



THE NEWTONIAN

NEWTON AYCLIFFE COUNCIL OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
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Hon. Editor : E. F. BROOMFIELD

MARCH 1962

EDITORIAL

Congratulations to the Boys Club and their helpers, now responsible for 500 boys and girls.

In 1961 they won 65 awards at the Art Festival. In 1962 so far they have 17 Bronze and 5 Silver Medals awarded by the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Nearly 100 other awards have been won this year.

Congratulations to Mr. Muir, the Chief Constable, who, Mr. Blakeborough states was largely responsible for the premises.

Congratulations to the Club President, Mr. Blakeborough and Mrs. Blakeborough for supporting such a worth-while cause.

Congratulations to The Boys Brigade, Boy Scouts, Brownies, Girl Guides, St. John's Cadets and Red Cross Cadets and Links to all their helpers and leaders, for the wonderful progress and awards won, too numerous to mention.

All this still leaves about 2,000 boys and girls for whom there is no room.

Bursting with Youth and Energy

These 2,000 clubless boys and girls will find their own leaders, make their own gangs, to escape from boredom as they have done in past generations with the results which we now face in 1962.

The stark alternative to more money for Youth Clubs and Youth Centres is more money to increase the Police Forces. It is as simple as that!

The County Council are so short of space that they have had to take over (rent) the Parish Church Hall and the Methodist Church Hall for use as schools, probably for two years, until proper Schools are built. This, in spite of the very many fine, modern, schools which have been built.

The pressure of Youth is terrific. Let us give all this Youth and Energy the opportunity to belong, or not to belong, to a Club, to a Youth Centre. Let us give them real freedom to choose the way they go.

*"One ship sails east and another west,
With the self same winds that blow;
'Tis the set of the sail, and not the gale,
Which determines the way they go."*

Who is going to do it?

Where can we look for the money? We will look at some cash balances, but first listen to :- **Cliff Mitchelmore**, who said recently that the U.S.A. space project programme would cost the astronomical figure of £1,700 million pounds sterling. **Cliff said**, this is as much as our whole Defence programme costs, which is £1,700 million pounds sterling. Now, how does this expenditure compare with Cash and the Cash (Reserve) invested balances of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance?

The latest published figures authorised by the House of Commons on 31st March, 1961.

shows Cash and Cash Invested Reserves of more than £1,700 millions, to be exact, £1,709,000,000.

NATIONAL INSURANCE FUNDS

Cash balance invested 30-3-61	£305,000,000
(Reserve) Fund—Previous years Cash balances	
Invested	£1,167,000,000
Cash Balances from Industrial Injuries	£237,000,000
Grand Total of Cash Invested	£1,709,000,000

which is more than our total Defence Expenditure.

The Government should at once **Double** the amount of money available to County Councils, for **Youth Centres and Youth Projects**. This will add more real happiness and enjoyment, both now, and throughout their lives, to these boys and girls, and to the Chief Constables who recognise the urgent need for education in living, as well as education in schools.

No Room for both Children and Parents

When the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh opened the new Boys Club in June 1960 I'm quite sure they would not have expected it to cater for a Girls section as well in such a limited space. When the recent awards were presented at the Boys Club, there was **only room for the Award Winners and their parents**, in the large Games room.

As the **Duke of Windsor** said, when he toured the stricken mining areas in Wales, as Prince of Wales:

"SOMETHING MUST BE DONE"

New Editor

Mr. P. Wood of 8 Joicey Place, will be the Editor of the Newtonian after this March issue. Items for April should be sent to 21 Clarence Green, by 5 p.m. on 9th March.

Change of Address

Items for the May Newtonian to be sent to the Editor, Mr. P. Wood at 8 Joicey Poace, Newton Aycliffe by 5 p.m. on the 9th of April. Thank you.

Personal Note

Your Editor, who took on the job for the time being when N.A. C.O.L.A. was first formed, now vacates the Editorial Chair. It has been a pleasant experience, meeting many more nice people, than I would otherwise have done and I trust that my successor Mr. P. Wood will be equally rewarded Happy days to you all and pleasant memories.

E.F.B.



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COUNCIL NOTES

At the January Meeting of the Parish Council, it was unanimously agreed to petition the County Council to confer Urban Status upon the Parish of Great Aycliffe. This Parish includes the Town, Trading Estate and village of Aycliffe.

At the same meeting it was agreed to commence a Complaints Bureau for Tenants of the Development Corporation and a Member of the Bureau will attend at the Council Office, Top Floor, Churchill House, every Saturday morning from 11-00 a.m. to noon. Persons wishing to lodge complaints should attend at this time.

The Parish Council estimate that their expenditure for the next financial year will amount to £11,588, and are precepting for this amount. This will mean a Rate levy of 7d. in the pound; the same as last year.

The Council has approved a recommendation of the Playing Fields Committee to agree in principle to the lay out Plan for a Playing Field in the Moore Lane area. The preliminary estimate of the cost of this scheme is £17,000 (including a running track), and the Development Corporation has been requested to prepare detailed estimates.

Commencing in January the County Council has provided temporary accommodation for infants from the Vane Road School in St. Clare's Hall, and the Methodist's Church Hall. At present 62 children are so accommodated. Suitable arrangements are in operation for the provision of a noon day meal, and for recreation. These arrangements will continue until extra class rooms are on to the present buildings at Vane Road School.

Parents of children who are attending Bishop Auckland Grammar Schools will be interested to learn of the appointment of Mr. Denis Weatherley, B.Sc., A. Inst. P., A.R.C.M., to the Headship of the Bishop Auckland Grammar School, (as the school will be named when the amalgamation of the King James I, and the Girl's Grammar School takes place shortly). Mr. Weatherley is at present Deputy Headmaster at the Robert Richardson Grammar School, Ryhope, Nr. Sunderland.

A. CESSFORD.

CORPORATION NOTES

In common with most industrial establishments and local authorities throughout the country, the Corporation's staff will go on to a five-day working week as from the 1st April, 1962. As a result, the Corporation's Offices at Churchill House will no longer be open for business on Saturdays but will remain open later each other week-day. Full details of the new hours of opening are given in the public notice appearing elsewhere in this issue of the "Newtonian". One of the consequences of operating a five-day week is that staff will no longer be available on Saturdays to deal with the many problems that arise on a changeover in the tenancies of houses. To overcome this difficulty, the tenancies of all Corporation dwellings (other than those held on lease) will as from the 1st April next, commence and terminate at 12 noon on Fridays instead of at 12 noon on Saturdays as at present.

During the past few weeks, good progress has been made in building the large supermarket in Beveridge Way for Fine Fare Ltd. and there is every possibility that it will be open for trading in April. The premises will be equipped with a modern balcony cafe which should be greatly appreciated by shoppers.

A tender has recently been accepted by the Corporation for the erection of a further 163 houses and 50 lock-up garages on the site at the north side of Central Avenue and building will start within a few weeks. This leaves a further 200 houses to be built to complete all the housing development on the north side of Central Avenue and a contract for the erection of these should be started in the summer.

These notes have repeatedly called the attention to the amount of broken glass lying about the town, but the nuisance has grown alarmingly during the past few weeks. Apart from making the town untidy, broken glass is a menace to motorists and cyclists and on greens in particular, to children. There is no doubt that this nuisance is caused by mischievous youngsters deliberately breaking milk bottles and residents can do much to minimise the nuisance if they would refrain from placing out the empty milk bottles until last thing at night and in ensuring that they are placed in a sheltered position where they cannot roll or be knocked over on to the public footpath or verge. By taking these precautions, no milk bottles should be lying about to become missiles in the hands of passing children.

Horse riding is becoming a popular pastime in the town. The Corporation does, however, appeal to the riders not to ride their horses on the grass verges but to take their exercise along one of the country lanes leading from the town. Many verges in the town have been churned up by the horse-riders using them excessively and considerable expense will have to be incurred in re-levelling and re-sowing to remedy the damage.

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9 to 11 years—Bible Class 2 p.m. 11 and upwards.

Full details of organisations etc. are published in "The Clarion" which may be obtained at Church.

THE NEWTON AYCLIFFE & DISTRICT CAGE BIRD SOCIETY

The Cage Bird Show was held in the Over 60 Club hall on 23rd September, 1961. Birds of a very high standard and quality were staged, in the opinion of the judges. The exhibits came from Middlesbrough, Stockton, Redcar, Darlington and other towns in the area to compete for the cups and special prizes, so strong was the competition, that a lot of credit must go to the members of the Newton Aycliffe club for the wins they gained against such opposition, especially as the Newton Aycliffe club has only been operating since 1957.

The most outstanding win by a local fancier was gained by Mr. D. W. Findlater of Heild Close who won the Dr. Parker Cup. for 3 NOM Birds, he also won the Best Budgie and Best Novice Budgie: (Best Champ. Budgie, Best Breeder Budgie and Best op. sex to Champ. Budgie.) Mr. S. Hall, Shiney Row (Best Border Champ. Best of Sex and Best Border Canary.) T. W. Wilkinson, Darlington (Best Novice Border,) W. Kell, Leasingthorne (Best Novice Norwich—Best op. sex and Best Norwich,) J. Morland, Shildon. (Best Yorkshire and Best Nov. Yorkshire,) T. W. Hall, Middlesbrough, (Best of sex, Yorkshire,) J. Fraser, Middlesbrough (Best Foreign Bird) W. Voss, Newton Aycliffe (Best British Bird,) J. Leishman, Newton Aycliffe (Best Mule or Hybrid,) M. Scarre, Darlington).

To all the other bird keepers on the town, "will you join the Cage Bird Society this year?" Do it now and help us to strengthen our position when competing with the other clubs in the area. Let us help and show you how to enjoy your hobby to the full—contact the Secretary now.

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TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Our February meeting held on 5th was an outstanding success. The speaker Mr. S. Cardwell, gave us a most interesting talk on "The Tees from source to Estuary," and the accompanying photographs in colour were very beautiful.

The social half hour of "Guess Who" caused considerable amusement, it being necessary to guess who various members of the committee were, from childhood photographs.

A delegate and visitor were chosen to attend the annual N.U.T.G. Conference in London in June, an event which gives at least two people an opportunity to meet T.G. members from all over the British Isles.

The Drama Chairman, Mrs. Lamb reported that the Drama Group was making good progress and that new members had been enrolled thereby giving a great boost to this particular aspect of the Guild.

The attendance at both our January and February meetings exceeded all our expectations, and we were most pleased to welcome so many new members. There is still room for more, so ladies, if you would like to meet women with interests similar to your own, join your own "Townswomen's Guild" where you can be sure of a warm welcome and a friendly atmosphere.

Our March meeting will be held as usual in the Beveridge Hall on Monday, 5th at 7-20 p.m. To those of you who hesitate to join the Guild, it would not be out of place to mention the object of the Townswomen's Guild which is :-

"To encourage the education of women to enable them, as citizens, to make their best contribution to the common good, and to serve as a common meeting ground irrespective of creed or party for their wider education including social activities."

At the March meeting Mr. J. M. Vadgaman, well known in the town, will talk on Kenya. The social half hour will be a short play given by the "Drama Group."

We are having an "April Fayre" on April 7th at the Boy's Club and at the meeting we shall be making our final arrangements.

M.M.G.

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We are pleased to announce the opening on **Monday, 5th March, 1962** of our **NEW SHOP** specialising in Curtaining, Divans, Bedding, Spring Interiors, Prams, Push Chairs, Cots, Nursery Furniture and Whitewood Furniture.

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE ARCHERY CLUB

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Burn Lane Sports Club on 31st January, 1962. Mr. H. J. Walton, Chairman, thanked the committee for their close co-operation during the past year and also thanked the ladies who were so kind as to help out by organising the teas at the open tournaments last season. The club had had a very successful season and it was hoped that this would continue during the coming season. It was reported that the club was in a very favourable financial position.

The following were elected on to the committee for the coming season :-

Chairman—Mr. H. J. Walton; Secretary—Mr. J. Nelson; Treasurer—Mr. J. Heads; Records Officer and Assistant Secretary—Mr. C. Barker; P.R.O.—Mr. J. Wilson; Hon. Auditor—Mr. C. D. Richardson. Delegates to Management Committee—Mr. H. J. Walron and Mr. M. Richardson. Committee Members—Mrs. H. Walton, Mr. G. Ellis, Mr. J. Steronton and Mr. J. Conway.

After discussion it was decided to keep the age minimum for juniors at 10 years of age.

Next month the archery season will open. There are no definite plans, as yet, but it is hoped that the usual open target and clout shoots will continue and also another home and away match with our friends Beehive Bowmen of Darlington.

Last year a number of members didn't put in an appearance at the target days, once more let me appeal to them to "Get with it" and if they can drag themselves away from the T.V. and get out into the fresh air, pay us a visit and see what we have to offer. Many people state "There is nothing to do in the town," there is plenty if they will only look for it instead of waiting for it to come to them.

Don't forget—in August there is to be the Big Field Day. Already preparations are being made for this so it is up to you to give all the support you can by attending. Don't say you have to go visiting—let your visitors come to you and bring them to the show, all will be welcome.



R.A.F. ASSOCIATION NOTES

During the final meeting of the 1961 Committee, Mr. Manning, Branch Secretary, thanked the Committee for the various duties carried out during the past and current year. A member of a committee must be prepared to give up much of his spare time to assist in the smooth running of his particular organisations. Many snags and problems are bound to crop up at times, but with team work and tolerance all obstacles can be eventually overcome. The work of Branch Committee can, at times, be a little thankless, but personal achievement on any matter which will help either our members or the Branch, is satisfaction enough for anyone with the Association at heart.

A letter was recently received from Mr. Fred Hardy—ex-Branch Chairman, who is now in Australia with his wife and family. He informs us that he has a good job with G.E.C. and now has his own house and car. To us all, this news is 'fair dinkum,' and at this rate who knows, 'Cobber' Hardy may even find it possible to make us a visit in a year or two. He was a really true worker for the R.A.F.A. and I know that I speak for all that knew him when I say, 'best of luck always Fred.'

H.G.S.

Note—Demand for the R.A.F. ties which have recently been on sale, have proved so great that a further supply have been obtained. These all wool ties are real value and can be worn with anything. If you have not already got one of these ties, and would like to buy one, please contact Mr. Manning the Branch Secretary. Next time you are in the Club, look around you and see just how popular these service ties really are.

QUEEN'S GUIDE

The President and all members of the Girl Guide Local Association wish to congratulate Christine Cooper of the 1st Newton Aycliffe Girl Guide Company on becoming a Queen's Guide, the first girl to achieve this in Newton Aycliffe.

AYCLIFFE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CLOSING OF OFFICES ON SATURDAYS

As from the 1st April, 1962, a five-day working week will operate for the Corporation's Staff and the offices at Churchill House will no longer be open for business on Saturdays.

Hours of Business at Churchill House will then be as follows :-

Monday	} 9 a.m. to 5-30 p.m.
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Friday	
Thursday	— 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For the convenience of those wishing to pay rents, etc. the CASH OFFICE will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-15 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1-30 p.m. to 4 p.m. and until 6 p.m. on MONDAYS and FRIDAYS.

As a consequence of the adoption of a five-day working week, the tenancies of all Corporation houses (other than those held on Lease) will, as from 1st April next, commence and terminate at 12 noon on Fridays instead of at 12 noon on Saturdays as at present.

A. V. WILLIAMS,

General Manager.

CHURCHILL HOUSE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE.

BEVERIDGE ROLLER DANCE & FIGURE SKATING CLUB—Newton Aycliffe

On February 3rd the Committee and members celebrated the club's second birthday, by holding what turned out to be a very successful birthday party. About 70 members arrived at 5-30 and sat down to a grand feed which included a slice of birthday cake made by Mrs. A. Markham, and iced by our President Mr. Fred Markham. I am sure all members will agree that it tasted as good as it looked. After tea members enjoyed a film show which was given by Mr. Fred Markham and the still slides of club members turned out very well.

Many thanks to Avril and Noel Bennett, Terry Musgrave, Ian Caldwell and Melvyn Robson who gave a lively and colourful half hour entertainment from the stage. Thank you also to David Poole and John Weatherill who assisted backstage. Following the entertainment from the stage the evening was full of games and dancing. Mrs. Hindmarsh and Susan kindly made toffee apples for all members, and soft drinks and crisps were provided in the dance intervals.

EVERYTHING AT THE PARTY WAS FREE absolutely free to all our members. Mr. Godfrey Bennett presented a gift to Mrs. G. V. Bennett, Mrs. D. Lawson, and Mrs. A. Robson. These ladies did a grand job with the sit down tea arrangements, and a very big thank you must go to Mrs. Bennett and Avril who spent a lot of time cutting up fillings and bread to make sandwiches. Mrs. Markham was presented with a box of chocolates which were delivered via Mr. Fred Markham. Mrs. Hindmarsh our toffee apple lady was also presented with a box of chocolates and the last presentation at the party was made to Susan Hindmarsh who gave a helping hand to her mother with the making of the toffee apples. Mr. Stewart gave his usual willing help with the party games which Mr. Godfrey Bennett the secretary arranged. I think the members will agree with me when I say that our second party was a huge success, and an occasion we will never forget.

For the fourth time the Walworth Pair Dance Shield was competed for by club members. Twelve couples entered and all skated extremely well. The winners for the third time in succession were Miss Shirley McGorrigan of Newton Aycliffe and Miss Jennifer Tewley of Shildon, very well done girls. We would like to express our thanks to our judges Miss B. Hodgson and Miss C. Jackson both of Darlington, and Mr. L. Spruce of Morpeth. The Presidents Trophies were awarded for the next three months to Miss Christine Courtly, and Miss Corinna Davison who have both proved to show excellent conduct and improvement.

Mr. Shield the new caretaker at the Beveridge Hall is very helpful and has proved to be most kind to the skating club in the past, thank you Mr. Shield and keep that boiler going.

The Saturday general skating sessions are still full of fun and games so what about that visit you have been going to pay us since the club opened two years ago? We will be pleased to see you at any time.

G.A.B., Hon. Sec.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE MUSIC SOCIETY

On Tuesday, 6th March, the Society are holding a Shrove Tuesday dance from 8 p.m.—1 a.m. in Aycliffe School. Admission to this dance is by invitation ticket, price 8/6d. On Thursday, 22nd March, at 8 p.m. there will be a members' evening in Aycliffe School, in which we shall hear a full performance on records of Bizet's opera "Carmen," conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham.

This season's Annual General Meeting takes place on Friday, 30th March at 8 p.m. in Aycliffe School. Once again, may we plead for a larger attendance at this meeting by the members of the Society.

E.G.W.

AYCLIFFE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HOUSES FOR SALE and LEASE in the NEW TOWN

HOUSES are being constructed in the Burn Lane area, towards Woodham Burn, for sale at prices ranging from £2,800 for a three-bedroom semi-detached without garage to £3,650 for a larger detached three-bedroom house with garage.

It may be that some of these houses, if unsold, will be available on yearly lease and the rentals, excluding rates, will range between £155 and £215 per annum.

Building plots are also available on a site nearby for purchasers who wish to erect houses to their own design.

Tenants may also purchase the houses in which they live—mortgages are available.

Further details from the :-

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER,
AYCLIFFE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
CHURCHILL HOUSE.

NEVILLE MALE VOICE CHOIR

The Annual General Meeting of the Neville Male Voice Choir was held at the Canopus Club on January 30th 1962.

Amongst other appointments Mr. G. Rowson was elected Chairman and Messrs. C. Graham, T. Robinson, and A. H. Walker were re-elected conductor, treasurer and secretary respectively. Mr. Norman Barron, Darlington, was elected accompanist for the ensuing year, thus ending a search which has been conducted for many months.

The new Committee are to consider the Celebrity Concert for 1962 at its first meeting, and to give close attention to social activities during its year of office.

Nine concerts were given by the choir during 1961, and membership stands at 36. There is still room for further members at our rehearsals at the R.A.F.A. Club on Tuesday nights at 7-30 p.m. and a warm welcome awaits anyone who comes along.

A.H.W.

THE NEWTON PLAYERS

The Newton Players are now busy rehearsing for the final play of the season. Performance dates 11th, 12th and 13th April in the Beveridge Hall.

Although rehearsals will be in progress in the Upstairs Room on Thursdays until the above dates, new members will be welcome between 8 and 10 p.m.

The Players would like to take the opportunity to thank all the children and parents who made the Christmas Play such a huge success. May we, at the same time, apologise for any difficulties that arose from shortage of tickets owing to the enormous response, we hope our young audience considered the waiting worth while.

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GOODS ARRIVING DAILY

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(Behind Woolworths)**WOMEN'S COLUMN**

Shrove-tide, as I expect you know, means carnival time, and our forebears made much of it. Shrove Tuesday being the last day before the Lenten fast beginning on Ash Wednesday, it was the custom to use up all oddments of fat and flour, and often the best that could be done was to make what we now call a pancake.

Pancake Day or to give it its proper title, Shrove Tuesday, falls much later than usual this year, being March 6th. There are some curious customs in connection with this day, the origins of which are mostly lost in the mists of time. At Ashbourne in Derbyshire a day-long football game takes place, "the field" being approximately 3 miles long and the goals are 2 mills at either end of the town, so you play for "uptown" or "downtown" according to where you were born; at least half the population joins in the game, and it starts off with a ball made of cork and leather, and as you can imagine with teams of hundreds on each side the game develops into a hilarious free-for-all through the town streets. Goals are very infrequent, as the 2 mills stand on the Henmore brook and half the time the ball is in the water and so are most of the people!

At Olney in Buckinghamshire the well-known and much publicised Ladies' Race takes place, which has now become a match with an American town of the same name.

Sedgefield has a somewhat similar game to that of Ashbourne, but as it is so close to us you probably know all about it.

How many of you have heard the rhyme which belongs to my younger days? . . .

*Shrove Tuesday, Shrove Tuesday,
Poor Jack went to plough,
His mother made pancakes
Though she hardly knew how.
She tossed them, she turned them,
She made them so black,
With the soot from the chimney,
She poisoned poor Jack.*

Some of you must remember similar jingles from long (and perhaps not so long) ago. I would be delighted if you would write in and tell me just what you can recall.

When living in the West of England some twenty odd years ago it was customary for pancakes to be made with currants in them, a plain pancake was unheard of. All housewives made them this way and they were also on sale in bakers' shops. I have lived in all parts of the United Kingdom and have not met this custom elsewhere. Does any reader know whether this West of England idea is still in use, or to be found anywhere else?

Before leaving the subject of pancakes—make your mixture in a jug instead of the usual basin, this saves washing up as you can then pour the batter straight into the frying pan.

Savoury Pancakes are a welcome change, using cooked minced meat or grated cheese with a small amount of fine chopped onion; these are just two ideas which break away from the perpetual sweet variety.

M.M.G.

DAMAGE TO PUBLIC PROPERTY

It has recently been necessary to issue a statement to the Press relating to damage to Parish Council property. In recent weeks serious damage has been done to lamps, lamp standards, seats, shrubs and litter bins. Whilst the Parish Council feel that only a very small minority of people are causing the damage there are others who know the culprits but possibly do not come forward to make a report as they do not want to be involved in any publicity. If any resident of the town has any information which will be of assistance in dealing with the matter, and will contact the Clerk of the Council, Churchill House, any Saturday morning or by phone—Newton Aycliffe 589, the source of information will be treated with the strictest confidence and the information will be passed to the proper quarter by the Clerk.

**REMEMBER IT IS YOU THE RATEPAYER WHO IS
PAYING FOR THE REPAIRS**

Clerk to the Parish Council.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE OVER 60 CLUB

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, 7th March, 1962 at 7 p.m. A Jumble Sale will be held on Saturday, 17th March, 1962 at 10 a.m. and we would be grateful for any jumble which you could let us have. We shall be pleased to collect upon notification.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE DOG TRAINING CLUB

There will be a Dog Obedience Competition in the Beveridge Hall on Thursday, 12th April, at 7 p.m. This is only a preliminary notice. Further details will be given in next month's notes. There is still plenty of time to join the Club and train your dog for this members only competition. For further details please contact Mrs. M. P. Wood of 10 Ritson Road, Newton Aycliffe, Tel. 684 or any Committee member.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN

NEWTON AYCLIFFE YOUNG NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

Some members have been asking when our excursions start again. They will begin about Eastertime when the days are longer and the air is warmer. Later on, when our members become more experienced there will be winter excursions and it will be necessary to start earlier in the day.

Two of our members, John Hindmarch and Norman Ashpool are now able to operate a film strip projector. I am very pleased about this as it is a great help when I am showing nature film strips.

Now is the time to keep a sharp look-out for the earliest of our spring flowers. Do you know the Dog's Mercury? It will soon be giving our hedgerows and woods a fresh look with its green leaves and green flowers. Then you will find the wood anemone which is a delicate white flower with purple streaks. You will be sure to find the Celandine which most children know. This year dig up a whole plant and find out all you can about its roots.

Do you know the winter Aconite? It is a cheerful little yellow flower and when you see it you feel that the worst of the winter is over. It has no petals but between five and eight yellow sepals. Underneath the flower there is a very pretty ruff made up of about a dozen leafybracts.

There are many other interesting spring flowers so do keep your eyes open and see what you can find.

February Competition

Try to give good, full answers to these questions :-

1. What do you notice about the colours of our earliest Spring flowers?
2. How do they compare with the Summer and Autumn flowers?
3. Can you give any reasons for these differences?

F. G. SANDERSON.

ADVENTURES OF DOGGIE RUM

Rummy and Squirry soon found a little path through the wood. Lets go! and mind this big ditch, said Rummy, as he jumped across. Suddenly Squirry shouted—**Look what I've found.** Rummy saw squirry dragging a long silver chain with something on the end. I say, Squirry, do you know what you have found? A silver watch and chain. Now, what shall we do with it? I know, said Squirry, we can hide it like Pirates do. Alright, said Blackie, I'll find a nice dry hole in a tree and Squirry can hide it like he does his nuts—Soon Blackie found a dry hole, and Squirry climbed up and hid the treasure, covering it with dry leaves. Now we must mark the spot, said Rummy. Its the sixth tree from the ditch on the left-hand side. Now one deep scratch on the first tree, two on the second tree, and six on the treasure tree, now we can find it again.

Splendid Rummy, you are a clever little dog, said Blackie. Now lets get on to the river. The river narrowed below the falls, and the tree tops almost touched the tree-tops on the island. Below cows were grazing and some were standing in the wide pool of water. Try and cross where the cows are Rummy, you could keep jumping across in the shallow parts. Alright!! Here I go! Shouted Rummy you watch me, as he plunged into the water. The cows were frightened and lowered their horns and moo'ed loudly.



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Look out! Look out Rummy. The big red bull is coming after you, Rummy looked and there was the big red bull racing down the green field.

Suddenly he bellowed his great roaring gusts of rage and with his tale waving high he plunged into the water after Rummy.

Will Rummy be able to escape? He swims frantically across the river, but the big red bull plunges closer and closer to him with bellows of rage.

THE FIRST ICE CREAM

No! WALLS didn't think of it first, nor did Messrs. LYONS. We have to go back 1,900 years, when Emperor Nero, in the year 62 A.D., wishing to celebrate a gladiatorial event, rushed runners at top speed from Rome, to the mountain tops, whence they brought back snow which Nero's cooks served up flavoured with honey.

MARCO POLO discovered it 1,200 years later in Asia.

750 years later—Ice-cream came to Newton Aycliffe—DING! DONG!

NEWTON AYCLIFFE AND DISTRICT SHOW DOG CLUB

The winners at a Special competitive Training night held in the Clarence Hall on Monday, 22nd January, 1962 were :-

Miss Pat Whitfield—*Best Handled Dog*; Miss Irene Rickaby—*Best Handled Puppy and Bitch*; Other winners were :- Miss J. Stewart—*Whippet*; Miss B. Goodenough—*Corgi*; Miss P. Wade—*Sheltie*; Mrs. Firber—*Yorkshire Terrier*; Mrs. M. Oxborough—*Cairn*; Mrs. Miller—*Alsation*; Mr. Butters—*Boxer*.

Anyone wanting information regarding joining the Club should contact the secretary, Mrs. M. Rickaby at 12 Castlereagh Close, Tel. No. 672.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Clinics are held in the Beveridge Hall EVERY Tuesday from 2 p.m.—3-15 p.m. There is a lady doctor in attendance. Appointments are advisable.

Please note the Secretary's new address:- Mrs. Thomas, Eden Hall, 84 Cockton Hill Road, Bishop Auckland.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR MARCH

Beveridge Hall

- Sunday:** Town Band 10-30 a.m.
Assembly of God Sunday School 2-30 to 4 p.m.
Skating 4-7 p.m.
- Monday:** Library 2 p.m.—4-30 p.m. and 5 p.m.—7 p.m.
Townswomen's Guild 5th March 7-30 p.m.
Labour Party 12th and 26th March 7-30 p.m.
- Tuesday:** Welfare Clinic 9-30—11-30 a.m. 6th & 20th Mar.
Family Planning Clinic 2—3-30 p.m.
Skating Club 7—10 p.m.
- Wednesday:** Library 2—4-30 p.m. 5—7 p.m.
- Thursday:** 9-30—4 p.m. Welfare Clinic.
Dog Training Class 6-30 p.m.—10 p.m.
- Friday:** Library 2—4-30 p.m. 5—7 p.m.
7-30 p.m. Table Tennis Session
- Saturday:** 7 p.m. Skating Club.

Clarence Hall

- Sunday:** Jehovah's Witnesses 2-30 p.m.—4-30 p.m.
- Monday:** W.V.S. Children's Nursery 1-30—3-45 p.m.
Canine Club 7-15—10 p.m.
- Tuesday:** Whist Drive 7-30 p.m. Open to all.
- Wednesday:** W.V.S. Meeting 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Territorial Cadets—Evening
- Thursday:** Jehovah's Witnesses 7 p.m.—9-30 p.m.
Salvation Army 2-30 p.m.—3-30 p.m.
- Friday:** Assembly of God Youth Club 7 p.m.
- Saturday:**

Committee Room

- Sunday:** Loco Spotters 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- Monday:**
- Tuesday:** Welfare Clinic 9-30—1
F.P.A. Clinic 2—3-30 p.m.
Toc H 7-30 p.m.—9 p.m.
- Wednesday:**
- Thursday:** 9-30 a.m.—4 p.m. Welfare Clinic
Probation Officer 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Canine Club 7-30 p.m. 1st March
Labour Party 7-30 p.m. 8th March
- Friday:** Chess Club 7-30 p.m.
- Saturday:** Skating Club 7 p.m.

Warden's Office and C.A.B. Room

- Sunday:**
- Monday:** 2 p.m.—3 p.m. Registrar (Warden's Office)
- Tuesday:**
- Wednesday:**
- Thursday:** 2 p.m.—3 p.m. Registrar (Warden's Office)
- Friday:** 2—3-30 p.m. C.A.B. Session and 7-30 p.m.—
8-30 p.m. C.A.B. Session.
- Saturday:**

Upstairs Room

- Sunday:** Cage Birds Society 11 a.m.—1 p.m. 4th & 25th Mar.
Salvation Army 2 p.m.—4 p.m. & 6 p.m.—7 p.m.
- Monday:** Whist 7-30 p.m.—All welcome.
- Tuesday:** St. John Cadets (Girls) 6-30 p.m.
- Wednesday:** Town Band 6-30 p.m.
- Thursday:** Drama Club 8 p.m.
- Friday:** 6-30 p.m. St. John Cadets (Boys).
- Saturday:** Town Band (Juniors) 10 a.m.

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THE MAYERS THEATRE GROUP

The Group has now started rehearsing its first production, which is scheduled to be put on at Aycliffe School in late April. A team of scene builders, scenic designers, and wardrobe collectors are already at work. If you would care to help these people, please do not hesitate to contact the Group Secretary.

It is proposed to start a wardrobe for the Group. Being on a new town, costumes are difficult and expensive to come by. Don't throw out the dress or suit you have in that old chest of Grandma's it may be just what we need for the production after next. Those two old vases or that victorian lamp shade you brought with you into your new house and now look somewhat out of place. Why not donate them to the Mayers, they will have a new lease of life. If you have any items which are generally 'old fashioned' please contact any member of the Group who will be only too pleased to arrange to have them collected.

An interesting visit was paid recently by members to the cinema in Newcastle which is being converted by the Newcastle Peoples Theatre Group into a theatre, seating from 300 to 950 people, at a cost of over £100,000 and which it is hoped will become a cultural centre for amateur productions, film societies, conferences, and exhibitions of Art. It is most refreshing in this time of the so called 'decline in the theatre' that an all amateur organisation can aim so high. We are sure they deserve every success. Which brings us to an interesting thought: Newton Aycliffe where 15,000 people who do not appear to live in a cultural void seems to have no such plans even on a small scale. We cannot believe that Newtonians would not support such a centre. Recent productions, concerts, and shows on the town have been very well supported, despite the lack of a decent 'theatre' in which organisations can entertain, rehearse, and meet, without having to fight each other for what little space is available.

Secretary: Mr. T. Foxworthy, 76 Bury Road, Newton Aycliffe.
M.L.

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Friday, March 9th

Women's World Day of Prayer—The annual joint service will be held this year in the Methodist Church at 2-30 p.m. It will be conducted by Sister K. Jones of Richmond, Yorks.

Jumble Sale—Saturday, March 24th, 1962 at 10 a.m. Coffee and biscuits will be served. Home made Cake Stall. Proceeds towards the Building Fund.

FRIENDS OF AYCLIFFE HOSPITAL

At the Annual General Meeting on January 18th Mr. C. Nicholson Mr. B. Cornley and Mrs. M. Nicholson were elected Hon. Sec., Chairman and Hon. Treasurer respectively.

May we repeat that we would welcome anybody to our meetings, which are held in the Methodist Fellowship Room every other Thursday evening at 7-45 p.m., the dates for the next few weeks being February 15th, March 1st, March 15th and March 29th.

A very special welcome will be given to the parents of any mentally handicapped children living in the town.

*LAUGH and the world laughs with you,
Weep and you weep alone,
For the poor old earth needs lots of mirth,
It has troubles enough of its own.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

24 Eden Road,
Newton Aycliffe,

Dear Sir,

The January copy of Newtonian states that articles for inclusion in the February issue had to be sent to you by January 9th. This was impossible as we did not receive our copy until January 12th. As yet no February copy has arrived.

yours faithfully,
F. Dodd, (Mrs.)

Editor's Footnote—Please call at the address of the volunteer who delivers your Newtonian and see if you can help with the delivery in case of sickness, holidays, exams, urgent business or other delays in distribution. A full list of the names and addresses will be published in the Newtonian. Thank you.

Newton Aycliffe Working Men's Club and Institute Ltd.

To Editor, Newtonian,

21-2-62.

Dear Sir,

May I be allowed through the medium of "The Newtonian" to express the grateful thanks of the Management Board and members of this Club for the magnificent response from 35 Traders and Trading Organizations together with donations in kind from members of the Club in providing such an elegant array of prizes for presentation to our Aged Members and their wives on the occasion of the Annual Dinner held in the New Concert Hall on Tuesday, February 20th 1962.

Through the generosity of the Traders we were able to give a prize to each of our Aged Members, a feat which was greatly appreciated by all.

Thanking you Sir, once again, for and on behalf of the Management Board,

H. HAWKINS, Secretary.

Editor's Note—Special thanks are also due to the Chairman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Hawkins, Sec., and Mr. Ebdon, Treas. and the members of the Entertainment Committee Mr. L. Martin, Mr. L. Blackburn, Mr. W. Bellwood, Mr. J. Dunn and Mr. J. Musgrave, for all the extra work involved in this much appreciated aged members Annual Dinner and gifts.

PLANT MONOGRAPHS

The Fig Marigold

This Summer has been quite favourable for that sun-loving plant. Readers will probably have noticed its showy multicoloured display. (The Horticultural Department displayed this very attractive annual in one of their beds in Central Avenue). Mesembryanthemum CRINIFLORUM, that is the name by which you will find it in catalogues; is sown in March in a temperature of 55° to 65°F. Resulting seedlings should be pricked out into boxes when large enough to handle or transplanted out-of-doors in June. A more difficult method is the practice of taking cuttings of this daisy-like succulent and inserting them in sandy soil from June to August, using a greenhouse as protection over winter.

The Fig Marigold is a very good plant for the rock garden or window box. It does, however, give of its best in a sunny dry position and a well drained soil.

D. E. Summerscales,
Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden Guild.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE TENANTS' ASSOCIATION

At the A.G.M. of the Association held on the 7th February the Chairman in his report said that the Association in its first year of existence had dealt with 18 complaints from individual members, ten of which had been brought to a successful conclusion, 6 of which were still the subject of correspondence as they had only recently been notified to the Committee in the process of collecting 1962 subscriptions, and 2 of which had been unsuccessful largely due to insufficient evidence. Many other matters of a general nature had been dealt with in the course of the year.

In the discussion which followed the Chairman's report one member suggested that it might be a good idea if the Corporation had a system of recording tenants' requests for repairs so that the tenant could be given a copy which would remove any doubts about the date when the matter was first complained about. At the meeting complaints were raised about repairs to and redecoration of entranceways and stairways of flats in Bury Road and St. Godrics Road. A complaint was also made about the early date on which the central heating was turned off in the Dixon Road flats. The Committee undertook to raise those matters with the Corporation and also a number of individual complaints which were brought to the Secretary at the end of the meeting. The Treasurer reported on the finances of the Association and pointed out that although the end-of-year balance was small there had been a lot of non-recurring expenditure such as printing of headed notepaper and membership cards. The Chairman said that most members had renewed their membership and that a number of new members had been enrolled in the course of the last few weeks, but appealed for more members to come forward and act as collectors.

The amendments to the rules of which due notice had been given were adopted by the meeting which also re-elected the four retiring members of the Committee—Messrs. Dunn, Hood, Kimber and Smith.

Secretary:- Mrs. D. Palmer, 8 Vane Road, Newton Aycliffe.

D.H.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

Meetings held each Wednesday evening at 7-45 p.m. in St. Clares Church Hall. Cadets and Links 7-16 years Thursday evening 6 p.m. in Marlowe Hall School. A new course of first aid is beginning. New members are welcome.

Home nursing tests were taken by 22 members in December with a resulting pass for all with a very high percentage of marks.

In February the annual party for old people was held. Only a limited number of people were invited and those who don't get out much normally were chosen. We would like to have invited everyone but this was impossible and would like to say sorry to those who were disappointed.

Mrs. Denby of 9 Lilburne Crescent has been officially appointed Commandant of N/A division with Mrs. Cowling of 1 Mills Close as Assistant Commandant. Let us wish them every success in their new job and hope the detachment may continue to flourish under their leadership. The Cadets meet under the leadership of Miss Walker and Miss Crockitt. In January they successfully entertained 12 children from Aycliffe Hospital.

Girls age 7-11 meet at 6 p.m. Girls aged 11-16 meet at 7 p.m.

Let your children come along and join this worthwhile organisation.

M.W.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICE

W.V.S. Nursery

This nursery is held in the Clarence Hall, Finchale Road on Mondays from 1-15 p.m. until 4 p.m. Why not bring your children along while you enjoy a couple of hours leisure time or shopping, visiting, etc.?

Baby Sitting Service

Why not enquire about this service next time you would like a night out?

W.V.S. Meetings

We have weekly meetings in the Clarence Hall each Wednesday, commencing at 2-15 p.m. We are always pleased to welcome new members who could enjoy a very worth while job.

Children's Holiday Scheme

W.V.S. is appealing to any family who can give a child a country holiday or offer hospitality for two weeks during August.

Some people will find it hard to believe that there are still children today who would otherwise never have a holiday, children who have never been in the country before, who are surprised to find such things as apples growing on trees—but there are. Often they are the elder children who, before they are even in their teens, are made responsible for looking after their younger brothers and sisters and for doing the cooking and housework as well. This may be because there is only one parent who is taking on extra work to make ends meet, or one of the parents is ill, or the family is split up. The children, if they do not get away in the school holidays, will be left to play on the streets. Although a farm may be the most popular place for a holiday, children can have a wonderful time on housing estates or in a small country town or village. It is not necessary to lay on elaborate entertainment: to be able to play in the garden, possibly with other children, and to be welcomed into the home is sufficient.

The obvious pleasure that the holiday so often gives, and the benefit to the child's health, makes this most rewarding work. We do urgently need more hostesses and would be grateful if anyone who would be interested in helping will get in touch with the W.V.S. Centre.

We would be happy to send someone to discuss this scheme with you at any time.

BYELAW (1st November, 1961)

Fouling of Footways by Dogs

1. No person being in charge of a dog in the area to which this byelaw applies shall allow the dog to foul the footway of any street or public place by deposit its excrement thereon.

Provided that a person shall not be liable to be convicted of an offence against this byelaw if he satisfies the Court that the fouling of the footway by the dog was not due to culpable neglect or default on his part.

2. For the purposes of this byelaw the owner of the dog shall be deemed to be in charge thereof unless the Court is satisfied that at the time when the dog fouled the footway it had been placed in or taken into the charge of some other person.

3. This byelaw applies to the Parish of Middleton-St.-George and that part of the Parish of Great Aycliffe north of the Simpashire Branch Railway Line and the Darlington/Shildon Railway Line within the Rural District of Darlington.

4. Any person offending against this byelaw shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five pounds.

DATED this 27th day of July, 1961.