

newton news

Is it worth it?

Less than 550 people in Newton Aycliffe buy the Evening Despatch and the figures show no apparent increase on Tuesday evenings when a special column on town news appears.

We print these facts to put the writer of this column and the articles he writes in perspective. The continued attacks by Despatch reporter Peter Bibby on people in Newton Aycliffe are no doubt intended to increase circulation. It is easy to write scurrilous statements about almost anyone, the latest victim is chairman of the A.D.C. Dennis Stevenson who is accused of producing nothing but a "cover up job" during the 8 months he has been in office. It is accepted that news-

papers thrive on stories of other peoples troubles and often claim justification for their blurb by inferring that "it is in the public interest."

To repeat all Mr. Bibby wrote would only increase the circulation of his word and give him the mistaken impression we take note of what he says.

We rise to the defence of victims of his vindictive work for the benefit of the few who buy the Despatch and the victims themselves so that they may be assured of support and a fair hearing from Newton Press.

People holding public office do not always have suitable opportunities to tell the general public what is going on behind the scenes.

One thing must be said in favour of Dennis Stevenson. He has made more contact with the people in 8 months than all his predecessors put together, since the town was born.

THE "NEWS" ASKS IF WE SHOULD CONCERN OURSELVES WITH 'DESPATCH' COMMENTS

Mr. Stevenson was appointed to the post of Chairman of Aycliffe Development Corporation because of proven ability and not because it was thought that he had a magic wand.

Let us not be deceived by sensation seeking writers such as Mr. Bibby who is just trying to earn his daily bread. We are consoled by the knowledge that his writings are read by only a very few people in the town, but we are concerned by the distorted image he presents to outsiders.

FOURTH - HAND INFORMATION

Social Development Officer of the Corporation, Mr. Harry Robinson told us of the barrier of mistrust which exists between officials of the town and Mr. Bibby.

"It is for this reason that other papers get the news first whilst Mr. Bibby relies on rumour and fourth hand information and is obliged to fill his column, not with a diary of town events, but derogatory articles on public figures" said Mr. Robinson.

The Corporation in Churchill House is an easy target—the bogey man we blame for every little thing. Nice people as individuals—but as a body they become a living Jekyll and Hyde with Dennis Stevenson at the head as 'King of the Bogeys'.

Continued on back page



Married at St. Andrews Church, Aycliffe on July 1st, Miss A. Price of Macmillan Road and Mr. K. Nelson of 6 Allan Walk, Newton Aycliffe.

Pictured with them is the Grandmother of the bride who lives in Canada. Photo: Bill Roberts

ADC & RDC to finish Sports Complex in one go

Rent Office moved to save money

Good news from Churchill House this week that the building of Phase 2 of the Recreational Complex will follow immediately Phase 1 is completed.

The Corporation have agreed to make way for the building by moving the Rent Office and Housing Department to temporary premises in the town centre. The R.D.C. agreed to this after finding they will save thousands of pounds by the move.

"It may cost money and a little inconvenience to move the Rent Office, but the saving in the long term is so great that the R.D.C. and A.D.C. have agreed to take this initiative" Ken Allan told Newton Press this week.

Phase 2 of the Sports Centre was to follow after a period of time when Phase 1 was completed.

Apparently the saving of money will come from keeping the cranes and equipment in position and of course with labour and materials on the increase it is common sense to do the job while everything is available.

The Corporation are looking for a suitable place for the Rent Office until the permanent site on the old Dalton Way is built.

In addition to the completion of the Recreational Complex will come more shops. The Corporation are providing shopping units at the Beveridge Way end of the Phase 2 and are involved in the building with Darlington Rural District Council.

It is excellent news and a pleasure to commend the initiative taken by Aycliffe Development Corporation and Darlington Rural District Council.

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Promotion for
Supermarket
Supervisor

Mrs. E. Meadows who has been Supervisor at Brough's Beveridge Way for past seven years has been appointed the Manageress at Broughs, Neville Parade. She was presented with a Reading Lamp and a Glass Ornament on behalf of the Manager and Staff and wished every success in her new appointment.

Raffle Winner

The raffle for a box of groceries organised by Mr. D. Harle of St. Clares Church was won by number 329.

A Paratrooper was killed in Belfast . . .

There can be few better examples of how the Royal British Legion is equally concerned with the young soldier of today, as with those of World War 1 and 2, than the case of a paratrooper killed while off duty in Belfast.

One evening in May, 1970, Pte. Peter Docherty, aged 19, of the 2nd. Parachute Regt., was quietly reading a newspaper in a Belfast bar, when an Irishman pushed a broken beer glass in his face, killing him instantly.

His attacker was acquitted on a charge of murder, but sentenced to five years imprisonment for manslaughter, evidence showed that, while Pte. Docherty was with Army companions, he took no part in their conversation, nor in the accidental knocking over of a glass of beer, some of which spilt onto the accused. When asked by the Judge why he struck Pte. Docherty, the accused replied that he couldn't remember what happened.

Naturally, the parents were distressed, but what upset them more was a report in their local newspaper, which described the incident as a "Pub brawl". The final shock was to be informed that the Army disassociated itself from any responsibility for his death. This

case for appeal, Col. Hughes wrote personally to Mr. Paul Dean, M.P., Minister of State for Pensions, and also the Ministry of Defence.

Col. Hughes submitted that while Pte. Docherty was "off duty" at the time (May 1970) in so far as any soldier could ever be said to be off duty in Northern Ireland during the present emergency, he went on to suggest that, with hindsight the violent attack on him might now be interpreted "with a quite different outcome in the way of compensation and pension."

Pointing out that the parents felt they had been badly treated by the State which took their son to Northern Ireland in the course of his duties, Col. Hughes concluded "I feel strongly that common humanity demands that the sense of genuine hurt by the State felt by the parents should be assuaged in some way. Expressions of sympathy and quoting regulations would seem to me to be quite inadequate to meet the needs of this case."

Mr. Paul Dean has now told Col. Hughes, and the family, that after reconsidering all the evidence it has now been decided that Mr. Docherty's son's death should be accepted as due to service. It means that

Contributed by

G. WILKIE

Welfare Officer, Royal British Legion
Newton Aycliffe

means that should the need ever arise, the parents would be denied a war dependants pension on the grounds that their son's death was not due to service.

Mr. Docherty, Senr. challenged this decision, pointed out that at the time his son was serving in Belfast, the Army Commander's policy was to use his men in an attempt of fraternisation with the Irish people. "His men were encouraged to go about openly, unarmed, and to make friends" he wrote, "It would be fair to claim," he added "that in a way my son's death was the result of an experiment that failed."

When the Ministry refused to accept this plea, Mr. Docherty turned to the Middlesbrough Branch of the Royal British Legion for help and advice. Their delegate, at the North Riding County Conference last November brought the case to the notice of our National vice-Chairman, Col. J. Hughes. While asking the Pensions Dept. at National Headquarters to prepare a

should the family's financial circumstances change at any time in the future, either Mr. Docherty, or Mrs. Docherty, if she became a widow, could claim a parents war pension having regard to the support which their son gave in his lifetime or might reasonably have been expected to give his parents had he lived.

Once again the Royal British Legion has shown how it cares for the rights of all ex-servicemen and women. Much of our welfare work cannot be measured in terms of financial assistance for none was required. It does demonstrate, however, that the experience and "know how" acquired over 50 years as an ex-services organisation can be put to use on behalf of those who call for our help. And a good reason why all those men and women who have served at any time should join us. They do not have to be members to receive help, but in the Legion they can play their part in this fine work; and they'll know just where to turn if ever they need help themselves.

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Walnut Dining Room Suite—table, 4 chairs, sideboard & built in cocktail cabinet. £15 o.n.o. Tel: 2615.

Bush T.V. for spare parts — offers to 47 Cleveland Place after 5 p.m.

Velocette Viper 350 £55 o.n.o. 47 Silverdale Place after 7 p.m. also sunhouse electric fire £25.

Carpet 3½ yds x 2½ yds multi-colour and felt, perfect cond. £8. Occasional table, stalk type, glass top solid satin walnut £4.50. Adams, 6 Greathead Crescent after 5.

Chad Valley slide projector & 30 childrens slides 7 pictures per slide, also Doris Camera with flash attachments. All very good cond. 11 Wolsey Close Tel: 3739 after 4 p.m. weekdays.

Wedding Dress white Empire line with open fronted skirt edged with ribbon lace. Bodice in ribbon lace, pearl tiara and short veil, bust 38 £14. Tel: 4092.

Large dropside cot & mattress electric Iron, good condition Will separate, 24 Lee Green

Baby Walker with feeding tray never used £3.50 5 Eldon Close after 6 p.m.

22" Doric T.V. as new £30 o.n.o. 93 Cleveland Place, Tel: 3915 Wednesday or after 5 p.m.

Lawn Mower £3 31 Marshall Road.

Kitchen Table £1 2 Bridesmaid dresses £2 each. Pair Silver shoes size 5 50p. 2 Lurex Dresses £1. Sun Canopy brown & white 50p. 57 Hatfield Road.

WANTED

Electric Sewing Machine, good condition. 36 Bury Road.

Tennis Racquet for young beginner. Write with details & price to Box T50 Newton Press, Greenwell Road.

Caravan Toilet Tent, Tel: Aycliffe 4495 after 4.30 p.m.

Engagements

BYERS — HOWES
Mr & Mrs E. Byers of 8 Butler Road are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Susan to Mr. Stanley Howes of Darlington.

Work Wanted

Hand Knitting done at 5p per oz. Baby clothes, jumpers etc. (No heavy pattern, Farisles, Aran or knitting on 4 needles) Call any morning but Fridays, any evenings after 4 p.m., Tues, Wed. & Friday afternoons at Mrs. Mason 96 Linden Place.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Relive the American Civil War join in public battle, displays in Periodic Costumes of the Confederates (grey) and Union (Blue). Be a 'Johnny Reb' or a 'Billy Yank' for more information contact 154 Linden Place after 5 p.m.

The "Good Old Days" return

Do you enjoy the mock Old Tyme Music Hall on T.V.? If so then you can join in something similar at the "Good Old Days" production by the local Operatic Society.

The show is on this week end at the Avenue Comprehensive School with emphasis on singing and comedy.

Press Officer Bob Soulsby tells us that this is the show where the members really let their hair down and they and their audience have a wonderful time.

"Forget the £ and float away yourselves in an old fashioned laugh. The roof is insured in case you lift it" said Bob.

Admission prices: 25p. OAP's & Children 20p. Friday and Saturday, 14th and 15th at 7.15 p.m.

Handicapped girl asks for work

Judith is the victim of a car accident which has left her partially paralysed and confined mainly to her wheelchair.

But she is able to type and would like to work, by offering her services addressing envelopes.

If any reader knows of a company who could give Judith work to do at home, please contact Newton Press.

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First Aid Station proposed for the Town

Counc. Mrs. Meadows at a recent Council meeting asked if it is possible to have a First Aid Station on the town to deal with accidents.

The Council resolved to take the matter up with the appropriate authority.

Some four years ago the Newtonian suggested the same thing after a spate of accidents where delays in the arrival of ambulances brought some concern to those involved.

At the time, we suggested it was common sense, in a town full of kiddies prone to accidents, to have a clinic or even a "Cottage Hospital" on the spot to deal with casualties immediately.

It has taken a long time to get to the Council Chambers, but it is better late than never, and we support Mrs Meadows in her move to have the facility provided.

Helen wins her first Beauty Contest



18 month old Helen Brumwell of Silkin Way winner of Laws Stores Baby Competition, organised by Heinz Beans. Mrs. Brumwell received a cheque for £30 from Mrs J. A. Taylor wife of Managing Director of Laws Stores. Photo: Sonny Steele

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Wenton's SALE

Wenton's SALE

Wenton's SALE

Wenton's SALE

A Liberal View

by BRIAN ROBERTS

"Council could run housing function much more cheaply"

We believe the Parish Council is doing a good job by and large but it could do a much better job and it is for this reason we combined with the Independants and Conservatives to take control from a Labour Party so deeply divided it was incapable of carrying out policies necessary in the Parish.

The public may be worried by the image the Council has but should bear in mind before the advent of the Liberal Party Council meetings were then merely a rubber stamp for what Counc. Cessford and his friends had decided outside the Council Chambers, it was common for meetings to last ten minutes.

Now Council decisions take place in a blaze of publicity not a hole in a corner and I am sure it makes sense to behave in this open way the disadvantage being that should an interesting clash occur the 90% of constructive work is not reported, so the public gain a

wrong impression.

The basic responsibilities of the Council are in the areas of recreation, parks, street lighting and allotments although they may make representation on any subjects in the interest of their parishioners to any higher authority in the land—and do!

The recreation committee are lucky to have David Rowe Recreational Organiser who works exclusively for the young people. I wonder how many children would have landed in court and how much vandalism has been prevented by the activities of this committee.

Parks and Cemeteries; which is the executive responsibility of Mr. Swinburne is another success story, you only have to look at our play and park areas. Did you know that the efficiency of the department is such that it is employed by the Rural Councils of nearby villages.

The same can be said of the

lighting committee whose chief executive is Mr. Crane. Street lights which go out are much more quickly replaced than in other towns and the whole thing is done at about three fifths of the price the Electricity Board charges.

The Council has as its chief executive officer the clerk John Farquhar who has the job of seeing that all the departments function properly as well as duties too numerous to mention, but I would like to say that his brilliant negotiation with the Development Corporation enabled us to acquire the lakes area at a very reasonable price.

One final thought, would it not be better to have the decision process of Aycliffe Development Corporation in constant public gaze, and could I suggest that if our Council were running the housing function the job would be done better and much more cheaply.



A happy and memorable occasion for Mr. and Mrs. Stone of 5 Christopher Walk who celebrated their Golden Wedding on July 1st. They have lived in Newton Aycliffe for 18 years. Photo: Sonny Steele

BEAUMONT HILL

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Gentleman requires full board and lodging for 2 years. Contact, Mr. John Telfer, Branthwaite, Lingfield, Workington, Cumberland.

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Unique Item for Philatelists

A first for the North East?

There has been an excellent response to an article in our last issue appealing for ex Jazz band members to train as American style Majorettes for next years carnival parade.

Mr. Vince Kilpatrick, a member of the Festival Committee, is getting the team together and organising training schedules.

"The response has been so good I have increased the team from six to twelve" said Vince.

What is required now is financial help to buy uniforms and a place to practice, so Vince is seeking sponsors, donations and looking to one of the youth clubs to supply a hall for a short time periodically.

The idea is quite good and the high stepping girls will make the Carnival Parade even more attractive.

"If it comes off it will be the first time in the North East that a team has been formed" said Vince.

Can you help?—If so contact Newton Press, and we will pass on your name to Mr. Kilpatrick.

A special souvenir "first day cover" type envelope is to be issued by the RAC to commemorate the Club's 75th Anniversary.

Copies of the envelope will be posted to philatelists from the RAC's own Post Office at its London headquarters in Pall Mall on December 8th—the day on which the Club was founded—and will bear an official one-day only postmark.

Announcing this at the opening of the RAC's 75th Anniversary Exhibition at Leeds, Mr. Nelson Mills Baldwin, the Club's Secretary General, said that as an added interest for collectors a limited number of souvenir covers would be carried on a 75 year old Daimler car taking part in the London to Brighton Run for veteran cars on November 5th.

The car, owned by Mr. Denis Flather, a Sheffield businessman, is on display in the RAC Exhibition at Leeds and is featured on the envelope. Application forms for the souvenir covers are available at any RAC office.

TYRES — TYRES

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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.

Kennels Holme Mill Farm. Aycliffe. Poodle specialists expert trimming all breeds by appointment. Collection arranged Roland Brown, Tel: Aycliffe 4850.

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Sleeping Bags 38 oz weight with all round zip by Polywarm. Our price £4.50, 2 for £8.50 also camping accessories camping Gaz stoves refills etc. Hackett & Baines Beveridge Way. Tel: 3649 or Shildon 2671.

Durex Gossamer, 3 dozen £1.05. Fetherlite, Nu-Form 60p dozen. — BAYNES, 16 Chester Avenue, Whitefield, Manchester.

Start Living - Start Dancing at Nora Capps Dancing Academy 5 Lee Green, Newton Aycliffe. Ballroom dancing classes. Adult beginners Wednesdays 8.30 p.m. Fee 30p. Private lessons by appointment. Tel: Aycliffe 2085. Childrens classes, Mon Wed., Thurs. 4.30 p.m. Sat 10 a.m. fee 15p.

Travel Book your United Express Coach from John Hunter & Sons, 66 Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe.

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"Rome wasn't built in a day" - C.S.S.

Dear Sir,

The article concerning the new Chairman of the Aycliffe Development Corporation, written by Mr. Bibby and appearing in a recent issue of the Evening Despatch, should not pass without comment.

The local Council of Social Service has cause to be grateful to Mr. Stevenson. Despite heavy commitments, at the request of the Executive Committee, he readily came along to meet them and discuss a number of problems. He has arranged to meet all the Social Workers who are involved with the Town and the immediate area. The C.S.S. knows that he has already met officers and members of the organisations of the Town—something unheard of before he came! It is also interesting to note that the only appli-

cation for a grant from the Development Corporation from the C.S.S. with which he has dealt, has been subject to increase.

Mr. Bibby uses an old saying "You can't fool all the people all the time" which is true—but there is also another old saying, equally true, — "Rome was not built in a day".

I can assure you that there is every confidence that in due course, the people of this town will derive benefit from the "know-how" and energy of Mr. Stevenson.

Rev. Alan Williams
Chairman

Alec Belton, Secretary

Thankyou to Monarchs from ex-member

Dear Sir,

May I through your columns express my thanks to the Monarchs Jazz Band and their committee for the enjoyable times I had whilst serving in the band.

Also a very big thankyou for the presentation made when I left, and to wish them all every success in the future.

Julie Hutson

Neville Pharmacy

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Round Table take boys camping

A group of twelve lucky boys will be treated to a camping adventure this weekend.

Round Table members under the auspices of the Parish Council are taking the lads from the town to a site at Frosterly.

Brian Gargate a Police Sergeant on the town and Community Service convenor for Round Table is organising the camp.

Plenty of "Bangers" eggs, jam and bread have been ordered and it promises to be as enjoyable for Tablers as the boys.

David Rowe, recreation organiser for the Council, is helping to arrange many such camps throughout the summer.

The Council have purchased tents and equipment and given David every assistance to enable as many as possible get full enjoyment from the camping outings.

The Needy Families Fund has also helped to finance one of the trips, and if any organisation or welfare officer feel they would like to support these camps which give children a short holiday, please send your donations to the Needy Families Fund, c/o C.S.S. Office, 9 Isherwood Close.

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Newton Press

is the

NEWTONIAN

due out on

July 28th

Copy should reach us by

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Wenton's SALE

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3 piece Suite in DRALON
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SAVE £7.76 on this
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BEDROOM CARPET with FOAM BACK
only £1.15 sq. yard

Wenton's SALE

Successful Summer Fete

at St. Marys School

For a first attempt the organisers of St. Mary's Mammoth Summer Fete can congratulate themselves on a job well done.

There was a lot to see and buy—the weather was not excellent, but regarding the sort of unsettled weather we have been getting, was the best available.

Fr. Anderson is highly delighted at the success of the event "Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and all ages joined in the fun" said Father Anderson.

The committee were quite staggered by the amount

raised—over £480. "This amount was far beyond our expectations and I would like to thank all who helped and supported the event" said Fr. Anderson.

In the evening the Disco and Barbecue were well attended and enjoyed by all.

The money will be used for repairs and decoration of St. Marys Church.

Already many parishioners are asking for a similar event next year, and if the organisers can stand the pace the Fete at St. Marys could become an Annual event.

THE NORTH BRITON - AYCLIFFE Tel, 2281

Tudor Restaurant

HAVE A NIGHT OUT
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Chicken — Barron of Beef — Pork Cutlets — Lamb Cutlets
Pigeons — Peaches — Apples — Bananas — Oranges
Cherries — Chunks of Cheese — Butter — Honey — Baked
Potatoes — Chunks of Bread — Ye Olde Mugge of Olde
Ale or Northern Mead
ALL IN ONE MEAL!

For Xmas or New Year you should book NOW!



Continued from front page

Has Dennis got a Magic Wand?

There is a move for the Corporation to take over the development of the Industrial Estate. Will it be a good thing for Newton Aycliffe? We think it will and firmly believe the progress of the town and the industrial estate should be marching hand in hand.

But, even if this does happen, it will not necessarily create any substantial rise in employment. Let us face the facts; we are rapidly moving into a technological age where the work is done by machines, not men and women.

This is an unescapable fact which will not be changed—unless Dennis Stevenson has a magic wand!

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Notice to Tenants receiving Supplementary Benefit

Concern is being felt that some old aged pensioners receiving supplementary benefit are uncertain of the amount of rent to pay.

The Ministry of Social Security apply for the rebate on behalf of the tenant, and the supplementary benefit and rent are then reduced by the amount of the rebate.

It is, therefore, only necessary for the tenant to pay the reduced rent, as shown on the Rent Card, as this is the amount taken into account by the Ministry of Social Security.

**A. V. WILLIAMS
General Manager**



Counc. Fred Stott put himself in the stocks at Elmfield School Fete and became the target for eggs and wet sponges. Children, sadists, and anti-Labour forces took the opportunity to get at Fred at a nominal fee. Top marks for courage and sportsmanship Councillor.
Photo: Sonny Steele

Corporation help Festival Fund

The proceeds from the Festival Fortnight were boosted recently by an amount of £80 donated by Aycliffe Development Corporation.

The Festival Committee are more than grateful for this, because of the drop in revenue this year due to bad weather.

Strawberry Evening at St. Clares

A Strawberry Evening will be held on Thursday 20th July from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event is being organised by the Ladies Badminton Club who meet each Wednesday evening in the Church Hall. Tickets are 15p, but admission can be obtained by payment at the door on the night.

Fun at Elmfield

Three shy little girls in fancy dress pose for the camera at Elmfield School Summer Fete held this month.

Photo: Sonny Steele.



CANOPUS NOTES

Last Saturday a bus load of members and their families attended the Air Show at Topcliffe and despite the overcast conditions, they enjoyed the flying and static displays.

On Sunday the Regional Childrens Sports Day is being held at Crimdon Dene, and transport has been arranged by Ted Hutchinson and Eddie Swift.

Following this we have a quiet time, principally as a result of the Summer holidays, but I would like members to take note of the future functions being organised.

The Ladies Section hold a Tramps and Vamps Ball on August 26th, followed by the Battle of Britain "Miss RAFA Dance" on September 9th with a Fancy Dress Ball on 16th September.

With regards to the Tramps and Fancy Dress Dances, may I ask members to be more actively concerned. Let's fill the hall with competitors, instead of depending on "the few."

I sincerely hope too, that we have a good entry for "Miss RAFA" because there's no doubt about it, there are some real "Smashers" come into the branch. So rally round girls.

Again I make my request to any member prepared to assist during the Battle of Britain activities to give their names to the Battle of Britain Committee.

Finally I would like to wish all members and their families, a happy holiday with bags of sunshine.

Tail End Charlie

FOR SALE

Baby Buddies all colours ready to train. £1 each. Zebra Finches, £1.25 per pair. 11, Clarence Corner

Yorkshire terrier puppies hopwood strain, Crufts winner, 3 Shafto Way.

Alsatian, 16 mth. old, bitch needs individual attention, good with children, excellent pedigree. Call after 6 p.m. 84 Oakfield.

2 Armchairs with dust covers, £2 245 Rowan Place.

Drop Leaf Dining table and 4 chair with black padded seats, offers, 2 Oakfield.

'Jones' Sewing Machine, good working order. £3, 2 Oakfield.

SOUTHERNE CLUB — LADIES SECTION DIARY

JULY
19th Visitors from Tindale Hospital. Tickets for Summer Trip to Seaton Carew, free to members children, final date for application.
26th & 2nd August: No meetings.

AUGUST
9th Committee Meeting. Factory fashions by Mrs Holmes
16th Bring and Buy, Mock Auction to raise funds for the childrens outing
23rd Usual Meeting
27th Childrens Outing
30th Westspring Party Plan

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