

# The Northern Echo

85p

THE GREAT DAILY OF THE NORTH

MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019

## CRAZY CATS

Nine-goal drama marks defensive low for Sunderland **SPORT**



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Masters  
win seals  
Tiger's  
comeback  
**SPORT**



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**PAGE 7**



'I'll have that  
one, please!'

BEAMING with excitement, two-year-old Alby Liddbetter-Gibson chooses a doughnut at the 14th Bishop Auckland Food Festival on Saturday.

The event attracted 29,000 visitors to the County Durham town for a two-day celebration of local, regional and international produce.

Masterchef presenter Gregg Wallace headlined the event, with celebrity chefs Angellica Bell, Kenny Tutt and Jennie McAlpine all cooking live from a cookery theatre in the town hall. Cllr Simon Henig, leader of organisers Durham County Council, said the festival has "really put our county on the culinary map".

●FULL STORY - PAGES 4 & 5  
Picture: SARAH CALDECOTT

# Offender death rate rise worry

Probation Service overhaul an 'expensive mess' says MP

"COMPLETE institutional indifference" shrouds the deaths of hundreds of offenders who died while under the supervision of North-East probation services, it was claimed last night.

Ten people were murdered while another 158 killed themselves while on pro-

By Joanna Morris  
Data Investigations Reporter

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bation between 2015 and 2017/18.

Research by the BBC's Shared Data Unit found that the number of people dying

while under supervision has risen by almost a third nationally since arrangements for managing offenders were overhauled by the Government in 2014.

Darlington's MP Jenny Chapman, who was Shadow Prisons Minister at the time, said it appeared that the

changes were a "very expensive mess", and the latest research raised questions over "whether the supervision provided under the new privatised arrangement is sufficient".

Rebecca Roberts, from charity Inquest, called for deaths of those leaving pris-

on to be scrutinised in the same way as those who die following police custody, adding: "There's been complete institutional indifference towards the lives and deaths of people following release from custody."

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