

Newton News

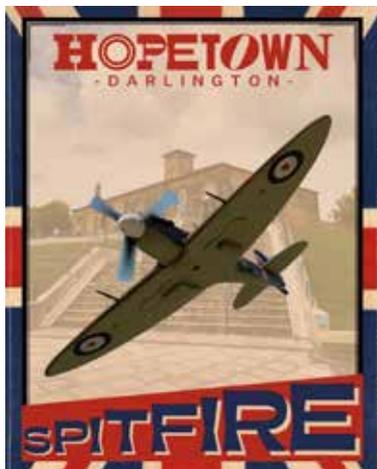
Incorporating The Newtonian - Newton Aycliffe's Free Community Newspaper, published on the first and third Friday of each month.
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Hopetown Welcomes Iconic Spitfire to Upcoming Weekend

Hopetown Darlington has announced that a magnificent Mk.1 Supermarine Spitfire will be on display as part of its Vintage Weekend festivities on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May 2026. This rare opportunity invites visitors to experience aviation history up close at the award-winning heritage attraction.



Set on Foundry Green between the historic North Road Station Museum and the Carriage Works buildings, the Spitfire exhibit offers a striking tribute to one of Britain's most celebrated aircraft from the Second World War. Visitors are encouraged to pose for photographs beside this legendary machine and learn about its pivotal role in defending the skies during Britain's darkest hours.



An RAF interpreter in authentic wartime uniform will be present throughout the day to share fascinating stories of courage, engineering brilliance and the pilots who flew these remarkable aircraft into history.

Councillor Libby McCollom, Darlington Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Local Services, said: "Darlington has a proud history of innovation, engineering and national significance, so it feels especially fitting to welcome an iconic Spitfire to the town on Bank Holiday Monday as part of our wider Vintage Weekend. Its appearance on 1940s Day helps bring an important chapter of British history to life, while reinforcing Darlington's long-standing connection to industry, ingenuity and resilience. The Spitfire will be a powerful and memorable highlight for visitors and perfectly complements a weekend dedicated to nostalgia, heritage and storytelling across generations."

Don't miss this unforgettable chance to stand face-to-face with a true icon of British aviation at the Vintage Weekend's 1940s-themed day. The Vintage Weekend runs 23-35 May 2026 and also features a Vintage Car Rally and a Vintages Wares and Wonders shopping day. For more information and to book free tickets, which are now available, visit www.hopetowndarlington.co.uk/spitfire. The Spitfire appearance is owned by Historical Promotions and its appearance at Hopetown Darlington is sponsored by Tees Valley Museums.

Miss Spring Blooms Pageant

Miss Lorelai Beal (Little Miss County Durham 2025/26) is bringing the pageant world to Newton Aycliffe, along with all the glamour, fun and a chance to win a crown & sash. Lorelai is hoping to raise as much funds as she can for St Clare's Church - Shine Choir & the Lifeline Community Action charity in the town centre.



If you would like to be a contestant, have a stall or even just come watch, be a part of the fun, cheer the contestants on and help support us in supporting these two amazing charities, I have an event page 'Miss Spring Blooms (charity pageant)' on Facebook. Please get in touch through that and we will give you a helping hand and answer any questions you may have.

The event is being held on Sunday 10th May 2026 at The Big Club, Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe and will start with contestants arriving at 11am, spectators can arrive from 12.30pm and the rounds will start at 1pm. Entries are taken from 0+ years, pageant goers and newcomers are all welcome. We currently have 9/10 contestants and would love to have more. The entry fee is £10 and £10 pledge for charity. We look forward to hearing from you.

Coffee Morning

We are organising a Coffee Morning for Mother's Day which will be held on Wednesday 11th March from 10.00am-12.00. It is to be held at Meynell & Mason Funeral Directors, Cemetery Chapel, Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DF. The idea is that people come in for a cuppa and a chat and they then have the opportunity to write a message and leave it on our memory tree, remembering all Mums who are sadly no longer with us. Any donations that we receive in branch will be donated to Cancer Care Newton Aycliffe. Thank you.

Thieves Strike at Five Acres

On the morning of Thursday 19th February - the Staff of the new Special Needs Day Centre at Brafferton arrived to find that thieves had broken in during the night and caused thousands of pounds worth of damage and stole gardening and farming equipment. The thieves avoided the security cameras and accessed the premises down the side of the A1M Motorway, having cut through the newly installed perimeter security fence they proceeded to access the farm through the goat enclosure and then cut a sizeable hole in the back of a steel container, which they emptied and transported the items to their vehicle using wheelbarrows. The thieves stole more than £10K worth of tools, equipment and sentimental items, including a lock of hair from Mr T, a horse at the centre that had recently passed away. Thankfully no animals were harmed, and the goats did not escape onto the main road.



Charlotte Iceton, the Centre Manager, said, "We are all in total shock as to why anyone would steal from a day service supporting those with Special Needs in our local area. Following the emergency call to report the break in, no Police officers attended the crime scene - unbelievable when the Police Station is situated a stone's throw away at the Glow Church, they did manage to give us a crime number. This whole incident has left our young adults feeling very anxious and frightened that the thieves may strike again. Since the break in we have upgraded our security system and taken measures to strengthen security on site."

Five Acres supports school and college leavers with additional needs through agriculture, horticulture, therapeutic gardening, animal care, independent living skills, cooking and much more. Our farm is home to 'Bailey' and 'Nimbus', two ponies that we rehomed from The Blue Cross, four pigmy goats, three sheep and currently two orphaned lambs 'Dolly' and 'Jolene'. Five Acres Community Garden is a Community Interest Company, if anyone would like to help in the form of a donation, please scan the QR code above.



Litter Pick

Join the Friends of Stockton & Darlington Railway for a litter pick along the new rail path on Thursday 19th March - meet at Heighington Station at 10.15am (on site parking available). Equipment will be provided, please wear strong boots/shoes. If you require any more information, please ring 07970 600631.



Introduction to Woodcarving

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February Ski Trip to Italy



Students from Woodham Academy have recently returned from the snow-capped peaks of the Aosta Valley on their ski trip to Italy. The group skied in the resort of Pila, which has stunning panoramic views of the border of Switzerland, including famous landmarks such as Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn.

For some of the 35 students, this was their first ever experience on skis, while others were returning for their third trip. Under the guidance of professional instructors, students were grouped by ability and made impressive progress throughout the week. Beginners quickly built confidence, learning essential skills such as turning, stopping, and safely navigating the slopes, while more experienced skiers developed their technique and took on increasingly challenging runs. Off the slopes, students explored the charming historic town of Aosta, where there are many Roman ruins that date back over 2000 years, savoured authentic Italian cuisine and applied new language skills when purchasing souvenirs in the town. The trip concluded with a presentation evening, during which ski instructors awarded every student with a certificate, congratulating them on their dedication and

the remarkable progress they had made during the week.

Staff praised the students for their enthusiasm, positive attitude, and excellent behaviour, throughout the trip. The Aosta Valley ski experience not only developed students' skiing skills, but also fostered independence, teamwork, and confidence, leaving them with lasting memories and a real sense of achievement.

S.A.C.A.

School Aycliffe Community Association

All proceeds towards upkeep of Centre.
Thursday 19th March 2026

Following session 23rd April 2026

Save the Date

11am until 2.00pm

Hi folks, it has been difficult to place our next two sessions on our usual monthly slots because of the pending Easter Holidays. However, despite this, we hope you can still find time to join us on the new dates above, and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Best regards Elizabeth & Christine

Junior Badminton

Spring Sessions 2026

School Aycliffe Community Centre
Classes started again on Tuesday 3rd March 2026. These ever-popular sessions are limited to eight pupils per hour and filled on a first come first served basis.

The first session is timed from 5-6pm for ages 7 years and up. Parents are welcome to drop children off and collect at the end of the hour or stay with the child and wait in the meeting room whilst their child is on court.

The second session is timed for 6-7pm for ages 11 years and up. It is necessary for children to wear trainers and advisable to bring a drink, all other equipment will be supplied. Phil and Matthew, our coaches, are both fully qualified by Badminton of England with up-to-date Enhanced DBS Checks and I will be on hand to fulfil Safeguarding standards.

Sessions will run

1. 3rd March 2026
2. 17th March 2026
3. 24th March 2026
4. 30th March 2026

Total cost for four sessions is £16.00 per child. If your child is interested, please contact soon to claim a place on the course.

Elizabeth Harker
Tel: 07813 523050

Let's Dance Event

On Sunday the 8th March, Aycliffe Village is holding a FREE National Let's Dance event in the Village Hall at 11am - Dancing together for physical and mental health. Everyone is welcome to join in and there will be refreshments afterwards. Hope you can join us.



I am writing to introduce myself as the new Neighbourhood Inspector for Newton Aycliffe, Sedgefield, Shildon and surrounding areas. I have worked for Durham Constabulary for 17 years in various roles within the organisation including Response, Crime Team, Executive Office and MOSOVO.

These previous roles have helped me understand a broad perspective of our communities and how best to serve them. My aim is to build community relationships, robustly tackle Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime, protect vulnerable people and ensure my team are visible within the community. I am fully committed to ensuring the safety of the communities and welcome working alongside our partners and residents to achieve this.

While I oversee the strategic direction of the area, your local officers remain your primary point of contact for day-to-day concerns. You can find out who your dedicated ward officer is by visiting our website and inputting your post code: Your area | Durham Constabulary. Thank you,
Inspector 2647 Simon Peele.

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The mOObs

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 The working man/woman is not getting value for money in this rip off tax system!
 Paul Haigh, Heighington.

Why Apprenticeships Work

Beth Swainston on Esh's Commitment to Developing Talent



For Training Manager Beth Swainston, apprenticeships aren't just part of her role at Esh Group – they're part of her story. Joining the business in 2015 as an apprentice in training, Beth worked her way through Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications. Upon completing her Level 3, she progressed to become a Training Coordinator, progressed into the training team, and today is responsible for overseeing the full apprenticeship cycle across the business. Now, as she continues on her career journey through a foundation degree in Business and Management at New College Durham, she lifts the lid on a unique dual perspective as both a former apprentice and a current student! Here, as part of National Apprenticeship Week 2026, Beth shone a spotlight on how Esh identifies, recruits, and supports apprentices – and what applicants should know before applying. Before joining Esh, Beth was studying animal care at Houghall College and dreaming of a future in farming. "I genuinely wanted to be out in the fields every day," she laughs. But when the course completed, job opportunities didn't arise and she found herself unsure of her next step. With family members already working at Esh, she applied for an apprenticeship and came into the business at 19. From there, Beth completed her Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeships and steadily progressed to become Training Manager. Having lived the apprentice experience first-hand, she brings empathy, honesty and realism to the process she now manages. "I've been the person trying to keep up with work, college deadlines and life - that helps when supporting young people who are just starting out."

How We Recruit

Esh's apprenticeship planning begins every spring, when Beth contacts directors across the business to confirm where opportunities are needed. "Some roles are annual fixtures," she explains. "Quantity surveyors and civil engineers almost always come through, but, on occasion, we'll be asked to recruit other business-critical roles, everything from business admin, groundworkers and even digital roles, depending on what teams request."

Once demand is clear, vacancies are advertised, and Esh's network of colleges is brought in. Partnerships with New College Durham, East Durham College and others ensure vacancies reach the right learners. Some providers, like East Durham, even pre interview and shortlist candidates to support the process.

For groundworks apprenticeships tied to specific projects, Beth works closely with colleges and teams to prioritise local candidates, supporting Esh's social value commitments, by aiming to provide residents in the vicinity of live projects with apprentice or work experience opportunities on their doorstep.

How We Support

When apprentices start out with Esh, they are appointed mentors and our support continues long after someone is recruited. Matching apprentices with suitable mentors comes into our planning. Where possible, mentors and apprentices are paired based on geography and work requirements to support travel and day-to-day learning.

Our partner colleges conduct 12 weekly reviews, capturing feedback from the apprentice, the assessor, and the line manager, but Beth acts as a central point of contact, stepping in where needed. She said: "Sometimes an apprentice might be nervous to raise something with their manager. I can be the middle ground to separate situations from the team environment and able to help resolve any arising issues early."

As apprentices progress, most are retained, moving from apprentice to trainee and onward into assistant and qualified roles. Degree apprenticeships, delivered in partnership with providers such as Northumbria University, are increasingly part of that progression.

Advice for Applicants

Beth's number one piece of advice is simple: "be honest and prepared - research the role, understand what you're applying for, and avoid repeating generic lines you think employers want to hear."

She claims tools like Go Construct are invaluable for understanding day to day responsibilities, required skills, and realistic career paths, in the industry. "We're not expecting people to be experts at 16," Beth says. "We're looking for curiosity, commitment, and enthusiasm. Skills can be taught – you just need the right attitude."

As Esh prepares to launch its 2026 apprenticeship opportunities, Beth's journey is a reminder that careers don't need to start neatly to grow successfully. With the right support, the right environment, and the right mindset, an apprenticeship can be the beginning of something lasting. To find out about apprenticeships at Esh Group, join the mailing list to be first to hear about the upcoming vacancies, visit:

<https://www.eshgroup.co.uk/join-us/apprenticeships/>

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

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The County Council of Durham
 (Thornton Close, Newton Aycliffe)
 (Temporary Footpath Closure)
 Order 2026
 The Council on 27/02/2026 made the above Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, to prohibit all pedestrian traffic from proceeding on the following length of footpath. An 8 metre length of Thornton Close, Newton Aycliffe, to the side of No.206 Thornton Close to enable sewer repair works to be undertaken. Throughout the period of the closure, a diversion will be available to pedestrian traffic on alternative footpaths surrounding Thornton Close. The maximum duration of the Order is 6 months. The proposed works are to commence from 8am on Monday 16/3/2026 and are anticipated to be completed in 5 days. On occasions, alternative dates for the closure may be necessary and these will be signed on site accordingly.
 DATED: 6/3/2026

 Helen Bradley
 Director of Legal & Democratic Services
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Middridge History Society

Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7.30pm
'Architectural Oddities: Follies & Funny Folks'.

Richard Pears will take us through some of the stranger buildings of Britain and the people who built them.

We look forward to seeing you at this. our last meeting of the season.

Admission £3 including refreshments.



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Saturday 14th March 2026

The Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre
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Newton Aycliffe Juniors

Week Ending 22nd February 2026

Under 7's faced TIBS, in what was an extremely competitive game, with Aycliffe showing great attitude throughout. Goals were scored by Leo who grabbed a hat-trick.

Under 8's Juniors travelled away to Norton & Stockton Ancients, enjoying an evenly matched game. Noah scored Aycliffe's goal, which was a strong contender for goal of the season. MOTM was Arron in goal, who put in an outstanding performance.

Under 9's Blues had their first home game in 2026, facing Billingham United. Aycliffe did not look themselves at times, but came through the match comfortably. The goals were scored by Leland, Nate and Oliver (2) who picked up POTM. CPOTM was Isaac who played great on the wing. Carter in goal helped himself to a clean sheet.

Under 10's Reds faced Darlington TSC at Hummersknott Academy in a wonderful game of football. Aycliffe scored through Fox (3) and Thomas. POTM was Jan who was formidable in defence. PPOTM was Korben who linked up well with Michael down the right.

Under 11's travelled to face Redcar Athletic Navy, coming away with a great result. Harvey P was outstanding in goal, keeping a clean sheet to earn him MOTM. The goals were scored by Noah A and Henry C, who scored his first goal for Aycliffe.

Under 12's Blues faced South Moore Blues in a quarter-final cup tie. Aycliffe started slowly, trailing at the break. A second half fight back was not enough for them to reach the semi-finals. Aycliffe's goals were scored by Charlie (2) and MOTM Yash.

Under 12's Blacks were on the road to face Grangetown Boys. On a heavy pitch, Aycliffe struggled to assert themselves and trailed at half-time. In the second half, Aycliffe played much better, with Jayden scoring the goal. **Under 12's Reds** got a fantastic 6-3 win against Kader. Aycliffe were at it from the off, with Charlie opening the scoring, Laitia then scored a long-range strike giving the keeper no chance. Alfie then grabbed a great double with a double assist from Charlie. Louie then cleared a corner to Koa who ran half the pitch to score. Good pressure from Yash, made Kader score an OG. MOTM was Koa.

Under 13's Whites travelled to face Hebburn Blacks Barca, Aycliffe started well, but fell behind before the break. Charlie and MOTM Oscar scored for Aycliffe, but Hebburn scored two late goals to get the victory.

Under 14's Blacks welcomed Blackfyne FC Woodham, for their first game in four weeks. It was a great 3-2 victory with Kai, Kaylm and Ben scoring the goals. POTM was shared between the team for such an impressive performance.

Under 14's Juniors travelled to Wynyard for a friendly, Aycliffe acquitted themselves well against a team flying high in the division above. A feisty encounter ended 6-4 in Wynyard's favour. Two goals from Jake and one from MOTM Sammy complemented an impressive performance from Max in goal.

Under 15's were away to a quality Darlington Quakers team. Every single one of the team put a massive performance in and dominated from start to finish, to win 4-0. Goals were scored by Layton W, Sam, Kodi and Jonah. MOTM was Grayson.

Week Ending 1st March 2026

Under 7's faced Greatham Youth. Aycliffe put in a powerful performance, scoring some lovely goals through Leo (4), Frankie, Killian, Henry and an OG.

Under 8's hosted Middleton Rangers, showing significant effort. Ethan scored twice and Noah scored a great goal

from the halfway line. MOTM was Arron in goal.

Under 9's Blues hosted Saltburn Athletic with both teams flying high in the league. Aycliffe were at it from the start, putting in a complete performance with the midfield being nothing short of exceptional. Leland (6), Nate (2), Jude, Isaac and Oliver scored goals. PPOTM was shared between Nate and Jude. CPOTM was six goal hero Leland.

Under 9's Juniors hosted Darlington United in a close contest, working hard throughout with Cooper scoring both of Aycliffe's goals.

Under 10's Reds faced Darlington Spraire Lads, it was Thomas who scored Aycliffe's goal with an assist from Michael. POTM was Leo and PPOTM was Michael.

Under 10's Juniors travelled to high flying 21st Allstars for their last league match of the season. Aycliffe played some great football with goals from Connor (3) and Zack. The performance was great, with goalkeeper Kian putting in an outstanding performance. OMOTM was Lincoln.

Under 11's had a tough day against Unbeaten Bedale Juniors. MOTM was Theo who worked hard on and off the ball, showing great attitude.

Under 12's Blacks travelled to face Billingham United Hornets, Aycliffe started the better, but eventually went down 3-2. Goals were scored by Grayson and an OG.

Under 13's Blacks hosted Thornaby Town Reds, who are top of the league. Aycliffe could not take the chances they created, eventually going down 3-0. MOTM was Lleyton and Ryley H.

Under 14's Blacks faced Crook Hornets away, in a 3-3 draw. Kaylm scored a great hat-trick, which was enough to earn MMOTM. PPOTM was Oliver.

Under 14's Juniors welcomed fellow high-fliers Guisborough to Woodham, in what turned out to be a hugely entertaining match. A goal from Oliver B and a top-class performance from Max H in goal ensured Aycliffe came away with a share of the spoils. Max picked up both MOTM and OMOTM.

Under 23's faced Spenny Volty, losing 2-1 in a difficult performance.



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Bright Future for The Light Jazz Tones with Alan Barnes

The name of a new cultural venue that will boost Durham City's visitor offer and provide a home for creativity and innovation has been announced.

The Light will bring together art and science in an engaging space where visitors will be able to view internationally significant exhibitions; artists will be able to create and collaborate, and communities can gather.

The name of the Durham County Council-run venue has been inspired not just by the building's history, but also its future use.

Once the site of the Durham Light Infantry (DLI) Museum and Art Gallery, the building is undergoing significant works, which have seen it stripped down to its basic structure and almost completely rebuilt. While its new design will transform The Light into a multipurpose cultural space, the venue's links to military history will be retained through a dedicated DLI Gallery telling the story of the 'Durhams' through objects, documents and film footage from the DLI Collection. The new name also reflects County Durham's many associations with light - from the creation 1,300 years ago of Bede's lunar calendar to Durham University's involvement in the James Webb Space Telescope. Housing the county's only contemporary art gallery, The Light will also provide a beacon for creativity, arts and culture when it opens, with light art also set to play a prominent role.

More than just an exhibition space, The Light will also offer facilities to host private events and conferences, and a ground floor café will provide a place for visitors and passers-by to stop for refreshments. The stunning natural grounds will be an oasis in the centre of the city and a place for reflection.

Situated at the heart of Aykley Heads, The Light will be an anchor institution of Durham's Innovation District, which took a major step forward just last month when Durham County Council signed a Collaboration Agreement with Muse and Durham University to accelerate its development as a hub for investment and innovation. Acting as a meeting place and a creative hub, The Light will support the game-changing ambitions of the new district and play a key part in the sustainable growth of the site.

The Light, which is due to open this year, will be a sister venue to The Story, which provides the permanent home to the DLI Collection. The two venues will work together, along with other attractions across the county, to support a local, regional and national visitor offer that celebrates our heritage and highlights our ambition.



To anyone who wasn't there, our last Friday lunchtime jazz #bishopaucklandjazz was an absolute cracker. The distinguished statesman of British Jazz, Alan Barnes, graced Bishop Auckland with his cultured saxophone and clarinet playing in a wonderfully constructed programme. If I were a Bell and Rhythm Changes on alto sax were quickly followed by a smooth Bossa on clarinet. Then out came the baritone sax for a delightfully floated version of Skylark and Bernie's Tune. He finished on alto with Dreamsville from Peter Gunn and there was still time for an encore of Caravan with some outrageously slick and exciting solos from all of the musicians.

Throughout the event, Alan gave great credit to his trio of Mick Shoulder (double bass), Rick Laughlin (piano) and Tim Johnston (drums). He also enjoyed a great rapport with the near capacity audience, sharing some great stories and inviting comments from those gathered. The next event will be on Friday 13th March at 1.00pm in the Methodist Church and will feature the welcome return of popular singer Paul Skerit for some more smooth and cool lunchtime tones.



The Enormous Crocodile is Sliding into Darlington

Darlington, prepare yourselves. Lock up your lunches, hide your "delicious little fingers," and keep an eye out for suspiciously long, green reptiles - because The Enormous Crocodile is chomping its way onto the Darlington Hippodrome stage in April.



This greedy, grumpy, and undeniably horrid, creature is leaving the jungle behind and heading straight for County Durham, armed with "secret plans and clever tricks" that only the bravest jungle animals - and, of course, Darlington audiences - can foil.

This mischievous musical adventure is based on Roald Dahl's beloved tale and features toe tapping tunes by Ahmed Abdullahi Gallab, delightfully cheeky book and lyrics by Suhayla El Bushra, and additional music by Tom Brady.

Developed and directed by Emily Lim, with stunning puppetry co-created by Toby Olié and Daisy Beattie, this family-friendly spectacular brings a whole menagerie of jungle friends to life - along with one particularly gigantic and dramatically hungry crocodile.

Expect puppets, puns, jungle jingles, and plenty of playful peril. The Enormous Crocodile runs at Darlington Hippodrome from Thursday 16th to Saturday 18th April. For full details, or to book, call the Box Office on 01325 405405 or visit darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk



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golf@woodhamgolfandleisure.co.uk

Coffee 'n' Chat

Everyone is welcome at Aycliffe Village Hall for our Coffee 'n' Chat on Wednesday 11th March between 2.00pm and 3.00pm. We look forward to seeing you for a drink, biscuits and friendship.



Phil Vickery to Attend Bishop Food Festival

Celebrity chef Phil Vickery is to make a welcome return to a popular North East food festival this spring.

Phil, who has graced screens for more than a quarter of a century on ITV show This Morning, will be leading the line-up at this year's Bishop Auckland Food Festival, which takes place on Saturday and Sunday, 18th and 19th April.

Phil last appeared at Bishop Auckland in 2023 and will be joined this year by fellow TV chefs

Chris Bavin – reprising his previous role as host; Shivi Ramoutar and Aaron Mountford-Myles.

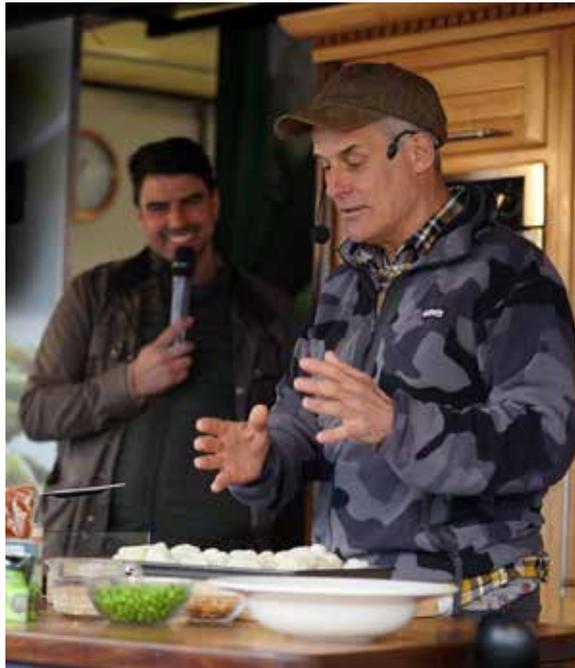
The free-to-attend Durham County Council event once again promises to get taste buds tingling and diners drooling, with culinary delights from both near and far for everyone to enjoy.

Phil Vickery has appeared on This Morning for 26 years and has had two series of his own on ITV, Phil Vickery's Pudding Club and Save Money: Good Diet. He has also made appearances on BBC's Holiday, Ready Steady Cook; and Proof of the Pudding. Away from TV, Phil is a prolific and highly regarded cookery author, having written 19 award-winning books that have sold worldwide.

As in previous years, Chris Bavin will be the host of the festival across both days. Chris is co-presenter of BBC1's hugely successful series Eat Well for Less. He has also presented Tomorrow's Food with Dara O'Briain and The Truth about Meat and is co-presenter of BBC1's long-running series Food: Truth or Scare, with Gloria Hunniford. Chris was the presenter for two series of BBC2's Britain in Bloom and a co-judge on BBC1's prime time competition series Britain's Best Home Cook, with Mary Berry, chef Angela Hartnett and presenter Claudia Winkleman. He is also a regular guest and reporter for The One Show and Morning Live.

Shivi Ramoutar can regularly be found cooking her tropical fare on TV, via her ITV series, Jimmy and Shivi's Farmhouse Breakfast, and has also appeared on Saturday Kitchen, James Martin's Saturday Mornings and This Morning. She is the author of three cookbooks. Aaron Mountford-Myles came to the nation's attention last year, when he reached the final of Channel 4 series The Great British Bake Off. Phil, Shivi and Aaron will all be giving cookery demonstrations at the festival on the Saturday, with details of the Sunday chef line-up to be announced soon.

The festival will also have a treat for those with a sweet tooth, with chocolate workshops from Paul A. Young on both days. Paul will be running hour-long Perfect Truffles Masterclasses and Adventures with Chocolate sessions, on both the Saturday and Sunday. Booking for these is required via the festival website, where further information on everything happening across the two days can be found, at www.bishopaucklandfoodfestival.co.uk



ACORN Residents Association

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th March, 6.00pm, upstairs at The Phoenix Club.

Everyone is welcome to come along. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available. Trips away will be discussed. We look forward to seeing you then.

Wheelchairs

In the UK, it is estimated 4.3 million people experience a short-term mobility need that could benefit from a wheelchair. 44% of these people believed they would have benefitted from one, to attend appointments or to continue in their normal social environment. The NHS provides wheelchairs for long-term users, but those in temporary need often have to apply privately, some have a waiting list and most have a charge. If the need for a wheelchair is unplanned, such as after an accident, a wait or a charge might have a dramatic effect on their lives.

Community Spirit Newton Aycliffe can supply transit and self propelled wheelchairs, children's and bariatric chairs, on a temporary loan basis, free of charge - and, they can be delivered to the door, if you live within Newton Aycliffe.

Please contact email: communityspiritaycliffe@gmail.com or call Anne on 07506 123561.

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Zero Tolerance to Spiking

I recently chaired a spiking roundtable in Durham, bringing together police and crime commissioners, senior policing leaders and partners from across the North-east. We were joined by colleagues from the Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls Centre, campaigners from Stamp Out Spiking, and representatives from universities and the night time economy. Research carried out in Durham shows that almost half of students believed spiking was a "big issue," with a further quarter saying it remained a concern even if not the main one. In total, around seven in ten students saw spiking as a real problem. These figures represent fear, vulnerability and a loss of confidence that must be addressed. Nationally, reports of spiking have risen sharply, but many incidents still go unreported. Victims may fear they will not be believed, blame themselves, or worry about what will happen if they come forward. One of the challenges is misunderstanding what spiking is. Many people still believe it only involves drugs being slipped into drinks. Spiking also includes deliberately adding extra alcohol to someone's drink without their knowledge or consent - such as doubling measures or topping up a glass while encouraging someone to drink more. Alcohol is a drug, and both forms of spiking are equally dangerous and equally criminal. Spiking is frequently linked to other serious offences, including sexual violence, robbery, and assault. In the most serious cases, it can be life-threatening. Responsibility always lies with the perpetrator - never the victim. Durham Constabulary advises that if you think you or someone you are with has been spiked, you should:

- Get to a safe place immediately;
- Stay with people you trust;
- Tell a friend or venue staff;
- Seek medical help if you feel unwell;
- Never go home alone;
- If symptoms are severe or urgent, always call 999.

Reports can be made online using the dedicated spiking reporting tool, by calling 101, or at a police station. If someone is in immediate danger, call 999.

I have consistently pressed for spiking to be taken more seriously. By calling it out for what it is and by working together, we can make our night-time economy safer and send a clear message that spiking will not be tolerated, and those responsible will be pursued and held accountable.

National Award for Transforming Care

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust is celebrating the success of one of its own after Health Play Specialist Leanne Gowland was named Health Play Specialist of the Year 2025 in the national Starlight Play in Healthcare Awards. Leanne Gowland works in the Trust's Children's Bladder and Bowel Service, supporting children and young people aged three to 19 with continence challenges. She uses creative play techniques, including preparation, distraction and sensory activities, to reduce anxiety, build confidence and improve children's healthcare experiences at home, in school and on hospital wards. By working closely with families, schools and clinical teams, Leanne ensures children receive joined-up care that is both coordinated and supportive.

Leanne, who has been a Health Play Specialist for over 20 years, joined the specialist bladder and bowel team in 2022 and has played a pioneering role in developing the service. Working alongside colleague, Ann Bainbridge and the wider nursing team, she provides tailored support and education to children and their families across the county. Her work has been described by colleagues as making a 'profound difference' to children's lives, preventing hospital admissions and protecting mental health. Demand for the service has risen sharply in recent years, with referrals increasing since the pandemic. The Trust recently hosted a local awards ceremony at Darlington Memorial Hospital, where Leanne was presented with her award ahead of a more formal national ceremony in London later this year. Joanne Carr, Children and Young Peoples Bladder and Bowel Service Lead Nurse, said: "This was a new role in our service and Leanne brought a wealth of experience and is an integral part of our team. Her knowledge and experience of working with children through play is amazing. She continues to develop this role within the service and supports the development of other trainee play specialists. I am amazed by the use of play and ideas regarding issues such as delayed toilet training, compliance with medication and fluid intake. It makes such a difference to the children we see."

Leanne, who also mentors trainee play specialists, said she was "grateful and humbled" by the award: "It feels a little surreal, but I'm so



thankful to work with such a fantastic team. For me it's all about helping children live as fully as possible - if play, structure and support can open those doors, that's what I'll keep doing." The Starlight Play in Healthcare Awards celebrate outstanding use of play to reduce fear, pain and trauma for children receiving medical care.

I Had A Dream

I stood upon the beach of Normandy,
I saw a thousand bodies plus, upon the shore,
Then I looked upon the sea, it once was blue, but now a sea of red,
This is the blood that was shed for you and me,
Then I looked upon the shore once more,
I saw the bodies they did rise,
As they gathered all around, like a gentle breeze,
I heard their voices say unto me,
Go home my son, go home,
And tell them what we've done,
We have given our today, for your tomorrow,
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By Peter Barnes

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Email: alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

There are deeply concerning developments unfolding in the Middle East and I want to begin by highlighting important advice for residents with friends or family in the region. The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is urging all British nationals in Bahrain, Israel, Palestine, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to register their presence so they can receive important updates and support if needed. They can do so here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-office-travel-advice-updates>

Please do share this information with anyone you know who may be in the area.

At a time of heightened global uncertainty, it is a reminder of just how important our national security and international partnerships remain. This was brought sharply into focus when I had the privilege of travelling to Norway to visit Camp Viking and spend time with our Commando Forces on winter training exercises. Seeing first-hand how the Royal Marines prepare to operate in some of the harshest conditions on earth. The Commandos are playing a vital role in countering the growing threat of aggression from Russia in the High North, helping to protect British interests and the wider security of our NATO allies.

I was there alongside a cross-party group of MPs and Peers as part of the Royal Navy Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme and it was a valuable opportunity to deepen our understanding of the challenges faced by our armed forces.

There has also been welcome economic news. Growth has outperformed forecasts, January saw a healthy surplus with debt falling and borrowing down and inflation continues to ease. Households will also benefit from energy bills falling by around £117 due to changes in the price cap. This is encouraging progress and a sign that the steps being taken to stabilise the economy are beginning to have a positive effect for working families.

Back in Parliament, I was really pleased to meet with Minister Miatta Fahnbulleh to discuss the future of Newton Aycliffe town centre. Securing investment for our high streets remains a key priority. Having already helped secure £20 million for Spennymoor town centre, I am now pushing hard to ensure Newton Aycliffe receives the backing it needs to thrive, attract visitors and support local businesses.

I am particularly pleased that the government launched a national consultation on how to better support pupils with SEND in schools. The proposals are backed with major new investment to drive real improvements such as:

- £1.5 billion for early intervention support in schools
- £1.8 billion to expand access to educational psychologists and therapists
- £200 million for improved SEND training for teachers
- £740 million to adapt classrooms and create specialist facilities
- Funding for 60,000 new specialist places
- And £200 million for SEND outreach through Best Start Family Hubs

These are significant steps towards ensuring

every child gets the support they need to succeed. To have your say, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-first>

Danish Vocal Duo Set for Steam Machine Show

Nordic Americana duo Glimtvis will play their first ever UK headline show at Newton Aycliffe's Steam Machine Brewery in March. Comprising singers Rikke Egholm Ravn and Rasmus Pedersen, Glimtvis combine their Scandinavian and rock roots with elements of the Americana genre honed by working with artists in Nashville, Tennessee.

Rikke and Rasmus made their UK debut in 2025, performing two sets at Buckle & Boots Country Festival, and the friendships they made on that visit led to the planning of their return to the UK.

Their visit to Steam Machine on 19th March will be Glimtvis' first ever non-festival show in the UK.

It follows a sell-out show at the brewery by Grammy-nominated Nashville artist Jeremy McComb in 2025, building on the growing popularity of the venue for touring artists. Pronounced Glimt-vees, the Danish word translates as "a little glimpse", and when it comes to what people can expect from one of their shows, it's a fitting moniker.

Rikke says: "I think what we would love for the audience to experience is to see themselves in our songs... whether that's something about being an adult, maybe about a broken heart, about feeling happy on the road, or whatever one of our songs is about. It resonates with them. They can recognise themselves in the lyrics – we love for that to happen, and it always happens that someone comes up to us and says 'I know that feeling'."

Rasmus adds: "When people leave a Glimtvis show, maybe they leave with the feeling of 'I'm maybe not doing so bad myself, actually.' That's the humorous way of it, but actually that they see that other people have these doubts and fears and feelings and losses and everything, too. I hope they will be able to see themselves in it."

Tickets for Glimtvis' show at Steam Machine Brewery on the 19th are available from: www.skiddle.com



House Sales To Fund Local Cancer Support

A new partnership in Spennymoor will see everyday house moves directly supporting people affected by a cancer diagnosis or bereavement.

Local estate agents, Ryan James, has teamed up with Solan Connor Fawcett Family Cancer Trust, also known as Team Solan, and will donate £500 from every completed house sale in Spennymoor to the charity.

Ryan James, an independent local estate agents based in Bishop Auckland, say the partnership reflects their people-first approach and their long-standing involvement in the community.

Team Solan supports individuals and families navigating cancer and loss - providing practical help, emotional support and opportunities to spend meaningful time together. On average, it costs around £400 per year to support one family, meaning each property sold will fund more than a year of support for someone locally.

As part of the partnership, Ryan James will also provide an exclusive selling package for families supported by Team Solan who need to move home, as well as supporting fundraising events and awareness campaigns throughout the year.

The first donation will come from a local Spennymoor property currently being sold by the Ryan James team, marking the start of an ongoing commitment to supporting the community. Residents considering selling their home can now help a local person facing cancer simply by choosing Ryan James to support them in their move.

Every house sale will now bring real comfort to someone going through one of life's hardest times, and we're incredibly grateful to Ryan and the team for choosing to use their business to help people when they need it most."

If you'd like to learn more about this initiative, please contact: info@ryanjamesestateagents.co.uk



Removal of Payphone

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Proposed Removal of Telephone Kiosk For BT Payphones**

Over the past decade there has been a decline of 90% in payphone usage as a result of significant changes in communication in the UK, 98% of the UK now has either 3G, 4G or 5G coverage. This is important because such coverage makes it possible to call the emergency services, even when there is no credit or no coverage from your own mobile provider. Furthermore, a recent Ofcom report has found that most people do not view payphones as essential for most consumers in most circumstances.

As part of BT's Universal Service Obligation, it is required that payphone provision is to meet reasonable needs, however BT constantly needs to review payphone usage and, on occasions, look to realign public payphone provision more closely to the reducing demand that still exists.

It has been identified that a BT payphone in your area is no longer required and therefore could be removed. BT has asked Durham Council County to collate any comments regarding the matter and to relay these back to BT for consideration. Details of the phone box in question are detailed below

Address: Telephone Box At Whinlatter Place, DL5 7DR
Number 01325 313371

Total number of calls last 12 months - 35

If you wish to object you will please need to state your reasons why. BT offers local communities the facility to adopt existing traditional red 'heritage' phone box and make them an asset that local people can enjoy for just £1, thereby protecting the heritage of the community. Communities can also adopt modern glass boxes if they want to house a defibrillator. Please visit bt.com/adopt for more information

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In order to be taken into account, any comments should please be made via email to planning@durham.gov.uk clearly stating the reference number PRE90/26/00214 before the end of March 2026.

For Sale

Samsung 40" TV UE40F6740, £100.
TV Table 600 x 460, wooden, black glass top and one shelf, £40. **X-Box One** and Kinect, £80. **Bose Solo** TV sound system, £50. 07572 614466.

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Obituary

June Punshon



June, aged 89 years, died 21st February, peacefully in hospital after a long illness. First to be married in Newton Aycliffe. Beloved Wife of the late Tommy and much loved Mam of Michael, Deborah, Sharon, June, Brenda, Nana and Great Nana. Friends please meet for June's funeral service at the Hammers & Pincers on Wednesday 25th March at 12 noon, followed by burial at West Cemetery. Everyone welcome to return to the Hammers & Pincers after the interment.

S.A.C.A.

School Aycliffe Community Association

Community Hall - Located at the bottom of Eastfields, School Aycliffe (please follow the white/brown information signs).

March Events

Community Choir held every fortnight. Our next session is on Monday 9th March from 7.00pm until 8.30pm, £3 including light refreshments. Please contact Julie McGarth for further information on 07742 015609
Bingo Night Friday 13th March, 7.00pm to 10.00pm (cash only). This is a ticketed event, £5 per person, goody bag included (over 18s). You can either bring your own food and drink or Huntley's Fish & Chip mobile van will be in attendance from 8.00pm. Don't worry if you don't have a dabber, as these will be on sale with additional bingo cards for those that are feeling lucky! There will be a raffle on the night, so bring some cash!

Please contact Georgette on 07951 758118 or Julie on 07742 015609 to purchase your tickets, we also offer online payment, so you have no excuse!

Up and Coming Events

please make a note in your diary!

April

Ladies Night held every 1st Wednesday in the month, £3 including light refreshments. Our next session will be on Wednesday 1st April 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

Safer Driving as we age

Please contact Christine for further info on 07981 992686

Dates for mobile food vans to visit our hall:

Friday 13th March from 8.00pm.

Wednesday 18th March, Weird Dough, 4.30pm to 7.30pm. Please visit our new Facebook page School Aycliffe Community Centre, we are at the heart of our community and a warm welcoming space for people of all ages and backgrounds to connect, learn and grow. Just a reminder, when you visit our hall please can you be mindful when parking - thank you for supporting our events and hope to see you soon.

The Committee Members,
 School Aycliffe Community Association.

New Friends, New Places

We are a small social group of about 20 that meet every Tuesday afternoon at 1.30pm in The Navy Club on Burnhill Way.

We enjoy a weekly quiz and play various games, such as curling, quoits, skittles, etc., as well as the occasional game of bingo, dominoes and other board games.

We all enjoy our weekly get-together and chats.

New friends soon become old friends.

We also enjoy regular trips out and meals at various local pubs.

We would love to have some new members, so please come along and see if it's something you'd like to join. Nothing is compulsory, so don't worry if you feel out of your comfort zone.

Further details, if required, from Angela on 07443 034288 or Tony on 07706 029907.

Aycliffe Village WI Poppy Making



Members of Aycliffe Village WI have been knitting and crocheting poppies for the Standing with Giants War Memorial in Normandy. These poppies will be sent to France to replace some in the display.

In Memoriam

Val Morgans
(née Hurst)



Passed 2/3/22

Until we meet again. Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. Love and miss you every day. Your loving Son Gareth and all the family.

Obituary

Heather Murial Crichton Rogerson



Heather, a victim of cancer, passed away at home on 27th February 2026, aged 73.

Dearly beloved Wife of Husband John and loving Grandmother to Angel, Gemma and Jamie, Great Grandmother to 10 Grandchildren.

Will be sadly missed and in our hearts forever.

Gladys Harbottle

Died 7th March 2013
 Gone, but never forgotten, and we cherish our lovely memories. Vera, Lavinia and Andy x

Sylvia Huart



12/9/1946-24/1/2026
 Aged 79 Years

It is with broken hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of our adored Mam, Grandma, Great Grandma, Sister, Auntie and treasured friend to many. Loved for eternity xxxxxx

Would family and friends kindly meet at Wear Valley Crematorium on Thursday 12th March at 3.30pm.

Lynn, Gary and Claire warmly invite all to then attend the Navy Club, Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe.

Donations to be made in lieu to the Stroke Association.

Flowers can be sent directly, if so desired, to Co-op Funeral Care, Oakcliffe Cottage, Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe.

Maureen Holland



11th March 2018

Maureen, it's been eight long years since you left us, and yet, I'm still waiting for you to walk back in through the front door.

We all miss you every single day and love you forever.

Nick, Chris, Richard, Megan, Lily and all family and friends. xxxx

Mother's Day Remembrance

Jenny Tarvit

Happy Mother's Day Mam. Love and miss you every day. Sending you the biggest hug for your special day. With love always from your Kaff, Martin and family xxx

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

Tel: Paul
 01325 300212
 or paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Congratulations

Tuesday Paul and Angela

Happy 50th Anniversary.
 Love, Pauline xx

PUZZLE CORNER

Sudoku

		7						6
4			1					2
			2			4	8	5
		2		1				6
	1		6		8			4
	3			7		2		
2	4	5			1			
7					3			1
3						6		



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August 22nd/23rd
Darlington & District Motor Club Battle of
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September 5th/6th
Kwik Fit British Touring Car Championship
September 19th/20th
750 Motor Club Car Race Meeting
November 29th
Christmas Stages Rally

Trail of Discovery



S&DR200 festival has announced the official opening of the Trail of Discovery, a new public walking and cycling route that follows sections of the original 26-mile journey of the world's first passenger railway - the Stockton & Darlington Railway (S&DR), complete with an interactive game.

The Trail of Discovery connects key heritage sites between Witton Park in County Durham and Stockton-on-Tees, including Shildon, Darlington, Heighington, and Eaglescliffe. Interpretation panels, lineside signs, and public artworks, including nine murals, guide visitors along the route, revealing the rich history of the railway that changed the world. It will be a key part of the legacy of the S&DR200 Festival - a nine-month festival being delivered by Darlington Borough Council, Durham County Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council to celebrate the 200th anniversary of S&DR.

The Trail of Discovery web app and interactive game, voiced by broadcaster Steph McGovern, uses augmented reality to bring the route to life. Created by Teesside University's TUCan Studio, it allows visitors to unlock stories, podcasts, and digital experiences at key locations, building their own virtual cavalcade and deepening their understanding of the S&DR's legacy.

In addition, the S&DR Active Travel Route, developed by Durham County Council, forms part of the wider Trail of Discovery. Funded through the Levelling Up Fund, the route encourages active travel while immersing visitors in railway heritage. It passes through historically significant locations such as the Etherley Incline and the Masons Arms Crossing, with interpretation panels enhancing the experience. Further additions to the trail are continuing this year, including the opening of a new bridge over the River Gaunless in the same location of the original S&DR bridge.

The Trail of Discovery offers a multi-layered journey through the birthplace of the modern railway and links directly to key museums, including:

- Locomotion is located at the western end of the trail in Shildon - where Locomotion No. 1 began its historic journey in 1825 - Locomotion sits on the original S&DR line and is a key anchor point for the Trail of Discovery. Visitors can explore the museum before continuing eastward along the trail, with nearby access to the Brusselton Incline and Masons Arms, both significant early railway sites.
- Hopetown in Darlington is situated directly on the 1825 route, Hopetown is a central stop on the Trail of Discovery. It connects visitors to North Road Station, Skerne Bridge, and other Darlington landmarks. The museum's interactive exhibits and restored railway buildings offer a deep dive into the region's railway heritage, making it a pivotal point for trail users exploring Darlington's role in railway history.
- Preston Park in Stockton-on-Tees is at the eastern end of the trail. The Discovery Trail's final leg takes in Eaglescliffe Station before heading to Preston Park where sections of the original S&DR track bed can be found before going onto St John's Crossing on Stockton's Riverside. Following a multi-million pound extension and investment into wider park improvements, Preston Park has been showcasing a range of exhibitions in the museum's new exhibition space, called Tracks of Change, all looking at the stories of the railways. Perfume, a new installation by contemporary visual artist Yann Nguema, is the final exhibition in the series and is on display until Sunday 10th May. To view the latest S&DR200 programme listings, visit www.sdr200.co.uk.

For more information about the S&DR Trail of Discovery, visit www.sdr200.co.uk/discovery-trail. S&DR200 is funded by Darlington Borough Council, Durham County Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. Other major funders include Arts Council England, Tees Valley Combined Authority, North East Combined Authority, and The National Heritage Lottery Fund. Other sponsors are LNER, Hitachi Amazon UK, Caswell's, and Hampton Hilton.

From 2018 to 2023, the Stockton & Darlington railway was part of Historic England's Heritage Action Zone programme. The scheme aimed to rejuvenate and restore the historic birthplace of the modern railway system, developing its potential to deliver economic growth, social regeneration and environmental benefits, as well as securing the line's long-term management as a world-class visitor attraction.

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Newton Aycliffe Youth Football News

The weather continues to hold up the season for most of our teams, but lots of good results from those teams that did manage to play.

Cullercoats FC 1 v U17's Eagles 4

A very early kick off, playing almost an hour away, but this didn't seem to impact the boys as from the initial whistle they dominated. The first goal fell to Olly, to slot straight past the keeper. The boys created more chances forcing the Cullercoats keeper to make some good saves. Our back line was playing well and Noah in goal was clearing anything that came through and his communication to his team mates.

However, the second half started with the home team getting a goal back against the run of play. A great corner from Harry and Zac headed home, minutes later Harry with the corner, Clayton with the finish. Cullercoats attacked looking to get back into the game, forcing Noah to make a great save down to his right. The lads sealed the three points. However, a brilliant cross into the box from Ollie found Adam who scored the third header of the game.

MOM: Clayton for his outstanding contribution in midfield.

U16 Angels 4 v Boro Rangers 8

This continues to be the toughest league yet. Boro Rangers had a year out of this division having had a 100% season. This season they've drawn one and won the rest. This was always going to be tricky. The scoreline may have been convincing, but it didn't feel like that big of a gap. A perfect start, with a goal after three minutes that the early play deserved.

Faith put in a perfect cross from the right and Poppy rose to glance a header into the bottom corner. Boro Rangers replied almost instantly. Five minutes on the clock and they equalised. On fourteen minutes they took the lead and on sixteen minutes they extended it and added another. The Angels then scored on thirty minutes with a corner from Emily, finished with a header from Faith.

We've seen that outcome many times this season. HT 2-4.

The next goal would be important, and it was the visitors who took their chance. However, on 63 minutes Emily drove through the heart of the Boro defence and slipped the ball across to Poppy who finished into the corner of the net (3-5). The next two goals went to Boro, but Aycliffe still managed to score their fourth, by Ruby.

Players & Parents: Evie. Coaches: Emily.

Eaglescliffe Royals 1 v U14 Eagles 3

A very competitive first half with both teams having their chances, the Eagles headed into half time 2-0 up with a brace from Sam Maddison. The second half brought an increase in wind and the Eagles capitalised, again with a goal from Conor Burdess to make it 3-0. A fiercely fought final five minutes saw chances at both ends with the home side scoring, final score 3-1. MOM: Sam Maddison / Mo Krubally.

North Ormesby Vics 1 v U12 Falcons 2

A good game away at Middlesbrough. It was cold and windy, but the team were just happy to play. North Ormesby scored first and then an OG made it 1-1 at half time. It was a close game with both teams creating chances. Falcons kept pushing, but just couldn't find the net, until Phoenix unleashed a rocket to score the winner.

POM Opposition: Jaxon. Coaches: Tyler & Phoenix.

Seaham v U9 Eagles

A good game against a well organised Seaham team. Seaham took an early lead, but the boys kept fighting right to the end but just couldn't get that goal they deserved.

U7 Wildcats v Hartlepool Divas

Myla scored first, but Aycliffe then conceded two quick goals. The Wildcats rallied though as Myla completed her brace. Aycliffe controlled the second half with really good passing. Esther finishing two opportunities that fell to her as they completed a 4-2 victory. Zoey got player of the match, after playing in every position except goal-keeper.

Result: Washington Athletic 4 v Newton Aycliffe Youth Seniors 5 (Wearside League).

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