



Bishop Auckland student wins scholarship

The oil and gas industry workforce of the future will need to be convinced about a company's business and social credentials before they embark on a career in the North Sea and beyond. This message was delivered to the latest batch of students who have secured a place in the prestigious Scholarship Programme funded by leading North Sea operator, Talisman Energy (UK) Limited.

Among this year's recipients is Adrian Denham from Bishop Auckland, who was awarded a Talisman Energy Specialist Undergraduate Scholarship to assist with his BSc in Geosciences at the University of Aberdeen. The £800,000 Programme has reached a significant milestone in 2010, celebrating its fifth anniversary in partnership with the University of Aberdeen and The Robert Gordon University.



Adrian Denham has won a prestigious scholarship.

It was established to help attract more young people into the energy industry and while that goal remains, the challenge of convincing the next generation of employees of the employment opportunities is growing all the time.

Talisman UK SVP and Country Manager John Forrest said, "The world around us is changing fast and young people now more than ever have different expectations of work.

"As well as convincing them that the oil and gas industry is a fantastic career option, we also have to show we are a socially responsible company that operates in a safe and ethical way.

He added, "I am hugely encouraged by the quality of applicants in 2010. I know many appreciate the financial support, but I believe the mentoring and networking opportunities that come through an association with a company like Talisman is equally if not more important to the young people we are recognising this evening."

Les Thomas, the company's Director of Production Facilities said, "We are delighted to continue investing in the Wood Group scholarship programme for RGU Engineering students. Combined with work placements, the programme is a key element of our recruitment and staff development strategy.

A Christmas thank you from The Bishop Press Staff

Staff at The Bishop Press would like to take this opportunity to thank our readers, contributors and advertisers for making this paper what it is and for your continued support.

We would also like to say thank you to a few people who help bring you your paper every week, come rain, shine or snow!

Most of our contributors are volunteers without whom, as a not-for-profit company, we would not be able to run.

Thank you to James Burrage, who runs the Bishop Press website and to Barbara Spears and John Brennan, two voluntary contributors and Dave Hope our deliverer.

Thanks also to everyone at K&M Print, who helped

us make our long-awaited transition into colour this year, and Keith Wallace who recently retired from our papers after 11 years.

Thank you to the town's Libraries who allow readers to leave their contributions with them, and to our many deliverers, who do a fantastic job in every weather conceivable.

Our biggest appreciation, however, is for you, our readers, who make this paper what it is. Without your news and information we would not be able to fill the paper every week. Please keep it coming!

Merry Christmas to you all and we look forward to seeing you all in 2011!

From Jeff, Les, Steph, Sarah & Andrew at The Bishop Press.

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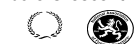
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Christmas Message from Mayor Lesley Zair

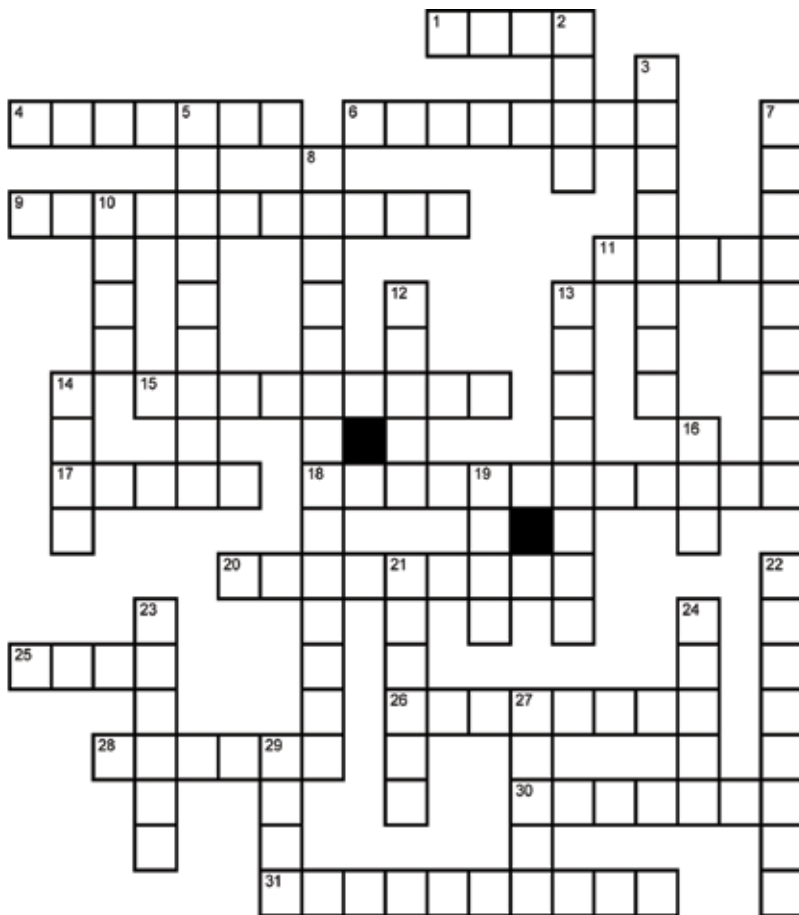


I took over as Mayor of Bishop Auckland in May of this year, a position I was honoured to take on. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time and have met some very interesting people. My aim will always be to raise the profile of our town, Bishop Auckland and, along with my husband Sam, I have attended many fund-raising events, both here and across the region. We have also raised a substantial amount of money so far for the Butterwick Hospice in Bishop Auckland, which I nominated as my Charity for the year. I also have other events planned to raise money for my Charity, culminating in a Civic Charity Ball on February the 5th here in our Town Hall. Anyone who would like to attend can obtain tickets from the Town Clerk, Linda Goldie at the Four Clocks Centre on 01388 609852.

May we take this opportunity in wishing everyone a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.
Regards

Councillor Lesley Zair Mayor of Bishop Auckland

Christmas Crossword



Down

2. Something people decorate.
3. What people give each other.
5. Where Santa's workshop is located.
7. A striped Christmas treat.
8. Drink and food left for Santa.
10. Something people send to each other to say 'Merry Christmas'.
12. The presents are usually _____ the tree.
13. The month of Christmas.
14. Look at a present before you should.
16. The color of Santa's suit.
19. A common decoration for the top of the tree.
21. A famous snowman.
22. The place where Santa makes toys.
23. Santa's car?
24. A common decoration for the top of the tree.
27. A Christmas song.
29. What Santa gives to good girls and boys.

Across

1. Another word for present.
4. Santa's door?
6. Animals that pull Santa's sleigh.
9. What people put on their Christmas tree.
11. Something on Santa's face.
15. The day after Christmas.
17. Santa's helpers.
18. The day before Christmas.
20. A piece of snow.
25. What Santa gives to bad girls and boys.
26. A sock that hangs by the chimney.
28. People put these bright things on their house.
30. A reindeer with a red nose.
31. A jolly man in a red suit with a beard.

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Did you know?

Christmas trees become popular in the UK from 1841 when Prince Albert erected a tree in Windsor Castle following a German tradition. Fir trees have been decorated at Christmas time in Germany since the 8th century.

Youngsters thankful for your generosity



Sainsbury's store manager Tom Phillipson with Deputy Head Mr. Hassan and Year 1 to 6 pupils from Hamsterley Primary School.

Children from Hamsterley Primary School would like to say a huge thank you to customers of Sainsbury's for their generosity on the afternoon of 9th December. Pupils sang Christmas carols to shoppers getting

some last minute presents bought and making sure the shelves are stocked for Christmas. Deputy Headteacher Mr. Hassan said, "All the staff and customers at the store were so kind and encouraging, and as a result the

children greatly enjoyed the experience." The children managed to raise an amazing sum of £187 in just an hour and half. The money will now directly benefit them adding to school funds.

Christmas and New Year bus services

Changes to Go Ahead Northern bus services throughout the holiday

period are as follows:
Service 21 Bishop Auckland - Newcastle stopping service
Service x23 Bishop Auckland - Newcastle express service
Friday 24th December and Friday 31st December service ends by 7pm. No service on Christmas Day.
Sunday 26th December (Boxing Day) Service 21 withdrawn between

Bishop Auckland and Durham between 10am-6pm. There is a half hourly service from Durham to Newcastle.
A Saturday service schedule will run on Monday 27th December until Friday 31st December. No service on New Year's Day. Normal Sunday service will apply on Sunday 2nd January and again on Monday 3rd January.

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Local heritage season

The Discovery Centre in Bishop Auckland will be launching its local heritage season at the start of the New Year. The Discovery Centre is looking to feature exhibitions on local history for its local heritage season. If you are a local history group or an individual with an interest in local history, the Discovery Centre would like to feature your work. Research and objects can be displayed at the centre; they can also help promote your collection to the visiting public. The room is free to use

and there are friendly volunteers on hand to man the exhibition. If the exhibition involves sales of items, the Discovery Centre does ask for a 10% commission. The Centre typically opens at 10am and closes at 1pm Tuesday - Friday but can open longer if requested. The local heritage season will take place in the Discovery Centre starting in January and running till March 2011. Should you wish to use the centre to display anything, please contact Daniel Parmley on 01388 662666.

Superdrug perfume raid

Police are appealing for information after over £3,000 worth of perfume was stolen from a Bishop Auckland store. The incident occurred at around 2.45am on Monday 6th December, when three men broke into Superdrug in Newgate Street by kicking the doors and windows. CCTV footage captured the event, which took about

a minute and a half, and showed the men filling bags with a variety of perfume. PC Lee Nicholson urged anyone with information to contact police, as well as anyone who may have been offered cheap perfume for sale. Contact Bishop Auckland Police team on 0345 60 60 365 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Delivery driver convicted of rape

A man who worked as a delivery driver for a Bishop Auckland pizza shop has been convicted of raping a 12 year-old girl. Twenty one year-old Curtis Warren was convicted by a jury at Teesside Crown Court last week. They heard how Warren had sex with the young girl in his car

after he took her for a drive. He claimed in court that he had not touched the girl, but was found to be guilty based on the evidence that a condom was found in the car park of the Toronto Lodge containing his DNA. Warren, who worked for Pizza Zone, will be sentenced on January 7th.

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Fire crew save Meals on Wheels

Bishop Auckland Firemen came to the rescue of Woodhouse Close Church's Meal on Wheels service recently, when food couldn't be delivered due to the bad weather. The fire crew helped to distribute around 30 meals to local housebound residents, some of whom had not seen a friendly face for quite a few days.

On the same day, the Probation Service Payback Team cleared the church's car park of 18 inches of snow, in order to enable people to park for the luncheon club.

A spokesperson for Woodhouse Close Church said, "This is a clear example of our community partners working together in tough circumstances."

Grab a bargain

All the major shops in Bishop Auckland will be open on Monday 27th December and Tuesday 28th December with selected late opening times.

Boyes and W.H. Smith

are open until 8pm on Thursday 23rd December, Marks & Spencer till 7pm and the Newgate Centre till 8m.

The Newgate Centre is also open on Sunday 26th December.



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Did you know?

Santa Claus has many different names around the world including Father Christmas in the UK, Pere Noel in France, Kriss Kringle in Germany, La Befana in Italy, Julinisse in Denmark, Dedushka Moroz (meaning Grandfather Frost) in Russia and the Three Kings in Spain and Mexico.

The typical image we have of Santa Claus dressed in red clothes with white fur trim, is an amalgamation of cultural input over many years. Some people claim the image of Santa we know today is from Coca-cola advertising, but this simply isn't true. The standard Santa garb was well established by the 1920s and it wasn't until the 1930s that Coca-cola first used the Santa Claus design in their advertising.

HAPPA rescues abandoned Shetland Pony

A miniature sick and abandoned Shetland pony rescued by equine charity HAPPA on Friday 12th November has now found a permanent home with the charity.

On Thursday 11th November a complaint was received at HAPPA Head Office from a lady in Bishop Auckland expressing her concern over the welfare of a Shetland pony that she had discovered whilst walking her dog.

The following day, HAPPA Welfare Officer David McCormick was shown the animal's location and was saddened by what he found.

"I was led to a very large field/forest area that ran adjacent to a road and after walking for approximately quarter of a mile I came to a grove that was completely hidden from the view of anyone walking past.

"Once inside the clearing, I saw a miniature Shetland tied to a tree trunk by a length of washing line. There was no sign of any water available to the animal or any empty containers to suggest that any water had been supplied to it. In addition, there was no evidence of any type of food left for him.

"On closer examination, I noticed some form of discharge coming from the animal's throat area.

"The complainant went on to inform me that she had



Little John was found tied to a tree with no food or water.

found the pony tied up some five days previously and to date no one had been to tend to it.

"She also added that it was a pure fluke that she found the pony as she stumbled across him whilst walking her dog and that it was not an area generally frequented by walkers.

"I then called a veterinary surgeon that provided the animal with immediate treatment and contacted the local Police to confirm that the animal had not been stolen. When I discovered that it had not, I reported the animal as found property. I then arranged for the pony to be transported to our Rescue Centre at Shores Hey Farm, Briercliffe, near Burnley."

Although still under veterinary care, Little John, as the HAPPA team have named him, has settled well into his new

home and will now enjoy a safe and secure Christmas with other horsey friends around him.

The statutory waiting time has now elapsed and no one has come forward to claim him. As a result he has now become the property of HAPPA and is recovering well.

David went on to say, "Our thanks go to the conscientious dog walker who cared enough to call us in the first place. Without you, Little John would have continued to be alone with no home, or maybe even have lost his life."

Anyone wishing to support Little John or any of the other rescued HAPPA animals can make a secure online donation at www.happa.org.uk or send a cheque to HAPPA, Shores Hey Farm, Blackhouse Lane, Briercliffe, Nr Burnley, Lancs, BB10 3QU or call 01282 455992.

Xmas Conundrums

Rearrange the letters in the expressions below to form a festive phrase...

OPEN ACE HEART
THIS CRIB FORTH
MISS CHERRY MART

As a bonus try and form as many 8 letter words from the phrases as possible...

Evergreen's invite new members for new year

The ever - popular Evergreens - activities for the over 50s in the Town Hall, Bishop Auckland will start their new programme of events after the Christmas break on

Wednesday 12th January from 10.30am till 12 noon. New members are always made welcome and the varied programme of different speakers is designed to appeal to all

interests. "Why not come along for a 'taster' session for only £2?" asked a spokesperson. To find out more contact Anita Berry or Linda Tobin at the Town Hall on 01388 602610.

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Did you know?

Before settling on the name of Tiny Tim for his character in "A Christmas Carol," three other alliterative names were considered by Charles Dickens. They were Little Larry, Puny Pete, and Small Sam!

Peppa Pig plays a part



Peppa Pig with Faye Buckle aged 3.

Just under 300 people each Nursery child and attended Bishop Auckland College Nursery's Christmas Fayre recently, raising a total of £1001. This money will be used to buy a Christmas gift for

each Nursery child and a visit to Bamboozles for their Christmas Party. Peppa Pig who was a big hit with the children officially opened the recently refurbished Nursery.

Farewell Father Rose

Members of three Catholic parishes gathered together to bid farewell to their departing priest, Father Jonathan Rose. Father Rose served as parish priest for St. Mary's and St. Wilfrid's churches in Bishop Auckland, and St. Paulinus Church in St. Helen

Auckland for four years and was honoured with a mass celebrating his time served in our community at St. Paulinus Church last week. Parishioners praised Father Rose for bringing all three congregations together and raising the profile of the Catholic Church locally.

A spokesperson for the parishes added, "Father Rose has always been known as a man who gets things done and who is not afraid to get his hands dirty. "Most recently he has proved very handy with a shovel, helping the church's neighbours clear the snow from their street."

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Every time you use our sunbeds in January 2011 you will be entered into a prize draw to win £150 to spend instore. Prize drawn on 1st February 2011.

Knock next door – be a good neighbour this winter

People in Bishop Auckland are being encouraged to 'knock next door' and help out friends and neighbours during the bad weather.

Durham County Council is issuing the call to action as the snow and freezing temperatures return.

Residents are encouraged to:

- Be a good neighbour by calling on those living near by to check if they need anything.

- Look after the vulnerable by getting in touch with people who are ill, older or on their own and may need a helping hand.

- Keep drives and footpaths clear by shovelling snow for friends and neighbours if they struggle to do it themselves and need to go out.

Lesley Jeavons, Durham County Council's head of adult care, said, "The cold weather can significantly increase the risks to those who are already vulnerable, so it's particularly important that we look after one another.

"We're asking residents to spare a thought -



Be a good neighbour over this especially cold festive season.

and perhaps a little of their time - for friends, relatives and neighbours who may struggle in the worst of the winter.

"Whether it's phoning an older person to check they are keeping warm or clearing the snow from the drive next door if your neighbour can't manage, a small act can make a big difference to someone else."

When checking on the vulnerable, residents should ensure they are warm, especially at night, and have food and

medicines so they don't need to leave the house.

Residents are advised to call the following numbers for help or advice:

- Highways Action Line (HAL): 0191 370 6000 or email HAL@durham.gov.uk - for enquiries about the salting of roads and footpaths.

- Social Care Direct: 0845 850 5010 - for concerns about someone's welfare.

- Durham County Council: 0300 123 7070 for all other issues, or visit www.durham.gov.uk

Asda competition winners

Thank you to everyone who entered our 'Win Christmas with the Bishop Press' competition, which was in issue 45. The correct answer to the question 'What is the name of Asda's recently re-launched range, was C) Chosen by You.

The five winners of the £100 Christmas shopping

vouchers were chosen randomly by Asda staff on Friday 17th December and were:

- Heidi Scott of Peacock Court, Bishop Auckland.
- Samantha Barber of West Lane, Bishop Auckland.
- Nigel Henderson of Linburn Drive, Bishop Auckland.

- Derek Flatman of West Lane, Bishop Auckland.

- Samantha Turvey of Salisbury Place, Bishop Auckland.

The vouchers are winging their way to you as we go to press, fingers crossed there are no further weather delays and they will be with you before Christmas!

Local advice surgery

If you have any issues you would like to raise or discuss about your local constituency you can air your views at an advice surgery which is being held by MP for

Bishop Auckland, Helen Goodman.

The next session is scheduled for Friday 7th January 2011 at 5pm in her Constituency Office, which is at 1 Cockton Hill

Road, Bishop Auckland. You can also write to the office above, or alternatively contact Helen Goodman MP at The House of Commons, London, SW1A, 0AA.

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Festive window winner revealed

Traders in a County Durham town are bringing some extra Christmas cheer to their high street with festive window displays.

A record 19 shops in Bishop Auckland entered the town's annual window dressing competition this year.

The contest, organised by Durham County Council, has been running for several years and aims to increase festive feeling in the town.

For the second year running, judges declared Shewan Opticians the winner.

They also commended displays by Thornton's, Peek-a-Boo, Cameo, Northern Rock and Flower World.

Steve McCormick, Bishop Auckland town centre manager, said: "The judges were once again very pleased with the high quality of the displays and the effort that businesses had put into dressing their windows."

"Their efforts have contributed greatly to the festivities and helped foster some community spirit - as well as some friendly rivalry."

Town Hall appreciate generosity

Staff at Bishop Auckland Town Hall have expressed their appreciation to everyone who have contributed to the two charity events held recently.

For Children in Need a grand total of £715 was raised while the Folk Night on 17th November raised nearly £500.

A spokesperson commented, I'd like to thank everyone involved - the audience who supported the night so generously, and the artists who gave their

time free - Laceywing, Andy McLaughlin, The John Wrightson Band, and headline act Flossie Malavialle.

"The balance was generated from our Christmas hampers raffle, and again, I'd like to thank all library customers who supported this so generously, and to the library staff who donated all the prizes."

Bishop Auckland Civic Society's annual Town Quiz raised £700 towards their chosen good cause.

Unused spectacles

Do you have spectacles which you do not use anymore? If so, you can take them to Rayner's Opticians at 75 Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland, who will put them to good

use for disadvantaged people in the Third World. When you take your old specs to Rayners they will give your current spectacles a free MOT, clean, tighten and adjustment.

Christmas services

Bishop Auckland Methodist Church in Cockton Hill Road is holding a Christmas Eve Crib Service from 4pm, and at 11.15pm there will

be a Holy Communion for Christmas.

The following morning on Christmas Day there will be a Family Service at 11am.

Scouts are prepared for adventure with new mini bus



Councillor Neil Harrison (far left) and Councillor Sam Zair (second from right) with Derek Ward (far right, scout group president), the 2nd Bishop Auckland Beavers and leaders.

Members of the 2nd Bishop Auckland Scout Group are looking forward to upcoming adventures in their new mini bus.

The bus has been given to the group as part of a scheme funded by Bishop Auckland and Shildon Area Action Partnerships' (AAP) neighbourhood budget via county councillors Sam Zair and Neil Harrison.

The scout group, which was originally set up in

the 1940s, provides adventurous activities for youngsters, while teaching them to work together in teams, take on responsibility and think for themselves. The bus features the scouts' brightly coloured logo and their motto 'be prepared' on the side. The AAP grant also went towards seat covers and will cover the cost of a place to store the vehicle.

Derek Ward, 2nd Bishop

Auckland scout group president, said: "The 2nd Bishop Auckland Scout Group is extremely grateful to Durham County Council for their generosity in helping us to fund this new minibus which helps to transport our members out and about on their activities."

The group membership of the 2nd Bishop Auckland Scout group has about 80 members.

New community group

Attention Voluntary & Community Groups in the Bishop Auckland & Shildon areas. There is a new Community Action Focus Group giving voluntary and community groups a bigger voice. It aims to be a vehicle for local groups to exchange information good practices, local concerns and issues and suggest possible solutions and monitor

outcomes. It will give a chance for groups to discuss local issues affecting their area and if appropriate, suggest actions to be taken, such as organising public meetings. It will be a vehicle of communication with various service providers including the local authority, primary care trusts, local children's board and the area action

partnerships. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th January at 1.30pm in the Four Clocks Centre in Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland. Any groups wishing to join should contact Gina Underwood at Coundon & Leeholme Community Partnership, 13 Tees Walk, Coundon, Bishop Auckland DL14 8JZ.

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Did you know?
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 The first postage stamp to commemorate Christmas was issued in Austria in 1937.
 The Queen's Christmas speech was first televised in 1957.

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Christmas Recipe

Baileys Chocolate Cheesecake

Ingredients

- 100g/3½oz butter
- 250g/8¾oz digestive biscuits, crushed
- 600g/1lb 5oz Philadelphia cream cheese
- 25ml/1fl oz Baileys
- 100ml/3½oz icing sugar
- 300ml/10½oz whipped double cream
- 100g/3½oz grated chocolate
- 200ml/7¼oz whipped double cream to garnish
- cocoa powder, to dust



Method

1. Melt the butter in a pan and add the crushed digestive biscuits. Mix well until the biscuits have absorbed all the butter.
2. Remove from the heat and press into the bottom of a lined 18cm/7in springform tin. Place in the refrigerator and allow to set for one hour.
3. Meanwhile, prepare the filling. Lightly whip the cream cheese then beat in the Bailey's and icing sugar. Fold in the whipped cream and grated chocolate. When smooth, spoon evenly onto the biscuits.
4. Refrigerate and allow to set for a further two hours. Once set, remove and decorate with whipped cream and cocoa powder dusted over the top. Serve.

Christmas Wordsearch

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

- | | | | | |
|------------|--------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Ball | Cupid | Gingerbread | Reindeer | Stocking |
| Bell | Dancer | Noel | Rudolph | Sugarplums |
| Blitzen | Dasher | Northpole | Sack | Toy |
| Candy cane | Donner | Nutcracker | Santa Claus | Tree |
| Chimney | Elf | Peace | Sled | Vixen |
| Christmas | Frosty | Prancer | Snowman | Workshop |
| Comet | Gift | Present | Star | Wreath |

Christmas Quiz

1. The dragon-slayer, St. George, was born in Cappadocia. In which modern day country is Cappadocia?
 2. What are you eating if you are enjoying 'March Bread'?
 3. In which country were Christmas trees banned from the 1920s until 1935?
 4. Which Christmas figure wore green in Victorian England?
 5. In North America, which organisation is always the first to spot that Santa is underway?
 6. In which European country have Christmas parties been cancelled due to the Credit Crunch?
 7. Who is the traditional Christmas gift-bringer in regions of Southern Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Italy, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Hungary and parts of Hispanic America?
 8. So legend has it, whilst poking at a fire, the London-based sweet shop owner Tom Smith got the inspiration to make what Christmas dinner accessory?
 9. A word for wine that has been spiced and heated.
 10. One often has a glass of something before Christmas dinner as an APERITIF. The word stems from the Latin word meaning what?
 11. Santa's favourite tippie is sherry, so they say. There are two main types of sherry. Name them.
 12. What kind of water is added to high quality marzipan?
 13. What kind of net, found on many a Christmas tree in the Ukraine, is supposed to bring good luck?
 14. In 'The Christmas Song' (Chestnuts roasting on an open fire...), what are the "folks dressed up like"?
 15. Which charity ceased in 1989 after 5 years in which time it raised 90 million pounds?
 16. Which country gives a Christmas tree to Britain every year, something it has done traditionally for years?
 17. Gaja Kristnako is Happy Christmas in which language?
 18. Which biblical town's name means 'house of bread' in Hebrew?
- Good luck! Answers on back page...

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Bishop Auckland F.C. Christmas update

Latest match updates:

4th December	vs Esh Winning (H)	Postponed
8th December	vs West Allotment (A)	Postponed
11th December	vs Tow Law Town (H)	Postponed
15th December	Shildon 7 - 1 Bishop Auckland	



The weather managed to brake for long enough last week to allow Shildon to exact revenge for their Durham Challenge Cup thrashing at the hands of Bishops.

This time it was the two blues on the wrong end of a difficult half, in which Shildon blitzed Bishops young defence.

Darren Richardson managed to find an equalizer to Shildon's early strike, before the home side ran in five more unanswered goals before half time. Shildon coming in at the break 6-1 up.

The second half was a more even affair, but the damage had already been done.

A deserved win for Shildon, the game finishing a disappointing 7-1.

The defeat leaves Bishops languishing in a troubling 19th position.

Upcoming fixtures:

Saturday 18th December	vs Sunderland RCA (H)	3.00pm
Wednesday 22nd December	vs Norton & Stockton (A)	7.30pm
Monday 27th December	vs Spennymoor Town (H)	3.00pm

With the state of the current weather, games could be affected at short notice. Please use the following to confirm the fixtures before making travel arrangements:
 Fixture information line: 07989 226 838

Website:

www.bishopafc.com

Twitter: @bishopafc

A 10am pitch inspection is planned for the 18th December.

The kick off time for the Bank Holiday Monday fixture versus Spennymoor is also under review, so keep an eye on the information services listed above.

Lottery manager wanted

Bishop Auckland F.C. are looking for a lottery manager to run The Two Blues Lotto in association with Everton F.C.

This is a salaried position, with the job involving the management of the scheme in conjunction with Everton, co-ordinating col-

lections and canvassing for new members.

Interested parties need to email in from the club website www.bishopafc.com

Christmas thanks

Following the successful prize draw last weekend, the club would like to express it's thanks for your support.

"Thanks to everyone who has either sold tickets on behalf of the club, or who has bought a ticket" said a club spokesperson.

He continued his well wishes saying, "On behalf of everyone at Bishop Auckland Football Club have a great Christmas. We hope to see you all at Heritage Park over the festive season and into the new year."

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England debut denied due to injury

Rugby League starlet Jamie Love from Bishop Auckland was cruelly robbed of his England U18 debut due to injury.

He suffered a fractured kneecap ruling him out of the schoolboy internationals against Wales and Australia last month.

Love is signed to Gateshead Thunder, but picked up the injury playing for Durham Tigers in the close season.

"I took the full impact on my knee in a collision during the game" said the tenacious 17 year old.

"It's going to take five or six weeks to return to full fitness, but the Gateshead season doesn't start until February and I am confident I will be raring to go by then" enthused

Jamie.

Although he missed the chance to play for England, he was thrilled with the call up.

"I was disappointed not to play, but the whole training experience was fantastic. It has just made me realise I want to be a professional rugby player."

The Great Britain U18 Community Lions are touring America in February next year, and Love is hopeful he will not have to wait too long for his international honours.

"There will be a squad of 26 going to America and to be a part of that tour would be a fantastic experience." "I will keep on training and working hard and keep my fingers crossed."

Answers to Christmas Quiz

1. Turkey. 2. Marzipan 3. Soviet Union 4. Father Christmas 5. N:O:R:A:D: North American Radar And Defense 6. Croatia 7. The Christkind (Christ Child) - Also accept Kris Kringle, an Americanised version of the word. 8. Christmas crackers. 9. Mulled. 10. To open. 11. Fino and Oloroso. 12. Rose Water. 13. A spiders web. 14. Eskimos. 15. Band Aid. 16. Norway. 17. Esperanto. 18. Bethlehem.

Conundrums

OPEN ACE HEART
PEACE ON EARTH
 THIS CRIB FORTH
BIRTH OF CHRIST
 MISS CHERRY MART
MERRY CHRISTMAS

Answers to Christmas Crossword

Across: 1. Gift, 4. Chimney, 6. Reindeer, 9. Decorations, 11. Beard, 15. Boxing day, 17. Elves, 18. Christmas eve, 20. Snowflake, 25. Coal, 26. Stocking, 28. Lights, 30. Rudolph, 31. Santa Claus.

Down: 2. Tree, 3. Presents, 5. North pole, 7. Candy cane, 8. Milk and cookies, 10. Card, 12. Under, 13. December, 14. Peek, 16. Red, 19. Star, 21. Frosty, 22. Workshop, 23. Sleigh, 24. Angel, 27. Carol, 29. Toys.

Did you know?
 In the religious tradition, Christmas season begins at sundown on December 24th., and ends on January 5th with the feast of Epiphany. This is why, the season is also known as the Twelve Days of Christmas.

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