Fostering is caring for life...

fostering is a career for life!

Make this happen with Gateshead Council

Join us at our Foster for All event on Saturday 30 September
at Bewicks, Gateshead Civic Centre. Drop in anytime between 10am and 12.30pm.

Find out more at www.gateshead.gov.uk/fostering
or call 0191 433 8333.
Welcome
from Leader of the Council
Martin Gannon


I’m delighted to bring you up to date on the latest £200 million development planned for Gateshead Quays that will complete the picture of this truly unique riverside site.

As well as this, we have a four page special on what’s happening across Gateshead when it comes to investing and planning for the future with the spotlight on housing, jobs and the environment. Read about our ambitious plans on pages 18-21.

There’s urgent information for those of you who use the Heworth roundabout. Essential repairs are currently being planned. We tell you why we need to do this, and how this will affect your journey on page 7.

We celebrate the 15th anniversary of the opening of BALTIC this year with a look back at how it all began. And we look ahead to some great events coming up for families including the 32nd Family Sculpture day, the popular Enchanted Parks and the annual Juice Festival that celebrates the creativity of children and young people.

As the nights draw in and the sunny weather subsides, we’ve a timely reminder about getting your flu jab and how to stay well this winter.

Plus congratulations to our many local award winners - from inspirational adult learners to Special Gateshead Olympic athletes who came home from the Special Olympic GB National Games in Sheffield with 52 medals!
We want your views about the future of Gateshead.

On October 30 we are launching a major, six-week consultation on Making Spaces for Growing Places which provides the detail behind our planning strategy for the borough until 2030 so that we:

• provide the homes and communities fit for the coming decades;
• encourage businesses to come to the borough and thrive;
• protect our natural environment and historic buildings; and
• have the roads and transport connections to meet the growing demands that the future will bring.


We will be consulting with residents, businesses, residents associations and special interest groups.

Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Cllr John McElroy said:

“Gateshead is a great place to live and work and we have ambitious plans for the future. But it’s important that we strike the right balance between protecting what we’ve got and building for the future.”

There are lots of ways you can get involved:

LOOK at our plans from 30 October and take part in the consultation at: www.gateshead.gov.uk/haveyoursayonplanning

DROP IN to one of our public meetings where you can find out more and ask questions (see below)

ONLINE DROP-IN We will be live on Twitter to answer your questions on 15 November from 4-5.30pm

DROP IN EVENTS (all sessions run from 2-7pm)
November 6 – Blaydon Library
November 14 – Birtley Library
November 22 – Gateshead Civic Centre
November 27 – Felling, Asda

“Your views count – let us know what you think.”

Gateshead Awards

There’s still time to nominate someone for a Gateshead Award, our annual celebration of volunteers, organisations, carers and others who make an outstanding contribution to their community.

If you haven’t already nominated you have until Friday 29 September to do so. Just go to: www.gateshead.gov.uk/gatesheadawards

For more information phone the Mayor’s secretary on 0191 433 2011 or email mayorsoffice@gateshead.gov.uk

Your vote matters

We have been canvassing households since the beginning of July to check that the details held on the electoral register are correct. If you haven’t responded yet, you will receive a final reminder in the post after October 20.

If your circumstances have changed, such as moving home, let us know so we can update your details. If you are not registered, you cannot vote.

To register visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote or you can call the helpline 0191 433 7001.
£200m complex planned for Gateshead Quays

With over one million visitors each year, Gateshead Quays is one of the UK’s most iconic waterfront locations. The area has seen a huge transformation over the last 15 years and is now a thriving cultural destination, home to many world-class attractions.

Enhance

And it’s set to get even better, with the announcement in July by the Council to enhance the site even more with a new multi-million pound, state-of-the-art entertainment arena and conference and exhibition centre.

The 10-acre site which sits directly opposite Gateshead Millennium Bridge and between the area’s most iconic buildings - Sage Gateshead and BALTIC - will include:

• A 12,500 seat arena to replace the existing Metro Radio Arena;
• conference and exhibition facilities; as well as
• hotel, bars and restaurants.

Council Leader Martin Gannon said: “We’ve wanted to regenerate and revitalise this key site on Gateshead Quays for a long time and internationally recognisable facilities of this scale has always been our long term aspiration.

“This will not only bring new life to the area but also new jobs and significantly boost the local and regional economy.”

“An arena and conference and exhibition facility will also play an important role in complementing and strengthening demand for national and international conferences, exhibitions and events at Sage Gateshead and BALTIC, as well as acting as a catalyst for wider investment across Gateshead and further stimulating economic growth.

Unique

“We’re now more confident than ever that we can finally push forward with our exciting plans for this £200 million development site. Working closely with our development partners Ask Real Estate and leading investment and development manager PATRIZIA UK, SMG Europe, local partners and the private sector, it really is time to give the North East another landmark destination and complete the picture of this truly unique, riverside site.”

The new facilities on Gateshead Quays will be capable of holding major music and cultural events, as well as conferences and exhibitions. It is anticipated that the development will support more than 1,140 jobs, with well over half being new jobs. It’s also estimated that it will boost the regional economy by over £29.5 million annually by attracting an extra 296,000 visitors to the region.

The next steps for the development site are for a detailed scheme design to be drawn up ahead of pre-planning and pre-construction phases.

For more information, visit www.investgateshead.com/gatesheadquays

News in brief

World Mental Health Day

A free key event spotlighting World Mental Health Day takes place on Tuesday 10 October, 11am-3pm at the Shipley Art Gallery. It will include food/refreshments as well as mental health themed activities and taster sessions as well as live music. Many mental health service providers will be on hand to talk to visitors about the services they offer. Contact Craig Lynch, Mental Health Matters 0191 477 7381, email clynch@mhm.org.uk, www.wfmh.global/wmhd-2017

MBE for GemArts Director

Vikas Kumar, founder and Director of GemArts, was awarded an MBE in the 2017 Queen’s Birthday Honours list for services to arts and culture. Since 2001, Vikas has built GemArts into an internationally recognised arts organisation, working in collaboration with the voluntary, public and private sectors to increase arts engagement amongst under-represented communities, particularly those from ethnic communities across the North East.

The Rocket Returns

It has been confirmed that in partnership with the Science Museum Group, Stephenson’s Rocket, one of Britain’s most iconic feats of engineering, will be part of the Great Exhibition of the North in 2018.

Best in Britain

Newcastle Airport was named best in Britain for the second year running by customers of travel website Cheap Flights. Out of 13 categories, the airport came top in three, and runner up in another two to take top slot, beating 16 other UK airports.

Green Flag success

Saltwell Park has once again won a Green Flag Award, marking it out as a well-managed, clean and safe park. It was one of 1,797 parks, cemeteries, universities, museums, hospitals and shopping centres to have received the award from environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.
**Budget update**

As you are probably already aware, the Council has faced unprecedented cuts in government funding since 2010.

This has resulted in us having to make savings over the last seven years of £143 million. Inevitably this has led us to look at how we as a Council, provide services, what those services look like, as well as explore different ways of working to make sure the most vulnerable people in our borough are supported.

And as we start to plan our budget this Autumn for the coming year, this is still the case. As demand for our services increases and government funding decreases, we face the challenge of an estimated funding gap of £41.9 million over the next two years.

So once again, we have to make very difficult choices about which services to prioritise. We do know we will continue to offer the support to those residents who most need our help.

During the budget process, our approach will focus on four key things that will help us manage this funding gap, as well as bring in money and investment to the Council and borough.

These are to:

- encourage prosperity by investing to boost new jobs and skills
- introduce news ways of generating income
- reduce costs by delivering services more efficiently, and using technology to help do this
- manage the demand for our services by changing the way we work

**What next?**

In November, we will be outlining our budget proposals for 2018/19. With tough choices ahead, your views are important to us and we would urge you to have your say as we take these proposals forward.

You’ll be able to find out more and how you can get involved at [www.gateshead.gov.uk/budget](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/budget)

**Change in action**

As we look to avoid cuts to services, we are working closely with everyone involved to look for alternative ways to deliver services as well as ways to generate money which can be then used to help pay for services.

This has led us to look at how we can trade some of our services, working with new partners and new organisations – something we will be doing more of in the future.

A practical example of this change in action is the development of our new bereavement service, which will be launched towards the end of this year. This will aim to offer a quality bespoke funeral service, at an affordable and competitive cost to local people.

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**New Tyne and Wear Deputy Lieutenants appointed**

Five new Deputy Lieutenants have been appointed to support the Lord Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear fulfil her official duties and help her represent Her Majesty, The Queen.

The five are Jeff Brown, Deborah Jenkins, John Mowbray, John Robinson and Ruth Thompson.

A well-known face on regional television in the North East and Cumbria for more than 20 years, Jeff Brown works as a news and sports reporter and presenter with BBC Look North.

Deborah Jenkins, MBE, is Chief Executive of the Derwent Initiative, an independent charity based in Newcastle, which aims to reduce the risk of sexual offending.

John Robinson has a professional background in Environmental Health but is involved with the RAF’s Reserve Force and cadets.

Ruth Thompson, a solicitor by profession, changed direction and went into the energy industry but has also been involved in creating employment opportunities for long-term unemployed people.

The Lord-Lieutenant, Susan Winfield, said: “Each one of these new appointees brings their own contribution to the Lieutenancy Team and I am really looking forward to working with them.”

For more information visit [www.tynewearlieutenancy.org.uk](http://www.tynewearlieutenancy.org.uk)
Essential repairs to Heworth Roundabout on the way

Major repairs to the Heworth roundabout are likely to lead to delays for motorists using the Felling bypass.

At the time of going to print we cannot confirm the start date for the road works, but we felt it was important to let you know what will be happening and what this will mean for drivers and the public using the roundabout. We expect work to begin sometime before December - and will take around six months to complete.

Funded by the Government’s Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund, the Council only received notification of the award in early August, so plans and work timescales are currently being confirmed.

The roundabout, which is supported underneath the road by a series of bridges, which are the route for all rail and Metro trains, will be the focus of essential repair work after engineers discovered water seeping into the bridge structures.

This will involve the removal of the road surface to allow the bridge decks to be waterproofed.

The works are expected to cause significant congestion during the morning and evening peaks as the A184 Felling bypass will be reduced to a single lane in each direction. Bus lanes will be retained.

In addition, a short stretch of the A185 Shields Road between Heworth roundabout and the Maiden Over pub, and between Heworth roundabout and Sunderland Road, will be closed to all traffic except buses. Local residents will receive advice on alternative routes and modes of transport.

Low Heworth Lane, accessing Heworth long-stay car park, will remain open.

Anneliese Hutchinson, service director for development, transport and public protection, said: “This is a major route into Tyneside and we know this is going to be unwelcome news for many commuters, but we need to act now.

“If we allow the damage being caused to these bridges under the roundabout to continue, we will have a much bigger problem to deal with in the future, and one that would take a lot longer and be more costly to put right.

“We’ve worked hard to try and minimise disruption and know this work will be especially inconvenient for residents of Pelaw and Bill Quay but there really is no good time to do this.

“Unfortunately at such an important junction major disruption is unavoidable. Traffic modelling shows that if we allowed traffic from Pelaw and Sunderland Road across the work area it could result in even longer traffic queues.

Public transport

“The area is well served by public transport and we are retaining the bus lane along the Felling bypass. So we are urging people to plan their journey and use public transport wherever possible. Metro and train services should also be unaffected by these works.”

She added: “Motorists will probably ask why we can’t wait till next summer to start the work in the belief that the traffic is always heavier in the run up to Christmas. The figures for the Felling bypass don’t really bear this out. On average, more than 42,000 cars use this route every day with very little seasonal variation so there is no apparent reason to delay as we really need to get this done to prevent further damage.”

At a glance

- A184 Felling bypass will be reduced to a single lane in each direction
- Short stretch of the A185 Shields Road between Heworth roundabout and the Maiden Over pub, and between Heworth roundabout and Sunderland Road, will be closed to all traffic except buses.
- Full road closures at nights and at week-ends will take place as required
- Bus lanes will continue to operate
- Buses/Metro/trains are unaffected by this work

Visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/heworthroundabout and our facebook page for the latest information. Local media will also report any updates.

ATTENTION!

Do you live in the Pelaw or Bill Quay areas? As someone most affected by these roadworks, an information leaflet will be delivered to your home shortly.
Remembrance Day Services 2017

Some of the events taking place to mark Remembrance Day on Sunday 12 November include:

- **Cenotaph, Prince Consort Road.** Service will start at 10.45am followed by a wreath laying ceremony and a march past.

- **Leave Birtley Community Centre** at 10.30am for Birtley Cenotaph for 10.45am service and wreath laying ceremony.

- **St Nicholas’ Church, Dunston.** Service will start at 10am followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial, Dunston at 11am.

- **Garden of Remembrance, Felling** (if raining please make way to St Mary’s Church, Heworth). Service will start at 10.45am followed by wreath laying ceremony at 11am.

- **Town Square, Metrocentre.** Service will start at 2.45pm followed by wreath laying ceremony at 3pm. A choir will be singing from 2.30pm.

- **Assemble at School Street, Whickham** at 10.15am and proceed to war memorial for wreath laying ceremony.

All information was correct at time of going to print, however may be subject to slight changes – please check www.gateshead.gov.uk/remembrance for the latest information, including a full list of services taking place, or contact the Mayor’s Secretary on 0191 433 2011 or email at mayorsoffice@gateshead.gov.uk

**Thank you!** The Royal British Legion would like to thank everyone who contributed to the 2016 Poppy Appeal. For the first time the amount raised in Gateshead exceeded £100,000 – a great achievement for the borough which shows fantastic support for the Armed Forces Community.

Raid nets fake goods

Thousands of pounds worth of counterfeit clothes, shoes and perfume were seized recently in a raid at an address in Deckham.

Trading standard officers worked with the police to track down the seller of the fake goods who was using social networking sites to sell on the items, which included copies of brands such as UGG, Adidas, Nike and Stone Island.

Chair of Tyne and Wear Trading Standards Joint Committee, Councillor Kevin Dodds, said: “As well as rogue traders undercutting legitimate sellers, selling counterfeit goods of poor quality brings criminality into our local neighbourhoods, disrupting the community as a whole.

“Selling counterfeit clothes is not a victimless crime. The genuine producers employ thousands of people across the world and these fake goods have an impact on them. At the same time, this counterfeit clothing will almost certainly have been imported and sold without any form of tax being paid.”

Hate crime awareness and conference

What does the term ‘hate crime’ mean to you? Hate crimes are incidents which are motivated by prejudice on the grounds of race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity.

And during Hate Crime Awareness Week (14-21 October), a range of events and a Northumbria-wide conference will be taking place in Gateshead, in which hate crime - what it is, how to report it and how it can be tackled – will be the main topic.

For more information about Hate Crime Awareness Week, please contact Steven Kelly on 0191 433 2701.
BALTIC: the first 15 years

On 13 July 2002, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art opened its doors to the public, and 15 years later, and with over seven million visitors and counting, it's still offering a unique art experience to everyone who visits.

That opening night saw thousands of people queuing up to see inside the newly-transformed former flour mill – with everyone who turned up leaving with a small loaf of bread as a nod to its former use.

Rather than see the building demolished, Gateshead Council spearheaded the drive to turn the building into a major contemporary arts venue – holding an international competition to design and convert the building. And with over £30 million of Arts Council funding, the work began and the rest is history.

The opening exhibition featured six artists including Tatsumi Orimoto - ‘the Bread Man’ from Japan who led activities based around bread related topics; there were huge gongs by Spanish artist Jaume Plensa and a Meccano model of the Tyne Bridge by American artist Chris Burden.

Amazing

But the conversion and inside of the building was just as intriguing, with amazing views over the river of the Tyne Bridge and the new Gateshead Millennium Bridge – a further attraction on the ever changing quayside.

During it’s time, BALTIC has celebrated the work of some amazing artists and notched up some impressive statistics.

Artists such as Antony Gormley, Yoko Ono, Beryl Cook and many more have all exhibited work there and in 2011, it hosted the Turner Prize – the first time the event was held outside London.

More than 130,000 turned up to see the exhibition – breaking visitor records for this event.

BALTIC director Sarah Munro said: “We will continue to commission and produce exhibitions, performances, engagement projects and learning programmes which champion the role of artists in contemporary society.”

Engaging

Council Leader, Martin Gannon added: “Gateshead has earned a national and international reputation for its iconic and innovative approach to the arts and BALTIC is a great example of this. I’m delighted that 15 years on, it is still providing cutting edge contemporary art experiences for visitors as well as involving and engaging with new artists and the public.”

For details of all the current exhibitions at BALTIC go to www.balticmill.com

It’s a gas!

If you have any memories of the gas holders in Redheugh, Northern Gas Networks (NGN) wants to hear from you.

NGN is investing over £1.3 million to safely dismantle and remove its gas tank holders in Redheugh. The work began in July and will take 10 months to complete.

For around 100 years, gas holders were a vital part of the local gas supply system, responsible for supplying gas to thousands of people across the country. However, advances in technology mean that gas holders are no longer in use.

People are being encouraged to share their memories of the Redheugh gas holders through the ‘Gas Holder Memories’ campaign by emailing: gasholdermemories@northerngas.co.uk, or using #gasholdermemories on social media.

BALTIC: the first 15 years

Towering success

Visitors to BALTIC of the feathered variety are also celebrating a milestone this year. While Kittiwakes can often be seen nesting on ledges at BALTIC, their very own ‘des res’, the Kittiwake Tower, has been their home of choice since it was built 20 years ago. On average, around 90 nesting pairs of Kittiwakes pack onto the tower’s ledges returning to their high-rise home on the Tower from late March onwards.

To find out more about visit the Tyne Kittiwakes Partnership section of the natural history society Northumbria website www.nhsn.ncl.ac.uk
**What’s your favourite piece of art?**

Well, according to a survey conducted by Samsung, Banksy’s ‘Balloon Girl’ is Britain’s favourite piece of art.

However, our very own Angel of the North was number five in the survey’s top 10 beating artists such as L S Lowry (‘Going to the Match’), J W Waterhouse (‘The Lady of Shalott’) and George Stubbs (‘Mares and Foals’).

The survey polled over 2,000 people, who chose from a shortlist of 20 pieces which had been drawn up by arts editors and writers.

1. Banksy - ‘Balloon Girl’
2. John Constable - ‘The Hay Wain’
4. JMW Turner - ‘The Fighting Temeraire’
5. Antony Gormley - ‘The Angel of the North’
6. L S Lowry - ‘Going to the Match’
7. John William Waterhouse - ‘The Lady of Shalott’
8. Peter Blake - ‘Sgt Pepper’ album cover
9. Hipgnosis and George Hardie - ‘Dark Side of the Moon’ album cover
10. George Stubbs - ‘Mares and Foals’

**Tip, tip hooray: fly-tipper’s van gets trashed**

This van was once used by a Gateshead man to fly-tip waste in Gateshead – but it won’t be much use for fly-tipping anymore!

The van was seized by council enforcement officers from a Rowlands Gill address as part of an investigation into fly-tipping in Ryton. Its owner was eventually prosecuted and the van handed over to us so it could be taken off the road permanently!

The Council is hoping to take more fly-tippers to court – and put their vehicles beyond criminal use.

You can report fly-tipping online at www.gateshead.gov.uk/flytipping or call 0191 433 7000

**Komatsu Friendship Award**

Councillor Mick Henry (pictured with wife Gael) has been awarded the inaugural Komatsu Friendship Award by the Mayor of Komatsu City, Mr Shinki Wada.

Councillor Henry received a certificate and a hand-made medal made from Kutani pottery that reflects the wings of friendship, as well as pine needles which represent Komatsu City.

Via a web conference link, Mayor Wada praised Councillor Henry for his commitment to the development of economic and cultural links between Gateshead and Komatsu City.

Councillor Henry also received a special award for ‘outstanding contribution to North East culture’ at the Journal Culture Awards.

His award was not the only success at the Culture Awards. The GemArts Masala Festival, a celebration of innovative South Asian arts and culture, was named winner of the Arts Council Award.

**Travel safely**

A film about hate crime and keeping safe on the Tyne and Wear Metro has been made to help vulnerable travellers know where to go and who to contact for help.

The Council’s community safety team found that people with learning disabilities sometimes felt unsafe on public transport, so an information film has been made to show people what to do and how to get help.

With the help of Gateshead People, a group run by and for people with learning disabilities, Nexus and Tiny Hound Media, the film shows what someone should do if they are subject to hate crime and abuse on the Metro, how to report it and the help they will get from Nexus staff.

Another film for people with learning disabilities about keeping safe while travelling on buses, will be made in the coming months.

Go to Youtube and search for public transport hate crime
Great jobs for young people

Do you know anyone aged 16 plus who’s looking for a job with prospects? Maybe a young person who got their GCSE or A Level results last month and isn’t sure what to do next?

Well, what about apprenticeships? There are currently some great opportunities, good salaries and excellent prospects available.

We’re the third largest local authority in England for delivering apprenticeships, but at any one time, we’re always carrying around 40 vacancies for apprentices in a wide range of jobs.

On average an apprentice will earn around £165 a week, but some apprenticeship schemes offer up to £240 a week.

From business administration, teaching assistants, retail and customer service to ICT or health and social care work, apprenticeships offer a great way of starting a new job with good opportunities and money in your pocket.

A recent event at the Hilton Hotel, organised by the Council’s learningSkills service saw TV celebrity and reality show star Joey Essex promoting the advantages and benefits of apprenticeships and how it can lead to a great career.

If you know of someone who missed this event, but could be interested in an apprenticeship, call Liz Mutch on 0191 433 8727 or email apprenticeships@gateshead.gov.uk

A dozen reasons to be proud

In the 12th year of the Council’s learningSkills Awards, 12 local people and organisations were recognised for their outstanding achievements.

Over 250 people attended an awards evening to hear heart-warming and inspirational stories on how our local learners have overcome challenges in their lives, and, despite the odds, have achieved a great deal of success.

At only 21, our Learner of the Year, Robert Oughton, encapsulates what the evening was all about.

As well as being a young dad, Robert also cares for his parents and grandparents, while at the same time working hard for his apprenticeship.

He did so well he has now been taken on full-time and aims to work towards becoming a qualified accountant.

To find out more visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/learningskills, call 0191 433 8646, email learningskills@gateshead.gov.uk

The winners

• Learner of the Year Award - Robert Oughton
• Young Person Award - Aaron Hagyard
• Learning for Life Award - Betty Nicholson
• Skills for Employment Award - Robert Cooper
• Apprentice/Workplace Learner Award - Brooke Mitchinson
• Skills for Life Award - Joseph Black
• Family Learning Award - Catherine Ritchie - Lingley House Primary School
• Recognition Award - Dryden and SoTA Cleaning Team
• Community Learning Award - Barmoor Hub Sewing Handbags and Purses Group
• Equality and Diversity Award - Kate Taylor
• Employer Award - Caroline Saul
• Inspirational Person of the Year - Kathleen Andrucci

Phoenix Project

A project designed to tackle anti-social behaviour and fire setting was run by the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service on behalf of Gateshead’s Community Safety Board.

Eleven young boys from Gateshead took part in the Phoenix Project, in which fire and rescue staff worked with the boys in a week-long project to address issues of anti-social behaviour and fire setting. The course helped the boys get an insight into the life of a firefighter by involving them in practical training, team building and teamwork-focused education.

At the end of the week, the boys took part in an end of course presentation and drill in which they were presented with certificates from the Mayor of Gateshead and a senior fire officer.
LEARNING AND LIFESTYLE

Pupils ‘Get in to Tech’

Giving our young people a glimpse into the world of work and some of the potential careers and opportunities open to them is really important. So when a group of pupils from Cardinal Hume Catholic School, Thomas Hepburn Community Academy and Lingey House Primary School attended a ‘Get in to Tech’ event, it really opened their eyes to what they might do if they wanted a career in the growing technology sector.

The event was organised by the Council, Gateshead College and local employers as part of its new ‘Work Inspiration Gateshead’ programme, which aims to inspire, inform and prepare young people for further study and work.

Our young ‘tecchies’ took part in a range of activities from VR demonstrations, 3D modelling, robotics and a green screen workshop, as well as getting advice and guidance from three leading local employers, digital construction specialists NBS, digital business network Digital Union and digital animation studio Kuro Dragon.

Interested in new technology? Come along to our eDay event at Central Library, see page 33 for details.

Campground classroom

A brand new outdoor classroom and garden is now up and running at Campground Visitor and Education Centre at Wrekenton.

Launched by South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership together with SUEZ and Groundwork NE and Cumbria, it aims to educate young people, their families and others about the different aspects of the ‘reduce, reuse, recycle’ message in a fun and practical way.

The classroom and garden includes:
• Three bespoke wooden benches created by local chainsaw artist Tommy Craggs
• A greenhouse made from 1,000 reclaimed plastic bottles

Schools and community groups who would like to learn more about how to be more environmentally friendly and reduce waste are all welcome to come along and enjoy this new facility.

The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership comprises three councils - Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland - who have joined forces to create a more effective way of managing household rubbish.

If you are interested, your first step is to complete the online Volunteer Expression of Interest form: www.gateshead.gov.uk/volunteering

For further information on this role, please contact Steven Kelly, safer communities co-ordinator 0191 433 2701 email: stevenkelly@gateshead.gov.uk

Students with Simon Underhill of Gateshead College and Sarah Douglas, strategic skills lead officer from Gateshead Council

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to provide a befriending and supporting role for the victims of anti-social behaviour.

You may have been a victim yourself and have the time and flexibility to help others who have faced similar situations. Or you simply want to help people in your community.

Gateshead’s anti-social behaviour volunteer service has been set up to offer vulnerable victims the additional support they might need. Volunteers complete an online training course together with an induction session, meeting key agencies including Northumbria Police and The Gateshead Housing Company.

You will provide telephone support to the victim on a regular basis and will be provided with a mobile phone to do this.

If you are interested, your first step is to complete the online Volunteer Expression of Interest form: www.gateshead.gov.uk/volunteering

For further information on this role, please contact Steven Kelly, safer communities co-ordinator 0191 433 2701 email: stevenkelly@gateshead.gov.uk
Apply online for your child’s school place

If you live in Gateshead and your child is due to start a secondary, primary, infant or junior school for the first time in September 2018, you can apply online NOW for the schools of your choice.

The closing dates for submitting applications are:

- **31 October 2017** – for secondary school admissions
- **15 January 2018** – for primary, infant and junior school admissions

You can apply online at: [www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

The online system is easy to use and there’s no risk of your application getting lost in the post, you receive confirmation when we receive your form and email confirmation of which school your child has been offered on allocation day.

Alternatively you can request a paper application form from the school admissions team on telephone number 0191 433 2757 or 0191 433 2756.

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Fuelling an interest in local heritage

More than 180 school children have been inspired to learn more about their local heritage after taking part in the Land of Oak & Iron educational activities project.

Dynamic in-school sessions bringing the past to life and fun filled trips to local heritage sites such as Chopwell Wood and Derwentcote Steel Furnace are happening across schools in the Derwent Valley.

Incorporating natural art, storytelling, rural crafts and skills, the project is really working; receiving a positive reaction from all the schools involved with feedback from teachers such as: “It’s often very hard to get children excited about their local heritage, however the children wanted to know more and more after the session with the Land of Oak & Iron.”

You can discover Land of Oak & Iron for yourself during upcoming events including Discover Fest from 16-24 September. There are loads of activities to choose from or come along to the first Land of Oak & Iron quiz night to be held on Wednesday 8 November.

Land of Oak & Iron programme is hosted by Groundwork NE & Cumbria and supported by National Lottery players through the Heritage Lottery Fund.

For more information and event information contact Land of Oak & Iron on 01207 524 883 or visit landofoakandiron@groundwork.org.uk/whats-on

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I’ve won a gold medal!

Aaron Younger (pictured), was the first of our Gateshead athletes to win a gold medal at the recent Special Olympic GB National Games held this August in Sheffield. Aaron won his medal in the Boccia event with the final medal count an impressive 52 medals - 17 Gold, 19 Silvers and 16 Bronze.

Help for owners of empty properties

If you own or have recently inherited a property and don’t know what to do with it, we could help.

Let us manage it for you through our empty property private leasing scheme and we can take the hassle of ownership out of your hands.

- The scheme is simple. We take on your property and if we think it needs repairs to bring it up to a certain standard, we’ll make these repairs and improvements for you.
- Affordable
  - We then work with The Gateshead Housing Company who let it to their tenants for an affordable rent. It manages the property throughout the term of the lease and looks after any issues, saving you time and the stress of managing a property yourself.

- All we ask is that we are able to manage the property for a minimum of five years and where improvements need to be made, you agree for us to deduct the cost of the repairs from the rent you receive.
- You will also be expected to pay a reasonable property management and maintenance charge to us.

After the five years have finished, you still own the property and are free to do what you wish with it.

If you want to find out more about the scheme please call 0191 433 3376 or email chrisgeddes@gateshead.gov.uk

Can I recycle COUNCIL NEWS? YES – in your blue bin!
Positive feedback from inspectors

Children and young people in Gateshead with special educational needs and disabilities are safe and achieve good results, according to Ofsted and the Quality Care Commission (CQC).

A recent joint inspection saw inspectors speaking to children and young people, their parents and carers as well as professionals in education, health and social care. And their findings were very positive with no significant areas of concern.

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Councillor Gary Haley said: “These are a set of very positive findings and it is gratifying to know that we are getting it right for children and young people in Gateshead with special educational needs and disabilities.

Dedication

“While there are areas for development, it is also a reflection on the dedication and hard work of all the staff involved that inspectors did not raise any significant concerns and we do not have to submit a written future action plan, which some other local authority areas have had to do.”

For full details of the report go to www.gateshead.gov.uk/SEND

Important changes to claiming benefits in Gateshead

From mid-October Gateshead residents will have to apply for a new Government benefit.

The Government is introducing the new benefit - called Universal Credit - in the borough. It will replace current benefits such as Income Support, Income-related Jobseekers Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Housing Benefit, Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.

Most people who would have applied for one of these benefits will have to claim Universal Credit instead.

Universal credit is paid monthly in arrears and is made up of one amount which covers daily living needs and help towards housing costs. It could be up to six weeks after applying before you receive a payment. You will therefore need to make sure you manage your money so that you have enough to last you through until the next payment.

Applications for Universal Credit must be made online. Before making a claim you will need to have a bank account, an email address and documents to confirm your identity. Once you have applied, you will have a Universal Credit account which you must then manage online.

If you already get Universal Credit your Jobcentre work coach will tell you if you need to do anything.

For more information and how to apply visit www.gov.uk/universal-credit

Further information and details of where to go for help and advice will also be available on the Council’s website at www.gateshead.gov.uk/benefits, or from your local Jobcentre.

Improvements at Wrekenton flats

Beacon, Lough and Fell Court multi-storey blocks will be warmer and more energy efficient, thanks to a scheme procured and developed by Gateshead Council’s Energy Services Team.

The work has transformed the appearance of the flats that now benefit from external wall insulation, new double-glazed windows and renewed roof coverings.

The work was funded from Gateshead Council’s Housing Investment Budget, and supported by a £250,000 grant from energy companies through AgilityEco Ltd, with most of the work being carried out by British Gas.

If you are interested in renting one of these flats then please contact Gateshead Housing Company’s lettings team at tyneandwearhomes@gatesheadhousing.co.uk

Is there anybody there?

Make sure you respond to YOUR Household Enquiry Form.

Because registering to vote MATTERS!
Volunteers take control at three more libraries

Three volunteer-run libraries are now running in Felling, Rowlands Gill and Whickham. This brings the total number of volunteer-run libraries in the borough up to seven.

Gateshead Council agreed earlier this year to hand over the running of these libraries to volunteers in order to achieve budget savings, following a major public consultation exercise.

Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure, Councillor Angela Douglas, said: “We’re delighted that the local communities have responded in such a positive way and are grateful for the enthusiasm of all of our library volunteers.

“But as we continue to face savage cuts in government funding we’ve had to look at the whole library network and needed to find a way for these libraries to continue, even with reduced input from the Council.

“At the same time we really value the professional library service offered at our eight council-run libraries at Central, Birtley, Blaydon, Leam Lane, Crawcrook, Chopwell, pelaw and Wrekenton.”

Just the ticket

Remember, if you use any of the volunteer-run libraries, you’ll need to get a separate library ticket – just ask for details next time you pop in. But this can only be used for this library. Your council library ticket is still valid for use at council-run libraries.

Live waiting times now online

Live waiting times for urgent care services are now shown on the QE Hospital website.

This will not only help people know how long they may need to wait before being seen at both the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Blaydon Urgent Treatment Centre, but also help them get a better understanding of what might be the best option for them.

Go to www.qegateshead.nhs.uk/livewaitingtimes to see the live updates which are broken down into three categories:

- **Minor injuries** (such as sprains and fractures)
- **Minor illnesses** (non-urgent medical conditions that are not life-threatening but require medical attention within 24 hours)
- **Emergency medicine** (for the most life-threatening and serious conditions)

Please remember that you should only come to the Emergency Care Centre if you need urgent medical attention.

To find out more about urgent care in Gateshead including information on the Emergency Care Centre go to www.qegateshead.nhs.uk/emergencycare

Opening hours

**Felling Library**
- Monday 9am-6pm
- Tuesday & Thursday 9am-5pm
- Friday 9am-4pm
- Wednesday & Saturday closed

**Rowlands Gill Library**
- Monday, Tuesday 9am-5pm
- Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 9am-1pm
- Friday closed

**Whickham Library**
- Monday & Thursday 9am-7pm
- Tuesday & Wednesday 9am-5pm
- Friday & Saturday 9am-1pm

For more information: www.gatesheadlibraries.com/your-local-library

Keeping police and community connected

Want to receive crime alerts, meeting dates, crime prevention advice or crime information relevant to you?

Then sign up to YourNorthumbria, a new way the police can keep in touch with residents and communities and give them useful messages on crime in their area.

The system uses a range of ways to inform and notify you such as social media, texts, apps, email and voicemail.

| You can sign up to the system free of charge via an easy to use registration page on the YourNorthumbria website. |
| Go to www.yournorthumbria.org and click the ‘Join’ button. |

AT YOUR SERVICE

16 Gateshead Council News Autumn 2017
New free condom scheme for young people

A free condom scheme for young people is currently being piloted in a wide range of locations across the borough.

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust’s sexual health service has worked with partners in the community, including GP practices, pharmacies and Gateshead College, to offer free condom ‘grab packs’ for 16 to 25-year-olds. They will be able to pick them up after filling in a short form at one of 18 sites across the borough.

Melanie Milburn, the trust’s Head of Nursing for Community Services, said: “Using condoms can help to reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections and prevent unwanted pregnancy.

Choice

However, cost can be a major factor in condom use for young people on low or no income and those in the 16 to 25 age group traditionally do not go to sexual health clinics. By giving them easy access to condoms at familiar venues in their local area, our aim is to provide them with more choice when it comes to improving their sexual health.”

Following on from the 12-week pilot, the trust hopes to extend the scheme in Gateshead and introduce it in South Tyneside, where it also provides sexual health services.

To find out more about the sexual health service in Gateshead call 0191 283 1577/1575. There is also useful information on the trust’s website www.stft.nhs.uk/service/sexual-health-services

‘Can’t See It’

This month saw the launch of a new campaign from Balance North East which aims to raise awareness of the links between alcohol and a variety of cancers, focusing particularly on mouth, throat and bowel cancer.

The campaign centres upon a new, emotive TV ad entitled ‘Can’t See It’, which features a young girl learning about the body and realising the impact that alcohol might have on her parents’ health.

For many of us, the idea that alcohol can cause cancer is hard to accept. After all, it’s often seen as an everyday part of life. But regularly drinking alcohol, even one drink a day, can increase your risk of developing cancer and a range of other medical conditions. Cutting down can reduce your risk and it’s not as difficult as you might think.

A website www.reducemyrisk.tv linked to the campaign is packed with information giving you a variety of handy hints and tips to help you cut down on drinking.

Once you start cutting back, you’ll start to notice the benefits such as feeling more productive at work, losing weight, better sleeping patterns and saving money. The more you cut down on alcohol, the more you could reduce your chances of developing cancer, as well as lowering your risk of other conditions such as strokes, high blood pressure, liver disease and pancreatitis.

To find out more visit www.reducemyrisk.tv
For more information about Balance visit www.balancenortheast.co.uk

Stoptober 2017

Stoptober – the 28 day challenge which supports the nation’s smokers to stop smoking is back.

If you’re serious about quitting, sign up this October and have a cigarette free month. Research shows that by stopping for just 28 days, you’re five times more likely to stop for good.

There’s a range of information and advice on the ‘One You’ website to guide you along the way.

There are lots of ways to quit, from using nicotine replacement therapies or e-cigarettes, to free quit tools and expert support from local NHS stop smoking services. You might also find stop smoking medicines useful and your local pharmacy will be able to find the right one for you.

Why quit?

You’ll be healthier
Your breathing and general fitness will improve, your skin will look better and your sense of taste will return – and that’s just the start!

Your family will benefit
Second hand smoke is harmful – especially to children. Quitting will reduce their risk of asthma attacks, ear infections and cancers.

You’ll save money
On average, most people who quit save around £250 each month.
JOBS AND ECONOMY

Investing in the future of Gateshead

Despite Government cuts, we’re determined to invest in the future of our borough.

We want to make sure that Gateshead continues to be a great place to live and work.

Last year we committed almost £70 million for major projects and schemes, but we can’t rest on our laurels and we are committed to building on the work that has helped transform Gateshead and make it such an attractive place for residents and businesses.

Over the next four pages we set out what our plans are for the future – plans that will bring investment worth millions of pounds and create thousands of jobs.

As you can see, we have ambitious plans: creating landmark entertainment centres, encouraging more cutting edge business ventures to our area and giving developers the chance to invest here.

Investment has transformed the heart of our borough. The Gateshead Millennium Bridge, Sage Gateshead and BALTIC are now national landmarks. They have shown the impact investment in regeneration can have on an area.

More than a million visitors come to Gateshead Quays every year and there are ambitious plans to build on that success. A new £200 million development is on its way to the waterfront between the Sage and BALTIC for a new concert venue, conference, exhibition facilities as well as hotels, bars and restaurants.

We are also looking to develop key sites in the town centre, including the historic Old Town Hall. The Old Town Hall Quarter is being made available to developers.

The site has huge potential – mixing old and new – for a visionary developer to help bring new life to this once bustling, historic area. Potential uses include offices, homes and leisure facilities. The development will bring new jobs and visitors and, in turn, opportunities for local people.

The Council has worked hard over recent years to breathe new life into central Gateshead and that will continue in the future.

Key milestones

2017 – Construction begins of the Emerging Technology Centre, Proto in Baltic Business Quarter

2017 – Construction begins on the Land of Oak & Iron Heritage Centre

2017 – New primary school opens in Birtley

2018 – Great Exhibition of the North opens (Summer)

2019 – Start of 1,000 homes development linking quays to central Gateshead

2019 – Construction begins on Gateshead Quays

2020 – Area Action Plan agreed and development starts at MetroGreen in Dunston
Investment in **Team Valley**

Team Valley continues to confirm its position as a first class location for business with the near completion of Dukesway Central. UK Land Estates which owns the site has invested in two key buildings on a 10 acre site incorporating high specification industrial units for 21st century businesses, unit 1 is already let to All Good Foods. Kingsway North also has planning for three large warehouses showing increased economic confidence in the region.

The site also now benefits from faster and more efficient access from the A1 following the completion of the £70 million A1 improvements last year.

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**About Team Valley**

- Team Valley is one of Europe’s largest commercial areas
- The site covers over 7 million sqft
- There are 750 businesses and 24,000 employees
- 75% of the site is home to manufacturing industries

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**Flood reduction project**

The Council is actively working in partnership with the Environment Agency, public bodies and the private sector to bring forward flood alleviation schemes to protect businesses and jobs on the Team Valley Trading Estate. Subject to attracting resources, projects are due to start on site in April 2018 and be completed by the end of 2019.

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Investment in **business and jobs**

In recent years, Gateshead has seen rapid growth and an increased specialisation in the emerging and new technologies sector. The borough is home to VRTGO Labs, Europe’s only industry-led cluster of companies operating in virtual and augmented reality. This is helped by ultrafast broadband (100Mbps and above) being available in the town centre.

£8 million is being invested in the Baltic Business Quarter next to the Quays on a new cutting edge and ground-breaking emerging technology centre called PROTO, with grants from the European Regional Development Fund and the Local Growth Fund. This will provide workspace for digital technology companies and specialist research and development testing facilities and will be the first of its type in the UK.

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**Follingsby Enterprise Zone**

Under-developed areas of Follingsby Park and a 38-hectare site to the south of Follingsby Park has just been awarded Enterprise Zone status. It will help to meet Gateshead and the region’s requirements for the growth in the distribution, logistics and manufacturing sector.

This year the Council will begin working with the landowner to bring the site forward for 120,000 sqm of industrial, warehousing and distribution space development and 1,500 jobs.

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**Did you know?**

Between 2010-2014, Gateshead’s manufacturing output increased by 41.7% - the fastest growth in the North East

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**Did you know?**

Our ICT sector output has increased by over 20% in four years - the fastest growth in the North East

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Investment in housing

Over the next 15 years, more than 11,000 new homes are to be built in Gateshead. That means jobs, sustainable communities and a diverse range of quality homes. To do this we are working with builders as well as developing our own houses for sale. These houses will be designed by the Council and built in partnership with The Gateshead Housing Company and the private sector. They will include conversion of existing buildings and new house builds on a number of sites across the borough.

Making links, creating a vibrant centre

Linking the Quays with the town centre and creating jobs and homes, is all part of Gateshead’s ambitious and exciting proposals for areas of High Street, the former Chandless estate and the former Freight Depot site. The government has designated the area a Housing Zone and this means we can speed up our plans for the area.

With around 1,000 new homes and over 2,000 new residents, these current derelict and unused areas will be developed into vibrant communities on the edge of the town centre.

New homes available now

A flavour of the kind of high quality homes that will be developed in the future can be seen in Birtley and Saltwell.

Developed by the Gateshead Regeneration Partnership, the Sycamores in Birtley and the Trilogy development in Saltwell have already proved a great success with local buyers. Now another site in Birtley – the Aspens - is being developed, creating 147 stylish new homes. This includes eight homes available for Shared Ownership, which helps people get on the first rung of the housing ladder.

You can see for yourself by visiting the two show homes. Sales Director Tracy Iles said: “The Aspens offers an impeccable collection of contemporary two, three and four bedroomed homes. They are already selling quickly and one visit to our beautiful new show homes will be enough to see why.”

Another bonus for the area is the brand new Ravensworth Primary School, right next to the Aspens. The two form entry school will be ready for the 2017/18 school year.

To find out more about the types and styles of homes available, visit The Aspens (DH3 1RY) or Trilogy I (NE8 4QE), where the sales offices are open Thursday to Monday between 10am and 5pm. Alternatively call 0191 283 5868 or search for homes in the North East on www.lindenhomes.co.uk

For shared ownership, search for The Aspens on www.homegroup.org.uk

Coming soon

• Plans are progressing to revitalise land in Dunston, around the intu Metrocentre. The MetroGreen project will transform this area bringing a new community of up to 2,000 homes in the future as well as new businesses. The Council working in partnership with intu Metrocentre and other partners will produce an Area Action Plan for this area that will bring these exciting plans to life.

• As part of the national Broadband Delivery UK programme, almost 15,000 businesses in Gateshead have access to a fibre broadband service. By 2019 another 3,100 business premises will be part of the fibre broadband service in the borough.

• Work has started on a master plan to further regenerate Felling Town Centre, including options for the future of Crowhall Towers, Sir Godfrey Thompson Court and St Oswald’s Court.
Gateshead is serious about protecting the environment and going green. This summer will see the completion of the £18 million first phase of Gateshead District Energy Scheme, bringing low carbon, low cost energy to homes, public buildings and private business in central Gateshead.

Energy efficiency
Looking ahead, £20 million will be invested in the Gateshead HEIGHTs project; High-rise Energy Infrastructure for Gateshead Housing Tenants. The project is being funded by the Council, supported by a £4.5 million grant from the European Regional Development Fund.

It will install energy efficiency and generation measures for 600 high rise social housing units, to improve housing stock condition, as well as deliver lower carbon, lower cost energy. This benefits our residents as well as the environment.

We are now looking at further expanding our District Energy and Energy Services, at other locations across Gateshead, linking in to existing buildings, as well as new developments.

Rural rewards
The Land of Oak & Iron’s Heritage Centre at Winlaton Mill is set to become a reality after reaching its main fundraising target of over £1.5 million. The centre, which is expected to open in 2018, could bring more than £500,000 into the local economy as a landmark tourist attraction.

It will offer visitors exhibitions exploring the industrial heritage of the area. The centre will also house a café, gift shop and office space for small businesses.

Groundwork, an environmental focused charity, will run the centre and has had support from Gateshead Council to secure investment from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Rural Growth Network.

Looking forward
- **Homes** - over £1 billion will be invested in new homes by 2030; 11,000 new homes will be built by 2030.
- **Jobs** - 9,000 will be created by 2030
- **Development projects** – over £250 million will be invested in the Quays and central Gateshead

Did you know?
99% of the borough will have access to fibre broadband by 2019.

New INVEST Gateshead website
To find out more about investment in Gateshead and how we are supporting developers and others in the future, visit our new INVEST Gateshead website at:

www.investgateshead.com
Let us be your guide

We want to let you know about some resources that you may find useful when it comes to you and your family’s health.

There are some great guides on common problems and conditions at www.nhs.uk

Your GP may also suggest that you visit www.patient.co.uk, which contains a lot of very useful advice and information.

There are lots of great events going on in Gateshead, and some of them may be helpful in keeping healthy or managing your health condition. You can find out about these events by visiting www.ourgateshead.co.uk

Looking after your poorly child

Choosing which service is right for you at any given time may not always be easy, and it can be especially difficult when your child is ill. This is why we have created a handy guide on where you should go to get help.

The Little Orange Book focuses on illness in young children, helping you to recognise and respond to a range of illnesses and conditions, as well as signposting you to the most appropriate service for further support.

You can pick up a free copy of The Little Orange Book from your GP practice, or you can download it at: www.newcastlegatesheadccg.nhs.uk/little-orange-book

You can also download the NHS child health app, which is available on Google Play and the App Store.

If you are worried, your GP will be able to offer you urgent advice and see your child if necessary. They can deal with most common childhood illnesses, so keep your doctor’s number on your phone.

Your doctor can offer emergency same-day appointments, urgent next-day appointments and routine appointments.

Remember to tell the receptionist that you are concerned and want advice about an unwell child when contacting the practice.

For other services, the website NHS choices www.nhs.uk can help you find local services and information to help you manage your condition.

Prepare yourself for the flu season

As summer comes to an end and the weather begins to turn colder, you should start to think about getting your flu jab.

For most people, flu is an unpleasant but usually time-limited disease, with most people feeling better after one week.

However, those people in at-risk groups such as older people, the very young, pregnant women and people with chronic respiratory conditions or a weakened immune system are at a particular risk. All these groups are eligible for an NHS flu jab, and the best way to avoid catching and spreading flu is by having the vaccination before the flu season starts.

The best time to have your flu vaccination is in the autumn, from the beginning of October to early November. You can have your NHS flu jab at:

• your GP surgery
• your midwifery service if they offer it for pregnant women
• a local pharmacy offering the service

If you have your flu jab at a pharmacy you won’t need to let your GP know, the pharmacist will do that for you.

For more information on this issue visit www.nhs.uk
You may have heard that a new system is now helping medical professionals to help provide better, safer care using the most up-to-date medical records.

The new MIG (or ‘Medical Interoperability Gateway’) system provides secure, real-time access to a summary of GP-held records for clinicians – for example, in A&E - so that they can check the medical records kept by your GP quickly and easily, before making potentially life-saving decisions.

The new approach - which is the first step towards our long-term aim of a Great North Care Record - includes the sort of details that are already shared using slower methods, like phone calls and faxes. The patient is asked for consent before the person caring for them accesses their records.

This includes details of medical conditions, medication, operations and treatment, tests that have been requested or carried out, and contact details for next of kin or carers. If you have chosen to opt out, the information will not be available to health professionals.

Everyone in the region is included in this initiative if they have not already or do not choose to opt out. Anyone who is happy to be included does not need to take any action.

If you would like to discuss any concerns, or find out more, you can:

Call the Great North Care Record helpline on 0344 811 9587
Email gncarerecord@nhs.net
Visit www.greatnorthcarerecord.org.uk

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**Share your experience and help shape local health services**

As a Clinical Commissioning Group, we are determined to hear the voices of patients and ensure that members of the public are involved in the design, delivery, improvement and monitoring of the services we commission.

Throughout the year, through our Patient, Public and Carer Engagement Forum and the Involvement Forum, we engage with the public, many community and voluntary sector organisations, local community groups and patient participation groups. This enables us to discuss areas of health that affect local people and give an opportunity for people to become involved in improving health services through targeted pieces of engagement work.

The next meeting of our Patient, Public and Carer Engagement Forum is on 18 September, 5.30pm at the Royal Station Hotel in Newcastle.

You can find more information, as well as the presentations and update bulletin from our July on our website www.newcastlegatesheadccg.nhs.uk

You can also sign up to My NHS where you can sign up to receive regular updates from us on our work - www.newcastlegatesheadccg.nhs.uk/get-involved

We also welcome members of the public to attend our bi-monthly Governing Body meetings which feature an update on our engagement work as well as a question time element when members of the public can ask questions or make comments.

You can find the dates of future meetings on our website or by calling 0191 217 2996.

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**GP online services**

Save time and avoid the telephone queues by booking your GP appointment online, order repeat prescriptions or view your GP record – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

You can also request prescriptions and review which medication you should be taking, the dosage and when it should be taken.

To register for GP online services, you just need to fill in a form at your surgery and bring two forms of ID. One of which should have a photo (such as a UK passport or driving licence) and the other should have your address (such as a council tax bill). A member of staff at your practice can help if you don’t have these.

To register for GP online services, ask your GP practice, or to find out more, visit www.nhs.uk/gponlineservices
Young people from local schools near Chase Park flexed their creative muscles recently taking part in a competition to create designs for the new benches to be installed in the park as part of its £1.07 million refurbishment made possible by National Lottery funding. The resulting artwork was judged by the Park’s design consultants, Southern Green. Each school taking part was allocated a bench, with the winner selected from that school’s entries. So take a bow and well done to:

- Isabella - Washingwell Community Primary School
- Jenna - Front Street Primary School
- Mia - Whickham Parochial School
- Isla and Ethan - Fellside Community Primary School
- Baylee, William and Jessica - Clover Hill Community Primary School

The benches bearing their winning motifs have now been installed, ready for the park’s big opening on 23 September. The Mayor of Gateshead, Councillor Pauline Dillon, will do the honours and present certificates to the young people on the day.

To find out more about how you can get involved or to join the Friends of Chase Park contact the group’s Chair Alan Scott, email gsl12thgatesheadscouts@live.co.uk or call 07500 683 485.

For volunteering opportunities in the park please contact Jayne Calvert on 0191 433 7424, jaynecalvert@gateshead.gov.uk
Gateshead man was WW1 war hero

A Gateshead man has a place in history for his bravery at the outbreak of the First World War.

Two days after the start of the conflict John Brown-King from Windy Nook was fatally injured by an explosion after going to help an injured comrade on HMS Amphion during an engagement between their cruiser and a German vessel.

The previous day, seven of 14 shots fired by the Royal Marine hit the German minelayer Konigin Luise. His story was unearthed by local historian Mike Scott from Low Fell. He said: “John was the first Gateshead man to give his life for his country in the First World War and he was the first British serviceman we know of to fire a shot in the conflict.

“He was a hero for the way he went to help a comrade. John was seriously injured and he died two weeks later from his injuries.

“He did not fire the first shot in WW1 - that came from the destroyer HMS Lance - but who fired that shot is unknown. Because of the unique set of circumstances and written testimony, John was the first British serviceman we know of by name to have fired a shot in WW1.”

Anyone with further information about John Brown-King or wanting to help research the story further should email Mike at: brownking1914@hotmail.com

The Blaydon Shed

The Blaydon Shed is a new, relaxed space for men over 18 to come and hang out, meet new friends, enjoy a cuppa and a chat, learn new skills and share their skills with others.

Set up over a year ago by members of the local community with funding from Gateshead Council, Royal Voluntary Service, Asda Foundation and the Hadrian Trust, it offers:

- free Wifi and two computers
- free drinks and snacks
- a workshop with various tools and materials
- a garden

Fiona Teasdale, Chair of Blaydon Shed’s management board said: “You can come along and help generally with jobs, do your own project or just enjoy a cuppa and a natter. We have the facilities to do all sorts from woodworking to growing plants, renovating furniture to recycling projects and much more. There’s no stress, no pressure and no expectations - just come along and be yourself.”

And as well as the men’s sessions, the Shed also runs:

The Blaydon Shed Swap Station - a wide range of goods are available to individuals, small businesses and local charities/causes. We can either swap or accept a cash donation in exchange for goods.

DIY classes for women - every Tuesday and Friday from 1-3pm. Cost £4 per person per session.

Recycled and upcycled craft sessions. 1-3pm. Cost £4 per person per session. Bring along broken goods or items you want to do up.

Currently open every Tuesday and Friday from 11am-3pm, the Shed is located in the basement rooms of St Cuthbert’s Community Hall, next to the new blue flats on Shibdon Road.

For more information or to take part in any of the activities above please contact Blaydon Shed by email info@blaydonshed.uk.com or phone 07393 123 001 (Tuesdays and Fridays) or visit www.blaydonshed.org.uk

Need debt advice?
Our Debt Advice Team can help.
0191 433 3174
housingadvice@gateshead.gov.uk

IN YOUR AREA

Changes at Marley Hill Community Centre

Since June, the running of Marley Hill Community Centre has been taken on by Life Vineyard Church, with support from the previous trustees and committee.

Sunday morning services are held in the building, which is still a community centre for Marley Hill and the surrounding area offering activities for local people.

David Bass, Senior Pastor at the Church said: “We have a vision to build a community in this amazing building with its hall, snooker room, dance studio and other facilities. We want to see more people using it and finding activities and groups that enrich their life.”

For more information visit: www.marleyhillcentre.org.uk
**Fill the Holiday Gap**

More than 20 organisations and a host of volunteers took part in a range of events over six weeks, as part of the 2017 ‘Fill the Holiday Gap’ scheme.

Set up a couple of years ago, the scheme aims to help families, who would normally receive free school meals, and who struggle to meet the costs of feeding their children during the long summer break. And the scheme is still a lifeline to many - especially those who live in central Gateshead where there is the highest level of poverty in the borough.

With this in mind, the Council’s neighbourhood management team supported key local organisations to put on events at venues in the central area with financial and in-kind support from a range of sources including the Council’s community fund, Tesco, Urban Eats, Greggs and Gateshead Food Co-Op.

Delivering the events to needy families were Peace of Mind, Friends of Central Library, Friends of Shipley Art Gallery, St Mary’s Heritage Centre, Comfrey Project, St Chads/Bensham & Saltwell Alive.

**Events**

What happened in the central area was replicated across Gateshead with events taking place at venues such as Birtley Community Centre, St Marks Church, Edberts House and many others.

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Councillor Gary Haley said: “For families struggling to make ends meet, we can’t underestimate the benefit of the ‘Fill the Holiday Gap’ initiative. This is a really practical way of meeting the needs of these families and is a wonderful example of what we can achieve by working together.”

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**Springwell Community Memory Garden**

Dementia charity Silverline Memories, which runs projects across Gateshead and Newcastle, has recently opened a brand new woodworking studio and workshop for those affected at Springwell Community Memory Garden.

Created from a disused shipping container, donated by Gateshead Council, this facility gives users the chance to maintain their skills or learn new ones.

**Woodworking**

The new woodworking workshop has strengthened the garden’s existing Men’s Shed project as James Hill, project manager explained: “We wanted to add a facility that would bring back skills possibly forgotten by those living with dementia, and that can be passed on to their peers so woodworking seemed the obvious choice.”

Bobby Hedley (pictured), who is living with dementia, has been involved with the garden since its inception in 2014 and visits every week. He said: “I look forward to coming to the garden and particularly enjoy armchair-gardening with a cup of tea. This is a great way to make friends, but the local gossip is limited at the moment so we need more people to join us!”

Further additions and improvements to the garden are on the cards including beehives and a new rose garden. The charity was named a Big Lottery Fund People’s project and the resulting funding has enabled it to invest in a Memory Bus, offering transport to the garden as well as bi-weekly café groups, tea dances and day trips for more isolated and lonely people with dementia and their carers.

**To get involved in Springwell Community Memory Garden, call James on 0191 603 0095 or email james@silverlinememories.com or visit www.springwellcommunitymemorygarden.com**

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**IN YOUR AREA**

**Fill the Holiday Gap**

A fascinating CD detailing the history of the area in song, together with a booklet explaining its rich history has been produced by well-known local historian and musician Roland Veitch.

Available soon, funds from the sale of the CD will go to local community groups.

**For further information and details of how you can buy the CD, please contact Councillor Marilyn Charlton on 01207 542 043.**

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**The history of Winlaton and Blaydon in song**

Dog owners

Clean up after your dog using a poop scoop or bag.

To report dog fouling issues 0191 433 7000
Stars of the future?

Young people are training to become the athletics stars of the future thanks to a new partnership between Gateshead Harriers, Gateshead Public Health and Pattinson House (an Edberts House project).

When Pattinson House started on the Old Fold and Nest Estates in 2015, young people wanted to try sport, particularly running, and held impromptu races around small patches of grass, timed on a worker’s phone.

However, none of them used Gateshead Stadium, despite living alongside the venue. Local residents weren’t sure they were ‘allowed’ to use the facility or thought that it would be too expensive.

Meanwhile, Gateshead Harriers were really keen that local young people had the chance to train with them, and learn new skills. Now by working together, the young athletes are training with an existing Harriers group, doing running, strength and conditioning training.

Confidence

Pattinson House youth and community worker, Steve Wilkinson said: “It has been fantastic to see the young people not only learning new skills and getting fitter, but also making new friends and growing in confidence. We believe our Pattinson Athletics Club will go from strength to strength…and one day we might have our very own gold medalist!”

Any young people from the Felling area who are keen to get involved should call Steve Wilkinson at Pattinson House on 0191 438 0047.

Warming up at Barmoor Hub

The weather might be starting to cool down as we approach Autumn, but users and visitors to Barmoor Hub will soon be feeling the heat!

Thanks to funding of £50,000 from the SUEZ Communities Trust, it’s out with the old heating and hot water system and in with the new.

Barry Newton, Chair of Barmoor Hub explained: “The support from SUEZ Communities Trust will enable us replace our outdated heating system. This will ensure our users will have a more comfortable experience when attending their sessions. The new heating system will also support the trustees and volunteers as it will contribute to the sustainability of the centre by dramatically reducing our running costs.”

Work is expected to be completed by early October. Classes and activities held at the Hub will continue as normal.

For full details of what’s on offer at the Hub visit www.barmoorhub. weebly.com or phone 0191 413 2053 or www.facebook.com/ barmoorhub

Victorian Gothic comes to Bensham Grove

A night market will take place on Friday 2 November from 7pm until late, at Bensham Community Centre, Sidney Grove, with the intriguing theme of Victorian Gothic.

With a mix of food, fortune telling, workshops, entertainment and stalls selling gifts and handmade items, this free event is aimed at adults who are encouraged to dress up and enjoy the atmosphere!

Plus on 9 December, 11am-3.30pm, the venue hosts its Christmas Fair. £1 entry gets you a free hot drink and there are lots of stalls selling gifts and jewellery, children’s make and take workshops, elves on duty, and wreath making.

For more information phone 0191 433 6450 or visit www.benshamgrove.org.uk

High Spen Community Picnic

This summer’s third High Spen Community Picnic proved a big hit, with people of all ages enjoying music performed by local bands V2 and Shadow of Doubt and songs from the musicals from the Rev’d John Barron, to a bouncy castle, birds of prey, face painting and over 30 stalls.

John Bell, from High Spen Community Group who organised the event, said: “It was very satisfying to hear people say that the event made High Spen feel like a community again. This was welcome feedback as this is one of our group’s mission statements. Due to the event’s success we’re already planning a more ambitious programme for next year.

“I’d like to thank the High Spen Community Group volunteers for all their hard work, Gateshead Council, Landscape Outlook, Wigs’ Place and all the stall holders, exhibitors and performers that made this day so special. Finally, thank you to all who attended, helping us raise £1,300 for the community.”
Platform Planters

An unused allotment has been brought back to life by young people who are supported by the charity Platform, the young persons’ substance misuse service for Gateshead.

The aim was to use the allotment as an outdoor learning base to help teach the young people a variety of skills and to improve their health and wellbeing.

The charity secured an allotment last year in the East of Gateshead in partnership with the local Allotment Association and Gateshead Council - and ‘Platform Planters’ was born.

Young people, staff and volunteers have been working hard over the last 12 months to clear up the allotment, and have taken their first steps to grow fruit and vegetables.

To celebrate their achievements, a BBQ was held at the site with staff, young people, council colleagues and local community neighbours.

The charity is always looking for volunteers and young people to help with the work of maintaining and developing the allotment.

If you would like to help or more information please call Lyndsy Richardson on 0191 460 1354, email lyndsy.richardson@disc-vol.org.uk

Band on the move

Over its long history, The Felling Band has called lots of places home. And it’s on the move again.

When its former base at the AEI Office block in Birtley closed earlier this year, it had to find new premises and it is now in the Trinity Centre on Gateshead High Street.

Band member Stuart Lawson said: “We’ve been made very welcome at The Trinity Centre which is run by the arts based community interest company Gateway Studios. There’s plenty storage facility for all our gear and the main hall is a great acoustic for a brass band!”

Their next performance will take place in Holy Trinity Church, Washington, on Friday 24 November, 7pm under its resident musical director, Jason Smith.

The Band is keen to attract new members. If you are interested, please contact Stuart Lawson at stuartlawson.morpeth@gmail.com or call 07584 062 876.

Gateshead residents are being invited to join a local sailing club which has just celebrated its 50th anniversary.

The Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club (DRSC) is run by volunteers and has members from across Tyneside, Northumberland and Durham.

The club runs a number of activities including dinghy sailing, windsurfing and wild water swimming as well as offering training for newcomers and children.

For further information about the club and to join go to: www.drsc.co.uk

Power cut?

To report it and find out more call 105.
Soft play proving a big hit

If you go down to Gateshead Leisure Centre today, you’re sure of a big surprise….OK, the tune is probably familiar, but we guarantee you’ve never seen anything like GO Gateshead’s fantastic new soft play experience.

As part of a major investment to improve it’s already outstanding range of leisure, the GO Bears Den is a brand new soft play facility based at Gateshead Leisure Centre.

For ages up to 12 years, it offers four floors of fun, packed with thrilling apparatus and challenging obstacles, including climbing towers, slides, cargo skywalk, the ball play zone, and the dizzy disc twister zone. It also includes a dedicated toddler area specifically for your younger cubs.

Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure Councillor Angela Douglas said: “The Council has a heritage of providing exceptional leisure facilities to the residents of Gateshead, and this latest investment is further proof of this commitment. Along with the Clip ’n Climb, this new facility is unique in Gateshead, and with a similar investment in improving the onsite café, come rain or shine the GO Bears Den is the perfect place for playtime. It’s a fun, safe environment for kids to let off some steam and burn some energy.

“Another fantastic benefit of the GO Bears Den, is that the sooner you introduce your children to healthy activities, the more likely they are to sustain this behaviour into adulthood. Soft play is the ideal gateway activity to lifetime’s interest in staying fit and healthy.”

For more information on the GO Bears Den soft play facility visit www.gogateshead.com/gobears

Gateshead gears up for panto spectacular

In a new partnership with Gateshead Council, the popular Newcastle Panto Company (NPC), will present its unique brand of Geordie pantomime from a brand new home - Gateshead International Stadium.

They’ll create their very own Indoor Stadium Theatre that will accommodate 800 people.

Impressive

Maxie Peters, the company’s writer and director, who is once again starring as the Dame in this year’s production, Sleeping Beauty, is thrilled that it has secured such an impressive local venue.

Maxie said: “Since the initial announcement, we have been inundated with bookings from families and groups who make a regular trip to see our pantomime every year, many telling us how we form an integral part of their annual Christmas tradition.

‘With a new modern venue and facilities, served by excellent transport links and its own Metro station, together with our extensive fan base, we’re already set for a bumper Christmas with some shows already sold out!’

The panto will run from 8 - 30 December 2017, with tickets available at www.ticketsource.co.uk/newcastlepanto or call the box office on 0191 718 5440.

(Left-right) Panto cast members Dottie Stottie (Bob Stott) Prince Berb of Bedlington (James Hedley) Queen Bumble (Christina Dawson) Princess Aurora (Emily Swan) and Lottie Stottie (Maxie Peters)
Gateshead Family Sculpture Day

Join us for our 32nd Gateshead Family Sculpture Day - taking place in the Grove, Saltwell Park on Sunday 24 September, 11am-4pm.

This hugely popular day offers mums, dads, kids and grandparents the chance to build their very own monumental artworks out of rough timber and a handful of nails.

This year’s theme is ‘Four Seasons’ so come along and create something amazing. It could be a cheeky tree climbing Saltwell Park squirrel in Autumn, visiting the beach and eating ice cream in the Summer, a blossoming tree in Spring or a Winter loving snowman. Or is it a cheesy yummy four seasons pizza, or Vivaldi’s musical masterpiece?

Entry is free with a ‘Pay as you feel’ option as a contribution towards the cost of the event. Plus £2 (tool hire), 50p for a cup of nails. Families are asked to bring along their own hammers - and lots of ideas!

Thank you

A big thank you to everyone who supports this event including skip hire company, J&B Recycling Ltd, Hartlepool, B&Q Scotswood for their contribution towards the equipment and Ikea Gateshead who have provided an exciting raffle prize to be revealed on the day.

Contact 0191 433 8445/8420 email gatesheadlive@gateshead.gov.uk or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Shaping up with your baby

If you’re a new parent, you might think you don’t have time to exercise? Think again - GO Gateshead’s Active Mums and Buggy Bootcamp sessions may be just what you’re looking for.

Active Mums is a moderate intensity outdoor exercise class giving new parents the chance to work out with their infant in tow. The sessions focus around cardio and body-weighted exercises that integrate movement of the buggy, keeping your baby soothed and content.

Buggy Bootcamp is similar, but a moderate to high intensity class at Gateshead Leisure Centre. Unlike Active Mums, these sessions use a range of resistance equipment, including kettlebells, barbells and dumbbells.

Active mums
Tuesdays, 1.30-2.30pm, Saltwell Park
Thursdays, 1.30-2.30pm Derwenthaugh Park (Winlaton Mill)
Free with GO Gateshead Card. A charge for non-cardholders to be introduced shortly. For details visit www.gogateshead.com

Buggy Bootcamp
Mondays, 10.30-11.30am, Gateshead Leisure Centre
Free with a GO Gateshead membership, otherwise £5.70 per session

For more information and to book please email petermulholland@gateshead.gov.uk

Chopwell Wood Christmas trees

Friends of Chopwell Wood will be selling Christmas trees every day from Saturday 25 November from 8am-8pm. Tree stands, wreaths and decorations will also be available. Refreshments and crafts at weekends from 10am-4.30pm, and Santa will also visit on selected weekends from 11am-3.30pm.

The sales site is next to the main car park, and access into the wood is from the B6315 near High Spen. Please note there is no recycling of trees at Chopwell Wood, but you can recycle at one of the Council household waste recycling centres.

Sales will close by 20 December, or earlier if all trees are sold.

Further information on facebook @Friends of Chopwell Wood or www.friendsofchopwellwood.org.uk or phone 01207 542495
Gateshead Council has launched a new campaign to promote the breadth of things to do and see in rural Gateshead, led by NewcastleGateshead initiative. Over half the borough is countryside, so the campaign aims to encourage local people to make the most of the fantastic places on their doorstep.

At www.gatesheadsgreatoutdoors.com you’ll find lots of ideas of things to do and places to explore from the picturesque Derwent Valley to the little known Old Hollinside Manor and historic Gibside, to our pioneering industrial heritage at Tanfield and Bowes railways.

There are lots of things for families to see and do in rural Gateshead, including countryside walks and cycle rides in the Derwent valley and Chopwell Wood, getting closer to nature at Birkheads Secret Gardens, and hands on with the animals at Daniel Farm.

There are also a fantastic range of places to shop and eat, from a sparkling afternoon tea at Bradley Gardens near Crawcrook, to organic local produce at the Paddock Farm Shop and Field House Farm Butchers at High Spen.

Cabinet member for Communities and Volunteering, Councillor Linda Green said: “Gateshead is often perceived as primarily an urban area, so we are keen to open people’s eyes to all the wonderful hidden gems that the area has to offer.

“Gateshead’s countryside boasts a rich industrial heritage and is also a beautiful natural environment packed full of opportunities for great days out and places for families to explore.

“We are confident that Gateshead’s Great Outdoors will contribute toward our commitment to support economic growth in the borough’s rural communities.”

The campaign which also includes a new brochure, advertising and radio campaign is part of a longer-term project by Gateshead Council to improve the infrastructure and connectivity of rural Gateshead, and increase local awareness of the businesses and attractions located in the area.

For more information visit www.gatesheadsgreatoutdoors.com

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**Enchanted Parks - The Inventor’s Ball**

It’s back! The popular after-dark arts adventure set in the atmospheric setting of Saltwell Park returns for six nights between 5-10 December.

This annual event, brought to you by NewcastleGateshead Initiative and Gateshead Council sees specially commissioned artists transform Gateshead’s Saltwell Park into a magical and mythical wonderland.

**Maggie’s culture crawl**

Local cancer charity Maggie’s Centre is holding a 6-mile walk to raise money on Friday 29 September, 6pm.

Walk begins at 6pm at Maggie’s Cancer Centre in the grounds of the Freeman Hospital. An evening walk full of fun, food and culture as you experience a behind the scenes experience of some of our most iconic landmarks including Sage Gateshead. At each venue you’ll be treated to cultural performances such as live music, spectacular arts, and mouth-watering food.

For full details and fundraising information www.maggiescentres.org/ccnewcastle

**Markets come to Trinity Square**

Two outdoor markets will take place in Trinity Square on 20-23 September and 29 November-2 December, 9am-5.30pm.

Bringing together a range of stalls and traders including jewellery, international food, clothing and bedding, the outdoor markets will complement the existing range of retail, food and leisure outlets at the Square.

To find out more about Trinity Square and the markets visit www.trinitysquaregateshead.co.uk
50 years ago, Dr Martin Luther King Jr received an honorary degree from Newcastle University. This event is being celebrated in a year-long commemoration called Freedom City 2017.

As part of this commemoration, on Sunday 29 October, an epic, processional performance will take place in the buildings and on the streets of Newcastle and Gateshead.

Stories from Alabama (1963), India (1919), South Africa (1961), Manchester (1819) and Tyneside (1936) will be woven together in an immersive three-hour performance that will feature international artists, performers and community groups from across NewcastleGateshead in a unique free afternoon of theatre, music, dance, circus and art, celebrating the courage and sacrifice of those who have led the long march for civil rights.

Directed by internationally acclaimed theatre director Tim Supple, the event culminates in an uplifting moment of light, sound and theatre on the iconic NewcastleGateshead quayside.

For more information visit www.FreedomCity2017.com

This autumn half-term sees the return of Juice Festival, NewcastleGateshead’s annual festival celebrating the creativity of children and young people.

The multi-arts festival for everyone, created with children and under 25s, takes place from Friday 20-Saturday 28 October.

Innovative

It begins with an action-packed weekend of events featuring Just Jam’s Hip-hop Battle, showcasing a diverse programme of dance styles and innovative new work, a variety of circus delights with ‘Circus in the City’ including workshops and spectacular performances, a celebration of all things manga with Anime Attacks, and Our Time: an after-hours night at Great North Museum: Hancock inspired by Freedom City 2017, celebrating how young people can take ideas from the past and present to shape the future.

Popping up in cultural venues, libraries and public spaces across Newcastle and Gateshead, you can enjoy exhibitions, performances, workshops, poetry and inclusive events for children, young people and families with additional needs.

Families

Gateshead Central Library is the venue for ‘Imagine That’ - a free creative day of events for families, exploring stories in new and exciting ways, through story readings, crafts and book making. And for the entire festival the library will also present ‘Illustrate,’ a collection of imagery by Gateshead primary school pupils who have worked with artists inspired by the theme of freedom.

Bonfire night

Stay safe on bonfire night and attend an organised display. For a list of organised events in Gateshead please visit gateshead.gov.uk/fireworks nearer the time.

Saltwell Park will once again play host to the Metro Radio fireworks for the third year running on Saturday 4th November.

The event will be pre-booked tickets only and include entertainment, food stalls, games and activities. A small entry charge will apply.

Further details will be available nearer the time from www.metroradio.co.uk

For more information and to book tickets, visit www.juicefestival.co.uk
Gateshead in Print Exhibition
Friday 7 September - Friday 20 October
In the 1800s Newcastle and Gateshead had one of the most thriving print industries in the country. Find out what mattered to people 200 years ago in this unique display of early newspapers, handbills and posters, including original material from Thomas Bewick.

At St Mary’s Heritage Centre, open 10am-4pm Tuesday to Friday and 10am-1pm Saturday. Free.

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 16 September
Gibside Farmers Market, Gibside, 10am-3pm.
Buy appetising seasonal foods and high quality crafts direct from local producers. Market runs every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/gibside

Sunday 17 September, 8pm
Blaydon Jazz Club, Black Bull, Bridge St, Blaydon. Hand to Mouth - Lindsay Hannon and Bradley Johnston.
In the centenary year of Ella Fitzgerald’s birth, Lindsay and Bradley pay tribute to Ella’s unsurpassed duets with legendary guitarist Joe Pass. £5 on the door. For more details call 0191 414 2846.

Tuesday 19 September, 1.30-3pm
The Shipley Centenary: Behind the Scenes Art Tour, Shipley Art Gallery.
See some of the Shipley’s vast collection of artwork currently not on public display. £2.50 includes refreshments.
www.shipleyartgallery.org.uk

Sunday 24 September, 11am-4pm
Join us for this fantastic, annual, family event of creating. This year’s theme is ‘Four Seasons’. There’s wood, tools and all the nails you need plus Raku pottery. Free (small charges for tool hire, nails and pottery).

OCTOBER

Thursday 5 October
Library Lates: Books through the decades – 1930s. Gateshead Central Library.
Join us as we read from books written and published in the 1930s. Learn more about the food, fashion, culture and literature of the time. Themed refreshments will be served. £3, call 0191 433 8420 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Saturday 7 October, 10am-3pm
Kells Lane Food Market, Kells Lane School.
Come along to sample the best North East produce along with an ever changing range of delicious world street food. 50p, free for kids. Also runs 4 November and 2 December.

Monday 9-14 October, 7.15pm
Time of my life by Alan Ayckbourn at Little Theatre, Gateshead.
Meet the Stratton family as they celebrate Laura’s fourth birthday. Secrets are revealed, time shifts forward and backwards and relationships are tested. Tickets £9 (concessions available) from 0191 478 1499 or online www.littletheatregateshead.co.uk

Tuesday 10 October, 6.30pm
Women in Power: A costume talk by Meredith Towne, Caedmon Hall, Gateshead Central Library.
Explore, create and engage with makers, take part in workshops and hands on activities. The event is free but please register, call 0191 433 8420 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

Enchanted Parks
Tuesday 5 - Sunday 10 December
The annual event, which sees specially commissioned artists transform Gateshead’s Saltwell Park into a magical and mythical wonderland, will run for six nights this winter meaning more people can enjoy the popular event.
Tickets will go on sale in October and early November please check website for details www.enchantedparks.com

Juice Festival
Saturday 21 - Sunday 29 October
Juice is a festival for families and under 25s taking place during October half term. The festival showcases outstanding work created by, for and with under 25s as well as a family friendly programme. Many events are free at venues across Gateshead and Newcastle.
To see the full programme visit www.newcastlegateshead.com/juice-festival

Highlights

October

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Join Meredith Towne as she travels the globe looking at Queens, CEOs, Presidents, First Ladies, Prime Ministers and actresses, exploring the history of female power dressing and highlighting how modern women are taking on the world through their clothes. £6.
To book call 0191 433 8420 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

**Wednesday 11 October, 10.30am**
**Local history bite-size: Tracing Gateshead servicemen**
At Leam Lane Library. Find out what resources are available and how you should start your search. Also at Blaydon Library on Saturday 21 October Cost £3. Contact 0191 433 6101 or book online www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

**Saturday 14 October, 11am-4pm**
**Geocaching Weekend at Gibside**
This is a modern day treasure hunt! Hire the GPS handset to locate the hidden boxes. There are more than 10 to find. Find them all and you can claim your certificate. £10. To book, or for more information call 01207 541 820.

**Tuesday 17 October, 7pm**
**Widdershins and Witch Trials**
Come along to Gateshead Central Library for an evening with local author, Helen Steadman whose novel Widdershins tells the story of the Newcastle witch trials in the 17th century. Details and booking at www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson Tickets £3 (free to members of Gateshead Libraries Reading Groups)

**Saturday 21 October, 10am**
**Anime Attacks 7** at Caedmon Hall, Gateshead Central Library.
Celebrate things anime and manga. Packed full of taiko drumming, food, manga artists, special guests and more.

Part of Juice festival. £7.50. To book and for more details call 0191 433 8420 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

**Sunday 22 October**
**Blydon Jazz Club**
Vasilis Xenopoulos/Paul Edis Quartet.
at The Black Bull, Bridge St, Blaydon, The mercurial tenor sax player with his long time associate Paul Edis and his trio. For more details call 0191 414 2846.

**Tuesday 24 October, 6.30pm**
**History Wardrobe: Red Ribbon**
Costume historian, Lucy Adlington presents the world of fashion, fabrics and home sewing in the 1940s. She will also be talking about her new novel, The Red Ribbon which tells the amazing story of the dressmakers of Auschwitz. At Caedmon Hall, Gateshead Central Library. Cost £6 Contact 0191 433 8420 or book online www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

**NOVEMBER**

**Thursday 2 November**
**Library Lates: Books through the decades – 1940s**
Gateshead Central Library.
Join us as we read from books written and published in the 1940s. Learn more about the food, fashion, culture and literature of the time. Themed refreshments will be served. £3, call 0191 433 8420 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/whatson

**Friday 3 November, 6-9pm**
**Gibside Buskers’ Night** at Gibside Pub.
Whether you’re a budding musician who enjoys performing or more of a spectator, you’re more than welcome at Gibside Pub’s Buskers’ night. Every first Friday of each month, all performers are encouraged to take part and show what you’re made of. Free.

**Saturday 4 November, 10am-2pm**
**Dynamic Ceramic Day**
Shipley Art Gallery.
Help create a miniature Shipley Art Gallery full of exciting works of art, all made out of clay. Plus, paint a ceramic tile with The Kin Pottery Studio. £1.50 www.shipleyartgallery.org.uk

**Monday 6-11 November, 7.15pm**
**The Prisoner’s Friend by Peter Drake**
at Little Theatre, Gateshead.
It’s 1914, The First World War is raging in the trenches. We see the effects of war on the soldiers trying to cope with the battles. Tickets £9 (concessions available) from 0191 478 1499 or online www.littletheatregateshead.co.uk

**Saturday 11 November, 12-1.30pm**
**North East Gospel Choir**
Shipley Art Gallery.
Part of Freedom City 2017, this event commemorates the anniversary of Dr Martin Luther King Jr receiving his honorary degree from Newcastle University. Free entry, donations welcome.
Make a difference

Train to become a Primary School teacher with Gateshead SCITT

Training takes place at our lead school, Lobley Hill Primary School, and we work in partnership with schools across the region.

We welcome applications from candidates with a degree (2.2 or above) with GCSE Maths, English and Science at grade C or above.

Applications can be submitted on UCAS from November 2017, but we are happy to provide more information on Gateshead SCITT by:

Phone 0191 433 4081
Email info@gatesheadscitt.org.uk
Website www.gatesheadscitt.org.uk

We’re here to help you stay well this winter

It’s important to look after yourself, especially during the winter. Cold weather can be seriously bad for your health.

Protect yourself from the flu this winter: visit your GP or local pharmacy to get vaccinated.

It’s free on the NHS for adults over the age of 18 at risk of flu (including everyone aged 65 and over), pregnant women, and some groups of children.

For more information on this issue visit www.nhs.uk

We became a family with Gateshead Council through adoption... could you?

Information evenings:
Thursday 19 October and Thursday 30 November, 5.30-7pm at Bewicks, Gateshead Civic Centre

Contact us today on 0191 433 6388 or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk/adoptions
GO GROW.

Free short courses and workshops.

We’ve put together a programme of free short courses and workshops that will help you develop your skills for work and life to get you job ready, improve your career prospects, help you set up and build a business or learn a new skill.

Courses include:
- Beginners Cakes, Bakes and Cooking from Around the World
- Social Media as a Career, Being Safe Online and Web Development
- Gel Nail Art and Wedding Hair Design
- Upcycling Crafts, Painting & Drawing, Guitar and Dance
- First Aid, Car Maintenance and Positive Parenting
- Basic English and Maths
- Health & Safety and First Aid for Work
- Photography, Graphic Design and Spreadsheets for Business

BOOK YOUR PLACE

www.gateshead.ac.uk/free
to find more courses and book your place.

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