



CLUBS AND
CLASSES P2



WHAT'S ON AND
WHERE TO GO P8—17



IT'S COMPETITION
TIME ON P22



NEWCASTLE, NORTH TYNESIDE & GATESHEAD



MAGAZINE & WEBSITE

THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

raring2go.co.uk

WINTER 2021 –2022

Hello!

There's so much to do over the festive season, especially compared to last year! This little magazine is packed with information and there is loads more on our website.

A HUGE thank you to all our advertisers, schools, nurseries and libraries that help us distribute the magazine to local families; your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Check out our social media channels for daily updates and sign up for the free eNewsletter. Be sure not to miss out on any competitions and offers.

Please check with venues before heading out —as we know only too well things can change, events can sell out and we don't want any wasted journeys or upset kids!

Have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year and wherever you visit, please mention that you saw them in Raring2go!

Best wishes Anna


Editor and Publisher Raring2go! Newcastle, North Tyneside and Gateshead





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 @Raring2goNewcastle

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Enewsletter – sign up at raring2go.co.uk to receive our monthly enews

Circulation: 22k magazines are distributed each quarter to over 225 outlets in Newcastle, North Tyneside and Gateshead including schools, preschools, nurseries, surestarts, playgroups and libraries. It can also be read online at raring2go.co.uk

Did you know?

A blue whale's heart can weigh as much as a car!

A tiger's stripes are like it's fingerprints, no two tigers have the same pattern!

An elephant's trunk contains over 100,000 muscles!

Gorillas are 10 times stronger than an average human!

It's Our Planet Too

Eco Fun For Little People

Inspire your children to love and care for our environment. Let's help them become Eco Heroes who are empowered to make a difference...



Eco tips and tricks to live a greener life



A fun learning tool



Sustainable products for eco heroes



Lots of FREE downloads



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www.itsourplanettoo.co.uk



Fun Little Foodies

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- Creative Development
- Literacy
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- Understanding the World



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W www.littlekickers.co.uk



CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

WELCOMING NEW STUDENTS IN 2022

Building confidence with Stagecoach Performing Arts

Saturdays @ Newcastle High School for Girls Jesmond, NE2 4RU

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Lee Sterry
sports
coaching



Here at Lee Sterry Sports Coaching, we provide a fantastic Sports Coaching service which is very professional, relaxed, fun and is always delivered in a safe, controlled environment. We come very highly recommended by head teachers, teachers and parents.

All our courses are delivered by FA registered coaches, who hold their FA Level 2 / UEFA B badges and hold an up to date DBS.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Lee Sterry Sports Coaching can provide Football, Multi-skills, Mini-Tennis and Dodge ball parties for all ages.

We will provide a fun day for your child and his/her friends. The Birthday child will receive a birthday gift and card.



OUR UP AND COMING COURSES

WEEKLY COACHING

This is a more fun course, designed to focus on games and skill development.

NEXT COURSES:

Saturday Mornings

@ Gosforth Academy
from January 8th 2022

Age 3-5 inside | Age 6-14 outdoors
For age groups and class times see website

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Our courses are great fun. We have lots of fun games and skill competitions. It's a great opportunity to come along, meet new friends, have fun, and play football!

February Half Term

Monday 21st – Friday 25th

5 DAYS FOR FOOTBALL AT GOSFORTH ACADEMY

5 DAYS OF MULTISPORTS AT NEWCASTLE
UNIVERSITY, COCHRANE PARK

Follow us on Social Media



For any information on Holiday Programmes, Weekly Coaching or Birthday Parties, please don't hesitate to get in contact.

To book: www.ls-sc.co.uk

Tel: 07729 058119

Email: coaching@ls-sc.co.uk



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tots**

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Captain Ted's

Children's Entertainment Centre
WEST AVENUE, GOSFORTH

Ted's Playgroup

A weekly play session with toys, instruments and activities for pre schoolers. Features a 15 minute dance session with Tappy Toes!

Includes 1 free tea or coffee for the accompanying adult.

Every Thursday 9.15am to 11am
£5.50 per child, each session

*Includes Soft Play Entry, Term Time Only.

Archibald First School & St Charles RC Primary School

Breakfast and After school club

Open from 7.30am to drop off and collection to 6.15pm.
1, 2 and 3 hour sessions
Adhoc sessions available

Our clubs are Ofsted Registered & childcare vouchers are accepted

Free Activities Music & Crafts Daily Weekdays Term time

Holiday Club

December 20th-23rd,
29th-30th

9-10am - 5-10pm: £25
Half days available £10

Email ctafterschoolclub@outlook.com for a registration form

General Enquiries: info@captainteds.co.uk

Telephone **0191 213 5813** www.captainteds.co.uk





Raring2Read!

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FAMILIES

Does your family enjoy reading? Then join our Facebook group, to share ideas, tips and recommendations.

'Lark the Shark' by Nathalie Newman and Henry Newman (Age 7)

Lark the Shark is a tale written by Nathalie Newman and her son Henry Newman (7 at the time of writing), about a friendly shark who sets out to challenge people's perceptions of him.

When the children in class are taught about scary, dangerous sharks, Lark the shark overhears and is sad; he decides to prove he is friendly and helpful. This aspect of the story gives parents and teachers the ideal opportunity to open dialogue about stereotyping, how it can affect us to be on the receiving end of that, and how we can effectively challenge and overcome stereotyping. It also can be used to talk about emotions, and how we deal with them.

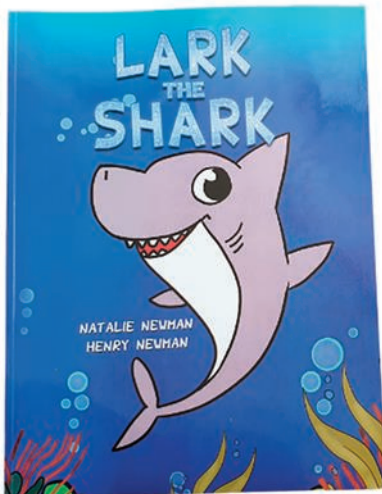
Lark demonstrates that he is indeed a friendly shark, with many lovely qualities, and proves to be really helpful by collecting all the litter in the oceans - litter created by humans! Such a lovely yet powerful tale, beautifully told through the words, rhymes and colourful illustrations.



Nathalie, who has always had a passion for literature - a passion shared by Henry too - loves sharks. She had a conversation with Henry about how unfair it was that sharks have such a bad reputation, 'After all,' she told us 'all they are doing is being at home in their ocean.' Henry's school homework topic at that time was environmental pollution - yet pollution of our oceans and seas wasn't part of that topic. When Henry learned more about the pollution of our oceans he was shocked, and asked 'Mummy, what can we

do to help?' It didn't take long for them to combine it all together, and come up with the idea of Lark - the friendly shark who helps clean up the sea.

Aimed at readers from 2 - 8 years old, Lark the Shark has won lots of praise for highlighting the issues of pollution to younger readers, and has been shared by The Marine Conservation Society on their UK Ocean Schools Resource Hub.



www.facebook.com/groups/raring2read

Reading



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Reading Eggs, the multi-award winning online reading programme for kids aged 2-13.

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eggs Junior

Ages 2-4

First Steps

Delight your toddler with fun games and activities that build alphabet knowledge and ready-to-read skills.



Reading
eggs

Ages 3-7

Learning to Read

Children follow structured, one-on-one lessons that teach phonics, sight words and reading skills.



FAST
PHONICS

Ages 5-10

Mastering Phonics

Fast-paced lessons cover key phonics skills, perfect for both emergent and struggling readers.



Reading
Eggspress

Ages 7-13

Building Confidence

Older children can continue building key literacy skills that will help them succeed in school.



Mathseeds

Ages 3-9

Learning Maths

Nurture an early love of maths with structured lessons and activities that build essential maths skills.



FREE 30-DAY TRIAL
readingeggs.co.uk/r2go21

Scan QR code for
30-Day **FREE** trial



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App Store



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Google Play

Valid for new customers only.

30-day free trial allows you to add up to 4 children. You will be charged at the end of your trial period unless you cancel before this time. You can cancel at any time by selecting the 'Cancel Subscription' option located on the 'Manage My Subscription' page in your family dashboard. Offer is valid for new UK customers only.

What's on this Winter November 2021 – February 2022

Raring2go! is not just for Christmas, this guide continues well into the new year so please keep it handy! If you get more than one copy from school please give the spare to a friend. Thank you! Please note, many events require booking in advance so do plan ahead. Have fun!

Saturday 13 November – Sunday 9 January

Skating at Life Ice Rink

Life Science Centre, Newcastle
www.life.org.uk 0191 2438210

Thursday 18 November – Friday 24th December

Santa's Festive Forest

Metro Centre, Gateshead
https://tickets.eskimojoevents.co.uk/metro_2021/

Friday 19 November – Sunday 2 January

Big Winter Wonderland

Newcastle Racecourse
www.winterwonderlandnewcastleracecourse.co.uk

Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 November

Pat a Cake: Afternoon Tea for Tots

Seven Stories National Centre for Children's Books, Newcastle
www.sevenstories.org.uk 0845 271 0777

Friday 26 November – Sunday 2 January

Winter Wonderland

Rainton Arena, Houghton le Spring
www.raintonarena.co.uk

Friday 26 November – Sunday 2 January

Christmas Illuminated Trail

Gibside, Rowlands Gill
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Friday 26 November – Sunday 9 January

Real Ice Rink

Ocean Beach Pleasure Park
South Shields

Saturday 27 – Sunday 28 November + Saturday 4 – Sunday 5 December

Christmas craft fair

Souter Lighthouse & The Leas
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Saturday 27 November – Friday 24 December

Santa's Grotto

Woodhorn Experience, Ashington
www.museumsnorthumberland.org.uk

Saturday 27 November – Friday 24 December

Breakfast with Santa

Northumberland Country Zoo, Morpeth
www.northumberlandzoo.co.uk

**Saturday 27 November – Sunday 2 January
(selected dates)**

Christmas Adventure Quest

Belsay Hall & Gardens, near Ponteland
www.english-heritage.org.uk 0870 333 1181

Saturday 27 November – Monday 3 January

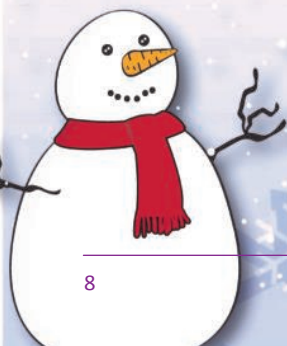
Woody's Winter Trail

Woodhorn Experience, Ashington
www.museumsnorthumberland.org.uk

Monday 29 November – Sunday 2 January

Winter Light Trail

Alnwick Garden, Alnwick
www.alnwickgarden.com
01665 511350





THE STORY OF A CITY

<https://www.newcastlecastle.co.uk>

OUR OPEN-AIR ICE RINK IS BACK

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9 JAN 2022**

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Life
Science Centre



Super
saver tickets
available for
combined skate
and centre
visits.

Online booking
recommended:
life.org.uk

Thursday 1 – Monday 20 December (weekdays only)

Breakfast with Mrs Claus

Seven Stories National Centre for Children's Books,
Newcastle

Friday 3 – Saturday 4 December

Christmas Market with Santa's Village

Newcastle Dog and Cat Shelter, Benton

Saturday 4 December

Street Scientists

Discovery Museum, Newcastle
www.twmuseums.org.uk 01912326789

Saturday 4 December

Art Class for aged 10-15

Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle
www.laingartgallery.org.uk

Saturday 4 December

Family Arts Festival – Cosy Crafts

Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead
www.shipleyartgallery.org.uk 0191 6432241

Saturday 4 – Sunday 5 December (+ each Dec weekend + Friday 24th)

Santa Claus is visiting Times Square

Life Science Centre, Newcastle

Saturday 4 - Sun 19 December (weekends only)

Elf Academy (booking essential)

Washington Wetland Centre
www.wwt.org.uk

Saturday 4 December - Sunday 2 January

Christmas at Wallington with Winter Trail & Stories with Mrs Christmas

Wallington Hall, near Morpeth
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wallington
01670 773600

Saturday 4 December – Monday 3 January

Percy the Park Keeper's Winter Wander Trail

Cragside, Rothbury
www.nationaltrust.org.uk 0344 249 1895

Sunday 5 December

Christmas Craft Fare

Blue Flames, Benton

Saturdays 5,12 19 December

An Audience with Santa

Seven Stories National Centre for Children's Books,
Newcastle

Monday 6 & 13 December

Little Artists for ages 1-5

Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle

Monday 6 – Friday 17 December

The Night Before Christmas

Seven Stories National Centre for Children's Books,
Newcastle

Friday 10 December

Great North Nights: Christmas Ceilidh

Great North Museum, Newcastle
www.twmuseums.org.uk 0191 208 6765

Saturday 11 December

Big Family Festive Gig

Sage Gateshead
www.sagegateshead.com

Saturday 11 – Sunday 12 December

Victorian Christmas Market

North Shields

Saturday 11 & 18 December

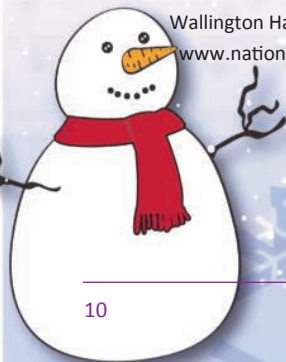
Elfin' Around

South Shields Museum & Art Gallery
www.southshieldsmuseum.org.uk

Saturday 11 & 19 December

Home Alone: Double Bill

Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle
www.tynesidecinema.co.uk



Christmas

At the Caledonian Hotel, Jesmond

Breakfast with Santa

Sunday 12th Dec 10am-12pm
Sunday 19th Dec 10am-12pm
Wednesday 22nd Dec 10am-12pm
Thursday 23rd Dec 10am-12pm

Full English breakfast,
Orange juice for the kids,
tea/coffee for adults

Adults £9.95 | Under 12's £7.95
Under 1's FREE | Family £32.50

Afternoon Tea with Santa

Sunday 12th Dec 2pm-4pm
Sunday 19th Dec 2pm-4pm

Festive Afternoon tea with unlimited tea/coffee
for adults & optional glass of prosecco
Packed lunches for the kids, activity table,
biscuit decorating and face painting

Adults with prosecco £20.95
without prosecco £16.95
Under 12's £9.95 | Under 1's FREE
Family ticket: £55.00

Suppa with Peppa Pig

Monday 20th Dec 4-6pm
Tuesday 21st Dec 4-6pm

Children's meal: Chicken Nuggets & chips
Adults meal: Roast Turkey stuffing bap
with Roast Potatoes and Mulled Wine

Enjoy fun and games with
Peppa and George followed by
bed time story with hot chocolate
and cookie

Adults £11.95 | Under 12's £9.95
Under 1's FREE | Family £39.50

EVERY CHILD WILL VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTO AND RECEIVE A GIFT

For further details contact us today: events@caledonian-hotel-newcastle.com or tel 0191 281 7881

Reindeer Pancakes

METHOD

Sieve together the flour & salt

Gradually whisk in the egg then the milk.

Leave to stand for 10 minutes.

Heat 1 tsp of oil in a 20cm frying pan, pouring
off any excess oil.

Pour a thin layer of batter into the pan and fry for
about 1 minute until golden brown.

Flip and cook the other side until golden brown
and place on a plate.

Repeat with the rest of the batter.

Serve with your favourite topping



INGREDIENTS

Makes approx. 8 pancakes

125g plain flour

Pinch of salt

1 large egg

300ml milk

Oil for frying

TOPPINGS OF YOUR CHOICE

Fruit/Lemon/Syrup/Sugar/Chocolate Spread

Saturday 11 – Friday 24 December

Santa's Grotto (booking essential)

St Mary's Lighthouse, Whitley Bay 01912008650

Sunday 12, 19, Wednesday 22, Thurs 23 December

Breakfast/Afternoon Tea with Santa

Caledonian Hotel, Jesmond 0191 2817881

Monday 13 December

Disco Party for Babies and Toddlers

Discovery Museum, Newcastle

Monday 20 December

Fused Artworks (aged 6+)

National Glass Centre, Sunderland

Monday 20 & Tuesday 21 December

Suppa with Peppa & a visit to Santa

Caledonian Hotel, Jesmond 0191 2817881

Tuesday 21 December

Santa's Treat Plate (for age 3+)

National Glass Centre, Sunderland

Tues 21 & Wednesday 22 December

Festive Film Screenings

Gosforth Civic Theatre

Wednesday 22 – Friday 24 December

The Snowman

Sage Gateshead

Wednesday 22 & 29, Thursday 23 & 30 December

Christmas Snowman, Angel and Snowy Owl Sandcast

National Glass Centre, Sunderland

www.nationalglasscentre.com 0191 5155555

Sunday 26 December

Woodlawn Xmas Pudding Fun Run, Whitley Bay

www.racebest.com/races/z5fu7

Wednesday 29 – Thursday 30 December

Heritage Steam Train Ride

Stephenson Steam Railway, North Shields

www.stephensonrailwaymuseum.org.uk

0191 200 7146

Wednesday 29 - Friday 31 December

End of Year Party

Seven Stories National Centre for Children's Books,

Newcastle

Friday 28 – Sunday 30 January

RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch

www.rspb.org.uk

Saturday 29 – Sunday 30 January

L.O.L Surprise! Live!

Utilita Arena, Newcastle

www.utilitaarena.co.uk

Tuesday 8 – Saturday 12 February

The Addams Family

Theatre Royal, Newcastle

Saturday 19 – Sunday 27 February

Museum open for Halfterm with free crafts on

Monday 21

Segedunum Roman Fort, Wallsend

Saturday 19 – Sunday 27 February

Meet Flamingos & Otters & Walk with a Ranger

Washington Wetland Centre

Saturday 19 – Sunday 27 February

Lambing Week & Farmtastic Half Term Family Fun

Whitehouse Farm, near Morpeth

Saturday 19 – Sunday 27 February

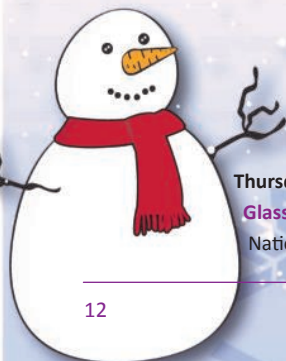
February Half-Term Family Fun

Gibside, Rowlands Gill

Thursday 23 December

Glass Painted artwork for age 4+

National Glass Centre, Sunderland



Playhouse Whitley Bay and Blue Genie Entertainment present

LINDA LUSARDI

as The Wicked Queen

LUCY KANE

as Snow White

STEVE WALLS

as Muddles

DANIEL MAWSTON

as Patsy the Cook

The Most
Wicked Panto
Of Them All!

Pantomime 2021

SNOW WHITE

& The Seven Dwarfs

4th Dec 2021 - 2nd Jan 2022

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BLUE GENIE
ENTERTAINMENT
whitleybaypanto.co.uk



North Tyneside Council

Festive shows at the theatre

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

23 November - 9 January

Theatre Royal, Newcastle

www.theatreroyal.co.uk

Robin Hood

24 November - 9 January

Gala Theatre, Durham

www.galadurham.co.uk

Rapunzel

24 November - 8 January

Customs House, South Shields

www.customshouse.co.uk

The Sorcerer's Apprentice

27 November - 31 December

Northern Stage, Newcastle

www.northernstage.co.uk

Beauty and the Beast

30 November - 24 December

Exchange Theatre, North Shields

www.attheexchange.info

Sleeping Beauty

3 December - 3 January

Tyne Theatre & Opera House, Newcastle

www.tynetheatreandoperahouse.uk

Robinson Crusoe and the Pirates

3 - 11 December

Seaton Delaval Arts Centre

www.seatondelavalartscentre.com

Beauty and the Beast

3 - 19 December

Royalty Theatre, Sunderland

www.royaltytheatre.co.uk

Aladdin

4 - 12 December

The Phoenix Theatre, Blyth

[ww.thephoenixtheatre.org.uk](http://www.thephoenixtheatre.org.uk)

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

4 - 24 December

Customs House

www.customshouse.co.uk

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

4 December - 2 January

Playhouse Whitley Bay

www.playhousewhitleybay.co.uk

The Nutcracker - re-miced!

7 - 24 December

Gala Theatre, Durham

www.galadurham.co.uk

Disney on Ice

8 - 12 December

Utilita Arena, Newcastle

Hansel and Gretel

9 - 11 December

Arts Centre Washington

www.sunderlandculture.org.uk

Remarkable Robin Armstrong's Extraordinary Christmas Adventure

10 - 28 December

Queen's Hall, Hexham

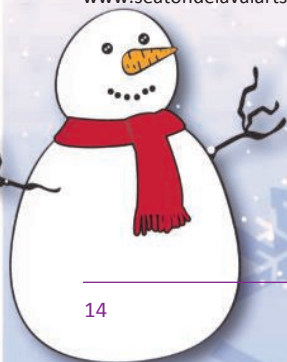
www.queenshall.co.uk

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

10 December - 2 January

Empire Theatre, Sunderland

www.atgtickets.com



Tyne Theatre & Opera House and Enchanted Entertainment present

The Hilarious
**CHARLIE
RICHMOND**

BGT Winner Collabro's
MATT PAGAN

Karen the Mam's
**LEWIS
DENNY**

**STEVE
HALLIDAY**
Old King Cole

**LAURA
BAXTER**
Sleeping Beauty

**SARAH
ANNAKIN**
Carabosse

**JOJO
HATFIELD**
Fairy Fortywinks

Sleeping Beauty

FANTASTIC
LIVE BAND

AMAZING 3D
PROJECTION!

3rd Dec 2021 - 3rd Jan 2022

tynetheatreandoperahouse.uk



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THEATRE
& OPERA
HOUSE

maldron
HOTEL
NEWCASTLE

Specsavers

Allingtons
Welcome To The Party

METRORADIO
THE HIGHEST INTO THE BIGGEST THROATBACHS

Enchanted
FANTASY THEATRE

Festive shows at the theatre

Sleeping Beauty

11 - 19 December

People's Theatre, Heaton
www.peoples theatre.co.uk

Cinderella

12 December

Lancastrian Suite, Dunston
www.thelancastriansuite.com

Jack & The Beanstalk

14 - 24 December

Little Theatre, Gateshead
www.littletheatregateshead.co.uk

Beauty and the Beast

15 - 24 December

Civic Hall, Stanley
www.stanleypanto.co.uk

A Viking Christmas

18 - 28 December

Alnwick Playhouse, Alnwick
www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk

Sleeping Beauty

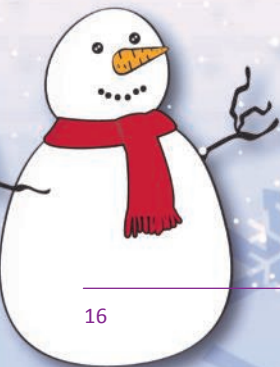
7 -16 January

Tynemouth Priory Theatre
www.tynemouth-priory-theatre.com

Cinderella

11 -16 January

Playhouse Whitley Bay
www.playhousewhitleybay.co.uk



giving nature a home
rspb

Big
Garden Birdwatch

What will you see?

Last year over one million people enjoyed Big Garden Birdwatch. Help keep an eye on how garden birds are faring by taking part this January. Thanks for being one in a million!

Take part 28-30 January. It's free and easy to join in. For all you need, go to rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

The RSPB is a registered charity in England and Wales (207676), in Scotland SC037654, 366-0360-20-21 (Grant 18 by Paul Saver) (rspb-images.com)

2
go!
Raring2go!

DON'T MISS OUT!

Follow us on Social Media & checkout the What's on Guide on the Raring2go! website to keep up to date with the latest local events news!

[f Raring2goNewcastle](https://www.facebook.com/Raring2goNewcastle) [@Raring2goNews](https://twitter.com/Raring2goNews) [raring2go.newcastle](https://www.instagram.com/raring2go.newcastle)

www.raring2go.co.uk

8 great places to visit in town!

Newcastle city centre is full of incredible places to visit, especially when the weather may not be too good.

Jump on the Metro or bus and head for:

Great North Museum Hancock - full of hands on science, nature and history.

Newcastle Castle - for the best views in town!

Newcastle Cathedral - recently refurbished, our beautiful cathedral is awe inspiring and also has a lovely cafe

Discovery Museum - you could spend ALL day here there's so much to do and see

Life Science Centre - amazing interactive science with planetarium and demonstrations

The Lit and Phil - a stunning library with children's section.

The Common Room - newly restored Mining Institute with exhibitions and workshops

The Laing Art Gallery - always a peaceful haven to enjoy the wonderful collection and the fabulous cafe!



10 Free Things To

1



Become Animal detectives

Get out and about at the park, in the woods and tick off what type of animals and insects you can see. From a squirrel to a wood louse, they're all there! A tick sheet is a great idea to keep the kids motivated, why not add a prize for a full sheet, maybe a hot chocolate with marshmallows! You can download our Animal Detective activity sheet from our website.

Build your own bird feeder

Quick and easy steps to making your very own bird feeder, all you need is a plastic bottle, pencils, knife/scissors, wire or string and bird seed... go to our website to find out how to make it...

<https://raring2go.co.uk/kids-zone/winter-activities/build-your-own-bird-feeder2>

2



3



Bird watching

There are so many birds to see during the winter months, why not join in with the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch in January, and make a note of how many different little visitors you have in your garden, list them all down and help the RSPB get the bigger picture!

Puddle Jumping

All you need are raincoats and wellies, once you're all kitted out, there's so much fun to be had jumping in the puddles- just make sure they're not too deep!

4



5



Geocaching

This is a fantastic way to get some fresh air, exercise and learn outdoor skills such as map reading... as well as all that it's also great fun! You'll be amazed at how many locations are on your doorstep. To learn more about how to get started go to geocaching.com.

To Do This Winter

Winter Scavenger hunt

Getting outdoors is good for all the family and if you have something fun to do, the kids will be happy and entertained. To help you along, here's our Raring2go! Winter Scavenger Hunt activity sheet which you can download from our website.



6

7



Get on your Bike!

Don't let the cooler weather stop you doing the things you love, like a good cycle ride. There's lots of family trails locally that won't get you and the kids too dirty. Some local parks have tarmacked areas that are ideal for enjoying a bike ride in any weather.

8



Make a Bug hotel

Gather together natural materials such as hollow bamboo canes, pine cones, barks, twigs and moss, and useful bits and bobs like old tiles for the roof, terracotta pots, and wooden pallets or bricks for the base. As well as helping creepy crawlies, larger ones might also be used by hedgehogs.

9



Forest Walks

There is so much to hear and see by taking a walk on a cold sunny day in the forest. Bird song and walking on crisp cold leaves really does keep the kids entertained and seeing the changes of nature from Autumn to Winter is a perfect way to spend an hour with the family.

10



Make a Collage

From your walk in the forest, why not gather some twigs, cones, leaves, acorns etc and make a Winter collage - the kids can make their own forest scene!



1. Get Active Together

After all those chocolates we all need to get more active in January!

Gyms often offer family membership, or just commit to a regular swim or walk around the park. You could even try something new, like climbing or roller skating!

2. Join a Club

Many local clubs offer a trial period, and may even offer a free taster session.

And... they're not just for kids! There are lots of sport and leisure clubs for families, and some offer adult sessions too!



3. Bake Together

Experts say that one of the best ways to overcome fussy eating in children is to involve them in the kitchen. Home-cooking is tastier and often cheaper than shop-bought equivalents. You'll find some great recipes on the Raring2go! website, including main meals, seasonal snacks and more.

Six New Year's Resolutions for the whole family

4. Start a Memory Jar

Start the year with an empty jar and whenever your child has enjoyed a day out, tried a new activity, achieved a goal etc. get them to either draw a picture, or write it on a little piece of paper. Then fold it up and drop it in the jar.

On New Year's Eve, you can enjoy a special moment recalling all of the wonderful memories made together throughout the year.



5. Buy an Annual Pass

Many of our local attractions offer annual passes. Once the pass is purchased, you can pop in even for short visits if you have a few hours to fill. It also means you don't have to achieve everything in one visit, helping to avoid exhausted children. You may also get additional benefits, such as discounts, or invites to special events.

6. Give something back

Volunteering is a rewarding way to support your local community. From working with a charity, becoming a governor, helping the school PTA, church, food bank or animal shelter, there are a variety of ways to offer your time and expertise. What about a family commitment to raise money for a charity, by completing a family fun run or swimathon?





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* 20.01.22



WIN a £25 voucher to spend with Fun Little Foodies cookery classes

*20.12.21



WIN a family ticket to see Sleeping Beauty at the Tyne Theatre & Opera House, Newcastle *28.11.21

WIN a voucher for a family of 4 to enjoy Breakfast with Santa at the Caledonian Hotel, Jesmond. *01.12.21



WIN a family day out at Life Science Centre including ice skating! *30.11.21

Life
Science Centre



WIN a family ticket to see Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs at Playhouse, Whitley Bay *25.11.21



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Raring2make!

FUN IDEAS FOR MAKING THINGS TOGETHER

Because every cake has a story to tell

Anonymous

Delicious Gingerbread Cinnamon Cupcakes by Baking Mad

Ingredients you'll need

150g Unsalted butter (softened)
 150g Billington's Unrefined Light Muscovado Sugar,
 150g Self-raising white flour
 1 tsp Ground ginger, 1/2 tsp Ground cinnamon
 1 pinch Nutmeg (grated)
 3 Free range large egg(s)
 1 tbsp Milk (whole)

For the Buttercream

200g Unsalted butter (softened)
 50g Billington's Unrefined Light Muscovado Sugar,
 3 tbsp Milk (whole)
 200g Silver Spoon Icing Sugar
 1 pinch Ground cinnamon



How to make these delicious Gingerbread Cinnamon Cupcakes

Step 1: Preheat the oven to 180°C (fan 160°C, gas mark 4). Put 12 paper cupcake cases into a muffin tin.

Step 2: Cream together the butter and sugar. Sift the flour together with the spices. Gradually mix the eggs into the creamed butter and sugar, alternating with the flour. Finally, stir through the milk.

Step 3: Dollop the mixture in the cupcake cases and bake for 15–20 minutes until golden. Remove from the oven and leave to cool.

Step 4: For the buttercream melt 50g of the butter in a pan with the muscovado sugar. Add 2 tablespoons of the milk and stir to form a thick toffee sauce.

Step 5: Beat the remaining butter until smooth. Then sift in the icing sugar and add the toffee sauce (save 2-3 tablespoons for later) stirring thoroughly.

Step 6: Finally, pipe the buttercream on to the cupcakes, drizzle with the remaining toffee sauce and sprinkle with ground cinnamon.

About the bake

Whilst these cupcakes use Christmas flavours, we think they are lovely all year round. They go very nicely with cup of coffee too. Give them a go!

This recipe is brought to you courtesy of our good friends at www.bakingmad.com Check them out for lots of exciting baking recipes.

For more great recipe
 ideas please visit
www.raring2go.co.uk

Make a

recycled bird feeder

Make a bird feeder from the bottles you would throw away.

Stuff you need:

What to do:



■ Plastic drinks bottles, yoghurt pots or milk cartons (make sure they're clean)



■ wire or string



■ bird seed



■ scissors

1 Cut a hole in the centre of the side of the bottle large enough for birds to feed from.

2

Make a few small holes in the bottom of your feeder to allow any rainwater to drain away.

Be very careful!

3

Hang it with wire, or even strong string from a tree or your washing line.

4

If your feeder starts to wear out or the food in it goes mouldy, recycle it and make another one! Remember to keep your feeders full, especially in winter.

STAY SAFE!

- Don't do this if you are allergic to nuts.
- Be careful with scissors.
- Ask an adult if you need help.
- Remember to wash your hands after refilling your feeders or recycling old ones.