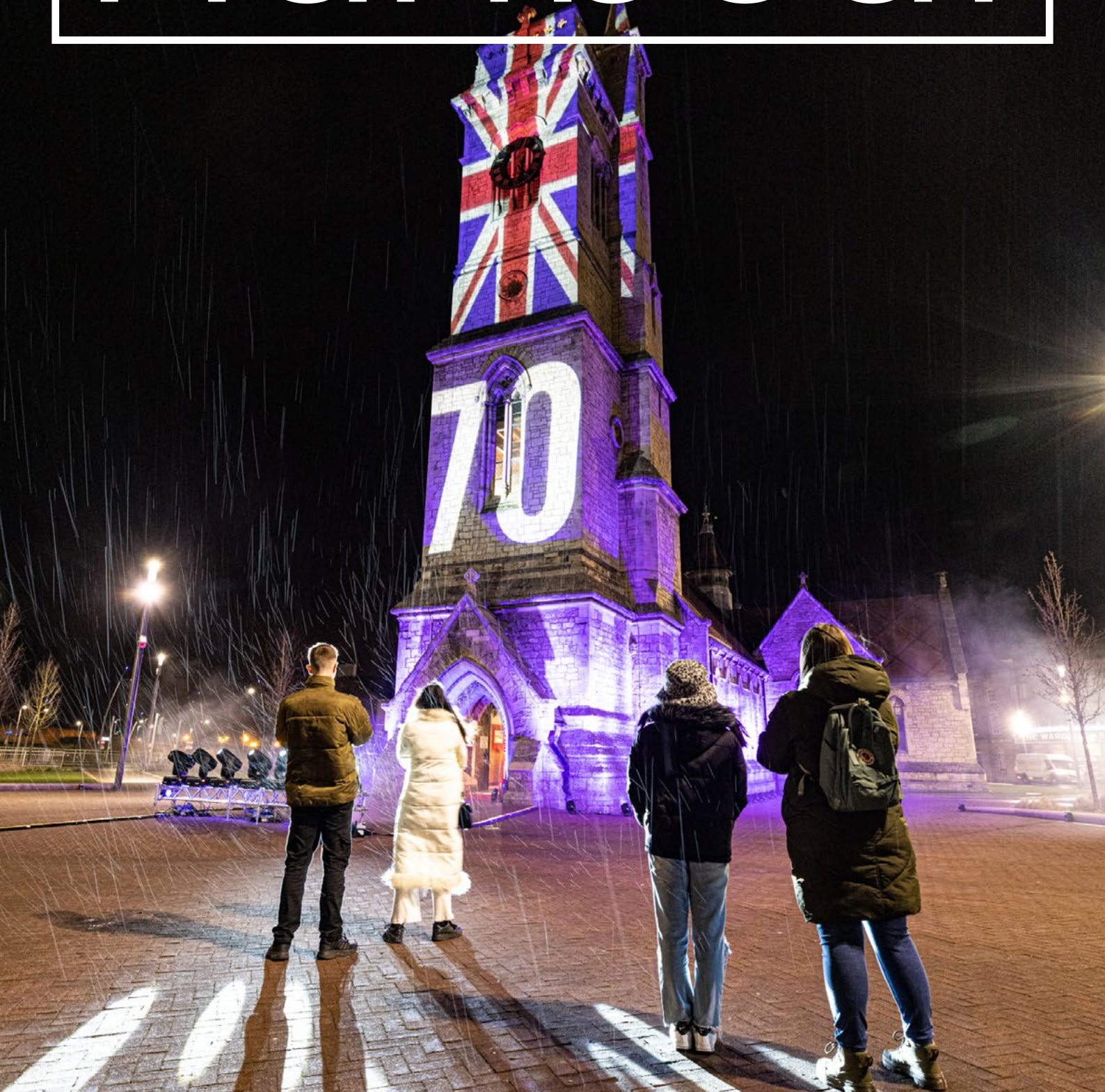


May 2022

Hartbeat



www.hartlepool.gov.uk



@hpoolcouncil



HARTLEPOOL
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Royal visit photographs courtesy of the Hartlepool Mail

Now is the time...

We're on such an exciting journey to transform Hartlepool and everywhere you look there are clear signs we are delivering significant change within the Borough.

An application for planning permission had been submitted for Highlight, the town's proposed new flagship leisure development on The Waterfront and in recent weeks divers have already been carrying out essential maintenance work on the dock walls. You can read more about this on page eight.

The transformation of Hartlepool Railway Station has reached another milestone with the submission of plans for the redevelopment.

The scheme will see the station's redundant second platform brought back into use, opening up capacity and unlocking the potential for future growth in services. Find out more on page 18.

Last year, we also secured £25 million from the Government to support our ambitious plans to boost, redevelop and reinvigorate Hartlepool and two of the projects proposed as part of the Hartlepool Town Deal are now being submitted to the Government for approval

following the development of detailed business cases.

The construction of a new cycle track at Summerhill Country Park has been completed and you can learn more about this accessible facility on page seven.

There's just over one year to go until the world-famous Tall Ships arrive in Hartlepool. Turn to pages 10 and 11 to find out about the build up to this fantastic event.

Lastly, but by no means least, we're so looking forward to celebrating Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth. Pages four to six detail the events and activities happening across Hartlepool to celebrate this historic milestone.

Change is coming to Hartlepool – now is the time to be part of our story.



Denise McGuckin, Managing Director



Summerhill cycle track - Page 7



Highlight - Page 8



Waterfront Festival - Pages 16-17

Hartbeat is available in Braille and articles can be translated into other languages. For information please call (01429) 523578 or email communications@hartlepool.gov.uk

To advertise in Hartbeat please call (01429) 523578 or email communications@hartlepool.gov.uk



If you have a long-term condition, disability or chronic health issue, or care for someone who does, we want to hear about your experience of accessing Hartlepool Borough Council services.

Find out more and take part in our consultation at yoursay.hartlepool.gov.uk/services-accessibility





What's happening in Hartlepool...

Here in Hartlepool, we will be celebrating with the rest of the nation Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth - over the Bank Holiday weekend which runs from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June.



Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images

The weekend provides an opportunity for people across the Borough to come together to celebrate the historic milestone and we'll also be hosting a number of community events.

On the evening of Thursday 2nd June, we'll be lighting our coastal beacons at Seaton Carew and the Headland at 9pm. The Jubilee Beacons will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK Overseas Territories and the Commonwealth to come together to celebrate this historic milestone.



A previous beacon lighting in Hartlepool

On the evening of Saturday 4th June, we'll be live streaming the Platinum Party at the Palace at Elephant Rock – the restored outdoor events space on Hartlepool's Headland.



Elephant Rock

As Hartbeat went to print, the exact details had not been confirmed, but the BBC is promising an event featuring an incredible range of highlights from global music stars with a full, live orchestra - to actors from film, TV and the stage telling the story and celebrating some of the most significant cultural moments from The Queen's reign.

Then on Sunday 5th June, the team behind Hartlepool Waterfront Festival has invited artists from across Europe to take over the historic Headland – with the Headland Squircle and Elephant Rock being the two main pitches.

Pull up a deck chair and get settled in for an afternoon of some of the most dazzling performances the Headland has ever seen!

As well as our main programme of activity, Redheugh Gardens will play host to a sound garden by local musician Madeleine Smyth, who has taken local memories of the Queen and her reign and sounds from across our country and woven them into an audible tapestry that will be played throughout the day.

The event will also play host to the Songs Of Her Reign project, where eight community groups have explored eight songs, one from each decade of the Queen's reign and responded to each in a different creative way!

Share your photos on social media using the hashtags #PlatinumJubileeHartlepool and #HM70Hartlepool.

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Thursday 2nd June	9pm	Headland	Beacon Lighting
Thursday 2nd June	9pm	Seaton Carew	Beacon Lighting
Saturday 4th June	TBC	Elephant Rock, Headland	Platinum Party at the Palace
Sunday 5th June	12pm - 5pm	Headland	Hartlepool Jubilee Sunday
Friday 1st July	6pm - 7:15pm	Church Square	Freedom Concert - Band & Bugles of the Rifles

To find out more about these events and our extended programme of events please visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/queens-platinum-jubilee

Remembering Hartlepool's royal celebrations

There will be a fascinating look back at how Hartlepool celebrated royal events during The Queen's reign in a special Platinum Jubilee exhibition at Community Hub Central.

Called 'I Remember', the free exhibition will run from Monday 30th May to Friday 24th June and will feature photographs, newspaper cuttings, memorabilia and personal reminiscences, including contributions from local residents.

Among the occasions in the spotlight will be the 1953 Coronation – when Hartlepool celebrated with parades and street parties – the 1977 Silver Jubilee, when the Queen visited the town, and later events including The Queen's 1993 visit to open the Marina and Princess Anne's 1970 visit to open Middleton Grange Shopping Centre.

Jamie Kelly, Hartlepool Borough Council's Community Hubs Manager, said: "The exhibition will be a nostalgic trip down memory lane for those who lived through these remarkable

events and an interesting experience for our younger residents.

"It also gives a fascinating insight into how things have changed over the past 70 years – when The Queen began her reign the average house price was £1,890 – equal to £38,800 in today's prices – and a pint of beer was one shilling and three pence!"



Community Hub Assistant Rebecca Metcalfe with some of the items which will feature in the exhibition

Street parties

The UK has a long history of organised street parties to celebrate national events and we're delighted many residents across Hartlepool are joining together to celebrate this historic milestone.

As a local authority, we are facilitating any necessary road closures and have waived the usual charge for the provision of the traffic management equipment.

Constituted neighbourhood or community groups were also invited to apply for a grant of between £50 and £250 to cover the costs of their activity and Hartlepool Borough Council has allocated funding to 29 groups.

Across the Bank Holiday weekend, residents are encouraged to share photos on social media using the hashtags #PlatinumJubileeHartlepool and #HM70Hartlepool.



Photographs courtesy of the Hartlepool Mail

Work completed on new Summerhill cycle track

The construction of a new 750-metre cycling track at Summerhill Country Park has been completed.

It has been designed to provide accessible, traffic-free community cycling facilities and opportunities for people of all ages and cycling abilities.

The "free-form" tarmac track is fenced and floodlit and built on gently sloping terrain. It incorporates varying elevations and degrees of cornering difficulty.

Two secure cycle storage containers have also been installed on site.

In addition, a dedicated balance bike and learn-to-ride area is being created on the grassed area to the side of the Summerhill Visitors Centre for younger people to learn new skills.

The project has been made possible by funding from British Cycling and Hartlepool Borough Council.

Construction work, which started in February, has been carried out by Rainton Construction Ltd.

Daniel Garthwaite, Hartlepool Borough Council's Participation and Strategy Manager, said: "We are delighted with the track, it looks great.

"It is a great asset for the town and, in particular, will enable young people, families, disabled people and women to cycle more safely, more often."

The track is now available for use by local cycling clubs. Testing of its accessibility will continue through June and it is expected to open for general use in July. An official opening is expected to take place later in the summer on a date to be confirmed.

A programme of activity for the track, including club sessions and "open" recreational cycling, will be publicised online where people will be able to find out more about how to book and pricing.



Summerhill staff members Keith Carter and Claire McDonald

www.activehartlepool.co.uk/summerhill-cycle-track



Active - Healthier - Together

Our vision for the future is for everyone in Hartlepool to be able to lead an active lifestyle

The new Active Hartlepool brand replaces Get Hartlepool Active and encompasses Mill House Leisure Centre, Headland Sports Centre, Brierton Sports Centre, Summerhill Country Park, Carlton Adventure, the Council's grass sports pitches, the Participation Team and the Family Time project.

It reflects our mission to place customers at the heart of everything we do, inspire people to be more active and use sport and physical activity to improve our communities.

www.activehartlepool.co.uk

Significant milestone in development of Highlight



Work to carry out essential repairs and maintenance to the dock walls surrounding the site earmarked for Highlight has now been completed.

Specialist marine civil engineering company Sealane Inshore spent several weeks filling in holes in the walls, replacing bricks and re-grouting joints.

Divers worked in depths of up to 25ft to carry out the repairs and maintenance, using between 10 and 20 tonnes of concrete.

Kieran Bostock, Hartlepool Borough Council's Assistant Director (Place Management), said: "These works are a significant milestone in the on-going development of Highlight as they are the first to be carried out on The Waterfront site.

"They are a vital part of ensuring that the site is ready for construction work to begin in due course."

The completion of the work coincides with the release of a new computer generated image of how Highlight will look.

The building has been designed by GT3 Architects, its shape inspired by the railway tracks which ran from local timber and coal yards into the former dockland site during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The development is following the RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) Plan of Work which essentially organises the process of a building project into eight stages (0-7), from initial briefing right the way through to operation. Highlight is currently at the end of Stage 4, the technical design stage.

An application for planning permission for Highlight has been submitted. Following its determination by the Council's Planning Committee, the process to procure a main contractor will begin.



**THE TALL SHIPS RACES
Hartlepool 2023**

organised by Sail Training International

TALL SHIPS HARTLEPOOL 6-9 JULY 2023

tallshipshartlepool2023.co.uk



@TallShipsHpool

The countdown is on...

There's just over one year to go until the world-famous Tall Ships arrive in Hartlepool in July 2023.

As this edition of Hartbeat went to print, five young people aged 15-25 were being selected to represent the Borough by taking part in The Tall Ships Races 2022.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the successful applicants to take part in an international event and sail across Europe.

Catherine Honey, Hartlepool Borough Council's Event Director Tall Ships 2023, said "This will be a life-changing experience for five young people to be part of a crew taking part in the 2022 race from Belgium to Denmark.

"We will allocate our five trainees to an English speaking ship and they'll get to experience life onboard and take part in all of the daily tasks.

"We want to be able to tell their story and we will work with the Northern School of Art and media partners to do this in creating a documentary series.

"Our five sail trainees will also become ambassadors for us and help us to promote The Tall Ships Races 2023.

"The Tall Ships Races are far more than a fantastic festival with spectacular vessels, music and entertainment.

"At the heart of the event is the life-changing opportunity offered to young people, strengthening their skills and competencies through sail training."

Top quality award for Seaton Carew

Seaton Carew has earned a top quality award from environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.

Its main beach area has once again been granted a Seaside Award – which is only given to English beaches which are clean, safe and meet the highest environmental standards.

The beach is regularly cleaned and is patrolled by lifeguards during the school summer holidays.

Gemma Ptak, Hartlepool Borough Council's Assistant Director (Preventative and Community-Based Services), said: "We're delighted that

Seaton Carew's golden, sandy beach has once again earned this top award and I'd like to thank the Council staff and volunteers who work so hard to keep it looking so good.

"With its lovely beach, its family leisure area on the prom and its seafront gift shops, amusements and eateries, Seaton Carew offers a great day out for all the family, right on the doorstep."

STAY SAFE AT THE SEASIDE

If you're heading to Hartlepool's beaches this summer for a fun-filled family day out, we've got some important tips to help you stay safe.

Hartlepool Borough Council's beach lifeguards will be patrolling the beach at Seaton Carew and the Headland's Block Sands throughout the school summer holiday period.

They will be on duty every day from 23rd July to 4th September and they're asking everyone to follow these simple safeguards:

- Follow any safety advice which the lifeguards give and take note of any beach safety signs.
- Swim where the lifeguards patrol – within the areas marked by the red and yellow marker flags.
- Never go into the water when the red flags are flying – it means it's not safe to do so.
- Be aware of incoming tides.

- Don't use inflatables in the sea – the tides, currents and wind can easily carry you far away from the shore.
- Waves are very powerful – avoid piers, slipways and promenades when the sea conditions are rough.
- Beware of rip currents – strong currents running out to sea which can take swimmers out of their depth very easily.
- Think before you dive – be very careful when diving at any time and never dive into water with which you are not familiar – there may be hidden dangers such as rocks, currents or insufficient depth.
- Never swim on your own – you should have someone on hand in case you get into difficulty.
- If you get into difficulty, float on your back, wait until you are calm then raise your arm and shout for help.
- If you see someone in difficulty in the sea, don't enter the water – summon a lifeguard or call 999 and ask for the coastguard.

Have a happy and safe day at the seaside!



GET SET FOR A SIZZLING SUMMER!

There'll be lots of fantastic, fun activities for children and young people in Hartlepool aged 4 to 16 to look forward to over the school summer holidays – and most of them will be free!

There will be plenty to keep children and young people entertained and help them discover new hobbies and skills, make new friends and build their confidence. On top of all this, they'll also get tasty, nutritious meals into the bargain.

It's all part of Hartlepool Holiday Fun – a project run by Hartlepool Borough Council in partnership with different organisations across the town and funded by the Department for Education – providing activities for children and young people over the main school holidays throughout the year.

Places are available for free to children who receive free school meals, but all children and young people in Hartlepool are welcome to take part.

Sally Robinson, Hartlepool Borough Council's Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, said: "Since it was launched last year, Hartlepool Holiday Fun has been an outstanding success, enabling thousands of children and young people to enjoy a wide range of exciting, stimulating activities and receive nutritious meals as well.

"It keeps going from strength to strength and we're looking forward to an action-packed summer of activities.

"The programme is still being finalised but it will include another great mix of activities and sports."

More information – including details of how to book – will be published closer to the summer holidays. Keep checking www.hartlepool.gov.uk/hartlepool-holiday-fun for updates.



Town Deal projects take major step forward

Two projects proposed as part of the £25m Hartlepool Town Deal have been submitted to the Government for approval following the development of detailed business cases.

Plans for Health and Care and Civil Engineering Academies have been sent to the Department for Levelling Up, Communities and Housing (DLUCH).

It represents a major step forward following months of painstaking behind-the-scenes work.

Hartlepool Town Deal is the result of a successful bid for Government regeneration funding.

The Health and Care Academy is a partnership between North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and Hartlepool College of Further Education, while the Civil Engineering Academy is a partnership between the college and Seymour Civil Engineering.

Business cases are being finalised for three other projects – the re-imagining of Middleton Grange Shopping Centre, the redevelopment of the former Wesley Chapel and improving the connectivity of The Waterfront with other parts of the town.

More information is available at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/HartlepoolTownDeal

Little terns return to nesting site

Visitors to a Hartlepool beach are being urged to respect a colony of rare seabirds and avoid disturbing their nests.

The little terns have again taken up residence on a stretch of beach at Seaton Carew after nesting there for the first time in 2019. The nesting area is close to the resort's centre, behind the bus station

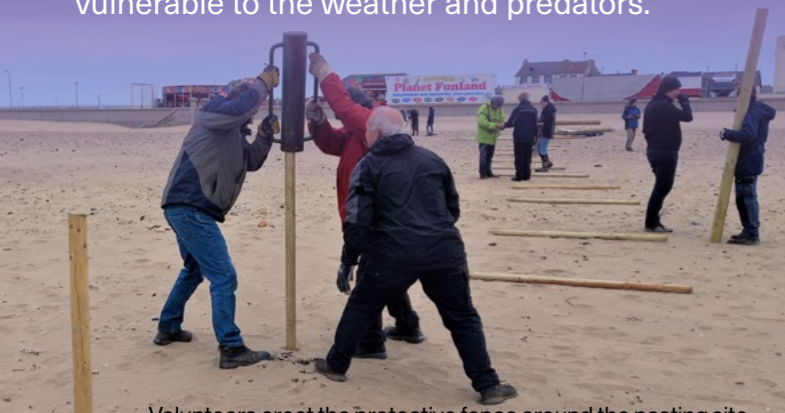
Weighing only 40-60g and about the size of a starling, little terns are the smallest of the five species of terns that breed in the UK. The birds lay their well-camouflaged eggs in shallow scrapes in the sand, but this makes the nests very difficult to spot and leaves them extremely vulnerable to disturbance and damage.

This year, a more substantial fence has been put up to try to protect their nests and wardens from the Durham Wildlife Trust are monitoring the site as part of the National Lottery Heritage Fund SeaScapes Partnership.

Senior warden Mandy Bell said: "The little terns have come all the way from West Africa to actually nest on this beach – what a privilege!

"I do not know of another nesting site that is as close to the promenade, but this does make them vulnerable to disturbance. Over the last few years we have had problems with people and dogs getting onto the site.

Sarah Scarr, Hartlepool Borough Council's Heritage and Countryside Manager, said: "We would ask people to respect the site and keep their distance. Adult birds will leave their nests if disturbed, leaving their eggs and chicks vulnerable to the weather and predators."



Volunteers erect the protective fence around the nesting site

Thank you to our COVID workers and volunteers

Hartlepool Borough Council's health chief has paid tribute to the town's COVID workers and volunteers for their efforts during the pandemic.

Director of Public Health Craig Blundred said they had done an amazing job and played a vital role in helping the people of Hartlepool through the crisis.



Craig Blundred

He said: "As many of these workers and volunteers stand down from their COVID roles, I would like to send them my sincere thanks for all that they have done.

"Whether they have served as Street Ambassadors or COVID Community Champions helping residents to stay up to date on the safety guidance, for example, or worked in the testing, vaccination or contact tracing teams, or staffed or contributed to the Support Hub providing a lifeline to vulnerable residents, they have done a marvellous job.

"Their dedication and commitment has been second-to-none and they can feel rightly proud of the role they have played and we thank them for this."

Although Hartlepool now has its sights set on brighter days ahead, Craig also gave an important reminder.

"Please remember that COVID is still out there, so please continue stay vigilant and take care, to help protect yourself and others."

Tell us your views!

How should services be developed to best meet your needs?



McKenzie Group and NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group are exploring the future provision of services from Hartfields Medical Centre, located at Hartfields Extra Care Village.

Following previous public engagement in July/August 2021 an additional 8-week period of engagement will run from **9th May 2022 until midnight on 3rd July 2022**. This is to look more closely at the impact of a possible permanent closure, whilst also exploring alternatives to Hartfields being fully open or closed.

Survey

You may have received a survey through the post. If you have not received a survey and would like to share your feedback please visit <https://necs.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/hartfields>

Paper copies of the survey are available at any McKenzie Group practice or can be requested by emailing necsu.engagement@nhs.net For support in completing the survey please call Healthwatch Hartlepool on 01429 288 146.

Events

We are also running a series of public engagement sessions. To register your interest for an event, and to help us manage room capacity, please visit <http://Hartfields.eventbrite.com> or email necsu.engagement@nhs.net

For more information

Visit <https://www.mckenziegrouppractice.co.uk> or email necsu.engagement@nhs.net

SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS YEAR'S

HARTLEPOOL

WATERFRONT

FESTIVAL

2022

The dates have been announced for this year's flagship summer event in Hartlepool.

Hartlepool Waterfront Festival, organised by Hartlepool Borough Council, will be on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th July from midday to 6pm and looks set to be bigger and better than ever before.

Now in its fifth year, this outdoor celebration of creativity draws thousands of local, regional and national visitors to Hartlepool.

It will take place on The Waterfront in the heart of Hartlepool Marina and will feature a jam-packed programme of open-air performances, immersive experiences, family-friendly activities and creative installations.

After scaling back the activity workshops element of the festival last year due to COVID, the workshops – which are enjoyed by thousands of children and young people – are making a welcome return.

The festival - which takes place almost exactly one year before the Tall Ships return to Hartlepool - will be themed 'When The Boat Comes in', exploring the ideas of arrivals, departures, welcomes and goodbyes.

It will be the last Waterfront Festival on the Waterfront before the forthcoming construction of the multi-million pound leisure facility Highlight on the site.

Among the festival attractions confirmed so far is Gaia - a spectacular replica of planet Earth by internationally-renowned visual artist Luke Jerram which will be coming to Hartlepool Town Hall Theatre, giving visitors the chance to gaze upon the Earth as if from space.



'Gaia' by Luke Jerram. Photograph copyright Jim Huntsman

Luke exhibited at last year's Waterfront Festival, at a site in Seaton Park, and most recently in Durham Cathedral with Museum of the Moon.

Also on the bill will be performance group Folk Dance Remixed, with the most extravagant ceilidh you've ever witnessed!



Folk Dance Remixed

The festival will also be welcoming Headland artist Stuart Langley's three highly distinctive stained glass Reliant Robin artworks, which feature iconic images of Durham Cathedral and the Angel of the North and explore what 'home' has meant for the wider North-East.

Further 'moments of artistic joy' will also be popping up around town throughout the month of July, including Murmurations by Tangled

Feet Theatre at North Gare. Murmurations is a guided tour into nature which you'll never forget. Through live scenes and songs, poetry and physical theatre, comedy and tragedy, Murmurations explores what we need from nature and what nature needs from us in a world healing from sickness.

Ian Gardiner, Hartlepool Borough Council's Head of Service - Active and Creative Hartlepool, said: "We're really excited about this year's Waterfront Festival and are really looking forward to welcoming people in July.

"Our proximity to the sea has shaped who we are and we can't wait to explore what it means to live here in Hartlepool through this year's theme.

"We're also looking forward to hosting Gaia – it's sure to be an amazing experience."

This year's Hartlepool Waterfront Festival will be unticketed and will once again be Pay What You Decide. Visitors will be able to make anonymous donations based on their experience of the event and the money will go towards commissioning additional children's activities at next year's festival.



Stuart Langley's stained glass cars

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.HARTLEPOOLWATERFRONTFESTIVAL.COM

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ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Major step forward for station improvements

The transformation of Hartlepool railway station has reached another milestone with plans for the redevelopment being submitted to Hartlepool Borough Council.

Subject to planning approval, work on the project – which is supported by the Council, Network Rail, Grand Central and Northern Trains – will begin later this summer and be completed in time for the return of the Tall Ships to Hartlepool in July 2023.

The scheme – which has been made possible thanks to £12m secured by Tees Valley Mayor Ben Houchen from the Government - will see the station's redundant second platform brought back into use, opening up capacity and unlocking the potential for future growth in services, and the installation of new lifts and a footbridge to provide access to the platform.



An image of how the overhauled station will look

Hartlepool station is the busiest single-platform station in the UK and the third largest station in the region. The improvements will make it easier to use, better connected and ready to respond to Hartlepool's future growth.

Council awards success

Elephant Rock

Elephant Rock, the restored outdoor events space on Hartlepool's historic Headland, has been named the Best Small Project in the Small Category of the ICE (Institution of Civil Engineers) North East awards which aims to promote and celebrate civil engineering across the region.

The site has also been shortlisted for two further awards in the Constructing Excellence in the North East awards, in the categories Value and Conservation and Regeneration.

Located on the promenade next to the Heugh Battery Museum, Elephant Rock has been developed by Hartlepool Borough Council. It was designed by the authority's own in-house teams and local company Seymour Civil Engineering carried out the work on the ground as Principal Contractor.

Regional energy awards

Hartlepool Borough Council has held on to the title of Council of the Year at the North East Regional Energy Efficiency Awards for 2022 for its continued effort to tackle fuel poverty in Hartlepool.

The Council, working with four ECO contractors and the appointed contractor for the Warm Homes Fund Project (managed by Stockton Borough Council), has improved 566 homes by installing the following energy efficiency measures: 444 gas boilers, 320 cavity wall insulations, 25 loft insulations, 42 underfloor insulations, 14 party wall insulations, 3 first-time central heating installations, 122 heating controls, 28 air source heat pumps and 16 gas central heating installations. It is estimated these measures represent lifetime savings to residents of £6,894,059.

Tony Hanson, Hartlepool Borough Council Director for Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services, said: "Winning and being recognised in these awards is a fantastic achievement and is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved."



DISTANCE LEARNING

Online courses, flexible start dates

- Level 2 LGBT
- Level 2 Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Level 2 Domestic Violence
- Level 2 Workplace Harassment & Violence
- Level 4 Certificate in Education & Training

CLASSROOM LEARNING

Face-to-face. Venue: Victoria Buildings, Tower Street, TS24 7HD

- Word Processing Software – 7th June
- AAT Using Sage Software – 22nd June
- Arts & Minds: Summertime – 10th June
- Prepare for Digital Skills (Entry 3 to Level 1) – 12th July



FREE KIDS' CRAFTS

Ages 4+. All children must be accompanied by an adult

Jolly Jubilee Bunting Making – 30th May, 1pm-3pm.

Get crafty with the kids and make decorative bunting to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Venue: High Tunstall College of Science, Elwick Road

TAKE THE CHALLENGE!

Entries are being taken for Hartlepool's third Big Lime Weekend which will take place from Friday 12th August-Sunday 14th August.

The events - a predictor swim, an aquathlon and a triathlon - are open to competitors of all abilities.

Organiser Hartlepool Borough Council is also keen to recruit more volunteer marshals to help events run smoothly. Marshals, who should be aged 16+, are stationed at points around the course to support both competitors and spectators.

Ahead of the weekend, the Council will be working with British Triathlon, local triathlon clubs and Hartlepool Marina to hold open water swimming training sessions. These will be publicised once confirmed.

Competitors embracing the Triple Lime Challenge by entering all three races over the weekend will receive the Friday predictor swim for free.



Apply online at www.hartlepoollearningandskills.com or call **01429 868616**



Carolyn Tilly | Managing Partner
Tilly Bailey & Irvine

I am Carolyn Tilly, Managing Partner of Tilly Bailey & Irvine Law Firm and a member of its experienced Wills, Probate and Elderly Client Department.

I am often asked by clients whether setting up a Family Trust would be a good idea for them. The answer is often yes, as there are lots of advantages to setting up a Family Trust.

A Trust ensures security and protection for your assets and can make things as simple as possible for your family to deal with when you die. In fact, the need for Probate is often avoided altogether, which may help keep the costs of dealing with your estate down if the proposed rise in probate fees comes into force – this has been widely published in the press as a new *stealth tax*.

A Family Trust provides full protection for your beneficiaries, even if circumstances have changed. An example would be where your spouse or children (including adult children) have disabilities or lose capacity to deal with their own affairs.

It also protects against your children being disinherited as a result of your spouse remarrying after your death. Your chosen Trustees can deal with the property in the Trust in the same way as Attorneys would under a Power of Attorney.

“It is important to take advice from solicitors specialising in this area of law”

Since it would be your Trustees who control the capital of the Trust Fund, including your house, these assets should not in normal circumstances, be taken into account in the assessment of your means for contribution to the cost of any residential care fees or other means tested benefits. However, your solicitor will need to give you individual advice as to how the regulations about care fees would affect you.

If you are considering setting up a Family Trust, it is important to take advice from solicitors specialising in this area of law.

Tilly Bailey & Irvine have a team of legal experts and offer free initial advice regarding Property Trusts and Wills, all to help you decide what is best for you.

How much will it cost?

We charge a fixed fee, so there are no hidden surprises.

Contact us on **01429 264101** or visit our offices in Hartlepool, Wynyard, Stockton or Barnard Castle for the best support, and start feeling more secure!



Tilly Bailey & Irvine LLP

T: 01429 264101

W: www.tbilaw.co.uk

York Chambers | York Road | Hartlepool | TS26 9DP
12 Evolution | Wynyard Park | Wynyard | TS22 5TB
Castle House | 11 Bridge Road | Stockton-on-Tees | TS13 3AD
8 Newgate | Barnard Castle | DL12 8NG

Tilly Bailey & Irvine LLP is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for the conduct of investment business.

Election results

On Thursday 5th May residents took to the polls to elect 13 Councillors to Hartlepool Borough Council – please turn over to find a useful Meet Your Councillors poster.

There were also uncontested elections to elect Parish Councillors to the Dalton Piercy, Elwick, Hart and Wynyard Parish Councils.

For details of all the results visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/elections

For more details of your local Hartlepool Borough Councillors, including information on their appointments to committees and how to get in touch with them, visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk and click on the ‘Councillors’ button on the home page.

You can also get the very latest details on Councillors’ upcoming ward surgeries at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/councillors-ward-surgeries Alternatively, please call the Council on 01429 523702 or 523704

New Youth Parliament Member seeks views on mental health

Young people in Hartlepool have a new face to represent them with the election of Georgia Robson as the town’s Member of the UK Youth Parliament.

The 16-year-old, who is studying English and history at Manor Community Academy and aims to become a forensic psychologist, will serve for two years, working with youth groups, councillors and other decision-makers on the issues which matter to young people aged 11-18.

“I am very proud to have been elected and I’ll be doing everything possible to make the voices of young people in Hartlepool heard,” said Georgia, who has identified three key areas for particular focus.

Foremost, she wants to improve the mental health support available to students at school or college.

She said: “I struggled with my own mental health during COVID, missing loved ones and friends and feeling anxious and isolated, so I know first-hand just what an important issue this is for young people.”

Georgia has launched a consultation on young people’s mental health, seeking the views and experiences of 11-18-year-olds in the Borough.

The survey – which is anonymous – is at yoursay.hartlepool.gov.uk/mental-health-young-people

and paper copies are being sent to youth centres and schools.



Georgia Robson

Further priorities are working to stamp out any discrimination in Hartlepool, encouraging people to help keep their local environment tidy and litter-free and forming a closer bond between young and elderly residents.

“During COVID I looked after my grandad and I saw just how important personal contact and support was for elderly people to help them avoid feeling isolated, and this is something I very much want to encourage and develop,” added Georgia.

Georgia welcomes contact from young people on these or any other issues and there are lots of ways to contact her - please see below.

BURN VALLEY WARD



Ged Hall
Independent



David Nicholson
Conservatives



Jonathan Brash
Labour

DE BRUCE WARD



Brenda Harrison
Labour



Veronica Nicholson
Conservatives



Rachel Creevy
Labour

FENS & GREATHAM WARD



Angela Falconer
Conservatives



Jim Lindridge
Independent



Bob Buchan
Conservatives

FOGGY FURZE WARD



Kevin Tiplady
Conservatives



Stephen Picton
Independent



Melanie Morley
Labour

HART WARD



Rob Cook
Independent



Tom Cassidy
Conservatives



John Leedham
Conservatives

HEADLAND & HARBOUR WARD



Tim Fleming
Hartlepool Independent
Union



Brian Cowie
Conservatives



Shane Moore
Hartlepool Independent
Union

MANOR HOUSE WARD



Ben Clayton
Labour



Henry Ashton
Conservatives



Pam Hargreaves
Labour

ROSSMERE WARD



Tom Feeney
Labour



Christopher Groves
Conservatives



Moss Boddy
Labour

RURAL WEST WARD



Mike Young
Conservatives



Scott Reeve
Conservatives



Andrew Martin-Wells
Conservatives

SEATON WARD



Leisa Smith
Independent



Sue Little
Independent



Gordon Cranney
Independent

THROSTON WARD



Peter Jackson
Independent



Paddy Brown
Independent



Amy Prince
Labour

VICTORIA WARD



Dennis Loynes
Conservatives



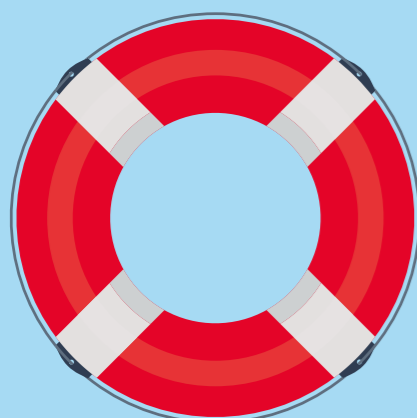
Helen Howson
Labour



Gary Allen
Labour & Co-operative

Online, any time

With Hartlepool Borough Council Online you can apply for a range of services and report issues 24 hours a day. Here are some of the services we offer.



Report a damaged or missing lifebelt



Apply for home energy improvements



Report a full litter bin



Apply for or renew a concessionary bus pass

online.hartlepool.gov.uk

Hardship Advice and Support for Residents

As the cost of living soars, it is important that you know what help is available and how to access it.

Council Tax Energy Bills Rebate Scheme

The Government is providing support to help households with rising energy bills, including a non-repayable £150 Council Tax rebate. www.hartlepool.gov.uk/council-tax-energy-rebate

Fuel Debt Advice

Find out more about the Government's Energy Bills Support Scheme at www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-bills-support-scheme-explainer Get more information about the Warm Home Discount Scheme at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/warm-home-discount-better-targeted-support-from-2022

The role of Ofgem as the independent energy regulator is to protect energy consumers, especially the vulnerable.

www.ofgem.gov.uk/information-consumers/energy-advice-households/getting-help-if-you-cant-afford-your-energy-bills

The Energy Saving Trust is an independent organisation working to address the climate emergency and offers advice about how to make your home more energy efficient.

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/

NEA is a national fuel poverty charity, working to ensure that everyone in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is warm and safe at home. www.nea.org.uk/advice-support/

Locally, advice on fuel - including help for eligible residents to access the Fuel Bank - can be obtained from Hartlepower on (01429) 806400, Advice@Hart on (01429) 748010 and Hartlepool Citizens Advice Bureau on (01429) 408401.

Household Support Fund

The Government recently announced the expansion of the Household Support Fund, awarding Hartlepool Borough Council a further £993,000.

www.hartlepool.gov.uk/household-support-fund

Universal Credit

You may be able to get Universal Credit if you are on a low income, out of work or you cannot work.

www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit

Local Council Tax Support

To find out if you are eligible for Local Council Tax Support visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/counciltax If you are having difficulties paying your bill, call (01429) 284166 or email recovery@hartlepool.gov.uk

Free School Meals

Call (01429) 284188 or visit https://hartlepool-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_School_Meals__apply

Discretionary Housing Payment

Local authorities have discretion to award a Discretionary Housing Payment to a person who is entitled to Housing Benefit, the housing element of Universal Credit and who, in the opinion of the authority, requires some further financial assistance to help with their housing costs or to move to more affordable accommodation.

www.hartlepool.gov.uk/info/20127/benefits_and_grants/850/discretionary_housing_payment

Local Welfare Support

Local Welfare Support (LWS) is a limited discretionary fund, managed by Hartlepool Borough Council to help residents stay in or return to their community or to give help in a crisis.

www.hartlepool.gov.uk/local-welfare-support

Food Support

For more information visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/file/7484/free_food_leaflet

If you need access to the The Trussell Trust Foodbank please contact the Local Welfare Support Team on (01429) 806895. The Bread and Butter Thing operates across Hartlepool, offering residents the chance to buy low-cost shopping. Visit www.breadandbutterthing.org/members

Help with School Uniform

The Council works with the voluntary sector to run a recycled school uniform scheme. Donated uniform is shared with Hands Up Hartlepool in the Middleton Grange Shopping Centre and Poolie Time Exchange at Bovis House in Victoria Road. A small donation is requested but not essential.

The council also runs a small fund donated by the late Elizabeth Trowsdale Norman and her family. Elizabeth, who passed away aged 104, was born and lived in Hartlepool for half of her life before moving to North Yorkshire. Her family helped create a fund to support school uniform and essential school supplies to those suffering financial hardship. Preference is given to applicants from Hartlepool's Victoria Ward - where Elizabeth was born and lived while she was at school. Call Hartlepool Borough Council's Local Welfare Support Team on (01429) 806895 to apply.

Energy Efficiency Schemes

For the latest information and advice on energy efficiency schemes contact the Council at energy.afficiency@hartlepool.gov.uk

The Government recently launched a Boiler Upgrade Grant Scheme. Visit www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-may-be-eligible-for-the-boiler-upgrade-scheme-from-april-2022

Anglian Water

Anglian Water can provide help for residents paying their bills dependent on their circumstances. www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/file/7487/anglian_water_support

West View Advice and Resource Centre

Visit www.wvrac30.org.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau

Visit www.citizensadvicehartlepool.org.uk

Turn2Us

Turn2Us is a national charity providing practical help to people who are struggling financially. Check your benefit entitlement at <https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk>

Join the Gadgeteers for this year's Summer Reading Challenge

Youngsters in Hartlepool are invited to discover the amazing science and innovation in the world around them in this year's Summer Reading Challenge at the town's community hubs and libraries.

Aimed at children aged four to 11, it's produced by The Reading Agency in partnership with libraries across the country and it's free to take part.

The goal is for children to read six books of their choice from their local community hub or library over the school summer holidays, in return for which they'll receive collectable items, plus a medal and certificate when they complete the challenge.

The theme this year is 'Gadgeteers' - a science-based challenge which will inspire youngsters to use their imagination and creativity, including ideas for lots of cool experiments.

As well as being great fun, it helps boost children's reading over the summer months and it's backed

by a range of themed activities at local libraries and community hubs, so there'll be plenty to keep them entertained.

More details about the local challenge - which starts on Saturday 9th July - will be released closer to the summer holidays. Keep an eye on the Hartlepool Community Hubs' Facebook page and www.hartlepoolnow.co.uk.

You can also join in the fun on the national Summer Reading Challenge website at www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk



It's panto time again!

Oh yes they are! Summer pantomimes are coming back to Hartlepool Town Hall Theatre.

Slip on your ruby slippers and join Dorothy, Toto, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion as they head down the yellow brick road in family pantomime The Wizard of Oz.

Featuring Hartlepool favourites Davey Hopper as the Scarecrow, Gary Martin Davis as Glinda the good witch, dance routines by hip hop sensations Ruff Diamond and toe-tapping musical numbers, this laugh-along, audience participation show is not to be missed.

It's on Thursday 18th, Friday 19th, Saturday 20th, Sunday 21st and Monday 29th August, with performances at 2pm and 6pm. Tickets cost £21 for adults and £18 for children.

If you fancy something saucy, there's also an adults only version - The WizHARD of Oz - from Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th August at 6pm and 8.30pm. Tickets cost £25.

Featuring comic Davey Hopper at his smutty best and the notoriously naughty Stephanie Aird, this side-splitting show will have you dancing in the aisles to your favourite hits. Great for a party night, it's strictly for the over 18s and definitely not for the easily offended!

Both shows are once again by AJ Theatrical Productions, who delighted audiences last year. For more details and to book visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/ajtheatricalproductions or call 0333 666 3366.



Join Dorothy and the gang in family panto The Wizard of Oz

New home for Throston Library

A new chapter has begun for Throston Library, which has reopened at its new location in Throston Youth Centre in Wiltshire Way.

The move - from its previous premises in Glamorgan Grove - maintains library provision in the Throston area when it would otherwise have been at risk in the longer term.

The library closed at its previous premises in March 2020 in response to the COVID pandemic. With statutory services subsequently delivering provision in the building and with budget pressures, the library had not been able to reopen.

In addition, a survey had indicated that almost a quarter of a million pounds was needed to bring the ageing building up to standard - expenditure which could not be met within Hartlepool Borough Council's existing budgets. As a result the library has relocated to Throston Youth Centre.

Throston Youth Centre - which is used on evenings but has up until now not been in active use during

the day - has been redecorated and refurbished to accommodate the library, which is open Mondays 10am to 5.30pm (closed 12.30pm to 1pm) and Wednesdays 10am to 3pm.



Community Hub Assistant Chloe Whitaker in the library

Gemma Ptak, the Council's Assistant Director (Preventative and Community-Based Services), said: "Not only does this move to larger premises help secure the library for the future, it also opens the door to potential opportunities for enhancing and increasing what the library can provide.

"We're also looking forward to shortly announcing the return of some of our children's and social activities, similar to those offered across the town's other libraries and hubs, so please keep an eye out for those."

Treats in store for book lovers

There are lots of great activities to look forward to in this year's Crossing The Tees Book Festival from Saturday 11th to Friday 17th June, with a choice of online, in-person and hybrid events.

Hartlepool's community hubs and libraries will be hosting two 'craftalong' events, where people can come along to listen, watch and craft together or join in online via Zoom.

On Sunday 12th June make tracks to Community Hub Central in York Road for a Zoom reading from artist Josie George, the creator of climate change scarves, whose memoir A Still Life looks at the impact arts and crafts can have on the world, as well as telling her story as a disabled writer.

She'll be interviewed digitally by Teesside disability arts activist and former Festival poet-in-residence Lisette Auton. Bring your knitting, sewing or crochet!

If you're a bit lacking in craft confidence, pop along before the author reading for a beginners' crochet workshop with the Heugh Yarners.

On Tuesday 14th June make time for an afternoon stroll around Hartlepool's Headland, gathering a rainbow of natural objects as you go, then spend some time at the Headland library in Middlegate watching Emma Mitchell talking about her book A Wild Remedy a guide to how creativity and the natural world can directly impact on our mental health.

The host will be Sarah Falconer from Steel River Crafts, who will bring nature-inspired simple art exercises so that you can doodle and create while you listen.

For more information and to book places visit www.crossingthetees.org, where you'll also find details of lots more festival events at libraries across the Tees area, from murder mysteries and humorous memoirs to poetry and debut novels.



Do you, or someone you know, need help with drug or alcohol addiction?

START, Hartlepool's substance misuse service, offers confidential advice and support.

Call (01429) 285000, email substancemisuse@hartlepool.gov.uk or simply drop in to our Whitby Street base.

Through the lens – the changing face of our region

A fascinating new exhibition charting the changes to our social, demographic and political landscapes over more than three decades has opened at Hartlepool Art Gallery.

'Macromancy: Britain and the North East of England 1986 to 2022' showcases the work of documentary and editorial photojournalist Mark Pinder.

The North East-based photographer has been at the forefront of breaking news for over three decades, capturing the events which have shaped recent British history, and his work is regularly featured in major national and international publications.

Mark said: "I have spent the last 35 years documenting the seismic shifts in the cultural, economic and political fortunes of the North East

and Hartlepool features heavily in that narrative as a place that has often been very important to our understanding of the broader dynamics of where we find ourself as a country."

The exhibition runs until 9th July and entry is free. The gallery, in Church Square, is open 10am – 5pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.



Young Punk and His Dog, 1988, by Mark Pinder

For more details call **01429 869706** or visit www.hartlepoolartgallery.co.uk

Please respect our parks

We love to see people making the most of our beautiful parks and the facilities within them.

We're also inviting people to provide feedback, make suggestions and report any problems they discover when using our parks by completing an online form at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/parksreport

Sarah Scarr, Hartlepool Borough Council's Head of Service (Heritage and Open Spaces), said: "We have wonderful parks and green spaces and as the weather becomes warmer these will prove vital for residents who have limited or no access to outdoor space at home.

"The vast majority of residents act sensibly and keep our parks litter free, but it only takes an irresponsible minority to cause harm to our parks and ruin the enjoyment of others.

"If people can bring food and packaging to the park, they can take the packaging home with them whether the bins are full or empty – there's no excuse to litter.

"Please enjoy our spaces, but do consider others who might use the area and leave it as you would wish to see it by taking your litter home with you."



A little help to get you on your green journey!

There are many good reasons for travelling more sustainably, whether it's part of your fitness regime or a way of saving money. Despite this, it can be difficult to change your travel habits.

Here's a few suggestions for going green!

Love to Ride

Love to Ride is an online platform that is open to anyone - from complete novices to people who cycle every day.

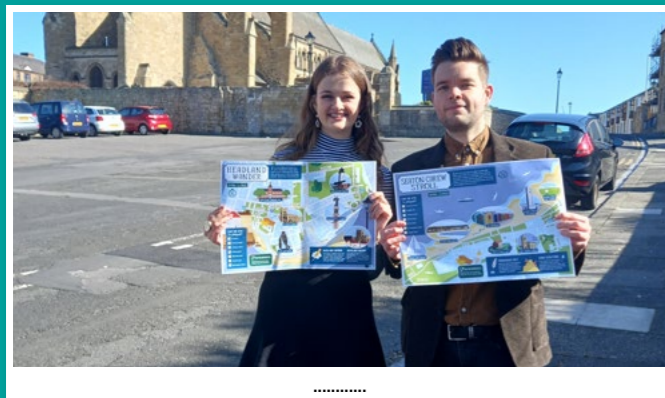
Join via their website and take part in a variety of challenges, either on your own or as part of a group.

Visit www.lovetoride.net

Hartlepool Walking and Cycling trails

Why not try a few local walks or cycling trails to help build fitness and confidence? You can then use these routes when travelling to work, school or the shops.

Hartlepool Borough Council's Economic Growth Team has updated and redesigned a package of local walks and cycle routes with the help of graphic artists/illustrators Abby Taylor and Owen Smith. These can be found on the Explore Hartlepool website. The cycle trails also have a video-cam of the route.



Visit: <https://www.explorehartlepool.com/directory-categories/active/walks-and-rides/>

Bike Week 2022

Bike Week is an annual challenge organised by Cycling UK, running this year from 6th-12th June.

Visit: <https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek>

Sustrans

National charity Sustrans aim to make it easier for people to walk or cycle. Campaigns include 'The Big Pedal' and 'Ride to School Week'.

They are also custodians of the National Cycle Network. In Hartlepool, National Cycle Network route 14 runs from Hart Station to Cowpen Bewley via the Town Centre and Seaton Carew.

Visit: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/>

Living Streets

Living Streets, the charity for everyday walking, run a variety of campaigns to promote and encourage walking. They also do a lot of work with schools, including promoting the 'Travel Tracker' initiative – a system that records journeys to school and offers incentives for travelling more sustainably.

Visit: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk>

The Cycle to Work Scheme

The Government's Cycle to Work scheme allows employees to obtain bikes, bike equipment and clothing without paying tax. There are a number of Cycle to Work scheme providers and employers have to enrol with one to offer this benefit.

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