

Events and opportunities

For everyone: There are plenty of outdoor events to keep all the family busy in Gateshead this summer. Try woodland crafts, musical instrument making, pond dipping and much more. Many events are free; for details see attachment.

For everyone: Vintage tractor and craft fair at Path Head Water Mill in Blaydon, 10am – 3.30pm on 19 and 20 June.

For everyone: Hexham Book Festival begins this week, with events between 23 April and 2 May. The programme includes talks and workshops with authors, with several events for schools and families. For details see www.hexhambookfestival.co.uk.

For everyone: The Customs House, South Shields, presents More Than a Word. This exhibition has been created by 150 of people who worked with Newline Graffiti. The exhibition runs until 23 May – please see attachment for details.

For everyone: Explore what the North means in the 21st Century at a series of events at Northern Stage. Looking North Conference takes place 23 – 24 April – for details see attachment.

For everyone: FREE: The Late Shows takes place Friday 14 – Saturday 15 May. Over 35 cultural venues, usually closed in the evening, are opening their doors for a not-to-be-missed weekend in celebration of the international event 'Museums at Night'. For details see <http://www.thelateshows.org.uk/home.html>

For 3 – 7 year olds: Spacehoppers is an interactive, promenade-style performance combining imaginative design, performance, poetry, interaction and live music to create a magical experience for young children and their families. Friday 14 May, 1.15pm and 6pm with a discount available for Cultural Ambassadors. Please see attachment and email Hannahmackay@gateshead.gov.uk if you'd like a supply of leaflets.

For ages 7+: Family silk painting workshop at Gateshead Old Town Hall on 1 June. Work with an artist to create a painting on silk that you can take home - <https://online.gateshead.gov.uk/EventTicketsOnline/pages/eventdetails.aspx?ky=633>

For ages 7+: Come and make a new outfit for your teddy bear or doll at Gateshead Old Town Hall on 10 July. For details see <https://online.gateshead.gov.uk/EventTicketsOnline/pages/eventdetails.aspx?ky=636>

For ages 8+: A week of summer holiday activities is taking place at Kids Kabin in Walker. Suitable for 8 -16 year olds, with opportunities for those age 17+ to volunteer to help out. Details at http://www.cultureandcreativity.com/cgi-bin/mt-search.cgi?blog_id=1&tag=Holiday%20activities&limit=20

For 8 – 18 year olds: There are plenty of after school clubs to keep you busy in Walker and Benwell. Try manga cartoon drawing, languages, young writers group, homework support and more! Workshops can also be delivered in your setting – For details see http://www.cultureandcreativity.com/cgi-bin/mt-search.cgi?blog_id=1&tag=After%20school%20activities%3B%20After%20school%20clubs&limit=20.

For ages 12+: Live Theatre presents *A Northern Odyssey*, a play about love and difference, which looks at art, artists and outsiders. The play focuses on Winslow Homer - one of the most respected figures in American Art History - who, in the late 19th Century spent two years painting scenes of Cullercoats life. There is also an exhibition of Winslow Homer's work at the Laing Gallery, and an art walk in Cullercoats. Details at <http://www.live.org.uk/whatson/index.php?viewAll=1#200>

For primary schools & under 11s settings: Opportunity to work with the Tate and Aardman Animations! The Tate Movie Project will take primary school children through the process of creating a 20-25 minute animated film for children. The timescale of the project is summer term 2010 – spring term 2011, and workshops will take place at your setting. Details are in the attachment. At this stage expressions of interest are invited – please email sarah.savile-evans@twmuseums.org.uk