

newton news

CHILDREN Santa is on his way



Children should be on the look out for Santa Claus on Christmas Eve when he makes his annual tour of the town.

He will be ringing his bell and waving to children before he nips off to get the toys to bring back when you are all asleep.

So be good, get to bed early and make sure you are sound asleep before he comes.

We hope you get all the nice things you wished for, but do not be sad if everything you wanted is not there on Christmas Day. Remember there are lots of boys and girls who will get much less than you.

Santa will be travelling around the town in a land-rover between 5.15 and 7.30 on. So listen for his bell and give him a wave when you see him in your street.

THE PROPRIETOR AND STAFF OF THE NEWTON NEWS WISH ALL READERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



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The correct way to eat your soup? Broughs Annual Dinner, held in the Gretna Green Wedding Inn. (Photo Bill Roberts)



Housewives ask for united rent protest

It was not nice Christmas time news to hear that rents in Newton Aycliffe were going up at the end of January. So angered are tenants in Williamfield that a petition is being drawn up to present to the Corporation.

Two points appear on the petition.

- 1 A statement of protest.
- 2 Action not to pay the increase.

The petition is being circulated by two housewives Mrs. June Jackson, 56 Whinlatter Place and her neighbour Mrs. Margaret Brown of 55 Whinlatter Place.

They object strongly to paying more for their £5 12 0 houses and invite all those who agree to join forces in mass protest.

"We must do what the Irish M.P. Miss Devlin once suggested—Everyone refuse to pay the rent. They can't evict everybody," said Mrs. Jackson.

These two housewives are quite determined to get something done about high rents.

"We moved into Newton Aycliffe from a furnished house which cost us £4 per week. The rents here cannot be afforded and it is shown by the way people are moving off the town

at an increasing rate," added Mrs. Jackson.

"Will those persons who agree with our action and are prepared to help in this protest please contact us" pleaded Mrs. Brown.

● AQUARIST PRIZEWINNERS

Newton Aquarist Society Christmas Draw, 10th December made by Mr G Handley in St Clares Church Hall.

Prizewinning numbers: 1041 1312 1102 1305 1027 0795 0617 1021 0590 0213 1155 1130 0145 0207 0570 0106 0112 0211 0496 0154. Junior Medal to H. Melles.



Mr. Melles awards Adult Championship medal of the Aquarist Society to Mr. F. Wells (right).

Town Cinema open on Boxing Day

A special film show on Boxing Day is being run at St. Clares Church Hall.

"The Great Race" is a "great" film and suitable for all the family. It starts at 10 o'clock and gives Mum the opportunity to kick Dad and the kids out while she makes lunch. Or maybe Mum can arrange a later lunch and come along too!

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TOWN CENTRE
NEWTON AYCLIFFE

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Miss Milner charming headmistress of Stephenson Way Infants School. A lady with instant humour and real concern for Newton Aycliffe and its progress.

How long have you taught in Newton Aycliffe and where else has your career taken you?

I have taught in Newton Aycliffe for thirteen years, I began my career in Middlesbrough, next at Coniscliffe near Darlington.

Where were you born and educated?

I was born in Sunderland, and educated in Heighington, Darlington and went to college in Sunderland.

What is your favourite past-time?

My favourite past-time is working with flowers and plants though I am equally interested in birds and animals.

Do you have a particular holiday spot you enjoy visiting?

I like the Lake District and although been many times always find something fresh to see.

To what do you attribute Newton Aycliffe's reputation for fine schools?

We have fine healthy youngsters, keen teachers and excellent new buildings and parents who are on the whole interested in their children's work.

What in your view are this town's advantages and disadvantages?

Newton Aycliffe is a clean, fresh bright and young town with room to work or play. It has good houses, green grass and gardens but needs more shops, a sports centre, and large hotel in the centre of the town, where the people who work so hard could get together and spend their money, not in Darlington or Bishop Auckland.

What is your opinion of the present generation?

The young people with whom I come into contact are just like we were when young—busy doing home work most of the time and though they may have more money to spend than we did we always had somewhere to go—the pictures or dance halls—both of which seem to have disappeared.

Do you have an amusing story you could tell concerning a child you have taught?

One lunch time we were having salad for main course with lettuce, tomatoes etc., and salad dressing, I said to a small boy "do you like salad cream?" He said "I like my salad any colour!"

FOLKSCENE

On the second week after the opening of 'The Candlelite Folk Club' in the 'Oak Tree Inn', was full with standing room only.

The atmosphere was really warm and friendly and everyone started to relax from the word go.

The artistes gave a varied programme, ranging from traditional folk songs to American blues and country music, and this is really the idea behind the 'Candlelite', to support all types of 'folky' music.

Colin Randell and Phill who organise 'The Aclit' folk club at Bishop Auckland came along and sang their own arrangements of well known songs and were very warmly welcomed by the audience. June and Marion also delivered their certain type of songs and it was plain to see the power of the females against the noisy males in the audience.

Barry and Tony, a duo from local parts had the audience in stitches with their back room ballads. Dave Shand sang some old favourites and the "Long Black Veil" really went over well. Another Dave, Dave Dent gave some good old blues with harmonica and guitar. Rich and John provided us with some unaccompanied songs and they proved their ability to perform this type of folk.

All in all the night went really well but there were a couple of complaints regarding noise while artists were singing their quieter type numbers. This was, sadly, quite true the only way the organiser can hope to overcome this problem which doesn't only apply to "The Candlelite", is to ask the members who really do support the club to bear with us until we "end up" with about 100 true supporters in the way of membership cards to be introduced next week.

Always remember "The Candlelite Club" belongs to people who want folk music. See you next week, Friday at 8 p.m.

Walt Young

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Newton Aycliffe staff of Walter Willson at their Social.



TALKING POINTS by the observer

Christmas comes but once a year.

Have you made a Christmas resolution? Or, do you wait until the New Year. I was chatting with a young lady when I was away during the summer, she was saying how clever her sister was with the guitar. I asked if she was from a musical family? "Oh yes" she said "we simply love music in our house, in fact the radio is switched on first thing in the morning and stays on until we all go to bed. Even if we are all out of the house, we leave it switched on!"

How about a Christmas resolution—switch off radio and television when your friends call in!

Do boys really annoy you? With Christmas on the way I expect soon to hear the carol singing brigade and it reminds me of a few weeks ago, when I was quietly reading by the fireside and there was a knock on the door. I could hear the murmuring of boy's voices and guessed what the knock was about. I waited a bit, hoping that they would go away but the curtains were open and the light exposed me to the intruders. More knocking—so I impatiently went to the door—"now what do you want?" They pointed to the guy laid recumbent in the porch. I was firm with them—"for goodness sake—you're the third group to come here this evening". So they ambled away and I returned to my comfortable chair, thinking "they're a damned nuisance". And then I had a feeling of remorse for my impatience. Didn't I do the same when I was a boy? I thought back to the days when I climbed trees, pinched apples from orchards, went tearing around on an old bone-shaker bike and knocked on doors "penny for the guy Mister".

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St. Clares to run Two Concerts

The Concert held in St. Clares Church Hall last year was a great success, but there was a danger in the overcrowded conditions the audience had to endure.

This year the entertainment committee have decided to hold two performances. The first on Friday 8th January in the evening by adult organisations and the second on Saturday afternoon at 2.15 by the children.

Already the indication is that both performances will be very lively and interesting.

This is an opportunity for parents to see their children perform and also, for some, the chance for children to see their parents perform!

AYCLIFFE W.I. REPORT

Our monthly meeting was held on Thursday, December 11th in the new Denham Junior School. The first 20 minutes we prepared Christmas supper by candlelight also Mrs. Colling attended to the business by torch. Surprise parcel was won by Mrs. Woodstock. A table decoration competition was won by Mrs. Moses second Mrs. E. Kent. Christmas cake made by Mrs. N. Kent won by a friend of a member. Mrs. Hobbs organised the entertainment and carols played on a tape recorder brought by Mrs. Perry. Our evening ended by one of our members dressed as Santa giving us all a present from a sack.

Secretary.

Members of the Ladies Section of the British Legion with their hosts the RAFA Ladies waiting for electricity supply to be restored for their "Get together" a few evenings ago.
(Photo Bill Roberts)

HALL BROS

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SEASONS GREETINGS to all our READERS!

From Mrs. Lincoln . . .
"Its a poor heart that never rejoices!"

During this time of rejoicing this Christmas period, behind the family re-unions, the children's excitement, the eating and drinking, even the going to Church, there lies for more and more people an anxious doubt about the future.

There are far too many people who do not rejoice anymore, who in fact have very little about which to rejoice.

May we from the Salvation Army hope for you, in order of priority, the following three blessings. 1 Spiritual Health. 2 Mental Health. 3 Physical Health. You will be rich indeed.

May God Bless you all, together with loved ones far and near, this Christmas.

Skipper

Rev. Martin King . . .

"You see toys advertised on the television, and you think wouldn't it be nice to have it, and then when you have it, it's not as good as you dreamed it would be, so you don't play with it any more."

A 6-year-old's sad words. Christmas itself can seem exaggerated, disappointing, yet Christians rejoice as long as people's eyes shine when your wife is pregnant, with instinctive hope for the new-born life and while they long for love and simplicity and a joy beyond describing. Its mystery will always speak to those who dare to be human, for so is Christ.

May He give you joy.

St. Francis, Horndale

Fr. Devlin writes . . .

"Glory to God in the highest — Peace on earth among men of good will."

This was the angels message on the first Christmas night. But the peace that Christ brought was conditioned by something on our part. Men forget that peace is conditioned on giving glory to God. That is why on this Christmas of 1970 the world is not at peace.

Too many of us wanted peace without glory, earth without Heaven, a man without God.

Shall we blame the signpost, when, refusing to follow it, we lost our way?

St. Josephs Roman Catholic Church

METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

NEVILLE PARADE

Thursday, 24th December: Christmas Eve Service. The Holy Communion. 11.30 p.m. — 12.30 a.m.

Christmas Day: 9.45 a.m. — Family Worship.

New Year's Eve Social — 8.30 p.m. followed by a Service at 11.30 p.m.

WILLIAMFIELD

Sunday, 27th December: 10.45 a.m. — Carol Service.

Sunday, 3rd January: 10.45 a.m. — Family Worship.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. CLARES

Christmas Eve: 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion. 11.30 p.m. Blessing of the Crib, Carols and Holy Communion.

Christmas Day: 8.0 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion with Carols. 11.0 a.m. Family Service for Parents and Children.

Boxing Day (St. Stephen's Day) 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion.

Sunday after Christmas Day (St. John's Day) 8.0 a.m. Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion. 6.0 p.m. Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

New Year's Day 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion.

MANAGEMENT and STAFF of the CAVE BOUTIQUE

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AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



Methodist Girl Guides with the puppets they made.
(Photo Bill Roberts)

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Rev. Peter Schofield . .

I wonder what you really think of Christmas? Is it a time for lots of food, toys, a time to get drunk, a holiday, a family gathering, or is there something more? For the Christian, Christmas is a very special time. Could I tell you what it means to me? In Jesus Christ, that Baby, that Man, is to be found the real clue to the meaning of life and living. Christmas tells us, reminds us that really, deep down the love that we see in Jesus is the most real, the most powerful thing in the world. If men would operate this, would allow this Christ-love to work in life, a change would be seen.

Love came down at Christmas and, only as that love is seen in the life of each one of us, will it become a reality. God needs our 'YES'.

1970, for many people has been a sad and difficult year. Things have happened that have made us gasp. Hunger, famine, war, divisions, racism and so on. If we did not believe that in the end love is stronger than hatred and malice, then we would give up. But the fact is that in Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world, love has won the day and always will. It is the costly way, the way of the Cross, but it is possible.

Will you go into 1971 with hope in your life? Give God a chance to break-in.

We thank God that in our Community in Newton Aycliffe there are people who display this love and hope people who serve and care, people who build-up instead of destroying people who make others feel 'at home'. Our Lord called such people 'daylight', 'salt' and 'lights'. Let us go into 1971 asking that God will use us for the good and, for each other.

God bless you and yours so much this Christmas time.
Williamfield Methodist Church

Walter Willson

Manager and Staff Wish all
Newtonians
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A MERRY CHRISTMAS
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Members of the RAFA Club at the 1st Annual Dinner held on 10th December.
Photo by Bill Roberts.

Father Anderson says .

Happiness is a constant attitude of authentic Christianity. The Christian ought constantly to be aware of the good things he has received from a loving God—the personal day-to-day benefits like food, a roof over our heads, family love and affection and so on, and also the great spiritual gifts like Redemption, Baptism and Our Fathers love for us. At Christmas we recall the particular gift of Christ “who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven” and that is the reason why Christians go to church on Christmas Day. I give thanks to God for the gift of His Son. We express our gratitude to God by giving ourselves to God, by promising Him that we will do always the things that please Him. This is the happiness that I wish you all this Christmas, happiness that comes from joy and expresses itself in gratitude to God.

Christmas Day Masses at St. Mary's. 1 Midnight Mass 2 9 a.m. 3 11 a.m.

From the Vicar . . .

I remember once receiving a present of a book, which I knew would be of immense importance to me, but unfortunately, it was written in German (a language of which perhaps I know eighteen words). But because the book was important, I blundered along at it, with a dictionary and all the rest of it, getting hold of a few ideas here and there, most of them wrong, and just a few of them right.

And then one day someone put into my hand a translation and I read and understood quite easily. This is what God did for men at Christmas when Christ came. There they were blundering about, trying to see clearly the truth about God, getting a few things right, and many wrong, but still going on trying, because the thing was of such immense importance.

And the God becomes man, and puts into our hands a translation of Himself into our human language, so that studying the earthly life of Jesus Christ we may see clearly what God is LIKE. Do you remember what He said to Philip that last night before He died, “He that hath seen Me, hath seen the Father”.

When I think of Christmas, I think of many things, but perhaps the most important thing is the fact that God gave us the greatest Christmas present we have ever had when He gave us Jesus Christ on Christmas Day to be a translation of Himself into our own language.

May this knowledge and His blessing be with you all this Christmas-time.

Rev. Harold Hall
St. Clare's Church

WANTED

Anyone in Newton Aycliffe who drives to Middlesbrough daily at 7.30 a.m. and would take a passenger to share expenses, please contact 17 Bury Road, Newton Aycliffe, after 6 p.m.

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66 Contina Estate	£435
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EDITORIAL



RENT ISSUE STIRS THINGS UP

It is strange how rent increases always stir people to action. We accept increases in food, clothes, fuel, services etc. with hardly a murmur. Yet when the Corporation announce a rent increase there is a terrible outcry.

In one way I am pleased to see something stir Newtonians and I applaud action being taken by a section of the community to protest against something they consider wrong.

Coun. Conlon, a protagonist of the rent issue is heard in broad headlines in the Press give his views. While the Corporation's replies get two or three lines.

Here are two points we have investigated which have been levelled at the Corporation recently.
Statement: 100 houses empty.
Answer: 16 on average.
Statement: 10/- increase in rent.
Answer: 3/6 average.

No one wants increases, but the statements given from both sides ought, in all fairness, be given equal prominence in communications.

The Corporation's housing figures are in the red, and common sense demands this be remedied and if not with increases—with what?

Always the voice of the protesters are foreseen and that in itself makes authority careful in its decisions—so keep protesting it may do some good some day!

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CANOPUS NOTES

Hello again.

It is always a pleasure to be able to say a first venture has been successful, as in the case of our first Annual Dinner Dance held on the 10th.

Of course no venture can hope to succeed without careful planning and a lot of hard work. Here we must thank Alf Dunn and his lady, Tom Caygill and his lady, Mrs. Swinburn, not forgetting Ted Hutchinson, whose idea it was to have the dinner in the first place.

They all worked hard throughout the day, setting up tables, preparing the decorations, in fact, doing all the little things which went toward making the evening such a success. Thanks also to Ernie Tennick for the Floral Decor.

One must not overlook the bar staff, after all, we soon complain if we find a dirty glass, but we apt to overlook how long is spent in polishing the glasses to make them sparkle like they do! Many thanks girls!

The evening got off to an explosive start, when the photographer's flash bulb blew up, showering sparks all over—Sorry about your hair-do Marj. Ah well!

Everyone appeared to enjoy an excellent dinner and a point worthy of comment being, the service. This was very good and is all important on an occasion like this.

I'm sure everyone will look forward to future years if they can be as enjoyable as our first.

A word of thanks is in order, to the Press, who has given us such excellent coverage and must not just be taken for granted.

I hope everyone has got the names in for the kiddies party tomorrow—and don't forget kids—Santa will be waiting to see you, so be good for your Mums and Dads.

The ladies section are having their final fling of the year, with their dance on Saturday night, so come up and join in.

Let's hope the power stays on!

Best Wishes and Seasons Greetings to all.
Mind how you go.
Cheerio.

Tail End Charlie

G.A.P.C. Chairman wishes . . .

In wishing all residents of Newton Aycliffe a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year would in many ways hope that 1971 will be a more encouraging year than 1970.

I would hope that a start would be possible on the long awaited swimming baths and associated amenities.

On a personal note I can only hope that the chaotic local government “set up” in Newton Aycliffe will be well on the way to being resolved and that the New Town can become a town in fact as well as in name.

Finally my ardent wish would be for the growth of the Aycliffe Industrial Estate to recede and the frustration and disappointment of the past year a thing of the past. This growth we must have to make Newton Aycliffe a thriving and prosperous town.

J. G. DORMER
Great Aycliffe Parish Council

Mrs. Gough Thanks Again

Mrs. Gough, whose child suffered burns from a house fire wishes to thank the E.L.P. Store at Ashfield for their help over this difficult period.

The latest news is that Anita will be home for Christmas. After successful skin grafting the doctors told her happy mother that she could have her daughter home.

BURMA STAR TRIBUTE

At a film show showing full length feature on “The Mountbatten Story” on Tuesday in the Canopus Club a silent tribute was made to Sir William Slim who appeared in the film.

He was closely connected with Mountbatten and was active in the Burma Campaign from which the Association was founded.

Trade Ads

Jacques School of Stage Dancing. Classes held in Beveridge Hall every Thursday and Friday at 6.30. Medal classes for ballet, tap and acrobatic. Apply at the hall or 5 Mellanby Crescent.

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Message to Blood Donors

Bad weather, seasonal illness and the loss of Sessions during the holiday period, make the collection of sufficient blood for the hospitals of the Newcastle Region difficult during December and early January. This year the problem is being made more acute as a result of power cuts, with already one factory Session being cancelled at short notice because the factory had to be closed due to lack of heat and through General Public Sessions being affected by the power cuts. As these continue so our difficulties will increase.

We make an urgent appeal to all donors invited to General Public Sessions to make every effort to attend and not to be put off by the possibility that on arrival, they may find that the Sessions have been stopped by a power cut. Unless we have a better than usual attendance at General Public Sessions during this month the situation will become serious as we will not have sufficient stocks of blood to meet the demands of the hospitals.

We are endeavouring to make arrangements to ensure that our General Public Sessions are carried on in spite of any power cuts but this may not be possible in every case.

Now would be an ideal time for those who have been thinking that they should be donors, to come forward. They will be most welcome at any General Public Sessions.

The news is very pleased to print a letter received from our vicar Rev. Harold Hall which thanks 'March the Tailor' for a donation of £100 in response to the 'Newton News' leader article in the End of November issue.

Apparently the Managing Director of March the Tailors saw the need to support the Church in Newton Aycliffe and as a new shop wished to make a donation to help its work.

They did not wish any publicity from the gesture, but in a round about way the 'news' heard of it and felt our readers should know of it, and the Vicar felt too, he should express thanks publicly.

Dear Sir,

May I take this opportunity of thanking publicly through the 'news' the Managing Director of March the Tailor for the very generous donation they have made to the Parish Church of St. Clare?

I was deeply touched to find such an obviously profound concern for the Church, and for the welfare of the town as a whole, as expressed by the Managing Director.

It is very difficult for me to express adequately on behalf of the Parochial Synod, our gratitude to him, and the firm he represents, at this time of our crisis. The gift is appreciated more than I can say, but no more than the friendship and concern that prompted it.

Yours sincerely,
Harold Hall
Vicar of St. Clares

THANK YOU

Dear Mr. Howarth,

I have been asked by the Newton Aycliffe Road Safety Committee to write to you congratulating you on your road safety consciousness re your article on cycling in the Town Centre.

Pat Voy,
Hon. Secretary,
7 Ross Walk.

from the Methodist Minister . . .

The best thing about Christmas is that it happened to such ordinary folk, to Mary the young wife of a village carpenter, to a gang of men doing their usual work as shepherds on the hills, and to a group of men we would call scientists, but whom the ancient world knew as the Magi. These were the people who caught on to the meaning of Christmas two thousand years ago—ordinary people living ordinary lives, and they discovered the great news of God's good will, of His peace, and His love in the Christ Child.

The same is still true, if somewhere in your family gathering, somewhere in your daily work, somewhere in your sense of interest and wonder about this world in which you live, there comes an inner sense of thankfulness, the kind of joy you can't put into words, the peacefulness you could never describe, have no doubts you are beginning to understand what Christmas really means.

It is a message of God's love for ordinary people. We wish a very happy and blessed Christmas to all who read this, and pray with you for peace upon earth and goodwill amongst all men.

A. Williams.

Broughs Help Handicapped

Each year Broughs Grocery Shop invite the local Physically Handicapped to do their Christmas Shopping.

This year was no exception, and the staff were on hand to push wheelchairs and help in the selection of goods.

Mr. Smallwood, manager, and the staff provided refreshments.

Coun. Mrs. Meadows who is a supervisor at the shop told the 'news' how much the staff enjoyed this annual event. We are in no doubt how much the gesture is appreciated by the Physically Handicapped.

Flymo were prepared for Electric cuts

The electricity power cuts hit industry very hard—causing extreme loss of productivity and even worse inconvenience.

Flymo were particularly concerned with keeping their production line open and hired an ex-army generator to take over when normal supplies failed.

Mr. J. Harrington, works manager, told the 'news' that if the work to rule had continued Flymo could have maintained some production with this generator.

Full marks to Flymo for resourcefulness.

Buy HIS Christmas Gift at The Man's Shop

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NEVILLE PARADE

RALPH NEVILLE

BORN 1291 — DIED 1367

Our story begins on Christmas Eve. The year is 1346 and a cold wind whips up the scurrying snowflakes. A multitude of people are making their way up the dark narrow streets of Durham City. Their destination, Durham's mighty Cathedral. They laugh and joke despite the cold, for they are about to pay homage to a mighty champion, Ralph Neville, and to thank God that through his efforts they may walk free and enjoy Christmas and they had reason to be joyful for only eight weeks previous their lives, and homes were under the direct threat of the invading Scots.

Prompted by King Phillip of France who had just suffered an English invasion King David of Scotland amassed a huge army and moved south. By the third of October he had advanced through Cumberland, laid waste the Abbey of Lanercost and onward into Northumberland. He sacked the Abbey of Hexham and plundered the town. Moving down to Carbridge they then took Aydon Castle and pushed on towards Newcastle—over the Tyne at Ryton. Pursuing his way to the south east he reached Beaupaire (Bear Park) and made his camp there. From here raiding parties roamed the area pillaging, plundering and killing.

The English Barons and Bishops were well aware of the situation and a large number of them assembled on October 16th at Auckland Castle the Archbishop of York, Henry De Percy, and Ralph Neville were present. Surtees quotes that there were between 16,000 to 18,000 men consisting of men at arms, archers and spearmen. The Scots were ignorant of this movement and only by a raiding party headed by Sir William Douglas being surprised by the English cavalry at Kirk Merrington and at this skirmish lost 500 of his best men he fled back to King David with the news that the English in great numbers were but a few miles away. The Scottish King gave his orders and disposed his army on Durham Moor with standards flying in order of battle.

On Tuesday morning, the 17th October, the English force, in four divisions under the command of Ralph Neville pressed forward past Nevilles Cross, to the Red Hills. A large crucifix at the head of the flying banners of the Northern English Counties. Lord Percy held the right flank, Lord Neville the centre and Sir Thomas Rokeby on the left, each body being flanked by archers.

King David set his troops in motion but the lie of the land found him ascending to meet the first onslaught and his three divisions found themselves crowded and presented a wonderful target for the English archers, also the sun shone full in the faces of the struggling Scots. Showers of steel fell on them and they were slaughtered in great numbers.

The force and consistency of the English attack proved too great and after three hours of bloody battle the Scots were broken and beaten down. A gallant band of nobles encircled their Scottish King and fought fiercely and bravely. The King was wounded badly with one arrow in his leg, another in his face but he persisted bravely on till John De Coupland, a Northumberland squire dashed forward and disarmed him, when trying to seize him the King dashed out his teeth with his steel gauntlet but undeterred the squire secured him and with eight chosen companions carried him off the field.

Such was the Battle of Nevilles Cross and the hero of the day was Ralph Neville in whose honour a stone cross was erected near the sight of this greatest battle of our counties history.

Ralph Neville himself was so grateful for his victory that he presented Durham Cathedral with one of the most remarkable stone screens ever carved. It still stands in Durham Cathedral although the multitude of statues which filled its many niches have sadly disappeared, a bi-product of the later reformation.

There are many reasons that we should celebrate the festive season but those citizens of Durham certainly had theirs and the name of Ralph Neville Master of Raby Castle, champion of the North was their Christmas gift in the year 1346.

Ron Watson

Get in the 'news'

If you are getting married then you ought to have your photograph in your local paper the Newton News.

It costs nothing and you will have a memento of that special occasion to keep for the years to follow.

Our Photographer will come along to your wedding if you will just write a note to the Newton News with all the details.

We can even arrange to take care of all your wedding photography. We are in contact with the best photographers in the area who will be pleased to quote you reasonable prices for recording your special day.

Get in touch with the "news" GET IN THE NEWS!

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Telephone: 3747 after 4.30

Childrens Painting Competition



Copy this drawing (no tracing) paint or crayon it and send it to the News Office and you may win a prize.

A prize will be given to the best in each age group but other prizes will be awarded for good efforts.

Name Age
Address



Military Award

On Tuesday 17th November, Chief Technician Michael Daly was presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal at Royal Air Force, Cottesmore, Oakham, Rutland by the Station Commander, Group Captain L. G. A. Bastard A.F.C.
Chief Technician Daly (34) joined the Royal Air Force in 1952 as a Boy Entrant and has seen service in Germany and Singapore, as well as Stations in the United Kingdom. He is at present employed as an aircraft fitter (airframe) servicing the Argosy aircraft of No. 115 Squadron at Cottesmore, which fly on a world-wide schedule to check radar and navigation aids. In the past he has worked on numerous aircraft from fighters (Hunter) to transport (Beverly).
He lives in married quarters at Cottesmore with his wife Iris (nee Hindmarch), whose parents live at 30 Jackson Place, Newton Aycliffe.

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Five week wait for L-Test

L-drivers were having to wait up to 10 weeks in some parts of Britain for the official driving test, the RAC reported this month.

A survey carried out by the Club at the end of summer amongst 352 test centres in England, Scotland and Wales, showed that the average waiting period for the whole country was 5.2 weeks.

But the RAC warned the Government that it would carry out another survey in the

Spring to check the situation again.

A spokesman for the RAC said: "We want to make sure the Government does not increase the waiting periods in order to keep the cost of the administration down."

"With £2½ million additional income likely to result from raising the test fee from 35s to 65s in January, motorists will justifiably expect a vastly improved service and short waiting periods at all centres—a matter of great concern also to the 4,500 RAC Registered Driving Instructors."

"They will also expect the Government to ensure the test service is administered in a way which will not result in any further increases of fees for many years to come."

The longest delays were in the Metropolitan area, which had an average waiting period of 7.3 weeks and where delays of up to 10 weeks were being experienced. There were similar delays in the West Midlands and in the Western Counties making the averages in these areas 6.3 and 5.5 weeks respectively.

The shortest waiting period was in other parts of South East England where the average was 3.4 weeks.

New Hotel Opens

Hardwick Hall Hotel, the ancestral home of the Viscounts Boyne, lies in beautiful parkland on the Sedgefield By-Pass. It has recently been opened to provide 'good food and comfort for people, at reasonable prices.' Listed as of special architectural and historic interest, Hardwick Hall was built in the 18th century and enjoys uninterrupted views of woods and parks which contain a large serpentine lake with Venetian bridges and statuary, a gazebo and a temple. The management say "if you want to live like a Lord and have even just a wee bit of good life, good living in Country Estate comfort, pay a visit to Hardwick Hall. Hot soups and stews from iron cauldrons hanging over an open log fire and a variety of foods."

I was most impressed with the quality of the food and service when lunching there recently. I would recommend readers to try it for an evening meal. They serve multi-course dinners and quick grills, and have various bars set in different atmospheres to suit all tastes. Well worth a visit!

Pretty Newtonian



MARGORY WAREHAM

Our 18 year old Pretty Newtonian works at GEC along with her sister, mother, two aunts and cousin! She lives at 31 Priestman Road and is an ex-pupil of Ferryhill Grammar School. Margory has no boy friend at the moment and no wonder, she baby sits at least 5 nights a week. Her hobbies include needlework and swimming and has an ambition to visit Canada where she has relatives.

Best Wish for a Happy Christmas from
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