



THE NEWTONIAN

NEWTON AYCLIFFE COUNCIL OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

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Hon. Editor : Mr. R. T. GREENBANK, 17 Bede Crescent, Newton Aycliffe,
Tel. 742

FEBRUARY, 1965

HOW LAPELS EVOLVED AND BUTTONHOLES WERE WORN

Who first thought of wearing a buttonhole? For the answer one must delve into the early days of the button itself.

Buttons of ivory and pearl, and horn set with precious stones, were worn as ornaments in ancient Egypt, India, China, Persia, and Japan.

They were not used as fasteners until many years later; but in the 18th century England men's frock coats were fastened from neck to knees with long rows of buttons. As shirts became more fanciful and frilly the buttons above the waist were left undone until eventually lapels developed. Tailors grew tired of making buttonholes that were not used, so they put in sham ones above the waist—all except the topmost one.

The custom of carrying and wearing flowers is probably of Eastern origin, and came to England at the time of the Crusades. One sees men carrying flowers in our early illuminated manuscripts and in the 15th century Civil War white and red roses were worn by the rival houses of York and Lancaster. In Elizabethan times the proximity and scent of flowers was appreciated by both sexes—probably because the taking of regular baths was not!

It is therefore not surprising, since flowers have always been so appreciated as costume decoration, that about 1840 someone should have the bright idea of placing a small spray of mixed flowers in the unused buttonhole at the top of his lapel. The idea caught on at once and by 1865 many tailors fashioned the buttonhole with ribbon under it to hold a glass flower bottle which held anything from a rose with a sprig of forget-me-nots on a background of maidenhair fern, to a Parma Violet; geranium; gardenia; lily of the valley; carnation or cornflower. By the turn of the century wearing a flower was a tradition with the Dandy and well dressed public figures like Joseph Chamberlain and Lord Roseberry who were never seen without a buttonhole. Will this fashion return? and would it not brighten our lives if the lapels of peers and postmen; millionaires and miners; butchers and bankers; racing drivers and disc jockeys sported a buttonhole for it must be agreed that the average man's dress is somewhat dull.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

The Family Planning Clinic is open every Wednesday from 6-30 to 7-30 p.m. in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Dalton Way. A Lady Doctor is always in attendance to advise and help with any problem that may arise. All enquiries are strictly confidential. Information may be had and appointments made through Mrs. Wells, 55 Cumby Road, Telephone 244.

HAVE YOU ANY MARRIAGE PROBLEMS?

Telephone Newton Aycliffe 662 or 534. If you would like an appointment made for a confidential talk, free of charge with a trained Marriage Guidance Counsellor.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED ASSOCIATION

The Christmas Party on December 18th was an outstanding event for the members. The opening ceremony was performed by the vice-chairman Mrs. Evans. Mr. Ward played the piano for the community singing and a vote of thanks was extended to him for his services during 1964.

Visitors were Mr. Vadgama, Mrs. Burlinson, the Matron from Shafto House, who provided the table centre decoration. Mr. and Mrs. Cessford and Mrs. Hewson. The handicapped children were there and the Shildon Womens Institute provided the entertainment following which everyone sat down to a splendid supper. Then Santa Claus arrived distributing gifts to members and children. Raffles were won by Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Nixon. The W.I. programme was then continued which rounded off a really wonderful evening which was praised by everyone present.

The Association wish to convey their very grateful thanks to all organisations for the help given during 1964, and to all people who gave both time and their cars to transport the handicapped to and from meetings. To all people who have helped the handicapped in any way the Association wish them a happy and successful 1965.
S.H.A.

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TOWN BAND

The Annual General Meeting held in the Beveridge Hall on January 3rd. was very well attended in spite of the inclement weather. The Treasurer, Mr. C. Wright presented the financial report and in adopting this report the general feeling of the meeting was that the finances of the band were in a much healthier state than has been the case for some time. Following this excellent report it was learned with regret that the treasurer had tendered his resignation due to domestic difficulties. The chairman Mr. Mudd in accepting Mr. Wright's resignation paid tribute by expressing the appreciation of the members for the work done by the retiring treasurer.

The meeting decided to enter the Band in the "People" National Champion Contest for 1965 the area contest of which will take place in the Bede Grammar Schools, Sunderland on the 20th March.

As the Band are already committed to take part in the Durham County Brass Band League annual grading contest on April 11th in the Pelton Fell Colliery Welfare Hall some very hard work will be taking place in the bandroom during the next few weeks.

The meeting decided that in future all adult members of the Band would be considered committee members and that committee meetings would continue to be held in the Canopus Club, by kind permission of our good friends in the R.A.F.A.

A Concert presented in the Shildon Over-Sixty Club by the Band on January 12th was very well received, and the Band wearing their new uniforms looked very smart indeed.

Officers elected at the A.G.M. for the coming year were :—

Chairman:	Mr. V. T. J. Saville.
Hon. Sec:	Mr. R. Megginson.
Treasurer:	Mr. B. Porrit.
Assistant Secretary:	Mr. E. Lawson.
Librarian:	Mr. G. Gaul.
Assistant Librarian:	Mr. A. Sinclair.
Instrument Custodian:	Mr. R. Hayes
Uniform Custodian:	Mr. J. Pluse.

V.J.T.S.

MUSICAL SUCCESSES

The following pupils of Mrs. Ford were successful in their recent examinations in the Royal Schools of Music.

Alan Gordon.	Grade V.
Alan Bunting.	Grade III.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

Included in the Corporation Notes for December was an explanatory paragraph stating what the small greens in front of houses are really for. **THEY ARE FOR LITTLE CHILDREN TO PLAY ON.** Children to play on mark you!! not a convenient green to 'walk the dog on' and so foul the playground. It is natural for toddlers to sit and lie on the ground while playing, and it is often mothers unpleasant task to clean filth off the child's clothing. This horrid job could be lessened if owners of pets exercised a little thought at the same time that they exercise the quadruped. A short while ago one of the greens in the Bowes Road, Stephenson Way area was so covered with dog excreta that it is doubtful whether any child, or adult for that matter, could have stepped on the grass without getting soiled shoes, and as for any child playing on it—I leave the result to your imagination.

Onlooker.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The Society is going steadily ahead with rehearsals and preparations for their next production "IOLANTHE" which will be staged at Easter for one week in Marlowe Hall School. We are very conscious of the high standard we have set ourselves—and this can be vouched for by anyone who saw either of our last shows "The Mikado" and "The Gondoliers", the latter being so successful that the chorus was invited to sing with leading member, of D'Oyly Carte Company at Darlington Civic Theatre. This was a singularly conspicuous honour for such a young society of which we were indeed very proud.

However we are not resting on our laurels but doing our very best to give the townspeople a show which they will enjoy. "Iolanthe" is one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular compositions, and we look forward to your support. Look out for posters giving details of bookings etc.

The Society is always searching for new members, both singing and acting. If you feel at all interested in either of these groups please come along; you will be made most welcome. Singing rehearsals take place each Wednesday in Marlowe Hall School at 7-30 p.m. and Dramatic rehearsals in the St. Clare's Church Hall on Thursday at 7-30 p.m.

J.B.

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WOMEN'S COLUMN

Hints on Buying Mushrooms.

Mushrooms are sorted into three grades: Buttons (small unopened), Cups (Partly opened), Opens (completely opened). Do select the grade best suited to your requirements. Use Buttons for sauces, salads, pickling and garnishing; Cups for use (sliced) in stews, soups and as a vegetable with savoury filling. OPENS for serving as a vegetable and adding a finishing touch to bacon and egg at breakfast.

Do store them as soon as possible after buying, in a cool dark cupboard, or fridge, but they should be used as soon as they are removed.

To achieve the best flavour in cooking melt a knob of butter in a saucepan add mushrooms, cover with lid, allow to simmer 4 minutes shaking pan occasionally to prevent sticking, turn mushrooms, sprinkle with salt pepper and a squeeze of lemon juice, replace lid for 2 more minutes. Liquid can either be served with the dish, or kept as stock for gravy and stews.

A SOUP which is a little out of the usual is Rice Cream, for which you require; 1 tablespoon rice; 1 carrot; 1 parsnip; 1 small onion; 1 meat cube; 1 oz. butter; 1 oz. flour; $\frac{1}{4}$ pint water; $\frac{1}{2}$ pint milk; chopped parsley, salt and pepper.

Wash the rice thoroughly then cook it in the water together with the vegetables and the seasoning. When all the veg and rice are cooked rub them through a sieve. Melt the butter, stir in the flour but do not brown. Add the soup slowly to this binding, bring slowly to the boil and stir until thickened, add more seasoning if needed. Stir the milk and heat through before serving.

Quorn Bacon Roll—a lovely dish for a cold day.

Make a suet paste with equal quantities of flour and shredded suet, a pinch of salt and enough water to moisten. Roll out until a $\frac{1}{4}$ thick. Lay on rashers of lean bacon (collar is best), sprinkle with sage and chopped onion, roll up and wrap in kitchen foil and boil around two hours. Serve with chopped parsley sprinkled over; potatoes, carrots and turnips. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. bacon is sufficient for three people.

Orange Pancakes—this recipe translated from an old Belgian cookery book makes a pleasant pancake variation.

Ingredients: 6 oz. plain flour, 3 eggs, 1 oz. butter (melted) 1 oz. sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint milk, 2 very good oranges, pinch of salt. Add salt to flour, make a well in the centre and beat in the yolks of eggs and half the milk. Beat for five to seven minutes. Add the rest of the milk and the melted butter and beat again for a minute or two. Then add the whites of the eggs beaten stiff and the juice of one of the oranges. Peel the other orange and extract the flesh in segments freeing each of pith and skin. Heat a small frying pan, grease with butter and pour in enough batter to cover the bottom. Cook until golden underneath, put one or two segments of orange in the middle and cover with a second thin layer of batter. Turn and cook the second side. Arrange the pancakes on a dish. Powder with sugar and keep hot. This can be served with a sauce made from golden syrup diluted with lemon juice and heated gently.

M.M.G.

RATES AND THE ARTS

In the Library recently I chanced upon a gaily coloured glossy publication. It was the annual report of the Arts Council, and it contained a sad story. "The Local Government Act of 1948 provides for expenditure by Local Authorities up to the total amount of A RATE OF SIXPENCE IN THE POUND on theatres, orchestras and the like.

But how many do this?

"In practice, their expenditure on all forms of entertainment is certainly far less than the permissible amount. They could give far, far more to the Arts.

A poor show! and what is our own R.D.C. doing? How many of our struggling groups concerned with acting, dancing, music, painting and so on get grants from our local Council, and is it spending anything like 6d. in the £1 on them? R.S.V.P.!!!

If not, why don't the groups get together and press their claims? "Deliberate local support" as this Arts Council report says "is worth so much more than Whitehall patronage.

Inspired Ratepayer.

MOTORISTS

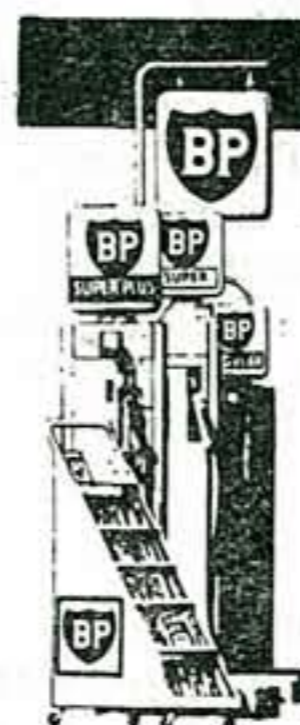
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NEWTON AYCLIFFE A.F.C.

Only two results for last month, Christmas festivities and weather cutting our programme.

December 13th:			
Newton Aycliffe	4	Northern Echo	3

December 20th:			
Bowes	6	Newton Aycliffe	3

The first result was against the third team in the League and this result strengthened our position in second place. The less said about the other one the better, perhaps the rarefied atmosphere had something to do with it. This month we start our cup competition and while the trail does not lead to Wembley, it finishes on the hallowed turf of Feethams, Darlington, here's hoping we're in with a shout when the whistle for the final tie blows.

Film News:

Well I suppose it had to happen sometime, after a full year of trying we finally did it, the crowds turned up at the Beveridge Hall for "Treasure Island", unfortunately we were so full we had to

turn quite a number of people away. There never were such times. Thank you patrons—we hope you will support us as well this new year.

Films for this month are:—

8th February: The incredible '007'

"DR. NO" (A) (Technicolor)

starring

SEAN CONNERY as JAMES BOND
with full supporting programme.

22nd February: A truly great western on the grand scale
"THE BIG COUNTRY" (A) (Technicolor)
starring
GREGORY PECK JEAN SIMMONS
CARROLL BAKER CHARLTON HESTON
BURL IVES
with full supporting programme.

Both the above shows are held in the Beveridge Hall at 7-15 p.m. Admission is by ticket 2/6d. each, available in advance from West Farm Products, Beveridge Way or at the door on the night of the show.

Don't forget our Saturday Morning Children's Matinee every week, 10-0 a.m. at the Beveridge Hall. Admission 1/6d. each, pay at the door.

The following shows are booked for the remainder of this season.

8th March	The Best of Enemies (U)
22nd March	From Here to Eternity (A)
12th April	From Russia with Love (A)
26th April	Tom Jones (X)
10th May	Barrabas (A)
24th May	Grip of Fear (X)

Result just to hand, before going to press:—

Second Round K.O. Cup

Newton Aycliffe	3	Barnard Castle United	1
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We have been drawn at home again for the third round on 7th February—our opponents are still to be decided. Why not come along to Simpasture Gate and give the lads support.

Haurel and Lardy.

Child Welfare Centre

Monday: 2 p.m.—3 p.m. Registrar

Wednesday: 2 p.m.—3 p.m. Registrar

The Registrar is also available as follows:—

Darlington Mon., Wed., Fri., and Sat—11 a.m. to 12 noon.

Shildon Tues., 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1-30 to 4 p.m.

" Thursday 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

" Sat., 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Darlington Address of Registrar:—

Craiglea, Uplands Road, Darlington.

Child Welfare Clinic

Tuesday	2nd & 16th February	}	a.m. Infant Injections.
Tuesday	2nd & 30th March		p.m. Ante Natal Clinic.

Tuesday	9th & 23rd February	}	Health Visitor Sessions
Tuesday	9th & 23rd March		No Doctor in attendance

Every Thursday

9-30 to 11-30 a.m.	}	Child Welfare Clinic
1-30 to 4-00 p.m.		

Welfare foods are on sale at all the above sessions

Mothers Club

Last Tuesday of each month, 7-30 p.m. All mothers welcome.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE SECTION OF THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

A committee has now been formed for the organising of events for the World Wildlife Fund in Newton Aycliffe. We are pleased to be able to say that Mr. Reg Bloom, Zoo Director/Curator of Flamingo Park, has accepted our invitation to be the sections Honorary President.

Officials are, Chairman Miss F. Sanderson, Organising Secretary, Miss Carol Spark, Treasurer, Mrs M. Spark, Public Relations Officer, Mr. D. Thompson. Other members of the committee are, Miss Y. Steel, Mrs. D. Holeywell, Mrs. I Robson, Master C. Flanagan, Master K. Dewar, Mr. M. Miles, Mr. T. Mchale, and Mrs. M. Garbett.

Among the future events planned are a Flag Day, an Easter Fayre and a Midsummer Dance. Dates and places to be announced later. Help for the organisation of any of these events will be most welcome.

The organising secretary and committee express their grateful thanks to all the distributors of the Newtonian who so kindly took on the extra work of delivering leaflets for the World Wildlife Fund. Secretary, Miss C. D. Spark, 8 Lowery Road Newton Aycliffe.

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POETRY SOCIETY—VERSE AND PROSE SPEAKING

The following pupils of Vee Sanders all passed their various grades:—

JUVENILE SECTION

Sheelagh Margaret Coles.	8 yrs.	Elementary Certificate. Credit.
Catherine Nora Coles.	8 yrs.	Elementary Certificate. Credit.
Anne Land.	9 yrs.	Elementary Certificate.
Gillian Anne Hudspeth.	8 yrs.	Juvenile Badge. Honours.

JUNIOR SECTION

Joanna Aisbitt.	10 yrs.	Junior Certificate
Jennifer May Hudspeth.	10 yrs.	Junior Certificate. Prose Reading Credit.
Judith Anne Haw.	10 yrs.	Bronze Medal.
Helen June Cowin.	10 yrs.	Bronze Medal.

SENIOR SECTION

Shirley Ann McGorrigan.	16 yrs.	Senior Certificate.
Sandra Hargreaves.	16 yrs.	Senior Certificate.

The following pupils all passed their various examinations.

LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ART VERSE AND PROSE SPEAKING

Marie Brockley.	10 yrs.	Juvenile Preliminary.
Janet Pattinson.	9 yrs.	Preliminary.
Carolyn Elliot	9 yrs.	Preliminary.
Anne Land.	9 yrs.	Preliminary.
Gillian Anne Hudspeth.	9 yrs.	Preliminary.
Joanna Aisbitt.	10 yrs.	Preliminary.
Helen June Cowin.	10 yrs.	Grade 1.
Judith Anne Haw.	10 yrs.	Grade 1.
Shirley Anne McGorrigan.	16 yrs.	Grade 111.
Sandra Hargreaves.	16 yrs.	Grade 111.

NEWTON PLAYERS

Did your children enjoy their pantomime 'ALADDIN'. Judging by their rapt attention and applause, we are sure they did. You too will enjoy our seasonal plays, so why not make your mind up now, to come to our next one? At the moment we are busy reading many scripts, the object being to select one which we think you will appreciate. The result of our search will appear in the March 'Newtonian'. We hope you will agree with our choice.

Although the pantomime is ended for the Town's children, there are still two further performances. One for the Physically Handicapped, the other for the patients of Aycliffe Hospital. Both of them will be in early February, after which we settle down to the serious business of casting, producing and set building for our next play. If you are interested why not come along? Any Thursday evening from 8-0 p.m. onwards. You will be made welcome. 'The Hut' behind The Beveridge Hall is our meeting place. There is no charge; no chains or chinanery employed to keep you there. We do NOT believe we represent all those interested in our Town Amateur Dramatics. There must be many more and we want to meet you.

We have been in existence almost since the Town came off the Drawing Board and with your help we will be here as long as the town. We have no intention of being submerged by Television, Bingo or Beat Groups. So you who want to act or you who don't want to act but who can organise, design, write, set build, to name but a few of the activities, don't please sit at home and say 'this is for the people next door, in the next road, over the other side of the town, it can be for YOU. To discover the answer is easy. Come along to our meetings, NOW.








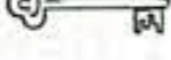
S.



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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Following the two British Railways films shown at the January meeting members thoughts turned to holidays and where to spend them. Newspapers; dailies and weeklies; magazines and television, have carried advertisements telling us why we should visit Sunny Spain, Festal France, Romantic Rome etc., etc., as well as every seaside resort round the English coast. Whether you decide on Beirut or Blackpool you will want to look your best, and on Thursday evening February 18th with the help of Mrs. Hart who will be giving a Beauty demonstration, using a member as model, you can learn how to achieve the appearance that you always wished you had the 'know how' of accomplishing.

The competition for this month is the best 1 lb. jar of marmalade. Seville oranges have been in the shops for sometime and many of you will have already made your marmalade, should you not there is still time, for we want to see a tip-top golden display.

M.H.

The Horse and Mule live 30 years
And nothing know of wines and beers.
The Goat and Sheep at 20 die
And never taste of scotch or rye.
The Cow drinks water by the ton
And at 18 is nearly done.
The Dog at 15 cashes in
Without the aid of rum or gin.
The Cat in milk and water soaks
And then in 12 short years it croaks.
The modest sober bone dry hen
Lays eggs for nogs and dies at 10.
All animals are strictly dry
They sinless live and swiftly die.
But sinfull, ginfull rum soaked men
Survive for threescore years and ten.
And some of them, a very few
Stay pickled till they're 92.

Anon.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE TERRITORIALS

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TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD



"Persia"—what does the name bring to your mind; you may have some knowledge of this country, you may know that it exports oil, and you may have heard of its famous poet Omar Khayyam, but it is unlikely that you will know what it is like to live in this huge country almost ten times the size of England with a population less than a quarter of our own.

Members and visitors, (who are always welcome) have the chance to hear from Mr. M. S. Hoghugh, Senior Educational Psychologist at Aycliffe School and the speaker at the March meeting, of "Life in Persia". following this talk he will be most pleased to answer any questions from the floor.

The Social Half-Hour is given over to Mr. Tony Foxworthy for Folk Dancing, and as most Newton Aycliffe folk know he is an expert on this subject. He has been with us before so you know what to expect; a very strenuous half hour but great fun.

The March competition is very easy—the prettiest plate. It requires no effort; so every member can look out their favourite piece and make a real bumper entry for this competition.

Mrs. Schofield will donate the surprise parcel, and all things being equal this March meeting on Monday 1st in the Beveridge Hall Finchale Road, at 7-15 p.m. promises to be most interesting.

The Townswomen's Guild are always pleased to welcome new residents at their meetings which are held on the first Monday in each month. The names and addresses of two committee members are given so that anyone who would like to know what the Guild is and what its aims are can get all the information they require.

Mrs. Lambert, 5 Neile Road.

Mrs. Greenbank, 17 Bede Crescent.

Members—please note, subscriptions for 1965 are now due—7/6d. per annum. Thank you.

Note:— Social Evening in the Beveridge Hall, 15th February, at 7-15 p.m.

M.M.G.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN

MICHAEL'S MAGIC WHISTLE

Part 3.

(The imp of a magic whistle that Michael found offered him three wishes. For his first Michael wished to be the captain of a pirate ship. Now he and the crew of his ship, The Silver Whistle, have landed on a tropical island in search of Captain Hawk's treasure.)

"Well, what are we waiting for?" asked Michael. "Follow me, men!" and off they set in the direction indicated by the arrow.

The path led them high up the hillside until they came out above the trees. When Michael looked back he could see "The Silver Whistle" riding at anchor in the sparkling bay below. At last they entered a narrow gorge where the rocky wall towered high above them shutting out the warm sunshine. Michael looked about him nervously.

"I don't like the look of this", he whispered to Dan, "It's the perfect place for an ambush".

"Aye, so it is" agreed the old salt, "But bless you, there's no need to worry. We're all alone here. I'll wager no-one's set foot on this island since Captain Hawk landed his treasure thirty years ago or more".

"I hope you're right", Michael said, "Come on everyone—it can't be much further now".

On they went, their hopes high with thoughts of the treasure that would surely lie ahead, but, as they turned a corner they found to their dismay that the way was blocked by an insurmountable wall of rocks. Michael turned round, puzzled. On three sides they were hemmed in by cliffs. The only exit seemed to be the way they had come.

"Clattering Cannonballs!" said Dan, his face as long as a fiddle. "We must have come the wrong way!"

"I don't see how we can have made a mistake", pondered Michael. "The arrow we followed was clear enough. There must be a way out somewhere". He searched the rocks around with eagle eyes. Suddenly he found what he was looking for. "Look there! The mark of Captain Hawk!" He pointed to the base of the cliff before them the crudely carved picture of a bird in flight was just visible beneath a growth of moss.

"You're right, Cap'n", said Dick, the cabin boy, "But this time the arrow points upwards. What can it mean?"

"It means that we must go upwards if we can" said Michael. Look over to the right, up there. I can see an opening in the cliff!"

"It's a stiff climb", grumbled Dan. "Do you think we can make it?"

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"Of course we can!" said Michael. "Let's get started. The sooner we get up there, the sooner we find the treasure!"

The opening in the cliff proved to be, not the treasure cave for which they were all hoping, but the entrance to a tunnel. Some of the men sank down on the tunnel floor, exhausted with the effort of climbing the cliff. One or two of them even suggested giving up.

"Never!" cried Michael scornfully. "But if you are tired, rest here while I explore further." Off he went down the tunnel followed by the faithful Dick.

After a few minutes they saw daylight ahead and raced one another to the tunnel exit. Michael got there first. "We've come right through the cliff wall" he called, "There's a tiny little grassy plateau here among the hills. Go back and get the other's while I scout round!"

By the time Dick had got back with the rest of the crew Michael had found another carving of a bird. It was cut deep into a boulder that leaned against the side of the cliff through which they had just made their way. This time there was no arrow to lead them further on.

"The treasure must be buried here!" said Dick.

"It certainly looks like it" replied Michael. Let's find out."

Two of the party carried spades and they set to work with a will. Deeper and deeper grew the hole and higher and higher grew their hopes. Suddenly there was a ringing noise as the spades struck something hard.

"What is it, me hearties?" asked Dan. "A treasure chest?"

"Don't think so, mate," said one of the diggers, "feels more like stone to me."

"Afraid so," agreed the other, "Great slabs of it. We've reached rock bottom in fact—can't be anything buried down here."

"Oh no!" groaned Michael, "We must have misread the signs—but how?" He leaned back heavily against the boulder on which was carved Captain Hawk's mark then jumped as it moved slightly.

"What fools we've been!" he shouted. "We've been digging at the base of this rock because the carving was on it. Instead we should have been looking behind the rock itself."

Come on—let's get it moved. Put your backs into it everyone!"

Heaving and straining they rolled the great stone away to reveal the entrance to a large cave. An eerie green light filtered down from a crack high above their heads. By its faint illumination they could see chests against one wall. Michael opened one and Dick the other while the crew leaned anxiously over their shoulders. As the lids of the chests fell back everyone gasped with wonder at the sight before their eyes. There were gold coins of all sorts—moidores, dubloons and pieces of eight. There were gold and silver ornaments all studded with precious stones. There were little linen sacks each holding a quantity of rubies, diamonds emeralds or pearls. None of them had seen so much treasure before. Just then, as they crowded excitedly round the chests, the cool dark air of the cave was ripped by a cackle of maniacal laughter. Michael and his comrades gazed at one another in horror, petrified by the blood-chilling sound.

"Dead men's gold!" shrieked a hoarse, unnatural voice. "Dead men's gold! Rip their hearts out—Dead men's gold!"

Summoning all his courage, Michael drew his sword and turned to face the invisible enemy.

((Who can be in the cave with Michael and the crew of the Silver Whistle? More next month.))

S.F.W.

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CORPORATION NOTES

Everyone knows that one of the greatest pleasures associated with Christmas is to see a well lit Christmas Tree.

Unfortunately, Newton Aycliffe may be deprived of this pleasure next Christmas due to the action of vandals over the holiday period when they broke or stole over two hundred light bulbs off the Christmas Tree in the town centre.

The tremendous cost involved in replacing these bulbs may well force the Corporation to reconsider its present policy of paying for, erecting and lighting the Christmas Tree and should this happen the persons suffering the greatest loss will be the young children.

"Tenants are requested not to store objects on top of porch roofs or on the roofs of attached garages as not only does this look unsightly but the practice damages the roof covering."

511 COY R.A.S.C. (MOT AMB) (T.A.)

At the time of going to press we have just been informed that we have won the COLUMN 'EFFICIENCY CUP' for 1964. This will be presented by the Hon. Colonel, Col. E. STEELE, T.D., at a COLOUR BALL being organised in Hull in February. The following is the total Awards List:—

Awarded to the Company

The Column Efficiency Cup 1964.

The Colonel Erskine Trophy. (Annual Range Competition).

The Colonel Ricardo Cup. (Open Range Classification).

Awarded to Individuals

MAP READING

Capt. A. E. Welsh.

Dvr. Peach, Newton Aycliffe.

COLUMN WEAPON TRAINING

Capt. A. K. T. Brumby.

S/Sgt. Williams, Newton Aycliffe.

Cpl. Fraquet, Coatham Mundeville.

THE NORTHUMBERLAND CUP

S/Sgt. Brookes, Darlington.

JUNIOR RANKS SHOOTING TROPHY

Cpl. Fraquet.

.22 RIFLE COMPETITION

Sgt. Wood, R.E.M.E. Darlington.

Cpl. Curtis, Newton Aycliffe.

R.A.F. ASSOCIATION NOTES



We sat in the Queens Lounge. It was evening and snow fell softly. After exhausting all our jokes, old and new, someone said, "Did you ever spend a Christmas on camp?"—I only spent one Christmas on camp, and the memory of the experience flooded back.

With Christmas almost upon us, the Flight Sergeant in charge of administration H.Q.'s, called in all the bods from the orderly Room, Typing Pool, Central Registry and the Accounts Section. Flourishing a mighty 'air force' blue handkerchief, 'Chiefy' blew his nose noisily and smiled on all those gathered.—"Well lads", said he, "Christmas time again, who's for it, out the cap again is it". —We glanced at each other, our hearts like lead. Pieces of paper were torn into squares, and on one piece was printed the words 'You Chum'.—The screwed up pieces were shaken up in Chiefy's cap, and one by one we dragged ourselves forward for a reluctant 'dip'.—Smiles of relief from the bods as they opened them. I opened mine, 'You Chum' glared back harshly. A thought crossed my mind, "I wish I was dead".

"Good old Arry" cried Chiefy. "Tough, hard cheese" sniggered the rest. A thought crossed my mind, "Roll on flippin demob", or words to that effect.

The station cleared for the Christmas period, leaving behind the wretched destined few, Station H.Q. (me), Guard Room, P.B.X., M.T., Sick Quarters, and a couple of cooks. The camp became as active as a disused mortuary. A few bods also remained for the control tower and fire section, but these were to be unknown until later.

I spent Christmas Eve working in the Orderly Room, different bods smuggled in bottles of 'good cheer', and the Orderly Officer and Sargeant popped in for tea and wads out of the ration box. With so few on camp we all 'kipped' in the Admin billet. P.B.X. fixed us up with a temporary telephone, and after midnight, cooks, drivers etc., all settled back to await Santa Claus. I remember lying on my bunk, staring hard into the darkness. A thought crossed my mind—quite unprintable. A cigarette glowed in the corner. "Merry Christmas" I said. "Yeah" replied the cigarette, "Cheers".

I lay on my 'pit' with eyes closed. It was morning, and to raise my eyelids would only bring me crashing back to the stark reality of the situation. "Laddie" a voice said. Within my minds eye I chased an elusive female across the ceiling, out of the door and over the peri-track. "Laddie" said the voice again, shaking me this time, by the nose, "Where's yer pot". I sat up startled and found the Station W.O. man bending over me, not smirking, snarling or grating, but smiling! I snatched my pot from my locker and held it out in anticipation.



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From a great jug, the W.O. man filled the pot with hot, thick, sweet steaming tea. I snivelled my thanks. "Breakfast" queried the W.O. man. I gulped hot tea, dribbling down my chin. Two huge bacon and sausage sandwiches were pressed onto a plate and pushed under my nose. "Get them down yer lad" said the W.O. man. "Sar" said I and commenced to eat.

The W.O. man and a cook went round the billet dishing out the same Christmas fare to all the other unfortunates. With a clash of the door, he was gone. "I must be dreaming" said I. "Some breakfast" said another, who was a natural moaner, "no mustard". We munched in silence. A thought crossed my mind, "Wonder what's for lunch."

Dinner at the cookhouse was one that I shall never forget. We were served with all those things which are good; drinks included. The goodies and ale flowed, yummy! "More turkey Arry" asked the W.O. man. "Yesh pleash sher" I twittered.

Work and festivities carried on for several days, and at last the other bods returned from Christmas leave. "Good time Arry" they asked. "Not bad" said I, with a suppressed cunning leer, "not bad at all really".

The following year, in the June I think it was, I saw the W.O. man and Chiefy, and volunteered for Christmas duty. The W.O. man looked at Chiefy with raised eyebrows, and taking me by the arm, led me aside. "Don't be like that lad" said he, give someone else a chance".

In the December, I was dead unlucky, I had to go home for Christmas. I guess that's the way things go.

H.G.S.

Notes:-

Subscriptions are now due and should be paid as soon as possible. Don't forget your inter-affiliation card, it only costs 1/-.

CALLING ALL EX-AIR GUNNERS—any ex- air gunners who live in the vicinity interested in the formation of a local branch of the Air Gunners Association, which has branches in London, Leeds and Coventry, please contact Mr. Austin Johnson at the Canopus Club, Newton Aycliffe.

It is hoped that many more of our motoring members will take advantage of the R.A.F.A. Motor Club, and any who may require details should contact either Mr. Alan Coates, Mr. Joe Bell, or Mr. Fred Wells. Remember, it costs nothing to find out.

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE MUSIC SOCIETY

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 18th February, at 8-0 p.m. in the small hall at St. Clare's Church, when we are to have a concert by the Dawson Quintet.

Mr. Dawson (who plays the French horn) and his friends gave a concert for us last season, which proved very popular and we look forward to a good audience for this meeting.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE MOTOR CLUB

Not a lot to say this month, two important dates now fixed are Wednesday, 17th March for the first evening road trial of the year and Sunday, 4th April for the first week-end run, destination not yet fixed but I can promise a good one so lets see some of those heaps out of the garage and on the road again.

Be Seeing You ???? I Hope So.
Eric.

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SMALL WORLD

Mrs. Gibson who at one time lived opposite Vane Road School, and is now a nurse in Singapore has had as one of her patients Mr. Teddy Dixon whose home is 18 Walker Lane. The Newtonian sent to him each month provided a talking point between nurse and patient reviving memories of times past. It is a long step to Singapore and the world is full of co-incidental happenings, if you know of any other meetings of 'Newtonians' in distant places let the editor know for it is certain to be of interest to other people.
E.D.

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BOYLAN - LEEMING SCHOOL, 31 Woodland Road, Darlington (Phone 4911) Ballet Classes resumed January 9th 4-15 p.m. to 5-15 p.m. and 5-0 p.m. to 6-0p.m. Boys club, Newton Aycliffe.

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