A COMMEMORATIVE exhibition, shining a light on the thousands of forgotten men called up to the coal face during World War II, has opened in Bishop Auckland.

The Bevin Boys – War’s Forgotten Workforce, launched at the Mining Art Gallery, on Wednesday, 28th March.

It celebrates the efforts of the 48,000 men conscripted to the mines during World War II, whose vital service went unacknowledged for decades. Angela Thomas, Curator of the Mining Art Gallery, The Auckland Project, said: “These men worked through gruelling conditions to fuel the fight and keep the country going during World War II. “It’s important that we commemorate their wartime service, and shed light on the artworks they created in response to those experiences.”

The temporary exhibition at Mining Art Gallery will feature artworks from former Bevin Boys, David McClure, John Tipton, Tom McGuinness and Ted McClure. Head of a Miner.

MRI FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

THE APPEAL to bring new state of the art MRI scanners to Darlington Memorial and Bishop Auckland Hospitals continues apace with two recent donations by Bishop Auckland Civic Society and Barnard Castle Rotary, totalling over £2,300.

Dr Robert McManners, who was a GP in Bishop Auckland for 36 years before retirement, said: “Bishop Auckland Civic Society holds a town quiz each year and the proceeds are donated to a local charity.

“We agreed that our most recent quiz should support the MRI scanner appeal.

“The quiz is a very popular event with almost 200 people taking part.

“We also donated a legacy left by Mr Fredrick Hutchinson of Howden le Wear, bringing the total to £1,236”.

Members of Barnard Castle Rotary raised £1,098.22 by organising a French gypsy jazz evening with French food and wines served to the 85 guests attending.

The President of Barnard Castle Rotary, Ross Law, said: “Rotary are always keen to support worthy causes such as this and I sincerely hope that the Appeal goes from strength to strength.”

Charity manager at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, Pat Chambers, said, “We’re so grateful for these and other generous donations. Individuals, organisations and businesses are all stepping up to support our campaign.

“Modern MRI scanners can play an important part in helping consultants diagnose and determine treatment plans for what can be life threatening or life limiting conditions, including many types of cancer and heart disease.

“Thanks to the generosity of manufacturer, Philips, patients at Bishop Auckland Hospital are already benefiting from the new scanner, whilst fundraising continues during 2018.

“The scanner at Darlington Memorial Hospital will be installed later in the spring, once building work to accommodate it has been completed.

“\n
“We really need people to keep donating and fundraising throughout this year and welcome speaking to anyone who can help, we can be contacted on 01325 743781.”

FAMILY FUN DAY IN AID OF BUTTERWICK HOSPICE

A SMALL group of Events Management students from Leeds Beckett University are working hard to plan a Farm Family Fun Day on 15th April.

One of their modules consists of planning an event to raise money for a charity and one of the girls from the group, Helen Shaw, who is from Bishop Auckland, suggested that the event could be held at Witton Castle with the proceeds from the day going to Butterwick Hospice.

With the venue and date now confirmed, the students have arranged a petting zoo, alpacas, a mini family fair, stalls and many more suprises.

Tickets are £3 per adult and £1.50 per child, or £7 for a family ticket for two adults and two children.
KING JAMES IN MILE LONG MEXICAN WAVE FOR SPORT RELIEF

HUNDREDS OF secondary school students at King James I Academy in Bishop Auckland have taken part in a giant Mexican wave to help raise money for Sport Relief 2018.

The spectacular event was organised by Year 9 pupils who are all members of the Academy Council. Armed with balloons, red ribbons and official Sport Relief wristbands, which were sold to raise funds in the build up to the event, students and staff joined forces to create a human chain around the central courtyard at the end of the school day.

They then performed a mile-long Mexican wave by completing six successful circuits around the yard.

The students performed a mile-long Mexican wave by completing six successful circuits around the yard.

JUBILEE ORGAN RECITAL AT METHODIST CHURCH

AS PART of its Silver Jubilee Celebrations, celebrating 25 years of Worshipping, Witnessing and Serving, Bishop Auckland Methodist Church is hosting an Organ Recital by Andrew Christer, in memory of Jack and Gwen Hart.

Jack was the church organist for a great many years while his wife, Gwen, was a local preacher on the Bishop Auckland Methodist circuit. The recital will take place on Thursday 12th April at 7pm. Admission is free.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of Michael James Music Trust Supporting Organ Scholarships.

JACK HOLLOWAY FOR SCRAP METAL FINES

Ted Holloway, Bevin Boys.
Photograph: Colin Davison. Copyright, Gemini Collection, Zurbarán Trust, courtesy of The Auckland Project.

FROM PAGE 1

Holloway, as well as original artefacts such as a wage slip of a Bevin Boy, John Tipton, was sent from Oxfordshire to Dean and Chapter Colliery in Ferryhill, County Durham as a Bevin Boy in 1944, at the age of 18.

During his time in the mines, Tipton enrolled at Darlington School of Art and submitted some of his characterful sketches capturing life underground to national publications.

He went on to work as a graphic artist for The Observer newspaper.

John’s niece, Claire Daykin said: “When he left the mines he took it all with him, his life was shaped by it.”

The exhibition runs until 30th September.

FROM PAGE 1

stating he only took cars to be scrapped occasionally.

The court heard how Walton, 66, of Cotswold Close, was also at the yard bringing in scrap metal and also produced a waste carrier’s licence but did not hold the collector’s licence.

Walton was similarly cautioned and interviewed, telling officials he was retired but had been offered work collecting scrap which he had accepted.

He said he had not known he needed a scrap metal licence but that he had now obtained one and records all of his dealings and receipts.

Both were charged with carrying on business as a scrap metal dealer without the appropriate licence.

Walton was made to pay £265, a £55 fine, £183 costs and the £30 victim surcharge. Whitfield, who did not attend court, was ordered to pay £483; a fine of £220, costs of £268; a £55 fine, £183 surcharge of £30.
CANCER CHARITY FUNDRAISER MAKES DONATIONS

IAN LARNACH Cancer Care Charities have been active again with support to two worthy groups in the region.

“We are delighted once again to support the Solan Connor Fawcett Cancer Care Trust based in Spennymoor,” said Ian Larnach.

Headed by Mark Solan, the trust is doing fantastic work, supporting many local people and families dealing with cancer on a daily basis.

“The £500 donation will be used to support Mark’s day to day activities and running costs for his shop, counselling and support centre in Spennymoor,” added Ian.

“Mark is a true local hero and we are more than happy to continue supporting the Solan Connor Fawcett Trust whenever we can.

“We are also delighted to continue our support for the Mara Unit at Bishop Auckland General Hospital with a donation of £500.

“From personal experience, I am aware of the fantastic work the staff and specialists provide for patients within the Bishop Auckland catchment area”.

The money provided will help to support the cost of counselling, massage and acupuncture treatment within the Mara Unit.

Always looking to the next fundraising event, the ILCC team are now in the process of pulling together their annual Celebrity Golf Day to be held at Bishop Auckland Golf Club on 6th July.

The entry fee is £120 for a team of three – each matched with a local sporting celebrity.

The golf day is organised jointly with Bishop Auckland Golf Club and all proceeds will be split between ILCC’s nominated charity, St Cuthbert’s Hospice Durham, and the Club Captain’s charity, the Alzheimer’s Society.

Anyone interested in more information on the Golf Day should contact Ian Larnach at ian@ianlarnach.co.uk or call Ian on 07931 359333.

APPLAUSE FOR THEATRE SCHOOL STUDENTS AFTER SINGING EXAMS

STUDENTS FROM Applause Theatre School in Bishop Auckland were delighted with their success in their first LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) singing exams.

The children attend private singing with their tutor, Kate Ruddick who is the principal of Applause Theatre School.

Ms Ruddick said: “This was the first time that they had taken a LAMDA singing exam.

“All the children gained Merits and a Distinction so they were thrilled with the news.

“All the children took their exams on 3rd March in Newcastle with a London Examiner.

“LAMDA has been recognised as an awarding organisation by Ofqual, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulations in England.

“For anyone from 5 to 16 years old who is interested in going along, Applause Theatre School is open on Fridays at St John’s School from 5pm until 8pm.

For private singing tuition or a free trial at Applause Theatre School call Kate on 01388 664066 or 07912 891934.

“Applause is currently in rehearsals for its next production, Strictly Musicals, which is scheduled for performance in mid-

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EASTER CRAFTS AT LOCAL LIBRARIES

WOODHOUSE CLOSE library will be hosting a Spring Crafts event on Monday 9th April from 2.30pm as part of a series of fun activities taking place throughout the Easter holidays in libraries across the county, for a small charge of just £1 per child.

Anne Davison, service manager for growing and learning, said: “Our libraries have a packed schedule of events over the Easter holidays, with something for everyone. “We really want to encourage families to come along and get creative, making some fun Easter crafts to take home.”

Go to www.durham.gov.uk/easterlibraries for more information.

Woodhouse Close is among the county’s libraries hosting Easter craft events during the holidays.
LEARNING THE TRUE MEANING OF EASTER

YEAR 5 children at Cockton Hill Junior School have been learning the true meaning of Easter. Twenty-five children re-enacted The Last Supper as they prepared for the Easter break.

RE teacher, Mrs Andrea Farlow said: “The children completely embraced their roles, which gave a real sense of respect to the lesson.”

ST GEORGE’S DAY SHOW

JENNA HIGHFIELD’S 50s & 60s Show will provide the entertainment in an Afternoon for Over 60s at West Auckland Memorial Hall on Monday 23rd April, from 1pm until 3.30pm.

The St George’s Day show will include Bingo and refreshments.

ORGAN RECITAL MARKS JUBILEE

BISHOP AUCKLAND Methodist Church is marking Silver Jubilee Celebrations - 25 years of Worshipping, Witnessing and Serving - with an Organ Recital by Andrew Christer, in memory of Jack and Gwen Hart.

Witnessing and Serving - 25 years of Worshipping, BISHOP AUCKLAND ORGAN RECITAL MARKS JUBILEE and refreshments. The show will include Bingo from 1pm until 3.30pm.

BISHOP AUCKLAND and Coulond in Bloom Group have been working with Professor Stephen Martin who has been actively researching the heritage and history behind a painting by John Wilson Carmichael that was commissioned in 1860.

The painting depicts the prestigious Bishop Auckland Horticultural and Music Festival that took place in Auckland Park and is known to have attracted over 30,000 people at its peak, many of which used the accessible Railway links to attend the festival.

It earned an enviable reputation and was widely acclaimed as the best Gala day of the North and was seen by some as the forerunner to the Chelsea Flower Show.

The show was originally founded by the Bishop of Durham, Edward Maltby, after visiting a miners’ horticultural show and steadily increased in popularity each year between 1850s and 1880. Unfortunately, after two years of bad weather the annual Flower Festival was cancelled.

Professor Stephen Martin also researched the history of music in the area and uncovered music specifically dedicated to Bishop Auckland Flower Show that was written by W B Laybourn in 1857, as well as pieces by Sheldon composers Thomas Bulch and George Allan.

Due to these significant initial findings a meeting was organised at the Town Hall and local historians, authors, civic society and members of the Bloom Group were invited along to a presentation.

Durham County Councilor and Chair of the Bloom Group Joy Allen said, “This is an excellent foundation on which to build, and presents many opportunities to celebrate our historic past and recognise those who made a significant contribution to arts and culture.

“Following the presentation those attending agreed it would be worthwhile to form a group to explore ways to celebrate and commemorate these significant historical achievements.”

If anyone has any information about the historical Flower Show, local composers or would be interested in joining this new group, contact Councilor Joy Allen at joy.allen@durham.gov.uk or call 03000 268672.

GROUP EXPLORES HISTORY OF BISHOP’S VERY OWN ‘CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW’

POLICE WERE called to reports of a two vehicle collision at Collingwood Street, Coulond just outside The Crusty Loaf at around 3.40pm on Monday 2nd April.

The driver of a silver Vauxhall Astra collided with a stationary silver Renault Traffic.

The driver of the Astra, a 44-year old man, was arrested at the scene for having no insurance, carelessly driving and being in possession of a blade. He was taken to Darlington Memorial Hospital to be medically examined before being transported to custody.

DRIVER ARRESTED AFTER CRASH

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A GROUNDBREAKING system which has seen solved rates for shoplifting soar during an 18-month pilot programme is being extended across County Durham, including Bishop Auckland.

Supermarket giant Morrisons has signed up to use the SentrySIS digital justice system in all of its stores across the county, following the success of a trial in Darlington where solved rates for shoplifting rose by 21 per cent.

The agreement between Durham Constabulary and Morrisons is the first step in extending the system to other retailers across the county.

SentrySIS allows businesses to report shoplifting offences to the police electronically, saving police and retail staff an enormous amount of time.

Retailers can upload CCTV footage and digital witness statements direct to the police, without an officer having to travel to the store to conduct an initial investigation and retrieve the footage, which takes an average of two-and-a-half hours for each offence.

This frees up retail staff to prevent and deter further offending and frees up officers to apprehend the offender and ultimately prosecute or divert them away from further offending.

Since the trial was launched with Darlington’s 80 Shopwatch stores, SentrySIS is estimated to have saved the force 822 hours.

Sgt Adam Norris, Durham Constabulary’s operational lead for the project, said: “Even we have been surprised at just how successful it has been.

“Once upon a time we would hand over mugshots to Shopwatch volunteers and ask them to have a look out for them.

“Now this system allows us to update retailers with images of suspects in real time.

“It is much better. It gives the police an extra set of eyes and ears by allowing us to share intelligence with the retailers on who is wanted and who is active.”

After a successful trial at its Darlington store, Morrisons has now agreed to expand the programme to its supermarkets in Consett, Chester-le-Street, Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle, saving an estimated 500 hours of officer time each year.

Police hope that other retailers across County Durham will also join the expanded scheme in the coming months.

Detective superintendent Kevin Weir, force lead for the project, added: “We are working with a number of national retailers to get this system in place and expand across County Durham”.

System proves successful shoplifting deterrent

This season’s National Cadet League saw all three Bishop Auckland Table Tennis Teams come away with honours.

The A Team of Adam Hanby, Jake Haygarth, Luke Mitchell and Hayden Gilmour won the Division One title, one step further than last year where the team finished runners up.

The A team went through the entire season unbeaten and saw the title wrapped up with four matches still to be played.

“Jake Haygarth in his first year in the league matched the team’s efforts going unbeaten all year winning 30 matches out of 30.

The B team of Matthew Pearson, Alex Robinson, Sean Stobart, Ben Mold and Jack Lomax who were a little unlucky to end up in the second division, with the full team only able to play one full day together due to date clashes, soon made up for it going unbeaten on the final days of matches to finish champions of Division Two.

The C team of Jack Anderson, Joe White and Ben Ward were all playing in their first year in the league and put in a superb team effort to exceed all expectations to finish runners up to the B team in Division Two.

Bishop Auckland Table Tennis club runs sessions every night of the week for all ages and abilities and new players are always welcome, if you fancy learning or getting back into the sport check out the club’s webpage www.bishopaucklandttc.co.uk or call Matt on 07411 018856.
For all the latest sport from South West Durham visit: www.swd.news • Updated daily Saturday 7th April 2018

SWIMMERS SMASH PERSONAL BESTS IN OLYMPIC-SIZED POOL

SOME FANTASTIC results were achieved by the young swimmers at Wear Valley Amateur Swimming Club recently.

Ten swimmers competed at the National Qualifier held at Sunderland Aquatic Centre on the weekend of 23rd to 25th March.

The standard of swimming was extremely high with our ten swimmers competing against other clubs from Manchester, Ellesmere College and clubs from Manchester, together with more local clubs including Newcastle.

The gala was held in an Olympic-sized 50m swimming pool and it was Lucy Randall’s first-time swimming events in a 50m pool.

Lucy achieved three personal bests (pbs) in her 50m free, 50m fly and 100m free, taking three seconds off her 100m free with a new time of 1:14.82.

It was also James Holiday’s first competitive swim in a 50m pool and James swam a pb in his only event, the 50m breaststroke. He was delighted with his time of 45.65 seconds.

Jessica Maughan also achieved three pbs in her 50m fly, 50m back and 200m breaststroke.

For this latter event, Jes- tina took two seconds off her previous pb, retaining a time of 3.11.29.

Thomas Power was very pleased with his third new pb obtained in the 50m back, 50m breaststroke and 50m free.

Thomas took two seconds off his 50m free with a new time of 31.62.

Joseph Dobson also swam three pbs in his 100m free, 50m and 200m breaststroke.

Joseph came 6th in his age group for the 50m breaststroke with a new time of 36.20 seconds.

Katie Kerins swam two new pbs in the 50m free and 50m back.

Emily Whitton was very pleased with her new pb in the 50m free.

Nic Cooper also swam two new pbs in the 50m and 100m freestyle.

Madison Peveeller came first in the 200m back and second in the 100m back.

Annabel Cooper obtained a pb in the 50m fly and came third in the 400m Individual Medley.

It proved a fantastic set of results and a great experience of big competition for the young swimmers.

St Mary’s U7 Kings played their recent match in odd socks in support of Down’s Syndrome.

ST MARY’S ROUND UP

ST MARY’S U7s promoted World Down’s Syndrome Day by wearing odd socks for their match and celebrated further after a terrific win over Hartlepool.

Goals came from Joseph Jones, Harley Pearson, Harry Martin, Finley Pinkney, Joe Weighill and Layton Wylie.

The U8 Aces has a good game against Wynnard with goals from Alex Simpson and Aiden Wilkes.

The U10 Kings played away at Darlington with goals from Sebastian Bowerman and McKenzie Kirtley.

The U12 Kings had a great 1-0 win away at Marske with Adam Laverick scoring and Thomas Stones starring.

The U13 Kings lost out 5-4 in a terrific game away at Barnard Castle with goals from Luke Pinkney, Lennon Seymour and Harrison Taylor.

Joel Manuel scored for the U15s who lost out to Polton.

The U16 Kings remain unbeaten in the league with a great 4-1 win away at Cargo Fleet with goals from Ben Shaw, Charlie Malcolm, Harry Doyle and Liam Potter.

The U18s drew a 1-1 away at title contenders Newton Aycliffe. Both teams remain unbeaten. St Mary’s goals came from Bailey Prudhoe and Cameron Copeland. The U23s had a great 5-1 win away at Washington with goals from Charlie Wigney, Regan Blakey, Jordan Lee and Kai Waters.

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