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# NEWTON NEWS

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## AYCLIFFE AIR CADETS ARE THE BEST - IT'S OFFICIAL



Newton Aycliffe Air Cadets are the best and that's official! The Commanding Officer of 1407 (Newton Aycliffe)

squadron, Flt Lt Karin Scott, was presented with the Lindesfarne trophy by Wing Commander Harris at Durham/ Northumberland Wing's annual guest night at the Gosforth Marriott Hotel. The trophy is presented to the squadron with the best overall performance in the Wing, which consists of 35 squadrons, and this is the third time in 5 years 1407 have won this honour. The squadron was also presented with the Durham trophy, which is given for cadet participation in ACO activities and courses such as BTec awards and The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

The trophies were represented to the staff and cadets at their annual presentation night by Sector Commander Sqn Ldr John Scott who is a past CO of the squadron. He said "It is always an honour to come back to 1407, especially to

present them with the Lindesfarne trophy. The squadron continues to be the best."

Flt Lt Scott would like to thank all the staff and the civilian committee of 1407 for their dedication, and for the time they give to ensure the cadets get the most from the opportunities the Air Cadet Organisation offers.

1407 Sqn meets at the Barnard Armoury, Greenwell Rd, Newton Aycliffe on Monday and Thursday Evenings 7 -9.30pm. Young people aged 13 to 17½ are welcome to come along to find out more about us.

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## R.A.F.A. A.G.M.

The A.G.M. of the Newton Aycliffe Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association will be held in the Canopus Club, Barrington Road on **WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH, 2012.**

Doors close at 8.00pm prompt.

All members are cordially invited to attend.

## Royal British Legion

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## AYCLIFFE VILLAGE EVENTS

**BREAKFAST CLUB.** The next breakfast club takes place on Saturday, 10th March, from 9am to noon in Aycliffe Village hall, (sponsored by Tom Lenahan Ltd). There will be a choice of egg, sausage or bacon rolls on offer, along with a cup of tea or coffee. This month, children can start to design Jubilee T-shirts in preparation for the village event on June 4th, so come along and start making your bit of history. All proceeds from the breakfast club go to the upkeep of the village hall.

**FAMILY NIGHT.** Three students have organised a night of fun called Beat It on Saturday 10th March, to help raise funds for trips they are taking with Queen Elizabeth 6th Form College. Callum Lenahan and Jonathan Hutton are going to Romania to help with an orphanage; and Andrew Hindle heads off to Botswana and Zambia to help build a school. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3.50 for children (free for under-3s), starts at 7.30pm. For more details or tickets, call Sue Hindle on 01325 310421.

**ANNUAL MEETING.** The Annual Meeting of Great Aycliffe Village Hall Association is on Monday 12th March, at 7pm. A chance for people to hear about the association's activities over the past year and to elect the new committee. There will be refreshments after the meeting. All newcomers would be very welcome.

## JUNIORS WANTED FOR SUMMER MUSICAL PRODUCTION

MAD Productions, an enthusiastic group of youngsters between the ages of 11-18, practice at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre

They are currently preparing for a summer musical production and would like to invite young people of the same age, who have an interest in all parts of theatre to register with them for the production. There is potential for backstage, lighting and props as well as acting and/or singing. Mad Productions are thrilled to have a RADAR trained producer/director to help them with the production in encouraging and empowering all to fulfil their interest and stretch their potential.

For more information contact Joan on 07730 471 485 or pop along to Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre on Wednesday night at 6.30pm.

## National Firm Lays Down Roots in Aycliffe



Shield Environmental's Aycliffe brand manager Louis Anderson (right) with Toni Hughes (left), Lisa Collin and Chad Fitzgerald.

A NATIONAL leader in asbestos removal and thermal insulation has opened a new branch in Newton Aycliffe. Shield Environmental Services, which has offices across the country, has opened the new site at Aycliffe Industrial Park, in County Durham.

The firm specialises in asbestos removal, surveying, management and training as well as thermal insulation for both industry and residential sectors.

New branch manager Louis Anderson, pictured with newly-appointed staff Chad Fitzgerald, Lisa Collin and Toni Hughes, says he's looking forward to bringing the firm's expertise to the region.

He said: "As one of the UK's largest specialist asbestos and thermal insulation contractors we are able to offer a range of comprehensive services enabling us to work closely with our clients from conception to completion of projects, identifying the risks and ensuring that work is undertaken in line with current legislation.

"We're extremely proud of our highly-qualified, directly-employed staff, state-of-the-art specialist equipment and our dedication to customer service, quality and safety.

"This new branch can deal with all your asbestos surveying, removal and training, thermal insulation and disaster recovery requirements for the domestic, commercial, industrial and marine industry sectors, covering an area from Scotland down to Birmingham."

## TABLE TOP SALE IN SHILDON

Come and grab a bargain! Heighington Skate Park fundraisers are putting on a Table Top Sale

at the Jubilee Fields Community Centre in Shildon on Saturday 10th March from 1.00 to 3.30pm.

There will be a variety of things for sale from pre-loved toys to fresh cupcakes!

Delicious refreshments available - Entry Free

## Mother's Day OFFERS

(available during March)



1 Hour Full Body Massage was £22 - Now £15.00

Facial, Back Massage & Blow Dry was £46 - Now £30.00

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## "AMY WINEHOUSE"



Saturday 10th March

Newton Aycliffe Sports Club  
Moore Lane, Newton Aycliffe

Doors open at 7pm

Tickets are available from the bar at  
Newton Aycliffe Sports Club priced at £5.00  
or you can pay on the night (£7.00).  
Tickets sold on a first come first served basis.

25% of ticket sales will be donated to Help for Heroes

For more details please ring 01325 312768  
or email Shaun on: [kps56@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kps56@tiscali.co.uk)

## THE TURBINIA

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### Saturday 3rd March - "UNCLE GILBERT"

RIFFS ONLINE REVIEW: "An excellent night with some classic rock covers done by mainstay of our rock fraternity both Bill and Gary gave the thumbs up to the performance - as did all the other punters in the venue tonight. For a band to stay together for that long you just know they're doing something right - this band have just earned themselves a promotion into the premiere league".  
Covering tracks by: Bad Company, Billy Idol, Bon Jovi, Cult, Deep Purple, Gary Moore, Hendrix, Santana, Pink Floyd, Rory Gallagher, Santana, UFO, ZZ Top and much more - [www.unclegilbert.co.uk](http://www.unclegilbert.co.uk)

### Saturday 10th March - "1977"

ROCKERMOUTH REVIEW FROM 'STORMIN THE CASTLE' - "For me probably, the band I was looking forward to seeing the most at Stormin'. Simply because I knew that the punk covers that they play would be such a great alternative musical taste, and that the typical assembled Stormin' audience would absolutely lap this lot up. Sure enough 1977 did the job splendidly! Lots of classic late 70's punk anthems from the Sex Pistols, Clash, Jam, SLF, D'mned, plus many more. Again it was just a brief one-hour slot in which to deliver a show, but with some of their songs clocking in at 2 minutes or less then they managed to bang in a multitude of tunes with plenty of variety. This crowd just grew and grew as the group continued to belt out anthems after anthems, and obviously the audience were becoming a lot more animated and hairy too, ha-ha! I was just as happy watching the crowd having a great time as I was watching the band play. There was a fantastic atmosphere building up in the main tent, and 1977 were milking it to the max. The sound mix for them was even better than the previous band, and now I could say that the quality of the rig was easily as good as any prior years of this rally. Bill's bass guitar sound was huge, Cass' drum kit had never sounded bigger nor better, and Jukka's guitar tore out through the mix like a broadsword. This was big step forward from their typical pub gigs using their own small vocal P.A. system. Stadium rock had finally arrived for 1977 after 15 years of slogging their backside off around the north east, and boy didn't they suit it so well! This 3-piece band came alive on this bigger stage, and the crowd absolutely loved them."

### Saturday 17th March - "MUGSHOT"

Bio: MUGSHOT, a four piece band from the South Shields area playing modern and classic rock covers by bands such as Bon Jovi, Chili Peppers, Kings of Leon, Metallica, Muse, U2, Van Halen and Whitesnake, to name but a few. "We hadn't seen this band before so we didn't know what to expect and boy did they rock The Hearts!! Something for everyone in the set that had the dancers on their feet, the one's I remember were U2, Whitesnake, Killers, Kings of Leon, Tom Petty, Nirvana, Guns n Roses, The Cult, Radiohead... etc, all played and sung brilliantly!! If you haven't already seen this band, go and see them, you won't be disappointed!! [www.myspace.com/mugshotrockband](http://www.myspace.com/mugshotrockband)

For more information on bands go to

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

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## IMPORTANT PUBLIC MEETING



The Great Aycliffe Residents' Association hold their Annual General Meeting followed by a Public Meeting on Thursday 8th March at St. Mary's Church, Central Avenue 7.00pm

### ALL RESIDENTS INVITED & WELCOME

#### AGENDA

1. Constitution
2. Elections

#### 3. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The meeting will receive a presentation by Cllr John D Clare Deputy Leader Great Aycliffe Town Council on their task to create a Neighbourhood Plan for GREAT AYCLIFFE to be incorporated in the County Plan

It is important for the future of our area to hear what it's about, have your say and get involved.

The Great Aycliffe Residents' Association aim is to ensure that Residents within the Parish of Great Aycliffe have a voice in their community and their aspirations are represented and acted upon. We exist to work with Councils and others to achieve these objectives.

## AMBULANCE FIRM RIGHT ON TIME



As public sector budgets are slashed and under attack from all angles, a leading North East Ambulance firm is answering the call from the NHS to deliver patients to vital health care appointments on time.

Less than 10 years after the business was started in Newton Aycliffe, Medical Services North East, now based in Durham, is a multi award winning company providing an ambulance service to NHS Trusts, Private Hospitals and Social Services to help with the safe

transportation of patients.

The company provides staff and vehicles ranging from non emergency transport for appointments and discharges to fully equipped front line emergency ambulances for a one off transfer or more permanent contracts to assist in meeting stringent targets of its clients.

Commercial Director Joanne Hall said, 'Now is a tough time for many NHS trusts having to cut back on services and focus more on efficiencies than ever before, operating at short notice 24 hours a day we are able to offer help and cost savings with patient care that is second to none'

Using their extensive skills and experience they have also been able to diversify and now offer Event Medical Cover for many events throughout the north east such as horse trials, mountain biking events to international boxing tournaments and high profile music festivals.

The company has set about raising the standards of the industry and as well as gaining accreditations to the British Ambulance Association, Health and Safety Executive and the prestigious Investor In People award within the first 12 months of starting they have continued to strive for excellence and recognition for the benefit of those they serve.

Wayne Hall, Managing Director said "During 2010

we won the North East Small Business of The Year award and a Business Leadership Award, followed in 2011 with the Growth In Business Award, approval from the Care Quality Commission then we went on to gain the internationally recognised ISO 9001 and finally the Best Service Business award at the beginning of December. 2011 was possibly our most successful year, with a huge increase in the work we do and more awards but we have a feeling 2012 is going to be even better and we are really looking forward to it"

For more details or to contact Medical Services call 0191 3778841 or www.msne.co.uk


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## PLANNING PRESENTATION AT MIDDRIDGE

A Neighbourhood Planning presentation, by Stuart Timmiss will be shown at an extended meeting of Middridge Parish Council, at 6pm on Monday, 5th March at Middridge Village Hall.



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Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th March

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09.30 - 10.15	BodyCombat
10.30 - 11.30	BodyPump
11.45 - 12.45	Zumba
13.00 - 13.45	BodyAttack
14.00 - 15.00	BodyPump
15.00 - 16.00	BodyBalance

### SUNDAY 11th March

Open from 09.00 - 19.00

10.00 - 11.00	BodyPump
11.15 - 12.00	BodyAttack
12.00 - 13.00	BodyBalance
15.00 - 16.00	Zumba
16.15 - 17.15	Modern Pilates
17.30 - 18.15	Fitball
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Facebook: Aspire Fitness and Health  
Sharon: 07879 996728 Sherri: 07787 420483

## Bishop Auckland Hospital GARDEN CLUB

Green-fingered growers are invited to join a new Garden Club, based at The Hospital Club in Escomb Road, Bishop Auckland. We hope to hold our own show in September 2012. To find out more ring Gil Berry on (01388) 450524  
Next meeting at 8.15pm on Tuesday 6th March at The Hospital Club

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## ALL WE HEAR IS RADIO GREENFIELD

Budding DJs are taking to the airwaves at a Newton Aycliffe School thanks to Area Action Partnership funding to set up their own radio station. Greenfield School and Community Arts College is setting up and running Synergy Radio to help pupils learn more about developing and designing radio shows with daily themes and focuses.

GAMP (Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership) is one of 14 set up by Durham County Council in 2009 and has dedicated £15,460 from its area budget to the project. It's hoped that different subject areas can be taught using the equipment and this will in turn promote the use of media technology and other technological advances such as broadcasting equipment. The radio equipment will also be available outside of normal school hours for those who have a general interest in broadcasting or want to take radio presenting to the next level as a career. Local youth groups with an interest in broadcasting will also be able to use the equipment.

Brian Riley, GAMP coordinator, said: "The radio equipment can be potentially used across a number of schools in Aycliffe allowing the young people of the town to gain hands on experience of the broadcasting industry. "The equipment will also

be a valuable tool for use within all curriculum areas as well as for out of school activities."

David Priestley, headteacher, said: "The opportunity for the young people of Greenfield Community College and from all other schools across Newton Aycliffe to have access to this state-of-the-art equipment is unique and a powerful learning tool.

"The equipment funded by GAMP gives young people the ability to learn about language, sound, production and media across the curriculum and within the out of school hours programmes. "This digital radio station is a real asset to every subject area. Synergy radio allows schools to broadcast messages to the whole school population and ultimately across the town.

"The possibilities are endless and we look forward to a new way of learning, an exciting, motivational tool to promote outstanding teaching and learning across Newton Aycliffe." For more information on GAMP or to attend the next board meeting contact Brian Riley.

## BILL POTTS MEMORIAL TROPHY



### HAMSTERLEY FOREST WALK

Sunday 29th April 2012

Join Macmillan and walk in memory, or celebration of, a loved one. Take part in our 4 or 11 mile walk through Hamsterley Forest in County Durham. Each route offers woodland of outstanding natural beauty. Registration fee £7.50, minimum sponsorship £35. For more information go to: [macmillan.org.uk/walking](http://macmillan.org.uk/walking)

Great Aycliffe Bowls Club held the first Bill Potts Memorial Trophy Mixed Fours Open, sponsored by Gordon Fletcher & Sons Funeral Directors, over the weekend of February 18th/19th. With a total prize fund of £225, it was a weekend of top quality bowls, which everyone enjoyed. The winners S & B Young finished on 8points/25shots, followed by Kayburts with 8points/15 shots and in third place Wanabee's with 7points/23 shots.

Fourth, fifth and sixth finished on 6points making it a memorable weekend for all.

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## WOODHAM STUDENTS VISIT THACKRAY MUSEUM IN LEEDS

By Sarah-Jane Shenton, Year 9



Last half term a group of Year 9 Health and Social Care students from Woodham Community Technology College went on an educational visit to the Thackray Museum in Leeds. The museum is based on the history of medicine from the 1800s and the conditions that the people had to live in.

At 9:15 we got on the bus to set off to Leeds all feeling excited and full of joy. Whilst on the bus everyone was singing and asking lots of questions about the museum because they were curious about what they were going to see.

Arriving at the museum at 10:45 and to our surprise were shocked at what we saw. My first words were "How beautiful! I wish I could come here every day. It's amazing I can't wait to see what's inside".

Entering the museum our noses started to tingle as we were greeted by the smell of the sewers from the 1800's. Our teacher, Mrs Kell, signed

us in at the front desk, and looking around I admired the surroundings. We dropped our belongings off in a room upstairs and started our tour. We worked our way around the museum, looking at all the attractions and statues, and completing a question sheet on the different displays. The conditions in the 1800's were appalling and I learnt that people left meat open in the air so flies could get on it and they had no toilets so their waste went out the windows and onto the streets below.

Whilst walking around the museum we saw and learnt about lots of different things, such as the many types of medicines and what it was like to have a baby. There were no midwives so someone from down the street would have to deliver your baby.

I found it very interesting indeed and would advise people to visit because it is such an extraordinary place to experience.

## Situations VACANT



### FUEL CARD SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER

Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham

As a national Business-to-Business supplier of fuel card services to corporate organisations across the UK, we are looking to appoint several Fuel Card Account Managers to join our growing team to generate and maintain new business accounts building on our continued growth.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE



to be held at  
NEWTON AYCLIFFE YOUTH CENTRE  
on  
MONDAY 26th MARCH, 2012 at 7.00pm

The AGM is an essential opportunity to find out what we have been doing and what we plan to do in the year ahead.

We welcome nominations from anyone who would be interested in becoming a Committee Member. Nomination forms are available from Reception. No nomination will be taken from the floor. Closing date for nominations, 16th March 2012.

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# WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN?

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In partnership with Bishop Auckland College and Newton Aycliffe Local Learning Partnership, Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre is trying to find out what non-accredited courses people would like to see being offered at an easily accessible town centre location. If offered, the courses would include Personal Interest Courses, Introduction to Vocational Courses and Employability Courses. To find out more, why not call into the Youth Centre (opposite Tesco) and pick up a questionnaire to ensure that where possible, your request can be met.

# Revolution Powers' Local Success



A leading North East renewable energy firm with a heart for the community is celebrating after successfully completing a string of local projects. Newton Aycliffe-based Revolution Power has experienced a recent surge in demand for solar photovoltaic (PV) panel installations. With much of this demand coming from local organisations, Revolution Power, which is no stranger to charity or community support, has completed work on a range of local projects during a busy five-week period.

These projects included three installations of four-kilowatt (kW) PV systems on Firthmoor Community Centre and a 12 kW flat roof-mounted system on Peaseway Medical Centre. The Company also installed a three kW panel on Hamsterley School as well as a similar system at Yarm Road Methodist Church in Stockton. This work follows on from other community projects undertaken by Revolution Power over the last year, including work on Durham College's Science department and, more significantly, the Newbiggin Maritime Centre. Revolution Power managing director Wayne Richardson said: "We've been delighted to carry out this work on Firthmoor Community Centre and other local

buildings, working closely with the clients to ensure that their expectations and our standards were met every time.

"All of the systems we've installed not only benefit the environment but also help to maintain low running costs during times of escalating energy prices, which is especially important for third sector organisations at this time."

George Oliver, centre manager at Firthmoor Community Centre, said: "The standard of Revolution Power's work was excellent and the whole team was knowledgeable, helpful and very friendly to work with. "We were suitably impressed by the work that Revolution Power had done at another community centre and we decided that it was the best Company for the job at Firthmoor. After this, we would definitely consider working with them again in the future."

Having experienced continuing growth year-on-year and ever-increasing turnover since its launch, Revolution Power has now also invested in expanding its fleet of Company cars. Another two smart cars have been added to the fleet and five of its vans have also been re-branded, which Wayne hopes will improve his Company's image within the local area.

Despite many of its local competitors guaranteeing clients 43.3 pence per kilowatt hour (kWh) back on PV installations, Revolution Power, which prides itself on honesty, is currently quoting 21 pence per kWh as the amount that each of its customers can potentially make back from their installations.

This is due to the uncertainty of the government's feed-in tariff which could, from March, be reduced to the figure that Revolution Power is giving to its customers so as not to mislead them.

The Company is now gearing up to start work on new contracts in 2012, with hopes that this year will reflect the success of 2011.

For more information on the Company, please visit: www.revolutionpower.co.uk

# Agnew Centre NEWS

**Disability Sports Club** for the 6 to 16 age range is up and running and meets Tuesdays from 5-30pm to 7-30pm at the Agnew Community Centre in Morrison Close - please note we can include those with Learning Difficulties.

**Zumba with Leanne** starts on Friday 16th March from 6pm to 7pm and your first class is FREE.

**AGM** reminder for Wednesday 21st March at 7pm sharp.

**Aycliffe Community Nursery** - Monday to Friday, for children aged from birth. Full day care from £30, half days from £15 and pre-school sessions available from £8.50 per session. Call Jane on 07761 818514.

# WOODHAM'S "THE APPRENTICE 2012"

Last week saw the launch of a new round of the Apprentice at Woodham Community Technology College. The scheme is now in its third year and is developing and improving every year. It involves staff at Tallent, working closely with the Woodham Technology department, in delivering an exciting and challenging programme to demonstrate the students' potential and readiness for the world of work.

The students are put through their paces in a scheme similar to the television series The Apprentice. The company trialled the programme to recruit a new apprentice at the College in 2009 and it was such a success that it has now been extended into its third year.

The students will be set industrial tasks, and will have to work together in groups to find solutions. The students will complete a range of assignments over the next five weeks at Woodham and will then make presentations to the Tallent panel. They will be expected to work under pressure and complete tasks within set deadlines. The student who impresses the Tallent panel the most throughout the process will be hired as "The Apprentice".

The eventual winner will be announced in early May. Jonathan Lumb, Deputy Head teacher, said "This is a wonderful opportunity for students to apply their skills and demonstrate their future potential to the company. The students really appreciate the offer of gaining a real apprenticeship at a local successful company. Although not all of the students will be successful, they will develop life-skills during the process that will be so vital in the current job market. We are very grateful to Tallent Automotive Ltd for this excellent opportunity."

Pictured are 2011 runner up and winner with David Land, Engineering and Operations Director.



# HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

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## J&C COACHES Mothers Day Special

SUNDAY 18th MARCH 2012

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# GREENFIELD'S OPEN ART EXHIBITION

Open Art Exhibition 2012  
Thursday 8th March to  
Wednesday 25th April  
2012

Opening soon in the Greenfield Gallery at Greenfield Community & Arts Centre is the annual OPEN ART exhibition. This exhibition provides an opportunity for a variety of local artists to display their work, entrance for the exhibition was open to all who wish to showcase their creations.

This year's exhibition contains work by over sixty artists, with over one hundred and twenty artworks on display. The works include photography, painting in oils, acrylic and watercolour, drawing, printmaking techniques, mosaics, and glass work amongst other mediums. Each artist works to their own individual theme, so this exhibition provides something for every gallery visitor, with landscapes, portraits, and abstract artworks as well as some three dimensional pieces.

This varied and vibrant exhibition is Newton Aycliffe's answer to the Royal Academy Summer Show, and promises to be an impressive show of local talent from the artists of County Durham. The exhibition launches with a preview event and Craft Fair on the evening of Wednesday 7th March, from 6pm to 8pm. The Craft Fair is fully booked with stall holders displaying textiles, ceramics, jewellery, wood turning, and paper crafts, to name a few. This is a fantastic opportunity for a sneak preview of the OPEN ART Exhibition, and to purchase some unique handmade items – don't forget Mother's Day is coming up on March 18th! For more information, or

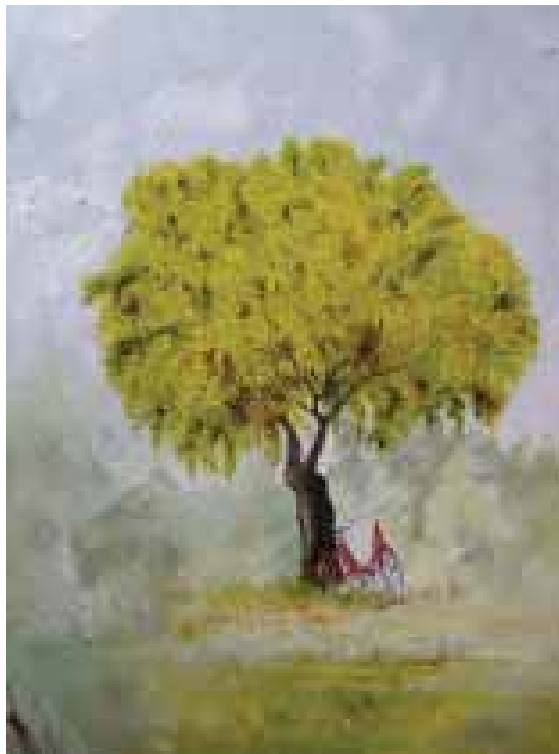


Photo: James L Mitchell Lemon Tree (copyright the artist)

if you would like to bring a group to visit the exhibition, please contact the Arts Centre on 01325 379 048, or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk).

Greenfield Community & Arts Centre is open Monday to Thursday from 10am to 9pm, and Fridays 10am to 4pm, entrance is free and all are welcome!

## YOUTH CENTRE SPORTSMAN EVENING



Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Junior Football Club held their first Sportsman Evening on Friday 24th February. The guest speaker was former Southampton and England Midfielder Matt Le Tissier, who currently appears every weekend on Sky Sports Soccer Saturday. The evening was a sell out at the Big Club with fantastic support from current managers, parents and friends as well as past players.

Matt Le Tissier related many stories from his football career and answered questions from the audience. Comedian Gary Marshall then entertained the crowd. An auction on the evening included a Chelsea Goal Keeper Shirt signed by the current Chelsea Squad which was donated by

former Youth Player Ross Turnbull.

Organiser and Under 9 Manager, Darren Williams thanked everyone for their generosity and reminded everyone that all the money raised would go to support the young boys and girls playing football and help grow the club in the coming years.

If you want to know more about the football club or would like to start playing football visit our website [www.naycafc.co.uk](http://www.naycafc.co.uk)

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## AYCLIFFE DIVISION CELEBRATE WORLD THINKING DAY 2012

On 22nd February Newton Aycliffe Division marked World Thinking Day with a celebration at Neville Parade Methodist Church.

The Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section and Leaders all gathered at Neville Parade Methodist Church for the celebration, which marks one of the most significant dates in the guiding calendar. World Thinking Day is an opportunity for the ten million Guides and Girl Scouts in 145 countries around the world to think about the diversity of the worldwide membership and show appreciation for each other's lives.

The 83 girls and young women took part in a carousel of activities based on different countries around the world and tasted a selection of foods from the different cultures.

Chelsea, aged eight, said, "I really liked meeting all my friends again, it's nice to meet all the new Brownies and everyone. I loved making the little bag and the rice bag."

Poppy, aged nine, said, "Holland [was my favourite activity] because it's our group. We made a windmill 'coz there are loads in Holland."

Jessica, aged eight, said, "Italy: I enjoyed the game and have read the information. I would like to go and visit, it sounds good."

World Thinking Day takes place on 22nd February each year. The date was chosen as it is the birthday of both Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. For more information visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) To find a unit for your daughter, register at: [www.girlguiding.org.uk/parents\\_care/register\\_your\\_daughter](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/parents_care/register_your_daughter)

To volunteer as a helper or leader, see: [www.girlguiding.org.uk/get\\_involved/volunteer/register\\_your\\_interest](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved/volunteer/register_your_interest)

## X-Factor Comes to Newcastle

Are you in a group or a solo singer aged 16 or over? Then this is your first step to stardom!

**Open auditions will take place at Newcastle Metro Radio Arena on Saturday 10th March from 8.00am.**

If you haven't already applied online, don't worry, just turn up, this audition could change your life forever!

You will need to prepare a verse and a chorus of at least one song in acapella (ie: without backing music or instruments) and remember you need to stand out from the crowd. Rehearse and dress in bright colours!

We are looking for the next big thing and it could be you.

For the latest audition information and terms and conditions, please go to [itv.com/xfactor](http://itv.com/xfactor)

## Indulge Yourself With A Complementary Therapy At The PCP Centre

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) is a local charity whose aim is to improve people's health and wellbeing.

There are many classes and projects within the Pioneering Care Centre that help people become healthier and more active but the PCP also believes that being well involves mental and psychological wellbeing.

Complementary Therapies can help with many things, from an aching back that requires attention, feeling depressed or unhappy, or just to take time out for a bit of pampering.

The PCP have a team of highly qualified therapists providing treatments that offer an alternative way to alleviate the effects of stress, increase energy levels, reduce aches and pains, improve mobility or help you relax.

**THERAPIES INCLUDE:**

**Physiotherapy** treats painful joints and soft tissue injuries. Clients are given a tailor made programme of exercises and advice to aid their recovery. Monday 5-9pm, Friday 1.30 - 6pm and Saturday 8.30am-1pm. Cost: £30 per 30 minute session Concessionary: £25

**Osteopathy** helps a variety of musculo-skeletal problems, including frozen or stiff shoulders, tennis elbow as well as hip, thigh, knee and foot problems. Wednesday 10am-1pm, Friday 10am-12 noon and Monday evening by appointment. Cost: full consultation and treatment (approx 1 hour) £47, full follow up treatment (approx half an hour) £38, concessionary consultation and treatment £37 concessionary treatment £30.

**The Bowen Technique** is a gentle hands on soft tissue therapy focusing on muscles ligaments and tendons prompting the body to realign to its natural healthy state thus helping to alleviate tension and pain. Tuesday 8.30am-1.30pm, Wednesday 3-8pm. Cost: £40 an hour Concessionary: £32 per hour.

**Medical Herbalism** is a system of natural medicine using remedies made from whole plant extracts that work with the body's natural defence systems, to provide long term relief from both physical and mental disorders. Contact the PCP to book an appointment, cost: Initial consultation (1 hour) £40, concessionary £32. Follow up (30 mins) £25 concessionary £20

**Other treatments include:** Acupuncture, Aromatherapy Massage,



Body Massage, Chiroprody, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Hair removal, Hypnotherapy, Indian Head Massage, Reflexology, Reiki, Skeletal Balancing. If you are unsure about the choice of therapy, or class, PCP staff will always be happy to help you decide. Contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Carers' Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4SF, call: 01325 321234 email: [enquiries@pcp.uk.net](mailto:enquiries@pcp.uk.net) or visit: [www.pcp.uk.net](http://www.pcp.uk.net) - Therapy Gift Vouchers are available



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## AYCLIFFE AMATEUR BOXING CLUB

Aycliffe Amateur Boxing Club has secured a lease for premises from Flexspace on the business park. The club is now in ACORN HOUSE, Durham Way North, DL5 6HP.

Training nights are Monday - Wednesday - Friday 6pm for ages 8 to 16 years and 7pm for 16 years onward.

The boxing club would like to thank everyone that helped get the room ready, Fred Green (electrician) Andrew McNeil (plumber) and club members Mick Jewett, Peter and Dorothy Cheesebrough, Barry Harle, John O'Connor and a big thank you to John Wade Skip Hire and St Clare's Church for the use of the hall from September.

On Sunday 19th the club travelled to Manchester with 12 year old Kieran Jewett to box Josh McGuire from Birch Green in Manchester at the Semi-Final stage of the National Schoolboy Championships, Kieran boxed well and won after 1 min 30 seconds, he now boxes in the National Final on the 10th March at Newbiggin by the Sea against Wayne Owen from Tadley in Hampshire and we wish him lots of luck in his bid to be National Champ.

Aycliffe Amateur Boxing Club is a Community Amateur Sports Club and promotes fitness and healthy life style by the way of boxing and the club is open to anyone, male or female without discrimination. There are 3 fully qualified coaches with first aid certificates and all are CRB checked. If you could be an Olympic gold medalist or just want to keep fit get yourselves along to a training session.

For more information contact Les Gibson on 07989 830049



## Athletics News

Aycliffe Running Club has held its annual awards night to recognise the achievements of its members. Gary Minns was crowned winner of the club championship after several excellent performances over the course of the year. Penny Johnson won the ladies championship and also female athlete of the year. George Reid capped an excellent year being named male athlete of the year. The Rob Niven Award for dedication and commitment went to Hilary Knox and Andrew Robertson was the most improved athlete. The ever popular summer handicap series titles were taken by Dave Thompson and Julie Nesbit.

Competition recommenced with the Whitby event in the NYSD cross-country series on a bright sunny day in ideal conditions for the runners. In the ladies race Sue Milburn, turning out for her first race since last August because of injury, had a fall negotiating a bend but picked herself up to finish 32nd in 29:38. However, Michelle Scott was once again first home for the club finishing 8th in 24:03, followed by Penny Johnson 30th in 29:19. In the Men's race there was a battle between George Reid, Peter Milburn and Andrew Sedgwick to be first home for the club, Peter being the eventual winner in 26th position (38:31), followed by Andrew 28th (38:41) and George 32nd (39:00) respectively.

Other results were: Ray Johnson, 59th in 44:36; Colin Gibson, 63rd in 46:08; Martin Sedgwick, 65th in 46:45; Dave Thompson, 75th in 57:03

Also in action were father and son duo John and Robert Young who travelled to Pocklington to compete in the Snake Lane 10 Mile Race finishing in 1:27:28 and 1:20:53 respectively.



Peter Milburn, George Reid and Andrew Sedgwick battling it out in Whitby

## National Cross Country Championships

Parliament Hill 2012



Michael Bleasby under 17 runner

Saturday 25th February saw thousands of athletes descended on Parliament Hill Fields in London. The Saucony English National Cross Country Championships was home to some fine results for Shildon Running & AC. Many of the athletes representing Shildon had travelled down for the whole weekend and certainly enjoyed the team spirit in the swimming pool after it was all over! The U17 women were first off covering 5K, and both Amy Etherington and Zoe Hewitson demonstrated excellent achievements with 20.12 and 20.53 respectively. Amy was placed 36th and first home for the North East. The ½ mile long hill at the start took the wind out of the sails for U15 boys, and although with another year left in this category Henry Johnson had a strong finish in 16.59. The 4.5K was a challenge but Joseph Bell continues to improve with 17.42 over the line. Junior Women saw Kate Avery battling with Emelia Gorecka to finish 19 sec behind the winner. Kate took 9th place in 22.21. Liz Wood continues to narrow the gap and ran well to achieve 88th position with 28.56. Making her debut at the Nationals was young Lizzie Cramb, who tackled the 3k with great determination. She was proud of her achievement of 13.19, which placed her just outside the top100. Under 17 men saw Michael Bleasby rise up from the ashes like the phoenix to run his best race of the season. He was delighted with his 25th position and time of 20.27. Rosie Findlay was placed just outside the top 100, and will compete in this category next year. She was pleased to finish comfortably in 16.16 across the 4k hilly course. Junior men had a really tough course with 10k of hills, hills and more

hills! Daniel Hardy worked through the pack to achieve 35.35 and 70th place whilst Ryan Etherington enjoyed the views and crossed the finish in 42.24. Senior women were represented by Natalie Owens who ran very well covering the 8k course in 36.48. Brendan Chadwick completed the day with a monster of a 12k route. With over 1,500 men competing it was more like the start to the Great North Run! Brendan did really well to finish 449th in 44.50. Earlier in the month Georgia Hirst (under 17) was competing indoors. She took part in 600m at Manchester's Open event at the beginning of February claiming a new PB with 1.42.96. Later in the month, she entered the 800m at Birmingham's England Championships. She gained another PB with 2.23.05. Two of Shildon's young sprinters began their competitive careers recently starting at the Gateshead college indoor open meet and culminated in their respective age group finals at the North East Counties Indoor Championships. Three consecutive pb runs from both Ciara Hughes (U13 Girls) and Alicia Walker (U15 Girls) ended with Ciara finishing just outside of the medals in a time of 8.94s and Alicia gaining the consolation of 2nd place in her "B" final in a time of 8.81s. 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](http://www.shildonrunning.co.uk) for nights & times to suit your age group. If you require any more information please call us on our new number 07592 611 600 or e-mail; [secretary@shildonrunning.co.uk](mailto:secretary@shildonrunning.co.uk)

## Spartans Preparations for Inaugural Season Going Well

Newton Aycliffe Spartans, the newly formed baseball team based in the Town is busy preparing for its inaugural season in the British Baseball Federation

## Aim Higher at Aspire Fitness and Health

Newton Aycliffe will be witnessing the introduction of purpose fit Fitness Studios delivering quality group exercise classes.

The first of its kind in Aycliffe, Aspire Fitness and Health will be opening its doors on Saturday 10th March 2012 delivering 60 exercise classes every single week – you really can take your fitness to a new level. Classes such as the ever popular, Zumba®, Modern Pilates®, Young at Heart, Fitball and Bootcamp will be delivered in addition to the world-wide recognised Les Mills programmes - BodyAttack®, BodyBalance®, BodyCombat® and BodyPump® - there really is a class to suit all fitness levels - open from morning until evening - seven days a week.

Aspire Fitness Studios are located on Durham Way North, Aycliffe Industrial Park where an extensive refurbishment programme has taken place over the last eight weeks.

Founded by Directors Sharon Whitehead and Sherri Johnstone, both fully qualified Fitness Instructors, who recognised that Newton Aycliffe lacked such a facility that the majority of towns of its size were experiencing. "We are truly delighted to offer the Fitness Studios to Newton Aycliffe. Both Sherri and I are truly passionate about the fitness industry and are proud to offer such an extensive timetable of classes. The feedback and interest that we have received so far has been phenomenal and we can't wait to open" said Sharon. Sherri added "Members can choose to pay as you go or pay to save by taking advantage of the monthly membership deals. In addition, we don't want a joining fee or to commit you to a contract, we want you to have the choice."

Details of the launch weekend on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th March can be found at [www.aspirefitnessaycliffe.co.uk](http://www.aspirefitnessaycliffe.co.uk) and on Facebook 'Aspire Fitness and Health.'



(BBF).

The club, formed in the summer of 2011 will be playing in the BBF Northern AA Division, taking on teams from Manchester, Sheffield, Oldham, Hull and Harrogate. Training started in the snow of late January and the team is getting down to serious preparation ahead of a pre-season tournament when Spartans will face Nottingham Rebels, Leicester Blue Sox, Sheffield Bladerunners, Hull Scorpions and Stourbridge Titans, with the games taking place at Western Park Leicester, on March 25, April 1 and April 8.

The Spartans open their BBF league campaign on the 15th April 2012 when they host Manchester Torrent.

John Johnston, Team Manager explained. "Our hard work to establish baseball in Newton Aycliffe is starting to pay off, both on and off the field. Training sessions have been great fun and things are really starting to click. Off the field too, we have been working closely

with both Great Aycliffe Town Council and Durham County Council and their help to date in establishing baseball in Newton Aycliffe has been fantastic".

As well as backing from the local councils, The Spartans have started to get support from local companies and thanks to SCH Site Services Ltd, the Spartans will have backstop for their ground at Horndale Field.

Baseball is a community sport, irrespective of age or gender and anyone interested in learning more about the sport are invited along with training sessions running each Sunday from 10am until 1pm. First training session is always free with all future sessions charged at £2.

The Spartans train every Sunday at 10am at Horndale Field, opposite Greenfield Community College.

For further details, contact John Johnston, Team Manager on [john@newtonaycliffespartans.co.uk](mailto:john@newtonaycliffespartans.co.uk) - or visit the team's website at [www.newtonaycliffespartans.co.uk](http://www.newtonaycliffespartans.co.uk)



**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, 14th MARCH 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 Committee 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](http://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".



# SEDGEFIELD 75 TAKE MEDALS IN COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Northumberland & Durham Senior Swimming Championships were held at Sunderland Aquatics Centre last week. Sedgefield 75 had four swimmers competing; Phillip Hodgson, Phillip Walker, Megan Baker and Caroline Saxby. Our local swimmers made a total of fifteen finals over the two days. Phillip Hodgson took gold in the 400 IM and silver in both the 200 IM and the 100 FS. Caroline won gold in the 400 FS and silver in the 50 FS and bronze in the 200 FS. Phillip Walker took the bronze medal in the 100 backstroke. “A really great start to the new season”. Said Head Coach John Moore.

# NEW GYMNASTICS CLUB FOR NEWTON AYCLIFFE

**Athena Classes Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre:**  
Recreation 1 (fun for under 5’s) Saturday 10.30 - 11.30  
Recreation 2 (fun for under 5’s) Saturday 10.30 - 11.30  
Recreation 3 (age 5-7) Saturday 10.30 - 11.30  
Recreation 4 (age 7+) Saturday 10.30 - 12.00  
Tumbling Saturday 12.15 - 13.45  
Sports Acrobatics Saturday 14.00 - 15.30  
Flexibility Saturday 15.45 - 17.15  
Special Needs Sunday 09.30 - 11.30  
Strength & Conditioning Thursday 17.30 - 18.30

**Athena Classes at Sunnydale Leisure Centre**  
Recreation 4 (age 7+) Monday 18.30 - 20.00  
Strength & Conditioning Thursday 19.00 - 20.00  
Tel: 01388 605946, Mobile: 07800 847527 for more details

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# GARY BENNETT COMES TO TOWN



The Newton Aycliffe Branch of Sunderland AFC Supporters Association have arranged an Evening with Gary Bennett at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club on Friday 23rd March. Bennett who played 369 league games for Sunderland between 1985 and 1996 and later went on to manage Darlington is now a highly successful pundit commenting on Sunderland games for BBC Radio Newcastle. Gary will be talking about his career as well as signing copies of his new book ‘the Black Cat’, Gary Bennett’s football scrapbook. Tickets are priced at £4 including pie and peas and are available by calling (01325) 312086.

# Aycliffe Triumph After Weather Break

Middlesbrough 3rd XV 10 Newton Aycliffe 24

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club beat a strong Middlesbrough 3rd team to brush away the cobwebs after the enforced break due to frozen pitches. With 22 players available, Aycliffe used the opportunity to give

games to less experienced players. Early on, Aycliffe were under pressure from the larger Middlesbrough pack, but they maintained decent amounts of possession. The hosts had the better quality ball but, when a pass went to ground, James Thacker picked up the loose ball and was too fast for the defenders, touching down beneath the posts. Gareth Parsonage added the conversion. The home team fought back and scored a converted try of their own from a sustained period of attacking from the forwards. Slick Aycliffe handling saw Thacker add a second score. The best move of the match saw the ball passed through numerous pairs of hands as Aycliffe scythed through the defence, before Paul Ellis appeared on Thacker’s shoulder to take the final ball to score his first try of the season. Thacker added the conversion. At half time Aycliffe led 19 – 7. Into the second half, Aycliffe rotated the squad to give players games in different positions. The scrummage had now become dominant, with Danny Prince and Lewis McCormick on top of their opposing props. Craig Holmes made a number of breaks and only last ditch Middlesbrough tackling kept their line intact. A penalty kick saw them reduce the lead somewhat, before Thacker and Holmes again cut through the defence, with Thacker receiving the return pass to score his hat-trick. The final score was a highly satisfying 24 – 10 to Aycliffe and the game should see them in good stead for the remainder of the league season. On 25th February, Aycliffe visited Richmondshire for their twice postponed league encounter. Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club are sponsored by Workshop Supplies, Lift Right Forklift Training, and Taylor Hastwell. Visit the website at [www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe)

# NEWTONIANS FACE TITLE-CHASERS AWAY

Allan Oliver is hoping to have Warren Byrne available for Aycliffe’s trip to league-leaders Sunderland RCA this weekend. The Newtonians made it 10 games unbeaten with a 2-0 win at home to Marske United at Moore Lane Park last Saturday. But they face title-chasing Ryhope Community Association, who went back to the top of the Northern League first division with a 2-1 victory at home to Stokesley on Tuesday night, at Meadow Park this Saturday. And boss Oliver is hoping to have star striker Warren Byrne back after being sidelined for a number of months with a broken bone in his foot. “Warren should be available,” said the Blues manager. “We’ve missed his goals, although we’re still doing well in the league, and he’ll give us a much-needed boost for the final nine games of the season.” Aycliffe did the double over Sunderland RCA in their debut Northern League second division campaign, when RCA were promoted as runners-up. Oliver added: “Their manager Neil Hixon always has his sides well organised and difficult to break down, and they’re going for it this year, so it promises to be a very tough test for us. But we go there in form. We’re 10 unbeaten and we’ll go there looking to get a result.” Ben Wood redeemed himself following his dismissal at Consett to set Newton Aycliffe on their way to a comfortable 2-0 victory over Marske last week. The 20-year-old fired home from the spot-kick to give Aycliffe a sixth-minute lead and later on cleared off the line in the second-half as Allan Oliver’s side stretched their unbeaten run to 10 matches. Dale Jardine scored the second, spectacularly lobbing Marske’s Graeme Willey from the edge of the area, to secure the three points. *Team: Pocklington; Oliver, Craddock, Close; Gibson (Broom 90+3), Tarling, Knox, Gray; Wood (Wilson 74); Jardine, Mellanby. Subs not used: Owen, Campbell.*

## FIXTURES

Saturday 3rd March: Sunderland RCA (A), 3pm  
Tuesday 6th March: South Shields (A), 7.30pm  
Saturday 10th March: Dunston UTS (H), 3pm  
Saturday 17th March: Penrith (A), 3pm  
Saturday 31st March: Whitley Bay (A), 3pm  
Saturday 7th April: Guisborough Town (H), 3pm  
Saturday 14th April: Tow Law (A), 3pm  
Saturday 21st April: Spennymoor Town (H), 3pm  
[www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk](http://www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk)

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH 2012

**Friday 16th March - Adele meets Winehouse**  
A Tribute to two of the most famous Princesses of Pop performing all their greatest hits including Rolling in the Deep, Someone Like You, Home Town Glory, Valerie, Rehab, Back to Black. Evening includes a Two Course Buffet and Disco. Arrive 7.00pm, Buffet Served 7.30pm £17.95 per person.

**Friday 16th March - Night Fever at the 70's Disco**  
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £11.95 per person

**Saturday 17th March - St Patricks Night "The Emerald Thieves"**  
*The North East UK's Premier Celtic Rock Cover Band*  
Two Course Buffet and Disco Arrive 7.00pm for buffet 7.30pm £14.95 per person

**Saturday 17th March - The 80's Experience**  
The Best Disco party ever, two course buffet. Arrive 7.00pm, buffet served 7.30pm - £11.95 per person.

**Sunday 18th March - Mothers Day Lunch**  
Treat Mum to a traditional Sunday Lunch. We are serving a four course choice lunch with music provided by our excellent pianist. Small gift for every Mum. £24.95 per person - Children £12.50.

**Friday 23rd March - Kinda Kinks**  
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Sunday Lunch is served in the Boyne Suite accompanied by music from our resident pianist. 4 courses including coffee £18.95 per person

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## Place your Mothers Day (18th March) Greetings in your community newspaper the “Newton News”

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Simpasturegate

**Deadline: 5pm Wednesday, 14th March**  
**To be printed weekend 16th March**


**Above example:**  
**15p per word**

**MOTHER NATURE**  
Have a great day on Sunday,  
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Violet, Hyacinth & Rose  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**Above example:**  
**20p per word**

No of words ..... © .....p = £..... - Box advert is required YES/NO = £10.00



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# AYCLIFFE CREDIT UNION UPDATE

Since our last communication we have set up a new branch in another school on the town, St. Francis Primary, and are actively seeking to set up at least one more. Our call point for adults is still the Town Library and we meet on Tuesdays at 11 am. If this is inconvenient please ring one of the numbers below and we will advise on how to proceed.

We do urge you to join us and save with us. You will then be able to access loans at an extremely low rate of interest - thus avoiding loans which carry phenomenally high rates which are almost impossible to repay.

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# Woodham Mathematics at Oak Leaf Sports Complex



On Friday 24th February, the Mathematics department of Woodham Community Technology College relocated their teaching to Oak Leaf Sports Complex. This was a final reward for an identified group of students to inspire them to achieve success in their March GCSE Mathematics examination. The excellent day was a mixture of targeted learning activities and a well deserved visit to the golf driving range.

## Aycliffe Community Bus

A meeting will be held in Silverdale Community House on Tuesday 6th March at 5pm. Would any group interested in using this facility please attend this meeting if possible. Volunteer drivers would also be welcome now that we have several group enquiries who do not have drivers with the relevant qualifications. Ring 01325 308094  
Cllr Dorothy Bowman

# GET APPRENTICESHIP SAVVY FOR FREE!



Two candidates who recently completed a free Technical Certificate course delivered by Aycliffe based learning provider ITEC North East are delighted to have successfully secured Apprenticeships with local employers.

Apprenticeship credibility is riding high, especially amongst employers who really value and appreciate the three vital components included in an apprenticeship framework – a skills element – a competence element – a technical element.

Thanks to free courses delivered by local learning provider ITEC North East, candidates gain a practical, hands-on insight into the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully enter the workplace. Small groups work informally together for a week with an instructor, covering

the mandatory units all apprentices complete for their Technical Certificate in either Business & Administration or ICT, so necessary in a wide range of businesses and organisations where admin and IT skills are invaluable.

"I found the course informative and helpful and it'll save us time when we start our Apprenticeships as we won't have to complete this element again."

"Working together with people of the same age in a good atmosphere was a great experience."

If you are 16 – 24, not in full time employment, without an existing Level 2 or 3 qualification and keen to gain employability skills, contact Laura Bell on 01325 328443 for more information and availability. Courses run from 9.30am 3.00pm with lunch provided.

## My Street Doesn't Qualify

Dear Sir

Re: Last week's letter on the danger of icy paths, after the recent snow and ice, I cleared my drive and footpaths and I'm 86 years old. I put down some household salt which really didn't help very much.

I then rang the Council to ask if we, the residents of Bewick Crescent, could be provided with a council grit box, somewhere in the street. I have recently been informed that the council inspector has been to look at the problem and decided that this street does not qualify.

My house faces north and is one of the last streets to thaw and, it is absolutely treacherous in bad weather. I wonder how bad it has to get before we qualify for a grit box?

Mrs A Humble



ANIMALS HAVE RIGHTS TOO!

Dear Sir  
 Humans think that Hitler was evil due to the millions and millions and millions of people he massacred. But what Humans are currently doing to animals is no different.  
 The fast food industry murders millions and millions and millions of animals each year all because of the selfishness and greed of Humans. This is the hypocrisy of the people. Humans seem to think we are superior to animals. We are the same. We are souls. Animals tremble at punishment and death too and what right do we have to cause them pain?  
 What if a alien race landed on our Earth and considered us inferior to them and considered us as a form of food? Would you concede them the right over you and your soul as you do over animals? Some people say

that it's natural to eat the flesh of a dead animal. It's not. It's natural to love. I would like to leave you with the wise words of Leonardo da Vinci "I have learned from an early age to abjured the use of meat, and the time will come when men such as I will look upon the murder of animals as they now look upon the murder of men." Danny Metcalfe

Thank You

JOAN ANDERSON would like to thanke veyrone for their cards, gifts and flowers recently given on her 90th birthday. She would also like to thank Marian, Beth and the ladies of St Clare's Church for the cakes and beautiful buffet. The collection for the Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland raised £312 at her birthday party.

Obituary

VIC BLOWES (24th February). A loving Father, Grandad and Great Grandad. A good friend to Kath. Vic died peacefully at home. The family would like to thank Doctors and Nurses at Pease Way Medical Centre who cared for him. We softened up your pillow, we tried to ease your pain. We prayed to God in Heaven, to make you well again. But then we heard him whisper, I'll take him in my care, for in this world of suffering, he has surely had his share. "Reunited with Mam".  
 xxx  
 CREANEY (nee Moore). Eva of Newton Aycliffe passed away peacefully at home, aged 87 years. Beloved Wife of the late Jim; Loving Mam of Stephen; Mother-in-Law to Susan; Grandmother to Katie and Adam; Loving Friend of Bill Dent. Family and friends please meet for Service at St Clares Church on Monday 5th March for 1.15pm. To be followed by a private cremation  
 JUNE CLOTHIER Peacefully at home on 25th February 2012. Beloved Wife of Rex, much loved Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Funeral will take place at Durham Crematorium on Monday 5th March at 3.30pm. Please meet at the Crematorium

In Memoriam

SYLVIA BLOWES (5th March). 13 years today you passed away. Sad is our hearts that love you. Silent the tears that fall. Living our lives without you is the hardest part of all. If we were granted just one wish, we know what it would be. To bring a Mam and Dad like you back home, to be safely with thee. Look after Dad for us Mam. All your family, love and miss you both xxx  
 GEORGE SMITH died 5th March 2009. In loving memory of a dear Husband, Father, Grandad and Great Grandad. A special smile, a special face, in our hearts a special place. Memories are a gift to treasure, ours of you will last forever. In God's care you rest above. In our hearts you stay with love. Love and miss you, Madge, Sue, Roly, Christopher and Fiona. Hugs and kisses from Great Grandchildren Charlie and George xxx  
 DERICK YOUNG 2-3-2005. We miss you more than words can say. Loved and remembered every day. Love, David, Louise and Grandsons xxx  
 DERICK YOUNG 2-3-2005. As each day dawns and starts anew, as each day ends I think of you. And inbetween no matter where, in my heart you are always there. Your loving Wife, Mary xxx  
 DERICK YOUNG 2nd March 2005. Loving memories of a loving Father and Granda. Michael, June and family xxx  
 MALCOLM HENDERSON In memory of a dear Husband, Dad and Grandad who died on 7th March 2007. Always remembered by Anne, Linda, Carol, Brian, Susan, Louise, David and Gemma xxx  
 EDITH KELL 3-3-2006. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again. Love and miss you so much, your loving Husband, Bob and family  
 JOE WHARTON 2nd March 1988. Too dearly loved to ever be forgotten. I miss you, love from Jessie xxx God bless Grandad. Mark, Vikki, David, Hayley and Peter xxx  
 JIM CLELLAND 2-3-1996. Always in our thoughts. Love, Marina, Debbie and Jayne

Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland

SPRING CRAFT FETE

SATURDAY 31st MARCH 2012  
 9.30am - 3.30pm  
 NEWGATE CENTRE Bishop Auckland

Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland will be staging a Craft Fete in the Newgate Centre on Saturday 31st March from 9.30am to 3.30pm. Local crafts include quilted goods, slate housewares, knitted goods, bags and jewellery. If you would like to exhibit please call 07730 541 608 for details. All proceeds will go to the Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland.

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  
 TV CABINET as new, cost £199 from Harveys 1 year ago, (size L3'6.5" x W 1'8" x H 1'10"). Wood cabinet with 2 doors and shelves, will accept £70 ono, can view anytime, can deliver (Aycliffe area). Tel 01325 318768  
 SINGLE Divan bed with storage drawers, excellent condition, £40. Tel 315184  
 LEC TALL Fridge Freezer excellent condition. £75.00 Tel: 07977 449037  
 BRAND NEW double divan with quilted Damask mattress, £120. Can deliver. Tel 07789 113 343  
 ELECTRIC recliner chair, chenille material, no obligation, home demonstration, can deliver, excellent condition. Cost £500 new, will accept £150. Tel 07881 917931  
 3 SEATER and 2 seater black kleather, as new suite, small, £150 ono. Tel 312860  
 2 x 195/50 R15 tyres and rims, half price at £125, as new, Tel 01325 788385  
 FITNESS bike, good working order, £25 Tel 313067  
 FRIDGE under counter, good working order, £40. Tel 313067

Births

Jessica and Lucas Cook



Steve and Colette Cook are proud to announce the birth of their twins Jessica Lily and Lucas James, born on Thursday 23rd February at Darlington Hospital. Jessica weighed 6lbs 15oz and Lucas was 6lb 10oz. All the family are doing fine and we would like to thank everyone for all their good wishes and kind gifts.

Congratulations

Look Who is 65 Michael Mannion



Happy Birthday Dad Lots of love Christine, Lisa, Johnathan, Trevor and Darren xxx  
 Happy Birthday Grandad All our love, Paul, Kyle, Paige and Baby James xxx

John & Thomason Murphy



1st March 2012  
 Congratulations Mam, Dad, Nana and Grandad on your Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Love and best wishes on this special day. June, Rob, John, Trudy, Vikki, Martin, Adam and John  
 Congratulations on your 60th Wedding Anniversary. Love from your Sister, Joyce and family  
 Congratulations to you both on this your 60th Wedding Anniversary. Love from Marion and Anne

KATIE HYMAS Happy 18th birthday. Have a lovely day. All our love, Aunty Angie, Liah, Carl and Ashleigh xxx  
 KATIE HYMAS Happy 18th birthday Katie. Lots of love and best wishes, Aunty Jacky, Uncle Scott and Laura xxx  
 VIOLET BENNETT 2nd March. Happy 80th birthday Mam. You are my sunshine, I love you to the stars and back. Happy birthday Nana. Love, Sean, Dean and Rebecca. We love you Nana Vi from Great Grandchildren Brooklyn and Levi  
 CLAIRE READING Happy birthday to my gorgeous Fiancee. Love you millions, Anne-Marie xxx  
 CLAIRE READING Happy birthday. Love you, love from all of us xxx

Rubbish Removal

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June Howarth

Happy ?? Birthday

Happy birthday to my wonderful Wife June, who celebrates her birthday on Friday 2nd March. Lots of love from your Husband Rob xxxx

Happy birthday June - Have a great day. From Gemma and Jack

Trevor Burn



Happy 50th Birthday With love from Alison, Bethany, Lauren, Adele, Jessica and Katie. Hope we enjoy Scarborough

Jake Johnson



Happy 18th Birthday 5th March 2012  
 Love from Mam and Loz xx  
 Happy 18th Birthday Love from Hannah xx  
 Happy 18th Birthday Love from Nan, Alan, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins

Fred and Freda Poulter



FREDA Thank you for 50 wonderful years, happy anniversary. All my love, Fred xxx  
 FRED Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary. Here's to a lot more. All my love, Freda xxx  
 POULTER Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary to the best Mam and Dad in the world. All our love, Karen, Fraser, Jonathan, Claire, Leanne and Dean xxx  
 POULTER Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary. Lots of love from all your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxx

Brenda Hutchison



Happy 65th Birthday 4th March 2012  
 Happy 65th birthday, I love you more each day and always will. Your ever loving husband Rob xxx

To a special Mam on your 65th birthday. Enjoy every minute of your retirement. Lots of love from Michelle and Chris xx

Hope you have an awesome birthday Nan, lots of love Jack and Joe xx

To a wonderful Mam and Nan, happy 65th birthday, finally you can retire and spend all of your time with me Dad ha ha ha (lucky you), have a great day, all our love Lee, Shellie, Morgan and Callum xxx

KATIE SIMONE HYMAS

Happy 18th Birthday

Loads of love Grandma xxx

Barry Rowland



Happy 40th Birthday 2nd March 2012  
 Happy birthday No 1 Son, Brother and Uncle. Lots of love from Mam, Dad, Jacqueline, Christopher and Elizabeth xxxx

Katie Simone Hymas



Happy 18th Birthday 4th March 2012  
 Happy birthday sweetheart, all our love, Mam, Dad, Dan, Wendy and Grandma xxxx

Clairvoyance

BLUEBELL FAIRY, Private readings. Ring for appointment. Tel 07908 024 424

Denise Armitage 60 Years Young



Happy 60th Birthday

To my darling Wife, happy birthday. Love, Vince xx

Mam, happy 60th birthday, we hope you have a fabulous time celebrating this weekend with family and friends. All our love, Karen, Jamie, Gracie and Bump x x x x

Have a fantastic birthday Mam! Love you loads, Andrew and Beci x x x

Happy 21st birthday Mam. Hope you have a great day. Lots of love from Daniel and Louisa x x  
 PS: Do I get extra pocket money for saying happy 21st instead of 60th?





Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club begin pre-season training with a 4 week session of indoor nets at Woodham Community College. The net practices, which will be primarily for both the first and second teams and the under 18's and under 15's teams, will start on Tuesday 6th March from 6.30pm until 8pm and all new and old members are invited to attend. Cost is £3 for seniors and £2 for juniors and unemployed.

This is the last season that the club's senior teams will play in the North East Durham league as we have been accepted by the prestigious North Yorkshire and South Durham league to join them for the 2013 season.

Anybody interested in playing cricket this season or has any queries regarding the club's activities should contact Secretary Lee Weldon on 07594 599652 for more details.

## Champion of Champions



The Durham County Bowls Ladies singles Champion of Champions is Kathleen Dixon from Great Aycliffe Bowling Club. The ladies singles champion of each club across Durham were invited to play in a 'knock out' tournament and Kathleen was the winner.

This is an honour for the Oak Leaf Complex who have produced three ladies champions in recent years. Congratulations to Kathleen.

## Business Offer Could be 'Purrfect' for Wildcats

The nation's newest BBL team is making County Durham businesses an offer it hopes will prove too good to refuse. With a goal of raising £10,000 for club development, the Wildcats, based at Durham County Council's Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, will introduce ten thousand local youngsters to the sport. The club is looking for 20 County Durham firms to invest £500 each and in exchange the business will be an official match sponsor and get to nominate a local school. The school will then benefit from a week of expert coaching from the team's senior players, along with an opportunity to play on match night and be part of the team's match night preparations.

It's a scheme which aims to give the club the funds it needs to develop, while offering the next generation of home grown talent the chance to shine.

Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for regeneration and economic development at Durham County Council, said: "This is a very exciting opportunity to see businesses in County Durham help support and foster excellence in schools, while obviously raising their own profile at the same time. "£10,000 will see 10,000

youngsters introduced to basketball and 20 schools benefit from a week of coaching at top level.

"The Wildcats offer us as a county the chance to showcase home grown talent on a world stage and closer to home they have pledged to support pathways to excellence.

"I am delighted to support their campaign." Wildcats coach, Dave Elderkin, says the club's school engagement programme is always a slam dunk success: "Without exception all the pupils enjoy learning the skills and work very hard to master the game. They really love working with the senior Wildcats players.

"We concentrate on teaching passing, shooting and dribbling skills and introduce 3 on 3 basketball, making it as much fun as possible.

"We also put together festivals for schools within their clusters and offer youngsters opportunities to play in front of a live audience before our own competitive Wildcat BBL games."

Businesses interested in taking part in the scheme can call Richard Warburton, Wildcats operations manager, on 0191 334 4737 or email richard.warburton@durham.ac.uk



Photo: (left to right) Chris Pearce/Wildcats, Christopher Jones 9, Leon Patel, 7, Cllr Neil Foster/Cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, Ethan Hancock, 10, and Mario Flaherty/Wildcats

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