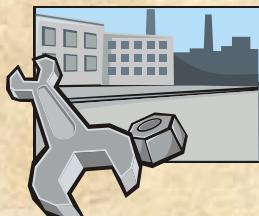


WHAT THE BADGERS



SAW 15

Up to the Millennium



So, we're really coming up to date now!
Read on to see what has happened in our region in recent times.

During the last decade of the last millennium Durham's last coal mine closed down, after 800 years of mining. In June 1994 the Wearmouth Colliery in Sunderland was closed and demolished and a huge new football stadium was erected - the Stadium of Light. (Can you find out why it got that name?)

There were lots more developments, which were aimed at making the area a better place to live.

In 1990, the National Garden Festival was held in Gateshead. It was used to help regenerate old, derelict industrial land.



In April 1990, the Teikyo University of Japan was established in Durham. Students from Japan now come and study for a year alongside the students at Durham University.



Not to be outdone, in 1992, Teesside Polytechnic was transformed into the University of Teesside.



Have you ever thought about what you'd like to do when you leave school? How about A-levels and then university to train for what you'd really like to do with your life?

In 1990, work began on Teesside Park, near Middlesbrough.

1991 saw the return of the beautiful statue of King Neptune to its plinth in Durham Market Place. It had been missing for a number of years.

In 1992, Sunderland became a city. Newcastle was the last town in the North East to become a city, in 1882.

In 1993, Durham Cathedral celebrated its 900th anniversary! Building started in 1093, under Bishop William St. Carileph.

In 995 the City of Durham became 1000 years old. In the summer of 995 AD, monks carrying the remains of St. Cuthbert, settled at 'Dun Holm'. St Cuthbert still lies in Durham Cathedral.



In 1992, first class cricket came, (at last), to Durham. Durham now play first class cricket at the Riverside Ground.

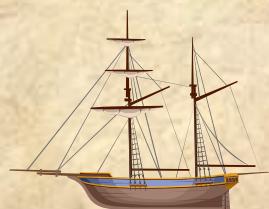
On August 16th 1995, the Riverside Stadium was opened in Middlesbrough. The home team won 2 - 0 over Chelsea.



On July 30th 1997, the Stadium of Light finally opened on the site of the Wearmouth Colliery.

In July 1994, Hartlepool's Historic Quay opened. It is in the style of an 18th Century Seaport. (Now this really is worth a visit! Ask your family to take you there.)

Many things of interest can be seen in the houses and shops that line the quayside.



You can also visit the museum.



February 1995 saw serious flooding on the River Tees, near Neasham, Croft and Hurworth. Many thousands of pounds worth of damage was done to homes and other buildings. (Which famous writer lived in Croft?)

However, on April 22nd 1995, the Tees Barrage opened at Stockton-on-Tees. It cost £50,000,000 to build and created a stretch of clean water for 10 miles from Yarm to Stockton. The barrage has enabled people to create a white water canoeing course.

Fancy a try?



On February 15th 1998, the 'Angel of the North' was erected in Gateshead. It weighs in at 300 tonnes. It has become one of the North East's best-known landmarks.

On January 1st 2000, a whole new millennium dawned. It is the third millennium. There were many parties all over the country. At the stroke of midnight, the air was filled with the sight, sounds and smell of fireworks!

