

# this is **Redcar & Cleveland**

the council magazine for the local community

Issue 57 | Spring 2025

## **Paint my Paw-trait!**

What's on this spring,  
pages 6 and 7



To contact the council visit  
[www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk)

facebook.com/redcarcleveland or on @RedcarCleveland



# Money problems? Help is available

MANY of us are struggling with our finances as the cost-of-living crisis continues. Here's where you can find support.

## Redcar and Cleveland Money Advice

This service, provided by the council and partners aims to ensure that you have access to financial information, advice and support covering: benefit entitlement and disputes, dealing with debt, affordable housing, improving digital skills, accessing community banking, planning for retirement, budgeting support and help with utilities. To access the service visit: [www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk) and search Money Advice.

## Pension Credit

Pension Credit is a retirement benefit to help pensioners with the cost of living. This benefit is paid to more than 1.5 million people nationally, and can be for as much as £3,000 a year. To find out more you can visit the government website [www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim](http://www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim) or by phoning 0800 99 1234

## Council Tax support

You may qualify for help with your Council Tax if you are:

- On Universal Credit

- Income Support
- Jobseeker's Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance
- On Pension Credit
- Working and on low pay (including people who are self-employed)
- On a low income.

To check your eligibility, make a claim through the council website where a link to 'council tax support' is on the front page or call 01642 774774

## Public transport

Discounted rail passes are available to different groups, details of which can be accessed on the National Rail website [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) For those who travel by bus, it is possible to access discounted tickets for students and others via the Arriva website [www.arrivabus.co.uk/ticket-info](http://www.arrivabus.co.uk/ticket-info) Information on how to apply for a free local bus travel for pensioners and disabled people can be accessed at the council website at [www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/roads-and-parking/bus-passes](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/roads-and-parking/bus-passes)

## Money Helper

Free and impartial help with money matters, backed by government.  
[www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en)

## Redcar Citizens Advice

[enquiries@rccitizensadvice.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rccitizensadvice.co.uk)  
01642 030000

## Warm Home Discounts

[www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme)

## South Tees Affordable

### Warmth Partnership

[warmhomes@menvcity.org.uk](mailto:warmhomes@menvcity.org.uk)  
0800 304 7084

## Beyond Housing

[rent.income@beyondhousing.co.uk](mailto:rent.income@beyondhousing.co.uk)  
01642 771326

## Thirteen Housing

[customerservices@thirteengroup.co.uk](mailto:customerservices@thirteengroup.co.uk)  
0300 111 1000

## Carers Together

[info@carerstogogether-rc.org.uk](mailto:info@carerstogogether-rc.org.uk)  
01642 488977

## Stop loan sharks

[www.stoploansharks.co.uk/](http://www.stoploansharks.co.uk/)  
0300 555 2222

## Credit unions/community banks

### South Tees Community Bank

[www.southteescommunitybank.org.uk/](http://www.southteescommunitybank.org.uk/) or call 0191 2767963 or email [admin@moneywise.org.uk](mailto:admin@moneywise.org.uk)

### South Bank Credit Union

[info@southbanksavingcu.co.uk](mailto:info@southbanksavingcu.co.uk) or 01642 463700

# Welcome...

...to the spring edition of the **this is Redcar & Cleveland** magazine

IN this edition of your magazine, we highlight the work of the council over the previous 12 months.

You see some of this work every day, but other aspects of what we do might go unnoticed. For instance, a great deal of skill and effort goes into providing help and support for the most vulnerable in our borough.

Our staff improve the lives of children and adults in need each day of the year, alongside their colleagues who ensure the services that residents need and expect are delivered throughout the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have made this happen.

Our communities are also stronger thanks to residents who take it upon themselves to volunteer and make where they live a better place. There are many such people in Redcar and Cleveland and we are proud to highlight their work and give them the credit they so richly deserve.

We can now hope that winter is behind us and we can look forward to spending more time outdoors in our beautiful borough.



There is a full schedule of events for all the family taking us through to the summer months.

This includes a return for the kite festival in Redcar. Last year was a huge success and attracted thousands of people, both residents and visitors.

We would encourage everyone to enjoy a great family day out at our events and showcase what a fantastic borough we live in.

### Cllr Alec Brown

Leader of the Council



### Sea heroine

Meet Laura Wedgewood, Redcar Lifeboat's only female crew member **p5**



**DOG ART:** Cara Webber, 9, and her dog, Nora, at Kirkleatham Museum for a dog art exhibition. Find out more on p6.



### What's on?

From kite festivals to major sporting events to big name bands – see your full events guide **p6**



### Photography competition

See stunning images of our borough and the winning entry **p8**

**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](mailto: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. ♻️



# Meet our amazing mums

A campaign is being launched in the borough to encourage more new mothers to breastfeed. We spoke to three new mums about the issue.

"FEEDING your child," smiles new mum Aliya Scarborough, "it's a natural thing – but at the same time it isn't always easy."

As Aliya speaks, other mums in this friendly, chatty breastfeeding group at Guisborough Family Hub nod along and it doesn't take long for a discussion to get going - including about support given to mums who struggled to breastfeed.

The friends are backing a campaign to encourage more mothers to breastfeed in our borough. It's an important issue for our area – latest statistics show that just 55% of new mothers in Redcar and Cleveland initiate breastfeeding for their babies, compared to 72.6% nationally.

Aliya, who gave birth to baby Isla via C-Section, says that support from professionals at the Family Hub had been invaluable.

She said: "We discovered Isla had tongue tie and she lost 13% of her body weight when she was born," she says. "I had so much support from Sarah



NEW MOTHER:  
Aliya Scarborough  
with her baby, Isla

Winspear, Infant Feeding Lead at the family hub, who was always there to help us. She does home visits and rents out things like breast pumps, and is a great support.

"When I started feeding in public for the first time, it was more my own confidence that was the worry. But one day a few of us were at a mini-music group at our local church and an older lady subtly handed

my friend a band that said, 'well done for breastfeeding in church' which made us all feel more comfortable and welcome."

Eleanor Dodsworth stresses the importance of reaching out for professional support. "Health visitors came to my house every day as my baby was struggling to latch - and that's why I sing about the support they give," she says.

Sarah Winspear explained benefits of breastfeeding include stronger immunity from infections and diseases for baby and also reduced risk of breast cancer. She stressed that breastfeeding does not always work for everyone and support is available for ALL new mums.



Find out more about the benefits of breastfeeding, your local Family Hub and support available [redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/family-hubs/infant-feeding-services](https://redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/family-hubs/infant-feeding-services) or emailing [breastfeedingwelcome@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:breastfeedingwelcome@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk) or calling **01642 444011**.

# Heroine of the waves

WHEN Laura Wedgewood isn't working to support some of our most vulnerable children, you're likely to find her out on the waves saving lives.

For Laura is currently the only woman on Redcar Lifeboat and the first crew member to pass out as an Inshore Lifeboat (ILB) Navigator.

Now she is appealing for more members of our diverse community to consider joining the team.

Laura, Team Manager at the council's No Wrong Door Outreach Service and Residential Children's Home which supports children on the edge of care, laughed that she had "no idea" why she had joined the crew herself.

"I always get asked that and I don't really know," said

Laura, "I always make a joke of it by saying, 'stupidity'! I suppose it's to do with helping people which fits with my job at No Wrong Door. It's a huge commitment but I love it."

Her role on the lifeboat is very demanding, the team train twice per week and got called out 53 times last year, including Christmas Day. She said: "If the call comes, you go and that's it. There are two different tones to the pager, one that suggests there is an imminent life at risk and one which is for the crew to assemble at the station, for less urgent taskings. But if the call comes you just leave whatever you are doing. You could be half-way through paying for your shopping at the till as happens quite regularly.

"It can have an impact on family. They worry so much. It's the same with work colleagues. An email alert goes out to colleagues to let them know if I have been paged, so they know if I am going to be late, my team and in particular my Deputy Managers and Service Manager are incredibly supportive of what I do."

Laura, who said becoming the RNLI's new navigator was "hard work but one of my proudest achievements," explains that the job is not all about the classic image of saving someone caught in distress at sea. The RNLI covers some inland waterways too and the crew are often tasked to the River Tees.

She said the crew are "extremely close, like family," but added that the culture and crew at Redcar is ever changing. "You have to remember, we're actually older than the RNLI which is 200 years old. We have lifeboat families who have very proudly served for generation after generation which is amazing. But new people with different – transferrable – skills are increasingly needed too."

The RNLI are keen that volunteers represent all parts of our community. If you're interested in finding out more, email [Laura\\_wedgewood@rnli.org.uk](mailto:Laura_wedgewood@rnli.org.uk)



LIFEBOAT HERO:  
Laura Wedgewood



Photo credits: RNLI





# Spring events

Here's what you can expect to do in our towns and villages this spring. For updates on exciting events and activities in Redcar and Cleveland, please visit: [www.redcarcleveland.co.uk/enjoy](http://www.redcarcleveland.co.uk/enjoy)

Now on!



## For the love of dogs

AN exhibition of dog-themed art has opened at Kirkleatham Museum. A Dog's Life shows the work of international artists, designers, illustrators and photographers who use dogs as their inspiration.

And there are lots of opportunities for visitors to get involved too with interactive competitions, a chance to see yourself as a (digital) dog and an area where visitors can display photos of their own dogs and have a go at drawing their own pooch's portrait.

The exhibition will run until 29 June. The museum, near Redcar, is closed on Mondays. Find out more at the Enjoy Redcar and Cleveland website, call 01642 444600 or email [enjoy@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:enjoy@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk)

## Our Music Our Way

**Thur 13 March. Eston Leisure Centre. Tickets: £8**

JOIN the acclaimed Royal Northern Sinfonia as they take you on a journey of celebration, creativity and community. Event tickets from TicketSource.



## Valley of Light

**Fri 14 and Sat 15 March Saltburn Valley Gardens**

EXPERIENCE an evening filled with captivating light installations, engaging performances, storytelling, live music, and hands-on craft activities. There will also be wonderful artworks created by the local community.

Valley of Light is supported by Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, Arts Council England and People's Postcode Lottery. For more information and tickets go to [stellarcreates.co.uk](http://stellarcreates.co.uk) and click 'events'.

## Teesside Hospice – Midnight Memory Walk

**Sat 22 March. Starts from Redcar and Cleveland College, walk along to Markse and back.**

FAMILY sponsored walk to raise funds for Teesside Hospice, with entertainment and a fun, family friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

## Northern Atlantic Road Relay

**Sun 30 March. Starts and finishes on the Coast Road outside Zetland Park where the handover point for the legs will also take place.**

IN partnership with New Marske Harriers, Northern Atlantic will stage the men's 12



stage road relays and women's six stage relays.

The event will attract participants all the way from the Scottish Borders to Manchester and Merseyside. The races will also feature Olympic and World Championship athletes who will compete for their domestic running clubs for the opportunity to be crowned 'Northern Champions' and qualify for the National Road Relays to be held in Birmingham later on in the year.



## East Cleveland Classic

**Sun 13 April**

REDCAR and Cleveland will host a round of British Cycling's elite National Road Series, the East Cleveland Classic.

The circuit starts and finishes in Saltburn and will take in Skelton, Guisborough, Charltons, Boosbeck, Lingdale and Brotton. The women will race over four laps of the circuit covering a distance of 68 miles, with the men completing six laps and a total race distance of 100 miles.

Racing will get under way at 9am for the women and 1pm for the men. Both races will start and finish near the bandstand in Saltburn.



## Take Me to the Forest

**Sat 3, Sun 4, Mon 5 May and Sat 10, Sun 11 May.**

**11am - 6pm, timed entry. Errington Wood, New Marske, TS11 8HW**

TAKE Me to the Forest is inspired by the ancient Gaelic festival of Beltane, or the start of summer. It is aimed at families, nature lovers, and creative adventurers.

They can get involved in creative challenges, learn traditional dances, and explore a world of forgotten rituals. There will also be storytellers sharing British folk tales, fire juggling performances, and a maypole dance. Tickets on sale now at [www.takemetotheforest.org.uk](http://www.takemetotheforest.org.uk) Adult £25, Child £15

Coming soon!

## Let's go fly a kite!

**Sat 14 and Sun 15 June Majuba Beach, Redcar**

FOLLOWING the success of last year's inaugural event which attracted more than 17,000 visitors, the free family-friendly festival will once again welcome some

## Saltburn 5K

**Thur 22 May. Saltburn**

SUMMER Series, Race 2 This breathtaking 5k trail takes you to Saltburn. You'll be surrounded by stunning scenery the whole way, and if you need a break, there are plenty of benches along the route where you can take in the view. Plus, you will soon be back to treat yourself to some real tasty food and drink at the Alexandra Vaults. Registration from: 17:30 – 18:20 at The Alexandra Vaults, Amber St, Saltburn-by-the-Sea TS12 1DS. Race starts: 18:30 – on the promenade. Find out more by visiting: <https://redcarcleveland.co.uk/>

## On the Beach Live Redcar

**Sun 25 May, 2 - 11pm.**

**Majuba Beach, Redcar**

THE popular music festival will be returning to Redcar with an amazing line up of bands set to play to thousands of music fans. Bands include Ocean Colour Scene, The Coral and The K's. For tickets, please visit: Redcar Beach Live 2025.





# Picture this! Photo competition focuses on borough

THE beauty of our borough has been caught for posterity by dozens of residents in a competition.

The theme of the competition run by the council's Visitor Destination team was showcasing the borough in 2024 and more than 70 photographers took part.

The winning entry was the work of Brian Atkinson, 46, who has been a keen photographer and artist since leaving school.

Brian, of Redcar, who describes himself as a 'barrow boy' streetcleaner in the town, in reference to his cart, said: "I love landscapes and sunsets and when I saw a really lovely sunset last September I thought I'd go

down to the beach and grab a few shots.

"I am a bit shy approaching people but when I saw the fisherman against the sky I thought, 'you've got to go for it!' I could see him thinking, 'who's this coming towards me' but he could see what I was trying to do and kindly did a few casts for me. I've had such success with this photograph – it also won a calendar competition – and the fisherman, Frank, has been pleased as punch for me."

Brian won an annual pass for Saltburn Cliff Tramway, a family ticket to one of Redcar and Cleveland's 2025 outdoor theatre events and a featured image within the next Enjoy Redcar and Cleveland visitor guide.



**SNAP HAPPY:** Streetcleaner Brian Atkinson who won the competition with this great shot of a fisherman on Redcar beach. Check out his photography and art on Facebook (search for atkinson's art) or Instagram (search for atkinsonsart).



Just a few of the other entries which judges decided merited an honourable mentions can be seen here:

**BEAUTIFUL:** Roseberry Topping by Lee Wise ▼



**STUNNING:** South Gare Lighthouse by Gareth Howell ▼



**NATURAL BEAUTY:** Cliff top at Skinningrove by Oliver Sherratt ▼



**SURFING DRAMA:** A surfer rides the wave at Redcar, by John Stephenson ▼



**GOLDEN SANDS:** Saltburn Beach by Bob Norton ▼





# Redcar foster carer backs recruitment drive

JUGGLING busy lives and the responsibility of their teenage son hasn't stopped Redcar foster carer Helen Laing and her husband Mark from providing a safe, secure and loving home to a foster child.

"I foster because I love children and want to make a positive difference to their lives," explained Helen. "We fostered the same child for three years and we are now fostering our second child and to see how they have transformed and thrived is something truly special."

Helen, originally from London, added: "Fostering can be so rewarding – you can provide a loving and safe home and show them that life can be fun as well as provide experiences they have never had before."

In England, every year we lose more foster carers than we gain. In the North East, we have the highest number of children referred into foster care of all regions and we desperately need more foster carers to offer help and support to children and young people in our communities.

## Get in touch

If you think you can make a difference to the life of a young person please contact the fostering team:

**Phone:** 0800 917 7771 or [contact@fosterwithnortheast.org.uk](mailto:contact@fosterwithnortheast.org.uk)

**Find out more:** <https://fostering.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk>

**Foster** with  
**NORTH EAST**

Helen, who previously fostered through a private foster agency explains why she switched to foster for the council. "I was with a private fostering agency and did feel supported, but I then became friends with other foster carers and saw that they were getting a lot more in the way of training, communication and support. I felt the council could offer me a much better package so transferred across and things just run a lot smoother now."

For anyone thinking of becoming a foster carer Helen offers the following advice. "I would say just go for it. It's fun, it's exciting, it's interesting. You learn so much and there is never a dull moment. It is also important to have a good kind heart, to have patience and understanding and to be able to give a child a loving and safe home that they can thrive in."



**KIND HEARTED:**  
Foster carer Helen  
Laing from Redcar

# Florence rocks it!

A REDCAR girl has gone from climbing door frames and trees to being selected by Team GB England Regional Team to represent the country.

Florence McSorley's mum, Maria, laughed that it was her daughter's petrifying insistence on climbing everything and anything in sight that led her to take her to a climbing club for her seventh birthday.

And just four years later the 11-year-old Zetland Primary School pupil, has been selected to join Team GB England Regional Team in Climbing and will receive special training before eventually representing her country.

Maria said Florence has found, "a wonderful, welcoming community," in the climbing world.

"Florence would climb anything, a wall, a door frame - you name it - and she'd give

us heart attacks," said Maria. "It was really just about safety when we took her to Rock Antics Climbing Club in Middlesbrough and she's never looked back."

"They really made her feel so welcome. No one cares if they're climbing with a child or another adult there - it's all about the community. It's a place where Florence feels she belongs. It's fun, but we do also take her to Paul Smith in Newcastle twice a week, where she receives more serious training and she trains four times a week."

"Her little brother, Robin, who is nine, is a major support. Her dad, Jim, works away and when he comes home it's often a case of, 'get your coat back on - we're going out training'. The whole family are behind her."

**CLIMBER:**  
Florence  
McSorley



**WINNER:** Florence  
after winning a  
youth climbing  
competition



**FAMILY:** Florence and Robin



Florence said: "I have worked really hard to get into the England Team and I am really happy."

Maria explained that Florence takes part in British Mountaineering Council competitions and has received a grant from the Woodsmith Foundation, a charity founded by the Anglo-American company.

Florence and her family are looking for more sponsorship from local organisations. Email [mariamcsorley89@gmail.com](mailto:mariamcsorley89@gmail.com)



# Celebrating our volunteers

Celebrating just a few of our borough's community heroes making a difference for no (financial) reward.

## 50 years of giving back

FOR nearly fifty years, Trevor Welburn has been at the heart of his community in Brotton and Saltburn.

Now 77, the grandfather-of-four has dedicated his life to volunteering - something he first embraced at just 29 when he became treasurer of Brotton Youth Club. "I was an accountant, so my wife volunteered me for the job," Trevor recalls with an affectionate laugh.

More opportunities followed and, with a gentle nudge from his wife, Jean, he stepped into those roles.

Trevor became secretary of Teesside Rose Society, Area organiser for Teesside Music Eisteddfod and even helped run the Skelton & District Table Tennis

League. Through his involvement with the Eisteddfod music festival, he made friends across Europe. "My family and I travelled to places like Belgium, Hungary, Sarajevo, and France thanks to the connections I made," he says.

Today, Trevor remains a driving force behind local initiatives as chairman of both the Saltburn 500 Club and the Brotton Improvement Group.

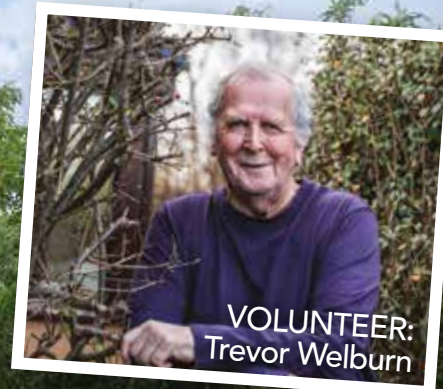
The Saltburn 500 Club has helped restore the town's pier, introduce a new bandstand, and organise Christmas lights and summer music. Meanwhile, the Brotton Improvement Club has brought the village to life with projects such

as the badger statues and

the Brotton Wheel, a sculpture honouring the area's ironstone mining history.

As someone who loves children, Trevor also volunteers as a reader at St Peter's School, and he's known as East Cleveland's most beloved Santa Claus.

"I couldn't have done any of this without Jean - she's always been my biggest supporter," he says. "There's nothing special about me. I'm just a dot in the landscape, but I hope more people will step forward to carry on our work."



VOLUNTEER:  
Trevor Welburn

The Brotton Improvement Group with the newly installed Wheel of Brotton

### Opportunities to volunteer

Could you volunteer with the Council? Email: [volunteer@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:volunteer@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk). Or there are many other opportunities. Find out more at the Redcar & Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency [rcvda.org.uk](http://rcvda.org.uk), call them on 01642 01642 440571 or email [enquiries@rcvda.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@rcvda.org.uk)

# volunteers



TEAM: Members of Stepping Stones which has taken over Redcar's Laburnum Road Library

## Stepping up!

FOR the past six years, a dedicated group have helped tackle isolation while supporting people to gain skills, confidence and work experience.

Called Community Stepping Stones, the organisation based in Dormanstown, Redcar and Marske has made a difference to people's lives.

"Our vision, is to engage with people who are fairly isolated," explains Di Pearson, who co-founded the community interest company with Jo Foster.

With backgrounds in teaching, Di and Jo saw the gap between education and employment - especially for those with special education needs - and wanted to help bridge it. Their team runs several cafés and a thrift shop alongside various community activities.

Recently, they took over Laburnum Road Library, determined to save the much-



PALS: Nathan Mortimer (middle) with Di Pearson (left) and Jo Foster (right)

loved service. "I used to live nearby, and Jo still does," says Di. "We knew we had to step in."

Among their volunteers is Nathan Mortimer, 21, from Redcar. While studying catering, he helps run several groups and events. "I enjoy it - it gives me something to do, and I get on well with everyone," he says.

Jo has seen Nathan's confidence grow. "His progress has been absolutely massive and I'm really proud of him. He's developing his catering skills while learning vital transferable skills for his future."

The group is looking for more volunteers to join them at Laburnum Library. Interested? Then call 01642 494407 or email [CCS.redcar@gmail.com](mailto:CCS.redcar@gmail.com)

## Sue brings the warmth

IF you've ever strolled through Guisborough Forest and Walkway on a Thursday, you've likely met Sue Harrison - the friendly face behind the park's shop.

At 67, the grandmother-of-three has been volunteering for six years, following a career in teaching and supporting children with special education needs.

"After retiring, I wanted to give something back," she says. "I used to walk here, so volunteering felt like the perfect fit."

Sue's favourite time of year is December when the group hosts its Christmas tree sale.

"We turn the old railway carriage into a grotto, and people love coming here."

For Sue, one of the most rewarding aspects of volunteering is simply being there for visitors. "You'd be surprised how many people stop by just for a chat. Some are lonely, and having someone to talk to makes a great difference."



FRIENDLY: Sue Harrison who loves chatting to customers

If you'd like to volunteer at a countryside park, email [karen.preston@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:karen.preston@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk)



# Building a better borough

Find out about the big projects taking shape across Redcar and Cleveland

## Redcar High Street

A CONTRACTOR has been appointed to carry out work to revitalise the look of the High Street with new paving, new street furniture, landscaping with plants and trees and improved lighting.

The contractor will phase these works to ensure minimum disruption to the shops on the High Street and the people using them. All businesses will be open as usual throughout the works.

The Redcar Town Deal team and the council are also working closely with the organisers of the town centre market to ensure that during each phase of works, an appropriately sized space is made available to ensure there is as little disruption to traders as possible. It is anticipated that work will start on the High Street this spring.



## Family culture and entertainment venue in Redcar

WORKS are anticipated to start towards the end of spring for the exciting new family culture and entertainment venue and library in Redcar. Once complete, the venue will give families and friends more things to do, no matter the weather, and will bring more visitors to the high street which will support existing local businesses.

Following the demolition on the site of the former Marks and Spencer and Goodwins buildings, the walls of the neighbouring properties have been surveyed to inform party wall and legal agreements with adjoining property owners.

These surveys could only take place in full after demolition as there were large areas of the structure that were either inaccessible or not visible until demolition was complete. The surveys identified that a significant amount of additional work was required to bring the walls up to standard.

Construction will begin following the necessary works to the walls.

For more information on Redcar Town Deal projects, please visit: [redcartowndeal.com](http://redcartowndeal.com)



## Active Travel Route

WITH funding from Government, an 'active travel route' - where you can wheelchair, bike, scoot or walk - is being proposed between Guisborough and Nunthorpe.

The council ran a consultation earlier this year for the local community to review detailed route maps and other materials associated with the project, learn more about the project and how it will benefit them, as well as being able to provide the council with feedback. The council and design teams are now analysing this feedback, which will inform the next steps.

You can read more about the project here: [redcarcleveland.uk/engagementhq.com/guisborough-active-travel-route](http://redcarcleveland.uk/engagementhq.com/guisborough-active-travel-route)

## Eston swimming pool

A STEEL beam has been signed by members of the local community as the construction of Eston Pool hit a major milestone.

The steel frame of the building has now been erected and one steel beam stands out among the others.

Norman Spencer, 95, proudly signed his name, and it is believed he was the first person to swim in the old pool when it first opened in 1960.

Names of swimmers from Eston Swim Club were also signed on the beam before it was placed on the structure, leaving a lasting legacy for the club.

The pool will be complete



HISTORY:  
Norman Spencer signs his name

in early 2026, thanks to funding from the Government, the council and Tees Valley Combined Authority.

Eston Precinct is also set to be demolished in early summer. This is to make way for

the proposed redevelopment aiming to provide high-quality retail facilities with improvements to the surrounding area including new paving, trees and benches.



PROGRESS: Redcar Central Station

## Redcar Central Station

PROGRESS is being made at Redcar Central Station which is undergoing major conservation works. Windows to the south side of the building and areas of brickwork have been replaced. The roof has also been replaced and new solar panels have been installed.

The improvements to the Grade II listed station building will have a huge impact on the local community by introducing leisure and retail facilities and attracting more visitors to the station and nearby businesses.

The project is funded by the Government, Tees Valley Combined Authority and the Railway Heritage Trust. It will be complete by late 2025. The Council is currently accepting expressions of interest in taking space in the building if any local business owners are interested. Find out more here: [redcarcleveland.uk/engagementhq.com/redcar-central-station](http://redcarcleveland.uk/engagementhq.com/redcar-central-station)

## Chapel Beck

THE council's planning committee has approved exciting plans to improve Chapel Beck in Guisborough.

The active travel route will lead through the main thoroughfare of the park with a widened footpath accommodating both pedestrians and cyclists. Enhanced lighting will also be added along the route.

The project will also see the cleaning up of the beck, the installation of picnic benches, planting and trees.

Works are expected to start in the summer and is being funded by the Government. You can read more here: [redcarcleveland.uk/engagementhq.com/](http://redcarcleveland.uk/engagementhq.com/)





# Review of 2024

THE next four pages are dedicated to a review of the year with statistics about how your council has worked to serve residents and businesses.

Find more information about the budget and plans for investment in the coming year on page 21.

People attending our events

70,305



Total spend by the council with local suppliers

£68m



Number of weddings by registration team

415



Phone calls answered

119,022

Potholes repaired



1,572



Businesses supported



1,476

Vulnerable children and young people supported by our children's social care teams

3,257



Successful closure orders

12

CLOSED

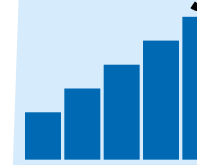


Bin collections

3,452,280



Value of external grant funding spent by the council on regeneration projects



£21m





# Review of 2024

Visitors to Kirkleatham Museum

123,754



Adults receiving financial support

1,219



Requests for housing assistance

2,151



Adults supported

4,123



Number of retail food hygiene inspections completed

553



Tonnes of waste collected

64,061



2.7m

Visits to the council website

Planning applications decided

838



Fly tipping collections

6,033



Number of children and young people supported by the council's Family Hubs/Early Help team

3,191



Number of apprenticeships

28



Licensing applications processed

1,246



Notices served over housing conditions

22







# OOH AHH MALAGA

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**Teesside International  
Airport**

## Your council plans £30m investment

A MULTI-MILLION pound investment plan to meet unprecedented demand for services has been developed by your council for the coming financial year.

To keep up with this demand, an investment of £30.7 million is proposed for the next financial year which starts in April. The largest part of the investment would support and protect vulnerable children and adults.

The plan also includes £8.8 million in efficiencies and increased revenue. This includes developing our own accommodation for children in our care and the sale of land and buildings which are not needed to provide frontline services.

There has been a significant increase in the number of children coming into care in Redcar and Cleveland, particularly those with complex needs who require specialist care in residential accommodation.

We have a legal duty to provide suitable accommodation, and a shortage of places nationally means the cost of this has risen significantly in recent years. The average cost for residential and supported accommodation for young people who require specialist care and support is £330,000 each per year.

Despite the huge demand for services, your council expected to put forward a balanced budget, unlike some other local authorities nationally.

Elsewhere in the country, some councils have required Government help and, in some cases, commissioners have been appointed to run councils. This often means severe cuts to frontline services, which has a serious effect on residents. Councils can also be forced to sell off assets to address their financial deficits, and to implement much larger Council Tax increases.

The council hopes the development of the Teesworks site will provide significant income through Business Rates in the years to come if companies which have expressed interest in locating there set up business.

We receive Business Rates when companies start operating on the site, and payments which are expected in the coming year have been factored into the budget for 2025/26

Now we are waiting for confirmation of starting dates for other companies, which will hopefully mean your council will be in a stronger financial position in future years.





# NO THANK YOU X

Scan here for more recycling info, hints and tips



All types of plastic bags (all colours)



Clothes / textiles / bedding / shoes



Polystyrene



Food waste or any items with grease & food residues



Nappies



Electrical items / batteries



All types of takeaway packaging

Putting any of these items in your blue bin lowers our recycling rate as a borough, contributes to environmental damage and creates additional disposal costs, which could be better spent elsewhere.

## What DOES and DOES NOT go in your blue recycling bin



All mail, including envelopes (with windows)

YES PLEASE ✓



Aerosols



Aluminium foil trays (must be clean)



Cans & tins (aluminium & steel)



Cardboard (clean & dry)



Catalogues & telephone directories



Items must be loose in the bin, not in bags

Glass bottles & jars (no liquids)



Newspapers & magazines



Paper and shredded paper



Plastic bottles (wash & squash)



Plastic food pots, tubs & trays (must be clean)



Tin foil (must be clean)



## Get the facts on plastic recycling



EVER wanted to know more about recycling plastics? The council is teaming up with the British Plastics Federation and the Environmental Services Association to bring you Plastic Recycling Facts - a month-long social media campaign packed with helpful information, including:

- Sorting truth from fiction when it comes to recycling plastics
- What should go in your recycling bin and what shouldn't
- Helping you find the right place to recycle your plastics in Redcar and Cleveland
- Simple swaps and habits to cut down on plastic use in the first place

Follow Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council on Facebook, [redcar.cleveland](https://www.facebook.com/redcar.cleveland) on Instagram and RedcarCleveland on Twitter. Visit: [plasticrecyclingfacts.org/](https://plasticrecyclingfacts.org/) for more tips.

## EXTRA SWIMMING LESSONS COULD SAVE LIVES



Learning to swim is a vital life skill which every child should experience.

Swimming lessons help children to have fun and be active, as well as giving them the ability to get out of potentially dangerous situations.

Leading operator Everyone Active runs four leisure centres locally in partnership with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council – Redcar

Leisure Centre, Saltburn Leisure Centre, Loftus Leisure Centre and Guisborough Swim and Fitness Centre.

The need for extra-curricular tuition is clear, with Sport England stating that nearly one in three children leave primary school unable to swim 25m unaided.

Everyone Active can help your child to learn a skill which could save their lives, thanks to its award-winning learn to swim programme.

The programme offers lessons for all ages and abilities, with child classes starting at four months, right through to adult classes. All swimming teachers are Swim England level 2 – or equivalent – qualified. Stages are progressive and continually assessed.

To find out more, visit [everyoneactive.com/centre](https://everyoneactive.com/centre)

## WIN

3 months of swimming lessons at your local Everyone Active leisure centre!\*

Everyone Active is offering readers the chance to win 3 months of child swimming lessons at their local swimming pool.

For your chance to win please visit [everyoneactive.com/win-swimming-lessons](https://everyoneactive.com/win-swimming-lessons) and complete the entry form.



everyone ACTIVE

\*GB only. 17+. Promotion opens 09.00 06/01/2025 closes 23.59 on 31/03/2025. Internet access required. Name, phone number and email address required to enter. There is one prize of 12 consecutive weeks of swimming lessons at the winner's local Everyone Active leisure centre. Lessons available for children aged 4 months to 15 years only, nominated by the winner. Visit [everyoneactive.com/win-swimming-lessons](https://everyoneactive.com/win-swimming-lessons) to enter and for full terms and exclusions.

For further information on what can and cannot be recycled, please visit: [www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/bins-and-waste-services/recycling](https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/bins-and-waste-services/recycling)



Collections  
run from  
April to  
December  
each year

SCAN HERE:



# SIGN UP FOR YOUR GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SUBSCRIPTION

[www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/garden-waste](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/garden-waste)



**Yes please** ✓

- ✓ Grass cuttings
- ✓ Hedge clippings
- ✓ Leaves and twigs
- ✓ Plants and weeds
- ✓ Cut flowers

**No thank you** ✗

- ✗ Turf or soil
- ✗ Large branches / tree trunks
- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Food waste

## Fighting the fly-tippers



Fly-tippers have been warned that they now face fines of £1,000 – up from £400 – for dumping waste on the street. We talked to the officers bringing the fly-tippers to justice.

JAMIE Lee spends his working life leading teams on the frontline in the fight against fly-tipping. He is under no illusions that the problem isn't going to go away any time soon.

"Our teams leaflet residents, investigate and monitor dumped waste but, still, there is an unbelievable amount of dumped waste that has to be picked up from the streets every day," says Jamie, Environment Manager. "But that doesn't mean we stop...it just means we fight harder."

Jamie coordinates three teams made up of experienced staff on the frontline who gather



any evidence they can from the scene and from neighbours and sometimes face abuse. Jamie said: "The abuse of staff is totally unacceptable and highlights the challenges the teams face on a daily basis". As well as reporting evidence the teams pick up more than 6,000 fly-tips of waste each year.

Doug Gray, Community Enforcement Team Manager, said that evidence their teams collect was invaluable. He and his

officers also act on information and tip-offs from residents, community patrol officers, police and other agencies.

He said: "It can just be straightforward and a case of issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice to the perpetrator. However, sometimes it might involve going to court which we don't flinch from."

A page dedicated to reporting fly-tipping is available on the council's website.



### 'Tagging' recycling bins

YOU may have noticed recently that some recycling bins across the borough have been tagged and left unemptied.

The tags detail what can and cannot go into your recycling bin. This is all part of a borough-wide scheme to reduce the amount of contamination – items that shouldn't be in recycling.

Residents are then asked to remove the contaminants so that their bin can then be

emptied on their next scheduled collection. If residents continue to have problems about what can and cannot go in their recycling bin, the authority will be in touch to advise why the bin has been tagged, either by letter or a visit. The team will always continue to work with residents to help them recycle. However in some extreme cases if the contamination continues a recycling bin may be removed.





# EVERYONE ACTIVE IN REDCAR & CLEVELAND

Eston Leisure Centre • Guisborough Swim & Fitness Centre  
Loftus Leisure Centre • Redcar Leisure Centre  
Saltburn Leisure Centre

## TWO MONTHS FREE<sup>^</sup>

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[everyoneactive.com/join](https://everyoneactive.com/join)

<sup>^</sup>Applies to full fitness annual memberships. 16 years+. 1-year annual fitness membership, full cost must be paid in advance. A joining fee applies. No refunds if membership cancelled early. See [www.everyoneactive.com/terms](https://www.everyoneactive.com/terms) for full terms.



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[everyoneactive.com/Jet2](https://everyoneactive.com/Jet2)



\*GB only, 18+. Enrolment opens 09:00 01/01/2025, closes 23:59 31/03/2025. Entry period 09:00 01/01/2025, closes 23:59 14/04/2025. Entry to prize draw via link emailed to all Everyone Active cardholders joining swimming lessons or a sports course on Direct Debit, continuing their Direct Debit for either of these activities as of 09:00 01/01/2025 or paying in full in advance for these activities during the enrolment period at participating centres. Everyone Active card required to join swimming lessons or sports courses. In addition, an entry link will be sent to any person booking and paying for a children's party at participating centres during the enrolment period. Everyone Active card not required. Submit form by 23:59 14/04/2025. One entry per qualifying activity booked. Offer applies to parties and sports courses run by Everyone Active only and not those run by third parties (but held on Everyone Active premises). Prize: 1 x £3500 voucher to spend on a new Jet2holidays holiday to be booked via email with the Jet2holidays prize winners team by 14/08/2025 and all travel must be completed by 31/10/2026, 3x available to be won in total. All customers meeting these criteria will also be sent a code entitling them to £65 off a Jet2holidays booking, limited to one per person (book by 30/04/2025, travel by 31/10/2026). Min 2 adults and can only be used with other auto-applied discounts. Exclusions apply. Visit [www.everyoneactive.com/jet2](https://www.everyoneactive.com/jet2) for qualifying activities, more information and full terms and conditions.



Everyone Active manages these facilities in partnership with Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council.

everyone ACTIVE

# Just say no to cold calling fraudsters

IT'S been 10 years since the council launched its No Cold Calling Home scheme which empowers residents to say no to cold callers on their doorstep.

More than 2,000 packs have been handed out directly to residents by Trading Standards, with many more being distributed by the council's libraries and partners, including police.

By displaying a 'no cold calling' sticker and following the advice contained in the council's No Cold Calling Home pack, it's hoped cold callers will be deterred from door knocking

and that residents will have the confidence to say no. Any incidents that do occur may be reported to Trading Standards.

Cold callers may include representatives from legitimate companies, unscrupulous sales people and rogue traders.

Rogue traders typically offer home improvement and gardening work which often starts out as a small job but escalates into work costing thousands of pounds.

Jodie Allwood, Trading Standards Team Leader said: "Rogue traders are increasingly presenting themselves as legitimate businesses with websites, professionally produced flyers and liveried (signed) vans. Vulnerable residents are most at risk of being left with sub-standard work, incomplete work, damage to property and, in some instances, no work at all."

Trading Standards advise that before agreeing to work, residents should ensure that they have carried out background checks on the business, that they have full business details and a written contract.

The packs can be obtained direct from Trading Standards: email [tradingstandards@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:tradingstandards@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk) or telephone 01287 612489. Alternatively, you can pick up a pack from your local library.



PUT A STOP TO SELLERS  
COLD CALLING AT YOUR DOOR

Make your home a  
No Cold Calling home

1 REQUEST A  
NO COLD CALLING PACK

2 DISPLAY YOUR  
DOOR

3 REGIST  
WITH R  
TRADIN

TRADING ST  
NO COLD C

• No Cold Calling  
• Registration for  
• How to Deal with  
• How to Find A Pl



## Watch out for:

- Doorstep callers claiming to be working in the area
- Any business demanding payment up front
- Pressure to have work done immediately
- Pressure to agree to anything, including further visits

CAMPAIGNER: Trading Standards  
Team Leader Jodie Allwood



# New Extra Care scheme coming soon to Guisborough!

Exclusively designed for over 55s\*

Introducing Aldaniti Court, an Extra Care scheme where residents can live independently in their own home, with the reassurance of on-site care workers available 24-hours a day

"It's somewhere safe to live, I'm being looked after plus I can have my dog"

Graham, Extra Care resident



Feel part of a community



On-site care, if and when you need it



On-site cafe/bistro



Pets welcome



Two-bedroom bungalows available to purchase through shared ownership starting from £23,430 for a 10 percent share\* and one-and-two bedroom apartments available to rent.

Find out more below:



01287 213010



info.aldaniticourt@housing21.org.uk



Aldaniti Court, Spring Wood Road, Guisborough, TS14 7FD

\*Other charges and conditions apply.



**Housing** 21  
Extra Care Living

## Roads investment continues



INVESTMENT on the borough's roads and streets is continuing with latest figures showing that 1,490sqm of road have had permanent patch repairs.

A six-year resurfacing programme is continuing on our roads and footpaths and 1,572 potholes have been filled in the current financial year.

The council is also investing in fleet and machinery to make them more cost-efficient and environmentally friendly.

### Postal voting - reminder

FOLLOWING the introduction of the Elections Act 2022, postal voters are now required to reapply for their postal vote every three years.

All postal voters who made their current application before 31 October 2023 are required to reapply for their postal vote by 31 January 2026. The Electoral Team will be making contact with all electors affected by this change over the next few months, by email or post. You do not need to wait to be contacted, and can reapply at any time at [www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote](http://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote)

### AskSARA

THE council has launched a new online tool called AskSARA to provide people who need support to live independently with impartial advice about suitable equipment and assistive technology.

Get your tailored report by visiting the council's website and searching for adult social care.



### Energy bill support

THE council is working with The Big Community Switch to help residents save on their gas and electric bills. The Big Community Switch works by using the bargaining power of a large group of residents to get you a more competitive deal on your utility bills.

Registration is free and there is no obligation to switch your energy supplier once you have your quote. The deadline for registration is 28 April. Find out more on their website at [bigcommunityswitch.co.uk](http://bigcommunityswitch.co.uk) or call 0800 0488285.

## COUNCIL DIARY

Times of meetings may change from time to time. Please check at [www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk)

### March

■ Tuesday 18, 10am

**Cabinet**

■ Thursday 20, 10am

**Regulatory Committee**

■ Wednesday 26, 10am

**Employment, Health & Safety Committee**

### April

■ Thursday 3, 2pm

**Borough Council**

■ Thursday 17, 10am

**Regulatory Committee**

■ Tuesday 22, 10am

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

■ Tuesday 22, 2pm

**Children & Families Scrutiny & Improvement Committee**

■ Wednesday 23, 10am

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

■ Thursday 24, 10am

**Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee**

■ Friday 25, 10am,

**Climate & Environment Scrutiny & Improvement Committee**

■ Monday 28, 10am

**Governance Committee**

■ Tuesday 29, 10am

**Cabinet**

### May

■ Wednesday 14, 10am

**Regulatory Committee**

■ Thursday 15, 2pm

**Borough Council**

■ Thursday 22, 10am

**AGM Borough Council**

■ Tuesday 27, 10am

**Governance Committee**

### June

■ Monday 2, 10am

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

■ Friday 6, 10am

**Climate & Environment Scrutiny and Improvement Committee**

■ Monday 9, 10am

**Corporate Parenting Board**

■ Tuesday 10, 10am

**Cabinet**

■ Thursday 12, 10am

**Regulatory Committee**

■ Wednesday 18, 10am

**Employment, Health & Safety Committee**

■ Thursday 26, 2pm

**Borough Council**

### July

■ Thursday 3, 10am

**Regulatory Committee**



# The 59 men and women representing 24 wards

# YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

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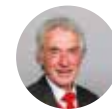


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# Apply now!

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**ENGINEERING** | **FOUNDATION LEARNING**  
**HAIRDRESSING** | **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**  
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**REDCAR & CLEVELAND COLLEGE** etc.



Teesside University  
College Partnership

## IT'S YOUR TIME TO APPLY!

UCAS Extra is now open for you to have your chance to study higher education at Redcar and Cleveland College this September.

Our higher education offering is flexible, with full and part-time options, and ran in partnership with Teesside University. So you get all the benefits of a university experience, around your life, closer to home. View the courses on offer in our higher education prospectus, and find your future at Redcar and Cleveland College.

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