

**For further information contact:**

**Bill Quay Community Farm**

Hainingwood Terrace

Bill Quay

Gateshead NE10 0UE

Tel: 0191 433 5780

Email: [billquayfarm@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:billquayfarm@gateshead.gov.uk)

**Countryside Team**

Thornley Woodlands Centre

Derwent Walk Country Park

Rowlands Gill

Tyne & Wear NE39 1AU

Tel: 01207 545 212

Email: [countryside@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:countryside@gateshead.gov.uk)

**Saltwell Park**

East Park Road

Gateshead NE9 5AX

Tel: 0191 433 5918

Email: [kellyanderson@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:kellyanderson@gateshead.gov.uk)



gateshead events in the  
**countryside**

**September - December 2011**

A guide to getting out  
and about in Gateshead  
for adults, families & children

[www.gateshead.gov.uk](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk)

 **Gateshead**  
Council

# hello

and welcome to Outdoor Events, your guide to getting out and about in Gateshead's countryside for adults, families and children. This handy guide details a fantastic range of activities for everyone to enjoy at one of our countryside sites including Bill Quay Community Farm, Saltwell Park and Thornley Woodlands Centre from September to December 2011.

Why not join us for some ghoulish goings on at one of our Halloween events, blow away the cobwebs on a countryside walk or just get into the Christmas spirit with some festive fun. With activities for all the family there's so much more inside, so make sure you don't miss out on the many events taking place.

For further information on any of the activities listed, contact the countryside team.

## Important Information

- Please wear clothing and footwear suitable to the event you are attending. For children's activities - dress for mess!
- Children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult at all events.
- For details about ease of access please contact the event organiser.
- For up to date bus information call Nexus Traveline on: 0871 200 2233.

Correct at time of print, subject to change.

## september



### Guide in the Hide

Friday 2 September 10am - 4.30pm  
Shibdon Pond, Shibdon Road, Blaydon  
Come and see what wildlife is about on the pond and have your questions answered by the Countryside Rangers.  
Refreshments available.  
All ages  
Free - donations welcome  
No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 01207 545 212



### Derwent Doddle Fun Run

Sunday 4 September  
Registration from 1pm, starts 2pm prompt  
Swalwell Visitor Centre, behind Blaydon Rugby Club  
A 4 mile run through some of Gateshead's most scenic countryside along paths suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs. Simply turn up ready to run. Medal and certificate for all finishers! All ages  
Adults £3, under 16 yrs £2 (payable on day)  
Contact: 01207 545 212

### Norwood Nature Park Open Evening

Thursday 8 September  
2pm - 5pm  
Norwood Nature Park, Swallowtail Drive, Bensham  
Visit the Wildlife Garden created as part of the original Gateshead Garden Festival. Now in its 21st year the garden is an amazing haven for wildlife and you can find out all about it as you tour this local nature reserve. Includes childrens' activity trail.  
All ages  
Free - No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 0191 433 3443

### Get Growing!

Saturday 10 September  
11am - 3pm  
Countryside Volunteer Ranger's Allotment, Path Head, Hexham Old Road, Gateshead (next to Path Head Water Mill)  
This Community Allotment Garden is an inspiration to all budding gardeners. Find out from the experts how to grow your own vegetables in a wildlife friendly way! All ages  
Free - No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 0191 433 3524

### Goatshead - Gateshead

Saturday 10 September  
1pm - 5pm  
Bill Quay Farm  
Join us as we celebrate 25 years of farming with demonstrations and taster sessions of traditional crafts as part of Gateshead's Heritage Week.  
Free Family Event  
No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 0191 433 5780

## Thornley Bat Watch

Saturday 10 September  
7.30pm - 10.30pm  
Thornley Woodlands Centre  
Come along and learn all about bats from a member of Durham Bat Group, then join us as we head off for a walk to see them hunting in the Country Park.  
Family event  
£3 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01207 545 212

## Guide in the Hide

Sunday 11 September  
10am - 3pm  
Far Pasture Wetlands, Rowlands Gill  
Drop in to the hide to watch the birds and bird ringing demonstrations. Countryside Rangers and ringing experts will be on hand to answer your questions.  
All ages  
Free - donations welcome  
No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 01207 545 212

## Farm Club

Saturday 17 September  
See page 11 for details

## Sunniside Guided Walk

Saturday 17 September  
10am - 12noon  
Meet at Sunniside car park, Burnthouse Lane, Sunniside, NE16 5TD  
Join us for a 5 mile guided circular walk taking in the wider countryside around the park. Includes steps and stiles.  
Adults & children 8 yrs+  
£1 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01207 545 212



## Winter Bee Course

Sunday 18 September  
1pm - 3pm  
Bill Quay Farm

Time to put the bees to bed for the winter. Come along and find out all the things you need to know and do to make sure your bees get through the chilly months.  
16 yrs+  
£15 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01434 345 441  
For further information visit:  
[www.beekeepingcourses-north.co.uk](http://www.beekeepingcourses-north.co.uk)

## Back To School Crafts

Saturday 24 September  
11am - 3pm  
Saltwell Park Stable Block  
Join us and get crafty making a pen pot to take back to school for the new term.  
6 yrs+  
£1.50 - No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 0191 433 5918

# october

## Bird Walk

Sunday 1 October  
10.30am - 12noon  
Bill Quay Farm - meet in the car park  
This guided 2k walk will be looking at the common birds of the riverside habitats in and around the farm and will recount the history of finding Britain's first Pine Grosbeak in this area in the days even before Queen Victoria took to the throne.  
16 yrs+  
Free - No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 0191 433 5780

## Watergate Wander

Sunday 9 October  
10am - 10.40am  
Watergate Forest Park - meet in main car park, Whickham Highway, Lobley Hill  
Stretch your legs on this slightly undulating 1.5 mile walk around Watergate's lake.  
All ages and abilities  
£1 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01207 545 212

## Farm Club

Saturday 15 October  
See page 11 for details



## Dry Stone Walling Taster Day

Saturday 15 October  
10am - 4pm  
Bill Quay Farm

Try your hand at dry stone walling by joining the Northumberland branch of the Dry Stone Walling Association down at the farm.  
16 yrs+  
£40 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01434 320 031

## Ranger Rescue

Wednesday 26 October  
10am - 12noon  
Watergate Forest Park - meet in main car park, Whickham Highway, Lobley Hill  
Get involved and help the Rangers do some practical work and look after Watergate Forest Park.  
Family event  
Free - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01207 545 212

# halloween

## Halloween Card Making

Tuesday 25 October  
10am - 4pm  
Thornley Woodlands Centre  
Drop in at any time and make spooky cards to give to your family or friends. Don't forget to allow time for a fantastic autumn walk through the woods.  
Family event  
20p per card - No booking required, just turn up!  
Contact: 01207 545 212

## Halloween Celebrations

Tuesday 25 October  
12.30pm - 2.30pm  
Saltwell Park Training Centre  
(next to the Bowling Green)  
Join in the fun this Halloween at Saltwell Park with various festive crafts and games.  
6 yrs+  
£2 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 0191 433 5918

## Paper Lanterns

Tues 25, Wed 26 & Thur 27 October  
12noon - 4pm  
Bill Quay Farm  
Make a paper lantern to take home or bring it back for the Halloween Parade on Sunday 30 October.  
Family event  
£3 per lantern - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 0191 433 5780

## Sights and Smells of Halloween

Thursday 27 October  
12.30pm - 2.30pm  
Saltwell Park Training Centre (next to the bowling green)  
Join in the fun this Halloween and let the little ones explore the natural magic of Autumn.  
Under 6 yrs  
£2 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 0191 433 5918

## Halloween Party

Sunday 30 October  
6pm - 8pm  
Bill Quay Farm  
A bewitching night of fun for all. Join us for live music, dancing, crafts, food and a lantern parade.  
Family event  
£1 per person - No booking required just turn up!  
Contact: 0191 433 5780

## Halloween Hauntings!

Sunday 30 October  
2pm - 4pm  
Thornley Woodlands Centre  
A spellbinding atmosphere of crafts, competitions, creepy kites, and mask making.  
Under 16 yrs  
£3 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 01207 545 212



# november



## British Sausage Week

Monday 31 October - Sunday 6 November  
12noon - 2pm

Bill Quay Farm

Celebrate British Sausage Week with world class Bill Quay Bangers to try and buy down at the farm cafe.

Open to all

No booking required, just turn up!

Contact: 0191 433 5780

## Remember Remember...

Saturday 5 November

10.30am - 2.30pm

Victoria Garesfield, past Rowlands Gill, off A694 - meet at Old School Houses

Come and help the Rangers gather up wood and build a fire. Once the fire is ablaze we'll be toasting marshmallows to get you in the mood for bonfire night.

Adults & children 8 yrs+ (children must be accompanied by an adult)

Free - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 01207 545 212

## Guided Walk in Derwent Walk Country Park

Saturday 12 November

10am - 12noon

Derwenthaugh Park, meet in Winlaton Mill car park off the A694

Join us on this 1 mile guided walk from Winlaton Mill onto the Derwenthaugh Park and around the lake.

All ages

£1 - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 01207 545 212

## Farm Club

Saturday 19 November

See page 11 for details

## Make a Bird Feeder

Saturday 19 November

1pm - 3pm

Saltwell Park Stable Block

Come along and help our local birds by making your very own refillable winter bird feeder.

Family event

£2 - No booking required, just turn up!

Contact: 0191 433 5918



# december

## Ryton Willows Nature Trail

Sunday 4 December

10am - 11am

Ryton Willows - meet at the bottom of River Lane

Join us for a guided walk of just under a mile around the new Ryton Willows Nature Trail.

All ages

£1 - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 01207 545 212

## Christmas Decoration & Card Making

Saturday 10 December

1pm - 4pm

Thornley Woodlands Centre

Help us to decorate the tree for the Woodlands Centre and make decorations, cards and fun gifts to take home.

5 - 11 yrs

£3 - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 01207 545 212

## Yule Logs and Holly Wreaths

Sunday 11 December

1.30pm - 3.30pm

Thornley Woodlands Centre

Make your own Yule logs, Christmas wreaths and other decorations from the cones and greenery provided from the woodlands. Everything provided but your own secateurs or strong scissors would be useful.

Adults & children 8 yrs+

£5 - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 01207 545 212



## Wreath Making for Grown-ups

Thursday 15 December

10.30am - 12.30pm

Saltwell Park Training Centre (next to bowling green)

Make your own natural Christmas wreath and table decoration from the cones and greenery provided from the park and woodland. Everything provided but your own secateurs or strong scissors would be useful.

Adults only

£5 - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 0191 433 5918

## Farm Club

Saturday 17 December  
See page 11 for details

## Yule Logs and Silver Cones

Sunday 18 December  
1pm - 3pm  
Bill Quay Farm  
Get into the Christmas groove! Enjoy carol singing and roasted chestnuts while you make traditional Christmas decorations to take home. Everything provided but your own secateurs or strong scissors would be useful.  
Family Event  
£4 per log - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 0191 433 5780



## Big Christmas Crackers

Tuesday 20 December  
12.30pm - 2.30pm  
Saltwell Park Training Centre (next to bowling green)  
Join us for a Christmas craft and gift making bonanza.  
6 yrs+  
£2 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 0191 433 5918

## Little Christmas Crackers

Thursday 22 December  
12.30pm - 2.30pm  
Saltwell Park Training Centre (next to bowling green)  
Come and join in the festive fun with sticky fingered crafts.  
Under 6 yrs  
£2 - Limited places, book in advance  
Contact: 0191 433 5918



# farm club

10am - 12noon

Saturday's 17 Sept, 15 Oct, 19 Nov & 17 Dec

Pull on your wellies and join us at Bill Quay Farm for a chance to muck in and experience first hand what farm life is all about.

8 - 16 yrs

Only £1 - Limited places, book in advance

Contact: 0191 433 5780