

Welcome to the AAP e-bulletin



GREAT AYCLIFFE & MIDDRIDGE PARTNERSHIP (GAMP) E-BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome to the latest GAMP e-bulletin, we hope you find the information useful. **Please feel free to circulate to any relevant contacts as appropriate.** If you know of anyone who would like to join our Forum database, please don't hesitate to put them in touch with the GAMP team using the contact details at the bottom of this message.

OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING

For information, our next **Partnership Board Meeting** is arranged as follows:

Tuesday 24 September 2019, 6:00pm at Middridge Village Hall

As part of each Board meeting, there is space on the agenda for members of the public to put forward any local neighbourhood issues, including policing issues you would like to bring to the Board. This could be a local issue that you want to make the Board aware of (and possibly coordinate action to rectify the problem). We can't always guarantee that the Board will be able to respond immediately, but if there is an issue you think is important in your local area, please contact the GAMP team to discuss this.

If you'd like to attend the meeting, please register with the team in advance (contact details below).

You can also view copies of previous Board meeting minutes and up to date GAMP-related reports etc via our web page: www.durham.gov.uk/gampaap

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE BOARD VACANCIES

We have two vacancies on the Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership Board for **public representatives**.

This is an exciting opportunity for local residents with a keen interest in the local community to join a dynamic and proactive Board, who have successfully delivered a number of projects throughout the Great Aycliffe & Middridge area since our formation in 2009.

The role isn't onerous; in terms of time commitments, there's a need to attend a Board meeting every two months, and preferably to have input to at least one of our Task & Finish Groups if you can, but really it's about sharing your valuable local knowledge and being passionate about your community – helping to make a difference in our area.

If you're interested in applying, please contact the office for an application pack:

Email us: gampaap@durham.gov.uk or telephone: 01325 327441

The closing date for applications is 5.00pm on Friday 20 September 2019.

Informal interviews will be held around mid-October.

This is a great opportunity to become directly involved in what's going on in your local area – we look forward to hearing from you!

FUNDING AWARDED TO LOCAL GAMP GROUPS



Thirteen community organisations are celebrating a funding boost, thanks to GAMP. We recently asked local community-focused organisations to submit proposals as part of a 'Callout' for projects. All project proposals had to address at least one of the key GAMP priorities for 2019-20;

- Children, Young People and Families
- Older People
- Community Safety

We had a budget of £100,000 to spend on the key priorities as previously voted by those living, working, volunteering or studying in the area.

The callout for projects proved hugely popular, and was oversubscribed by more than £160,000. All the applications were fully considered and ranked by representatives of the GAMP Board, with the following organisations set to receive funding (*note: all project approvals are subject to technical appraisal before funding is formally released*):

- UTC South Durham
- Prison Me! No Way!
- Sedgefield Water Polo Club
- Newton Aycliffe Youth FC
- Early Years Alliance
- Woodham Gymnastics Club
- Woodham Academy
- Acle Scout Group
- Newton Aycliffe Working Mens Club
- Supportive
- Newton Aycliffe Sports Club
- Cornforth Partnership
- Junction 7

So, look out for some exciting projects coming to the GAMP area soon, and thanks again to everyone involved – it was great to see such huge interest from a wide range of fantastic local groups and organisations looking to deliver projects and activities to benefit the GAMP community!

EXPLORE FOR FREE WITH COUNTY DURHAM HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

People can enjoy free access to more than 80 venues across County Durham this month, as part of England's largest festival of history and culture



Heritage Open Days celebrates its 25th anniversary this year and, to mark the occasion, the event has been extended from its usual long weekend to ten consecutive days between **Friday 13 to Sunday 22 September**. The annual celebration of the country's fantastic architecture, parks, gardens and culture, offers free access to properties that may usually be closed to the public or may normally charge an admission fee.

From stone masonry demonstrations to cheesemaking tours, County Durham's Heritage Open Days programme is cram packed with a wide range of tours, events and activities designed to bring local history and culture to life. A range of free guided tours are on offer, and other events will give access to painting and art collections, and hidden architectural treasures.

All activities are free, but booking is required for some tours and activities.

For full event details, including booking details, pick up a brochure from a council Customer Access Point or library, or visit:

www.durham.gov.uk/heritageopendays

WELLBEING FOR LIFE – SUPPORTING SUICIDE PREVENTION ACROSS COUNTY DURHAM



The County Durham Wellbeing for Life service is working in local communities to support the prevention of suicide and raise awareness of the importance of talking to someone.

The Wellbeing for Life Service will start their campaign on Tuesday 10 September, which is World Suicide Prevention Day.

In 2017 5,821 suicides were registered in the UK alone and men are three times as likely to take their own lives as women.

There is no simple explanation for why someone chooses to die by suicide and it is rarely due to a particular factor. There are a huge amount of complex issues which can contribute to thoughts of suicide,

including money worries, family relationships and employment. Wellbeing for Life are encouraging people to seek help and talk to someone.

Marnie Ramsey, Wellbeing Capacity Building and Volunteer Lead said 'If you feel that things are getting to you, please talk to someone. It could be your neighbour, a family member, a friend or work colleague or you can phone the Samaritans, free on 116 123. The Samaritans are available round the clock, every single day of the year; whoever you are and however you feel. It's OK, not to be OK.'

Wellbeing for Life will be running their Suicide Prevention campaign until Thursday 10 October which is World Mental Health Awareness Day. For further information about this campaign, please contact Marnie Ramsey on 0800 8766887.

You can also visit the website for more information: <https://www.wellbeingforlife.net/>

ADULT LEARNING & SKILLS

Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service's new Learning Guide is now available – courses available across County Durham. Find more information at www.durham.gov.uk/adultlearning or call today on 03000 266115.

OPTIONS SUMMER FUN DAY SUCCESS



In August, PCP Options members held their eagerly awaited annual Summer Fair with tons of fun activities, for people of all ages to take part in. The turnout for the event exceeded expectations, with over 400 visitors enjoying the day. Everyone had a huge amount of fun, including the members themselves, who enjoyed coming up with ideas, planning the day and raise awareness of their project.

Options is a member-led day service, supporting individuals with learning and physical disabilities. It aims to develop essential skills and knowledge whilst promoting independent living and friendship.

Amongst stalls, face painters and tombola's the Options members also completed a "step challenge", climbing enough steps to get to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro! All these activities and the community's generosity raised £536 towards the project, which will be used to fund activities provided by the service, including trips, resources and equipment.



Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive said, "Each year the Options event grows and attracts local people to come and find out more about what we do. The day is expertly planned by the Options members,

supported by an amazing team of staff and volunteers. I am sure they are very proud of their achievements, I certainly am. It's great to see the members engaging the local community, building confidence and new skills whilst meeting new people. My thanks go to them for their hard work and dedication."

For further information about PCP please contact us at the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF Tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net or follow PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: @PCPandCentre

DINOSAUR SAFARI LAUNCHES AT COUNTY DURHAM PARK



Visitors to Hardwick Park in Sedgefield can enjoy new and exciting adventures with the launch of an interactive mobile app.

The free **Love Exploring** mobile app features digital treasure hunts, suitable for all ages. In one of the most popular, families use augmented reality to 'catch' dinosaurs with their camera phone. Once they've found them, there's even an opportunity to take selfies with their new virtual friends!

There's also an interactive map, and quiz trails which bring the park to life, teaching people about its history, ecology, buildings and sculptures. The app also offers run, walk and cycle routes and an easy way to view the wide range of events and activities which take place in the park, from arts and crafts to den building and story sessions.

More digital treasure hunts are set to be developed on the app over the coming months, linked to other popular family themes. The app is available to download for iPhones running iOS 9.3 upwards from the App store, and for smartphones running Android 4.4 upwards from the Google play store.

For more information, please visit: www.durham.gov.uk/hardwickpark

MACMILLAN JOINING THE DOTS COUNTY DURHAM



In July, Claire Welsh, Macmillan Joining the Dots Facilitator for the Derwent Valley AAP area, was supporting David Costello and his long-term partner Janet in the community. David asked Claire whether she could help him look into arranging a wedding ceremony, so he could marry Janet. Due to David's illness this would need to take place at home.



Claire made this happen in a short space of time. She involved Wellbeing for Life and Honey Rose Foundation, who provided support with funding grants so that David and Janet's day could be extra special. Claire also had fantastic support from the community who all pulled together to give them a day to remember.

Sadly David passed away, however not before he could say his vows to Janet and they became husband and wife. After the ceremony Janet told Claire that "It wouldn't have happened without you."

Macmillan Joining the Dots County Durham is a free service for people aged 18 and over who have been diagnosed with cancer. They also support friends, carers and relatives of any age. The friendly team can support you with many issues and even if you think you don't need help and support right now, will listen to you and make sure that you have the right information and support when you need it.

Macmillan Joining the Dots County Durham is a partnership between Durham County Council and Macmillan, and delivered by Wellbeing for Life.

For further information about Macmillan Joining the Dots please contact us on e-mail:

cddft.joiningthedots@nhs.net website: www.joiningthedots.info Tel: 08008766887

Or follow Macmillan Joining the Dots on Facebook: www.facebook.com/JTDDurham

BE PART OF THIS YEAR'S SPECTACULAR LUMIERE AS A FESTIVAL MAKER



Festival fanatics are being reminded to take the opportunity to be part of the UK's largest light festival.

Lumiere returns from Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 November with its 10th anniversary spectacular. Featuring highlights from past editions of the festival, alongside new, unique installations, Lumiere 2019 is set to turn Durham into a shining city of innovation and imagination.

Durham County Council and Lumiere producers Artichoke, want everyone to be part of the magic by offering people the chance to become volunteer Festival Makers.

Cllr Joy Allen, Cabinet member for transformation, culture and tourism, said: "Festival Makers are integral to the running of Lumiere. They are the face of the festival. They help with welcoming the thousands of visitors to the city and directing them to the many installations.

"For those who volunteer as Festival Makers, Lumiere provides an incredible opportunity to be part of a professional production and to gain valuable experience."

Anyone interested in this exciting opportunity can find out more, watch our Festival Makers from 2017 talk about their experience, or sign up at www.durham.gov.uk/festivalmaker

Festival Makers should be over 18 years old, have a friendly personality and a passion for Lumiere. People with different skills and life experiences are welcome. First time volunteers are encouraged to apply, as well as those who have helped at previous festivals. The Lumiere 2019 Festival Makers are sponsored by Motorpoint.

Find out more about Lumiere 2019 at www.lumiere-festival.com

GAMP ON FACEBOOK



Don't forget GAMP have their own Facebook page – please share this link with relevant partners & contacts, and take a look at our page – all 'likes' and shares are welcomed! Search for 'Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership - GAMP'.

<https://www.facebook.com/Great-Aycliffe-and-Middridge-Partnership-GAMP-747247642024928/timeline/>

If there's any local event information you'd like us to help promote on our page, please don't hesitate to get in touch (details below).

UPDATED PRIVACY INFORMATION

Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership would like to continue to send you information about the work of the partnership, the work of partner organisations and information on local events etc, however if you decide you do not wish to receive this information then please contact us on 01325 327441 or email us at gampaap@durham.gov.uk

In order to access further information about how we use your personal data, please see <https://www.durham.gov.uk/dataprivacy>

Your area, your action, your partnership.

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