

July 2024

The community magazine of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

# Stockton- on-Tees

## News

[www.stockton.gov.uk/stockton-on-tees-news](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/stockton-on-tees-news)



**SIRF**24

Friday 2 and Sunday 4 August 2024



Stockton-on-Tees  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Holidays Are Fun! 6



SIRF is back! 14 & 15



Our Six Towns 18 & 19



Meet your new Mayor 25

# Welcome to the July edition of Stockton-on-Tees News.

This August sees the return of Stockton International Riverside Festival to Stockton Town Centre. Now in its 37th year, the weekend is set to be packed full of family-friendly entertainment including the popular Community Carnival. Turn to pages 14 & 15 to take a look at some of this year's highlights.

We are continuing with our commitment to improve school buildings across the Borough. On page 7 you can find out more about how the Council is investing £7.5million in the refurbishment of Oxbridge Primary School to provide a more modern and improved teaching environment.

Volunteering within your community is one of the most rewarding things you can do. Turn to page 11 where you can find out more about our new 'proud to care' campaign which shines a light on our amazing residents who are proud champions of Stockton-on-Tees. You can also find out more about how you can volunteer in your local community, such as becoming a volunteer driver which you can read more about on page 10.

If you are looking for something to do this summer, head to page 17 where you can read about the exciting range of opportunities to keep active. From Aqua Paddle to free Park Play sessions across selected parks in the Borough, there is something for everyone.

Do you know the Council is trialling 'no mow sites'? These are areas of grassland across the Borough that will not be cut this summer to help us identify what natural wildflowers grow there and how this benefits local wildlife. We would love to see your photos. Turn to page 20 to find out how to get involved.

There are lots of exciting plans taking shape for our town centres. Turn to pages 18 & 19 to read the latest update about Billingham Town Centre, and the creation of a modern, fit-for-purpose, five lane swimming pool and gym in Thornaby as well as the redevelopment of the Golden Eagle site.

And finally, at the Council's annual meeting in April, Councillor John Gardener was sworn in as the new Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees. You can read more about our new Mayor on page 25.

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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, Jamie Haslam and others.

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



Mike Greene  
Chief Executive  
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council





### CBE award for our amazing resident!

In March, Mark White from Billingham was presented with a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) from HRH The Prince of Wales at Windsor Castle.

Mr White was previously appointed Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 2016 for his services to education and is chair of Stockton-on- Tees Strategic Education Board.

The promotion to CBE is in recognition of Mr White's services to further education and was announced in The King's Birthday Honours List 2023.



Liam from Hart Gables presenting the award to members of the Council's LGBTQ+ Network

### Celebrating Inclusivity!

The Council is celebrating being a finalist at the Hart Gables LGBT Alliance Awards 2024 in the Local Authority Commitment to LGBT Communities category.

The Council was nominated by Hart Gables service users as they felt the Council has an inclusive approach to services.

Find out more about the awards at [www.hartgables.org.uk/lgbt-alliance-awards-2023](http://www.hartgables.org.uk/lgbt-alliance-awards-2023)



### Newport Bridge improvements

Newport Bridge is temporarily closed for major construction work this summer.

The work, which started on Monday 8 July, is expected to take around seven weeks and includes bridge joint and bearing replacement, new drainage channels, waterproofing and carriageway resurfacing.

During this time, the A1032 from Newport roundabout to Portrack interchange will be closed with access for affected businesses only. Signed traffic diversions will be in place.



### New scheme saves resident's life

A family who had a carbon monoxide alarm fitted as part of a scheme funded by Thornaby Town Deal had their lives saved thanks to the device.

Shugufta Ali had a carbon monoxide alarm fitted along with other security measures at her home in North Thornaby after she received a letter to inform her that she was one of 1,500 properties eligible for the free scheme.

A month later, the alarm alerted her to the gas boiler in her home emitting poisonous carbon monoxide gas which could have been fatal to her family. She credits the scheme for saving her life, as the odourless gas is life threatening and she would not be aware of the leak without the alarm.

Find out if you are eligible for support from the scheme: [www.stockton.gov.uk/thornaby/town-deal](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/thornaby/town-deal)

# 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](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/a-fairer-stockton-on-tees) to find out more about the strategy.

## The Bread and Butter Thing

There are now five 'The Bread and Butter Thing' low-cost food hubs across the Borough, including new hubs at Newtown and Roseworth.

The scheme offers three bags of food worth around £35 for only £8.50, including fresh fruit and veg, chilled food and cupboard staples like cereal. You can also pay just £5 for an individual bag or £17 for a six bag 'family' deal.

Find out more at [www.stockton.gov.uk/the-bread-and-butter-thing](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/the-bread-and-butter-thing)

## Free boiler servicing available

As part of the Council's 'Warm Homes Healthy People' scheme, we are offering free boiler servicing to eligible residents across the Borough from July to September 2024.

To qualify, you must be the homeowner and have not accessed the scheme within the past two years, be claiming a means tested benefit and be 65 years or over. For residents under 65, you must be in receipt of a disability benefit, have a long term illness made worse by the cold, live with a child under 5 who has a long term illness made worse by the cold or you are living with dementia.

For further details of the eligibility criteria please visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/Warm-Homes-Healthy-People](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/Warm-Homes-Healthy-People) or call 01642 528215 for further advice and information.



## Going for gold family fun day

Come and join our free family fun day on Saturday 20 July with a range of activities between 10am and 2pm in Stockton town centre.

The fun day includes sports and games, crafts and activities and an eco-clothing shop offering free, donated school uniforms, sports wear, board games and hygiene products.

For more information, visit [www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on](http://www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on)



## Help us Kit out the Borough!

Do you have children's or young adult's sports clothes and footwear you no longer need?

We are looking for donations of good condition sportswear with drop off points at Billingham Forum, IB Leisure, Stockton Splash, Thornaby Pavilion and Thornaby Pool. Just look out for the Kit out the Borough donation bin.

For more information, contact [sportsdevelopment@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:sportsdevelopment@stockton.gov.uk)

# New SEND sessions at our Family Hubs

A range of exciting and accessible sessions for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) will be starting at our Family Hubs this July.

Parents, carers and local support groups including Stockton Parent Carer Forum, have helped to identify groups and activities to provide the best experience for children with SEND and their families.

Lego clubs, craft groups, cooking sessions and messy play are just some of the new activities on offer at the Hubs, which support families with children and young people aged 0 to 19.

Tailored support around sexual health, relationships and wellbeing for our young people with SEND needs will be delivered by national charity, Brook.

Follow Family Hubs on Facebook for news on the sessions in Billingham, Redhill (Roseworth), Stockton and Thornaby.



[www.stockton.gov.uk/family-hubs](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/family-hubs)

[FamilyHubs@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:FamilyHubs@stockton.gov.uk)

01642 528525

## More childcare help for families

**From September 2024, eligible working parents will be entitled to 15 hours of childcare per week if they have children from the age of nine months to two-years-old.**

Parents can choose which early years provider to use, such as a childminder, day nursery, playgroup, pre-school, or school nursery. Depending on the provider, these hours can be used over 38 weeks of the year (during school term time), or up to 52 weeks if fewer than the total hours are used per week.

From September 2025, this will increase to 30 hours childcare per week for eligible working parents.

Find out more at [www.stockton.gov.uk/childcare](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/childcare)



## 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](http://fosterwithnortheast.org.uk), or call **0800 917 7771**

**Foster with NORTH EAST**



**FosterWithNorthEast**



# Care Leavers Local Offer

If you are a care leaver, or are about to leave care, there's a range of support on offer.

As part of the Council's Corporate Parenting Pledge, we want all care experienced young people to feel safe and supported and know where and who to go to for advice and help.

Stockton-on-Tees has a care leavers' Local Offer which has been created by young people who are currently cared for and those who are care experienced. It brings together in one place at [www.stockton.gov.uk/care-leavers-local-offer](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/care-leavers-local-offer) the support available.

The Council has committed to an Employability Promise to support our care experienced young people into education, training and employment. This includes help with CVs, interview techniques, help applying for apprenticeships and jobs and guaranteeing an interview for Council vacancies providing the Person Specification for a role is met.

Plus, the 'No Limits Hub' is also available for children in care and care leavers to drop in to for support.



Care leaver Reece on a work placement in the Council's Heating Ventilation and Electrical (HVE) service



## Fun, food and friends!

There will be lots of free exciting activities for eligible school-aged children in the Borough during the six-week summer break.

A wide range of activities will be on offer during our Holidays Are Fun (HAF) summer programme, including outdoor bushcraft, swimming, ice skating, arts and crafts, cinema trips

and film-making. Sessions suitable for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are included.

Families in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, claiming universal credit, experiencing financial difficulties, or that have a child with SEND are eligible.

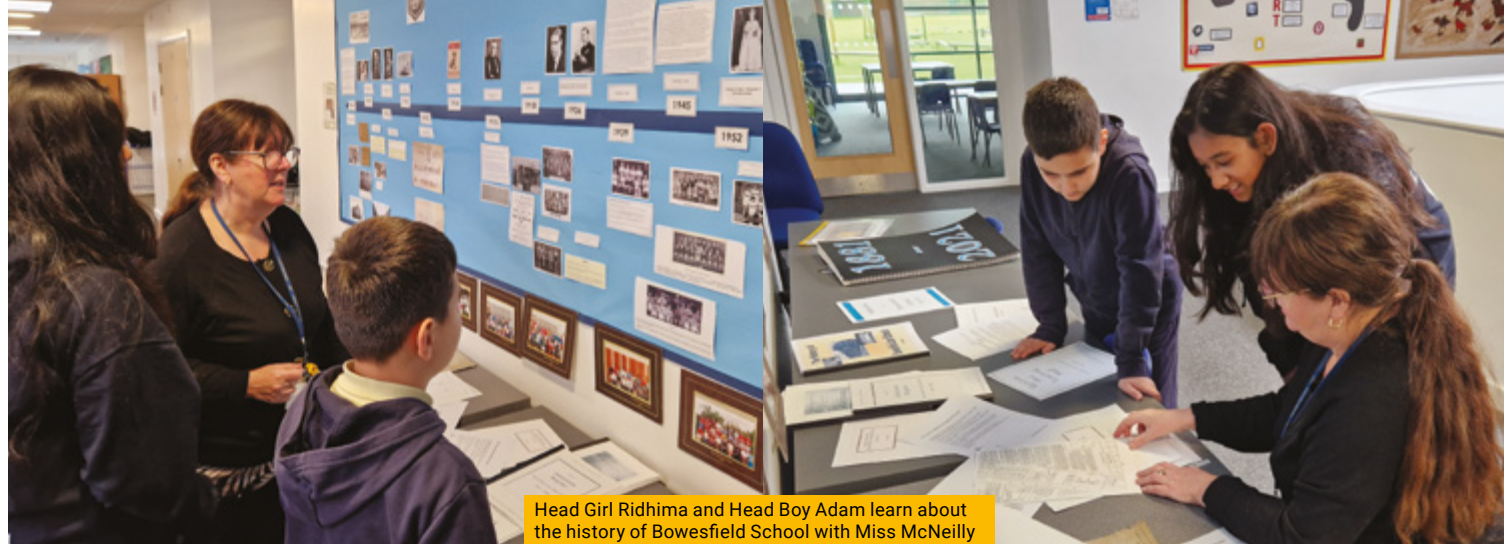
Every child that participates will receive a nutritious meal each day.

You can book your child's place at [www.stockton.gov.uk/haf](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/haf)

Check if you are eligible for free school meals at [www.stockton.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/free-school-meals)

Activities will also be running during October half-term. Bookings open on Monday 30 September.

HAF is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) and delivered by the Council in partnership with Catalyst.



Head Girl Ridhima and Head Boy Adam learn about the history of Bovesfield School with Miss McNeilly

# The Bovesfield Story

**With a state-of-the-art building, modern classrooms and over two acres of grassland, trees and playground, Bovesfield Primary School is an oasis of learning, right in the heart of Stockton.**

Since opening in 1881, many staff and pupils have passed through the original Bovesfield Lane buildings and the current school on Northcote Street.

Janet McNeilly joined Bovesfield in 1984 and works with the children to learn about the school's history and changes to the local area.

Miss McNeilly said: "Our today is tomorrow's history. It's important to remember all those who came before, and important that we leave our mark on the school."

Recently rated by Ofsted as 'Good' across the board, and with an 'Outstanding' early years provision, the school offers children a caring and compassionate learning environment.

Visit [www.bovesfieldprimary.org.uk](http://www.bovesfieldprimary.org.uk) for more information about the school and its history.

## £7.5m for Oxbridge Lane Primary School



**Multi-million pound renovation works at Oxbridge Lane Primary School are on the way which will provide a modern and improved teaching environment for the 135 year old primary school.**

New facilities at the school are set to include a new entrance and lobby, kitchen, nursery area and entrance and a multi-use games area (MUGA).

Head Teacher, Lauren Amerigo said: "The upgraded facilities will provide a modern and conducive learning environment for our pupils. The works will help the school become more of a central community hub and will bring our nursery provision onto the same site and give Oxbridge Lane a school kitchen which will help provide our own healthy meals for the children."

The refurbishment will be funded by the Council as part of its multi-million pound investment to improve school buildings across the Borough.



# Giving young people the skills to build their careers

**Do you know a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who may need help accessing employment?**

Supported Internships help young people with SEND to gain valuable workplace experience and a stepping stone into employment.

Structured work-based study programmes support 16 to 24-year-olds who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP) who would not be able to access employment without support.

Interns will develop their job skills and independence whilst attending a full-time college placement in a subject area of their choice. The college each young person attends will create a personalised study programme that meets their needs and provides progression, alongside time with an employer.

For more information, contact the SEN Team on **01642 527145** or speak to your Careers Adviser.

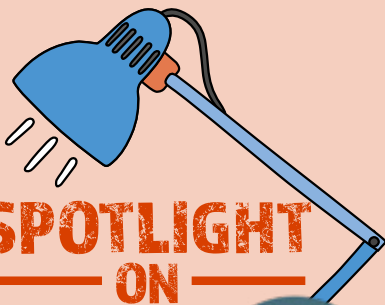
# New-look Children and Young People's Disability Register

**If you're a parent or carer of a child with a disability, you can sign up to a disability register to stay informed about all the services available to you and help shape future services.**

The Children and Young People's Disability Register can be found at [www.stockton.gov.uk/child-young-person-disability-register](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/child-young-person-disability-register). There's a short form to complete to sign up - and the information you provide is linked to your My Council account and can be removed or updated at any time.

To be eligible for the Children and Young People's Disability Register your child must:

- Have a learning difficulty, mental health, medical condition or a physical disability
- Be 0 to 25 years old
- Live in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees



**Our regular "Spotlight On" feature highlights organisations from the Borough's voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. In this issue, we're looking at Teesside Vineyard Church.**

Teesside Vineyard Church, Thornaby, is part of the Vineyard Movement group of churches and gathers people from across the Tees Valley.

Kat Dawson, who is the Children's and Community Pastor for the church, said: "Our church is a hub of activity and provides so much support for the community. Whether it's the Vine Café, which is open every Wednesday 10am to 12pm and offers a warm, friendly place for people to meet over a free cuppa and a slice of cake, and advice on a variety of issues.

"Or our Grow Baby service which provides free, high quality, new and second-hand clothing and other essentials for children aged 0 to five years. The Little Seedlings playgroup offers a place for 0 to five-year-olds to play and socialise alongside their parents and carers. We also run a sports club for 10 to 16-year-olds.

"This year we have also expanded our support to be a 'The Bread and Butter Thing' venue to give people access to nutritious and affordable food. This low-cost weekly shop, run by volunteers, provides essential produce, fridge favourites and cupboard staples."

You can find out more about Teesside Vineyard Church by visiting their website at [www.teessidevineyardchurch.co.uk](http://www.teessidevineyardchurch.co.uk).





# Working together to make Ropner and Stockton Town Centre safer

**Work is underway to help reduce crime and improve the lives of residents in the Ropner Ward area, including a new drop-in surgery.**

Project Harmony is part of the Home Office's national 'Clear, Hold, Build' approach, which operates in areas affected by organised crime with neighbourhood policing teams taking the lead on tackling it.

In Ropner Ward, as well as Cleveland Police, it is supported by the Council, North East Ambulance Service, Cleveland Fire Brigade, Thirteen Group as well as charities and voluntary and community organisations like Catalyst and Corner House Youth Project.

Following a community consultation, a local neighbourhood delivery plan has now been developed and is being delivered to respond to local issues in the area.

Local residents groups are being established in the area and a Ropner Partnership multi-agency drop-in surgery is now being held every month. Come along to ask questions and get advice from a variety of organisations and to discuss any concerns and issues.

The next multi-agency drop in is a family fun afternoon on Wednesday 10 July, 3pm to 6pm at **Farooq E Azam Mosque & Islamic Centre, Bovesfield Lane, Stockton, TS18 3EB.**

## Changing Places at ARC Stockton

**A Changing Places toilet is now available at ARC Stockton.**

Changing Places toilets provide extra equipment and space to allow people with learning or physical disabilities to use a toilet facility safely and comfortably.

The new toilet has been possible thanks to funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities with support from the Council, in association with Muscular Dystrophy UK.

The ARC Changing Places toilet is open to the public Monday to Saturday. Opening times and more details about this and other facilities in the Borough can be found at [www.changing-places.org/find](http://www.changing-places.org/find)



## Is your home safe from FIRE?

Find out **TODAY** by scanning the QR code below:

SCAN ME



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



# Community Partnerships: Here to help

The seven Community Partnerships across the Borough are working to tackle poverty and isolation, and help our communities to be cohesive, strong and welcoming.

Following the success of the Thornaby 'Warm Welcome' social sessions, a new Billingham 'Warm Welcome' will open its doors on Tuesday 16 July.

The Warm Welcome social events are open to anyone to come along for a cuppa, meet old and new friends over a game of cards, dominoes, bingo and a friendly chat.

**Billingham Warm Welcome** – every Tuesday 10.30am to 12.30pm at Billingham Forum, The Causeway, Billingham, TS23 2LJ

**Thornaby Warm Welcome** – every Tuesday 10am to 12noon and Thursday 1pm to 3pm at Thornaby Indoor Bowls Club, Pavilion Leisure Centre, Thornaby, TS17 9EW



Look out for more information on the Community Partnerships in the next Stockton-on-Tees News, or you can follow them on Facebook:

Billingham Communities: [@BillinghamCo](#)

Ingleby Barwick Communities: [@InglebyBarwickCo](#)

Norton Communities: [@NortonCo](#)

Stockton Central Communities: [@StocktonCentralCo](#)

Stockton Rural Communities: [@StocktonRuralCo](#)

Stockton West Communities: [@StocktonWestCo](#)

Thornaby Communities: [@ThornabyCo](#)



## Volunteer drivers needed!

Could you be a volunteer driver in your community?

Volunteering Matters is on the lookout for volunteer drivers to use their own vehicle to transport residents to appointments or to access activities in the community.

This role is flexible, and you can volunteer as often or as little as you are able to. It is hoped that you will be able to commit to two to three hours per week for a minimum of three months.

Full training will be provided and mileage expenses are paid.

Find out more at [www.volunteeringmatters.org.uk/opportunity/volunteer-driver-stockton-on-tees](http://www.volunteeringmatters.org.uk/opportunity/volunteer-driver-stockton-on-tees)

## Making it Real Board - Update

In the last edition of Stockton-on-Tees News, we announced the launch of the 'Making it Real Board' which puts people with lived experience of adults and health services at the heart of decision making. Here is the latest update from the Making it Real Board.

We have welcomed some new members and have really embedded the principles of co-production. Following a Development Day in May we are finalising group agreements about how it will work together, so that everyone can contribute and have their voices heard and are valued for their involvement equally.

Work has started on a 'local account' which will inform residents about how Adults Health & Wellbeing services in our area are working, including priorities and future action areas.

Making it Real Board member, Claire Andrews, said: "It's been challenging yet rewarding. We want the opportunity to influence and coproduce, so our services really reflect our needs and lived experiences. We want to provide that 'reality check' of what it is really like on the other side of service provision. But most importantly we want the best care and support for all residents in the Stockton-on-Tees area."

We are really keen to 'make it real' for everyone in the Borough. So, over the next 3 months will be actively seeking out members, voices and experiences from individuals and groups that are not currently represented in discussions.

If you would like to know more about Making it Real in Stockton-on-Tees, email [involvement@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:involvement@stockton.gov.uk) or call 01642 528622.



Pauline Allen volunteers at her local food pantry



Dave Wilson leading one of his historic walks

## We are proud to care

The Council has launched a campaign to shine a light on amazing residents from across our Borough who care about their local area and are proud to champion Stockton-on-Tees.

The '#proudtocare' campaigns will highlight residents who support their local communities in a range of ways, such as Dave Wilson, who organises historic walks, Elliot Gordon, who regularly litter picks in his local area to keep it clean and tidy, and Pauline Allen, who volunteers at her local food pantry to help those needing some extra support.

If you are interested in volunteering in your local community, visit [www.stocktonvolunteers.co.uk](http://www.stocktonvolunteers.co.uk). You can also follow the Council's social media channels for updates on the proud to care campaign.

## The King's representatives in Stockton-on-Tees



Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Sue Snowden (right), presenting charity Sprouts with their Kings Award in 2023



Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Jo Ropner visiting students at Stockton Riverside College

**A Lord-Lieutenant is His Majesty The King's personal representative and there is one in each county. They are appointed by His Majesty and the post is non-political and unpaid.**

The Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham Mrs Sue Snowden, and Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire Mrs Jo Ropner represent The King in Stockton-on-Tees.

Stockton-on-Tees is special as it can claim to have two Lord-Lieutenants due to the River Tees running through the centre of the town. The Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham, Mrs Sue Snowden, to the north of the Tees and the Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire Mrs Jo Ropner to the south of the Tees.

The responsibilities of the Lord-Lieutenant include:

- Arranging visits by members of the Royal Family and escorting visitors
- Presenting medals and awards on behalf of the Sovereign, and advising on Honours nominations

- Participating in civic, voluntary and social activities within the Lieutenancy
- Acting as liaison with local units of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Army, Royal Air Force and their associated cadet forces
- Leading the local magistracy as chairman of the Advisory Committee on Justices of the Peace

Part of their role is to encourage nominations to the Kings Award for Voluntary Service. The award celebrates the outstanding work of local volunteer groups across the UK. Last year, Lord-Lieutenant Sue Snowden presented local charity Sprouts with a Kings Award for their commitment to the voluntary service.

The award is the equivalent of an MBE, and recognise groups that are truly outstanding and making a big difference to their local community.

Nominations for 2025 will be open from 1 September to 1 December 2024. Visit [kavs.dcms.gov.uk](http://kavs.dcms.gov.uk) for information on how to make a nomination.



# Healthy Streets








If you live in Newtown or Hardwick, we want your views on improving opportunities for people to walk and cycle in safe and attractive environments.

Children from local schools have already got involved in the 'Healthy Streets' consultation, with sessions to explore what children value in their streets and spaces, as well as discussions about what streets should include.

To have your say, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/healthy-streets-consultation](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/healthy-streets-consultation)

## Stay safe this summer

### Hot weather tips:

-  Avoid the sun between 11am and 3pm
-  Cover up to avoid sunburn
-  Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes
-  Use at least factor 30 sunscreen and reapply every two hours and after swimming
-  Take extra care with children
-  Drink plenty of water
-  If someone is showing signs of confusion, breathlessness, intense thirst or cramps that worsen and don't go away, call the NHS on 111.

### Sexual health support

Sexual Health Teesside offers free, confidential sexual health services for all Stockton-on-Tees Borough residents. It's easy to get advice, tests and contraception, with telephone appointments, home tests, online ordering, and face to face appointments available.

The sexual health hub at Lawson Street in Stockton has contraception, including emergency, hormonal, and long-acting contraception, such as coils or implants. Plus, there's free testing and treatment available for sexually transmitted infections like chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV.

Young people can also get free emergency hormonal contraception (the morning after pill) from their GP, or a local pharmacy. Everyone aged 16-24 can order free condoms online or join the free 'C-Card' scheme available at local pharmacies.

Contact the Sexual Health Service on **0300 3301122** from Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

Order home tests or contraception at [www.thesexualhealthhub.co.uk/services-near-you/teesside/](http://www.thesexualhealthhub.co.uk/services-near-you/teesside/)

Visit [www.nhs.uk/live-well](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well)

## Building a healthier future together

Partnership and community working have been highlighted in this year's Director of Public Health Report as ways of tackling the health inequalities experienced by people in the Borough.

The 2023-2024 report describes the actions being taken to address challenges facing the Borough because of the cost-of-living crisis, the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the financial pressure on local authorities.

Whilst tackling poverty and deprivation remains important, the report acknowledges that action must go beyond this to address the many factors leading to inequality.

Sarah Bowman-Abouna, Director of Public Health, said: "There is a real will and passion to address inequality across our local health and wellbeing system and to work in partnership together with communities, who sit at the heart of all we do.

"We now need to drive forward our collective activities to improve outcomes with, and for, local people."

Find the report at [www.stockton.gov.uk/public-health-and-wellbeing](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/public-health-and-wellbeing)



STOCKTON  
ON  
TEES



MAGIC.  
MOMENTS.  
MEMORIES.  
MADE HERE.

## Let's recycle more!

Did you know just how much you can recycle? From batteries to aluminium foil and even telephone directories, residents living across the Borough can recycle them all.

Here's a reminder of what you can recycle:

### Blue Box

- Glass bottles and jars (clear, green and brown)
- Batteries (within their own clear bag)

### Paper pocket

- Paper
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Catalogues
- Telephone directories

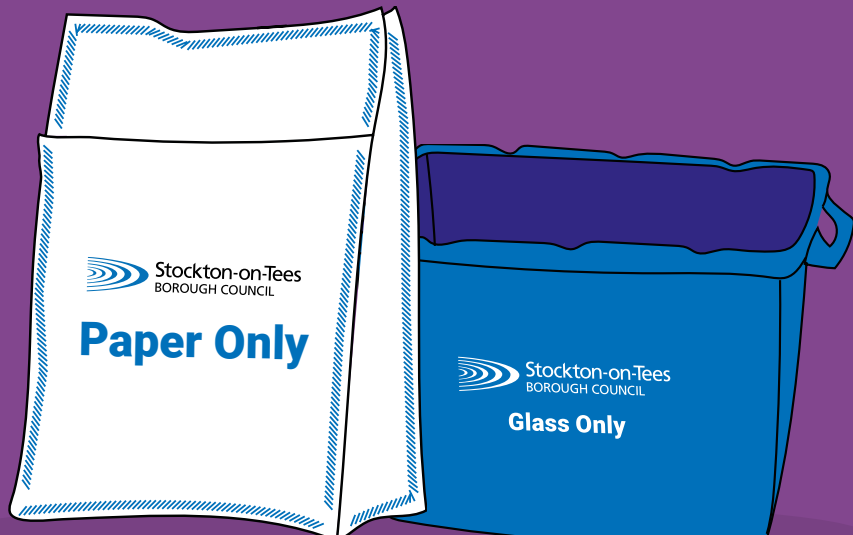
### White sack

- Plastic bottles
- Yoghurt pots and butter tubs
- Plant pots
- Greetings cards
- Cardboard
- Aluminium/steel tins and cans
- Aluminium foil
- Aerosols (fully extinguished)

Remember to make sure your items are clean before recycling. Garden waste will also be collected on the same day as your recycling.

Soft plastics such as crisp packets, bread bags, cling film and carrier bags can be recycled at libraries across the borough including Stockton Central, Billingham Central, Thornaby Central, Norton and Ingleby Barwick.

For more information on what you can recycle and to find out your waste and recycling days, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/what-can-i-recycle](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/what-can-i-recycle)



## LAUNCH SHOW

### MÉCANIQUE VIVANTE

THE SIRENS' SONG

Friday 2 August, 9.15pm

📍 Town Hall and Fountain Area

Our official festival launch comes from Mécanique Vivante, who are returning to the UK for the first time in 35 years to wow audiences with their musical inventions and dream machines.

The world's only Siren orchestra will rumble round, drawing the audience like a modern-day Pied Piper, before being joined for the finale by virtuoso soloists and performers for an unforgettable show.



### OSADÍA

WHOSE HAIR DARES!

Friday 2 August, 1.45pm and 5.45pm

📍 High Street

You can also enjoy this show on Saturday 3 August.

OSADÍA return for the 30th anniversary of their first SIRF performance of WHOSE HAIR DARES!

The sculptural quality of hairdressing becomes theatre in the barbers chairs of OSADÍA as they create original and provocative exhibitions of sophisticated make-up and hair art, set to fantastic music mixes.



### DIZZY O'DARE

FALCONRY DISMAY

Friday 2 August, 2pm and 4.15pm

📍 Parish Gardens

You can also enjoy this show on Saturday 3 August at 2.15pm and 4.30pm.

Dizzy O'Dare ruffles feathers with Falconry Dismay, an anarchic and wild flight into the world of falconry shows. You will belly laugh through this raucous ride. Great fun for all the family!



## FIRMA KODDE PRODUCTIONS

### ROAR RACE

Saturday 3 August, 1.45pm and 4.45pm  
 📍 High Street – North Bus Loop

You can also enjoy this show on Friday 2 August. There's a time in life when our children must learn a hard lesson – the louder you scream, the more you achieve. Discover tricycles that react to sound – when you scream, you speed up. Riders from three to eight-year-olds for a memorable and noisy race.



## NOFIT STATE

### BAMBOO

Saturday 3 August, 4.30pm and 7.15pm  
 📍 High Street

You can also enjoy this show on Friday 2 August at 4.30pm and 8.30pm. World-class artists build towering sculptures which morph, transform and become an improbable, delicate circus playground that seems to defy the laws of physics. A meaningful, joyful performance with live music, comedy and amazing feats of strength and agility.



## CIA. D'ES TRO (SPAIN)

### POI

Saturday 3 August, 1pm and 8.15pm  
 📍 Town Hall and Fountain Area

You can also enjoy this show on Sunday 4 August at 1pm and 3.45pm. A rural man has been trapped since childhood by the gyroscopic effect of his spinning top. A journey of twists and turns, which fuses circus arts with the popular game of the spinning top and the roots of Mediterranean culture in this classic street theatre show. Prepare to be enthralled with pure skill, showmanship and storytelling.



## COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

Sunday 4 August, 2pm  
 📍 Stockton High Street

The SIRF Community Carnival is back! Witness hundreds of participants, musicians and street performers dance and sing their way along the High Street in a flood of sound and colour. Artists, young people and community members have been working for months to create a 'Discoquarium', a disco party of underwater creatures, glitter bugs, disco balls – a feast for the eyes!

## FIDGET FEET (IRELAND) AND SOUND DE SECÀ (CATALONIA)

### BETWEEN REALMS

Sunday 4 August, 9.30pm  
 📍 High Street – North Car Park

Fidget Feet, Ireland's national company for aerial arts, are thrilled to be returning to SIRF with this fun filled and outrageous outdoor aerial spectacle. Working in collaboration with local voices, Catalonian company Sound de Secà, Drum Machine, and Lightfires, the show will be a cacophony of colour sound and celebration. Suitable for all the family!

To view the full SIRF 24 line-up, pick up a copy of the programme from Enjoy Stockton-on-Tees Visitor Information on Stockton High Street, any of our libraries, or visit [www.SIRF.co.uk](http://www.SIRF.co.uk)





## Visit the Maker Station

**It's time to get creative: the new and improved Maker Station at Stockton Central Library is now open!**

Thanks to funding from Arts Council England, the space has recently been refreshed to provide a fantastic environment enabling residents to get making and creating.

Brand new state-of-the-art equipment has been added, including digital sewing and embroidery machines, 3D printers, laser cutter and cricut smart printers.

There's a whole host of activities planned in the Maker Station for people of all abilities, young or old, kicking off with beginners sewing machine workshops, free for a limited time, with further workshops coming soon.

Visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/libraries) for details.



## Swimming in Books

**Making a splash in libraries and leisure centres across the Borough is a new programme designed to inspire reading at the earliest age. Families with children under five-years-old are encouraged to join the library and dive into a good book. The library is free to join and there's lots for little ones to enjoy.**

Working in partnership with Tees Active Leisure, Swimming in Books will feature themed library rhyme times, a series of special story and play sessions and an action-packed Swimming in Books Festival, which will take place at Stockton Central Library and Splash Leisure Centre on Saturday 14 September.

Children under 5 who are enrolled on Tees Active's Learn to Swim programme will be given extra encouragement to connect their love of water with a love of words by picking up a free book.

Find out more: [www.stockton.gov.uk/childrens-library](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/childrens-library)

Swimming in Books is funded by Tees Valley Community Foundation in partnership with Stockton-on-Tees Libraries, Tees Active and the National Literacy Trust in the North East.

# Summer Reading Challenge 2024

Delivered in partnership with libraries

**The Summer Reading Challenge returns with an exciting new theme - Marvellous Makers! Developed by The Reading Agency in partnership with the charity Create, this year's Challenge celebrates children's creativity and storytelling abilities.**

The annual challenge is free to join at any Stockton-on-Tees Library from Saturday 6 July. Children can discover new stories, collect stickers, and receive medals and stickers for reading this summer.

Take part in free creative activities over the summer holidays including LEGO build and code sessions (for 6-11 years and 11-14 years), 3D pen summer doodles and exciting craft activities. Plus join Dom Conlon, celebrated author of the Meet Matilda series, on a journey to the Moon.

Contact your local library for more details.



THE  
READING  
AGENCY

Celebrating  
creativity

CREATE!

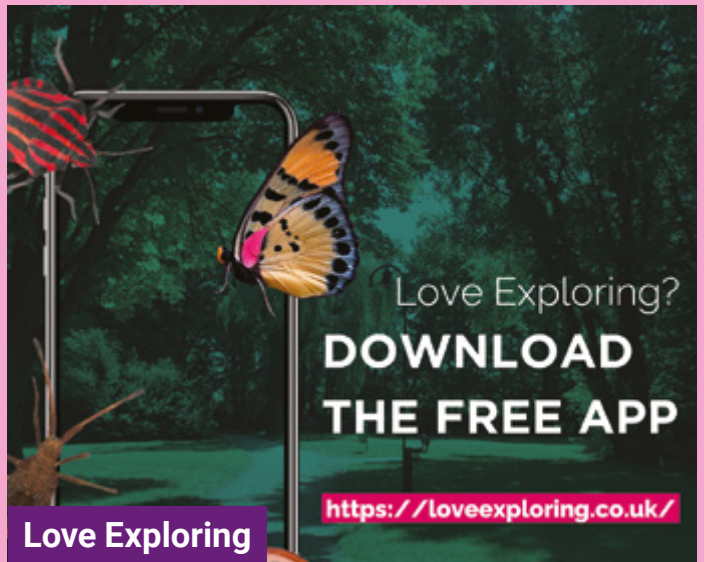


# Get active this summer!



**Aqua Paddle**

If you fancy paddling through the heart of Stockton-on-Tees, why not join in Aqua Paddle, a new FREE monthly water sports adventure on the River Tees. This exciting new event takes place monthly on Sundays at 10am. It's open to participants of all levels of ability, but you must register before coming along. Register online at [www.aquapaddle.org](http://www.aquapaddle.org). Spaces limited to 30 paddlers.



**Love Exploring**

Make sure you use the Love Exploring app to play augmented reality games, explore mapped virtual trails and take fun, engaging quizzes.

To play, download the Love Exploring app for free from the Apple store or Google Play store. Once downloaded, go to one of the participating locations, open the app and start exploring. Find out more at [www.stockton.gov.uk/love-exploring](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/love-exploring)



**ParkPlay**

Enjoy ParkPlay at 10am, every Saturday at John Whitehead Park, Victoria Recreational Ground and Ropner Park for two hours of free, informal games in the great outdoors - just look for the ParkPlay flag.



**Park Tennis**

Free Park Tennis gives more people the chance to play tennis – offering free, fun, social tennis sessions at Littleboy Park, Ropner Park and John Whitehead Park. All ages and abilities welcome. To book, visit [www.wdtvenues.co.uk/stockton-parks](http://www.wdtvenues.co.uk/stockton-parks)



## Preston Park Museum & Grounds

Residents of Stockton-on-Tees Borough can enjoy **25% off** entry to Preston Park Museum

A family ticket (2A+3C) costs just **£11.25** and is valid for unlimited visits for 12 months. Proof of address is required.



Delivered by



Scan me to find out more

# Our six towns

Concept designs for the redevelopment of Billingham

## A step forward for Billingham town centre

Proposals to purchase part of Billingham Town Centre as part of a continued commitment to invest in the town and bring about transformational change was considered by the Council's Cabinet last month.

The plans would see the purchase of West Precinct, including the former library site and Queensway South buildings and are part of an emerging masterplan for Billingham Town Centre, which include concept designs for the creation of a new residential area, new retail space and improvements to parking, public toilets, accessibility and public realm. This also includes the refurbishment of the former Council office, Wynyard House, which will ensure the authority retains a presence in the town centre.

The purchase and demolition of the town centre would be funded by £20million secured from the Government's Levelling Up Fund for the Stockton North constituency. The plans were drawn up following the 'Let's Talk About Our Towns' public consultation in 2020.

Demolition is expected to begin in early 2025.

## Transforming Thornaby

CGI showing the proposed new leisure facility



Exciting plans are underway to create a new modern leisure facility in Thornaby.

The Council has reached agreement to take control of the Golden Eagle hotel in Thornaby so that the building can be demolished to make way for the development of the site using funding from the Thornaby Town Deal. This follows the Council taking control of the vacant Phoenix House site in January 2022 and demolishing it last summer.

The site will be regenerated to create a modern, fit-for purpose, five-lane swimming pool and gym next to the Phoenix House site, linking to the Pavilion leisure centre. The new leisure

facility would include gym changing facilities on the first floor, as well as a new entrance, public realm improvements and enhanced parking.

A planning application for the building's demolition will be submitted in autumn, with demolition expected to begin before the end of the year. Construction on the new swimming pool is expected to begin next year, subject to planning approval.

NETA Training has also unveiled plans for the development of its purpose-built centre in Thornaby as part of the Town Deal.

The new campus, delivered in partnership with the Council, will enhance the delivery of quality engineering and construction training in the Borough for young people and adults.

Design is underway on the new building, which will be situated on the Stockton Riverside Collect site, with work expected to start late in the summer following planning approval.

Progress at Stockton Waterfront



## Work continues on Stockton Waterfront urban park construction

The construction of Stockton Waterfront urban park is continuing at pace. New images show the progress of the piling works to accommodate ground conditions, as well as work to the reinforced concrete wall structures on the western side of the new road alignment on Riverside Road.

Paving work is also being undertaken on Finkle Street, which will show the first visual signs of the urban park in place. The work to Finkle Street will complement the new Finkle Square in the urban park, which will be the main arrival point from the centre of the High Street.

Its location will combine the urban park with existing streetscape on Finkle Street and will include a more intimate setting. The square will include, seating, heritage interpretation and further space and services for hosting events.

Find out more about the progress of Stockton Waterfront at [www.stockton.gov.uk/stockton/urban-park](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/stockton/urban-park)



Stockton Town Hall

## Stockton Town Hall

Maintenance and repair work to the Stockton Town Hall, roofs, clock tower and windows were completed in May.

During the conservation work, structural timber and masonry repair works have been made to the clock tower, while leadwork to the clock tower roofs and the spire have also been replaced as part of the repair works.

Sections of roof tiles have been replaced, and lightning protection has been installed. The final steps also included the refurbishment of a number of the town hall windows and the reassembly of the iconic clock mechanism.

## Norton High Street works progressing

Improvements under way on Norton High Street



Improvements to Norton High Street are continuing, with the first phase of paving works open to the public and businesses and the second phase of paving underway.

The plans include the creation of a northbound one-way system at the southern section of the High Street, which is now in place. Improvements to extend the pedestrianised areas and additional car or taxi spaces are ongoing.

The second phase of paving work is underway, which includes highway and footpath works between Harland Place and Holly Street towards the Red Lion.

Find out more about the scheme and the phases of work visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/norton/high-street](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/norton/high-street)



CGI of the new exhibition space at Preston Park Museum

Work continues at Preston Park Museum



## Exciting next steps for transforming Preston Park Museum & Grounds

The construction of the new extension to Preston Park Museum is continuing. The two-storey building's steelwork frame and flooring is in place and work to create over 100 additional parking spaces is also underway.

Meanwhile, plans for improved café and toilets have been approved, as part of efforts to upgrade facilities for visitors to this much-loved destination. This includes refurbishment of the park café, with a new, covered outdoor seating area, facing onto the children's play area. A new building, connected to the café, will house new toilets including accessible 'Changing Places' facilities.

Work is expected to start on the café and toilets improvement later this month.

Keep up to date with how the Council is transforming Preston Park Museum & Grounds at [www.prestonparkmuseum.co.uk/new-development](http://www.prestonparkmuseum.co.uk/new-development)

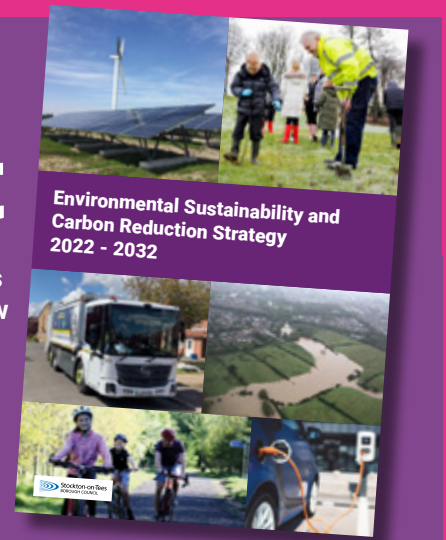
# Protecting our natural environment

In the each edition of Stockton-on-Tees News we update 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 how we're encouraging biodiversity in our grassed areas; a brand-new event dedicated to tackling climate change; and how the young people in the Borough are showing the way...



Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy 2022 - 2032



## No Mow Summer

Nineteen areas of grassland throughout the Borough will not be cut this summer to see what natural wildflowers grow there and how this benefits wildlife and biodiversity.

Throughout the spring and summer, the natural wildflowers and pollinating insects visiting the sites will be surveyed. The margins of the areas will continue to be cut and the no mow areas will all be cut at the end of the summer.

If you're out and about at one of our 'No Mow' sites and see some wildflowers or wildlife, we'd love to see a picture. Tag us in your photos using #ourbeautifulborough #NoMowSummer on social media.

To find out more, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/no-mow-summer](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/no-mow-summer)



## Stockton-on-Tees Environment Fair

The first Stockton-on-Tees Environment Fair took place last month on Stockton High Street.

The special fair was part of national 'Great Big Green Week', which celebrates community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. Anyone who came could speak to local organisations, take part in activities, find out about local volunteering opportunities and see how they can support the Borough with its aim to reach net zero by 2050.



## Northfield School – environment champions!

Northfield school are doing some fantastic activities to promote sustainability. These environmentally friendly initiatives include creating a sensory garden for visually impaired pupils and a wellbeing and allotment garden, planting 1,000 tree whips and 20 mature trees across the school site, and not using single-use plastics within the school, as well as only using recyclable bottles and bamboo cutlery in the café areas.



The Stockton Employment and Training Hub team

## Stockton-on-Tees Employment and Training Hub celebrates 1,000 people into work

Since opening at Wellington Square in 2022, the Stockton-on-Tees Employment and Training Hub has helped more than 1,000 people find employment.

The Hub has had thousands sign up and visit events to help find their dream career in sectors including health and social care, construction and manufacturing, and logistics and transport.

Primark are the most recent organisation to work with the Employment Hub. They worked together to recruit more than 150 staff for the newly opened Teesside Park store.

With links to large employers like Amazon, Practice Plus Group and Ninja Warrior UK, and a range of facilities available, the Hub is here to help with everything employment-related Monday to Friday, from 10am to 4pm. You don't need an appointment to visit, just drop in or contact the Hub on 01642 528392, email [hub@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:hub@stockton.gov.uk) or visit [stocktonemploymenttraininghub.co.uk](http://stocktonemploymenttraininghub.co.uk)

## Learning that lasts

### Stockton Learning and Skills Service offers a wide range of courses to help you improve your skills, find a new interest, or even career.

Local learner, Roseanna Turton, has taken various art courses with the Learning and Skills Service over the years.

She said: "I'm very grateful to Stockton's Learning and Skills team for giving me the confidence to explore various styles of art. The tuition and resources are great and all the staff in the whole building are very warm and welcoming. The skills I have learned have enabled me to gain employment and it's the best job I've ever had!"

With the new autumn/winter prospectus available from August, find the full range of courses and start your learning journey at [www.slss.ac.uk](http://www.slss.ac.uk)



Local learner Roseanna Turton



## A once in a generation opportunity for the Tees Valley

**Ambitious proposals to develop a Care and Health Innovation Zone in Stockton-on-Tees are ready to transform central Stockton and North Thornaby into a nationally significant cluster of social care and health provision.**

The vision outlines how Teesdale Business Park and the nearby Tees Marshalling Yards will be home to social care and health services, sector-specific businesses, research, teaching and learning facilities, and housing to meet local needs.

A partnership board with representatives from Teesside University, Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust, North Tees NHS Trust, the Education Training Collective (Stockton Riverside College) and the Tees Valley Combined Authority has been set up to drive the project forward.

This will be a once in a generation opportunity which could deliver a nationally significant zone bringing a host of benefits to the Borough and the whole of the Tees Valley. The zone will help to reduce health inequalities within the Tees Valley, with the site pioneering modern health provision to better meet residents' needs.

## A new base for pizza peddling success story

**After working a corporate office job for 15 years, James, founder of Flaming Dough and Crust, took the plunge to change his hobby into a business and has never looked back.**

Flaming Dough is a mobile wood-fired pizza van stationed at regular spots in Billingham and Wynyard three nights a week as well as catering for events including weddings and corporate events.

"I started Flaming Dough as a hobby alongside my day job back in February 2022" James said. "It was all very quick: I mentioned the idea to my wife one evening, and then the next day I collected a 1960's horse trailer.

"Three months later it was converted into a mobile catering unit, and we started selling pizzas on an evening alongside my day job."

James' passion for good food has led to a loyal following.

"Seeing the same faces come back week after week made me realise how much more I enjoyed creating food that people love."

The success of Flaming Dough has allowed James to expand the business to a permanent location on Norton High Street: Crust.

"After 2 years of operating Flaming Dough as a hobby the perfect unit became available in Norton and Crust was born, leading to me making the decision to leave my corporate job.



James, owner of Flaming Dough and Crust in Norton

"I love Norton village. I've grown up here and always loved the idea of opening a place in my community. It's a great place to live, the people are superb, and we've experienced huge support from the people of Stockton-on-Tees."

Flaming Dough offers hand-stretched wood-fired pizzas and can be found in Wynyard on a Wednesday evening, and Billingham Ecology Park every Thursday and Friday evening.

Crust is a small deli offering breakfast and lunch options, including their famous pizza sandwich, open seven days a week from 8:30am – 3pm (9am on weekends). You can find them on social media @flamingdough or @crustnorton.

If you're interested in setting up your own business or want to expand an existing one, visit [www.investstocktonontees.co.uk](http://www.investstocktonontees.co.uk) to see why it's a great place to live, work and play.

# Day in the

**Juliet Hardy,**  
Creative  
Programmes  
Manager and SIRF  
Artistic Director

# LIFE

Juliet Hardy is the Creative Programmes Manager and Artistic Director of SIRF working in the Council's events team. Juliet has worked at the council for seven years.

It's a busy time of year for Juliet as Artistic Director for SIRF, which takes place in the heart of Stockton Town Centre the first weekend in August.

She said "My day involves so many different things and a lot of talking! I may have a strategic planning meeting with national and international partners in the morning, then be onsite looking at spaces with artists in the afternoon. And I spend time onsite looking at spaces with artists with complex shows so we can check what will work best – often biking around the town to map out a walking show, speaking to businesses and measuring spaces. Everything is planned thoroughly, from tricky travel logistics, road closures, sound, lighting, event site infrastructure to marketing and reaching audiences.

"A big part of my job is finding the very best artistic work and build the festival like a big jigsaw. To help me, each year I have a theme to thread all the shows together – 2024 is 'Joy!' It is important to have shows that allow people to be transported to different places, be invited to play and daydream and most importantly belly laugh!

"SIRF is a real team effort. Everyone loves working towards delivering the best SIRF we can for residents and visitors.

"I have grown up in Stockton and I feel a huge sense of pride and responsibility to ensure we create exceptional and extraordinary experiences."

Coming to SIRF? Go to page 14 to look at some of the highlights of this year's festival.



Juliet Hardy with Kayleigh Dawson, Senior Event Support Officer



Juliet and her team at SIRF Green



# Election Results

On Thursday 2 May 2024 two elections were held: the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Cleveland area, and the Tees Valley Combined Authority Mayoral Election.

Matt Storey, Labour and Co-Operative Party, was elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for the Cleveland Area election.

Ben Houchen, The Conservative Party Candidate, was elected as Mayor of the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

A General Election was held on 4 July 2024, however this magazine was printed before the results were declared. You can find the results of the general election by visiting [www.stockton.gov.uk/july-2024-election](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/july-2024-election).



**Matt Storey**

Police and Crime Commissioner for the Cleveland Police area



**Ben Houchen**

Mayor of the Tees Valley Combined Authority

## Drive to improve private rental standards takes a step forward

**Under the proposals, all private landlords operating in Central Stockton, Newtown and Thornaby will be required to obtain a licence from the Council.**

The licence will be valid for up to five years and is set to contain a series of conditions that the licence holder will be required to comply with. Some of the conditions include gas, electrical and fire safety, property and tenancy management and tackling anti-social behaviour.

This follows on from the findings of a detailed consultation, which ran from November 2023 until January 2024 and found that across the three areas, 62 per cent of all residents who responded were in favour of the proposals.

Selective Licensing is proposed in Central Stockton and North Thornaby on the basis this area is or is likely to become an area of low housing demand. In Newtown the area has been brought forward due to high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, with all three areas having a high proportion of privately rented properties.'

The official start date for the Selective Licensing scheme will be confirmed this summer.

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[northeastjobs.org.uk](http://northeastjobs.org.uk)







## Meet your new Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees

Councillor John Gardner is the new Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees. He was officially installed in April, replacing Councillor Jim Beall at the end of his mayoral year.

Born in the Borough, Councillor Gardner lived in Fairfield and attended Fairfield Junior School and Grangefield Grammar School for Boys.

Councillor Gardner had a successful career in the motor industry, initially working for Charlie Brown's Autocentres as an Operations Manager before leaving to join Ford Motor Company, where he was a Business Manager for more than 25 years. He is now retired.

He has represented the Northern Parishes Ward since 2007.

In his Mayoral year, Councillor Gardner's wife Paula will be the Mayoress. Mrs Gardner is a retired pharmacist and worked for the NHS throughout her career before becoming an inspector,

ensuring that standards in pharmacies across Stockton-on-Tees and the Tees Valley were upheld.

The couple have lived in Wynyard for 21 years and have a son, two daughters and five grandchildren which keep them busy!

Councillor Gardner said: "In my Mayoral year I want to focus on local issues and get out across Stockton-on-Tees to meet with people and really listen to their experiences, opinions and the issues they face. I'm looking forward to supporting local causes and charities, and as someone who has lived in the Borough all my life am honoured and proud to take up this role."

The chosen charities for the year are close to the Mayor's heart - Parkinson's UK and local charity, Leo's Neonatal. One of Councillor Gardner's grandchildren was born prematurely and benefitted from the support Leo's Neonatal provided to them as a family.

This year's Deputy Mayor is Councillor Stephen Richardson who represents the Fairfield Ward. The Deputy Mayoress is Sophie Craig.

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Jim Beall, raised £42,484 for his nominated charities, Eastern Raven's Trust and the North East Autism Society.

# 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 November 2024 in the following pages.

There is no need to wait for ward surgeries. Councillors can be contacted at any time with any ward concern you may have.

For more information visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/councillors](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/councillors)

## Billingham Central



**Councillor Ann McCoy**  
 ☎ 01642 535604  
 ✉ [ann.mccoy@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:ann.mccoy@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Barry Woodhouse**  
 ☎ 01642 371638  
 ✉ [barry.woodhouse@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:barry.woodhouse@stockton.gov.uk)

**No August surgery**  
**4 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm  
 Billingham Community Centre  
**2 October 2024** 6pm - 7pm  
 Billingham Community Centre  
**6 November 2024** 6pm - 7pm  
 Billingham Community Centre

## Billingham East



**Councillor Michelle Bendelow**  
 ☎ 07823372398  
 ✉ [michelle.bendelow@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.bendelow@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Mick Stoker**  
 ☎ 07917587620  
 ✉ [mick.stoker@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:mick.stoker@stockton.gov.uk)

**No August surgery**  
**13 September 2024** 4.30pm - 6pm  
 New Life Family Centre  
**11 October 2024** 4.30pm - 6pm  
 New Life Family Centre  
**8 November 2024** 4.30pm - 6pm  
 New Life Family Centre

## Billingham North



**Councillor Marc Besford**  
 ☎ 07818586592  
 ✉ [Marc.Besford@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:Marc.Besford@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Clare Gamble**  
 ☎ 07818584050  
 ✉ [clare.gamble@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:clare.gamble@stockton.gov.uk)

**No August surgery**  
**5 September 2024** 7pm - 8pm  
 High Grange Community Centre  
**3 October 2024** 7pm - 8pm  
 High Grange Community Centre  
**7 November 2024** 7pm - 8pm  
 High Grange Community Centre

## Billingham South



**Councillor Katie Weston**  
 ☎ 07963434815  
 ✉ [Katie.Weston@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:Katie.Weston@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Paul Weston**  
 ☎ 07717727692  
 ✉ [paul.weston@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:paul.weston@stockton.gov.uk)

**6 August 2024** 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
 Port Clarence Community Centre  
**3 September 2024** 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
 Billingham Town Football Club  
**1 October 2024** 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
 St Cuthberts Hall

## Billingham West & Wolviston



**Councillor David Reynard**  
 ☎ 07823513359  
 ✉ [david.reynard@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:david.reynard@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Marcus Vickers**  
 ☎ 07823514929  
 ✉ [marcus.vickers@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:marcus.vickers@stockton.gov.uk)



## Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree



**Councillor Hugo Stratton**  
 ☎ 07384797722  
 ✉ [hugo.stratton@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:hugo.stratton@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Emily Tate**  
 ☎ 07823444348  
 ✉ [emily.tate@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:emily.tate@stockton.gov.uk)

## Eaglescliffe East



**Councillor Stefan Houghton**  
 ☎ 07766361716  
 ✉ [stefan.houghton@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:stefan.houghton@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor James Taylor**  
 ☎ 07823794173  
 ✉ [jim.taylor@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:jim.taylor@stockton.gov.uk)

**7 August 2024** 8pm - 9pm  
 Preston & Eaglescliffe Social Club  
**3 September 2024** 4pm - 5pm  
 Sir Thomas Brown, Sunningdale Drive  
**2 October 2024** 8pm - 9pm  
 Preston & Eaglescliffe Social Club  
**5 November 2024** 4pm - 5pm  
 Parkmore Hotel

## Eaglescliffe West



**Councillor Diane Clarke**  
 ☎ 07823792726  
 ✉ [diane.clarke@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:diane.clarke@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Laura Tunney**  
 ☎ 07920750692  
 ✉ [laura.tunney@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:laura.tunney@stockton.gov.uk)

## Fairfield



**Councillor Alex Griffiths**  
 ☎ 07823511632  
 ✉ [alex.griffiths@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:alex.griffiths@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Stephen Richardson**  
 ☎ 07929354541  
 ✉ [stephen.richardson@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.richardson@stockton.gov.uk)



**Councillor Susan Scott**  
 ☎ 07818538695  
 ✉ [Susan.Scott@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Scott@stockton.gov.uk)

**No August surgery**  
**4 September 2024** 4pm - 4.30pm  
 Fairfield Library

## Fairfield Continued

**2 October 2024** 4pm - 4.30pm

Fairfield Library

**6 November 2024** 4pm - 4.30pm

Fairfield Library

## Grangefield



**Councillor Carol Clark**

☎ 01642 675688

✉ carol.clark@stockton.gov.uk

**No August surgery**

**5 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Grays Road Institute

**9 September 2024** 12pm - 1pm

St Pauls Church, Bishopston Road

**16 September 2024** 12pm - 1pm

St John's Church, Durham Road

**3 October 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Grays Road Institute

**14 October 2024** 12pm - 1pm

St Pauls Church, Bishopston Road

**21 October 2024** 12pm - 1pm

St John's Church, Durham Road

**7 November 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Grays Road Institute

## 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

**27 July 2024** 9.30am - 10.30am

Salters Lane Community Centre

**27 July 2024** 11am - 12pm

Hardwick in Partnership

**No August surgery**

**14 September 2024** 9.30am - 10.30am

Salters Lane Community Centre

**14 September 2024** 11am - 12pm

Hardwick in Partnership

**12 October 2024** 9.30am - 10.30am

Salters Lane Community Centre

**12 October 2024** 11am - 12pm

Hardwick in Partnership

**9 November 2024** 9.30am - 10.30am

Salters Lane Community Centre

**9 November 2024** 11am - 12am

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

**No August surgery**

**2 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Parkwood Hotel

**7 October 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Parkwood Hotel

**4 November 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Parkwood Hotel

## Ingleby Barwick North



**Councillor Ted Strike**

☎ 07818587455

✉ ted.strike@stockton.gov.uk

**No August surgery**

**10 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm

The Rings Community Hub

**8 October 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

**No August surgery**

**25 September 2024** 6.30pm - 7.30pm

The Rings Community Hub

**30 October 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

**No August surgery**

**3 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Activ8 IB Leisure Centre

**1 October 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Activ8 IB Leisure Centre

**5 November 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

**25 July 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Virtual Ward Surgery

**5 August 2024** 1pm

Victoria Park Community Hall

**2 September 2024** 1pm

Victoria Park Community Hall

**26 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm

Virtual Ward Surgery

**7 October 2024** 1pm

Victoria Park Community Hall

**4 November 2024** 1pm

Victoria Park Community Hall

## Newtown



**Councillor Marilyn Surtees**

☎ 07920750678

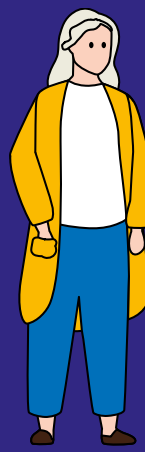
✉ m.surtees@stockton.gov.uk

**6 August 2024** 6pm

Newtown Resource Centre

**3 September 2024** 6pm

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

**No August surgery**  
**6 September 2024** 6pm  
 Norton Library  
**2 October 2024** 6pm  
 Norton Library  
**6 November 2024** 6pm  
 Norton Library

### Norton North



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



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

**1 August 2024** 10am - 12pm  
 The Glebe Community Centre  
**1 August 2024** 6pm  
 Moline Cross  
**5 September 2024** 10am - 12pm  
 The Glebe Community Centre  
**5 September 2024** 6pm  
 Moline Cross  
**3 October 2024** 10am - 12pm  
 The Glebe Community Centre  
**3 October 2024** 6pm  
 Moline Cross  
**7 November 2024** 10am - 12pm  
 The Glebe Community Centre  
**7 November 2024** 6pm  
 Moline Cross

### Norton South



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

### Norton South Continued



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

**No August surgery**  
**11 September 2024** 5pm - 6pm  
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road  
**25 September 2024** 5pm - 6pm  
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road  
**9 October 2024** 5pm - 6pm  
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road  
**23 October 2024** 5pm - 6pm  
 Albany Resource Centre, Surrey Road  
**6 November 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

**12 August 2024** 6pm - 7pm  
 Stockton Family Hub  
**9 September 2024** 6pm - 7pm  
 The Ivy Tree, Yarm Road  
**14 October 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

**13 August 2024** 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
 Ragworth Neighbourhood Centre  
**10 September 2024** 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
 Redhill Family Centre  
**8 October 2024** 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
 Redhill Family Centre

### 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

**30 July 2024** 5.15pm  
 Stockton Central Library  
**27 August 2024** 5.15pm  
 Stockton Central Library  
**24 September 2024** 5.15pm  
 Stockton Central Library  
**29 October 2024** 5.15pm  
 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



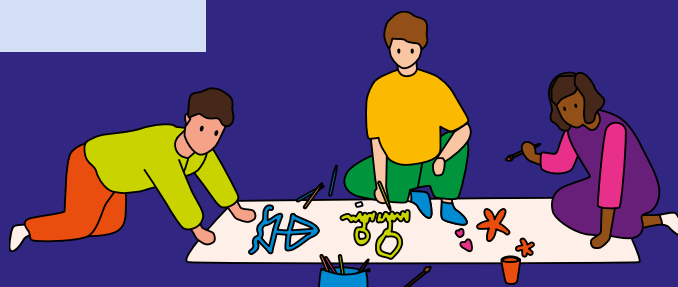
**Councillor Dan Fagan**  
 ☎ 07471022580  
 ✉ dan.fagan@stockton.gov.uk



**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 July 2024 until the next issue of Stockton-on-Tees News in November 2024.



This is just a selection of fantastic events to enjoy in the Borough. You can find out more at [www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on](http://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.

## JULY



### Stockton Globe - Venue Tour

📅 Thursday 18 July  
🕒 6pm  
📍 Stockton Globe

Come along for a unique insight into both front and back of house areas including the main auditorium, dressing rooms and even the opportunity to walk out onto the stage and soak up the view from the perspective of past performers such as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and more.

[www.stocktonglobe.co.uk](http://www.stocktonglobe.co.uk)



### Last Stop to Edinburgh Comedy Festival

📅 Friday 19 July  
🕒 7pm  
📍 The Georgian Theatre

Enjoy a top-notch indie comedy festival, bringing you household TV names, Fringe award winners, and rising stars of comedy - all pre-viewing their new one-hour long Edinburgh Fringe / tour shows.

[www.georgiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatre.co.uk)

### Milkshake Live – On Holiday

📅 Sunday 21 July  
🕒 12pm and 3.30pm  
📍 Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Yarm

Join your favourite 'Milkshake!' friends on Holiday with Dora, Pip and Posey, Blue from Blues Clues and 'You! Milo', 'Milkshake! Monkey' plus two of your Milkshake! presenters for an all-new adventure.

[www.thepaonline.org](http://www.thepaonline.org)



### Catch 22 with Paul Sinha, MC Danny McLoughlin and Halls of Ridiculous

📅 Friday 26 July  
🕒 8pm  
📍 ARC Stockton

A mix of familiar telly faces and the best comics up and down the land with the Catch 22 comedy club. Your special guest for this event is star of TV's 'The Chase' and stand-up comedian, Paul Sinha.

[www.arconline.co.uk](http://www.arconline.co.uk)



### Stockton Pop Up Pride

📅 Saturday 27 July  
🕒 From 11am  
📍 ARC Stockton, Stockton Globe and Wellington Square

A celebration of the Tees Valley's LGBTQIA+ community, with fun, free and low-cost activities for all ages!

[www.curiousarts.org.uk](http://www.curiousarts.org.uk)

# AUGUST



## Big Kid Circus

📅 Wednesday 7 - Sunday 11 August  
 📍 Trinity Green, Stockton

Big Kid Circus proudly boasts a truly diverse ensemble of performers hailing from every corner of the globe. Come along and enjoy a show full of entertainment.

[www.bigkidcircus.co.uk](http://www.bigkidcircus.co.uk)

## The Bar Stool Preachers

📅 Friday 30 August  
 🕒 7.30pm  
 📍 The Georgian Theatre, Stockton

The Bar Stool Preachers are a dynamic and groundbreaking band that is set to revolutionize the music scene with their unique blend of punk rock, ska, and reggae.

[www.georgiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatre.co.uk)



## An Audience with Viv Anderson and Stewart Downing

📅 Friday 30 August  
 🕒 7.45pm  
 📍 Forum Theatre, Billingham

A night not to be missed for all Boro fans. A live interview followed by Q&A with your host and former team mate Middlesbrough player Craig Hignett. Listen to all the great stories from one of Middlesbrough most successful periods in the club's History.

[www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk](http://www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk)

# SEPTEMBER



## Festival of Thrift

📅 Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September  
 📍 John Whitehead Park and Billingham town centre

ThriftFest returns to Billingham bringing a weekend celebration of sustainable living. Swap your clothes, eat in the open air, fix your bike or toaster, or even grab some ethical shopping.

[www.festivalofthrift.co.uk](http://www.festivalofthrift.co.uk)



## Ministry of Science

📅 Saturday 21 September  
 🕒 1.30pm  
 📍 Forum Theatre, Billingham

Join presenters as they dive deep into the world of science and look at how science shapes the modern world we live in with a few loud bangs along the way!

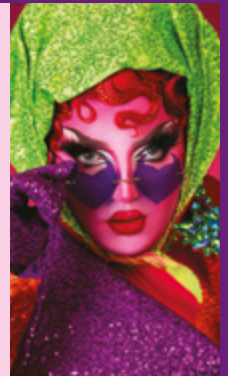
[www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk](http://www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk)

## The Choriza May Show

📅 Thursday 26 September  
 🕒 8pm  
 📍 ARC, Stockton

Fresh from their appearance on BBC Three's RuPaul's Drag Race UK VS The World, Choriza May hits the road with their first ever solo theatre show extravaganza!

[www.arconline.co.uk](http://www.arconline.co.uk)



## An Evening with Sir Geoff Hurst – The Farewell Tour

📅 Sunday 29 September  
 🕒 7.45pm  
 📍 Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Yarm

After last year's successful tour, Sir Geoff will talk amusingly about his illustrious West Ham and England career. Sir Geoff made his name with club side West Ham United, with whom he made 499 league and cup appearances, scoring 248 goals.

[www.thepaonline.org](http://www.thepaonline.org)

# OCTOBER

## Libraries Week

Monday 7 – Sunday 13 October  
All Stockton-on-Tees libraries

Join the library service for a fantastic week crammed with literary events including author readings, question, and answer sessions alongside exhibitions.

## Nine Below Zero + Dr. Feelgood - Maximum R&B Tour

Saturday 12 October  
7.30pm  
The Georgian Theatre, Stockton

Two of the finest UK Rhythm 'n' Blues bands on one incredible bill.

[www.georgiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatre.co.uk)



## WINNER - BEST NEW MUSICAL



## Heathers The Musical

Tuesday 15 - Saturday 19 October  
Stockton Globe

Following a smash hit in London's West End and two record-breaking national tours, Heathers the Musical is coming to Stockton. This high octane, black comedy, rock musical based on one of the greatest cult teen films of all-time that starred Winona Ryder and Christian Slater, is back with a bang.

[www.stocktonglobe.co.uk](http://www.stocktonglobe.co.uk)



## Peatbog Faeries: I See A World

Thursday 17 October  
8pm  
ARC, Stockton

For over three decades, the legendary Peatbog Faeries have electrified audiences worldwide with their exhilarating fusion of traditional Scottish folk and dancefloor grooves.

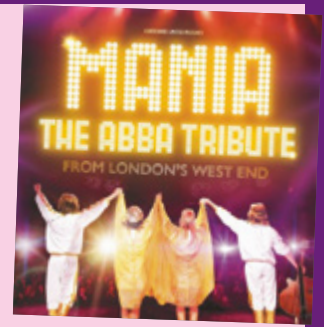
[www.arconline.co.uk](http://www.arconline.co.uk)

## Mania The Abba Tribute

Saturday 19 October  
7.30pm  
Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Yarm

Direct from London's West End, MANIA is accepted as the world's number one ABBA tribute show. A special concert which celebrates the music of ABBA in a respectful and enjoyable way.

[www.thepaaonline.org](http://www.thepaaonline.org)



## An Evening with Jeff Stelling

Thursday 24 October  
7.30pm  
Forum Theatre, Billingham

An exclusive evening of football nostalgia, fun and entertainment with Sky Sports legend Jeff Stelling, anchorman of Sky Sports Gillette Soccer Saturday for over 30 years.

[www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk](http://www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk)



## Shaun Ryder

Thursday 31 October  
7.30pm  
Forum Theatre, Billingham

He's the wild man of rock who became a national treasure. Happy Mondays and Black Grape frontman Shaun Ryder is hitting the road for a new, spoken word tour.

[www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk](http://www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk)



## For more events across the Borough visit:

ARC

[www.arconline.co.uk](http://www.arconline.co.uk)

01642 525199

Forum Theatre Billingham

[www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk](http://www.forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk)

01642 552663

The Georgian Theatre

[www.georgiantheatre.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatre.co.uk)

01642 674115

Stockton Globe

[www.stocktonglobe.co.uk](http://www.stocktonglobe.co.uk)

0843 904 0071

Visit Tees Valley

[www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on/](http://www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/visit/whats-on/)

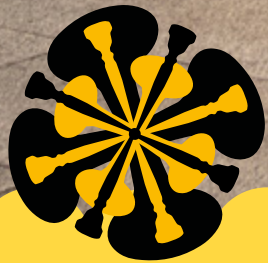
The Princess Alexandra Auditorium

[www.thepaaonline.org](http://www.thepaaonline.org)

[box-office@yarmschool.org](mailto:box-office@yarmschool.org)

For more information on all events, follow us on social media [f](https://www.facebook.com/stocktoncouncil) [x](https://www.x.com/stocktoncouncil) [i](https://www.instagram.com/stocktoncouncil) @stocktoncouncil

# THRIFT IS BACK IN BILLINGHAM



JOIN US FOR TWO DAYS OF  
VIBRANT PERFORMANCES,  
FOOD, MUSIC, FASHION,  
WORKSHOPS AND MORE!

# FESTIVAL OF THRIFT

21 & 22 SEPTEMBER



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

Supported by



Check out our  
website for more info  
[festivalofthrift.co.uk](http://festivalofthrift.co.uk)