

DURHAM

Summer 2022

www.durham.gov.uk



County News



**Festival fun -
BRASS and
Seaham Food
Festival return**

Platinum Jubilee

Events to mark the Queen's 70th year on the throne

Amazing families

Celebrating the care and commitment of fostering and adoptive families

Durham
County Council



Welcome

to the summer edition of Durham County News



Councillor Amanda Hopgood,
Leader of the Council

This summer looks set to be an action-packed one in County Durham, with a host of exciting events and activities planned.

Find out about some of the highlights of our cultural events over the next few months on page 3. You can also find information about the exciting acts performing in our Brass Festival (pages 16 and 17) and an overview of Seaham Food Festival, which returns this August (page 14).

On pages 8 and 9 we look back at royal visits from the past, as well as looking ahead to some of the projects and performances planned to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Also in this edition, we celebrate the care and commitment of residents who look after cared for children, meeting some amazing families on pages 10 and 11. We also introduce you to three fantastic residents on page 15 who helped their communities during the Covid pandemic.

And there's information about initiatives to tackle climate change (pages 20 and 21), and some inspiration for making the most of the summer (pages 22 and 23).

Amanda Hopgood

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Front cover: Street performers at Seaham Food Festival in 2021.

If you live in the Durham County Council area and haven't received a copy of Durham County News at your home address, please contact us.

To contact the editorial team, call 03000 268 059 or email durhamcountynews@durham.gov.uk



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A summer of culture awaits

County Durham's world class cultural offer has been a hot topic this year, with the county's shortlisted UK City of Culture 2025 bid strengthening our reputation as a visitor destination. If the excitement surrounding the Durham 2025 campaign has left you eager for more, there's a jam-packed programme of events and activities taking place this summer offering something for everyone.

Durham Pride

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 May

www.facebook.com/DurhamPrideUK

Saturday is family fun day on The Sands, in Durham City, while Sunday includes a parade, family fun, market and food stalls, and X-Factor winner, Alexandra Burke.

Kynren – An Epic Tale of England

Various dates from Friday 3 June to Saturday 10 September

www.11arches.com/kynren

Bringing to life 2,000 years of history, myth and legend in an outdoor-theatre spectacular.

Durham Regatta

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June

www.durham-regatta.org.uk

A weekend of thrilling racing and bank-side entertainment.

Durham Miners' Gala

Saturday 9 July

www.durhamminers.org/gala

Featuring the traditional parade of colliery bands to Durham Racecourse, followed by entertainment, speeches and food and drink on the riverbank.

Durham Brass Festival

Sunday 10 to Sunday 17 July

www.brassfestival.co.uk

Including performances from Richard Hawley, Yolanda Brown and the multi-award-winning Black Dyke Band. See pages 16 and 17.

Durham City Run Festival

Friday 15 and Saturday 16 July

www.eventsofthenorth.com/event/durhamcityrun

The popular event returns with 5k and 10k races through the city, a 1 mile *Run Like a Legend* race and a team *Families on Track* event for all ages.



IncludFEST

Saturday 30 July

www.includfest.co.uk

A fully inclusive and accessible arts festival for children, young people and families, takes place at Hardwick Park, Sedgfield.

Seaham Food Festival

Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 August

www.seahamfoodfestival.co.uk

Enjoy a yummy day out, with tasty street food and delish local produce, appearances from top chefs and family entertainment.



Linked to our shortlisted UK City of Culture 2025 bid, Durham 2025 aims to bring communities together, enhance the county's diverse and inclusive cultural offer and attract visitors and investment.

Find out more at www.durham2025.co.uk or follow @Durham2025 on Facebook, @Durham_2025 on Twitter and @Durham2025_ on Instagram.

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Avison Young and NORR Architects

New culture venue

This is how a new cultural venue for County Durham will look.

The visualisation shows what the former DLI Museum and Gallery will look like after it is transformed into a vibrant exhibition centre, gallery and café.

With a design inspired by the museum's 1960's architecture, the new building will be almost twice the size and feature a dedicated space for the display of items from the DLI Collection and Archive. Its interior will be state-of-the-art, allowing the venue to host touring national and international exhibitions. A creative hub and artist in residence space, meanwhile, will provide a platform for creative professionals to showcase their works and for the public to get involved.

There will also be a new restaurant and café and surrounding grounds will be landscaped to provide a place for quiet contemplation, as well as areas for creative activity.

The venue will complement plans for the new history centre, providing a second dedicated site to showcase the DLI Collection and increasing access for the public to view exhibits and artefacts.

Hire Durham Town Hall

Did you know, Durham City's historic
and atmospheric town hall is available
to hire?

A wide range of packages and bespoke
arrangements are available to suit the
needs of large or small events, including
conferences, team meetings, receptions, dances, performances, society dinners
and more. To find out more, contact reception on **03000 267 955** from Monday
to Friday, between 9am and 4pm.



You can also visit the hall to find out more about the powerful Prince Bishops,
the evolution of local government and the roles of the Mayor and the Mayor's
Bodyguard, as well as colourful local characters such as Joseph Boruwlaski, the
3ft tall Little Count. Entry is free and the hall is open to visitors every Saturday
from 10am to 3pm. Visit www.durham.gov.uk/durhamtownhall to find out
more.

New name for history centre

The new name for the county's new history centre has been revealed.

The Story, set in the restored Grade II listed Mount Oswald, will combine countywide registration services, the county archive and DLI collection, and will be a place not just to uncover history, but to make your own.

From starting a new story by registering a birth, to exploring our region's past through family history research, The Story will help people discover the past and celebrate the present.

The state-of-the-art centre, which is due to open to the public in 2023, will hold stories of working-class



people and reflect County Durham communities in its exhibitions.

Visitors will be able to meet to share stories over a cuppa in the centre's cafe or in its landscaped grounds, and visits will inspire new memories to take home, with tales of what was seen and learnt, and the people met there.

Work on the refurbishment of the existing building and construction of



the new modern extension is ongoing, and the team at Durham County Record Office has already started the process of packing up the collection, ready for the move.

Find out more about the project at www.durham.gov.uk/historycentre

Accessible days out in Durham

Disabled blogger, dancer and activist Kate Stanforth is helping disabled people and their families plan fun-filled adventures in Durham.

Kate has teamed up with Visit County Durham to explore wheelchair-friendly attractions across the county and shine a light on the wide range of accessible days out in Durham.

Kate is sharing her top tips and honest feedback on venues including The Bowes Museum and Beamish Museum.

An advocate for disability rights, Kate runs her own inclusive dance school, models, and runs her own charitable organisation, Project Parent.

Find out more about what Kate got up to at www.thisisdurham.com/blog/accessible-days-out



Enjoy a cuppa at Crimdon Dene

Our new café at Crimdon Dene is already proving popular with visitors.

Dunes offers a warm, comfortable spot to enjoy stunning views of Durham Heritage Coast. The low-carbon building is pushchair and wheelchair friendly and has a changing places room, accessible toilets and baby change facilities.

It's also dog-friendly, even stocking special treats for four-legged visitors.

The cafe is open seven days a week from 10am until 4pm.



Your views on pharmacy services

Pharmacies and GP practice dispensaries are an integral part of our communities.

To ensure they continue to meet residents' needs, we're inviting people to tell us what they think of the services they provide.

From Monday 16 May to Thursday 14 July, an online consultation will take place as part of a **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**. Producing the assessment is a legal responsibility of our Health and Wellbeing Board. The assessment considers how accessible pharmaceutical services are for our residents and the types of services that are available.

Your views are important, and your feedback will be used to help shape services now and over the next three years.

To take part, please read through the draft assessment for 2022-25 and submit your comments at www.durham.gov.uk/consultation or send your feedback to pnaconsultation@durham.gov.uk by Thursday 14 July.



Speaking up for allergies

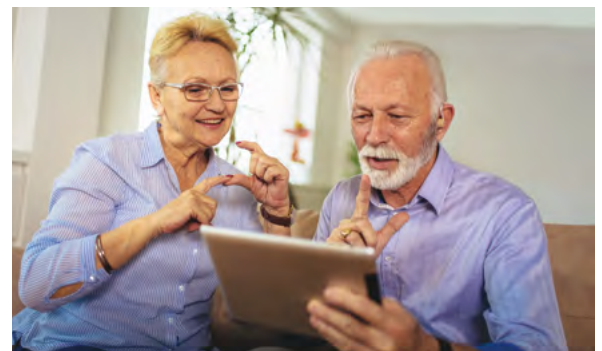
Eating out with a food allergy is better when your friends have your back, that's why we're supporting a campaign to help protect people with food allergies.

To help keep meals safe for everyone, we're urging food businesses to implement thorough allergen management processes, and to ensure all staff are appropriately trained and able to reassure and support those with allergies.

We're also encouraging young people to support friends with allergies when eating out at restaurants, as insight shows that young people with allergies feel more confident eating out in restaurants when their friends are supportive, understanding, and aware of their allergies.

Remember, always speak to a restaurant about your allergy before ordering food, and afterwards if you still have concerns.

www.food.gov.uk/SpeakUpForAllergies



Video support for BSL users

Residents who use British Sign Language can now access the support of an interpreter when contacting us.

We're working in partnership with SignVideo to connect deaf and hard of hearing residents to an interpreter who will provide live access to the council.

Interpreters can relay any questions or queries to our teams and provide a response as part of the video call.

Find out more at www.durham.gov.uk/bsl

Sign up to tackle fraud

Fraud is currently the most common crime in the UK. It can come in many forms and fraudsters are always looking for new ways to rip-off their victims. Our **Fraud Protection Update** emails can help you spot scams and avoid becoming a victim.

Criminals net billions of pounds every year, often targeting elderly and vulnerable people and taking advantage of events such as the pandemic – and scams are becoming much more sophisticated. From fake emails to phone calls and even face-to-face visits, fraudsters will use any method they can to gain access to your bank accounts, personal details or passwords.

Avoid being caught out by signing up for our updates at www.durham.gov.uk/currentscams

New Bishop Auckland panel meets

A new group bringing together organisations working to transform Bishop Auckland has met for the first time.

The **Bishop Auckland Strategic Advisory Panel** will have an overview of key developments in the town, with the aim of ensuring community engagement in the agreed programme.

The board, which will also provide advice and input into issues affecting the town, has been set up following feedback from communities and local stakeholders.

It is part of a drive to ensure that the exciting regeneration taking place across the town is inclusive and informed by residents and businesses.



Saddle up for Bike Month

May is Bike Month and you could be pedalling your way to some amazing prizes.

International campaign group **Love to Ride** is challenging people to get together in teams of up to 10 people and earn points as they ride.

Teams can compete against others, with all participants entered into a prize draw. And, of course, working as a team will ensure everyone stay motivated.

You can also join the Love to Ride Durham community of nearly 1,000 people.

Visit www.lovetoride.net/durham for information on local cycling routes, events and more. Log trips, post photos and stories, and take part in an engaging calendar of challenges.



Holiday fun with healthy food

Do you find the school holidays a struggle? If you're looking for fun things for your kids to do that don't cost the earth, take a look at our Fun and Food programme.

Regular sessions throughout the holidays will offer children and young people the chance to take part in free activities ranging from craft and cookery sessions to sports, including swimming. All sessions are accompanied by free healthy food.

Activities are provided by schools, voluntary and community sector groups, sport and leisure services and our Family Centres and have had excellent feedback from youngsters so far, with some of the comments including:

“ I really enjoyed the woodwork and trying something new. ”

“ We went gorge walking and climbing on a rock wall... we did paddle boarding; it was really fun. ”

“ I had really good fun cooking. ”

Find out more, including listings for activities across the county, at www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood

Activities are added up to two weeks before each school holiday. If there are no activities listed, please check back closer to the holiday.



Platinum Jubilee celebrations



This year, Her Majesty The Queen celebrates her Platinum Jubilee. During her 70 years on the throne, Her Majesty has visited County Durham many times. We've delved into the archives of Durham County Record Office to share pictures from some of her most memorable visits.

Her Majesty, then known as Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth, visited Durham City in October 1947.

This picture was taken during a visit to St Mary's College, during which Princess Elizabeth laid a foundation stone. She is pictured with the Vice Chancellor of Durham University and senior military officers.

She also visited Finchale Training College and Durham Cathedral during her trip.



Her Majesty returned to County Durham in May 1960, alongside her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh. During her visit, she saw new housing in Peterlee, took a trip to Horden Station and also visited Durham City's Town Hall.



The Queen came to the county during her Silver Jubilee year in July 1977, visiting County Hall in Durham City.



As part of Golden Jubilee celebrations, in May 2002, the Queen and Prince Philip visited Seaham, Easington, Blackhall Rocks, Durham Castle and Darlington. They also

officially opened Clayport Library in Millennium Place, Durham. She is pictured outside a marquee in Seaham.



From left, the Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Sir Paul Nicholson; Patrick Conway, director of arts, libraries and museums; June Gowland, library manager of Clayport Library; Her Majesty The Queen; with a group of schoolchildren at the official opening of Clayport Library, Durham City, May 2002.

Countywide celebrations

A programme of Platinum Jubilee events is set to take place across the county over the coming months.

The celebrations are set to include a special service at Durham Cathedral, as well as horticultural and street displays. There will also be music by military bands, activities for young people, including uniformed youth groups, and beacons lit by local town and parish councils.

Communities will be encouraged to stage their own celebrations and street parties during the four-day **Jubilee Bank Holiday Weekend from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June**.

Our region will host the **Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay** on Thursday 14 and Friday 15 July. The Relay will see the Queen's Baton visiting all 72 nations and territories across the Commonwealth. For more information, visit www.birmingham2022.com/qbr

The county's jubilee celebrations kicked off earlier in the year, when the official Platinum Jubilee emblem and a 1952 portrait of Her Majesty the Queen were projected onto County Hall in Durham.



Planting a legacy

An avenue of trees has been planted in the county as part of an initiative celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year.

Our Jubilee Avenue forms part of an ongoing large-scale landscape project at Bishop Auckland's Town Recreation Park.

The avenue has been funded by Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnership. It features 25 trees, including ornamental pears, Tibetan cherries and laburnums, and is marked with a plaque.

As well as creating a lasting legacy to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, the trees will benefit future generations, not just as a place to enjoy, but also as a contribution to tackle climate change.

In tune for the Jubilee

Special concerts to celebrate Her Majesty's role as Head of the Commonwealth will help mark the Platinum Jubilee.



Pupils from County Durham primary schools will take to the stage at **Gala Durham on Tuesday 14 June** to demonstrate their knowledge of the cultures of Commonwealth countries. The children will demonstrate Kuchipudi dance from South Asia, African drumming and dance, Bollywood dance, Caribbean steel pans and Gospel choral singing. They will perform alongside GemArts professional artists, from Commonwealth countries, who will also deliver their own performances. The pupils from St Mary's Catholic

Primary School, South Moor; Bloemfontein Primary School; Escomb Primary School; Copeland Road Primary School; Ribbon Academy, Horden; Shotton Primary; and Finchale Primary; will perform two shows.

A limited number of free tickets for the second show, at 5.30pm, will be available on the day from the Gala Durham box office. Her Majesty's representative for County Durham, the Lord Lieutenant, Sue Snowdon, will attend both shows.



A Jubilee Proms in the Park event will also be held on Saturday 2 July in Wharton Park, Durham City, featuring the military band of the Eighth Rifles and guests.

Fostering stars encourage others to care



A couple with 35 years' experience of fostering are urging more people to find out about becoming a carer during Foster Care Fortnight.



The annual campaign, which this year takes place from **9 to 22 May**, aims to raise the profile of fostering and show how foster care transforms lives – and it's being supported by Ray and Lynn Whiteford from Durham.

Ray and Lynn, who have been fostering for an amazing 35 years, were recently presented with an award at our 2022 Foster Care Star Awards. The annual awards celebrate the successes of Durham's fostering family, which includes carers with hundreds of years of caring between them.



Awards are given to carers and their families who are nominated by social workers and the public, as well as to young people from Durham's Children in Care Council, which supports the training of new carers.

The couple told us about their three and a half decades of fostering which, according to Ray, have "gone in the blink of an eye".

Lynn and Ray have cared for around 60 children – some of whom have stayed with the couple more than once. It all started after the pair spoke to family members.

Ray said: "My cousin initially suggested we should look at adoption, but we started fostering and it has just continued."

According to Lynn, the most rewarding thing is seeing the change in a child or young person when they come to their home.

She said: "When they come in – they will sit at the table like a little mouse. But as soon as they start to blossom, you can feel their presence. Their confidence is growing – it's amazing to watch them grow."

There have been challenges to overcome, but patience is key.

"It can be difficult at times, but you have to look at it as 'tomorrow's another day'," Ray added.

As with any other family, a good support group is essential. Lynn said: "You do need time to yourself, just like you would with your own children."

Two of their foster children now have their own children. "They call us nanny and grandad. And brought us grandchildren we thought we would never have," Lynn added.

“...it's amazing to watch them grow.”

To find out more about joining Durham County Council's fostering family visit www.durham.gov.uk/fostering or call 03000 269 400.



Celebrating one year of Adopt Coast to Coast



Regional adoption agency Adopt Coast to Coast is celebrating its first birthday.

Formed when our adoption service joined forces with those in Cumbria and Sunderland, Adopt Coast to Coast enables prospective adopters to be matched with babies and children from across all three geographical areas. This means it can take as little as six to 12 months to be approved and matched with a child or children.

Despite the challenges brought about by Covid, the Adopt Coast to Coast team has seen a marked increase in enquiries since its launch. It has found permanent homes for 120 children and approved 77 adopters – with a further 70 currently in the application process.

As well as matching children with their forever families, the adoption team is responsible for supporting new adopters through the application process, providing post-adoption support, delivering training, and organising social events.

The team is also working hard to tackle the myths that result in people thinking they are not suitable to become adopters. They are keen to speak to people who are considering adoption as a way to start or grow their family and, in particular, to adopters who would consider children who typically wait the longest to be matched with a family. This includes brother and sister groups, children aged four and over and children with disabilities and learning difficulties.

“She chose us...and it felt like magic”

Sophie and Alex were among the first adopters to be approved and matched through Adopt Coast to Coast. The couple believe fate was playing a hand when they came across an article about the launch of Adopt Coast to Coast and their lives changed forever.

Talking about the first time the couple met their daughter, Sophie said: “A foster carer put the little girl in my arms and in that moment, all the pain of the last four years and infertility just washed away. All that mattered was that she was mine and I was hers. As I was holding her, she stretched out her hand to grab hold of Alex’s finger – she chose us, and it felt like magic. It was just meant to be.”

Alex added: “We feel so lucky that Adopt Coast to Coast were able to approve us. From the moment I saw the article, to now having a daughter, it has just felt like fate.”



Are you interested in adoption?

Whether you’re new to the idea of adoption or it’s been on your mind for a while, Adopt Coast to Coast will provide all the support and guidance you need.

Upcoming online information events:

Saturday 28 May 10am

Wednesday 1 June 7pm

Saturday 25 June 10am

Email adoptcoasttocoast@durham.gov.uk to book a place or to request a one-to-one appointment.

Find out more about adopting with Adopt Coast to Coast at www.adoptcoasttocoast.org.uk or by calling on 03000 268 268.



Supporting our high streets

We've been working hard through our Towns and Villages scheme to attract more visitors to our high streets, helping to boost footfall and ensure our neighbourhood centres remain vibrant places to visit.

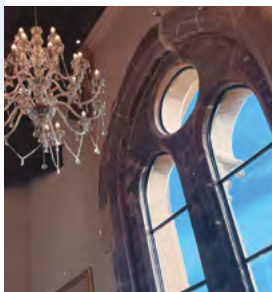
The wide range of support we offer to businesses includes **advice and guidance** on everything from developing a business plan to finding larger premises to help your business grow.

We offer access to **training opportunities** to help businesses upskill their workforce in everything from digital marketing to window dressing and good customer service. We also provide advice on planning and building control, licensing, and potential sources of funding.

Our work to encourage people back to the high street includes **physical improvements** such as the installation of new seating, pavement repairs and landscaping.

We have also introduced **free public Wi-Fi** in Barnard Castle, Bishop Auckland, Stanley, Seaham and Chester-le-Street. We'll soon be installing the same in Spennymoor and Consett, with plans being developed to bring the offer to other towns.

For more information, or to request advice and guidance from our Towns and Villages team, visit www.durham.gov.uk/retail



Improving existing premises

Our Targeted Business Improvement Scheme grant, and interest-free Property Reuse Loan are helping businesses improve the appearance of their premises. They're also helping to bring vacant and derelict sites back into use, generating employment and creating pride in the local area.

During 2021/22, we responded to 192 enquiries from retail businesses. We awarded £387,084 in Targeted Business Improvement grants, supporting businesses to create the equivalent of 116 full time jobs and bringing 16 vacant retail properties back into use. Businesses to benefit include:

Dalton Old Pump House, Dalton-le-Dale

This imposing Grade II listed building had remained virtually untouched since the Second World War but has now been restored and refurbished.

The bespoke venue now offers corporate events and weddings, blending the building's stunning Victorian architecture with the glamour of chandeliers and polished concrete floors.

The venture has created 15 new jobs, brought a vacant building back into use and is helping to support the local economy.

Peggotys and All Tied Up, Wolsingham

Gary Cassidy, owner of Peggotys café-bakery, wanted to sub-divide his existing property and diversify with the opening of a new farm shop.

This created a second retail unit which allowed a village florist to move into larger premises.

We helped fund improvements to the interior and exterior of both properties.





Head to Toe Aesthetics, Blackhill

We supported this health and wellbeing clinic in expanding from a small premises on a business park to a more prominent vacant unit on the high street. The whole unit was fully renovated to create separate treatment rooms, and the empty space above the business was brought back into use as a residence. Two new jobs were created and the owner wants to expand further by taking on additional employees and NHS referrals.

Pet & Reptiles, Seaham

Situated in Seaham's Church Street, the store has been transformed with an attractive facade in keeping with the building's heritage. The shopfronts have been redesigned, using historical images as reference. The shop's windows were replaced with traditional materials and detailing, and the masonry was cleaned and re-pointed. The side elevation was redecorated, and new hand painted signage installed, creating an attractive gateway to the town's main shopping street.



Events welcome everyone back

As part of our bid to get people visiting and enjoying their high streets following the coronavirus pandemic, a touring street festival has been visiting County Durham towns.

Crowds enjoyed an afternoon of circus performances and workshops, street entertainers, craft workshops and face painting. In some areas, families also took part in a game of crazy golf and dared to scale a climbing wall.

The activities were organised using the Welcome Back Fund, awarded by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.



To find out more about the Towns and Villages strategy, visit www.durham.gov.uk/townsandvillages



Save the date for Seaham Food Festival

Seaham Food Festival returns this summer, bringing delicious street food, celebrity chefs and more to the County Durham coast.



Food fans are invited to save the date for this year's event, which will take place on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 August.

A fantastic range of stalls serving up the finest local produce and exciting street food will be at the heart of the event, with some of the region's best food and drink traders ready to share their wares.

Alongside the tempting food stalls, this year, Seaham Food Festival will once again feature an open-air cookery theatre with demonstrations from celebrity chefs and well-known foodies. There will also be live music and family entertainment against the stunning backdrop of the County Durham Heritage Coast.



The weekend will include live cookery demonstrations from some famous faces, including multi-Michelin and 5/5 AA Rosette winning chef, author and restaurateur **Jean-Christophe Novelli**.



Last year, thousands of food fans enjoyed a weekend full of flavour at the festival, supporting independent traders, boosting business recovery following the impact of the pandemic and enjoying two days of outdoor theatre, music and taster activities.



For more information, visit www.seahamfoodfestival.co.uk and follow Seaham Food Festival on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Recognising heroes of the Covid pandemic



More than 400 Covid heroes have been nominated for an award recognising the contribution of County Durham residents during the pandemic.

The hundreds of heart-warming nominations for the Recognition of Contribution award include stories from a wide range of people who have received support from friends, neighbours, local businesses and community groups. They feature people who have organised social activities and befriending services or collected shopping and prescriptions as well as NHS, GP and care staff and those who have volunteered at testing and vaccination sites.

Here are a few examples of the people who have been recognised so far.



Tom

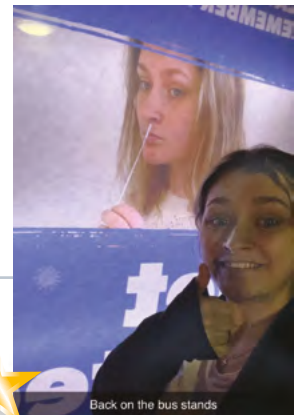
Tom Howe, from Bishop Auckland, raised more than £8,000 for local hospitals by entertaining the community with his crazy bingo and singing sessions. The 25-year-old hosted a variety of online events from his dining room during the Covid lockdowns, including a virtual VE day celebration to help raise people's spirits and promote positive mental wellbeing during the pandemic. He also took on the challenge of running his own pub so he could continue looking after the community.



Pat

Pat Clarey worked tirelessly during the first lockdown, baking much appreciated cakes and scones for staff at Bishop Auckland hospital. She also delivered shopping for people unable to leave their homes and regularly walked an elderly neighbour's dog.

When Covid restrictions began to ease, Pat helped people keep active and connected by organising a socially distanced sequence dance three times a week in Leeholme Community Hall, providing refreshments and sourcing music CDs at her own expense.



Chloe

Chloe Fairclough played a key role in our Get Tested Covid Safe County marketing campaign. The 17-year-old from Bishop Auckland kindly let us use an image of her taking a Covid test, to help us promote regular testing to young people across County Durham.

Chloe's contribution is an important one, making the decision to put the importance of promoting testing ahead of any concerns or embarrassment about being judged by her peer group.




**Recognition of Contribution
to Public Health Award**

How to thank someone

If you would like to nominate someone who has been a shining light during pandemic, email PublicHealth@durham.gov.uk with the title Public Health Award. Include details of the person you are nominating, the reasons for your nomination and an example of their contribution. A letter and certificate will then be shared with you to present to the nominee.

Durham BRASS Festival is back

Our eclectic, vibrant and colourful celebration of brass music in all its forms returns from **Sunday 10 to Sunday 17 July.**



Taking inspiration from the brass band heritage of County Durham, the festival weaves together musical genres to create a vibrant and entertaining festival with events across the county.

This year's headliners include a double MOBO Award winner, a Mercury Music Prize and Brit Award nominee, a band fronted by the current British Poet Laureate, and arguably the most famous brass band in the world.

The festival, which is one of the summer highlights of our annual events programme, will also feature a host of community workshops, free concerts in communities, schools and care homes, and a full programme of lively street bands.

Bigger and better...

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, BRASS was postponed in 2021, but it's set to return bigger and better than ever this year, with some of the UK's finest artists performing in iconic locations.

On Friday 15 July, **LYR and Easington Colliery Band** will take over Durham Cathedral to perform *Firm as A Rock We Stand: A Commemoration and Celebration of County Durham's 'Category D' Villages.*

The band features author and current British Poet Laureate **Simon Armitage CBE**, musician **Richard Walters**, and multi-instrumentalist **Patrick Pearson**. Together they will perform, for the first time live and in full, an EP specially commissioned by BRASS Festival in partnership with the Durham Miners' Association and the Redhills Charity.

In what promises to be a memorable one-off gig, **Richard Hawley** will perform at Durham Cathedral on Saturday 16 July. Hawley, who found success as a member of Britpop band The Longpigs and then as Pulp's guitarist, earned a Mercury Music Prize nomination for his breakthrough solo album *Cole's Corner*.



He has gone on to record seven more critically acclaimed albums and has worked with Arctic Monkeys, Texas, Manic Street Preachers, Elbow and Paul Weller. He said: "I am genuinely excited; I think it's going to be one of the most memorable shows I've ever played."

Hawley will be accompanied by one of Durham's most popular bands, the **NASUWT Riverside Brass Band**. Founded in 1877, the band rehearse in Pelton Fell, Chester-le-Street.

Gala Durham will play host to **Ibibio Sound Machine** on Thursday 14 July, when they present their unique sound-clash of Western African funk, disco and electro, alongside the vocals of Nigerian singer Eno Williams.



On Friday 15 July, **Old Dirty Brasstards** will wow audiences with a contemporary brass makeover of exhilarating party jams, indie favourites and rock and roll classics that audiences can dance along to on the flat floor. The quirky 10-piece will perform their unique interpretations at Gala Durham.

Family favourite and double MOBO Award winner **YolanDa Brown** will treat fans of all ages to two special performances at Gala Durham on Saturday 16 July.

Little music-lovers and their grown-ups can enjoy all the fun of YolanDa's Band Jam, in a live version of the saxophonist's acclaimed CBeebies TV show. Then, in her second show of the day, YolanDa and her band will deliver a delicious fusion of reggae, jazz and soul.

Often lauded as the most famous brass band in the world, the multi-award-winning **Black Dyke Band** will perform at Durham BRASS festival for the very first time on Sunday 17 July at Gala Durham.



Showcasing local talent

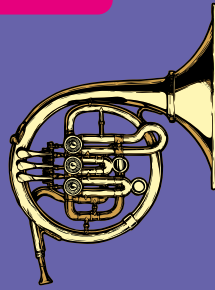
An array of local talent will take to the stage during BRASS 2022, beginning with Sunderland duo Field Music on Sunday 10 July at Gala Durham.

Brothers Peter and David Brewis have gained a reputation for an ambitious and intellectual approach to making music, with eight full albums, Mercury Award nominations, plus numerous commissions and side projects under their belt.

Their show, *Binding Time – Songs & Stories from the Durham Coalfields*, has been commissioned by BRASS in partnership with the Durham Miners Association and the Redhills Charity, funded by Arts Council England.

Fellow Mackem, Ben Lunn, will reflect on his North-Eastern heritage, how disability impacts the world around him, and his working-class upbringing in his appearance at Ushaw Historic House on Wednesday 13 July.

Conductor, musicologist, teacher and composer, Ben is one of three exciting artists chosen to create work for the festival's Bold as BRASS segment, an inclusive and accessible programme championing the talent of disabled artists inspired by brass music.



Durham BRASS

10-17 JULY 2022

Streets of BRASS

On Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July, our fabulous street bands will take over Durham city centre for two days of great music and brass inspired mayhem. Also on Saturday evening we will head up to Wharton Park to have a great Big Brass Party with all the bands. Bring a picnic and your dancing feet.

Reaching into communities

Each year BRASS works with around 15,000 children and young people through its community and education programmes. This year, some of the country's best street bands will again be taking their skills to schools across the county to play mini-gigs and host workshops.

BRASS also gives something back to those who may have had a particularly tough few years, so we're taking some of our performers to care homes throughout County Durham.



Find out more

To book tickets, or find out more, visit www.brassfestival.co.uk or call Gala Durham Box Office on 03000 266 600.

Looking after yourself and others

Early detection saves lives

Knowing your body and recognising what's normal and what's not, can help in the early detection of serious illnesses.

Diseases such as cancer and diabetes often have recognisable signs to look out for. Regular screening appointments can help detect these signs early on, but there are things you can do to yourself to be more aware. Find out what symptoms to look out for at: www.wellbeingforlife.net/services/cancer-awareness and <https://riskscore.diabetes.org.uk/start>

Remember, if you are concerned, make an appointment with your GP.

Positive steps such as quitting smoking and cutting down on alcohol can also help reduce your chances of developing cancer and other serious illnesses. It will also help you feel fitter and improve your mood. Get help to stop smoking at: www.smokefreecountydurham.co.uk and to cut down drinking at www.drinkcoach.org.uk

Speak up

We don't always recognise when our mental health is starting to worsen but opening up to someone can be the first step towards finding the right support.

Now You're Talking encourages people of all ages to talk to family, friends, neighbours, or work colleagues when things start to get too much.

Find out more at: www.durham.gov.uk/adultmentalhealthsupport



Recognising unpaid carers

Carers Week, which runs from Monday 6 to Sunday 12 June, aims to raise awareness of caring, the challenges faced by unpaid carers and the contribution they make to families and communities.

We've teamed up with Carers' UK to offer unpaid carers in County Durham free access to online resources to help make caring easier. This includes e-learning courses, publications and a care coordination app where you can manage appointments and save important information about the person you care for.

Visit www.durhamcarers.info

Step In to keep Durham safe



Revellers in Durham City are being encouraged to stand up to harmful or abusive behaviour towards women and girls.

We're urging people to step in safely if they witness anyone making sexually explicit comments or gestures in public or if they see unwanted staring, sexual attention or touching.

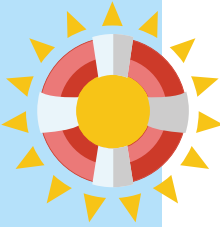
Training has been offered to staff in the city's pubs, clubs and takeaways and to taxi companies, to help them spot inappropriate behaviour, find the safest way to step in and know where to send victims for support.

You can step in safely by reporting incidents to a Step In Aware business, or to the police on 101, or 999 in an emergency.

Find out more at enough.campaign.gov.uk

Stay summer safe

Hot weather is something many people look forward to, but sunny spells pose health risks too. Follow these tips to protect yourself during the warmer weather.



- › Carry water when travelling.
- › Look out for those, such as young children or older people, who may feel the heat more acutely than others.
- › If swimming in a river, or any other open water, make sure you know the dangers. The shock of jumping into cold water can kill you - never jump or dive straight in and take time to slowly acclimatise to the colder temperature. Be aware of hazards such as strong currents and hidden rocks and debris.

For more advice visit www.durham.gov.uk/keepyoursummersafe



Healthy smiles

Oral health is an important part of every child's wellbeing and impacts on their ability to eat and sleep, socialise with confidence and concentrate at school. Follow these top tips:

Be sugar smart – Only have sugary food and drinks at mealtimes and avoid them before bedtime. Try sugar-free, diet or no added sugar drinks. Plain water or lower fat milks are best.

See the dentist – It's free for under 18s to visit an NHS dentist.

Brushing twice is nice – Help your kids clean their teeth twice a day, including once before bed, with fluoride toothpaste.

Ask your dentist for more tips or visit www.durham.gov.uk/EarlyYearsOralHealth



Healthy Eating Week Monday 13 to Friday 17 June

Are you eating well for you and the planet?

For a healthier and more sustainable diet, you should focus on fibre for meals and snacks, get your five a day, vary your protein, stay hydrated and know your portions to reduce food waste.

Maintaining a healthy weight can benefit your physical and mental health.

For tips and advice on maintaining a healthy weight visit www.durham.gov.uk/HealthyWeight



National Breastfeeding Celebration

Wednesday 25 May to
Sunday 19 June

Breastfeeding is the healthiest way to feed your baby.

Exclusive breastfeeding (giving your baby breast milk only) is recommended for the first six months of your baby's life, but any amount of breastfeeding has a positive effect. The longer you breastfeed, the longer the protection lasts and the greater the benefits.

Breastfeeding has benefits for both mother and baby and can help to build a strong physical and emotional bond between them. Breastmilk protects your baby from infections and diseases and breastfed babies also have less chance of developing ailments such as eczema, asthma, chest and ear infections and even diarrhoea and vomiting. Breastfeeding your baby lowers your risk of getting breast and ovarian cancer and naturally uses up to 500 calories a day.

For more advice on how to give your child the best start in life, visit: www.durham.gov.uk/beststartinlife

Recycle and be a winner

Since we launched our recycling scheme for small electrical goods last year, we've recycled ten tonnes of unused small electrical items such as kettles, toasters and hairdryers.

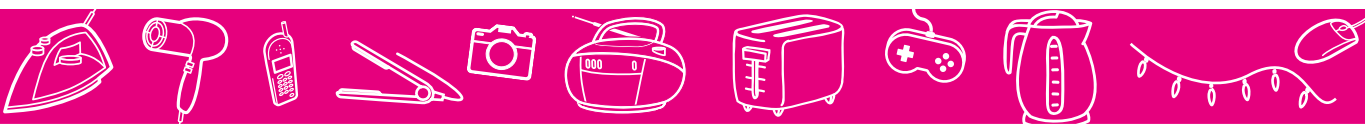
And we now have 110 collection points throughout the county where you can drop off your old appliances.

If you've just invested in a new hairdryer and are unsure what to do with your old one, why not recycle it at one of our collection points? If you do, you could be in with the chance of winning a prize in our monthly draw with AO.

Denise Quatrin dropped off her old toaster at Meadowfield Leisure Centre's collection point and won a smart speaker. Find out more at www.durham.gov.uk/weee

We also have several **Repair Café** events starting up across the county, promoting **Repair and Reuse**. Keep an eye out for one near you.

If you are a **community venue** and would like to host a collection point, contact wasteaware@durham.gov.uk



Allotment changes

We're investing £610,000 to improve our allotments.

We know how beneficial the great outdoors is for improving wellbeing and mental health and we want to make it as easy as possible for residents wanting to sample a slice of allotment life.

The funding will be used for site developments and maintenance, as well as employing staff to bring vacant plots back into use more quickly.

We currently have 159 sites countywide, 106 which we manage ourselves and 53 managed by associations on our behalf, and it can cost as little as £50 to run a plot.

Find out more about our sites and how to apply at www.durham.gov.uk/allotments



Pest control

Did you know that if you're having trouble from unwanted visitors, our pest control team charges as little as £40 to carry out a full treatment? A private contractor is likely to cost three to four times as much.

Get more information on our website www.durham.gov.uk/pestcontrol or book online using your Do It Online account www.durham.gov.uk/doitonline

Electric car clubs launch

We're working with Derwent Valley Car Club to bring a revolutionary new scheme to the Shotley Bridge and Rowlands Gill areas, and we're hoping to roll it out to other parts of County Durham too.

For only £5 a month you can join the car club and have the use of a new electric car whenever you need it. In order to sign up, you will need to have been driving for more than two years and have no more than six points on your licence. It's only £4 per hour (reducing to £3 per hour) or £30 a day to then hire a vehicle.

The scheme has volunteer drivers available to take people to hospital appointments.

It also offers a much greener and environmentally friendly way to travel.

Susan Ross from Derwent Valley Car Club said: *"Not only is this a very low-cost way to travel, but the scheme is also very accessible and a great way of bringing communities together."*

The Scaling On Street Charging Infrastructure project is paying for two new car club hubs at Shotley Bridge Rowlands Gill and three fully electric Nissan Leafs.

Charging points have also been installed on Front Street at Shotley Bridge.

Find out more about Derwent Valley Car Club at www.ourgateshead.org/derwent-valley-car-club



“We soon realised how much money we would save...”



Go green with van trial

Businesses are being encouraged to go green by signing up to our 'try before you buy' electric van scheme.

As part of our Climate Emergency response, we're offering small and medium sized businesses the chance to borrow an electric van for up to three weeks, to help make the decision about switching to electric.

Newton Aycliffe-based GBS Electricals were one of the first businesses to trial a vehicle through the scheme and bought their own electric vehicle after seeing first-hand the savings to be made.

Company director, David Meredith, said: *"We heard about the council's try before you buy scheme on social media and wanted to give it a go to see if an electric vehicle was for us."*

"We soon realised how much money we would save – £400 a month so it was a 'yes' from us. I couldn't recommend it highly enough – the council were great to work with and made it really easy to try out the vehicle."

Find out more about the scheme at www.durham.gov.uk/trybeforeyoubuy

Bank holiday bins

There will be no changes to bin collections across the Jubilee bank holidays on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 June. Please leave your bins at the kerbside as usual before 7am.



Enjoy the great outdoors this summer



From discovering the local wildlife and having fun in our parks, to a stroll through the countryside on one of our Northern Saints Trails, here are some ideas to inspire you to get out and about in County Durham this summer.

Take a coastal safari

The unique Durham Heritage Coast is the perfect place to make the most of the summer – regardless of the weather. But it's not just us humans that enjoy the beaches, read on to discover some of the special creatures we share our coastline with.

Rockpooling for underwater treasures

Rockpooling is a great way to while away the hours. From shore crabs to star fish, limpets to beautiful sea anemones, there is always something to find just below the surface. Follow these simple tips and you'll be guaranteed to find an underwater world full of surprises:



- ✓ Plan your visit for low tide when more rock pools will be exposed
- ✓ Rockpools can be slippery, so wear thick-soled footwear
- ✓ Be as quiet and still as you can so as not to scare off any wildlife
- ✓ Carefully turn over rocks to find hidden creatures before gently putting them back
- ✓ Bring a bucket and half fill it with some seawater and seaweed, so you can look more closely at what you find
- ✓ Remember to always put back any creatures you find

There are lots of amazing places for rockpooling along our coastline; some of our favourite spots at low tide are Vane Tempest Beach, Seaham, and Blackhall Rocks. Only rockpool between April and September, so you don't disturb any overwintering birds.

Find out more about what lives in our rockpools by searching for Seashore Safari at www.mcsuk.org

Whales and dolphins

Harbour porpoise, bottlenose dolphin, white-beaked dolphin and minke whale are the four most regularly encountered species of sea mammals, or cetaceans found off the north east coast. Warmer summer sea temperatures mean we are more likely to see these visitors on a regular basis. You don't necessarily need binoculars to spot them, but you do need a calm day and patience as cetaceans can dive for long periods. SeaScapes runs training on how to spot, identify and record cetaceans; find out more at www.exploreseascapes.co.uk



Durham Argus butterfly

Found only along the rare grasslands found on the Magnesian Limestone cliffs of the Durham Heritage Coast, the Durham Argus butterfly and its larvae rely on wild thyme and common rock-rose to survive. Working with the National Trust, volunteers have been managing this habitat to give the Durham Argus the best possible chances of survival. We are now looking for volunteers to identify and map existing, historic and potential Durham Argus sites, as well as help survey local Durham Argus butterfly populations each season. For information on this and other ways to volunteer with SeaScapes visit www.exploreseascapes.co.uk/volunteering-opportunities/



SeaScapes
Tyne to Tees, shores and seas





Walk this way

Walkers can now follow in the footsteps of ancient pilgrims on the Northern Saints Trails.

Uncover the fascinating stories of our region's history, heritage and landscapes as you explore. The themed trails stretch over 200 miles, and weave their way through the region's very best attractions, landscapes, places to eat and drink, and accommodation.

These six walking routes criss-cross the north east, from the beautiful Durham Heritage Coast, to the wild moorlands of Northumberland, Tyneside and Wearside, with the magnificent Durham Cathedral at their heart.

The trails are a great way to get outside and explore somewhere new this summer, including many local hidden gems like Escomb Saxon Church, Auckland Castle Deer Park, and Ushaw, Historic House, Chapel and Gardens. The trails also pass through many of the county's towns and villages including Gainford, Lanchester, Chester-le-Street, Castleside, Trimdon, Kelloe, and West Auckland.

Whether you're challenging yourself to a long-distance trek or exploring shorter trail sections, you can keep track of the many places you discover with the new Northern Saints Trail Passport and collect stamps along the way.

You'll also find downloadable trail guides and GPS mapping on the website.

Find out more at www.northernsaints.com



Explore your local park

Whether you're looking for the perfect picnic spot or somewhere for the kids to let off steam, there's lots to enjoy at our parks.

Wharton Park, Durham City; Hardwick Park, Sedgfield; and Chester-le-Street Riverside Park have play equipment to keep the little ones entertained in the warmer weather.

When you've worked up an appetite, each park has a café or refreshment kiosk where you can grab a drink or tasty treat.

Wharton Park and Hardwick Park will also be running a series of family-friendly events and activities during the summer.

Find out more at www.durham.gov.uk/parks



A ROAR-SOME summer adventure



Friday 17 June, 4.30pm
Saturday 18 June, 11am and 2pm
Sunday 19 June, 11am and 2pm

Zog and the Flying Doctors – live on stage

Presented by Freckle Productions in association with Rose Theatre

Gala Durham

Zog, super keen student turned air-ambulance, still lands with a crash-bang-thump. Together with his Flying Doctor crew, Princess Pearl and Sir Gadabout, they tend to a sunburnt mermaid, a unicorn with one too many horns and a lion with the flu. However, Pearl's uncle, the King, has other ideas about whether princesses should be doctors, and she's soon locked up in the castle back in a crown and a silly frilly dress!

With a bit of help from some friends and half a pound of cheese, can Pearl make her uncle better and prove princesses can be doctors too?

Based on Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's bestselling sequel, Freckle Productions (*Zog*, *Stick Man*, *Tiddler & Other Terrific Tales*, *Tabby McTat*) bring the creative team behind *Zog*, Emma Kilbey and Joe Stilgoe, back together for this truly modern take on the classic fairy tale.

Most suitable for ages 3+ but all ages welcome.

Tickets £15, £13 concession
03000 266 600
www.galadurham.co.uk



Durham County Record Office online talks

Thursday
23 June,
10am-11am
and 6pm-7pm

Branching Out: Parish Records (other than registers)

The value of parish registers for family history is well known and they are often easily accessible. But there is a wealth of other records kept by parishes that can also be useful for family history, especially as you get further back. Many ancestors will have served as parish officers and surviving records may tell you about their tenure as churchwarden or parish constable. Even if they didn't, parish records have a lot to say about the community in which your ancestors lived. This talk looks at what records survive as well as how to understand and find them.

This session is hosted on Zoom. **£5 per person.**



Thursday 14 July,
10am-11am and
6pm-7pm

Branching Out: Farming Ancestors

Before the 19th century, Durham, like most of Great Britain, was a rural

county with agriculture the predominant occupation. Some people owned or leased their own farms, others worked as labourers with varying degrees of skill and pay. This talk explores the occupations that existed and how our ancestors lived as well as the records that survive and what they can tell us.

This session is hosted on Zoom. **£5 per person.**

Thursday 21 July, from 10.30am to 11.30am

Third Thursday Talk: 'Finding Wilfred – a Great War mystery'

Military researcher David Yeoman will share his search for soldier Wilfred Lomas and his Durham Light Infantry (DLI) comrades, reported killed in the First World War. This **free** event is hosted on Zoom (donations welcome, by optional payment link).

Killhope Lead Mining Museum

Enjoy free entry to the museum that won **The Best Told Story Award** from Visit England 2021-2022. Bring your wellies for an underground mine trip, view the museum's fascinating Spar Box collection, relax and unwind in the café or grounds, or join in with our summer activities:



Wednesday 1 June, 3, 10, 17 and 24 August

I'm Not One to Gossip

This specially commissioned play takes audiences on a wander around the museum in the company of Jane Peart – the woman who cleans the Mine Agent's office and knows everything about everyone and anyone. As the play unfolds across different scenes set in various locations around the museum, Jane's character invites the audience to join her for a gossip, as she shares the lives of Upper Weardale folk during the Victorian era. Suitable for all ages and mobilities – this performance takes place outdoors on the flat accessible areas of the site.

Free – no need to book.



Tuesday 24 and
Wednesday 25 May,
Friday 17, Saturday 18,
Friday 24, Saturday 25
June, Monday 4 July,
Friday 5, Saturday 6
and Wednesday 24
August

Blacksmith's workshop and demonstrations

Try your hand at age-old craftsmanship. Learn the skills of the Blacksmith under the guidance of traditional blacksmith Alex Sowden and make a choice of gift to take home. **£85 including lunch and refreshments. Booking is essential.**

www.killhope.org.uk

Places for all talks must be booked in advance. 03000 267 619
<https://recordofficeshop.durham.gov.uk/pgEventResult>



Empire Consett

Saturday 18 June, 7.30pm

The Greatest Hits of Foster and Allen

Tony Allen performs wonderful hits such as *Maggie*, *I Will Love You All My Life*, *When I Dream* and *The Mountains Of Mourne*, plus songs from his new solo album. **Tickets £24.**



Friday 1 July, 7.30pm

80s Live

A live show of chart topping anthems from artists including Wham, The Weather Girls, Culture Club, Rick Astley, Madonna, Duran Duran, Soft Cell, The Human League, A-Ha, Tears for Fears and more. **Tickets £23.50.**

03000 262 400
www.empireconsett.co.uk

Gala Durham

Tuesday 7 June, 7.30pm

A Way Home

1951 saw a third of County Durham's villages classified as 'D' - no longer deemed worthy of investment and were expected to die quietly. This new play is rooted in the stories and memories of the very people who called those D villages home, told with humour, tenderness and not a small amount of grit. **Tickets £16, £14 concession.**



Saturday 11 June, 2.30pm and 7.30pm

Hadaway Harry

A true story about Harry Clasper, the man the Blydon Races was written for, and the greatest sporting superstar the north east has ever seen. A moving and humorous story, following his journey from working class pitman in Jarrow, to Rowing Champion of the World. **Tickets £16, £14 concession.**

03000 266 600 www.galadurham.co.uk

Bishop Auckland Town Hall

Sunday 29 May, 12noon and 5pm

Terry Deary's True Ghost Stories

A brand new stage adaptation that is full of spine-chilling characters and ghostly ghosts from the past. Head back in time to a 1920s theatre, meet some cut-throats, unravel an ancient Roman curse, investigate the vanishing Victorian, and expose the Blonde Witch of Lime Street. **Tickets £12, £10 concession and £40 family ticket.**



Saturday 4 June, 7.30pm

10CCLO

The world's only tribute to both the legendary 10CC and ELO in one incredible hit packed two-hour show, including classics such as *Mr Blue Sky*, *I'm Mandy Fly Me*, *Evil Woman*, *The Things We Do for Love*, *Wild West Hero*, *Life Is a Minestrone*, *Art for Art's Sake*, and *I'm Not in Love*. **Tickets £18.**

03000 269 524 www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk



Take a trip to the movies

See the latest blockbusters for **just £5 per ticket or £20 for a family of five** at Gala Durham or Bishop Auckland Town Hall. Enjoy super savings on **Super Tuesdays at Empire Consett**, with all tickets just £4 (normally from £5.50). Visit the venues' websites for full listings and show times.

CURRENT EVENTS

Until Saturday 21 May

Roots/Routes and Migrant Paths

The Art Block, 74 Church Street, Seaham, SR7 7HF

The theme for this art exhibition came from a discussion between some members regarding their ancestry and family origins. **Free.** 0191 649 9431 www.edanart.co.uk

Until Sunday 26 June

From Edinburgh to London & Beyond: Railway Posters from the Golden Age of Travel

Ushaw: Historic House, Chapels and Gardens, Durham, DH7 9RH

An exhibition celebrating the remarkable and striking work of some of the leading railway poster artists of the mid-twentieth century. Comprising of 40 original railway posters dating from the 1920s to the 1950s. **Normal admission cost applies.** 0191 334 5119 www.ushaw.org/whatson

Until Sunday 3 July



Barking – A Celebration of Dogs in Art at Ushaw

Ushaw: Historic House, Chapels and Gardens, Durham, DH7 9RH

Celebrate the nation's wonderful love affair with its four-legged best friends in an outdoor art exhibition, featuring paintings, sculptures, prints and ceramics. **Normal admission cost applies.** 0191 334 5119 www.ushaw.org/whatson

Framwellgate Moor Community Centre



Can you share recollections of previous Coronation or Jubilee celebrations in Framwellgate and Pity Me to help form of a display to celebrate the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee?**

Please send any details (labelled Jubilee recollections) to the Secretary (framyca@gmail.com) or ring the centre (0191 386 3356) for further information.



Until September

Glass Exchange

Durham Cathedral, Durham City, DH1 3EH

Bringing together ground-breaking contemporary artists, with some of the most highly skilled glass makers in the country, Glass Exchange presents ambitious new works across the North East. **Free.** <https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/glass-exchange>

REGULAR EVENTS

Second Wednesday of the month, 11am

LGBT+ Over 50s County Durham

St Giles Church Hall, Durham City, DH1 1QQ

An inclusive and supportive social group for older LGBT+ people and their allies. Meet new friends and enjoy conversation and refreshments. 0191 303 8604 www.lgbt50durham.org.uk



Fridays during term time, 6pm-7.15pm

Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir

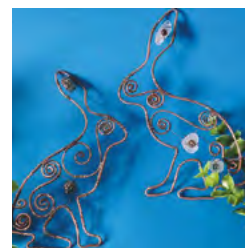
Ceddesfeld Hall, Rectory Row, Sedgefield, TS21 2AE

Do you like to sing? Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir is looking for new singers aged 8 to 18. A fun way to make new friends and develop new skills. 01740 621956 www.sedgefieldlyricsingers.weebly.com

Lanchester Flower Club

Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0HY

This small, friendly social group meets monthly for flower demonstrations and is looking for new members. All are welcome. The group enjoys meals and days out and will next meet on: **Wednesday 25 May and Wednesday 22 June at 2pm.**



Various dates until 30 June

Copper Creatures

Vane Tempest, Unit 2, Maynard's

Row, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 1QF

Visit the studio for a cuppa and to learn how to work with copper wire to create an animal artwork. **£40.** 07985113592 www.colourbuzz.net



Various dates throughout the year, next sessions **Saturday 22 May and 18 June**

Early Birds

Locomotion, Shildon, DL4 2RE

A special early-morning session, from 9.15am-10am, for visitors with sensory needs who wish to explore the museum in a quieter environment. For anyone who would benefit from a quieter, more relaxed museum opening, including visitors who have an Autism Spectrum Condition, an anxiety disorder, or a Special Educational Need. **Free.** 033 0058 0058 www.locomotion.org.uk/whats-on

Various dates throughout the year, next session **Wednesday 6 July**

Introduction to Astrophotography at Grassholme Observatory

Grassholme Observatory, West Pasture, Nr Mickleton, DL12 0PW

Learn how to utilise the settings of your camera and what they mean and how to use them wisely on the sky at night so that you can get some stunning results. **From £25.** 0345 155 0236 <https://bookwhen.com/grassholmeobservatory>

MAY EVENTS



Thursday 19 May, 7.30pm

The Sam Sweeney Band

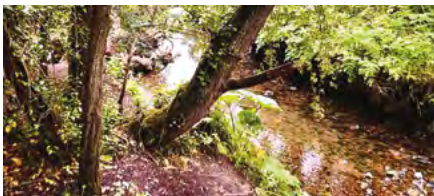
The Witham, Barnard Castle, DL12 8LY

The BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards nominee and his new band bring the swagger and groove of traditional English music with the huge sound, flare, energy and festival spirit of bands coming out of the Celtic and Scandinavian music scenes.

£18 in advance, £20 on the door.

0183 363 1107

www.thewitham.org.uk/whats-on



Monday 23 May, 10am-12noon

Mindful Morning

Dalton Moor Farm, Seaham, SR7 9JY

Relax and unwind in nature with short guided meditations, mantras and poetry, and forest bathing. No previous experience of mindfulness or meditation required.

£10.25. 07887 551643

www.daltonmoorfarm.co.uk

Saturday 28 May to Sunday 5 June

Jubilee Celebration Day at Raby Castle

Raby Castle, Staindrop, DL2 3AH

In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, there enjoy exciting events from a street party themed trail to a picnic in the park and special displays in the castle. 01833 660 202. **Price to be confirmed.** www.raby.co.uk/events/jubilee-celebrations



Saturday 28 May to Sunday 5 June, Monday to Sunday, 10am-5pm

May Half Term: Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Beamish Museum, Beamish, DH9 0RG

Discover how the Queen's coronation was celebrated and enjoy fun, family activities to mark the Platinum Jubilee.

Normal museum admission applies.

0191 370 4000

www.beamish.org.uk/whats-on



Saturday 28 May, 9am to 5pm

Classic Car Show

Ushaw: Historic House, Chapels and Gardens, Durham, DH7 9RH

An outstanding display of motor vehicles, live music, food and autojumble stalls. Normal admission cost applies.

0191 334 5119 www.ushaw.org/whatson

Monday 30 May, 10.30am and 1.30pm

Brightwoods Forest School Book Walk: How Hungry is a Caterpillar?

Raby Castle, Staindrop, DL2 3AH

A session of interactive activities and sensory experiences inspired By Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. £10 per child, £7.50 per adult. 01833 660202 www.raby.co.uk/events/brightwoods



JUNE EVENTS



Wednesday 1 June, 2pm

Pongo's Party!

The Witham, Barnard Castle, DL12 8LY

Featuring the voices of Justin Fletcher and Nicole Davis from CBeebies as Pongo the Pig and Molly-Moo the Cow. With a colourful farmyard and host of loveable puppet characters, Pongo's Party is a family show particularly suitable for 2-7 year olds.

£8-£10. 0183 363 1107

www.thewitham.org.uk/whats-on

Thursday 2 June, 10am-3pm

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party

Church Street, Seaham, SR7 7HF

Join in the fun with music and entertainment throughout the day. Free. 0191 581 8034 info@seaham.gov.uk



Friday 3 June

Platinum Jubilee Tea Dance

Durham Town Hall, Durham City, DH1 3NJ

Celebrate Queen Elizabeth's II's 70 years on the throne at this tea dance.

0191 384 6153

<https://durhammarkets.co.uk/event>

Friday 3 June, 7.30pm

Ensemble Hesperii

Bishop Auckland Methodist Church, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6EN

Enjoy beautiful music from Ensemble Hesperii, Early Music Ensemble.

£14 advance tickets, £16 on the door. 01388 606075





Saturday 4 June

Fina and the Platinum Street Party

11 Arches Park, Bishop Auckland, DL14 7SF

Award winning shows, epic firework displays and one of the country's biggest street parties will make a truly memorable weekend of celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee. **From £20.** 01388 311813 www.11arches.com/fina-and-platinum-street-party



Saturday 4 June, 11am-4pm

The Big Jubilee Lunch in conjunction with National Bike Week

Woodhouse Park, Balliol Close, Peterlee, SR8 2NX

Bringing together the town to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. Fun for all the family, including fairground rides, face painting, children's entertainment and more. **Free entry.** 0191 586 2491 council@peterlee.gov.uk

Saturday 4 June

Jubilee Celebration Day

Ushaw: Historic House, Chapels and Gardens, Durham, DH7 9RH

A right royal celebration in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There will be live music, creative activities and lots of fun for all the family. **Normal admission cost applies.** 0191 334 5119 www.ushaw.org/whatson



Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 June, 10am-4pm

Food festival

Aycliffe Town Centre, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4DH

Food festival. Celebrity chef Sean Wilson will give gluten free and vegan food demonstrations. **Free (celebrity demos £5 each).** 07783 539167 junc7tion@gmail.com

Sunday 5 June, from 11am

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Framwellgate Moor Community Centre

Activities to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's reign, including a tea party and presentation of Jubilee mugs. Prizes for best children's 'royal costume'. 0191 386 3356 framyca@gmail.com



Saturday 11 June, 9.30am-5.30pm

Garden Willow Weaving Workshop

Dalton Moor Farm, Murton, SR7 9JY

Learn to weave a variety of plant supports for greenhouse or garden borders, then learn how to weave a great big willow obelisk for your peas or sweet peas. Chat and make friends while you weave, in this small group workshop. **From £60.** 07887 551643 www.daltonmoorfarm.co.uk



Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June, 10am-5pm

Horses at Beamish Museum

Beamish Museum, Beamish, DH9 0RG

Trot along and see horses in action around the museum. **Normal museum admission applies.** 0191 370 4000 www.beamish.org.uk/whats-on

Sunday 12 June 12noon-11pm

Canny Mint Super-Duper Show

Spennymoor Indoor Bowls Club, Spennymoor, DL16 7LF

Canny Mint Productions present a day of local, original, live music. **£5 all day.** 07368 999 565

Monday 13 June to Sunday 10 July

Community Music Festival

St Mary's Parish Church, Barnard Castle, DL12 8NQ

Celebrating music in Teesdale, whatever your preference – rock, folk, spiritual, swing, classical, vocal or instrumental. **Free.** 0741 182 5230 www.stmarysbarnardcastle.org.uk/events



Wednesday 15 to Saturday 18 June, 7.15pm

Legally Blonde the Musical

Dryburn Theatrical Workshop, Park View Theatre, Chester-le-Street, DH3 3QA

Based on the best loved movie, this all-singing, all-dancing rom-com follows beautiful and popular sorority sister Elle Woods as she bags herself a place at the prestigious Harvard Law School to try and win her boyfriend back. **From £10.** 0191 388 3362



Thursday 16 June, 10.30am
Durham Market Hall History Tour

Durham Market Place, Durham, DH1 3NJ

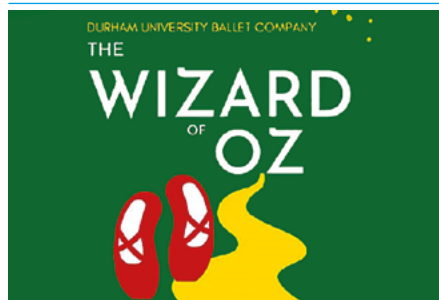
Hosted by local historian and archivist, David Butler. Free. 0191 384 6153 <https://durhammarkets.co.uk/event>

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 June, 1pm-11pm

Peterlee Music Fest

Helford Road Playing Fields, Peterlee, SR8 1ER

80s Rock & Pop Music Fest. An unbeatable 2 day line-up of tribute bands held in a giant marquee. £25 for 1 day or £45 for 2 days. 0191 586 2491 www.ticketsource.co.uk/peterlee



Monday 20 June 7.30pm and Tuesday 21 June, 2.30pm and 7.30pm

The Wizard of Oz

Gala Durham, Durham, DH1 1WA

Durham University Ballet Company recreates a timeless classic, following Dorothy and friends through the medium of dance. Featuring a live orchestra. £12.50 (£8.50 concessions) £7 under 12s. 03000 266 600 www.galadurham.co.uk

Tuesday 21 June, 7.30pm

Ferryhill, Sedgfield & District flower club

Parish Hall, Sedgfield, TS21 3AT

Lucy Richardson gives a flower demonstration entitled 'Bloom where you are planted'. £5. 07533 752 870

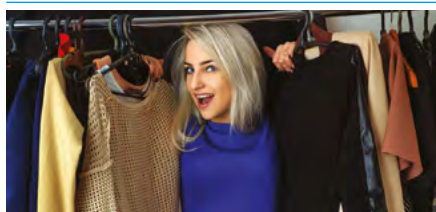


Wednesday 22 June, 5pm

HEDGE

The Witham, Barnard Castle, DL12 8LY

A playful show aimed at children aged 4 and over. Meet a hedgehog waking up from hibernation to find the world is not as it once was. Combines the magic of dance with beautiful costumes, innovative props and puppetry to create a fun-filled performance space for little ones to enjoy. £6 adults, £5 children. 01833 631107 www.thewitham.org.uk/whats-on



Thursday 23 June, 6.30pm

Charity fashion show and pop-up shop

The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, DL12 8NP

An evening of fun and fashion with women's clothing and accessories from many high street names, mostly priced at 50 percent off the RRP. Enjoy the show followed by the chance to try on and buy some fabulous clothing. Raising money for The Bowes Museum and Charity Ethan's Arc. Tickets must be pre-booked £10. 01833 690606 www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk/Whats-On

Friday 24 and Saturday 25 June, 7pm

"NHS, We Thank You" Concert Presented by Durham Musical Theatre Company

Empire Consett, Front Street, Consett, DH8 5AB

Based on the great American musicals, this concert is raising money to support the physical and mental welfare of the staff at University Hospital, Durham. From £15. 03000 262 400 www.empireconsett.co.uk



Saturday 25 June, 12noon-5pm

Armed Forces Day

Seaham Town Park, Seaham, SR7 0HP

Armed Forces Day service and event, with music and entertainment throughout the day. Free. 0191 581 8034

JULY EVENTS



Sunday 3 July, 12noon-3.30pm

Rainbow Ramble for St Cuthbert's Hospice

Lambton Park, Chester-le-Street, DH3 4PT

Run, jog, walk, toddle or even dance your way around the 5k family friendly route to raise money for St Cuthbert's Hospice. Suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs and all ages. From £12.50. 0191 386 1170 www.stcuthbertshospice.com/events



Wednesday 5 to Saturday 9 July, 7.30pm

The Castle Players: The Comedy of Errors

Grounds of The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, DL12 8NP

Set in 1919, with a distinctly 'Peaky Blinders' feel, this farce with a dark underbelly creates a richly comic world full of mistaken identity and wanton lasciviousness. Price to be confirmed. 01833 631107 www.castleplayers.co.uk

you



could be the person we are looking for.

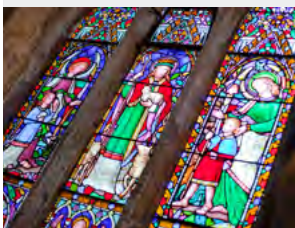
Make a difference to someone else's life.

We have **care roles** available across County Durham, to suit your skills and experience. Scan the QR code to see our latest vacancies or email: cdsrecruitment@durham.gov.uk



Searching for a new challenge this summer?

Why not grab those walking boots and explore the Northern Saints Trails!



Based on ancient pilgrimage routes, the six stunning walking trails bring fascinating local stories to life.

See the county and wider North East region in a new light as you explore their history, heritage and incredible scenery. Discover unique attractions, places to eat and hidden gems along the way.

Perfect for a short stroll, longer hike or a day out with a difference.

[#northernsaints](https://twitter.com/northernsaints) northernsaints.com





Caring for you, with you

The County Durham Care Partnership joins up health, social care and voluntary organisations, giving you the right care, when you need it, closer to home