



COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**Friday  
March 29th**

1974

# The Newtonian

PRINTED BY

**Newton Press**

GREENWELL ROAD, NEWTON AYCLIFFE  
Telephone AYCLIFFE 2893



Mr Garry Philipson, new Chief Executive of Aycliffe and Peterlee Development Corporations, who took over his post earlier this month.

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# Rate increase shock

## BIGGEST INCREASE ON RECORD

Each householder in Newton Aycliffe faces a staggering rate increase estimated at an average of £1 per week extra payable from 1st April.

Sedgefield District Council is our new authority from April 1st, following the disbandment of Darlington R.D.C. in local government reorganisation.

The ADC have the job of collecting the rates from tenants on behalf of Sedgefield Council and no doubt will have to explain the increase in rates and not rent.

It is said that two can live almost as cheaply as one, and perhaps this is one of the reasons behind the re-organisation which brought about bigger populations under the control of the same number of administrators and better use of services. This makes good economic sense, and one should expect a reduction in costs and rates to ensue.

Unfortunately, for us, it has not turned out that way and we have the biggest increase ever.

We jump, in fact, from 35p to 62.5p in the £—a fantastic 78%!

### COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES

We could ask why 53 councillors should be allowed

£40,000 for expenses—a sum based on a £10 a day attendance fee? We could also ask why another £1,400 is set aside for telephones and rental charges?

We understand that the £10 a day is a recommended maximum and that telephone and other expenses be included in that figure.

The chairman of the finance committee in his report gives 5 reasons for the 78% increase.

1) Newton Aycliffe and Spennymoor Recreation Centres £146,000.

2) Council house improvements £223,000.

3) Parish Council assistance £184,000

4) Minor developments £113,000

5) Inflation, salary increases etc. £235,000.

Counc. Kath Taylor expressed her concern at the increase and criticised some of the expenditure, in particular Councillors' expenses.

"I have heard some call it a 'drop in the ocean,' but I

feel concerned at the amount and the additional expenses councillors can claim" said Counc. Taylor

The £40,000 may seem a 'drop in the ocean' but if these drops continue the result will be a flood with the ratepayer struggling to keep his head above water.

One redeeming factor for the lower paid—he can claim the increase back under the rate rebate scheme.

This 78% has to be questioned and there is no doubt that there will be strong protests loud and long casting definite doubt on the benefit of these local government changes—Changes which brought this town against the express will of the people, through a plebiscite, under the authority of Sedgefield District Council.

## WATER RATE UP TOO!

In addition to the shock increase in general rate, the water rate is to rise from 6p to 7½p in the £, a 25% increase.

## A.D.C reply to "authorised vandalism"

# The town must be flexible

The construction work at the corner of Isherwood Close will provide parking space for 31 cars and should be completed early next month. This will help relieve traffic congestion in the vicinity of the surgery at Bewick Crescent and will provide extra parking space to serve the expanding town centre. The Development Corporation is currently engaged on work to add 130 parking spaces in the central area to meet the expected rise in demand after the opening of the indoor recreation centre and the shopping area extension.

Although Newton Aycliffe is 25 years old, it is still very much a New Town and the shape of the town must be flexible to meet changing needs. When the central area was planned originally, the population of the town was set to reach a maximum of 20,000. Seven years ago the figure was revised to 45,000. It is plain that a centre planned for 20,000 people could not be expected to cope with more than twice that number.

The grassed area that is being reduced to provide extra car parking was originally laid out with provision for possible redevelopment in the

future. Now we are taking up part of that option. But Newton Aycliffe still has an attractive town centre enhanced by the trees and landscaped areas that are characteristic of the town. It is not the intention of the Development Corporation to make any major change in this appearance, after spending many years creating it.

We regret the inconvenience caused to pedestrians by the closure of the footpath during construction work on the car park. An alternative will be provided as soon as possible.

K. McKay P.R.O.

## JOIN

## THE BRIGADE

On Easter Monday the "Radio Revellers" from Ferryhill present a Variety Show for the senior citizens at Shaf-tel House.

This group performs, free of charge, around the area at old folks homes and clubs.

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## GREENFIELD

## JUMBLE SALE

Greenfield Community Association are holding their first Jumble Sale on Saturday 30th March from 10 am to 12 noon in the Redhouse Hut. Admission 3p in aid of Assoc. funds. Anyone who has any jumble they wish to donate, if they would contact Rev. J. Ingham at 11 Burnhope; Mr Metcalfe 92 Cleveland Place or Mrs Enid Mackey at 11 Yoden Court, Byerley Park, arrangement will be made for collection.



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## Double menace!

Strict car parking restrictions introduced in recent week in the vicinity of the town centre have given our two traffic wardens a new reason for living.

Their yellow banded hats will be watched for more now that their areas of authority are increased.

## A NIGHT OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

A castle, pigs, Hussars, hidden treasure, a zany Mayor, the delightful music of Johann Strauss, plus the enthusiasm of your own Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society. Add them together, season with a fair amount of comedy and the result can be sampled at the Avenue Comp. School, Central Avenue at 7.15 p.m. from Tuesday 16th to Saturday 20th April when the Operatic Soc. present The Gipsy Baron. If you enjoy this show as much as we have enjoyed rehearsals then you will have a pleasant evening.

So, if you're looking for a night out for all the family during Easter Week, do come along and support us. All seats supplied with a cushion at no extra charge. Just get comfy, sit back and enjoy the show.

Tickets can be obtained from any member of the Soc. or from the Information Centre from April 8th.  
A.W.

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## AYCLIFFE PUPILS WIN TROPHIES

The Newton Aycliffe elocution class taught by Mrs Pauline Moses received success on first attempt with two entries at the Darlington Festival carrying off 2 awards.

Belinda Atkinson of Thickley Park and Patricia Ann Oldfield of 5 Baliol Road have received only one years tuition at the new class operating at the Over 60's Club each Thursday at 7.30 p.m.

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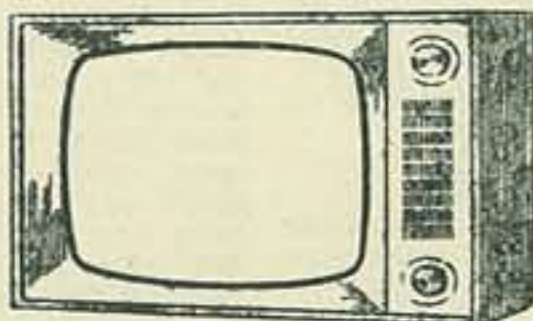
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**LETTERS**

**The boys  
from Belfast**

Dear Sir,

You may be interested in the following. On 16th April 1974, a party of boys representing all Belfast Junior schools (therefore inter-denominational) will arrive in Durham City for a series of football matches against Junior School district teams in the North East.

The football includes a match at Elmfield on Wednesday 17th April v Newton Aycliffe, kick off at 11 a.m.

In addition to the football matches there will be a series of events aimed at providing hospitality for our visitors. For example, Newton Aycliffe Parish Council is donating commemorative plaques to the visitors.

As a friend of the leader of the Belfast party of 16 boys and 6 teachers, I have organised the varied activities with the object of giving boys and teachers a memorable visit to the North East. Any support you could give in publicising the events would, I imagine, encourage bigger attendances at the matches and give a thrill not only to the Belfast boys, but to our own lads as well.

R. T. Bloomfield  
Elmfield Junior School

**From Baha'i Writings**

"Ye are the fruits of one tree, and leaves of one branch."—Bahau'llah.

Enquiries to 81 Hawkshead Place, Newton Aycliffe.

**Speaking of  
eyesores...**

The rumpus in our last paper over the tearing up of a green to provide a car park is replied to in this issue by the Corporation.

What might become an even bigger row for the residents in the area is the dilapidated dis-used sub station which has been under a demolition order for over 6 months. It is a terrible eyesore and no one can understand why this is not pulled down and tidied up while the workmen are in the area.

Surely it will be more costly and more of a nuisance to make this two separate jobs.

**IN THE SWIM  
AGAIN!**

The Adult swimming classes start again at Sugar Hill School on Tuesday 23rd April and Wednesday 24th April at 7.30 p.m. Enrolment on the first class night of each session with a fee of £2.20 for full course.

**WE'VE HAD OUR  
CHIPS!**

There seems little chance of fish and chips being available from Bousefields ever again.

We understand the costs involved in providing fish and chip meals is fast becoming too expensive.

No longer can this type of meal be termed cheap. The rising cost of fat, fish and potatoes make this business unprofitable.

Trends are changing and it seems the Chop Suey "take away meals" are ousting the traditional "chippie" in the High Street. Will it happen in Newton Aycliffe? I have often noticed oriental types looking round, but I fear rents maybe too high.

We certainly need something in the ready cooked meal line and we feel sure the A.D.C. are aware of it too.

Meanwhile we do without and wait.



When Development Corporation chairman, Dennis Stevenson was presented with a son and heir on Feb. 28th there was the inevitable suggestions that the child should be named Edward, Harold or Jeremy. "But Charlotte and I decided to be completely independent and vote for Alexander" said the chairman.

The baby weighed in at 8½ pounds, and both mother and child are thriving

**MUSIC SOCIETY**

County Chamber Orchestra concert, Woodham Comp. at 7.45 p.m. Tuesday 2nd April Admission FREE

**TRADE ADS**

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

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Horndale Dancing Academy. Lessons in tap, ballet, acrobatic, modern stage. Classes in Redhouse Hall, Silverdale Place. Babies 5.7 p.m. Juniors 7-8 p.m., Seniors 8-9 p.m. Pupils should arrive 5 minutes before classes are due to start. Enquiries to Mrs Robinson, 249 Scholars Path

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Married at N/A Methodist Church on Sat. March 15th were Mr Peter Winter and Miss Joyce Langley.

Joyce is an employee at Madelines Hairdressing salon and Peter is a member of the BXL staff.

The reception was held at the Methodist Church Hall.

Photo: Roberts Snr.

**HOUSE  
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From 3 bedroom, Pocklington (near York) To 3 bedroom anywhere in N/A. Enquiries to 40 Denison Road, Pocklington, York

From 2 bedroom bungalow 59 Washington Cres. To 1 or 2 bedroom bungalow in or near N/A, must be near shops.

From self contained flat, one bedroom, c/h, Spennymoor To similar flat or 2 bedroom house in Newton Aycliffe. Box No. EM2, Newton Press

Aycliffe Development Corporation  
Estates Department

**FILING & GENERAL DUTIES  
CLERK**

Applications are invited for the above post within the Estates Dept. of the Corporation, at a salary in accordance with Whitley Council for New town staff, Grade 1 (£690-£1,464 per annum) with commencing salary according to age and experience.

Housing to rent available if required. Appointment subject to NJC and Whitley Council Conditions and to satisfactory medical examination. Superannuation facilities available. Applications in writing, together with the names and addresses of two referees, to arrive by Monday April 8th 1974.

**K. L. ALLAN**  
Director of Administration  
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**news mart**

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**PUBLIC  
NOTICES**

Mrs Ann Swain, 169 West Auckland Road, Darlington late of Liddell Close N/A.

To whom it may concern, It has come to my notice that someone is spreading malicious gossip about me. I hereby give notice that I will take legal action against anyone who brings my name into their conversations 19/3/74

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1964 Vauxhall Cresta, in good running order. Wings need slight attention £35 ono Apply 64 Silverdale, Place.

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Babys carry cot, grey, and stand £1.50. Childs 22" coat turq. fur with white trim, matching hat, worn twice £2. 38 Lightfoot Road

1966 V4 Corsair, good running order but rear end damaged £60 ono 16 St Godrics Road.

Ladies full length cape with hood, fur trimmed. Cherry red lined, size 12 £7 Tel: 4011

New bird cage with toys £1.50 59 Washington Crescent.

Billiard cue and case £3. Records, speed 78 £3 lot 68 Bewick Crescent.

Girl Guide uniform, blouse size 30", neck tie and hat £1 249 Scholars Path

Small modern oak sideboard v.g. cond. £5 ono 10 High St., Aycliffe Village.

Lewis Chess set, reproduction British Museum, virtually unbreakable, play or display £10 Tel: 4721

Jones electric sewing machine with attachments £20. 9 Biscop Crescent

Silver Cross high pram, good cond., cream with green hood apron and bag, pillow mattress and canopy £10. Tel: 4050 after 2 p.m. Will deliver.

Tropical fish, large fan tailed guppies, semi-luminous, blues, greens, reds and others 50p pair or 3 pairs for £1 2 Bewick Cres. Tel: 5580

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