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First Performance by Town Children's Community Choir



A new Children's Community Choir "Shine" based at St. Clare's Hall with 33 members from all parts of the town, is performing a magical, funny production on Saturday and Sunday 28th and 29th April.

"The Peace Child" is set in the land of Mambica where two tribes have been at war for a long time. Only a river separates them then "Wisdom" comes down from the mountain and declares peace can only be achieved

with an unimaginable sacrifice. Please attend this performance and encourage these young people who have worked so hard to bring this production for your entertainment. Tickets

are only £2 each and can be obtained by calling 319002.

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Call Ian or Lesley on 01325 300203 to arrange your Meals On Wheels
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By Election Result

The result of the By Election last week in Shafto/St. Mary's Ward for Great Aycliffe Town Council was as follows:
Total Votes: 530 with 4 spoilt. Postal Votes (included): 368
Wendy Hillary LABOUR - 284 votes (53.5% of the vote).
John Turnbull INDEPENDENT - 142 votes
Ken Stubbs GAI INDEPENDENT - 100 votes
The Turnout was 20%. (Electorate: 2628).

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For details call Kayley 07772 756416

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Tuesday 7:30pm - 8:30pm @ Keep Fit Gym, Faverdale
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Spring at Sugar Hill



Spring was most definitely sprung at Sugar Hill Primary school when the children from Key Stage 1 decorated some of the walls of the school with their paintings of daffodils. All the children worked very hard and proved they were talented artists with their fantastic efforts.

THIEVES TARGET CAR VALET FIRM

Police are investigating the theft of washing and valeting equipment from Aquabrite Valeting at the Bluebell garage, Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe. Between 12.30pm on April 4 and 8am on April 5 the following items were stolen:

Two red Ehrle pressure washers, total value £2,500; three Henry Hoovers; one grey aeromatic fogging machine, a Silverline polisher and four 25 litre plastic containers of washer chemicals.

A vehicle would have been needed to remove the property from the premises, and at least three people would have been needed to lift the large and heavy washers.

Police want to hear from anyone who may have been offered similar items for sale, or anyone who saw anything suspicious at the premises between the relevant times.

Anyone with information

should contact the police on 101 or ring the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

CLOTHES FOR CASH COLLECTION

Heighington Baden Powell Scouts will be collecting old clothes, material, curtains, shoes and bed linen to raise money for the club and scout group.

Please leave any bags outside your property on 21 April from 9am onwards in Heighington, School Aycliffe and the Chestnuts. Other fundraising activities will be announced shortly.



J&C COACHES

Forthcoming Events

WHITBY 'GOTH WEEKEND'

Saturday 28th April 2012 - 10.00am / 23.00 hrs
£12.00 Adult - £10.00 Child/Senior

WHITBY 'MARKET DAY'

Tuesday 24th July 2012 - 09.00am / 18.00 hrs
£10.00 Adult - £8.50 Child/Senior

SUNDERLAND AIR SHOW

Saturday 21st July 2012 - 08.30am / 18.00 hrs
£10.00 Adult - £8.50 Child/Senior

WHITBY REGATTA

Saturday 18th August 2012 - 09.00am / 18.00 hrs
£10.00 Adult - £8.50 Child/Senior

DIRTY DANCING - £55.00

Saturday 6th October 2012 - Sunderland Empire Theatre

DISNEY ON ICE - £32.00

Saturday 13th October 2012 - Metro Radio Arena

JOHN BISHOP - £42.50

Friday 19th October 2012 - Metro Radio Arena

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Saturday 14th April - "AMERICAN GIRL"

Some recent reviews - "Punters this on the ground as usual at the Grand on Saturday but despite the lack of atmosphere, American Girl played out as if the place was full. The mark of a Band who love performing! The singer - what a bonny lass!! Great looks, moves and stage presence, and a lovely voice. The second thing you notice - (once you've managed to do something with the lump in your pants) is the quality of the band's sound and playing ability. Seamless switching between tones and styles in a set bursting with the best of feelgood rock and pop classics". "I can see this band making a reputation for themselves very quickly once word starts to get around". "Had the pleasure of seeing American Girl at The Market Tavern in Chester in street last night. They played an excellent solid set of classic rock and pop hits (Pat Benatar, Chills, Adams etc). There were no fillers in this set. All great musicians and Lara's vocals prove that you don't have to sound like Bon to sing "Dirty Deeds". "All the songs were performed well and, IMHO, the musicians are of a good standard. The vocalist is, in fact, an American girl and it's the first time in a while I've seen a band with a female singer. She is, for me, a natural lead singer and she really put body and soul into her performance. She gave 100% and clearly enjoyed what she did. Some might say she sang some songs better than others but I thought "Hit me with your best shot" was excellent and "Jungle Jack Flash" wasn't far behind."

Saturday 21st April - "THYN LIZZY"

"Just got back from the THYN LIZZY gig at the Sandy Outdoor Tent. All I can say, is Phil Lynott dead? I don't think so... Jesus h christ, the dual guitars were incredible and the drummer was outstanding and I was totally humbled by Glenn on bass. Don't believe a word was cool as out with a blues intro (5 mins) and then the usual version to finish it off was such a contrast and skilfully done. 'Boys' was great and Dancing in the moonlight with Kenny Sax guesting was sublime as was the Kayleigh inspired Emerald. Awesome guys, made my halloween weekend!" - gig ph review.

Saturday 28th April - to be confirmed

Saturday 5th May - "F.M."

Was this our best mid week pub gig ever?? Probably!

What can you say about FM, this was rock and metal utopia, a classic journey through the rock and roll hall of fame. They did the let. Kaiser Chiefs, Fee Fighters, Sabbath, AC/DC, Zep and no real cheese, OK they did "Whisky in the Jar", but hey!! FM put a great amount of effort into this gig, sometimes mid week gigs just don't seem to have the same WOW/OMPH. The atmosphere was great, as was the music, a superb night. What is particularly pleasing is that FM don't always take the easy option, i.e. instead of sticking to "Sweet Child Of Mine", they did "Welcome to The Jungle". How long have FM been around now?? Many a year and on this performance many a year to come. Thanks lads you were awesome www.turbiniapub.co.uk

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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NEW CLUB FOR SCHOOL AYCLIFFE

The New Friends New Places group are hoping to start a new club at SCHOOL AYCLIFFE on Thursday 19th April at 2pm in the Community Centre. Ladies from the well established group will be there to greet you and hope that some of the residents from School Aycliffe will come and join them for a chat and a cup of tea/coffee. For further details ring 01325 308094.

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Students Make Clothes for Charity



Earlier in the year, St. Mary's Year 5 teacher, Mrs Clausen, was shown a website by headteacher Mrs Reilly O'Donnell, about a charity called 'Dress a Girl Around the World.' The idea is to dress every girl in the world with a dress to call their own, and the dress designs are all based on a pillowcase.

As a keen sewer, Mrs Clausen was inspired and jumped at the challenge. And not to make the boys feel left out, Mrs Clausen made dresses and shorts for



through their class novel, Journey to Jo'burg', and studied charities such as Fairtrade, Traidcraft, Cafod looking into rights of workers and children. Making dresses fitted right in with their studies. As a keen sewer, Mrs Clausen was inspired and jumped at the challenge. And not to make the boys feel left out, Mrs Clausen made dresses and shorts for the class to finish off. The children all sewed pockets onto the dresses and shorts, threaded ribbon to make ties and straps, and added buttons, bows and trims to make them more attractive. Teaching Assistant Mrs Minns and volunteer helper Mrs Watson provided valuable help, especially with threading needles, knotting and unknotting thread, and undoing mistakes when children had sewn legs together. The children all tried on their finished garments and felt very proud of their achievements. They are hoping that children who wear their dresses and shorts will be in touch so they know they are being worn with pride too. Mrs Clausen and Class 5 would also like to say a



big thank you to St. Mary's sewing group who donated fabric, buttons and trims. Together 16 pairs of shorts and 19 dresses have been made to send off to the charity.

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Who Wants to be a Millionaire?

St Elizabeth's Church at Woodham ar holding a "Who Wants To Be A Millionare" Quiz Night on Tuesday 17th of April at 7pm. There will be refreshments and tickets are £3 or you can pay at the door. The team who wins the most money gets a prize. For more information contact Brian on Aycliffe 319067 or see the posters in the Town Centre.

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Drop a Dress Size at Aspire

Only 4 weeks since the doors opened at Aspire Fitness Studios and they have witnessed so many members who have changed shape and dropped a dress size – some in just 2 weeks!

Many had already kick started a healthier lifestyle addressing their eating habits and joining Slimming Clubs and this had given them a new lease of life. Just as importantly, they realised the need to exercise will give them quicker results and help tone up and burn body fat. Exercise and nutrition go hand in hand and Clare Reilly (right) is an inspiration to all who want to lose weight, tone up and get fit.

Coupled with determination and commitment to achieve her goals – Clare has lost an amazing 6½ stones and wasn't finding it easy to lose the last 7lbs to achieve her final target weight.

Since taking classes at Aspire, Clare has not only achieved her

final target weight but she has also lost inches, toned up and improved her overall fitness. "I would highly recommend Aspire Fitness and Health to anyone – no matter what shape, size or gender you are. Sharon and Sherri are amazing and provide highly motivated fitness classes. They will work you hard so you achieve your goals. I dropped a dress size in just 2 weeks. They have given me a new lease of life. Thank you." said Clare.

Members have the variety and choice of 60 classes a week and are fitting these classes around busy schedules attending when they can fit a class in and the advantage of not having to book in advance.

No contracts and no joining fees has also been a big hit, you can pay as you go or pay to save with monthly membership deals. Click: www.aspirefitnessaycliffe.co.uk Facebook: Aspire Fitness and Health



Call: Sharon: 07879 996728
Sherri: 07787 4220483
Call in: Durham Way North,
Aycliffe Business Park.

Agnew Centre NEWS

The Disability Sports Club held on Tuesdays from 5-30pm to 7-30pm is proceeding well, but can still take more young people.

The Elevate Youth Club which closed for the Easter Holidays will re-open on Saturday April 21st at 10-30am.

You can book your Child's Birthday Party for 3 hours for only £24 including the use of the whole building at weekends, Ring the Centre Manager on 321504 office, which has a answering machine or 301033 home or email agnewcommunitycentre@btconnect.com For any Booking or information please use the above contacts points.

Labour Take Seat from Independents

Dea Sir
Congratulations to newly elected Cllr. Wendy Hillary and Labour on such a clear victory, and to all candidates on a cleanly fought contest. Labour has won all 4 By Elections on the Town



Council since the last elections in 2007, and now holds 19 out of 30 seats on the Council.

Labour kept to its manifesto commitments at Town Council, managed to keep the Council Tax frozen for several years now and up to 2013 without having to make cuts in services and facilities whilst actually improving facilities and services. Labour has worked closely as a team and maintained standards.

The Independents must now seriously be facing extinction at the next elections. Labour has managed to ram home the message that the electorate will not tolerate poor attendances when councillors receive an allowance.

The idea stated by one Independent recently in these columns, that you can be a councillor without having to attend meetings and still get paid is not one the electorate will swallow. And the Independents failure to achieve their promised 50% cut in Council tax was a pure gimmick which the public will not fall for again.

Arun Chandran

REPORT ON COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 4th APRIL

The Environment Committee received the Works Department Service Plan, which reviewed the work of the Works Section and outlined the Action Plan for 2012-13. If readers are interested in the extensive range of services provided by the Works Department, they can read this report online at <http://bit.ly/HWDUIh> – especially pages 8-9.

Last year – expecting that under the Localism Act the Town Council would play a greater part in planning – the Council set up a Planning Sub-Committee. It has met every fortnight, and has successfully raised the profile of planning issues. However, since it has now become clear that planning decisions will remain exclusively under the control of Durham County Council, the Committee decided to disband and re-absorb its functions into the Environment Committee – the Town Council will still comment on planning applications, but does not need a separate committee to do so.

The Environment Committee considered a request from a resident regarding trees close to his property. The Council occasionally receives such requests, which can be for reasons as slight as because falling leaves are proving inconvenient. The Council's response is usually to reject such applications unless the tree is structurally unsound, especially where the trees pre-date property. There are so many woods in Aycliffe that,

if the Council were to fell trees simply because they are inconvenient, it would end up removing hundreds of trees; the 'green' aspect of Aycliffe is part of the nature of the town, and people who come to live here do so because of its green and wooded aspect.

The tree in question was recently inspected as part of a general tree inspection and was not found unsound or unhealthy. Consequently the Committee recommended the resident be advised to commission a structural survey of the property at his own expense to ascertain any effect of the surrounding trees. Following receipt of the survey, the Council would consider its recommendations and any action needed.

At the subsequent Recreation Committee, members were pleased to receive a report which shows that usage of both the Oak Leaf Complex and the Golf Course was slightly up on last year.

The committee gave permission to use West Park for a Brass Band Spectacular on 12th July 2012, which has been arranged

through Katy Milne from the Greenfield Community and Arts Centre as part of the Durham Brass Festival; members were delighted that Aycliffe might be involved in this prestigious event.

Permission was also given for a 'jam' (competitions for skateboards, BMX and micro-scooters) in the Town Centre Park – which members thought sounded very exciting!

The Committee also gave approval for proposals to renew the BMX track in Woodham Park, and to site fitness equipment in West Park (there has been consultation on the latter initiative, and a member of the public spoke in its support).

Great Aycliffe Town Council will not be paying for these initiatives, which are being progressed as applications through the Durham County Council Neighbourhood Fund; the Council simply agreed to allow them to be sited on Town Council land.

The safety surfacing at Byerley Park Play Area is to be repaired, at a cost of £4,640.

John D. Clare

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INDECENT EXPOSURE

Police in Newton Aycliffe are trying to trace a man who indecently exposed himself to two teenage girls. The man was driving slowly along Honister Place, Newton Aycliffe, in a black VW Golf when he drew up alongside two 13-year-old girls and exposed himself. The man is described as white, in his 40's with dark hair brushed forward and facial stubble. He was wearing a black T-shirt and grey

tracksuit bottoms. The car was a five-door Golf with tinted windows. The incident took place at 1.45pm on Friday, 17th February.

DC Gary Walton from the Newton Aycliffe Serious Crime Team said: "We've followed a number of lines of enquiry but have been unable to trace this man. We'd like to speak to anyone who recognises him from the description given, or has information about the car."

Anyone with information can contact the Police on 101 and ask for the Serious Crime Team at Newton Aycliffe or ring the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Staff at a County Durham nursery are celebrating after receiving top marks in a local authority inspection.

The review of the nursery at Bishop Auckland College found children enjoyed a safe and stimulating environment with warm, responsive relationships with staff. Clear educational goals are set with challenging and play-based content which meets individual children's needs, and employees working with a healthy staff-child ratio had a Level 3 qualification or above and progression opportunities.

The Durham Scheme for Self Supported Review in Childcare Settings (DSSSR) Review was undertaken in December by the Local Authority Childcare Team, which is charged with the duty to

improve the wellbeing of all young children and to facilitate continuous improvement within childcare settings.

The Childcare Team implements one of Durham County Council's key strategies - to improve outcomes for children attending registered childcare provision. Following the inspection the DSSSR panel awarded the nursery the highest standard, a Level 1.

Particular strengths identified were:

- The nursery staff had a shared vision and commitment to ongoing improvement
 - Safeguarding practice
 - The quality of the provision.
- Nursery Manager Jackie Bennett said: "We were thrilled to receive a Level 1 in our DSSSR as everyone has worked so hard to make the nursery special

for all of the children and their families.

"The nursery is committed to continuous improvement so we are working hard to improve practice by constantly seeking out new and innovative ways of working, undertaking research and training and implementing new and cutting edge practice across the whole nursery." The nursery, which is located on the college's main Bishop Auckland campus with its own premises adjacent to the main building, has 25 staff and places for up to 140 children aged from three months to five years, and serves staff, students and the general public.

The cost of childcare is varied according to the age of the child and parents' requirements. Students can apply for LSF or Care to Learn Funding and if they qualify will receive free childcare. Private clients with children under three years pay £34 per day (£18 per half day).

Parents who are in receipt of Nursery Grant Funding can access 15 free hours at the nursery, with the option to top up to more hours as required.

For more information about childcare or college courses visit www.bishopaucklandcollege.ac.uk or contact Client Services on (01388) 443000.

Greenfield Arts Centre



HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

Our Easter activities have been a great success – the first week was filled with Arty Clarty and Crazy Crafts, as well as Face painting and Family cooking sessions – all of which were great fun for all involved! This week we have enjoyed Sculpture Making, creating fabulous colourful creations from pipe cleaners, as well as more Family cooking and arts sessions. Look out for some of this amazing art work over the next few weeks in the Town Centre. We would like to say a big thank you to all the artists, tutors and young people involved in our Easter activities for making them such a huge success – we are looking forward to June half term now! Keep an eye on our website for the half term programme. www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

NEW COURSE GUIDE

We're very excited to announce our new Course Guide is available now – right now we're waiting for enrolment week: Monday 16th-Friday 20th April. So if you fancy learning a different skill and meeting new people then why not read on for information on our latest courses.

Our courses include Spanish, Make & Munch cookery sessions where Jan will show you how to make delightful culinary treats! We also have some fantastic specialist Arts Courses such as Fused Glass, Ceramics and Painting and Drawing. We have plenty of other great offerings too like Salsa-cise, flower arranging, yoga, guitar lessons and more.

If you'd like to find out more and enrol with us you can email us at info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or phone us on 01325 379048 or visit our website to view the full course guide: www.greenfield-arts.co.uk. We're open Monday – Thursday 10am-9pm and Friday 10am-4pm. We look forward to seeing you soon!

ROTARY CLUB EXHIBITION HELPS DEFORMED BABIES



Before



After



One of the Model Railway Exhibits

The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe has made donations of £1500 to the Smile Train charity which has mobile operating theatres in Africa and on the Indian Sub-Continent specialising in the treatment of facial deformities in young children such as cleft palates and hair lips.

In addition the club has obtained £750 of matching grant funding which has also been donated.

The Model Railway Exhibition on Saturday 21st April at the Youth Centre, Burn Lane is also to raise funds for the Charity. The exhibition is open from

10am till 5pm and entry is £3 for adults, £2 for concessions and 50p for accompanied children.

In addition to 10 working layouts of various scales and gauges, there will be a raffle of a train set donated by Hornby and a Tombola. Refreshments will be available all day and parking is available at St Mary's R. C. Church. There is full disabled access and disabled parking is available at the Youth Centre.

For further details contact John Burrows on 07870-210269 or jandeburrows@tiscali.co.uk

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LOCAL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE

Fledgling residents' association ACORN Residents Association incorporating Neighbourhood Watch is going from strength to strength.

Since the 'drop in' event in November 2011 to gauge interest in forming a Residents Association we now have regular attendance at our meeting at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre which is growing each month. As well as local residents representatives from the Police, livin, and County and Town Councillors attend and give their time and experience to provide advice and help to our members. We have to acknowledge that help and assistance has been forthcoming from many groups within and outside of Newton Aycliffe.

We have regular speakers at our meetings who seek to inform, educate and entertain us, and our very own MP Phil Wilson attended the meeting held on 12th of April to give a short talk.

We are actively involved in supporting local causes, such as retaining our Citizens Advice Bureau, securing new facilities for our town, and supporting and encouraging local traders in these very difficult times. However the main aim of the Residents

Association is to improve the environment in which we live.

Over the past three months, since the group was formed, we have:

had graffiti removed
reported potholes and failed lighting
had pavements resurfaced
had a guardrail outside the Leisure Centre replaced.

Whilst we cannot claim credit for physically doing these things; by reporting them and doing something about them the Residents Association is contributing to the general wellbeing of our area.

Future activities include: WORKING with local Councillors and the Area Action Partnership to discuss plans to site seating on one of our local greens to encourage people to sit and converse with each other whilst enjoying the glorious English weather

AN EVENT at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee—assisted by the generosity of the Leisure Centre and contributions from our Councillors.

A.C.O.R.N want to engage with any group with similar aims insofar as we look on the optimistic side of life and try to further improve our neighbourhood in any way that we can.

If you would like to get involved, speak at our meetings, help with our projects or suggest new ventures. Please contact me on the number below, or on our Facebook page. Alternatively, come along to our meetings on the second Thursday of each month. We are a jolly lot and welcome new faces so come along and meet the neighbours.

Ken Robson (Chair)
A.C.O.R.N Residents Association. 01325 321471

Town Groups Receive £2,100 from Honest John

Honest John reports his stall donations in the last month to be £650 to Aycliffe Bus Preservation Society, £700 to Newton Aycliffe Under 15's Football Club, £450 to Greenfield and Woodham College Proms Awards, £100 to the Rotary Community Draw and £200 to Athena Sports Academy. John asks us to thank all those who support his Community Fundraising Stall by donating their unwanted goods to sell.

Spray Firm Moves to New Premises

Neil Sowels has expanded his Paint Spraying business and moved to new premises in Woodham Road on Aycliffe Business Park.

Since starting his own business 5 years ago Neil's reputation has grown tremendously and he has a full order book for his extensive services to individual car owners and the motor trade.

Originally from Scotland Neil travelled the world following his Dad who worked as a Project Manager. His parents eventually chose Newton Aycliffe as the place to settle and Neil attended Woodham Comprehensive School before taking an apprenticeship in Car

Bodywork with a local company.

With help from his Dad Neil decided to work for himself and has taken a 5 year lease in the new garage. His father helps out as a general handyman and other members of the family also assist when he gets really busy.

Neil is married to Gail and they have two daughters aged 12 and 6. He admits not having too much time free for hobbies, but did recently take up shooting which helps him get out more.

If you want a good spray job on your car, however small, contact Neil on 01325 319199. He guarantees you will be satisfied.



Wild Flower Area for Queen's Jubilee

A group of volunteers are planning to create a 'Wild Flower' area in Heighington, alongside the stone wall of St. Michaels church yard that faces the green opposite the George and Dragon public house.

The strip of land proposed is currently grassed and is part of the village green areas. The volunteers have liaised with the Parish Council and

sought advice from experts on the best way to create a wild flower area to mark the Queens Jubilee.

The area will be enjoyed by all including bees and butterflies! The proposed dates for preparation of the area are Saturday 14th April and the dates for sowing the wild flower seed is Saturday 28th April (weather permitting).

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Cherryfield Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom semi detached, close to village centre, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Crownfield Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom house, double garage, DCH, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Galloway Place Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom semi detached, close to village centre, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Hawthorn Place Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom semi detached, close to village centre, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Ida Place Newton Aycliffe

3 well presented 3 bedroom 3 bed semi detached house. Close to shops, doctors, school, etc. Modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Kilnfield Newton Aycliffe

Detached 4 bedroom detached, 1st floor, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Lindfield Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom detached, close to village centre, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

£27,950 - to be sold by 28/04/2012

Oakfield Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroom house, double garage, DCH, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

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Riverside Newton Aycliffe

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Sandyfield Newton Aycliffe

3 well presented 3 bedroom 3 bed semi detached house. Close to shops, doctors, school, etc. Modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

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Theobald Newton Aycliffe

Three bedroom detached family house, modern kitchen, lounge, dining room, WC, DCH, DCH.

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Hartfield Newton Aycliffe

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I Don't Believe It!

Dear Sir,
I was just celebrating the removal of the Hedge (Rose bushes without roses) from outside my house as were my neighbours, then I was told that the cost of putting them in was about £17,000, there were 2 wagons and six contractors that came the last time to tidy them up; it would be interesting to know the yearly cost of maintenance to ratepayers.

Now that the grass has been put back it will still look nice, as it has for about the last 40 years, and will be cheaper to look after. We can't keep wasting money like we did in the past.

While closing Care Homes, Citizens Advice on short time etc, building scaffolding in the shape of a head at one end of the town and anti ram-raid balls at another. - somebody is having a laugh at the ratepayer's expense and it has to stop.

If the Council has spare daffodils and crocuses they should try selling them to one of the shops on the town and get some money back for the ratepayers.

It is not just the Council wasting money, look at Neville Parade shops, everybody I have spoken to thought that it was good that the road was getting widened, as it would help with the parking and cause fewer accidents. Then we discovered it was like for like, no road widening just plenty of space on the footpath to sit and watch accidents. A waste of money and opportunity. Some may say the parking spaces created outside the Community Centre create extra parking, safer but not really extra, as cars used to park on the footpath anyway, and still do on the other side of the road.

Victor Meldrew.
Name and address supplied

AYCLIFFE FIRM ADDS NEW INVESTMENT DIVISION

Award winning North East property company Carlton & Co has launched a specialist investment division to support the delivery of regeneration projects that deliver positive social, economic and environmental benefits.

Norman Peterson said, "Bank lending for large capital projects such as housing, commercial property and infrastructure projects is scarce. But there are funding solutions available. We just need to think differently, and consider alternative sources of private sector finance to match the reduced levels of available public sector funding".

Carlton & Co has spent the last 18 months working with a range of Institutional Investors to attract large scale investment into the region. The first tranche is aimed at the housing sector and in particular housing led



regeneration projects.

Craig Peterson explains, "Everyone is aware that we have a major housing problem in the UK. We haven't built enough of the right homes in the right locations and in particular affordability for first time buyers is a major issue. Our aim is to unlock major investment from pension funds and combine this with public sector funding where possible to support the delivery of quality new homes throughout the region".

Directors, Norman Peterson and Craig Peterson have over 50 years experience, in commercial property, housing, cleantech and infrastructure and plan to expand funding and investment solutions to support mixed use schemes including office space featuring low carbon technologies.

Prior to founding Carlton & Co, Norman held senior positions at Jarvis Rail and Bell Canada. As Commercial Director/ Operations Director at Jarvis he was a member of the Management Board reporting directly to the Chief Executive with P&L responsibility for a £55M division.

At Bell Canada Norman's roles included Group Construction Director and Director of Network Strategy, again reporting directly to the Chief Executive he was responsible for managing a £150M/year investment programme for Bell's UK operations and later became a member of the Merger Board responsible for creating CWC, a £5 billion telecoms company.

Norman holds an RICS Post Graduate Diploma in Project Management from The College of Estate Management, Reading University, an MBA from Bradford University and has recently completed the Private Equity Programme at SAID Business School, Oxford University.

Craig previously held senior positions with Wimpey Homes & Bryant Homes. As Regional Production Director at Bryant Homes he was responsible for

a £60M annual development programme delivering around 450 new homes.

Craig holds an MBA (Enterprise) and recently led a 3 year research project that focused on Institutional Investment in the UK Housing Sector. The overall objectives were to identify the drivers and barriers to Institutional Investment and formulate recommendations to attract large scale Institutional Investment in the UK Housing Sector.

Successful Year for Youth Centre

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre held their annual general meeting on 26th March 2012. The Chairman Vince Crosby opened the meeting by thanking all for attending and said he was delighted with the way the year had unfolded. It had been a difficult year as the majority of the committee where newly in post and a number of difficult decisions had to be taken to move the centre forward.

The Chairman explained the changes to the constitution which reduced the number of elected members to the committee.

The treasurer David Hopper advised that the centre had returned a profit for the first time in three years without having to dip into reserves. The youth centre worker Franceene Birbeck advised that she was new to post having transferred from Peterlee Youth Centre in September. She did confirm that all targets had been met during the year.

Litza Johnson, development worker for the area who works out of the centre with her team confirmed that the team had recent placed a bid to the Home Office for some partnership working

with the emergency services in improving awareness of young people in the locality with regard to vehicle awareness. The bid had raised an enormous £47,000.00.

Vince commended Litza and her team on their achievement. Councillor Enid Paylor and Carol Ridley stood down from the committee but all other members were returned unopposed. Carol Ridley addressed the committee in respect of her 33 years in connection to the youth centre and wished the new committee all the best for the coming year.

Mark Brooksbank from Esprit, Sean Dooney from Aycliffe Thai Boxing Club and Litza Johnson from Newton Aycliffe Youth Development Team joined the committee as affiliated members.

Gillian Fortune from CAVOS addressed the meeting with some light hearted anecdotes and congratulated the committee for taking on board the items that had been highlighted by CAVOS in a positive manner and was thrilled to see that the centre was now back in profit.

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Aldfrid Place Newton Aycliffe

4 bedroomed end terrace/ link house, unfurnished with carpets & curtains. Modern fitted kitchen, lounge & dining area, 2 double & 2 single bedrooms, main bathroom with overhead shower, downstairs WC. Gas CH, front garden. Rent £450 pcm.



St Barbara's Walk Newton Aycliffe

Modernised & well presented 3 bedroomed link house in good condition, unfurnished with carpets, curtains, cooker & fitted robes. Hall, lounge with feature fireplace, kitchen/diner, 2 double & 1 single bedroom, bathroom with overhead shower, separate WC. Gas CH, rear courtyard, garden. Rent £475 pcm.



Zetland Hunt Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroomed semi detached house, unfurnished with carpets, curtains & cooker. Entrance hall, lounge/diner with feature fireplace joined by archway, fitted kitchen, utility, 2 double & 1 small single bedroom, bathroom/WC with overhead shower. Gas CH, gardens, garage & parking. Rent £500 pcm.

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Travelling in France

Dear Sir,
Re your editorial concerning breathalysers for France, I thought I'd let you know that your information was incorrect.

The breathalyser that you are required to carry must be NF approved, no other model will be compliant due to alcohol limits being more stringent on the continent. You are also required to carry a Hi-Viz vest for every passenger in the vehicle. I work for Halfords and am also a regular visitor to France so if anyone requires the correct breathalyser, they are available in all of our stores for £4.99

Darran Weston

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Wasted Money on Feasibility Study

Dear Sir,
Over the past few weeks Councillors have been on walkabout in their ward, but can I request Councillors Paylor and Dixon check Aysgarth Close area to install dropped kerbs.

I was requested to visit a disabled gentleman in this area who has purchased a mobility scooter but he has been no further than his back garden.

He asked for help from the County Highway Department, but they have no money at this present time to do the job.

Our two County Councillors will soon have ratepayers money to spend in their ward and I would suggest it would be spent well on dropped kerbs

Taxpayers money was wasted on a feasibility study on an Elmfield Community building paying for a firm of consultants to produce a study and business plan and investigate the options for developing a new community resource centre in West Ward. The cost was

£4,750 just for the study! What a waste of money!

What is required on the Elmfield site lots of two bedroom bungalows as Aycliffe is desperate for this accommodation.

Do the two County Councillors not know Labour run County Hall may withdraw funding on community buildings in the County?

We are facing cuts of nearly £190 million by 2017 and they confirmed the closure of 14 community facilities and agreed to hand over or close another 16 and also stop investing in a further 38.

We do not need a community building which cannot be funded and the £4,750 wasted on the feasibility study could have been spent on dropped kerbs or some other worthwhile project. Alderman George Gray West Ward Councillor

Tesco Petrol Price Check

Dear Sir,
As I was aware of the 138.9p per litre Tesco Newton Aycliffe was charging for unleaded petrol, I chose to fill up at Sainsburys, Tindall Crescent, which at 134.9p made a bit of saving.

For those motorists of the old school, that's an immense 18p per gallon difference. Another note is that Tesco at Tindall is 3p per litre (13.6p per gallon) cheaper than our own branch.

I'm not bothering to ask for an explanation for this from Tesco as they give more spin than Alistair Campbell.

IP

Tesco Reply

We survey within three miles of our store in Newton Aycliffe each week to ensure our prices remain competitive in the local area.

Our petrol pricing policy is very regionalised as are all the other petrol retailers. Petrol prices vary greatly up and down the country from region to region. Petrol sold from our forecourt is usually very competitive.

At Bishop Auckland they will carry out exactly the same price checks, but it is to be remembered they are in direct competition from another store across the road.

Martin Butcher
Manager
Aycliffe Tesco

WE MAKE CHANGES OR END UP LIKE GREECE

Uk Missing Great Opportunity says Aycliffe Businessman

North East business boss John Elliott MBE DL is launching a campaign called "Stop Gap" to convince political leaders to put greater emphasis on manufacturing the goods we consume in the UK and overseas.

John, Chairman of Newton Aycliffe based Ebac, believes the UK trade deficit – the difference between what we buy and what we sell – is the best indicator that our wellbeing as a nation is at risk, yet the Government, opposition and political commentators have their eyes off the issue. He said: "We're buying more than we sell. We're consuming more than we produce. If we don't make changes we'll end up like Greece."

The total trade deficit rose to a monthly figure of £1.76bn this year. John argues that only by placing manufacturing back at the heart of the economy can this be reversed.

"We don't need to do anything clever, simply invest in factories that can make the things we all buy, like we used to do twenty years ago. Buying goods from China may give us cheap goods today but is disastrous in the long term," said John.

With the goal of influencing the political agenda to encourage the re-positioning of manufacturing at the heart of the UK economy, John has launched the Stop Gap campaign and is encouraging other manufacturers to add their voice to the debate.

The new website has been launched at www.stopgapuk.com.

John hopes Stop Gap will be as successful as previous campaigns he has fronted. In 2004 he led the successful campaign against a Regional Assembly in the North East and holds strong views opposed to further integration of the European Union and he was a regional chairman of Business for Sterling the pro-pound business organisation.

John said: "Having run a manufacturing business for 40 years, like most businessmen, my eye is firmly on the economy – why we are where we are, what has caused the current economic turmoil and what the future holds.

"I firmly believe the Government, Opposition

and media have their eye off the real problem, while focussing in minute detail on such things as GDP and the level of VAT.

"The trade deficit is all but brushed under the carpet, when it offers one of the greatest opportunities to boost the UK economy.

"The answer is simple. We have stopped making the basic goods we need and we have to start doing that again. We have factories sitting dormant in the UK which can be revitalised, and with the creation of around 200,000 jobs across the country, manufacturing items such as shirts or white



John Elliott

goods, this economy can get back into better shape." People interested in getting involved with John can call 01388 605061.



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AYCLIFFE VILLAGE EVENTS

BREAKFAST CLUB

It's time to start making those Jubilee T-shirts, crowns and flags in preparation for the village event to celebrate the Jubilee on June 4!

Children will be able to continue designing their T-shirts at the Breakfast Club on Saturday, April 14th, from 9am to midday in Aycliffe Village Hall. The breakfasts this month will be sponsored by Curtis Office Supplies and there will be a choice of egg, sausage or bacon rolls on offer, along with a cup of tea or coffee. All proceeds from the Breakfast Club go to the upkeep of the village hall.

WI MEETING

The competition at the next meeting of Aycliffe Village WI, which takes place on Wednesday, April 25th, in Aycliffe Village Hall at 7.30pm, is for the best decorated buttonhole. The speaker will be John Hopper on the topic of Guide Dogs for the Blind. For details, call the President Kathy Round on 01325-315732.

JUNIOR DISCO

It's disco time for children aged five to 12 years at Aycliffe Village Hall on Friday, April 27th, from 6.30-8pm. Hot dogs and a range of snacks and drinks will be available. Children can also have a glitter tattoo for £1. Entry is £1.

Easter Fun with Legion Line Dancers



Thanks from Newly Elected Councillor

Dear Sir,
I offer my sincere thanks to everyone who voted for me in the Shafto/St Mary's By Election held on Thursday 5th April 2012.

I stand by my election promises and look forward to the challenge of serving the residents of Great Aycliffe.

At the time of writing I am departing for a short break to Germany that has been arranged for some time, but will make every effort to change the return ferry crossing to enable me to attend the Council meeting on Wednesday, 11th April. Cllr. Wendy Hillary

The Line Dancing Group which meets at the British Legion held an Easter Bonnet competition on Thursday 5th April. They dance every Thursday from 8-11pm (£3.00 admission) and everyone is welcome. It's a great way to keep fit and features guest musicians each week.

Tim Howard will be the featured artiste on Thursday 12th April and there will be a beginner's dance lesson on 26th April. Come along and join in.

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

This Sunday 15th April at 2pm, Michael Kelly and his own One Man Band performs in the Centre. His songs are about life in the North East and admission is £2 with students and children free. On Sunday 22nd there is a Folk Concert at 3pm by the Newton Aycliffe Folk Singers and Band featuring Barry Robinson on the guitar he made himself. Admission £3 Seniors £2 and children free.

We are appealing for paperbacks, bric-a-brac and small items of furniture for our next fundraising sale. Ring 313924 and we will collect.

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Oak Leaf Sports Complex are offering new and exciting courses for children:

Commencing **Monday 30th April 4.00-5.00pm** we have a weekly Football Fun session for children aged 4-7 years. Come along and learn some new ball skills, and have fun while meeting new friends. Parents must stay in the building.

Also weekly starting **Wednesday 2nd May 5.00-6.00pm** we have something for you teenagers! (12-15years). Come and see how fit you are at our Teen Dance Mat/Circuit keep fit class using the dance mats and various circuit training exercises around the room.

Thursday 3rd May 4.00-5.00pm sees the start of our weekly Mini Dance mat fun for kids and a responsible adult. Bring Mum, Dad, Gran or Granddad, etc., and see who has the best moves on the Dance Mats.

All the above are a bargain at only £1.00 per session, so come along and join in the fun!

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DRIVERS FALL FOUL OF CRUMBLING ROAD SURFACE



An Aycliffe motorist on his way to work last week was among many others who were forced to stop after driving over a large and dangerous pot hole on the A689, east of Bradbury Service Station.

As he pulled into the nearest lay-by there were 5 other vehicles already there with punctures and damaged wheels and suspensions. After parking his car he witnessed other cars with similar damage, but they had missed the safety of pulling off this 60mph road into the lay-by.

He called the incident into Durham Police as he feared further incidents would occur. Everyone was surprised to find a pot-hole of this size on such a busy A class road. If a motorcyclist hit this hole the consequences would have been more serious -

possibly a fatality. There must have been a dramatic failure of this carriageway surface as evidenced by the fragmented material surrounding the pot hole. It suggests this failure must have been occurring for some time.

Whilst being driven back to Newton Aycliffe in the recovery vehicle he noticed highway engineers had carried out an emergency repair of the pot-hole and other areas of the carriageway.

All the motorists are seeking compensation but have to show the Council did not take reasonable care or action. It could be a hard battle as some repairs are likely to be in the region of £1000 so it might mean court action if the council does not respond favourably.

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We are currently seeking to appoint to the following position at our Newton Aycliffe office:

Legal Secretary (Family)

This position is required to provide a client focused and professional administrative support within the Family & Criminal team at Newton Aycliffe. In order to meet and exceed our clients expectations, duties will include; audio typing, orderly maintenance of files, dealing proactively, effectively and pleasantly with clients, diary management and general administration.

As the successful candidate you will have significant experience of providing secretarial support within a high volume Family team with knowledge of LSC procedures, good typing skills (excellent audio typing at least 60 wpm and a high level accuracy), relevant secretarial qualifications and will also be fully competent (advanced) user of Microsoft Word and Outlook and an intermediate user of Excel, Powerpoint & Access. You will also have excellent organisational skills, show great initiative and be able to work to deadlines, including within the LSC administrative requirements. Ideally you will have the ability to work a case management systems. However this is not essential as full training will be given.

In return we can offer the successful candidate a competitive salary, holidays, comprehensive induction program and ongoing training and development within a friendly office environment with free parking. Following a qualifying period BHP LLP also offers additional benefits which includes private healthcare and the option to join the contributory group pension scheme.

Ref: NE/FSEC/0412

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First Interviews will be held: **Friday 4th and Tuesday 8th May 2012**

Application by CV and covering letter, quoting ref no and stating the position you are applying for, to:

Mrs L J Melloy, HR Assistant, Blackett Hart & Pratt LLP, BHP Law

by e-mail: lsamg@bhplaw.co.uk or visit our website at www.bhplaw.co.uk

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Lost & Found

MISSING Apple Ipad Touch, was taken to Woodham College on Thursday 22nd March and was lost. Owner was aware of having it at lunchtime on the basketball court. Any information regarding his whereabouts would be gratefully received as it has sentimental value. Please contact me on 07801 966512 or please see the receptionist at Woodham Technology College. Many thanks
LOST Dr Marten footwear on Heighington Lane on 7th April. Reward if returned. Tel 07949 600095

Lost - Sammy



3 year old black tom cat. Tall, slim with a long tail, very friendly (chipped). Last seen Tuesday 27th March evening. Lives in Bousfield Crescent/Harding Road area.
Has anyone seen him?
Please contact 319276 or 07984 171521
Please check your sheds, garages and outhouses

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PEDIGREE Ragdoll kittens for sale. 1 male, cream chocolate, all papers 1 year old, £250 ono. 1 female grey white, no papers, £200, 6 months old. Tel 01325 491477 or 07955 301203
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Licence Applications

Licensing Act 2003
Notice of Application for Grant of a Premises Licence

Savers Health and Beauty Limited has given to Durham County Council an application for the grant of a Premises Licence for Savers, 46 Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4DS. The licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on at the premises are the sale by retail of alcohol for consumption off the premises 0800 to 1800 (to 2000 in December) Mondays to Saturdays and 1000 to 1800 on Sundays. The licensing Register of Durham County Council is held at Neighbourhood Services, Durham County Council, Council Offices, Green Lane, Spennymoor, DL16 6JQ and, where applicable, at licensing@durham.gov.uk. The record of the application may be inspected during normal office hours at the Council's above address and, where applicable, at any time on the above website. Representations which shall be made in writing may be made by an interested party or responsible authority to Durham County Council to be received at their above address no later than Tuesday 1st May 2012. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application; the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

13-4-2012

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3 BEDROOM town house in Youens Crescent. Rent £650 per month, Bond £400. Tel 07980 596563

Labour Party Election Behaviour Questioned

Dear Sir
Through your paper could I thank all who voted and supported me when I stood as an Independent candidate for the Shafto/St Mary's Ward.
As this was my first attempt to stand for the Council I think I did well but was shocked and disgusted, and did not realise what Labour Party members would do to get their candidate elected. From the beginning to the end of the day Labour Councillors influenced voters by informing them who they were and which Party they represented. Voters were also asked which way they had voted. They were also requesting names and addresses of voters before entering, without informing them that they are under no obligation to give them this information. At one point the leader of Great Aycliffe Town Council and another Labour representative turned up in separate vehicles and parked their vehicle on the yellow Zig Zag lines outside the school which is clearly signposted 'no parking'! Being leader of the Labour Party does not negate him or his fellow Labour representatives from the rules set out by the Highways Department. At this point the decision was made to contact the monitoring officer as it is against the rules and regulation for voters to be told who they represent and are definitely not permitted to ask who people have voted for.
Once again many thanks for everyone's support and I will be standing again as an Independent candidate in May 2013
John Turnbull

Council Seek Sponsors for Town Annual Show

Would you like to become a sponsor of the Really Great Aycliffe Show? Great Aycliffe Town

Council is offering an exciting opportunity for local businesses to raise their profile by joining the group of sponsors of Great Aycliffe Show – Newton Press, Co-operative Funeralcare, Deco Trophies and Engraving and G. Little.

Any aspect of the Show may be sponsored but support is particularly sought for the 2013 annual Golf Tournament, which forms an integral part of the Show weekend.

The annual, two-day Show is held on the August Bank Holiday weekend and is a very popular event, attracting thousands of visitors from around the region.

Sponsors receive free trade space at the Show, free advertising on publicity material and are permitted to place information and advertising banners on the showfield and around the arena.

If you are interested in this opportunity or would like further information, please contact Marie Robinson, Show Co-ordinator at Great Aycliffe Town Council, tel: 01325 300700.

In Memoriam

ALAN BROWN

13th April 2011

My darling Alan,
how I miss you.
I miss your smile,
I can't put into words what I feel,
I smile on the outside,
but I am broken inside.



Love you
dearly and
always will
Alan.
All my love,
Norma Rose xx

ALAN BROWN 13-4-2011. Fond memories of a dear Brother-in-Law. Love, Jean, Derek and family xxx
ALAN BROWN 13-4-2011. Always in our thoughts. Love, John, Jackie and family xx
ALAN BROWN Much missed friend of Julie, Den and family xxx
ALAN BROWN In loving memory of Alan. Dear Brother of Mally, Anne and family

LILIAN BALDWIN

16th April 2009.

Three years since you went away.
Still love and miss you every day.

All my love, Keith

LILIAN BALDWIN 16-4-2009. Gone but not forgotten. Ann and Tony
MIRIAM ROSSITER 8th April 2004. You are always in our thoughts Mam. Love and miss you so much, Lesley and Tony xxx
STEPHEN IBINSON Special memories of Stephen (Ibbo). A dear Son, Husband, Father, Brother and Uncle. Died 16th April 2009, aged 33. They say that hearts don't break but we know it's not true, the day God took our Son away, it broke our hearts in two. There will always be a heartache and often a silent tear, but always beautiful memories of the days when you were here. A beautiful life came to an end, you died as you lived, everyone's friend. Till we meet again Son. Mam and Dad

JOSEPH HEDLEY 13th April. We remember you with love pride, good times we used to share. We miss you more than words can say, so much it's hard to bear. We miss you Dad, your loving children Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxxxx
JOSEPH HEDLEY 13th April. Another year has gone by my love. For you will never die. I think about you every day, it broke my heart when you went away. Your loving Wife, Grace xxx
McLUCKIE 10-4-2002. The stars shine so bright because you are with them. 10 years pass so quickly Angel. And we love you as much as ever. Su, Chris, Bev and Glynis

JOHN DOUTHWAITE 15th April 1990. Silent memories true and tender, just to show we still remember. From all your family xx
COLIN ARROWSMITH 15th April, 2010. No matter how life changes, no matter what we do, a special place within our hearts will always be with you. Never forgotten. Mary and family

Nathan Peter Acuna Ocana



13 YEARS OLD

10th April 2012

Happy birthday to our special, special teenager, feels like only yesterday we were announcing your birth. If the "Kevin" years start now, has the last year just been practice? Love you lots. Mam and Dad

Happy birthday to our big Brother, who we adore. Love, Macy Moo and Lucas
Happy birthday to a very special Grandson. Love, Grandad Peter and Nanny in Heaven xx

Birthday wishes also from Nanny, Geoff, Grandad, Nanny Nicole, Great Gran Kennedy, Great Nan and Grandad Standsfield, Great Nanny McCann and all your Aunties, Uncles and Cousins xxx

Clairvoyance

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

Thank You

JOYCE DAWSON We would like to thank friends and family on behalf of Joyce for donations made to Durham University Hospital Stroke Unit. We would also like to thank Dr Pounder and Nurse Linda Connely from the Pease Way Medical Centre and Julie Guest from the Co-op Funeral Services for their help and kindness

For Sale

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CARAVAN Awning, perfect condition, suit 16ft caravan. £150 ono. Will deliver locally. Tel Aycliffe 312464 or 07798 661998

Congratulations

Danielle Elkin



Happy 18th Birthday

Love you loads, Dad xx

Happy Birthday

From Nanna, Grandad, Nann Lilly, Grandad George, All your Aunties and Uncles and Cousins. Have a fab time at Alton Towers

Danielle Elkin



Happy 18th Birthday

Gorgeous Girl

12th April 2012

You have conquered so many things in your life that I never thought possible. I will be here for you Danni always. Love from Mam, Dad, Nicole and Roman xxx

Katie Louise Burn



Happy Birthday Katie

Lots of love from Mam, Adele and Jess

AMY BURN Happy 21st birthday Amy. Hope you enjoy your Cocoa on Friday night, haha! Love from Julie, Den and gang xxx

MORRISON Owen Lewis. Happy birthday teenager. 18th April 2012. With love from Mam, Faye, Grandma and Grandad xxxxx

KEVIN BEENHAM. 13th April The Big "30". Now you are in the same age category as me. Happy Birthday Babe. All my Love, Shelly xx

KEVIN BEENHAM. 13th April. Happy 30th Birthday. Love from Madge xx
IAIN PETERS Happy 21st birthday. Have a great day. Lots of love, Dad

DECLAN THOMAS SCOTT happy 8th birthday to our gorgeous Grandson. We are so proud of you big lad. Have a great day and enjoy your party. Lots of love always from Grandma and Grandad Fawcett xx

Amy Burton



Happy 21st Birthday

Have a lovely day and night. Love you loads. Lots of love, Ste xxxxx

Sylvia Spensley



Happy 70th Birthday

to the best Mam ever.

Glad to see you are still "rocking". Love you loads from Julie, Den and all the family xxxxx

Amber Dolby



Happy 13th Birthday

Princess

Lots of Love and Kisses Mam, Dad and Aidan xxx

Mia Wilson



Well Done Mia on Coming Second Place at Blackpool

Lots of love from all your family. Big thanks to Hayley and Brenda xxxxxx

Birthday Remembrance

GEORGE SMITH

9th April 1948.

Memories in this weary world mean more to me than gold. Memories in this weary world are jewels that I hold. So I keep my memories of you, they live within my heart, my darling Brother George just for now we have to part. This is the first birthday George when we can't send you a card, but sending love to Heaven is not so very hard. God bless you on your birthday George, I know you're with Lyn. Love always, your loving Mother Jean and Nephew and families. We miss you, we love you. Cruise the Universe George and Lyn, until we meet again xxx

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Property Sale

32 Skirlaw Road Newton Aycliffe
Price reduced by £5k to £65,000 for quick sale.

2 Bedroom mid terraced property recently refurbished to include newly fitted kitchen and bathroom and new roof. Requires some rewiring which has been reflected in the price. Kitchen /Diner (8 ring gas hob, dishwasher, washer and dryer included), lounge with double aspect, 2 dbl bedrooms, Bathroom with shower over bath. Combi boiler GAS CH & Dbl Glazing. Large garden to rear with shed. Ideal for FTB. Contact 07973 760195. Full details available from Alison Dyson Estate Agents.

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SCUTAFREAKS

07400 188 120 or text for instant reply

Oar-some Opportunity

Young people are being given the chance to try their hand at rowing as part of an event next week.

Chester-le-Street Amateur Rowing Club is holding a free open morning on Wednesday, April 11, between 9am and 12 noon to give people the chance to find out more about the sport and have a go.

The event, which is aimed at increasing participation in sport, will take place at the Donald Owen Clarke Centre, Chester-le-Street Rowing Club.

Further information is available by contacting the club on 07791 586283 or mail@clsarc.org

Great Day on the Yorkshire Moors



It was a glorious day on the Yorkshire Moors for the Blakey Blitz 10.9 mile Fell Race on March 25th, the toughest of the series. Matt Heron set an early pace closely followed by Lee Wren and Peter Milburn. Matt slowed due to

dehydration allowing Lee through to finish 36th in 1hr 47mins. Matt finished in 46th position in 1hr 50mins then came Peter "there aren't many hills honest" Milburn in 1hr 50mins and 47th position.

Aycliffe had a great turn out for race 2 of the club championships at Hartlepool for the Marina 5 mile with thirteen runners turning out in glorious sunshine. Peter Milburn set a blistering early pace and kept this going once he turned into the breeze for the final couple of miles to finish first for the club, 32nd overall in 30.20 closely followed by Lee Wren in 38th position in 30.52.

Other results were: Richard Cambell 53rd (31.43) Tom Porter 57th (32.01) Peter Smith 90th (33.36) Dean Barclay 125th (35.34) Susan Milburn 164th (37.33) Gary Minns 181st (38.15) Kelly Smith 189th (38.28) Trish Kay 192nd (38.41) Tracey Warrior, a newcomer to the club and enjoying her racing, 251st (42.30). Ray Todd was 262nd overall and 4th male vet over 70 and Yvonne Williams 296th overall out of a field of 383.

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Memorial Fund's 1st Anniversary

The Just Say Yes fund was started in April 2011 in memory of Mark Bulman, who lost his three year battle with cancer at the age of 21.

Over the last year we have held several events including a Launch Night, Halloween Fancy Dress, Football Tournaments and Garden Parties.

Several other organisations have held fundraisers and local businesses have contributed prizes, consequently we have raised a considerable amount of money which goes to the new Young Adult Unit in Freeman Hospital, Newcastle, where treatment is no longer curative. We give cash gifts to spend as they wish, helping to bring a little happiness and create memories for family and friends.

We are holding a "One Year On" event on Friday 20th April at Newton Aycliffe Working Men's Club.

Please check out our website for details and information about the fund. Tickets for the event are priced at £6 and available to buy via the website or call 07738 259220.

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Opening Times - Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 8.30am-1pm

