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OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 27th September, 5-8pm

Headteacher welcome sessions: 5.30pm and 6.30pm

FREE BOOKSHOP IN URGENT PLEA FOR NEW PREMISES

A POPULAR local charity bookshop, which provides free books, is under threat of permanent closure.

The Global Educational Trust / GET Free Books Bishop Auckland, situated in the former Greggs at 14 Newgate Street, has been given notice to quit and must find new premises or face immediate closure.

"We have been a free bookshop in Bishop Auckland since May 2017," said volunteer, Alexandra Ryle, "and sadly it looks like we might have to leave Bishop Auckland."

"We have been at 14 Newgate Street for two years where we occupied the old Greggs bakery that had been left empty for about five years."

"We had several locations before that and we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Second from left, Heritage Action Zone project manager Anne Allen outside Bishop Auckland Town Hall with Margaret Hedley, Sarah Hillier and Marian Morrison from County Durham Forum for History and Heritage.

BISHOP TO HOST HERITAGE FESTIVAL

THE PUBLIC has the opportunity to learn more about the history of Bishop Auckland this autumn.

Bishop Auckland Heritage Festival takes place from September until November.

Its programme of events will see free exhibitions, fairs and talks take place.

The festival has been funded by Historic England and organised in partnership with Durham County Council, County Durham Forum for His-

tory and Heritage, and Bishop Auckland Heritage Action Zone

The Heritage Action Zone (HAZ), a partnership between Historic England and the county council, is a five-year project to revitalise the

historic market town and regenerate it as a vibrant place for local people, businesses and visitors.

It forms part of the co-ordinated activity by the council and its part-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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Left to right: Wayne Dickson, Weardale Railway general manager, David Maddan, chief executive officer of The Auckland Project, Cllr Richard Bell, and Craig MacLennan, Durham County Council's transport and infrastructure manager.

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO CREATE DARLINGTON TO DALES RAIL LINK

PLANS TO create a passenger rail service running from Darlington to Weardale have been submitted to government.

Durham County Council has worked with The Auckland Project to submit a Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) with the endorsement of Richard Holden, MP for North West Durham, to the Department for Transport (DfT), following funding to develop proposals under the Restoring Your Railway programme.

The proposals will focus on development of the Darlington-Dales corridor, improving the connectivity of towns and villages along the Weardale line. It will also review the possibility of providing a link to Crook.

This new rail link would support economic development along the Darlington-Dales corridor, helping to attract visitors and boost spend in these areas by connecting tourism sites including Hamsterley

Forest, Bishop Auckland town centre, the Durham Dales, and the Weardale Railway.

The enhanced rail connectivity would also enable residents to access wider education and job opportunities, while reducing the environmental impact of the county's transport system by providing an alternative to cars.

Cllr Richard Bell, deputy leader of Durham County Council and Cabinet member for finance, said: "Following the success of our application to reopen Ferryhill Station, we are keen to continue

our plans to improve connectivity throughout County Durham.

"By creating and building on current rail links, residents will be able to access more and better opportunities within the county and further afield, while also reducing the county's environmental impact."

If the SOBC is successful, DfT will provide further funding for the council to produce an Outline Business Case and develop the proposal in more detail.

To request a copy of the SOBC, email weardaleryr@durham.gov.uk

CHESTER STREET AND SOUTHGATE STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2022

The Council proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on 240 metres of Chester Street between its junctions with South Church Road and Newgate Street, and also a 33 metre length of Southgate Street between its junctions with Peel Street and Church Street, Bishop Auckland to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken. An alternative route will be available to vehicular traffic from the a) Eastern side of the closure from South Church Road westerly via Railway Street to Newgate Street b) Western side the closure from Newgate Street via Peel Street to South Church Road. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence on 25/9/22 from 7pm to 6am nightly and are anticipated to be completed in 4 nights. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

DATED: 10th September 2022



Helen Lynch
Head of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL

JUBILEE STREET AND CHAPEL STREET REARS, TORONTO (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2022

The Council on 5/9/22 made the above Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on 25 metres of rear Jubilee Street and Chapel Street, Toronto between property numbers 50 to 55 Jubilee Street to enable sewer repair works to be undertaken. Alternative route via front Jubilee Street and the accesses to Chapel Street via side numbers 35 and 60 Jubilee Street. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence on 12/9/22 and are anticipated to be completed in 5 days. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

DATED: 10th September 2022



Helen Lynch
Head of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL

LEARN HISTORY OF BISHOP AUCKLAND

FROM PAGE 1

ners to drive forward regeneration.

Dr Anne Allen, HAZ project manager, said: "We have a wide variety of fascinating events taking place as part of the Heritage Festival with many of them free to attend."

"Please take the time to look at the different events organised and come along if you can."

The festival's start coincides with a series of Heritage Open Days, which take place from Friday 9 to Sunday 18 September at various venues across County Durham, including several in Bishop Auckland.

From Monday 12 September to Sunday 20 November, the free exhibition *Picture This: Then and Now* will be held at Bishop Auckland Town Hall.

Running from 10am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday, it will reflect on the five years of the HAZ project to curate local heritage and restore the conservation area.

A visual story, it will be told through architecture, art and artefacts from the Bishop Big Dig.

On Saturday 24 September, a history fair organised by County Durham Forum for History and Heritage will be held from

11am to 3pm at the Town Hall. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet local history societies with music, re-enactment groups, guided walks, talks and bus tours.

At 7.30pm on Monday 26 September, Bishop Auckland Civic Society will hold a talk with guest speaker Dr Andrew Breeze from the University of Navarra, in Spain. It will centre on a Viking battle which took place at Bishop Auckland in the year 844 AD.

On Saturday 1 October, a day focusing on the sporting heritage of Bishop Auckland will be held at King James Academy in the town involving Durham Amateur Football Trust from 10am to 3pm.

Jules Brown, from Historic England, said: "The festival is a fantastic opportunity for people to come along and find out more about the history of Bishop Auckland and what this means for us today."

The council has secured £19.9 million of government funding for Bishop

Auckland town centre through the Future High Streets Fund, with money earmarked for projects including a new bus station and additional car parking, as well as a scheme to bring vacant properties back into use.

A further £33.2 million is heading to Bishop Auckland from the government's Stronger Towns Fund, with the funding allocated to a range of regeneration projects across the community.

The aim is to attract an additional 1.5 million visitors to Bishop Auckland each year, substantially boosting County Durham's visitor economy and creating up to 4,000 jobs.

Tens of millions of additional investment are also being made in the town by partner organisations such as The Auckland Project, which has already committed £275 million.

To find out more about this year's Bishop Auckland Heritage Festival go to www.durham.gov.uk/BishopAucklandHeritageFestival2022.

ALL ABOARD THE UKULELE EXPRESS

BISHOP AUCKLAND Methodist Church is hosting a concert by The Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express on Sat-

urday 24 September at 7pm. Tickets for the concert are £6 and can be secured by calling 01388 662668.

METHODIST CHURCH BRASS BAND CONCERT

ON SATURDAY 24 September, Etherley Methodist Church welcome Durham Constabulary Brass Band, and the event will follow the normal format with a meal at 6pm, followed by the Brass Band concert at 7.30pm.

The event was planned

for 2020 in memory of John Alver Slack, but could not be organised and performed until now, because of Covid lockdowns.

Alver was a well

respected local electrician who absolutely loved brass bands. Tickets are £10 each, from Marie on 01388 526692, and a new car park is nearby, which will be signposted.



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STREET HARASSMENT IS NEVER OKAY.

IF YOU SEE IT. ASK IT.



AS PART of a national initiative to highlight the role bystanders play in the prevention and support of street harassment, Neighbourhood Watch has this week launched their *Are you okay?* campaign.

The charity will encourage bystanders to intervene when witnessing crime and harmful behaviours, when it is safe for them to do so, by asking the victim 'Are you okay?'. Crimes of this nature, such as public sexual harassment and hate crime, are significantly under reported by victims.

Commissioner Joy Allen said: "Unfortunately crimes like these seem to be deeply ingrained in our culture. They're so common that we often see them in areas such as our parks and on our high streets and public transport networks and will turn a blind eye."

"It's time that these incidents no longer go unnoticed. This is a brilliant initiative that if used correctly can go a long way to achieving my vision of safer people across our area."

"It is all of our responsibilities to ensure that we look after each other on our streets. I would urge anyone that feels like they have witnessed or have been a victim of harassment or hate crime to report it, as it really is the only way we're going to be able to get a true handle on this and stomp it out in our community."

Neighbourhood Watch estimated that nationally over one third of those

that had experienced crime in the last twelve months had been harassed, threatened or verbally abused in the street.

These incidents are unfortunately not isolated and will be detrimental to victims' mental wellbeing.

The campaign attempts to challenge the 'bystander effect', which Neighbourhood Watch described as when the presence of others discourages individuals from intervening in crimes like these.

They explain that the greater the number of bystanders, the less likely it is for any one of them to initiate help for the person in distress.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of Neighbourhood Watch Network, said "If you witness someone being harassed on the street, whether they are being intimidated, shouted at, insulted, honked at, up-skirted, or are having offensive gestures or comments made towards them - when it is safe for you to do so, ask them if they are okay."

"This lets them know that you stand by them, empowers the victim to report and sends a message of intolerance towards the crime."

"In this way we can start to turn that culture of acceptance around."

If you need to report an active incident call 999, to report any other incident call 101.

You can also report to Crimestoppers anonymously on 919 683 1200.



Ionel Manciu (violin), Leo Popplewell (cello) and Dominic Degavino (piano).

STANDING OVATION CONCLUDES BAMS CONCERT SEASON

THE MITHRAS Piano Trio received a standing ovation after their performance for Bishop Auckland Music Society last Friday, 2nd September.

Ionel Manciu (violin), Leo Popplewell (cello) and Dominic Degavino (piano) thrilled the audience with their dynamic, yet thoughtful interpretation of Beethoven's *Piano Trio in E flat* and Tchaikovsky's *Piano Trio in A minor*.

A modern piece, *Cavatina at Midnight*, by Cecilia McDowell, completed the programme with allusions to bird-song in its composition.

This was the final concert in BAMS 2022 series. "It is a privilege to be able to bring such a variety of outstanding young musi-

cians to Bishop Auckland," said committee member, Susan Bennett.

"Often at the start of their professional careers, the maturity of their playing is astonishing. It is not surprising that many go on to achieve great things.

"To demonstrate this, the audience was delighted to hear that Ionel Manciu has been appointed the new leader of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra."

Willem de Bordes, artistic leader of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra said: "We are delighted with Ionel's arrival and look forward to building with him and chief conductor Lorenzo Viotti on the quality of the orchestra."



The event promises to be the biggest free event in the North East calendar.

SHILDON CARNIVAL TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR SUICIDE CHARITY

SHILDON WILL be hosting the biggest free event in the North East this weekend with free admission and running in conjunction with local charity, Quinn's Retreat.

Event organiser and owner of Carnival Fun Fairs, Paul Evans said: "The weekend will feature a human torch show which includes a TV stunt team throwing themselves off huge gantries while on fire and the amazing exploding coffin, which is one of the most dangerous film stunts in the world, a motorcycle display and also, back by popular demand, Mon-

ster Truck rides."

Carnival Fun Fairs will also present their gigantic fairground which this year will feature a continental ferris wheel from Belgium together with a world food court serving everything to cater for all tastes and an all-day bar which will serve refreshments from a vintage London Routemaster bus.

Mr Evans added: "People will never witness anything like this again in the small railway town of Shildon, and certainly no family in the North East should miss out on this

grand extravaganza."

The weekend of free action will start at 11am on 10 and 11 September in Hackworth Park, Central Parade Shildon.

The funfair will also be open on Friday 9 September from 6pm until 8pm.

As well as providing entertainment, the event will have a more poignant aim as it looks to raise a minimum of £5,000 for local suicide support charity, Quinn's Retreat.

The charity is raising funds to build a retreat home for suicide bereaved families.

BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN TEAM PRESENTS

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GCSE results highlight continued success at Bishop Barrington Academy

Bishop Barrington Academy is delighted to report a hugely successful set of GCSE results demonstrating the significant school improvement journey that the Academy has embarked upon since joining the Advance Learning Partnership family of schools.

Students have performed at levels above national averages in many subjects with fantastic performances in French, IT, Health and Social Care, Dance, Music and Sport Studies. There is a powerful drive to raise standards in all subject areas across the Academy and Bishop Barrington has demonstrated that it's students can, and do compete at the very highest level. In modern foreign languages 100% of the students achieved a grade 9. Students have amassed a total of 110 top grades, a quarter of these been in English.

Headteacher, Grant Sowerby, said: "Our young people should be proud of these examination results. This success is a just reward for the commitment the students showed throughout their Barrington journey. A journey which, at times has been exceptionally difficult due to the pandemic and a significant period of change. This makes these results even more impressive. Everyone at the Academy has worked relentlessly to give our students the greatest chance of success, opening doors to their futures."

Among the fantastic results received, there have been some exceptional individual performances including:

Niamh Dawson who has achieved a raft of top grades including six grade 9's and three grade 8's;

Deyla Abaya who achieved five grade 9's and one grade 8 and two grade 7's;

Sophie Curry who has achieved three grade 9's and five grade 8's;

Amelia Bowden who has achieved three grade 9's and three grade 8's;

Louie Thornton who has achieved three grade 9's and four grade 7's.

Congratulations to all of the pupils as they move on with their education. We wish them all the best for the future.

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Headteacher welcome sessions:

5.30pm and 6.30pm

bishopbarrington.org.uk

Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6LA
Tel: 01388 603 307; E-mail: admin@bishopbarrington.net



CHANCE DRAMA SET FOR CAPTIVATING FAMILY SHOW



CHANCE DRAMA PRESENTS

15, 16 September - 7PM
17 September - 2PM | 7PM
Ferryhill Sport & Education Centre

Adult £8 | Child £4

Goldilocks

Script provided by NODA Ltd, Peterborough, PE2 7UH

Tickets Available by emailing: chancedramaferryhill@gmail.com

ROLL UP, Roll up! Chance Drama is set to 'Come Alive' on the 15th, 16th and 17th of September.

Prepare for a feast for the eyes - yes that's right, Sophie Sawdust's Spectacular Circus is coming right to your doorstep at Ferryhill Sports and Education Centre.

Below is some information on our upcoming production *Goldilocks*, Chance Drama's biggest project since before the Covid pandemic.

The show includes some fabulous numbers including some from the popular movie and shows *The Greatest Showman*, *Singing in The Rain* and *Juliet* to name a small few!

This show is not just your typical *Goldilocks*, it features an elaborate and captivating plot to ensure the audience is enthralled and amused from start to finish!

The show includes, animal trainers, clowns (and don't worry, not the scary kind!), mimes, juggling, circus poi and some fabulous stunts and tricks.

"Our performance is perfect for all of the family," said Darcy Golightly. "We also have a matinee performance, which is perfect for younger members of the family, and we truly believe the people locally should grab the opportunity to come down and see what this fabulous group of just under forty young people have been working so hard on for around six months. So come along and treat the family to a night out together today."

You can email them at chancedramaferryhill@gmail.com to secure your tickets today.

"We hope local people will get behind us in this fabulous production," added Darcy.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

BISHOP AUCKLAND
Methodist Church at Cockton Hill Road is hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30 September from 10am until 2pm.

Drinks, cakes and

scones will be served. There will also be a tombola and raffle.

"Come and join us to help make lots of money for Macmillan, everyone is most welcome," said a volunteer.

FREE BOOKSHOP UNDER THREAT



The popular charity bookshop has been forced to close as it prepares to pack up half a million books.

FROM PAGE 1

are a high valued shop in the community.

"We occupy an empty shop and help take care of it and report any issues that would previously go unnoticed without someone occupying the building.

"We have a 28-day rolling lease as a temporary tenant. We have found that we increased footfall during our time there and we brought some life to our little corner of Newgate Street.

"Our charity, as a temporary tenant, doesn't pay rent, but in return our landlords, who we are really grateful to, receive a large reduction in their rates, so we help each other.

"Unfortunately, we have recently been given our 28-day notice and very sadly we now have to leave number 14.

"However, we have also had to close immediately as we have an estimated half a million books to pack, but sadly at the moment we have no home to move to and

we must leave Number 14 by September 28th.

"We desperately need a large shop to move into to take our capacity and at the moment there is nothing available, even though there are plenty of empty shops around Bishop Auckland.

"So many of our customers say they would not come into Bishop Auckland if it was not for the free bookshop.

"In our bookshop, not only do we let people have five free items a day, or if they wish they can put something in the pot, but we are also a community hub for many of our visitors.

"During the pandemic, people came in not only to escape in a few pages of a book, but it was also a way to socialise where they didn't feel so alone.

"The customers are warm and welcoming and they have made it a pleasure to know them. We are really going to miss each and every one of them.

"Our charity started ten years ago and for half that time we have been in

Bishop Auckland.

"Our founder and operations director, Mr Bashforth thought of the idea after a child went to *Take your Book to School* day with just the Argos catalogue because that was all they had at home.

Additionally, so many books were going into landfill that he wished to use these unloved books to improve people's quality of life through literacy, education and mental wellbeing."

The charity is urgently asking if anyone can help them source a new shop, preferably a large one on Newgate Street.

"If we can not find a property all our books will have to go into storage," said Alexandra, and it could be years, if at all we return to Bishop Auckland as transporting books is so expensive and we would not have the range we have now.

"We need to find a landlord that would want us as a tenant."

If anyone can help, email the charity at getfreebooksat14@gmail.com.

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Bishop Auckland Passion Play finally took place last Easter after two years of Covid delays.

FILM PREMIERE FOR PASSION PLAY

IT'S ALL systems go for the team responsible for the Bishop Auckland Passion Play as they launch their 2023 plans with a film premiere in St Peter's Chapel at Auckland Castle later this month.

After more than four years in the planning, two lockdowns and numerous cast changes, the Passion Play for Bishop Auckland was performed on Good Friday in the Bishop Auckland Market place and has since been produced into a full-length film.

The premier of *Don't Panic All Will Be Revealed* will be screened on Wednesday 28 September at 12.30pm.

Screenings will then follow at various other churches and venues around Bishop Auckland

as a precursor to the start of rehearsals for the 2023 performance.

Passion Play Bishop Auckland (PPBA) producer and film editor Keith Blundy said: "We are delighted to be able to bring *Don't Panic* to the screen to allow people to relive and experience this amazing performance of the story of Easter.

"The screenings, all free to attend, mark the start of our planning and rehearsals for the 2023 Good Friday Passion Play, entitled *All Will Be Revealed*.

"It is hoped that reminding people of the challenges we all came through during Covid to put on the performance will inspire people to get involved and take us from strength to strength next year.

"The film captures the huge efforts made by more than 130 cast, backstage volunteers and supporters in bringing the performance to life.

"I think that over 5,000 people watched the performance demonstrates that the Easter story is still relevant today, providing a sense of hope and light in the darkness of modern life.

"We have also launched a Crowdfunder at www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/passion-play-bishop-auckland to help raise funds for future performances and for the work we do to be more effective in our engagement with the community in allowing those on the margins of society to get involved, learn new skills and improve their wellbeing."

Tickets for the premiere can be obtained by visiting: aucklandproject.org/whats-on/passion-play-film-premiere.

A list of dates for the other screenings and information on various ways to get involved in the production will be posted on the website passionplaybishopauckland.org and on facebook.com/passionplaybishopauckland.



Students at Bishop Barrington celebrated GCSE success this year.

BISHOP BARRINGTON PUPILS ENJOY GCSE SUCCESS

BISHOP BARRINGTON Academy is celebrating a hugely successful set of GCSE results, demonstrating the significant improvement journey the Academy has embarked upon since joining the Advance Learning Partnership family of schools.

Students have performed at levels above national averages in many subjects including French, IT, Health and Social Care, Dance, Music and Sport Studies.

There is a powerful drive to raise standards in all subject areas and Bishop Barrington has demonstrated that its students can, and do, compete at the very highest level.

In modern foreign languages 100% of the students achieved a grade 9. Students have amassed a total of 110 top grades, a quarter of these been in English.

Headteacher Grant Sowerby said: "Our young people should be proud of these examination results. This success is a just reward for the commitment the students showed throughout their

Barrington journey, a journey which, at times has been exceptionally difficult due to the pandemic and a significant period of change.

"This makes these results even more impressive. Everyone has worked relentlessly to give our students the greatest chance of success, opening doors to their futures."

Among the fantastic results the school singled out some exceptional individual performances including: Niamh Dawson, who has achieved a raft of top grades including six grade 9's and three grade 8's; Deyla Abaya, who achieved five grade 9's and one grade 8 and two grade 7's; Sophie Curry, who has achieved three grade 9's and five grade 8's; Amelia Bowden, who has achieved three grade 9's and three grade 8's and Louie Thornton, who has achieved three grade 9's and four grade 7's.

Congratulations to all of the pupils as they move on with their education, we wish them all the best for the future.



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Sport

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Bishop Auckland CC First XI with the NYSD Cricket League Division One trophy.

TREBLE SUCCESS FOR CRICKETERS

BISHOP AUCKLAND Cricket Club's First XI have been crowned treble winners after scooping two divisional titles and the Haith Cup in a triumphant season.

First into the trophy cabinet was the Haith Cup, clinched with a seven-wicket victory over Wolviston CC at Kingsway in June.

"Winning the prestigious Haith Cup was a proud achievement for the club and our first taste of success this summer," said Director of Cricket Paul Furby. "We had set high standards for ourselves this summer and we were delighted with this victory."

Then came the NYSD Cricket League Division One Hundred title, clinched at Stockton CC Finals Day, with another seven-wicket win, this

time over Guisborough.

Skipper Nathan Rimmington was Player of the Match for his 40no and 1/13 from his allocated 20 deliveries.

Having sealed promotion to the NYSD Premier Division with a nine-wicket victory over Guisborough the previous day, Bishops secured the Division One title with another comprehensive nine-wicket victory at Hornby Park, home of Seaton Carew CC, last weekend, and were presented the league trophy from Durham CCC legend, Geoff Cook.

"We really wanted to achieve promotion this season and had worked hard towards that goal," added Paul. "Achieving promotion as Champions reflects the hard work and efforts of everyone within the club, particu-

larly during the past 12 months.

"Nathan Rimmington has led the side superbly well and many of the players have excelled during the summer.

"Lastly, I want to thank John Elliott and Ebac for the continued and invaluable support we enjoy at the cricket club. Support we are sincerely grateful for."

Indeed, in arguably the game of the summer, the club were a whisker away from a quadruple after being narrowly beaten by Normanby Hall in the final of the Brunton Cup with just three balls remaining.

"We couldn't be happier" said Paul. "Of course it would have been nice to win it all, but what's been achieved this summer is hopefully just the beginning and we're already looking forward to 2023."



Wayne Whitfield celebrates after scoring the second in Bishops' 7-1 rout of Crook Town in midweek. Photo: Joe Gorman.

TWO BLUES CRUSH CROOK

FREE SCORING Bishop Auckland FC are up to second in the Northern League Division One table after a crushing 7-1 away win at Crook Town in midweek.

It seemed an appropriate visual metaphor for the night sky to be split by flashes of lightning given the electrifying play of the Two Blues, who raced to a 4-0 half time lead.

Matty Weirs opened the scoring in the sixth minute, sidefooting home after James Fairly sprung the home side's offside trap.

Three minutes later the lead was doubled when Weirs turned provider and Wayne Whitfield swept home the visitors' second.

A Craig Gott penalty effectively put the game out of Crook's reach after just 20 minutes.

But the relentless Two Blues were far from finished and Louis Johnson put the cap on the first half with a deft chip to make it 4-0 at the break.

A half-time delay due to the electric display off the field allowed Crook to regroup and the Black and Ambers pulled a goal back in the 52nd minute after some sloppy defending.

The hosts may have felt they had prevented further damage by the time the final 10 minutes approached, but Ronan Makepeace found himself picking the ball out of the back of his net a further three times before the referee brought the home side's misery to an end.

Johnson notched his double in the 82nd and two injury time goals from Dale Milburn completed the rout.

Bishops have now won their last five league games and have scored a remarkable 31 goals in their opening nine games of the season.

This Saturday, the Two Blues visit newly promoted Tow Law before hosting Newcastle Benfield the following weekend.

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