NEWCASTLE MAGAZINE

DIGITAL EDITION
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Every photo is numbered with its page. Spot a face, turn to the number.

On the cover: Meet the North East Bus Workers Who Have Dedicated More Than Two Centuries to Public Transport, page 4. Photo supplied by Stagecoach North East.

This is a look-back edition, put together in November 2026 from stories that appeared online in June 2026. Newcastle Magazine's first digital edition was published in November 2026.

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Photo supplied by Stagecoach North East

NEWCASTLE

Meet the North East Bus Workers Who Have Dedicated More Than Two Centuries to Public Transport

Five long-serving Stagecoach North East employees with a combined 235 years of service are set to be honoured for their outstanding contribution to the bus industry at the company's annual Long Service Awards.

Taking place at the Crowne Plaza Newcastle on Saturday 13 June, the awards will celebrate colleagues whose dedication and commitment have helped keep communities across the North East connected for decades.

Representing Stagecoach North East are Julie Baldwin (40 years' service) and Alan Sutherland (45 years' service) from Walkergate depot in Newcastle, Peter Buzzeo from Slatyford depot, celebrating 45 years; Sunderland's Joe Carr, recognised for 50 years' service; and fellow Slatyford colleague Norman Fullard, who has reached an extraordinary 55 years with the business.

Together, the five colleagues have witnessed significant changes across the transport industry, serving customers through different eras of ownership, technological advancements and evolving passenger needs while remaining dedicated to delivering reliable local bus services.

"We are incredibly proud to celebrate this remarkable milestone and thank them for their outstanding contribution to Stagecoach and to public transport in the region."

Julie Baldwin began her career as an office junior in 1986 and has spent four decades supporting operational teams across the business. Today, as Duty Administration Manager at Walkergate, she continues to play a vital role in driver duty allocation and payroll management.

Alan Sutherland joined the business in 1980 following a career with Tyne and Wear PTE. His varied career has spanned publicity, print production and operational driving duties, including supporting services across the wider Stagecoach Group and helping establish print services used throughout the company.

Peter Buzzeo joined Slatyford depot in early 1980 after being made redundant as a motor mechanic. What began as a temporary role became a lifelong career, with Peter spending more than 45 years serving customers and colleagues across Newcastle. Among his proudest achievements is receiving a 25-year safe driving award for operating in challenging city centre conditions.

Joe Carr, who recently retired, joined the Sunderland operation in 1976 as a bus driver and went on to shape generations of drivers through senior training and driving standards roles. During his distinguished career, he helped uphold the highest standards of safety, professionalism and customer service while mentoring countless colleagues entering the industry.

Norman Fullard began his career in February 1971 and has spent almost his entire working life at Slatyford depot. His remarkable service includes nearly 50 years of accident-free driving, overseas secondments as a driving instructor in Malawi and Kenya, and the honour of driving the first electric bus into service from Slatyford depot.

Steve Walker, Managing Director of Stagecoach North East, said:

"Bus services are built on the dedication, professionalism and commitment of our people, and these five colleagues represent the very best of our industry. "Between them, Julie, Alan, Peter, Joe and Norman have contributed more than 230 years of service to customers and communities across the North East. Their knowledge, experience and passion have helped shape our business and inspired generations of colleagues. "We are incredibly proud to celebrate this remarkable milestone and thank them for their outstanding contribution to Stagecoach and to public transport in the region."

The Long Service Awards recognise colleagues from across Stagecoach who have demonstrated exceptional loyalty and commitment throughout their careers, helping deliver safe, reliable and sustainable transport for millions of customers every year.

By Zoe Eastman Online 15 June 2026
Read more: **newcastlemagazine.com**

Young Engineers Shine at Greenpower Goblins Race Day in Gateshead



Photo: Ben Tillett

The Greenpower Goblins challenge is a practical engineering initiative that sees teams of young people design, build and race their own electric kit cars. Race day marks the culmination of months of teamwork, creativity and problem-solving as participants put their vehicles through their paces on the track.

The action-packed event celebrated creativity, teamwork and practical STEM learning, as sixteen teams from schools and community groups across the North East arrived early to check in before heading straight into the morning's challenges: the technical slalom and the thrilling drag race.

Young participants showcased impressive driving skills and collaboration as they navigated tight turns and raced head-to-head in their self-built electric Goblin cars. The excitement continued into the afternoon with the sprint race, where teams competed to set the fastest lap times of the day. The atmosphere throughout the event was inspiring, with children demonstrating engineering initiative, enthusiasm, and teamwork.

Awards and Results

Taking home the overall win was St Stephen's Catholic Primary School from Longbenton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, whose standout vehicle impressed judges with both performance and consistency across all challenges.

Additional awards recognised the creativity, effort, and sportsmanship on display:

Best Presented Team: Sacred Heart Primary School, from Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

By Zoe Eastman Online 23 June 2026

Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/young-engineers-shine-at-greenpower-goblins-race-day-in-gateshead**

Newcastle Legend Malcolm Macdonald Shares World Cup Memories With Care Home Residents



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Former Newcastle United goal-scoring legend Malcolm 'Supermac' Macdonald took a trip down memory lane with residents at a Tyneside care home, sharing memories of England's famous 1966 World Cup triumph and discussing England's recent victory over Croatia.

Widely regarded as one of Newcastle United's greatest-ever number nines, Macdonald scored 138 goals in 258 appearances during five memorable seasons at St James' Park. The prolific striker also enjoyed success on the international stage, earning 14 caps for England and scoring six goals for his country.

And, after England's 4-2 victory against Croatia at Salla, USA, he was the guest of honour at a football themed open day at Bay View House, Whitley Bay.

The home, which is owned by Prestwick Care and was opened last year after a £12m renovation, threw open its doors to families and potential residents keen to explore its rooms and facilities.

There was also the chance for residents to sit down with the former player for a special screening of the 1966 World Cup, and to pick his brains on the current England team's World Cup performance so far.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 20 June 2026

Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/newcastle-legend-malcolm-macdonald-shares-world-cup-memories-with-care-home-residents**

Your turn

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NEWCASTLE

North Shields Photographer Gaby Zak Announces Biggest Exhibition Yet Celebrating the North East



8

A photographer who relocated from Reading to North Shields to capture the spirit of the North East is preparing to stage her largest exhibition to date, showcasing the people, places and everyday moments that define life across the region.

Gaby Zak, known for her striking landscape photography and documentary work, is to launch a large-scale pop-up shop at Newcastle Quays, North Shields from Thursday, July 9th, with a special event on Saturday, July 12 featuring local North East DJs, food stalls, and opportunities to meet the photographer behind the lens.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 11 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/north-shields-photographer-gaby-zak-announces-biggest-exhibition-yet-celebrating-the-north-east**

NEWCASTLE

Tyneside Cinema's Desert Island Flicks Celebrates Sell-Out First Year



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Tyneside Cinema 's Desert Island Flicks series is marking a hugely successful first year after drawing more than 850 audience members across four consecutive sold-out events featuring some of the UK's most recognisable actors, comedians and entertainers.

The unique live format, which invites guests to share the films that have shaped their lives and careers, has welcomed James Purefoy, Stewart Lee, Bill Bailey and, most recently, Christopher Eccleston, with every event selling out.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 17 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/tyneside-cinemas-desert-island-flicks-celebrates-sell-out-first-year**

NEWCASTLE

GLL Supports Drowning Prevention Week Across Newcastle Leisure Centres



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Leisure centres across Newcastle are helping to raise awareness of water safety as part of Drowning Prevention Week, a national campaign aimed at reducing drowning incidents and helping people stay safe around water.

GLL, the social enterprise that operates leisure facilities under the Better brand, is supporting the initiative at East End Pool and Gosforth Leisure Centre.

By Andrew Campbell Online 9 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/gll-supports-drowning-prevention-week-across-newcastle-leisure-centres**

NEWCASTLE

Tilly Raper to Run Great North Run Four Years After Life-Changing Road Collision



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A young woman whose life was saved following a serious road traffic collision is taking on the Great North Run to raise funds for the air ambulance charity that came to her aid.

Tilly Raper, 23, from Richmond, was travelling as a passenger in a friend's car on the B6275 near Darlington when the vehicle was involved in a collision with another car, leaving her seriously injured.

Firefighters from County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service removed the roof of the car to rescue Tilly and her friend who were trapped inside.

By Zoe Eastman Online 5 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/tilly-raper-to-run-great-north-run-four-years-after-life-changing-road-collision**

In brief



NEWCASTLE

Young People in Newcastle Taking Action Against Vaping Through Community Campaign

North East youth charity, The Key, is marking National Power of Youth Day by celebrating young people across the North East who are making a positive impact in their communities through youth-led social action projects.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 1 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/young-people-in-newcastle-taking-action-against-vaping-through-community-campaign**



NEWCASTLE

Newcastle Bus Workers Honoured for Outstanding Volunteer Work Across the North East

Colleagues at Stagecoach North East's Walkergate depot in Newcastle are being recognised during Volunteers' Week for the valuable contribution they make to communities across Tyneside and beyond in their spare time.

By Zoe Eastman Online 2 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/newcastle-bus-workers-honoured-for-outstanding-volunteer-work-across-the-north-east**



Photo: Steve Brock Photography

NEWCASTLE

Former Gateshead Nurse Transforming Lives Through Music and Movement Sessions

A former nurse from Gateshead is helping to change lives through movement, music and connection with her growing community interest company, Pathways to Blossom.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 3 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/former-gateshead-nurse-transforming-lives-through-music-and-movement-sessions**



NEWCASTLE

Wallsend pupils are 'holistically healthy'

Children from Nursery to Year 6 at St Aidan's Catholic Primary took part in Health Week, which began on Monday 18 May with the school's annual Sports Day, before continuing the theme with whole-school circuits on Tuesday, a rounders tournament on Wednesday, and a skipping competition on Thursday.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 6 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/wallsend-pupils-are-holistically-healthy**

In brief



NEWCASTLE

Newcastle Seeks 300 Volunteers for NOVUM Summer Festival and Dominoes Newcastle

To mark Volunteers' Week, Newcastle City Council's Cultural Events Team has launched a major recruitment campaign seeking 300 volunteers to help deliver two of the city's biggest cultural events this summer: NOVUM Summer Festival and Dominoes Newcastle.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 8 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/newcastle-seeks-300-volunteers-for-novum-summer-festival-and-dominoes-newcastle**



NEWCASTLE

Newcastle Schools Receive Refurbished Bikes Thanks to Sustainability and Community Project

The operator of the Tyne Tunnels, TT2, has partnered with Recirculate to help provide refurbished bicycles to local communities throughout 2026, working alongside a range of regional charities and community organisations.

By Zoe Eastman Online 8 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/newcastle-schools-receive-refurbished-bikes-thanks-to-sustainability-and-community-project**



Photo: Dan Mason

NEWCASTLE

Community Spirit Shines as Picnic in the Park Raises £3,000 for YMCA North Tyneside

Northumberland Square was filled with visitors on Saturday as YMCA North Tyneside's Picnic in the Park 2026 made a successful return, bringing together live entertainment, family-friendly activities and some of the region's best emerging talent.

By Zoe Eastman Online 10 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/community-spirit-shines-as-picnic-in-the-park-raises-3000-for-ymca-north-tyneside**



NEWCASTLE

Wallsend Sea Cadets Launch Urgent Appeal to Save Youth Facility From Closure

A North Tyneside youth organisation that has supported generations of young people in building confidence, developing new skills and forming lasting friendships is appealing for help after serious structural issues were discovered at its headquarters.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 16 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/wallsend-sea-cadets-launch-urgent-appeal-to-save-youth-facility-from-closure**

In brief



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NEWCASTLE

North East Grassroots Sporting Heroes Honoured at Unsung Hero Awards

GLL, the charitable social enterprise and worker-owned co-operative behind Better leisure centres across the North East, has once again played a key role in recognising and celebrating the individuals who make grassroots sport thrive throughout the region.

By Zoe Eastman Online 16 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/north-east-grassroots-sporting-heroes-honoured-at-unsung-hero-awards**



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NEWCASTLE

More Than 200 Attend Connected Voice Funding Fair to Boost North East Community Projects

Connected Voice, an organisation that has supported charities, community groups and voluntary organisations across Newcastle and Gateshead for more than 95 years, welcomed over 200 attendees to its annual Funding Fair on 17 June.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 19 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/more-than-200-attend-connected-voice-funding-fair-to-boost-north-east-community-projects**



12

NEWCASTLE

Newcastle Volunteer Raises Over £600 for Maritime Charity With Great North Swim Challenge

A dedicated Newcastle volunteer has raised more than £600 for a maritime charity after completing a gruelling one-mile open water swim in Lake Windermere.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 23 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/newcastle-volunteer-raises-over-600-for-maritime-charity-with-great-north-swim-challenge**



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NEWCASTLE

Young Marketeers Market Day Brings Fresh School-Grown Produce To Newcastle

Children from schools across Newcastle will trade the classroom for market stalls this summer, selling fresh fruit and vegetables they have grown themselves in support of a good cause.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 26 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/young-marketeers-market-day-brings-fresh-school-grown-produce-to-newcastle**

In brief



NEWCASTLE

MICHELIN Guide Chef Showcases Community-Grown Produce At Jesmond Restaurant

A Newcastle restaurateur featured in the MICHELIN Guide is working closely with his community to source the finest ingredients for his customers.

By Zoe Eastman Online 28 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/michelin-guide-chef-showcases-community-grown-produce-at-jesmond-restaurant**



NEWCASTLE

North Shields Dentists To Take On Copenhagen Ironman For Percy Hedley Foundation

Two North Shields dentists are swapping drills for running shoes as they prepare to take on the Copenhagen Ironman, raising funds for The Percy Hedley Foundation through a gruelling test of endurance, determination and resilience.

By Sara Janiszewska Online 29 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/north-shields-dentists-to-take-on-copenhagen-ironman-for-percy-hedley-foundation**



NEWCASTLE

Sunday For Sammy Trust Awards £5,000 In Bursaries To Gateshead College Students

The Sunday for Sammy Trust has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the North East's next generation of creative talent by awarding £500 bursaries to ten Gateshead College students.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 30 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/sunday-for-sammy-trust-awards-5000-in-bursaries-to-gateshead-college-students**



NEWCASTLE

New Waterproof Kit to Help Northumberland Mountain Rescue Volunteers Stay Safe in All Weathers

The operator of the Tyne Tunnels, TT2, has donated £5,000 to a volunteer search and rescue organisation that serves one of England's largest and most remote regions, helping the charity replace essential personal protective equipment that has become worn through years of frontline use.

By Zoe Eastman Online 18 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/new-waterproof-kit-to-help-northumberland-mountain-rescue-volunteers-stay-safe-in-all-weathers**

In brief



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NEWCASTLE

Bellingham Family Meets GNAAS Crew Who Came to Their Aid During Childbirth Emergency

A Northumberland family has been reunited with members of the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) team who played a crucial role in helping deliver their son safely during a medical emergency several years ago.

By Newcastle Magazine Online 12 June 2026
Continued at **newcastlemagazine.com/bellingham-family-meets-gnaas-crew-who-came-to-their-aid-during-childbirth-emergency**



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CONSETT

County Durham Vet Receptionist Takes on Ally Pally Roof Challenge

Kieran Mennell, who works at Prince Bishop Vets in Leadgate, near Consett, will take on the challenging rooftop climb on June 19th, reaching the Angel of Plenty statue at the summit of the landmark building, which stands 130 metres above sea level. Kieran hopes the feat will help him raise hundreds of pounds for Vetlife, a charity that provides support to members of the veterinary community and is a cause close to his heart.

By Consett Magazine Online 16 June 2026
Continued at **consettmagazine.com/county-durham-vet-receptionist-takes-on-ally-pally-roof-challenge**



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SUNDERLAND

Sunderland's Visitor Economy Hits Record £657.5 Million as Tourism Continues to Grow

Sunderland's visitor economy reached a record-breaking £657.5 million in 2025, with rising visitor numbers and increased spending helping to cement the city's growing reputation as a hub for major events, culture, entertainment and leisure.

By Sunderland Magazine Online 19 June 2026
Continued at **sunderlandmagazine.com/sunderlands-visitor-economy-hits-record-657-5-million-as-tourism-continues-to-grow**



14

SUNDERLAND

Yarn Bombing Celebration Marks Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens Redevelopment Programme

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens has launched an ambitious four-year redevelopment and activity programme, running from 2026 to 2030.

By Zoe Online 24 June 2026
Continued at **sunderlandmagazine.com/yarn-bombing-celebration-marks-sunderland-museum-winter-gardens-redevelopment-programme**

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