

Your neighbourhood

Christmas at St Aiden's

Anybody who's alone this Christmas Day can get along to a community Christmas Day lunch at St Aiden's Church in Billingham.

The church will be providing a free four-course Christmas Day lunch. This is open to individuals and families but booking is required. Please call **01642 554 929** to book your place.

Lydia Hodgson, your neighbourhood officer will be volunteering on the day, so watch out for her and stop her for a chat.

Flash your trash

We ran a special 'flash your trash' event in October to give residents across Billingham the chance to get rid of larger items of household rubbish from their homes.

A number of streets across the town took part in the event which was designed to encourage residents to declutter their homes and dispose of any larger items of unwanted waste free of charge.

The idea behind flash your trash events is to reduce incidents of fly tipping in the area, and work to ensure that our neighbourhoods are clean and tidy, especially around bonfire night to avoid the potential for arson on our streets.

Neighbourhood walkabouts

Lydia Hodgson is the neighbourhood officer for Low Grange and Leah Weatheritt the neighbourhood officer for Prior and Melsonby Court. They are regularly out and about in your neighbourhood and carrying out walkabouts on estates which you're welcome to join in with.

The walkabouts, also known as estate inspections, involve walking around the estates where Thirteen's homes are located, and identifying issues that might need to be tackled.

The dates, times and meeting places of walkabouts in your area are:

Area	Time	Meeting point	Dates
Low Grange	10am	Lion Pub	18 January 2018
Radburn	10am	Low Grange shops	17 January 2018
Prior and Melsonby Court	10am	Melsonby Court Foyer	20 February 2018

Please come along and tell us what you think about your neighbourhood. If you can't make it to one of the walkabouts and there's something you'd like us to look at, please contact your neighbourhood officer using the details below.

Community Christmas party

If you fancy making new friends or getting together with old ones, come along to a community Christmas party for the over 50s this month.

The festivities will kick off from 1 till 4pm on 14 December at Low Grange Social Club.

Following last year's successful event, there'll be a disco, raffle and bingo. Tickets are available from Thirteen's desk in Billingham Library from 1 December. Jenny Brereton, customer involvement officer, Lydia Hodgson and Leah Weatheritt, neighbourhood officers from Thirteen, plan to attend also.

Do you know anyone who needs a home?

Thirteen often has homes for rent in the area and across Teesside. If you know someone who would like to live in the area, please let them know!

We have all sorts of properties available, including flats, apartments and houses available for affordable rent. Some homes could be available for rent immediately and renting with Thirteen means no bond, no deposit and a 24 hour emergency repairs line.

So if you know anyone who'd like to rent in the area, please pass on this newsletter and ask them to contact Thirteen on **0300 111 1000** or click **www.thirteengroup.co.uk/findahome**

Get in touch

If you'd like more information about anything in this update or if you have any issues about your neighbourhood that you'd like to discuss, please contact your neighbourhood officer at:

- email: lydia.hodgson@thirteengroup.co.uk or leah.weatheritt@thirteengroup.co.uk

- tel: **0300 111 1000**; Lydia **07717 542 955**;
Leah **07909 686 026**

Alternatively, visit the website for information about Thirteen or the self-service site to contact us:

- website: **www.thirteengroup.co.uk**
- self-service: **www.thirteengroup.co.uk/SelfService**