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# NEWTON NEWS

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Week Ending 25th March, 2005

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## All Borough Businesses Invited to AGM

Sedgefield Borough Business Forum is holding its annual meeting on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2005 (2.00pm) at Sedgefield Business Centre on Aycliffe Industrial Park. This is an excellent opportunity for businesses to attend and find out more about the Forum, as well as providing the opportunity to join the Steering Group. The Steering Group, which manages the Forum, is made up of a dynamic mix of businesses from across the Borough. Places are available to all businesses regardless of size and sector. Sedgefield Borough Business Forum is a private sector led partnership established to provide companies with opportunities to network and exchange ideas. A varied programme of events, seminars and meetings also provides local businesses with the opportunity to raise issues affecting them. Forum activities include the forthcoming Intertrading Event in June, several company visits and regular seminars keeping you and your business up to date with general business issues. Business Forum events have successfully given businesses the opportunity to extend contacts and business opportunities in

an effective and inexpensive way. They enable firms to promote their products and services and develop new contacts, suppliers and customers. To find out more about how you can contribute to making Sedgefield Borough Business Forum work for your business, contact Anthea Taylor, Sedgefield Borough Business Service, on (01325) 307270.

## Front Page Letter What's Going on in the Town Centre?

Dear Sir,  
Could somebody please give an account of the status of our town centre re-development? We were last informed in the Newton News last year, that work on phase 2 would commence late Autumn 2004. It appears now that the project has stalled. The contractors have upped sticks and left the site. Curiously, for a development where not all

of the first phase has been let and a second phase has been planned, there seems to be little effort on behalf of the agents Kings Sturge to market the site. Their web site guides visitors to developments all over the North East, with no mention of Aycliffe town centre. This coupled with the recent curious announcement from the police about moving elsewhere in the town centre, suggests that all is not as it seems or should be with respect to our town centre re-development. Firm assurances of current plans along with timescales need to be given to the residents of the town, to provide them with a level of confidence that the scheme as originally presented will not become yet another half finished project or unrealised pipe dream. Residents have waited too long for a town centre they deserve. Rob Kirton Woodham Gate Editor: We know from Council minutes that progress is being made, despite some delays, but an update is due. Unfortunately we could not get any information from the Borough Council due to staff absences.

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### Easter Bank Holiday Madness at [www.blakespub.com](http://www.blakespub.com)

The Thames Centre, Newton Aycliffe - 320720

<b>THU</b> 24th	<b>"DJ MARTIN" - Drinks Offers</b> Fosters £1.70; Smooth £1.60; VK £1.60 8pm-12 (offers only with this advert)
<b>FRI</b> 25th	<b>"DJ JOHNNY H" from Escapade</b> Happy Hour 7-9.30pm, Free entry till 10pm £3 after 10pm - Open till late
<b>SAT</b> 26th	<b>"DJ ALAN" - Drinks Offers</b> Happy Hour 7-9.30pm, Free entry till 10pm £2.50 after 10pm - Open till late
<b>SUN</b> 27th	<b>SUNDAY LUNCH 12-3pm</b> £3.50 (kids), £4.95 (adults) <b>DJ &amp; Karaoke "Alan"</b> from 3pm-Midnight No entry after 11pm (any Sunday)
<b>MON</b> 28th	<b>"DJ MARCUSVEE" from Salou</b> 8pm till late Fosters £1.70, Smooth £1.60, VK £1.60

All Drinks offers valid only with this advert

## Coffee Morning

St Clares Church Hall Spring Coffee Morning, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 10am till Noon. St Clares Mother Union are holding a Coffee Morning to raise money for Church funds.

Come along and enjoy a coffee and other refreshments with friends, buy your home baked cakes from our popular cake stall and try your luck on the raffle and tombola.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Eggciting Easter Event at Aycliffe

As promised, the Easter family event is back, and to make it even more 'egg'citing, we're going to run the Duck Race later in the afternoon. The event will take place on Easter Monday 28th March at AYCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL. 1pm-4pm.

It's time to do all of those craft activities you've watched on Blue Peter (and sat there saying, "I could do better than that!"). There will be egg decoration - you can bring along anything you want to decorate the eggs, but the egg must be 'bare' when you arrive - no 'egg'ceptions!

In the best Blue Peter traditions, you can make an Easter Bonnet on the day, or bring one that you made earlier. Families can enter a village wide photo hunt, good 'egg'cercise and a chance to win a stash of chocolate eggs too. You can buy a duck on the day or bring your own favourite ducky to the race. All entries for the race are £1. Remember, you can phone a friend, or nominate someone else to watch over your racing duck! The event is for all of the family, but no dogs called 'Shep', tortoisecalled 'Fred' or gardeners called 'Percy' will be allowed. Further details contact 07803 123 653.

## FOOD FESTIVAL AT AUCKLAND CASTLE

Auckland Castle will once again provide the perfect back drop for the Bishop Auckland Food Festival. Preparations are well on the way for an exciting and packed programme. The Festival will commence at 10.00am on Easter Saturday (March 26<sup>th</sup>). From the moment you walk through the entrance gates to the Bishops Park the pathway is lined with stalls, involving community projects, recycling, a barrel organ and sweets from yesteryear.

The palace grounds have over 30 food stalls registered with a fantastic selection of culinary delights. Dairy products include a wide range of local cheeses from "The Northumberland Cheese Company", and you will no doubt be tempted to sample the delights of Wheelbriks, Jersey Ice Cream.

Other products range from organic vegetables, free range chickens and eggs, preserves and soups, pickles and preserves, oils and vinegars, as well as home baked scones biscuits.

Within the grounds there are cookery and floristry demonstrations in the Castle Marquee. Local cafe and restaurant owner from the town "Kelly Anne's" will demonstrate to visitors some mouth-watering chocolate creations.

Visitors are invited to enter the castle "free of charge" to view the craft fete. Once again over 25 exhibitors have registered with their crafts including wood turning, hand blown glass, jewellery, upholstery ceramics, hand painted china, water colours, carved walking sticks, embroidered gifts, and hand crafted plaques to name but a few. Through out the day there are programmed tours of the Palace Chapel accompanied by solo performances from the "Sweet Carolina's". To make your visit complete enjoy your refreshments in the Throne Room, where there is a varied menu of snacks and light lunches being served throughout the day.

## CAVOS Community Event

Help us to help you in your community

CAVOS (Community and Voluntary Organisations Sedgefield) is holding a community event to promote the support available to help community groups and volunteers.

CAVOS provides training and advice to many community groups on issues such as funding, becoming a charity, constitutions, finding and keeping volunteers, book-keeping and much more and would like to know what the needs of your group are.

If you are part of a group and would like to put up a display to promote yourselves contact CAVOS, otherwise just drop in at the event and see what's on offer.

An important aspect of the work of CAVOS is in providing support to people who are interested in volunteering. There will be information on what help and advice is available for individuals who may want to volunteer, and for groups who would like to involve more local people in their activities.

Anyone is welcome to come to the event, where there will be a wide range of advice and information to help support you as well as activities for adults and children. Free refreshments will be available all day.

The event will take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am - 3.30pm at Greenfield Community Arts College. Free transport can be made available from any part of the Borough by contacting CAVOS on 01325 313930

## Girl Football

Week 2 of the Durham mini soccer league saw the U14's facing an experienced Cleveland Hall. Despite taking the lead 3 times with goals from Robyn Molloy, Yasmin Allison and a superb volley from outside the box from Alex Jackson, the opposition finally earned a draw with a late converted penalty. Final score 3-3.

U12's were against older and stronger teams from Willington and Lumley. Despite a great team effort and some fine individual performances both games ended in defeat. Their only reward was a single goal from Hayley Gill against Willington.

There are still places available in both age groups. If you are in school year 6, 7 or 8 and want to play competitive football ring Berni 0780 395 3960

## LAUNCH OF IDEAL HOME & GARDEN SHOW IN SCOTLAND

Summertime . . . and the living is easy

Are your home and garden looking hot for the summer? If you are preparing for some seasonal entertaining, just looking forward to relaxing in the sunshine or wanting to turn your living space into a sanctuary but need some direction, all your problems could be solved at an exciting new show this spring at the SECC in Glasgow. The first ever Ideal Home & Garden Show in Scotland, exhibiting a host of great ideas for both indoors and outdoors.

The new show will take on a seasonal focus, offering the latest in all garden and leisure products as well as showcasing trends in home interiors for the spring and summer months ahead. This is your chance to browse and buy the latest styles for the home and outdoor living. Key attractions at the show will include; a Masterclass Demonstration Theatre hosted by BBC Beechgrove Garden's Lynn Harris; contemporary room designs and small space garden solutions for the summer; the Freestyle Men's Gadget Zone, a free one to one interior design service, and a stunning central feature of gloriously colourful spring gardens designed by Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Flowers.

According to recent research, over 85% of Scots have gardens and 75% of us use them for relaxing, while 57% enjoy barbecues and entertaining friends outdoors. With 50% possessing a patio and 70% garden furniture, it is obvious that we enjoy making the most of our gardens - when weather permits.

Show manager, Robin Beaman, comments:

"With such a focus on the garden as part of today's lifestyle, we are delighted to be launching our new show at this time of year, when people's thoughts turn to the outdoors as well as indoors. Gardens have now become an extension of the home as people want to enjoy relaxing and entertaining friends in an outdoor environment that is as stylish and comfortable as the inside of their home."

If you want to have your home and garden both looking fresh and ready for some easy living for next summer, visit the Ideal Home & Garden Show at the SECC, Glasgow, from 8th-17th April 2005.

Newton News has joined forces with the Ideal Home & Garden Show to offer FIVE lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the show. To enter the competition answer the following simple question:

Which major Scottish town is this years show held?

Send your entry to Ideal Home Competition

c/o Newton Press

St Cuthberts Way

Newton Aycliffe

Co. Durham DL5 6DX

Draw will take place on Wednesday 30th March 2005. If you're not lucky enough to win, why not book tickets online at [www.idealhomeandgardenshow.co.uk](http://www.idealhomeandgardenshow.co.uk) or call the Advance Ticket Hotline on: 08701 20 70 20

## ROTARY CLUB REVIVES COMMUNITY FAIR

### Town Organisations Given Free Exhibition Stands

If you run or are involved in any form of Hobbies Club, Social Group, Self Help organisation, voluntary group, locally based Charitable Organisation, Sports Club, in fact any kind of group that relies on membership for its own support and benefit, no matter how small or large, then this is the opportunity to show the people of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas what you do and recruit new members. AND IT IS ENTIRELY FREE!

The Rotary Club of

Newton Aycliffe with total support of Great Aycliffe Town Council and Sedgefield District Council are organising a Community Fair in the Leisure Centre in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre to take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2005**.

Stands will be allocated free of charge to all bona fide groups to show to the general public exactly what they do and how any one interested can join in their activities. Admission to the Community Fair will also be free.

The last time this event was held six years ago,

over 70 organisations were represented, all of whom agreed that the event was extremely worthwhile and effective for them in raising profiles and attracting new members to their different organisations. Take this opportunity NOW to register your interest, remember Toddlers to OAP's there is something for everyone in this town.....but people need to be told about it! It's free..you have nothing to lose...and everything to gain. Please complete the form below:

We wish to book a FREE stall at the Community Fair

Name of Organisation .....

Activities: .....

Number of Members: .....

Where you meet .....

Secretary:.....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... e-mail: .....

Please complete and hand in at Stevens, Town Centre or send to Newton Press  
St. Cuthberts Way, Aycliffe Industrial Park, Co. Durham DL5 6DX

## Local Travel Agent Aid Sugar Hill School



Staff at Hays Travel in Newton Aycliffe presented a cheque to the headmaster of a local school on Tuesday after raising over £600 hosting a fundraising quiz night.

The travel agents arranged the charity quiz night to raise money to go towards the rebuilding of the playground at Sugar Hill School after it was destroyed by vandals last year.

The quiz night took place at Woodham Golf Club on the 20th December last year. The Hays Travel girls managed to raise £614.22 by charging people entry to the quiz and selling raffle tickets on the night. Raffle prizes included a £100 Hays Travel voucher, a lawnmower and plenty of bottles of champagne, with all prizes being donated by local businesses.

Linda Smithson, manager of Hays Travel in Newton Aycliffe, said: "It was a really enjoyable evening. I don't know how many people were there exactly, but we managed to fill the Golf Club and it looked like a good time was had by all. It was such a shame when Sugar Hill's school was destroyed by vandals, I'm really pleased that Hays Travel has been able to raise so much money to help rebuild somewhere for the kids to play."

Vandals destroyed the school's fortress style playground just over a year ago. It is going to cost Sugar Hill around £8000 to build a new play area for the children.

Sugar Hill School's headmaster, Frank Ridley, said: "We're all really grateful for the support that Hays Travel have shown us by holding their quiz night at Christmas. I'm sure the money raised will give the kids miles of pleasure."

## Brownie's Jumble Sale

5th Newton Aycliffe Brownies are having a Jumble Sale and Tombola in St. Clare's Church hall on Tuesday 29th March. Doors open 10.00am - 12.00 noon. Admission free. Please come and support us.

Thanks

Lynne Addy, Unit Guider

## EASTER IN AYCLIFFE SHOPPING CENTRE

CELEBRATE  
EASTER WITH  
**TONY JUNIOR**

All Round  
Entertainer

# KIDS

Have your face painted **FREE!**  
Look just like Bugs Bunny

**Saturday 26th March**  
**10.00am - 4.00pm**



## Disabled Person's Swing Ruined by Vandals

Dear Sir  
I'm writing this letter on behalf of a person who has severe learning disabilities.  
May I through the Newton News ask the mindless and cruel individuals who crept into the garden of the home where she lives, WHY they vandalised her swing? The perpetrators know who they are and what they were doing when they snook into the grounds of the house on Burn Lane in Newton Aycliffe. The lady is afraid of the outside world and becomes very anxious out in public. One of the few things she enjoys outdoors is her swing, which was specially made for her and is now no longer usable as it is not safe.  
"So the next time you are going to destroy something belonging to someone else, please think of the damage and upset you may be causing them"  
Yours sincerely,  
L Hauxwell

## Shafto's Change-Inn . . .

County Durham's newest eatery will be throwing its doors open on Friday March 18th. Over recent weeks, Shafto's Inn & Restaurant, in Whitworth Hall Country Park near Spennymoor has undergone an exciting transformation and re-opens on the 18th March to unveil the region's newest dining experience. A more open-plan layout and a fresh new look mean a lighter, brighter restaurant environment. Gone are the days of customers queuing at the till to place their orders - a new waiter service means that Shafto's customers enjoy a more personal service and a more relaxed dining experience than other pub-restaurants can offer. An inventive menu for all the family gives a new value for money. Choose tastes from 7 nations, great British favourites or a fresh lighter option from the brand new self-service salad bar. Adult main courses include a complimentary trip to the salad bar Monday - Saturday, and on Sunday Shafto's inn offers a great range of roasts and alternatives for all the family. Bobby Shafto's Playbar will continue to provide popular indoor and outdoor play facilities for children, and customers can still of course finish their visit to Shafto's Inn with a wander around the parkland where Bonnie Bobby Shafto grew up and hand feed the deer who have grazed there for centuries.  
As a thank you to customers visiting on the 18th March, and throughout the two week Easter period, Shafto's Inn will be issuing vouchers and promotions to redeem against a future visit to this new dining experience as well as offering customers the chance to win an overnight stay at the luxurious Whitworth Hall Country Park Hotel. So don't delay! Call Shafto's Inn on 01388 819 737 to make your reservation, start saving, and see what all the fuss is about . . .

## NEWTON AYCLIFFE MOBILITY CLUB

### APOLOGY TO LEGION

In last weeks article on the search for our own premises I stated that we only met in the British Legion once a fortnight. Some in the Legion thought that this was a criticism of them but I would like to say that none was meant and apologise unreservedly.  
In fact without their help and support we would find it difficult to operate at all. It is just that with our own premises we could vastly expand our activities and help for those with mobility problems.  
Ernie Wilson  
Press Officer

## Bubbly First Year for Estate Agent Staff

STAFF at a Newton Aycliffe estate agency were taken by surprise this week when boss Gordon Carver called in with a bottle of champagne for them to share. The director of Carver Residential dropped off the bubbly as a thank you to the four-strong team for its hard work since the Dalton Way office opened a year ago.  
Mr Carver said manager David Tinkler, sales negotiators Michelle Alderson and Katrina Powell and mortgage consultant David Carlin had all contributed to making Newton Aycliffe the most successful of the company's four offices over the last 12 months.  
"They exceeded the branch targets by 20 percent which is a fantastic achievement in the first year of our return to the town," he said.  
Branch Manager David Tinkler added: "Our first year in Newton Aycliffe has been a huge success and I have been fortunate to have worked with three excellent members of staff whose enthusiasm and knowledge is second to none."  
Carvers links with Newton Aycliffe go back 20 years when, as Addison Hudson, it became the first estate agency to open a ground floor office in the town. Gordon himself was a property valuer at that time so knows the town well and had always been keen to re-establish the Carvers name in the local community.  
"Newton Aycliffe has never stopped growing in terms of new build and I wanted to get back in there and provide the value for money service that I don't believe its people were getting before," commented Gordon.  
Our business is driven by our staff - they are very experienced but, equally importantly, they care about the clients. We know from customer feedback that the staff's cheerfulness and willingness to help is much appreciated and ensures that clients feel they have received good service in all aspects of their dealing with us."



Delighted Michelle Alderson (left) David Tinkler and Katrina Powell from Carvers Residential in Newton Aycliffe look forward to sharing the champagne presented to them by boss Gordon Carver as a thank you for their hard work in the 12 months since the branch opened

## TRIP OF A LIFETIME FOR FLOWER ARRANGER



As a result of meeting with a lady from India, both competing in the same class at Chelsea Flower Show two years ago, Cynthia Scott of School Aycliffe made a firm friendship with Kavita from Calcutta and Madhvi who lives in Oman. Kavita spent time staying with Cynthia last summer and both competed in the National flower arranging competitions at Harrogate. E-mails have gone back and forth and the result has been the trip of a lifetime for Cynthia. There is a connection, Madhvi's daughter is married to Kavita's son. Cynthia first flew out to Muscat in Oman for the marriage of Madhvi's second daughter. An amazing affair which was spread over six days with a function each lunchtime and evening in a different venue and ending up with a full day Hindu wedding at the famous seven star Al Bustan Hotel where the ceremony was staged on lawns with the backdrop being the sea, on the most beautiful of days.  
The evening reception was for 3000 people, all in the open air on a balmy evening and everyone had drinks, alcohol free and a buffet meal with a band and singers giving forth in this beautifully illuminated setting. Cynthia as well as many others were given saris to wear on the wedding day. Next stop was Delhi for seven days, flying with Kavita and staying in her apartment. Quite a different atmosphere, such hustle and bustle but lots to see.  
Cynthia did a demonstration here and trained someone to do colour analysis. After two days in Agra to see the Taj Mahal they took off for Calcutta the family home. Here there were three demonstrations four workshops and some colour analysis to do. Ten very full days, Cynthia was amazed how talented and keen the ladies were, especially the ladies of the Pushpa Bitan flower club which was formed in 1980.  
The hospitality, friendship and generosity of the people was amazing, not a minute was spared from first thing each morning. A visit to Mother Teresa's place at 8am one morning

## CAVOS COMMUNITY EVENT

Greenfield School  
Wednesday 30th March  
10.30am - 3.30pm  
Are You Part of a Community Group?  
Would you like to find out what help and support there is for you?

### CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

Free stationery pack for groups filling in a 'healthcheck'

- \* Training \*
- \* Learn New Skills \*
- \* Advice \*
- \* Health Check \*

Free Refreshments All Welcome

Volunteering Opportunities Competitions

Transport can be available to help you attend - please ring CAVOS on 01325 313930 for information  
This event has been funded by Sedgfield Borough Council

## CASINO NIGHT

The Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland are having a fundraising Casino Night at The Morritt Arms Hotel, Greta Bridge, nr Barnard Castle on Saturday 14th May.

"The fun evening will include roulette and blackjack with "gaming chips" which players can accrue throughout the evening, then use to "Bid" in a "Blind Auction" for a selection of prizes", said Sylvia Stoneham, fundraiser for the Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland. Dress code is strictly in the theme of the event, with evening dress encouraged! Tickets, priced £20 including a buffet, are available from the Fundraising Department on 01388 603003 or The Morritt Arms Hotel, on 01833 627232.

### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Tuesday 5th April 2005  
Environment Committee - 7.15pm  
Tuesday 5th April 2005  
Recreation Committee - 7.15pm

### QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 30 minutes has been set aside for the public to ask questions of appropriate members of the Council at its Council Meeting. Questions should relate to the work of the Council or affect the Parish in some way and they should be given in writing to the Town Clerk at least five clear days prior to the date upon which they will be asked.  
The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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## £110 RAISED FOR RED NOSE DAY



Stephen Russel, Hairdressers raised £110 for Red Nose Day and thanks all clients for their support. Mrs Ann Porter won the prize for a makeover.

### Church Home Group Meeting

Meet new friends  
and discover  
the reality of God

Tuesdays 8-10pm  
Visitors Welcome

Contact Paul  
on 01325 307237  
Part of Kings Church, Darlington

## ANOTHER FIRST FOR BOROUGH WARDENS



Top Guns: Richie Brown (fifth from right) and his warden team receive their awards from Jigsaw training providers Tony Logue (left) and Alan Hammersly (extreme right).

It's another first for the path-finding Sedgefield Borough Council Neighbourhood Wardens Team.

Originally the first ever Community Force in the country, the Wardens have completed a number of training programmes to become the first to achieve Level 2 NVQ in their specialised field.

Last September the former Community Force was given a whole new look. Now Neighbourhood Wardens, they have been given a make over, new training and new powers to assist them in creating safer communities for our residents to live.

An accreditation scheme by Durham Constabulary has given the Neighbourhood Wardens powers, to issue fixed penalties in respect of dog fouling, littering, graffiti and request the name and address of individuals acting in an anti-social manner.

The Wardens can confiscate alcohol, cigarettes and tobacco from persons under the legal age. Those failing to comply with the enforcement are deemed as committing a criminal offence.

Sedgefield Borough's Neighbourhood Wardens' Manager, Richie Brown, said: "The Wardens have been through a major transition period. They have

undergone various training programmes provided and delivered by the Learning Skills Council Approved Training Facilitator, Jigsaw Training, and we are the first ever warden team to achieve a NVQ Level 2 in their field." The Wardens operate 9.00am-10.00pm and can be contacted on (01388) 721351.

## Town Operatic Society Reunion



To everyone who was connected with Newton Aycliffe Operatic Society in any way during the years 1963-1993 from its first to its final show (Sound of Music) 30 years later, whether on stage, back stage etc, a very warm welcome awaits you. The first production in May 1963 was a splendid success in spite of all the difficulties. Looking back we can see that the pioneers of the society founded not only an operatic group but also one of the most active and successful institutions of Newton Aycliffe. The Annual productions of the society were an integral part of the social life of the town and a great number of people thoroughly enjoyed the wide variety of shows, which the operatic society staged.

A reunion is being held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 7pm in the Windlestone Suite at the Eden Arms Hotel, Rushyford. All bookings to be made before 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Don't forget to bring your photographs with you. There will be a buffet supper and nostalgic music/ even clips of the good old days in Leeds - Tickets (to include buffet) £8.00. If you intend to come please contact Mr. Geoffrey J.L. Hindmarch on 01325 317383. To confirm you must book - Spread the word to everybody.

## STEVENS

NEWSAGENTS

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6 x USB Ports (2 front + 4 rear) Keyboard and Scroll Mouse, Speakers  
Windows XP, Power DVD

INTEL P3 - £200.00

256mb Memory, 20gb Hard Drive, 4xUSB Ports, CD Rom, Windows 98 SE,  
Microsoft Works, Keyboard, Mouse and Speakers plus a 15" CRT Monitor

Add 15" Monitor for £20.00 or 17" Monitor £35.00 (2nd User)

17" TFT Monitor with Speakers £195.00 (new)

Add Epson C46 Printer (inc Free USB cable) £46.99

(These prices are only available when purchasing a full PC system)

G5 MAC - £1500.00

Dual 2ghz Processor, 512mb DDR SD RAM, 150gb Hard Drive,  
17" TFT Monitor, Mac OS x, 64mb ATI RV350 Graphics  
Pioneer DVD-RW, Airport Extreme, Microdash Modem  
Including Keyboard, Mouse and Software

### Digital Camera Memory Cards



	Compact Flash	SD
256mb	£26.99	£29.99
512mb	£44.99	£44.99
1GB	£84.99	£84.99



USB Memory Sticks: 128mb £19.99 - 256mb £39.99

USB Printer Cable £4.99 - PC Power Cable £3.99

ADSL Line Filter £5.99

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USB MP3 512mb £45.00 - 256mb £35.00 (refurbished unit)

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Ritek Purple 50 pack DVD-R £34.99 £27.99

Datawrite 25 pack DVD-R £12.99 £8.99

Datasafe (Ritek) 25 pack DVD-R £19.99 £14.99

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Ritek Printable 25 pack DVD-R £17.99 £14.99

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## Neville Community Centre

**Neville Parade**  
Wanted for a senior citizen. A three-piece suite in good condition. If you have one for disposal and are willing to donate it please ring Peter Beaty 01325 313924.  
**Table Top Sale** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 9am-1pm. To hire a table to sell your own goods at £5 ring 313924.

**Activities at Neville Community Centre**  
**Monday** Bingo 7pm doors 6pm  
**Tuesday** Slimfit slimming club 10.00am, Karate 7pm  
**Wednesday** Luncheon club 12.30 entertainment 1.15pm, bingo 2.15pm

everyone welcome to join us. Ring 313924 for details.  
**Thursday** Art classes, decoupage, cross-stitch 10-12noon, whist 12.30pm, dance (children) 5.30-7.30pm  
**Friday** coffee morning with video 10-12 - Pop in  
**Saturday** special events  
**Sunday** Karate 10.30-1.30, private band practice 4-6pm  
To join any of these clubs turn up 15 minutes before starting time.

**Halls to Hire**  
(A) To set away your own club  
(B) Funeral teas, weddings, parties, sales etc Ring 01325 313924 for details

## Letters to the Editor Another Town Councillor Rejected

Dear Editor  
I have been informed that I have not been selected by the Labour Party to stand as a candidate in Aycliffe North in the May 2005 County Council Elections. The Labour Party has publicly said that this selection is due to the need to increase the number of female Councillors in County Durham, but I am convinced that this is an excuse.

In reality, some Labour Aycliffe Town and Sedgfield Borough Councillors are unhappy with my strong opposition to their plan to break up County Durham to form three weak Council in the referendum at the end of 2004.

Voters sided with me but these politicians are now trying to settle some old scores. They do not care about who is able to serve the people of Aycliffe North. They simply consider me a thorn in their side and want me removed. I have always been prepared to speak up for Aycliffe North and think my record proves that my voice has been heard. Despite being a life-long member of the Labour Party, I think that the actions of these few people are misplaced.

After thinking about the situation carefully, I have decided to stand as an Independent candidate in the May elections and will be passionately representing your views, as I always have done, all the way up to voting day. With your vote on May 5th I will continue to represent you for the next four years with same enthusiasm that I always have.

Yours sincerely,  
County Councillor  
Terry Hogan

## Clairvoyant Night at Aycliffe

An evening of clairvoyance is being staged in aid of Darlington Samaritans at Aycliffe Leisure Centre on Thursday, April 7. It will feature Les Henderson and Jean Clayton from Darlington Spiritualist Church and starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.00 in advance and £6.00 on the door. Cheques can be made payable to Darlington Samaritans. Donations towards a raffle would be welcomed. All enquiries to (01325) 465465.

## Thank Goodness for Free Press

Dear Sir  
We need to appreciate the sterling service to us all of a free press in its role of investigation and information on issues of local and national importance. Without that free press we would be subject to those telling us only what they would have us know, not what we need to know, to make decisions on issues affecting our daily lives. So we hear of the North East Assembly's enhanced powers from Whitehall since and despite its rejection by the people. And of a hundred such-like government appointed bodies in the North East, answerable and accountable to Whitehall, and spending millions of taxpayers cash as dictated by London officialdom. And, of financial advisers predictions that the "£200 for every pensioner paying council tax" will be subject to conditions to be clarified before it is paid in September, along with the Winter Fuel payments, long after the voting in a General Election.

Sadly, we are dependant on scrutiny by the press to alert us to information we are entitled to from both local and national government as of right under the Freedom of Information Act and a particular duty to us from our elected representatives.

Not as some seem to think, to political parties. If that were so, political parties should pay members to represent them. Whilst in fact, Elected Members prime duty is to their electorate. However, reality dictates we need to be thankful for a free press, for the service it renders us, rather than increasingly expensive, and significantly silent, elected 'representatives'? Might it be we would be better served by reading a paper?

Don Fraser

## Mobile is Better

Dear Sir  
Last week I noted "Nicolas" letter about mobile hairdressers and her bad experience. About 6 or 7 months ago, I too answered a Newton News advertisement for a mobile, top salon trained hairdresser and this lady has been coming to my home regularly ever since. She is extremely pleasant, very dependable and does my hair exactly as I ask, even fitting me in urgently on 2 occasions when I had to go into hospital. Yes, her phone is occasionally switched off, everyone must have some time to themselves after all, but when I have left a message, she has always got back to me, even on one occasion apologising because she had been on holiday! I would certainly far rather be attended to by her than go to some hairdressing salons which have left me with frizzy perms and irregular haircuts.  
June Heads



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Apassionata (Horse Show)	09-04-05	Coach & Ticket, Newcastle	£36.00
Luxury London W'end	09-04-05	2 days B&B 4* Hilton	£69.50
Oxford & Cotswolds	16-04-05	2 days HB 4* Hilton	£75.00
Scarborough	22-04-05	4 days HB 3* Grand Hotel	£99.00
Killarney	24-04-05	6 days B&B 3* Gleneagles Hotel	£245.00
Alton Towers	30-04-05	2 days B&B 3* Hotel 2 day pass Child	£89.00
Legoland	30-04-05	2 days HB 4* Hilton + Pass Child	£79.00
McFly	25-04-05	Coach & Ticket, Newcastle	£59.00
Beauty & the Beast	25-09-05	Coach & Ticket, Sunderland	£32.00
Disney on Ice	15-10-05	Coach & Ticket, Newcastle	£29.50

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## FAIR AT POW CAMP

The Butterwick Hospice are organising a Collectors Fair at Harperley P.O.W. Camp, near Wolsingham on Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th August 2005.

For details, prices of tables and availability please contact the Fundraising Department on 01388 603003 or Fortune Court.

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## Public Notice

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PSYCHIC Development classes restart on 4th and 8th April at Woodham Village Community Centre. DCC concessions apply. Contact Ann Marshall for further details 313654

S.A.C.A. A.G.M. 29th March 8.00pm. All welcome

FERRYHILL AMATEUR OPERATIC Society presents "Thank you for the Music" in Mainsforth and District Community Centre, Ferryhill Station on 14th, 15th and 16th April 2005 at 7.15pm.

Produced by members of the society, Musical Director Meg Childs. Specialist dance routines Melanie Edmondson. Tickets priced £5 (children £3)

Block book 11 tickets for the price of 10. Contact our ticket agent Mrs. J Harker 01740 653530 or 21's 01740 652175. Taking part are children of the society. The society is always looking for new members, we invite people of all ages to come along. We would welcome male voices. We meet on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at Mainsforth Community Centre, Ferryhill Station. To find out more contact the Secretary Mrs Olga Foster on 01325 308624

TO THE GENTLEMAN who has repeatedly allowed his dog to fowl on the path by the cut at Bruce Road. On 2 occasions I have seen you allow your dog to fowl showing no sign of picking it up. I have been watching you for some time now and if all else fails I am prepared to name and shame you as you should be disgusted in yourself for leaving such a mess in a public place. From now on use your own garden or your name will be passed to the authorities.

WANTED Playstation2 faulty/not working Tel 07746 538 537

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JUDY COLLEY died 27.3.04 Memories of you will never grow old. Like autumn leaves they turn into gold. Deep in our hearts your memory is kept. Someone too special to ever forget. Loved always from, Mam xxx

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ROBERTS Liam and Lara. Congratulations on the birth of your baby girl "Emily Rose" 18.3.05, 7lb 8oz. A little sister for Sadie. Lots of love from, John, Sam, Rebecca and Jessica xxx

PATTERSON Congratulations Nat and Susan on the birth of your son Jack Nathaniel on 16th March. Lots of love, Mam and family xxx

ALAN WHARTON 27th March 2004. Dad, no matter where I am, no matter what I do, I never close my eyes at night without a thought of you. Silent tears of mine fall gently, which others cannot see. The day when God took you home - he took a part of me. To all the world I'm coping, and I'm "fine" when they ask, but if they could see into my heart they would see it's just a mask. Wish you were still here, keep watching. My love always, Julie xxx

IN MEMORY OF Judy Colley our very special good friend. A year since we said goodbye. To put our arms around you and give you a great big hug, to tell you how much we missed you, if only we could. In our thoughts each and every day. Love as always, Betty and Marjorie xx

BARKER KEN March 26th 2002. Always loved and remembered. Judy and family xxxx

DERICK YOUNG. Mary and family would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for cards of condolence, Mass cards and flowers received on their very sad loss. Father Dunne for his most comforting Service and Co-operative Funeral for their help and understanding.

JAMES MOONEY Audrey and family wish to sincerely thank all friends, relatives and neighbours for the kindness and sympathy during their recent loss. Grateful thanks to Father Dunne for his comforting Service at St. Mary's and the Co-operative Funeral Service for their support and guidance. Thanks also to the British Legion Club. A special thank to all the staff at Defoe Court Home and special thanks to June and Louie my special friends. God bless you all.

MEL HARLAND I would like to say a huge thank you to my wife Anne, Bev, Roy and family, Neil, Angie and family, Lynn, Tony and family, Trevor, Carol and family, and everyone at the Salon for making my 60th birthday the best ever.

THANK YOU to Julie Woods for helping me pass my grade and for the card I received. Love Charlotte Kelly xx

ANGELA SUGGET I would like to thank my husband, family and friends for making my surprise 60th birthday celebrations such a lovely event. I especially enjoyed the limo ride. Thanks also for all the gorgeous flowers, gifts and cards. Much love to you all xx

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## Thank You

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## Memoriam

### Irene Hood

Died 24th March 2003  
In my life when all was bright, God took from me a shining light. I miss that light and always will, her vacant place, no one can fill. Your loving husband George

Died 24th March 2003  
She was a mother so very rare, content at home and always there. Unselfish ways, a heart of gold, no finer mother this world could hold. Your loving daughter Valerie and Grand Children Warren, Drew, Michaela, Kyle, Brittany and Ella

Died 27th March 2003  
A life well lived, a precious gift, of hope and strength and grace, from someone who made our world a brighter, better place. Many moments, sweet and sad, with smiles and sometimes tears, lots of friends and good times shared, laughter through the years. A life well lived is a legacy, of joy and pride and pleasure, a loving lasting memory, our grateful hearts will treasure. We will remember you, a loving husband, dad, father-in-law, grandad, great grandad and friend to many . . .

ALAN WHARTON 27th March 2004. Dad, no matter where I am, no matter what I do, I never close my eyes at night without a thought of you. Silent tears of mine fall gently, which others cannot see. The day when God took you home - he took a part of me. To all the world I'm coping, and I'm "fine" when they ask, but if they could see into my heart they would see it's just a mask. Wish you were still here, keep watching. My love always, Julie xxx

IN MEMORY OF Judy Colley our very special good friend. A year since we said goodbye. To put our arms around you and give you a great big hug, to tell you how much we missed you, if only we could. In our thoughts each and every day. Love as always, Betty and Marjorie xx

BARKER KEN March 26th 2002. Always loved and remembered. Judy and family xxxx

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## Autos

RENAULT MEGANE, Jan 2000 X Reg. 12month Tax and Test. Low mileage, 1 owner. Remote control locking, power steering, Airbags, FSH, £3,500. Tel: 307667

RENAULT SCENIC R reg. test Dec, tax July, 1.9 diesel, twin sunroof, alloys, grey silver. VGC sell £2600 or swap for automatic car, same value. Tel: 301771 or 07834 957 179

CITROEN PICASSO 1.8i SX MPV/Estate. Reg March 2002 - MOT March 2006. Colour cool mint metallic, FSH, air con, CD, PAS, etc. 39000 miles, one owner. Very good condition, must be seen. £6350.00 OVNO - priced to sell. New car forces sale. Newton Aycliffe 07813 926622 or 316958. No canvassers or time wasters.

98 5 RED Subaru Impreza AWD, turbo, FSH, T&T, 6CD stereo. Excellent condition inside and out. £5,500 Tel: 07944 045 877

NISSAN PRIMERA GT 2.0 litre. Immaculate condition. Taxed and tested, real eye catcher. £1800 ono Tel: 07789 814 349

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## Congratulations

### Adam Luke Turton



25th March 2004  
Happy 1st Birthday to a very special little boy. Love you so much. Lots of love, Mammy, Daddy, big sis Annie, and big bro Paul - Enjoy your day.

MAUGHAN 21st March 2005. "You fooled everyone! (wasn't it late though)". Happy 30th birthday, Susan. Love, Paul, Janette and girls xx

ANN McCULLAGH Have a very happy birthday Gran. Love, Matthew and Jamie xx

KAARON HENDRIX Happy 22nd birthday m8. We are gonna have a fab night on Saturday. Have a good one. Love ya loads. Love your best mate Rachael xx

KAARON HENDRIX Happy birthday Kez. Love from, Kieran xx

JANICE GOFF 'Simply the best'. Happy 40th birthday. Love you loads. Love, your husband Graham xx

JANICE AND GRAHAM Happy Wedding Day. Good luck to the future. Love, Denise, Tim, Ricky, Demi and Taylor xx

MY DRINKING PARTNER Happy 40th birthday. Love, Denise xxx

JANICE & GRAHAM Congratulations on your Wedding Day. Love, Mam, Sharon, Paul and Ellie xx

EDITH WRIGHT To great Nanna. Have a very happy 80th birthday. All our love from your great grandchildren, Carrie and Ryan xx

EDITH WRIGHT Have a great 80th birthday on 29th March. All my love, Carroll xx

EDITH WRIGHT To the best Nan in the world. Happy 80th birthday 29th March. Love, Stephen and Freddie xxx

EDITH WRIGHT Happy birthday Mam on 29th March. The big 80. Love, Josie and Les xxx

EDITH WRIGHT Happy birthday Edith. All our love, Joe and George xxx

LAUREN BAILEY Happy 16th birthday. Hope your birthday is as special as you. Love from, Mam, Dad and Kate xx

LAUREN BAILEY Happy 16th birthday. Love from, Uncle Gazza, Auntie Jo, Alex, Ellie and Mica xx

LAUREN BAILEY Happy 16th birthday. Don't fall off the Big One or get lost in Valhalla. Have a great day in Blackpool with all your friends. All our love from, Grandma and Grandad xxx

RENE & BILL GILL Golden Wedding 26th March 1955. 50 wonderful years, gone too quick xx

LAURA JAYNE CRUDDACE Happy 9th birthday Laura. Lots of hugs and kisses love, Mum, Scott and Smudge xx

CHARLOTTE KELLY Well done on passing your preparatory test on the piano 19.3.05 very proud of you. Love, Mam, Dad, Gary, Rebekah and Harry xx

KIRSTY GIBSON Happy 15th birthday darling. Lots of love, Mum and Chris xx

KIRSTY GIBSON Happy birthday big sis. Love, Jamie xx

ASHLEY SCOONES 28.3.05 Happy 18th birthday Ashley. Don't get too drunk girl. Love from, Mam, Dad, Paul and Adam xx

ASHLEY SCOONES 28.3.05 Best wishes on your 18th birthday. Love from, Nana Scoones, Auntie Jackie, Elaine and all your Cousins xx

PERCIVAL Happy 70th birthday Derek 30.03.05 Love as always, Dot xx

PERCIVAL Happy 70th birthday Dad. Lots of love, Denis, Julie, Bill and Phil xx

PERCIVAL Happy 70th birthday Grandad. Lots of love, Billy, Daniel and Aimee

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### Drew Dixon



25th March 2005  
Happy 1st Birthday to our dear little Bam-Bam. Love you lots, Gran and Grandad xx

25th March 2005  
Happy birthday DD, one today. Love, Uncle Mark (London)

25th March 2005  
Happy 1st birthday to our darling little boy. Loads of love, Mummy & Daddy xx

25th March 2005  
Happy 1st birthday to my baby brother. Love, Ross xxx



## JUNIOR DISCO

Junior Neighbourhood Watch Family Disco held at the Southerne Club, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm-9.30pm. Tuck shop available, age limit 13 years. Everyone welcome.

## A.G. ROOFING

\* Built-Up Felt Roofing \* Slating \*  
\* Tiling \* Guttering \* UPVC Fascias \* Soffits \* etc  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED  
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## ATTENTION PET OWNERS

**Kidmans Pet Supplies**

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**\* SPECIAL OFFER \***

16kg Waggy Bunny Brunch - £4.99

15kg Supadog Pet - £9.99

2kg Supa Rabbit Excel + 50% Free - £2.99

Superb Scotch Potatoes  
at only £4.80 (25kg-55lb)

**FREE LOCAL DELIVERY**  
We now accept all major debit and credit cards  
"WATCH OUT FOR FUTURE OFFERS"

## DINGS n DENTS

(Prop Mr W. Pletts)

For all minor panel and paintwork damage  
on your car or light commercial vehicle



You bend it, we mend it!  
Unit 3 J&C Coaches Yard, Groat Drive  
Aycliffe Industrial Park (behind Tallents)  
Tel 07890 107 328

## PRE-SCHOOL RAISE £240



The children and staff of St Oswalds took part in Comic Relief Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. The children designed their own T-shirts and had a sponsored "Big Hair" competition. To date we have raised over £240. We would like to say a special thanks to all children, parents and anyone else involved in making the day a really enjoyable one.

## Mobility Club Celebrations



**Aycliffe Village  
Antiques &  
Collectors Fair**

Aycliffe Village Hall (off A167)

**SUNDAY 27th  
MARCH**

**(Easter Sunday)**

**10 am until 4 pm**

Selling quality items including  
china, glass, Maling, silver,  
paintings, small furniture etc.  
Admission 50 pence per person  
Coffee, teas, cakes, snacks etc.  
available all day

Village Fairs (0845) 430 9170

The Newton Aycliffe Mobility Club held a giant birthday party on Monday 21st March in the British Legion Club to celebrate every member's birthday on one day. They also used the day to present prizes and certificates to the winners of the Club's "Design a Logo" competition.

Sandra Manners Secretary of the club said "The day went very well and I would like to say a big thank you to all the kids who took part in the competition also to the judges, Sharon Vasey, Volunteer Bureau Co-ordinator and Gillian Fortune, Manager of CAVOS (Community and Voluntary Organisations Sedgefield) who picked the winning logos.

CAVOS has been a great support to the mobility club from the beginning, it meant a lot to us to have them there to help us celebrate. We would also like to thank the British Legion for letting us use the function room every Monday for our meetings and social activities." If anyone would like to join the clubs or be a volunteer please call Sandra on 07963 665 181 or Ernie 01325 314606.



## PUBLIC MEETING

There will be a public meeting of the Patient and Public Involvement Forum Sedgefield on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005, 2pm-4pm. The Pioneering Care Centre, Cobblers Hall. Patient & Public Involvement Forums (PIPF) have been established in order for the public to have their say on health issues.

Why not use this opportunity to hear about your local health services? All members of the public are welcome to attend. For further information contact: Jane King, Patient & Public Involvement Forum Co-ordinator Tel: 01325 327463, Fax: 01325 301129, Minicom: 01325 313133, email maxine@pcp.uk.net

## CEILIDH AT AYCLIFFE

A Ceilidh is to be held on Saturday 19th March at 7.30 in Aycliffe Village Hall. The ACCORD Ceilidh band and caller will be there to guide you through the steps. Tickets are £7.50 and include Pie, Peas and a welcome drink. Come along and support the young people of your community. For tickets contact 07803 123 653.

## Excursions for Senior Citizens

Application forms for the day excursions for Senior Citizens of the Parish will be available from Wednesday 30th March. Residents over the age of 60 who live in Newton Aycliffe or Aycliffe Village are eligible to choose one excursion. This year's destinations are Scarborough, Blackpool, or the Lake District and will operate from 1st June to 18th July leaving Newton Aycliffe at 9.00 am and returning by 8.00 pm.

In addition to the destinations above, a shorter excursion to South Shields is also available. This excursion will leave Newton Aycliffe at 11 am and return at 5.00 pm. Application forms and further details can be collected from the Library at Dalton Way, Leisure Centre at Beveridge Way, Oak Leaf Sports Complex or Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices between the hours of 9.00am and 3.45pm Monday to Friday or will be posted to you by telephoning 300700. They are also available to download from the Council's website: [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

## Do You Have a Team in This Years Swimathon?

This years Swimathon will take place at Spennymoor Leisure Centre on Sunday 8th May 2005.

This is only six weeks away and teams wishing to swim should submit entry forms as soon as possible to allow time to raise sponsorship and also to have the opportunity to specify the time at which they would like to swim.

This is an ideal opportunity to raise money for your charity or good cause as half the sponsorship raised by each team is returned directly to the charity of their choice. The recipients of the sponsorship do not need to be a registered charity, so the opportunity exists for schools, church groups, youth groups or organisations to raise funds for themselves and to have fun doing so. Teams consist of up to six people swimming relay style for 55 minutes, trophies are awarded for the teams swimming the most lengths and those raising the most sponsorship.

Can't swim too well? Ask for a shallow lane and walk for your charity!

You don't need to name the members of your team until the day of the swim. Entry forms are available from Newton Press and Walkers Butchers in Simpashiregate.

## Chemists Emergency Opening Times

THE NEAREST CHEMISTS OPEN  
SUNDAYS (11am-3pm) & BANK HOLIDAYS

**M. & M. CHEMISTS**  
174 Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland

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High Row, Darlington

## Proud New Stockists of Slumberland Beds and Mattresses

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### 2'6" and 3'0" MATTRESSES

A&S Candy	RRP £49.00	NOW £39.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £69.00	NOW £59.00
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A&S Majestic	RRP £169.00	NOW £139.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £229.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £249.00

### 4'0" and 4'6" MATTRESSES

A&S Candy	RRP £129.00	NOW £69.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £199.00	NOW £89.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £189.00	NOW £139.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £249.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £399.00	NOW £359.00

### 3'0" BED SET

A&S Candy	RRP £69.00	NOW £59.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £99.00	NOW £84.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £139.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £279.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £399.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £449.00	NOW £359.00

### 4'0" and 4'6" BED SET

A&S Candy	RRP £119.00	NOW £99.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £139.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £239.00	NOW £209.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £499.00	NOW £399.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £549.00	NOW £449.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £599.00	NOW £499.00

## BARGAIN BUYS

Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe 01325 321678

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for any Optician's Prescription

## 2 Pairs of Glasses



Buy first pair from our £39 range or above and get a second pair from £20.

Both pairs include standard single vision lenses  
Upgrade to other lens options available.

## Winter Sale

Bring in your prescription or call for an appointment

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VILLAGE OPTICIAN**

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