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CHANCE TO AIR YOUR VIEWS ON AYCLIFFE POLICE STATION

Great Aycliffe Residents' Association (GARA) is launching a consultation exercise with the residents of Great Aycliffe on the issue of the closed former Police Station in the Town Centre.

We want to know if the residents are happy with the present policing arrangements or whether they feel we should have some form of replacement in the Town Centre to facilitate public communication with the

police.

In April 2010 the Police Authority agreed to demolish the station and rebuild it on the same site as best value for money. Chief Constable Jon Stoddart said: "The design and construction of the existing building has caused long-term problems which were simply not foreseen. For some years now we have been aware the police station has become increasingly dilapidated and the situation had reached the stage where simply patching things up was no longer an option. I am delighted the police authority has given approval for this project to go ahead. We are committed to building a long-term base for police officers and staff in Newton Aycliffe and the option we have gone for represents the best in terms of value for money and also in the benefit to the community."

In July 2011 The police station in had already shifted to temporary out-of-town facilities while its former building awaits demolition to make way for a new headquarters. However, those plans look uncertain after a proposal by the Police Authority to install dedicated telephones and post boxes in town centre shops and public buildings, allowing the public to leave messages or call officers at the temporary station on Aycliffe Business Park.

CRIME DETECTION HIGHEST IN AREA

The station's move to Aycliffe Business Park is cited as contributing towards the town's 44% detection rate – the force's highest – as industrial estates become the new crime hotspots. Mr Thompson Chair of the

Police Authority has said the authority was considering all options regarding Parsons Court because the facilities worked better than expected. In 2010, the authority said demolishing the 1972 town centre station and rebuilding on the site was the best value for money – before the force suffered a 20 per cent budget cut. When pressed by Great Aycliffe Town Councillors, Deputy Chief Constable Mike Barton admitted funding was an issue. He said: "Since 2009, we have not recruited any new officers and have made 200 police staff redundant in the past 12 months. "What we are trying to do is manage our resources."

GARA has arranged a **Public meeting for Thursday 19th July, 7pm at St Mary's Church, Central Avenue.** The subjects for discussion will be problems with litter and Policing in Great Aycliffe. GARA is bringing together Terry Collins Director of Neighbourhood Services, Oliver Sherratt of Direct Services both from

Continued on page 3

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NO MORE SUBSIDIES FOR ONSHORE WIND FARMS

Ministers are preparing to scrap all subsidies for onshore wind farms by 2020 in a major victory for campaigners against the controversial energy source. David Cameron and George Osborne will come down firmly on the side of those who object to payments currently worth £400 million a year to companies who produce onshore wind, The Sunday Telegraph reports. Despite opposition from the Liberal Democrats, who strongly support more renewable energy, the subsidy regime for onshore wind and solar panels is now firmly expected to be phased out. At present, householders pay for subsidies to renewable energy producers through an extra charge on household electricity bills. An email sent by Oliver Letwin, Cabinet Office Minister, makes it clear that financial support both for onshore wind and solar panels is expected to have “disappeared” within eight years. Within weeks, Ed Davey, the Lib Dem Energy Secretary, will announce details of subsidies for renewable energy covering the period 2013-2017, following a consultation on whether they should be cut by more than the 10% reductions already planned. Mr Osborne is understood to be pressing Mr Davey for onshore subsidy cuts of around 25% for that period. However, the words from Mr Letwin, who is a key Conservative policy guru, go much further in

strongly suggesting the entire subsidy regime will be history by 2020. Sent last week to Terry Stewart, President of the Dorset branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE), Mr Letwin’s email states: “I anticipate that subsidies for both solar photovoltaic and onshore wind will come down to zero over the next few years and should have disappeared by 2020, since both of these forms of energy are gradually becoming economic without the need for subsidies.” The news will delight local groups fighting new turbine developments and more than 100 Tory MPs who wrote in protest to David Cameron earlier this year. In January, Tory MPs called for onshore subsidies to be “dramatically cut” – well beyond the 10 per cent reductions already in the pipeline. Subsidies paid out to renewable energy producers amount to around £1.5 billion a year. Chris Heaton-Harris, the Tory MP who organised the letter to the Prime Minister on wind farms, said: “I struggle to see how anyone can argue for a policy that gives huge sums of money to big landowners and the big six energy companies, whilst at the same time it thwarts growth and forces tens of thousands into fuel poverty. John Constable, director of the Renewable Energy Foundation, a UK charity publishing data on the energy sector, and a long-term critic of subsidies to

renewables, said: “Extremely high subsidies have harmed the reputation and integrity of the renewables sector, which has been corrupted by easy money and undeserved fortunes. “Reductions in future subsidies are welcome, but may not be enough to protect the consumer in very hard times, and retrospective cuts, supported by windfall taxes, cannot be ruled out.” “These subsidies add £80 to the average electricity bill, but nowhere does it say that. It is being paid out to rich land owners and foreign energy companies and developers.” A spokesperson for the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) said the 2020 date referred to by Mr Letwin was an “aspiration”. She added: “It is always our aspiration to end subsidies for any energies.” Subsidies paid to windpower companies are forcing up to 50,000 households a year into fuel poverty, according to analysis of government figures. Increased electricity costs because of all subsidies paid to all renewable sources of energy have pushed 100,000 families into fuel poverty, defined as the need to spend more than 10 per cent of household income to maintain a satisfactory heating regime. Wind power payments are estimated to account for about half of these. Around 4.75 million households in Britain are thought to be in fuel poverty according to DECC.

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Good Effort Criticised

Dear Sir,
I would like to applaud Councillors Ray & Dorothy Bowman who took the initiative to offer refreshments during the Olympic Torch Relay. I purchased beverages from their mobile refreshment unit and two hot dogs. My Father-in-law has M.S. and a cup of tea while waiting for the Torch to arrive kept him warm. It amazes me that someone, obviously with a grudge, continues to criticise efforts despite the sterling work the Bowmans do for Newton Aycliffe and its residents. Woodham Resident
Name & address supplied

Town Cinema

KIDZFLICKS Cinema Club at St. Clare’s Church is open to everyone. Saturday 7th July we will be showing ‘Alvin and the Chipmunks - Chipwrecked’ at 2pm.
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Saturday 30th June - “CAPTAIN ROCK”

Gig Pit review from the Tub “Decided to take it easy and drive to the Turbinia in Newton Aycliffe last night to watch Steve, Lewthy, Al and Marky aka Captain Rock. Anyway, I missed most of the first half . . . what I did see I’ll come back to ‘cos it’s the best bit. The second half was a typical CR performance. Steve’s a good sound engineer and he had the mix pretty much spot on with it not being too loud and everything cutting through well. The pub was pretty full and the crowd up for some Christmas shennanigans . . . shennanigans are a Captain Rock thing as well. Lots of wandering into the crowd, guest appearances galore, standing on chairs, playing the other guitarists guitar with your own baldy head. And at last, with the crowd all demanding it and every camera in the house poised, Wrighty revealed what is under that kilt !!! It was proper daft stuff but, and this is where we get back to the first set, despite all the carry on and showmanship that gets the crowd going, Captain Rock are four very good musicians, playing some very good music. Al and Mikey are solid as a rock at the back, Steve’s got a great voice and Lewthy’s playing is getting better all the time. To prove the point, I’d have to describe ‘astronomy’ by Blue Oyser Cult which is always the last song of the first set. It has everything in it. It’s a long song but it keeps your interest from start to finish with it’s highs and lows. Brilliantly executed by the band and undoubtedly the best song of the night”

Saturday 7th July - “THIS MACHINE”

“Well, I don’t know what to say, apart from . . . THIS MACHINE were absolutely amazing last night, one of the best . . . especially when the guitarists were on the tables and bar, haha!! Every song was awesome, perfect sound and just all round excellence. It was also the best atmosphere I’ve ever seen, everyone was havin fun.” - GIG PIT REVIEW
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Saturday 14th July - “KIMERA”

Gig Pit Review: “We were informed that a band was actually on, and they were called Kimera. I had never seen them before, but I would certainly recommend them to anybody now after Saturday night. The band are a young 4 piece (guitar, bass, thumper and vox) but showed a degree of professionalism lacking in some bands that have been going far longer. The guitarist, James, is an extremely talented young lad and the singer delivers a cracking vocal. The bassist and thumper made up a very tight rhythm section as well. Highlights for me were Evanescence - ‘Bring Me Back to Life’ (first time I had heard anyone attempt this), Cranberries - ‘Zombie’, AC/DC - ‘Sin City’, Queen - ‘Tie Your Mother Down’ and Fleetwood Mac - ‘The Chain’ . . . everything was done well though. They are an excellent band and I would thoroughly recommend any pub to book them. The crowd in the Shoe were very appreciative and I really hope they come back again soon.”

For more information on bands go to
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AYCLIFFE SHOWS SUPPORT FOR ARMED FORCES WEEK



Armed Forces Week was recognised in Newton Aycliffe with a short Service and Flag Raising ceremony at the War Memorial on Monday. The Mayor and her consort attended along with students from Sugar Hill School, The British Legion and 124 REME T.A. Unit.

New Aldi Store Underway



Residents will be pleased to see progress on the re-development of our Town Centre making progress with the erection of steelwork at the Aldi site.

Family Fun Dog Show

Dog lovers are invited to the annual Family Fun Dog Show at K9, Whitworth Avenue on Aycliffe Business Park on Saturday 7th July from 11am - 4pm.

Take your dog to enter one of the fun classes including Most Appealing Eyes and Best Biscuit Catcher. (£1.50p per entry).

Trade Stands, Refreshments etc. Please remember to bring proof of your dog's vaccination.

CHANCE TO AIR YOUR VIEWS ON AYCLIFFE POLICE STATION

Continued from page 1

Durham County Council, and a our Town Clerk.

The idea is to hear the current set up regarding litter collection in Great Aycliffe,

who is responsible for what, how frequent litter is collected and what needs to be done. If you are interested in the environment come along and have your questions answered.

GARA is raising the issue of policing in Great Aycliffe; in particular the future of a Police presence in the Town Centre following the closure of the Police Station now due for demolition.

Do you want a Police Station in a more central location in the town or are you happy with the present arrangements with a Police Station on the Business Park? Please complete the survey form in this issue so that we can pass your views to the Police Authority to help in their consultation.

Father Michael Campion Vice Chairman of GARA added "If there are elderly residents with concerns about their neighbours or anti social behaviour they will want to report it and the current police station is just too far away"

GARA will be holding another Public meeting on Thursday 16th August when Peter Thompson, Chairman of the Durham Police Authority will be present to address this issue and the role of the new elected Police Commissioner at which time we hope to hand over the results of the survey. This is your opportunity to

express your view before decisions are made. Please participate in this important consultation exercise.

Arun Chandran
Secretary GARA

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GREAT AYCLIFFE RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION

POLICING SURVEY NEWTON AYCLIFFE POLICE STATION

The town's residents' association (GARA) are conducting a survey asking views on Policing in Great Aycliffe.

Our Police Station was closed in February 2011 and the building is to be demolished. The site could be sold for an estimated £3 million. Our Police Station was re-located to Aycliffe Business Park and a new strategy devised to maintain contact with residents.

As a decision has not been made on whether a new Police Station is to be built in the town centre GARA wish to determine the wishes of residents to help in the Police Authority consultation.

Please tick the following question:

Do you prefer a Police Office in the Town Centre? Yes ☐ No ☐

Signed

Address

Please detach and hand in at any of the following drop off points:

Newton Press Offices
Newsforce, Town Centre
Neville Parade Community Centre
Agnew Community Centre

Walkers Butchers, Simpasturegate
St. Mary's Church
The Cubby

Please note GARA are holding a Public Meeting on Thursday 19th July at 7pm in St. Mary's Church where the question of policing in the town and litter problems will be discussed.

Everyone is invited to hear speakers on these two subjects and ask questions.



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Inspirational Para Olympic Athlete Visits Sugar Hill



19 year old Paralympian Great Britain Fencer, Gemma Collis, visited Sugar Hill school last Thursday to tell her amazing story.

Growing up she took part in most sports and was a figure skater at National Level between the age of 8 and 11, played County level Hockey between 13 and 15, was District 100m Champion between the ages of 12 and 15 and was double County Champion in Triple Jump aged 15. Her dream was always to compete in the Olympics and was in training for London 2012 with the hope of representing Britain in the Triple Jump.

Then in July 2008 she contracted Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy a progressive disease affecting the nerves in her right leg, causing extreme pain which has put her in crutches.

Undeterred she began coaching, officiating and volunteering at sports events. She discovered disability sports and began playing Wheelchair Basketball.

After starting a Law degree at Durham University in October of last year, Gemma was approached by Professor Laszlo Jakab, GB Wheelchair Fencing Head Coach, who asked her to try Wheelchair Fencing.

In that short time she has progressed to a level which qualifies her for a place in the GB Team Epee Contest in September. This is a truly remarkable achievement and Gemma is excited and proud



to represent her country. Sugar Hill students were given the opportunity to question Gemma at a special Assembly where she and her coach demonstrated the sport of Fencing for the disabled. She was warmly received and the children were much impressed wishing her the best of luck in the Paralympic Games.

Gemma received a commemorative cushion made by students in conjunction with Woolsack, a National charity who are providing cushions to as many Olympic and Paralympic athletes as possible.

Bridal Gown Exhibition

The Inner Wheel Club of Newton Aycliffe are holding a Wedding Dress Exhibition covering bridal wear over the last 100 years. Admission is £6 including refreshments at Neville Parade Methodist Church on Thursday 19th July at 7pm. For tickets please contact Margaret Gent on 317308. Proceeds in aid of NSPCC.

SUGAR HILL NURSERY TRIP TO ADVENTURE VALLEY



On Friday 22nd June, children from the Nursery at Sugar Hill Primary school visited Adventure Valley near Durham. They all took the opportunity to be 'Farmer for the Day', where they had a tractor ride and were able to hold and stroke various animals including goats, rabbits, insects and lizards. The fine weather held until the early afternoon when rain meant the children went inside to enjoy the indoor play area. All the children had a wonderful time and are still talking about it in their Nursery classes now.

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St. Mary's School Duck Rescue

Further development of partnership work will lead to more employment opportunities for 18 to 24-year-olds in County Durham.

Research into the current support available to increase young people's employment opportunities in the County has been carried out, at the request of elected councillors, to gain a better understanding of the type and level of support currently provided by the Council and partners for those aged between 18 and 24.

Councillors are concerned at the rise in the number of young people in the county claiming Jobseekers Allowance last summer (4,360 in June rising to 5,280 in September).

A committee looked at employment trends within County Durham and the range of support currently provided and discussed with employers potential barriers to employing young people. Committee members also visited providers to see what they are doing to reach out to young people.

Aycliffe Councillor John Moran, chair of the scrutiny task group, said: "We found that a wide range of support is currently available in the county for young people in the 18 to 24-year-old age

group. Schemes such as Future Business Magnates and various programmes delivered by Job Centre Plus aim to get people back into work and this is coupled with the work being done by the council's Area Action Partnerships to improve the employment chances of young people within the county. Members were impressed with the range of initiatives to support young people but acknowledge there is more to be done."

Just some of the schemes on offer in County Durham include: Learning the Business, a concept developed to promote employability skills in young people, gained particular recognition for its work in bringing businesses and schools together so that teachers can expand on their knowledge of the world of work, to enable them to pass this on to pupils.

The County Apprenticeship Programme, which launched last year and encourages smaller businesses to take on young people for at least two years, is gaining momentum. Work is also ongoing with opportunities to develop the apprenticeship offer in departments of the council. Job Centre Plus has worked closely with the County Council to host a series of

open days focussing on young people. One held in Bishop Auckland, was attended by more than 500 young people with around 70% directed to various employers, the apprenticeship service and providers.

The Youth Contract is another recently announced scheme which increases the number of work experience and apprenticeship places available to young people. It was set up by the County Durham Economic Partnership and continues to go from strength to strength.

Cabinet heard how improving this partnership working will lead to more opportunities for the young people of the county when they met on Wednesday, 20th June at The Bowes Museum in Barnard Castle

Police Contact

An access point is at Neville Parade Community Centre on Friday 29th June, 1pm – 3pm and Friday 13th July from 1pm-3pm.

Please come down and see the beat officer if you have any problems or would like some crime prevention advice.

PCSO 7438 Scott
Newton Aycliffe NPT.

Dear Sir,

We had a very exciting day at school recently. I am the reception class teacher at St Mary's Catholic Primary School and this morning our caretaker, Mr Foster, informed me that there were 14 ducklings and their mother on the school field in a huge puddle.

Our field often has ducks swimming on it but this was a new occurrence. I took small groups of children out to look at this wonderful sight and soon realised that the ducklings weren't safe. A big ginger cat had its eye on them and so too had the seagulls. Mrs Machin, another teacher in Reception class put on her wellies and accompanied with two children Kimberley and Ben, stood guard on Seagull watch.

I phoned the RSPB who advised us to try and capture the family to release them somewhere safer. However I had overwhelming images of a bad Benny Hill sketch and decided to phone our local vet, Wilsons Veterinary group. The vets were only too happy to help and promptly came with kit in hand. Ben informed the vets, "You're too late for one little duckling as the Seagull has eaten it but that's just nature you see."

Mandy and Katherine were like the duck whisperers as they skilfully coaxed the ducklings into a cage. Alarminglly at this point a gardener who was strimming the hedges spooked the mother who flew away.

Kimberley creatively suggested that all of the children who didn't have any cats at home could take a duckling each and care for it, and looked almost disappointed as the mother returned half an hour later.

The family were successfully released onto our local burn. What a day!



The Isles Wind Farm

On 5 July 2012, we're launching the Stage Two consultation for The Isles Wind Farm proposal so you have another opportunity to give us your comments. We've revised the turbine layout following the Stage One consultation and now welcome feedback on the Stage Two layout, electrical connection, access and traffic management arrangements, as well as other aspects of the proposal.



How to get involved

- From 5 July 2012, you can get involved in the following ways:
- Visit eon-uk.com/theisles to complete an online questionnaire and download supporting documents.
 - Pick up a questionnaire from libraries at Ferryhill, Shildon, Chilton, Newton Aycliffe, Sedgfield and Spennymoor Customer Access Point.
 - Come along to one of the five public consultation events from 10 July to view and discuss our plans and pick up a questionnaire and supporting documents.

Chilton & Windlestone Working Men's Club
Durham Road Chilton DL17 0EY
10 July 2012, 4pm - 8pm
14 July 2012, 9am - 2pm

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre
Beveridge Arcade Newton Aycliffe DL5 4EH
12 July 2012, 1pm - 8pm

Sedgfield Parish Hall
Front Street Sedgfield TS21 3AT
13 July 2012, 10am - 2pm

Mordon Village Hall
Aycliffe Lane Mordon TS21 2EY
13 July 2012, 4pm - 8pm

For more information about the project and consultation, you can call us on 0800 096 1199, email us at theisles@eon-uk.com or write to us at:

Freepost RRSE-KZCU-AZJL
E.ON
Westwood Way
Westwood Business Park
Coventry
CV4 8LG

We value your views. By getting involved, you can help shape our proposal.

SHAKE THE DUST



Greenfield Community College reached the regional finals of the national poetry slam "Shake the Dust" which was organised by Apples & Snakes and ARC Stockton, and was held at ARC on Saturday 16th June 2012. The 7 young people from Greenfield: Josh Paramor, Sam Hansom, Brad Rodgers, Megan Cross, Zoe Blakey, Emily Rollo and Joel Wraith, were absolutely superb on stage at the regionals and did their very best performances ever! They were only 1 or 2 points away from 1st place winners, Sacred Heart, Stockton. Our students worked with two amazing, inspirational and creative performance poets, Kate Fox and Steve Urwin. Both artists helped the year 9's to develop their writing,

imagination, free writing and performance skills and helped the students to exceed their potential. We are very proud of all those who have been involved throughout the process and we would like to thank all those involved including Mrs Douglas and her class, Miss Walker and the senior management at Greenfield Community College.

We are looking forward to using some of the great ideas we explored in the creative process and Greenfield Community and Arts Centre are planning some professional development to share the experience and ideas with others. Well done Greenfield. For more information contact the Arts Centre at info@greenfield-arts.co.uk

Singers Wanted for New Town Choir



George Lee, well known local Musical Director is forming a new choir from churches in Newton Aycliffe to sing popular sacred music. Already he has recruited 30 singers and wants more with a view to performing Concerts at various venues in the area. George has been a musician all his life and moved here from Stockton in 1976. He has been musical director and conductor for many local choirs, orchestras and operatic societies. He was a music teacher and is an Examiner at Trinity College, London, travelling throughout the world examining musicians. Rehearsals will be held each Friday night at St. Clares Church and the start date will be announced soon. Anyone interested in joining the choir is asked to contact George on 316963. "It does not matter if you cannot read music - enthusiasm is all that is required" said George.

MOTOR TORQUE

By Ramseys of Aycliffe



Now summer's almost upon us, it's a good idea to spend a little time checking your vehicle is in good order. The temperature and jam packed roads can put more demands on both driver and vehicle. With many families now opting for 'stay-cation' and holidaying at home, the prospect of several stressful hours in traffic jams with children squabbling in the back seat is bad enough, without worrying if your vehicle is going to make it to your final destination.

So what sort of things should you be looking out for? Well, tyres are always the first port of call as high temperatures can cause problems to existing areas such as weak spots leading to possible puncture-nightmare!

Overheating can also be a problem with high temperatures causing problems to cooling systems. There isn't a motorist in the country who doesn't start to get hot under the collar when you hit those long queues and the sound of the fan begins to whirl. Check the fan by allowing the car to run to normal temperature, then allowing the engine to stay idle for 10 minutes- the cooling fan should cut in automatically.

Many of us who are outnumbered by children

are also forced to carry extra luggage on the car roof. Try to keep your luggage as low as possible, better still on a roof rack to prevent drag. Remember to remove the roof rack once you arrive on holiday to reduce fuel costs. Increase tyre pressure if you're carrying extra luggage including passengers. Never start your air conditioning with doors or windows open. Just as important as any of the other summer driving tips is your own condition. Always take a 20 minute break every 3 hours, with longer breaks on longer journeys. More short stops are always better than one long break. Try to avoid heavy meals when driving long distances and NEVER drink alcohol before or during a journey.

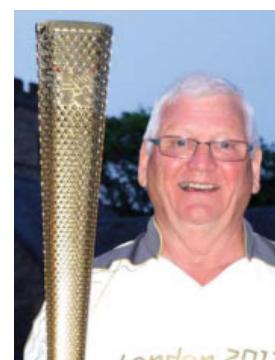
One final tip is for hay-fever sufferers. If you're a little like me, hay-fever is always worse during the summer. It's a fact that if you sneeze at 70-mph, you lose your vision for as much as 100 metres. Slow down and drop back if you know you're about to sneeze. Wear sunglasses, close windows and air vents to reduce pollen in the car and keep those tissues close to hand-yuck!

Enjoy your summer and happy, safe motoring.
Elliott Ramsey

A Father's Day I Will Always Remember

Dear Sir,
What a fantastic Father's Day this year turned out to be. I had the honour of bearing the Olympic Torch along Church Street in Shildon, and what a wonderful reception we all received from the crowds of people who lined the route. It was a fantastic atmosphere they created, and a big thank you to all for coming.

The organisers of the event



did a wonderful job, as did the Police and security staff who really got into the spirit of the day, high fiving people along the way.

The camaraderie and excitement felt by all the torch bearers on the bus was an experience not to be missed and we all knew we were taking part in a once in a lifetime event never to be forgotten.

A special thank you to my wife Margaret, who sponsored me, my family who came from different parts of the country to support me and to all my friends for their good wishes both before and after the event.

Although the day passed in a blur I have many photographs to give me a lifetime of great memories of a very special father's day.

John McGuckin

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Beechfield Newton Aycliffe

Four bedroom terraced home, downstairs WC, kitchen / dining room, lounge, garage, driveway with 2 off road parking spaces, DG and GCH. No chain.

£97,000

Hatfield Road Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom mid terrace property. Close to local amenities. Central heating, lounge, kitchen, dining room uPVC double glazing with enclosed gardens. Immediate possession.

£112,500

Dixon Road Newton Aycliffe

Impressive and deceptively spacious residence. Situated in a quiet area and needs to be viewed internally to be fully appreciated. Priced for an early sale and no chain.

£85,000 **NEW**

Emerson Way Newton Aycliffe

2 bedroom terrace, double glazed, GCH, enclosed garden to rear, separate WC. Partly refurbished.

£59,000

Guthrum Place Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom end link house in a modern development in Newton Aycliffe. Fitted kitchen, DG, GCH and rear garden. Must be viewed.

£81,000 **Reduced**

Honister Place Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom mid terrace house conveniently situated, modern fitted kitchen, modern bathroom, garden, DG. Ideal family home.

£59,500

Ida Place Newton Aycliffe

A well presented & improved 3 bed end terrace house. Close to shops, doctors and play school. Modern fitted kitchen, combi central heating, modern bathroom, DG. Ideal family home.

£72,950

Karles Close Woodham Village

Extended 4 bedroom detached, loft conversion, luxury ensuite, fitted kitchen, conservatory, games room.

£235,000 **UNDER OFFER**

Lingard Walk Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom terrace house, fitted kitchen, DG, GCH, rear garden, well maintained home - must be viewed!

£115,000

Oakfield Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom terrace property. Lounge, modern fitted kitchen / diner, garage, DG, easy maintenance gardens.

£100,000

Skirlaw Road Newton Aycliffe

A well presented improved three bed end terrace house. Modern fitted kitchen, GSH, modern bathroom, large garden, double glazing, conservatory. Ideal family home.

£92,500

Sunnydale Shildon

A 3 bed semi, entrance hall, lounge, kitchen / WC, 3 beds + family bathroom, front and rear gardens, paving, flower borders and storage shed.

£80,000

Finchale Rd Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom detached family home. Paved driveway, lounge / dining room, kitchen, utility, ensuite, garden, garage.

£179,950

Bowes Road Newton Aycliffe

Two bedroom semi detached property, offering DG, conservatory, modern kitchen. Internal viewing strongly recommended.

£80,000

McKenzie Place Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom link house conveniently situated for town centre, fitted kitchen, bathroom, garden, DG. Ideal family home

£75,000 **NEW**

Chillingham Grove Woodham Village

An attractive 3 bedroom semi detached property. Fitted kitchen/diner, modern bathroom / WC, DG, GCH, pleasant cul-de-sac location.

£115,000

Kestrel Court Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom detached property, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, garden and garage. GCH, DG.

£139,999

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STUDENTS RETURN FOR SCHOOL JUBILEE

Last week former Sugar Hill School students were invited back to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the first school to be built in the town.

The main hall was opened for a Tea Party and round the room were photographs and albums of pupils throughout the decades. Hoots of laughter could be heard as people recognised themselves and reminisced over the happy times they had at Sugar Hill.

Stephen Cooke from New Zealand took the accolade for the student who travelled the farthest to be present. It was nice to see past teachers including former Headmaster Frank Ridley.

Ex-student Sam Dawson, who was nominated to carry the Olympic Torch, also turned up and said he enjoyed the experience and he would remember it all his life. Year 6 pupils hosted the event and the choir led by John Melvin provided entertainment.



Stephen Cooke from New Zealand



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Head Teacher Miss cummins with Sam Dawson



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P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together

The next **SHAFTO/ST. MARYS WARD PACT** meeting will be held on Thursday 5th of July at the Library, Central Avenue at 6pm.

Another PACT meeting is on Wednesday 4th July 6.30pm at **EVANGELICAL CHURCH LADYBOWER**. PCSO Mike Welch will attend along with a local Councillor, Park Wardens, and a representative from livin. A copy of the plans for the development of the Greenfield Nursing Home site will be available.

PCSO Amy Jorgeson 6849 Newton Aycliffe Beat Team Woodham Ward.



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Refreshments Appreciated

Dear Sir,
Ref: last weeks article: 'Cashing In?' I would like to extend my appreciation to Mr & Mrs Bowman, the proprietors of the Catering Unit which was sited in the Youth Centre Car Park the day of the Olympic Torch Relay.

My family and I stood out for ages to get a good view of the procession and found the drinks and food they served to be invaluable. The hot drinks helped fight off the cold and the hot dogs, as well as being delicious, were excellent value for money.

In my opinion, it was community service at its best. The whole Olympic Torch experience brought back childhood memories of Newton Aycliffe's yearly Carnival Parade with Floats, Jazzbands and great community spirit. Could anyone shed any light as to why it stopped as I think the residents of Aycliffe, with it's varied clubs and organisations, could contribute to a fantastic

Carnival Day, maybe to coincide with Great Aycliffe Show?
Debbie Icton

SCOUTS A.G.M.

The 1st Newton Aycliffe Scout Group will be holding their Annual General Meeting in the NASSA Centre in Bluebell Way on the 30th of June from 1pm till 4pm. There will be a Barbecue, Refreshments, Side Shows, A Tombola, Face Painting, Circus Skills, and lots more. The bar will be open, and all are welcome to come and support us and see what we do, and talk to the Leaders about joining our group. We have an active group of Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts, and should your child wish to join, they will be made most welcome.

Surprise Royal Visit to Q.E. College



HRH Princess Helen and her husband His Excellency Domnul Alexander - with students Jonny Hutton, Anna Morgan and Yasmine Haq.

In July, 18 students and two members of staff from Darlington's Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College will travel to Romania to do voluntary work, helping to build housing in Brasov for the poorest members of the community. Princess Helen of Romania heard of the enterprise and contacted teacher Nancy Wall who is helping to organise the trip.

Princess Helen wrote: 'All too often do we read about young people being a nuisance, anti-social or engaging in criminal activity and it is wonderful to read about responsible young people raising the money to engage with a worthwhile cause. Such young people are of course, in the majority, but your students are exceptional. Good community housing in Romania is an urgent necessity and it is something my husband, Alexander has a particular interest in. I hope you will also have some time to explore the area around Brasov; it is rather beautiful and has a rich history.'

The students and staff were delighted with the Princess's letter but, to their surprise, she followed it up by arranging to visit the College on Tuesday June 26, to meet them and to find out more about the project.

Nancy Wall said: 'It is an honour that Princess Helen and her husband were able to take time out of their busy schedule to come to QE and we feel extremely privileged. It is indeed an accolade and very unexpected. She toured the College, met our Principal Tim Fisher and spent a great deal of time with the students who are travelling out to Romania. The visit gave us all a boost and made us even more excited and committed to the work we will be doing in Brasov.'

Designer Clothing Store Opens in Aycliffe

Mark Shepherd an Aycliffe resident since 2006, owned a clothing store "Boola" in Darlington. In 2008 he expanded and relocated to Richmond.

Boola continued to grow and develop and now offers both men's and women's clothing collections and footwear. which Mark says is "on trend" and "affordable". Boola offers collections from brands including - Superdry, Great Plains, Peter Werth, French Connection, Weekend Offender, Ichi, Vila, Vero Moda, We are Saints and Last & True.

As an Aycliffe resident Mark always hoped he could open a store in the town and recently was able to agree a short term lease with the town centre owners from July to November.

Work will begin on the new store in the town centre, next to Santander Bank in the next few weeks with an official opening in the very near future.

If the store is well received and used by residents of Newton Aycliffe Mark will enter into a long term lease and firmly establish Boola Clothing in Newton Aycliffe.



Coin Trail for NSPCC



Byerley Park Primary pupils took it to a new level creating a design using hundreds of coins. The coins were collected over 10 days and competition between Year groups was fierce, in order to be the ones to collect the most. The Y6s succeeded, gathering in excess of £73 in spare change.

Each year was invited, in turn, to place their coins onto the design which featured the Olympic rings. Thanks to all parents who supported this venture and to those who came to see the finished and most impressive result. The money collected amounted to a massive £273.59 and is to be donated to the NSPCC.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees

Wednesday, 11th July, 2012

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

from 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda of the Council and its Committees.

If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting.

Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting.

(www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

"The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

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Roots Expand Services



Roots, the town's longest established Hairdresser is bursting about hair. After the success of the re-opening of the newly refurbished hair and photographic studio in Chilton, the Aycliffe Salon has a refit and is offering new and exciting services for residents. Beauty Services including gel nails, eyes, eyebrow, spray tanning and a full range of retail products from the Bare Minerals range have been introduced.

Keith and the staff are happy to welcome new stop stylist, Simon, fresh from Toni & Guy in Newcastle and Isham a Turkish Barber.

Keith said "It's great to have Simon and Isham on the team to complement the high class service and standards of hairdressing we offer. Late nights on a Thursday for men's hairdressing, beauty and a full range of treatments".

Why not visit the website for more details of Roots special offers. <http://www.rootshairphoto.co.uk>

Aycliffe : 311529. Chilton, 2 Durham Road - 07775 241530.

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED AT THE PCC

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) are looking for volunteers to help with two projects aimed at improving the health, wellbeing and quality of life for local people. Befrienders for Volunteer Health Buddy Scheme - to provide support for clients who will be isolated, lonely or vulnerable to regain their independence and confidence and who have recently been discharged from hospital.

The PCP Health Buddy Scheme is a new scheme aimed at people living in the Sedgfield and Wear Valley areas of County Durham. Volunteer Befrienders will need to be available at least 4 hours per week.

Bev Gent, Lifestyle and Volunteer Manager says "We want to recruit people who are keen to develop a trusting relationship with clients as well as helping them with shopping, attending



medical appointments and encouraging them to engage with social activities or groups and access services. Personal qualities required include good interpersonal skills, ability to use own initiative, reliable and aware of the differing physical needs of people. Full support and training will be provided by the PCP."

Health Walk Leaders are required for weekly Health Walks on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 - 11.30am. Ideally

people will have knowledge of the local area and can provide a regular commitment. Full training and support will be provided by PCP.

If you are interested in either of these volunteering roles please come along to a recruitment morning on Thursday 5 July 10am - 12noon at the Pioneering Care Centre. Or contact Bev Gent, PCP Lifestyle and Volunteer Manager, tel: 01325 321234 email: bev.gent@pcp.uk.net

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UNDERWATER MONEY GOES UP IN THE AIR

Aycliffe Sub Aqua Club recently presented a cheque for the sum of £400 to the Great North Air Ambulance. The money was raised through a sponsored underwater endurance event where several members of the club remained underwater for a cumulative time in excess of 24hrs. Club chairman Martin Green said ...'we are always looking for ways in which we can help local groups and this event was a great way of helping a worthy local charity whilst promoting the club at the same time.....we have run similar events in the past where we have raised money for the RNLI and other charitable organisations and we hope to be able to do similar fund raising events again in the future...' The club meets at the Recreation Centre in Newton Aycliffe every Thursday and would like to invite anyone who might be interested in learning to SCUBA DIVE to come down and see them. In addition the club would like to hear from any qualified divers who would also like to come along and join one of the friendliest clubs in the North East. Further details are available on the clubs website @ www.aycliffesubaclub.co.uk



SUMMER FAMILY LEARNING DAY AT WOODHAM TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE



It was all aboard for a sell out success Family Learning Day at Woodham Community Technology College on Saturday 23rd June when the college organised a free coach and admission to the Life Science Centre in Newcastle for parents and children from local primary schools. Families were able to enjoy a whole host of interactive attractions as well as special activities arranged by the Centre ranging from the fabulous Curiosity Zone which is 100% hands-on and full of exhibits which brought out the inner scientist in some parents, through to the spectacular 4D Motion Ride, where families experienced every twist and turn in time to the 3D action on screen. There were also Planetarium and Science Theatre Shows to enjoy, plus the Young Explorer's Zone. The coach home was buzzing with excited discussions about what had been the most enjoyable part of the day, Hover Chase, a high octane adventure during which state of the art hover bikes and their riders are pushed to their limits as they vie for pole position in a race that sees them travelling through tricky terrains and landscapes, was the out and out winner. Families had an ideal opportunity to experience a whole range of learning opportunities, as well as enjoying a day out together. In the words of one parent, "This has been an absolutely fantastic opportunity to spend time together as a family, the great part being that the children don't even realize that this is learning!"

Council & Police Decide on Road Closures

Dear Mrs Wild,
Ref: Road Closure for Aycliffe Run

We are very sorry that you have been inconvenienced, this has never been our intention. The Aycliffe 10K is one of the town's most prestigious events with over 300 competitors

from all over the north taking part. It has been run for the last 15-years using the same route, at the same time of day and date (Fathers Day). The race is an opportunity for the town to celebrate their support for these athletes many of whom achieve personal best performances against strong competition.

In a world where personal fitness is in decline, this event is an inspiration to many on the town to take up running to improve their personal health and well-being.

It is the County Council and the Police who decide following a risk assessment which roads will be closed or partially closed. The marshals are all Aycliffe Running Club volunteers who give up their time to ensure the safety of the event in accordance with this risk assessment.

Burnhill Way is fully closed as this is where the mass 300 competitor start takes place. If we break the terms of the risk assessment then the County Council and Police are within their rights to stop the event on safety grounds.

To minimise disruption and to allow local residents to plan in advance we do all we can to inform them of the forthcoming event and road closures. It is included in the Town Council's Diary of events, we display road signs at least one week in advance advising of the timing of the road closures and we have a notice printed in The Newton Press. Other than this it is difficult to know what else it is reasonable for the organisers to do. Aycliffe Running Club.

Woodham's Annual Concert

Preparations are well under way for the Annual Summer Music Concert at Woodham Community Technology College which will take place on Thursday 5th July at 7.00 p.m. in the Main Hall of the College.

This will be a very entertaining evening featuring a mixture of solos, group performances and larger ensembles, such as the college's samba band and vocal groups. For the first time, this year's concert will feature performances from pupils from Newton Aycliffe Primary Schools.

It looks to be a truly "student centred" concert, so please come along and join us. You are sure to be entertained with some very well known musical items. Tickets are available from the college priced at £3 each, £1.50 for concessions, to include refreshments. For further information please contact the college on 01325 300328.

NEWTON NEWS

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POLITICAL MYOPIA

Dear Sir,
It is impossible - as was suggested in last week's Newton News - to conduct local council politics in a parochial vacuum.

Take for instance, public health funding. The government's NHS Act, will take local public health functions (from routine screening programmes to preparations for a full-blown public health emergency) away from the former Primary Care Trust and will place them under the control of Durham County Council.

At the same time, however, the interim recommendations of the government's Advisory Committee on Resource Allocation (ACRA) propose new public health funding criteria which will reduce the public health budget in County

Durham from £43million to £23million.

Thus the government is going to transfer public health services to the County Council just as it is set almost to halve the funding for County Durham ... which means if we are to maintain a decent public health service, we need to campaign for a change of policy at national level.

Similarly, if they are to accomplish anything of benefit to the people of Aycliffe, Councillors need to be aware of other wider issues, on housing, the economy, environmental developments, welfare benefits etc.

Of course, my colleagues in the Labour Party know this well, and have for decades framed local decisions in their wider context. I am different to them only inasmuch as I believe that people have a right to know the wider context for these local decisions, and need to be given the opportunity to express their opinions and join the campaigns about these broader issues - hence my regular letters and reports in the Newton News.

I cannot express how exasperating it is, given the devastating 'big issues' at stake, to see, week after week, letters which demand that we eschew what they denigrate as 'party politics', and which reduce our local politics to petty ad hominem attacks.

John D Clare
PS It is pointless at this stage writing to the government about the ACRA proposals, but our excellent MP is challenging the government on this at Westminster. It would help his case if dozens-of-letters were sent to phil.wilson.mp@parliament.uk.

In the meantime, I blog at <http://bit.ly/JC-rant>; or you can follow me on twitter @ johndclare. If you want a response which goes faster than one comment a week, why not join the Aycliffe Labour facebook page at <http://on.fb.me/Aycliffe>, and follow the issues there.



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Osteopath Talks to Local Employers



Local osteopath Melanie Rowland was the guest speaker at a meeting of the South West Durham Business Network last week held at The Hub on the Business Park. Melanie spoke about the need to sit correctly and maintain a healthy posture. Back pain and other muscular-skeletal problems cost business millions of pounds in lost productivity every year. Melanie a Consultant Ergonomist works with businesses to decrease absenteeism and increase productivity,

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Aycliffe Youngsters Learn to be Responsible Drivers

VEHICLE EDUCATION AT YOUTH CENTRE

Car crash footage is being used as a graphic illustration to send youngsters on the road to responsible driving. The scenes, as well as demonstrations of people being cut from crashed cars, are just part of a Vehicle Education Programme aimed at 14 to 19-year-olds in Newton Aycliffe.

The series of workshops range from car and motorbike maintenance to the tragic results of dangerous and drunk driving. 100 pupils from Woodham and Greenfield Colleges, are taking part. Police, fire and Prison officers will be on hand to offer help and advice as well as top tips from local driving instructors.

Jenny Walton, programme Coordinator, Newton Aycliffe Youth Development Team, said: "We are looking to educate young people on how to become safe and responsible users and owners of cars and motorbikes and highlight the dangers of taking risks. Shock tactics such as watching video and photo footage of crash scenes and young people being cut out of scrap cars will all add to the experience.



They will be challenged to examine their attitudes to owning and driving cars and motorbikes and taking responsibility" The project is also offering 10-week intensive courses for learner drivers and licence holders in a bid to challenge and change perceptions.

The programme has been funded by the Home Office to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and improve community safety. The workshops are held

at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre on Monday June 25, Friday June 29 and Tuesday July 17th.

Blind Son Expected to Cut my Grass

Dear Sir,
After reading the article in the Newton News about the grass cutting service for elderly residents - I find that I am not alone with this problem.

Three of my neighbours have lawns cut and two of those have people who could do it or have the money to pay for it to be done.

I too was also refused even though I am 70 years old and receive the benefit that would qualify me, I was told that because I have a son who lives within a 20 mile radius he would have to do it.

My son suffers with arthritis and is registered blind. I have a large front garden and a very big back garden, I wish I was fit enough to do it myself, but I have back problems and osteoarthritis, so I can't manage it.

The landlord just don't seem to have any sympathy at all for its elderly tenants, in some gardens the grass is almost 2 feet high and on our pensions we can't afford to pay people to do it.

Name and address supplied

Railway History Talk

On Wednesday 4th July at 7pm in Aycliffe Village Hall, Aycliffe Village Local History Society will host a talk by Geoff Hughes entitled George and Robert Stephenson: a Railway History. All are welcome members £1 non members £2. Further details 01325 301093.

CALLING FOOTBALL TEAMS

Are you mad about Football? Then why not come and join one of the Leagues at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex. We have three Leagues which run on Monday, Thursday & Sunday evenings. Games Start at 6pm - last kick off 10.00pm

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Race Night

The Cubby are holding a Charity Race Night, in aid of Cancer Support, at Newton Aycliffe WMC "The Big Club" on Sunday 22nd July from 7pm - 11pm. Tickets are £2.50p available from Coral Betting Shop next to the Big Club and The Cubby. You may also pay at the door.

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STREET COMPETITION NATIONWIDE QUALIFIER 2012 LEE GREEN DANCE CENTRE RESULTS

Results of the Competition held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on 17th June, 2012:

3-5 years Rosettes – Solo
Grace Watson – 7th Place
6-8 years Rosettes – Solo/
Girls
Amy Dolan – 2nd Place
Romie Cowens – 5th Place
Drew Shaw – Qualified
6-8 years Rosettes – Solo/
Boys
Ryan Jones – 3rd Place
6-10 Stardance – Solo
Kira Watson – 3rd Place
Abbie Kennedy – 5th Place
Rachel Bennett – Qualified
10-13 years – Solo / Girls
Kasia Shaw – Qualified
Reegan Henn – Qualified
Beatrice Lineton – Qualified
10-13 years – Solo / Boys
Reece Atherton – 3rd Place
14-17 years – Solo
Annis Race – 2nd Place
Brittany Knight – 6th Place
Kalya Shaw – Qualified
Chloe Farley – Qualified
Georgia Wakefield – Qualified
18-25 years – Solo
Jade Wakefield – Qualified
Under 9 years – Duos
Romie Cowens and Amy Dolan – Qualified
Drew Shaw and Ryan Jones – Qualified
10-13 years – Duos Girl / Girl
Abbie Kennedy and Beatrice Lineton – 5th Place
Rachel Bennett and Kira Watson – Qualified
10-13 years – Duos Girl /

Boy
Libbie Anderson and Reece Atherton – Qualified
14-17 years – Duos Girl/
Girl
Georgia Wakefield and Lauren Archer – Qualified
Emily Kavanagh and Kasia Shaw – Qualified
Up to 12 years Quads
Lisa Robinson, Rachel Bennett, Olivia Archer and Reece Atherton – 4th Place
13-17 years Quads
Charley Haigh, Lauren Archer, Annis Race and Chloe Farley – 2nd Place
Stephanie Wilson, Kalya Shaw, Katie Bain and Georgia Wakefield – 4th Place
Reegan Henn, Kasia Shaw, Daniela Winwood and Emily Kavanagh – Qualified
10-13 years team – Toy Shop (6th Place)
Romie Cowens, Olivia Archer, Abbie Kennedy, Lisa Robinson, Kira Watson, Beatrice Lineton, Amy Dolan, Jasmin Jones, Rachel Bennett and Charlotte Rowley.
14 – 17 years team – Blackout (2nd Place)
Reece Atherton, Libbie Anderson, Daniela Winwood, Annis Race, Lauren Archer, Kalya Shaw, Emily Kavanagh, Chloe Farley, Georgia Wakefield, Charley Haigh, Kasia Shaw. Anyone interested in joining Lee Green Dance Centre can ring 318239.

Swimathon for Josh's Wheels Raised £400

Dear Editor,
As some of your readers will remember from previous articles we have been fundraising to purchase a new wheelchair for Josh a 14 year old teenager with Cerebral Palsy who has outgrown his current wheelchair.
On the 31st May 2012 Josh's Uncle Stephen swam a sponsored mile. He was helped by Josh who swam alongside him to cheer him on. As seen from the photograph it all went swimmingly well and Stephen rose over £400 towards Josh's new chair.
The other good news is that on the 20th June Josh travelled to Birmingham and was assessed for his new chair which was ordered that day. It will take several weeks to build and as soon as he receives it we will send a picture for your readers. Josh and his family would like to thank everyone who has helped and been so generous at a time when everyone is feeling the pinch financially.

Thank you to a very generous local couple who saw our article in your paper and also to The Rotary Club Newton Aycliffe, local Woodham Charity-Sixteen Amateur Golf Society, Aycliffe born Chelsea Goal keeper Ross Turnbull, Josh's school Greenfield Community College and natural therapist Carole Dawson.
Thank you to Joshua's Granddad Brian who raised money at a fundraising luncheon and also other family members who have made kind donations and finally to all those lovely people who donated raffle prizes.
As we reported in an earlier article we have been so successful we raised the amount we needed much earlier than expected.
The total is £5734 which is incredible and means that we can put the money left over towards buying Josh a new specialist bike as he has outgrown his last one.
Sarah Jackson



SCHOOLS MEET TO CELEBRATE OLYMPICS



On Wednesday 20th June schools across the Sedgfield area took part in their own Olympic Opening Ceremony for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
As a school Greenfield have been upholding all the values of the games across many departments and celebrating the Olympics through lots of activities. The ceremony was to demonstrate and exhibit our commitment to the Olympic Games, for example, we had a huge area displaying work from Geography, English, COPE, Creative and Media.
We had music and photos to inspire other young people to be a part of the games, our own Torch bearer Sam Dawson to

share his experiences of the Torch Relay, a hula hoop challenge to try and achieve excellence and determined to be the best, even our individualised Greenfield Olympic Cupcakes designed by Miss Thurley (very tasty).
After the success of our exhibition, we moved into the main event of the night the showcase of all schools. Like the Olympic Ceremony we had a parade of all schools with our specially designed flag by Mitchell Dille (Year 8) where many members of the public commented on how fantastic it was. A special Olympic Guest Craig Heap (Gymnast) made an inspirational speech to share his amazing story of

how he became one of the best British Gymnasts. I think he was particularly impressed with our Cupcakes and would like to sample more by coming into Greenfield?
Finally our dancers were fantastic, a real credit to the school where their piece definitely was a true Olympic Gold Medal performance!!
Thanks to all parents and staff who came and supported and a big thanks to Courtne Mills, Kara Elston, Zoe Blakey, Sam Dobinson, Ben Potts, Rachel Layfield Carroll, Sam Dawson, Izzy Gardner and all the Greenfield Dancers for their time and efforts in truly making Greenfield proud!!
Miss Barnes.

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Places in Great North Run for Butterwick

Runners and joggers are being encouraged to take part in this year's Bupa Great North Run on Sunday 16th September for Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland.
Even if you were unsuccessful in securing your own place in the ballot Butterwick Hospice still have a number of guaranteed places available.
Mandy Shields, Fundraiser for Butterwick Hospice said 'the places we do have remaining will be allocated on a first come first served basis, so you will need to act fast'.
The Bupa Great North Run is the world's biggest half marathon and it can be difficult to get a place for the event. Those who sign up to raise money for Butterwick Hospice will not only secure their place but also receive a running vest, useful training tips and post race support at the charity village.
The closing date for entries into the Great North Run closes on Friday 29th June. For more information and to secure your place please call Mandy Shields on 01642 628930 or email mandyshields@butterwick.org.uk

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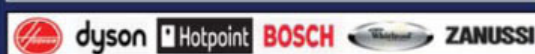
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Smear Test Recall for Aycliffe Women

Anna Lynch, director of public health at NHS County Durham and Darlington said: "Through our quality assurance process, we identified that some cervical smear tests taken at Bewick Crescent Surgery in Newton Aycliffe may not have reached a satisfactory standard. "As a precaution, we have written to approximately 1000 women inviting them to attend for a repeat test to confirm the results of their original test.

"The risk that any cervical abnormalities have not been picked up is very low, but as a precaution we have invited the women involved to attend for a repeat test and have set up extra appointments so they can be seen quickly. We have also arranged for their results to be available within two weeks of their test.

"Only women affected by this issue will receive a letter inviting them to attend for a repeat test. Women who do not receive a letter do not need to take any further action and should attend for their routine cervical screening test when advised.

"I would like to apologise to those women involved for any inconvenience or concern that this recall has raised, but would like to reassure them that this decision was taken in their best interests, is purely a precautionary measure and the risk to those women is very low."

Anne Lynch

CHARITY CONCERT

Tickets for MAD Production's 4th Charity Concert are now on sale. This concert has become a must for your diary and year on year the amount of money raised has increased. You can be sure of value for money with tickets only £5.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the concert will start at 7.30 p.m. Sonia Scott President of MAD Productions said "For almost 15 years we have been working with young people in the Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area enabling them to express themselves in dance and drama.

It has also awakened in young people an awareness to give something back to society. Over the past few years, with the support of Xcel Church and the kind use of the Xcel Centre we have been able to raise money for various charities.

The concert this year will take place on 8th October and will again be at the Xcel Centre on Long Tens Way. The year proceeds will go the Great North Air Ambulance. Tickets have remained at £5 each with children less than 12 years of age free if accompanied by an adult".

Tickets can be obtained by calling in at the Air Ambulance Warehouse, Northfield Way, Aycliffe Business Park, or calling the Youth Centre on 01325 307522 or email joanclark2011@live.co.uk with your contact details and to arrange collection

A Good Reason to Feel Happy

Dear Sir,
I would like to answer the query about the flags outside St Clare's Church. I thought it was a shame that an event as historic as the Olympic Flame coming through our town should attract no flags and bunting, so myself and a couple of friends decided to put some up.

We thought our neighbours would enjoy a bit of fun and razzmatazz and I am sure from remarks we have heard, most of them did. The Union Jacks were flown because this is our flag and we are patriotic. The flags of other countries were flown to show we welcome the nations of the world to Great Britain in friendly competition.

The flag of Wales was flown to remind us that, although they are taking part in the GB team, we must remember that each of our home countries has an identity of its own. It is good that we can come together and work in unison. I flew two flags not knowing which country they belonged to, which was our way of saying all countries of the world will be made welcome for the Olympic in the hope in the end we will all be friends. To be honest, another reason

was that those were the flags we had so they would have to do. Surely the point is that when someone tries to liven the place up to brighten up our lives for an hour or so they might not do it to your particular standard or taste. Surely it should be remembered that someone did something for the right reason, and with the best of intention. If they were given a bit of credit, thanks and support they might do more. Others might get to thinking about doing things for their community too. Wouldn't that be lovely? Give it a go and try saying something supportive, you'll be surprised how good it makes you feel. Please come to St. Clare's Saturday Coffee Morning, 10am to noon, and have a chat Mr Symington, the teas are on me and we always have a lively chat and a laugh. Newton News reported over 15,000 people turned out to see the flame so over half the town came out and enjoyed a happy, exciting event together. When will we see that again? Enough willing people and goodwill and we could find an excuse to be happy.

Ric Hargreaves

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Agnew Centre NEWS & VIEWS

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Tickets available now, limited to 60, from the Agnew Centre or ring the Centre Manager on 01325 321504 or 07749 236853 for other arrangements. The Mayor of Great Aycliffe Town Council, Councillor Val Raw has graciously accepted our invitation to attend this event.

PROBATION COMMUNITY PAYBACK

We are still using this service after nearly 3 years and are on to our 5th single placement in which they have to do a minimum of 6 hours work. We have found this to be beneficial to us and I am sure to them as we usually finish as good friends and the work ethic and quality of work has been good to excellent. We thank them and the probation service officers and staff for all of their work and cooperation with Agnew Community Centre.

HALL HIRE

We now have a Thursday Evening Free for hire and would prefer a regular booking such as a Bingo Club, Dance Club, Martial Arts Club or any usage that falls within our Hire Conditions. For more details call in or ring the Centre on 321504 office or 07749236853 for a viewing or information on this opportunity and remember a block booking brings the cost down even more than the already modest charges.

PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID COURSE.

This will be a two day accredited course and open to all at a cost of only £32-50 unless you are in receipt of ESA or JSA allowance and then it would be FREE. Course is on Tuesday 17th July and Thursday 19th July from 9am to 4-30pm on each day but please arrive 15 minutes early on the Tuesday to register. This course is invaluable to Registered child minders, Nannies & Babysitters, Teachers of Nursery, Primary & Juniors, people working in the field of childcare & anyone with a professional or non professional responsibility for children. To book your place, limited to 12, ring Jane on 07761 818514.

Parish Rector to Retire

The Revd Linda Potter, Rector of St. Clares Church, is retiring and leaving the parish this September.

Linda and her husband Norman are moving to live in Harrowgate, Linda's home Town.

More news about the Farewell Service in a future issue of Newton News.



Obituary

BRIAN WESTON 23rd June. Peacefully in hospital of Newton Aycliffe. Brian, aged 59 years, beloved Husband to Angela; much loved Dad to Kate and Laura; Father-in-Law to Austen and Stewart; dearly loved Grandpa to Louis, Alex and Oliver. Funeral on Monday 2nd July. Will friends please meet at 9.15am for Service in St Clare's Church followed by Cremation at Darlington

In Memoriam

Jeff Clark
4th July 2002

Treasured and special memories of our dear devoted friend Jeff.

Forever in our thoughts.

Georgie and Joy-Marie

JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. Loving memories of a dear Brother-in-Law and Uncle. To us you were so special, we only wish with all our hearts that you were here today. Love always, Carole, Adam and Matthew xxx

JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. In loving memory of a loving Brother and Uncle. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. Liz, Roger, Joanna, Chris, Martyn, Andrea 304206

THERESA WILLIAMS 30/03/1938 to 15/06/2012. The most wonderful Sister one could wish for. Greatly missed, Frank and family, R.I.P. xxxx

DES WALKER There will always be a heartache and often a silent tear. As we treasure the beautiful memories of the days when you were here. Love forever, Wife Julia and all the family xx

JOHN O'DONNELL 1st July 2010. Loved and missed every day. Always in our thoughts. Love, Jean, Gail, Mark, Alan, Bonnie, Caitlin and Ella

ROBERT CLELAND 1st July 1983. My one and only Son. Not a day goes by that I don't think about you. Love you always, Mam, Debbie and Jayne

Weddings

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Births

BURNISTON Dean, Leanne, Liam and David are happy to announce the safe arrival of "Sophia Leanne" on 21st June 2012, weighing 7lb 2oz. Thank you to everyone for cards and gifts

BURNISTON Congratulations Dean and Leanne on the birth of your gorgeous Daughter "Sophia Leanne" on 21st June 2012. Also beautiful Sister for Liam and David. Love from Mam, Dad and family xxxx

Birthday Remembrance

Agnes Williams
2nd July 1912
to
16th January 2011

No cards or flowers to one so dear, just a wish that you were here.

There's a special kind of love that's meant for you alone. A special place within our hearts that you will always own.

From all your loving family.
Miss you

Thank You

JOSEPH CARRUTHERS, Jean & family wish to thank everyone that came to say farewell to Joe and for the kind contributions for Heart & Stroke Research. He will be sadly missed.

DARREN JOHN STYLES would like to say a big thank you to Sam and Sam, they are a pair of lovely ladies. I do try to go to as many of their gigs as I can to help them out and support them. Even Sam and Sam let me get up and sing with them as well, so I get up and do the dance moves with them. I do miss them when I cannot go to see them, it really gets me down because when I do we all have such a hoot! So from the bottom of my heart, a big big thank you ladies you bring so much joy into my life xxx

A BIG THANK YOU to all my family and friends for a wonderful birthday. Love to you all, Mavis Pennington **THE FAMILY** of the late George Witton would like to express their sincere thanks to relatives, friends and neighbours for the kindness shown to them during their recent bereavement. Also for the many cards and generous donations received amounting to £500 between the Stroke Association and Cancer Research. Special thanks to Dr Ferguson; Sharon; the Other District Nurses; Carers Carol, Sarah and Diane from Unique Homecare who all did a wonderful job; Pastor Geoff Walvin for the Service and Gillian Marley and staff at the Cooperative Funeralcare.

Congratulations

Frances & David Burdess



Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary Mum and Dad

Love from Maxine & Tim, Tanya & Jon xxx
Happy Anniversary Nana & Granddad love from Cameron and Ameilia xxxx

Dave and Brenda Moore



Congratulations on your Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 1st July 2012
Lots of love, Stef, Michael, Sophie, Fay and Aaron xxx

Stuart Ross



Happy 50th Birthday Dad

Lots of love from Christa and Darren.

Happy 50th Birthday Granda

Lots of love and hugs from Alfie and Archie xxx

Happy 50th Birthday 30th June 2012

Have a great party. Lots of love from Angie, Cornelia and Poppy xxx

Anthony Smith-Race



Happy 18th Birthday 28th June 2012

Happy birthday to my beautiful Son. Love you so much. Love always, Mam xxx

Happy 18th Birthday
Love always, Chloe, Olivia and Owen xxx

Happy 18th Birthday
With love from Charmaine xxxxx

Danii-Marie Ashworth



Happy 18th Birthday (At Last!!!)

We are so proud of you and hope you enjoy your holiday on Sunday and family meal on Saturday. Love you big maffiss. Mum, Richie, Tyler, Charlii, Georgie and Kizzy

Danii-Marie Ashworth



Happy 18th Birthday

To a wonderful Granddaughter and Niece. Have a fantastic day. We love you loads, Nanna and Grandad, Uncle Julian and family, Uncle Trev and family, Uncle Anth and family, Uncle Ronnie and family

Stolen

GARDEN THEFT On Tuesday 26th June a large resin fairy sitting cross legged was stolen from 1 Markham Place. It is of immense sentimental value. Please, if you have taken it and have a conscience, found it dumped or bought it (I will reimburse), could you please return it? Thank you **STOLEN**, black wallet on Wednesday 27th from Woodham. No cash inside, cards all cancelled, sentimental items I would like returning. If found could you please call 07762 141996 anytime in confidence.

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WANTED - skilled maintenance person one day a week. Please contact David david@grantcc.co.uk 07736043509

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2 BEDROOM - Adamson St, Shildon - £350pcm. 3 bed - Langdale Place, Newton Aycliffe - £450pcm. Housing benefit welcome. Tel: 07540 640591

3 BEDROOM house in Arncliffe Place, £433 every 4 weeks. Tel 01325 312754

3 BEDROOM house Horndale area, ready now. £375.00 pcm, £400 bond plus guarantor required. Tel 07939 800126

2 BEDROOM in Mellanby Crescent, £450pcm. Bond required. Tel 07773 880430 after 4pm

3 BEDROOM detached house, garage, gardens, recent refurbishment. Suit professional couple, sorry no DSS. £500 bond, £540 per calendar month. Tel 07796 675099

For Sale

BARGAIN BUYS Bosch washing machine to rent, £3.99 a week! No deposit, no more unwanted repair bills. Tel 321678

MOBILITY scooter, fits in to car boot, good condition, £250. Tel 07931 699588

PROM/BRIDESMAIDS dress, long, sleek, strapless, purple, size 8/10, £100 . Tel 01325 312778

12ft TRAMPOLINE with slide, protection frame, £50 ono. Tel 07984 358976

BRAND NEW double divan with quilted Damask mattress, £120, can deliver. Tel 07789 113343

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TWO FRIDAY tickets for Leeds Festival (Foo Fighters headlining) £200 or exchange for a Leeds Weekend and camping ticket. Tel 07530 914282

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SPONSORED TWO DAY RIDE TO SEND AYCLIFFE VOLUNTEER TO GHANA

Chris Armstrong, his dad (Mark) and Uncle Richard are on a sponsored cycle ride on Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July to raise money for Project Trust (<http://www.projecttrust.org.uk>). The ride is 150 miles over 2 days, starting at Whitehaven in Cumbria and travelling East to Sunderland. You can sponsor them at <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/christopherjarmstrong>. Project Trust is a long established organisation which specialises in sending volunteers abroad. They were established in 1967 and have so far sent over 6,000 volunteers to over 60 different countries. The funding will enable Chris Armstrong to volunteer in Africa for 1 year helping to teach English and encourage extra-curricular activities for children in Ghana with Project Trust. Chris was invited by Project Trust to take part in a 4 day selection process in Scotland where they identified his football coaching skills and ability to work with and relate to children as particular strengths that would suit the Liati-Agbonrya Junior Secondary School in Ghana. The school has 109 students with five permanent teachers and four volunteer teachers.



Under 11's Runners Up in Cup Competition



Heighington Boys Under 11's, who play their matches in the Russell Foster 9v9 league Division 1, were runners up in the Regent Decorators Trophy, narrowly missing out to Farrington.

The picture shows some of the players picking up their trophies at the recent presentation evening at Rainton Meadows. Manager and Coach, Jim Barr and Scott McConville would like to thank the kids for all their effort in what has been a very successful season. The Club will also soon have their own purpose built changing rooms and are looking to find new coaches and expand the number of teams especially attracting younger age groups within the club.

They also have a massive fund

raising event next Saturday 30th of June, when Britains Got Talent performer Les Gibson will be on stage at the Big Club in Newton Aycliffe. Tickets are selling fast and can be bought for £10 from Manager Jim Barr (07899 862 079).

Line Dancing at Big Club

Beginner Line Dancing Classes will be held on Wednesday 4th July at Newton Aycliffe Workingmens Club - start dancing from 6.30 till 8.00pm. Cover charge only £2.00 per person, all welcome to join.



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ACTION-PACKED FAMILY FUN DAY AT MOORE LANE

Organisers of an annual family fun day say this year's action-packed event will be bigger than ever!

Weather permitting, Newton Aycliffe FC are expecting their biggest attendance for next weekend's summer extravaganza, being held at their Moore Lane Park within the grounds of Aycliffe Sports Club, from 11am to 3pm on Sunday 8th July.

Organiser Barry Waters, the club's sponsorship and

advertising manager, says

"There's more and newer attractions at this year's fun day. There will be a tombola, bouncy castle, coconut shy, face-painting and a speed goal, while new features will include a tea cup ride for little ones, a maze, a ladder challenge, a Tae Kwon Do demonstration, shuggy boats, mini golf and much more."

The town's MP Phil Wilson, (Aycliffe FC's President), will also be in attendance on the day. "It promises to be a really entertaining and fun day, and I would like to thank Newton Press and Newton News for their kind and generous sponsorship of this family event," said Barry (pictured).

"We just need the weather to be kind to us now!" Aycliffe's fun day will also include a table top sale (£5 a table), and spaces are still available. Anyone who'd like to get involved can contact Barry on 07864 718243, or email barrywaters212@msn.com.

Aycliffe players are looking forward to a huge pre-season friendly against Premier League neighbours Sunderland in three weeks time. The Black Cats will send a team to Moore Lane Park on Friday 20th July (7.30pm kick-off), with



tickets priced £5 adults and £3 concessions.

Aycliffe's pre-season programme starts with a warm-up game against the club's Under-18s side on Wednesday 11th July (7.30pm), followed by Merton AFC at home on Saturday 14th July (3pm kick-off).

Aycliffe are also set to welcome Blue Square Conference North side Harrogate Town for their second-biggest friendly on Friday 3rd August (7.30pm) before the 2012-13 season starts with the FA Cup extra preliminary round on Saturday 11th August.

The Blues' league campaign kicks off with a trip to Marske United on Saturday 18th August, with the first home game against Hebburn Town on Wednesday 22nd August.

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