WALK THE LINE AT BRUSSELTON INCLINE

LOCAL RAMBLERS are being invited to walk the section of Brusselton Incline from St Helen’s to the Hummerbeck Bridge and on to Brusselton Bank foot – around 2.4 miles.

Walkers should meet at 10.30am on Sunday 4th February in Broom Mill Farm Shop off the A6072. Sturdy boots are essential and dogs are welcome.

John Raw of the Brusselton Incline Group, who has organised the walk said, “We will take cars to St Helen’s and walk down the track bed, which has recently been cleared, to the main road separating St Helen’s from West Auckland.

“We will be able to see the West Auckland Railway Station House, the abutments on which George Stephenson placed his iron bridge across the Gaunless and walk over two hidden culverts. We will make our way along the track bed back to Broom Farm and on to the Hummerbeck Bridge and Brusselton Bank foot.

“Come along, the walking’s fine.”

PETITION GAINS OVER 5,000 SIGNATURES

Canon David Tomlinson, Stephen’s Foster Father, appeared on BBC Look North to plead the teenager’s case.

Come along, the walking’s fine!

THE FORMER Shildon Health Centre, which closed its doors last year, is being placed up for auction next month, and Shildon Alive! are hoping to raise enough money to purchase the building for themselves.

The community facility originally hoped to rent the premises after feeling that they had outgrown their small unit on Church Street, but were told that this would not be possible as the NHS had plans to sell the building.

Paula Nelson, Community Project Manager at Shildon Alive! commented, “I believe the building should be used for the community of Shildon and surrounding areas to run a credit union, food solidarity centre and social enterprise.

 “[We have] no bank, no supermarket but the most amazing, kind hearted people, full of community spirit.”

Paula even has plans to
HELP STEPHEN STAY IN THE UK

FROM PAGE 1

in place by Shildon Town Councillor David Reynolds campaigning for Stephen to be allowed to remain in the UK.

The petition received over 1,000 signatures on the first day alone, standing at over 5,200 at the time of going to print.

David Tomlinson referred to the situation as “heart-breaking” and some petition signers have commented “we have a moral duty to continue to provide him with security” and “He had built a life with a caring family and community... Where is the compassion?”

CONSTITUENCY SURGERY

HELEN GOODMAN

MP is holding her next Constituency Surgery at Jubilee Fields Community Centre, Shildon, from 5pm on Friday 26th January.

An appointment is not required, but any residents needing urgent help should contact Helen’s Constituency Office on 01388 603075 or email Helen directly at goodmanh@parliament.uk.

Post or hand this form into:
3-4 First Floor Offices, Town Council Building,
Civic Hall Square, Shildon, DL4 1AH

Please note: All prices include VAT at standard rate.

CLASSIFIED FORM:

OCCASION: (Please Tick)

- Birthday
- Obituary
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- Congratulations
- Services
- Appreciations
- Acknowledgement
- Memoriam
- Birthday Memoriam

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Message(s): Please write in clear BLOCK CAPITALS and continue on a separate piece of paper if necessary

Photograph included? (£7.20)

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PLEASE NOTE: Cheques should be made payable to: Community Newspaper Support CIC

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Support your local community newspaper by mentioning the Shildon Town Crier when contacting advertisers.

South West Durham News
SHILDON TOT TO HOST FUN DAY

Four year-old Anya Howlader will welcome the Police Interceptors to her Super Charity Fun Day.

POTENTIALLY SHILDON’S youngest fundraiser, Anya Howlader is set to host a Super Charity Fun Day in aid of Bullies Out, which aims to make a positive difference to the lives of children affected by bullying.

The 4 year-old, who attends St John’s Primary School, competes in beauty pageants to raise money for charities close to her heart, but also to enable her to keep competing.

Her event will take place at Jubilee Fields Community Centre on Sunday 28th January, between 1pm and 4pm. The famous Police Interceptors will be making an appearance and there will also be raffles, a tombola, cake stalls, a bouncy castle and face painting, as well as Elsa and Anna mascots and a fancy dress competition (50p).

All funds raised on the day will be divided between the charity and Anya’s pageant journey.

From Page 1

HELP SHILDON ALIVE!
REACH 100K TARGET

It’s not too late to contribute towards Paula Nelson’s Couch to 5K challenge.

Community Project Manager at Shildon Alive!, Paula Nelson, steps on the scales to mark the beginning of her Couch to 5K challenge.

Anyone who would like to contribute ideas about fundraising, or if you would like to join Paula in her challenge, email shildonalive@gmail.com.

FACEBOOK.COM/SHILDONTOWNCRIER
CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SHILDON

CHURCHES TOGETHER in Shildon will be holding a United Service this Sunday, 21st January, from 3pm at the Salvation Army on Cross Street.

The service is being held as part of a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and all are invited to attend.

SOCIAL CLUB’S SPORTS QUIZ

SHILDON AFC Social Club on Dean Street is hosting a Sports Quiz on Sunday 28th January from 8pm. Go along for an evening of fun and sports trivia.

BRUSSELTON INCLINE GROUP MEETING

THE NEXT meeting of Brusselton Incline Group will be taking place at the Whistle Stop Cafe in New Shildon on Saturday 27th January from 10.15am.

“Everyone welcome,” said a spokesperson.

TWIGS AND TWINE AT THE FLOWER CLUB

SHILDON AND District Flower Club’s next meeting is set to take place on Monday 5th February, from 7.30pm in Shildon Civic Hall.

Are demonstrator Nicola Davies-Murray from York will present an evening of flower arranging entitled ‘Twigs and Twine.’ The session is free to members and £5 for visitors. All are welcome.

PETER PAN-TO TICKETS

THERE ARE still a few tickets left for the Peter Pan pantomime, for performances taking place on Saturday 20th January at 7.30pm and Sunday 21st January at 2pm.

Tickets are priced at £5.50 for adults and £3.50 for children. Ring 01388 774338 for more information on ticket availability.

DURHAM COUNTY Council are advising motorists that several roads in Shildon will be forced to close from next week in order for carriageway resurfacing to take place.

Auckland Terrace will be closed to vehicular traffic between Monday 22nd and Friday 26th January, between 9am and 3pm. Drivers will be unable to access Byerley Road from the junction with Main Street on Saturdays 22nd January and 3rd February between 7am and 7pm.

Finally Adelaide Bank, between Elm Terrace and the junction to Coronation, will close between Monday 29th January and Friday 2nd February between 9am and 3pm. The closures will therefore effect bus services in the town. Service 1 will be unable to serve Church Street, Main Street, Auckland Terrace or Adelaide Bank between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday, and will run non stop via Eldon between Shildon and Rosemount. On Saturdays service X1 will be unable to serve West Road or Byerley Road, operating instead via Shildon bypass to Reddish Vale Road.

Finally on Sundays, Service 1B will be unable to serve Byerley Road, Auckland Terrace, Adelaide Bank, South Church and St Andrew’s Road. It will operate non stop via Shildon Bypass and Watling Road.

ƯGHEST: FISH RESTAURANT

SHILDON 01388 773400

TUESDAY SPECIAL

COD & CHIPS

TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

TAKEAWAY ONLY

The Council on 12/01/18 made an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1991, as amended, to close to all vehicular traffic (1) 1.56 km length of B6282 from its junction with Byerley Court by Bury on Bury Road and extending northwards across the junction of Main Street on Auckland Tce and Adelaide Bank to the junction with High Street, Coronation; and (2) 110 mtr length of West Road that extends westwards from its junction with B6282 Auckland Tce/Main St, Shildon, by reason of carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken. The maximum duration of the temporary closure under the Order is 18 months and is required to 22 January 2018 and for the duration of the works anticipated to be 2 weeks, placed as: Phase A: Auckland Tce extending northwards from West Rd to the properties known as Bridgewater/Pleasant View: Mon 22/1-Fri 26/1/18 (9.00am-3.00pm per day). Phase B: Byerley Rd extending southwards from Main St to onl Byerley Cl. - two Saturdays (7.00am-7.00pm). Phase C: Auckland Tce/West Rd extending north and west from the junction with Main St to Garbutt St & Prince St; on two Sundays (7.00am-7.00pm), Phase D: Adelaide Bank between Elm Tce and the junction to Coronation: Mon 29/1-Fri 02/02/18 (9.00am-3.00pm per day). However, on rare occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly. Alternative route: from the northern side of the closure during Phases A & B (Mon-Fri) from B6282 either: (1) via Rosemount Rd and continuing west along Dovestill Hill then south west on A688 and south east on A6072 to the junction with C35 West Auckland Rd/West Rd, or (2) to serve Church Street, Main Street, Auckland Terrace, Adelaide Bank, South Church and St Andrew’s Road. It will operate non stop via Shildon Bypass and Watling Road.

Alternative route: from the southern side of the closure during Phases A & B (Mon-Fri) from B6282 either: (1) via Byerley Rd and continuing west along Dovestill Hill then south west on A688 and south east on A6072 to the junction with C35 West Auckland Rd/West Rd, or (2) to serve Church Street, Main Street, Auckland Terrace, Adelaide Bank, South Church and St Andrew’s Road. It will operate non stop via Shildon Bypass and Watling Road.

Resurfacing works will mean various roads in the town will be closed over a two week period.

Send us your stories

If you have a story you would like us to cover, we would love to hear from you. We are especially interested in good news, be it personal achievements, local fundraising, community service or any other positive stories. Call us on 01388 777896 or email crier@swd.news.
For all the latest news from South West Durham visit: www.swd.news

DESIGNER WEDDING DRESS SALE
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Saturday 27th 10-4pm
Sunday 28th 11-3pm
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OVER 4,000 DRIVERS BREATH-TESTED

POLICE HAVE revealed the results of a drink and drug drive crackdown across Cleveland and Durham.

More than 4,000 drivers were breath-tested throughout December by the Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit (CDSOU) during their annual Christmas drink and drug drive campaign.

In total, 119 drivers were arrested for drink-driving and 60 were arrested for drug driving. This compares to 116 drink-drivers and 57 people who tested positive for drugs during the same campaign last year.

A number of operations to stop check vehicles were carried out, both in the morning and the evening, where drivers were asked to provide a voluntary breath test.

OVER 4,000 DRIVERS BREATH-TESTED

Community bus hopes to recruit drivers

Shildon Community Bus is a Charity which runs two 16 seater buses, one of which is disability enabled, and all of our staff are volunteers.

We are currently looking to recruit drivers. To qualify you need to be over 21 years-old with 3 years driving on a full licence. Your licence must cover sections D1, or on newer licences B1 or B120 (see on back of licence).

We will train you up to the D.V.L.A. M.I.D.A.S standard and also on how to use the disability equipment.

Our groups travel both in the local area and out to many other locations and have a wide cross section of ages.

If you are interested in the first instance please contact our office and leave your name and contact number (between 09:30 to 12:00 Monday to Friday) or call in at the Methodist Church Hall at the top of Main Street at these times. The phone number is 01388 773666. We look forward to hearing from you.

Shildon Community Bus
DO YOU RECOGNISE THIS WOMAN?

POLICE HAVE issued a fresh appeal in the hopes of tracing the woman pictured. Do you recognise her?

She is suspected of being responsible for theft in the Shildon area. If anyone has any information regarding who she is, or her whereabouts, they are urged to contact the Shildon Neighbourhood Police Team on 101 (Crime number CRI00085174 refers), or send a private message to Shildon Police via Facebook.

A spokesperson for the beat team said, “If it’s you, come in and have a chat with us before we come knocking!”

MAKE FABULOUS JEWELLERY AT GREENFIELD ARTS MASTERCLASS

GREENFIELD ARTS are delighted to introduce their new programme of Masterclasses for the coming term. The first creative sessions will give participants the chance to learn wire weaving, an intricate craft which gives stunning results.

The class will be led by talented jeweller maker and artist Kathleen Woodham. Why not make a special piece of jewellery for yourself or for a gift and enjoy learning a new creative skill in this friendly class. The session will be held from 1.30pm – 4pm on Thursday 25th January and costs just £15.

The programme will continue throughout the spring with further specialist classes, which include print making with talented artists Alan and Helen Holcroft, where you can again create your own reduction lino-cut print to take away.

Greenfield Arts are also pleased to welcome back their digital photography class where you can learn more about your DSLR or bridge camera and put it to good use, creating a special A4 print of your favourite image.

The Watercolour Coffee Mornings with Sarah Hill will also re-commence in February with sessions being held on both the morning and afternoon. The first of these relaxed and informal classes will be held on Thursday 8th February. Contact Sarah direct to book your place via sjhill@sky.com.

For all other sessions, and to see the full programme of activities, visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk or call 01325 379048 for further information.
FEW CINEMAS in Britain can have such a close association with a town’s railway heritage as New Shildon’s Essoldo.

Situated a matter of a few yards from the town’s Institute railway sidings, the cinema was to reside from 1915 in the former Mechanic’s Institute building, on the corner of Station Street and Cross Street, two of New Shildon’s earliest streets. A Mechanic’s Institute was founded in New Shildon in 1833, with Timothy Hackworth as its first President, and was to relocate to its first purpose built premises in April 1860; opened by Henry Pease, to include reading rooms and over 2,000 books.

During the Presidency of David (later Sir David) Dale, the Institute was to move again to a much grander new build premises on Redworth Road in 1913; vacating its Station Street premises which were to take on a new life as part the flourishing silent film industry.

By the outbreak of the First World War picture houses were appearing in virtually every town, many housed in existing buildings and destined to become “flea pits”, because of their cramped facilities and small size. Like many small silent movie theatres in industrialised working class areas, the cinema was first known as the “People’s Theatre”.

Its New Shildon audience were initially to experience a diet of silent movies with organ or piano accompaniment, increasingly dominated by films produced in Hollywood. Followed in the 1930s with the introduction of “talkies”, once the cinema was able to afford conversion of its sound system and projection.

Whilst little is recorded in relation to those early days, it is known that the theatre had a small balcony with basic seating in both the balcony and stalls, and at some point would adopt the title of the “Picture House”.

Life would change for the tiny theatre in 1947, when it was taken over by the Newcastle based Essoldo Cinema Group. Essoldo very much wanted an outlet in Shildon and had tried to acquire the Hippodrome, but Thompson Enterprises had refused to sell. The Essoldo chain, which was to become a major UK player, was founded by the Newcastle based Solly Sheckman, with the Essoldo name being uniquely derived from Christian names of Sheckman’s family; his wife Esther (Es), his own name Solly (Sol) and his daughter Dorothy (Do).

Born in North Shields in 1893, and despite building an empire of 196 cinemas nationwide, he was to remain faithful to Tyneside all his life. A major donor to charity, Sheckman was a man who shunned publicity.

Their New Shildon premises were one of the smallest in his empire, seating only around 500, and received only limited upgrading in the 1940s and 1950s in line with the Essoldo brand, including the white rendering of the building, the metal canopy around its sides and the illuminated Essoldo sign on the Station Street frontage.

However where the clientele were most able to benefit from the Essoldo ownership was by gaining access to all the major cinema releases of the day including “blockbusters” like Sink the Bismarck, The Ten Commandments, Cleopatra and South Pacific.

In management terms, for a long period the Essoldo was very much run as a family affair, with Cresswell Watson, who also had a full time job at Shildon Works, as manager, whilst other family members sold tickets or refreshments, or acted as usherettes or projectionists.

It is said Cresswell would often look like a man who had done a hard shift at the wagon works at the start of a performance but would appear immaculate in a dinner suit by the interval.

What made the Essoldo really different was its proximity to the live railway lines, with the sound of shunting or passing steam trains pervading the auditorium whilst films were showing. If the stall doors were left open during shunting manoeuvres it was not unusual to smell that unique combination of steam, oil and smoke from the locomotives.

Neglected in its later years, the Essoldo was to finally close its doors in 1969, with demolition in the late 1970s; nearly 120 years after opening as the first purpose built Railway Institute in the world!
The Shildon AFC Supporters’ Club lottery’s latest draw took place at the Shildon AFC social club on Sunday 7th January.

There was no winner of the £450 jackpot prize with the six numbers drawn from the bag being: 2, 3, 9, 16, 18 and 19. The consolation prize of £25 was won by G Dawson.

This week, players should select six numbers from the remaining 18 to win a jackpot of £500. Tickets can be purchased from the ground on match days, Main Street News, One Stop Shop and various other outlets.

**SHILDON AFC FIXTURES**

- **Saturday 20th January**
  - Away v Ashington

- **Wednesday 24th January**
  - Away v Newcastle Benfield

- **Saturday 27th January**
  - Home v Seaham Red Star

- **Wednesday 31st January**
  - Home v Spennymoor Town

- **Durham Challenge Cup Quarter Final**

- **Saturday 3rd February**
  - Away v Newton Aycliffe

- **Wednesday 7th February**
  - Home v Newcastle Benfield

**GREAT RESULT FOR WHITES**

SHILDON AFC Whites (U12), who play in Division 3 of the Tees Junior Football Alliance (TJFA) were at home to Guisborough Town on Sunday 14th January. The Shildon side won 2-1, with goals from Sam Hopper and Jack Leighton.

Man-of-the-match was awarded to Karn Wood. Guisborough were unbeaten in Division 4 last season and, until they faced the Whites, were also unbeaten so far this season in Division 3, so it was a great result for the Shildon lads.

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**SHILDON AFC SUPPORTERS’ CLUB LOTTERY**

Former Wimbledon AFC player Carlton Fairweather will host the memorial 60s celebration night at Elm Road WMC.

**CARLTON FAIRWEATHER TO HOST CELEBRATION NIGHT**

Former professional footballer at Wimbledon AFC, Carlton Fairweather, is to host a memorial 60s celebration night at Elm Road Club in memory of avid Shildon supporter, John Hay.

The football star is also a prominent member of the Crazy Gang and now works as a community coach for Sunderland AFC.

The event will take place on Saturday 10th February from 7.30pm till late, when there will also be a bumper auction, raffle and tombola. Tickets, costing £6, are available from Elm Road Club or from Sue on 07443 042 862 or Andrew on 07717 204 325.

All proceeds from the event will be donated to Diabetes UK, the Prosthetic Limb Centre at James Cook Hospital and Shildon AFC - organisations which played a big part in John’s life.

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