



# BNFCC NEWSLETTER

Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council

SUMMER 2020

## BNFCC updates

**Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council have been supporting the local community in a number of ways during the Coronavirus Pandemic.**

Our Facebook and website pages have been alive with information and support networks for the community around us.

This newsletter details some of the ways in which we have supported the community as well as details of a competition that the Community Council held on line. Look out for details of a new competition within the newsletter.

If you feel that the Community Council can be of any support to you or your family at these uncertain times please get in touch with us. *John Wears – Chair BNFCC*

## Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council Food Bank Donation

In order to support our local community in this ever changing COVID-19 crisis, Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council have agreed to make a donation in the sum of £500 to the Newcastle West End Food Bank in support of their ongoing work.

In the coming days and months if you find yourself in a position where you need to use this type of support please locate your nearest Citizens Advice (click on the link) "your nearest Citizens Advice" who will be able to make a referral. You can also be referred by a charity, someone like a GP or a social worker.

Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council would also encourage all residents to come forward with other suggestions that we can consider and progress. We are however unable to provide personal donations to residents.

And remember: *"the world came together as the people stayed apart"*

**Stay safe everyone.**

## Raffle for all the family!

Following on from our very successful our replacement Whitby trip raffle, we have decided to do it all again.

We will be holding a raffle for everyone in the family to join in. There will be prizes for both adults and children. Adult can pick 1 number per household between 1 – 100 and each child within the family can pick 1 number between 1 – 50. If you wish to take part please send your name, address and selected numbers to Helen, our Clerk at [bnfcc@outlook.com](mailto:bnfcc@outlook.com) or 07588154441. You must live within the Parish boundary to take part, if you're not sure please ask.

The closing date for our raffle will be Friday 31st July 2020.

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## Find us on Facebook!

@BNFCC

Blakelaw and North Fenham  
Community Council



## Follow us on Twitter:

@BlakelawNFenham

<https://twitter.com/BlakelawNFenham>



Helen Richardson, Community Council Clerk  
Email: [bnfcc@outlook.com](mailto:bnfcc@outlook.com)

# Competition Time

## WE HAVE A WINNER!

Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council held two competitions due to the postponement of their Whitby trip and charity night – these events **WILL** both be rearranged when it is safe to do so.

Well done to you all, our winners of the raffle are:

1. Marie Vincent (42) - Hamper
2. Gemma Middlesmas (14) - Candle Set
3. Katherine Christie (8) - Harding and Bayliss Set
4. Michelle Keenan (31) - Perfume Set
5. James Gill (32) - Ringtons Hamper
6. Alan and Elaine Richards (30) - Ringtons Hamper
7. Carole Josling (34) - Ringtons Hamper
8. Margaret Taylor (7) - Ringtons Hamper
9. Samantha Gibson (24) - Ringtons Hamper
10. Liz Patton (75) - Ringtons Hamper
11. Tanya Marshall (29) - 2 Ringtons Union Jack Mugs

Our second competition was for our children and young people.

Blakelaw and North Community Council had an excellent response, we have some very talented artists in our community. Sadly, we were only able to select one design to be printed but everyone is a WINNER - well done to you all.

Our WINNER was Mason with the design shown above. Mason will have his card printed and sent as a thank you to key workers, those who work within a caring role and our NHS - you are all truly heroes in our eyes.



# NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Well-being

Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council is working in partnership with Newcastle college to offer residents of Blakelaw and North Fenham free accredited certificate in well-being course. The course will develop your knowledge in Stress Awareness, Alcohol Awareness, Personal Safety and Dementia Awareness.

Course Material can be sent by email. This is a distance learning course, you will be allocated a college tutor to answer any questions about your course work or give you support where required. To apply or for more information please email: [BNFCC@outlook.com](mailto:BNFCC@outlook.com)



# Free courses using a computer

Free courses on using a computer, browsing the web, sending an email and using office Programs.

Would you like to brush up your IT skills? We offer a range of Free Online IT courses including:

- Online basics
- Using your computer and devices
- Office programs
- Internet skills and more

When registering please use Centre Number: 8005288

Participants will learn at their own pace, completing the module of their choice. To register via our online centre please visit the website: [www.learnmyway.com](http://www.learnmyway.com)



# Grants available from the Community Council

Are you an organisation that organises events or services that will benefit local residents of the Blakelaw and North Fenham area? Did you know you could apply for a grant from the community council. For more information or an application form please email: [bnfcc@outlook.com](mailto:bnfcc@outlook.com)

# Coronavirus (COVID - 19)

The following pages focus on information and updates from a variety of reliable sources:-

For updated information please access the following website:- <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

## Those who are currently shielding

The 2.2 million people in England who are currently shielding can meet in groups from July 6, the Health Secretary has said – with shielding coming to a stop at the end of July.

The new guidance says that from July 6, those shielding from coronavirus can meet with people outside of their household outdoors in groups of six – as long as social distancing is maintained.

People who are shielding and live alone, or are single parents with children, will also be able to create a “support bubble” with one other household of any size, in line with rules already in place for the wider population.

People should continue to follow social distancing guidance when outside their homes, as well as frequently washing their hands, to minimise the risk of becoming infected.

## NHS test and trace: how it works

An overview of the NHS test and trace service, including what happens if you test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive.

[www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works)

## Wearing a face covering

A cloth face covering should cover your mouth and nose while allowing you to breathe comfortably. It can be as simple as a scarf or bandana that ties behind the head.

Wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before putting it on and after taking it off. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth at all times and store used face coverings in a plastic bag until you have an opportunity to wash them.

Do not touch the front of the face covering, or the part of the face covering that has been in contact with your mouth and nose. Once removed, make sure you clean any surfaces the face covering has touched. You should wash a face covering regularly. It can go in with other laundry, using your normal detergent.

When wearing a face covering, take care to tuck away any loose ends. More information can be found on the Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/>

## Need to register the birth of your baby?

Registrations have restarted but are by appointment only and to deal with the backlog we're staggering them based on date of birth. Parents of babies born before March 31 2020 are now invited to contact Newcastle City Council Register Office to make an appointment. Telephone: **0191 278 7878** and ask for Registrars

## Thomas Walling Primary Academy and social distancing

Kenton School have sent videos pretty much daily for our Year 6 pupils. These have been sent directly to those pupils making the transition to Kenton which the Head Teacher at Thomas Walling is sure will really help them feel more confident about the move to a new school in the Autumn. Support with transition is also up and running with other schools. A PowerPoint/video has been made showing a view of what the school now looks like and covers issues of entrance gates, hand-washing and

## YHN Resuming property lettings service - update



Following the latest Government advice on moving homes during the Covid-19 outbreak, we have put plans into place for resuming property advertising and bidding through Tyne & Wear Homes. To help ensure the safety of residents and customers, we will be taking a phased approach to reintroducing the service, prioritising those in most urgent need.

During this initial phase, we will be focusing on supporting customers who had been offered or had successfully bid on properties prior to March 23rd when lockdown restrictions were officially announced.

We will resume property advertising from Thursday 25th June to allow time to process sign-ups agreed prior to lockdown measures coming into force.

From Thursday 25th June a limited number of ready-to-let properties will be advertised each week to ensure that we can carry out the lettings and allocations process while following Government's social distancing guidance to ensure the safety of our customers and staff.

Social distancing measures and delays in supply chains also mean it may take longer than usual for properties to be made ready for letting. In light of this, we will continue to review the number of properties advertised and hope to increase the number available when we are able to.

We anticipate a high demand for property lettings and would like to thank customers for their patience while we work to fully reinstate the service.

If you were due to complete a tenancy sign-up or move prior to lockdown, or had been successful in your bid, a member of our Housing Services team will be in touch with you as soon as possible. New applicants can still register on [www.tyneandwearhomes.org.uk](http://www.tyneandwearhomes.org.uk) and applications from people in urgent need of housing will, for the time being, be assessed by the Emergency Allocations Panel on a daily basis.

If you wish to check on the progress of your bid then you can view your account on [www.tyneandwearhomes.org.uk](http://www.tyneandwearhomes.org.uk). If you have any queries, please contact us in the first instance via email at: [housingsolutions@yhn.org.uk](mailto:housingsolutions@yhn.org.uk)

If you want to talk to a member of the team about your housing application and have any general questions then you should contact us on our usual number **0191 278 8600** – if we cannot answer your query straight away we will transfer your call to a member of the Housing Solutions Team.

If you are over the age of 55 and interested in applying for sheltered or Extra Care accommodation, please contact the Housing Plus team on **0191 278 8585** or email [yourtimeyourspace@yhn.org.uk](mailto:yourtimeyourspace@yhn.org.uk) to find out more.

social distancing, so that the tape and distanced desks do not come as a surprise. The class teachers are providing a friendly voice over. It is hoped that this will reassure the children and they will feel welcomed back, even if it is to a rather changed school. Parents are being telephoned to discuss about going back to school and being given information and reassurance.

**Clir V.ROOK**

# Mental health advice and support, together in one place



## Protecting Your Mental Health During the Coronavirus Outbreak

### Hub Of Hope

The Hub of Hope is a first of its kind, national mental health database which brings together organisations and charities, large and small, from across the country who offer mental health advice and support, together in one place.

### Hub of Hope

hubofhope.co.uk

#### Need Help Now?

The Samaritans 24-hour service to talk to right now call **116 123** or [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

24/7 crisis support across the UK. Text **HOPE** to **85258** if you are experiencing a mental health crisis and need support.

The **Community Council** also have trained **Mental Health First aiders** we are always here if you just need a chat or a listening ear.

#### MANY BUSINESSES AND VENUES IN ENGLAND CAN REOPEN FROM SATURDAY 4 JULY IF THEY ARE COVID-19 SECURE:

- Hotels, B&Bs, holiday homes and campsites
- Restaurants, cafes, pubs and bars
- Cinemas, museums and galleries
- Hair salons and barbers
- Libraries and community centres
- Places of worship
- Outdoor playgrounds and gyms
- Funfairs, theme parks and amusement arcades

**STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES**

### Support bubble

If you live alone you can now visit friends or family in one other house. This is called your support bubble.

- This is only for people who live on their own
- and single parents
- It is not for people who are shielding
- You have to choose just one house to visit
- But you can go indoors and even hug each other

If any of you get coronavirus symptoms You must all stay home for 14 days

#### Need Financial Support?

### Coronavirus Your questions answered on Universal Credit

Find out if you can apply for Universal Credits  
[www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk](http://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk)

## Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Councillors

#### BLAKELAW WARD

##### Cllr John Wears - Chair

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##### Cllr Ron Clark - Vice Chair

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##### Cllr Lorraine Birkett

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##### Cllr James (Jimmy) Gill

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##### Cllr Violet Rooke

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#### NORTH FENHAM WARD

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#### CRAGSTON WARD

##### Cllr Karen Ferry

Email: [jimkazferry@aol.co.uk](mailto:jimkazferry@aol.co.uk)  
Mobile: 07939 326 178

##### Cllr Irene Teasdale

Email: [irenesbuffetts@hotmail.com](mailto:irenesbuffetts@hotmail.com)

##### Vacancy

[www.blakelawnfenhamcommunity-council.com](http://www.blakelawnfenhamcommunity-council.com)



## Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council

For any further information on the Community Council, please contact Helen Richardson, Community Council Clerk on email: [bnfcc@outlook.com](mailto:bnfcc@outlook.com)