



Saturday 22 Oct 2022

## WE'VE LAUNCHED A COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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## PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR RUBY



Winner, Ruby Sheridan.

**KING JAMES I** Academy year 11 student, Ruby Sheridan has won Durham County Council's Young Peoples' Award for 'Outstanding Person' for 2022.

The annual County Durham Youth Awards recognise the achievements of young people and youth advocates across County Durham with nominees put forward by their peers, teachers, parents and members of the community.

Ruby was nominated by Deputy Headteacher,

David Longstaff, not only for the dedication she shows for developing herself as a first-class equestrian, but also for her commitment to balancing her studies to ensure she continues to achieve highly in all aspects of her life.

Riding since she was just four years old, Ruby regularly takes part in local, regional and national equestrian competitions with great success; most recently, she competed as a member of a four-rider team in the British Pony Club Championship where the team placed second.

Mr Longstaff said, "Ruby is extremely dedicated to her sport and we have watched her progress with great enthusiasm and pride."

"To achieve her level of success takes a great deal of time, effort and personal sacrifice, but Ruby is a credit to King James, balancing both her schoolwork and her goals as an equestrian."

## ACADEMY RAISES VITAL FUNDS

**STAFF AND** students at King James I Academy have raised £367 for Macmillan Cancer Support at the school's annual Coffee Morning event, which was organised by members of the Sixth Form

Team.

This event is just one of the fundraising activities which take place at school throughout the academic year to benefit a variety of worthy causes

## VIEW PARTIAL SOLAR ECLIPSE WITH ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

**BISHOP AUCKLAND** Astronomical Society, is holding a partial solar eclipse viewing at the Dairy Barn, High House Farm, in North Bitchburn, Crook DL15 8AN on Tuesday, 25 October from 10am until 12noon.

Visitors will be able to see sun spots and solar

prominences rising up from the solar surface.

They have telescopes with specialised filters so observing is totally safe.

The event is free and refreshments will served for the duration.

It is important to note that this outside event is weather dependent.

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## MEET HORRIBLE HISTORIES AUTHOR AT THE TOWN HALL



The production will be at Bishop Auckland Town Hall on 24 October.

**FANS OF** the popular *Horrible Histories* series will have the chance to meet its author at a spooky theatre production this half term.

Bishop Auckland Town Hall will be hosting *Terry Deary's True Ghost Stories* in two productions on Monday 24 October at 2pm and 6pm.

Inspired by the works of the bestselling North East author, the family-friendly show promises to be full of spine-tingling characters and ghostly ghosts.

Audiences will be transported back in time to a 1920s theatre where they will meet chilling cut-throats, unravel an ancient Roman curse, investigate the case of a vanishing Victorian, and expose the Blonde Witch of Lime Street.

*Horrible Histories* fans also have the chance to meet Mr Deary, who will be at the town hall to sign books at the end of the matinee performance at around 4pm.

Cllr Elizabeth Scott, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economy and partnerships, said: "If you are looking for a spook-tastic trip out with the kids this

half term, *Terry Deary's Ghost Stories* is the perfect performance to get you and your family into the seasonal spirit.

"Terry Deary is one of many successful writing and creative talents living right here in County Durham, showcasing why we are the culture county."

"We are really excited to welcome him to Bishop Auckland Town Hall, and I am sure he will be looking forward to seeing the production and meeting fans of his books."

Mr Deary said: "In 1994, I was one of the team that advised on the conversion of Bishop Auckland Town Hall to a theatre, gallery, and library."

"That was also the year I wrote my *True Ghost Stories* book."

"Now the play of the book returns to the town hall, 28 years later. Spooky coincidence?"

Recommended for children aged eight and over, tickets for the event are priced at £12, £10 concession, and £40 for a family ticket.

Tickets can be booked online at [www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk](http://www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk) or by calling the box office on 03000 269 524.

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Fun in the garden at Little Chefs Big Chefs CIC's new community hub, supported by believe housing.

## BELIEVING IN LOCAL COMMUNITY HUB

A PROJECT which started life as a community pantry, based in a parish hall, is expanding after it moved into its own premises.

Little Chefs, Big Chefs CIC was established to help people in the Bishop Auckland area make better food choices, by offering discounted food hampers and cookery courses.

It soon became so important to the community that it outgrew its base, in St Helen's Parish Centre, and needed a home of its own, where it could increase its support services and activities.

It was recently able to make the move and launched the LCBC Community Hub, after securing a 25-year lease for believe housing's former community room in Selby Close, St Helen Auckland.

The County Durham-based housing association has supported the project from its early days, with a £9,000 grant in March 2020 to set up a

community pantry.

Volunteers took surplus produce, donated by supermarkets and the Auckland Project, to make up discounted food hampers and run cookery courses.

But within weeks, the Covid pandemic hit.

The team quickly adapted and, with the support of believe housing, began to offer emergency food provision to those most in need during the pandemic.

Eventually the eco-friendly community pantry and cookery lessons were able to resume, and they have gone from strength to strength.

Now believe housing, which manages 18,200 affordable homes across County Durham, has handed over the keys to the former Selby Close community room.

It also awarded £19,024 for work to refurbish the Hub, which has a community room, kitchen, toilets and storage space.

The extra space allows the LCBC Community Hub

to host an Eco Market on Mondays and Thursdays, cookery workshops for all ages, social and gardening activities and it will launch new events based on local need.

Volunteers can offer access to laptops and a printer, signpost people to other useful groups and support services and help people build resilience.

Joanne Norman, Community Investment Coordinator at believe housing, said: "We're proud to have supported this group on its journey, starting with that first grant to get the brilliant eco-friendly community pantry up and running, through the pandemic, and now in one of our buildings."

"LCBC has encouraged people to think about what they eat, diverted lots of food waste from landfill, supported the community and many believe housing customers."

"We want our grants to make a real difference."

## HELP CREATE A STRONGER COMMUNITY FOR US ALL

FROM PAGE 1

Who is currently listening to you? Who is investigating the stories that are important to you locally? Who is campaigning on your behalf? Who is holding local power to account?

The reality is that the vast majority of the UK print media - 90% according to a 2021 Media Reform Coalition report - is owned and controlled by just three companies.

In our experience, as more and more titles are bought over, newsrooms have been shredded and what matters to local communities is no longer of interest to larger news organisations.

Are they listening to you, or are they telling you what to think?

We intend to reverse that trend and stand up once more for our local communities.

To do that well, we will need your help.

While your financial contribution could not be more important, we would also be delighted if you wanted to share some of your skills with us. Or maybe you just want us to look into something? We're listening and we're committed to working with you.

In return, we promise that our team will deliver independent local journalism of the highest quality.

We will hold power to account, we will campaign for change, and we want to amplify marginalised voices. We also want to make it clear from the outset that we will continue to do everything we currently do.

Your *Bishop Press* will always be free to read and delivered to your door. Our website will always be free to read - there will never be a firewall - but our digital content will be improved.

The membership scheme is aimed only at those who can afford to make a contribution and who believe in our vision for what a community newspaper should be: namely an active, investigative and campaigning voice for local people.

We are rooted in our local communities and, with your help, we intend to give our communities back the voice they have lost for too long now.

Become a member today and help build a stronger community for us all.



BECOME A MEMBER

### MEMBERSHIP SCHEME FAQs

- Do I have to join?**  
No. The scheme is only for anyone who can afford to pay from £2 per month and wants to support us in our aims. You can cancel any time.
- Will I stop receiving the paper?**  
No. The paper will always be delivered to your home and will always be free to read.
- Will there be a firewall on your website?**  
No. All of our content will remain free to access online as well as in print.
- What's in it for me?**  
Membership scheme funds will be used to pay local journalists, so all members will be contributing to local employment. Members will receive an exclusive early copy of the paper in pdf format. Members who wish to, can contribute their skills to our newsroom. As the scheme grows, more benefits will be added.
- Can I ask another question?**  
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# JOYOUS DALI CELEBRATION TO LIGHT UP BISHOP AUCKLAND

AN ILLUMINATING evening exploring the wonder and mystery of the unconscious mind will light up Bishop Auckland next week.

*Dali: Surreal Worlds* will take over the town centre on October 28th with a stunning and immersive display of light installations and art designed to ignite the imaginations of all who experience it.

Inspired by the arrival of Salvador Dali's masterpiece, *Christ of Saint John of the Cross* at The Auckland Project's Spanish Gallery earlier this year, *Dali: Surreal Worlds* is an interactive community event, which will incorporate larger-than-life artworks, collaborative exhibitions, a street art trail, and a programme of exhilarating live entertainment and creative workshops.

Developed to 'bring the whole community to see the Dali', two large scale light installations, featuring the work and ideas of almost 200 local young people, will offer a shining centrepiece to proceedings in the town's Market Place and Auckland Tower for the afternoon-to-evening event.

The original artworks are being created by North East artist Stuart Langley who, together



An artists impression of one of Stuart Langley's large scale light installations for *Dali Surreal Worlds*.

with The Auckland Project's Transformative Arts Officer, Jilly Johnston, is leading participatory sessions with 120 children from local schools.

These sessions will inform and inspire the dome light structures set to dominate the Market Place.

A second light installation, which will illuminate Auckland Tower is also being created by artist Jane Crawford, artist and director of Bishop Auckland-based Daisy Arts, and supported by Create North, with students from

Bishop Auckland College.

*Dali: Surreal Worlds*, will coincide with the popular Full Moon Market, which includes high energy live music and entertainment,

will also see the windows of local shops and businesses taken over by surreal street art created by graffiti collective Bish Vegas Legal Graff during

a community *Big Paint* gathering earlier in the week.

More artwork from the schoolchildren who have taken part in the project will be on display in an exhibition at The Auckland Project's community venue, No.42 and Auckland Tower.

Meanwhile Daisy Arts will run a drop-in live interactive workshop throughout the event in the No.43 space.

In the run up to the event people will also be invited to take a stroll among the 150 acres of Auckland Castle's Deer Park, where eight surrealist art installations – created by The Auckland Project's Young Artists Collective – will be waiting to be discovered.

The trail launches this Saturday, 22 October, and maps can be collected from Auckland Tower.



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## NEXT CIVIC SOCIETY MEETING

ALL ARE invited to come along and 'Say Cheese' at the next meeting of Bishop Auckland Civic Society on Monday, 7 November at 7.30pm, at the Town Hall.

Simon Raine, MD of Weardale Cheese will confess all. Simon's dad worked for the Milk Marketing Board and Simon's first job after graduation was working on a graduate trainee scheme, delivering milk for Northern Dairies.

Simon says: "You never know how much milk there is in a pint bottle until you drop it on someone's doorstep at 5am."

Learn how Simon's subsequent passion for milk and hence cheese led to him to create his own unique Weardale cheeses, naming them for the area he loves: Prince Bishop, Brie de Weardale and St Cuthbert amongst many others.

His unique dairy is based at Harperley Prisoner of War Camp where he makes bespoke cheeses to order as well as his signature Weardale varieties.

Free to Civic Society members, it will cost visitors £2 on the door.

## DISCUSS CRIME AT NEXT PACT MEET

DO YOU want to discuss crime and anti-social behaviour with agencies in your area? Durham Constabulary hold Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings every month.

All members of the community are welcome to attend a PACT meeting.

Meetings will identify and discuss your local problems, agree local action to tackle these problems and individual neighbourhood priorities will be agreed.

They are held at local venues at convenient times - usually early evening - and last no longer than an hour.

The next Bishop Auckland Town and Toronto /Cockton Hill PACT Meetings, will be held at Sam Zair's Cafe in Forebondgate, at 6.30pm on 2 November and 30 November.

Dene Valley PACT Meetings are held at the One Stop Shop in Eldon Lane.

Their next meetings are 20 October, 17 November, and 15 December. Dene Valley meetings begin at 5.30pm.

To find the date and time of other local PACT meetings, visit the Durham Constabulary website and search in the neighbourhood section for your local area or the Bishop Auckland Police Facebook page.

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# Life Beyond

## Bishop Barrington Academy

In the five years your child is at Bishop Barrington, we will prepare them for whatever they plan to do next. For each child this will be different.

To ensure students receive the best support, all students receive 1:1 Careers Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) with one of our two qualified and impartial careers advisors in Year 10 and 11. Alongside this all students can access Careers IAG at drop in sessions during lunchtimes and break times.

Careers education is incorporated into all aspects of the curriculum, with all subject areas showcasing linked careers and developing key employability skills. A tailored learning programme allows every year group to engage with local employers and to develop their knowledge and skills in regards to careers and moving on using up-to-date Labour Market Information. As they progress through the school, careers education builds so that by Year 11 every student has the confidence and skills ready for work and further study.

Running alongside the curriculum, we offer a variety of experiences to help students formulate their future plans. These include employer career fairs, visits to local colleges, guidance on apprenticeship schemes, mock interviews, CV and personal statement workshops, and visits to local Universities including a mentoring programme. We also work closely with Durham Works and local colleges to ensure every student progresses successfully and happily at the end of Year 11.

Our students progress to a wide range post-16 destinations. With our guidance, students move on to study a range of A Levels and vocational courses; each year we also have a significant number of those choosing to study apprenticeships or traineeships. At Bishop Barrington we prepare students for whichever route is appropriate for them. We are very proud of Bishop Barrington students, many keeping in touch and coming back to share their successes with our current students as part of the Bishop Barrington Alumni.

If you missed our **OPEN EVENING**, please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a tour of our school with a member of our Senior Leadership Team.

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# Sport

Local leagues, competitions and events...



Left to right: Sam Coglan, Harvey Jacques, Danny Grainger, Sam Rutherford and James Wight.

## LOCAL BOXERS INTO NATIONAL FINALS

**FIVE BOXERS** from Bishop Auckland Boxing Club have been crowned North East Development Champions in the recent regional championships.

Sam Rutherford, who contests the 40-42kg weight division had a walkover due to having no opponent in his regional round.

He then went on to box his national quarter final and won by unanimous decision.

James Wight (42-44kg division) is also through to the national semi final after winning his regional final, also by unanimous decision.

Harvey Jacques (50-52kg) boxed twice in the regional round, winning

two very impressive victories with stoppages.

He then boxed in the national quarter final and won by unanimous decision and will now compete in his national semi final this coming weekend.

Sam Coglan (54-57kg) boxed twice to record two very good wins: a unanimous points decision in the first round of his first bout, followed by a second round stoppage the week later.

Danny Grainger (60-63kg) also boxed twice in his regional round with two top wins.

He boxed his national quarter final later and won by a convincing unanimous decision.

All five boxers will now compete in the semi-finals and finals of the England Boxing Development Championships this weekend (22 and 23 October) in the Spiceball Leisure Centre in Banbury.

All bouts will be streamed live online and the streams can be found on the England Boxing YouTube channel.

"It's a great achievement for the boxing club," said coach, Matty Stephenson, "to have five competitors in this stage of the competition."

If anyone would like any information on joining the club they can make contact via the club's Facebook page or by calling Matty on 07972 718793.

## LAST GASP LEVELLER SEES TWO BLUES STRETCH LEAD



Fans celebrate wildly as teammates engulf last gasp scorer, Louis Johnson. Photo: Joe Gorman.

**AN EQUALISING** goal three minutes into injury time was enough to see Bishop Auckland FC stretch their lead at the top of Northern League Division One in midweek.

Louis Johnson's last gasp leveller rescued a 2-2 draw for the Two Blues, who came from behind twice at Heritage Park against Redcar Athletic.

The game was the last in a busy schedule of four games in a fortnight ahead of this weekend's FA Vase tie away at Bury AFC of the North West Counties Football League Premier Division.

In the past fortnight, the Two Blues maintained their four-point lead over Whitley Bay at the top of the table with 2-0 league wins at home against Thornaby and away at Sunderland RCA.

Goals in each half, from Wayne Whitfield in the 17th minute and Marcus Giles in the 66th took care of Thornaby at Heritage Park on Saturday 8 October, while late second half goals against ten-man RCA earned three points

on the road a week later.

The first of those was a Simon Jakab own goal, just two minutes after Denver Morris was sent off in the 63rd minute.

Dane Burlace made sure of the points in the last minute.

In the midweek between, Bishops marched into the next round of the Durham Challenge Cup after a convincing 4-1 home win over Billingham Town.

Second Division Town opened the scoring in the 15th minute, but the Two Blues were in front by half time through Dale Milburn (28) and Marcus Giles (35).

Two second half goals within a five-minute spell from Wayne Whitfield; a 63rd minute penalty and a 68th minute strike ensured Bishops reached the second round, where they were drawn away to Brandon United.

And with Whitley Bay not playing last midweek, Johnson's late equaliser against Redcar ensured the Two Blues increased their league lead to five points ahead of this weekend's FA Vase ties.

# BISHOP AUCKLAND

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