



**IMPORTANT
CHANGES ABOUT
THE WAY YOU CAN
PAY YOUR RENT
SEE PAGE 4 FOR
MORE DETAILS.**

**BCT FAMILY FUN DAY
SEE PAGE 6**

**RESIDENTS GIVEN
WARM WELCOME AT
CHIRTON HOUSE
SEE PAGE 4**

USEFUL NUMBERS

Byker Community Trust Office	Freephone 0800 5335 442
Byker Community Housing Office (for all tenancy related issues)	0191 278 1555
Advice and Support	0191 278 1537
Citizens Advice Welfare Benefits	0191 290 3910
Community Care Alarm Service	0191 278 8699
Concierge Service (Byker Wall residents)	0191 224 4395
Envirocall	0191 278 7878
HASBET (Housing, Anti-Social Behaviour Enforcement Team)	0191 278 8740
Housing Advice	0191 277 1711
Housing Benefit / Council Tax (Switchboard)	0191 278 7878
Housing Options	0191 277 2020
Newcastle Furniture Service	0191 278 1888
Newcastle Futures	0191 230 2970
Northumbria Police non-emergency	101
Repairs Centre	0191 277 7878
YHN Customer Involvement	0191 278 8600
YHN Leasehold	0191 278 7725
Young People's Service	0191 277 1190

NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN SERVICE SHIFT TIMES: 1.30PM – 10PM

Warden Hotline	0191 277 3970
Matthew Chadwick (Warden)	07717 427 450
Elleena Faulder (Warden)	07867 966 307
Julie Gledson (Warden)	07976 149 000

LOCAL CONTACTS

YMCA Neighbourhood Youth Project	0191 276 6052
ACANE Community Centre	0191 265 8110
Byker Community Centre	0191 265 5777
Sure Start Family Sands Centre	0191 275 9636
Byker Primary School	0191 265 6906
St Lawrence's Primary School	0191 265 9881
East End Library and Pool	0191 277 4100

If you have a question about your tenancy (such as rent, housing applications or neighbour complaints) please contact:

**BYKER COMMUNITY HOUSING
OFFICE - 0191 278 1555**

LANGUAGES

This information is about Byker Community Trust, which owns the Byker Wall Estate in Newcastle upon Tyne. If you would like this information in your own language, we will arrange for an interpreter to help you on 0191 278 8600.

آرېبىر عىلا
Arabic

“نېيات نونك اذى. نېيات نونبأ لس الكوين يف لوو ركياب راقع كفلمت يتلا، تسسرت ركياب ةعوم مجب تامول عمل ا هذه قل عتت”
8600 278 0191 مقرر فتاه ىلع كتدعاس عمل مچرتم تامدخ بيترترب هوقن فوسف كتغلب تامول عمل ا هذه ىلع لوصحلا

České
Czech

Tato informace je o nadaci Byker Community Trust, která vlastní Byker Wall Estate v Newcastle upon Tyne. Pokud si tuto informaci přejete ve vašem vlastním jazyce, zajistíme tlumočníka, který vám pomůže na čísle 0191 278 8600.“

Français
French

Ces informations concernent le fonds Byker Community Trust auquel appartient la propriété Byker Wall Estate à Newcastle upon Tyne. Si vous souhaitez recevoir ces informations dans votre langue, nous demanderons à un interprète de vous aider en appelant le 0191 278 8600.

Polonais
Polish

Ta informacja dotyczy funduszu Byker Community Trust będącego właścicielem nieruchomości Byker Wall Estate w Newcastle upon Tyne. Aby otrzymać tę informację w swoim języku, prosimy zadzwonić pod nr 0191 278 8600, a zaaranżujemy tłumacza w celu udzielenia pomocy.

Português
Portuguese

Esta informação é sobre a Byker Community Trust que é proprietária do Byker Wall Estate, em Newcastle upon Tyne. Se desejar esta informação na sua língua, trataremos de organizar um(a) intérprete para o/a ajudar através do 0191 278 8600.

русский
Russian

Здесь представлена информация о Byker Community Trust, которому принадлежит жилой комплекс Byker Wall в Ньюкасл-апон-Тайн. Если Вы хотели бы получить эту информацию на своем языке, мы подберем переводчика, который будет для Вас переводить, по номеру 0191 278 8600.

FRONT COVER PHOTO: Having fun at our Byker Family Fun Day with Newcastle Thunder.

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WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN EDITION OF THE BYKER COMMUNITY TRUST NEWSLETTER

As the dark nights draw in, I hope you enjoyed your summer holidays and the little ones kept busy during the summer.

The last few months have been very busy for the Byker Community Trust as you will read in this issue. It was lovely to see you all at this year's BCT Family Fun Day in July, which was a huge success. It was great to see the whole community coming together, everyone enjoying themselves, smiling and having fun. We received very positive feedback from the event so thank you.

I never get tired of reading about all the community projects we have been working on to help make Byker an even better place to live and it is encouraging to see more residents coming forward to help us improve our services.

We have been working with our staff and partners to deliver even more exciting projects and initiatives. Now that the Byker Wall regeneration is coming to an end, you will see just how fantastic those improvements look. I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Byker News.

Jill Haley
Chief Executive



PAY YOUR RENT BY DIRECT DEBIT

Did you know that from November 2015, you won't be able to pay your rent at the Customer Service Centre on Shields Road?

There are other ways to pay your rent but our preferred method of payment is via Direct Debit.

Direct Debit



BCT recommend Direct Debit as the best way for you to pay. It saves you time, is safe and reliable, gives you peace of mind and is convenient. You can also pay weekly or monthly via direct debit.

Please contact us on 0800 5335 442 or drop into our office at 23 Raby Cross or the Housing Office on Brinkburn Street and we will help you move to direct debit.

Swipe card

Use your rent payment card to pay at any Post Office or PayPoint Outlet. There's one at the Raby Cross Convenience Store and the Brinkburn Store.



Telephone

Use your debit or credit card to make a payment by calling 0191 278 7878.

QR Code

Scan this code using your smartphone or tablet and you will be directed to the online payments screen.



Online Banking

If you use online banking you can pay your rent into this account:

Sort code: 30-93-71

Account number: 63352060

If you need help with ways to pay your rent, please contact Phil Ambrose 0800 5335 442 or drop into our office at 23 Raby Cross or the Housing Office on Brinkburn Street where staff will be pleased to assist you.

RESIDENTS GIVEN WARM WELCOME AT CHIRTON HOUSE

As reported in the last issue of Byker News (Summer 2015), Chirton House was officially opened by Lord John Prescott in May.



After receiving a £1.2 million refurbishment, Chirton House is a stunning apartment complex, with 16 one and two bedroom high quality apartments, including two on the ground floor that have been specifically adapted for wheelchair accessibility.

During the summer, a 'Meet the Neighbours' event was held as a way for all new residents to get together. Chirton House does not have any communal space so the aim of the event was to give residents the opportunity to meet each other and develop links as a community. The residents were treated to afternoon tea and scones in the garden and other residents from nearby were also invited.

Children from St. Lawrence's School, which is located next to the building, were invited to plant up shrubs in the large brick built planter which became empty after a tree had been removed. The shrubs have helped to brighten up the area and the school children were invited to join residents for refreshments in the garden.

Helen Robinson, Investment Delivery Manager (Byker) from Your Homes Newcastle, said: "The Meet the Neighbours event went really well and gave residents an opportunity to meet each other.

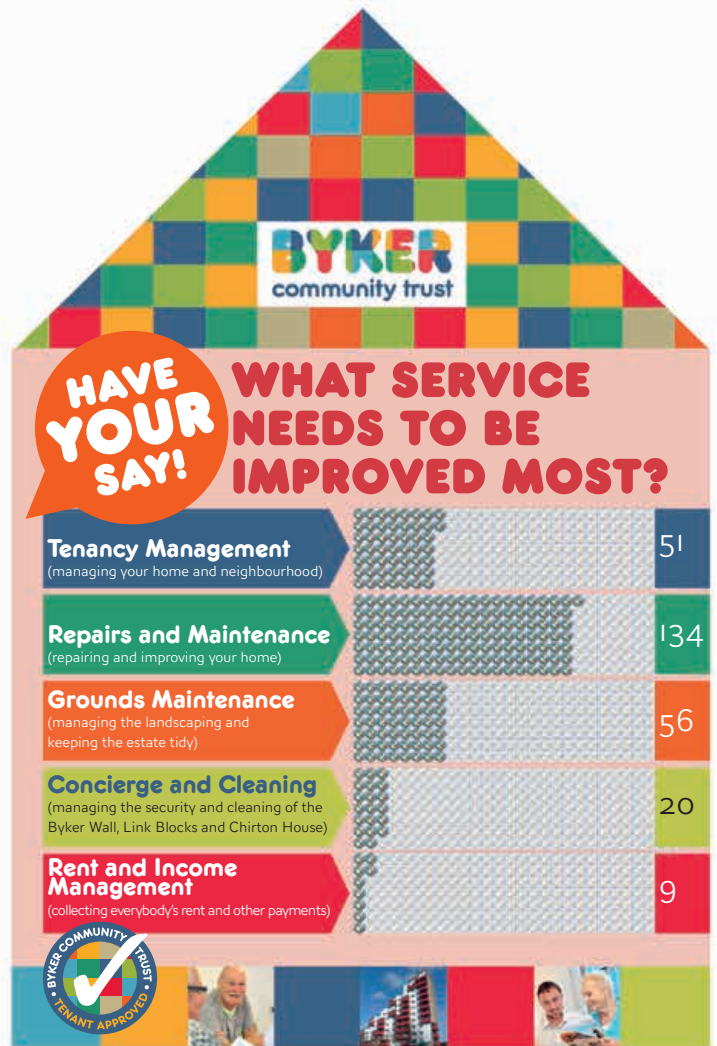
"We have also developed welcome packs for all new residents. The pack contains useful information about what's on in the area (e.g. at the community centre, swimming pool) and bus timetables. The local information was pulled together by one of our YHN trainee's, who used her local knowledge and contacts as a Byker resident herself."

YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT TO US

Everybody who attended the BCT Family Fun Day was invited to have their say on the services we deliver.

At the registration desk, tenants were given stickers and asked to place these onto two boards which asked two questions including five possible answers. We also sent a survey through the post to those tenants who completed the STAR survey and gave permission for us to contact them.

The results are as follows:



It is clear that the most important service to tenants is repairing and improving your home with the majority also suggesting that this service needs to be improved most.

SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE

Our annual Family Fun Day proved to be another success.





Over 1,000 residents living on the Byker Estate joined our fabulous fun day with activities for all ages.

Youngsters were treated to music and dance, sports games, a bouncy castle, mega slide, soft play and arts and crafts. This year's event was based around a rugby theme and Papua New Guinea international rugby league players, Charlie Wabo and Jason Tali of Newcastle Thunder joined in the fun by organising touch rugby, kicking tennis and other skills games.

Byker resident Vicki Braithwaite of Lilburn Close attended the day with her three young children. She said, "We have attended all of the events and it's great for the kids – there is something for all ages to enjoy. The event brings the whole community together and it is well worth celebrating what the Byker Community Trust has achieved on the estate."



Meanwhile, Sam Stephens from St. Peter's Road said: "It was very well attended and there was lots of activities for the kids. It's good that something like this is organised on the estate."

Jill Haley, Chief Executive of the BCT, said: "The annual Family Fun Day is always a popular event and we are really pleased with how this year's event went.

"It is always very well attended by our tenants and the local community and it gives us an opportunity to engage to find out their views on the services we deliver but more importantly, how we can improve our services to tenants."



NEW WEBSITE UPDATE

As reported in the last issue of Byker News, we are currently working on a new website which will be accessible to everyone. The new website will not only include all the latest BCT news, projects and events but also those from other organisations and community groups.

We are still developing the website and will be launching this a little later than we had hoped. We expect the new website to go live towards the end of the year.

We are always keen to hear your views and ideas for the new website so please contact David Jones on Freephone 0800 5335 442 with any suggestions.



**BECOME
A TENANT
MEMBER
FOR ONLY**

ONE POUND

**HAVE YOUR SAY ON
HOW BCT IS RUN AND
VOTE AT OUR ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING.**

**For only £1, you can become
a tenant member.**

**For more information, please
contact us on Freephone
0800 5335 442.**

CORPORATE PLAN

We have just produced our new five-year corporate plan, which outlines all of our objectives and how we are going to deliver these to you by the year 2020.



The new plan is available to view on our website at www.bykercommunitytrust.co.uk or copies are also available on request by calling Freephone 0800 5335 442.

HAPPY MEMORIES FOR LYNDSEY

The refurbishment work that is being undertaken to the iconic Byker Wall is not only making huge improvements for residents but has also brought back happy memories for one of the workers involved in delivering the project.

Lyndsey Leitch works as a Resident Liaison Officer for developer Keepmoat and used to live in Felton Walk from the age of three years old. She said: "Helping to deliver this project has brought back so many good memories of my childhood days and a lot of friends who I grew up with still live on the estate today. We all used to play out together and I can even remember special occasions like when we celebrated royal weddings in the street.

"As a former resident, this has really benefited me as I already know a lot of the residents and we remember what we used to do when we were younger. It felt a little bit strange stepping into my old home but it brought back a lot of fond memories when I used to live here with my mam."

The improvement works have already passed the half way stage and are scheduled to be completed early 2016.



TENANT APPROVED!

Our Communications Group help us to improve our publications.

They read the information before it is published to ensure that it is easy to read for tenants. They have helped us to design a new BCT 'Tenant Approved' logo. Whenever you see this logo, it means our tenants have approved the content and layout of the publication.

Communications group member Eileen Baldwin said, "We looked at a number of different logos and wanted to choose one that would stand out and catch people's eyes. The whole group agreed with the final logo and we are very pleased with it."

If you would like to get involved with the Communications Group, please contact David Jones on 0800 5335 442.



Correction

Thank you to Mary Jobling who kindly pointed out that there was an incorrect telephone number published in the last issue of Byker News. The article on page 11 of our Summer issue about benefits included the Freephone number but there was a digit missing. The correct number is 0800 5335 442.

TEENAGERS VOLUNTEER TO HELP KEEP BYKER ESTATE TIDY

Up to a twenty teenagers helped to keep Byker clean and tidy as part of a volunteering project they undertook throughout the summer.



The teenagers aged 16 to 20 volunteered to work with the BCT's Rapid Response Team by joining in with a community litter pick, which also educated them about the dangers of littering and the effects litter has on the environment.

The teenagers were working on a project right across the North East with the charity, Headliners UK, which inspires and encourages the personal development of young people through journalism.

Young people are trained to research and produce stories on issues that are important to them and they volunteered their services as part of the National Citizen Service (NCS), which is an ideal opportunity for young people to learn new skills and friendships outside of school and college.

The BCT's rapid response manager, Dan Thompson, said: "It's always welcoming to have volunteers come forward and offer their help with community projects like this. We only have a small team with limited resources operating across a large area so the more pairs of hands we have, the bigger the difference we can make. The volunteers did a great job to tidy up the areas we worked on."

Volunteer Taku Mandishonha said: "I have enjoyed being part of a team working on such a rewarding project today, helping make things better for the people who live in Byker."

BYKER RESIDENT LIZZIE JOINS THE BCT



Byker resident Lizzie Sharkey has joined us as a Business Administration Apprentice after replying to an advert in this very newsletter.

Lizzie, 24, spotted our advert and decided to apply for the one-year apprenticeship role after reading about how successful Steve Howells has progressed after serving his apprenticeship with us.

She joined the BCT in June and is working within the main office supporting the rest of the team including running the busy reception area, speaking to residents and handling phone calls.

Lizzie who lives in Byker, said: "This is a great opportunity for me to learn new skills and gain valuable experience within an office environment. I would really like to think that I could also go on to achieve and be as successful as Steve and deliver an excellent service to all residents living on the estate. I now have that chance and I am very grateful to the BCT for giving me this opportunity."

TENANTS REPRESENT BYKER IN NATIONAL FINAL

In the last issue of Byker News, we reported that the BCT Communications Group won a regional award for their work on producing last years' annual report.

The Communications Group worked with us by advising how it should look and feel, the layout, which pictures should be included and which questions they thought tenants would like to ask BCT.

As winners of the Excellence in Annual Reports award at the TPAS (Tenant Participation Advisory Service) Northern awards, our annual report competed against the winners of the Central and Southern regions in the national final which was held in Warwickshire in July.



Unfortunately, we didn't win the national award however, it was such a great achievement by our tenants. BCT tenant and communications group member, Marion Naughton who attended the awards final, said: "The Communications Group has only been going for a year so to be shortlisted and to get through to the national final is excellent. We are very proud to have produced an award winning publication so all tenants can understand what is going on within the organisation."

ON YER BIKE!

Some of the veteran residents living at Avondale House have teamed up with Sustrans - a national cycling and walking charity to help people living in Byker to be active and get out on their bikes.



Volunteers from the Armed Forces' and Veterans' Launchpad are being trained to lead cycle rides and help residents to fix their bikes.

Andrew Thorp, Sustrans Cycle Champions Officer said: "The guys at Launchpad have a real passion for cycling and are already organising rides for the residents at Avondale House.

"What they are planning is fantastic, getting some bikes and using Avondale House as a place where the Byker Estate community can come on led cycle rides or simply get their bike health checked".

The initiative is part of Sustrans' 'Newcastle Cycle

Champions' project, which aims to get more people living in Newcastle into cycling.

Through training and support, the 'Champions' project is using people's passion for helping their communities to get more active to get people pedalling.

If you think you would like to see more of this in Byker, then why not sign up to be a 'Champion' and receive free training and support?

If you're interested, or would like to find out more, please contact Andrew Thorp on 07500 805 274 or email andrew.thorp@sustrans.org.uk

FOOTBALL SUCCESS FOR BYKER TWINS

Two 17-year-old twins from Byker are celebrating after receiving an England football call up over the summer.

Courtney and Nicole Dack have just got back from Northern Ireland after successfully helping the national women's team to win an international tournament.

The girls who have come through the ranks at Newcastle East End have just signed contracts with Durham Women FC to play in the FA's Women's Super League.

Supporting dad and coach, Paul said: "We are very proud of their achievements and hope that they can now go on to become pro women's footballers. I would particularly like to thank Newcastle East End and the Newcastle Kickz Foundation for their support to our family."

Both train twice a week and have been playing football ever since they were nine-years-old but despite their success on the field, they are keeping their feet firmly on the ground by studying for a sports degree at Gateshead College.

Courtney who plays right wing and Nicole in centre midfield, said: "We have had some great experiences through football with Newcastle East End FC girls and the Kicks Foundation and we are now volunteer coaches for both.

"Through football, we have been all over the country at tournaments and abroad to play in Belgium with Kicks for the Truce Cup in memory of the 1st World War Game that was held on Christmas Day."

The International Rose Ball Tournament was held at Queens Sport Upper Malone in Dublin in August. The England CYP under-16 team, which is managed by Northumberland Clubs for Young People (CYP), competed against Scotland, Wales and Ireland and were overall winners after beating Wales 7-1, Northern Ireland 10-0 and Scotland 1-0.



Nicole is pictured first left (bottom row) and Courtney is pictured third from the end (also bottom row). Photo courtesy of Northumberland Clubs for Young People.

BYKER YOUNGSTER ACCEPTED INTO FAMOUS ETON SCHOOL

Tyrese George.

You may have read in newspapers or seen him on the local news but 11-year-old Byker resident, Tyrese George has been accepted into the famous boarding school, Eton.



Tyrese who attends Byker Primary School won a place at the all-boys school after impressing them with his all-round skills including rapping. He has secured a full scholarship worth around £36,000 per year or £12,000 per term and will board there when he is 13 years old.

He will now follow in the same footsteps as past pupils Prince William and prime minister David Cameron and had to attend interviews and sit tests in subjects such as English, maths and science. He was one of thousands of young people who applied for the place and was among the top 50% in the tests.

Tyrese wanted to go to the school ever since watching a programme about it on a children's TV channel, CBeebies a couple of years ago. Jill Haley, Chief Executive of the BCT, said: "It's wonderful news to hear what Tyrese has achieved and that he will attend one of the most prestigious schools in the world.

"He is obviously a very intelligent boy and it shows that anybody with the right attitude and ability can go on to achieve something very special. I'm sure everybody from Byker would like to wish him all the very best in his future at Eton."

ST. LAWRENCE'S SCHOOL UPDATE

School children from St. Lawrence's School were full of busy before they broke up for their summer holidays.

The school entered the 'Best Group' category of the Byker in Bloom gardening competition by planting up flower beds at Chirton House and Year 6 children got their hands dirty to improve the local environment by working with the Armed Forces Veterans from Avondale House to clear some old shrubs on Headlam Street and Spires Lane.

Also in July, the whole school from Nursery to Year 6, ran one mile in support of the Race for Life to raise money for cancer research.

Parents and grandparents also joined in with the run and it was a fantastic effort by all who took part. The school raised over £1,600, which was more than triple their original £500 target. Well done everyone!



ARTS PROJECT SHOWCASE THEIR SKILLS

A cultural exchange arts project, which was successful in securing funding through the BCT Community Activities Fund earlier this year, has been celebrating their work with gem arts.



The family art project, which is run by the charity Barnardo's, received £2,000 from the Community Activities Fund and aims to reduce isolation and increase confidence and participation.

BCT tenant board member, Mark Ford visited the project in July on behalf of the Participatory Budget Steering Group to see at

first-hand the good work that the local women have been doing with the funding.

He said, "It was very satisfying to see the outcome of one of the many projects the BCT has funded and to see members from a diverse community come together and celebrate what they had achieved and learned from the project with their individual arts and craft projects."

FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Louise McGlen is a Grant Support Worker from the Newcastle Council for Voluntary Services (NCVS). She works with the BCT to provide free support to community projects by accessing grants and funding to help them grow their ideas.



Louise has been getting to know some of the projects on the estate, offering advice regarding sources of funding as well as helping to improve funding applications. She has also ran sessions for a couple of groups based at the Byker Community Centre and will be organising follow-up sessions.

Do you have a project that you need help with in securing funding? Louise can visit your project and give you advice and guidance. Partnership bids are always looked on more favourably by funders, so if you'd like her to help you and perhaps another group work together, please let her know.

Louise can be contacted by email at fundadvice@cvsnewcastle.org.uk or by telephone on 0191 235 7033.

FOOD BANK TO BENEFIT FROM DONATIONS

The BCT has pledged its support to Connect 25, a local food bank that is operating from The King's Castle Church on Brinkburn Street in Byker.

We will be helping to collect essential items such as packaged and tinned food and toiletries and our construction partner, Keepmoat has made a wooden storage box which is available for collections in the Sainsbury's store in Heaton.

Project worker, Mathapelo Letsie who is operating the food bank, said: "The BCT has been magnificent and their help is invaluable giving us the support we need. We have been receiving referrals from their welfare officers and it is helping us to serve the local people of Byker."

The Foodbank is open Monday to Thursday between 10.00am and 2.00pm



SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE FOR LGBT YOUNG PEOPLE



The Albert Kennedy Trust (AKT) has increased the number of bed spaces in the city to accommodate young people aged 16-25 who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans and in need of accommodation.

The accommodation provides young people with a safe place to stay while also helping to equip them with the skills they need to manage a tenancy before they move on to independent living.

The AKT aims to prevent young people from remaining in a hostile environment or becoming street homeless as a result of them disclosing their sexuality or gender identification to family and friends.

For more information, please contact AKT on 0191 281 0099 or email contact@akt.org.uk

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

The Participatory Budget Steering Group would like your help!

The Group are looking for two or three tenants to get involved and help decide which projects the participatory budget should support. In addition, it will involve visiting successful projects to find out how they are progressing.

If you would like to find out more information, please contact David Jones on Freephone 0800 5335 442.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Byker Village Tenants & Residents Association are calling for residents living on the estate to come and make a difference.

If you care about where you live and want to see improvements made in your area then why not come along to this informal meeting to speak to us. There will be representatives from Byker Community Trust, YHN and the Police.

Where? 23 Spires Lane Hobby Room (opposite St Lawrence's Primary School).

When? 10th November 2015 at 5.30pm for individual discussions and 6.00pm for group discussions.

CALLING ALL BYKER WALL AND LINK BLOCK RESIDENTS!

We would like to invite all residents in the Byker Wall and Link Blocks to attend a consultation event at Byker Community Centre on Wednesday 4th November between 2:00pm-4:00pm and 6:00pm-8:00pm to tell us how things are going and to hear about our plans to improve the services you receive.



As you know, we have been fitting digital ready equipment within each property as we prepare for the switch over of services. We would like to hear how this work has been progressing for you and at the same time to bring you up to date with what is planned to happen in the future including when services are likely to go live. To help us to understand how the new service is for you we would like to invite you to work with us regularly to share your experiences and by doing so, enabling us to further improve the services you receive.

For more information, please contact Michelle Bell on Freephone 0800 5335 442.

IMPORTANT – ADVICE ABOUT HOME SAFETY

The Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service gave us a demonstration at the fun day about how dangerous chip pans can be and how quickly and easily fire can spread.

Most accidental house fires start in the kitchen and over half of these are caused by cooking appliances.

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service provide free home safety checks for everyone. They will check smoke alarms, fire escape plans should a fire break out in your home and the importance of a 'safe night time routine.'

To request a home safety check or for more information about how to stay safe from fire, please call into Byker Community Fire Station or call 0191 444 1144.



SUMMER PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

We worked with the Byker Play & Youth Forum to help them produce a programme of activities over the summer for young people up to the age of 25 years.

Summer fun in Byker
PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE UP TO 25 YEARS!

Organisations across Byker have come together to create a fun packed programme of activities the summer for you to get involved with.

These activities are ideal for people aged up to 25 years. There is something here for everyone across the six week school holidays so please get involved, come along and have some fun!

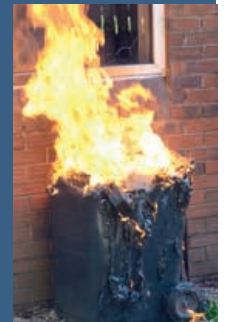
Date	What, where and time?	Age groups
Monday 27th	St. Michael's and YMCA Arts, Crafts and Play, 10.30am - 12.00pm	5-18 year olds
Tuesday 28th	St. Michael's and YMCA Arts, Crafts and Play, 10.30am - 12.00pm	5-18 year olds
Wednesday 29th	St. Michael's and YMCA Arts, Crafts and Play, 10.30am - 12.00pm	5-18 year olds
Thursday 30th	St. Michael's and YMCA Arts, Crafts and Play, 10.30am - 12.00pm	5-18 year olds
Friday 31st	St. Michael's and YMCA Arts, Crafts and Play, 10.30am - 12.00pm	5-18 year olds

The fun packed programme outlined activities such as dance, sport, arts & crafts and play schemes for all ages to get involved with during the six week school holidays.

WHEELIE BIN FIRES

Residents are encouraged to keep themselves safe after a number of deliberate wheelie bin and rubbish fires in the Byker Wall in September.

Fire crews attended the scene to distinguish the fires. Area Manager for Community Safety Kevin Gardner, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, said: "Luckily no one was injured as a result of these incidents. However, fires involving wheelie bins can pose a serious risk.



"Although people who start these fires might think it's a bit of fun, the consequences can be very serious; the fire can easily spread to property, including people's homes. They also tie up the fire crews who are not then available to attend other more serious or life-threatening incidents. A fire engine can't be in two places at once.

"Residents can help protect themselves and their property, and reduce their chances of becoming a target, by putting their wheelie bins out shortly before they are due for collection and by bringing them back in as soon as possible after they have been emptied."

REMEMBER, REMEMBER

As we approach the 5th November, and all of the explosive action that comes with it - it is also important to remember how to enjoy the celebrations safely.

Bonfire night can be one of the most exciting nights of the year but there are also many dangers associated with it. It is very important that the whole community takes every precaution to make sure people, property and of course pets, are not put at risk around bonfire night. But that doesn't mean we can't all still enjoy it!

BCT will be clearing up materials that could be burnt on bonfires in the weeks leading up to bonfire night.



STAY SAFE!

DO'S

- Store sparklers and other fireworks in a closed box in a cool, dry place
- Always light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- If you give a sparkler to an older child, make sure they know how to hold one – away from their body at arm's length – and that they put them out properly in water once they've burnt
- Check any fireworks you buy are suitable for the size of the area you will use them in and that they meet British standards
- Read the instructions carefully and do not tamper with fireworks
- Stand well back from fireworks and never go back to a lit one

DONT'S

- Never hold a baby or child at the same time as a sparkler and do not give sparklers to under 5s
- Do not take sparklers to public displays – it will be too crowded to use them safely
- Never throw fireworks – not only is it extremely dangerous, it's also illegal and could lead to a £5,000 fine

Further advice and guidance is available at www.twfire.gov.uk and you can discuss any concerns you have by popping into Byker Community Fire Station on Union Road.

You can also report an illegal bonfire by calling Envirocall on 0191 278 7878.

WHAT'S ON

MINI MOVERS

Dance classes for 18 months – 4 years and their parents and carers. Classes are for a maximum of 15.

When: Every Saturday 10.30am until 11.30am until 5th December (not 31st October)

Where: Byker Community Centre

Who: Contact Helen Moffitt at Dance City helen.moffitt@dancecity.co.uk or 0191 269 5576

DANCECITY 
Dance for the North East

BEAUTY & THE BEAST PANTO

Byker Community Centre is very excited to have received funding from Comic Relief via the Community Foundation, to invite Chaplin's Mini Pantos to the Centre to perform Beauty & The Beast.

This panto is for youngsters between the ages of 3 and 12 years old who must be accompanied by an adult and it's free.

When: Sunday 29th November between 1.00pm until 2.30pm

Where: Byker Community Centre

Who: Contact Sharon on 0191 265 5777 or email bykercc@live.co.uk



GASBAGS



It has been a busy six months for the members of GASBAGS - the group for gay and bisexual men living in Byker and surrounding areas.

The group has marched in Durham Pride, marched in and had a stall at Northern Pride, had movie and pizza nights, been bowling, as well as having sexual health nights, guest speakers and discussion nights at their meetings at Byker Community Centre.

When: Every Tuesday 6.00pm until 8.00pm

Where: Byker Community Centre

Who: Contact Keith Connolly on 0191 265 5777 or email gasbags@hotmail.com or visit www.gasbags-byker.weebly.com to view upcoming events.

FREE HAT-TRICK SESSIONS

HAT-TRICK
I love sport for change

Hat-Trick are running free football sessions for youngsters aged 8+ in Byker. The sessions will be held at:

- Monday's 5pm-6pm @ Byker MUGA Dunn Terrace
- Wednesday's 4.30pm-5.30pm @ Raby Cross
- Thursday's 4.30pm-5.30pm @ Priory Green
- Friday's 5.30pm-6.30pm @ St Lawrence

Also coming soon

Hat-Trick will be running circuit classes for adults (14+) to try and encourage more people to engage in physical and active lifestyles. For more information, please contact Kate or Dwayne 0191 406 0291.

Byker United

The Newcastle United Foundation is delivering match fit and family learning courses at St. Lawrence's Primary School and Byker Primary School to promote healthy eating and exercise. The courses will last for six weeks and staff will be working with students and parents.

Who: To find out more information, please contact Carl Chater on email carl.chater@nufc.co.uk or call 0844 372 1892 – Ext 8451.



£25 PRIZE WORDSEARCH

Complete the wordsearch to win a £25 Eldon Square voucher to spend on whatever you fancy!

W F C S R B W R K N J B G R Y J X H
X T U E K D L N B Q H B R E M F K F
P G N N E O A V S K C Q A S J L T O
D T S I D B A D N V F C N C D L F Q
F X V O D A K U A K H U T U B A K D
S D O O E A Y F O I X E C E A B N L
Y K O S X G A G R E Z T P S Q T K J
O F R S R E E T N U L O V E X O N J
S F O O R Q O W F U G I E R F O L Z
X B X T W N Q G J K R M A V Q F U V
Z Z F J H E J G H A T T R I C K K C
I Y N O H O R I T U R G G C U L R A
V S U C G V W I N V T I L E B E U F
U S H Y O M B E F N Y T A L Z O F I
E J Q Q K F E Y Y L A Z K O G U T Q
E S W Q O X P V A T T R U W K T O J
M D X B O U N C C H Y C N C R Z Z M
E O E J M D I U V H N G O F L O M Y

CHIRTON
HOUSE

FIREWORKS

FOOD BANK

FOOTBALL

FUN DAY

GRANT

HAT TRICK

RENT

RESCUE
SERVICE

VOLUNTEERS

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Daytime telephone number:

Send your completed puzzle along with your name, address and a daytime telephone number to:

**Byker Community Trust News competition,
Byker Community Trust,
23 Raby Cross,
Byker, Newcastle upon Tyne,
NE6 2FF**

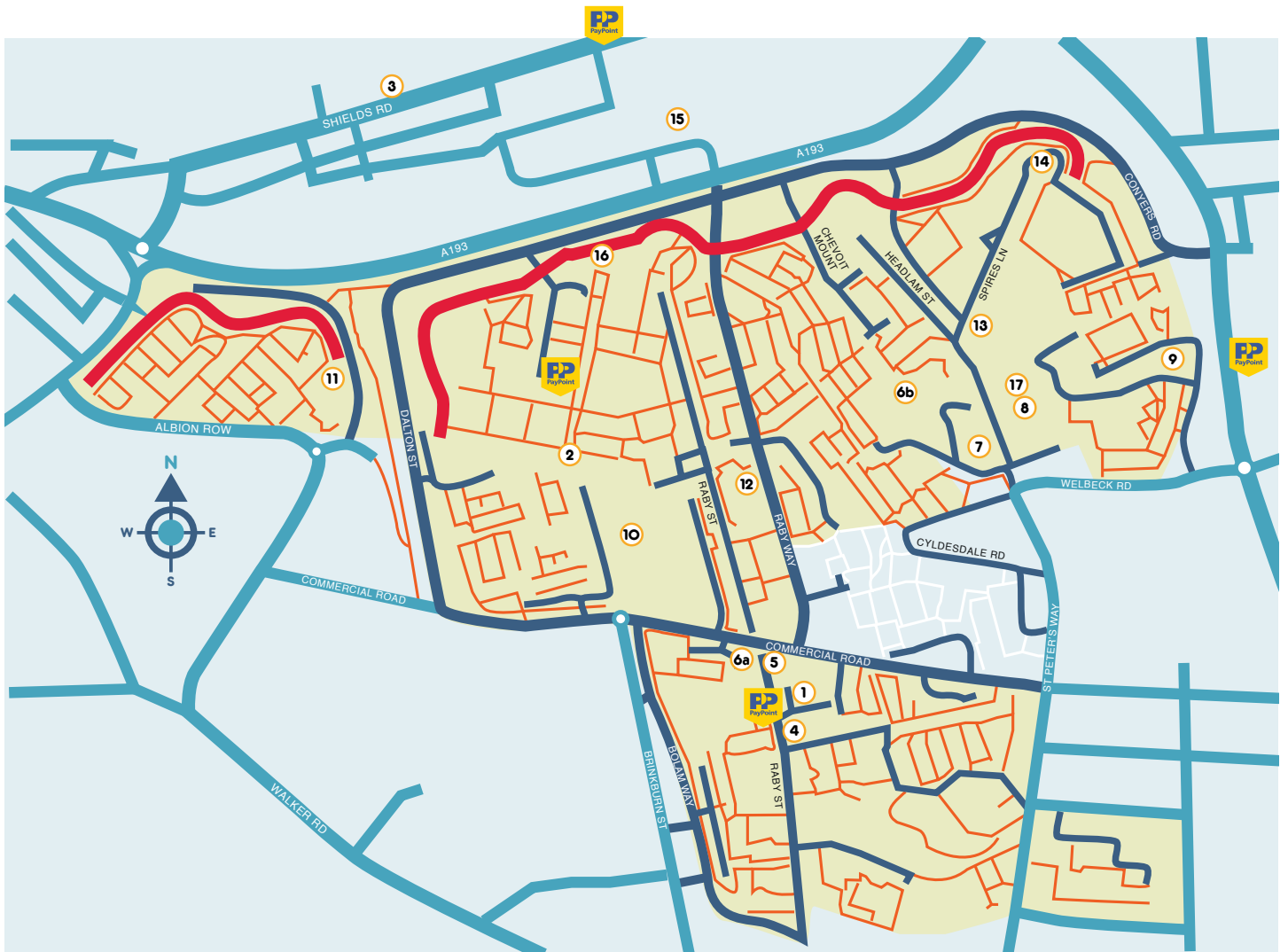
by Friday 30th October 2015.

Please note: Competitions are only open to residents with no rent arrears.



Ewelina Marciniak from Byker Crescent won the last wordsearch competition.

Ewelina said: "I decided to give it a go and try my luck. It was a great surprise to win!"



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Byker Community Trust Offices BCT | 9 One Love North East HUB |
| 2 Byker Community Housing Office YHN | 10 Byker Primary School |
| 3 East End Customer Service Centre NCC and YHN | 11 Byker YMCA Neighbourhood Youth Project (Dunn Terrace) |
| 4 Sure Start East Family Sands Centre | 12 Avondale House (Veterans Support) |
| 5 ACANE | 13 St Lawrence's Primary School |
| 6a St Michael's Church Centre Raby Cross | 14 St Lawrence's Church |
| 6b St Michael's Church Headlam Street | 15 East End Library and Pool |
| 7 Byker Community Centre | 16 Climb Newcastle |
| 8 Byker Village Bowling Green | 17 Chirton House |

Please remember that we'd love to include more stories from our community so don't hesitate to contact us if there's anything you'd like us to highlight!

If you'd like more information on anything in this newsletter or have any feedback or comments regarding this newsletter, please get in touch with the team at the Byker Community Trust.

Tel: Freephone 0800 5335 442
email: enquiries@bykerct.co.uk
www.bykercommunitytrust.org

 www.facebook.com/bykercommunitytrust



 [@bykertrust](https://twitter.com/bykertrust)

BYKER
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