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## 19 New Homes Replace Care Home on Shafto Way



Gleeson Homes, house builders from Sunderland recently purchased the vacant Shafto House site, and are now on site demolishing the former Care Home to make way for 19 new traditional low cost family homes. The properties will be built to the latest energy efficient standards, and comprise of 2, 3 and 4 bedroomed homes. The first homes will be available this June. More details at [www.gleeson-homes.co.uk](http://www.gleeson-homes.co.uk)



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## Organisations Keep 75% of Ticket Sales in Town Jubilee Draw

Last year the Rotary Club held the biggest charity fundraiser ever attempted in Newton Aycliffe, involving the whole town and benefitting many of its clubs and organisations.

The club organised a raffle of high quality prizes with the sale of tickets delegated to as many of the town's schools groups and organisations who wished to be involved. It was very successful and over £8,000 was raised.

This year they are repeating the exercise around the Queen's Jubilee raffling 60 prizes and allowing the sellers to retain 75% of the ticket sales money. The Rotary Club, as the promoters, would be responsible for gathering prizes, registering and organising the draw, printing the tickets and covering all expenses from the proceeds. The Draw will be held at the Royal British Legion on Tuesday 5th June, 2012. The Rotary Club will receive the full co-operation of

"Newton News" in publicising this major fundraiser, printing the names of all donors and their prizes as they are received. This is an invitation to all organisations in Newton Aycliffe to get involved and raise money for themselves or a charity of their choice. There will be no charges and participants only need to sell tickets. The valuable sixty prizes will ensure easy sale of tickets.

The Rotary Club hope businesses in the area will want to be part of this exciting venture and invite them to donate a prize or offer a voucher for the service they offer. President of the club Alan Crawshaw said: "This is the Rotary Club's effort to help the funds of town organisations, schools and charities - we hope they see the value of participating in the draw." Please contact Syd Howarth on 300212 if you wish to take part. syd@newtonpress.net

## Woodham Bring Back House System



The reintroduction of the House System at Woodham Community Technology College has proved to be an overwhelming success. Various House competitions run on Wednesday evenings and so far this has ranged from physical games such as rowing, 5 a-side football, dancing and table tennis. Not only have the students participated in physical games but huge numbers attended the English competition shortly before Christmas.

This involved solving a number of riddles in order to find the co-ordinates where Rudolph was hiding. Other amazing activities have included the creation of rockets which NASA themselves would be proud of!

Even Nike would be impressed with the sparkling new trainers designed in Technology. Little Mix should also watch their backs after the X-Factor event which saw Adele, Mika and McFly songs performed at the highest level. Does Woodham Community



Technology College have the X-Factor? Yes!

Using the House System, as a means of friendly competition has promoted effort and achievement among the students who are now proud to be part of a team: Raby, Lambton or Brancepeth.

The House events have added to an extensive extra-curricular programme that the college has to offer to students. This provides a series of structured activities for up to an hour at the end of the college day.

These exciting House competitions will continue throughout the academic year and we look forward to what the next one will bring.

## What's On in the Village

**IT SESSIONS.** If you'd like to learn more about computers and how to use the internet, then call in to the drop-in sessions being held in Aycliffe Village Hall on Tuesdays from 1.30-3.30pm (instead of 6.30-8.30pm as before). The new times start as from Tuesday, January 31. For more details, please call Alan Harley on 01325-315733.

**WI MEETING.** The next meeting of Aycliffe Village WI is on Wednesday, February 1, at the village hall from 7.30pm. The speaker will be Leslie Howe who will talk about the interesting topic of the Art of Silversmithing. The competition is for a Valentine cupcake. For details, please call Kathy Round on 01325-315732.

**BREAKFAST CLUB.** The first breakfast club of 2012 takes place on Saturday, February 11, from 9am to midday in Aycliffe Village Hall. Come along with your children to catch up with friends, read the newspapers and enjoy a bite to eat. There will be a choice of egg, sausage or bacon rolls on offer, along with a cup of tea or coffee. All proceeds go to the upkeep of the village hall.

## Aycliffe Company Offers ILM Management Training

With the recession starting to bite, local business leaders in the North East are being encouraged to gain the edge over their competition by taking management qualifications from the Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) through AS TRAINING LTD at Bede House, Aycliffe Business Park.

AS TRAINING LTD has recently successfully achieved the Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) Approved Centre status and began delivering ILM qualifications on 1st January 2012.

*Joining the largest awarding body for leadership and management qualifications in the UK and a global network of over 2,000 accredited centres, AS TRAINING LTD will offer NVQ and VRQ qualifications in: Level 2 Team Leading, Level 3 First Line Management, Level 2/3 and 5 Management Apprentice Programmes, Level 5 Diploma in Management, BA Degree in Business and Enterprise, Level 3 Coaching and Mentoring in the Workplace, Level 5 Management Coaching and Mentoring for Performance Improvement, Level 2/3 Certificate Equality and Diversity in the Workplace, Level 2/3 Certificate in Developing Enterprise Skills, Level 5 Certificate in Management Consultancy*

Throughout ILM training, participants work through the skills needed to manage their teams effectively and make sure they are achieving organisational goals. Stephen Foster said: "We went through a rigorous approval process to achieve our ILM status and are delighted that we will provide specialist leadership and management qualifications to individuals and employers from our local area. We are looking forward to welcoming our first ILM students in January."

"We would strongly

encourage anyone in a position of leadership or management to consider taking an ILM qualification. By investing in management development, organisations can ensure that their leaders are confident in their abilities and able to lead employees through the challenging times ahead. Nurturing effective leaders through management development is the single most cost-effective investment."

ILM qualifications are designed to help managers increase staff efficiency and motivation, ensuring that their businesses run

at an optimum level of productivity. Training courses can be tailored to the needs of individual organisations and their managers via taught classes or distance learning.

AS TRAINING LTD now has matched funding for specific leadership and management training and development programmes for directors, owners and managers of SME's in the North East

For further information about ILM qualifications available from AS TRAINING LTD please visit [www.as-training.co.uk](http://www.as-training.co.uk) Tel: 01325 788141

## Royal British Legion

Presents  
a "Take That" Tribute Band

### "TAKE MORE OF THAT"

on Saturday 28th January

Doors open 6.30pm

Tickets £5 each from the Royal British Legion

Members and BonaFide Guests Welcome

## THE TURBINIA

**\* Saturday Night Live \***

*The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge*

### Saturday 28th January - "Tommy & The Oddballs"

*Massive on the bike rally circuit, always the first band booked for the "Heart n Soul"*  
Recent reviews from Toon Rock Pages: "Awesome Band", as ever they played absolutely brilliantly, Tommy as fantastic as ever (The best frontman in the North East bar none. The man is an inspiration, a legend), Jeff playing goosebump solos on 'Hey Joe'. I can't believe how good they were. It was like walking into a pub full of your best mates with the best goddam juke box you could hope for. Every member of the band is a really good and talented player. The timing was great, the entertainment value was great too. The audience (well packed) loved it from the off."  
"They are a superb band, prob THE BEST in the North East, period!"  
Tracks covered by The Who, Bryan Adams, Thin Lizzy, Free, Hendrix, Stones, Bad Company, Kings of Leon and much more - Should be one of THE Gigs of the year - DON'T MISS IT!!  
[www.tommyandtheoddballs.website.orange.co.uk](http://www.tommyandtheoddballs.website.orange.co.uk)

### Saturday 4th February - "RELOAD"

Recent review: "With Reload you know what you're getting? Classic Rock songs covering the spectrum from Free to Deep Purple and everything in between, played by a band that confidently knows what it's doing, and does it extremely well. Check out the music videos and music files on their website for a fair representation of what the band is all about. No one leaves when this band is playing" - Don't miss them! - "Classic Rock never sounded better" Rebooked after a very successful debut gig last year at the tub - [www.reloadonline.co.uk](http://www.reloadonline.co.uk)

### Saturday 11th February - "FACELIFT"

Band cracked off with T'Rex, '20th Century Boy', followed by a bit of Bad Company. Fratellis had them all boppin' in their seats. Paranoid next followed by a rocked up version of Spin Me Right Round, and Gilly missed it they played Priest, Free n Therapy were followed by Billie Jean, Green Day and Motorhead which finished a cracking first set.  
Second half kicked off with Saturday Nights Alright For Fighting belting out, Whiskey In The Jar, then Cult, Purple, more Lizzy - did an excellent drum solo on a bass guitar, new one on me, by now the dance floor was chocka. For enchores we were treated to Led Zep, Sex Pistols and Metallica.  
Great band, great mix of music - classics to get them singing and dancing and a few unusual tracks they did in their own impressive style. They will be returning  
GIG-PEIT review of a previous gig at THE TURBINIA

For more information on bands go to

[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034

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# GET TOWN CENTRE PARK NAME RIGHT!

Dear Sir  
Going through the GAMP Forum evaluation I thought I should remind everyone we do not have a Tesco's Park. It is named "Town Centre Park" and was provided by Great Aycliffe Town Council for the people of our town not Tesco's!  
However if Tesco wish to donate to the park they can contact our town clerk or leader of the council who I am sure will be grateful for any funding towards the running of this amenity.  
"Gamp" is a good name as this error makes them look like a bunch of brollies!  
Councillor Warburton.  
**Editor:** We commented on the park being generally wrongly named, but it is not Tesco's fault and only called this due to the close proximity of the store. We suggested the Town Council take the opportunity of the Queen's Jubilee this year to rename the park "Jubilee Park." We said a new branding might break the bad habit of using a name tagged to commerce and be a mark of respect for our monarch's 60 year reign. We believe the cost of this change would be negligible.

# It's Fun, It's Free, It's The No. 1 Library

by Year 5 pupils from St Mary's School



On Thursday, 19th of January year 5 pupils from St. Mary's Primary School visited Newton Aycliffe Library. We were given a warm welcome by the staff and had a great introduction to how the library operates. The purpose of our visit was to get us more interested in books and reading as a hobby. It also gave us the chance to join our local library and take books home. Our class teachers, Mrs Brown and Mrs Clausen, are encouraging us in school time to read more books for pleasure. We enjoyed lots of things about our visit, but the most important ones were choosing books that we

enjoyed to take home and also finding out about new and amazing authors we hadn't heard of. Comments from class: "The visit has made me more interested in reading. It is good fun to read." Go to the library, you get fantastic books and learn lots of new facts." "It can be a great place to relax and maybe do homework there". Children also made up a little rhyme about our library: *It's fun, it's free, It's Newton Aycliffe Library It's fun, it's free, It's where you want to be, Wherever you look, You see a book. It's fun, it's free, It's the number 1 library.*

We are looking forward to our next visit in a few weeks.

# CAB Offer Advice on Tax Credit Changes

There will be some important changes happening to tax credits from 6 April 2012. These changes will affect a majority of people and it is recommended that you come into Citizens Advice Bureau so your award can be assessed. The changes are as follows:  
**The income limit for Child Tax Credit is going down**  
From 6 April 2012, you might not be able to get Child Tax Credit from 6 April 2012 if you have one child, and your annual income is more than around £26,000 and if you have two children, and your annual income is more than around £32,200.  
Couples with children - new working hours rules for Working Tax Credit  
At the moment, if you're responsible for at least one child and working at least 16 hours a week, you can get Working Tax Credit. However, from 6 April 2012 qualify for Working Tax Credit your joint working hours will need to be at least 24 a week with at least one partner working 16 hours. Changes to requests for backdating of benefit From 6 April 2012, backdating any claims will reduce to one

month.  
If you're aged 50 or over - working hours changes  
From 6 April 2012 the 50-plus element stops unless you meet certain criteria.  
**Tax credit rates**  
There will be changes to some of the tax credit rates. One of these is that the maximum amount of the child element of Child Tax Credit will go up from £2,555 to £2,690.  
Tax credits can be very complicated and extremely confusing. It is likely that these changes will affect a vast amount of people. If you are concerned about any of the above changes then please come into the Citizens Advice Bureau.  
The drop-in opening times of the Newton Aycliffe Bureau are 10am -1pm each Tuesday. The drop in session consists of a short gateway interview and if necessary you will be referred to an adviser who is experienced in dealing with your issue.  
Alternatively you can phone the Adviceline on 0844 4994123 where the gateway interview will be conducted on the telephone. The Adviceline is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10-1pm.

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Jane McAneney RN Cert ECBS Bowen Technique Practitioner  
Telephone Jane on 07751 920 464  
www.the-bowen-clinic.co.uk

# WAS YOUR CAREERS ADVICE CORRECT?

The 3M company - which has a manufacturing site at Aycliffe - has launched a national online survey to explore the careers guidance that British adults received at school. It follows an internal survey at the diversified technology company that revealed many of its current employees had once been advised to follow very different paths - including fish farming, undertaking and piano tuning. "We ran the survey across the UK and were amused and astonished by the results," explained John Klee of 3M. "In almost all cases, the guidance bore no relation at all to the careers they eventually chose. "The number of people recommended to be fish farmers or undertakers indicated their schools must have all used the same careers software. But there were many other strange examples as well." These included a formulation scientist advised to become a bowling alley engineer; a technology engineer guided to be a shepherd; and a

sports-hating sales executive steered towards becoming a PE teacher. A would-be piano tuner preferred to become a product design specialist instead. The company's internal survey followed the creation of a free online careers resource for schools - www.3Mcareerswise.co.uk. By answering a series of simple questions, students receive a personal profile and are introduced to video interviews with 3M employees who discuss their lives and careers. "Our aim was to give students selecting which subjects to study for their exams a better idea of some of the careers within industry they might never have heard of otherwise," John Klee explained. "It's difficult for students to know what careers they might like to follow when they have little or no exposure to the world of work." The national survey has launched this week. To share your experiences of the careers advice you received at school go to www.3M.co.uk/careersurvey

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## Hairdressing Master Class at Roots



Roots Hairdressers had a training day recently with Mark Bailey from London whose work is featured in Vogue and Elle. The young talented staff at the Salon are passionate about each customer's hair and learnt from this master class, adding to their skill and experience.

Roots are currently offering a Cut and Blowdry for £20 and Mens Haircut for £8. Tel: 311529.

## DANGER OF DRIVING WHEN YOU HAVE A COLD OR THE FLU

Motorists afflicted by a heavy cold or flu suffer a major loss of concentration when behind the wheel, putting themselves and other road users at risk, new research shows.

Safety experts found a dramatic increase in poor driving when victims of a cold were subjected to scientific tests.

Reactions times dropped sharply and sudden braking became much more frequent, as the motorist was less aware of surrounding traffic, while cornering also became erratic.

Driving ability was estimated to drop by over 50%, the study found. This is the equivalent of downing over four double whiskies,\* a level of driving ability that an insurance company would

expect to lead to an accident. Insurance company Young Marmalade carried out the research in association with Halfords using a black "telematics" box, which records drivers' speed, braking, and cornering.

"This small-scale trial provides a warning for motorists," said Nigel Lacy, Co Founder of Young Marmalade. "A heavy cold can impair a driver's mood, concentration and judgement."

There aren't official figures for accidents caused by sneezing, colds and flu symptoms but the insurance industry suspect motorists are responsible for a thousands of prangs when they are under the weather.

The findings back up work done by Cardiff University Common Cold Unit\*\* which showed that those with colds and flu suffered from poor reaction times and alertness and were a third more likely to hit the roadside kerb.

Halfords Winter Driving Expert Mark Dolphin said: "We want our customers to stay safe. You shouldn't drive if you are not feeling well. The best place to be when you have flu or a heavy cold is at home, but if you really must go out, get someone else to take you and avoid driving."

"Other drivers should be aware of those around them." Added to this Police warn that drivers getting behind the wheel while suffering from a heavy cold could be prosecuted.

PC Steve Rounds, of the Central Motorway Police Group said: "Sneezing can be very violent, especially with a severe cold and causes the sufferer to close their eyes temporarily."

"Commencing a journey in such a state would certainly be irresponsible and could be held as an aggravating factor in any accident that lead to a death or serious injury, turning a careless act into a dangerous one and thereby exposing the driver to a charge of causing death by dangerous driving."

Police also warn that some over the counter medications can cause drowsiness and hamper driving ability. If a person is rendered unfit to drive because they have taken medication, then they commit the same offence as if they had taken illegal drugs such as cocaine.



A PACT Meeting will be held at Silverdale House at 6.30pm. on Wednesday 1st February 2012

Police, LIVIN and Councillors will be attending along with the Neighbourhood Watch Wardens. Everyone welcome.

## BLUE BADGE ABUSE MADE DIFFICULT

Tough new measures to crack down on drivers who abuse the disabled parking system - including a new Blue Badge design which is harder to forge - will come into force on 1 January.

Previously, Blue Badges were made from card and handwritten but from the New Year disabled drivers will be able to apply for an electronically printed badge, much like a driving licence. The new badge will have security features such as a unique hologram, digital photo and serial number allowing parking attendants to check for genuine badges more easily through the windscreen.

Blue Badge fraud is estimated to cost the UK £46 million a year and it is generally accepted that reform is urgently needed. The new badge is part of a wider crackdown on misuse of the scheme to ensure disabled parking spaces can only be used by those most in need. Other measures include:

\* Shared administration between authorities resulting in faster renewals, less abuse and operational efficiency savings of up to £20 million a year;

\* Better customer service for badge holders, including being able to apply for and renew badges online using Directgov, as well as access to a new national helpline number. From April 2012 customers will also be able to report lost and stolen badges online;

\* Wider use of independent mobility assessments to determine eligibility. To support this local authorities will now have control of

National Health Service spend on Blue Badge assessments; and

\* Extending the scheme to more disabled children under three years of age and severely disabled Armed Forces personnel and veterans; and removing residency requirements for disabled service personnel and their families who are posted overseas on UK bases. Transport Minister, Norman Baker, said:

"Motorists who pretend to be disabled to get some free parking are frankly disgraceful. They prevent real Blue Badge holders from using parking bays designed for those genuinely in need and they cheat the vast majority of road users who play fair when they park their cars."

"Our new Blue Badge will be as secure as a banknote and anyone thinking of faking it can forget it. We are also tightening up on enforcement and eligibility so there will be no way to scam the system

## High Cost of Localism

Dear Sir

The Extraordinary meeting held at the Town Council Offices on the subject of localism went well with a few ifs and buts.

It was nice to know that we are classed as a major town by the County Council and now perhaps we may get more that we want, but don't hold your breath.

The County Council still rule us and they can say what we can or cannot have. The Town Council cannot overrule anything. The idea of "localism" was just as I thought - local things for local people, but each project will require a referendum which will come at a great cost to you the council tax payers.

In my opinion it is just the same old things, re-wrapped with a ribbon for good appearance.

Alan Warburton  
Independent Councillor

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# CRASH & RUN VICTIM

Dear Sir,  
What makes a person drive into the back of a parked car and then drive off without leaving contact details?  
To the person who did this to my car in Tesco's car park at between 9am and 9.20am on Friday 20th January please come forward and pay my insurance excess of £250.  
I cannot believe there were no witnesses at this time of day and I ask Tesco's get their CCTV sorted to cover all areas of their car park.  
Thanks to the police for prompt action in investigating this crime.  
Ian Barton  
Highside Road, Heighington

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# GREENFIELD COMMUNITY & ARTS CENTRE NEWS

## Felt Making in the Greenfield Gallery

We have had a busy week this week, with 25 year 7 students from Greenfield Community & Arts College felt making in the Arts Centre, drawing inspiration from our current exhibition, Karen Syms "Tea for Two." Each student made three pieces of felt, which they will now embellish and sew together into three dimensional vases, boxes and anything their imagination can think of! These will be on show in Greenfield Community & Arts Centre in our Craft cabinets from Thursday 8th March to Wednesday 25th April, so you can see the result of their efforts! A big thank you to Janet Ward, Head of Technology at Greenfield Community College, for her hard work on the project!

## New exhibition in our Craft Cabinets

We are waiting in anticipation for next Thursday, when our new exhibition of jewellery by Kathleen Woodhams arrives! Here's what Kathleen says about her

exhibition and her work: "I have been beading for about 5 years now after my husband got me hooked on bead weaving. Since then I have dabbled with metal clay and silversmithing and hope to develop these skills to enhance my jewellery. Last year we bought a kiln to anneal my husband's lampwork beads and I discovered that I could use it to fire my clay and make fused glass objects so I am currently working on my glass cutting skills and making fused glass items. I get inspiration from all sorts of places, some from the media itself, suggesting shapes or colour combinations, or from found objects. Nature can come up with some good colour combinations and shapes. I also use semi-precious stones which can have a life of its own and they "talk" to me suggesting what the best use is for them."

The exhibition opens Thursday 2nd February, and will be on display until Friday 2nd March, come along before we buy all the beautiful things!

# FUTURE OF POST OFFICES SECURED

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, co-Chairman of the conservative Party, has welcomed a new 10-year deal between Royal Mail and the Post Office. The agreement will secure the future of Post Office services without resorting to the failed closures programme which dominated Labour's time in government. The deal follows the Government's other measures to protect Post

Office services including additional funding, new local and national contracts, a successful piloting scheme to transform many local post offices and improvements in the services offered. Sayeeda Warsi said: 'In opposition the Conservative Party campaigned tirelessly to overturn Labour's cuts to our Post Offices, which saw them close over 6,500 in a decade. Rather than protect services Labour destroyed local communities for whom the Post Office was a vital link. 'Now the future of the Post Office is secured thanks to the Government's actions, increased funding and a new 10-year agreement between Royal Mail and the Post Office guaranteeing a valuable service for millions of people.'

## I.T. COURSE AT LIBRARY

Newton Aycliffe Library is holding a Basic IT Course, incorporating Word, Internet, and Email. This 5-week course will introduce learners to basic computer and internet use. Starts: Monday 20th Feb, 2-4pm. Cost: £23.00. Places are very limited. Please book at the library - 01325 312856

# Learning About Finland



Since October, the pupils of St Mary's School, have welcomed Aino Waltari, a teacher from Finland. As well as teaching the children about the culture and traditions of her country, Aino has taught the children rhymes, songs and phrases in Finnish. She accompanied the children on visits to Beamish Museum and High Force, as well as supporting lessons across all curriculum areas. Aino has been a wonderful

help in school and has brought with her great enthusiasm. On her final day at school she led the whole school in an act of worship and told us how much she learned during her visit. Her favourite memory, she told us, will be the laughter of the children after she told them that everyone in most Finnish families take a weekly sauna together in the nude!

  
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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**  
**FEBRUARY 2012**

**Friday 3rd February - Check out Chico Ladies Night**  
Back by popular demand performing all his usual cheeky hits and more. Evening includes two course dinner and disco, party games and prizes. Arrive for 7.00pm for dinner served 7.30pm - £19.95 per person

**Friday 3rd February - The 80's Experience**  
The best disco party ever. Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £10.95 per person

**Saturday 4th February - Gourmet Evening**  
Join us for a sumptuous 6 course dinner prepared by our fantastic Chefs, using local produce to prepare each dish. Enjoy a tasting of fine wines to suit each course and soothing background music from our fantastic pianist - £39.50 per person. Why not make a night of it and stay over in one of our beautiful bedrooms, accommodation rates available from £60.00 per room

**Saturday 4th February - Night Fever at the 70's Disco**  
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £10.95 per person

**Friday 10th February - The Jam and Paul Weller Tribute**  
The New Age Jam - An awesome sound created by the boys with some cracking covers of the band and Paul Weller Classics. Evening includes Pie and a Pint. Arrive 7.00pm, Buffet 7.30pm - £11.95 per person

**Friday 10th February - The 80's Experience**  
The best disco party ever. Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £10.95 per person

**Sunday Lunch is served in the Boyne Suite**  
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## REPORT ON COUNCIL MEETING 18th & 19th JANUARY

### Exciting Business for Council Members

The main business of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting, on Wednesday 18th January, was to receive the budget statement and indicate the precept.

Announcing the Labour Group's intention to set yet again a zero-increase, Councillor Clare stated how remarkable it had been for the Council to achieve this three years running in the present climate of recession, cuts and inflation. The Group hoped the freeze would be appreciated by hard-pressed council taxpayers.

Replying, Councillor Fleming praised the good work by officers, and emphasised the importance of the good relations between the Town Council and the County Council. The resolution was passed unanimously without further comment.

The first business at the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting, on Thursday 19th, was to hear a presentation by Stuart Timmis, Head of Planning and Assets at Durham County Council.

Mr Timmis updated members on the County Durham Plan, which was being revised to make it more locally-specific, and would be re-issued for further consultation later this year.

He then outlined the process of a Neighbourhood Plan, as far as he was able (the detailed

government guidelines have not yet been published). The Plan will be instigated by GATC. It will be undertaken in partnership with DCC and must be consistent with the County Plan – it can add details or opportunities to the County Plan, but cannot contradict it.

In addition, the Localism Act is clear that a Neighbourhood Plan cannot stop development – its aim must be to enable sympathetic community growth.

A Neighbourhood Plan must involve extensive community engagement, including landowners and businesses, and will come into force only after it has been accepted in a referendum.

Leader of the Council Bob Fleming announced that GATC intended to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. A consultant had been engaged to advise on a schedule and methodology, and the Town Council had set aside the necessary budget.

The Town Council would act as the facilitator, so that each area of the town, as well as interested groups, could be consulted and fully involved. A Neighbourhood Plan would provide a chance for the people of Aycliffe to direct the development of the town in the way that they wished – to reserve environmental areas effectively for leisure use, and

to define within the County Plan the details of what kind of development would take place where. Cllr Fleming postulated a completion date of 2015.

The second business of the Extraordinary Council meeting was a presentation on the Hitachi project by Mr G Hunton of Merchant Place Developments. He traced the exciting three-and-a-half years of the project from conception to the present, and looked forward to the 'whole new environment' and 'Europe-wide possibilities' the project would create for Newton Aycliffe. He apprised members how the Aycliffe site is already being shown in Hitachi advertising across Europe and production is expected to commence in 2015.

Mr Hunton praised the role of Durham County Council and MP Phil Wilson in Merchant Place Development's success – this, he stressed, showed how important it was for private enterprise, public services, politicians and the media to pull together on projects such as this. Mr Hunton also indicated that he was in talks with County Durham concerning a further 130 acres of land on the Business Park which came as a delight to those people who campaigned this summer for an extension of the Industrial Estate.

## WOODHAM STUDENTS TRY NEW SPORTS



Last week students from Woodham College had the opportunity to represent Newton Aycliffe in a Sportsability competition held at Spennymoor Leisure Centre.

The event was organised by Sedgefield School Sport Partnership. The fun day of activities started off with a cheerleading warm up to the theme 192 days to the Olympics! The three main activities taking place were Boccia, New Age Kurling and Wheelchair Basketball. Congratulations go to Jake Bramley in Year 7 who achieved the best school position of 2nd place in the Kurling competition; he was paired with another student from the Oaks school.

Rebecca Arrowsmith in Year 9 came 3rd in the Boccia event and Stacey Bell in Year 10, Jake Perry in Year 9, and Bradley Race in Year 9,

came 3rd in the Wheelchair Basketball team event.

A special award was given to Jake Bramley who was one of a small group of students nominated for an Ambassador for the Olympics medal for showing courage, friendship and determination.

The students participated in all the activities with the best possible enthusiasm, mixing with students from other local schools, both in and beyond Newton Aycliffe. It was great to see the students actively taking part and enjoying the day.

As this country is host to the forthcoming Olympics let's encourage young people of all ages and abilities to take part in sport. Remember it is not always the winning but the satisfaction and enjoyment that come from being part of something that counts.

## Cobblers Hall Pub Supports New Charity

The Cobblers Hall public house is supporting new charity TAKE A DAY OUT during 2012. The charity offers short break experiences that families with children who have additional needs really want and that can make a difference in their lives.

Short break experiences may be a few days away, an evening class or social group with friends once a week. For some carers a break doesn't mean going anywhere, it could be having space and time at home to relax, and having equipment they need to do this or a nicer environment at home.

Others may want a trip or day out with the person they care for but need extra help to do so. Take a day out was set up by local 'lads' Nathan Money and Peter Sheen and granted charity status at the end of September 2011.

"The Cobblers" is well-established as a community pub and has a great record for raising funds for charity. On 8 April some customers and staff will be taking part in a tandem parachute jump. A sponsored walk from the pub in the local area will take place in August, and there will be a glass walk in November. One or two other possible events may take place but have yet to be finalised.

The jewel in the crown of the Cobblers efforts is a trek to Everest base camp planned for April 2013. This trek is based on the ambition of Ian Gore who is head chef at the Cobblers.

Ian climbed Kilimanjaro for charity in 2011 and said he wanted to undertake "a bigger challenge next time". Ian will begin his hill walking training for the trek in March supported by Peter and Nathan who both hold formal walking and mountain leadership qualifications.

The Cobbler's manager, Colette Gore, said "We have worked with Nathan and Peter before on fundraising for charity, and we were really pleased to support them in establishing their new charity. Their enthusiasm is matched by ours and they make sure that we aren't just left to get on with things when we set up fundraising activities."

For more information about the Take a day out charity, or The Cobblers Hall Public House visit their web sites or view their facebook pages. For details about the events or to get involved, drop into the Cobblers or call 01740469001.

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

Clover Court  
Woodham Village  
£161,950



A much improved 3 bedroom detached house, conservatory, DG, Modern bathroom/WC, private enclosed gardens

Lee Green  
£550pcm

Three bedroom house, Central Heating, Double Glazed, Bathroom, Lounge, Diner, Kitchen, Parking, Downstairs toilet. Large garden with patio and grassed areas. NO DSS & NO SMOKERS £550 pcm plus bond (£550) Application fee and references required

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Beechfield  
Newton Aycliffe  
£75,000



Three bedroom end link house. Lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, DG, easy maintenance gardens, fish pond and patio area

Lingard Walk  
Newton Aycliffe  
£115,000



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

Bowes Road  
Newton Aycliffe  
£89,000



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Bewick Crescent  
Newton Aycliffe  
£87,950



An extended two bedroom end terraced house, Fitted kitchen/diner, modern bathroom/W.C. Well maintained home

Ida Place  
Newton Aycliffe  
£74,950



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.

Honister Place  
Newton Aycliffe  
£65,000



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

Finchale Rd  
Newton Aycliffe  
£179,950



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Hatfield Road  
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# Councillors Back New School Enterprise Courses



CHILDREN as young as four will get free training seminars in business and enterprise thanks to forward-thinking councillors. Eight Durham County councillors have each pooled resources from their Neighbourhood Budget fund, along with a £4,000 donation from Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership to finance the £18,000 project. Michelle Postma, Shildon and Newton Aycliffe Extended Schools Co-ordinator, successfully wrote bids for the funding, which will benefit hundreds of young people aged between four and 16. Young Enterprise, the country's largest business and enterprise education charity, will deliver workshops to young people from 12 schools in Newton Aycliffe, and three

in Shildon. The courses, which will run from January through to December, will cover a variety of subjects to give young people an early insight into the world of business, as well as teaching important life skills. A class will spend a full day every week, over a five-week period every term this year, going from the basics of business and its place in the community, to entrepreneurial thinking and global enterprise. Councillors Mike Dixon, Enid Paylor, Joan Gray, Paul Gittins, Sarah Iveson and John Moran have all committed £2,000 each from their budget to cover Aycliffe schools, while Gary Huntingdon and David Hancock have allocated £2,000 between

them from Shildon and Bishop Auckland APP money. Cllr Gittins said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for the children of Newton Aycliffe and Shildon to get an insight into business from the experts. "Young Enterprise uses the expertise of ambassadors from a wide range of industries to provide training to young people, so we saw this as a no-brainer. "It's also a brilliant example of how councillors can work together. We recognised this as a genuine chance to provide something unique to all young people in our area, not just those in our own wards. Everyone involved can only be applauded for looking at the bigger picture." Michelle Postma, added: "We are lucky that GAMP and the councillors in Shildon and Aycliffe are prepared to work with us in supporting our schools and giving opportunities to the children and young people that otherwise might not have benefited from such an opportunity. "The enterprise activities will provide the children and young people with important life skills as well, especially when thinking about their future."

Young Enterprise will be delivering the programmes at Sunnydale Community College, St John's and Timothy Hackworth primary schools, in Shildon, and Greenfield Community College, Woodham Technology College, Sugar Hill, St Mary's, Byerley Park, Aycliffe Village, Stephenson Way, St Joseph's, Walworth, Vane Road, Horndale and St Francis primary schools in Newton Aycliffe. Every year, Young Enterprise helps 250,000 young people learn about business and the world of work in the classroom under the guidance of volunteers from 3,500 companies.

# INNOVATIVE YOUTH SCHEME SCOOPS QUALITY AWARD

Durham County Council's Teenagers 2 Work scheme, developed by the Young People's Service, has been granted a Quality Mark for a commitment to improving the employability of young people leaving care. The project works with young people sixteen and over who are in need, looked after or have left care, to provide more opportunities to experience work, develop new skills and self confidence. It sees young people linking up with an employer and while some

opportunities have been offered from the private and voluntary sector, the council itself has also provided some work placements. Young people are supported in planning their careers and further education with particular attention being paid to those who appear to be at risk of not being in employment or education. The Teenagers 2 Work team offer equal opportunities to all young people to gain a work placement and this includes disabled young people and young parents.

Project coordinator, Trish Lambert, said: "It's fantastic to be recognised for all of the hard work that has gone into this project. "We are making a real difference to the lives of teenagers in County Durham and everyone involved in this project is working hard to ensure its gets better and better and goes from strength to strength." The council has also developed a new protocol to ensure that young people leaving care have suitable accommodation that will support their ability to access all available opportunities. The Young People's Service has developed a Supported Lodgings service to provide stability and is hoping to expand on this in the near future. The aim is to ensure

that a young person's accommodation does not stop them getting a job or getting into training. Continues... The Quality Mark was awarded by From Care2Work which praised the scheme for its approach to involving young people in Teenagers 2 Work and the progress made by the Young Peoples Service in supporting teenagers and finding them suitable places to live. There are a number of employers in the Newton Aycliffe area who provide placements, including: Deb n Hair, The Excel Centre, The Red Cross, S&D Training, Ramseys Garage, The Cats Team. Durham County Council, British Heart Foundation, Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, Roc Solid and the Furniture Scheme.

## The Localism Act Neighbourhood Plans

Dear Editor At a special meeting of the Great Aycliffe Town Council on Thursday 19th Jan, Mr Timmiss, Durham County Planning Officer, gave an outline of the new Localism Act and the changes to the planning system. He reinforced the fact that planning decisions can in future be in accordance with the Local Neighbourhood Plans which parish councils and neighbourhoods now have the power to make. My question to Mr Timmiss was what sanctions are there to ensure these plans, made by local residents, prevail? The reason I asked the question was prompted by a comment made by planning minister Greg Clark MP, in a House of Commons committee meeting on the Localism Bill in January 2011. He said that the plan "will not be easily overturned". I read this to mean there will be occasions when it will be overturned, hence my question. The answer was that they can appeal to the minister. I have never heard of this procedure before. We were told that of five recent decisions which DCC thought complied with the planning rules and expected the minister support, four were rejected. I have always suspected that the Localism Act was not intended for the benefit of local residents but for developers. It will be interesting to see what happens to Mr Murphy's application to

build houses on the golf course. We know that the County Council accept that this application is not in accordance with current planning rules. Mr Timmiss defended the Localism Act, as he must as planning officer, but when we get to the core of the act it is a developers charter. Keith Henderson Great Aycliffe Town Councillor

### Harvest Christian Centre



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**Above example:**  
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**JOHN DOUGH**  
To my "squidgy widgey" on Valentines Day, love from your little bunny X

**JANE DOUGH**  
To my honey bunny, all my love on Valentines Day, love from "squidgy widgey"

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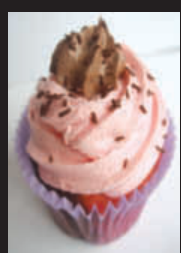
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**SPECIAL FRIENDS** Pet Care. Dog training classes at Neville Parade, over 25 years dog training experience. Training classes for all dogs and special puppy classes. Dog walking, pet and house sitting. Reliable, insured, registered. Call Lesley to discuss your needs. 07786 653 295 or 01325 312 314

## Opticians

**K. McGuinness Opticians**  
**Town Centre Newton Aycliffe**  
**Tel: 316600**

## Clairvoyance

**DARLINGTON** Spiritualist Church and Awareness Centre, Denmark Street, Darlington. Invite you to a Mind, Body and Spirit Extravaganza on Saturday 4th February 2012 from 10.30am to 2.30pm, entrance £2.00. Private Sittings, Ribbon Readings, Crystal Readings, Spiritual Healing, Spirit Assessments, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage, Reiki and much more. Followed at 3-4.30pm by a demonstration of Clairvoyance with a medley or mediums, £5. For more information ring Irene on 01325 316901 (evenings)

## Computers

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# Make A Will in February and Support Your Local Hospice

Do you own your home, a vehicle, many possessions or life insurance? Or are you planning to marry or divorce? If you have answered yes to any of these questions, the next question you should ask yourself is, how soon and where can I draw up a will?

During February, Butterwick Hospice in Bishop Auckland is working in partnership with Hewitt's Solicitors to help you make a will. All that we ask is that you make a donation of £70 for a single will or £95 for a pair of matching wills.

## Weddings

**BEAUFORDS,** Daimler limousines, Rolls Royce's, Mercedes and Jaguars available for weddings, anniversaries and special occasions. Tel 01740 620 147 (Sedgefield), 07721 771 113 or visit our website on: [www.durhamweddingcars.co.uk](http://www.durhamweddingcars.co.uk)

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**FLORIDA VILLA** Disney, sleeps 8/10, pool, spa, games room, visit [www.florida-villa-2-rent.com](http://www.florida-villa-2-rent.com) or call 320 409

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**COMPUTER Problems,** router set-ups, re-installs, upgrades. Call now for best price. Tel 07740 149224

# Air Your Views on Aycliffe's Future



The AGM of Great Aycliffe Residents' Association on Thursday 8th March at St. Mary's Church at 7pm is a Public Meeting to which all are invited.

In addition to receiving the annual reports and electing officers for the ensuing year which will only take a short time there will be an opportunity to listen to a presentation on the Neighbourhood Plan for Great Aycliffe and air your views.

The Town Council are leading a consultation on the future of our town and villages to ensure our opinions on housing, schools, planning and the environment etc are heard.

This is very important so that we can inform the County Council who will be formulating a 10 year plan for Co. Durham based on the aspirations of its residents.

Those that attend the meeting will have an opportunity to ask questions which will be a great help when the consultation starts. At the end of a long consultation process the Town Council will seek your support on the Neighbourhood Plan in a community wide referendum. Make a note in your diary to attend this important meeting.

## NEWTON NEWS

**NEWTON NEWS** is published and printed by Newton Press, which was established in 1959 and incorporates "The Newtonian". Visit the on-line version at [www.newtonnews.co.uk](http://www.newtonnews.co.uk)  
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# Youth Centre Help Charity

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre are pleased to assist the Sue Ryder Charity by having a charity portable donation station inside the reception area of the youth centre.

After your New Year clear out and all those new clothes you received at Christmas causing your wardrobe to bulge, why not have a look at those items that you no longer fit into for one reason or another and bring them along to the centre to be collected by the Sue Ryder charity.

## Tuition

**ENJOY LEARNING** Guitar, Bass or Drums at home. Tel Roger 01325 321 444 - Friendly, Experienced, Local. **TUTORING** in the Sciences and Mathematics. Over 10 years experience. Call Mrs A Cooke on 07813 945 226

## Music & Singing Classes & Parties

**Starts Wed. 1st Feb. £3.00 per sessions**  
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**3-5yrs 5.45-6.15pm**  
**6yrs+ 6.30-7pm**  
**Pioneering Care Centre**  
Qualified Staff - CRB Checked  
**Julie: 07527 655889**

## Public Notice

**WATCH BATTERIES** now available at Taylors Newsforce  
**DONATIONS** needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John on 316 630

**RSPCA** Durham and District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and id chip. Please Tel 311 215

## SLIMMING WORLD

**Every Thursday**  
**St Clares Church Back Hall**  
**11am, 1pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm**

**Contact Debbie**  
**01325 300615**

# Valentine's Junior Disco

A VALENTINE'S DISCO for under 11yrs along with an invitation to parents is to be held at the SCOUTS HALL, Bluebell Way on Saturday 11th February 6pm until 9.30pm.

This includes a Valentine Card Competition and entertainment by the fabulous KDO DISCO. Admission £2 each person. Tel: 01325 308094 for further information.

## Accommodation Wanted

**WANTED** To rent, 4 bedroom house in Darlington. Must allow DHS. Tel 07522 411720

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**3 BEDROOM** mid terrace house in Honister Place now available. DSS welcome, references required. Rent £450 per month, Bond £200, garage available. Text to 07899 678891  
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**DALTON WAY,** Newton Aycliffe - 3 Bedroom property in convenient location to the town centre. Living room, kitchen, bathroom and 3 bedrooms, Rent £550 pcm contact Upex Properties on 01325 329969 for further details or to arrange viewing.

**BAMBURGH** Crescent, Woodham - 1 bedroom property, living/kitchen room, bathroom, bedroom. £310.00 pcm contact Upex Properties on 01325 329969 for further details or to arrange a viewing.  
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**3 BEDROOM** property to rent, Stephenson Way, £475 per month, deposit £300, No DSS. Tel 07724 314498

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# SCOTCH CORNER HOTEL £3M MAKEOVER

The former Scotch Corner Hotel, at the junction of the A1 and the A66, has now become The Holiday Inn at Scotch Corner and has been refurbished into a state-of-the-art contemporary venue to appeal to everyone from families to business delegates.

The landmark building, which was established in 1939 and built on the site of a 16th century coaching inn, has been transformed by new owners The Cairn Hotel Group into a four-star venue and will be officially unveiled on Thursday, January 19th.

Along with its 91 executive and standard en-suite bedrooms the hotel now boasts a fully staffed business lounge providing the use of computers, internet access, refreshments and private meeting space to users.

The Holiday Inn offers guests a stylish bar and lounge serving refreshments and light meals, while its newly-opened, 75 cover Fratello's restaurant will offer a full menu of Italian dishes combining traditional ingredients with contemporary culinary techniques.

Work is also underway to create an impressive spa facility incorporating a number of relaxation and treatment rooms, nail bar and beauty salon and guests will also be given complimentary use of an indoor, heated swimming pool and the hotel's extensive leisure and fitness facilities.

Around 50 jobs have been created across every department of the hotel and, as well as increasing visitor numbers, the owners hope to promote it as the ideal venue for weddings and other celebrations.

Paul Weild, the hotel's head of sales and marketing, said: "With the range and standard of facilities we have provided, we know it will be a more welcome sight than ever to tired guests and traffic

## NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

We are organising a big event for Tuesday 5th June to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. We are looking for people to help - please get in touch!

The new Kurling club offers a free taster session on Monday 20th February from 1pm - 3pm. It is open to Adults and disabled people. Please contact 313924 if interested.

The next FREE FILMSHOW is a Disney favourite on Saturday 18th February at 2pm. It is run by the local Police Team and is open to everyone. Support it or lose it!

If you want to hire a hall for your own event please ring Peter on 313924.

weary travellers."

For further information on the facilities at the Holiday Inn, Scotch Corner, or to make a reservation, call 01748 825417 or e-mail enquiries@hidarlington.co.uk

## For Sale

**BARGAIN BUYS** Take-Away Deal: new autowasher, A energy class, full manufacturers guarantee, £189 boxed and in stock, ready to load into your car boot. Tel 321 678

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**BRAND NEW** double divan with quilted Damask mattress, £120. Can deliver. Tel 07789 113 343

**PROM DRESS** (Cinderella style), excellent condition, only worn one, size 8, colour peach. Cost £300 will sell for £160. Tel 07522 411720

**PROM DRESS** with ruffles, excellent condition, only worn once, size 8, colour red with silver straps, cost £220, will sell for £140. Tel 07522 411720

## Birthday Remembrance

**TYLER J. BAMBRIDGE** 28th January 2010. Today would have been your 2nd birthday. Hope you have a lovely day with the angels. Think of you every day. Lots and lots of love and kisses to our special angel. Love, Mammy, Grandma, Granda, Lee, Ross xxx

**RAY FLETCHER** Happy birthday to a wonderful Husband, Dad and Grandad. Nothing on Earth will ever replace the sound of your voice, the smile on your face. Miss you so much xxxxx Your Wife, Bea and family. Also missing our beautiful Anthea, love you so much Pet xxxxx

**MARILYN BAKER** 26th January. Instead of a card we send our love. Instead of a gift a prayer. To to the one we thought the world of and miss beyond compare. From all your family xxx

## Obituary

**ALLAN SHOULDER** 18th January suddenly at home. Allan aged 76 years of Newton Aycliffe. Much loved Dad of Steve, Lynne, Les, Allan and Anita. Also a dearly loved Father-in-Law, Grandad, Great Grandad, Brother and Uncle. Funeral, Wednesday 1st February. Would friends please meet at 11.45am for a Service at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu if desired may be made after the Service in aid of the Royal British Legion

**MENA CLISH** 17th January 2012 (Peacefully at Home) of Lisle Road, Newton Aycliffe. Mena, aged 80 years (nee Burrell). Beloved Wife to the late Joseph Richard Clish. A much loved Mother, Mother-in-Law, Nana and Gran-Nan. To be received into St Marys RC Church, Newton Aycliffe on 29th January 2012 at 5pm. Requiem Mass on Monday 12noon, prior to Interment in Newton Aycliffe Cemetery. Will friends please meet at the Church and afterwards at the Royal British Legion. God Bless

## Thank You

**VERA REED** and family would like to say a huge thank you for her cards, flowers, presents and all the good wishes she received on her recent "90th" birthday. Special thanks to Defoe Social Club at Moore Lane, Knit and Natter Club at the Neville Community Centre, Peter Beaty and everyone who contributed to make it an extremely enjoyable birthday

**BETTY LODGE** would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards, flowers and good wishes during her recent illness. Many thanks to the staff on Coronary Care at Darlington Hospital

## In Memoriam

**SHEILA TWOHIG** (29th January 2011). Mam. A year has passed since you went to Heaven. We never felt so much pain. We miss you so much. You are always in our hearts and forever missed. Love, Sue, Martin, Grandchildren and family xxx

**SHEILA TWOHIG** 29th January 2011. Never forgotten. Mike xx

**SHEILA TWOHIG** 29th January 2011. No words will express our pain inside, we love and miss you so much. Carol and family, God bless xx

**SHEILA TWOHIG** To a very good friend who is sadly missed. Thinking of you always. From your friends, Margaret, Iris, Norah and Doreen xxx

**TONY WARBURTON** 24th January 2002. It's been 10 long years since you were taken from us. We miss and love you every single day. Love you always, loving Wife Felicity; Daughter Gail; Son-in-Law Graeme. Big hugs and kisses from Grandsons Jack-Winston and Oliver xxxxxx

**MARY ELLIOTT** (Molly). 27th January 2010. Special memories of a wonderful Mam and Nanna. Always in our thoughts. Loved forever. Pauline, Bruce, Michael and Stephen xxx

**MARY ELLIOTT** (Molly). In our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. Barbara and Rob xxxxx

**MARY ELLIOTT** (Molly). Treasured memories of my dear Wife. Love and miss you, Hilton xxx

**JOHN GLASPER** 1st February 2009. 3 years have gone Dad since you were taken from us. We love and miss you every day. Love always, your loving Daughter Viv, Grandchildren Chris and Jessica xxxxx

**JOHN GLASPER** 1st February 2009. Loving and missing you every day John. Always in my thoughts and heart. Your loving Wife, Doreen xxx

**JOHN GLASPER** 1st February 2009. Dad. We all think of love for you every day. But that is nothing new, we thought of you yesterday and days before that too. We think of you in silence, we often speak your name. Now all we have is memories of you Dad and your picture in a frame. Your memory is our keepsake with which we'll never part. Dad we all have you in our hearts, missing you so much. Your loving Daughter Sharron, Son-in-Law Colin, Grandchildren Cheryl, Natalie, Sean, Great Grandchildren Maisie, Tyler and Thomas John xxx

## Congratulations

**AUDREY WALLIS** Best wishes on your 60th birthday, 20th January. Have a great day. You are the best Sister, always there for me. Love you lots, Irene xxx

**JACKIE BROWN** Special birthday wishes to our very special friend. Have a wonderful birthday! All our love always, Carole, Colin & Claire XXX Joan and a kiss from Ken XX

**CHLOE FARLOW** Happy birthday Chloe. 16 on Monday 30th January. Loads of love, Grandma and Grandad

**JAY BLAKEY** Happy 12th birthday. Hope you have a great day and enjoy your party at Planet Leisure. Lots of love, Grandma xxxxx

**LEE BAMBRIDGE** Happy 21st birthday. Lots of love, Mam and Dad xxx

**LEE BAMBRIDGE** Happy 21st birthday Brother. Love, Amy, Ross and James xxx

**SPENSLEY** (Vic and Sylvia). Happy Wedding Anniversary for 2nd February Mam and Dad. Have a great day, you are loved so very much and are the best Mam and Dad anyone could wish for. Love, Julie, Den and family xxxxx

**HANNAH WHITE** Well done passing your driving test. Love, Mam, Ian, Nanni, Stu and Ava - Enjoy your car xxx

## Births

**Kelly and Andrew Robinson**



**Congratulations** on the birth of Jack Thomas, born on Friday 20th January 2012, weighing 9lbs 8oz. With all our love, Rachael, Gary and Lauren xxx

**Thank you** Kelly and Andrew on the birth of our new Grandson, Jack Thomas. He is gorgeous. You did so well Kelly, so proud of you. All our love, Mam and Dad xx

**Thank you** for my new baby Brother. Love from Cameron xxx

**Congratulations** and thank you for our new Grandson Jack. Lots of love from Dad and Carol xxx

**ROBINSON** Kelly and Andrew, congratulations on the birth of your Son, "Jack Thomas", born on Friday 20th January 2012. Wishing you all a lifetime of happiness. Love from Sarah-Jane, Craig, Madison and Mackenzie xxxxx

**CAMERON GREAVES** Congratulations on becoming a big brother to Jack on Friday 20th January. Love, SJ, Craig, Madi and Mac xxx


**ROBINSON** Kelly and Andrew, congratulations on the birth of baby "Jack Thomas". Glad he is here safe and sound. Wishing you a speedy recovery Kelly. Love, SJ, Craig, Madison and Mackenzie xxx

**Jessica Bewley**



**Happy 21st Birthday** To our Wee Sis, Little One & Tyke. Happy 21st Birthday. All our love Katie & John, Paul, Kelly & Jackson and Shaun & Kirsty xxx

**Jessica Alice Bewley**



**Congratulations** on your 21st birthday on 24th January 2012. Hope you have a great party. Love you always Pet. Mam and Dad xxxxxxxxxxxx

**Jessica Bewley**



**Congratulations** on your 21st Birthday. Love you loads Nan and Gramps xxx

**Mandy Melvin**



**50 on 1st February** Happy Birthday Mandy. Love, Ian, Simon, Lindsay, Emma, Solomon, Pippa and all the family

Advertise in this section from just 15p per word contact **NEWTON PRESS** on 300212

**Danielle Mercer**




**Happy 18th Birthday** 22nd January 1994 You have grown into a beautiful young woman and we are very proud of you . . . but you will always be our baby Girl. Love from Mum and Ian xxx


**Happy Birthday Sis** Lots of love, Ryan xxx

**Happy Birthday** Wishing our beautiful Granddaughter Danielle a very happy 18th birthday. Love from Nan, Grandad and Uncle Tony xx

**Happy 18th Birthday** Danielle. Love, Auntie Amanda, Uncle John and Mackenzie xxx



**Ben Darlo**



**Happy 18th Birthday Rocky** 29th January 2012 Have a wonderful day. From Dad, Tracy and Josh

**Chloe Farlow**



**Happy 15th Birthday** Lots of love, Mam, Dad and Emily xxxxx

**Lost & Found**

**FOUND** St John's school, sleeveless jumper in Brockwell Close area. Please phone 01325 307403

**Jackie Brown**



**Happy 50th Birthday** To Jac. Hope you enjoy the weekend. All my love always, Bob xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday** Mum. Hope all your dreams come true. Lots of love, Steven, Leila, Rio King and Kobi King

**Happy 50th Birthday** To the best Mum in the world. Happy 50th birthday. Hope its the best birthday ever. Lots of love, Nic and Jonathan xx

**Happy 50th Birthday** Mum. Hope you enjoy your last few surprises!! Told you I could top the rest! Lots of love, Lindsey and Sean xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday** Congratulations on your 50th. Love and best wishes from your Big Sister and Number One Brother-in-Law

**Happy 50th Birthday** to a wonderful friend. Have a great weekend Jac and enjoy every minute. Lots of love, Ann and Bri xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday** Jacqueline, with my love and best wishes, Mum xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday** Hope you have a woofy birthday. Love, Alfie, Ria and Ted xxx

**Stacey Rhian Richardson**



**Happy 18th Birthday** 29th January 2012 Lots of love, Mam and Dad xxxxx

**Happy 18th Birthday Sis** Lots of love, Ste and Abi xxx

**Happy 18th Birthday** Love and best wishes on your 18th Stacy. Ian and Leigh

**Happy 18th Birthday** Lots of love, Angie, Steg, Luke and Taylor

**Happy 18th Birthday** Lots of love, Grandma and Granda

## Property Sale

**3 BEDROOM** end terrace property in Kemble Green South. Recently updated to a high standard, landscaped garden to rear with planning for double extension. £121,950. Tel: 07809 374 427



## NEW YEAR NEW YOU EXERCISE CLASSES

You've promised yourself this year you are going to get fit, trim up and try to lose weight. Oak Leaf Sports Complex can help, we offers a range of exercise classes to suit all abilities and interests, and it won't cost the earth, as classes start from £3.50 per session.

### P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together



PC 1452 Alan Thompson will be holding a PACT meeting at Simpasture Court Coffee Lounge on Tue 31st January from 6-30pm to 7-30pm. Representatives from Great Aycliffe Town Council, County Councillors & Livin have been invited to attend.

Please come along and meet your community Police and Civic Representatives to voice any concerns you may have.

Report Drug Dealers Kick this Vile Trade out of our Town.  
Ring 0345 6060 365.

On Wednesday evenings why not try a bit of Zumba and Pilates. With Pat Kenneally 7.00 - 8.00pm, combining 2 popular exercises in her unique classes 20 mins Zumba and then 40 mins of Pilates. Sunday evenings Pat holds a Pilates class 6.00 - 7.00pm 15mins low impact warm up followed by 45 mins Body Sculpting Pilates (designed to leave you refreshed and alert with a feeling of physical and mental well-being whilst improving your muscle control, flexibility, co-ordination, strength and tone.) All the celebrities are doing it.

On Thursday evenings we hold a Yoga class with Marion Keay from 5.30 - 7.00. Fit this ever-popular form of exercise into your weekly routine and you'll soon feel the benefits. Relaxing is a vital part of keeping a healthy body and mind, so why not unwind with us.

For further information, or to book your place, which is advisable as the classes are very popular, please contact the Oak Leaf Sports on 01325 300600

## St Mary's Make Plans for Golden Jubilee



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School in Newton Aycliffe are planning a year of celebrations. In September the school will have been open for 50 years and they hope to mark this very special occasion with family and community events as well as school activities. If you are an ex-pupil or member of staff, Mrs Reilly-O'Donnell, Headteacher of St Mary's, would love

to hear from you. Also, if you have any photographs of school events that they could borrow please contact the school on 01325 300339.

For more information about the school please visit the website [www.st-marysrc.durham.sch.uk](http://www.st-marysrc.durham.sch.uk) or follow weekly events on the blog, [www.stmarysnewtonaycliffe.blogspot.com](http://www.stmarysnewtonaycliffe.blogspot.com)

## Aycliffe Running Club

In the Fifth meeting of the NYSD cross-country series at Acklam, Michelle Scott produced another outstanding performance in the ladies race to finish 8th in 23m-32s.

She ran consistently throughout the series and topped this with an excellent 26th place in the North Eastern Championships. Her main event is the Triathlon and she has qualified to compete in the under 25 age group European Championships in Israel in April.

In the men's 10k race Martin Sedgwick and Paul Upton were both new to cross-country but coped well with the challenging course finishing 106th (52-54) and 107th (53-03) respectively but James Askew was again 1st home for the club finishing 4th in 36m-08s.

Other results were as follows  
Peter Milburn - 44th - 43-15  
George Reid - 50th - 43-41  
Andrew Sedgwick-55th -44-04  
Richard Campbell -92nd-49-32  
Martyn Knox - 95th - 50-50  
Dean Barclay - 99th - 51-23  
Kevin Greenhall-105th - 52-47



## MP GETS BEHIND FOOTBALL CLUB

Phil Wilson has thrown his weight behind the town's football club, urging businesses to support it with sponsorship. The MP for Sedgfield is asking local companies to respond to manager Allan Oliver's calls for more help from businesses.

He says football has a big part to play in the community after the club has helped to put Newton Aycliffe "on the map". Mr Wilson, who officially opened the club's new William Finley Stand last year, has joined forces with Tom Blenkinsop, the MP for Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland and president of Guisborough Town FC, to support their clubs with a reciprocal sponsorship deal. And amid the crisis facing neighbouring club Darlington, with the town's MP Jenny Chapman playing a major role in a rescue campaign, he's reminding people how big a role sport has to play.

"They're fifth in the league now after being promoted which is a giant step from the division they were in, and all credit to them. They're doing a great job in promoting the town and I'm proud to be a member of the club, not just a supporter said Phil.

"It can boost the confidence of the town and it gives people a spring in the step when Aycliffe is doing as well as it is.

"The role of a town's football



club cannot be underestimated, and local firms need to do their bit. Aycliffe need as much help as possible to maintain their excellent progress and I'd urge businesses that aren't already involved to get behind them," added Phil.

Last week, boss Oliver told the media how desperate the club needs more support from businesses.

"It has reached a critical point where we desperately need more support from local firms," he said. If we're to keep this fantastic group of players together, we need more support."

Anyone who'd like to discuss any sponsorship opportunities with Aycliffe, or for an informal chat, can call Allan on 07976 780369.

## Polam Hall School Concert

Polam Hall School are giving a Concert at Grange Road Baptist Church, Darlington (near Sainsburys) on Friday 3rd February. The concert will be by the senior school choir together with various instrumental ensembles performing a wide range of music to suit all tastes. The concert starts at 7.30pm. Admission £5.00 to include interval refreshments. Everyone is welcome - just come and pay at the door.

Further information from 01325 319591

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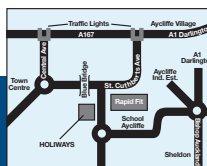
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