InformationNOW
Information for people in Newcastle upon Tyne

What you can do online

The internet can be used for many things such as keeping in touch with people, entertainment, shopping and for fun.

Shopping Online

Shopping online is one of the most popular uses of the Internet. You can buy almost anything online, without having to leave your own home. Goods are often cheaper when you buy online, although you may have to pay a delivery charge. Sometimes it is easier to have meals or food items delivered to your door so that you don't have to go out, particularly in bad weather.

All of the major retailers and supermarkets have online shopping websites, as well as lots of small businesses. Auction websites, such as **eBay** sell new and second-hand items.

All reputable online retailers will have security measures to protect you from any risk of fraud.

www.getsafeonline.org offers more advice about buying or selling online.

The following websites may also be of interest to you:

- **www.pricerunner.com** – A price comparison website, to help you to find the best deals when buying online.
- **www.thetrainline.com** – A website where you can often find discounted train tickets.
- **www.moneysavingexpert.com –** a website where you can find advice on online shopping, including hints and tips on how to get the best deals.

'**How to pay for things online**' is a short video from BBC WebWise which you might find helpful.

Watch TV Online

There are a number of websites available now where you can catch up on your favourite TV or radio programmes and some films for free.

- **BBC iPlayer** where you can watch programmes from the last week from BBC channels
- **ITV Hub** where you can watch a range of ITV programmes
- **4oD** where you can catch up on Channel 4 programmes or choose from their library of shows/films

Watch films

There are a number of online websites where you pay a monthly subscription to watch as many films/TV shows as you like. This could be a more affordable option than paying for cable or satelite TV packages.

However you will need to use your internet connection to watch the films so please check with your internet provider that you have the right broadband package to allow you to do this. Some of these websites include;

- **Netflix –** pay a monthly subscription to watch films and TV programmes
- **Amazon Prime–** pay a monthly subscription to watch films and TV programmes
- **YouTube –** watch free videos and clips
- **Vimeo –** watch free videos and clips

Listen to music

You can download and listen to music on a range of devices, such as smart phones, tablets, or an mp4 players, such as an iPod. There is usually a charge to download or stream music. You may be able to listen for free on some accounts. Or you can listen to music or 'stream' it from a service such as:

- Spotify
- Apple Music
- Amazon
- Google
- YouTube

Radio and podcasts

You can listen to the radio, play back previous episodes of a show or podcast on the Internet. The following websites may be of interest to you;

- **BBC iPlayer** – listen to all of the BBC radio channels live and also catch up on programmes that you've missed
- **Spotify** – where you can register for free to listen to music
- **LastFM** – a free online radio station where you can listen to music that you choose
- **Tunein** – a free website where you can listen to radio stations from around the world and your local station too.
- **Mixcloud** – Visit LLARN to find podcasts across a network that InformationNOW and Elders Council belong to.
- **Radio Tyneside** has volunteer radio broadcasters playing their favourite music and covering health and care issues
- **Older Voices** airs on the first Friday of every month on Nova Radio
- **Radio Garden** listen to music across the world.

- **Radio Gateshead** – Radio For The People Of Gateshead including the latest community news, information and music
- **BBC Radio Newcastle** – Radio for the North East (incl. Northumberland, Sunderland, County Durham). 95.4FM, 1458AM, DAB.
- COG Grand Radio Christian Radio Station based in Walker

'**Listening online**' is a short video from BBC WebWise which you might find helpful.

News Online

The Internet is ideal for keeping up to date with the news. You can check the latest news at any time from anywhere in the world, without having to wait for the daily newspaper or the scheduled bulletins on television and radio.

The following are some of the websites that you can get news from:

- **BBC News** – International, national and local news from the BBC
- **Paperboy** – Find the websites of local newspapers, or those of other countries

Each of the national newspapers also has their own website. Some require a subscription to read more. These are listed below:

- **Daily and Sunday Express**
- **Daily Mail**
- **The Guardian**
- **The Independent**
- **Mirror**
- **The Observer**
- **The Sun**
- **The Telegraph**
- **The Times**

Social networking and blogs

Social networking is a way of using your computer to talk to other people, make connections with new people, exchange pictures, invite people to an event; whatever you want to do.

Popular social networking websites include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest.

Digital Unite have some very helpful online guides introducing you to various computer basics, including one on **social networking**.

Blog is short for 'web log'. It is like an online diary. You can choose to keep it private, share it with friends, or publish it to the whole world. The tools for creating a blog are free and are an easy way to produce your own website.

Several people can contribute to a blog, which means that blogs are useful for groups of people to exchange views or keep in touch with each other. A blog can also contain photographs, video clips or music.

There are many websites that you can use to create your own blog, including **Google Blogger** or **WordPress**.

If you would like to talk to people online about something technical – this includes accessing experts in WordPress or Drupal, then contact **Meetup**

History Online

If you can't get to the museum, the museum can now come to you with two new websites which allow you to browse museum collections and interesting places in the North East.

100objectsNE.co.uk is an online exhibition allowing you to explore the history of the North East, as told through a 'virtual exhibition' of 100 objects held by museums, galleries and archives across the North East.

North East Film Archive is where you can watch many films for free, looking back at how things used to be in Newcastle. The films date from the early 1900's to the present day. They cover a range of subjects, including rural and urban life, industry and agriculture, family life, holidays and leisure, and wartime in the region.

Arts, crafts and creative things to do online

The Baltic Centre for contemporary art has an online programme archive 'Meet and Make Online for families' that has some great ideas for craft projects you can make at home following the videos.

Help to plan your trip to Newcastle City Centre

How Busy Is Toon ? gives you information to help understand how busy the buses, roads and city centre is. So you feel safe and prepared when planning to visit Newcastle city centre. Visit the website to see:

- Street images of: Northumberland Street, Grey Street, Barrack Road and Blackett Street, updated every 5 minutes
- Images of key roads into the city, updated every 15 minutes
- A real-time map showing the location of every bus operating across Newcastle, searchable by route number
- Car park spaces available
- Up-to-date traffic and travel information
- Information on Electric vehicle (EV) charging locations
- Walking and cycling routes to help you plan your journey
- Up-to-date coronavirus rules and safety guidance

Other Useful Information

- **Making the most of the internet** – Age UK guide
- **Citizens Online** run online events, provide a free digital support helpline and a trained team of digital champions who will call you back and offer friendly, patient support over the phone.
- **Media Savvy CIC** run a variety of digital skills courses for marginalised groups, including:- Basics, Social Media, eSafety, Employability, Money Matters.
- **Mobile Phones article**
- **Seeing Ear** runs an online library which provides books in a flexible format that can be downloaded by library members.
- **Radioechoes.com** is a website offering over 85,000 Old Time Radio programs available to be instantly listened to or downloaded for free.
- **Infosound** is an information service for vision-impaired (blind and partially-sighted) people in Great Britain. They cover any subject that deals with the practical aspects of living with sight loss. They continuously broadcast information around the clock and also provide an on-demand service where individual audio features can be selected and heard.
- **Rest Less** is a digital community that aims to inspire today's generation of over 50s and 60s to get the most from life – focusing on work, financial wellbeing, learning, volunteering, lifestyle and more.
- **Mirthy** is an online platform for professional public speakers, often retirees themselves, to provide online talks to older adults in the comfort of their homes.
- **Digital Voice** works with participants who are excluded from digital media, helping individuals and communities to access the internet and web information.
- **PaCT Lab at Northumbria University** are interested in understanding how people use technology and have a special interest in how older users engage with e-health technologies, cyber security systems, and digital privacy controls.

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Useful Organisations

Digital Unite

Email: du@digitalunite.com

Website: www.digitalunite.com

Learn My Way

Email: hello@goodthingsfoundation.org

Website: www.learnmyway.com

Get Safe Online

Website: www.getsafeonline.org

100objectsNE.co.uk

Website: http://100objectsne.co.uk

North East Film Archive

Email: nefa@tees.ac.uk

Website: http://www.northeastfilmarchive.com

Telephone: 01642 384 022

Address: Constantine Building, TS1 3BA

Telephone: 01642 384 022

Seeing Ear

Email: librarian@seeingear.org

Website: http://www.seeingear.org

Telephone: 01424 428 133

Address: Office 34 , TN34 1QR

RadioEchoes.com

Email: support@radioechoes.com

Website: http://www.radioechoes.com

Telephone: 01424 428 133

Meetup

Website: https://www.meetup.com/

Telephone: 01424 428 133

Infosound

Email: info@infosound.org.uk

Website: https://www.infosound.org.uk/

Telephone: 03000 111 555

Address: PO Box 20, BN2 7XX

Rest Less

Email: info@restless.co.uk

Website: https://restless.co.uk/

Telephone: 03000 111 555

Mirthy

Website: https://mirthy.co.uk/

Telephone: 03000 111 555

Digital Voice

Email: julie@digitalvoice.org.uk

Website: https://www.digitalvoice.org.uk/

Telephone: 01207 566 866

Address: Chopwell Community Centre, NE17 7HS

PaCT Lab, Northumbria University

Email: dawn.branley-bell@northumbria.ac.uk

Website: https://pactlab.co.uk/

Telephone: 0191 227 3716

Address: PaCT Lab, NE1 8SU

Citizens Online

Email: info@citizensonline.org.uk

Website: https://www.citizensonline.org.uk/

Telephone: 0808 196 5883

Address: The Exchange , GL5 1DF

Media Savvy CIC

Email: info@mediasavvycic.co.uk

Website: https://www.mediasavvycic.co.uk

Telephone: 07873 176 145

Address: 27 Norfolk Street, SR1 1EE

How Busy is Toon ?

Website: https://howbusyistoon.com/

Telephone: 07873 176 145

Radio Gateshead

Email: studio@radiogateshead.co.uk

Website: https://radiogateshead.co.uk/

Telephone: 07873 176 145

BBC Radio Newcastle

Website: https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/live:bbc_radio_newcastle

Telephone: 07873 176 145

COG Grand Radio

Email: info@coggrandradio.org

Website: https://coggrandradiouk.org

Telephone: 0191 447 4849

Address: COG Grand Radio, City of God Christian Centre, NE6 3DP

Related Articles

Digital Television

Internet, WiFi and broadband

Digital support

Staying safe online

Mobile phones

Payment Methods