Newton News

Incorporating The Newtonian - Newton Aycliffe's Free Community Newspaper
Editorial & Advertising contact: Telephone: 01325 300212 - Email: paul@newtonnews.co.uk - Website: www.newtonnews.co.uk

New Showroom Opens







CP Interiors are excited to invite everyone to the opening of their new kitchen and bathroom showroom, located at Sydney House, Ricknall Avenue, Aycliffe Business Park DL5 6AD (near Greggs bakery). CP Interiors are a family run business who have been operating in Newton Aycliffe for over 25 years, installing 100's of bathrooms and kitchens around the north east for very satisfied customers. Their approach is simple, offering outstanding quality and service at an affordable cost. To achieve this we carefully select our products, suppliers and we have our own dedicated trades team to deliver your project on time and to high standards.

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Offering a great selection of tiles and LVT flooring we are able to transform other rooms in the house also. So, please come down and see if we can help you with your home renovation projects.

Ayclive Festival 2024 Offers More for the Whole Family

Ayclive Music Festival 2024 is set to offer even more for the whole family to enjoy a great community day out.

The organisers ethos is to make Ayclive a community, family friendly event and is taking another step forward this year with the addition of the DJ and Circus Marquee.

To start the afternoon there will be a Silent Children's Disco from 1pm to 2.30pm. The novel part of a silent disco is you need headphones to be able to hear the music (specialist headphones are available to all with a £5 refundable deposit).

From 2.30pm Flaming Lily will run a Circus Workshop for the children, teaching and demonstrating circus performance skills. A Silent Karaoke with Trevor Burn will start at 4pm for the whole family. Why not show off your singing voice and perform at Ayclive? From 5pm to 9.30pm will be a selection of disco shows including, from 5-6pm, Kitchen Disco with PVR Studios, Mike Dowson. From 6pm to 7pm ClubKidz Disco, with Nathan Abbott, who will then finish off with a 90s v 00s Show from 7-9.30pm.

Local face painter, Vicky, can be found near the Circus Marquee for all your face and glitter painting (additional charge).

Early Bird tickets for the event finish on 31st March; Adults £15, 14-17 years £10, 5-13 years £1, Under 5's free (Under 14's must be accompanied by a paying adult). So, be sure to get yours before the price increases, go to: www.ayclive.co.uk



Another addition to this year's festival is the trade marquee, sponsored by Gestamp, local businesses and charities will take slots to sell their wares, offer information, raffles, tombola's, etc. - why not check out Andy on the 'What's Thy Craic' stand, offering humorous T-shirts as well as, this year, providing Ayclive merchandise - visit Andy's website direct for more information and to preorder: whatsthycraic.com/ayclive-festival-2024 There are other surprises planned for festivalgoers at this year's event, so, be sure to get along and support this community family friendly event.

The Auckland Shanty Singers

Our guests on Sunday's show were the motley crew better known as The Auckland Shanty Singers. Christopher, Joan, Helen, Jean, Ben and Debbie joined us in the studio for what was their third visit to the show.

We were able to catch up with what's been happening in their busy schedule since their last visit. They have been busier than ever with performances in Ireland as well as up and down the country. We are pleased they were able to take time out from their hectic schedule to come into the studio to talk to us and perform a number of their favourite shanties for us.

Phill & Andy, Around Town, Aycliffe Radio















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Kirsty Off To Crufts

Kirsty Smith and her Border Collie, Boss, are going to be strutting their stuff on the famous green carpet at Crufts this year. Kirsty and Boss have had a fantastic year winning competitions all over the country and coming second in the 'Heelwork to Music Freestyle Intermediate Dog of the Year Competition'.

Kirsty has now gone on to be chosen as part of the Crufts demonstration team for Heelwork to Music and will be demonstrating in the activities ring and the main arena at Crufts. Kirsty works very hard teaching Boss new moves to perform to music and she is extremely proud of what she has achieved so far. They train at K9 Pursuits on Aycliffe Business Park and the instructors are very proud of the hard work and dedication that



Kirsty puts in, not only in class but at home too.

Everyone at K9 Pursuits wishes them both the very best and hope she has a fantastic experience. If you are interested in training please contact Andi or Gill on 01325 301177.

The picture shows Kirsty Smith and her young Border Collie, Boss.

Woodham Students Visit to Outdoor Activity Centre

Woodham Academy students participated in a weekend residential at Derwent Hill **Outdoor Activity Centre** situated in the Lake District. The focus of the weekend was centred on outdoor education, teamwork and resilience. Y8 and 9 students worked in small groups, alongside instructors, to complete a series of outdoor challenges such as canoeing on Derwent Water, hiking, caving and ghyll scrambling, navigating their way around waterfalls, through tunnels and up a stream to get to the endpoint of the challenge. One of the greatest challenges was the high rope course, where students had



to work autonomously and as a team, to encourage and instil confidence in each other to complete a set of challenges. Students were faced with climbing up a tree and completing a free jump from a platform, learning all the safety measurements that coincide with rope course challenges.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the weekend, embracing every activity and demonstrated the school value of 'never giving up' throughout the weekend. Instructors and staff were really impressed with the character of all students over the weekend and their can-do attitude.



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Suicide **Prevention**

Our local organisations in Darlington, that run initiatives to reduce lives lost to suicide in our community, already survive with very little investment behind them. With the local suicide prevention funding they've relied on having come to an end, they may be forced to significantly scale back, or completely stop, these life-saving services. Samaritans has estimated that renewing this funding would only cost £1.40 per person - as little as the price of a loaf of bread. Surely that's something the Government can commit to on 6th March, if it can help save lives?

I urge readers to take any action they can to save this local funding, so that we're doing all we can to prevent suicide in the local area.

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Prime Position For Rotary in Durham Cathedral



When visiting Durham Cathedral, the entry route is via the Galilee Chapel, and it is recommended that time be given to reading the tablets, memorials and inscriptions that lie within. On exiting the chapel, there, on the beautiful and ancient stone wall, is a wooden plague with engraved brass plate featuring the Rotary wheel and an inscription.

The plaque is within a few feet of the tomb of The Venerable Bede, therefore a place of privilege indeed. Born c.673, in present day Tyne and Wear, St. Bede was an English monk and much revered as a scholar, author and great teacher from the early Middle Ages. St. Bede died in 735 and was buried at Jarrow but then transferred to Durham Cathedral and reinterred in the Galilee Chapel.

The plaque commemorates the Centenary of Rotary International and, on 11 June 2005, in a ceremony held in the cathedral and attended by 100s of Rotarians and their families from across the region, District 1030 commissioned and dedicated the eternal flame brass lamp which sits over the tomb. Invited to take a role in the service, and led by Headteacher and Rotarian Pat Henderson-Pickersgill, was a choir of children from Woodham Burn and Sugar Hill Primary Schools in Newton Aycliffe.

The special Service of Thanksgiving for Rotary's Centenary was the brainchild of District 1030 Governor at that time, Syd Howarth MBE, a member of Rotary Newton Aycliffe, who died in 2018, and is very much missed, both in Rotary and the wider community. He was a much-loved and respected businessman, owner/proprietor of Newton Press and dedicated Rotarian for many years.

It is understood, from long-standing Rotarians, that Syd had to jump through hoops and attend many meetings with the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral, to have the plaque installed but there we have it. Syd could be very persuasive.

Many thanks to Paul Howarth for assistance with research. To read more, see link to the article on Newton News website, 2005 Rotary Plaque Durham Cathedral



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The Story at Durham City to Open this Summer

A brand-new visitor attraction, telling the tale of County Durham's heritage, will open this summer.

Durham County Council has confirmed that The Story, based at Mount Oswald in Durham City, is scheduled to open to the public from Friday 14th June.

A brand-new cultural venue and register office for Durham and the wider county, The Story will be housed in the recently restored Grade II listed Mount Oswald manor house, which has been extended to incorporate a purpose-built, contemporary building. Combining period property restoration with state-of-the-art modern facilities, The Story provides a home for some of the county's most important heritage collections and an elegant backdrop for the register office, ceremonies and events.

Home to ancient archives and archaeological finds, records of bravery, and life-changing events, The Story will bring together five historic collections for the first time. Available for everyone, online and in-person, these precious collections chart peoples' lives from birth to death.

They allow people to see snippets of a person's life from the moment their birth is registered; their homes and communities; schooling; health; marriage; and celebrations

and working life; providing visitors and residents with a unique opportunity to explore the history of County Durham and its people. Cllr Elizabeth Scott, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economy and partnerships, said: "We are very much looking forward to officially opening The Story and welcoming residents and visitors in the summer. This exciting new venue will bring to life the fascinating history of the county, from prehistory through to the modern day, in the spectacular setting of Mount Oswald. "This ambitious project will see a world class"

facility that will be home to some of the county's most important heritage collections and a place for life-changing events. It supports our commitment to creating new attractions and opportunities for our residents and visitors, and further cements Durham's position as the 'culture county'."

The council's collection teams are currently packing and moving more than 15,000 objects and almost six miles of archives charting 900 years of local history to the new building. Accessing local and personal histories will be easier than ever before with free exhibitions, activities and talks, enhanced search facilities and cutting-edge digital tools.

The Story will be the new home for the



Durham register office and will offer an elegant wedding and civil ceremony location.

Thanks to funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible by National Lottery players, alongside exhibitions there will be an exciting activity programme with storytelling sessions, kids' takeover days, behind the scenes tours, volunteering opportunities and community projects.

The Story will also be the permanent home for the whole DLI Collection, reuniting it with the DLI Archive for the first time since 1998.

For more information, visit www.thestorydurham.org





Saturday 30th March Aycliffe Town Centre 12.00pm to 3.00pm

Meet the Easter Bunny

FREE Easter Egg for Under 12's (limited availability)

Games and Activities
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Newton News

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First Shakedown for Scarlet

Returning to Teesside Autodrome for the first time in 4 months, Scarlet Whitaker Dunn put in some impressive laps that were very close to her personal best lap times from last summer.

Thankfully the mechanical issues that plagued her kart for the last 4 rounds of the 2023 season, have now been rectified and Scarlet adapted well to her first run on the new brand of tyres that are mandatory for this season.

"Scarlet drove very well and was able to achieve all that we could have hoped for from the test session," said Mam. Scarlet will be competing in the highly competitive Honda Cadet 200cc class with 25-30 fellow competitors from all over the

country! 2024 Race Dates - Teesside (9 rounds) March 23rd-24th April 27th-28th June 22nd-23rd July 26th-27th-28th August 24th-25th September 21st-22nd October 25th-26th-27th "With how the test day went, I am really

looking forward to the coming season and



feel it will be great," said Scarlet We would like to thank Amaron Racing, PHM (Peninsula Historic Motorsport), **Grandad Ron and Rob Storey for their** generous assistance and financial support making this possible.

To support Scarlet in her journey please email: mail@amandawhitaker.com

Five Acres on Tour Again

Despite the weather, the Champions ventured out to Heighington Station to catch the train to Bishop Auckland. Once we arrived, we all walked into the Marketplace towards Auckland Castle, which was our destination. We had a look at the new walled gardens, which look really good, and the Garden Gang cannot wait to have a good look around once they are open for lots of ideas and inspiration. We continued walking all the way to the Deer House, a great photo opportunity for our media group. We then, of course, had to call in for a hot chocolate in the Stanley Jefferson which all the Champions enjoyed before walking back to the station to get the train back to Heighington Station. Everyone had a fantastic time on another great day out with Five Acres Community Garden.







CAREERS EVENT

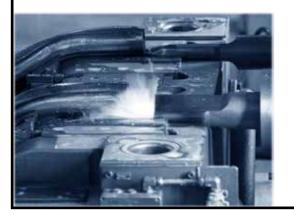
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Civic Dinner



Great start to Mayor's Civic Dinner to be piped into dinner by Adam from Aycliffe Pipe Band followed by a dance demonstration by Macadam School of Dance and a lovely meal at Redworth Hall Hotel.

The raffle raised £671 for All Disabilities Matter - Thank you to all who attended.

Cllr Carl Robinson

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St. Francis' McDonalds V.I.P. Experience

Children's Council have worked with Mr Jonny Nassau, Franchise owner of McDonalds, to discuss ways they can work together to strengthen the experiences of children attending St Francis Junior School. On Tuesday 13th February, Jonny sent a minibus to take members of the school council and Eco Warrior group to his grand opening of the Darlington, Meynell Road



McDonalds. We were so excited to be part of the VIPs invited to this pre-opening event.

On arrival, Jonny met us and taught us about the many services required for a shop refurbishment. As maths lovers we were particularly excited about the quantity surveyor job. He explained how the materials sourced were chosen for sustainability and how he had worked with the designer to get a modern and fresh look. Our children though it looked 'class'.

We came away totally inspired about careers in McDonalds and the many opportunities they provide their employees. Eco Warriors were particularly impressed with the work being done to protect the environment. Most of the children loved the behind-the-scenes tour that included role playing, serving at the drive thru and making their own McFlurry!

Thanks Jonny, for broadening our horizons. Even the staff were surprised at the many opportunities McDonalds have. We felt like such important visitors, thanks also to your Meynell Road team, we hope to be back soon!



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Last week my 7 year old grand-daughter Lorelai was given a half-term Reading Challenge by her school. One of the 18 tasks was 'I read three advertisements in a newspaper' so we decided to visit Newton Press to pick up a copy of the Newton News. Stuart took so much time answering Lorelai's questions about how Newton News is printed, how many copies are delivered and how many people work at Newton Press.

Another of the challenges was to 'read a travel brochure' so our next stop was to Hayes Travel to pick one up. Lorelai chose one on River Cruises, so she could read about the Lorelei Rock!

A huge thank you to Stuart at Newton Press and the staff at Hayes Travel for making halfterm homework so much fun. Zanna Bewick (School Aycliffe).





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There's a new shop now open on Beveridge Way in Aycliffe town centre, where you will find that perfect gift for family and friends.

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Calling All Aycliffe Village Residents

The Annual General Meeting of Great Aycliffe Village Hall Association takes place on Friday 22nd March in the Village Hall from 7.00pm.

This is a chance for residents and visitors to find out what has been happening over the past year.

The committee would also welcome any ideas for events or activities for the year ahead.

Hope to see you there.

ACORNResidents Association

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 14th March at the Phoenix Club, upstairs at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to come along. Details of some of our forthcoming trips away and events will be announced.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

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N.A.F.C. REPORT



Friday 23rd February Hebburn Town 2 v Newton Aycliffe 2

Newton Aycliffe remained within a point of the play-offs following an encounter with Hebburn Town last Friday. The game finished 2-2 in what was a very competitive and fast paced game. Aycliffe won the reverse fixture played in October courtesy of a Cieran Jackson last minute winner and this game would also contain a late goal too. Hebburn showed intent from the off, experienced striker Amar Purewal had the games first attack but fired wide. The next 20 minutes or so would be very end to end, but both sides struggled to retain much possession on a very heavy pitch which frequently led to wayward passes for both teams.

Since his return to Aycliffe, Liam Jarvie has been in fine form and he added yet another goal to his tally 30 minutes in to the first half,

Jarvie was just outside the box and hit the ball with just enough to strength to overpower Hebburn's Kieran Hunter with the perfect volley. Hunter got a hand to it, but the ball just flew out of it as quick as he touched it. Jarvie could have had a brace within two minutes, but this time Hunter managed to hang on to Jarvie's shot. Cieran Jackson also broke through, but his shot was saved by Hunter. Ethan Wood would have Aycliffe's final attack of the half, Wood did well to dribble the ball from outside the box deeper inside, but he couldn't find anyone and his shot just wasn't strong enough to overpower Hunter. Hebburn went into the second half with two changes and it was an immediate impact as Purewal found Robbie Spence who easily equalised after sluggish Aycliffe defending 49th minute. Parity would only last for seconds however, as in the 52nd minute Jake Petitjean got on a header at close range.

The next segment of the game would be very end to end. With Aycliffe holding a lot of midfield possession, but surviving several scares including James Winter doing well to save a header from Purewal. Aycliffe would try to attack further, but rarely got close enough to Hunter to challenge him. As the game drew closer to the final whistle, Hebburn attacks became more and more frequent, and eventually the pressure proved too much when Matthew Elsdon scored in an extremely crowded box to make it 2-2.

Aycliffe have a midweek game at Consett but then return to Moore Lane for three consecutive games: Cleethorpes Town on Saturday 2nd March, league leaders Stockton Town on Tuesday 5th and Stocksbridge Park Steels on Saturday 9th March. The Club's hoping for a good turnout from Newtonians as the play-off push continues.

Photo by Yvonne Wood of Jake Petitjean who scores Aycliffe's second goal. Match report by Rvan Livingston.

Water Polo

Sedgefield Water Polo Club would like to congratulate our goalkeeper Aston, 14, who was selected to attend the England U16 Talent Festival, held at the Wavertree Aquatics Centre, Liverpool in January. This festival is a new initiative by Swim England celebrating the



end of term at the 5 Talent Centres - allowing 116 athletes from across the country to play competitive water polo at a high level. Aston joined our club over lockdown and now trains regularly at the England Talent Centre based in Bolton with a long term view of being selected for the Great Britain U18's squad in 2027.

In addition to Junior and Senior sessions, Sedgefield Water Polo Club offers a beginner session at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on a Saturday afternoon for those wishing to try this fun and exciting teamsport. All sessions need to be booked in advance on our Club App so, if you're wanting your child to take part, please check our website for further information and joining instructions, email: sedgefieldwp@hotmail.com or contact 07579 030598.





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KITCHENS - APPLIANCES - DOORS - FLOORING - WORKTOPS SINKS & TAPS - JOINERY & MORE Page 8 **Newton News**



Following the previous week in the Constituency, last week I was back in Westminster, unusually this time I was in London for the full week. Due to the signal upgrades on the East Coast Main Line, I drove down on Monday morning and arrived in time to catch a meeting on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in private schools, where I learned that the proposals by Labour to add VAT on to private school fees would result in even more pressure on Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) demand. They are saying that pupils of private schools would be exempt from VAT if they had an EHCP, meaning any SEND pupil at a private school that wants to save the VAT would need an EHCP. As we are well aware, the increased demand for an EHCP already has the process under immense strain. It is imperative that, when changes are proposed, they are fully thought through with all consequences considered. As I have a constituency covering around 250 square miles, I also took the time to call in at the launch of the Conservative Rural Forums Manifesto (policies to support a thriving rural economy and address some of the barriers faced by those living in rural or remote areas) which I definitely support.

Tuesday, I had a question to the Minister in Justice Orals where I once again was able to raise the case of Zoey McGill and the wholly inappropriate actions of those in prison for her son Jack's murder being able to post on social media. I stressed that actions like these must have consequences and those consequences should be broadcast as a deterrent to others. I will be following this up further in an Adjournment debate where I will be talking about social media in prison and referencing knife crime significantly. I also had the usual Tuesday meetings with the Treasury team and the Transport select committee.

Wednesday, as usual, included the public Transport Select Committee meeting before I met with the Exchequer Secretary and colleagues and then went to Prime Ministers Questions. I met with representatives of the Women's Institute to support their campaign on microplastics; listened to a group working to prevent Oesophageal Cancer and called at a reception where the UK Infrastructure Bank were presenting. At this presentation were representatives from Pragmatic, an amazing semiconductor business whose R&D base is on NETPark and I have met many times. Then I chaired the All Party-Parliamentary Group for the Leamside Line. Here our primary presentation was from Transport North East and they confirmed that Ferryhill

Station was fully funded and the Leamside project was continuing to move forward. I then had a meeting with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury and colleagues as part of my Parliamentary Private Secretary role. Also, on Wednesday, the main Chamber saw the major controversy around the Scottish National Party (SNP) Opposition Day debate which led to calls for the Speaker to resign. For context, the SNP only get to choose the business about three times a year compared to seventeen for Labour as the main opposition. This was an extraordinary sequence of events. The normal process for Opposition Day debates is that the Opposition motion would be voted on first and then any amendments, thus allowing the opposition to have their motion considered. The structure of the day imploded because, whereas normal precedence would have seen only Government amendments selected for consideration, the Speaker broke with convention and selected both Labour and Government amendments for consideration. This meant that the SNP motion would almost certainly not be put for consideration in an unaltered state. There were strong accusations that the reason for this was pressure put on Mr Speaker by the Labour Party because the motion the SNP were proposing was forecast to create huge fissures in the Labour Party that could have resulted in many resignations. As I write, I am unsure as to how this will play out over this week. Thursday was primarily an Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme Day where I was briefed on global strategic trends. With all that is happening in the world now this is useful background to have. Friday, I had an update with Building Digital UK where I continue to pressure them on supporting broadband roll out in Sedgefield. We have seen some great news recently on the Newton Aycliffe project which includes many other villages from Ferryhill to Fishburn and even Hurworth, but continues to exclude the smaller places like Mordon and Killerby and I am pushing for progress on all of these.

This week, week commencing Monday 26th February, will be back to normal with Monday to Wednesday in London then back north for the end of the week where I have sessions at Durham University, South West Durham Training, The Cornforth Partnership and I will be on BBC Politics North which will be broadcast on Sunday 3rd March. Looking forward to seeing many of you when I am out and about but, as always, if you want to get in touch, you can call me on 01325 790580 or email: paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk

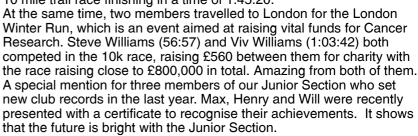
RUNNING CLUB NEWS

This week has been another interesting week for Aycliffe Running Club, taking in some scenic and exotic locations across the UK and beyond.

The week started on Saturday 24th February with one member travelling around the globe to take part in the Lost City Half Marathon which started in the ancient Maya city of Palenque in Mexico, which is the location of a large archaeological site. It was an early start the race starting a 7am, with the first 3k of the trail race being up and down, with some uneven steps and jungle type areas. Luckily, the only wild animals the runners had to contend with were howler monkeys which stayed in the trees. The trails opened up towards the end of the race although the conditions on the day were very hot and humid. Judith Porter completed this amazing race in a time of 3hrs 1min 35 seconds, finishing in a very good 40th place.

On Sunday 25th February, one member took part in the Wild Deer Derwent Reservoir 5 mile trail race. Ian Stothard was the sole representative for the club finishing in a time of 1:06:25. At the same time, David Stothard took part in the

10 mile trail race finishing in a time of 1:45:20.



On Saturday, 31 members started their weekend with a parkrun, taking in the Edinburgh, Durham, Sedgefield, Hackworth, Hartlepool, Victoria Dock, Blyth Links and Wynyard Woodland events.

At Edinburgh, Carley Cooper (29:22), Jean-Pierre Hupin (29:22) and Em Flynn (32:26) completed the event for the first time followed by a nice mile along the iconic Forth Road Bridge.

The club attended Durham, as the next stop on its parkrun tourism, with Jimmy Agnew (22:09), Trevor Agnew (23:30), Tamara Kirk (27:28), David Stothard (28:06), Alan Kellett (30:54), Kathleen Tonge (30:55), Richard Tonge (in a new PB for the course of 31:03), Anne Kellett (31:41) and Ian Stothard (44:21) all taking part.

At Hackworth, Cath McDonnell (25:59) completed her 250th ever parkrun for this course, which is an amazing achievement. Steve Williams (27:08) and Viv Williams (31:23) completed the event at Victoria Dock for the first time using it as a warm up for their race the following day. At Blyth Links, Shaun Dodd (22:20) set a new personal best for the course.

If you are feeling inspired, and are interested in joining the club, you can turn up for one of our sessions. More information is available on our website www.ayclifferunningclub.org.uk - or our Facebook page. If you would like to chat with someone, then you can email: ayclifferunningclub@gmail.com - If interested in the Junior Section, you can email: arc.juniorsection@gmail.com - Make this year the year you or your children get into running and join us to keep it going for many years to come.







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Congratulations

Colin Chape Happy 80th Birthday - 1st March

Happy Birthday to my Husband and best friend. All my love, Val xx

Happy 80th Birthday Dad. Love from Julie, Ann and Tina xx

Happy 80th Birthday Grandad. Love from Zach xxx

Happy Birthday to a great Brother-in-Law. Love from Sharon xx

Happy 80th Birthday to a special Uncle. Love from Stephen xx

Harrison School of Dance



Harrison School of Dance are happy to announce more ballet classes starting from Friday 1st. These will include: a parent and child ballet class for 18 month olds to 3 year olds: ballet barre fitness classes and more adult ballet classes. All classes are held at the PCP and your first lesson is free

We now have RAD ballet classes for pre-schoolers, children, adults and over 50's. Please take a look at our timetable below and get in touch if you would like to book a free taster session. We also offer multiple class discounts if you would like to attend more than one class and sibling discounts for more than one child.

Contact Lauren on 07367 663606 or email for more information: harrisonschoolofdance1@gmail.com

Monday 4.45pm-5.30pm: Primary, 5-7 years Monday 5.30pm-6.15pm: Grade 1 & 2, 7-13 years Monday 6.15pm-7.15pm: Silver Swans, Over 50's Monday 7.15pm-8.00pm: Ballet Barre Fitness, 16+ Pre-Primary, 3-5 years Tuesday 4.45pm-5.30pm: Tuesday 5.30pm-6.15pm: Grade 1, 7-9 years Tuesday 6.15pm-7.00pm: Grade 4 & 5, 14-17 years Tuesday 7.00pm-8.00pm: Adult Ballet, 18+ Thursday 10.00am-11.00am: Silver Swans, Over 50's Thursday 11.00am-12noon:

Silver Swans, Over 50's Friday 2.00pm-2.45pm: Parent & Child Ballet, 18 months-3 years

Friday 2.45pm-3.30pm: Ballet Barre Fitness, 16+ Friday 3.30pm-4.30pm: Adult Ballet, 18+ Friday 4.30pm-5.15pm: Pre-Primary, 3-5 years.

St. Joseph's Visit **Rose Lodge Care Home**

Year five and six children, at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, visited Rose Lodge Care Home to celebrate National Tell a Fairy Tale Day! They were provided with the opportunity to read, tell and listen to fairy tales from around the world. Firstly, the children introduced themselves to the residents and began to work together to produce a new fairy tale. They used the book 'You Choose Fairy Tales' to construct their own version. The children had to consider the elements of a fairy story such as the setting, who the good and bad characters were, what three items



they would have to help them, how they would defeat the bad character and how they lived happily ever after. After this, everyone took part in a quiz organised by Rose Lodge to test our fairy tale knowledge. Everyone passed with flying colours! One of the pupils stated, "I really liked talking to the residents at Rose Lodge. They had some good ideas about the characters we could use when creating our own fairy tales. I would like to go back and visit Rose Lodge again." Mr Hunt, class teacher at St Joseph's, said, "It was lovely to see the children interacting with the residents and making them smile and laugh. This visit enabled the children to put our Trust virtues, of compassion, confidence and respect, into practice." The children are already looking forward to returning in the near future.

Obituary

Jessica Anne Gorley

Of Newton Aycliffe. Passed away peacefully on 11th February, aged 83 vears.

Dearly beloved Wife of the late John Gorley; also a much loved Mum. Grandma and Great Grandma.

family Will and friends please meet for a funeral service at St Mary's Catholic Church, Newton Aycliffe on Friday 8th March at 11.45am.

To be followed by committal at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon.

In Memoriam

Val Morgans (nee Hurst)

Passed 2/3/22 Until we meet again.

We think about you always, we talk about you still. You have never been forgotten and you never will. We hold you close within our hearts and there you will remain. To walk and guide us through our lives until we meet again.

Love and miss you every day.

Your loving Son Gareth and all the family.

Well Done

Alf Maddison

94, died Aged February 20th 2024 peacefully in Lindisfarne Nursing Home.

Beloved Husband to Doris; dear Dad of Michele; Grandad Steven; Great Grandad and Great Great Grandad.

Funeral to place at Durham . Crematorium 12th March 2024 at 1.00pm.

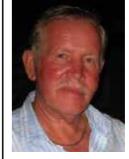
Arran Dixon

Well done Son, we are so proud of you after your Passing Out on Friday 23rd February 2024.

To follow your dream of becoming a full time Fire Fighter. Love you Arran. From Dad, Nanna

and all the family xx

David Mothersdale



Aycliffe, Of Newton Chilton, formerly former employee Darchem Engineering, passed away peacefully on 18th February, aged 81 years.

Beloved Husband of Jean; much loved Dad and Grandad. Family and friends please meet for a Wear service at Valley Crematorium on Friday 8th March at 3.30pm.

Family flowers only please, donations in lieu to Help For Heroes.

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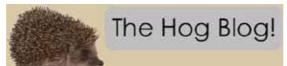


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Feeling overwhelmed, because of all the support I have been lucky to get for these beautiful little mammals. My thanks go to Lizzie, Linda, Julia, Margaret, Elaine and Lorraine, June and Val.

To be quite honest, I don't envy these poor little souls because whatever time of year we are in they always have something to threaten their existence. They have to be the right size to hibernate successfully or they die in their sleep, they are awakened by garden tools and machinery, construction sites, traffic, etc, the list is endless

What I need everyone to do is give them a chance, check your garden before using power tools, strimmers etc, letting your dog out and, if necessary, put your dog on a lead even in his own garden. All hedgie wants to do is eat and when they come out of hibernation they are very hungry indeed, just give him a chance to eat and he will leave. It's not much to ask. Finally, caring motorists, when a hedgehog is scared they ball up, they don't run, they need time to cross the road, please pull over and wait for him to move out of the way, see my Facebook page for more info.

It's far too cold to be releasing, spring hasn't sprung as yet, but I am glad to be here for these lovelies, they are all hanging on in there, Holly, who was found by Joan, is so endearing, she purrs when she interacts with us all here. Buster is ok, 900g+ there are a couple that like to wander around the house, this is fine and yes I keep my eye on them and my home is clean, also I have eleven cages occupied, during the day, I have to place them in the utility room carefully otherwise getting out of the back door is difficult. I am grateful to Trev, Liam and Christopher for their patience with me, rehabbing is a very difficult thing to do whatever number you have in rescue. Grange Vets are also a wonderful group of people and their support is invaluable.

Pictured are Chandler and Billy, Chandler was found by lovely Lorraine Elliott being to small to get through winter, Billy's finder has never been in touch, he has a lovely nature for a 1200g hoggie. The colour coding is so I can tell which one is which and they wash off too. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society number is 01584 890801. My Facebook page is: Prickly Haven Hedgehog Hotel, Email: pricklyhaven@yahoo.com

Aycliffe Senior Football News

FC Hartlepool Reserves 2 v Newton Aycliffe Youth Seniors 5

Finally getting league games played on this trip to Hartlepool. First 20 minutes the game was nip and tuck with both sides not really creating anything before Jack Mortimer drove into the box and was brought down for a penalty, he stepped up and put Aycliffe in front. We were trying to play out from the back and over complicated things in midfield. A free kick, at 30 yards hit the target and had Adam Scott diving full stretch to tip onto the post from the rebound, Hartlepool equalised. Another run by Jack saw him win our second penalty which once again he scored. HT 2-1. Into the 2nd half and a cross from Jack was headed home by Andrew Burrows, however another mistake at the back saw Hartlepool get themselves back into the game. Aycliffe then started to get a grip of the game and, from a free kick, Jack stepped up and extended the lead.

The lads finally started to show how they can play and wrapped the game up with a lovely ball from Niall setting Jack 1v1 with his full back, he went past him and slipped the ball under the keeper. Sometimes. to win a league, you have to win ugly and that's what the team did. Big bonus to see Josh Bayne back on the pitch after being out, injured since October. MOM: Jack Mortimer.

Durham United Women 1 v Newton Aycliffe Youth Women 3 Aycliffe started on the front foot and it took just four minutes to find the back of the net. Sophie Sparrow-Woods with a great tackle at the back then picking out Jordan Saunders on the left hand side. Jordan got her head up and split the defence with a through ball, Katie Laura Bragg muscled in front of the defender, took it round the on rushing keeper and tapped the ball into the net.

Durham now started to get a foot hold in the game and were threatening going forward, the defence managed the threat well but just couldn't keep hold of the ball and Durham kept coming. Against the run of play Aycliffe managed to get a second, this time Lauren Cockerill with an inch perfect pass to set Katie away, another cool calm finish and Aycliffe doubled the lead before HT.

Second half, a change in formation to try and nullify the threat from Durham and on the whole it worked; a few chances came for Aycliffe, but they couldn't finish them. Then they got the third, a quick free kick from Annabelle Wilkinson McMillan to Jordan and another brilliant pass found Kate Williams out wide, with all still to do she drove into the box, shot which was well saved by the keeper, but she was more clinical with her second shot and Kate rifled home for Aycliffe's third. Durham never gave up and got a consolation goal at the end and what a goal, ball out on the left and a switch to the right then a dinked shot over Courtney who had no chance, final score 1-3.

POTM: Alex Williams, playing out of position, she was solid at the back then at the end came close to grabbing a goal in a stint up front.

Better Allsorts

The charity shop has been closed for a long time, but the good news is the shop, which is at the Acorn Unit, St. Clare's Church, will reopen on Thursday 7th March with normal opening times from 10am to 1pm each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. I have a positive feeling that people will have saved lots of money on the thousands of items I have on sale, all cash is donated to Air Ambulance, local hospitals for Scan Units, Cancer Research and many more.





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Aycliffe Youth Football News



Bishop Auckland 7 v Aycliffe U13 Girls 5

The girls put in a strong performance against a good Bishop team. It's not often we score five goals and not come away with all three points, but overall an entertaining and enjoyable game.

MOTM: Mylee Goals: Peyton 3, Tia 1 and Ellena 1.

Aycliffe U14 Boys 8 v Leven Royals 0

The lads sent a message to those teams above them in League, who have games in hand. 8-0 win, at a canter, takes them back up to 3rd in the League. Goals: Josh, Posi, Will (3), Arthur, Charlie & Fin. POTMs: Will & Oliver.

Aycliffe U8 Wildcats v Chester-le-Street

Brilliant performance from all the girls. Great to watch them improve every week. Strong performances from Willow, Alice, Emilia and Layla. Goals from Matilda x2, Hannah and Sophie.

Riverside Reds v Aycliffe U8 Eagles

After a long travel and early start, the boys struggled and unfortunately came up against a better team. Some good individual goals from the opposition meant they won the game comfortably. The boys will go again next week

Aycliffe U10 Wildcats v Billingham United

The girls showed real calm on the ball and pressed effectively to create chances in good areas. It was one such press that made the first goal, with Granty nicking the ball and firing into the bottom corner. She added a second soon after, lashing in a fantastic shot from 20 yards. In the second half, Sophie - fouled as she broke clear - scored from the resultant free kick. POTMs: Alice H & Amelia G.

Hebburn Blues 2 v Aycliffe U12 Wildcats 0 Having played very few games recently, the girls were a little rusty. We didn't play the way we normally do and struggled to get in the game. We had one or two chances but were 2-0 down at half time. After a reality talk at half time, the girls battled right through the second half and had chances to score, but could not convert.

Aycliffe U9 Eagles v Redcar
Great performance for all the lads. Two first half goals from Teddy put Aycliffe in control, however Redcar grabbed a goal before half time. Redcar went looking for the equaliser, but two goals from Thomas F and the game was over. MOM: Teddy.

Aycliffe U14 Girls 2 v Bishop Auckland 2 Aycliffe controlled the first half and took the lead

on 10 minutes when Amy scored in the left side of the goal from an Ava M cross. They conceded just before half time, 1-1. For 15 minutes in the second half the girls got control back and went ahead again through Scarlett from another Ava M cross however, with 10 minutes to go, we conceded to draw the game 2-2 in a competitive

Aycliffe U7 Eagles v Spraire Lads

Another tough game for the Eagles in difficult conditions and with some key players missing. The boys worked hard all game and even kept fighting when they were a few goals down. Three goals from Luke kept us in the game. Bishop Auckland Girls v Aycliffe U11 Girls

Aycliffe dominated the first half. Amelia scored to make it 1-0 at HT. Second half and Poppy, who was waiting on the half way line, took one

touch and smashed it past everyone. Poppy then got her second. Emily W then got her first goal for the team. Finally, Emily C scored from the edge of the box. POTM: Emily W.

Aycliffe U13 Eagles 8 v Darlington TSC 1

Newton Aycliffe Eagles got back to winning ways with an 8-1 victory against Darlington TSC. In an even first half Aycliffe managed to take a couple chances to lead 2-0 at HT. On a heavy pitch the boys came out to play in the second half and ended up winning 8-1. Goals: Olly 3, Brandon, Rossi, Evan, Borys and an own goal. MOM: Olly. Gateshead performance U16 6 v Aycliffe U15

The girls had a well deserved 1-0 lead at half time with a goal from Lana. But, one minute into the second half and Gateshead equalise. Aycliffe were still battling and in the game at 2-3 down, but eventually the home team took the points. Coaches: Abi, Players: Charli.

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