

Bishop Auckland remembers the Fallen



A large crowd gathered to pay respects to the fallen at the Cenotaph in the Market Place after a Remembrance Service at St Anne's Church.

As the custodians of Remembrance, each year the Royal British Legion calls on the nation to unite in commemorating Remembrance Sunday. The Cenotaph Service at St Anne's Church in the Market Place is organised annually by Bishop

Auckland Town Council, in partnership with Mr Peter Franklin from The Royal British Legion guiding and lending much valued support with the wreath laying order and organisation, which follows a strict protocol

This year it was all change for the Town, there were three new standard bearers from the DLI, Royal British Legion and 2505 Air Cadets, as well as a new Padre, Reverend Stephen Ridley who led the service from St Anne's Church, all of whom performed their duties perfectly on Sunday. At the beginning of the year, a call for help was launched by the local Royal British Legion office for valuable assistance with this year's poppy appeal, and thankfully that call was answered by Ann Williams-Maughan, Valerie Armstrong and Andrea Nicol. The ladies, who are from 'The Experience' Kynren team, also called on their fellow team members to help out as a

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Incline group win environmental award

Brusseton Incline Group has been awarded Volunteer Group of the Year in the Durham Environment Awards.

The awards, now in their 27th year, are organised by County Durham Environment Partnership to celebrate great design, environmental guardianship and community spirit. At a ceremony on Thursday 10th November, 17 category winners from across County Durham were presented with their awards.

The BIG was founded in 2013 by local history enthusiast, Alex Tighe, who saw a newspaper article reporting how the accommodation bridge - the only one remaining from the original 1825 Stockton & Darlington Railway - had been vandalised. It was then that he decided to try and save, preserve and promote the route with the help of other volun-

teers.

Alex said, "When I first read the article I was amazed that someone could destroy history.

"I founded this group to make a difference, although we are still in the process of repairing the bridge we have achieved so much, found history and so much has been discovered about what happened on the incline.

"To get this award shows that hard work in our community is appreciated."

Trevor Horner, group chairman said, "I'd just like to add my thanks to every volunteer who has worked on our little project over the past (almost) 3 years. "The final hurdle of getting the bridge and walls restored is on track for commencement in the spring."

For more information about the group, visit www.brussetonincline-group.webs.com.

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Kisses for Christmas with the Co-op

The Co-op Funeralcare is appealing to the community for help with their "Kisses For Christmas" project.

A spokesperson said: "Donations of essential goods such as tinned or non perishable food, tea, coffee and new toys, toiletries and bedding which could make a difference to the lives of children and adults who may find them-

selves homeless or living in poverty in our area this Christmas.

"Any items donated, no matter how small, will be gratefully received at our funeral home at Fylands House, Tindale Crescent and will be passed on to The Salvation Army for distribution in the week before Christmas." For further details please call 01388 603525.

Remembrance

From page 1

way of keeping the Kynren team spirit going over the closed season.

In Sunday's bright sunshine the names carved on the war memorial gleamed as wreaths were laid not only by the town's dignitaries, associations and organisations, including the armed forces, but also by younger members of the community, including the Scouts, Bishop Trains and Stockton and Darlington Railway Youth team.

"It was another fantastic turnout by the people of Bishop Auckland which is growing in numbers every year", said Deputy Mayor Councillor David Fleming. "Our town has come together to remember

those who gave their lives for our country. It's also marvelous to see so many young people here too."

"I would like to say a special thank you to everyone involved who made the Act of Remembrance possible this year, particularly Mr Peter Franklin, members from the 2505 Air Cadets, Revered Stephen Ridley, Parade Marshall Daniel Barron and also thanks and much appreciation to Bishop Auckland College, who designed and made a fantastic wooden frame which is situated around the cenotaph, this has enabled us to fix wreaths, crosses and poppies to the structure so that they don't blow away, and keep the monument looking presentable."



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Jonathan Ruffer named Philanthropist of the Year

Jonathan Ruffer has been named Philanthropist of the Year for his outstanding contribution to the regeneration of Bishop Auckland at the Spear's Wealth Management Awards - billed as 'the Oscars of the private banking world'.

Mt Ruffer was initially drawn to the town by a series of paintings by Spanish master Francisco de Zurbarán, which have hung in Auckland Castle for more than 250 years.

In 2012, he bought both the paintings and the castle and opened it up to public access for the first time.

Now, Auckland Castle Trust is working to transform the 900-year-old Bishop's palace from an unknown private dwelling into a world-class art, faith and heritage destination of international significance and reinvigorate the town and the wider area through social and economic regeneration.

In 2014, the Trust's sister charity, Eleven Arches, was founded to enhance this mission by producing a spectacular live action show, which takes place on a vast open-air stage hewn



Jonathan Ruffer has been named Philanthropist of the Year for his contribution to the regeneration of Bishop Auckland.

from the land beneath Auckland Castle.

Kynren - an epic tale of England, attracted over 100,000 visitors during its first season in 2016.

Jonathan said: "I am very honoured to have received this award and I intend to share it with everyone who supports this vision of community, collaboration and a renewed legacy for Bishop

Auckland and County Durham.

"Over the past few years we have been working hard to serve as a catalyst for real change to offer everyone a chance to experience the beauty of faith, art, heritage and culture.

"In doing so we have an opportunity to create great economic impact for the town and wider county".

Autumn Fayre a huge success

The Autumn Fayre at the West Auckland Memorial Hall on Saturday 29th October, raised the magnificent total of £1736.12 to go towards the upkeep of the hall. £1200 will pay for a new concrete ramp to improve access for patrons. The money will also help fund Christmas parties for members and for the Adults with learning difficulties who go along to the hall every Tuesday for New Age Kurling.

Matched funding from Barclays and a few items

still on sale on eBay will further boost the total to an eventual £2,500.

West Auckland Memorial Community Association spokesperson, Dave Williamson said: "My thanks go out to all those volunteers who helped in any way in organising the Fayre as well as to all those who came along and helped contribute to the fundraising.

"I'd especially like to thank my wife Sheila, for all her hard work in preparing for the day of the Fayre - her dedication ensured its

success.

"The local businesses were also very generous in their donations, which helped us make nearly £500 on the raffle.

"There is a list displayed on the notice board outside the Memorial Hall, listing all the unclaimed prizes from the 30 that were in the draw.

"We have kept all the clothes, books, DVD's and bric a brac which didn't sell on the day and hope to have a Jumble Sale soon, maybe one Saturday in January, with everything priced less than a £1 for a quick sale.



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King James remembers



King James students listen to the Last Post at the Remembrance Service.

Staff and students at King James I Academy have taken part in a moving tribute to the many servicemen and women who lost their lives in conflict. As part of the service, Headteacher, Mr Grieveson

remembered all service men and women and paid particular tribute to those former King James students who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The Academy observed a one-minute silence follow-

ing an emotional delivery of *The Last Post*, which was played by RE Teacher, Mr Middleton. Students paid their respect by placing a number of commemorative crosses next to the memorial.

St Cuthbert's Remembrance



Rev. Elisheva Mechanic at the War Memorial with Elizabeth Jude and John Jackson after the laying of wreaths.

St Cuthbert's Church in Etherley joined the Bishop Auckland community and the nation in remembering the fallen of the great wars and other conflicts. A display of handmade poppies embroidered by

the ladies of St Cuthbert's adorned the entrance to the church.

After the service, wreaths were laid by Rev. Elisheva Mechanic, Elizabeth Jude and John Jackson at the war memorial.

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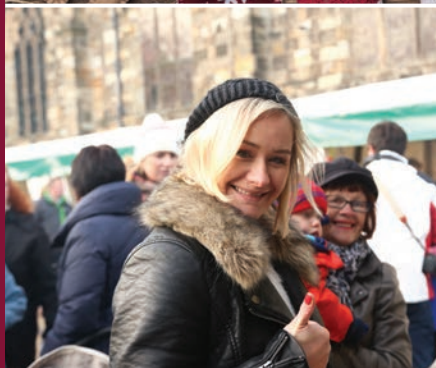
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Council donate £500 to Family Contact Centre

A family contact centre in Bishop Auckland has received a £500 grant from Bishop Auckland Town Council to help support its work.

The centre, which has been operating in the town since 2001, enables estranged parents and grandparents to meet their children on a regular basis in a safe and secure environment.

The need for such a service is often in the early stages of separation where trust between the parents needs to be re-established.

The service offers supported rather than supervised contact. The project is run by a coordinator and a team of volunteers who work on a rota system. It can support up to five families at a time.

Demand is such that there is often a waiting list. Referrals come from either the courts, solicitors, but a growing number are self referrals as a result of the withdrawal of legal aid a number of years ago.

Parents are supported for several months until they have the confidence and trust to make their own arrangements for contact.

Joanne Walton, Family Contact Centre Co-ordinator, said: "We are very grateful for the generosity of the Town Council. We do not charge families to use our service and the Contact

Centre could not operate without grants, funds and donations. Funds raised help us to replenish toys and pay rent and running costs. Our aim is to make sessions a fun experience for the children when meeting their non-resident parent or family member. Those memories can last a lifetime."

Councillor Dave Fleming, Deputy Mayor, said "I am delighted to be able to present a cheque on behalf of the Town Council. The centre provides such a wonderful service which helps families maintain contact and build relationships. It is valued by everyone that use it, especially the children, who probably do not fully understand the situation, but cherish the time spent with loved ones."

Bishop Auckland Town Council allocates up to £5,000 each year to support local organisations working for the benefit of the residents of Bishop Auckland. Community groups and local charities can apply for grants of up to £500.

Grants are limited and are made available to organisations that can demonstrate a need for assistance.

For further information visit www.bishopauckland-tc.gov.uk or contact the town council on 01388 609 852.

Santa Claus is coming to town



Two young townfolk were delighted to meet Santa when he visited Bishop Auckland last year and it looks like there will be more happy youngsters when he returns this year.

Christmas is just around the corner and the Bishop Auckland Town Team have put together a bumper entertainment package to entertain shoppers this December.

Children have the chance to meet Father Christmas in both the Toy Department inside Beales Department Store and inside the Newgate Shopping Centre. His first appearance will be on Saturday 3rd December where he will be in the Beales Department Store from 9:30am till 3pm.

He will return to the Newgate Shopping Centre on both Saturday 10th and

Saturday 17th December between 9:30am and 3pm. There will be a photo opportunity where children can have their photo taken with Santa for just £1.

Alan Anderson, chair of the Town Team, said: "We are pleased to once again be bringing Santa back to town as part of our bumper festive programme.

"Children can also get their face painted for free and watch out for Bishop The Boar as he will be making special appearances during the day!"

In addition there will be music from the Bishop Auckland Community Choir

and live singers performing some festive Christmas songs.

Town Team committee member Lee Brownson added: "Last year's Christmas entertainment was a huge success and it would be fantastic to see the town full of people again this festive time.

"The events that the Town Team organise help bring in additional footfall to the shops and businesses while adding something different for shoppers to enjoy."

For more information contact 01388 609852 or visit www.bishopauckland-townteam.org.

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Yorkshire Linen 61 Newgate Street 10% Off curtains	Bits 'N' Pieces 227 Newgate Street 10% Discount in shop
Kidz Clothes 73 Newgate Street One week sale 10%-25% off from Monday 28th November to Saturday 3rd December (2016)	RPS Webdesign Ltd 227 Newgate Street 15% Discount on web design
SAKS Hair & Beauty 113 Newgate Street 10% Off GHD and L'Oréal products	HairHaus Hair & Beauty 9-11 Cockton Hill Road £20 Off all GHD Electricals, 20% Off all Kerastase & L'Oreal products
Image Bridal 136 Newgate Street 10% Off all new orders or purchases on the day (Does not include reduced items or alterations)	Elite Hair & Beauty 65-67 Cockton Hill Road 3 for the price of 2. Buy 3 Kerastase products & get 20% discount off all 3
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For more information on Small Business Saturday visit
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**Bishop Auckland
 Town Team**

Help local project win £5,000 award

Four Clocks Community Project, Cultivate 4 Life has entered One Family Foundation Community Award for a grant of £5,000.

To help them achieve this, they are asking the community to support them.

If they were to be awarded this money, it would enable them to commence a new pilot scheme called *Improving Green Spaces*, with the aim to support

the local community to improve their green space into usable and inviting areas.

If you are 18 or over and have an email address, a Facebook or Twitter account you can vote until 30th November when voting closes. To vote, visit: <https://foundation.onefamily.com/projects/cultivate-4-life-improving-green-spaces/>

Foodbank volunteers needed

County Durham Foodbank is seeking volunteers to help with its next neighbourhood food collection at Tesco Extra in Bishop Auckland, in support of its Christmas foodbank collection.

A spokesperson said: "We would be very happy to welcome volunteers who could go along to the store

and help collect food donations."

Volunteers needed for two-hour shifts at: 9am - 11am; 11am - 1pm; 1pm - 3pm and 3pm - 5pm on both Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd December.

To sign up, email Naomi at volunteer@durhamfoodbank.org.uk or call 0191 303 7559.

King James students show their charitable side

Four Sixth Form students from King James I Academy have raised £500 in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support by completing a sponsored walk to Durham.

The fundraising campaign was organised by Business Studies students as part of their team working module.

The students initially set themselves a target of £250 for the four hour walk, however the final donation far exceeded expectations. King James I Academy is renowned for its commitment to fundraising for local and national causes. A variety of events take place throughout the year, with the intention of both supporting charitable organisations and promoting community involvement amongst young people.

Next up for the school's students is an appeal to the community to help support families in need this Christmas by contributing to the school's Christmas Foodbank collection.

Donations will be delivered to Woodhouse Close Church and Community Centre, which directly supports residents in Bishop Auckland and the surrounding villages.

The Academy will be running the appeal during the lead up to Christmas, and as this is well known to be a particularly financially demanding time of year, less fortunate families in the area will significantly benefit from these donations.

John Wiseman, Woodhouse Close Community Centre's Coordinator said: "This appeal has come at exactly the right time of year, as we are expecting an increase in demand especially now that the cold weather has arrived and Christmas is just around the corner. We have worked with King James in the past and are always grateful for their continued support."

Nick Grieveson, Headteacher at the Academy said, "Of course, provid-

ing our students with an excellent education is our priority, however we also recognise the importance of developing our young people as credible members of society who take responsibility for helping to shape the future of the area in which they live.

"Helping others is a fundamental characteristic of King James as a school and I am proud of the charitable contributions made by our students throughout the year."

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Support for Bishop and Coundon in Bloom



Residents and businesses gathered by the Horse Trough on Monday 14th November to launch the Bishop and Coundon in Bloom Partnership.

Bishop Auckland and Coundon County Councillors Joy Allen and Charlie Kay are uniting forces and budgets and calling upon local businesses and residents to get involved and behind a new and exciting initiative that will see both towns in full bloom next summer.

The joint project came about after council funding was identified to makeover the New Coundon roundabout and after a petition, signed by 92 local residents, was handed to Cllr Allen calling upon the council to restore Durham

Chare's stone horse trough and surrounding pathways leading to the Market Place.

The trough used to be the first drinking area allocated for horses coming in and the last place for them to quench their thirst before leaving the town.

Over the years the area has become vandalised, dilapidated and overgrown. Walls have crumbled and the pathways are disused. Initial meetings have already taken place to discuss the theme of the new roundabout and potential landscaping and iconic sculpture that will straddle the boundaries of both towns.

Cllr Charlie Kay said: "I'm very happy to support this project."

Cllr Allen said: "This is a unique partnership that has the potential to bring together a wide variety of businesses and community groups."

"The area is attracting a large number of visitors who pass through both towns and we want to leave them with a lasting positive impression."

Anyone interested in getting involved or supporting the project should contact Cllr Allen on 03000 268672 or at joy.allen@durham.gov.uk or Cllr Kay on 03000 268733 or charlie.kay@durham.gov.uk.

Afternoon Tea

The Bishop Auckland Marie Curie Fundraising Group are holding a Christmas Afternoon Tea at the Memorial Hall in West Auckland on Sunday 11th December from 2pm - 5pm. There will be entertainment by Robson Field.

Tickets are £15 and are available from any fundraising group members or by telephoning Elizabeth Varley on 01388 606075. The money raised will help Marie Curie Nurses care for people living with a terminal illness in the local area.

Mini Christmas market

Wear Valleys Women's Aid Centre in Bishop Auckland is holding a mini Christmas Market at Henknowle Manor, Cumbria Place, Henknowle on Wednesday 30th November at 6 pm.

The event is to raise awareness and collect donations at the same time for this worthy cause.

There will be a small sections of stalls selling a variety of goods, all ideal for Christmas gifts such as jewellery and watches, flowers and wreaths,

Christmas Eve boxes and sweet hampers and much more.

On the day they would like anyone to donate toiletries, towels and bedding which will go directly to the centre.

A spokesperson said: "Everyone is welcome and anyone wishing to donate any items can bring them along on the evening or contact us direct via our Facebook event page at Mini Xmas Market or by calling 07796 411855.



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Two Blues rediscover form

After a poor run of results since their fantastic FA Cup run which ended at Stockport County on 15th October, Bishop Auckland found their form with a convincing 4-1 victory at Seaham on Tuesday night in the 2nd Round of the Northern League Cup.

After a defensive mistake Bishops went 1-0 down but they regained their composure playing their good style of possession football and they were rewarded in the 19th minute when a Seaham defender needlessly fouled in the penalty area and Andrew Johnson scored the resultant penalty. On 25th minute another foul saw Johnson

tuck away his 2nd goal from the penalty spot and on 34 minutes new signing Bruno Pilato crossed the ball for Griffiths to score Bishops 3rd goal. Andrew Johnson scored his 26th goal of the season and his hat trick in the game to secure the tie on 41 minutes.

Haven taken only 5 League points from 6 games since the Stockport FA Cup Tie Bishops faced Ashington at Woodhorn Lane last Saturday and were hoping to take all 3 points to take advantage of the games in hand the club has over teams higher than them in the league. Bishops went behind early on but equalised through the impres-

sive Michael Hoganson on 21 minutes with a superb shot.

Bishops took the lead on 41 minutes when a Fairley cross was headed onto the crossbar by Bennett and Johnson tucked away the rebound. But once again, despite having most of the possession and missing a handful of clear cut chances Bishops let the game slip away when Ben Harmison scored with two headers from close range. Bishops are back at Seaham on Saturday (19th Nov) and then are at home to Morpeth Town on Tuesday 22nd and Washington on Saturday 26th November.

Bishop Auckland Girls seek new players

Bishop Auckland Girls Under 10s are looking for more players to join their team. The girls train on a Wednesday from 6-7pm at Parkside Academy, Willington and play in the Russell Foster League on a Saturday.

Family with an interested daughter or relative in school year 5 should contact Beth Robinson on 07815 158787.

The club has teams from Under 9s (school year 3 and 4) to Under 15s (school year 10).

They are also looking to add to the Under 14s squad (years 8 and 9). For more information on the Under 14s, contact Dave Wade on 07817 545255.

Any girls interested in playing football or simply training can contact Ian on 07784 484572.

Tinkler takes title

Bishop Auckland Table Tennis Club send a squad of 13 young players to the Cramlington 2 star.

Nine-year-old Ben Mold, in only his second event, got the ball rolling by finishing 4th in the under 12's before Anya Milne raised the bar by reaching the final of the cadet girls event before losing to Amy Marriott from Rotherham. Anya would also meet Amy in the under 13's final again going down but this time extending her to four games.

Lee Tinkler however, stole Anya thunder and stole the show by winning the Junior boys title. Lee, ranked 234th in the under 18s,

beat 4th Seed Jack Dewar (131st) 3-1 in the 1st round followed by a 3-2 victory over Chris Edwards (268th) in the quarter finals.

He then took out top seed Daniel Olsberg, who is ranked at 60 in England, by 3 games to nil before claiming the title with a 3-2 win over yet another higher ranked player, Adam Webster (184).

Sam Hume and Max Duffin both reached the Quarter finals before losing and Hayden Gilmour did well to reach the last 16.

The Junior boys plate event also saw Bishop players reaching the later stages, with Kieron Bowes reaching the quarter finals before going down to club mate Jamie Collins, Jamie didn't stop there on his way to taking the title, Taking out Alex Dickons in the Semi-finals and Adam Hanby in the final.

For more information on the club, or to join, contact Matt on 07411 018856 or matt@bishopaucklandttc.co.uk.

St Mary's update

The U11 Kings had their best performance of the season with a great win over Richmond. Adam Laverick 3, Kieran Pattison 2, Adam Wilson 2, Jack Pillington and Scott Jones scored. The U7 Aces beat Norton & Stockton with goals from Luke Thompson, Luke Everitt, Alex Simpson and Harley Whittaker.

The U7 Kings played Spraire Lads away with goals from Reece Allison 2, Joe Petch 2, and Connor Scaife.

The U8 Kings had an exciting draw against Stockton Town with goals from Jake Wilkinson 3 and Dylan Cook.

The U9 Aces also drew against Mount Pleasant

with Bradley Currie 2 and Jack Dale scoring.

The U9 Kings beat Wynyard Village with goals from Mason Wright, McKenzie Kirtley, Callum Smith, Joel Butler and T J Whittaker.

The U10 Kings beat 21st Allstars with goals from Dan Walton 2 and Noah Fawcett.

The U13 Kings also had a great win over Richmond winning 4-3 with goals from Kyle Blacklock 2 and Dylan Nicholson 2.

Jack Purdham, Regan Nixon, Joe Roff and Joe Seymour scored for the U14's against Mount Pleasant.

The U15 Aces beat Greatham 3-1 away with goals from Gideon Kanyondo 2 and

Tom Aldsworth.

The U17 thrashed Whiteleas 10-1 with goals from Jamie Redfern 5, Cameron Howe 2, Mitchel Richardson 2, and Lewis Greenwood.

The U18s beat Coxhoe 3-1 with goals from Kieran Alderson, Steven Taylor and Regan Blakey.

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