

SUMMER 2025

my.northtyneside.gov.uk



NTCouncilTeam

OUR North Tyneside



North
Tyneside
Council

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0191 643 3737 | stopsmoking@northtyneside.gov.uk



North Tyneside
STOP Smoking Service



**North
Tyneside
Council**

A message from the Elected Mayor

As I write my first introduction as Elected Mayor, I would like to thank our residents, communities and businesses for the opportunity to lead our Council. I look forward to working for you and with you.

I have a clear set of priorities that I will deliver for our Borough. Together we will build a healthier, fairer Borough, where everyone has a better quality of life. We will create neighbourhoods which are clean, green and safe, and increase jobs, skills and work experience opportunities for all. I want to give young people the best start in life and deliver more affordable and social housing.

These priorities will be part of the new Council Plan, which you will all have the opportunity to shape and contribute towards. The first part of this will be in our Big Community Conversation, you can find out more on **page 15**.

We continue to celebrate the 800th birthday of North Shields with a bumper programme of events for the whole family, and our brilliant Mouth of the Tyne Festival celebrates 20 years of world class headliners and entertainment at the brilliant Tynemouth Priory. You can check out the bright history of the festival, and this year's offer, on **page 4**.

Summer can be a busy time for families and in North Tyneside there is plenty to get involved with, including our Holiday Activity Programme and all the events at our award-winning beaches, our libraries, parks and leisure centres (**p16 - 19**). There will be support for those who need it, including vouchers and school uniform support – please be assured, if you need help the Council and our voluntary and community sector will be here. There is more information on **page 6**.

You can find out the latest on our feasibility work for a new household

waste and recycling centre on **page 9** and there is a bumper two page spread about our brilliant Working Well Hubs, which have helped hundreds of residents find meaningful employment opportunities and new careers.

Whatever you have planned this summer I hope you have an enjoyable, safe and happy time.



Karen Clark

Elected Mayor of North Tyneside



Sign up to our monthly newsletter

Our North Tyneside Digital includes news, events and opportunities to have your say. Please sign up at **my.northtyneside.gov.uk/newsletter**. We will continue to deliver the printed magazine to every household three times a year.



20 years of the magical Mouth of the Tyne Festival

MOUTH OF THE TYNE *Festival* | 10-13 JULY 2025

A jam-packed line up of music, street theatre and more at the historic Tynemouth Priory and village. Headliners UB40, Ministry of Sound Classical, Elbow, Kenny Thomas and many more fantastic artists are part of a bumper line up.

This year is extra special as we celebrate 20 years of this much-loved festival.

The first festival took place in 2005 on both sides of the Tyne with spectacular parades, music and street entertainment. Since then, it has grown into a major event, adored by both locals and visitors, with Tynemouth becoming its long-standing home.

People now travel from far and wide to soak up the incredible atmosphere.

Over the years, the Mouth of Tyne Festival has grown in both size and stature, welcoming some of the biggest names in music. Its success is thanks to the brilliant cocktail of a stunning coastal backdrop and incredible acts that have taken to the stage.

In the past two decades, audiences have enjoyed performances by The Script, Rick Astley, Paul Weller, McFly, Paloma Faith, Keane, Bryan Ferry and, of course, North Shields' very own Sam Fender.

There have been plenty of unforgettable moments along the way: from blazing sunshine to torrential rain, to the knockout 2019 lineup (Sam Fender, Jack Savoretti, Rick Astley, The Proclaimers...) to the quieter years during the pandemic, and headline acts splitting up just weeks before the event – thankfully that just happened the once!

And it's not just the attendees that have fallen in love with this unique festival. After her sell-out performance in 2022, Sophie Ellis Bextor described Tynemouth as "quite possibly the most beautiful setting for a festival that ever there was. Sunshine, beach, gig, incredible crowd and oysters on the beach to celebrate afterwards".

Back in 2017, a certain Sam Fender, played a free BBC Introducing show at Tynemouth's Surf Café to a crowd of fewer than 100 people. Fast forward to 2024 and Rick Astley was tipping his hat to Sam with a cover of Seventeen Going Under at his Priory concert.



Through all the highs and occasional lows, the festival has remained a highlight of the summer calendar and



continues to create lasting memories
for families, friends and festivalgoers.



Celebrating North Shields past, present and future.

Thousands of people have been enjoying our spectacular summer highlight events from North Shields 800.

The celebrations continue, with lots more exciting projects still to come, including:

North Shields Murals Project

A series of public murals that capture the spirit of the town.

North Shields: 800 Years of Harmony

Music film documentary featuring musician Liam Fender.

North Tyneside Together

A free family festival – with live music, entertainment, stalls and children’s activities – that celebrates diversity and multiculturalism.

Old Low Light 1225 Exhibition

Exploring the history of North Shields at the Old Low Light Heritage Centre.

Harvest from the Deep

Documentary photography exhibition about the North Shields fishing industry.

North Shields by Rail

New history exhibition at Stephenson Steam Railway.

Harbutt’s Plasticine

Celebrating the North Shields-born inventor of Plasticine, led by Globe Gallery with artist Kitty McKay.

North Shields Textile Map

Community arts project with artist Gaynor Devaney.



Find out more:
www.northshields800.com



North Tyneside Together

Summer support for young people and families

We're using nearly £3 million in Government funding – through the Household Support Fund – to help our residents and families who need it most.

This vital support will run until March next year and is designed to give residents the right support at the right time.

We'll be supporting families with the return of popular schemes including:

- Supporting families eligible for free school meal vouchers during the school holidays
- School uniform and winter coat grants through schools

Our full plans for the year ahead will be shared online soon including who is eligible and how to apply.



Holiday Activity Fund (HAF)

From surfing and swimming to cooking and soft play, our free summer programme is packed with fun and learning. Over 7,000 young people eligible for free school meals will be able to take part in a wide range of activities – while enjoying free meals too.

Our 'ease INTO' programme, part of the Department for Education's HAF initiative, goes even further in North Tyneside. We partner with fantastic local and national organisations to reach more families and provide an even richer experience.

This funding is ring-fenced to secure spaces for children on income-based free school meals on the various activities available, but we make sure a small number of free spaces are available on activities for those not eligible.

For further information email
easeinto@northtyneside.gov.uk



Family Hubs – Free fun for families

Every summer, hundreds of families join in the free, fun activities at our Family Hubs. It's all about spending time together and building skills for school, work, and life.

This summer, you can take part in activities at our hubs in:

- Howdon Family Hub, Howdon Lane NE28 0AL
- Riverside Family Hub, Minton Lane, North Shields NE29 6DQ
- Shiremoor Family Hub, Bridge Terrace NE27 0TA

Let's make this a summer filled with opportunity and support.

Summer Reading Challenge

This year's Summer Reading Challenge is already underway. Head to page 19 to find out more and sign up.



northeast-ca.gov.uk/bus

Between 19 July and 31 August 2025

kids go free!

Up to three kids aged 11 and under travel free when accompanied by an adult with a valid ticket.*

B BUSES

find out more

North Tyneside's beaches scoop top awards for 2025

North Tyneside's award-winning beaches have once again earned top honours.

King Edward's Bay, Tynemouth Longsands, and Whitley Bay have retained their Blue Flag and Seaside Awards for another year.

The iconic flags, recognised worldwide, are awarded annually by Keep Britain Tidy to beaches that meet the highest standards of cleanliness, safety, water quality, and environmental care.

This year's success keeps North Tyneside's beaches firmly among the UK's finest, offering not just golden sands and sweeping sea views, but a first-class experience for residents and visitors.

Councillor Hannah Johnson, Cabinet Member for the Environment,

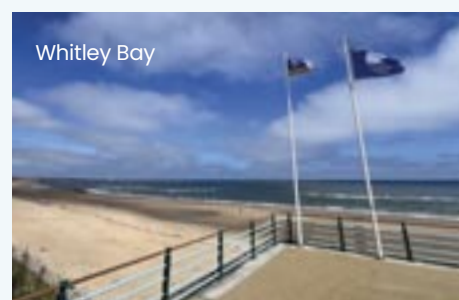
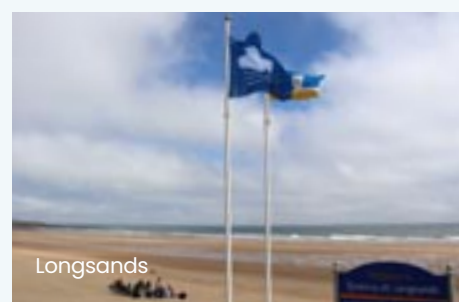
said: "These awards are a real testament to the hard work of our teams, volunteers, and coastal communities who keep the seafront clean, safe, and welcoming year-round. It's just the news we wanted as we head into another busy summer."

As the warmer weather returns, a dedicated team will be on duty daily, focusing on emptying bins and clearing litter during busy periods. Beach wardens will patrol the shore, and cleansing crews will work extended hours on the busiest days to keep the seafront spotless.

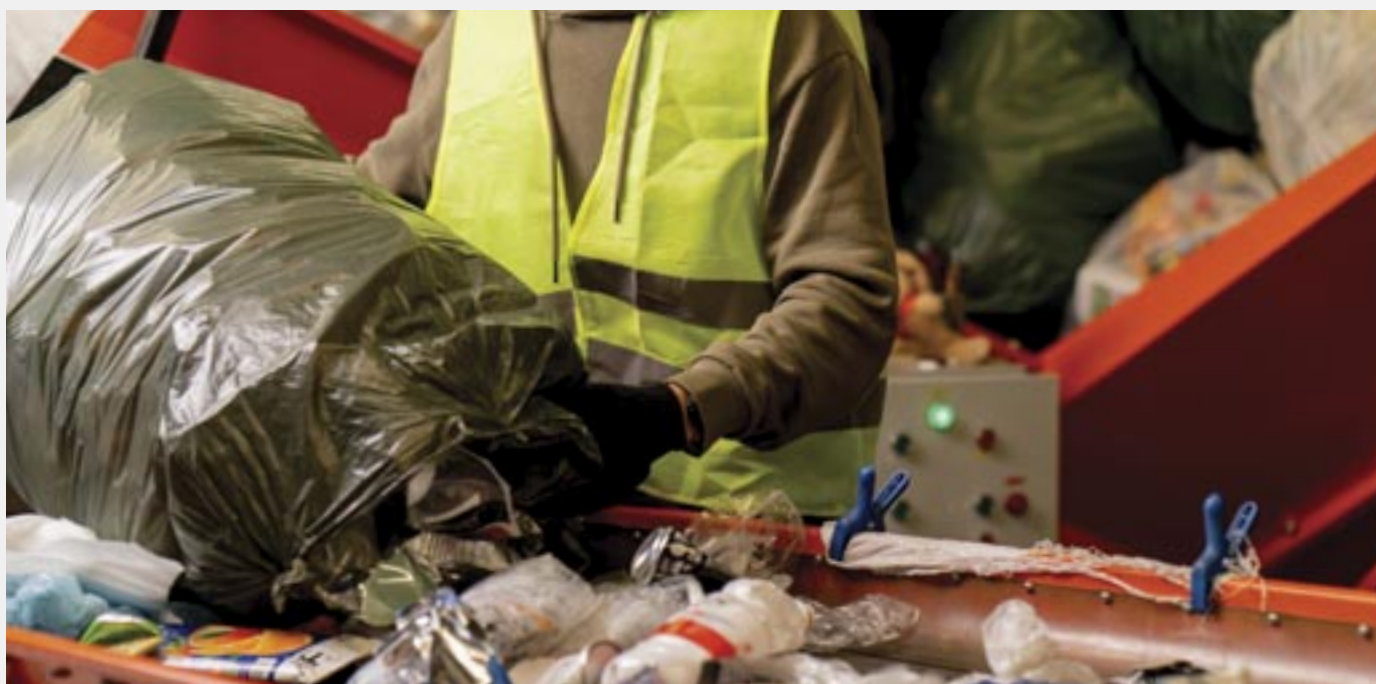
We encourage visitors to do their part by using the bins provided or taking rubbish home if bins are full.

We work closely with the RNLI, Northumbria Police, local businesses, and residents to respond quickly to any issues and keep the coast safe and enjoyable.

Seasonal dog restrictions remain until September, but dog walkers can still enjoy Whitley Bay North, Longsands North, and Fish Quay Sands with their four-legged friends. It's all part of our ongoing effort to maintain a clean, green, and safe Borough.



Feasibility study launched to explore new recycling site in the north west of the Borough



People living in the north west of the Borough have asked us whether it's possible to have better access to recycling and waste services.

In response to this, we are carrying out a feasibility study to explore the possibility of creating a second Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) on a brownfield or industrial site in the area.

The study will look at how and where a new site could be established, with land owned by the council being prioritised first.

Any new facility would be open to all residents and work alongside our existing HWRC in North Shields, helping people reuse and recycle more and throw away less — in line with our environmental goals and recent initiatives.

The work follows a pledge by newly elected Mayor Karen Clark to explore options for a new centre.

The study comes as the council continues to expand its recycling offer — from pop-up events at the North Shields site and reuse shops, to doorstep collections for small electricals and plans to introduce new recycling bins at key locations.

The study is expected to be complete by autumn.

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

You can now donate many household items at the tip in North Shields, and we'll make sure they're reused around North Tyneside. For more information, please see page 24.

Former church to make way for affordable homes

The site of a former catholic church and school in Benton is set to make way for 36 new affordable homes.

We have earmarked the vacant land west of Benton Lane for new social housing, following the completion of demolition and remedial works in March 2025.

The former church has been vacant for several years, with the site becoming a target for anti-social behaviour and vandalism. To address local concerns, we stepped in to purchase the property with support from the North East Combined Authority's Brownfield Housing Grant.

Pending planning approval, the development will be made up of 16 two-bedroom houses,

six three-bedroom houses, four two-bedroom apartments, as well as four one-bedroom accessible apartments, and six two-bedroom accessible bungalows.

All of the homes will be let at social rents and built utilising green technologies without gas.

Once completed, the new homes will be made available for social rent at affordable prices through North Tyneside's Homefinder.

Following the site's previous owner having difficulties maintaining and finding a renewed purpose for the site, we stepped in to purchase and earmark the site for eight new affordable homes that will be rented out as social housing for those on our housing register.



Two schemes progressing in Wallsend

Our commitment to creating affordable housing continues to go from strength to strength as two sites progress in Wallsend.

The former Rosehill Social Club and out-of-use office block Parkside House are being transformed into much-needed affordable housing. Each will see the creation of eight new homes for residents on the housing register.

Both sites had stood empty for years, attracting antisocial behaviour and vandalism. Now, through our Affordable Homes Programme and funding from the North East Combined Authority's Brownfield Housing Fund, the first foundations are in the ground as we work to give the sites a new lease of life.

These projects form part of our wider ambition to deliver 5,000 affordable homes across the Borough. Over 2,300 have already been completed, with more on the way.

The redevelopment of the sites to provide high-quality housing for residents is also part of our Ambition for Wallsend.

'No access' visits

Each week, our Housing and Property Services team experiences around 236 missed appointments – also known as 'no access' visits. This is when one of our housing officers attends a home, but isn't able to get into the property to carry out a repair or important check.

These visits have a knock-on effect for other residents who are waiting for repairs and these missed visits cost us around £277,000 per year in officer time and expenses.

What could we get for £277k?



Replace over **100** central heating boilers with high efficiency condensing boilers or fit solar PV systems in **55** homes



Employ **five** new tradespeople



Install new kitchens in **40** homes

Our visits are always aimed at ensuring your homes are safe and secure. All our team carry ID cards. Please ask to see the identification of the person who visits before you let them into your home and never let anyone into your home who cannot prove who they are.

New Unified housing system

We are preparing for our new online housing system, 'Unified', to go live later this year. After the launch, housing services will be available for tenants to access through the new portal (we will continue to offer phone and non-digital contact options).

Housing Online will make it simpler for tenants to:

- Manage your tenancy from home
- Get faster responses to your queries
- Track the status of your requests
- Stay informed with important updates

We held a focus group with tenants to get their thoughts on the final design and how we can encourage tenants to use it. Look out for more details later this year.



Taking care of our outdoor spaces

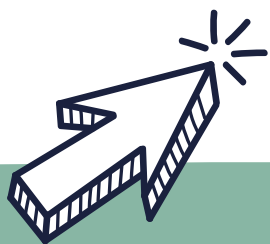
Keeping gardens tidy helps our streets look their best and is a requirement of the tenancy agreement. If you're a council tenant and you need a hand, help is available:

Please see page 23 for how to get involved

- **Hire garden equipment** including mowers, strimmers and tools. Call 0191 643 7515 or email neighbourhooddelivery@northtyneside.gov.uk
- Our **Garden Care Scheme** provides free grass and hedge cutting for eligible tenants who are unable to do this themselves
- Tenants can ask for help with **bulky waste collections** – call 0345 2000 103

Please do not burn garden waste. If you don't have a brown bin or composter for garden waste, bring it to the Household Waste Recycling Centre or put it in your general waste bin.





Connecting local people with local jobs

Working Well North Tyneside is helping to connect local people with local opportunities, offering a one-stop-shop for employment, health and skills support, right in the heart of the community.

With welcoming hubs based in both Wallsend and North Shields, the service provides tailored support to anyone looking to improve their job prospects – whether they've recently been made unemployed, are returning to work after a break, or are looking for their very first job.

The hubs are open to all, regardless of background or circumstance. They offer wraparound support that goes beyond job searching. Helping people address financial worries, housing issues, or physical and mental health concerns, the service seeks to address barriers to employment. Customers can access expert guidance on a range of topics, including digital support, CV writing, interview coaching and direct links to local employers.

Support at the hubs is completely confidential and tailored to each individual's needs. Advisers offer one-to-one sessions alongside workshops and practical help, giving residents the confidence and tools they need to secure good and sustainable work.

To date, the service has supported more than 20,000 people. James, a recent visitor to the North Shields hub, is just one example of the difference the support can make.





James' story: Bouncing back after redundancy

After working in a cleaning job for several years, James suddenly found himself facing redundancy. It was a difficult and unexpected setback that left him uncertain

about what to do next. Keen to get back into work but unsure where to start, James turned to the Working Well hub in North Shields, a place he'd often walked past and had heard about through the local Jobcentre.

James was quickly matched with Anthony, an Employment and Housing Adviser. Anthony supported James through one-to-one, personalised support that focussed on not only getting him back into work, but also on boosting his confidence.

Over a number of weekly sessions, Anthony worked closely with James to help him find work. Together they updated his CV, improved his IT skills, completed online job searches and made sure he had everything in place to apply for roles – including fast-tracking a DBS check. Anthony offered hands on and responsive support to what James needed most.

Thanks to the help of Anthony and the team at Working Well, within just a few days of applying for roles, James was offered a full-time cleaning role with BIC Plc!

James later returned to the hub to thank the team for their support. He shared that, without the administrative support and encouragement he received, he would have found it difficult to manage applications, ID checks and the paperwork needed to get back into work. He was grateful that the experience made him feel capable and confident again.

Now settled into his new role, James is feeling positive about the future showing how the right support at the right time can make all the difference!

For more information on the Working Well North Tyneside service and how we can support you, email employability.skills@northtyneside.gov.uk

It's never too late to start learning

In North Tyneside, we encourage everyone to grow and thrive, and our specialist adult courses are designed to support you to do just that.

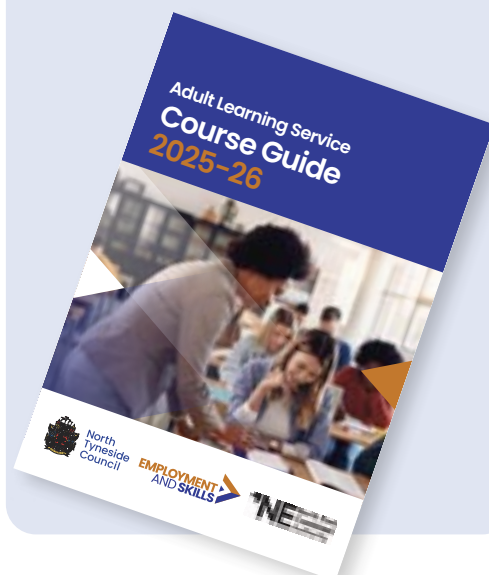
Whether you are preparing for work, starting a new career or developing your skills, there is something for you. There is a wide range of courses from health and social care to digital skills, English and maths.

Our courses support wellbeing, boost confidence, build friendships and help you to unlock your potential.

Whether you're looking for daytime, evening or online classes, we offer the flexibility you need to manage learning around other commitments.

You will receive outstanding support from our dedicated student services and learning support teams, from help with childcare and course fees to one-to-one appointments with our wellbeing mentors.

To find out more look out for our 2025-26 Course Guide, call 0191 643 2288, email curriculum.support@northtyneside.gov.uk or visit www.skillsnorthtyneside.org.uk.





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HAVE A GO IF
YOU THINK YOU
CARE ENOUGH.**

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Contact us

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mycare.northtyneside.gov.uk

www.livingwellnorthtyneside.co.uk

   @NTCouncilTeam

Email

contact.us@northtyneside.gov.uk

Telephone 0345 2000 101

Mon-Fri, 7.30am – 8pm.

By post North Tyneside Council,
Quadrant, The Silverlink North,
Cobalt Business Park,
North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Other main numbers

- Emergencies (24 hour)
0330 333 7475
- Housing and repairs
0345 2000 102
- Envirolink 0345 2000 103
- Council tax and benefits
0345 2000 104

We've introduced a portal where you can view information on your council tax and benefits in one place.

Visit my.northtyneside.gov.uk/CouncilTaxAccounts to create an account and stay up to date.

In person Community Hubs and Libraries

- White Swan Centre, Killingworth
- Northumberland Square, North Shields
- The Forum, Wallsend
- York Road, Whitley Bay
- John Willie Sams Centre, Dudley
- Oxford Centre, Longbenton

You can book a Customer Service appointment in advance by calling 0345 2000 106.

About this newsletter

Feedback: (0191) 643 2211
commsteam@northtyneside.gov.uk
Distribution: Swift Advertising
(0191) 265 3207.

If you need us to do anything differently (reasonable adjustments) to help you access our services, including providing this information in another language or format, please call (0191) 643 2211.



Big Community Conversation

Tell us what you think about North Tyneside.

Every summer, we hold the **Big Community Conversation** to listen to your views. This year, we're asking what you like most about North Tyneside and what could make it even better.

Your views will shape how we, and our partners like the police, fire service, schools, voluntary sector, and NHS, deliver services in the future. These partners are part of the North Tyneside Strategic Partnership (NTSP), which brings together organisations and groups to improve the quality of life for people in the borough.

What you share will help shape the council's plan for the next four years. Get involved and help make North Tyneside an even better place to live.



Scan the QR code or contact the Engagement Team on **0191 643 2828** or **engagement@northtyneside.gov.uk**



What's On

All details are correct at the time of going to print. Please check event information closer to the time and before making your journey.

For more information see www.visitnorthtyneside.com.



Films in the Park

Mon 18 – Fri 22 August,
10am and 1pm screenings
Richardson Dees Park, Wallsend

A free week-long family film festival. All screenings are free to attend. Families are encouraged to pack a picnic and blanket and join in the fun.

Mon 18 August: Inside Out 2 (10am) / Wicked (1pm)

Tuesday 19 August: Paddington in Peru (10am) / Despicable Me 4 (1pm)

Wednesday 20 August: Moana 2 (10am) / Minecraft the Movie (1pm)

Thursday 21 August: Dog Man (10am) / Snow White (1pm)

Friday 22 August: Mufasa – The Lion King (10am) / Sonic 3 (1pm)



Heritage Train Rides

Stephenson Railway Museum
Selected dates – July / August

Take a nostalgic journey with a four-mile return trip in a vintage 1950s passenger carriage. Booking required.
www.stephensonsteamrailway.org.uk

Mouth of the Tyne Festival (20th year – see pages 4 and 5) Tynemouth

10 – 13 July

Live music performances, world-class street entertainment, a colourful pageant involving hundreds of local schoolchildren, and so much more.
www.mouthofthetynefestival.com

Tynemouth Beach Volleyball Tynemouth Longsands

19 – 20 July

All welcome to join a fun weekend of volleyball competitions on the beach.
www.tynemouthbeachvolleyball.co.uk

Newcastle Falcons Touch Rugby Tynemouth Longsands

26 July

This touch rugby event is made up from mixed teams and is a quick small sided non-contact version of rugby. For further information, contact Gavin Beasley on 0191 214 2803.

Feast by the Sea Spanish City Plaza, Whitley Bay

26 – 27 July, 30 – 31 August
Street food and live music by the coast. Follow Feast by the Sea on Facebook for updates.

North Sea Weekender Series August – October

A series of exciting events including a national longboard competition, paddleboard racing, yoga workshops and mindfulness sessions, a beach social and optional sea dip, a pop-up food and drink village, special live music shows and more. Supported by NECA. Follow North Sea Weekender on Facebook and Instagram for updates.

Cullercoats Harbour Day Cullercoats RNLI

2 August, from 11am

Entertainment, live music, stalls and refreshments. Search for Cullercoats Lifeboat on Facebook.

Living History Day – Roman Life Segedunum Roman Fort

4 August

Step into history at this hands-on event, where you can try on armour, helmets and equipment.
www.segedunumromanfort.org.uk

Cirque du Hilarious Wallsend Rugby Club

6 – 31 August

Slapstick superstars and panto legends Danny Adams and Clive Webb will bring their famous Cirque Du Hilarious to a new venue for another year of family fun.
www.cirqueduhilarious.co.uk

Gladiator Encampment Segedunum Roman Fort

9 – 10 August

Watch the gladiators train, see how they lived, ask questions and even try out some historical crafts.
www.segedunumromanfort.org.uk

Whitley Bay Sandcastle Competition

Whitley Bay beach, outside of Rendezvous Café

10 August, from 10am

Hundreds of people gather to test their sandcastle building abilities.

Book Fair

Tynemouth Station

17 August & 12 October,
9.30am to 3.30pm

Browse books on all topics and genres.
www.tynemouthstationbookfair.co.uk

Spanish City Funfair

The Links, Whitley Bay

21 – 25 August

The annual family funfair returns to the Links.

Hadrian Festival

Segedunum Roman Fort

23 – 24 August

Demonstrations, horses, crafts – and the Emperor himself!

www.segedunumromanfort.org.uk

Great North Bike Ride

Tynemouth

24 August

The 25th anniversary ride for the Chris Lucas Trust, from Seahouses to Tynemouth.

www.greatnorthbikeride.com

Dinky Dinosaur Adventure Day

Stephenson Steam Railway

25 August

Get up close and personal with baby dinosaurs. Heritage train ride included in price. Booking required.

www.stephensonsteamrailway.org.uk

Killingworth Market

Arrow Close, Killingworth

30 – 31 August

Food and craft stalls, street food, live

music and children's activities.

Search Killingworth Monthly Street

Food Festival on Facebook.

Heritage Open Days

12 – 21 September

Venues across North Tyneside will open their doors for free.

www.heritageopendays.org.uk

North Tyneside Together

Northumberland Square,

North Shields

13 September

A community event bringing together all cultures with a range of food and drink, stalls, live music and family entertainment.

Tyne Tri Lakeside Aquathlon

Lakeside Centre, Killingworth

14 September

Bi-annual adult and junior aquathlon event for all ages.

www.tynetri.org

Whitley Bay Film Festival

Various locations

17 September – 4 October

Annual event celebrating great film in great locations.

www.whitleybayfilmfestival.co.uk

North Tyneside 10k Road Race (sold out)

21 September

One of the UK's most scenic running events. Supported by Clearly Drinks and Start Fitness.

Fiesta

**Whitley Bay Town Centre and
St Paul's Church Grounds**

21 September, 11am – 4pm

Market stalls, street food, free creative crafts, fun activities and live music. Follow Fiesta Whitley Bay on Facebook for updates.

Whitley Bay Poetry Trail

**Grounds of St Paul's Church,
Whitley Bay**

21 September, 11am – 3pm

Poetry, storytelling and spoken word – free to the whole community. Follow Whitley Bay Poetry Trail on Facebook for more information.

St. Mary's Lighthouse and Visitor Centre events

0191 643 4777, stmaryslighthouse@northtyneside.gov.uk

Search St Marys Lighthouse on Facebook. To purchase tickets for bookable events visit: <https://bookwhen.com/ntc-lighthouse>

Under Five Event

25 & 30 July, 7, 13, 22 & 28 August, 10am – 12pm

Themed sessions for under fives. Booking essential.

Fossil Frolics

29 July, 11, 21 & 27 August, 10am – 12pm

Fossil hunting and interactive talk. Suitable for over fives, booking essential.

Rockpool Ramble

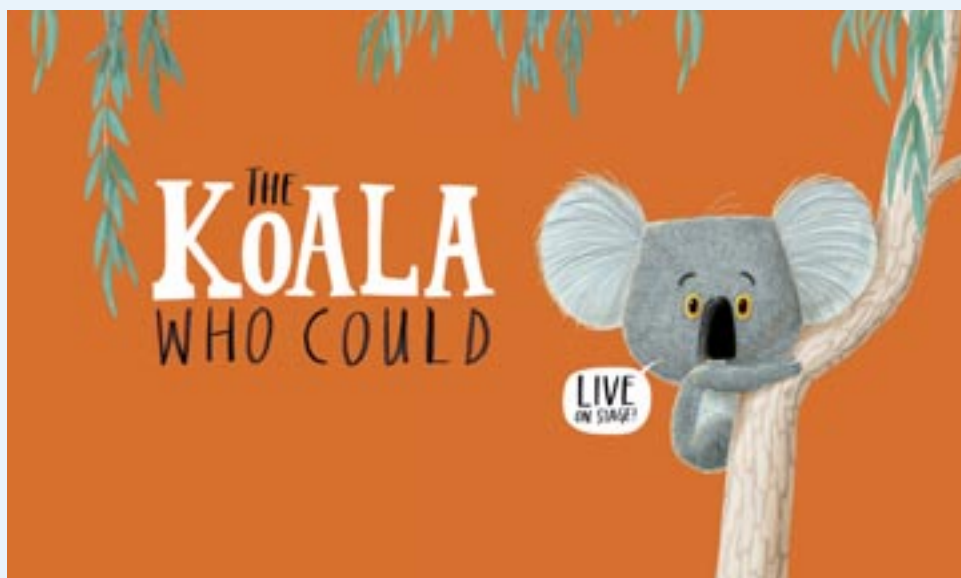
28 July, 12 & 26 August, 10am – 12pm

Guided rockpooling and talk. Suitable for over fives, booking essential.



What's on at the PLAYHOUSE

WHITLEY
BAY



Alice in Wonderland Friday 1 & Saturday 2 August Various Times

Tumble down the rabbit hole and enter a world of wonder with ALICE IN WONDERLAND!

The Koala Who Could Monday 11 August 2pm & 4.30pm

Based on the bestselling picture book about taking a chance.

Counterfeit 70s Saturday 30 August 7.30pm

Join us for all your favourite hits featuring songs by Sweet, Mud, Alice Cooper, Sailor, David Essex and many more!

The Sound of Springsteen Thursday 11 September 7.30pm

Experience the pure rock 'n' roll euphoria of Bruce Springsteen as this outstanding show brings his iconic sound to life.



Women In Rock 2025 Saturday 20 September 7.30pm

Featuring unforgettable female rock songs by Blondie, Suzi Q, Janis Joplin, Heart, Joan Jett, Pink, Kiki Dee, Bonnie Tyler, Cher and so many more!

Voodoo Room Sunday 28 September 7.30pm

Paying tribute to some of the greatest names in rock history, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton and Cream, Voodoo Room are a stunning power-trio featuring some of the UK's finest musicians.

Auld Pals: An Evening With The Stars Of Still Game Wednesday 8th October 7.30pm

After 62 episodes, 21 years and a record-breaking run of live shows, these 'Auld Pals' will share stories of their time on the show and individual careers, lifting the lid on some of the secrets that have lead them to be Scotland's most admired household names.

Joe McElderry Live 2025 Sunday 26th October 7.30pm

Joe McElderry back in Whitley Bay with his brand new tour for 2025.

For full listings, further information and to purchase tickets:

- Visit www.playhousewhitleybay.co.uk
- Visit the PLAYHOUSE Box Office: Open Monday – Friday 10am to 4pm, Saturday 10.30am to 2.30pm, plus event days.

Libraries events

Summer Reading Challenge Story Garden: Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors Starts 12 July

The 2025 Summer Reading Challenge celebrates adventure, fantasy and storytelling through nature and the great outdoors – brought to life through artwork from award-winning illustrator, Dapo Adeola.

For children age 4+.

Visit www.bookwhen.com/ntclibraries for more fun summer activities.



Support your wellbeing in the early years with Reading Well for families

From 10 June, we'll be offering a new Reading Well for families booklist.

These free, expert-recommended reads cover topics like mental health, wellbeing and coping with loss.

You'll find practical advice, personal stories, illustrated books and poetry. Borrow from your library or explore the booklist online:

www.readingagency.org.uk/reading-well/families

Summer parties

Saturday 12 July – Oxford Centre, 10.30am–12.30pm

Thursday 24 July – John Willie Sams Centre, 11am–2pm

Saturday 2 August – White Swan Centre, 10.30am–12.30pm

Fun for the whole family; with dancing, magic shows, balloon modelling and face painting.

Teddy Bear Day

Tuesday 9 September, Howdon library, 10.30am–12pm

Join us for a 'beary' special celebration; bring your favourite teddy and snacks to this magical teddy bears' picnic, filled with delightful storytelling and a bear hunt. Suitable for ages 18 months+.

Make the most of those summer days

Princess and Superheroes Party in the Park

Rising Sun Countryside Centre, Thursday 24 July, 11am – 3pm

Join us for a fun filled day of princesses and superheroes. Please book via Bookwhen by scanning the QR code at the end of this article.

Big summer celebration

Northumberland Park, Saturday 9 August, 11am – 4pm
Join us for a feast of entertainment throughout the park to celebrate North Shields 800 and Northumberland Park's 140th anniversary.

Music from the Bandstand

Northumberland Park, Sunday 28 September, 11am–3pm

History Walks

Northumberland Park Visitor Centre, Tuesday 29 July and Tuesday 26 August, 2pm.

This is a ticket only event and booking must be made through Bookwhen.

ASDOs Dog Show

Northumberland Park, Saturday 6 September, 11am – 3pm

For more information and to make a booking at any of our parks scan the QR code.



For up-to-date information on our park events follow us on social media or visit our website.

@North Tyneside Parks

@landpark / @wallsendparks

www.northtyneside.gov.uk

Backworth and Holystone



James Webster
Quadrant
07394 837 405



Nigel Huscroft
Quadrant
07394 837 447



Louise Bell
Quadrant
07394 837 448

Labour

Labour

Labour

Forest Hall



Joanne Sharp
Quadrant
07394 837 445



Peter Earley
Quadrant
07581 044 088



Janet Hunter
Quadrant
07581 158 207

Labour

Labour

Labour

Battle Hill



Steven Phillips
Quadrant
07583 221 690



Carl Johnson
Quadrant
07446 831 153



Julie Cruddas
Quadrant
07852 457 703

Labour

Labour

Labour

Howdon



Matthew Thirlaway
Quadrant
07598 232 347



John Harrison
Quadrant
07581 158 152



Linda Bell
Quadrant
07583 153 523

Labour

Labour

Labour

Camperdown



Joan Walker
Quadrant
07967 246 540



Steve Cox
Quadrant
07581 057 233



Tracy Hallway
Quadrant
07973 714 855

Labour

Labour

Labour

Killingworth



Bryan Clark
Quadrant
07394 837 412



Paul Bunyan
Quadrant
07394 837 446



Vacant
at time of print

Labour

Labour

Chirton and Percy Main



Bruce Pickard
Quadrant
07581 001970



Hannah Johnson
Quadrant
07411 166 907



Rebecca O'Keefe
Quadrant
07984 955 488

Labour

Labour

Labour

Longbenton and Benton



Linda Darke
Quadrant
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Eddie Darke
152 West Farm Avenue
Longbenton
NE12 8RX
0191 270 9279
07814 778 678



Vacant
at time of print

Labour

Labour

Cullercoats and Whitley Bay South



Andrew Spowart
Quadrant
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Willie Samuel
Quadrant
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Jane Shaw
Quadrant
07581 008 453

Labour

Labour

Labour

Monkseaton



Martin Murphy
Quadrant
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Sarah Day
Quadrant
07591 614 341



Davey Drummond
Quadrant
07583 036 731

Labour

Labour

Labour

New York and Murton



Jay Bartoli
Quadrant
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Claire McGinty
Quadrant
07394 837 443



Oliver Scargill
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North Shields
NE30 2RJ
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Julie Day
Quadrant
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Thomas Bailey
Quadrant
07394 837 406



Lewis Bartoli
2 Latimer St
Tynemouth
NE30 4EY
07880 501 764

Conservative

Conservative

Conservative

Labour

Labour

Conservative

North Shields



Frank Lott
Quadrant
07974 568 197



Josephine Mudzingwa
Quadrant
07581 034 747



Wendy Lott
Quadrant
07583 133 581



Ian Grayson
Quadrant
07581 057 224



Charlie Gray
Quadrant
07394 837 410



Louise Marshall
Quadrant
07581 034 761

Labour

Labour

Labour

Labour

Labour

Labour

Preston with Preston Grange



David Lilly
Quadrant
07394 837 402



John Johnsson
11 Benbrake Avenue
Preston Grange
NE29 9EQ
07834 986 438



Liam Bones
Quadrant
07534 138 047



Tricia Neira
Quadrant
07581 034 753



Jim Montague
Quadrant
07581 008 452



Andy Newman
Quadrant
07583 036 794

Conservative

Conservative

Conservative

Labour

Labour

Labour

Shiremoor



Kristin Nott
Quadrant
07394 837 404



Tommy Mulvenna
53 Benton Rd
West Allotment
NE27 0EP
07854 497 158



Brian Burdis
Quadrant
07758 561 048



Elizabeth McMullen
Quadrant
07394 837 407



Anthony McMullen
Quadrant
07581 368 207



Sarah Burtenshaw
Quadrant
07581 058 143

Labour

Labour

Labour

Labour

Labour

Labour

St. Mary's



Judith Wallace
Quadrant
07804 184 154



Andy Holdsworth
Quadrant
07581 057 231



Ian McAlpine
Quadrant
07976 205 593



Sandra Graham
Quadrant
07581 394 951



John O'Shea
Quadrant
07581 491 727



Joe Kirwin
Quadrant
07776 030055

Independent

Labour

Conservative

Labour

Labour

Labour

Tynemouth

The Elected Mayor

Karen Clark

Deputy Mayor

Cllr Carl Johnson

North Tyneside Council

Quadrant

Silverlink North

Cobalt Business Park

North Tyneside

NE27 0BY

Wallsend Central

Wallsend North

Weetslade

Whitley Bay North



North Tyneside
Council



Presented by
BLYTH AND TYNE MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY

Model Railway Show

at Parks Sports Centre, Howdon Rd, North Shields NE29 6TL

12th & 13th July 2025

Sat 10.00am - 5.00pm & Sun 10.00am - 4.00pm

40+
Layouts

Trade Stands
Modeling Demonstrations

facebook.com/RailExNE



Early
Entry for
Advanced
Ticket
Holders

Over 40 Quality Model Railway
Layouts
(including 'Thomas & Friends'
and LEGO Railways)

Get bus from North Shields
Metro Station

Admission - Adults £10.00 Children (under 16) £5.00 Family (2+2) £22.00
(Under 5s FREE) (Card Payments Accepted)

Book tickets in advance at www.railexne.co.uk

North Tyneside Restaurant Week is back for 2025!

Monday 6 – Sunday 12 October

North Tyneside has many local and national award-winning restaurants – some of the best tastes and culinary experiences in the North East.

Discover special offers at a range of local businesses with two or three course set menus priced at £15, £20 or £25.

From Whitley Bay to Longbenton, to Wallsend, Cullercoats, Forest Hall and Tynemouth, there'll be something to excite everyone's taste buds.

Support local businesses and enjoy the best cuisine that North Tyneside has to offer. Keep an eye on social media and restaurantweeknorthtyneside.co.uk for participating restaurants, updates and menus.

If you own or run a restaurant in North Tyneside, and would like to participate, scan the QR code to sign up by 1 September.



Council tenant update



Come and have a chat!

Our team will be out and about in July to speak to tenants about repairs, keeping neighbourhoods clean and safe, and tenancy and financial support. No appointment needed, just drop by:

- **Wednesday 23 July:** White Swan Centre Community Hub and Library, 3–5pm
- **Saturday 26 July:** Battle Hill Library, 10am–12pm
- **Tuesday 29 July:** Cedarwood Trust, Avon Avenue, North Shields NE29 7QT, 11am–1pm



Estate Walkabouts

Tenants can join their local neighbourhood housing officer on one of their regular walkabouts. These cover a few streets at a time and are an opportunity to ask questions, to report any issues and to help improve your estate.

The programme for 2025–26 is available at haveyoursay.northtyneside.gov.uk, or paper copies are in our six community hubs and libraries. For more details, call 0191 643 6384.



Tenancy Home Visits

Our housing officers carry out home visits to help us get to know our tenants better, check the overall condition of the property and see if there are any outstanding issues or repairs.

These visits are invaluable in finding out if anyone in the household needs any additional support, which we can help arrange. For example, with health needs, financial concerns, employment and training, or safety at home. We work closely with other council services and partners such as our adult social care team and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service.

Tenants will receive a letter in advance with an appointment time. If it's not convenient, please contact us to rearrange it using the phone number on your letter.



Survey results show improvement

The national Regulator of Social Housing's Tenant Satisfaction Measures Survey (TSMs) gives tenants the opportunity to have their say, understand their landlord's performance and provide an insight into where improvements are required.

Our 2024 survey results show satisfaction with the Housing and Property Service overall was 71%, with an increase in satisfaction relating to:

- Providing a home that is safe
- Our approach to handling complaints
- Our approach to handling anti-social behaviour

Thank you to those tenants who returned the survey. We really value your feedback and it helps us improve services for all our tenants.

The full results are available on the Our North Tyneside Voice website, or call (0191) 643 2828 for a paper copy. The survey was sent to a randomly selected sample of tenant households between September–November 2024.

Donate old toys, electricals and more at the tip

You can now donate many used household items at the new reuse facility at the tip (Household Waste Recycling Centre) in North Shields.

Residents who have booked an appointment to take things to the tip can now drop off donations of used household items as well as their normal recycling or rubbish.

This includes toys, small electricals, sports and gardening equipment. For a full list, please see below.

It means many pre-loved items can get a new lease of life, as we partner with Suez Recycling and Recover UK to collect, sort, and

repair if needed the items and distribute them to schools and organisations across North Tyneside.

If you'd like to get involved, check what you can and can't donate and then book an appointment on our website northtyneside.gov.uk by searching 'HWRC'.

There are so many amazing things being donated already that there are plans for a reuse shop permanent pop-up shop in one of our town centres. Details will be announced soon.

In the meantime, we have some pop-up reuse shops being held on:

- **15 July, 10am – 2pm, at the Oxford Centre**

- **31 July, 10am – 2pm at Westmoor Community Centre**
- **9 September, 10am – 2pm at West Moor and The Cedar Wood Trust**

There is more advice and information about what we are doing to make North Tyneside greener by searching for 'Action on Climate Change' on northtyneside.gov.uk

SUEZ puts re-use at the heart of the circular economy – rescuing discarded household items for resale through a growing network of re-use shops across the country, creating jobs, reducing waste, and delivering social value. Search 'reuse' on suez.co.uk

Items which **can** be donated

- ✓ Garden and DIY materials
- ✓ Bikes and sports equipment
- ✓ Toys
- ✓ Small furniture (upholstered items must have fire labels)
- ✓ Small electricals (kettles/toasters)

What **can't** be accepted:

- ✗ Broken/incomplete or dirty items
- ✗ Textiles, used mattresses and bedding
- ✗ Child car seats
- ✗ Gas or petrol powered items



Giving old bikes a new lease of life in North Tyneside

Across North Tyneside, unwanted bicycles are being saved from the scrap heap and given a second chance — thanks to a brilliant local partnership that's putting the 'cycling' into recycling.

With support from us and SUEZ, volunteers at the Linskill Centre have been working hard to rescue and refurbish bikes donated or salvaged from the Household Waste Recycling Centre. Every bike is checked over, repaired and made roadworthy again.

Earlier this year, 10 refurbished bikes were delivered to pupils at New York Primary School, helping to build cycling skills and confidence and giving them hours of fun on two wheels.

In May, a community bike sale at the Linskill Centre proved a huge success. The event was due to run all day but completely sold out by 10.30am, with 35 bikes rehomed in less than an hour.

This growing reuse scheme is a fantastic example of sustainability in action — reducing waste, supporting

active travel, and making cycling more accessible for local families.

Keep an eye on the council's social media channels for details of future bike donations and sales.



**energy
saving
trust**

NE North East
Combined
Authority

 North
Tyneside
Council

Home Energy Advice North East

Expert support to help make your home more energy efficient

- Simple, clear advice on how to reduce your energy bills
- Support accessing grants and funding for energy saving home improvements
- Help finding certified local installers who can do the work for you

Call: 0808 175 9345

Visit: energyadvicenortheast.co.uk



Funded by
UK Government



Wheeling out the road safety car

Our camera car is out and about this summer as we try to discourage inconsiderate parking and promote safe, sustainable methods of travel – especially around our schools.

The car will primarily be in areas where issues with parking and speed have been reported. Any 'hotspots' will be investigated further and additional patrols may be put in place if necessary. This information will inform what, if any, action will be needed in these areas in the future.

A massively important scheme and something that is always a priority for us as an organisation.

If you have an area in mind that you think could benefit from extra patrols or a visit from our road safety car, please get in touch with us. You can report it to our road safety team on our website under 'roads, pavements and traffic'.



Community speedwatch

Working alongside Northumbria Police, we are looking to set up a community speedwatch in North Tyneside as part of our commitment to ensuring our roads are safe for residents and visitors.

Volunteers will receive training from Northumbria Police to work alongside and help to monitor traffic speeds in their local area, raise awareness of speeding and encourage safer driving across North Tyneside.

The volunteers will be trained to use handheld speed detection devices to record any vehicles breaking the speed limit as they pass, with the information helping to identify hotspots and inform any patrols or action in the future.

More information will be available in the coming months as we look for volunteers to support the scheme and get them up and running.

Please be considerate to all footpath users by not parking on pavements and keeping hedges and trees trimmed back.



Launch or grow your business in a town centre



Thinking of moving your business from home or online to the high street?

The North Tyneside Business Factory pop-up shop is the perfect place to test-trade, grow your customer base, and gain retail experience – completely FREE!

Whether you're taking your first step into physical retail or just want to explore new selling techniques, our expert team offers visual merchandising guidance, confidence-building support, and sales strategy tips to help you succeed.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to put your brand in front of real customers and build your retail confidence.

Where – The Forum, Wallsend

New location coming soon in North Shields launching this July.

Enquire about a FREE space today by scanning the QR code.

www.businessfactorynt.co.uk



Scan for more information



New plan for green spaces, homes and jobs

Work on a new Local Plan for North Tyneside that will define new places for homes, industry and shops is underway.

To help prepare the Local Plan, we will be looking to hear the views of our residents on how best to deliver the high quality and affordable homes we need; helping us to tackle climate change and deliver the green spaces and infrastructure that make North Tyneside an attractive, healthy and pleasant place to live and work.

The first stage of public consultation will be starting this summer. Please get involved and have your say to help shape the future of our Borough. Information about how to get involved will be available on the Council's website, the Our North Tyneside Voice engagement hub and our social media channels.



Ambition for Wallsend

Creating a vibrant and connected town that is attractive to residents, visitors and employers.



Meet The Romans

Visitors to Segedunum Roman Fort can use their smartphones to unlock the history hidden beneath the streets of Wallsend.

A brand-new immersive reality experience called Meet The Romans has been installed and is free to access, without paying for entry to the museum.

Using the latest digital technology, visitors can watch the Roman Barracks and Romans that lived there 1,900 years ago reappear around them in accurate detail.

Active travel route

A new active travel route has opened in Wallsend, making it safer and easier to get between Segedunum Roman Fort and the Metro and bus station.

It has been designed for families, pushchairs, wheelchairs, bikes, scooters and all active modes of transport.



Historic shop shutters

Wallsend's rich history is being brought to life on 18 different shop shutters displaying photos of the town's past.

They brighten up the High Street when the shops are shut, while celebrating the heritage of the town and its people.

Funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund as part of the Towns and High Streets Innovation Programme, with the North East Combined Authority as the lead authority.



Ambition for the North West

Creating attractive places to live, new opportunities for work and business, and inspiring spaces to play and visit.

School pupils helped plant a new mix of UK native tree species to boost biodiversity at Killingworth Lakeside Park.

The Green Flag award-winning park is about to be redeveloped, with a new play site, better parking, ecology-friendly landscaping, new street furniture and entrance features, and improved cycle and pedestrian routes.

Ahead of those improvements, 450 young trees have been planted in the park's woodland.

More exciting developments are on the way in the North West of the Borough, with resurfacing work on the waggonways network, improvements to Fryer's Millennium Green in Burradon, plans for Keegan Park in Killingworth, and new entrance features for the North West villages.



Pupils from Amberley Primary and Bailey Green Primary planting trees

Ambition for North Shields

Creating a more vibrant town centre, smarter public spaces, and expanding the evening and weekend economy.

Bedford Street

A major scheme of improvements for Bedford Street is on schedule for completion in early Autumn.

Bedford Street is getting smart new paving, mature trees and modern seating to create an attractive, high-quality finish. The pedestrian area is being extended along the length of the street. The new layout will improve safety and create extra outside space for businesses.

Our contractors Capita are making sure there is access to all shops during the works, and Bedford Street remains open for business.

Mary-Ann Macham sculpture

A sculpture of escaped enslaved woman Mary Ann Macham is being cast in bronze ahead of her installation at the top of North Shields' Riverside Embankment Walkway.

Created by artist Keith Barrett, Mary Ann will be unveiled as part of the North Shields 800 celebrations.

It is one of a series of public artworks around the town.



North Shields

Cultural Quarter

We are helping to grow the creative economy of North Shields, supported by the North East Combined Authority.



Youthforia Podcast

North Tyneside high school students have designed, filmed and presented a series of podcasts exploring some of the issues that matter most in their lives.

The Youthforia Podcast was co-created by pupils from John Spence Community High School in North Shields, in partnership with video services company ScreenBoo Productions and Helix Arts.

The 10 episodes cover topics including What is Culture, North Shields for Teens, GCSEs, and Social Media for Teens. They are now available on YouTube and Instagram.

Artists' Agency

Artists' Agency from Helix Arts is an artist development programme for creatives living and or working in North Tyneside. It includes networking events, mentoring, monthly informal Co-Cafes, and the Make it Happen training and development programme.

nscq.co.uk

Foster *with* NORTH EAST

Join our Foster Care Roadshow this Summer!

This summer, we're hitting the road across the Borough to spread the word about fostering, and we'd love to meet you at one of our events.

Fostering can bring a sense of fulfilment that few other experiences can match, but we know taking that first step isn't always easy.

That's why you'll find our friendly team out and about this summer on hand to chat, answer questions and provide information on the various fostering options.

By offering a safe and loving home, you can provide children with the stability and support they need to thrive. We're looking for people with a willingness to learn, an open heart and with love to give to those who need it most.

Whether you're interested in short-term, long-term, or respite care, we'll guide you every step of the way. Don't miss your chance to find out how you can make a real impact to someone's life.



Don't worry if you can't make it to our roadshows, just email fostering@northtyneside.gov.uk and we'll be happy to help.

1 August	Family Fun Day at Richardson Dees Park, North Road, NE28 8RH	11am – 2pm
15 August	Family Fun Day at Northumberland Park, NE30 2ES	10am – 2pm
1 September	Whitley Bay Community hub	10am – 12pm
15 September	Linskill Centre, North Shields	11.30am – 1.30pm
24 September	Quadrant, Cobalt Business Park	5.30pm – 6.30pm

Urgent appeal for adoptive families in the North East

Adopt North East is calling for forever homes for more than 30 local children waiting for adoption today.

The powerful new image released shows 25 staff members standing together – each one representing a child or sibling group currently waiting to be adopted in the North East.

The poignant image is part of a new campaign to highlight the growing need for adoptive families in the region.

Each adult in the photo symbolises a child in need of a loving, stable and permanent home – a visual reminder of the real lives behind the statistics.

“These are not just numbers. These are real children who deserve to grow up in a home with a family that will love and support them for life” said Nik Flavell, Senior Manager of Adopt North East.

“Over recent years we’ve seen a real decline in the number of people coming forward to be adopters, and at the same



time the number of young people in need of stable, loving homes has stayed the same.

“Our colleagues wanted to do something powerful to raise awareness, and this image really captures the urgency and humanity of our current situation.

“Here at Adopt North East we will walk with you through every step of the journey and provide the support and guidance you need.”

The 36 children waiting are of different ages and come from a diverse range backgrounds, and many are siblings who need to stay together.

Adopt North East is appealing to people from all walks of life to

consider adoption. You don’t need to own a home, be married, or meet an age criteria – what matters the most is your ability to provide unconditional love, stability, and a sense of belonging.

“There is no such thing as a ‘perfect’ family or adopter – just people with the right mindset and the heart and passion to make a difference to a child’s life” added Flavell.

Together, we can ensure no child waits a day longer than they need to.

To find out more about how to adopt, visit www.adoptnortheast.org.uk or call **0191 643 5000**.



We are expanding our wraparound childcare offer

Whether it's balancing costs or juggling work with early morning drop-offs, our wraparound childcare choices can help you find the childcare support that fits your family.

Search 'wraparound childcare' on my.northtyneside.gov.uk to see what support you could get.



North
Tyneside
Council



HM Government

Childcare
Choices

Expansion to wraparound childcare places

We are increasing the number of childcare places for primary school aged children (Reception to Year 6) during term time.

We encourage parents and carers to speak to their child's school or visit the council website and search for 'wraparound childcare'.

Wraparound childcare offers before and after-school care for primary school aged children (reception to Year 6) during term time. This includes regular provision that typically runs from 8am-6pm but may vary to meet local needs. It is different to out-of-school activities or school clubs as these are less frequent and can be a one-off activity. The expansion of wraparound childcare in our Borough means that parents and carers will be

offered more opportunities and greater flexibility in finding high-quality care for their children.

We hope that the increase in wraparound childcare places will help to remove barriers to work for some families and will support parents and carers to seek work and training opportunities.

Private, voluntary, and independent providers, including childminders and early years settings can offer wraparound childcare. Often, it is run on a school site or another setting in the local area.

The council website shows the wraparound childcare options that are currently available from providers in the Borough. More and more providers are sharing their details with us so please keep an

eye on our childcare webpage for updates or speak to your child's school to find out about available spaces.

Providers will set their own fees for wraparound places, so prices may vary. Parents and carers are expected to pay their childcare provider directly for their child's place. There are no eligibility criteria for accessing new wraparound childcare places. Households eligible for Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare will be able to use the support to help pay for wraparound care.

To check if you are eligible for Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare, visit the [Childcare Choices](#) website.



Neurodiversity Transformation Programme

Neurodiversity describes the natural differences in how people think, learn, and behave. While some are neurotypical, many are neurodivergent — meaning their brains work differently from the majority. Around one in seven people are neurodivergent.

Neurodivergence is a broad spectrum that includes conditions such as ADHD, autism, dyslexia, dyscalculia, Tourette's, and the effects of trauma. These differences can also be called Specific Learning Difficulties.

Each neurodivergent person is unique, with individual strengths and challenges. Early recognition and support are vital to helping them thrive.

North Tyneside and its partners are committed to ensuring that children and young people aged 0–25 get the right support at the right time to lead happy, fulfilling lives.

Autism Better Together

Autism Better Together is an adult support and friendship group for people with autism and their families.



The group is welcoming and meets in local community buildings so it's easy to get to.

The group is friendly, relaxed and you can make friends. It's fine to sit on your own or you can join in with activities. You can choose what you would like to do. You don't have to do anything, just be yourself in a safe space.

As well as other autistic people and their families, there will be people from the council and our partners, who are there to help you. You can ask questions and we will provide support and signposting to services that could help you.

The group meets once a month at Wallsend Library, the Linskill Centre in North Shields and the Oxford Centre in Longbenton. It's a free drop-in so you can come and go when you please.

We look forward to meeting you and hope you enjoy our group as we are 'Better Together'.

For further information, email waynetaylor@autismbettertogether.org or search better together autism on Facebook.

"As soon as I walked into my first group, I felt accepted and could talk about my feelings with other people. The people I've met are kind and welcoming and I'm included if I want or I can sit on my own."

Daniel

£990,000 inclusion funding transforms SEND Support in schools

44 schools are benefitting from nearly £1 million in funding to improve support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The funding is helping to create inclusive, nurturing spaces in mainstream schools. All schools were invited to apply by proposing projects aimed at better meeting the diverse needs of pupils.

Almost a year on, 10 projects have been completed, and over 30 are underway.

At Collingwood Primary School in North Shields, the funding transformed a sensory room into a calming “safe haven”. A staff member shared, “We’ve created a nurturing space that empowers children to build essential self-regulation skills and thrive emotionally and academically.”

The revamped space provides vital support for children’s emotional wellbeing and development.

At George Stephenson High School, £35,000 was used to convert a former caretaker’s bungalow into The Stephenson

Centre– a dedicated wellbeing hub. Designed for students who need additional support, the centre plays a key role in the school’s Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) provision.

Since opening in September 2024, the school has seen a 60% drop in suspensions and improved attendance rates.

This investment is already making a lasting impact, helping schools become more inclusive and better equipped to support every child’s potential.



An example of one of the projects at Riverside Primary School



Family Fun Days summer 2025

Active North Tyneside is once again hosting Family Fun Days in parks across the Borough this summer!

The annual fun days are a great way to entertain the whole family – **for free** – during the six-week holidays.

There's something for everyone, with activities such as football, tennis, inflatables and garden games on offer. We'll even be joined by a DJ to help set the tune to a fun-filled day.

All events will take place 11am – 2pm, join us on:

Friday 25 July at Springfield Park, Forest Hall

Friday 1 August at Richardson Dees Park, Wallsend

Friday 8 August at Churchill Playing Fields, Whitley Bay

Friday 15 August at Northumberland Park, North Shields

There's no need to book prior to the event, just turn up on the day. Activities are open to children of all ages; children must be accompanied and supervised throughout the events by a responsible adult.



North Tyneside Stop Smoking Service has expanded

The North Tyneside Stop Smoking Service has expanded! As well as accessing local community pharmacies, residents can now book face to face appointments with our new Stop Smoking Specialists at four different locations across the Borough for free.

The team are working from the White Swan Centre in Killingworth, Northumberland Park Medical centre in Shiremoor, Wallsend Community Hub and Library, and Shields Health Hub in North Shields.

Quitting smoking is the best thing you can do for your health, and with specialist support, you're up to four times more likely to succeed.

We know it's tough to make the change, and it may take multiple attempts, but you can access the service anytime and get personalised, ongoing support over 12-weeks.

Your Stop Smoking Specialist will work with you every step of the way and identify the best nicotine replacement therapies, such as patches, gum, lozenges and vapes.

To book your appointment call 0191 643 3737 or e-mail stopsmoking@northyneide.gov.uk.

Visit my.northyneide.gov.uk/quittingsmoking for more information.

North Tyneside
STOP
Smoking Service

The DadPad app

Dads and dads-to-be in North Tyneside have free access to the DadPad app, which is full of parenting tips and advice.

The aim is to provide practical skills and information to manage and become confident in the transition to fatherhood. Topics include things like:

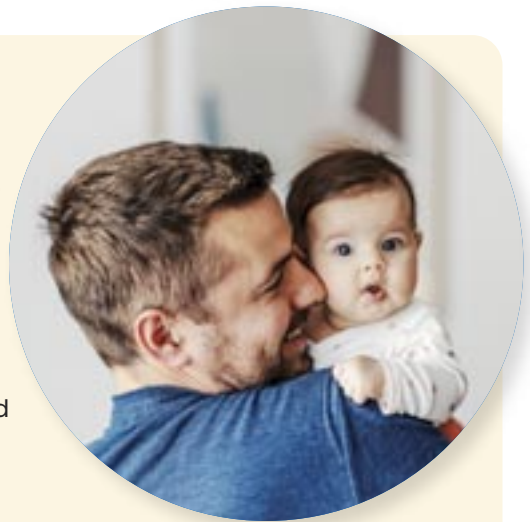
- basic baby care skills (such as holding, cleaning, nappy changing and sleep)
- coping with a crying baby
- supporting mam with breastfeeding
- home safety and first aid
- information on child

development milestones (from birth to 18 months)

- forming a secure bond with baby; and
- advice on how to navigate the challenging days of new parenthood

The DadPad team has worked closely with the Children's Public Health Team to create a bespoke app which holds over 100 links to local and national services, groups and organisations that can provide a range of support to the whole family.

Scan the QR code or visit **thedadpad.co.uk/app/** to download the app and get free access to tons of resources.



Contraception choices – find what works for you

Looking after your sexual health is important; and it's free and easy to find out more about the different methods of contraception available to prevent pregnancy and protect you from Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).

Different types of contraception suit different people, and all are free for everyone aged 13 and above.

If you are sexually active you can find what works for you by visiting Northumbria Healthcare's contraception webpage – **northumbria.nhs.uk/contraception**.

If you're worried about anything to do with your sexual health or would like to discuss something in more detail, contact the local sexual health team on 0344 728 0554.



NHS
Northumbria Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



Promote your group here!



Monkseaton Morris Dancers

Give it a go! We're celebrating our 70th anniversary this year and are looking for new dancers and musicians to join us. No experience necessary, open to all, it's great exercise! Help us showcase Morris, Longsword and our own local Rapper Sword Dance. If you'd like to give it a go, find us on Facebook or email monkseatonmorris@gmail.com.



Priory Singers

Friendly mixed voice choir singing everything from G&S to Requiem Masses, performing three to four concerts annually, often with sister choir, Jesmond Choral Group. Rehearsals 7.30pm, Monday, St Aidan's Church, NE29 8BZ led by Jonathan Scott. Next performance, Iolanthe, 19 July at St. Andrews URC, NE25 8LU. For information on membership, singalong days and concerts, email priorysingers1979@gmail.com.

Whitley Bay Round Table

Round Table is a social organisation for men aged 18-45, offering opportunities to develop friendships through social activities and community service. Known for events like Santa's Sleigh and Whitley Bay Carnival, members enjoy a mix of socials, events, and fundraising activities. Meetings are held every other Thursday, featuring diverse activities from meals to axe throwing. Check out our Facebook page and join us at future events!



Care for a Cuppa

Would you like to meet up informally in a warm space for a free cuppa, cake/biscuit and a friendly chat? All ages welcome, bring a friend. Come along and join us on the third Monday of the month, 2 - 3.30pm at St John the Evangelist Church, Station Road, Wallsend.

Probus Club

A club for retired/semi-retired men meets on the second Wednesday of each month, 10am - 12pm at Crosskeys Hall, St Peters Church, Woodleigh Road, Monkseaton NE25 8ET. There are refreshments and informal chat followed by a visiting speaker covering a range of topics. Cost is £2 per meeting. Plus, the club arranges visits to places of interest and social events for members and partners. A warm welcome is extended to join us for companionship and an opportunity to meet new people. Just turn up or e mail blewittdavid@yahoo.co.uk for more information.



This is space for voluntary or community groups to promote themselves, independent of the Council.

Are you part of a voluntary or community organisation? Would you like to tell North Tyneside residents about your work in this magazine? If so, we'd love to hear from you. Please email marketing@northtyneside.gov.uk for details.



PROPS

We offer practical help and emotional support for families, friends or loved ones of drug and alcohol users. Our structured programmes include the internationally renowned Community Reinforcement Approach and Family Training (CRAFT) programme, delivered by qualified Family Intervention Workers. We also offer respite activities, a counselling service, family mediation, a young person's programme and a 12-hour helpline. For further information call (0191) 226 3440 or visit props.org.uk.

St. Andrew's Art Club

We meet every Wednesday, 1-4 pm at St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, Eastfield Avenue, Monkseaton. Whether you're a beginner, a re-starter or have lots of experience, you are welcome to join us for painting and socialising. Art is an excellent means of fulfilment, wellbeing and relaxation! This group is a club rather than a class. Please contact Jean on 07913 210111.



Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade Watch House Museum

The museum, overlooking the river mouth on the Spanish Battery, is open 10am-3pm Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays until 31 August. The museum contains the history of the formation of the very first Volunteer Life Brigade in 1864 and a wonderful selection of unusual items recovered from local shipwrecks. Discover the stories of local heroes and rescues.

Entry is free and donations are welcome. Visit our website for further information

www.tvlb.org/the-watch-house-museum



Keeping older people active and in touch!

MHA Communities North Tyneside supports older people to Live Later Life Well by offering various activities such as lunch clubs, befriending groups, dementia art class, trips, intergenerational activities and more. We offer something for everyone. Shirley 89 said "It's made a huge difference to my life so anyone out there who is feeling down or lonely, give it a go I'm sure you'll be glad you did, I know I am". For more information contact Karen on 07568611991 or email northtyneside@mha.org.uk

Walking group in Wallsend Parks

Join the Wallsend Social Prescribing team for a free monthly walk through the scenic Wallsend Hall Grounds and Richardson Dees Park. Suitable for all abilities, the walk follows paved paths, lasts about an hour, and offers options to stop or shorten the route. Meet outside the Verandah Café in Richardson Dees Park, NE28 8RH, on the second Thursday of each month between 10:45am and 11am. For more information, contact Robbie on 07708 485 778.



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MOSS

InflataNation
Inflatable Themeparks

THE WORKS

TRESPASS

Poundland

SUBWAY

NEWCASTLE QUAYS RETAIL PARK



GREGGS NOW OPEN

We are delighted to announce that Greggs have opened their store in unit 55 and ready to serve their delicious range of food made with fresh, flavour-packed ingredients. Whether you're craving a Roast Chicken Salad Sandwich or something a little different like their Sweet Potato Bhaji & Rice, there's something tasty waiting for everyone. At Greggs, it's all about enjoying the food you love as part of a healthy, balanced lifestyle.

FAMILY FAVOURITES AT NEWCASTLE QUAYS

Looking for something to do during your shopping trip at Newcastle Quays? Get locked and loaded for some retro and modern gaming fun at The Arcade Warehouse, bounce off some energy at InflataNation, or meet small animals and fish at Planet Pets—there's something for everyone to enjoy.



DEALS, OFFERS & DISCOUNTS



Discover incredible savings on top brands at outlet prices, including Clarks Outlet, Next Outlet, Moss, Trespass, and more. Whether you're updating your wardrobe, refreshing your footwear, or gearing up for the outdoors, there's something for everyone.



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to visit our website

