afternoon. Everyone is invited to wear period costume.

## **ENTERTAINMENT WILL INCLUDE:**

Miners' Band and North Walbottle Pit Banner.  
Woodhorn and Discovery Museums, with resources and displays.  
Mining Institute, with artefacts.

Try your hand at Proggy Mat-making.

Folk singer – join in all the famous Geordie songs.  
Enjoy the busking of the 'The Ranters' or is the formality of the Newcastle Pipe Band and dancers more your 'thing'?

Face-painting and arts activities.

See the display of local schoolchildren's modern-day banners.

Mini-Olympics and sports taster sessions.

Fire Service.

Traditional fairground rides – remember the hurdy-gurdy?

Ice cream and food vendors.

Local History Society displays.

Westerhope Village Residents' Association Summer Fair.

**LOTS, LOTS MORE – ENTRANCE IS FREE**

**FREE TRANSPORT to the Festival**

**from Newbiggin Hall Estate, Westerhope and West Denton**

**– look out for the old-style buses, plus park-and-ride from West Denton Association**