

newton news



Only the building was destroyed

The fire which devastated Elmfield School was sad news to all, but no one feels the blow harder than Headmaster Robert Bloomfield.

Since taking the headship he has brought about revolutionary changes. Teaching attitudes, approach, and co-operation with parents has benefited all who came into contact with Elmfield.

One of his first accomplishments at Elmfield was to form a parent-teacher group. His Home-School Association has

been highly successful and not only have they raised money for extra equipment, but developed a social climate which is a tremendous help to community life in that area.

Various functions at the School, including fetes, pantomimes, etc., have always had full support from people in the Elmfield area.

County Counc. Alex Cessford is full of praise for the school and Mr Bloomfield.

"The response from parents to this recent tragedy is proof of the successful relationship he has with pupil's parents," said Mr Cessford.

"The enthusiasm the parents have shown to the Phoenix Fund" should be encouragement to Mr Bloomfield," he added.

The 'Phoenix Fund' has been opened following a packed meeting last week when parents and staff got together to discuss the implications of the fire.

Already support is pouring in for the fund and on the back page Mr Bloomfield writes his own personal thanks.

We are confident Elmfield School will work to remain alive and active during rebuilding. The pupils may be split and sent to various other buildings to learn, but parents can be assured by the efforts of the staff of Elmfield that the standard and ideals will never be lost.

The fire only destroyed the building which housed the talent and ideas of Mr Bloomfield and his staff.

In the case of Elmfield the School is certainly not just the building.

We at Newton Press can express for the whole of Newton Aycliffe the regret and sympathy for Headmaster, staff, children and parents of children who have suffered this set back.

May we also wish, for all that Elmfield School rises like the "Phoenix from the fire" to better days.
(See photos, page two)

Give Blood - Save Life!

Blood donors urgently needed in Newton Aycliffe . . .

If you are in good health and aged between 18 and 60 years you will be most welcome to attend the following session—

ST CLARES CHURCH HALL
St Cuthberts Way, N/A

THURSDAY 20th FEBRUARY
from 3-4.30 and 5-7.00 p.m.

T.V.'s to rent

From 30p weekly
Wenton Electrics
Tel: 3612



Film star Christopher Lee, pictured on the set of his latest film "Man with the Golden Gun," takes a break from filming to browse through the Newton News.

Fire Station under fire

The Fire Station at Newton Aycliffe came under fire itself following the Elmfield School tragedy.

Rumours and allegations have been made against the local men who are said to have taken 30 minutes to get to the fire, causing the school to be totally destroyed.

We have made our own investigations and found some differing points of view.

"From the alarm being raised and the first tender 'booking in' at the blaze—a total of seven minutes elapsed," says the local fire station.

The "Booking in" procedure means that the tender had arrived, rolled out the hose and was operational. So in fact the time of arrival could be 4.5 minutes from receiving the call.

There is also, they state, no truth in the rumour that Bishop Auckland and Durham Fire Brigade were at the blaze first.

Residents in the immediate area say they raised the alarm

at 3.25 a.m. and again at 3.31 a.m.

There is a gap between those calls and the official 'booked call' at 3.46 a.m. from a panda car.

County Counc. Cessford who is Chairman of the Resources sub committee responsible for fire services in the County, is angry over the 'nasty remarks' and distress caused to Newton Aycliffe fire brigade.

"The fire station is never unmanned and only at night are some men 100 feet from the station," said Mr Cessford.

The information is recorded on tape and show the fire station were alerted by the police at 3.46 a.m. They were checking Stephenson Way school when they saw the blaze and raised the alarm.

Meanwhile, residents had seen the fire and they raised the alarm too. "All this happened simultaneously around 3.46 a.m.," said a police spokesman.

There is no record of any alarm until that time.

Latest Four charged

The culprits of the Elmfield School fire have been found thanks to local help given to the police.

Four youngsters under the age of 15 have been charged with burglary and arson.

It is unlikely these youngsters meant to burn the school down deliberately. More likely they were playing with fire and it got out of their control.

Please vote

The Bye-Election in Wards 9 and 10 for the Sedgfield District Council are hotly contested with all parties plus an Independent fighting to win the seats.

Each candidate will be canvassing the wards, so residents can expect to be pestered by knocks on the door until polling day, on Thursday 27th February.

It is not our intention to repeat what you will be told on the doorstep.

Pestered or not, it is important voters register their choice, so please vote!

5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The 'Daily Express' Tees-side Area 5-a-side football knock-out will be played in the Rec. Centre, new main sports hall, N/A on Sunday 9th March, 12.30 — 4.00 p.m.

23 games will be played and entry will be by ticket only.

Tickets may be obtained from the Council Offices, Upper Beveridge Way between the 17th and 28th February, 20p each.

ONE PARENT FAMILIES

In our next issue we will feature the success of the newly formed One Parent family group, which resulted from publicity in the Newton News.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

PLAY GROUP VACANCIES

Clarence Hall play group in Finchale Road will have vacancies after Easter. Anyone on the waiting list of other play groups are welcome to apply.

P. Irving,

Recreation Organiser.

P.O. Box 2, Council Offices,

Upper Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe,

County Durham DL5 4EF.

EXHIBITION

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FEBRUARY 14th — 24th 1975

1.00 — 9.00 p.m. daily

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APPOINTMENT OF MANUAL WORKERS

Applications are invited for the above appointments in accordance with the N.J.C. Conditions of Service, at a weekly wage of £30.80 for 40 hours. A spot bonus scheme of £4 a week will be payable following a satisfactory probationary period.

Written applications stating age and giving details of past and present employment together with the names and addresses of two referees should be forwarded to the undersigned not later than 24th February, 1975. The positions are permanent and superannuable.

Canvassing disqualifies

J. D. Farquhar,
Town Clerk.

P.O. Box No. 2, Council Offices,
Upper Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe,
County Durham DL5 4EF.

Want to join an accordion band?

23 year old Jim McCue is trying to form a children's accordion band in the town. In his native Scotland these bands are as popular as jazz bands in this area.

Jim, who has been playing the accordion for 8 years, was with two bands in Scotland. They took part in parades and concerts and Jim is convinced that similar events would go down well in Newton Aycliffe.

Ideally, Jim would like about 20 in the band, in the 6-15 age range, and both boys and girls are welcome. There would be no charge involved.

"Obviously it would be an advantage if they'd got or could get their own instruments, I'd advise piano accordions, but both types are much more reasonably priced than many people think."

"It is not necessary to be able to read music to learn how to play, and they're not that heavy either. If an accordion is looked after it will last for years."

"But my main aim at the moment is to try and find out if the interest is there, and if it is, to get us all together as soon as possible," said Jim.

If anyone is interested they can contact Jim any evening at 26 Derwent Place. Or Tony Moore, 40 Grassholme Place Tel: 5714

FULL HOUSE FOR ZULU

The Mobile Cinema Service had a full house when it screened Zulu in the Recreation Centre, unfortunately 100 people had to be turned away which we deeply regret. The demand for Zulu surprised everyone and it is hoped that it may be possible to show it again sometime in the near future. If you were one of the unlucky ones who were turned away, you will know that our seating arrangements were inadequate for the unprecedented number of people who turned up. At present we are hoping to find larger showing area in the Centre with an audience capacity of 200, but the next film 'Flight of the Dove' will be screened in the usual room area with seating for 80 on Tuesday March 4th at 7 p.m. Keep your eyes open for further details.

On Tuesday Feb. 25th a meeting will be held in 1 Hawes Place, Burnhill, to review the present position of the Cinema Service and the future of films in general in Newton Aycliffe, if you are interested please come along.

Could you lend a hand?

A newly formed Drama workshop for 10-14 year olds needs some adult help. If you can spare an hour of two a week (you don't necessarily need experience) and would like to 'lend a hand' please come along to a meeting at 1 Isherwood Close on Wed. 26th February at 8 p.m. where we will be discussing and planning programmes and ideas for the running of this venture.

garden guild

Members please note that the Sales Hut on the Allotments at the rear of Clarence Chare will re-open on Sunday February 16th and then every Sunday morning from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. New members always welcome.

The next Guild meeting will be in the Upstairs Room at the Oak Tree Inn at 8 p.m. on Tuesday February 18th when Mr F. Stubbs, F.R.H.S. of Crook will be speaking about the Harlow Car Gardens at Harrogate.

Notice is also given that the Annual General Meeting will be at 8 p.m. on Tuesday March 18th at the Oak Tree Inn.

BABY SITTING CIRCLE

Are you fed up with staying in 7 nights a week?

Young or old, living in the Bewick Crescent area if you are interested in forming a baby sitting circle contact Mrs Hill, 10 or 12 Marley Road or Olive Plum, 20 Lilburne Crescent, anytime.

THE NEWTON PLAYERS INVITE

The Newton Players invite you to come along and meet them at an informal evening at St Clares Church Hall on Tuesday 18th February at 7.30 p.m.

There will be a short film on drama and a brief talk. Refreshments will be served during the evening. Unfortunately, we restrict our membership to the minimum age of 16, however if you are accompanied by an adult, there is no reason why you shouldn't come along and find out more about us.



This recent picture of Elmfield Junior School shows how attractively it was set out.



Mr Bloomfield, headmaster, with a member of the fire brigade, view the twisted metal that was once the fine school above, before the fire destroyed it on February 1st. (See article, page one)

Photos: Sonny Steele

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Food for Thought will take care of that wedding, birthday or dinner party, also buffets. Tel: Aycliffe 4033

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Photocopies made while you wait at the Newton Press Shop (near the Post Office) 6p per copy.

Ladies — are you looking for a part time job you can do in your own time, which will fit in with your family commitments? Contact Mrs Maureen Smith. Telephone: Aycliffe 3730.

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Members of the Monarchs Jazz Band cut the cake at their Annual party held in the Over 60's Club on Saturday 2nd February.

Photo: Sonny Steele

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3M's Sports and Social Club

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 22nd February

Aycliffe Village Hall

2.30 p.m.



LETTERS

What do politicians talk about?

Dear Sir,

For a change from television I've tried listening to my radio. However some years ago I worked on the 'innards' and since that operation I've only been able to pick up Radio 4. Because this station broadcasts a fair amount of political talks, I listen to them.

Due to my 'difficulty' I sit perfectly still in front of the set breathing quietly and staring hard at the loudspeaker-grill straining my eyes and ears so I won't miss a single word. When the politician has stopped talking, I switch off, and try to recall what I have heard.

My 'difficulty' comes in here. I just can't understand what politicians are talking about. This is how they sound to me: Good Evening,

At this moment in time I myself personally, and the ordinary people have felt the

spiral of inflation so we become far more viable and must therefore avoid these political press ups. If we shop around a step at a time we may avoid slippage in delay. Capital Injection will not avoid our present cash low unless we launch a new product so that at the end of the day we may create a new image. We should not drop out but use procedure machinery and at the same time syphon off excess building thus avoiding fragmented industry and out of course contracts. Very important is core time which of course works with flex time. Some memoryobia about the third world can be analysed in depth. But government is there.

For every full stop please substitute you know.

Bill Blair
Silverdale Place

Rediconfusion?

Dear Sir,

I am an Open University student and I'm sick and tired of the incompetent way Redifusion are handling the showing of these programmes.

It's hard enough trying to study at home, without them upsetting things.

Yesterday the sound went off before the programme finished and Radio One came on. This morning Radio One was on instead of the O.U. programme then at 8 o'clock Radio One went dead. No sound.

I have been studying with the O.U. for the past three years and repeatedly I have had the same trouble, and please, Redifusion, don't make the feeble excuse of the automatic switches going wrong. 'A bad workman always blames his tools!'

C.C.C.R. Palmer
2 Bewick Crescent

"We're sick of silly boundries"

Dear Sir,

In reply to Mr Ewing of the A.C. regarding Aycliffe Councils' decision to the children of my area attending their play. I think it was a very handed decision that made and feel that they not held a meeting with before any head of at-ice. as are boundry wntonians of the fact, tired of un-both by Shil-uncil and the We urgently re-melters, swings, and a temporary hut

I know my remarks may make me unpopular with Shildon and Aycliffe, but I hope it will make those responsible for the decision making sit up and take notice.

Counc. Tony Moore,
Sedgefield District Council

SOUTHERNE CLUB LADIES SECTION

Meeting every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Concert Room, music, bar, bingo etc.

Future dates to remember:

Monday 17th February
Invitation to Ferryhill Open Night, pie and peas, 25p, at Ferryhill Station WMC.

Wednesday March 5th
Birthday dinner, 6th Anniversary of Ladies Section.

Wednesday 26th March
AGM and elections.

Wednesday 2nd April
Grand Easter bonnet, dyed egg competition.

Mary English, PRO

NEWTON PLAYERS

JUMBLE SALE

In the Boys Club
on Saturday 15th February
at 10 a.m.



Michael Jordison of 23 Clarence Green, Newton Aycliffe, married Miss Alison McCuish of Morvern, Scotland at St. Clares Church on Saturday February 1st.

Photo: Sonny Steele

NEWTON AYCLIFFE RECREATION CENTRE

LADIES YOGA

An introductory 6 week course
Begins Monday 17th February from 2.00-3.30 p.m.
Cost will be £1.25
Enrol immediately as the numbers will be limited

County Table Tennis Match

Saturday 15th February
DURHAM v CLEVELAND II's
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Admission 10p

M. J. Paxman,
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Every cloud ..

Dear Sir,
I would be grateful if you would allow me to express some thoughts which are the consequence of the fire which destroyed Elmfield Junior School.

Like many others, I was saddened by the melancholy sight of the ruined building and sickened by the thought of its unnecessary loss. But I did not have to wait long for the silver linings to appear. I have been profoundly moved by the expressions of sympathy by so many people and by the wonderful response of those parents who, unasked, moved into the fire debris as soon as it was safe to do so and helped to salvage equipment. Alongside wonderfully loyal colleagues from both Infants' and Junior Departments they are demonstrating what a community with its heart in the right place can do.

My purpose in writing is to thank them publicly for their support. I include in my thanks my colleagues in every school in the town who have offered their practical help.

POLICE

This is also an opportunity for me to thank the Newton Aycliffe Police for pursuing their enquiries to a successful conclusion. I know that they worked long hours and with painstaking diligence. Detection is one of the best ways of deterring similar incidents in the future. Many more will join Elmfield parents, children and staff in saying to the police, "You did a marvellous job."

At our special Home-School meeting last Friday, fund-raising activities were started for an Elmfield Phoenix Fund.

With so many offers of help already, and for the support which I am confident will come from all parts of Newton Aycliffe, I have every reason for wanting to express my gratitude.

Yours faithfully,
Robert Bloomfield,
Headmaster, Elmfield Junior School.

THE NEWTON PRESS SHOP — Town Centre

SQUIRMLES

JUST ARRIVED!! — THE LATEST CRAZE

HURRY, AND CATCH YOURSELF ONE, AT—

Next Issue from
NEWTON PRESS
is due out on
Friday Feb. 28th
copy should reach
us by
Tuesday Feb. 25th

NEWTON AYCLIFFE RECREATION CENTRE

A JUMBLE SALE OF FOUND PROPERTY

will be held in the Recreation Centre
on Saturday, 22nd February, 1975
at 10.00 a.m.

M. J. Paxman,
Manager.

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Old furniture and pictures Tel: Dinsdale 2571 after 6.30 p.m.
Portable typewriter suitable for child and home use Tel: 5091

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Dressmaker wanted, able to copy off original garment, to make 2 catsuit type outfits for lady Tel: 4450

Baby buggy, 74 Hawkshead Place after 6 p.m.

Green Shield Stamps for the N/A handicapped trip to Lourdes by 'Jumbulance' in Sept. 1975, 2 Bewick Cres. Oddments of wool for the crocheting of shawls for the old folk of the church. 13 Lightfoot Road.

Chopper bike in good cond. £12 Tel: 4409

Scooter (Vespa/Lambretta) in reasonable cond. 8 Hullock Road

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British and foreign coins also war medals, Malaya, Korea, bars etc. Good prices paid. 17 Church Close Tel: 2967

PUBLIC NOTICES

One-parent family group, next meeting in Boys Club, Wednesday 19th Feb. 1.30 p.m.
Zulu will be shown again on Monday 24th Feb. at 7 p.m. in Rec. Centre seating for 140 plus, children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jumble Sale Saturday Feb. 15th, 10 a.m. St. Clares Hall, in aid of St. Clares Brownies.
N/A, Womens Institute, next meeting Thursday 27th Feb., in the Recreation Centre.
Nearly New auction sale in Beveridge Hall, Sat. 15th Feb. at 2 p.m.

Newton Press

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Sticks — 80p per sack (10 bundles) delivered free. Tel: Aycliffe 3924 5-9 p.m.

Ladies earn extra cash by running a coffee evening selling blouses and jewellery. Tel: Aycliffe 3924 5-6 p.m.

HOUSE EXCHANGES

From 3 bedroom coke c/h, garden back and front in Chilston To 3 bedroom with c/h in any part of N/A, with garden. Box No. MF1 Newton Press.

From 3 bedroom, redecorated throughout, 4 Ashfield. To same in Hallington Head or Tindale Green area.

From 3 bedroom, Peterlee To 2-3 bedroom at N/A Tel: Peterlee 3110

From 2 bedroom end house near town centre To 3 bedroom Hornsdale area. Box No. MF2 Newton Press.

From 2 bedroom near town centre To 2-3 bedroom anywhere in Southern England considered. 40 Lightfoot Rd.

From 2 bedroom gas c/h in Bewick Cres. area To 3 bedroom w/h gas/coke c/h in same area or near Box No. MF3 Newton Press

Engagements

GRICE — SIMPSON

Mr and Mrs J. Simpson wish to announce the engagement of their youngest daughter, Joyce, to Kevin, the only son of Mr and Mrs F. Grice. Congratulations and best wishes from both families.

Congratulations

GIBSON

Congrats Kathleen on your 18th Birthday and engagement to John. Love from both families. 36 Gilpin Road.

BARKAS

Congratulations to Tom youngest son of Mrs M. Barkas and the late Mr T. Barkas, of 31 Biscop Cres., on the award of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Aberdeen. Tom is now engaged on lung cancer research at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

THANKYOU

Mrs L. Guy and family wish to thank all relatives, friends and Southern Club Ladies darts team for kindness, sympathy, letters and cards of condolence and beautiful floral tributes received in their recent sad bereavement. Special thanks to Dr. Haw for his kindness and care of a much loved husband, father and grandfather. 43 Oakfield.

FOUND

Ladies watch in Ewbank Ct. Sunday 2nd Feb. Scott, 23 Kendrew Close

PERSONAL

Penfriend wanted for lonely lad aged 19. Would like some correspondence. Osmonds

FOR SALE

Frank Zappa, Roxy and Elsewhere new double LP £2.50 31 Gilpin Road Tel: 3428

Large fish tank 36 x 15 x 12" with access. and fish £7 ono Tel: 5843

Lemon carrycot with stand in ex. cond. £3 11 Travellers Green

Exchange, several home movie horror films for comic or cartoon films Tel: 4706

Tricity Marquis Cooker v.g. cond £10. White enamel sink top, right hand drainer £1 Tel: 3712

Jones electric sewing machine good order £12 Tel: 5496

Swoop 8 track car stereo cartridge player for car stereo cassette player 97 Hawkshead Place Tel: 6703

Navy pushchair with hood & apron, good cond. £4 9 Lambton Close

1968 Vauxhall Viva estate in good cond. T & T £285. 75 Ashfield

Alsatian bitch 1 year old full pedigree, genuine reason for sale 65 Fewston Close

Black and White TV in good cond. £15 2 Eldon Close

3 piece suite, black vinyl, 3 seater settee, reasonable con £15 8 Jesmond Court after 6

Large Council chamber inlaid leather table, enquiries, offers to Council office.

Free to good home, pups, dogs, bitches 52 Elmfield Pl.

Breaking cars, 1100, Victor, Herald, Mini, Anglia, Minor, 1000, etc. also 68 Victor body shell in good cond. 149 Linden Place after 6 p.m.

Silver Cross pram ex. cond. Silver grey, navy detachable body £10 24 Eskdale Place

HMV stereo record player, 2 speakers, good cond. £20 ono 7 Porter House, Defoe Cres

Ladies and teenagers clothes gents pullover, large, hand knit, never worn 57 Washington Crescent

Baby boys clothes 60p, baby girls clothes 60p. Childs push along horse £1.50 Ladies grey nylon high pile coat £4. Ladies lemon coat £3. Budgie cage with toys £2. Yellow canary with cage £2. 69 Honister Place

House, 87 Langdale Place, 2 bedroom end house, solid fuel c/h, garage, through lounge, kitchen, fully decorated, fully fitted with carpets garden back and front. £6,250

Any evening between 4-6 pm Hohner electravox organ ex. cond. £2. Qualcast lawnmower with grass box £2. Metal coal/coke bunker with wooden top. 5ft. x 30", buyer takes away £2. 43 Henderson Road

Anorak 3/4 length, suit boy or girl 34" chest as new £4 Boys trousers 26 1/2" inside leg 28" waist, check flared as new £2.50 Tel: 2645

Spring coat french navy and white size 14, ex. cond. £2. Pink dress and jacket, pinafore dress £1 each size 14 in v.g. cond. sold separately Tel: 5920

1969 H reg Triumph GT6 T & T new exhaust, clutch 9 Lascelles Avenue.

Baby girls clothes from birth to 2 1/2 inc. nappies 120 Washington Crescent

Silver Cross pram brown and cream £25. Cot £10. Carrycot and wheels £10. Bouncing cradle £1.50. Baby bath, potty and bucket with lid £1.50. 120 Washington Crescent Tel: 2876