

Northumberland news

Autumn 2019



Fire safety advice

Investing in your county

Top tips to stop food waste

What's On?



Northumberland
County Council

www.northumberland.gov.uk



Public Health
England

GIVE **QUITTING**

A GO THIS STOPTOBER

Stop smoking for **28 days** and join thousands of others doing the same this October.

Search Stoptober for support to help you quit smoking.



BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY
ONE YOU

INSIDE *this issue*



Available online, by email or in print.

Northumberland News is a magazine packed with features and news articles written specifically for county residents.

Published quarterly, it is distributed free of charge by Northumberland County Council. Every effort is made to ensure that all information is accurate at the time of publication.

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FRONT COVER

Photo: Pupils at the new Morpeth First School which opened its doors in September

NEW *Winter Festival* LAUNCHED

We've launched a new Winter Festival to celebrate and promote events taking place across Northumberland up until March 2020.

The Great Northumberland Winter Festival will celebrate the amazing arts and cultural activity that is happening across the county for the enjoyment of local residents and visitors.

Many of the events in the festival are being supported by our Northumberland Cultural Fund which offers small grants to encourage new, free and accessible events.

This seasonal festival is a continuation of the Great Northumberland Summer Programme which offered a diverse range of arts, culture and heritage events across the county.

To find out more go to

www.greatnorthumberland.co.uk

Photo *Competition*

Autumn is the perfect time for budding photographers to grab that shot showing Northumberland in a different light!

Discover our Land is encouraging local people to get outdoors and capture their favourite days out with a new photo competition.

Your photograph can be of anything as long as it celebrates Northumberland, so whether it's a walk in the woods with your pet, a family cycle ride in the countryside or a visit to your favourite place, we want to see it.

There are some great prizes up for grabs for the winners.



**TO FIND OUT
MORE go to**
www.discoverourland.co.uk



PRODUCED IN NORTHUMBERLAND

HITS ONE HUNDRED

Produced in Northumberland, a scheme to promote food and drink produced entirely in the county is celebrating its 100th business member.

Grannies Tearoom and Delicatessen, of Alnwick, sells a wide selection of local produce and is the latest business to join the scheme.

Produced in Northumberland is run by the council with the aim of highlighting and promoting the local businesses that make, sell or serve foods produced within the county.

Grannies owner Martina Potter said: "We are very excited to be a part of the scheme which provides excellent opportunities for promotional advertising. It's great that, through social media and the Produced in Northumberland network, so many more people will be able to hear about our business."



Grannies Tearoom staff with their accreditation



Food tourism
brings almost

£302 million

to the local economy
and accounts for

**31% of all tourism
employment**



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION visit www.producedinnorthumberland.co.uk

THOUSANDS LINE STREETS FOR TOUR OF BRITAIN



A wave of excitement swept through Northumberland last month when the OVO Energy Tour of Britain, the UK's premier cycle race, rolled through the region.

**NORTH
OF TYNE**
~~~~~  
**COMBINED  
AUTHORITY**



HERE ARE JUST SOME OF THE IMAGES THAT CAPTURE THE EXCITEMENT OF THE DAY...

Thousands of residents and school children lined the 114 mile route to cheer on some of the world's top teams and riders.

Communities and businesses also joined in the spirit of the occasion by decorating the route and their shop fronts.

Stage Three of the Tour started in Berwick upon Tweed, passing along the Tweed Valley to Wooler before heading down the coastline into North Tyneside and culminating in a dramatic finish on Grey Street in Newcastle.

An estimated 150,000 people came out to watch the race go by.

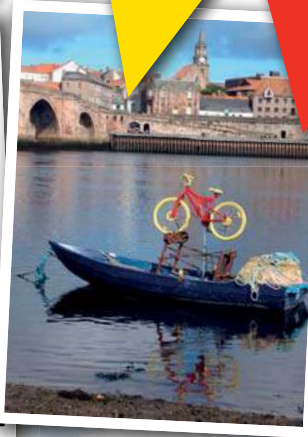
A school art competition was run by the council as part of our celebrations to mark the arrival of the Tour.

Pupils were invited to design a Northumberland themed cycling jersey and we had a great response with 47 schools taking part.

The winning designs were printed onto a jersey, framed and presented to their school. There were also some fantastic cash prizes to spend on sporting activities and school trips.









# Award winners show their **LOVE** for Northumberland

The very best in community and voluntary environmental work across the county was celebrated at a special LOVE Northumberland awards event.

The awards shine a spotlight on the work that individuals and groups do, largely in a voluntary capacity, to keep their local areas green and clean, day in and day out, right across Northumberland.

24 groups, organisations, schools and individuals were honoured with winner, runner-up or highly commended awards across eight categories.

Representatives of all shortlisted entries attended the event at The Alnwick Garden, which was hosted by BBC Newcastle Presenter Anna Foster with awards presented by The Duchess of Northumberland.

## SCHOOLS GO SMARTER SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL AWARD:

**Winner**  
Stannington First School

**Runner-up**  
Mickley First School

## BEST CHILDREN'S PROJECT:

**Winner**  
Warkworth C of E Primary School  
- Warkworth Primary Eco Club

**Joint runner-up**  
Eastlea Primary School (Cramlington)  
- Eastlea's Recycling Superheroes

**Joint runner-up**  
Scremerston First School - gets to 'The Point' about Beach Pollution

## BEST YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROJECT:

**Winner**  
Cramlington Hillcrest Special School  
- The Bungalow Garden Project

**Runner-up**  
Prudhoe High School  
- Prudhoe Proud Hill Project Group

## BEST URBAN PROJECT:

**Joint winner**  
Residents of Mains Place (Morpeth)  
- Mains Place

**Joint winner**  
Friends of Ridley Park (Blyth)  
- Ridley Park Enhancement Project

**Runner-up** Tweedmouth Pickers  
- Community Litter Picks



## BEST COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT:

**Winner**  
Kielder Water Vole Partnership  
- Restoring Ratty

**Joint runner-up**  
Sea Change (Berwick)  
- Plastic Free Berwick-upon-Tweed

**Joint runner-up**  
Coast Care Volunteers -  
(Northumberland) Coast Care

**Highly commended - larger project**  
BDMLR Northumberland Volunteers  
- British Divers Marine Life Rescue

**Highly commended - smaller project**  
Spetchells (Prudhoe) Conservation  
Interest Group - Spetchells Habitat  
Rescue





# LOVE

## Northumberland

*Caring for our county.....*



### BEST NEW PROJECT:

#### Winner

Friends of Eastwood Park (Prudhoe) -  
Miners Lamp Community Cafe  
and Hub

#### Runner-up

Amble Men's Shed

#### Highly commended - larger project

Tyne Rivers Trust - My Tyne: Adopt a  
Stream

#### Highly commended - smaller project

Heddon Branches - Victrix Tree Sculpture



### OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL:

#### Outstanding young person

Rayer Waddell

#### Outstanding wildlife advocate

John Anderson

#### Outstanding community, environmental and sustainable transport champion

Maria Holdsworth

#### Highly commended for community action

Tom Grimwood

#### Highly commended for community action

Edward Milligan



# What a difference a mile makes

Stamfordham Primary is one of the latest schools to embrace The Daily Mile, a national initiative aimed at introducing at least one session of exercise into the timetable each day.



The Daily Mile is a physical activity where children at school are encouraged to simply walk, run or jog for fifteen minutes each day in the fresh air with friends. It is fun, free and easy to do and is being backed by Northumberland County Council.

Studies show that The Daily Mile improves children's health, happiness and even school results. They eat and sleep better, they concentrate more in class and they feel happier.

These findings are backed by Headteacher Claire McKinney who explained how the Daily Mile is working at Stamfordham Primary: "We started running the initiative around 10 months ago, and during that time we have seen a real difference in concentration levels, especially post lunch time.

"Our students don't stop to get changed, they just go out in their school uniform, pulling on outdoor shoes or coats if needed. They do their exercise and then come back in and carry on with whatever they left behind. Staff and students all enjoy it, and it has even become a bit competitive with the older children!"

**In Northumberland, 40 schools are now taking part in the Daily Mile.**

# *Did you know* **YOU COULD SAVE A DELICIOUS £38 A MONTH**

**As a nation, UK households waste 7 million tonnes of food every year, 5 million of which is edible.**

We're not talking egg shells, or bones from your chicken. We mean the last few bites from your plate that you couldn't quite manage, or your bread crusts, or potato peelings – all stuff which could have been transformed into something delicious.

Those 5 million tonnes are enough to fill 40 million wheelie bins, or 100 Royal Albert Halls. It's a lot, but we have the power to change this.

Saving food means saving money, and it's great for the environment too!



**FOR MORE TIPS** and delicious recipes  
go to [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)



## HERE ARE JUST A FEW TOP TIPS TO GET YOU ON YOUR WAY

Too much milk in the fridge?

Whizz it up with ice-cream and end of the fruit bowl fruit into a delicious home made milk shake.

Cube your cream – Freeze the end of the cream, creme fraiche etc and thaw it another day for that curry sauce, soup, gravy or cheeky little mince pie.



Didn't know you could freeze yoghurts? Yes you can.

Soup is a good way of using up your Sunday roast vegetables.

Blend it with stock and a few herbs. Easy, quick and nutritious.

Eaten frozen they are a healthy ice-cream alternative, and if you freeze a lolly stick in a mini yogurt they make a lovely ice-lolly.

Avoid throwing out food by keeping it fresher longer. Check your fridge is between 0 and 5 degrees.

You can save even more money by planning your week's meals and remembering to include the things from the back of the cupboard and the fridge before they go out of date.

Save yourself money by writing a shopping list then take a picture of it on your phone. There is a much better chance you'll remember your phone than a piece of paper.

## STOP TOBER CHALLENGE

### Can you quit for 28 days?

All Council Sites are now smoke free

### Could you be smoke-free for 28 days during October?

The national Stoptober campaign is encouraging smokers to quit for that long - and we're here to help.

**Did you know...** you're four times more likely to succeed if you get our help than trying to go it alone

We can prescribe the medication to help manage the cravings and help you to think differently so you can change your behaviour.

**And...** you're five times more likely to quit for good if you manage to stop for 28 days.

It is never too late to quit and you will start to see real health benefits very quickly.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on stopping smoking and Northumberland NHS Stop Smoking Service, call 01670 813135 or visit [www.northumbria.nhs.uk/stopsmoking](http://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/stopsmoking)



Margaret Underwood,  
cancer survivor



**1 in 3 women who get breast cancer are over 70, so don't assume you're past it.**

**BE CLEAR ON CANCER**



**HospiceCare**  
NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND  
Caring for Life



**active**  
Northumberland

## Active Minds Local Dementia Football



Are you living with dementia? Would you like to play Walking Football with Newcastle United Community Coaches?  
**WELL YOU CAN!**

Events happening in ALNWICK & BERWICK from September 2019

More info/to book please contact our HospiceCare Admiral Nurse  
ALNWICK: 01665 606515 or BERWICK 01289 309997

[www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk](http://www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk)

Email: [nursingteam@hospicecare-nn.org.uk](mailto:nursingteam@hospicecare-nn.org.uk)

Registered Charity  
Number 1103635



## DO YOU NEED A BUDDY TO HELP YOU GET ACTIVE?

Would you like to enhance your mental health by becoming more physically active?

Would it be helpful to have someone to accompany you at an activity and provide some encouragement?

BEING ACTIVE MATTERS is an innovative, social project which can support you in taking that first step. It is being supported by the council and Sport England.

### WHO CAN ACCESS THIS PROJECT?

If you live in the north or west of Northumberland and are interested in improving your mental wellbeing by becoming more physically active, we can support you.

You can be referred by your GP, a health professional, or you can self-refer via the contact details below.

### WHAT SUPPORT CAN I EXPECT?

We will try and find a 'buddy' to join you at a physical activity class or group to support you and help you gain confidence. Walking, running, visits to the gym, a game of golf - whatever you are interested in, we will try and help.



**TO FIND OUT MORE** please contact Talking Matters Northumberland on 0300 303 0700 or [info@tmnorthumberland.org.uk](mailto:info@tmnorthumberland.org.uk)

Talking Matters  
Northumberland

Please join us at our  
Conference 2019  
'It Starts With You'

healthwatch  
Northumberland

Healthwatch Northumberland is the independent champion for people who use NHS and social care services

- Listening Workshops
- Guest Speakers
- Film
- Free Raffle
- Lunch provided
- Review of the Year
- Information Buffet
- Find out about local services
- Share your experience



Phoenix Theatre, Blyth  
Wednesday 16 October 2019  
10.00am - 3.30pm

If you live or work in Northumberland we'd love to see you there!



Register for free by calling: 03332 408468  
or visit: [bit.ly/HWNConference2019](http://bit.ly/HWNConference2019)



**Alcohol before 18.  
What's the harm?**

**Like tobacco, alcohol is harmful.**

We now know just how harmful alcohol before 18 can be. It can affect your child's developing brain, cause physical and mental health problems, and make them more likely to become a heavy drinker when they are older. Find out what every parent needs to know about drinking before 18 at [whatstheharm.co.uk](http://whatstheharm.co.uk)

**BALANCE**  
Getting the measure of alcohol



# Investing in education for all

Multi-million pound investments in new schools and school improvements across Northumberland are part of the council's largest ever capital programme, improving education prospects for all.



## IN THE NORTH:

**Berwick:** At least £15million has been allocated for a new school to replace the ageing Berwick Academy buildings. Many of the buildings date back to the 1950s and are in a state of disrepair. The school site is also spread across a large area..

**Amble:** At James Calvert Spence College in Amble, the council is working with representatives to develop a business case for a school that is truly fit for purpose. The town is growing, having seen over 2,000 new houses approved in recent years, and it needs a school suitable for the 21st century.

## IN CENTRAL NORTHUMBERLAND:



**Morpeth:** The new £6.8million Morpeth First School opened its doors to pupils last month. The brand new state of the art teaching facilities and fantastic sporting and play facilities have been warmly welcomed by children, parents and teachers alike.



**Ponteland:** Work is well underway on the landmark £46million combined schools and leisure campus in Ponteland. The existing leisure centre will be demolished after the construction of two new schools and a leisure centre with swimming pool, fitness suite, sports hall, Clip-N-Climb, soft play and outdoor sports facilities. The development is scheduled for completion by September 2020.

## IN THE SOUTH EAST:

**Seaton Valley:** £21million has been allocated for new school buildings which will become part of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools. Science laboratories, art and design studios and sports facilities with ICT integrated throughout will aid teaching and learning there.

**Blyth:** The council has run a competitive process for bids for a trust to run a new free special school, which would be located in Blyth. The deadline for applications was 30 September and these are now being considered.

## IN THE WEST:

**Haydon Bridge:** Work is underway on building improvements at Haydon Bridge High school as part of a £4.5million project which will see a new main entrance and vocational centre, improvements to the main hall, library, sports hall changing facilities and the performing arts and learning hub areas. The sixth form is also being relocated.

Improvements have been completed at primary schools in the Haydon Bridge partnership including at Otterburn, Greenhaugh and Wark.

**Haltwhistle:** The council is proposing to contribute up to £2.5million on a £2.65million project to convert the current Haltwhistle Middle School buildings to become home for a new Haltwhistle Primary School, part of Wise Academies. This is due to be endorsed by the full council in November.

**Hexham:** A £36.1million development will see a new high school and a new middle school built on the current Queen Elizabeth High School site. The council has been working with Hadrian Learning Trust to develop proposals to replace the current ageing and increasingly unsuitable school buildings and a planning application has now been submitted.





# INVESTMENT News



## PLANS APPROVED FOR BERWICK'S NEW LEISURE CENTRE

Berwick's new state of the art £20 million leisure centre is a step closer to reality after being granted planning permission, with work due to start on-site in November.

The facility will be built on the site of the current Swan Centre and work will be carried out in phases to ensure that residents can still access sports and leisure facilities. Phase 1, which includes the new swimming pool and fitness suite is due to open in April 2021. The full new building is expected to be open in summer 2022.

Designed by GT3 Architects, the centre will feature a five-lane, 25m swimming pool, a teaching pool, leisure pool and spa facilities. There will be a sports hall, indoor bowls, fitness studios, a cafe and a sensory room. Outside there will be a 3G full-size playing pitch, play park and trim trail and parking for 175 cars.

## REFURBISHED WENTWORTH BOASTS BEST GYM

Work to refurbish and revitalise Wentworth Leisure Centre in Hexham is now complete with the centre boasting one of the best gyms in the north east, upgraded changing areas and a newly designed modern reception and cafe.

The refurbishment is part of the council's ambitious £65 million investment programme to upgrade and transform sport and leisure facilities countywide.



## CAR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The council's £10million package of parking improvements continues, with over £500,000 spent ahead of the summer season carrying out improvements and increasing the capacity of car parks in Craster and Seahouses - both of which attract hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

## TOWN CENTRE FUNDING

Two of the county's market towns are benefiting from new funding.

### BLYTH



Blyth is one of 100 towns in the country which is set to benefit from the Government's £3.6 billion Town Fund. The town will now have the opportunity to develop plans to reinvent its town centre and receive up to £150,000 to support the development of detailed project proposals.

### HEXHAM

Hexham is set to establish a new High Streets Heritage Action Zone to deliver up to £2.4million of improvements to boost the town centre. Administered by Historic England, the programme aims to deliver physical improvements, community engagement and cultural activities to regenerate England's struggling historic high streets.





# Northumberland Community Bank



**simple loans  
effective savings  
for people not profit**

**JOIN US ONLINE >**

**[www.northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk](http://www.northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk)**  
**[enquiries@northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk)**  
**01670 522779**



## OUR BANK, OUR CUSTOMERS

We provide an ethical banking service for local people, not profit.

We offer affordable loans (from £300 to £15,000) and secure savings.

We prevent local people resorting to payday lenders, loan sharks and other high interest lenders.

Savings deposited with us create a fund to lend to local people. Accounts are available for children and adults, organisations, charities and businesses.

## HERE'S HOW WE ARE DIFFERENT:

- 🔒 We offer ethical loans tailored to individual requirements
- 🔒 Loan applications are looked at by a person not a computer
- 🔒 Loans are competitively priced with no hidden fees
- 🔒 We do not charge setting up or early repayment fees
- 🔒 We will be flexible if your personal circumstances or income changes

## OUR MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 🔒 A safe home for their savings\* and potential for an annual dividend
- 🔒 Knowledge that their money held with us is helping local people
- 🔒 Free savings and loan insurance protection

## HELP US TO HELP YOU:

**By supporting us, you know your community will benefit.**

**Join us online - Save with us - Borrow from us - Follow us on social media**

NCB is Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority FRN Number 214298

\*Savings up to £85,000 are automatically protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme



## Start SAVING for a Rainy DAY...

Whether you want to start saving for next year's holiday, put money aside for Christmas, or simply for a rainy day, Northumberland Community Bank can offer an easy way to save.

To start saving today, click –  
[www.northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk/how-do-i-join/](http://www.northumberlandcommunitybank.co.uk/how-do-i-join/)



# Reduce flood risk by being prepared

Being flooded is absolutely devastating and any steps that you can take to help protect your property, business and community can significantly lessen the impact. Here are some ways that you can be prepared:

## What should you do if you have to leave your home?

Here's a handy list of things to consider taking with you:

- Insurance details
- Landlord's details
- Spare glasses/contact lenses
- Medication
- Torch and wind-up radio
- Bottled water and food
- Warm clothing
- Baby nappies, food and toys



## Who can you contact about flooding?

Environment Agency 24-hour incident hotline 0800 807060

Floodline 24-hours 0345 988 1188 [www.gov.uk/flood](http://www.gov.uk/flood)

National Flood Forum 01299 403055 [www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk](http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk)

Northumberland County Council 0345 600 6400

Water supplier [ ]

Electricity supplier [ ]

Gas supplier [ ]

Insurance [ ]

Landlord [ ]

If you think your life is in danger call 999



## Your home could be at risk of flooding

Do you know what to do?



Flooding is dangerous and can happen very quickly. The effects can be devastating.

If it happens you can be prepared.

## What can you do now?

Check if you are at risk of flooding

Sign up to receive free flood warnings

Make a checklist of things you can take

It's really easy to take these actions:

- Call Floodline on 0345 988 1188
- Visit [www.gov.uk/flood](http://www.gov.uk/flood)



**FLOODING IS EXPECTED  
IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

Check to see if your insurance covers flooding



Know how to turn off gas, electricity and water supplies



Chat to friends and neighbours about how you could help each other

What would we do about school pick ups?

What would we do if our electricity went out?

Are there any vulnerable people who need help?

Who can we call for help?



## Where can you go for updates on flooding?

Follow us [@EnvAgencyYNE](https://twitter.com/EnvAgencyYNE)

Visit <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk>

## What can you do when you get a flood warning?

Check that your family, neighbours and pets are okay.



Move important things upstairs or to higher shelves, so they don't get covered in dirty flood water.



## How can you slow, or stop flood water coming into your home?

You can use plastic bags or pillow cases and fill them with soil to help stop water coming up through your sink or toilet.

You could buy flood boards to help stop water coming through the door.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE SUPPORT with any of the areas raised or are interested in becoming a Flood Warden or would like help creating a Community Flood Plan and Flood Action Group please contact [Colin.Hall@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.Hall@environment-agency.gov.uk)



**FLOODS  
DESTROY  
BE PREPARED**

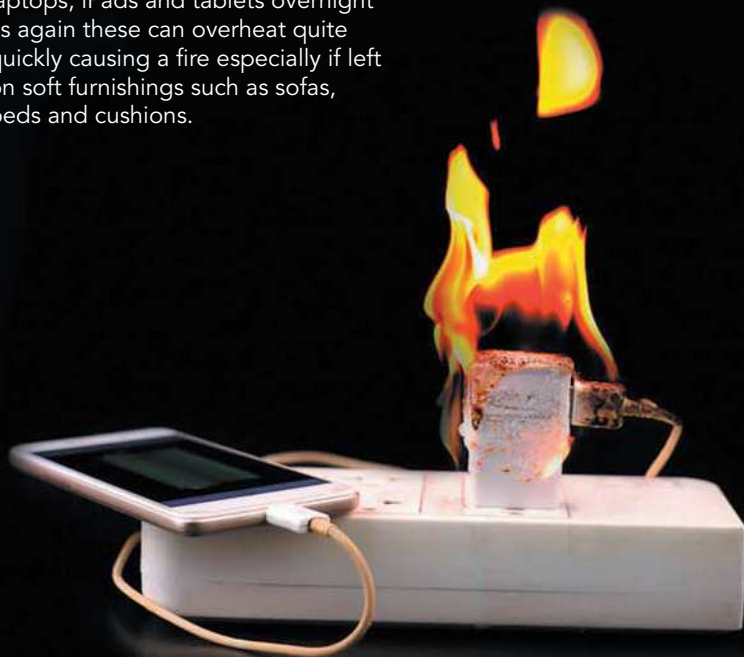
# SAFETY

## *at home*

We believe that the best way to keep you safe from fire is to help you understand common risks and reduce them in your home.

Here are some of our firefighters' top tips to keep you safe...

- ✓ Most home fires start in the kitchen so take care when cooking and make sure you do not overload the sockets.
- ✓ Unplug appliances such as kettles, toasters, washer dryers and dishwashers as these are high-voltage electrical equipment and can cause a fire.
- ✓ Never charge mobile phones, laptops, iPads and tablets overnight as again these can overheat quite quickly causing a fire especially if left on soft furnishings such as sofas, beds and cushions.
- ✓ We always recommend approved cables and chargers as some cheaper options don't always contain the correct safety components.
- ✓ When you sleep you lose the sense of smell and it only takes two to three breaths of toxic smoke before you become unconscious - however you never lose your hearing so always fit a smoke alarm in your property.



## WHIRLPOOL DRYER RECALL



Whirlpool is recalling tumble dryers sold under the Hotpoint, Indesit, Swan, Creda and Proline brands between 2004 and 2015.

### WHAT TO DO NEXT

If you believe you have an affected model please check by calling 0800 151 0905 Or by checking at <https://safety.hotpoint.eu/dryercheck>

If you have an affected appliance unplug it and do not use it until it has been replaced or modified.

If you have an affected appliance you will have the option to:

- ✓ have it replaced free of charge
- ✓ opt for an upgrade
- ✓ have it fixed by an engineer
- ✓ choose a refund (depending on the age of their product).



**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION**  
please visit the  
Whirlpool website at:

<https://dryerrecall.whirlpool.co.uk/>

**FOR ANY GENERAL ADVICE**  
call Citizens Advice Consumer  
Services on **03454 040506**



# NEWS in Brief

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS FOR MORPETH

It was a real family occasion for the 90th anniversary of Carlisle Park in Morpeth.

The official opening was held in September 1929, attended by the six-year-old Viscount Morpeth, the son and heir of the Earl and Countess of Carlisle. Almost a century later the Right Hon Philip Howard, the Viscount's grandson, visited the park to ceremonially reopen the main gates and meet community groups and local schoolchildren.



## RSPCA GOLD STAMP OF APPROVAL

Our Animal Welfare Team has been given the gold stamp of approval by the RSPCA for their work with stray dogs.

The team were recognised for their work to educate owners about responsible pet ownership and preventative measures to reduce straying.

Last year the team dealt with 672 stray dog cases, either returning the dogs to their owners or taking them to a place of safety.

## RESTORING HIRST PARK TO ITS FORMER GLORY

Work is progressing well on a multi-million pound scheme to restore an historic Ashington park to its former glory.

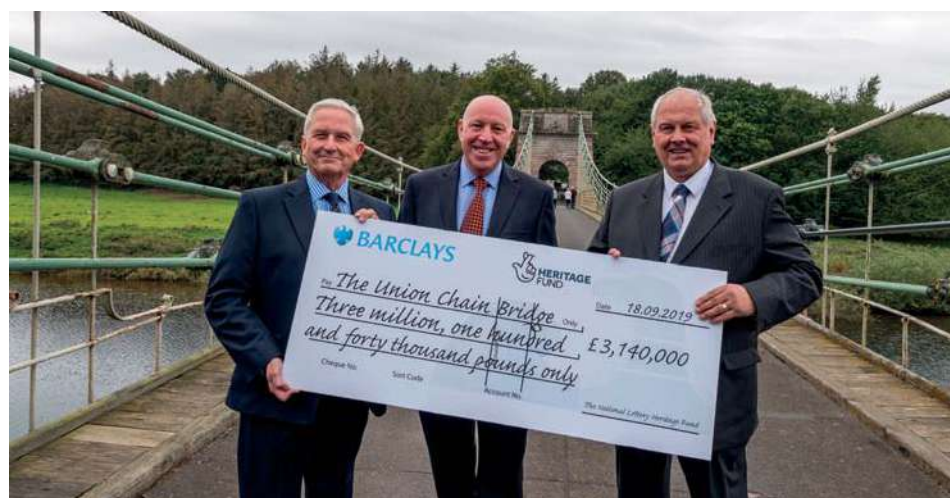
Northumberland County Council successfully secured £2.29million National Lottery funding to rejuvenate Hirst Park, create a new play area including a water feature and restore the greenhouses and buildings.



## EXHIBITION SHOWCASES REFUGEE ART

A creative arts project *Open Door* has been incredibly successful in bringing refugee families who have resettled in the county together to talk, share their experiences and develop friendships while creating some fantastic artwork which reflects their personal memories and experiences.

Last month a free exhibition was held in Blyth and Cramlington to showcase work created by families and artists.



## BRIDGE'S FUTURE SECURED AFTER LOTTERY WINDFALL

The future of the oldest operational suspension bridge in the world has been secured.

The Union Chain Bridge has received £3.14million from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to allow a major programme of repairs to get underway early next year.

The success was celebrated with a visit to the bridge by His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester.

The funding bid was put together by the County Council, Scottish Borders Council (SBC), Museums Northumberland and community group Friends of the Union Chain Bridge, following serious concerns about the condition of the famous structure.

## COMMUNITY GRANTS AVAILABLE

Community groups, charities and young people in the county can apply for funding from our much valued community grant scheme.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to help deliver activities that benefit residents and communities. For further information visit: [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

## KIELDER MARATHON WEEKEND

Kielder Water and Forest Park is set to stage Britain's most beautiful marathon which draws in over 3,000 competitors from across the UK.

The council, Active Northumberland and Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust are supporting and sponsoring this fantastic event which is taking place on October 12-13.



# LEARN TO SWIM

with Active Northumberland

Learning to swim is an essential life-saving skill as well as being a FUN activity with many health benefits. Learn to swim with Active Northumberland and there are even more benefits!



**We currently have places available on all stages.**

**Please give us a call for more information or to book a place.**

**01670 620200**



Coming soon to  
**Wentworth Leisure Centre**



Provided  
**FREE**  
of charge

SWIMTAG is a training aid and monitoring system that tracks your progress in the pool.

SWIMTAG records the number of lengths, split times, stroke rate and stroke type

After your swim, return SWIMTAG to the centre's docking station and all your performance data is analysed and uploaded automatically for you to view online.

Set specific goals and take part in challenges and MORE!

## REFER A FRIEND OFFER

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## October

### Harry Potter Fun and History In One

9, 15, 16, 22, 23 October  
Market Place, Alnwick  
11am - 4.30pm

Join us as we combine the history of Alnwick Castle, fascinating tales of the Percy family and the wonderful magical world of Harry Potter. Learn all about the castle's features and the films and tv series that were filmed there. Explore the Alnwick Treehouse and bookworms can enjoy a visit to the largest second-hand bookshop in Europe, Barter Books

[www.lundgrentours.com/book-tours/harry-potter-fun-and-history-in-one-alnwick-weekly-tour](http://www.lundgrentours.com/book-tours/harry-potter-fun-and-history-in-one-alnwick-weekly-tour)

Adult £25 day ticket,  
Child (aged 5-16) £15 ticket.  
Children under 5 are free

### Memories of the cinema

Wednesday 9 October  
Kirkley Hall, Ponteland.  
at 2pm

Professor John Derry talks about the golden age of the cinema, the invention of sound recording and the work of famous producers.

Organised by Friends of Kirkley Hall, £3 non members. £2 members.

All welcome. Pay on the door.  
[friendsofkirkleyhall@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofkirkleyhall@yahoo.com)

### The Nutcracker Ballet

Sunday 13 October  
Maltings Theatre,  
Berwick upon Tweed  
3pm - 5pm

The Russian National Ballet returns to The Maltings with a production of The Nutcracker. This beautiful performance tells the story of Marie, a sad little girl, whose godfather, Drosselmeier, gives her a Nutcracker doll as a present on Christmas Eve. In her lively imagination it turns into a prince and the magic starts  
Single £24, Concession £22, Child £18  
[www.maltingsberwick.co.uk](http://www.maltingsberwick.co.uk)

### Christmas comes early to Heatherslaw

Sunday 17 October  
Heatherslaw Visitor Centre, Heatherslaw,  
Cornhill-on-Tweed, TD12 4TJ  
5pm - 8.30pm

A special late-night-shopping event with lots of local produce, tastings, hampers large and small, plenty of gift ideas as well as stocking fillers for the children.

[www.ford-and-et al.co.uk](http://www.ford-and-et al.co.uk)



### Looking Back at Hay Farm

Saturday 19 -  
Sunday 20 October  
Hay Farm, Near Heatherslaw,  
Ford, TD12 4TR  
10am - 4pm

Learn about life on the farm in days gone by when the land was worked by heavy horses. Meet these gentle giants and see demonstrations. There is also a market selling local crafts and produce.

[www.ford-and-et al.co.uk](http://www.ford-and-et al.co.uk)



### Men of Oar

Wednesday 23 October  
The Maltings Theatre,  
Berwick upon Tweed  
5pm - 8pm

Robin Drysdale and four friends set off to row 3000 miles across the Atlantic for charity. Expecting to spend up to 50 days on a 30 foot boat in waves the size of houses, the challenge was not expected to be easy. Robin, a rower from Berwickshire, shares the highs and lows of his journey, and the lessons learned.

Tickets £10  
[www.maltingsberwick.co.uk](http://www.maltingsberwick.co.uk)

### Pop up Planetarium

Thursday 24 October  
Alston Town Hall,  
Alston, CA9 3RF  
10am

Discover the story behind the first moon walk with the screening of 'CAPCOM GO! The Apollo Story' in an immersive planetarium dome. Suitable for ages seven plus and lasts for 30 minutes. You will need to sit on the floor and are advised to bring a small cushion with you.

Tickets £5  
[www.NorthPenninesStarFest.org.uk](http://www.NorthPenninesStarFest.org.uk)





### Pumpkin Trail

Saturday 26 October -  
Sunday 3 November  
Woodhorn Museum,  
QE II Country Park, NE63 9YF  
10am - 4pm

Can you find all the pumpkins that are hiding in the shadowy corners of Woodhorn Museum? Find all the hidden pumpkins and be rewarded with a sweet treat. Membership is required for entry onto the museum site  
**Adult: £7 annual pass.**

**Concession (OAP and student) £6**

**Children 16 and under are admitted free.**

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

### Creatures of the Night

Tuesday 29 - Wednesday 30 October

Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre, Low Hauxley, Amble, NE65 0JR

7pm - 9pm

An evening walk around the reserve in search of bats and other nocturnal creatures. Check camera traps to see what has been lurking on the reserve during the night. The event includes a short talk about bats. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and bring a torch.

**Suitable for ages 7+.**  
**£5 per person. No dogs.**  
**Please book online.**  
[www.nwt.org.uk/events](http://www.nwt.org.uk/events)



### Spooky Afternoon Tea

Thursday 31 October  
Whitehouse Farm Centre,  
North Whitehouse Farm,  
Morpeth, NE61 6AW

Have a Spooktacular Halloween and treat yourself to a ghoulish afternoon tea.

The perfect end to your farmtastic day out. Children can join in with Halloween themed crafts, a wicked witch will be doing glitter tattoos & Magic Merlin will be popping in to cause some mischief and mayhem too.

Pre-booking is essential for this event, don't delay!

**For full details, times and prices go to [www.whitehousefarmcentre.co.uk](http://www.whitehousefarmcentre.co.uk)**



### Birds Of Prey

Thursday 31 October  
Woodhorn Museum,  
QEII Country Park  
10am - 4pm

Discover the fascinating world of birds of prey and see spectacular displays with the team from Ridgeside Falconry. 12 noon and 2pm (weather dependent).

**Membership is needed for entry to the museum**

**Adult: £7 annual pass**

**Concession £6**

**Children 16 and under are admitted free at all Museums Northumberland venues.**



## November

### Goldilocks Pantomime

Friday 29 November -  
Saturday 7 December.

Seaton Delaval Arts Centre,  
Blyth Street, Seaton Delaval,  
NE25 0DY

**Various Times**

Seaton Delaval Pantomime Society present an alternative to the well known story. Packed full of all of the usual show-stopping songs, audience participation and fun

**Adult £11, Concession £9**

[www.seatondelavalartscentre.com](http://www.seatondelavalartscentre.com)

### Shelter Box

Wednesday 13 November  
Kirkley Hall, Ponteland  
at 2pm

Jonathan Ewan talks about how some disasters that never make the news are helped by Shelter Box emergency shelters.

**Organised by Friends of Kirkley Hall, £3 non members.**

**£2 members. All welcome.**

**Pay on the door.**

**Further information:**

[friendsofkirkleyhall@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofkirkleyhall@yahoo.com)





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