

this is

Redcar & Cleveland

the council magazine for the local community

issue forty seven
winter 2021

Lighting up for Christmas!

Your guide to all the festive fun

Page 6 & 7



To contact the council call 01642 774774
or www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

 facebook.com/redcarcleveland or on  [@RedcarCleveland](https://twitter.com/RedcarCleveland)

Christmas & New Year WASTE COLLECTIONS

Great news... there is only ONE change to collection days this year. That change is for collections due on Tuesday 28 December. Bins need to be presented kerbside by **7am** on the morning of collection.

COLLECTION TYPE	NORMAL DAY	REVISED DAY
General waste	Tuesday 28 December	Wednesday 29 December
Recycling waste	Tuesday 28 December	Thursday 30 December
ALL OTHER COLLECTION DAYS	NO CHANGE	



WHAT GOES IN YOUR BLUE RECYCLING BIN

Yes please



- ✓ Aluminium foil trays (must be clean)
- ✓ Aerosols, cans & tins (aluminium & steel)
- ✓ Cardboard (clean and dry)
- ✓ Plastic pots, tubs & trays
- ✓ Glass bottles & jars
- ✓ Plastic bottles
- ✓ Hard plastic

No thank you



- ✗ Takeaway boxes
- ✗ All types of bags (plastic, black, white etc)
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Food waste
- ✗ Electrical / batteries
- ✗ Nappies
- ✗ Clothes
- ✗ Black plastic

DON'T PUT ELECTRICAL ITEMS IN YOUR BIN

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) no bigger than a kettle, e.g. toasters, mobile phones, drills and batteries, can be taken to any of the WEEE banks across the borough. There is one not far from you. For a full list of locations, please visit: www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/WEEE-Disposal-Banks

WEEE of all sizes can also be disposed of correctly at Dunsdale Recycling Centre and booking is essential. If you are really stuck, place your small electrical items in a clear bag at the side of your bin and we will try to fit them in our specially adapted safety cages on the side of the bin wagon.

Examples of WEEE and a list of where to find the WEEE banks can be found on our webpage: www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/waste-electricals



Dunsdale Recycling Centre Christmas Opening
Mon – Fri: 8am – 5pm | Weekends: 8am – 5pm
Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day

www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/dunsdale

Welcome...

...to the winter edition of the this is Redcar and Cleveland magazine.

We are nearing the end of another year when life has been far from normal, and I hope you and your loved ones are healthy and keeping safe.

Thoughts are inevitably turning towards Christmas and we all hope that we get the chance to spend this precious time with family and friends. This year will hopefully be more special as we didn't have the opportunity to share the special occasion last year.

We hope people will be able to come together to start the countdown to Christmas and this edition of the magazine includes details of what you will be able to see and share at events across our borough.

The pandemic has demonstrated the tremendous work that so many people do to help others in need and the heart-warming stories in the pages which follow show that this dedication continues and will do so into the future.

Whether it is the dedication in caring for children or the commitment to making lives better for everybody in their communities, it is right that these people get the recognition they don't seek, but so richly deserve.

Their kindness shines through and is typical of the community spirit which we see throughout Redcar and Cleveland.

It is also hugely encouraging to read the stories of young people who have overcome the odds to achieve a great start in life.

I'm sure we would all support providing a brighter future for all young people in our borough. They are our future and looking at their stories, the future is bright for our beautiful region.

Also, in this edition are the results of our residents survey. We asked for your views and I would like to thank everybody who took the time to reply. Your opinions will make a difference in the way our borough develops in the coming years.

Finally, I would like to wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy new year.

Councillor Mary Lanigan
Council Leader



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CHRISTMAS DE-LIGHTS: Erin and Byron Storey, aged seven and six, get ready for Christmas at St. Margaret's Church in Brotton. Photograph: Stuart Boulton.

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MEMORIES:
Faith, Jacob and
Lucy Sievert with
their beloved dad
and husband, Tom.

The family giving back... in memory of Tom

The Sievert family are aiming to install defibrillators across the borough in memory of husband and father-of-two, Tom, who died of a heart attack aged just 35... and have won the support of the council.

"TOM was the one who helped," explains Lucy Sievert, remembering her husband, "the one who would fix things, clean things up, always care. Someone said after he died that we should 'always be like Tom,' and we thought, 'that's it, that's what we should call the charity, 'Be Like Tom.' It's about the defibrillators - but also about changing our behaviour, being generous and kind."

Be Like Tom is the small, very family-orientated, charity based in New Marske that has had a big impact right across the borough since Tom's death in 2017. So far the

charity has installed 28 defibrillators and, after working with Adrian Harris, the council's Community Development Manager and his team, as well as the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS), is now likely to be able to source many more.

"The goal was to get 35, one for every year of his life," says Lucy, mum to her and Tom's children Faith, 11 and Jacob, 14, "but we think we'll be able to get much more than that now."

Tom's brother, Rob, explains Tom, a mechanical fitter and former SSI worker, was much loved across the

area and between 300 and 400 people attended his funeral with about £6,000 raised on collection plates and a Justgiving page. Since then, money has been raised through the sale of specially designed t-shirts and mugs, many celebrating Tom's love of cars. There have also been charity events and sometimes people have posted money anonymously through the family's home door.

"A defibrillator could save someone's life, says Tom's mum, Julie. "Maybe we can save someone else's son, husband or father. It is what Tom would have wanted us to do."

Find out more about the charity, including how to donate, and about how your organisation could install and look after a defibrillator, at www.beliketom.uk



WIDOW: Lucy Sievert

Major day for Kev's cadets!

MAJOR Kevin Gibson – a stalwart of the cadets for 44 years - has told of his pride after a refurbished Cadet Detachment Centre was opened by the Lord-Lieutenant.

Major Gibson, a refuse loader and driver at the council for 18 years, explained the centre at Bankfields, Normanby, had been closed due to vandalism but was reopened by the Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, Johanna Ropner, after a refurbishment with 20 cadets in attendance.

The father-of-two, who joined the Army Cadet Force (ACF) aged 13 in 1977 and started his working life as a farmer, said: "It was a proud day and I was proud of all our cadets who did brilliantly in the ceremony.

"The satisfaction you get working with the cadets is huge. We take them to camps in Germany and Cyprus, including some who wouldn't necessarily have the chance to go abroad, and to camps across Britain. You also see them really grow in confidence as they learn new skills. I've seen cadets come at 13, go on to join the Army and come back to help with the cadets after they finish. But it's not true to think it's all about recruiting for the Army. It's really about building

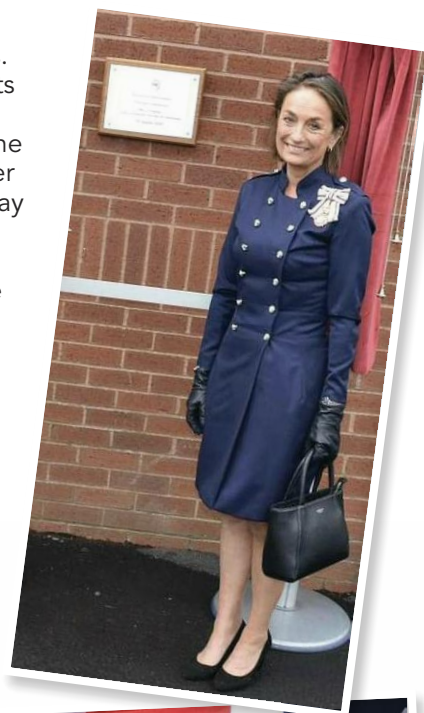
confidence in our young people and giving them a sense of achievement. They go on to all sorts of good careers.

"There have been so many highlights but the stand outs have been Prince Charles opening the Redcar unit and the biggest was when we were at the Tower of London for the ceramic poppy display for the First World War commemoration."

Also present at the reopening of the Detachment were, Cleveland Army Cadet Force Commandant Steve Ramsey, Staff Sergeant Nichole White and local councillor Chris Gallacher. Music was provided by members of the Corps of Drums playing a selection of marches.

Major Gibson has been married to Annette for 35 years and in his spare time can be seen walking with his two black Labrador dogs on one of our award-winning beaches.

Find out more about the ACF at www.armycadets.com



BIG DAY:
Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire Johanna Ropner opens the refurbished army cadet centre



It's beginning to look a lot like *Christmas!*

AS we head towards the month of mulled wine, mistletoe and memory-making, here's what you can expect to see on the streets of Redcar and Cleveland.

Redcar Lights Switch On Sunday 28 November

Christmas kicks off in spectacular style on Redcar High Street with a festive parade involving more than 200 residents, who have taken part in months of workshops with professional local artists, creating an array of lanterns and costumes for the theme of 'Fire and Ice'.

Also taking part will be professional performers Rag and Bone, Spark! Illuminated Drummers, Back Chat Brass and there will be creations by artists Mowenna Catt, Adele Catchpole and Shirley Wells. There will also be dance performances by The Imaginarium and Urban Kaos.

The parade, funded by the council and Tees Valley Community Foundation, commences from the Heart building at 4:30pm, heading to Station Road, Queen's Street, the High Street, West Terrace, Coatham Road, then back to the Heart.

Acts will perform on the stage situated at Redcar Clock from 5:30pm to 6:45pm, before the big Redcar lights switch on takes place.

Redcar Ice Trail Saturday 11 December

From 10am to 6pm, a winter walkabout will come to Redcar along the High Street and Esplanade. Expect exciting ice sculptures and a live ice carve and workshop with its very own ice post box, where the elves will help you write and post your letters to Santa.

There will be an array of festival characters including Piff Paff and Ray & Flash who were a hit with children last year when they helped bring illuminations to Christmas and this time will perform as the Disco Moth Electricians. Other performers will include The Winter Wonderland Birds with their illuminated fanned tails and The Jacks of Frost stilt walkers as well as Redcar and Cleveland's very own fire and ice queens.



New Marske Friday 26 November

The New Marske Christmas Parade leaves the New Marske Sports Club at 5pm. Led by the fire brigade, it will parade up Gurney Street to Longbeck Lane, Birkdale Road then to the Gleneagles Centre, where Santa will entertain the children, with a children's disco to follow.

'Sparkling Marske' Christmas Festival Thursday 2 December

A new, longer Santa Parade including real reindeers, pipers and local groups will leave Errington School at 6pm and finish in the grounds of Marske Hall.

From 4pm-6pm then 6:30pm 'til 8pm, Santa's Grotto can be found in The White House and the reindeers will be at St Mark's Church for feeding and petting.

At 4pm, there'll be a funfair in Marske Square, with brass bands and choirs from 6:25pm, hosted by Zetland FM.

A large craft fair and tombola with 400+ prizes is also on in Marske Leisure Centre, 3pm - 7:30pm, with hot food, drinks and alcohol available in the bar upstairs.

Free entry to festival; £2 per child for Santa's Grotto.



DRUM FUN: Festive drummers from Sparks Illuminated. Photograph by Pedro Mendes

CHRISTMAS DE-LIGHT:
Erin Storey, seven,
at St. Margaret's Church
in Brotton



Eston Christmas Market Friday 3 December

An open air market will be in Eston Town Centre Precinct from noon to 5:30pm. Crafts, foods and Christmas goodies will be on sale. Entertainment kicks off from 3pm, including stilt walkers, a children's mini-waltzer ride, face painting and snowboard simulator. Creative Christmas workshops and art packs will also be available from Eston Arts Centre.

Guisborough Tuesday 7 December (TBC*)

Guisborough Town Council and the Friends of Chaloner Street Market will host a Twilight Christmas Market, including an outdoor Santa's grotto and an array of street entertainment with fun for all the family.

*Please be advised that this event date is subject to road closure approval, therefore subject to change at short notice. Please check the Guisborough Town Council website for confirmed details of the event.

Saltburn, Marske and New Marske Community Carol Service

Thursday 16 December

Join the carol singers at 7pm at St. Mark's Church, Marske.

Pop-up Christmas at Kirkleatham Museum

4 & 5, 18 & 19 December
10am - 4pm

Kirkleatham Museum will host mini outdoor Christmas markets, featuring new local traders. Entertainment includes music, outdoor street theatre, Christmas Trails and mini workshops... you might also get a glimpse of Santa and his Elves!

For details, contact:
museumenquiries@redcar-
cleveland.gov.uk

Christmas at Kirkleatham Walled Garden Glasshouse

Please visit their website for details
www.kirkleathamwalledgarden.co.uk

Thyme to Bloom wreath-making workshop - £95

Thursday 2 December
10am - 1pm

A morning of Christmas wreath-making with festive light lunch.

Thyme to Bloom - wreath-making workshop - £95

Tuesday 7 December,
12:30pm - 3:30pm

An afternoon of Christmas wreath-making with festive afternoon tea.

The Plant and Terrarium Workshop - £49

Friday 17 December,
1pm - 2:30pm

Learn about fascinating, self-contained ecosystems in this hands-on workshop, where all the tools, materials and plants you'll need to build your very own terrarium (tiny garden in a glass tank or sealed bowl) will be provided. A complimentary mulled wine is included. To book, visit: www.theplantworkshop.co.uk

Boxing Day Dip 2021 11am

The Dip is back for 2021 when 'dippers' will hop into the North Sea via the Lifeboat Station slipway. Whether you're there purely for the fresh air, fancy dress or to raise money for a good cause, it's a great morning out! To register for the Dip itself, please visit the Rotary Club website at <https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=857796&ClubID=156>, or you can enter on the day. Price: £10

Please be advised that all events may be subject to Covid restrictions, if advised by the Government.

For further information on all the events across the borough please visit www.enjoyredcarcleveland.co.uk



Busy lives won't stop foster carers Doug and Ira

IT'S another busy day at the Moody house in Guisborough as Ira comes home from work, Doug prepares for a big family event and Faith grabs her homework before dinner. Busy, you suspect, like every day. Not that full-throttle lives have stopped this community-focussed family opening their door to vulnerable children.

"There's a lot you can do, even if you're working a lot and have a teenage daughter, like we do," says Doug, freelance photographer. "For us, it means committing to respite and emergency care. It's usually a short stay with us, but we hope we can offer some security and keep them safe."

Ira, a full time accountant, explains that whenever they offer a home to a child who needs fostering, the circumstances must also suit her family's needs. "Our daughter, Faith, is 13 and was 11 when we started fostering," she says. "So we asked to

be sure that if we had a boy he would always be two years younger than her and that has been possible. Of course, Faith really wants us to have babies she can cuddle!

"We did have one boy who was a bit older who had some special needs and he was just lovely."

The family have had 24 young people in the home in the past two years, including babies right through to teenagers. Most have been short stay but it hasn't all been easy. "We had one girl walking in the road, it was frightening," says Doug. "The police have called round before and you get some teenagers pushing boundaries, really finding out what the rules are. But, we've had many more positive experiences. It can be heart-breaking, you have to be prepared for that too."

Ira agrees. "We have them coming with no change of clothes from an urgent, emergency situation. Some

get scared and disoriented the first day or two - you really feel for them. You get some teenagers who might struggle to read, who've never had a really good, home-cooked, hot meal.

"We did have two girls, sisters, for 12 weeks, and they were really like family. I'm really big into education and it was so wonderful when we talked to the school and they said, 'their attitude is transformed.' That gives you the best feeling you can imagine. "

Doug stresses that the family have good support from council social workers. "They've been fantastic for us," he says. He also explains that there are many different types of fostering for many different types of families. "For us, it's about giving to our young people, and it is something we absolutely recommend to anyone who wants to make that difference to young lives."

Financial support, full training and extensive support is available to anyone becoming a foster carer. Contact the fostering team on 01642 444087 or foster@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Caring about care for refugee children

WHEN a young person or child fleeing a foreign regime arrives at the vast, alien port of Teesport, alone, confused and very often mistrustful, they don't yet know they have Elaine Spencer on their side. But it doesn't take long.

Elaine Spencer is the council's social worker for asylum seeking children and is always ready and dedicated to give them support.

Working closely with the port authorities, Elaine and her team play an essential role in assessing and looking after the children and young people's physical and mental health, supporting them into education, assisting with complex legal issues and helping them adapt to the different culture and language of the country, in order to become independent and integrated into the community.

To offer them further support, Elaine has developed a special 'orientation' group. Led by the youngsters themselves, the group approaches topics such as the asylum process, education, independent living and safety advice, with speakers invited to attend the meetings. It also has a fun side, a chance to relax, when the young people can play their cultural music, dance, sing and play sports, creating

their own support network and making friends.

"It's a fun, but also an emotionally safe place to come," says Elaine. "It's their group, but we're learning together from each other. There's a lot to learn in such a short time and our job is to make sure they understand all of this."

Despite the challenges, Elaine finds her job greatly rewarding. "They're my heroes. You don't need Superman and Spiderman when you see these young people who, after going through so much adversity, are striving to make a success out of their life."

The hard times are always followed by deeply fulfilling moments. Such was the day Elaine found out one of the boys she works with was able to contact his father in Afghanistan and speak with him over the phone, for the first time in years, after his family was found in a park outside the airport in Kabul.

"I got home and saw nine missed calls on my phone," remembers Elaine. "I called him back right away and as soon as he picked up, he told me; 'Elaine, I spoke to my dad.'"

"I was so happy for him. He was outside when he found out they contacted his father and he just fell on the floor and started crying out of happiness."

She also takes care to praise her equally dedicated co-workers, her manager, Edge of Care Team, family workers and business admin. "I'm no one-man band – they're all as passionate as I am."



Former boy refugee tells his story

THE true story of a 12-year-old boy who fled Afghanistan alone and crossed a continent held school children spellbound across the borough.

The pupils were told that story by the child – now a 28-year-old man – in his own words.

Guwali Passarlay spoke to the pupils directly and aimed to inspire them by explaining how he arrived in Bolton, aged 13, hoping to find his older brother.

The last time he had been at school was years before and he had little English. Despite that, he obtained 10 GCSEs and went on to gain a degree and a Masters and become a published writer.

Speaking to Year 9 children at schools across the borough including Freebrough Academy in Brotton, Guwali explained that in Afghanistan he was taught in a room with no roof. "Most children in the world would love to have what you have," he told the youngsters, explaining that he started in the bottom class for everything when he got to an English school but ended up with 10 GCSEs.

Mr Passarlay told the youngsters that his father, a doctor, was killed by US forces when he was 12 and the Taliban put pressure on him and his brother to join them. He escaped, walking through a number of countries including Iran, Turkey, Bulgaria and Italy and was arrested



and assaulted and placed in jail a number of times. He left the children with an important message: that small acts of kindness, like being given a drink or a chance to wash his clothes, kept him going and it is those small moments that still make him emotional today.

If you're worried about a child or teenager you suspect is a refugee call 01642 771500

Supermum tells of struggle...

and life-boosting support network

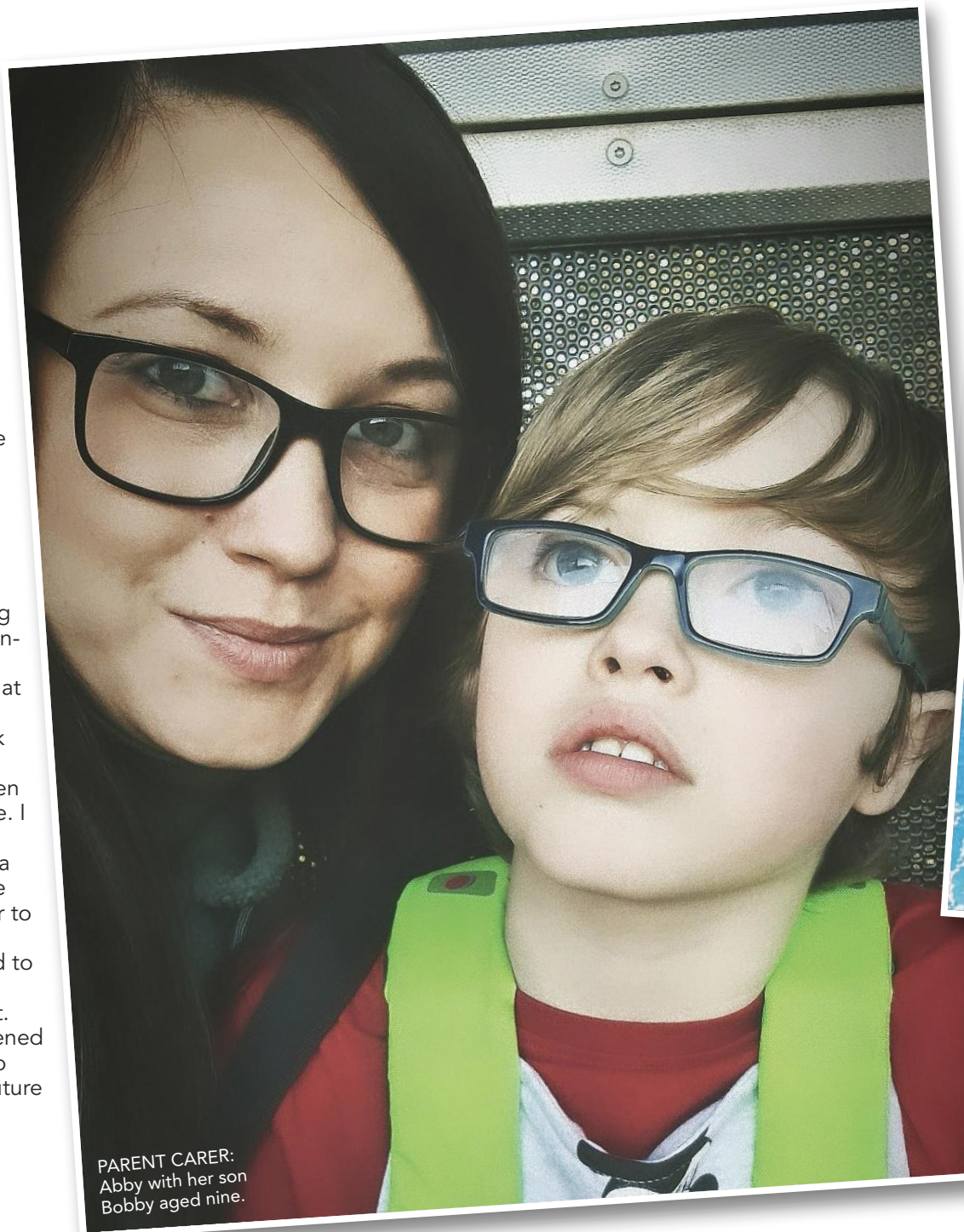
Abby Lewis of Marske gives her son Bobby specialist care 24 hours a day and is one of an estimated 16,000 unpaid carers in our borough. She has agreed to tell her story in her own words to help promote the We Care You Care information and advice website, designed to help all our heroic carers.

“MY NAME is Abby, I am a mum. I am a Parent Carer.

“Being a mum is the most amazing experience I have ever had the privilege of knowing. My unconditional love towards my two little people is what drives me every day. Their happiness is my priority and I live and breathe to provide for them and give them the best life I can. But being a Carer is overlapping my experience of being a mum and I’m mindful not to confuse the two.

“My son Bobby is nine, profoundly deaf, autistic, epileptic with sensory processing disorder, learning difficulties, non-verbal with a Pathological Demand Avoidance profile... what does all that mean? Basically, it means he needs round the clock care and 24-hour supervision.

“My caring journey hasn’t been easy... it’s not a job, it’s a lifestyle. I can’t switch off after a 10-hour shift, have a soak in the bath or a meal with friends, I don’t get the privilege of a full night’s sleep or to sit and enjoy my favourite programme. My life is dedicated to being a carer. When I became a mum, I had months to plan for it. When I became a carer, it happened overnight with no opportunity to prepare and no idea what our future looked like.



PARENT CARER:
Abby with her son
Bobby aged nine.

So, what is it like being a Parent Carer?

"In a nutshell it's exhausting, once the children are at school, I fit in working 16 hours a week, tidying the house, doing the washing and attend appointments. Just your usual 'parent' routine..."



FAMILY TIME:
Abby, Bobby and
Dottie aged four
last Christmas.

only, our days usually start at 2am, by the time the school run is due we are already six-hours into our day. I have dealt with multiple challenges, a meltdown, refusal to go to school and the house has been turned upside down.

"By school pick-up time, I have been awake 13 hours with the prospect of a further eight hours ahead of me, during which time I need to cook tea and do the bedtime routine whilst providing constant supervision to two children. Bobby is an opportunist, you must see it to believe it, even the shortest of distractions sees the bathroom getting flooded, him climbing out of a window or something getting broken... 24-hour supervision means just that, no time to sit and have a coffee whilst he plays in his bedroom, no time to even have a shower. He can't leave my sight, for his own safety and that of his four-year-old sister.

"Bobby usually crashes to sleep on the sofa around 10pm, this is my time to grab something to eat, iron the uniforms and get the school bags ready, tidy up from the evenings antics and by midnight I can grab a quick shower knowing that our day can start again in a few short hours.

"My days are non-stop, sleep deprivation affects my emotions, my patience, and my thought process. My carer brain battles against my mothering brain.

'How much longer can I keep this up?'

'What am I doing wrong?'

'What appointments do we have this week?'

'What does our future look like?'

'How much sleep am I getting tonight?'

"It's a daily battle. The mum in me wants to plan trips to the park, run around the beach or go on an adventure. The carer in me knows I can't do it on my own and is feeling defeated and tired.

"Being a carer in my early experience was isolating and lonely. I had no one to talk to and no one that understood how I felt. I was a new mum; my life was consumed by hospital appointments and care meetings amongst trying to catch up on sleep. One diagnosis followed the next and whilst my friends would be going on play dates, we were attending therapy and learning a new language.

"As the years passed, I joined a network of SEN support pages via social media, attended parent focused groups and teaching seminars. I soon learnt that the loneliness I once felt was shared by many just like me. Having a 'safe place' to talk about experiences, good and bad, somewhere to get advice and to be recognised changed everything for me, I learnt to accept that I was more than 'just' a mum and was entitled to guilt free self-care time.

"As Bobby gets older I have so many decisions to make, questions that need answering and so much to prepare for and I'm glad that carers are now getting recognised in the community and there is now a lot more help available to us, including 'We Care You Care', who have given me a voice to share my experience, along with offering an array of support via their website."



MAKING A SPLASH:
Bobby enjoying some time in the paddling pool.

The website www.wecareyoucare.info helps people who are looking after a loved one recognise they are in a caring role and makes them aware of local blogs, carers rights information, wellbeing advice, Covid-19 information and much more.

The Facebook page www.facebook.com/wecareyoucarelocal shares information relevant to local carers including activities, services and offers. Anyone with queries or who wants to discuss ways of working together should email hello@wecareyoucare.info

From care to caring...

TOM Patton has gone from being a young person in care to a young professional helping others in the same situation.

The 23-year-old former foster child has become a Youth Engagement Officer on the council's Kickstart scheme, which gives young people struggling to find work a chance.

"I think I can offer something personal," says Tom. "The young people ask me how I felt in their situation - they know they can speak to me."

Tom, who lives in New Marske, explained his mother died when he was two and he eventually entered foster care aged about 14 after a family carer struggled to cope.

He studied on a BTEC course at Redcar & Cleveland College where he was named Student of the Year and also received another award for overcoming adversity.

Tom, who explained he suffered some dark times as a child, eventually completed a two-year highways apprenticeship at the council but had yet another blow when he was told there was no job available at the end.

"I never stopped working though," he says. "I did all sorts, engineering, warehouse work, delivery driver, you name it. But I wanted to give something back. I wanted to work

with other young people like me. I know people in a similar situation to my situation but haven't moved on. I don't want that for other young people."

Tom explains that it can be hard working with young people leaving care. "A lot of them know me and know my background, and that can be hard," he says. "It's great because they know I'm one of them, but at the same time you have to put up a bit of a barrier. You're here to help. It could be helping find accommodation or getting them support. It's an important job. One day, I want to work in children's homes that focus on behavioural needs or for young people leaving

care where I can really help over a longer period of time."

For now, Tom is concentrating on gaining a new qualification in safeguarding and continuing to impress in his current role. He has also taken on two other part time jobs – working behind the bar at Boro FC and delivering pizzas – and has a focus on gaining qualifications from university in the near future.

"I love to work," he explains. "I started off in a small flat in Redcar, now I have my own place, a car, a kitten and my girlfriend. I'm very proud and I want other young people prepared to work to have the same as me."

Handypersons here to help

THE council's Handyperson and Adaptations Team offer assistance to older, disabled and vulnerable people across the borough by providing advice on housing options, minor and major housing adaptations as well as delivering a handyperson service for small jobs.

For more information and advice please call us on 01642 771500 or email HandyPersonAndAdaptations@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Food labelling law change

ALL businesses selling food and drinks are being made aware of a change in food labelling law to protect allergy sufferers.

The change to ensure the clearest possible labelling has come following the campaign by the family of Natasha Ednan-Laperouse, the teenager who died after eating a Pret a Manger baguette. More information is available on the Food Standards Agency website.



Meet Karen, Community Champion!

THE day Karen Winspear met a young girl who couldn't speak was the day her life changed forever.

She was at a 'Zumbathon' exercise fundraiser, designed to raise money for a specialist iPad to help the girl communicate, and also for Brotton's KTS Academy school for young people who need specialist provision.

Meeting that child had a profound emotional impact. It was then that Karen, who had worked in an office for 25 years in an accountancy firm, completely changed course to concentrate on working full time as a fitness instructor with Level 3 qualifications in helping older adults. She now delivers sessions to vulnerable groups, from children with autism to elderly people with dementia, and has created the Senses Wellbeing Centre C.I.C (Community Interest Company) in Skelton with financial help from the community as well as free time and labour from local businesses.

However, it is her specialist work with people with dementia which has



led to her gaining council funding to provide Dementia Friendly social afternoons. She also has support from the Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency to provide support for a number of other vulnerable groups, including children with special educational needs and their parents and siblings.

"Karen's energy and enthusiasm is inspiring," says Thea Fulton, Community Health Development Coordinator at the council. "The pandemic has had a significant impact on many people's psychological and physical health. Lifestyle changes due to the pandemic have meant some older people, including those living with

dementia, have become less active, which has led to muscle weakness and deconditioning as well as people becoming increasingly isolated. We feel passionately about getting people moving again in a social, safe and fun way which is why Karen is organising social afternoons that will include a nutritious lunch and a dementia friendly dance."

As Thea speaks, Karen finishes her drumming and exercise class for the over 50s group in her brightly coloured centre. One of the participants is aged 92. Bursts of laughter are regular occurrences. The next group begin to arrive to the sound of more happy chatter. Above us is a message on the wall: "I have dementia. My eyes do see. My ears do hear. I am still me. So let's be clear. My memory may fade. My walk may slow. I am me inside. Don't let me go."

Karen runs inclusive groups for all. More information can be found on her website and she may be contacted on 07794571933.

Phone system change

THE council's Adult Social Services team will be implementing a new telephone system over the coming weeks to make sure you can talk to us, when you need to.

All you will need to do is call

01642 771500 and choose option 1 for Adult Social Services. Once you have done that, you will then get a list of options that will guide you to the right person. Don't worry if you don't know who you need to speak

to, there will always be someone to answer you. We hope that this new system will mean that you can speak to someone, or get a message to someone, without any issues and your feedback will be welcome.

A day in the life of...

an anti-social behaviour officer

"I'VE done this for 15 years - and I love it," says Lisa Turner-Manders. "Every day makes you think on your feet."

Coming from a background in the Youth Offending Team, wife and mum-of-two, Lisa is no stranger to a challenging job. But the rewards that come with the role of Anti-social Behaviour Officer far outweigh the tough days.

"You meet such a variety of people and your involvement can be life changing. You might think you've only done something small but, to them, it's huge. It brings a lot of job satisfaction."

Lisa is the first to admit she cannot achieve results single-handedly and relies on a partnership approach. The team works closely with Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire, Children and Adult Services, housing providers, drug and alcohol services and many more.

"There are always two sides to a story," she says. "The job entails spending time with victims and providing reassurance to them, but

also spending time with those responsible. If we don't address the contributing factors, the problems remain unresolved. I had one person recently who was suffering with their mental health and too scared to access services alone, so I offered to accompany them. It's not really part of my role to do that, but sometimes we need to step outside the box to reach a resolution."

Morning

Lisa's day starts at 8am with the police morning meeting to discuss incidents reported, assess level of risk and vulnerability and 'problem-plan'. This is followed by checks of council systems for any reports of anti-social behaviour.

"It could be verbal abuse, rowdy parties, off-road vehicles...we've even had pigs in gardens!" she laughs.

Afternoon

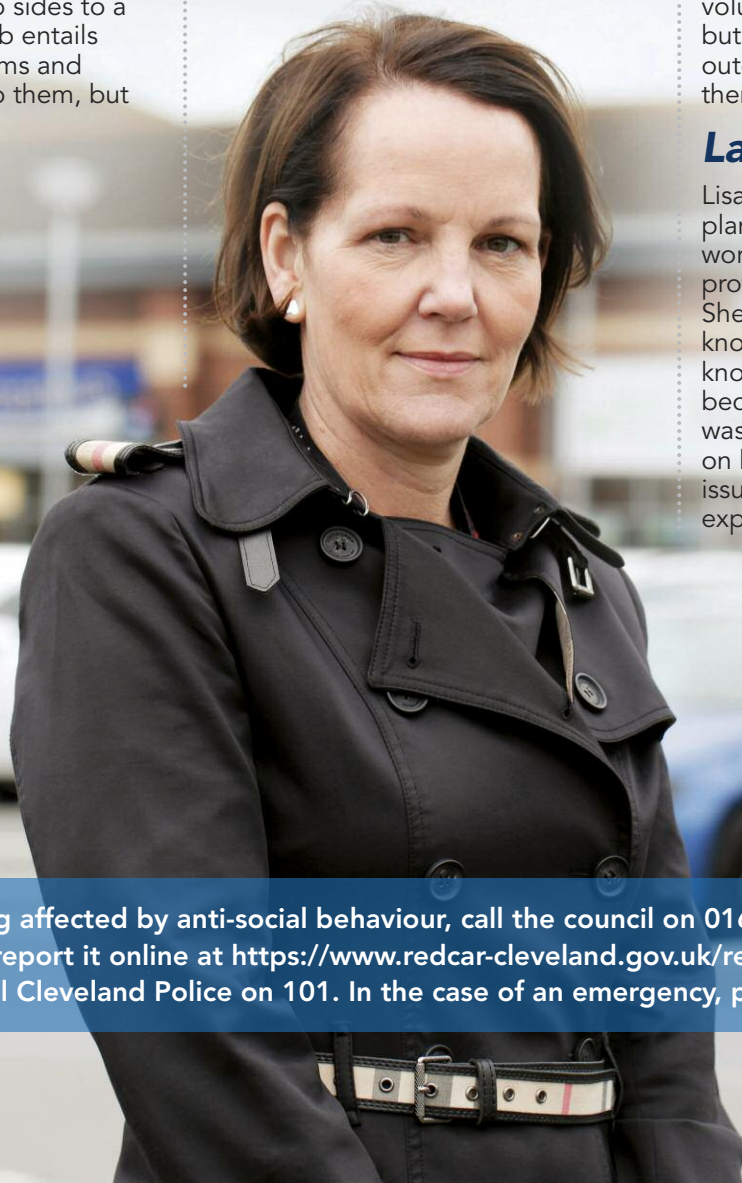
The dedicated officer often undertakes home visits. Lisa explains that every member of the public is offered a home visit to discuss concerns and develop a plan of action. This could include letter-dropping the street to gather intelligence, an enforcement visit or carrying out a site visit to explore "target hardening measures", for example, CCTV or installation of barriers.

"Those responsible are given several chances before enforcement action is taken, particularly in the case of young people," adds Lisa.

"As part of the Acceptable Behaviour Campaign, a series of graded letters are sent to parents before a young person is invited to the Police Station for a chat and for us to issue an Acceptable Behaviour Agreement. The uptake on these voluntary agreements is very high, but if these steps fail to produce the outcome we want, robust action will then be taken."

Late afternoon

Lisa goes through her emails and plans her next day which includes working very closely with other professionals across the borough. She leaves us with a plea – if you know there's a problem, let someone know. "Under-reporting exists because some people feel like it's a waste of time, but there is a lot going on behind the scenes to tackle these issues: so please, if you are experiencing it – report it."



If you are being affected by anti-social behaviour, call the council on 01642 774774 to report it. Alternatively, you report it online at <https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/resident/pages/report-it.aspx> or call Cleveland Police on 101. In the case of an emergency, please call 999.

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council - *Survey results*

WE want to provide the very best public services that you need and would like to see.

Regular engagement with residents is vital to achieving this and I would like to thank each one of you who took the time to reply to the survey we published in the last edition of this magazine.

As well as the answers to the questions we posed, we received almost 8,000 additional comments, which gave us a real insight into your views.

All your answers and comments will now feed into an action plan which aims to make best use of the budget we have

and improve the lives of everybody in Redcar and Cleveland.

A summary of the survey findings and a link to the full results can be found on the following pages.

Once again, thank you for helping us to help you.

Cllr Mary Lanigan
Leader
Redcar and Cleveland
Borough Council



Tackling climate change and enhancing the natural environment

The council is committed to making Redcar and Cleveland carbon neutral by 2030 – here's what you said would help us all to achieve this.

1. Which actions would you support to help us to do this?

The top three responses were:

- Plant more trees
- Solar panels on public buildings
- Collect food waste.

Respondents also said they would like to see improvements to waste and recycling in the borough.

2. Would you make at least one simple change to your life which will help tackle climate change?

The top three responses were:

- Recycle as much as you can
- Use less plastic packaging
- Shop locally.

People also showed an interest in doing more with their own homes, such as installing solar panels, water butts and growing their own food.



3. A majority of respondents said they would work with the council to improve the look of the borough.

4. Respondents highlighted problems which they felt affected the look of their neighbourhood.

Some felt that litter is an issue in the borough, including broken glass and the dropping of cigarette butts.

5. The top three responses of issues that respondents were most concerned about in relation to the look of their area are:

- Littering
- Dog fouling
- Fly-tipping.

Respondents also raised concerns about anti-social behaviour and a lack of Police presence in the area.

6. A majority of respondents said they would like to see more wildflower meadows and verges across the borough.



Coming out of Covid

Improving the physical appearance of the borough and enhancing prosperity

7. *The top three responses when asked for suggestions about what would help regenerate the area where they live were:*

- More shops to open in town centres, excluding takeaways and charity shops.
- The streets and pavements required better maintenance through constant cleaning, litter picking and resurfacing.
- Create more youth clubs and activities for young people.

Investing for the future

8. *The top three responses when asked what they would like to see on the council's new website were:*

- Streamlining of the website to make accessing information easier.
- Easier access to contact information such as telephone numbers and email addresses.
- More options to report issues such as missed bins, fly tipping etc.

9. *A majority of respondents said they would be happy for the council to combine services into fewer buildings near where they live to provide better services.*



10. *The top three suggestions to help prevent the spread of the Covid virus to keep residents and visitors safe were:*

- Continuing to wear face coverings in public buildings and wearing face masks on public transport;
- Encouraging social distancing and good hand hygiene by ensuring hand sanitising stations were available;
- Enforcing the latest Government guidance and continuing to employ the Covid ambassadors to patrol the borough.

11. *The top three suggestions about how the council can help businesses to protect current jobs and create new roles were:*

- The council should reduce Business Rates (Note - Business Rates are set by the Government, not the council).
- Offering financial support, training and advice to start-up businesses;
- The reduction of parking charges near town centres.





12. Some respondents said they would be happy for some services to remain online after the pandemic.

13. The top three suggestions of which services should be provided online were:

- Some respondents said they don't want any services to be provided online, preferring face-to-face interactions;
- Most of the council services should be provided online if possible;
- Libraries.

14. The top three events that respondents would go to were:

- Festival of Thrift.
- Proms in the Park.
- Summer Sound Music Festival.

Other types of events suggested by residents were more street markets and farmers markets, live music events and cycling events.

15. In response to the questions:

Out of 10, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays? (Where 1 is the most negative and 10 the most positive.)

- The average score was 7 out of 10.

16. Out of 10, to what extent do you feel that things you do in your life are worthwhile?

- The average score was 7 out of 10.

17. Out of 10, how happy did you feel yesterday?

- The average score was 7 out of 10.

18. Out of 10, how anxious did you feel yesterday?

- The average score was 4 out of 10.

19. The top three suggestions on what residents thought the council could do to support people's mental health and wellbeing were:

- Investing in easily accessible mental health support such as helplines and drop-in centres;
- More social and outdoor activities for residents;
- Encourage physical exercise by making sports facilities more affordable.

Meeting Residents' Needs

20. A majority of respondents said they were happy with the services the council provides.

21. The top three suggestions of how residents felt the council could improve services to meet their needs were:

- Keeping neighbourhoods cleaner and tidier and clamping down on littering, fly-tipping and dog fouling;
- Improve and invest more in customer services;
- Make it easier and more convenient to recycle and stop charging for disposal of waste.



The full report with more detail on the common themes is available by visiting www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk





TEES VALLEY
COMBINED
AUTHORITY

TEES VALLEY MAYOR

TEESWORKS RAMPS UP CONSTRUCTION AS £107MILLION SECURED FOR QUAY

The redevelopment of the Teesworks site is continuing apace, with £107million secured to help make South Bank Quay a reality.

Construction has begun on the new 1.2km heavy lift quay, which will help position the site as the UK's premier offshore wind hub. The project received a further boost as the UK Infrastructure Bank, launched in June 2021, announced that its first ever investment would be made into our region, with a loan to support the development of the quay.

The quay will support GE Renewable Energy's mammoth wind turbine blade facility, playing a vital role in the loading out and shipping of the blades for the Dogger Bank wind farm. GE's facility will create up to 2,250 jobs in its construction phase, with a further 2,250 direct and indirect jobs when operational.

Planning permission has been submitted for the new Teesworks Skills Academy building too. The £2.1million development will support the work of the Academy – being delivered by a group of Tees Valley further education establishments – in helping people from Redcar and Cleveland take advantage of job opportunities on the site.

Work is also well under way on the £4.5million Eston Road roundabout scheme, which will give critical access to the Dorman Point area of the site, earmarked for the proposed North East Energy Recovery Facility.

As well as the roundabout, improvements will see the road widened and a new footpath and cycleway providing access for pedestrians and cyclists.

It has recently been announced that one

of the site's major projects, Net Zero Teesside's carbon capture, utilisation and storage scheme has been selected by Government as the premier net zero project to lead the UK's decarbonisation ambitions.

This means that the project will receive a share of the £1billion Carbon Capture and Storage Infrastructure fund to create the country's first decarbonised cluster in the region, bringing thousands of jobs.

Whether it's good-quality construction roles in the short-term, or careers in the innovative, clean industries of the future, Teesworks is pressing ahead to give the people of Redcar and Cleveland the skills and opportunities they need to thrive.

To find out what jobs are being created on the Teesworks site, and to apply, visit www.teesvalley.jobs/teesworks





Redcar is rising!

MAJOR progress is being made to rejuvenate central Redcar.

The £9.68 million rebuilding of the Regent cinema - with 82% of the 100 tonnes of steel produced in the borough - is progressing well with the main structure, sea defence walls and concrete floors and stairs all completed.

The building will replace the old cinema which was closed for safety reasons in 2018 and later demolished. The new cinema will have a café and be able to seat 200 people when it opens next year.

Progress has also been made on the Coatham development, also on the seafront. Planning permission has been granted to build a new 42-bedroom hotel and a planned hotel operator, the Inn Collection Group, has been chosen to take the project

on. There will also be a family restaurant and it's hoped that there will also be nearby a mini-golf course and play area at a later date.

Work is also continuing on the Redcar Town Deal after the independent Redcar Town Board was awarded £25 million from the Government to develop detailed proposals. Those proposals include a new centre for adventure activities at Coatham to help attract more visitors to the town, a family activity centre on the seafront with sea views, a scheme to link the seafront to the High Street with a new outdoor space where existing and pop-up businesses could trade outside and an improved library and community support hub with meeting rooms.

There will also be major improvements to the town centre and esplanade and the board also aims to improve transport connections to Teesworks, which is set to become the UK's biggest industrial zone, to ensure residents can access job opportunities. Planned investment at Redcar Central Station and a new Regent Cinema will be boosted by proposed improvements to Station Road and the Northern Quarter. The proposals include upgrading the street scene to give the best first impression of Redcar, as well as supporting aspirational new housing and business units.

Find out more about Redcar Town Deal at <https://redcartowndeal.com/>



VISION: An impression of how Redcar High Street could look.



HOTEL: An impression of how a new hotel at Coatham will look.

Meet our young kickstarters

Connor takes his chance and lands a job

A FEW, short months ago Connor Donnelly was unemployed and, "very bored with no money...and increasingly worried." Now he has been offered a job at the council as the authority's first young person on the Kickstart scheme to gain full time employment.

"I'm just overjoyed," says the 20-year-old of Dormanstown, who worked in youth services at the council to gain experience as a 'kickstarter' but has now gained a job in the authority's Business Support.

Connor was referred to the council's Kickstart programme by the Jobcentre after being without work

since the first pandemic lockdown. The Kickstart scheme is for 16 to 24-year-old job seekers and gives them the chance of six months paid employment.

"I was getting a bit worried," admits Connor, who attended Prior Pursglove College in Guisborough. "My plan was to join the RAF. I had my heart on that and I got through all the tests but then...nothing. I got very bored. I did get some work labouring through family and I would clean my nan's house which was at least useful. But I grabbed the chance of getting some paid work.

"I was only there two months as a Youth Engagement Assistant but when the full time job came up in Business Support I really jumped at it.



The interview was a bit nerve wracking but when I got the call I got it, I was so pleased and I can't wait to join the team and do my part. I've even bought my first car and can go out with friends. It's a good feeling and I'd like to thank everyone who helped me get this chance."

University grad has a mind for success at council

GEMMA Brown took the decision to consult a work coach after she graduated with a degree in psychology which has led to her taking a chance on the Kickstart scheme.

And it's already led to success with the 22-year-old, of Redcar, being offered a new, six-month contract directly from the council.

Gemma was unsure of her career path after completing her Psychology degree at the University of Sunderland and that's when she made the decision to seek assistance from a work coach who told her about the Kickstart scheme.

"I knew this would be perfect for me," said Gemma. "It allowed me to get an income whilst gaining work experience."

Gemma was offered a job working for the Youth Service which was the perfect chance for her to get experience in working with various people. The scheme also

gave her the opportunity to attend and get qualifications for fully funded courses such as first aid, mental health awareness and de-escalation techniques.

A few months into her placement, Gemma was given the opportunity to undertake some further work experience within Redcar and Cleveland Registrar Service whilst being part of the Kickstart Programme. This raised her interest in the history of registration and how it developed over time. "This was a completely different avenue and a new challenge for me. After working here for a few weeks, I have decided that I see this as a potential long-term career."

Her hard work has paid off as Gemma has been offered a new contract with the registration team.

Gemma said she is grateful to the Kickstart programme officers for the continuous support they offered her in the process, helping her with problems and questions, no matter how big or small. "I would like to thank Trevor Thompson (Kickstart Placement Officer) and Stephanie Myers (Apprenticeship Coordinator) for allowing me to be part of this opportunity and being there whenever I needed guidance."

The council also employs apprentices and supports young people who are unemployed through the Youth Employment Initiative. Find out more at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or call 01642 774774.



Covid sparks new career path for Anth.

Meet our oldest apprentice.

YOU may not be able to teach an old dog new tricks - but you can certainly teach former Naval Communications Operator and retail manager Anthony Brown some.

At 43 years old, husband and father, Anthony, from Thornaby, is one month into his Electrical Apprenticeship at the council and is very proud to say he is our oldest apprentice:

"Hopefully a few people will see this and realise age doesn't have to be a limit on what you can do," he smiles.

"I loved my time in the navy but never got a trade. So when I came out, I accepted the first job that came along, which was in customer services. I spent 17 years in that field, working my way up in a call centre to become manager, before moving

into food retail management. When I stopped enjoying that role, I took on an admin job while I decided what to do next."

When the Covid pandemic hit last year, it prompted Anthony to take stock. "It made me re-evaluate my life," he says. "I realised I wanted to do something totally different but that I'd always had an interest in, which was electrics.

"I discussed it with my wife and there were two ways of doing it: to go back to college, or to try for an apprenticeship - where I'd be working with the experts and getting paid something for it. It was the better option, since I still have a family to support."

Before the council apprenticeship came up, Anthony struggled to find something suitable.

"I was adamant that it had to be

electrical and I needed to make it work now so that I could map out the rest of my life. Previous employers I applied to never said they were looking for younger apprentices; but I still felt that age was holding me back a bit - so I was really pleased when the council said, 'We'll interview you, let's see what you've got.'

"I'm a few weeks in now and learning new things from a great team. If anyone reading is unhappy in their job but questioning whether it's too late to make a change - it's not! We spend a long time in our working lives; we need to do what's right for us."

Find out more about council apprenticeships at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or call 01642 774774.



Time to transform Loftus

A MULTI-MILLION pound plan to revitalise Loftus is taking shape. Take a look at our three-year timeline to see the plans. We would love to hear what you think, so either grab a feedback form from our current exhibition in Loftus Library or email placeinvestment@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Funding of £9.35 million has come from the council, the Tees Valley Combined Authority and the Future High Street Fund programme.



1
ZETLAND ROAD / WEST ROAD
COMING 2022

Major highway improvements
Creating new short stay parking laybys, better footpaths.

2
HANDALE CAR PARK
IN PROGRESS

Creating new parking capacity
Close to the High Street including E-charge points.

3
TEMPERANCE SQUARE
COMING 2022/23

A new contemporary square and a **'Skills and Training Hub'** for the community.

4
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
COMING 2022

To be renovated into a **new cultural space** with mixed community and business space.

5
ZETLAND ROAD TOWNSCAPE
COMING 2022/23

To preserve and **enhance the facades of the buildings** on the High Street.

6
DUNCAN PLACE & CORONATION PARK
COMING 2022/23

A **rejuvenated Community Hub** with a new **Library** facility added, along with an enhanced park.

This is a working timeline and may be subject to change following detailed designs and planning permission where appropriate.

7
EXISTING LIBRARY SITE
COMING 2023/24



Creating a **new visitor car park**.

8
LIGHTING UP LOFTUS TOWN HALL
COMING 2022

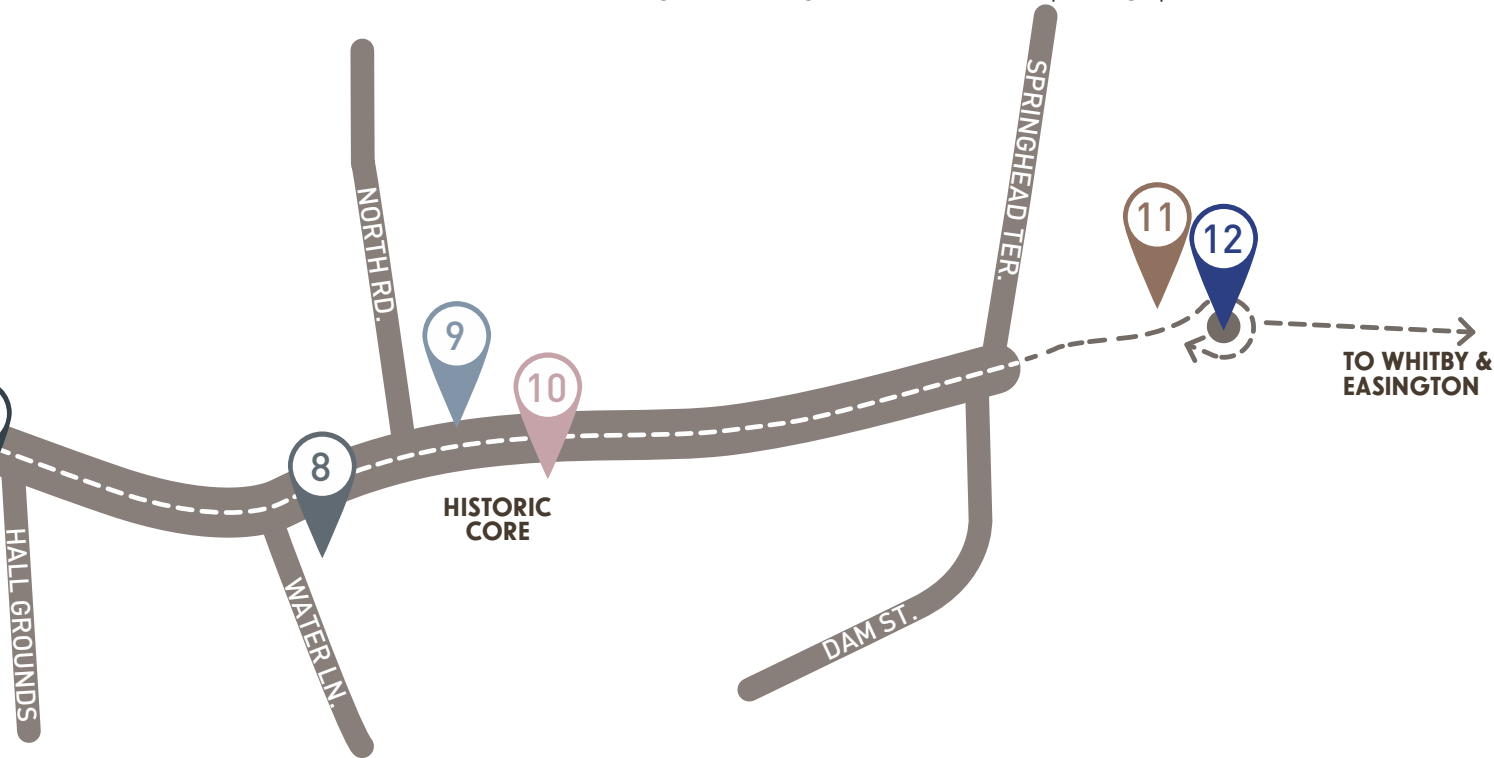


Feature lighting to this iconic building, along with other heritage buildings on the High Street.

9
MARKET PLACE
COMING 2022



Creating a more flexible public event space as well as creating new car parking spaces.



10
BARCLAYS BANK
IN PROGRESS



To be restored and converted with retail opportunities and visitor accommodation above.

11
ARLINGTON CHAPEL
COMING 2022



Clearing the dilapidated site to make way for future sustainable development.

12
ARLINGTON HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS
COMING 2022



New speed control measures to this end of the High Street, to assist visitors to easily access Loftus High Street.



Need help?

Here's where to get it...

WITH the rise in energy bills, changes to benefits and Christmas coming, this winter has the potential to be very challenging. However, there is lots of support out there, not only from the council but from other partner organisations and services. Detailed below are a range of providers who offer advice, guidance, and support.

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

The council along with our partners in the Redcar & Cleveland Financial Inclusion Group have launched a new Money Advice Service on the council's customer portal. This service aims to ensure that you have access to a means of support when you need it most. The service can help if you need support in any of the following areas: dealing with debt, benefit entitlement and disputes, affordable housing, improving digital skills, accessing community banking, planning for retirement, budgeting support and help with utilities.

Call the council on **01642 774774** or to access the Customer Portal please use <https://redcar-cleveland-self.achieveservice.com/>. You will be asked to register and create an account.

Beyond Housing

Housing Association Beyond Housing has an employability service providing one to one support for anyone looking to get back into work, education or training as well volunteer opportunities and an apprenticeship programme. There is access to free IT equipment and WiFi at its Westfield Farm centre.

Find out more or contact us at redcaremployment@beyondhousing.co.uk

Beyond Housing also has a dedicated team to support customers with their finances, bills and benefit entitlements for their customers.

Beyond Housing customers can call **01642 771326** or email rent.income@beyondhousing.co.uk

Thirteen Housing

Thirteen Group housing association is able to offer their customers advice on paying rent, finding jobs and training, and money matters, including benefits and financial planning to support with financial issues.

For help and advice, please get in touch by email: customerservices@thirteengroup.co.uk or call **0300 111 1000** from 8am to 7pm, Monday to Friday.

More information can be found on the Thirteen website www.thirteengroup.co.uk

Carers Together Redcar and Cleveland

Completing benefit claim forms can be complicated and time consuming. Carers Together's in-house team can support carers and the people they care for complete forms.

For further information about this or any other services or support Carers Together Redcar provide please call **01642 488977**, email info@carerstogether-rc.org.uk or find out more at carerstogether.co.uk/

Stop Loan Sharks

Stop Loan Sharks investigates and prosecutes illegal money lenders and provides support for borrowers in the UK. Specially trained staff will provide you with emotional and practical support that is tailored to your needs.

Call **0300 555 2222** or LiveChat at www.stoploansharks.co.uk

Citizens Advice

Citizens Advice provides free, confidential, and impartial advice on issues such as debt management, welfare benefits, housing, immigration and asylum, consumer complaints and landlord-tenant disputes. Drop-in sessions are held at Redcar, Guisborough, Skelton, Loftus and South Bank.

Call **01642 030000**, email office@rccitizensadvice.co.uk or find out more at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/redcar-cleveland/

South Tees Affordable Warmth Partnership

The organisation has a dedicated affordable warmth team to help achieve the goal of reducing fuel poverty and ensuring homes are safe and warm. Other members of the partnership offer a range of services such as emergency heating and benefits advice.

Call **08003047084** or email warmhomes@mencity.org.uk

Step Forward Tees Valley

This organisation helps people across the area overcome barriers to work or training. More than 75% of participants leave the programme having achieved one or more positive outcomes and the team helped almost 400 local people who were furthest from the labour market into a job.

Call **01642 681 785** or email stepforward@humankindcharity.org.uk

South Tees Community Bank

South Tees Community Bank is part of the Moneywise Credit Union and helps people save for rainy days and offers loans to people who might struggle elsewhere. Find out more at www.southteescommunitybank.co.uk, call **01642 939388** or pop into the branch at **14a High Street, Redcar TS10 3DU**.

South Bank Savings and Credit Union

The long-established Credit Union at 7 South Terrace, South Bank can be called on **01642 463700** or emailed at info@southbanksavingcu.co.uk

Mental health is the goal

GRASSROOTS football club Redcar CF teamed up with the council and the North Riding FA recently to help raise awareness of men's mental health as part of World Mental Health Day.

Redcar CF players could be seen wearing their new training gear with the campaign branding 'There's No Substitute for good mental health' on the back, designed to remind them to look after their mental as well as physical health.

The 'No Substitute' campaign, which was launched earlier this year, uses football to get the message out that there is help available and talking about your mental health should not be seen as a sign of weakness.

One in eight men in England suffer with a mental health problem such as depression or anxiety however they are much less likely to access professional help with only 36% of referrals to NHS talking therapies being from men.

These statistics and the fact that suicide is the biggest killer of men under 50 meant that the council and the North Riding FA had to do something to try and raise awareness of men's mental health.

Jonny McNaughton, League



RAISING AWARENESS: Redcar CF player Richard Heseltine getting the message across about good mental health.

Secretary of the Langbaugh League and Club Secretary for Redcar CF, explained:

"I was approached by the North Riding FA and the council and asked if my club wanted to get involved with the 'No substitute' campaign and immediately I said yes.

"I have seen lots of the lads struggling and coming through bad patches with their mental health but I

have also seen how getting together to play football makes them forget about their issues and focus on one thing and that is sport.

"By bringing sport and mental health together this campaign creates the perfect bridge to talk about issues and make sure you are double checking on your friends when you meet up for football."

A great starting point for help and advice is the 'Every Mind Matters' website which has a planner and tips on how to deal with stress and anxiety, improving sleep and boosting your mood.



TRAINING GEAR: There's no substitute for training.

Work out your game plan today by visiting www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/



TEAM TALK: The Redcar CF squad modeling the new training tops.

Green & environment news in brief



New public space and toilets for Guisborough

VISITORS parking at the Fountain Street car and coach park in Guisborough will now be greeted by a smart and modern new toilet block and improved car parking area. Some £250,000 from the 'Welcome To' pot, funded by the Tees Valley Combined Authority, has been invested in the project, as the car park is a key drop-off point for coach tourists - meaning the new facilities and surrounding area provide the first impression of the town to many people. A large new information board produced by Teesside firm, ScreenTech, has been erected; plus a contemporary paving system and new seating area for the neighbouring kiosk have been installed, along with new bollards, benches and modern planters, supplied by another Teesside firm, Logic Bespoke.

Tidy plan

A 'Cleaner Borough Strategy' which sets out how the council will keep the area clean and tidy over the next two years has been approved. The strategy focuses on six key areas that the work of the council will focus on to make the borough a cleaner place to live, including tackling climate change and enhancing the natural environment, collective responsibility, community pride, managing expectations, communication, engagement and education and strong enforcement. The feedback from the Residents Survey clearly shows that living in an area that is clean and tidy is important to residents. The council is committed to improving the appearance of the area which means

that it has to ensure it makes the best of the resources it has to ensure the borough looks the best it can. The plan sets out how it will structure and deliver this important work. Read the strategy on the council website at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

New recycling drive

FREE recycling bins are being given to residents following a survey to find out people's views on what would make recycling easier. More than 3,000 people responded to the survey and revealed that the top two issues they thought would lead to greater levels of recycling were increased physical capacity to do so and receiving more guidance on what can and can't be recycled. In response the council has launched a 12-month trial during which time, residents who are without a bin – or who have one but wish to recycle even more – will be given one at no cost, saving them the current fee of £23 for a 240 litre bin, or £40 for a 360 litre bin. To order a new or additional recycling bin please call 01642 774774.

Free compost bins

COMPOSTING bins are being given to residents who can make use of one. There are 400 compost bins available initially, and they are to be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. The council is offering the opportunity as part of a response to a recent survey which revealed that many people wanted the chance to improve their recycling efforts and to do something more environmentally friendly with their food waste. To encourage this green initiative, those who wish to make their own compost right at home will be supplied with 220 litre composting bins, complete with lid allowing them to reduce waste and save money at the same

time. All bins will be distributed on a first come, first served basis and numbers are limited. To order yours please contact our Customer Service team on 01642 774774.

New wood burning rules

THE sale of small bags of wet wood for domestic burning was stopped earlier this year under new legislation. Wood sold in quantities less than two cubic meters must now be certified as 'Ready to Burn' and packaging should show this logo and have details of the supplier's company name and unique certification number. This material must be stored in an appropriate location so that it is not subject to further impact from moisture. Dry it in a sunny, well-aired space for at least two years, keeping rain off in the winter. Sale of traditional bagged house coal was also stopped in February 2021 however, coal delivered directly by an approved coal merchant will still be available until February 2023. The Government has produced a leaflet providing further information on how to 'Burn Better, Breath Better', available at this link <https://ukair.defra.gov.uk/library/assets/documents>

Landlords urged to go green

LANDLORDS are being made aware of regulations to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty in private rented homes. The Domestic Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) Regulations means anyone letting or looking to let a property must have an energy performance certificate (EPC) to show tenants how energy efficient the property is. Under MEES, the lowest EPC rating allowed is an E – properties with an EPC rating of F or G cannot be rented out. Landlords whose properties do not meet MEES could be made to undertake up to £3,500 of works to bring them up to the required standard and/or the local authority can serve a financial penalty up to 18 months after the breach. The maximum amount that can be fined per property is a total of £5,000. In Redcar and Cleveland, the MEES Regulations are enforced by our Housing Standards Team. Find out more at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-private-rented-property-minimum-energy-efficiency-standard-landlord-guidance>

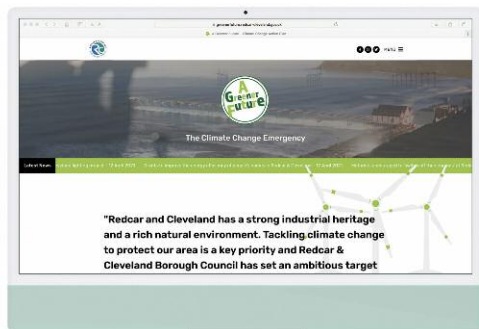
Creating a greener future together

A CARBON-NEUTRAL Redcar and Cleveland by 2030 is the ambitious target for the area and strong progress is being made with the support of the business community and residents.

In the Residents' Survey you told us that you support a number of actions including planting more trees, solar panels on public buildings, electric and zero emissions vehicles as well as the installation of more charging points for electric cars and making homes more energy efficient.

We agree and have already started work towards these:

- Between 2014 and 2019 we planted more than 4,000 trees but we know we need to do more. We're working on plans that could see as many as 4,000 new trees planted in a single year, with plans to continue extensive planting.
- The council has recently awarded more than £400,000 to help decarbonise public buildings and we are using some of this funding to put solar panels on buildings.



CLIMATE SITE: A greener future website with the latest news and information.



GREEN MACHINE: the electric bin wagon on the streets of the borough.

- We've replaced 11 diesel vehicles on our vehicles, with fully electric equivalents and have plans to add more. The council recently took the chance of a free trial of a 26-tonne electric refuse wagon (pictured) which you may have seen operating on the streets of the borough.
- We know that the quality and amount of electric vehicle charging points in the borough need to improve. We have plans to tackle this over the coming year and are working with the Tees Valley Combined Authority which is looking to improve EV charging across Teesside.
- The council has also successfully bid for nearly £900,000 from the Government's Green Homes Grant Delivery scheme, which offers homeowners up to £10,000 to improve the energy efficiency of

their homes. To apply online, visit www.eonenergy.com/home-heating/green-homes-grant or email GreenHomesGrant@eonenergy.com with your contact number and a member of the team will be in touch. Alternatively, call the Green Homes Grant team at E.ON on 0333 202 4820, Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

As well as these things, we've replaced more than 15,000 streetlights with LED's, halving the amount of electricity they use and saving 1,200 tons of carbon from being emitted each year. We've installed LED lighting throughout council buildings as part of an ongoing programme of replacement. Through all of these actions we've drastically reduced the council's carbon emissions but we know things need to go further.

We're launching a new website www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/greenerfuture (pictured) which provides the latest news and information about climate change as well as explaining how residents and businesses can play their part in reducing carbon emissions and saving the planet. We'd really love it if you could look through the website, access the useful links and let us know what else you'd like to see on there by emailing GreenerFuture@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk



Wonder of nature at new exhibition

THE beauty and wonder of nature are the themes of a new exhibition at Kirkleatham Museum.

It is based on a famous book called *The Lost Words* and opened earlier this month. It has been praised for connecting children and adults alike with the natural world.

It features poetic 'spells' - writings by book author Robert Macfarlane and watercolour illustrations by artist Jackie Morris originally used to create the book which has become, in the words of *The Guardian*, a 'cultural phenomenon', credited with inspiring the nation to look afresh at the wonders of nature.

Each of Macfarlane's poetic spells are based on a natural word, chosen

for its increasing loss of presence in modern, everyday language, such as 'conker', 'dandelion' and 'wren'. Alongside the poems, Jackie Morris's watercolours will be displayed, some of which incorporate gold leaf, making the familiar suddenly appear magical.

On display alongside pieces from the touring exhibition will be work completed by the former pupils of Riverdale Primary School, Redcar. In their final week at primary school, Year 6 children worked with two local artists and a writer to create their own installation, inspired by *The Lost Words* books.



NATURAL BEAUTY: An image from the new exhibition

The *Lost Words* experience will continue beyond the main exhibition, with a 'Wizarding Way' trail around the museum galleries and an outdoor trail across the grounds. The museum is also planning a number of walks and talks in relation to the exhibition which will run until March.

Opening times are Tuesday - Sunday from 10am, with the last admission at 4pm. Admissions are free.



Compton Verney
ART GALLERY & PARK

MUDDY BOOTS FEATURED WALK LEWIS HUNTON TRAIL

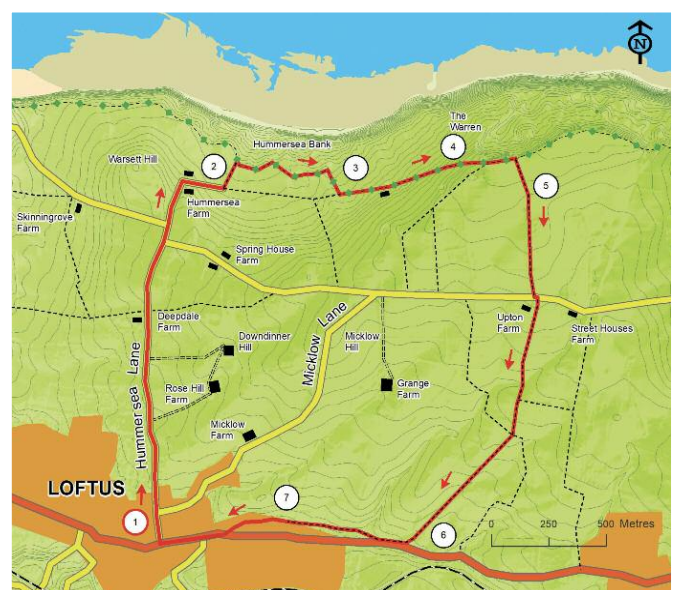
Distance: 4 miles **Grade:** Medium

Lewis Hunton (1814-1838), born at Hummersea House near Loftus, made pioneering advancements in understanding geology through the study of fossils.

Starting point: From the Market Place in Loftus (1) walk down past the chemist shop then turn right on to North Road which is opposite the post office. Continue north up Hummersea Lane and follow the road past Hummersea Farm. Shortly after passing Hummersea Farm (2) take the footpath on the left leading down to Hummersea bank. The slow but persistent soil movement on Hummersea bank yields a diverse range of flora including Eye Bright and Dyers Greenweed. On the shore below is a stone jetty called New Gut. This docking point was the receiving and despatch location for raw materials and finished alum crystal. Near to the beach below was the Alum house used for the final crystallisation and packaging stage of the process. The owner Sir Robert Dundas equipped the building with a laboratory. This represented an important step in formalising the chemical processing industry and it was here that Lewis worked on his second published paper.

At the footpath junction (3) turn right and follow the path east towards North Warren Cottage where there is an information panel describing the work of Lewis Hunton who walked this same path many times during his short life. Pass through a gate (4) and continue the ascent on

the coastal path. The Loftus (Lingberry) alum quarry will soon come into view. This moonscape like landscape is the result of soil sterilisation following many years of intense heating of alum containing stone. On reaching the cliff top (5) turn right on to a footpath leading south to Upton Farm where there is a large silo. You will pass the Saxon Princess burial; site on your left and an information board. Continue over Boulby Lane and follow the path down to Foulsyke on the A174. Turn right on reaching the main road (6) then follow the path on right leading through Swalwell's Wood. Exit the path into Wicklow Terrace (7) and follow the road uphill back to Loftus Market Place.



For more information on walks across the borough, please visit www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/walking

Life beyond the lockdown

AFTER 2020 seemed to cancel life as we knew it, there was relief for many – and something to celebrate – when some normality was restored this year.

Whilst we continued – and still continue - to take precautions against the spread of Covid, the borough began to welcome back some major events, including the Tour Series 2021 pro cycling event in

Guisborough; the long-awaited opening of Kirkleatham Walled Garden and the ever-popular Redcar Running Festival.



Work starts on new mining museum extension

A NEW experience is being created at one of the Tees Valley's most loved museums.

When completed, the new-look Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum will boast a walk round exhibition area, completely renovated experience tour, two classrooms and modern archive storage with a room

where the public may arrange to view an extensive collection of objects, books and maps.

It is already the only ironstone museum on the site of a real mine anywhere in the world and is being regenerated thanks to more than £2 million of funding.

Situated on the site of the Loftus mine (the first to open in the area in 1857 and one of the last to close in 1957), the museum remembers the ironstone mining and iron making heritage of East Cleveland which was once the powerhouse of the British Empire. The region provided a third of the world's iron and steel at its height and the museum has evidence of East Cleveland iron and steel being supplied to every continent except Antarctica. The industries of the region were of global importance. However, eventually cheaper iron and steel from India, Australia and Eastern Europe meant the local mines could not compete and the last mine, North Skelton, closed in 1964.

Funding has come from the National Lottery, The Coastal Community Fund, the Tees Valley Combined Authority and private donations and the project has been devised in partnership with the council.

Progress of the new development may be followed at www.landofiron.org.uk



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(Labour and Co-operative)

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■ LOCKWOOD

Steve Kay

(East Cleveland Independent)

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■ LOFTUS

Wayne Davies (Independent)

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Tim Gray (Independent)

Call 07970 420149

Mary Lanigan (Independent)

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■ LONGBECK

Vera Rider

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Andrea Turner (Conservative)

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Billy Wells (Independent)

Call 07557 481105

■ NORMANBY

Chris Foley-McCormack (Labour)

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Billy Ayre (Labour)

Call 07500 606935

Chris Gallacher (Independent)

Call 07970 419846

■ ORMESBY

Carole Morgan (Liberal Democrat)

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Glyn Nightingale (Liberal Democrat)

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email glyn.eos@btinternet.com

Irene Nightingale (Liberal Democrat)

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email irene.eos@btinternet.com

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Stuart Smith (Independent)

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stuart.smith@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Philip Thomson

(Cleveland Independent Group)

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redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

or call 07747 044858

Times of meetings may change from time to time. Please check at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

■ SKELTON EAST

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Lee Holmes (Conservative)

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■ SOUTH BANK

Sue Jeffrey (Labour)

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Sandra Smith (Independent)

Call 07970 420031

■ ST GERMAIN'S

Karen King (Liberal Democrat)

Call 07500 606894

Margaret Wilson

(Liberal Democrats)

Call 07901 330043

Deborah Dowson

(Liberal Democrats)

Call 07825 116996

■ TEESVILLE

Robert Clark (Independent)

Call 07970 420410

David Fisher

(Teesville Independents)

Call 07970 427600

Vince Smith

(Teesville Independents)

Call 07970 427411

■ WEST DYKE

Malcolm Head (Liberal Democrat)

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Mary Ovens (Liberal Democrat)

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Chris Jones (Liberal Democrat)

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■ WHEATLANDS

Shaun Moody (Liberal Democrat)

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Yvonne Lax-Keeler

(Liberal Democrat)

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■ ZETLAND

Louise Westbury

(Liberal Democrat)

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Alison Barnes (Liberal Democrat)

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MPs

Simon Clarke, Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland.

11 Rectory Lane, Guisborough, TS14 7DJ. 01287 631928 or email simonclarkecasework@gmail.com

Jacob Young, Redcar. Churchill House, 118 High Street, Redcar, TS10 3DH. 01642 432588 or email Jacob.young.mp@parliament.uk

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

Steve Turner has been elected as Commissioner.

For details visit www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk The commissioner can also be contacted at pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk or via his office on 01642 301653.

Tees Valley Mayor

Ben Houchen, call 01642 524401 or email mayor@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk

November 2021

Wednesday 17 **River Tees Port Health Authority, 10am**

Thursday 25 **Regulatory Committee, 10am**

December 2021

Thursday 2 **Borough Council, 2pm**

Friday 3 **River Tees Port Health Authority, 10am**

Tuesday 14 **Children and Families Scrutiny and Improvement Committee, 10am**

Tuesday 14 **Adult and Communities Scrutiny and Improvement Committee, 2pm**

Wednesday 15 **Resources Scrutiny and Improvement Committee, 10am**

Thursday 16 **Growth, Enterprise & Environment Improvement Committee, 10am**

Tuesday 21 **Cabinet, 10am**

January 2022

Thursday 6 **Regulatory Committee, 10am**

Wednesday 19 **Employment Health and Safety Committee, 10am**

Thursday 27 **Borough Council, 2pm**

February 2022

Thursday 3 **Regulatory Committee, 10am**

Monday 7 **Governance Committee, 10am**

Tuesday 8 **Children and Families Scrutiny and Improvement Committee, 10am**

Tuesday 8 **Adults and Communities Scrutiny and Improvement Committee, 2pm**

Wednesday 9 **Resources and Scrutiny Improvement Committee, 10am**

Thursday 10 **Growth, Enterprise & Environment Scrutiny and Improvement Committee, 10am**

Tuesday 15 **Cabinet, 10am**

Thursday 24 **Special Cabinet, 10am**

Thursday 24 **Special Borough Council (Budget)**

March 2022

Wednesday 2 **Employment health and Safety Committee, 10am**

Thursday 3 **Regulatory Committee, 10am**

Friday 4 **River Tees Port Health Authority, 10am**

Thursday 10 **Borough Council, 2pm**

OPEN EVENT!

etc.


REDCAR &
CLEVELAND
COLLEGE

Wednesday 8th
December
2021*

5PM -
7PM

Come along to explore our amazing facilities, find out more about our courses including our brand new T levels and receive support with completing an application form.



TO REGISTER ONLINE GO TO: WWW.CLEVELAND.AC.UK/OPENEVENT

**All open events are planned to be face-to-face. Please check the campus websites for any updates. Please remember you can register online to secure your place!*

REDCAR & CLEVELAND COLLEGE
Redcar and Cleveland Care Academy

etc.

PASSIONATE ABOUT A CAREER IN CARE?

Take the first step to working in adult care!

This course will help to prepare you for work in Adult Social Care with a guaranteed job interview on successful completion of the course.

Awareness session: Monday 10th January 2022

Course starts: Tuesday 18th January 2022

FREE DBS AND INTERVIEW ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE



In partnership with:



TEES VALLEY MAYOR

Contact the **Academy Team** on **01642 865561** or email employability@stockton.ac.uk to apply.