## this is Redcar & Cleveland

the council magazine for the local community

Issue 55 | Summer 2024



What's on this summer

**Pages 4 - 7** 

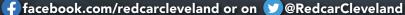
Hey, Jude's our youngest recycling hero!

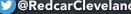
Two-year-old is on a mission. Page 9



To contact the council visit www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk







## Warm 'willkommen' for German friends

PREPARATIONS are under way to welcome friends from our borough's twin district of Troisdorf in Germany during October as the 35th anniversary of Redcar and Cleveland Twinning Association approaches next year.

Pamela Stenson, Chair of the Redcar and Cleveland Twinning Association explained that it is the first time that members of the Troisdorf group have visited in five years because of Covid.

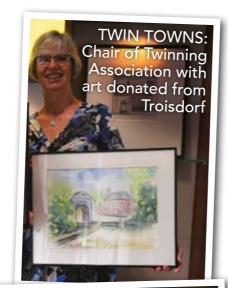
It's hoped that sporting and other local organisations from our borough will consider joining the Association with a view to organising 'international' tournaments and

competitions.

The Saltburn Table Tennis group has already joined and represented Redcar and Cleveland in a tournament in Troisdorf last year. They are returning to Germany later this year. A chess tournament between the twin boroughs might also take place soon.

Pamela said: "We're looking for any organisations who might be interested in maybe organising future competitions to get in touch."

Troisdorf is a district similar to our own with a proud industrial heritage and areas of great beauty made up of 10 small towns.





Redcar and Cleveland Twinning Association, which is self-funded, has been twinned with Troisdorf since 1990. To become involved contact Pamela Stenson by emailing chairman@redcarandclevelandtwinningassocation.org.uk or take a look at the website: www.redcarandclevelandtwinningassociation.org.uk



## Welcome...

## ...to the summer edition of the this is Redcar & Cleveland magazine

IT has been quite a summer so far in Redcar and Cleveland.

We have already seen a fantastic tribute to the many brave servicemen and women who took part in the D-Day landings 80 years ago.

Thousands of visitors came to Redcar to enjoy our first Kite Festival and we have watched as elite riders from across the country came to our borough to take part in the East Cleveland Classic and the British Cycling National Road Championships.

We're now looking forward to the return of the Between

the Tides festival over the August bank holiday weekend and this edition of the magazine gives you details of what to expect from this terrific event.

As ever, we also feature examples of the many people who give up their time to help those in need or to make our communities better places for everyone who lives there.

From the community heroes who received an award from our Mayor, to the wonderful people who open their hearts and their homes to bring a better life to a child or young



person, or even a two-yearold who has got the recycling bug, our magazine reflects the wonderful place we all live in.

I hope everybody enjoys the remainder of the summer and that you all have the opportunity to have a well earned holiday.

#### Cllr Alec Brown Leader of the Council



**this is Redcar & Cleveland** is free to residents and if you, or someone you know, doesn't receive a copy please email **communications@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk** Also contact the team if you are visually impaired and want the magazine in a different type size. The magazine is printed by Precision Colour Printing on part-recycled paper and is recyclable.

Page 2 Page 3

# Junner event

We have another summer packed with fun events for everyone to enjoy this year. Find out what's on over the next four pages.

Family fun festival returns

OUR area's flagship festival for children, young people and families - Between the Tides - returns to the streets of Redcar on Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 August. A free weekend of adventure and exploration for children and their grown-ups, the festival will transform the town into an exciting spectacle of theatre,

puppetry, circus, dance, storytelling and live music. Redcar will welcome a colourful cast of characters with pop up performances from nationallyrenowned outdoor arts companies.

For more information about Between the Tides Festival go to redcarcleveland.co.uk/enjoy/

Meet 2FaceDance's Fish Boy and join him on his fin-tastic quest to save his river dreamworlds on

Say hello to Hikapee and their giant revolving parasol for a day at the beach unlike any other in a high energy, outdoor circus theatre show

Step inside Talking Bird's giant silver whale to experience a family-friendly and ramp accessible

fun, immersive show for intrepid sailors of all ages. Prepare to dive! Relaxed,

FUN TIME: Hikapee Circus Theatre entertainers are coming to the festival year



create sensational

Cheer on the unlikely hero Wilford in SEED – a wild and anarchic visual and movement based outdoor theatre by Pif-Paf that looks at our relationship with the long-suffering plants that keep us fed, sheltered and breathing

Experience sea monster mayhem around Coatham Boating Lake Park with amazing puppets and storytelling

Visit the Actual ages inspired by classic retro games

Watch ries of friendship

Also making a return are Architects of Air with another incredible Luminarium installation in the grounds of Kirkleatham Museum. Visitors will be welcomed to an amazing wander through a magical labyrinth of saturated light tunnels. Open Thursday 22 to Sunday 24 August, this was a total sell out last year so don't leave it too late for tickets. Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk Simply search for Redcar Cleveland Between the Tides on the site

CHILD'S PLAY: Children enjoy

entertainment at

Between the Tides is fully accessible to wheelchair users and all performances are either British Sign Language interpreted or are highly visual.

Reality Arcade - a life sized interactive game zone for all

> The 2Faced Dance Company will present Fish Boy



FAR

## Deep RNLI bond celebrated at Kirkleatham

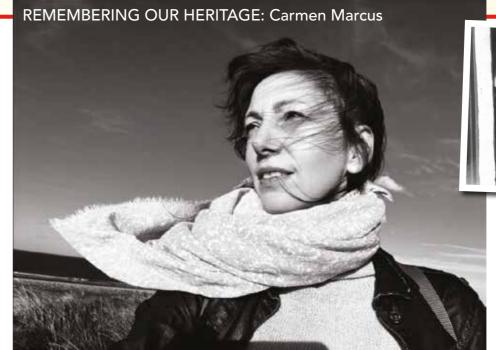
A PHOTOGRAPHY exhibition exploring the motivations that drive volunteers to risk their own safety to save lives at sea has opened at Kirkleatham Museum.

Photographer Michael Sreenan, of Redcar, has created the display which celebrates the RNLI during its 200th anniversary.

The exhibition is called Let Not the Deep Swallow Me Up and explores the motivations that drive RNLI volunteers to risk their own safety.

Michael, Portrait of Britain winner in 2023, explained that he aims to evoke a sense of connection and storytelling through his work. He said: "I set out with the aim of finding out what drives these volunteers to do these incredible things. As the project went on, it changed a bit as I discovered how deep the bond is between the RNLI and our community here."





### Proud fishing family tell tales of the sea

CARMEN Marcus, a proud daughter of one of region's oldest fishing and lifeboat families - the Thompsons - has told her family stories of the sea in support of the RNLI exhibition.

The Thompsons, who can trace lineage to the family of Captain Cook, are one of Redcar's oldest families from the time the town was really just a few fisherfolk cottages. They have served on

lifeboats of the Tees since The Zetland, the world's oldest surviving lifeboat, first set sail from Redcar in 1802 – when the crew was summoned by drum on rainlashed, windy nights.

Today Carmen is working on a PhD at Teesside University about gathering seafaring stories in the area and will be involved in further exhibitions and workshops this year.

Carmen, a writer, tells more stories of her family and the community of South Terrace where so many Redcar fisherfolk lived. She explains how her Uncle Jim felt compelled to look out to sea very early on New Year's Eve, 1972, and saw a flare – a boat in severe distress. He and friends rescued a friend, Tony Young, and another fisherman, on the Daisy Ellen, a boat named after Jim's mother. More than 20 years later Tony found that boat in a breaker's yard. This time he came to the rescue and bought and restored the boat and she can be found back in Fisherman Square today.

Find Carmen's website at https://carmenmarcus.co.uk/

The art of the dress impresses. 100 years of fashion exhibition a big hit



A MAJOR fashion exhibition is proving a big hit at Kirkleatham Museum.

People from across the region have attended the free exhibition, titled 100 Years of Fashion, which celebrates dresses and fashion from the structured styles of 1900 to the casual 1990s.

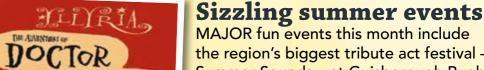
Presented by the History Wardrobe Collection, the exhibition opened in March runs until 22 September. Entry is free. The museum is closed on Mondays.

Keep up to
date with all the
fun and activities
in the borough at
www.redcarcleveland.
co.uk/enjoy

Illyria presents The
Adventures of Doctor
Dolittle by Hugh
Lofting, adapted by
Oliver Gray. Flatts
Lane Country Park
16 August. Gates open

2pm, performance starts 3pm. Running time (approx): 1hr 50mins (inc 20-minute interval).

Suitable for ages 5+ (younger children also welcome!). When Dr John Dolittle of Puddleby-on-the-Marsh is taught by his wise old parrot Polynesia how to talk to animals, news of his skills spreads far and wide.



MAJOR fun events this month include the region's biggest tribute act festival – Summer Sounds – at Guisborough Rugby Cub from Friday 26 July to Sunday 28 July. There will be tributes to Elton John, ABBA, Elvis, Michael Jackson, plus support from local bands. Find out more and ticket prices on the organisers' Facebook site.

The much-loved Saltburn Food Festival is making a comeback on Sunday 28 July. The free event, open from 10am to 6pm, will host around 120 stallholders. Also this month, Redcar Races is holding its Family Day on Sunday 21 July.



## Fighting the fly-tippers

AN innovative new pilot scheme designed to understand the root causes of fly-tipping has gained the support of a community.

Carlin How has been chosen not because it is one of the worst areas for fly-tipping - it isn't - but because of its strong community spirit. The idea is for lessons to be learned in the area which will lead to solutions for the entire borough.

There are two related schemes. The first focuses on engaging with residents in the area. The second focuses on enforcement and investigation of the crime.

All types of plastic bags

Food waste or any items

Clothes/textiles/bedding

Electrical items/batteries

with grease & food residues

(all colours)

Nappies

Takeaway boxes

Polystyrene



Villagers are invited to a family fun day at Jubilee Hall on Thursday 1 August between 11am and 2pm which will celebrate achievements so far and is also a chance to share information.





### The top 5 items mistakenly put in recycling No thank you

- 1) Plastic bags: Processing machinery does not recognise bags containing recyclable items. Please empty any recyclable items into your blue bin and place the plastic bag in the household waste bin. Alternatively, take plastic bags to your nearest supermarket that offers plastic bag recycling.
- 2) Textiles: These can be taken to Dunsdale Recycling Centre to be recycled.
- 3) Food waste: Leftovers, even containers covered in food/ grease, cannot be recycled and should also be placed in your household waste bin.
- 4) Nappies: Not recyclable items. Please dispose of them into household waste bins.
- 5) Polystyrene: We are unable to recycle. Please put it in your household waste bin.

## Jude's bin having fun!

IF you ask two-year-old Jude Bartram, from Redcar, what he wants to do when he grows up, he'll answer with a big smile on his face, "a bin man!"

"It started just after his first birthday," tells his mum, Alex Bartram. "He was always playing with the bins in the house, so for Christmas we got him a little bin and a hi-viz vest. He spent all day collecting the wrapping paper and putting it in his new bin."

Jude's love for bins, trucks and bin men only grew from there. The following year, he received his very own wheely bin and bin truck and even a special visit to the Council's depot where he and his mum got a special tour

around the site. From getting to see the "big trucks" to meeting the waste and recycling officers he admires so much and even getting his toy bin unloaded in one of the wagons, Jude enjoyed every second of that day. "He absolutely loved seeing the bin trucks. I would like to thank everyone involved for making a 'bin mad' little boy very happy!"

He always knows the bin collection days by heart since getting to see the bin men in action is one of the highlights of his week. "His main duty in the house is to remind us what bin needs taking out. He knows these dates better than

Jude's favourite games, apart from driving around in his toy truck, is to gather all his toys and put them in his bin, making sure there's no mess left behind after playtime.

Now, Jude is taking his passion a step forward, learning more about recycling and what goes in each bin from his new favourite book. At only two years of age, Jude is already looking after his area and the planet.



## Big night for our community heroes



HEROES who work tirelessly for their communities right across the borough have received recognition awards from the former Mayor, Cllr Malcolm Head, in a special ceremony.

A total of 19 individuals and groups received recognition at the annual Mayor's Community Achievement Awards held at the Civic Centre in Redcar. The winners, all nominated by councillors, were:

### Saltburn Valley Garden Volunteers

The volunteers, currently numbering 12, come together every week to support the reclamation of the unmaintained Saltburn Valley Gardens, on behalf of the Saltburn community and to aid the Council in returning Saltburn Valley to a well loved and cared for community area, reflecting its history and providing access to the local environment for residents and visitors.

Coastwatch Redcar

Coastwatch is a team of voluntary watch keepers and trustees dedicated to saving lives by supporting the Coastquard. It is part of the Sea Safety Group, which has stations along the east coast and is operational year-round. These selfless individuals not only offer immediate assistance to those in distress, but also play a crucial role in monitoring shipping vessels, reporting environmental concerns, and alerting the authorities to suspicious activities. They also

recently received the Kings Award for Voluntary Service.

## Hilary Greenwell and Becky Peirse-Pallister

Hilary and Becky are both Ladies of Steel volunteers. Hilary has volunteered at the vitally-important youth club for 17 years and Becky 10 years. Between them they have given almost 3,000 hours to the children of Dormanstown. They play games, enjoy arts and crafts and talk to the children with kindness and compassion, a shoulder to cry on if needed.

They teach boundaries and social skills and have earned the respect of the children and parents alike.

Paul and Shirley Profit
Paul and Shirley had an
idea to create a community
garden and allotment for the
elderly residents – to help
those who are not normally
able to engage or go outdoors.
The "Good Life Community
Project" was born with two
allotment sites at Warrenby.
They offer a safe space and free
workshops to Dormanstown

residents, using their own vehicle to pick up and drop off residents who can't make it on their own. They have sourced funding to expand further, with a classroom hut being built by local residents.

Richie Kerr-Morgan

Richie helps to run the new Eston Market as a volunteer, organising and doing the admin, and also helps run charity events. He has also set up a wellbeing afternoon in a local café to support mental health.

Page 10 Page 11

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#### **Eston Remembrance** 6 Committee

The committee consists of veterans and members of the local community. They work with the military, emergency services, cadets, youth groups and local schools to organise an annual remembrance parade. Two murals have also been produced with ideas from the local community, designed and delivered by local artist Phil Meadows, and funded by local businesses. The committee created a memorial garden in Eston Square and worked in partnership with Falck to have a defibrillator fitted in Eston Square.

#### Whale Hill Community 7 Centre Volunteers

The volunteers have been serving the local community for the past 40 years. They work 365 days a year to feed people from their daily food deliveries and food bank. The centre has a 'warm space session' and a 'remember when session' which brings in vulnerable and elderly people. There is also a mental health group for young people, as well as bingo and a community choir.

## Joe Parker and Justin Holt from Grangetown,

The Grangetown United Community Hub provides thousands of children, young people and adults with the opportunity to enjoy activities, to celebrate family and community events and receive much needed support. Joe and Justin help carry out maintenance jobs such as mending and painting fences and keeping the outside area clean. They also recycle old furniture, repairing and updating it, making it



affordable to the community. The money is then reinvested back into the project.

### 9 Abi Hedges of Blank Canvas

Blank Canvas is a Christian organisation based in St Hilda's Church. They work mostly with 11 to 16-year-olds within the Kirkleatham area, offering a space to do their homework after school, with warm food. They also run a youth club and seek to identify the barriers that young people are facing every day and hopefully equip and support them to overcome them. Abi and her team are doing so much to give young people a better chance.

### 10 Nicholls **Lynne and Stephen**

They say all good things must come to an end and, sadly, this is the case with

Coastal View & Moor News. For almost 14 years, the East Cleveland area has enjoyed this publication, full of local news and information, delivered free of charge to the door. No one can deserve their retirement more than Lynne and Stephen. They are two local heroes who have kept East Cleveland on the map.

## 11 Elizabeth (or Libby) McDonald

Libby is an outstanding member of the community. For years, she's been committed to keeping Eston, Normanby, and the Eston Hills clean. She goes out most days on her own, with a bag and grabber in hand and picks up rubbish. She's also very involved in the community in Normanby, particularly with the Neighbourhood Action Partnership meetings. She's very supportive and genuinely

gives her all for the betterment of the community.

## 12 Saltburn Athletic (Junior) Football Club

Established in 1998, the club was founded by four local police officers, three of whom are still with the club, Chairman Dave Sadler, secretary Andy Croll and under 13s coach Tim Raynes. The aim was to offer youngsters a healthy and safe local pursuit, make new friends and develop themselves in a pressure-free environment. Over the years, numbers multiplied, and the football club now has teams, aged from under 7 to under 14, as well as a starter group called "little kickers".

**Sharon Newsome** 

Sharon has been heavily involved in many community projects and groups. She has held the position of committee secretary for the Friends of Skelton Wildlife Pond, dedicating huge amounts of time and energy volunteering to help regenerate the wildlife pond and surrounding area. She is also a volunteer for 1st Skelton Scouts, a volunteer director of Redcar Junior Parkrun and a volunteer for the local litter pickers.

## 14 Skelton Villages Civic Pride

The group has a weekly coffee morning in Skelton Civic Centre with cakes and savouries made by volunteers. The weekly coffee morning is well attended, particularly by older residents and helps combat social isolation. Funds raised by the coffee morning are used to buy spring bulbs and summer flowers for tubs around the Skelton villages. Volunteers from the group plant up the tubs and weed them and generally care for them.

**South Bank Events Group**The group are volunteers

who put on affordable events for the community of South Bank. They include Easter parties and games, best of British afternoon tea, summer carnival rides, and Halloween and Christmas events. All are organised by a small, dedicated team focused on giving the best value for local residents.

### Tees Valley Women's Centre

The centre is a pioneering grassroots project which is a one stop-shop for women in a safe non-judgmental environment. It helps support the wellbeing of women, improving their quality of life by supplying one-to-one support, advice and guidance, training,

and education, along with employment opportunities, to help tackle social exclusion.

**Glynis Rodgerson** Glynis Rodgerson has

given decades of care to some of our most vulnerable people. The 82-year-old received the award for her work with residents at Marske Hall, near Redcar, where she has helped raise thousands of pounds and has helped with many activities and much more. As a young mother, she opened her home and heart to foster 62 babies prior to them being adopted, many of whom she has kept in touch with over the years. Glynis's citation said: "She is a real inspiration and an amazing support to our community."

Ged Burns
Ged has volunteered at Marske Hall for 10 years and is one of the most active, reliable, and well-loved volunteers at the home. He drives residents on holiday, to appointments and events, supports them in activities, befriends residents for one-to-one support, helps with the gardens and is a key member of the fundraising committee which has generated thousands of pounds.

19 Seaside Sid

Seaside Sid is the brainchild of Debi Large, from Marske. The character brings a smile to everyone's face, be it as a mascot at the football matches, at the Christmas parade, fundraising for Marske United and even gaining Marske national media attention when training for and running in the Mascot Gold Cup at Wetherby Racecourse. Seaside Sid has merchandise, a Facebook page and even appears in videos.

Page 12 Page 13



EAST Cleveland couple Nikki Hart and Gillian Dove have told how the space they have in their hearts and in their home inspired them to become foster carers eight years ago.

"We foster because we want to make a difference to the lives of children and young people and give them a better start in life and we have the space in our hearts and our home," explained Nikki.

Now the couple, who are currently fostering a teenager and a baby, are encouraging anyone thinking about becoming a foster carer to get in touch with Redcar & Cleveland Council's Fostering Team.

"Sometimes it is the hardest job in the world, but it is the most rewarding thing we have ever done," said Nikki. "Just go for it," was her advice to anyone considering becoming a foster carer.

"Seeing a child smile when they have been with you for a few days

and you haven't seen them smile before is especially rewarding," added Gillian. "The fact that they feel safe and loved in our home makes it all worthwhile."

There are also challenges with being a foster carer and Nikki explains how difficult it can be to say goodbye when you have fostered a child for a while. "We had one baby for 15 months and it was really difficult to say goodbye to her."

The couple said they feel supported by the Council's Fostering Team and are committed to fostering children from their local area. "We receive great support from the Council including regular meetings with our supervising social worker as well as the reassurance that the fostering team are always at the end of a phone if you need them," said Nikki. "We live in the area, and it seemed like the natural thing to foster locally and the support the Council offered

was important to us."

Nationally, there is an increase in children and young people in care. In Redcar and Cleveland, our children and young people need foster carers like Nikki and Gillian, who can provide them with a safe, secure and loving home.



Could you help transform the future of a vulnerable child or young person? All our foster carers receive financial compensation and support for their valued work. get in touch with the foster team on 01642 444087 or email FosteringTeam@redcarcleveland.gov.uk or find out more at www.fostering. redcar-cleveland.gov.uk





## Students showcase our wonderful volunteers



WE want to showcase and support the fabulous volunteers who make a real difference in their communities.

Some of the local heroes have been captured by A-level photography students from Prior Pursglove College in Guisborough, in a photographic competition.

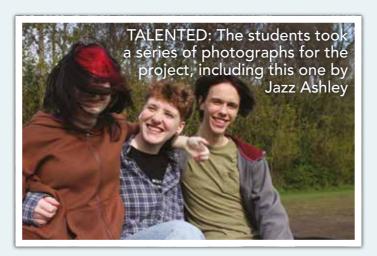
The four shortlisted pictures were taken by Jazz Ashley, Katie Hopwood, Holly Spillane and William Sharp. We also asked some of the photographed volunteers to share their stories with us.

The photos will be used in the Council's new Volunteer Strategy which will help support, promote and encourage volunteering in the borough.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering in the borough, or want to feed into a consultation we are currently running, email us at volunteer@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

And if you would like to feature in future 'this is Redcar and Cleveland' magazines, again email us at volunteer@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk







#### Owl Centre, Kirkleatham -**Harry Stolweather**

I was near to retirement and thought I do not want to just stop and do nothing as I wanted to keep active. I have been volunteering at the Owl Centre for the past five years. I really enjoy meeting people, speaking to the visitors, and helping to care for the birds, such as cleaning the aviaries out and putting up new bird perches.

I also volunteer on a Tuesday at Main which is an organisation that support children who are autistic, neurodivergent, have learning disabilities. Volunteering keeps me healthy and active.

I encourage all ages to volunteer as this helps people gain new experiences, social skills and can help get into employment, importantly gets them out and about.

#### **RNLI – Jonathan Gilby**

On leaving the Air Force around 13 years ago, I began my volunteering journey at The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Saltholme and volunteered there for a couple of years. I was then given the opportunity to volunteer at Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) at Redcar, where I work in the shop, I have thoroughly enjoyed volunteering at the RNLI.

I also volunteer for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and I am part of "eyes on hands on" which means I am responsible for a set number of graves in the local area that need looking after. I can't express enough the benefits there are by volunteering, being out in



the community, meeting and interacting with people, this in return benefits the community and if it were not for volunteers, organisations

such as charities would not be able to function and operate. I feel that 'volunteers cost nothing but to organisations we are priceless'.

#### **Teesside Hospice in Marske – Anita Purvis**

due to losing my two brothers to cancer. I was unable to

I took early retirement in 2016, volunteer at the time due to my health and recently underwent an operation which



meant I was able to start volunteering in February this year at the Teesside Hospice Charity shop in Marske. I wanted to give something back and help others that are going through a similar situation to what my brothers had gone through, as one of my brothers could not go into the Teesside Hospice Home, as it was full, I had to watch him die a painful death. The shop is a lovely place to work, everyone is friendly, and I enjoy speaking to the regular customers and making new friends. I volunteer in the shop four hours a week and sometimes I cover weekends, the time passes so quickly.

## Transforming our borough

### Find out about big projects rejuvenating our area

#### **Beach Base now open**

YOU can now visit Beach Base, a brand-new attraction on Redcar's seafront, to buy a coffee on the go or an ice cream for the family.

The facility has partly opened while adjustments continue to be made to the venue before its formal opening in the summer.

Very soon it will become a place to watch or partake in sporting activities right on the coast.

"We are excited about the direction we are moving in and the opportunities that lie ahead," explained Paul Benson, the marketing and communications manager for Beach Base.

"We are beginning exciting new partnerships with the local sporting community and are inviting anyone with an interest in collaborating with us to reach out to us."

British Triathlon, British Rowing and British Cycling - the





National Governing Bodies for their respective sports – have all endorsed the project with a vision of bringing community activities and local, regional, and national competitions to the hub, including the Go Tri series.

The hub will also offer the opportunity for local organisations to host a range of their own activities and events. The unique shipping container village will be used as a meeting place and an informal base for clubs, school groups, activity leaders, families, and groups of friends. The facility has toilets, showers, lockers, an

equipment store and changing rooms.

Paul added: "We are privileged to be able to offer such a unique and high-quality facility to the Redcar area, and we look forward to serving the community for years to come.

"In addition to providing a fantastic facility for the Majuba Beach area, we are proud to support the local economy by sourcing our produce from the Yorkshire Dales, our coffee from Great Ayton, and our ice cream from a local Teesside company. We are committed to showcasing the best of what the Redcar area has to offer."

If you are a sports club or community group and would like to speak to Beach Base about collaborative opportunities, please email info@ redcarbeachbase.com For more information, please visit: www.redcarbeachbase.com







### Coronation Park in Loftus transformed

PUPILS from St Joseph's, Handale and Badger Hill primary schools recently visited Coronation Park in Loftus to see the transformed space.

The extensive refurbishment and restoration of the park has been driven by a strong sense of community spirit.

The space now has a direct access to Duncan Place, the Family Hub and new library building as well as access via new steps from Zetland Road, as well as a new memorial garden with rose planting to reflect the original central feature of the park.

There is also a large projector wall which will host light shows, images, videos, and important information for residents.

Each school contributed words to be inscribed on plaques installed on benches around the park, creating a lasting legacy.



#### **Progress for entertainment venue in Redcar**

DEMOLITION work on the former Marks and Spencer and Goodwins buildings in Redcar town centre is well under way.

The work will make way for an exciting new venue for family-friendly entertainment. This follows several months of internal works including the safe removal of asbestos, the roof and internal demolition. The venue is among projects developed by the Redcar Town Deal board following consultation with the public. The board is made up of industry experts, business leaders, the local MP and Council representatives.



## Work started on Redcar Central Station

THE major redevelopment of the Grade II listed Redcar Central Station has started. Conservation works to transform it from an empty, dilapidated building into a vibrant,

REDCAR STATION: Work has started

more welcoming gateway to the town began in May.

The building will function both as a leisure and retail hub, with food and drink outlets, as well as a key transport link.

The project, which is funded by the Government's Levelling Up Partnership Fund, Welcome to Redcar and Cleveland fund administered via Tees Valley Combined Authority, and the Railway Heritage Trust, will complete in 2025.

#### Work to start on Eston Pool

CONSTRUCTION works are set to start in September to build the new swimming pool and learner pool in Eston. The new facility, which is designed to Sport England specifications, will provide a 25 metre, six lane pool with changing areas, a 150-seat spectator gallery, an official's room for gala use and a Changing Places facility which can be accessed via a new lobby. The facility will also include a separate learner pool, welcoming children and young people to learn how to swim. The pool will be complete in early 2026, thanks to funding from Government, the Council and Tees Valley Combined Authority. Progress is being made on plans to redevelop Eston Precinct. Designs for the project are currently being pulled together and will be included in the planning application which is expected to be submitted in autumn this year.





## World of opportunities as new £12m TTE training centre gets set to open

A WORLD of opportunities awaits people in Redcar with the forthcoming opening of a brand new state of the art £12m centre for Middlesbrough College Group's TTE Technical workforce training provider arm.

The building was officially handed over in April and work has now begun on fitting out the 3,000 sq m two-storey building in time for the new academic year in September.

The new state-of-the-art centre will train over 300 full-time students, 300 apprentices and 500 adults each year.

Its facilities will include:

- Seven large multifunction/multidiscipline workshops to provide for Instrumentation, Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Mechanical, Hydraulics, Pneumatics, Process Engineering and Net Zero Low Carbon Technology Workspaces
- Seven breakout classrooms and study spaces
- Large Conference Room and staff workspaces
- Student social and welfare areas

Zoe Lewis CBE, Principal and Chief Executive of Middlesbrough College Group, said: "This fantastic new facility makes us the biggest provider of engineering training for school leavers in the country, which is one of the things we are most proud of.

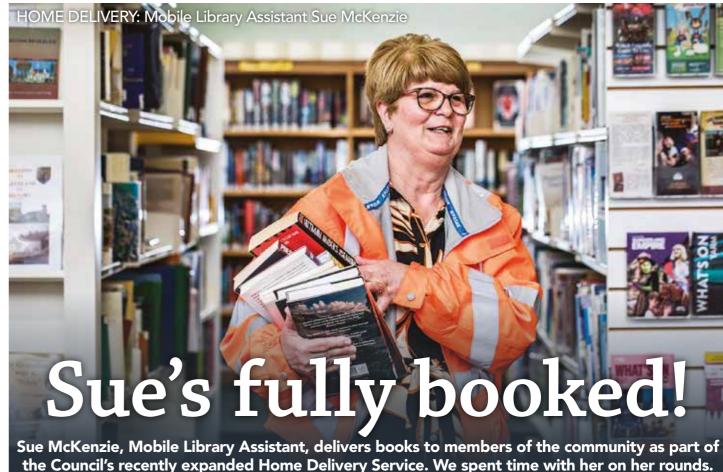
"TTE's reputation within the industry is second to none in the way in which they prepare young people for the workplace and this new facility will open up a world of training and skills opportunities for people across the area."

Courses which will be hosted at the new centre will include a range of programmes for school leavers, adults, employers and international students. Subject specialisms at the site will include Mechanical Engineering, Electrical, Instrumentation, Process and Wind Turbines.

The centre will help TTE continue to provide high quality TTE apprenticeship programmes to a wide range of employers across the North East. Short courses it will host will include Electrical Safety, Hydraulic Systems, Virtual Process Control Room Operations, Safety Passport, Leadership and Management and many more.

To find out more about TTE Technical and the work which it does, head to www.tte.co.uk





SUE loves her job. After all, she says, it's like, "spending time with family." The 'family' Sue means are the people she delivers books to each month.

"My customers are marvellous and so appreciative," says Sue, loading large print novels and spoken word CDs on to the library van, "I love chatting to them so much - the only problem is we'd be chatting all day if I didn't get going! There is a kind of unofficial role where I'm keeping an eye on people, making sure they're OK. I'd say Catherine Cookson books are still the number one – but each person can have wildly different tastes."

Out on the rounds in Redcar we call in to Joan Emmerson, a life-long dedicated reader. "It's like a treat when Sue comes round," says Joan. "I love reading and I've been writing what I think of every book I've ever read in a special book my parents gave me when I was a very young woman – they're all in here!"

Our next visit is to a Derick and Jean Cook who, again, are eagerly watching out for Sue's van to arrive. Derick is full of smiles as Sue approaches. "I love cowboy books," he says, "can't get enough. But we get all kinds. Sue is marvellous and it's a big moment."

Next up is Hettie Matthews, who discusses the value of the service. "I just couldn't go to the library and carry the big,

heavy books I need," she says. "What Sue does is a lifeline for so many people."

For people to get in touch to book on the service they can send enquiries to the new email health-wellbeing-libraries@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or call 07909 906324.

Derick and

Jean Cook



## Janet's caring story

JANET Boland's husband Michael was just 55 when he was diagnosed with dementia. She has been caring for him full-time ever since. "I had to take early retirement to become his full-time carer back in 2021," Janet, 62, of Marske, explains. "It's a decision I've never regretted."

Soon after, Janet got in touch with social services to see what help was available, but she didn't expect the huge positive impact it would have on their lives. "I thought that if we got some help involved from the beginning, when he will need more help later on, it will become a normal thing rather than something thrown at him."

"Your needs as a carer are

UNPAID CARER: Janet, telling her story

Page 24

taken into account as well as the needs of the person you are looking after."

Now, when Michael spends time at the day centre for dementia, Janet has the chance to do housework, meet with her friends and family and look after herself knowing her husband is in a fun and nurturing environment. "That way, on the days he is at home, we can go out and do things together with less pressure being put on me."

Through social services, Janet was put in touch with other organisations such as Whippet Up, Dementia

Action Teesside and Carers
Together, which run regular
activities such as dance groups
or day trips for people living
with dementia and their carers.
This helped Janet and Michael
find a supportive community of
people going through similar
experiences. "It's a way for us
to socialise. By interacting with
people going through the same
thing, you get so much more
peer group support and you
don't feel like you're on your
own."



These services offered them more than just activities, they provided counselling, help filling out paperwork and financial assessments. "There's lots of things you can get as carer to help you enjoy life more. Getting social services involved doesn't take away from your life, it gives you more life. You get more time to do something for yourself but also to do more things with them."

If you are a carer from Redcar and Cleveland, there are many support providers who can help. Head over to https://www. redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/adultsocial-care/support-for-carers



## Story time for Lilly-Mae

ONE toddler who is developing her speech at pace is two-year-old Lilly-Mae.

Mum Danielle Dawes, of Loftus, explained that her little girl attends the Early Words Together group at her school (delivered by Family Hub and school staff).

"She loves it here, it's all about book time and playing and her speech is actually really good," says Danielle. "It's really fun for her." Lilly-Mae, tugging at her mum to insist on her book story, clearly agrees!







# Time to talk about talking!

"YOU always make a difference...but sometimes there's these special, breakthrough moments," smiles Speech Therapist Iona Capstick.

"I always remember a fiveyear-old I was working with who couldn't produce 'f', I'd worked with him for weeks and weeks until, one moment out of nowhere, he just got it. He flew through the rest of the steps and soon was able to use 'f' words in sentences. It's the reaction of the parents that gets you!"

Iona, 27, is part of an expanded offer to support early language skills at our Family Hubs service which is providing more groups and services for children aged from newborns to young adults at rejuvenated centres across the borough.

She explains that there has been an increase in 200,000 children - not just pre-school children - not developing speech and language at the usual rate across the country, according to research published late last year.

"It may be related to Covid, but that's not certain," says Iona, a qualified therapist for five years. "One thing that is certain is nothing beats a parent or loving adult getting down to a child's level and chatting and reading – and that's a lot of what we do here. It's fun!

"When I am working in the Hubs, I also spend time simply reassuring worried parents. But, where there is a significant need, the Speech and Language Service also provide more specialised help and I can always support referrals for more complex cases."



Log on to the Family Hubs website to find out more about the many services and groups on offer at redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/family-hubs.

Parents of 0 – 3-year-olds who want advice on speech and language should email stees.talkfamilyhubs@nhs.

net or call Grangetown Hub on 01642 770810



# Together, we can improve journeys in Tees Valley

We've looked at transport issues and potential solutions across Tees Valley. We want your feedback to help us further develop our plans.

Find out more and have your say

www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/travel-consultations Q



## Sharon's journey to success

SHARON Johns, from Normanby, a mother of three, found her dream job working as a Health Visitor at the Council, supporting families and children across the borough. But the road to get there wasn't easy.

Her journey started in 2007, when her twins and daughter were very young. She realised that her job in hairdressing wasn't fulfilling for her. "I wanted to help people," she explains.

Through the Grangetown local Family Hub, Sharon obtained her NVQ level 3 in Health and Social Care, which allowed her to secure a nursing position.

This pushed her to start her foundation degree in Nursing, during which she was diagnosed with dyslexia. "I got a lot of support from Teesside University with my dyslexia. I thought, if I can do a Foundation degree, why not go higher!"

Her next step was a degree in Learning Disability Nursing, which she finished with First Class, inspiring her to apply for a Master's Level 7 apprenticeship in Health Visiting at the Council.

"I'm so grateful to the Health Visiting Services for helping me when I had the twins and I felt like it was my turn to help other families."

Sharon has recently completed her apprenticeship



and now she has a full-time position in Health Visiting within the Council's Family Hubs, her dream job.

"I'm really proud of myself and so is my family. I hope I've inspired my children to follow their passion."

## Find a new career with Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council's new Jobs website



Want to make a difference to your community? Work for the Council! Our new jobs website is regularly updated with a huge variety of jobs ranging from social work to waste recycling; office work to frontline services and much more.

Latest job opportunities

Lots of opportunities to build your career

**Great staff benefits with an award-winning employer** 



Search for jobs here: www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers



## Schoolchildren sort parking issue

THE Council recently thanked classmates from Zetland Primary School for bringing an issue to the attention of officers. Many parents were struggling to find parking when dropping their children off at Zetland Primary School which caused congestion. So the children wrote a letter asking if parents could use Fisherman's Square, a long stay car park, as a parking solution during peak school pick up and drop off times. They said this would help emergency vehicle access, improve road safety, and traffic pollution. Following a meeting between the Council and the school the request was agreed.

From 8.30am – 9am and from 3pm – 3.30pm Monday to Friday, parents can use Fisherman's Square to help make that school drop-off and pick up a little easier. The Council posted on its Facebook page recently: "We would like to commend the classmates for raising this issue, for their creative parking permit drawings, and for achieving the outcome they wanted."

### Donate old electricals to help those in need

THE Council is working together with community groups across the borough to help people going through hard times by giving them essential domestic electricals that could make their life a bit easier.

You can help us by donating any small domestic electrical items that you don't need anymore but are still in good condition to Dunsdale Recycling Centre or Redcar Library. Find out more by emailing

#### In trouble? We're with you

WithYou in Redcar and Cleveland is an organisation which supports adults and young people experiencing challenges with drugs, alcohol or their mental health.

#### It offers support including:

- Drug and alcohol awareness training with schools and professionals
- Specialist prescribing for alcohol detox, alcohol relapse prevention and opiate substitute including prescription medications
- Needle and syringe service with harm reduction advice including naloxone distribution and testing for blood borne viruses (BBVs)
- Access to domestic abuse support
- Alcohol and drug one-toone or group support
- ■Support with criminal justice and employment
- Family and friends' support

WithYou supports families identified through social care, who are experiencing challenges with drugs or alcohol and can provide psychosocial support for reducing prescription medication or other tablet

If you or someone you know needs support from WithYou in Redcar and Cleveland, email thrive.withyou@nhs. net call 0300 3033 781. A free and confidential online webchat for drugs, alcohol or mental health is also available from the WithYou website: www.wearewithyou.org.uk



## Meet the new Mayor

FATHER-OF-ONE Councillor Neil Bendelow is the new Mayor of Redcar and Cleveland.

Mayor Neil Bendelow who was an elected councillor for South Bank between 2015 and 2019, and was re-elected in the 2023 election, said: "To be elected as Mayor is a great honour and privilege and I look forward to being a good ambassador for our area."

He will raise money for local charity Zoe's Place Baby Hospice based in Normanby, which cares for babies and young children with lifelimiting, life threatening or complex conditions. The Mayor will also be raising money for St John's Church in South Bank which needs £10,000 towards a new roof. "The church is an important part of the community and helps so many local people," he explained.

Cllr Bendelow, who recently

turned 50, works as a postman, which he has done for more than 34 years since he left school. He is a Middlesbrough Football Club supporter and season ticket holder and enjoys horse racing. He is also involved with South Bank Events Group, which organises affordable events for the local community.

He has been married to his wife Susan for nearly 20 years and they have a 18-year-old daughter called Issey, who is in her final year at Prior Pursglove College in Guisborough.

The new Deputy Mayor is Cllr Ian Hart who was elected to represent the Ormesby ward in 2023.

Outgoing Mayor Cllr Malcolm Head who raised £9,000 to be split between his two charities Footprints in the Community and the Junction Foundation, was thanked for his work at the investiture.

#### **COUNCIL DIARY**

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

#### **July 2024**

■ Monday 15, 10am

Adults, Wellbeing & Health Scrutiny & **Improvement Committee** 

■ Tuesday 16, 10am

Children & Families Scrutiny & **Improvement Committee** 

■ Wednesday 17, 10am

**Corporate Resources & Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee** 

■ Thursday 18, 10am

**Growth Scrutiny & Improvement** Committee

■ Thursday 18, 5:30pm

Climate & Environment Scrutiny & **Improvement Committee** 

■ Monday 22, 10am

**Governance Committee** 

■ Tuesday 23.10am

#### **Cabinet**

■ Thursday 25, 10am

#### **Regulatory Committee**

■ Thursday 25, 5pm

#### **Eston Town Deal Board**

■ Wednesday 31, 10am

**Employment, Health & Safety Committee** 

#### August 2024

■Thursday 1, 2pm

#### **Borough Council**

■ Thursday 22, 10am

**Regulatory Committee** 

#### September 2024

■ Monday 9, 10am

Adults, Wellbeing & Health Scrutiny & **Improvement Committee** 

■ Tuesday 10, 10am

Children & Families Scrutiny & **Improvement Committee** 

■ Wednesday 11, 10am

**Corporate Resources & Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee** 

■ Thursday 12, 10am

**Growth Scrutiny & Improvement** Committee

■ Thursday 12, 5.30pm

Climate & Environment Scrutiny & **Improvement Committee** 

■ Tuesday 17, 10am

#### **Cabinet**

■ Tuesday 17, 5pm

**Cleveland Police & Crime Panel** 

■ Thursday 19, 10am

**Regulatory Committee** 

EnvironmentSupport@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

### The 59 men and women representing 24 wards

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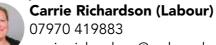
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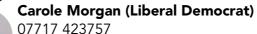
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Choose from a wide range of full and part-time higher education courses, in partnership with Teesside University.

Courses include engineering, health and social care, education and training, beauty therapy, distance learning and more.

