

November 2023

The community magazine of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

Stockton- on-Tees

News

www.stockton.gov.uk/stockton-on-tees-news



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Foster with North East 5



Christmas across the Borough 12-13



Care and Health Innovation Zone 18



Mayor's Civic Awards 25

Welcome to the November edition of Stockton-on-Tees News.

This November we are thrilled to update you on the exciting work and projects the Council is seeing through to make the Borough a bright and beautiful place to live, work and visit.

Stockton-on-Tees has a vibrant community spirit around Christmas time and on pages 12 and 13 you can read about this year's Christmas events to get you in the festive spirit. Whether it's enjoying our Stockton Sparkles programme, or waving at Santa as he passes through streets across the borough in his Santa bus, there's plenty to enjoy.

With Christmas comes the cold weather, and we hope you're keeping safe and warm. For advice on how you can keep well this winter, turn to page 9 for some handy hints and tips. You can learn more about further wintertime support in the Community Spaces and Cost of Living support articles on page 7.

There's an update on how the Council continues to support the Borough's six towns on pages 14 and 15, which includes news of how work is progressing on the Stockton Waterfront development, plus work that is now complete on Yarm Town Hall.

In September we launched our residents' survey and on page 21 you can find how you can give your views to shape what we do and ensure our services are delivered, improved, and remain suitable for all of our residents across the Borough.

On page 22, we hear from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's Catering Supervisor for Crooksbarrow Primary School, Victoria Clair, who makes school dinners exciting with specialist menus and themed desserts in our regular Day in the Life feature.

Do you know an individual, group or business that is making a positive impact? On page 25, learn how to nominate your local heroes for the Mayor's Civic Awards in 2024 so their inspiring behaviour can be recognised.

There will be some changes to our opening times over the festive period. Full details of our Christmas and New Year opening times can be found on the back page of the magazine.

And finally, on behalf of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, my very best wishes and a safe and healthy 2024.



Mike Greene
Chief Executive
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

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Alternatively, if you need to contact Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, please call **01642 393939**.

Stockton-on-Tees News aims to provide information about the Council, its partner organisations, local community groups and businesses. Every effort is made to ensure all information is accurate and up-to-date at the time of publication. We always welcome your views, comments and feedback about the magazine.

Stockton-on-Tees News is produced by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's Communications Team and designed by Twentyseven Design. Pictures are courtesy of Stuart Boulton, Dave Charnley, Gilbert Johnston, Dawn McNamara and others.

There is an audio version of Stockton-on-Tees News. Email snews@stockton.gov.uk or call **01642 528146** to request a copy.

Adult Social Care staff are nominated in the Social Worker of the Year Awards.



Your award-winning Council

The Council's Catering Team has gained national recognition as Best Service Team at this year's Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) Awards, whilst the Animal Welfare Team has been awarded 'Gold' in the stray dog's category of the RSPCA PawPrints Awards.

Social workers from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council have also been short-listed in three categories in this year's annual Social Worker of the Year Awards and three teams across the Council nominated in this year's Catalyst Awards.

The Council itself has also retained its accreditation for customer service excellence which is a national quality mark recognising organisations that have a customer-focused commitment in all that they do.

You can read more about the hard work of our catering service in our 'Day in the Life' feature on page 22. Plus, follow us on social media to find out how we got on at the Catalyst Awards and Social Worker of the Year Awards.

Financial support for working parents to help with childcare costs is increasing

Hotspot patrols to combat antisocial behaviour

Hotspot patrols will take place across five wards in the Borough in a bid to combat antisocial behaviour (ASB).

High visibility, uniformed patrols will operate in areas that have been identified as having high levels of ASB, aiming to deter offenders and provide reassurance for communities.

Hotspot patrols will take place in Billingham South, Billingham Central, Roseworth, Stainsby Hill, and Stockton Town Centre wards.

The ASB hotspot pilot will run until the end of March 2024.



Changes will make it easier for working parents with childcare responsibilities to move into or take on more paid work, and will come into effect as follows:

- **From April 2024** – 15 hours childcare support for parents of 2-year-olds.
- **From September 2024** – 15 hours childcare support for parents of children aged 9 months to 3 years.
- **From September 2025** – 30 hours childcare for parents of children under the age of 5.

Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to find the right offer for you.

For information about childcare support in Stockton-on-Tees visit www.stockton.gov.uk/freechildcare or contact the Families Information Service:

☎ 01642 527225 ✉ fis@stockton.gov.uk

Levendale Primary School rated 'Good'

Levendale Primary School has received a 'Good' rating in all areas from Ofsted. Inspectors found the school to be "calm and purposeful" with pupils consistently going "beyond the high expectations" set for behaviour and learning.

Headteacher, Mrs Joanne Lewis, said: "We are really proud of this inspection result and the incredibly hard work of all our staff, which is reflected throughout the report.

"It's wonderful to read about the children's attitude towards school and their excellent behaviour is a real strength."



Headteacher, Mrs Lewis, with pupils at Levendale Primary School.



New state-of-the-art Peake building at Egglecliffe School and Sixth Form has officially opened

The £7.1m teaching block named after British astronaut Tim Peake was funded by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council as part of its £57.7m investment programme to transform school buildings in the Borough.

The 32-classroom block includes zero carbon technologies in the design and purpose-built facility for art and music.

Are you a private foster carer?

Do you care for someone else's child under the age of 16 (or under 18 if they have a disability) for 28 days or more, and are not their parent or close relative? This may be a private fostering arrangement.

Private fostering does not refer to children on weekend or holiday visits, and it only applies if the arrangement has been made privately between the child's parent or guardian and yourself. Private foster carers can include relatives such as great aunts, cousins, a friend or neighbour.

If you live in Stockton-on-Tees, you must notify Children's Services if you have a private fostering arrangement. A social worker will visit to make sure that the child's needs are being met and make sure appropriate support is being given to both the child and the carer.



If you or someone you know is a private foster carer, or plans to be, and has not yet told us, email childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk, or call 01429 284284, or visit www.stockton.gov.uk/private-fostering for more information.



Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health & Wellbeing (seated, left) with members of our Adult Social Care team.

Thanking our carers

Staff in our Adult Social Care team have been celebrating Professional Care Workers' Week, a national event to acknowledge and celebrate care workers and the contribution they make.

Celebration events to thank staff were held at different sites across the Borough covering services within adult social care, including the Halcyon Centre, Rosedale Centre, Community Based Options, Reablement Services and Lanark Short Breaks.

Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing said: "I want to reiterate our thanks and gratitude to all our professional carers for their tireless commitment and dedication to the people of the Borough. Our professional carers deliver care and support to people in our communities when they need it the most."

If you would like to join our Adult Social Care team, keep checking our vacancies at www.stockton.gov.uk/job-vacancies

In the North East we have great foster carers, but we need more.

Foster with North East is the new regional hub for fostering support in your area. We can answer your questions about fostering, signpost you to important information and help you make an informed decision about how fostering can work for you and your family.

To find out more, visit fosterwithnortheast.org.uk, or call 0800 917 7771



Foster with NORTH EAST

Supported by
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Helping children and young people boost their mental health

BMBF has used funding from the NHS to produce a booklet to help children and young people in the Borough with their mental health.

The funding is from the i-THRIVE framework, which looks at delivering mental health services for children, young people and their families.

The booklet includes activities designed to encourage mindfulness and wellbeing, as well as signposting to NHS services for children and young people who are struggling.


Printed booklets are being distributed through schools across the Borough.

For free activities and more information, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/bmbf-thrive



Follow the BMBF social media accounts to find out more and keep up with the latest updates.

 /brightmindsbigfutures

 @_bmbf

 @_bmbf



Free activities and food on offer this Christmas

Eligible children across the Borough are invited to take part in a range of free and fun activities this Christmas. Holidays Are Fun (HAF) sessions are free for school age children from Reception to Year 11 who live in the Borough and whose family is in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, Universal Credit, or experiencing financial difficulties.

The sessions are running throughout the Christmas holidays and offer the chance to try new things and make friends. Plus, there's a healthy meal included each day too. There are a range of activities to try, including sports, a cinema club, film making, swimming, arts and crafts, and many more.

The HAF programme is funded by the Department for Education and delivered by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council in partnership with Catalyst.

Bookings are set to open in late November for the Christmas holidays. Find out more:

 www.stockton.gov.uk/haf  haf@stockton.gov.uk

 01642 527752

Primary school admissions now open

Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 are due to start primary school in September 2024.

Parents of children due to start school next year should have received a letter explaining the admissions process from the Council's School Admissions Team. If you haven't received a letter, email school.admissions@stockton.gov.uk or call on 01642 526605.

Apply online at www.stockton.gov.uk/apply-primary by Monday 15 January 2024.



A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees

A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees is the Council's commitment to tackling inequality and making the Borough a better place to live for everyone. Visit www.stockton.gov.uk/a-fairer-stockton-on-tees to find out more about the strategy.

Here to Help drop-ins

Got a lot on your mind? A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees is here to help. Working with the Community Partnerships and Catalyst, sessions are held once a month featuring a wide range of Council services and community organisations.

Whether it's money worries, finding a new job, health issues or just wanting to explore your local community, we can guide you to the right support.

Visit www.stockton.gov.uk/here-to-help to find your nearest session and time.

Community Spaces

Community Spaces were previously known as Warm Spaces, but they offer much more than warmth - they are open all year round and are a great way to meet others and get support and advice with worries like household bills.

Drop by your nearest venue to have a chat, access information and support about things like finances and health, and get involved with free activities and more.

To find out what your nearest space offers, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/community-spaces-directory

Cost of Living: We're Here to Help booklet

Not sure where to start looking for help? Our 'Cost of Living: Here to Help' booklet lists a range of helpful resources, from advice helplines to food support, all in one place.

Visit www.stockton.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub to download the booklet or email FSOT@stockton.gov.uk to request a paper copy. They are also free to pick up in many community centres and organisations across the Borough.



Keep an eye out for the A Fairer Stockton-on-Tees stamp of approval, featured on Council projects aimed at reducing inequality across the Borough.

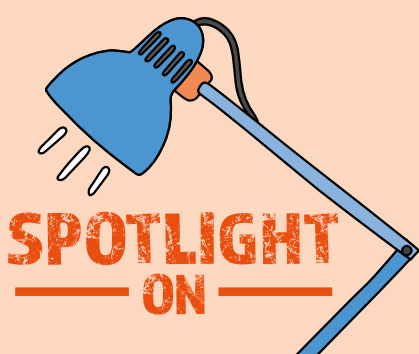


Check your benefits entitlement

With many households struggling with the cost of living, it is important to check you are receiving the financial support you are entitled to.

The Government's Help for Households website gives information on a range of financial support, and its online calculator gives you a breakdown of benefits you are entitled to, as well as information on how to apply.

Check your entitlement at helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/income-support/



#ITSOKAYTOTALK

There is a thriving voluntary, community and social enterprise sector in Stockton-on-Tees, and we like to showcase one organisation from the sector in our "Spotlight On" feature every issue. For this issue, we're focussing on Andy's Man Club.

In 2016, following the tragic passing of their friend Andrew Roberts, a group of men made the decision to take a stand for men's mental health. Andy's Man Club was created, which now provides weekly services for over 3,000 men nationally.

The suicide prevention charity offers free peer-to-peer support aimed at men aged 18 and over. Suicide is the biggest killer of men under 50 in the UK due to the cultural stigma attached to men and their mental health.

The charity has recently come to Stockton-on-Tees, based at Redhill Family Hub in Roseworth where they meet every Monday at 7pm.

"We're here to help any men aged 18 plus with anything that causes them concern or anxiety" said Craig Simcox who helps to run the Stockton sessions.

"We're completely non-judgemental. You don't need a referral to come to us, and there's no expectation to come every week. You just come when you need to talk.

"More and more branches are opening every month. If we can help one family to avoid the destruction of suicide, that's the goal as far as I'm concerned."

For more information on Andy's Man Club, visit www.andysmanclub.co.uk or search **Andy's Man Club Stockton-on-Tees** on Facebook.

Sandy Davis, The Salvation Army, Angela Corner, Thirteen and Kieran Watson, The Bread and Butter Thing.



The Bread and Butter Thing

Low-cost food is available for families across the Borough thanks to the arrival of new hubs from an award-winning charity. The Bread and Butter Thing offers food at a price lower than you'd find in the supermarket at its weekly hubs.

And thanks to funding from the Council and Thirteen Housing, three hubs are now open in central Stockton, Thornaby and Billingham, with two more on the way.

The hubs offer three bags of food worth roughly £35 for £8.50, including fresh fruit and veg, chilled food for the fridge, and cupboard staples like cereal. You can also pay £5 for an individual bag or £17 for a six bag 'family' deal.

It's free to join with no commitment. Once registered, you receive a text message 48 hours before your hub's 'collection day' and simply reply if you would like to place an order. You can then pay for the food upon collection.

To find your nearest hub and register as a member, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/the-bread-and-butter-thing

Warm Homes Healthy People

Support is available to help vulnerable residents in the Borough keep warm this winter.

The Council's Warm Homes Healthy People scheme offers emergency heating, energy saving advice, welfare benefits advice and boiler repairs.

You may be eligible for a repair if:

- you are the homeowner and claiming a means-tested benefit

And you are any of the following:

- 65 or over
- under 65 and in receipt of disability benefits
- under 65 and have a long term illness made worse by the cold or live with a child (under five) who has a long term illness made worse by the cold
- living with dementia

Some repairs may incur a charge or be considered ineligible based on the boiler's age and condition.

For further information, please call the Warm Homes Healthy People team on **01642 528215** or visit www.stockton.gov.uk/warm-homes-healthy-people to apply online.



Keeping well this winter



There are lots of things you can do to help stay well this winter:



Get your winter jabs

If you're eligible, the flu jab and COVID-19 booster are the best ways to protect yourself and others from serious infections this winter. You're eligible for a free flu vaccine if you're aged 65 or over, you're pregnant, or you have certain long-term health conditions. Find out more at www.nhs.uk.



Be safe at home

The Home Improvement Agency (HIA) offers a free handyman service for eligible residents that can help make your home safer to prevent falls and accidents. See the below 'Help at home' article for more details.



Look out for each other

Check in on older neighbours, relatives, and those with health concerns to make sure they are safe, warm and have supplies of food and medicines.



Seek help if you need it

Go to a pharmacy, contact your GP or use the NHS 111 service.

Visit www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well for more tips on how to stay safe and warm this winter.

We have a range of information to help with your physical and mental health at www.stockton.gov.uk/public-health-and-wellbeing

Help at home

Did you know we can offer a free handyman service for eligible residents to carry out jobs around the home and reduce the risk of falls?

The Council's Home Improvement Agency service can help with low-level DIY jobs to help prevent unnecessary accidents around the home.

To find out more, call **01642 526904**, or visit www.stockton.gov.uk/hia

If you have concerns about your mobility, or falling, call First Contact on **01642 527764** or visit www.stockton.gov.uk/MDS-and-falls-service



Worried about an adult?

Safeguarding Adults Week takes place from 20 – 24 November.

Supported by the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) and partner organisations across Teesside, the campaign will remind people about the importance of reporting any signs of abuse and neglect.

You can do this by emailing FirstContactAdults@stockton.gov.uk or calling **01642 527764**.

For more information about TSAB, visit www.tsab.org.uk



Worried about a child?

If you have concerns about a child's welfare or safety, contact The Children's Hub.

The Hub provides information and advice on services and support for children, young people, and families. It will assess the child's needs and decide if action or support is needed.

Contact the Children's Hub Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees:

☎ **01642 130080**

✉ childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk



Be safe this Christmas



Fire safety

Cleveland Fire Brigade is reminding residents to follow these simple safety tips this Christmas.

- ✓ **Christmas trees and lights** – water living trees to prevent them drying out and becoming a fire hazard. Make sure sockets aren't overloaded and bulbs don't touch any paper or fabric
- ✓ **Christmas decorations** – never hang decorations or cards on or around the fireplace
- ✓ **Candles** – don't leave candles unattended and keep them away from curtains or other flammable objects
- ✓ **Smoke alarms** – make sure your alarms are working correctly and test them regularly

For extra precaution, you can also book a Safer Homes Visit by calling **01429 874063**.



Guard your cash from scams

Scams increase during the festive season, so read on for our top ways to avoid scams:

- ✓ **Christmas e-cards** - if you receive an email that looks suspicious, don't open it, click links or download attachments
- ✓ **Cost of living** - criminals can send fake offers of support payments. Government support payments are usually automatic and don't ask for your bank details
- ✓ **Loans and investments** - authentic providers will not cold call or ask for an advance fee, and always read the terms and conditions. Visit www.fca.org.uk for more information

Report scams to Action Fraud by calling **0300 123 2040**, or for further information visit www.stockton.gov.uk/scams

Be prepared for winter flooding

Heavy rainfall or sudden thaws of heavy snow and ice are a big cause of winter flooding. These steps can help you be prepared:

- Sign up to the national flood warning service to receive free flood alerts and get the flooding history for your property by visiting www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk
- Create a flood plan – you can download a template for households, community groups and businesses from www.gov.uk/prepare-for-flooding/future-flooding
- Check your home insurance, making sure you are covered for flooding.

For more information visit www.stockton.gov.uk/flooding



Helping you be Prepared.

We're here to power your everyday life, whatever the weather

Would you know what to do in a power cut? Visit northernpowergrid.com/be-prepared to find out more.

Do you need extra advice and support if the lights go out? **Join our free Priority Services Membership online at northernpowergrid.com/care or email us direct priorityservices@northernpowergrid.com or call 0800 169 2996**





Billingham Theatre transformation

The Forum Theatre in Billingham has undergone a transformation following investment from its new operators, Tees Active.

The theatre has had extensive redecoration to the front of house areas, as well as new technical equipment and a new website.

And there have already been record ticket sales for this year's pantomime, Jack and The Beanstalk.

The focus now turns to an exciting winter programme, with lots more shows planned for 2024.

To find out what's on, visit www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk



THE CELEBRATIONS ARE ON TRACK!

Plans are underway to deliver a series of internationally significant projects to mark the 200th anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway in 2025. There will also opportunities for you to run your own activities that will add to our programme of events.

Darlington Borough Council, Durham City Council, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and Tees Valley Combined Authority have joined forces with a range of local, national, and international partners, to hold a series of events throughout the bicentenary year.

To help launch the celebrations, a new website and social media pages have been created to keep you updated on what is planned to mark the bicentenary and how you can get involved.

Helping fuel the festival will be volunteer and grant programmes, funded in part by the National Heritage Lottery Fund.

For further details, visit www.sdr200.co.uk

Keep up to date:

[f /sdrfestival](#)
[X /sdrfestival](#)
[i /sdrfestival](#)
[@ sdrfestival](#)



Holocaust Memorial Day

Plans are in place to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day, which will take place in January 2024.

A poignant event is due to be held in Stockton Central Library on Friday 26 January 2024, with more details coming soon.

Newport Bridge, Stockton Town Centre and Stockton Riverside will also be lit up in purple as part of the Council's Memorial Lighting scheme.

Make sure to check our social media channels for more updates.



Christmas across the Borough

There's something for everyone this festive season in Stockton-on-Tees. Here are a few ideas, but visit www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on for more details.



The Community Gift: craft and wrapping sessions

Across November and December

Lend a helping hand this Christmas and support a community craft and wrapping session. Plus enjoy a hot drink and some Christmas cheer. For dates and locations visit www.stockton.gov.uk/the-community-gift



Ingleby Barwick Big Light Switch On

Friday 24 November

From 6pm, children's rides open from 4.30pm

The Myton Pub Car Park, Ingleby Barwick

Enjoy live music from Ingleby Barwick Community Choir. Visit Santa and receive a present to take home.



Christmas Tree Festival

Friday 24 November – Thursday 7 December

3pm - 7pm open daily

St. Mary's Church, Norton Green

Browse through a sea of Christmas trees designed by local businesses, schools and youth organisations. Don't forget the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25 November 11am – 3pm with music, gifts, festive food and stalls.



Stockton Sparkles Launch

Thursday 23 November

From 5.30pm, light switch on at 6.30pm

Stockton High Street

An evening full of live music and entertainment, followed by the Christmas light switch-on.



Billingham Christmas Lights Switch On

Saturday 25 November

4pm – 5pm

Billingham Town Centre

Enjoy Christmas carols by Singing Sue's Vocal Academy, followed by the light switch on by the Forum's panto cast.



Stockton Sparkles Victorian Fair

Thursday 23 November – Sunday 26 November

Various times

Stockton High Street

Our fantastic free Victorian Fair returns. All rides are free!



Stockton Sparkles Christmas Market

Thursday 30 November – Sunday 3 December

Various times

Stockton High Street

Browse local traders, makers, artists and bakers. Plus enjoy delicious festive food and street theatre.





Norton Advent Trail

Friday 1 December – Friday 22 December
Norton High Street

See Norton High Street illuminated with beautiful advent windows – pick up a trail map from participating businesses.



Carols Around The Lamps

Friday 8 December
6.30pm
Five Lamps, Thornaby

Join communities around the lamps and get in the Christmas spirit by joining in with some much-loved carols.



A Delightful Christmas at Preston Park

Saturday 2 December – Sunday 24 December
Preston Park Museum & Grounds

Enjoy the Victorian Street with festive decorations, community choirs, elf trails, family crafts and more. Museum admission applies.



Friends of Ropner Park Christmas Fair

Sunday 10 December
11am – 1.30pm
Ropner Park

Come along and enjoy mulled wine, festive treats and find that special Christmas gift. You can also visit Father Christmas.



Yarm Christmas Tree Lights Switch On and Carols on the Cobbles

Sunday 3 December
Yarm High Street

Join Yarm Town Council for their annual light switch on with festive Carols on the Cobbles.



Santa On Wheels

Thursday 14 December – Sunday 17 December
Various locations across the Borough

Santa On Wheels is touring across the Borough again. Watch out for him visiting a street near you this December!



Stockton Sparkles Lantern Parade

Sunday 3 December
4pm
Stockton High Street

Our annual Christmas parade will return with a dazzling array of lanterns, street theatre and atmospheric festive music.



Transforming our six towns

Read the latest developments in our ongoing work to reshape our six town centres.



Stockton

The demolition of Castlegate Shopping Centre is nearing completion, with all of the buildings on the site completely cleared to make way for the construction of Stockton Waterfront urban park.

Work is continuing to prepare the ground for the next stage of development.

Wellington Square in Stockton is also celebrating growing numbers following the opening of B&M as the final business to relocate from Castlegate. The variety retailer has filled the historic, vacant Marks and Spencer unit in the town centre and is the last of 31 independent and national businesses that have moved.

Wellington Square now has a vacancy rate of less than ten per cent and is celebrating a growing monthly footfall rate, which is up 20 per cent in comparison to pre-Covid levels in 2019.

The Council owned shopping centre has also extended a number of leases with existing tenants who are leading national retailers – showing an increase in confidence in remaining in a town centre location.

Public realm improvements to the north of Stockton High Street as part of the Stockton Northern Gateway Townscape Heritage Project have also been completed.

This includes the redevelopment of Tennant Square to create a more opening and inviting public space and the improvement of footpaths along Norton Road and King Street.

The public are now able to enjoy this open, attractive social space and the heritage interpretation in the square.

The project was funded by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



Norton

Work has been underway to refine the design and costings for improvements to the southern end of Norton High Street. Following this, work is expected to begin on the scheme at the end of January 2024.

Billingham

Following the unsuccessful bid for Billingham Town Centre to receive funding from the Government's Levelling Up fund, the Council is continuing to explore alternative ways of bringing about redevelopment.



Yarm

Work on the refurbishment and conversion of Yarm Town Hall into a Heritage Centre including the opening-up and reinstatement of its iconic brick arches has been completed.

Yarm Town Council is now working on the fit-out of the internal exhibition space and development of the heritage programme, which will form Yarm Town Hall Heritage Centre.

Work is currently progressing on a design for the public realm improvements to Yarm High Street as a result of feedback from a public consultation in 2022.

The Council is also proposing to deliver an improved cycle link along Durham Lane in Eaglescliffe using Levelling Up Funding to connect key employment sites and surrounding residential areas. Find out more at: www.stockton.gov.uk/yarm/cycleways

Improved access to the play equipment at Romano Park.



Ingleby Barwick

The first phase of improvements to Romano Park in Ingleby Barwick began in July and are now complete. This includes the re-marking of the multi-use games area (MUGA), repairs to the playpark equipment and additional litter bins and benches.

New play items also include musical play equipment and new trampolines at ground level, so they are easy to get on and off.

A community growing area on the extended land adjacent to All Saints Academy has been installed in order for pop up shops and stalls to trade there.

The second phase of works, including the installation of two new feature play items, the dragon fort and climbing 'bloqx' will take place this month.

This scheme has been developed following feedback from a public consultation in 2022.

Thornaby

The demolition of Phoenix House has been completed as part of ambitious plans to transform the town centre with funding from the £23.9million Thornaby Town Deal. Demolition work began in the spring and the removal of the building will enable the creation of a new swimming pool connected to the existing Pavilion leisure centre.

As part of the Town Deal, the Council is also proposing to deliver a joined-up network of cycle routes across Thornaby to improve access to the town centre and cycle paths in the south of the Borough. You can find out more about the proposals at: www.stockton.gov.uk/thornaby/cycleways

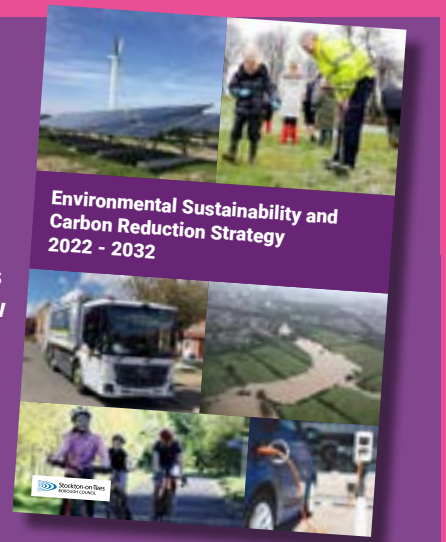
Protecting our natural environment

In the last edition of Stockton-on-Tees News we updated you on our ambitious ten-year Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy and how we are working to achieve the four key aims of the plan.

They are:

1. Achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions as a Council
2. Protect and enhance the natural environment
3. Use all resources efficiently and minimise waste
4. Adapt to the impact of climate change

In this edition, we look at some of the things we're doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Borough.



Tees Active awarded Green Mark accreditation

Tees Active has received national recognition for its "ambitious and innovative" work to be more environmentally sustainable.

The charitable trust has been awarded 'Level 1' status from Green Mark, who work to help organisations achieve long-term sustainability goals.

Solar panels at IB Leisure

The installation of 90 solar panels on the roof at IB Leisure in Ingleby Barwick is now complete.

These solar panels will create renewable energy and are expected to reduce the centre's energy costs by an estimated £22,167 per annum, based on current utility tariffs.



Trees in Stockton-on-Tees

Over the last two years we have planted more than 20,000 trees across Stockton-on-Tees and over the coming winter we expect to plant at least another 7,100. Planting these trees will contribute to the Council's net zero ambitions and will also help add more woodland cover, provide wildlife habitats and increase biodiversity.

Keep an eye on our social media feeds to find out more about our tree planting days or if you would like to take part, email treeproject@stockton.gov.uk

New NHS diagnostic facility for Stockton

Building works have started on an NHS Tees Valley health centre in Stockton, offering health checks, tests and scans.

The state-of-the-art health centre will be constructed on the former Castlegate Shopping Centre site in Stockton Town Centre.

The centre will provide rapid tests for a range of health issues, including cancer, heart and lung disease and will sit on the southern end of the site as part of wider transformation of the High Street being led by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council.

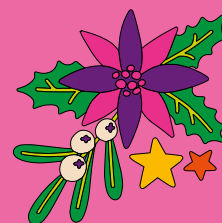
The scheme is being led by North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board and NTH Solutions.

The centre is expected to open in summer 2024.



Recycle this Christmas

Over Christmas we often end up with much more rubbish, but did you know that a lot of it can be recycled?



White sack

Cardboard boxes and packaging
Christmas cards (non-glittery)
Cans and plastic bottles
Crisp tubes, egg boxes and frozen food boxes
Sweets/chocolate tins and tubs
Wrapping paper tubes, toilet and kitchen roll tubes
Yoghurt pots and spread tubs

Christmas trees

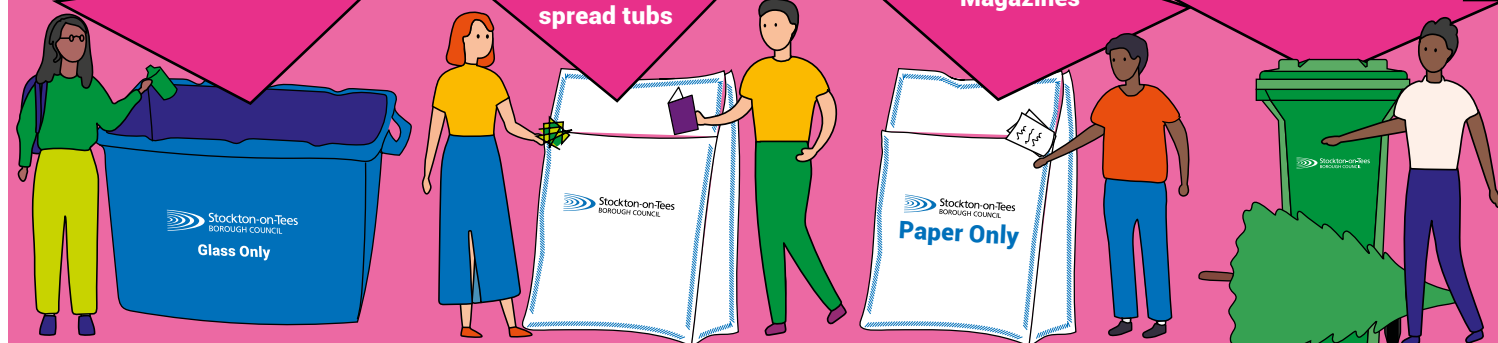
Put your Christmas tree next to your green wheelie bin on your normal collection day during week commencing 1 January 2024.

Blue box

Glass bottles
Batteries
(within their own clear bag)

Paper pocket

Envelopes
Newspapers
Magazines



See the back cover of the magazine for your Christmas and New Year recycling dates.
For more information on recycling visit www.stockton.gov.uk/what-can-i-recycle

View over Teesdale where the Care and Health Innovation Zone has been proposed.



Plans underway for Care and Health Innovation Zone

Ambitious plans to develop a Care and Health Innovation Zone in Stockton-on-Tees are underway.

The Council's vision for the innovation zone sets out proposals to create a nationally significant cluster of social care and health provision at Teesdale Business Park and the nearby Tees Marshalling Yards.

If realised, the proposals will transform the area, developing the 110 hectare brownfield site into a home for social care and health services, sector-specific businesses, research, teaching and learning facilities and housing to meet local needs.

The aim of the zone is to help address skills shortages and there's also huge potential for boosting the Borough and Tees Valley's economy, with projections showing that the site would be set to deliver thousands of jobs.

The next step is to set up a partnership board with representatives from the Council, Teesside University, Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust, North Tees NHS Trust, Education Training Collective (Stockton Riverside College) and the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

Award-winning, national financial company joins the powerhouse of the Tees Valley



Chris Simpson from the Council's Economic Development Team speaking with Mark Draffan and Geoff Charles from Bower Finance

Stockton-on-Tees businesses contribute to a third of the Tees Valley region's economic output. Multi award-winning Bower Group are a financial advice company providing national advice for investments, pensions under Bower Wealth, and mortgages plus equity release under Bower Home Finance. First established in 2006 and employing around 50 people across the UK, they expanded to Stockton-on-Tees in May 2022.



Mark Draffan, Director, said "We were attracted to come to Stockton-on-Tees as we already had some employees living here and singing the praises of the area. It wasn't just the delicacy of the local parmo that tempted us. The huge investment into the riverside park makes it an exciting place to work, and we love our new office next to the River Tees."

Geoff concluded "we're proud of the team we have at Bower. We are passionate about going the extra mile for our customers and take time to truly understand each customer's unique needs.

Geoff Charles, Chief Executive at Bower, said: "Our new office has allowed us to build a great team from the local talent over the last 12 months, thanks to support from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council.

"It's our vision to serve the wider community of Stockton-on-Tees, increasing employment in the local area and helping more customers with financial advice in all stages of their lives."

"We contacted the Council in the early days of looking at support regarding the Levelling Up initiative and extending our services in the North East. They supported us with all manner of items from IT, office location, recruitment, and funding to support our vision.

Find out what Bower Home Finance can offer by visiting www.bowerhomefinance.co.uk.

Learn more about what support is available for businesses in the Borough by visiting www.investstocktonontees.co.uk.



"We've managed to fast-track our expansion to Stockton-on-Tees and employ 10 people here, all done within a year."

LEARNING THAT LASTS

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Learn for **pleasure**.
Learn for **you**.

Find out more:

www.slss.ac.uk





Do you need help choosing your path to education and work, or are looking for a change?

The Council's careers team can provide information, advice, and guidance to support young people if they live or go to school in Stockton-on-Tees. Our friendly team of experienced and enthusiastic staff can help young people make the right decisions about their next steps.

The team can help with:

- Making decisions about what to do after Year 11 through college, employment, apprenticeships and university
- Advice on personal development courses and support
- Help with job searches, the application process and interviews

- Moving on from your current jobs or training positions
- Information on vacancies, apprenticeships, and traineeships
- Referral to specialist support organisations
- Helping graduates or those who didn't complete university find their way forward

As well as providing career support to young people and their parents or carers, we offer bespoke careers guidance services to schools, colleges and other organisations across the North East, from Tyneside to North Yorkshire.

🌐 www.stockton.gov.uk/career-support

✉ careers@stockton.gov.uk



500 JOBS, DONE!

The Stockton Employment and Training Hub has celebrated getting 500 people into paid employment since opening in February 2022.

The 500 landmark was passed in early October, and has since worked with Amazon to employ almost 200 people to the new fulfilment centre in Wynyard.

Based at a purpose-build venue in Wellington Square, the Employment and Training Hub is a one stop shop for everything employment related, whether you're an individual looking for work or a business looking to fill vacancies.

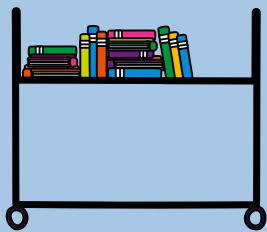
"We're delighted to have reached such an important figure so quickly" said Fallon Dunleavy, Hub Manager, "in just over 18 months we've managed to get over 500 people into paid work."

We're already looking at how to achieve our next milestones and have been working with some very exciting businesses"

If you're looking for work, training, or your business is looking for employees, visit the Employment and Training Hub in Wellington Square, Stockton. You can also follow them on Facebook and Instagram to get the latest updates from the team. Search for 'Stockton Employment and Training Hub' on the platforms.



Stockton-on-Tees Residents Survey



Have you got a spare 10 minutes?

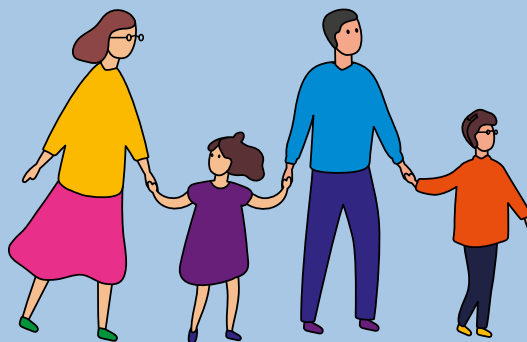
We want to find out how people in our Borough are doing as individuals, communities, and as a whole. Our residents survey is part of an ongoing conversation to help us shape and build the future of our Borough.

To have your say, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/resident_survey2023



We want to hear from you!

Scan here



Day in the

Victoria Clair
Catering Supervisor
at Crooksbar
Primary School

LIFE

“My team and I go above and beyond to excite the children, making tasty treats and themed desserts.”

Victoria Clair is a Catering Supervisor at Crooksbar Primary School and a Council employee of seven years. She puts a creative spin on school dinners, making her a firm favourite at the school.

She said: “The kitchen's the heart of the school. When the children come out of lessons, they want to have fun. I love my job because that's what I get to provide for them. Whether that's making a Harry Potter themed dessert or a caterpillar cake as long as the serving hatch!”

Victoria has won a Local Authorities Catering Association (LACA) award for her creative work and is part of the Council's catering team that has recently been awarded Frontline Service of the Year at the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) awards.

Speaking about her team's APSE award win, she continued: “I feel fortunate to have a group of people around me that really care. We're a family, and we're there for each other.”

The key to the Catering team's success has been establishing an open dialogue with children and parents about dietary requirements, creating bespoke packages to cater for special needs, offering ideas for good food on a budget during the cost-of-living crisis and championing the food recycling project as part of the team's catering delivery.

Here at the Council, we're proud to have members of staff that go the extra mile to provide a high-quality service for the people of Stockton-on-Tees.



Victoria and her team members



Victoria in the kitchen preparing healthy snacks



Keeping our roadsides clean and tidy

Did you know that our dedicated Care for Your Area team is often out early in the morning ensuring roads in the Borough are clean and tidy?

Recently, they've been busy clearing the roadside on Queen Elizabeth Way and the 1825 Way.

The works, which included debris cleaning, sign cleaning and pruning back plants and shrubs, were part of our ongoing programme to clean up the sides of some of the busiest roads across the Borough.

Take a look at some great photos of the work that's been done already.



Drainage works continue at Durham Road and Thornaby cemeteries

Work to improve drainage at Thornaby Cemetery and Durham Road Cemetery has been undertaken.

Recurrent flooding has previously occurred at both sites after spells of heavy rainfall and worsened by the natural deterioration of the existing drainage systems.

At Durham Road, remedial improvements to the drainage have been topped with new paving to create pathways, allowing safe access for visitors. A sustainable drainage system (SuDS) basin, to manage collected water from rainfall, has been added. It will be planted up in the coming months which will aid to the management of the water.

At Thornaby cemetery, the team have installed underground drainage networks as well a new drainage system. They have also undertaken gully clearing and the existing drainage has been flushed through to help future standing water drain away more quickly.

Selective Licensing Scheme Consultation

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council is considering introducing Selective Licensing of private rented properties in three areas of the Borough: Central Stockton, North Thornaby and Newtown. We believe there are benefits for landlords, tenants and the wider community with this scheme.

You can take part in a consultation about it until 4pm on Friday 19 January.



Visit www.stockton.gov.uk/selective-licensing-scheme-2023.



Keeping the Borough moving this winter

As the colder weather arrives, the Council's winter maintenance crews are on standby to help keep the Borough's roads safe.

The team is responsible for treating the roads when ice and snow are forecast, helping to keep the Borough moving. They work tirelessly throughout the winter and are on call 24 hours

a day, seven days a week, including Christmas and New Year, to respond to the bad weather.

Did you know around 2,300 tonnes of salt is currently stored in a purpose-built salt barn? The team also maintain 366 salt bins across the Borough for residents to use.

For more information on gritting and snow clearing visit www.stockton.gov.uk/gritting-snow-clearing



Meet our 50 new apprentices

This year we have welcomed 50 new apprentices to roles across Council services.

Apprenticeships are a great way to start a career, allowing you to earn a wage whilst studying for a recognised qualification and gaining valuable on-the-job experience. This year's apprenticeship roles included HVG technicians, social carers,

and cooks. Our apprenticeships range from Level 2, all the way up to Level 7 – the equivalent of a degree.

The Council was recently shortlisted for the Best Next Generation Employer at the LGC Workforce awards for our apprenticeship programme. The winners will be announced in November.

Find out more at www.stockton.gov.uk/apprenticeships

Celebrate our community heroes



Nominations for the Mayor's Civic Awards 2023/24 are now open. The awards shine the spotlight on individuals, groups and businesses making a positive impact across the Borough.



You can nominate a person or group in one of the following categories:

-  **Young Person Award**
-  **Service to Community Award for individuals**
-  **Service to Community Award for groups and organisations**
-  **Service to Community Award for businesses**
-  **Health and Wellbeing Award**
-  **Green Award**
-  **Carer/Foster Carer Award**

For more information on the categories and to nominate your chosen person or group, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/mayors-civic-awards

Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees, Councillor Jim Beall, said: "Many people across the Borough go above and beyond expectations to help in our community, but may not realise they deserve to be recognised. The Civic Awards give the chance to celebrate these unsung heroes. I encourage everyone to think about who is going the extra mile and get in touch."

The deadline for nominations is 5pm on Friday 26 January 2024.

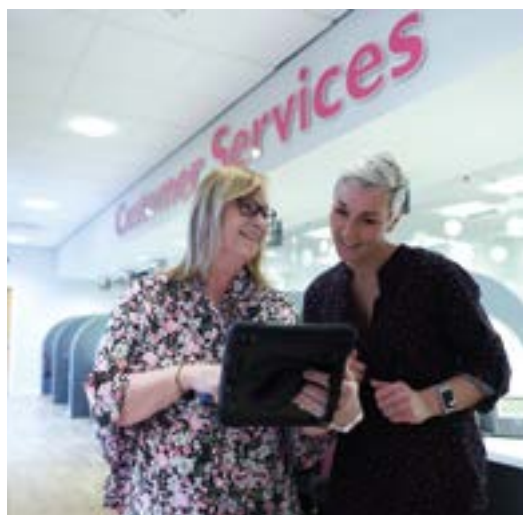
New Customer Services call back feature

Did you know the Council's Customer Services team has a new telephone call-back feature to help reduce your time on hold?

If you're offered the option of a call back, the system will simply hold your place and automatically call you back when you reach the front of the queue.

If you don't have a smart phone or computer and want to access services online, there are also public access computers in libraries across the Borough.

For more information, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/Customer-Services



Ward Surgeries

There are 27 wards across Stockton-on-Tees with between one and three councillors representing each ward.

If you want to discuss any issues with your local councillors you can find their contact and ward surgery details until March 2024 in the following pages. For more information visit www.stockton.gov.uk/councillors

Billingham Central



Councillor Ann McCoy
 ☎ 01642 535604
 ✉ ann.mccoy@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Barry Woodhouse
 ☎ 01642 371638
 ✉ barry.woodhouse@stockton.gov.uk

6 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Billingham Youth and Community Centre
3 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Billingham Youth and Community Centre
7 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Billingham Youth and Community Centre
6 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Billingham Youth and Community Centre

Billingham East



Councillor Michelle Bendelow
 ☎ 07823372398
 ✉ michelle.bendelow@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Mick Stoker
 ☎ 07917587620
 ✉ mick.stoker@stockton.gov.uk

8 December 2023 4.30pm - 6pm
 New Life Family Centre
12 January 2024 4.30pm - 6pm
 New Life Family Centre
9 February 2024 4.30pm - 6pm
 New Life Family Centre
8 March 2024 4.30pm - 6pm
 New Life Family Centre

Billingham North



Councillor Marc Besford
 ☎ 07818586592
 ✉ Marc.Besford@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Clare Gamble
 ☎ 07818584050
 ✉ clare.gamble@stockton.gov.uk

7 December 2023 7pm - 8pm
 High Grange Community Centre
4 January 2024 7pm - 8pm
 High Grange Community Centre
1 February 2024 7pm - 8pm
 High Grange Community Centre
7 March 2024 7pm - 8pm
 High Grange Community Centre

Billingham South



Councillor Katie Weston
 ☎ 07963434815
 ✉ Katie.Weston@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Paul Weston
 ☎ 07717727692
 ✉ paul.weston@stockton.gov.uk

5 December 2023 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 Billingham Town Football Club
2 January 2024 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 St Cuthberts Hall
6 February 2024 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 Port Clarence Community Centre
5 March 2024 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 Billingham Town Football Club

Billingham West & Wolviston



Councillor David Reynard
 ☎ 07823513359
 ✉ david.reynard@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Marcus Vickers
 ☎ 07823514929
 ✉ marcus.vickers@stockton.gov.uk

4 December 2023 6.30pm - 7.15pm
 Wolviston Village Community Centre
11 January 2024 6pm - 6.45pm
 Monkseaton Community Hall

Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree



Councillor Hugo Stratton
 ☎ 07384797722
 ✉ hugo.stratton@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Emily Tate
 ☎ 07823444348
 ✉ emily.tate@stockton.gov.uk

Eaglescliffe East



Councillor Stefan Houghton
 ☎ 07766361716
 ✉ stefan.houghton@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor James Taylor
 ☎ 07823794173
 ✉ jim.taylor@stockton.gov.uk

6 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Preston & Eaglescliffe Social Club
2 January 2024 4pm - 5pm
 Parkmore Hotel
7 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Preston & Eaglescliffe Social Club
5 March 2024 4pm - 5pm
 Parkmore Hotel

Eaglescliffe West



Councillor Diane Clarke
 ☎ 07823792726
 ✉ diane.clarke@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Laura Tunney
 ☎ 07920750692
 ✉ laura.tunney@stockton.gov.uk

Fairfield



Councillor Alex Griffiths
 ☎ 07823511632
 ✉ alex.griffiths@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Stephen Richardson
 ☎ 07929354541
 ✉ stephen.richardson@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Susan Scott
 ☎ 07818538695
 ✉ Susan.Scott@stockton.gov.uk

6 December 2023 4pm - 4.30pm
 Fairfield Library
10 January 2024 4pm - 4.30pm
 Fairfield Library
7 February 2024 4pm - 4.30pm
 Fairfield Library
6 March 2024 4pm - 4.30pm
 Fairfield Library

Grangefield



Councillor Carol Clark
 ☎ 01642 675688
 ✉ carol.clark@stockton.gov.uk

7 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Grays Road Institute

11 December 2023 12pm - 1pm
 St Pauls Church, Bishopton Road

18 December 2023 12pm - 1pm
 St John's Church, Durham Road

4 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Grays Road Institute

8 January 2024 12pm - 1pm
 St Paul's Church, Bishopton Road

15 January 2024 12pm - 1pm
 St John's Church, Durham Road

1 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Grays Road Institute

12 February 2024 12pm - 1pm
 St Paul's Church, Bishopton Road

19 February 2024 12pm-1pm
 St John's Church, Durham Road

7 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Grays Road Institute

11 March 2024 12pm - 1pm
 St Paul's Church, Bishopton Road

18 March 2024 12pm - 1pm
 St John's Church, Durham Road

Hardwick and Salters Lane



Councillor Nigel Cooke
 ☎ 01642 589442
 ✉ nigel.cooke@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Norma Stephenson OBE
 ☎ 01642 526231
 ✉ norma.stephenson@stockton.gov.uk

No December Surgery

20 January 2024 9.30am - 10.30am
 Salters Lane Community Centre

20 January 2024 11am - 12pm
 Hardwick in Partnership

10 February 2024 9.30am - 10.30am
 Salters Lane Community Centre

10 February 2024 11am - 12pm
 Hardwick in Partnership

9 March 2024 9.30am - 10.30am
 Salters Lane Community Centre

9 March 2024 11am - 12pm
 Hardwick in Partnership

Hartburn



Councillor Jason French
 ☎ 07917265479
 ✉ jason.french@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Lynn Hall
 ☎ 07825582527
 ✉ lynn.hall2@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Niall Innes
 ☎ 07467443549
 ✉ niall.innes@stockton.gov.uk

4 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Parkwood Hotel

8 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Parkwood Hotel

5 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Parkwood Hotel

4 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Parkwood Hotel

Ingleby Barwick North



Councillor Ted Strike
 ☎ 07818587455
 ✉ ted.strike@stockton.gov.uk

14 November 2023 6pm - 7pm
 The Rings Community Hub

12 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 The Rings Community Hub

9 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 The Rings Community Hub

13 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 The Rings Community Hub

12 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 The Rings Community Hub



Councillor Alan Watson
 ☎ 01642 761543
 ✉ alan.watson@stockton.gov.uk
 📞 07818587334



Councillor Sally Ann Watson
 ☎ 01642 61543
 ✉ sallyann.watson@stockton.gov.uk
 📞 07795012445

29 November 2023 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 The Rings Community Hub

20 December 2023 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 The Rings Community Hub

31 January 2024 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 The Rings Community Hub

28 February 2024 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 The Rings Community Hub

27 March 2024 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 The Rings Community Hub

Ingleby Barwick South



Councillor Stefan Barnes
 ☎ 07818511568
 ✉ stefan.barnes@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Kevin Faulks
 ☎ 07717 27663
 ✉ kevin.faulks@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Ross Patterson
 ☎ 01642 764865
 ✉ ross.patterson@stockton.gov.uk

5 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Activ8 IB Leisure Centre

2 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Activ8 IB Leisure Centre

6 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Activ8 IB Leisure Centre

5 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Activ8 IB Leisure Centre

Mandale & Victoria



Councillor Richard Eglington
 ☎ 07823533362
 ✉ richard.eglington@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Nathan Gale
 ☎ 07818588681
 ✉ Nathan.Gale@stockton.gov.uk

4 December 2023 2pm - 4pm
 Robert Atkinson Centre

8 January 2024 2pm - 4pm
 Robert Atkinson Centre

25 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Virtual Surgery

5 February 2024 2pm - 4pm
 Robert Atkinson Centre

4 March 2024 2pm - 4pm
 Robert Atkinson Centre

28 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Virtual Surgery

Newtown



Councillor Marilyn Surtees
 ☎ 07920750678
 ✉ m.surtees@stockton.gov.uk

21 November 2023 6.15pm
 Primrose Hill Community Centre

No December Surgery
16 January 2024 6.15pm
 Primrose Hill Community Centre

20 February 2024 6.15pm
 Newtown Resource Centre

19 March 2024 6.15pm
 Primrose Hill Community Centre



Northern Parishes



Councillor John Gardner
 ☎ 01740645357
 ✉ john.gardner@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Vanessa Sewell
 ☎ 07823680302
 ✉ vanessa.sewell@stockton.gov.uk

Norton Central



Councillor Lisa Evans
 ☎ 01642 614522
 ✉ Lisa.Evans@stockton.gov.uk
 📠 07917587617



Councillor Steve Nelson
 ☎ 01642 534417
 ✉ steve.nelson@stockton.gov.uk

6 December 2023 6pm Norton Library
3 January 2024 6pm Norton Library
7 February 2024 6pm Norton Library
6 March 2024 6pm Norton Library

Norton North



Councillor Tony Riordan
 ☎ 07825352193
 ✉ tony.riordan@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Hilary Vickers
 ☎ 07818587115
 ✉ hilary.vickers@stockton.gov.uk

7 December 2023 10am - 12pm
 The Glebe Community Centre
7 December 2023 6pm
 Moline Cross
4 January 2024 10am - 12pm
 The Glebe Community Centre
4 January 2024 6pm
 Moline Cross
1 February 2024 10am - 12pm
 The Glebe Community Centre
1 February 2024 6pm
 Moline Cross
7 March 2024 10am - 12pm
 The Glebe Community Centre
7 March 2024 6pm
 Moline Cross

Norton South



Councillor Bob Cook
 ☎ 01642 890058
 ✉ robert.cook@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Eileen Johnson
 ☎ 07939521146
 ✉ eileen.johnson@stockton.gov.uk

Norton South continued

13 December 2023 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
20 December 2023 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
3 January 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
17 January 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
31 January 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
14 February 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
28 February 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
13 March 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road
27 February 2024 5pm - 6pm
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road

Ropner



Councillor Shakeel Hussain
 ☎ 07818586721
 ✉ Shakeel.Hussain@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Muhammed Mubeen
 ☎ 07818586781
 ✉ Sufi.Mubeen@stockton.gov.uk

13 November 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Stockton Family Hub
11 December 2023 6pm - 7pm
 Encounter Church, Oxbridge Lane
8 January 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Marlborough House
12 February 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Stockton Family Hub
11 March 2024 6pm - 7pm
 Encounter Church, Oxbridge Lane

Roseworth



Councillor Jim Beall
 ☎ 01642 871759
 ✉ jim.beall@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Barbara Inman
 ☎ 01642 582644
 ✉ barbara.inman@stockton.gov.uk

14 November 2023 4.30pm
 Redhill Family Hub
12 December 2023 4.30pm
 Redhill Family Hub
9 January 2024 4.30pm
 Redhill Family Hub
13 February 2024 4.30pm
 Ragworth Neighbourhood Centre
12 March 2024 4.30pm
 Redhill Family Hub

Southern Villages



Councillor Elsi Hampton
 ☎ 07823327996
 ✉ elsi.hampton@stockton.gov.uk

Stainsby Hill



Councillor Ray Godwin
 ☎ 07825352158
 ✉ ray.godwin@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Sylvia Walmsley
 ☎ 07825582518
 ✉ sylvia.walmsley@stockton.gov.uk

Stockton Town Centre



Councillor Pauline Beall
 ☎ 01642 871759
 ✉ pauline.beall@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Paul Rowling
 ☎ 07823535455
 ✉ paul.rowling@stockton.gov.uk

28 November 2023 5pm
 Stockton Central Library
19 December 2023 5pm
 Stockton Central Library
30 January 2024 5pm
 Stockton Central Library
27 February 2024 5pm
 Stockton Central Library
26 March 2024 5pm
 Stockton Central Library

Village



Councillor Ian Dalgarno
 ☎ 01642 882985
 ✉ ian.dalgarno@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Mick Moore
 ☎ 01642 764381
 ✉ mick.moore@stockton.gov.uk

Yarm



Councillor Dan Fagan
 ☎ 07471022580
 ✉ dan.fagan@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor Andrew Sherris
 ☎ 07825352188
 ✉ andrew.sherris@stockton.gov.uk



Councillor John Coulson
 ☎ 07818586520
 ✉ John.Coulson@stockton.gov.uk

What's on

A look at what's going on across Stockton-on-Tees from November 2023 until the next issue of Stockton-on-Tees News in March 2024.

This is just a selection of the fantastic events to enjoy in Stockton-on-Tees. You can find out more at www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on

All listings were correct at the time of going to print. Please check with the event organiser for the latest updates. For information about the Borough's Christmas events, see pages 12 and 13.

NOVEMBER

Banter and Beyond! Winter Celebrations in Stockton c.1850-1950

📅 Wednesday 15 November
🕒 10am - 12pm
📍 Stockton Central Library

Join us as we take a look back at how Bonfire Night, Christmas and New Year were marked in Stockton-on-Tees over the course of a century. What traditions were invented? What age-old customs have we abandoned? Add a 'Drop in' sticker

Stockton Steampunk Festival

📅 Friday 17 and Saturday 18 November
🕒 Various
📍 ARC, Stockton Arts Centre



Visit ARC for two days of market stalls, live music, cabaret performances, screenings and a fashion show at the inaugural Stockton Steampunk Festival. www.arconline.co.uk



Flight

📅 Saturday 25 November – Sunday 17 March 2024
📍 Preston Park Museum & Grounds

An exciting, thought-provoking exhibition led by Jane Riley and a group of talented local artists. The tapestry and weaving exhibition celebrates the beauty of butterflies and moths, sustainability and the environment and explores an important message about the decline of the butterfly population and loss of habitat. Museum admission applies. www.prestonparkmuseum.co.uk



Ripping Yarms - Iain Stirling

📅 Sunday 26 November
🕒 7pm
📍 Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Yarm

Come along to our Ripping Yarms Comedy Club, for another night of laughter! MC Stephen Grant will be joined by Lil Philips, Barry Dodds and Love Island's Iain Stirling. www.thepaonline.org



Holy Moly & The Crackers

📅 Friday 17 November
🕒 8pm
📍 The Georgian Theatre

The band has released three studio albums that have seen their songs evolve from festival-friendly folk-stomps to widescreen folk-rock bangers, which has earned them a loyal and vocal fanbase! www.georgiantheatre.co.uk



The Stylistics

📅 Sunday 26 November
🕒 7.30pm
📍 Stockton Globe

The Stylistics, Airrion Love and Herb Murrell (from the original line up) with Barrington 'Bo' Henderson and Jason Sharp, will be sharing magic moments from their greatest hits classics.

www.stocktonglobe.co.uk

DECEMBER



Show: Jack & the Beanstalk

📅 Saturday 2 - Sunday 31 December
📍 Forum Theatre

Fe-fi-fo-fum, if you miss this panto you will be glum! Book now for our spectacular rags to riches pantomime for the whole family.

www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk



Well Done, Mummy Penguin

📅 Tuesday 5 - Saturday 23 December
🕒 Various
📍 ARC, Stockton Arts Centre

Amidst the snowy Antarctic landscape, Mummy Penguin is off to find a fishy dinner for her family. Daddy and Little Penguin watch in suspense as Mummy swims through the icy waters, climbs the perilous cliffs and tiptoes past some grumpy, just-awakened seals. All performances will have integrated sign language.

www.arconline.co.uk

Cattle & Cane

📅 Saturday 9 December
🕒 7.30pm
📍 The Georgian Theatre

After spending the last 12 months having some well-deserved time away from the band, much-loved local siblings Cattle & Cane are back with lots of new music and newly announced live shows.

www.georgiantheatre.co.uk



Pretty Woman

📅 Thursday 14 - Saturday 30 December
🕒 2.30pm and 7.30pm
📍 Stockton Globe

This sensational show took London's West End by storm and is guaranteed to lift your spirits and light up your night.

www.stocktonglobe.co.uk

Elf sleighs Christmas

📅 Thursday 21 December
🕒 10-11am
📍 Norton Library

Make a Christmas sleigh table decoration and then become an Elf with our Christmas mask. Bookings open from 11 December.

www.stockton.gov.uk/book-library-event



Catch 22 with MC Matt Reed, Terry Alderton, Sam Serrano, and Noise Next Door

📅 Friday 22 December
🕒 8pm
📍 ARC, Stockton Arts Centre

Hosted by MC Matt Reed, a man who has been in every situation that comedy can throw his way. Please note line-ups are subject to change. Age 18+.

www.arconline.co.uk

JANUARY

Ed Byrne: Tragedy Plus Time

📅 Saturday 27 January 2024
🕒 7.30pm
📍 Forum Theatre

Attributed to Mark Twain, humour is defined as Tragedy Plus Time. Come and join Ed as he tests that formula by mining the most tragic event in his life for laughs.

www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk



Justin Moorhouse - Stretch and Think

📅 Friday 23 February 2024
🕒 8pm
📍 Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Yarm

Justin is back: still funny, yet middle aged. A brand new show that may contain: Yoga, getting older, Madonna, shoplifters, Labradoodles, middle-aged cyclists, the menopause, running, hating football fans but loving football, the list goes on...

www.thepaaonline.org

MARCH

Ozric Tentacles & Gong Co Headline Tour

📅 Sunday 17 March 2024
🕒 7pm
📍 The Georgian Theatre

Gong and Ozric Tentacles continue their campaign throughout the UK with a new tour that kicks off in March 2024.

www.georgiantheatre.co.uk



Jason Fox – Life at the Limit

📅 Saturday 27 January 2024
🕒 7.30pm
📍 Stockton Globe

Ex-special forces soldier and star of TV's SAS: Who Dares Wins, Jason Fox, will share the daring exploits of his distinguished career as an elite operator in the UK Special Forces.

www.stocktonglobe.co.uk

FEBRUARY



The South

📅 Saturday 10 February 2024
🕒 7.30pm
📍 Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Yarm

To celebrate their 10th year anniversary and 30 years since The Beautiful South released 'Song For Whoever', The South are back this February in Yarm – playing shows up and down the UK.

www.thepaaonline.org

Year of the Dragon Crafts

📅 Tuesday 20 February 2024
🕒 10 - 11am
📍 Thornaby Library, Gilmour Street

Begin the Year of the Dragon with a roar by making a fire breathing dragon mask and colourful lanterns to bring you prosperity. Bookings open from 13 February.

www.stockton.gov.uk/book-library-event

Madama Butterfly

📅 Sunday 17 March 2024
🕒 7.30pm
📍 Forum Theatre

Featuring an impressive cast and accompanied by a live Orchestra numbering over 30 musicians. This opera and ballet theatre has a long-standing heritage of top-quality productions.

www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk

For more events across the Borough visit:

ARC

📍 www.arconline.co.uk
☎ 01642 525199

Forum Theatre Billingham

📍 www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk
☎ 01642 552663

The Georgian Theatre

📍 www.georgiantheatre.co.uk
☎ 01642 674115

Stockton Globe

📍 www.stocktonglobe.co.uk
☎ 0843 904 0071

Visit Tees Valley

📍 www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on/

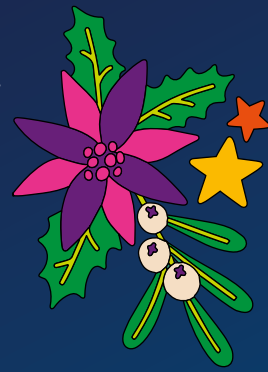
The Princess Alexandra Auditorium

📍 www.thepaaonline.org
✉ box-office@yarmschool.org

For more information on all events, follow us on social media [f](#) [x](#) [i](#) [@stocktoncouncil](#)



Christmas and New Year Opening Times



For full details of Christmas and New Year opening times for the Council services, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/festive-hours

Opening hours for all services will return to normal from 2 January.

Customer Services

Main Switchboard	01642 393939
Care For Your Area	01642 391959
Council Tax	01642 397108
Housing Benefits	01642 393829

Emergency Services

Adults' Helpline	01642 527764
Children's Helpline	01642 130080
Out of Hours Duty Team	01642 524552
Homelessness and Housing Solutions	01642 528389

Customer Services Telephone Contact Centre Opening Hours

Friday 22 December:	8.30am – 5pm
Saturday 23 December:	9.30am – 12.30pm
Sunday 24 to Tuesday 26 December:	CLOSED
Wednesday 27 to Friday 29 December:	8.30am – 5pm
Saturday 30 December:	9.30am – 12.30pm
Sunday 31 December and Monday 1 January:	CLOSED

Customer Services Face to Face Opening Hours

Friday 22 December:	9.30am – 5pm
Saturday 23 to Tuesday 26 December:	CLOSED
Wednesday 27 to Friday 29 December:	10am – 5pm
Saturday 30, Sunday 31 December and Monday 1 January:	CLOSED

Registration Services at Nightingale House, Stockton-on-Tees

Friday 22 December:	8.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday 23 December:	8.30am – 5pm
Sunday 24 to Tuesday 26 December:	CLOSED
Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 December:	8.30am – 5pm
Friday 29 December:	8.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday 30 December:	8.30am – 5pm
Sunday 31 December and Monday 1 January -	CLOSED

Bereavement Services at Stockton-on-Tees Crematorium

Friday 22 December:	9am - 4.30pm
Saturday 23 December to Tuesday 26 December:	CLOSED
Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 December:	9am – 5pm
Friday 29 December:	9am - 4.30pm
Saturday 30 December to Monday 1 January:	CLOSED

Library Opening Hours

Stockton, Billingham, Thornaby Central, Norton, Yarm and Ingleby Barwick Libraries

Sunday 24 December: Ingleby Library	10am - 1pm
Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 December: ..	CLOSED
Wednesday 27, Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December:	10am – 5pm
Saturday 30 December Billingham, Stockton, Thornaby Central, Ingleby Library	10am – 4pm
Yarm and Norton	10am - 1pm
Sunday 31 December: Ingleby Library ...	10am – 1pm
Monday 1 January:	CLOSED

Fairfield, Thornaby Riverbank and Roseworth Libraries

Normal hours up until Friday 22 December	
Monday 25 December to Tuesday 2 January 2024:	CLOSED
Mobile Library Service will stop operating from Friday 23 December until Tuesday 2 January 2024.	

Christmas waste and recycling collections

Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 December	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 27 December.....	Collection (Tuesday catch up)
Thursday 28 December	Collection (Wednesday catch up)
Friday 29 December	Collection (Thursday catch up)
Saturday 30 December.....	Collection (Friday catch up)
Tuesday 2 January	Back to normal collection

Real Christmas tree collections

Christmas trees will be collected on your normal collection day, commencing 2 January 2024. Please leave your tree next to your wheelie bin and it will be collected.

Alternatively, you can recycle your tree at the Household Waste and Recycling Centre at Haverton Hill in Billingham. For details of opening times, visit www.stockton.gov.uk/haverton-hill