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TOWN COUNCIL CONSULT ON OUTDOOR FITNESS PROJECT

Great Aycliffe Town Council is inviting the views of local residents on a project it is currently considering to install public outdoor fitness equipment in West Park. The project could receive funding from County Councillors in the County Newton Aycliffe West Division. The proposed site is along the diagonal path which crosses West Park. This location is just off the Great Aycliffe Way, which is used by various walking and community groups for general fitness purposes. The equipment will be free to use and instruction in its

operation will be available when it is initially installed. The Town Council would like to hear, from as many residents and community groups as possible, particularly in the West Ward area, whether they think this equipment would be of benefit and, most importantly, if they would be likely to use it. Please e-mail, telephone or post your views or comments to the Town Council info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk telephone 01325 300700, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6QF. This consultation and an

illustration of the type of equipment suggested is also available via the website at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

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"Not sure? It's free to join, no fees at all to pay. Come along and watch if you like. There's no obligation to join".

For more information ring 01325 313363 or 01388 774838. Mobile: 07747 826 324

PR FIRM EXPANDS WITH NEW STAFF FROM AYCLIFFE



Fiona Charlton, Michaela Salvati and Stephanie Gardner

Recognition Marketing & PR, the national public relations consultancy based in Darlington, has grown its team to help meet the needs of its expanding client base. The Darlington based firm has appointed a new consultant and two support staff, having won a series of new clients for 2012.

Recognition has appointed Fiona Charlton, from Woodham as a PR Consultant, Michaela Salvati, from Middlesbrough as PR Assistant and Stephanie Gardner, from Newton Aycliffe as an Administrative Assistant. Fiona joins Recognition's Business to Business team, and brings years of experience within the financial, customer service and education sectors. Michaela Salvati, who graduated with a MA in English Literature from

Edinburgh University, joins Recognition to assist the Consumer and Health Care team.

Michaela was interviewed by BBC TV correspondent Hugh Pym in October regarding the amount of young people in the region struggling to find employment. Graham Robb, Senior Partner of Recognition was extremely impressed with Michaela's interview and held a meeting with her to discuss potential job opportunities for her at Recognition.

Stephanie Gardner who has a NVQ Level 2 in Business Administration has been appointed to assist with administrative tasks. Stephanie had been unemployed for a year before undertaking an intense job search programme run by Triage, a private sector business working in partnership with the Newton Aycliffe jobcentre, whose ultimate aim is to attain long-term sustainable employment for 18 - 24 year olds.

Graham Robb, Senior Partner, said: "It is an exciting time at Recognition and with great client wins and three new members of staff our team is growing from strength to strength. Fiona, Michaela and Stephanie are all very enthusiastic individuals who bring a varied skill set to Recognition and I'm confident they will quickly become valuable members of our team and have successful careers ahead of them"

"Over the last twenty years, Recognition has grown to become one of the North East's largest PR firms. We have done this by continually developing the firm's staff and pushing the boundaries in terms of the technology and new media."

Fiona, Michaela and Stephanie are all very enthusiastic individuals who bring a varied skill set to Recognition and I'm confident they will quickly become valuable members of our team and have successful careers ahead of them"

"Over the last twenty years, Recognition has grown to become one of the North East's largest PR firms. We have done this by continually developing the firm's staff and pushing the boundaries in terms of the technology and new media."

JUNIOR DISCO

Junior Valentine Disco at the SCOUTS HALL on Saturday 11th February, 6pm - 9.30pm. Age limit 11yrs Parents welcome. Admission £2. KDO DISCO Entertainment.

£1.5M FUND TO HELP PEOPLE INTO JOBS

A new £1.5m scheme is set to help hundreds of County Durham families to get out of the unemployment trap. It will give specialist and intensive support to the families who need it the most - helping those with a long history of worklessness to overcome the barriers they face in finding employment. The Families with Multiple Problems Programme is a government scheme, funded through the European Social Fund, set up following a pledge from the Prime Minister to help the most needy families across the country by 2015.

The Government has already named The Wise Group as the preferred bidder to run the programme in the North East, where the project will be called FamilyWise.

In County Durham, Durham County Council has been chosen to deliver the scheme on behalf of The Wise Group, which is expected to reach approximately 1,265 people from families across the county over the next three years.

The county council was selected to deliver the scheme due to the fact that it is already working with families who would be eligible for the support and is already offering a range of existing services to tackle the multiple and complex issues they face.

To be eligible at least one member of the family must be on benefits due to unemployment and there must be a history of worklessness in the family. Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for regeneration and economic development at Durham County Council, said: "It is a real feather in the cap for the county council to have been selected to deliver this programme, which will help to transform the lives of hundreds of County Durham families.

"The primary aim of the programme is to help people who are struggling to find work to overcome the barriers which are stopping

them from getting a job.

"But its success will have consequences that will be much more far-reaching - with a key goal being to help improve the lives of the children and young people in the families involved.

"This scheme will not only help to tackle child poverty, we believe it will also help to raise the aspirations of children and young people by breaking the unemployment cycle within the family."

Laurie Russell, chief executive of The Wise Group, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have won this contract. We look forward to working with Durham County Council and third sector partners to deliver this valuable support for families from across the North East."

The scheme will link in with existing support networks currently provided to families by Durham County Council and its partners. These

include the council's family intervention programme, One Point integrated children's services, family pathfinder and social inclusion teams as well as housing services and training and employment support.

The teams will continue to provide support to families in each of their specialist areas and will then refer people who are eligible on to the programme.

Additional workers, including employment coaches, job placement and training officers will be recruited - using part of the European Social Fund money - to provide the specialist employment support. Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet were asked to note the opportunities the scheme will bring in helping to support the most needy families when they met last Wednesday (Jan 25th) at County Hall.

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Saturday 4th February - "RELOAD"

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Saturday 11th February - "FACELIFT"

Band cracked off with T Rex, '21st Century Boy', followed by a bit of Bad Company. Fratellis had them all boogie in their seats. Paranoid next followed by a rocked up version of Spin Me Right Round, and Gilly missed it they played Priest, Free a Therapy were followed by Billie Jean, Green Day and Motorhead which finished a cracking first set.

Second half kicked off with Saturday Night's Alright For Fighting belting out, Whiskey In The Jar, then Cult, Purple, more Lizzy - did an excellent drum solo on a bass guitar, now one on me, by now the dance floor was chocka. For encores 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-PIT review of a previous gig at THE TURBINIA

Saturday 18th February - "INSANITY"

'Two great sets with something a bit different - early Sabs, Pearl Jars, Nirvana, Foo Fighters and a brilliant version of Queens Of The Stone Age 'No One Knows', were amongst the stuff insanity serve up. Not all my cup of tea, but thoroughly enjoyable. Band were nice and tight with Graeme his usual rocking self at the back, ably assisted in the rhythm section by Hirdy playing great bass and jumping around like only he does. Brian on vocals has a perfect voice for the material and headbangers and poses like a proper freeman. I was most impressed with John 'I only play rhythm really' . . . yeah, right!!! Trigg on guitar. Great clean but dirty tone playing in a variety of tunings and some real tasty phrasing and playing. Definitely a 'less is more' style, but some lush soloing that was even more impressive considering the lack of saturation, each note ringing out nicely. Excellent stuff'

GIG PIT REVIEW - www.insanity-rock.com

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Good News for Readers & Advertisers

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success and has an enviable influence in the town as a means of information, social comment and local news. Newton News also has a powerful online presence via www.newtonnews.co.uk - This HUGELY popular website, receives over **10,000 page hits per week**. These figures combined with our paper version bump up our readership to over 45,000 per week.

We are currently hard at work updating our site, which is now live (but will need constant attention) with Facebook, Blogs, News Streams and Twitter updates. Please feel free to sign up to any or all of our services. The Newton News archive site (www.newtonnewsarchive.co.uk), will cover sixty years worth of back copies of Newton News for your

perusal. This has been hard and we hope to have this finished by Newton Press' 50th Anniversary in 2013. Many years of back issues are already online - check it out - it is very interesting!

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Newton Aycliffe
Co. Durham DL5 6DX.
Tel: 01325 300212
Fax: 01325 312893
E: paul@newtonnews.co.uk

BARGAIN BUYS HELPS CUBBY CUSTOMERS

Dear Sir,
The Cubby bought an Indesit cooker from Tesco's which we used only a couple of times before the shelves in the oven collapsed and the oven caught fire.

I went back to Tesco's with the receipt which I was told carried a 12 month guarantee but Tesco was unable to help me and just gave me a phone number to call. When I finally got through, Indesit agreed to send out an engineer who said the cooker was unsafe to use and it would be exchanged.

As The Cubby is a charity and has quite a few vulnerable customers we were not prepared to put them at risk so requested a refund. Indesit collected the cooker at the beginning of January 2012 and a week later we were asked for our receipt which was sent the same day, but we have heard nothing more.

We raised the money for a new cooker so that customers who look forward to having their hot lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays were not disappointed.

We would like to thank Bargain Buys who came to our rescue by reducing the price of a new cooker by £50, delivered and fitted it free of charge. Without them we would have no cooking facilities and a lot of our older customers would have gone without a hot meal.

We still don't know where we stand with our refund but we could not let people down as they look forward to coming to the Cubby not just for the food but for the company.

Thanks again to Bargain for their superb service.
Bill Blenkinsopp
Chairman

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COUNTY RESIDENTS ASKED TO BREAK QUIZ RECORD

A County Durham charity is attempting to set a new world record for the most simultaneous quizzes ever held. Macmillan Cancer Support is looking for local groups and businesses to host a Mammoth Quiz on February 24 in venues across the County Durham area.

And the charity hopes the quiz night will not only raise cash to fund its cancer services, but help them make it into the Guinness Book of Records.

Macmillan's fundraising manager Michelle Muir said: "We are really excited about our Mammoth Quiz and we are hopeful lots of businesses and organisations will sign up to take part to help us set a world record for Macmillan. "The quizzes can be held anywhere, from the local pub or bowling club to a local factory, office or school. It's a really nice way of raising some money while having fun with friends, family or work colleagues".

It costs £10 to register with the money going to Macmillan to help fund vital cancer services. Every organisation that signs up to host a Mammoth Quiz will be sent a quiz pack including questions and answers, information about fundraising and some balloons and banner.

Locally Macmillan has already funded new Information & Support

centres across County Durham.

To be counted as part of the world record attempt quizzes must be held at 7:45pm on February 24th, but Macmillan says organisations can still hold a Mammoth Quiz even if they can't make that time. They are encouraging as many people as possible to enjoy a great evening at the same time as doing something worthwhile for a fantastic cause.

Michelle Muir added: "It would be great to get as many quizzes as possible happening on February 24 because we really want to break the world record. However we know not everyone who wants to take part in a quiz to raise money for us will be able to make that time so quiz packs are still available to groups that want to hold their event at another time.

The main thing is to help make the quiz bigger and better than ever before and to raise funds to help support people living with cancer. Hopefully our Mammoth Quiz will be really popular and we can make the record books in the Olympic year." To find out more about the Mammoth Quiz, contact Anna Webb on 01832 274075 or via email anna@webbottle.co.uk. To access support from Macmillan visit www.macmillan.org.uk - or call 0808 808 0000.

READERS' PHOTOGRAPH



Sunset over Aycliffe Quarry by novice photographer Andrew Taylor

TAXPAYERS BENEFIT FROM POLICE COUNCIL TAX FREEZE

Durham Police Authority has agreed a financial package for policing across County Durham and Darlington for 2012/13, which sees residents paying the same for policing as they did for 2010/11.

The Authority has made the decision to freeze Council Tax for the second year running to the benefit of local people. Whilst Members deliberated

over the difficulties in the long term of accepting the Government's offer of a grant which covers 2012/13 only, they determined that on balance regard had to be made to the difficult economic situation facing the council tax payers of County Durham and Darlington.

Clearly the impact of this decision on the police budget for 2013/14 will be one of the first issues which will need to be addressed by the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012.

Residents and non-domestic rate-payers (businesses) recently had the opportunity to feed in their views on the 2012/13 police budget and unanimously agreed to the Council Tax freeze.

Owing to significant funding reductions from Central Government for the second year running, the Authority has been faced with identifying saving of approximately £7m in the next financial year. Throughout the budget setting process, the Authority's main target has been to make these savings to balance its budget, without diminishing service delivery.

It has achieved this target by working with the Constabulary to establish a new model for service delivery across the Force area in order to increase productivity and create a 'more for less' culture.

Whilst debating the Council Tax Freeze, Police Authority Members scrutinised the figures within the Medium Term Financial Plan. Independent Member Mr Norman Vaulks commented on the difficult financial decisions the Authority has had to make in recent years to ensure sound financial planning and the best possible policing for local residents.

He also commented on the praise the Authority and Force have received from external auditors and agreed that good financial planning has enabled the police force to be one of the best in the country ready for the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner to take over from Durham Police Authority later this year.

ARE YOU A PERFORMER?

Following last years amazing success and sell out shows The Acorn Players are starting this year's performance: "The Wizard of Oz".

If you have an interest in acting, singing or dancing and want to be part of our show or feel that you could lend a hand with costumes or backstage we will be meeting on February 20th at 6.30 pm at Neville Parade Community Centre.

If you have any queries please contact Helen Waters on 07817938989, we look forward to seeing you.

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POLICE AUTHORITY RECOGNISE WORK OF COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

In 2011, Members of Durham Police Authority agreed to host a Community Awards Event to acknowledge the heroic and selfless acts which take place in our communities by individuals or groups who have had a positive impact on community safety and public assurance within County Durham or Darlington.

Members agreed at a meeting of the Authority that following the huge success of the Awards Evening which took place in December 2011 at Ramside Hall Hotel, an annual Community Awards event should continue and the awards event should be recommended to the incoming Police and Crime Commissioner as good practice.

Peter Thompson, Chair of Durham Police Authority said: "In terms of community safety Durham Police

Authority recognise that it is not just the police and community safety partners who do good work in keeping our streets and communities safe.

There are local people and groups in our communities who have gone to extraordinary lengths to make their area a better place to live. In particular there are people who care for vulnerable individuals or groups to ensure their well-being or safety. There are local volunteers who work to provide better facilities and opportunities for young people, disadvantaged or the elderly.

With the demise of Police Authorities later this year, I hope that any future Police and Crime Commissioner will consider having a Community Awards scheme in future years".

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Final of 'Youthy' Talent Event

Over 100 people packed Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre to watch the final of the first Newton Aycliffe Got Talent event.

Nine acts entertained the audience with a multitude of skills and Secretary of the Youth Centre Joan Clark said, "It was an amazing evening and so good to see so many people turn out on a windy Saturday night in January to support the event".

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe Mary Dalton attended with her consort and drew the raffle. 4 prizes were not collected on the night so pop into the youth centre to see if you were one of the lucky winners.

The acts were all of a very high standard and the judges had a hard time eliminating the finalists down to six main acts.

It was then time for audience participation in the judging. Everyone was given the opportunity to vote for their three favourite acts whilst Judge Tommy Raitt and Samantha Greensit delighted the audience with two amazing songs. Samantha Brittle set the computer to establish the audience votes. Once these had been collated the judging panel added their input to the final vote.

Third prize went to Taylor Bowen only 5 years old. Second prize was awarded to Annis Race with First prize going to Shanaya Z Atkinson-Jones.

The cheque for 3rd prize for £25 was presented by Tom Hunter, Chairman of Great Aycliffe Youth Council who said he really enjoyed the show which was much



better than he expected. "I didn't realise how much talent there was in Aycliffe". Vince Crosby Chairman of

the Management Committee presented the 2nd Prize of £50 to Annis Race. The first prize for £75 was



presented to Shanaya by Peter Robinson from Nordic Pioneer.

Peter said "I am thrilled to have been asked to sponsor the first prize for this event and I have been blown away by the high standard of talent".

Joan Clark said all the participants were all winners and she hoped they would all sign up for the showcase of contestants in Young Aycliffe's Got Talent to be announced sometime in April.

OVERNIGHT CLOSURES AT A1(M) DARLINGTON

Drivers are being advised that sections of the A1 (M) outside Darlington will close overnight from next week for essential repairs and maintenance.

Work along a 4.5 mile stretch of the route in both directions just west of Darlington between Junction 57 (Barton Interchange) and Junction 58 (Burtree Interchange) will start on Monday 6th February and involves the overnight closure of the carriageway for five nights in one direction at a time.

The £70,000 project, which involves replacing bridge joints and associated repairs, will start on the northbound carriageway before switching to the southbound carriageway. The scheme will be completed by Friday 17 February.

All the work will take place between 8pm and 6am each night with clearly-signed diversion routes in place between the two interchanges east of the A1 (M).

During the northbound closure this will involve using the A66 (M), A66 (T), A67, B6280 and A68

with the reverse diversion in operation during the closure of the southbound carriageway.

Highways Agency project sponsor Steve Bishop said, "This is essential work to repair bridge joints along the A1 (M). This work is vital to ensure that users of the strategic road network in this part of our region can continue to enjoy safe, smooth and reliable journeys. "We have timed this work to take place overnight when traffic volumes are low to minimise inconvenience to drivers and while we do not anticipate major delays we would ask people travelling overnight to leave a little extra time for completing their journeys."

Pancake Night Change of Date

The Pancake Night at St. Elizabeth's is NOT on the 14th of February. The date has changed to the 21st of February at 7pm in the Church Hall at Woodham.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2012

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

Saturday 11th February - Valentines Ball — Dan James
Performing a variety of songs from the great Michael Buble to the Killers. Evening includes a glass of sparkling wine on arrival, three course dinner and disco. Arrive 7.00pm for dinner 7.30pm - £20.95 per person

Saturday 11th February - Night Fever at the 70's Disco
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £10.95 per person

Tuesday 14th February - Valentines Dinner
Enjoy a romantic three course dinner and a bottle of wine per couple with soothing music from one of the regions most popular pianist. Rose for the lady. Arrive at 7.00pm for dinner 7.30pm - £26.95 per person

Friday 17th 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 18th February - Night Fever at the 70's Disco
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £10.95 per person

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looking to tie the knot by providing the happy couple with their own bus for their wedding day!" Arriva is looking forward to hearing from any couples in Newton Aycliffe that become engaged on Valentine's Day and will be getting married in 2012. The Love Bus will be fully decorated, after consultation with the bride of course, and will include a supply of goodies and presents for the lucky couple from Arriva.

Chloe Leach O'Connell added: "Arriva is committed to providing the best possible service to people living in Newton Aycliffe and considers the role of transport provider extremely important."

People who would like to take advantage of Arriva's offer should visit www.arrivabus.co.uk/lovebus and register their interest.

An Art & Craft Exhibition will be held at the Centre on Saturday 31st March from 10am till 3pm.

This will include all art forms and is free to all residents of Great Aycliffe. To enter contact Peter on 313924.

The next free film show is a Disney production, suitable for the whole family, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

This facility is provided by our local Police Officers and is on Saturday 18th February at 2pm.

A National Kurling competition will be held in Newton Aycliffe in October. You can play this popular indoor sport at the Centre. It is suitable for all ages and abilities. Specially enjoyable for disabled people who can kurl from a chair. A beginners club starts on Monday 20th February at 1pm - admission only £2. Everyone welcome. Senior citizens who need a handyman at reasonable prices can contact Paul on 07895 697115.

Unwanted gifts wanted to raise money for Centre funds. If you can help please ring 313924.

Marske Fishermens Choir visits the Centre on Friday 16th March to give a Concert at 7.30pm.

Aycliffe ATC Officer and Sergeant Receive Awards



Cadet.
Tyrone is a student at Woodham Community Technology College and following his GCSE examination in the summer, hopes to follow in his father's footsteps and join the army; his ambition is to become a member of the Royal Military Police.

Flight Lieutenant Karin Scott of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (Training) was awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for 2011 for her outstanding service to the Durham and Northumberland Wing of the Air Training Corps (ATC).

Flight Lieutenant Scott was

nominated by the Wing Commander and senior staff officers at Wing Headquarters following a 26 year association with the ATC. Karin first became involved when her husband John Scott, now a Squadron Leader and sector commander, joined as a civilian instructor in 1985. After a break whilst her children were small, Karin rejoined the squadron. When, a short time afterwards, the first female cadets were recruited, Karin stepped forward to undergo formal civilian instructor training which qualified her to teach and lead adventure training. Following acquisition

of her Basic Expedition Leader Award, she was soon teaching navigation. Subsequently, Karin and John established the Duke of Edinburgh Award at Newton Aycliffe Squadron. Karin has gone from strength to strength within the squadron, 8 years ago she was commissioned into the RAF Volunteer Reserve Training Branch as a full RAF officer. After completing Officer training at RAF Cranwell, she was promoted to Flight Lieutenant and took over command of the Newton Aycliffe Squadron. In addition to all of this, Karin works as Senior Lab Technician at Woodham Community Technology College. Her two grown up children, Sarah and Michael are also civilian instructors in the ATC. In spite of all she has achieved, Karin remains typically modest about her success, citing her husband John's commitment to the ATC as her motivation to become involved. She told us "My philosophy is, if you can't beat them join them..." Both Tyrone and Karin's achievements reflect the inspirational qualities and achievements of those who serve in the reserve forces and it is wonderful to see Newton Aycliffe divisions receiving recognition for their hard work. They are excellent role models for us all.



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**Down Court
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Two story, semi detached property, has a good potential to be transformed into flats. Excellent yard.

**Earle Close
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Well presented 3 bedroom detached, full basement, large middle, full kitchen, secondary, garden.

**Beechfield
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£75,000**



Three bedroom well kept house. Large living room, full kitchen, CO, very well maintained garden, full front and back lawns.

**Lizard Walk
Newton Aycliffe
£110,000**



Three bedroom house, full kitchen, CO, H/C, rear garden, well maintained lawn - superb view!

**Down Road
Newton Aycliffe
£95,000**



Three bedroom well detached property, offering CO, secondary, modern kitchen, internal dining, strongly maintained.

**Brick Crescent
Newton Aycliffe
£97,500**



An attractive two bedroom and bathroom house, full kitchen/WC, modern bathroom/WC, full night sleep house.

**Idis Place
Newton Aycliffe
£74,950**



A well presented 3 bedroom 3 bath and modern house. Close to shops, school, main road, modern kitchen, modern bathroom, CO, full front lawn.

**Horizon Place
Newton Aycliffe
£68,000**



Three bedroom and bathroom house, centrally located, modern full kitchen, modern bathroom, garden, CO, full front lawn.

**Cinchale Rd
Newton Aycliffe
£175,980**



Three bedroom detached family home. Full kitchen, large living room, full kitchen, full, modern garden, garage.

**Hartfield Road
Newton Aycliffe
£112,500**



3 bedroom well kept property. Close to local amenities, Central Heating, Large, Kitchen, Dining Room, H/C, Double Living with enclosed garden, immediate possession.

**Kestrel Court
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TALKING ABOUT CANCER SESSIONS

The NHS County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust's Talking About Cancer (TAC) team is working within your local community to help raise awareness of cancer. Information stands will be in local community venues throughout February focusing on bowel cancer awareness and a member of the TAC team will be there for you to talk to, along with leaflets and information for you to take away.

Tesco Newton Aycliffe 6th February, 10 - 12noon
Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre: 7th February 11am - 3pm
Neville Parade Methodist Church, 27th February, 2.30 - 4.15pm

Research shows early detection of bowel cancer and increased awareness of the NHS bowel screening programme increases survivorship rates and ultimately save lives. The awareness sessions aim to provide good quality, easy to understand information about the signs and symptoms of cancer along with the screening programmes available. The intention of the session is to encourage members of the public who may be concerned to visit their GP sooner. If your group or organisation would be interested in having an awareness session, please contact Karen Moore on 0191 5692823 or Jill Wheatley on 0191 5692859.

182 New Homes at Cobblers Hall



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Durham County Council has received a planning application from Keepmoat Homes to construct 182 two, three and four bedroom properties and associated infrastructure and landscape works at Site 'O' Cobblers Hall, Newton Aycliffe. The application site consists of a parcel of land fronting onto Cobblers Hall Road opposite Bloomesley Close and east of Ash Tree Close. The Moors wetland area is located to the east of the application site and this would be retained. The application is currently under consideration and the Council's public consultation exercise is currently underway. The planning application can be viewed via the Durham County Council website by viewing the online planning applications facility. Alternatively, these can be viewed by prior appointment during normal office hours by contacting planningspennymoor@durham.gov.uk. Any comments should be forwarded to David Walker at Durham County Council, Regeneration and Economic Development, PO Box 114, Spennymoor DL16 9BW. Newton News noticed with regret the children's park promised for this area is not included in the scheme. Usually a large development like this includes a community asset and it is disappointing none is apparent. The Cobblers area has a large number of families with children and a neighbourhood park here is needed.

Town Council Biased Report

Dear Sir
The Town Council Report by JD Clare states the Labour Group's intention to set a zero council tax rise. This is untrue as this was set by all parties in the Council Chamber, not just Labour! I believe the Town Clerk should send reports of meetings not someone who puts his own Party's interests first. Counc Clare could be accused of electioneering! It was nice to see Keith Henderson appearing to support my point of view on localism. The latest joke doing the rounds on Labour states: "If light travels faster than sound is this why Labour Councillors and MP's appear bright before they speak?"
Councillor Alan Warburton
Ed: If opposition Councillors believe John Clare's reports are biased they can send in their own version.

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

Above example:
15p per word

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Great Cakes Good Service

Dear Sir,
I would like to send a huge thank you to Debbie and her husband who own Truly Crumbtious for the wonderful castle cake and cup cakes they made for my daughter Jessica's 21st birthday. Nothing was too much trouble for them. The cakes tasted absolutely gorgeous and everyone commented on how lovely they looked. They have a great website www.trulycrumbtiouscakes.co.uk and I am sure there will be a picture of our castle cake on there very soon. Great cakes with wonderful customer service means I would be delighted to recommend Truly Crumbtious to anyone looking for a special cake. How lovely to have a company like this right on our doorstep.
Christine Bewley

Pioneering Care Centre Art Classes



Due to the popularity of the 'Colour Your Life' Arts on Prescription classes at the Pioneering Care Centre on Fridays, extra adult 'Open Arts' classes are being offered on Saturday

mornings from 10am to 12 noon. The classes are FREE for the first 8 weeks and thereafter a donation would be welcomed towards materials. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn a new craft from professional artists who are working in the marketplace today. Plus all classes take place in pleasant surroundings and give everyone the chance to learn new skills, make new friends and relax in a friendly atmosphere.

Paul Stokes is a regular at the Friday afternoon session and says: "I live in Tow Law but come to the Colour Your Life sessions at the Pioneering Care Centre because it's such a pleasant venue and is equipped for disabled people. I turn up, get a warm welcome, have a cuppa and start being creative. The staff, guest artists and other members encourage and praise you to have a go and to push your imagination, which makes you feel good. People should come along on a Saturday and rediscover their artistic skills or learn new skills; I'd recommend Colour Your Life to everyone".

Further information from the Pioneering Care Centre, Carers' Way, Newton Aycliffe tel: 01325,321234 email: enquiries at pcp.uk.net, www.pcp.uk.net, www.facebook.com/PioneeringCare

Scheme Will Secure Future of Golf Course

Dear Sir,
I've followed the recent letters in the Newton News with increasing despair as I see various people promoting their own interests with a mix of ignorance, half truths and downright lies within your paper. Up until now, I've kept my opinions to within the

Golf Club but as it seems that the Application is going to be finally decided upon very soon, I feel my voice and those of my fellow employees here at Woodham have a right to be heard as the decision will have an immediate and direct effect on our futures. As the head green keeper at the club I can personally

vouch for the potential in the Golf Course at Woodham, I've been here for over 20 years because I know it's a superior course. Professional golf players visiting the course have said that it's close to being one of the highest standard courses in the North East - but it needs investment.

First of all, though, to clear up one of the half truths that has been published which is that the course can never be improved as it is on clay - we have actually spent over £25,000 on consultations with environmental experts who have planned a scheme that will give us a superb and perfectly well drained course if this development plan is approved.

This golf club desperately needs investment. If this comes from the construction of new housing around it, I see this as simply an additional bonus. We have seen the development of nearby courses at Rockcliffe Hall, Wynyard and, further North, at Close House which have and are proceeding

without any objections as they clearly bring economic benefits to the local area. We need to improve on these aspects of our club to stay competitive because as it stands we're putting in an awful lot of effort for no return.

This scheme secures the future of the Club and its present employees, offers many permanent additional jobs, hundreds of temporary construction jobs, brings in new additional income into the town, improves a dangerous road system, improves the wildlife habitat and general environment and generally gives a buzz to a town which has seen little but bad news over the past few years.

I just hope the Planning Authority has the sense to approve this scheme and that we can start work to create a facility that will also bring benefits to the whole community.

Yours Sincerely
Mark Hodgson
Head Greenkeeper,
Woodham Golf Club

CUTS IN EXPENDITURE PRODUCING DIRE PERMANENT CHANGES

Dear Sir
Having worked in Newton Aycliffe for 2 years I have become a regular reader of your newspaper. I am especially impressed by the quality of readers' letters and would like to see if this letter prompts any replies. Every day I hear politicians talking about the need to cut expenditure and arguing about who caused this mess. Many of the problems were obviously caused by Labour. No peacetime government in history ever borrowed on the scale of Blair & Brown neither of whom noticed the looming bank crisis. But these arguments are a distraction from something much more serious.

Cameron's words are about cutting expenditure but most of his actions aren't. Many of the changes he is trying to make will cost millions to implement at a time when we're supposed to have no money. Labour's response that cuts are too fast and too deep also misses the point. Take these examples.

The proposed changes to employment protection laws won't save the government a penny. They will give more power to unscrupulous employers who can already use agencies, casual contracts, internships and more to drive down wages. The proposed increases in rents for social housing and worsening their tenancies won't put any money into the Treasury. It will effectively

end social housing as we know it, adversely affecting poorer people and their families to the point of homelessness.

The proposed health reforms end the government's legal responsibility to provide an NHS and pass it to commissioning bodies that must open services up to private companies. (It's already started at Darlington Memorial). What's wrong with private companies running the NHS? Lack of control by doctors, voters and councillors for a start! Southern Cross showed what private companies can and do to care services. So I don't think we are seeing a cyclical downturn in the economy to be cured by cutting costs. I think we are seeing permanent structural changes which will leave millions of people much worse off. I wonder what your readers think.

Tom Hodgson
Darlington

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LOVE @ MESSY CHURCH

Bright Sparks Messy Church at St Clare's Church, on Saturday 11th February, at 4pm has a LOVE theme linking story, song, crafts and food.

Suitable for the whole family to come along and enjoy together, young children will love completing the crafts and making new friends. There will be tea to follow and everyone is very welcome. Enquiries on 319002

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Good Opportunity for Talented Young Golfers

Promising young golfers in Durham are to be given the chance to develop skills as part of a successful talent-spotting programme in the county. It is aimed at identifying boys and girls with the right mix of talent, commitment and attitude to help them develop into players capable of climbing the talent pathway.

They do not even need to have a handicap or be members of a golf club, but will be encouraged to become involved at their local club so they can put what they learn into practice.

Six centres - at Chester-le-Street GC, Knotty Hill Golf Centre, Sharpley GC, Headlam Hall, Beamish Park Hotel and Golf Centre and Ramside Hall - will provide coaching by PGA professionals who understand the development needs of young players.

The County Academy Programme, which is now in its fourth year, has seen more than 150 young golfers access its coaching and development opportunities. Some players have progressed onto the next step - County Junior Elite coaching.

The first steps towards getting involved in the 2012 programme take place in March when two free talent assessment days will be held. These are aimed at youngsters between the ages of 7 and 15 years. The dates are: Saturday, March 3 (12noon-3pm) - Ramside Hall, Durham and Sunday, March 4 (10am-1pm) - Knotty Hill Golf Centre, Sedgfield.

Anyone wishing to take part needs to register in advance by returning the form available from the Durham County Golf Partnership website (www.durhamgolfpartnership.com).

durhamgolfpartnership.com). The website also has further information about the programme and the opportunities it offers developing players.

Any questions about the programme can be directed towards Jonathan Ward, County Development Officer for the Durham County Golf Partnership (Tel: 077758 48602; E-mail: durhamcdo@hotmail.com).

After the assessment days have been completed those successful will be invited onto the programme and join other players of a similar age/ability at one of the venues around the county.

Apart from coaching, members of the academy will be able to access online resources, workshops on topics such as golf psychology, fitness and rules, as well as take part in events which are only open to those on the programme.

The County Academy Programme is one of a number of projects aimed at increasing the talent pool in golf, run under the umbrella of the English Golf Partnership. This is a collaboration of a number of stakeholders in the sport including the England Golf (the new organisation formed by the merger of the English Golf Union and the English Women's Golf Association), the PGA, the Golf Foundation and Sport England.

This partnership is replicated at county level and brings together the Durham County Golf Union, Durham County Ladies Golf Association and the North East PGA. For more details of the Durham County Golf Partnerships activities, please visit www.durhamgolfpartnership.com.

WOODHAM TECH STUDENTS EXPERIENCE NORTHERN CULTURE



Students from Woodham College visited the Angel of the North and Gateshead Quays last week, to take part in a variety of geographical and musical activities. The visit formed part of the Asset Day programme which gives students the opportunity to take part in enrichment activities, providing them with the best experiences beyond the school classroom in Newton Aycliffe.

For the first part of the day the year 9 GCSE students studying Geography and Music explored the Angel of the North, the Baltic Art Gallery and Newcastle Quayside. Students were investigating the area's

redevelopment and regeneration as a premier North East tourist destination.

This was followed by an afternoon at The Sage, Gateshead where students were given a tour of the building, and learnt how the structure ensures that no sound or vibration can pass from one performance space to another.

The day culminated with an energetic and lively drumming workshop where students created a percussion performance from scratch using boomdang drums.

P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together

PC 1452 Alan Thompson will be holding a PACT Meeting at Neville Parade Methodist Church on Thursday 9/02/2012 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 & Civic Representatives to voice any concerns you may have.

HALF-TERM CHILDREN'S EVENT

Professor Brainstorm and his Exploding Science Show is presented at Half-Term at Newton Aycliffe Library on Friday 17th February from 10:30 - 11:30am.

The cost is 50p per child. Recommended age: 7 plus. Places are limited. Please book at the library - 312856

NEW RECYCLING AND RUBBISH COLLECTION SERVICE

A new recycling and rubbish collection service could lead to savings of more than £9m over the next five years.

The new system, being introduced across County Durham over the coming months, will see rubbish and recycling collected on alternate weeks, with rubbish being collected one week and recycling the other. Similar systems already operate in many other areas of the country.

Householders will also receive a new grey wheeled bin with a blue lid, which they will be able to use for recycling paper and card, plastic, food tins and drink cans, cartons and aerosols. Glass bottles and jars should still be left out for collection in the existing plastic box.

The changes, which will also include the introduction of more efficient collection routes, will mean major savings for the authority through a reduction in vehicles, fuel and staff.

The scheme is being rolled out across the county in phases. The former Sedgfield areas bins are being delivered in March and April with the new system in operation from May. Special arrangements will be made for residents who live in flats or other properties where there are issues with access. Specific collection days for individual properties will be detailed on stickers placed on the bins alongside the relevant start date. Residents will also receive a collection calendar through their door reminding them which items should be placed in the bin and box.

Although in some areas the new recycling bins will be delivered a few weeks in advance of the changes to collection dates, residents



Cllr Simon Henig, Leader of Durham County Council, helps Kevin Dunn deliver new recycling bins in Chester-le-Street.

can begin using them straight away, putting them out on their usual collection day.

The changes will also see the introduction of a four-day week, which will minimise the disruption caused by Bank Holidays.

A leaflet explaining the new system has been delivered

to homes across the county within the council's new Guide to Services.

For up-to-date information about the new rubbish and recycling system visit www.durham.gov.uk/bins and enter your postcode in the My Durham section or call 03000 26 1000.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting

Notice is hereby given that:-

A meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee of the Town Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

WEDNESDAY, 15th FEBRUARY 2012
at 4.00p.m.

QUESTION TIME

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

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

Agendas / Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend. 'The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings'.




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Police Congratulated for Metal Theft Action

The Police Authority has congratulated Durham Constabulary for its unprecedented action to combat metal thefts in a bid to drive down crime.

Members considered the Force's current plans to tackle metal theft, which was identified as a key threat to Force performance, with thefts accounting for around 20% of all stealing offences and 10% of overall crime.

The police are addressing metal thefts issues across the North East by working in partnership with Northumbria and Cleveland police forces as well as community and corporate partners. An intelligence-led operation earlier this month resulted in a number of arrests at targeted scrap yards across County Durham and Darlington.

Members will continue to monitor the work and of

the four metal theft teams across the Force area and have praised the work undertaken by Durham Constabulary so far. Mr Peter Thompson, Chair of Durham Police Authority said: "Both the Police Authority and Constabulary continue to work hard to ensure the safety and well-being of local people.

I am delighted with the proactive methods the Chief Constable and his staff are taking to increase productivity and efficiencies in local policing. The recent approach to tackle metal theft locally is just one example the Constabulary is continuing to drive down crime, to ensure that the residents of County Durham and Darlington have confidence in the knowledge that they live in one of the lowest crime areas in the whole of the United Kingdom".

"DEPARTURE APPLICATION"

Dear Sir,

We now have it on good authority that the application to develop Woodham Golf Course is being treated as a "departure application" as it departs from the aims of the planning policy.

This means that the current planning rules are being abandoned and the scheme will be decided on the benefits it offers. This decision will be made by Councillors on the planning committee who will not be constrained by any planning considerations.

If the committee refuse consent I understand the developer can then appeal to the Government Minister. If he follows the same line, as he has on four out of five recent appeals, he will support the developer.

So much for the Localism Act and Neighbourhood Plans. However I will still urge Councillors to reject this application, whatever the minister may do, since we will at least be able to point the finger at the culprit.

Keith Henderson
Town Councillor

BETTER CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

A new campaign has been launched today by NHS North East to raise awareness amongst the region's healthcare staff about how to improve the experience, outcomes and safety of care for patients with learning disabilities.

It is estimated that around one million people have a learning disability in England. For healthcare staff, this means that about 2.5 per cent of patients will have a learning disability.

The PWLD (people with learning disabilities) 'Do you understand?' campaign encourages staff to consider whether they are aware of the needs of this vulnerable group, and signposts them to training resources for those who are unsure or would like to refresh their knowledge.

The first phase of the campaign targets staff at all of the region's hospital and

mental health trusts, and the North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust.

Dr Dominic Slowie, chair of the learning disability clinical innovation team at NHS North East, said: "Whether you are a receptionist, porter, nurse, paramedic or doctor, you will often come into contact with a person who has a learning disability as part of your day to day work. "When receiving treatment, people with learning disabilities may require a different approach than other patients to ensure that they receive the same quality of care.

"Those with learning disabilities are 58 times more likely to die before the age of 50 compared to other people. This is often due to avoidable causes.

"This campaign encourages staff to think about the specific issues faced by those with learning disabilities and to take part in training to increase their understanding of the different needs of this group and their carers. This will ensure that all patients receive the same quality of care and help to prevent avoidable suffering.

"Our staff can really make a difference to the health outcomes of people with a learning disability."

For more information about people with learning disabilities and the campaign visit www.pwldnorth.nhs.uk

MANAGING THE POLICE HANDOVER IN COUNTY DURHAM & DARLINGTON

Members of Durham Police Authority have agreed a report on how the Authority will manage the changeover from Police Authorities to Police and Crime Commissioners.

The report, proposed to Members of the Authority details how the local changes to policing governance will be managed in County Durham and Darlington.

The Government will replace Police Authorities with directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners with the aim of reducing central bureaucracy, increasing democratic accountability and empowering local communities. The first elections for Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales will be on 15 November 2012.

The Government expects that current Police Authorities will oversee the effective transition to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Durham Police Authority's multi-agency Local Transition Board is making progress with the Transition Programme well underway and eight multi-agency Project Boards are currently being convened to provide the capacity and capability

to deliver all local project outputs, such as the transfer of police staff, estates and other major assets from Durham Police Authority to the new Police and Crime Commissioner.

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC) has given praise to the preparedness of the transition from the Police Authority to the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner. The Inspector highlighted that "The Police Authority has been a national lead in progressing arrangements; it was one of the first nationally to establish a Local Multi-Agency Transition Board and has provided advice to numerous other authorities"

Lesley Davies, Chief Executive of Durham Police Authority said: "We will continue to the best of our ability to ensure that the delivery of local policing meets the needs of our local people in the most efficient and effective way possible until Police Authorities are abolished. It is important that the handover from Police Authority to Police and Crime Commissioner is as smooth and seamless as possible. The Transition Programme will enable this."

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Our MP Fights to Keep Durham Airport



Our MP has expressed his concern on the future of Durham Tees Valley Airport in the Commons debate on the Civil Aviation Bill.

Phil said: "It is so important we maintain the connectivity between the airport and the rest of the world. It has to do with the size of industry in the area. The economy of the Tees Valley is based on the largest integrated process industrial complex in the UK.

It contains industries specialising in petrochemicals, energy, renewable energy, biofuel and steel making. It has the third largest port in the UK and there is also a world-class advanced engineering industry based on the design, construction and maintenance of petrochemical plants, power stations and major infrastructure such as bridges.

In addition, the region has the Wilton centre, which is Europe's largest non-military private sector research centre. The petrochemical industry alone contributes £3.5 billion to the UK economy and 70,000 UK jobs depend on it. On top of that, Hitachi Rail Europe is coming to Newton Aycliffe, which is in my constituency and

about 12 miles to the west of the airport a worldwide industry has been attracted to the region.

I understand that there are several prospective buyers for the facility at Durham Tees Valley, and I want to make sure that, whatever happens, it remains a commercial airport. If that is not to be the case, I want to make sure that it still has an aviation purpose for the north-east, whether as a general aviation facility, a cargo facility or a commercial operation. It is vital that there is a future for some kind of aviation in the Tees Valley in whatever guise, because the business is needed—as I have said, it is a massive industrial complex—the tourism is needed, and investment in the facility by whoever buys it is needed".

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Lack of Parking Places at the PCP

Dear Editor

Can the Police or Council do something about persons visiting the PCP with cars. It will not be long before there is a major car crash or someone getting seriously hurt due to the erratic parking of some visitors to the PCP.

Anyone attending the doctors surgery cannot get parked due to the volume of parked cars, of people using the PCP. Parking should be made available just for the surgery visitors whose occupation of a parking space is only for a period of 30 minutes, whereas visitors to the PCP tend to be there for half a day or even more. The nearest parking spaces to the Doctor's surgery are usually used by PCP staff and visitors.

Due to the inadequate parking facilities, visitors to the PCP tend to park on the road, which is the entrance to the Cobblers Hall Shopping Centre, and other surrounding roads. As

a consequence this makes the roads only wide enough for one way traffic.

Double yellow lines are needed here to allow the roads to be free of parked cars. Many of the parking spaces when you eventually do get into the shopping centre are taken by visitors to the PCP.

The PCP is a good thing for the town and its residents, but again our planners have not had any thought into where all the people visiting the PCP can park.

The PCP is surrounded by vacant land which could provide more parking spaces, but I suppose this land is reserved for building purposes, which will again add to the parking problems already being experienced in this area.

I ask our Council and the planners to get together to solve this problem and free the surrounding roads of parked cars.

Name and Address supplied

Response from PCP

Dear Editor,

As Chief Executive of the PCP I feel I need to clarify a few things. Though I agree parking can be difficult on certain days, we do have yellow lines within the car park to restrict parking and our caretaker staff try to ensure that visitors park safely and within certain boundaries by using cones in addition.

We also have a zebra crossing at the entrance to the car park to support pedestrians navigating their way across the main thoroughfare.

With regard to the comment that 'parking should be made available just for the doctors surgery visitors whose occupation of the car park is only for a max of 30 minutes: whereas visitors to the PCP tend to be for

half a day or more, with the nearest spaces usually used by PCP staff".

Firstly, there are a number of health services based within the Pioneering Care Centre operating on an individual appointment basis which means people attending will be in and out as quickly as they would be from the GP surgery.

People attending for a therapy, a class or pool session will also be in and out in just over an hour. In fact the majority of users of the centre are only here for a short time. In addition, through lottery funding last year we were able to extend our staff car park significantly so that the majority of staff park in the staff car park at the rear of the building.

When staff cannot park in the staff car park they are encouraged to park off site so as not to compromise parking for our customers and clients. We also provide a number of accessible parking spaces for disabled people close to the building as we know a number of our visitors have mobility problems.

I agree that on occasions when the car park is full, visitors do park on the surrounding roads and this can cause congestion. This is something I would be happy to discuss with Durham County Council transport planners but as the author of the letter has stated, the surrounding land is earmarked for housing development and therefore does not provide a solution to the problem.

In the meantime however, we are happy to meet with representatives of the council and other relevant partners to explore other solutions.

Jane Hartley
Chief Exec/Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

One of County Durham's 'Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers' is offering job seekers the chance to join its nationally recognised programme as part of National Apprenticeship Week.

Homes and communities company, livin, which received the accolade last year for its commitment to employing and training apprentices is hosting an Open Day on Wednesday 8th February as part of its 'livin Futures' partnership programme, ran in conjunction with partners Mears, Bullock and South Dale Homes.

Representatives from the partnership and local colleges will be on hand to talk to job seekers and school leavers about a wide range of training and employment opportunities,

including current vacancies for a bricklayer and joiner. Attendees will also be able to hear first-hand from a number of apprentices that are currently employed through the partnership about the benefits apprenticeships offer.

Alan Boddy, executive director people and communities for livin, said: "We are committed to appointing apprentices and it is also important that we play our part in encouraging and supporting other businesses to do the same. As a partnership

we offer a broad range of apprenticeship opportunities as well as long term support for people once their apprenticeship is complete."

The open event will take place between 3.00pm-6pm (booking not necessary) at livin's head office, Farrell House, Arlington Way, DurhamGate, Spennymoor, DL16 6NL.

For further information contact Helen Johnson, employability coordinator for livin on 0845 505 5500, email helen.johnson@livin.co.uk.

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rates for 2010/11 for the first time: 76.4% of learners successfully completed their apprenticeship. Skills Minister John Hayes said: "Clarity of policy, strength of commitment and certainty of purpose has delivered record numbers of apprenticeship starts, outstanding success rates and growth across all sectors."

"This success, mirrored in every English region, is putting businesses on stronger ground to deliver a more balanced economy. It is equipping young people with the skills that build prosperous careers, and forging communities in which the common good is served through creative endeavour and purposeful pride. "My relentless commitment to quality has become a hallmark of delivery in Government. I'll now go further to drive up standards, ensuring that quality always matches quantity."

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Don't miss the opportunity to heat this special band. Tickets for the Concert are £5 and on sale from Rev Graham Morgan 0138877898

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Youthy FC Girls Team in Cup Final

The under 13 girls travelled to Peterlee for a tough semi final against East Durham. The Aycliffe girls took a grip on the game from the first minute and it wasn't long before the first goal came from a 25 yard screamer from Sewell which the keeper could only parry into the roof of the net.

A ball over the top of the defence saw East Durham equalize but Aycliffe quickly restored the lead from a weaving run and a left foot shot for Sewell's second. East Durham were pushing for the equalizer and a last ditch sliding tackle from Kelly kept a 2-1 half time lead.

The second half continued with Aycliffe attacking and a through ball from Grayson split the East Durham defence for Sewell to complete her hat trick! East Durham weren't

finished as they scored to make it 3-2. The midfield of Broad, Carney and Haykin were working hard and Alderson kept the East Durham defence very busy.

Aycliffe needed to quickly quiet the home crowd and Sewell obliged with her 4th goal. 5 minutes later she received a pass from Munro and turned provider with a cross for Postle to tap in at the far post to make it 5-2.

In the final minute East Durham scored from a wicked deflection which completely wrong footed the excellent Heathwaite in the Aycliffe goal. Final score 5-3 and a cup final against Cestria girls in May

If you are in Year 8 and want to play competitive football with a great team of girls check out our website www.naycafc.co.uk

Obituary

Walter Duff



28/12/22 - 31/1/12

Died peacefully in his sleep, aged 89 years of Morton Walk, Newton Aycliffe. Funeral details will follow in the Northern Echo

FRANCES MATTHEWS (nee Harnett) of Newton Aycliffe died peacefully in hospital on 25th January 2012, aged 94 years, after a long and enriched life. Devoted Wife of Joe; adored Mam, Mother-in-Law, Nana and Great Nana, loving Sister, Aunt, Cousin and Friend. Frances' last wish has been fulfilled by donating her body to medical science. Family and friends are invited to a Memorial Mass on Saturday 4th February at 11.00am at St Mary's RC Church, Newton Aycliffe. No black ties and no flowers, by request. Donations in lieu, if desired, to Great North Air Ambulance. "Requiescat in Pace".

MENABLACK 75 years, 26th January 2012. Peacefully at home (Clanny Road). Beloved Wife of the late Billy Black; a much loved Mother to Sharon, David, Philip, Mother-in-Law, Gran and Great Gran. Funeral to take place at St Mary's RC Church, Newton Aycliffe at 10am on Tuesday 7th February. Then on to Wear Valley Crematorium, afterwards at the Big Club. Flowers to be sent to John Meynell's, Stephenson Way

KEN TIFFEN (Tif) of Lyon Walk. Died suddenly in Darlington Memorial Hospital on 28th January. Loved and missed by Eleanor, family and his many friends.

MARY CRAGGS Peacefully on 30th January 2012, aged 81 years. Mary Craggs of Holmfirth and formerly Newton Aycliffe. The dearly loved Wife of the late Colin. Loving Mum of Dave; Mother-in-Law of Helen; a devoted Nanny to Tom. Funeral Service at Huddersfield Crematorium on Tuesday 7th February at 12noon. Family flowers only please, but donations would be appreciated for the White Rose Residents Fund, c/o T.W. Birks & Son, Holme Valley Funeral Home, Woodland Road, Holmfirth HD9 2PR. Tel 01484 683322. Will friends please meet at the Crematorium

ARMY VETERAN HELPS SMALL BUSINESSES

A local serving soldier who is retiring after 22 years service this year is setting up a business to advise and train small to medium sized businesses in ways of streaming traffic from the internet.

As recent studies have shown, the UK is beginning to see more purchases made by individuals and companies from the internet. There has been a marked decline in footfall through shop doors and retail revenues have suffered as a consequence.

In response to this decline small businesses have turned to online auction sites and major online stores to place their own products on sale, but the cost of doing this eats away at their margins. Being able to attract visitors to your own website is often difficult to achieve if the wrong techniques are used. Once small businesses understand the way in which the big search engines find content and how they rank the content on them, it is possible to see targeted traffic coming straight onto their own websites instead.

There is no short cut way to attract visitors to your website and understanding the correct way will reap greater benefits over time.

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In Memoriam

VAL MALONE 31st January 2007. Always in our hearts. Lots of love, Graham, Kay, Jill and Sammi xxxx

MENA CLISH Dear Mam, it felt like the time we were apart from each other, resembled the many miles away. No matter my commitments, I could not bring myself to see you fade away. I need to remember you Mam, in my own special way, a loving tender Mam, who was perfect in every way. God bless. Love always from David and family xoxoxox

BILLY HAILES Another year has passed and gone, but miss you just the same as ever. Our love for you will never die and you will always be remembered. Your loving Wife, Doreen and all your loving family xxx

NANCY WATSON 3rd February 2002. In God's care you sleep above. In our hearts you stay with love. Remembered always. Joe, John, Lorraine, Karen and families xxxx

WILLIAM REID 6th February 2000. Gone are the days we used to share, but in our hearts you are always there. The gates of memory will never close, we miss you more than anyone knows. With tender love and deep regret, we who love you will never forget. With lots of love from Mam and all the family

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Congratulations

RYAN GALLACHER Happy 16th birthday to a special Grandson. Love, Nana Doty and Fatty xxx

RYAN GALLACHER Happy 16th Cousin. Love, Connor and Christy xxx

RYAN GALLACHER Happy 16th birthday Son. Have a lovely day. All my love, Mam xxx

RYAN GALLACHER Happy 16th birthday. Love, Tina and Tyler xxx

JACK HEYWOOD 5th February. Happy 8th birthday. Have a brilliant day. Lots of love and best wishes from Mam, Dad, Thomas, Granny, Grandad, Grandma and Grandad

ALEX STEWART Happy 21st birthday Son. Lots of love, Mam xxx

ALEX STEWART Happy birthday Bro. Love, Gareth, Jenny, Jordan, Kevin, Timmy and Emma xxx

HAPPY 21ST birthday Alex. Love, Jade xxxx

HAPPY 21ST birthday Uncle Dan. Love Reece, Nicole, Bria and Katie xxx

DANIEL Happy 21st birthday. Love, Grandma xx

HAPPY 80TH birthday, 5th February, 2012. Love Carol, Cornel and Sue xxx

HAPPY 80TH birthday Grandma. Love, Jenny, Paul, Bria and Katie xxx

HAPPY 80TH birthday Grandma. Love, Tim, Emma, Reece and Nicole xx

HAPPY 80TH birthday Grandma. Love, Daniel, Jade and Gareth xxx

HAPPY 80TH birthday (adopted) Grandma. Love, Jordan and Kevin xxx

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Chloe Farlow



Happy 16th Birthday
Lots of love,
Mam, Dad and Emily xxxx

Zoe and Sophie Walling



Happy 18th Birthday
1st February 2012
All grown up!!! Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Jhordyn and Aeron xx

Zoe and Sophie Walling



Happy 18th Birthday
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Love from Danielle xxx

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Jean Kidd



Congratulations on your 50th Birthday
5th February 2012
Enjoy your night - with much love from all of the family xx

Jean Kidd Because She's Worth It!



Happy 50th Birthday
Jeany
Thank you for the friendship that we share. Big love from all the girls xxxx

Stacy Rhian Richardson



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

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

Thank You

MENA CLISH The family of the late Mena Clish would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for the flowers and the support they gave us during the sad bereavement of our Mam. Special thanks to Father Campion for the wonderful Service; to the Macmillan and District Nurses for their care and attention; to John Meynell Funeral Service and the Staff at the British Legion. Once again, thank you all. God Bless

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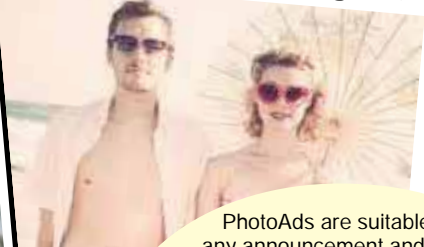
Alice Springs



Happy 21st Birthday
10-10-10

to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden

on 1st Jan

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For further information, contact the Oak Leaf Sports Complex 01325-300600.

Aycliffe Unbeaten in 8 Games

Newton Aycliffe stretched their unbeaten league run to eight games with an entertaining, if hard-earned draw with in-form Ashington last weekend. The Colliers – who despatched Champions Spennymoor 4-1 just days earlier – took the lead at Moore Lane Park, breaking 'keeper Scott Pocklington's run of four clean sheets, only for Dan Mellanby to claw the hosts level before half time.

The second half ebbed and flowed as both sides chased victory, but both Pocklington and opposing number one Karl Dryden kept their respective opponents at bay.

Gary Middleton's Vase hopefuls started the

brighter, and in the 10th minute Marc Walton and Andrew Johnson linked up well before finding Taylor in the area, with the forward shooting wide after swivelling free from John Close.

Seven minutes later and the visitors stole ahead. Walton freed Marc O'Dea into the area but his weak effort was heading straight for Pocklington's grasp until an untimely intervention from Darren Craddock steered the ball upwards into the vacant opposite corner.

It was the first goal Pocklington had conceded since Boxing Day in the league, a run of six hours and 29 minutes, a new club record.

It remains to be seen whether video evidence presented to the Northern League's Dubious Goals Panel will award the goal to O'Dea or see it as a Craddock faux pas.

O'Dea should have double his side's advantage three minutes later when he was found unmarked by Johnson at the back post, only to direct his header straight back to where it came from, harmlessly running across the face of goal and behind. Aycliffe started to come out of their shell and got level in the 37th minute. Jardine

FIXTURES

Sat Feb 4: South Shields (A), 3pm

Sat Feb 11: Shildon (H), 3pm

Sat Feb 18: Consett (A), 3pm

Sat Feb 25: Marske United (H), 3pm

www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

flicked on Paul Broom's ball and Mellanby beat Dryden to the loose ball before circling the custodian and stroking home left-footed in expert fashion.

Nathan Wilson drove over from 25 yards minutes after while Broom shot across the face of goal as the interval loomed, with Allan Oliver's side in total control.

The second half saw both sides come out to win the game. Pocklington blocked well from Walton amid a goalmouth melee while he produced a superb double save from Taylor midway through the half to frustrate the teenage Geordie.

Broom laced over when well positioned on 74 minutes while a couple of close offside calls prevented Mellanby and Jardine the opportunity of a one-on-one with Dryden.

Aycliffe travel to South Shields tomorrow before a mouth-watering local derby at home to Shildon next Saturday.

NEWTON NEWS

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Aycliffe Teenage Runner's Continued Success

The North of England Cross Country Championship was held in Pontefract on Saturday 28th January and Newtonian Henry Johnson performed well competing for Shildon R & AC. The Under 15 competitions were tough races for Rosie Findlay and Henry as they are bottom end of the age range.

However, they put their victories from the Schools County competitions to excellent use and enjoyed the experience. They were surprised to find that they both were ranked 14th Year 9s in the North of England. Rosie was pleased with her time of 18.34 over 4k. Henry tried hard to stay with the pack and finished well up with the North East lads with a sound time of 16.31.

Other under 15 boys included Jake Findlay, who is narrowing the gap all the time and ran his socks off to finish in 16.43. Joseph Bell continues to improve and pushed hard to achieve 17.30.

Zoe Hewitson (U17) seemed to find an inner strength in the final straight and she galloped up into 18th place over the 5k course in 18.51. Amy Etherington showed true determination as her legs leaped along into 9th

place out of nearly 100, with 18.16. A smaller field of competitors took part in the junior women and Lizzie Wood tackled the 5.6k well to come 24th place in 24.51. Michael Bleasby (U17) seemed comfortable over the 2 medium laps and turned up the heat on his second lap to run 6.2K in 21.04 gaining 28th place out of 111 athletes.

The Junior men race saw Cameron Boyek, run the 8k course in an amazing 28.18 gaining him 6th place. Dan Hardy paced himself well so there was plenty left in the tank to charge up the final hill to cross the line in 23rd place with 29.48. Ryan Etherington completed the trio with 37.31.

Natalie Owens was the only senior member to take part in the championships and was happy with her senior women time of 39.51 over the 8k undulating course. Other senior member results include Chris Griffith (VM 45-49) who ran his first park run at Durham on 21.1.12. His maiden run across the 5k course saw a pleasing result with 22.43.

Shildon Running & Athletic Club is open to anyone from the age of 8 upwards. If anyone is interested in



joining the club please come along for a free try-out session.

For details please check out our website, www.shildonrunning.co.uk for nights and times to suit your age group.

If you require any more information please call us on our new number 07592611600 or e-mail; secretary@shildonrunning.co.uk

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