



Neasham Village
Co. Durham
England

Sand Martin

Sand Martins are seen mostly flying around the Village between March and October. They are agile fliers being mainly over the river where Kent Beck flows into the river. Over the past 90 years the European population has declined as a result of drought in Africa, the birds wintering grounds.



Kingfisher

Although Kingfishers are widespread in the UK, they are not often seen in the Tees area. You may be fortunate to see a flash of electric blue as one flies past and lands along the river. Kingfishers are highly territorial to protect their food source. They hunt small fish from riverside perches, such as overhanging branches of trees. They are known to make their homes in the soft banks of the Kent Beck tributary.



Dames Violet

This species found along the River Tees flowers between May and August. It has four violet or white petals and are sweet smelling especially in the evening. It attracts species of butterflies including orange tips, small whites and moths.



Otter

Otters were introduced into the River Tees in 2010. Otters are inquisitive, intelligent, semi-aquatic mammals that live in holes around water's edges. Otters are playful animals and live beside water, but usually enter it only to hunt or travel.

Heron

Grey Herons are a common sight on the river and you will see them standing perfectly still in the river or on a tree branch awaiting the opportunity to catch a fish.



A WALK THROUGH NEASHAM VILLAGE

In Neasham, the Teesdale Way footpath hugs the north bank of the River Tees. It follows the top of the flood defence bank providing the perfect vantage point to enjoy the views. The Teesdale Way footpath is 161km long that runs from the river source in the Cumbrian Pennines to the sea at Teesmouth. There are many species of wildlife to be found in Neasham. As you wander through the Village, some of the wildlife to see or hear include **otters, bats, kingfishers, sand martins, grayling, swans, herons, deer and a beautiful dames violet.**

Bats

There are a number of bat species in the Neasham Area. Common Pipistrelle are the smallest and most common bat found in the UK They have a fast jerky flight and can eat 3,000 insects a night. They fly low over the water in the fading afternoon light searching for food. You may see Daubenton's Bat flying steadily over the water using the fee to catch insects. Other species recorded in the Neasham area include the Common Noctule bat and Brown Long Eared Bat.



Teesdale Way

Neasham



Deer

Deer are a common sight around Neasham during early morning or evening. They sometimes will jump out of woodland onto a road so be alert when driving through woodland.



Grayling

Adult grayling are easily distinguished from other fish by their large dorsal fin which adds a splash of contour to an otherwise silvery fish. Adults are usually up to 60cm long. Grayling, who dart about the river, are a relatively rare sight and only inhabit a few rivers around the UK. They are a good indication of water quality and only survive in pristine water conditions.



Teesdale Way Sign

Swans

Swans are frequently seen on the river at Neasham. Be careful though and don't get too close.



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