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TENANTS VOTE TO STAY WITH COUNCIL LANDLORDS

Council tenants in Sedgefield Borough have voted to stay with the Council rather than transfer their homes to Sedgefield Housing.

The result of the postal ballot, carried out by the independent Electoral Reform Ballot Services, was announced today and is shown below.

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|---------|
| Tenants Voting Yes | 3,421 | (41.9%) |
| Tenants Voting No | 4,740 | (58.1%) |
| Percentage Turnout | 8,173 | (73.2%) |

Tenants were fully consulted about the transfer proposal in the months prior to the ballot. The Council proposed transferring the ownership and management of the homes in a bid to bring in the £129.7 million needed for homes over the next 10 years. Sedgefield Borough Council Leader Bob Fleming said: "The Council has believed from day one that such an important decision should rest with tenants, and we respect the choice they have made. "The result is a vote of confidence in the Council's housing service. Now that tenants have made their decision, the Council must look at how it can best continue to provide the housing service for the future."

He added: "It was essential that tenants were given this choice about the future of their homes and services. Transfers have proved very successful in other parts of the country, and we were determined that Sedgefield Borough tenants should also have

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Tony at Stephenson Way School



Back in June, 240 children from Stephenson Way Primary School joined over 3.5 million children from other parts of the world in making Buddies to support the "Send my Friend to School" campaign. Each Buddy represented one of the 100 Million children worldwide who cannot get an education. The Buddies were forwarded to the world leaders at the G8 Summit. As part of this project, MP's were invited back to school.
 On Friday 15th July Mr. Tony Blair honoured a nine year long promise and joined the children as part of the Leaver's Ceremony where he talked about his time at school and their futures. He then gave a very moving speech about the Buddies and how "In the end, we are all members of the human race and we should care for each other and look out for each other. Every child on the planet matters and we should look after them and care for them."
 Ten children from Stephenson Way are making real life Buddies of their own by forming penpals with ten Ugandan children. And following on from this the whole school will be holding an African Themed Arts week in October.
 We would like to thank Mr. Blair for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit us and for the genuine concern and understanding he showed for something so close to all our hearts.

LEAVING SCHOOL IN STYLE



It was a tearful end of term day at Aycliffe Village School as pupils came to the end of their schooldays at primary level and had to say goodbye to their teachers and friends. It was also time for farewells to teachers and staff who were retiring, but there was much excitement outside the school gates as stretch limo's were hired to drive the leavers away for a farewell party.

Gardens Open

The gardens at Walworth Hall are being opened up to the public next Sunday (24) between 2-30 and 6pm to raise funds for Darlington Samaritans. Entry is £3.50 for adults, children free. There will be home-made refreshments, book, plant and bric-a-brac stalls.

Neville Community Centre

Woodham Comp School entertained the luncheon club on Wednesday last with a choir and band and what a superb performance they gave us. A fantastic group of students, thirty in total gave us one of our best entertainments ever - the students were very well behaved and polite and deserve to do well in the future.
 The teachers were able to bring out the best in these students and the end result was a magnificent performance.
 Not forgetting the drummer boy who excelled in his five minute slot. We wish you continued success and look forward to you coming back.
Book Sale Saturday 30th July 9am-1pm outside if fine, inside if wet.
Trips 6th August York £12 3rd September Blackpool Illuminations £13.
Bric a Brae required for our next event. Please ring for collection 313924.
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 Our progress on building will be given next week.
 Peter Beaty

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Letter to the Editor

Fence in Toddlers Play Area

Dear Editor
 Re: The recent complaints and reply about the lack of toddler equipment within the Town Park. I think the problem is the actual design and layout of the park. There is sufficient toddler equipment, what is lacking is a safe enclosed area for the toddlers to actually use the equipment without being knocked over. Whilst visiting the park I noticed toddlers could not play safely without teenagers racing around the "toddler area" on bikes and skateboards. As my 3 and 5 year olds played on the slide a youth jumped their bike over the end of the slide narrowly missing them. That not being enough the group still had to spit on equipment and mouth obscenities. The toddler section needs to be divided from the older section, by a fence or enclosure away from the abuse and terrorising actions of Aycliffe untamed youths.
 J. Lee Deckard

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Great Aycliffe  Town Council

Community Enhancement Award

The Town Council wishes to receive nominations from local residents within the Great Aycliffe area for the awarding of Certificates of Merit for individual front gardens, front floral displays or streets that enhance the overall visual appearance of the area.
 Please return this nomination form to Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6QF or email your nomination to info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk - (closing date for nominations is Friday 12th August 2005)

I would like to nominate the following for a Certificate of Merit:

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Summer 2005

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Bowls 10th August 2.30 - 4.00pm

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Cricket 19th August. 12.30 - 4.30pm

Tennis 5th and 22nd August 12.30 - 4.30pm

Archery 28th July, 11th and 25th August 12.30 or 4.30pm

Table Tennis 18th August 12.30 - 4.30pm

All courses are run by qualified professional coaches, who aim to provide a quality coaching experience. Courses are limited, booking essential, so book now to avoid disappointment. For further information and booking forms contact the Oak Leaf Sports Complex 300600. Come on - it's great fun!

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The House of Eden Children's Nursery opened April 1999 in Rushyford. It started with 3 staff and 2 children and a social services licence for a total capacity of 45 children. Over the last 6 years the nursery has expanded both the building and the occupancy and now provides childcare for 144 children and employs 33 staff. The House of Eden has recently opened a second nursery and out of school club based in Aycliffe Village Primary School, Aycliffe Village, providing the same high level of childcare service, knowledge and experience.

Ofsted Registered

Death of Former Town Clerk

John Derek Farquhar was born in Sunderland on 18th April 1938. His father Gilbert was a Scotsman who came to the area to train with the Auxiliary Air Force and met and married John's Mother Alberta. In fact for most of his former years, John was raised single-handedly by his mother after his father, by now an RAF bomber pilot, was shot down and became a POW. Happily the family was re-united after VE Day.



John was a choirboy and developed a lifelong love of Church music. He was privately educated and went on to Art College before beginning a military career with National Service. He returned to Sunderland and went into local government where he met his wife Norma who also worked in the Town Hall. They moved to Alnwick in Northumberland where John worked for the County Council. By now they had two young children, Iain and Margaret, and lived in a farm cottage on the Duke of Northumberland's Estate overlooking Alnwick Castle. It was here that John developed a passion for the countryside. In 1969 John became Town Clerk and Chief Financial Officer at Newton Aycliffe and over

the next twenty-five years was part of the growth of the town from small beginning to the size it is today. Highlights included Royal visits (he had met nearly every member of the Royal Family) and the opening of the GATC Sports Complex. He was Secretary and Treasurer of the National Society of Local Council Clerks. In his spare time he was a Football League Referee, which took him to many of the top football clubs in the North of England. John also loved cricket, which he played since schooldays and was a member of the Surrey County Cricket Club. Both John and Norma were very much involved in the community, and even in later years after they moved to a countryside smallholding at Houghton-le-Side John was President of the Aycliffe Operative Society as well as the local St. John Ambulance Brigade and "Cubby". He was also Parish Clerk at both Heighington and Piercebridge, but sadly left Great Aycliffe Town Council in 1996 following the death of his wife Norma. He was a member of the Royal British Legion and organised the annual Remembrance Day Parade in Newton Aycliffe and ran the Poppy Appeal for the southwest Durham area. John was a well-respected Magistrate and sat on the South Durham bench for fifteen years. He was also a member of Durham Police Authority. He worked tirelessly for the good of the community all his life but was always very modest about his achievements. In fact he was still sitting in court as a Justice of the Peace and as a member of the Police Authority up until Easter when he became ill. Only a fortnight before his death he was ordering poppies for this year's Remembrance Day. He died peacefully in Darlington Memorial Hospital on the morning of 15th July.

School Fair

Raise £1040

Aycliffe Village Primary School would like to thank everyone who helped and supported our Summer Fair held on Sunday 3rd July. A marvellous total of £1040 was raised.

Letters to the Editor

New West Ward Park

Dear Sir,
The Play Area in the West Ward finally got the go ahead at the Borough Cabinet meeting on Thursday 14th July. I requested this play area in Scott Place and to help me along Mr. Dave Gibson requested the residents to sign a petition which brought over two hundred names, the Residents Association also contributed. The proposed site is on land owned by the Borough Council and would be a new play area for all the children in the surrounding areas. It has taken over three years work and I would like to thank everyone for their support.
Your West Ward Councillor, George Gray

Neville Community Centre

Dear Editor
Many of us endeavour to be good citizens, but when one tries to get some response to a simple request it's like hitting a brick wall. I have phoned customer services at S.B.C. Green Lane five times in five weeks, written a letter as well, complaining about piles of rubbish, cigarettes and takeaway cartons, empty trash cans and bottles etc. These are piled high in the two ditches either side of the footpath bordering

Hearing Dog Denied Admission

Dear Sir
On Tuesday 5th July I was with a party of 8 (5 ladies 3 gents) plus my hearing dog. The doorman told me that my dog was not allowed, but I would check with the Secretary. He went upstairs and returned to confirm the decision. When told he was going against the "Disabled Discrimination Act" he offered to lock my dog in a paddock outside the club. We found this totally unacceptable and left. Name and address supplied.
Ed: We contacted the British Legion who said they do admit dogs to assist blind people but could see no reason to admit hearing dogs for deaf people. "What benefit would the deaf person receive from the dog being on our premises" asked the spokesperson.

Married at Gretna Green



The Wedding took place in Gretna Green between Miss Joanne Gallacher and Mr Mark Coward on Friday 15th July 2005. The bride lives in Newton Aycliffe and the groom is from Shildon. They will set up home in Newton Aycliffe on return from their honeymoon in Cyprus.

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GIFTED STUDENTS ON TRACK FOR OLYMPICS

Aspiring London Olympians are taking part in the first County-wide sports summer school for gifted and talented students.

The event, sponsored by the Aim Higher project, aims to support students thinking about a career in sport or going on to higher or further education.

The 15-year-olds have been chosen by their own PE staff for their sporting talent and positive attitudes. Organised by Easington, Durham, Chester-le-Street and Sedgfield School Sport Partnerships, it involves students from secondary schools in all four districts.

Geoff Sheldon, development manager of Easington School Sport Partnership, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for these students, who are at the optimum age to benefit from the 2012 Olympics.

"The profile of the PE and sport in this country will go through the roof over the next few years with more opportunities than ever for young people to enter into sporting careers.

"This group has already been identified as the most talented in the region - one of them may even be competing in London in 2012," he said.

The students will spend the week at the University of Durham's Graham

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Rounda Circles 6, 8 1/2, 11 1/2
Reject Bricks from 10/100
Non-Standard Bricks fr 16/100
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KIERAN LEE 26/02-24/07/02. Put your arms around him Lord and kiss his smiling face. For he was very special, and can never be replaced.

For Sale

NEW AUTO washers, slight cabinet damage with full manufacturers guarantee from £169. Bargain Buys, Shafto Way, Tel 321678

Thanks

THE FAMILY of the late Mabel Maryse Johnson wish to express their gratitude to friends and neighbours for the kindness and sympathy shown and for all condolence cards received during their sad bereavement.

Birthday Remembrance

DERICK YOUNG July 20th. Fondlest memories in this your birthday. Kath, Ben and family xxx

Newton Press

Tel: 01325 300212 sales@npl.co.uk

Accommodation

LANCELOT CLOSE 2 bedroom modern house to let in quiet cul-de-sac. Professional's only, bond and references required £450 pcm Tel: 328049

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Obituary

BULL on 17th July peacefully in Hospital (of Newton Aycliffe formerly of London) May aged 79 years, devoted mum of Michael, Maureen and Shirley also a loving mother-in-law, grandma, great grandma and aunty.

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Licence Application

Notice of Application of Grant of Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003 Mr. K. F. Lau applied to Sedgefield Borough Council on the 15th July 2005 for a licence to use the premises at The China Garden, Beveridge Walkway, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham DL5 4EE for the provision of late night refreshments between the following hours:

Notice of Application of Grant of Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003

4 Seasons (N.E.) Limited applied to Sedgefield Borough Council on the 20th July 2005 for a licence to use the premises at Four Seasons Chop Suey House, 7 Neville Parade, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham DL5 5DH for the provision of late night refreshments during the following hours:

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that Dale Nigel Pollard has applied in respect of Blk B, Thames Centre, Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham DL5 4SB to Sedgefield Borough Council for a variation to the Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that Mr. A. Young, secretary, applied to Sedgefield Borough Council on 5th July 2005 for a variation of club premises certificate in respect of the premises known as Royal Air Forces Association (Branch no. 1131) Canopus Club, Barrington Road, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 7AL. A variation is sought to sell alcohol on behalf of the Club members of the Club between the hours of 12 noon to 1530 hours and 1900 hours to 2300 hours Monday to Friday (inclusive), 12 noon to 2300 hours Saturday, 12 noon to 1430 hours and 1900 hours to 2230 hours Sunday. And non-standard hours as follows:

Notice of Licence Application

If your company/business needs to make a notice of licence application under the licensing act, Newton News can save you a lot of money. Notice of Application - £25.00. Same notice with the Northern Echo over £200. TELEPHONE PAUL ON 300212

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CHRISTOPHER ROSS ORD Congratulations on getting your degree after lots of hard work. Love, Mam, Dad, Nana and Grandpa xxx

Congratulations

JOANNE & MARK COWARD Congratulations on your marriage which took place in Gretna Green. A good time was had by all. Love and best wishes for the future together. Love, Mam and Dad xxx

Births

McSPORRAN Helen and Sandy, congratulations on the birth of Sam. Welcome brother for Ben. Love, Mam and Dad xxx

Wanted

CASH PAID for old furniture, china, clocks, watches, etc. Houses Cleared Shildon Saleroom 01325 313793

Public Notice

JEWELLERY repairs, fast, efficient, guaranteed service, watch batteries fitted, straps altered - plus cheques cashed on the spot. Taylors Top Value, Thames Centre - 320566

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Claire Louise Sarsfield Happy 30th Birthday 20th July 2005 Love from Dad, Liz, all your brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and family Claire Sarsfield Lots of love, Sweet Pee and Fison 2



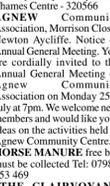
Calvin Congratulations on your Degree - WELL DONE Love, Mam, Dad, Danielle, Nana and Karen



Amii Hutchinson Happy 18th Birthday 26th July 2005 Lots of love from Mum, Dad all the family and the Manchester massive x



Colin Neill Happy birthday Dadd, Lots of love, Cameron xx COLIN NEILL Happy birthday babe. Love you forever, Michelle xx



MEGAN weighing 8lb. Congratulations on being Darlington Spraire Lassess under 10's Player of the Year. Love, Mam, Dad, Andrew, Gran and Nana xx



SEAN & SARAH (Mr & Mrs Denham) Congratulations what a beautiful Wedding Day (16.7.05) Ever so handsome Sean and so, so beautiful Sarah. Love and lots of best wishes to you both. Love, Gran Evelyn xx



MEGAN weighing 8lb. Congratulations on being Darlington Spraire Lassess under 10's Player of the Year. Love, Mam, Dad, Andrew, Gran and Nana xx

VILLAGE LEARNING CENTRE CLOSES



Aycliffe Village Nursery on their last day before closing its doors. Left to right: Joe Dixon-Dawson, Adam Eldridge, Sandra Bromley, Mavis Woodcock, Matthew Davis, Melissa Foster, Aiden Ord, Eve Turnbull and Danielle Ord.

Time to Spare, Time to Care?

Age Concern are looking for Volunteers to help at the "Spenny Moor After Stroke Club". This friendly group would welcome some new faces at their weekly meetings. Helpers would support members to enjoy outings, activities and general companionship. Age Concern Volunteers will receive ongoing support. Kathleen Young (Locality Manager) says "this is an opportunity for volunteers to use their own experience to support this special group of older people. We would be delighted to add new volunteers to the Age Concern Team." For more information please contact: Mandy Humes (Development Worker) Age Concern Sedgfield Locality Office. Telephone 01388 720064 (Sedgfield@ageconcern-durham.org.uk)

RACE FOR LIFE



A huge thank you from Headstart Hairdressers, Neville Parade. Jacquie and her daughter Rebecca completed the "Race for Life" run on 12th August at Darlington South Park. They would like to thank customers, family and sponsorships received on behalf of this event. They proudly raised £532.00 between them. All proceeds going to Cancer Research. Jacquie and Rebecca ran in memory of a fine friend and fellow hairdresser Ann McLuckie.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL
Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees
 Tuesday 13th September 2005
 Environment Committee - 7.15pm
 Tuesday 13th September 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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- All qualified staff
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 Transport available to and from other schools in Newton Aycliffe. Half price for second child

Holidays 7.45am - 6.00pm
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For further information or to arrange a visit contact: **Kendra Green (Manager)** on **01325 300 080 or 07765 453 431**

PROUD TO BE BRITISH

"Take pride in being British and don't worry about the fact we are losing some of our industries. Great Britain is doing better now than we ever did in the global market." These words were part of a truly inspirational message given by Sir Digby Jones who attended South West Durham Training Awards Day last week.

He told the audience Britain was still the best trading nation per head of population in the world and we should continue to do what we do best - providing innovation, quality goods and services of a very high standard. But he stressed the future was in the hands of young people who should be willing and able to adapt to a fast changing world. He told them they should be prepared to be retrained up to ten times during their working career, unlike past generations where one person learnt a skill to take him through to retirement.

This speech from the Director General of the CBI would have given all present new heart and instilled pride in our country's position in the world economy. Other good news came from Chief Executive Bob Waller who said there was a revival in apprenticeships and the Government was encouraging companies to invest in giving quality training to young people. Working with local schools was a positive way forward, allowing students to get an engineering background from South West Durham Training before moving to University for their degree. A whole range of awards were presented at the ceremony recognising skill and effort by the trainees over the last year and we feature a few on this page.

BEST SCHOOL STUDENT



Lee Murray, a pupil at Woodham College - Best School Student



Sir Digby with prizewinners Dean Plews, John Aitken and Emma Bate



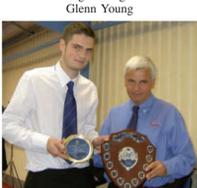
Alison Hunter - Perry Processing - Best Portfolio Business Services Runner Up with Jim Briggs



Richard Goodridge, Hydro Polymers Electrical Engineering Award with Glenn Young



Derek Green (right) Adult Learning Award - with Stan Cavell



Andrew Parkin, PDM Ltd., receives CAD/CAM Award from John Minto



John Milne - Darlington - Safety Award presented by John Duffy



Christopher Gregory, Talents receives the Mechanical Engineering Award from Eddie Leng.



Victoria Merone, Runner up in the Foundation Business Services Apprentice of the Year with Mr. A. Lea.



John Adamson receives the award for Portfolio Engineering from Stan Wise

20 YEARS LOYAL SERVICE

Kath Whitehead a well respected member of staff retired after 20 years loyal service. She initially worked in administration before moving to the Accounts Department. Over the years, through her conscientious and diligent approach she progressed to Senior Administrator responsible for finance, performance tracking and monitoring of the LSC funded learners. Over the years she became a mother figure, helping and advising apprentices on various subjects from dental appointments to girlfriends.

Collection Raised £4,801

The Christian Aid collection in the town raised £4,416.79 and after Gift Aid is added will total £4,801.37.

The organisers, members of the congregation and friends from the CofE, Methodist and Roman Catholic churches are to be congratulated on their hard work distributing and collecting the envelopes. When so much attention is being drawn to the desperate plight of those in the poorest parts of the world along with attempts to "Make Poverty History" the generous people in Newton Aycliffe have shown their concern. The money raised will go towards helping the poorest people out of poverty into a better life. Thank you on their behalf. T.G. Anderson Organiser of Christian Aid for Churches Together in Great Aycliffe.

TEE-TIME FOR MAYOR

The Sedgfield Borough Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament will be staged at Sedgfield's Knotty Hill Golf Centre on Thursday 8 September.

Chair Jackie Piggott, Mayor of Sedgfield Borough, has chosen The Great North Air Ambulance and The South Cleveland Heart Fund as his nominated charities during his year in office.

The tournament presentation dinner will be staged at The Hardwick Hall Hotel on the evening of the event. Teams of four players are invited to attend by registering with Beryl Anderson on (01388) 816166 ext. 4512. Full details available upon request.

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Degree of Success for Aycliffe Students

Four Newton Aycliffe students celebrated success last week by graduating with a Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies. Tracey Roche of St. Francis Junior School,



Linda Watts and Donna Sowell both of Playday Nursery and Glyn Stevens of Hornedale Infant School have worked together for the last two years taking the Sunderland University

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| McFly | 25-09-05 | Coach & Ticket, Newcastle | £32.00 |
| Beauty & the Beast | 25-09-05 | Coach & Ticket, Sunderland | £32.50 |
| The King & I | 08-10-05 | Coach & Ticket, Sunderland | £35.00 |
| Disney on Ice | 15-10-05 | Coach & Ticket, Newcastle | £29.50 |
| Chitty Chitty Bang Bang | 20-01-06 | Coach & Ticket, Sunderland | £45.00 |
| Chitty Chitty Bang Bang | 24-02-06 | Coach & Ticket, Sunderland | £45.00 |
| Chitty Chitty Bang Bang | 03-03-06 | Coach & Ticket, Sunderland | £45.00 |
| Disneyland Paris | 26-07-05 | 4 days (B&B) 2 day pass | £169.00 |
| LegoLand, Windsor | 29-07-05 | 3 days (B&B) 3* hotel + entry | £129.00 |
| Alton Towers | 30-07-05 | 2 days (B&B) 3* Hotel + pass | £89.00 |
| Spanish Mini Cruise | 06-08-05 | 4 days inc En-suite cabin | £79.99 |
| The Peaks & Chester | 06-08-05 | 2 days (HB) 4* Hilton Hotel | £59.00 |
| Alton Towers | 12-08-05 | 2 days (HB) 3* Derby Hotel | £89.00 |
| | | | £65.00 |

GREENFIELD STUDENTS HEALTHY EATING TEST

Pupils from Greenfield School Community and Arts College found that learning about health and healthy food is a two way street when they met with the Sedgefield Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Forum. The PPI Forum, in collaboration with health professionals from the School and Sedgefield PCT, provided health information, advice and the opportunity to taste a wide range of healthy snacks and drinks to students, while the pupils reciprocated and helped the PPI Forum to discover the issues that impact upon the health of teenagers and their attitudes to healthy foods. Betty Carr, Chair of Sedgefield PPI Forum, commented: "Our recent research into the needs of patients when visiting local health clinics, led us to contact both Woodham and Greenfield Schools in order to get some idea of what older pupils want and need from their health centre. We followed this by arranging a health event at Greenfield School to help young people get some sensible and relevant advice on a range of subjects, with some fun elements too like the opportunity to make and taste smoothies. We want tomorrow's adults to see that being healthy is 'cool'. Our research highlighted unexpected levels of stress experienced by the students, which shocked many forum members and we want to work with the older pupils to help them be healthier and happier. We were also helped by two of the older students - Shoni Lonsdale and Jonathan Robinson from Greenfield School to ensure that we get both the event and the information right!"



The event included: A session on Health Issues and Young People, with the students helping to identify a list of priorities. A presentation on the national and local priorities for young people, using the Government's Choosing Health strategy. The opportunity to seek advice and receive valuable information by responding to a questionnaire which is looking at the barriers preventing pupils from eating healthy food. An open session with health workers providing information including Connexions, drug awareness, young carers, community safety, the local leisure centre and smoking cessation. Greenfield School student, Shoni Lonsdale, aged 15 from Newton Aycliffe who hopes one day to become a doctor, commented: "I think it is really important that young people take an interest in health. Issues such as obesity are really worrying and I know that sometimes we just don't think about what we're eating and how - especially if some students are stressed - it can make us unhealthy and unfit. Stress has now become a part of our lives and there is a lot of comfort eating especially around exams, coursework and homework. However women's magazines also put pressure on girls in particular - although boys are no longer exempt - to be too thin."

The pupils also have the opportunity to enter a competition to design a poster, sponsored by the PPI Forum. It is hoped that the competition will get students thinking about how to lead a healthier lifestyle. The winner will be presented with their prize at the Greenfield Schools Awards evening in October. Jonathan Robinson, 15, also of Newton Aycliffe and Greenfield School, commented: "We know it's important to be healthy, but it's hard to persuade pupils to eat healthier if all they really want is a bag of chips or a bar of chocolate. I think pupils should realise that eating better and keeping fit doesn't have to be boring, but can be fun. It is good that the PPI Forum is asking us about the issues and problems we experience, after all this is at least one issue where we do know best!" All the information received from the pupils in response to the questionnaire will be fed back to Sedgefield PCT to improve their awareness of the health needs of young people in the Borough. The Sedgefield PPI Forum were so impressed by the responses from the pupils that they are planning to replicate the event in other schools throughout the borough. For further information on the work of the Sedgefield PPI Forum, contact Jane King on 01325 327 463



COACH TRIP TO BARNY

On Monday 11th July Newton Aycliffe WI left the Cubby for the evening and enjoyed an evening coach excursion in and around Barnard Castle. We were collected from the Beaconsfield Hotel and visited local churches, Eggleston Abbey, Bowes Village and the Castle. The trip was organised by the current Mayor of Barnard Castle, John Yarker who is also the local historian. He acted as informant and treated us to ghost stories and romantic tales. The evening ended with a fantastic buffet supper back at the hotel. If you would like to know more about the WI, our next meeting is on Monday 8th August in the Cubby, (opposite the Fire Station) to which you are welcome or contact Lyn Swift on 314805. We will be at the Aycliffe Show weekend with home made baking and preserves - please call and see us there.

Come and Meet Mitch

On Sunday 24th July at 6pm it is the privilege of Burnhill Way Methodist Church to welcome Rev Mitch Reece from Kansas, USA, to preach and lead worship. Mitch is currently visiting the area with his family and many have already appreciated his ministry among us. The Service will be followed by refreshments to give the congregation an opportunity to meet and talk with Mitch and his family. If you would like to experience worship in American style you are very welcome to join the Burnhill Way congregation for this occasion.

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

At the next meeting of the Society at 7.30 pm on 27th July Mr L. Jones of Durham will give a talk entitled "Emigration to New Zealand (1879)". Everyone welcome. We meet in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe on the last Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm. Car Parking and refreshments are free. Please contact Mr John Barraclough on 01325-315959 for further details.

Generous Response to Walworth School Appeal

Following our article in the Newton News recently appealing for camping equipment and toys, both pupils and staff have been amazed at the generosity of Newtonians.

The children have all enjoyed playing with the toys, games and even a computer that has been donated. Camping equipment came in from various sources but we must also say a thank you to Newton Aycliffe Scouts who have offered the loan of all their equipment when needed. Also thanks to 3M for their cash donation towards our Webster Stratton Initiative and the Blazing Squad who gave the children a great afternoon of interactive fun.



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PRETTY WEDDING AT ST. ANDREWS



Rachel Kenyon of Newton Aycliffe a Travelcare Assistant Manager in Darlington married Scott Norris also of Newton Aycliffe on 18th June 2005 at St Andrew's, Aycliffe Village. The bridegroom is a

Maintenance Engineer for SCA Packaging and works in Hartlepool. The Best Man was Andrew Brennan, and the Bridesmaids were Sarah Kenyon, Andrea Cooper, Bobbie Jo Humble, The Ushers were Jack Strain, and Charlie Humble. The Reception was held at the Manor House Hotel West Auckland. The happy couple left afterwards for their honeymoon in Thailand & Australia. They returned to begin their married life in Newton Aycliffe. Photo by Stuart Allison

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TOWN SCHOOL WINS £1,000



Byerley Park School heard recently they have become regional winners of the

national 'Build an Utterly Butterly Biplane Competition' and won a prize of one thousand pounds. For the competition, children at the school had to build a copy of the well known 'Utterly Butterly' aeroplane. Led by Year 3 teacher, Laura Hilliard, pupils and staff from the school made a model big enough to hold two pupils that looked good enough to fly.

Bradley Atkinson and Courtney Ellis were photographed inside the model and the entry was sent off. This week everyone was surprised, and excited, to learn that they have won the Northern Region 1st prize of £1,000 and a bonus prize of a 'wing walk' for a teacher. Miss Hilliard 'volunteered' for the flight that took place at the Walney Air Show, near Barrow in Furness, on July 16th. The programme for

the Air Show describes this part of the display as 'Death Defying Wing Walkers' so Laura was a little nervous but keen to have a go. Some of the thousand pound prize will be used for a fun day for all the children in the school.

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Pool Team's Clean Sweep

Well done to the Iron Horse "A" Pool Team of: Trevor Needham, Paul Wade, Craig Rankin, Richie Bellwood, Graham Dawes, Michael Straymen, Darren Scott and Tommy Francis who this season has completed a clean sweep of league titles. League Winners Double league winners Overall League Winners Overall Player of the Year, Craig Rankin. Further results: Single Knock Out Winner, A Cousins (Legion) Double Knock out Winners, A Cousins and T Burns (Legion) Team Knock Out Winners, Newton Aycliffe Sports Club. The League AGM will be held on Tuesday 2nd August at the Iron Horse at 8pm, this meeting is open to any new team that wishes to join the league. For information contact Trevor Needham on 07952 879 796 or Paul Wade on 07971 216 789. We are hoping to start the new season on Friday 2nd September. Trevor Needham League Chairman

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