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CRIME DOWN, DETECTIONS UP IN COUNTY DURHAM

Members of Durham Police Authority are pleased to confirm that County Durham and Darlington remain one of the safest places in the Country to live.

Crime across the Force area has fallen 12.4% between April and December 2010, compared to the same period the previous year. In real terms this equates to 3866 fewer victims of crime, this is the third best reduction nationally for all Forces. Police performance was reviewed by the Police Authority at its quarterly meeting of the Effective Policing Delivery Committee

in February. Some of the individual crime categories have seen some significant reductions.

In particular the Force are performing extremely well in relation to vehicle crime with reductions of 25.7% over the same period and an increase in vehicle crime detection rates of 143.8%. In real terms it's a double win as across the force area there have been 887 fewer vehicle crimes and the Constabulary have detected 565 more vehicle crimes between April and December 2010 compared to the same period the previous year, this means that nationally

Durham Constabulary have had the best percentage increase in terms of vehicle crime detections for the whole country.

Deputy Chief Constable Mr Barton said: "We are improving our performance each year and there will be similar improvements for the coming 12 months". Peter Thompson, Chair of the Police Authority said: "These performance figures are extremely impressive and I hope that the residents of County Durham and Darlington are reassured to know that we are doing everything we can to keep them safe."

"Although we are facing the difficult financial impact from the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review, we are committed to keeping crime low and these figures show that even in these challenging times our Police Force continues to improve and address the needs of our communities."

MORE DEMOLITION



Further demolition in the town centre this week with the removal of the old Disc offices next to the Fire Station. This leaves a valuable piece of land at the disposal of Durham County Council and it will be interesting to see what is built on this open space.

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BHF URGENTLY NEEDS YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) is warning households in Newton Aycliffe to be vigilant when making doorstep donations of second-hand goods to their chosen charity – they could be lining the pockets of third party organisations working for commercial gain. The nation's heart charity is launching a new nationwide campaign to raise awareness of the effect these 'middlemen' are having. In some cases, as little as 5% of the income from a doorstep collection, which is carried out by a third party organisation, is paid to the charity. The BHF has not formed a partnership with these 'middlemen' and because their activity has escalated we have seen a 25% drop in our household collections.

Marlynn Radley Manager at the Newton Aycliffe Shop explains. "We rely on doorstep donations – they're a vital source of income for our Shop. We estimate this commercial activity is costing us 36,000 bags of stock yearly in the North alone – which equates to a shocking £216,000 loss – money which could be spent in the fight against heart disease".

Householders in Newton Aycliffe need clear information on collection bags detailing how much profit the charity will actually make from the collection. Currently this is not clear and some information is very misleading. 100% of the profits made from donations to the BHF stay with the charity and help us continue our lifesaving work. Marlynn is relying on you to keep her Shop full. "The last thing we want is for people to stop donating. Without their vital donations we risk reducing the care and support available to vulnerable heart patients across the country".

She is urgently appealing to local residents in the community to have a clear out and search through their wardrobes and scour their homes



for any unwanted good quality clothing, handbags, shoes, books, DVDs, CDs and bric-a-brac – all of which will help the charity fight heart disease – the UK's biggest killer.

The BHF carries out doorstep collections using clearly identified vans and drivers. Our advice to householders in Newton Aycliffe is:

Take your donations directly into your local charity shop or donate to a charity that organises its own collections.

Ask the collector for identification – sometimes donations are stolen from doorsteps before official collectors get there.

Check collection bags and leaflets for clear information about how much of the proceeds from your goods go to that charity.

The message from Marlynn is simple. "Don't stop donating; and be careful where your donation goes."

Contact the Newton Aycliffe shop to arrange a FREE collection today. 40 Beveridge Way, 01325 301780 www.bhf.org.uk

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY GO ONLINE

In October 2010, Newton Aycliffe Family History Society unveiled a new, dedicated website at www.nafhs.com. Members of the Society have over 200 years combined experience of tracing their family history and are in the process of making their research available online. This is an exciting venture for us, not only because we can share our experience with a wider community, but also because we hope to encourage more people to join us.

The Society was formed in 1994 and meets every month, (except December). Our programme of events includes talks on related subjects, research evenings and occasional outings. These are very sociable, friendly affairs, with members always willing to share their knowledge and advice.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Shafto Way kindly allows us the use of a meeting room and, more recently, have created an IT facility with access to their vast record collection, which the Society also uses. The Internet will never replace hands-on research in dusty search rooms but it is a very convenient and time-saving first stage.

Our speaker at 7.30pm on 23rd February is Mr Norman

Welch, whose topic will be 'Did they ever tie the knot? Clandestine Marriages'. Annual membership is £10.00 per person or £15.00 per couple/household, which allows free access to meetings and full use of the website. There is a charge of £2.00 per meeting for non-members. Car parking and refreshments are free. For further information on the Society please see our website at www.nafhs.com or contact chairman Keith Bell on 01325-307905

PACT Meeting Police & Community Together

Shafto/St Mary's Ward PACT MEETING will be held on THURSDAY 24th FEBRUARY, 2011 at 6.00pm in the AYCLIFFE LIBRARY.

Your local Beat Officer and PCSO will be in attendance to discuss any issues you may be having in your area. Local councillors will also be in attendance. We look forward to seeing you there PCSO 6859

Mike WELCH, Newton Aycliffe Beat Team 0345 60 60 365

FISHING CHARITY NEEDS SPONSORS

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE



"Fishing With Tom" is a Newton Aycliffe charity, set up in April 2005 to help children involved in drugs or crime. It has helped 100's of kids to become good citizens.

It has now opened it's doors to every child in the North East and beyond working alongside Charles Jardine with "Fishing For Schools". Tom is now hoping to move further up the ladder and expand the service given to children.

Based at West House Farm in Bishopton he aims to get young people involved in the

art of fly fishing. He wants to employ a fully qualified youth worker for 16 hrs per week who can work alongside youth groups, disadvantaged young people helping them to enjoy the outdoors and learn to fish.

Tom is looking for a sponsor/ sponsors who can help as all staff are mainly unpaid volunteers. The youth worker will help the young people to gain accreditation, and important life skills. If you or your company can help please contact Tom Carroll, on Mobile: 07759 469032. Office: 01325 308049

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CHILDREN EXPRESS CONCERN OVER SCHOOL PARKING

As many know Heighington Primary School have a School Council. All members are duly elected and they meet with a school teacher to discuss issues that they are concerned about in and around school. On occasions I have been invited to attend the School Council when they have questions for their Borough Councillor. On Friday afternoon Feb 4th, I was invited to one such Meeting where Abigail, Lucy, Jade, Alex, Cameron, Gabriel and Harry had prepared an Agenda with questions that that they wished to put to me. Two of their questions related to the old and ongoing problem of parents parking their vehicles in prohibited areas. The children are worried that if the problem persists, a child will be hurt or worse. The School Council expressed their concern over parents parking in the entrance and on the hatched paint lines leading into the Sports Field Car Park and they can see an accident in the making caused by vehicles parking along Redworth Road. It is alarming, that children can see dangers associated with bad parking in and around the school when adults seem oblivious to them, particularly when everyone driving into school is aware of the protocol expected of them. Advice has been given from the Police. I have stood outside the school gates on many occasion and reminded many not to park either on the hatched lines or on the double yellow lines along Redworth Road and whilst this has had some effect some drivers go back to their old ways. Perhaps the ultimate answer is to have DBC

Environment Wardens handing out Parking Fines. Following a near head on accident involving a Heighington resident on the Redworth Road hill crest leading down to the bypass, and the grave concerns expressed by the School Council, I am having to look again to see what can be done to stop parents parking without thought to the dangers they cause to other traffic and our children. Put simply, it is dangerous for anyone to park in the hatched lines or anywhere near the gates of the Sports Field Car Park and it is wrong for parents to park on the double yellow lines on Redworth Road and down towards Heighington bypass. The children know the horrific consequences of an accident caused by vehicles that have to drive, on the wrong side of the road, up to a blind summit to pass parents cars parked on the left hand side of the carriageway. For information it was the Police who were adamant that the double yellow lines had to be installed along Redworth Road. Without them the Traffic Management Scheme, including the ‘new’ school gate would not have happened. This would have meant that every child and every car would have had to converge on one school gate. This would have created chaos and an unacceptable risk to the well being of every child. We all should remember that if a child is hit by a car driving over 30mph he/she has an 80% chance of dying. If a child is hit by a car driving below 30mph he/she has an 80% chance of surviving. Cars driving along Redworth Road can drive 30mph and more which means that a child would not walk away in an accident. This is the reason why the Police do not want cars to park along this stretch of road! So, parents where possible, please walk to school. Those who have to drive their children into school, park legally. If you cannot find space in the Car Park leave your car in Highside Road or in the centre of the village and walk your child into school and if possible, why not look to car share. Car sharing will save you money, reduce traffic congestion around the school and help make your child’s journey – SAFER. I thank Heighington Primary School Council for their thoughtful questions and observations. They are genuinely worried about the dangers caused and created by parents who are disobeying the protocol expected by all who drive into school and they want something done to remove those dangers. Ultimately it is each and every parent’s responsibility to drive carefully, park sensibly and be conscious of the dangers that exists every day in and around the school gates to ALL children. Parents, your children can see and have expressed their fears about the danger outside Heighington School – please take heed and mend your ways. **DO NOT PARK ON THE HATCHED LINES INSIDE THE CAR PARK AND DO NOT PARK ALONG REDWORTH ROAD.** Councillor Gerald G. Lee

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Centre has two seats left for the trip to Middlesbrough Theatre for an Old Tyme Music Hall on Wednesday 6th April leaving at 1pm. We are looking to form new clubs for Darts, Dominoes, Table Tennis, Quiz and Whist, or if you would like to start your own club for another activity, get in touch! A new Bingo Club starts Wednesday 2nd March at 1pm. Old and new players welcome and it includes lunch on the last Wednesday of the month. Ring if you are interested. Items wanted: DVD’s, Snooker Balls, Jewellery, Bric-a-Brac, Teddy Bears, Dolls, Wine etc to sell to help our funds. Thanks to all who have helped us in the past - you are very special! Peter Beaty Tel: 313924.

Honest John Helps Aycliffe F.C.

Honest John’s Fundraising Stall has donated £1,000 to Newton Aycliffe Football Club and £500 to Newton Aycliffe Nemesis Cheerleaders. Thanks to all who have given items to the stall to be sold to help local organisations. Honest John

Newton News Works

Newton News have received many letters from regular advertisers attesting to the popularity of this newspaper which is full of local news and events, the following is a sample of a letter from Brian Edwards a former Sub Editor of the Northern Echo:

Dear Syd
I must congratulate you on the excellence of your publication "Newton News". It has everything an Aycliffe reader would want. I can imagine what a lot of work has gone into producing it.
Well done and may it grow from strength to strength.
Good Luck
Sincerely
Brian Edwards
(Former Northern Echo Sub Editor)

Strange Call Centre Check

An elderly resident rang Newton News this week to report she had received a telephone call from a Call Centre in India asking her if she is receiving her Newton News. She contacted us and we informed her we have not employed a Call Centre. We do do random checks to make sure your favourite local newspaper is delivered, but we do it in house. It is very strange and we cannot understand why the lady was contacted. The Police have been informed and we would like to know if anyone else has received similar calls to contact Newton Press on 01325 300212.



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NEWTONIAN RUNS LONDON MARATHON FOR SPARKS

It’s that time of the year again for Newtonian Chris Foster as he begins training in earnest for his assault on the streets of London on 17th April, for the Marathon. This year he runs for Sparks (www.sparks.org.uk), a charity founded by professional sports people who are grateful for their good health and who want to help those less fortunate. The Sparks vision is a world where all babies are given the best possible start in life and where a medical condition or disability at birth is not a barrier to opportunity and fulfilment. Sparks has already made great strides with research into Neuroblastoma, Club Foot, Spina Bifida and Cerebral Palsy, and preventing/and supporting these conditions. His own daughter, Rosie, has a well-documented story. (www.rosiefoster.org) Many will have seen Rosie around the town with her parents. She has a genetic disorder which affects her growth. Rosie’s website has helped many other parents to reach a positive outcome. Sparks helps to fund research to help prevent medical conditions in the future and to help improve the lives of those born with a

medical condition. Chris said: “I am committed to raise as much money as I can and I hope readers will help me in this extremely worthy cause. I am also hoping to raise additional money by holding a “bring and buy” sale at Vane Road Primary School where I am Chairman of Governors and with other activities up to the date of the race”. added Chris. Chris thanks you very much



for taking time to read this and, to those of you who do sponsor me, thank you in advance. Chris will, let Newton News know how he gets on and whether he breaks his intended target of 4 hours. His fundraising website is at: <http://www.justgiving.com/fozzievlm11>

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Greenfield Gallery Events

The EDAN Arts Group will exhibit from Thursday 17th March to Wednesday 27th April 2011
Opening times: Monday to Thursday 10am-9pm
Friday 10-4pm
A Professional Craft Fair is on Wednesday 16th March from 6pm-8pm.

Agnew Community Centre

At the AGM on March 16th a new position of Assistant Secretary will be created and already we have a nomination for this new post which reflects the amount of business at the Centre.

We still need more volunteers especially persons to commit to running the Parent & Toddler group. We have plenty of toys and our Hall is clean, with

pleasant surroundings, so pop in and see us or ring 07749236853 for a meeting.

Our new Garden including a picnic area, play area and community garden need the help of a keen gardener. If the above is not your thing but you want to volunteer then we have many possibilities such as Fundraising and special events. If interested give Margaret a

ring on 319857.

Our Line Dance session on a Tuesday, 1pm to 2pm, has room for more dancers so just pop along on the day for a warm welcome. Tai Chi on Wednesdays 6.30pm to 8pm also has room for a few more so call and see Brett who will be keen to meet you. Photography is on Tuesdays 6.30pm to 8.30pm and Keith Blundy will welcome you in.

Aycliffe Spiritualists will be very glad to welcome you on a Monday 7pm to 9pm with Gladys Brown your host. Parent & Toddler group need your support on a Thursday 1pm to 3pm at still only £1 per family with plenty of toys and light refreshments provided.

Bingo is going strong but can still accommodate more players and this is run by our dynamic Margaret Lovelady on a Thursday at 7pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. On a Saturday our ever popular Elevate Youth Club is on for the 5 to 12 year olds from 10.30am to 12noon and run by James Ross and his merry band of helpers from the Xcel Church.

FREE Membership and our ever popular Child's Birthday Party bookings will only cost you as a Member £20 for 3 hours which covers the use of the Hall, Meeting Room and Kitchen.

Our New outdoor area should be ready by Easter and includes a Picnic Area and Play Area and these facilities will be FREE for use by Members. Membership is FREE so come along and support YOUR Community Centre in Morrison Close.

BUTTERWICK TWILIGHT WALK



BBC Tees radio presenter Lisa McCormick has pledged

MURDER AT THE LIBRARY

A killer will be brought to book next month when a our library provides the setting for an afternoon of crime capers. Newton Aycliffe Library is inviting amateur sleuths to a murder mystery event on Thursday, 3rd March.

Organised by author Roz Southey, Murder in the Library will give participants the chance to find clues, discover the culprit and win prizes. The session runs from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

There will also be plenty of suspense when crime fiction writer Graham Pears visits the library on Thursday, 24 March.

The author of the Newcastle-set Jet detective series will talk about his writing and work from 2.30pm.

There is a £1 charge per person for both sessions.

to take part in the Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland Twilight Walk on Saturday 21st May.

The six mile walk starts at 5pm from Bishop Auckland College and the route covers local bridleways and footpaths, going through the park at Auckland Castle. Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland provides palliative care services to the Durham Dales and Sedgefield areas. The Hospice provides day care services from its base in Bishop Auckland and also in Sedgefield Community Hospital, Weardale Community Hospital in Stanhope and the Richardson Hospital at Barnard Castle. A palliative home care team is available to help in patients own homes that provide a professional sitting service available day or night 365 days a year. Butterwick Hospice also provides a mobile aromatherapy service

for Multiple Sclerosis patients.

The Hospice has particular expertise in controlling the effects of life threatening illnesses such as pain or other stressful symptoms. Services are provided to the patient and their families/carers and include complementary therapies, family support, counselling and bereavement care.

All services are provided completely free of charge to ensure that Hospice care is available to everyone. Butterwick Hospice maintains high standards of patient care and fundraising is a vital and essential element of ensuring the Hospice is always there to serve the local community.

To take part in the walk costs £12.50 and is a ladies only event. For more information or to enrol for the walk contact the fundraising department on 01388 603003.

Help for Poor African Children



The Sunday Schoolchildren at the Church of Latter Day Saints on Shafto Way saved their spare change over last year and raised £320 for the West Africa Trust. This is their third contribution to the North East charity which helps bring Clean Water, Health and Education to the poorest countries in the world. Visit: www.watrust.co.uk

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****M&S vouchers are available from 1st March 2011. Terms and conditions apply. See www.millerhomes.co.uk/miway for full details.

Over £10,000 for Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for 2010 in Newton Aycliffe raised £10,444.18p. Organiser Dave Preston wishes to thank all who contributed and helped in any way.

SBH HELP AIR AMBULANCE



Staff at housing company sbh showed how much they love the Great North Air Ambulance this Valentine's Day. The company raised £105 for the charity by selling home-made cakes and savouries.

Organiser Eileen Cottrell said: "We chose the Great North Air Ambulance as our charity for the year and we have had many events to raise money. This was a fun and tasty way to celebrate Valentine's Day while adding to the total. "Some people may have eaten a bit much but it was all in a good cause. We have also raised £115 in the last few weeks by selling novelty items to add to our total over the year.

Aycliffe Singer in Final

Newtonian Claire Wilmer is thought to be the Final in a competition to find a singer for a charity single, 'The Journey' for local baby's hospice, Zoe's Place, in Middlesbrough.

The Sing Off is at The Arc on the 26th March, hosted by ITV's Pam Royle. As all proceeds go to the charity, Claire hopes to raise interest in Newton Aycliffe.

Now 26, Claire started singing at 14 years old as part of Woodham Comp's school choir guided by Ms Ambury (who was one of her role models back then, and still is!)

Things took off from there, doing amateur pantos with Acorn Players and taking part in Northern Pop Schools, which resulted in a song writing mentorship with a local producer in 2002.

She took the artistic route with A-Levels at QE, then went on to study a degree in Performance at Northumbria University. Claire became a vocalist/entertainer for Haven Holidays, and progressed quickly singing, dancing and entertaining at parks across the country for the last 4 years, having the time of her life!

She currently teaches at Stagecoach Darlington and Yarm, helping kids from 6 - 18yrs.

Claire works at Pizza Hut

in Darlington and sings on the North East club circuit at weekends.

"A group of the older students who I teach at Stagecoach are also singing a spot and backing vocals to the winners song at the final - that I'll be teaching - which is an added pressure to get things right, but a really good opportunity for them to sing at such a big charity event!" said Claire.

"Overall, I'm so excited to take part. I'd love to sing in front of bigger, brighter lights and bigger audiences and hopefully this is a start. Most of the other contestants are Middlesbrough area based, and it would be great if people from Newton Aycliffe would come and support me and the charity!"



TALENTED GREENFIELD YEAR 8 SPORTS STUDENTS



Jonathon Hampshire, Connor Wheatley, Ellie Cliff and Patrice O'Donnell

Jonathon is an all round sportsman. He has had particular success in rowing where he represented Sedgfield and finished 5th in the County. Most of Jonathon's time is dedicated to his football. He not only represents his school and club NAYCFC, he is also a member of the District team. All teams are doing very well this season.

Connor is also an all round sportsman, outside school he plays football for Cumby and in school he has represented the school in football, rugby, athletics and cross country - to name a few.

Ellie is an all round sports

woman. Representing the school in a range of sports, such as netball, football, basketball, athletics, cross country, etc. She has recently been selected to be part of the Sedgfield Year 9 netball squad, whilst still in Year 8. Well done.

Patrice is again an all round sports woman, representing the school in a range of sports, how she finds time with all of her dancing commitments is a credit to her. Patrice spends a lot of her time dancing and has had success at Regional, National & International level with her dance squad. Well done to all for being selected.

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A 2 bedroom mid terrace property. Double glazed, gas central heating, fitted kitchen, immediate vacant possession. Good location

Layton Court
Woodham Village
£109,950



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Dent Walk
Newton Aycliffe
£75,000



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Aidens Walk
Ferryhill
£205,000



An extended 4 bedroom detached home. Two en-suite facilities, sun room, solid oak breakfast kitchen, immaculate throughout, must be viewed.

Richardson Walk
Newton Aycliffe
£95,000



Much improved 3 bedroom end terrace home, fitted kitchen, d/glazed, modern bathroom, gardens, well placed

Burnynghill Close
School Aycliffe
£215,000



Extended 3 bedroom detached home, spacious lounge area, fitted kitchen, modern bathroom, open aspect to rear

Church Close
Newton Aycliffe
£170,000



Impressive 3 bedroom detached house. Superb fitted kitchen. Excellent Order. Garage and Gardens. Desirable Location. Must be viewed.



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Gift to Greenfield Pupils



Stephen Fry, Nancy McKhiney and David Scott present Head Teacher David Priestley (left) with a copy of the New Testament

The annual visit of the Gideon's Society to give individual copies of the New Testament and Psalms took place this week at Greenfield on Monday 7th February. All year 7 pupils at Greenfield were offered the opportunity to receive their own copy to keep by the local members of Gideon's. The Gideon's International is a charity that distributes bibles in Hotels, Hospitals, Prisons, Student Accommodation, Care Homes, Medical Centres and Schools.

FANCY A NEW CHALLENGE? GET ON YOUR BIKE!



The Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe is running a Beginners' Cycling session from 10.00 – 12.00 noon every Monday morning aimed at building up cycle and road confidence.

A session for more advanced and experienced cyclists runs on Monday afternoons from 1.00 - 3.00pm.

Both sessions are delivered in partnership with the 'Get Active' team, equipment is provided, they are free and have the advantage of the support of six qualified marshalls. Why not take advantage of improving your cycling skills, increasing your fitness levels and making new friends?

Further details from the Pioneering Care Centre 01325 321234 or e mail enquiries@pcp.uk.net

READY STEADY COOK AT WOODHAM!



On Wednesday February 4th all of Year 7 at Woodham Community Technology College were involved in a variety of activities where they demonstrated SEAL skills (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning). These are the vital skills we all need in life and are related to working together, showing empathy, encouraging, listening and communicating.

Groups of students demonstrated these skills admirably in our newly refurbished food technology room. The task was to prepare and present a healthy, balanced meal to our Catering Manager, Linda Vipond, who judged the meals.

They had to include all food groups such as protein, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals.

The students all worked

tremendously hard working through their break time and produced some fantastic plates of food including Lasagne, Garlic-infused Mince, Meatballs and Spaghetti Bolognese. They were also well organised in both their preparation and clearing up!

Linda was very impressed with the standard of food that was presented to her. She had a very difficult decision to make, as all groups had presented a plate of food which was balanced, tasty and looked appealing. Although she had to choose one, she said that they were all winners and that she wanted to eat everything!

We have some budding master chefs in our midst and we will be so proud that their careers started on Asset Day at Woodham Community Technology College in 2011!



SUPERSONIC SYD APPEARS IN SHILDON

Syd Little of Little and Large fame will be heading the bill at Shildon Civic Hall on Sunday, 27th February 2011 at 7pm. Showcase International Limited which brought Danny La Rue, Paul Daniels, Cannon and Ball and Jess Conrad to the region is staging this event. Showcase Entertainments last had Syd here four years ago at the Spennymoor Town Hall which was a great success.

During the show Mr. Little will reminisce about his time with Eddie Large. Syd is now a very successful solo artist in his own right with his own style of comedy and music.

Together Little and Large were one of Britain's most successful comedy duos who at the peak of popularity in the 1980s & 1990s had their own highly popular top rated television show.

The show also features the company's Showcase Dancers; who have recently returned from the summer season in Blackpool starring alongside Joe Longthorne; with fabulous routines choreographed by Paul Morgan.

The show will also feature the Dianne White School of Dance from Shildon who recently appeared with Jess Conrad in Showcase' recent production at the Shildon Civic Hall.

This show will be non stop singing, dancing, music and comedy, suitable for all ages. Tickets are £10.00 each available from Shildon Civic Hall on 01388 772902 or Contact Showcase on 01325 316224

Kidz Flicks Film Review

This is the first review from St. Clares Kidz Flicks which after 12 months is proving to be a very popular club with 67 attendees at the latest film which was "Where the Wild Things Are". Here is our first film review by Cameron Hay, age 7 who attends Sugar Hill Primary:

"The parts of the film I liked the best, was when Max got sent to his bedroom by his Mam. When he met the gigantic fuzzy monsters, they seemed like nice friends to have. I liked it when Max started staring straight into the monster's eye's where they turned yellow and when they had a party. The bit I didn't like was when Max had to go home. It was a



bit sad!"

Cameron said he would recommend the film to everyone and we thank him for his views.

The next Kidz Flicks is on Saturday 5th March at 2.00pm.

SATURDAY 5TH MARCH 2011

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at Newton Aycliffe WMC

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HOW TO PUT A SPRING IN YOUR STEP

If you're keen to welcome the spring with a new image then get into shape and lose weight in 2011 by joining the Weight No More weight management class at the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe where you'll receive dietary advice, a weekly weigh-in and be given information to help you make informed choices about the food you buy, including the levels of salt, fat and sugar intake and food labelling. The classes are aimed at people who want to start making healthier lifestyle choices, losing weight and keeping fit whilst meeting new people and having fun. The class costs £2.00 per session and runs for 12 weeks 9.30 - 10.30am Tuesday mornings commencing 8th March at the Pioneering Care Centre. To book your place please call us on 01325 321234. Hurry - places are limited.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees

Wednesday 2nd March 2011
Policy & Resources Committee
at 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda.

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

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

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

Making a Difference



Dear Editor

I am delighted to read in the Newton News that residents in Burnhill Way are invited to participate in a "Community clean-up" organised by DCC. I am sure many residents will be eager to take part in this much needed event and will help to keep the area clean and tidy in the future.

We, from the Heighington Parish Litter Pick Group hold monthly litter picking on the sides of roads and paths around Heighington Parish and School Aycliffe Village. We would be pleased to welcome residents from Newton Aycliffe to carry out a similar programme in and

around Great Aycliffe.

Keeping the area free of litter is hard and can look like a never ending task but I am sure together we will make a difference. Our volunteer litter pick group has been going for six years and has collected over 2000 bags of rubbish and large discarded articles around the verges and sides of roads running through Redworth, School Aycliffe and Heighington.

We are also keen to raise public awareness of the mess litter makes around the countryside and hope that with increased legislation, particularly on disposal of take-away meal packaging, our work will decline. But in the mean time we will continue with our monthly picks.

The picture shows some of the members setting off from the Heighington Village Hall for the litter pick on Saturday 12th February 2011. In just under two hours we collected some 23 bags of rubbish and large articles and have spotted two places that have been used for fly tipping.

Our next pick will be on the 19th March when the Group will lead off the "LitterFree Durham Spring Clean" across County Durham. The litter pick will be between 10am and 12 noon. We will be pleased to welcome participants from around the area. Our meeting points, where help and tools are handed out, are Heighington Village Hall, 2 Main Road in Redworth and Old Farm Cottage in School Aycliffe.

Refreshments will be served after the pick in Heighington Village Hall. For more information please look out for posters around the Parish. I hope you agree that our efforts make a great contribution to keeping our outdoor environment clean and tidy. Thanks.

Lou Bedocs
Member of Heighington Parish Litter Group.

WOODHAM STUDENTS VISIT NATIONAL MEDIA MUSEUM

Media Studies students from Woodham Community Technology College were put through their paces as they tested production equipment at the National Media Museum in Bradford. Sixty students took part in an educational visit to the museum to help develop their practical and creative skills which provided an excellent opportunity for students to be creative.

The students were able to explore the museum's galleries such as the Animation Gallery, the Magic Factory, TV Heaven, Kodak Gallery and Experience TV. Adding to this they also managed to cram in time for a TV Production talk and tour. The students also had the opportunity to watch a 3D documentary film in the IMAX cinema which was visually astounding; Leah Spence, aged 14, was amazed at how realistic the documentary was, calling it an "exhilarating" experience, whilst Megan Wright, aged 14, is now considering a career in broadcasting after imitating reading the news. Teacher Mrs L Drew said, "It was a fabulous opportunity for students to see media in production".



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Are You Getting Married?

If you or your partner live or lived in Newton Aycliffe or the surrounding villages and are planning to get married, Newton News would like to record this special day, using your photos; to let our readers know about your happy occasion and recording the event in print and on our website.

Contact Paul or Syd on 01325 300212 to find out how



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HAVE YOUR SAY ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Local people are being urged to have their say on proposed changes to mental health services for older people across Darlington and South Durham.

NHS County Durham and Darlington, the local NHS organisation responsible for commissioning (buying) health services for the local population is reviewing mental health inpatient beds for older people in Darlington and South Durham.

This review is in conjunction with clinicians from Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV): the trust that provides the services from a number of bases across the Darlington and South Durham area.

The consultation, which runs until the end of February affects services currently available at Auckland Park Hospital in Bishop Auckland, West Park Hospital in Darlington and Sedgfield Community Hospital.

The review was prompted by: *An increasingly ageing population poses challenges for the local NHS to ensure older people are provided with the most appropriate care, at the right time and in the right place. Although assessment and treatment wards are seeing*

an increase in the number of patients admitted, the length of time they spend in hospital is decreasing and therefore fewer beds are required

More and more people are able to receive the care and support they need at home and are spending less time in hospital.

The focal point of the consultation is a proposal by NHS County Durham and Darlington that services across Darlington and South Durham are reconfigured. This includes functional illness such as depression, psychosis and anxiety as well as organic illness such as dementia.

The trust, having consulted clinicians at TEWV who also gathered feedback from patients, their families and carers has suggested five options for consideration. Four of these proposals will result in 15 fewer assessment and treatment beds. Another option is 'no change' and to maintain current services and bed base.

The options relate to two assessment and treatment wards at Auckland Park Hospital in Bishop Auckland, one assessment and treatment ward at West Park Hospital in Darlington and one challenging behaviour ward at Sedgfield Community

Hospital.

Full details of the options are available by accessing the consultation document on NHS County Durham and Darlington's website: www.cdd.nhs.uk - You can access the document by clicking on 'Get involved' and then 'Consultations'.

Alternatively, the document can be emailed to you if you contact kate.harrington@nhs.net

There are a number of ways local people can have their say on the consultation, which will run until Sunday 27 February 2011.

You can attend one of our consultation meetings at Pioneering Care Partnership, Carers Way, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 4SF.

You can also write to Nigel Nicholson, lead commissioner for mental health and learning disabilities:

NHS County Durham and Darlington
John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham, DH1 3YG.

Alternatively you can comment by email to nigel.nicholson@nhs.net

Yasmin Chaudhry, Chief Executive of NHS County Durham and Darlington said: "Mental health services for older people have improved

considerably over recent years.

Patients benefit from very short waiting times, age-appropriate inpatient facilities, increased levels of community support and an approach to their care which is centred around the needs of the individual.

"However, with an increasingly ageing population it will continue to be a challenge to ensure that we provide older people with appropriate health care, at the right time and in

the right place.

"It is important that we make the best use of our resources to meet the changing needs of the older population. In particular, there will be increasing demand for dementia services as identification of problems, diagnosis and treatment improve. We very much welcome your views on our proposals and look forward to having the opportunity of discussing the options with you."

RARE BIRDS SEEN AT VANE ROAD SCHOOL

By Adam Byrne, Charlotte Kirton, Rhianon Tankard and Evie Spensley



We first saw the Waxwings on the 13th and 14th January. Mr Bruce, a keen bird watcher, was the first to see these rare birds with Mrs Tobin, our Headteacher. Mr Bruce noticed the amazing colours - red, light-brown, yellow, orange and white realizing they were Waxwings.

Mr Bruce told his class, and everyone went outside to see the Waxwings in the apple tree. Nearly everyone was interested, and a couple of people brought in their cameras into school over the next couple of weeks.

After a week or so, more and more came into the school grounds to eat the rotten apples from the tree. Up to 70 Waxwings visited, and once a fierce Sparrowhawk swooped into the apple tree but luckily all the waxwings escaped safely.

One night, with the strong wind, most of the apples flew off the tree. After that none of the waxwings came back, even though they were here for about 5 weeks. Now they will probably be back in their home country - Russia and Scandinavia.

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Birds on West Park Lake by Brian Geddes



Beautiful Sunset caught by Jonathon Bridgwater at Guthrum Place.





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Saturday 19th February - "Klmera"

"I had never seen them before, but I would certainly recommend them to anybody now after Saturday night. The band are a young 4-piece (guitar, bass, thumper and female vox) but showed a degree of professionalism lacking in some bands that have been going far longer. The guitarist, James, is an extremely talented young lad and the singer delivers a cracking vocal. The bassist and thumper made up a very tight rhythm section as well. Highlights for me were Evanescence - Bring Me Back to Life (first time I have heard anyone attempt this), Cranberries - Zombie, AC/DC - Sin City, Queen - Tie Your Mother Down and Fleetwood Mac - The Chain... everything was done well though. They are an excellent band and I would thoroughly recommend any pub to book them. The crowd were very appreciative and I really hope they come back again soon." - Gig Pit Review.

Covering tracks by: Metallica, Iron Maiden, Rage Against the Machine, Motorhead, Buckcherry, Led Zep, Nickleback, Dio, Audioslave and much more - www.krtara.moonfruit.com

Saturday 26th February - "MotherEarth"

A super group formed by north east rock legend Freddie Purvis. Two years in the making, after only their second gig were offered a spot on the main stage at Stormin' last year. 'Just when you think the room in the Tunn can't get any hotter another scorching performance by MotherEarth and the crowd could have been forgiven for thinking they were actually in a sauna. Kicking off with Toto's Child's Anthem to get the musical chops in gear the first set included classics such as Journey's Separate Ways, Hold The Line and surely one of the best AOR classics in Jefferson Starships Jane, along with Love Walked In, In A Broken Dream and Ain't No Love in the Heart of the City. Special mention also for the fantastic harmonies on Kansas classic Carry on My Wayward Son and Styx' Renegade.

There was no let up in a second set that included a marathon G 'N' R version of Live and Let Die/November Rain plus a blistering Four Play/Long Time from Boston. Special mention to young drummer Paul Reed for his playing on what aren't exactly 4/4 songs and he nailed them each time. Freddie joked he's set also to be the poster boy for the band with the 'old blokes' in the background. The set rounded off with Don't Stop Believin and a rousing version of the Hooters Satellite before the band headed off for a well earned lie down in a darkened room for what was the end of a 3 night run.

The band are sure to be a big hit at the upcoming Stormin' and should also be on the must have list of the regions music venues if they continue this blistering form." - Review of "Sell out Three Tunn gig" - www.myspace.com/motherearthrockband

Saturday 5th March - "The Kill"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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COUNCILLORS RECEIVE £5k LESS IN DARLINGTON

Dear Sir,
I thank Mr J. M. Gowland for the kind words he wrote about me last week under the heading 'In Praise of a Good Councillor' and I am immensely proud and lucky to be one of two Councillors for the Heighington & Coniscliffe Ward within Darlington Borough Council.
Mr Gowland is correct when he says that I work seven days a week and make myself available to everyone and

anyone who needs advice, support or a voice to push their cause. My Councillor work is based on the simple philosophy that my constituents come first, before my Political Party which is Conservative. Everything that I try to do is for the good of a constituent or for the wellbeing of the community – time is not an issue. However, I must correct Mr Gowland's misconception that I am paid £20,000 per

year. He has probably read about the allowances for Durham County Councillors and assumed allowances paid to Darlington Borough Councillors are the same. The amount of money a Councillor receives starts with a basic allowance which is different from one Local Authority to another. Further payments through the Special Responsibility Allowance, costs to cover the payment of a Carer, Travelling Expenses and Subsidence Expenses can be applied for. The Basic Allowance for a Durham County Councillor is £13,300. The Basic Allowance for a Darlington Borough Councillor is £8,027 After Income Tax and National Insurance deductions I receive the princely sum of £587.31 per month. From this allowance I pay all fuel costs, car expenses, raffle tickets and donations to support the groups and charities throughout my Ward. I do not claim, and never have claimed for any other allowance during my 12 years as a Ward Councillor. All councillors allowances can be checked on your Local Authority website as it is a legal obligation for all Councils to make this information available to the general public. Should anyone have questions regarding the time I spend in my duties as a Ward Councillor please contact me either by telephone or e-mail.
Councillor Gerald G. Lee



Support for Woodham Development

Dear Sir,
I read all the articles regarding disapproval of this development, I feel these come from a part of the community that are quite well off. There is always another side to all stories, what about the upside, i.e. work in construction, Hotel staff, Golf Course staff etc, plus more revenue from the Council Tax? If a roundabout were built in the correct place it would do everyone a favour if it had good lighting and would slow down traffic coming from Rushyford and going left towards Newton Aycliffe. As for seeing Sheds Trampolines etc everyone has to live! I live in Woodham and I am retired but I feel any construction is going to provide work and more money into the local community cannot be a bad thing. Drawing plans and designs aren't cheap, so give Washington Developments a chance. Well done to the Councillors that voted for it, they aren't hiding are they? GET THE PROJECT APPROVED,
Terry F

Struggling With Debt?

Dear Sir,
My attitude to life was very bleak. As a single parent without any family around I found it difficult to be the Mam I wanted to be. I felt alone and felt guilty, especially when I couldn't pay my debts or pay for school trips. Then someone from Christians Against Poverty helped me and took all the pressure from my shoulders. I don't exaggerate when I say my world changed, and so did my children's. They have all been on a few school trips and days out. I even had savings in my CAP account! I feel great, and people see me and can see how much I have changed. I am going to be a Grandmother soon and I have support from CAP and many new friends I have made. My family are blessed; we are happy and really enjoying life without the debt, and without the bills keeping me awake. We have a brighter future! My children say they have noticed a big change in me, and they feel a lot happier themselves. Anyone struggling with debt should contact Bede Feechan who is the Newton Aycliffe CAP Centre Manager by ringing their freephone number 0800 3280006

Town Organisations Must Not Miss out on Free Stall

The Town's Rotary Club are organising a Community Fair on Saturday 14th May, 10am-4pm. They are offering FREE table space to all local organisations to promote their activities and increase membership. Over 100 stalls packed the Leisure Centre last time and those interested should fill in the application form below to avoid disappointment. There are also opportunities for dancing, performing and other groups to give displays.

COMMUNITY FAIR 2011

APPLICATION FORM

We wish to apply for a stand ☐

We want to perform/give a demonstration ☐

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Contact (s) Name:

Address

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Brief Description of activity:

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Thursday 17th Menu

Chicken Mushroom Crust - £2
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TOWN'S INNER WHEEL CLUB HELP OPTIONS PROJECT



The Options Project managed by the Pioneering Care Partnership provides support to adults with learning and/or physical disabilities. The project provides educational and social opportunities to promote independence, choice and personal development. Activities have included workshops on independent living skills, adult education sessions, visits to gym, rock climbing, pub lunches and residential trips to the Lake District. The Options Project is very grateful to Newton Aycliffe Inner Wheel Club who have kindly donated £200 to help them further their work. The money was raised from a Quiz Night organised by the Inner Wheel Club. President, Mrs Pat Maxwell, said "Newton Aycliffe Inner Wheel Club is happy to help the Options Project. We enjoyed our visit and were impressed with the work that

they do." There is also an Options Social Club which is open to any adult over 18 years old who has a disability. It meets fortnightly at the Pioneering Care Centre on Thursday evenings from 6-8pm and costs £2. For more information on the Options Project please contact 01325 321234 or email enquiries@pcp.uk.net

WOOL FOR CHARITY

Do you have any unwanted wool, material, buttons, knitting needles etc? If so you could be helping the British Heart Foundation by dropping them off at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre opposite Tesco for the attention of Zara.

Bishop Auckland Town Hall events

Comedy Night Hilarity Bites
Seymour Mace, Rob Deering & Chris Ramsey
Friday 25 February 8.00pm.
Tickets: £8 advance £10 on the door.



Comedy Night Hilarity Bites
Richard Herring: 'Christ on a Bike'
Friday 1 April 8.00pm.
Tickets: £10 in advance or £12 on the door.



Comedy and Magic
Barry and Stuart
Friday 17 June 8.00pm
Not suitable for children under 14.
Tickets: £10 in advance or £12 on the door.



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Parking at Pease Way Surgery

Dear Sir,
I would ask Mike Spence of Pease Way Surgery how many of his staff walk, bike or bus it to work? Yet he wants sick people to do so!
I can manage to get to my front door and can just walk from the Car Park into the Surgery, but that is it!
The bus stop may be near the Surgery, but there isn't one at my front door! Then again I cannot climb onto a bus, let alone find a bus stop and wait in all weathers for it to arrive.
Realistically the doctor should be visiting me, but I make the effort. All patients of my great age used to get regular visits from their doctor, but those days are gone.
I have stopped using my car as I can never get parked at the Surgery so I get someone to drop me off or use a taxi. I challenge Mike Spence to leave his privileged car parking space to see if he can

find a space on his return. Have they thought of restricting the time on parking with a clamping system for those that stay too long? It only seems a short while since the last extension was built and car parking was reduced on the site. I don't know what this fantastic new

build will offer, but I wonder if it is all necessary if in the future we find we have to consult by telephone, e-mail and on-line. Perhaps eventually we will just have a Call Centre without the need for a Practice Manager or a Surgery.
J. Johnson

Surgery Car Parking

Dear Sir,
I felt I must reply to the article in the Newton News from Mike Spence, Practice Manager of Pease Way Medical Centre. I was appalled at the apparent disregard that he has for the people who come to the surgery.
His utopian idea that the sick, elderly, infirm and young children can cycle or use the bus, whatever the weather or time of year to receive medical support, would be totally laughable, if not for the fact

that it is totally insulting. I wonder whether he has had to stand in inclement weather for half an hour or more, whilst feeling ill, to wait on public transport. For anyone who has health issues, I am sure that it would not be an option.
Maybe more of the Pease Way Centre patients will have to call the doctors out on a home visit instead.
As he states in his article there is a bus stop right outside the surgery on both sides of the road, but that in itself promotes parking problems outside the surgery, as a good deal of the road is taken up with the bus parking lane. As for the car park across the road by the Recreation Centre, that is quite a busy car park and again quite a distance for the elderly and infirm to walk.
For him to say that we should remember that some GP surgeries do not have private parking may be true, but the two other main surgeries do have quite extensive car parks practically attached to their buildings, i.e: Bewick Crescent and Cobblers Hall, so that argument is totally invalid.
I don't know how Mr Spence gets to work every day, maybe he does cycle or use local transport, but you know I don't really care, what I do care about is his attitude to the people he works for (the patients). His business acumen may be top class, but I feel he would be better employed moving his talents to the manufacturing or industrial sector as his attitude to the "health" side of the Health Service is non-existent.
Regards
PAT NASH (Mrs)

Save the View at Woodham

Dear Sir,
As someone who uses the Midbridge Road route into Newton Aycliffe regularly, I think it would be a great shame if new houses and a hotel were to be built along there. It is probably the most attractive approach to the town and nice to see the green open spaces of the golf course in amongst the wooded areas. I have even seen deer grazing along close to the side of the road. I wonder what will happen to them? Would the best solution be for the members of the club to buy the course from the property developers that own it thus securing and safeguarding its future as a green area for leisure which I believed the former Aycliffe Development Corporation always wanted?
V Crichton
School Aycliffe



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Dear Sir,
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In addition to this, I find that calling Newton Press is always quick and easy, and that everyone is friendly, professional and helpful (again unlike some of their competitors).
All staff are very experienced and ahead of their game, which means that they are able to offer suggestions that I would not have thought of.
Thank you, and best wishes for the future.
Simon Barker
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Labour Party Lost It's Social Conscience

Dear Sir,
There was a time when "Old" Labour led from the front on social issues. A recent example was on the County Council's decision to close Care Homes.
It was also proposed that the new Unitary Authority would have one Councillor per ward, but that was dropped doubling the cost of councillors who then compounded this by voting to increase their own allowances.
And in the doom and gloom coming from County Hall has anyone proposed reducing the number of councillors and allowances in line with the 1,600 job losses they will be voting for? What hypocrisy!
Is there any doubt that if the electorate had a choice and the power to decide on job losses or Councillor numbers and expenses, which one of them they would cut? There was a time when this would be proposed

Councillors Allowances Range from £3k to £13k

Dear Sir,
Oh dear! Poor John Clare and his vision of the Four Horseman! My advice to him would be turn his mind to a more positive and constructive scenario instead of his persistent negative and somewhat destructive outlook.
If "Durham is the poorest county and getting one of the biggest cuts" how does he justify the current Councillors' Allowances?
Recent articles published in different daily papers have captured my attention and interest.
1) Daily Mail, February 15th. a table showing an increase in percentage terms of Councillors' Basic Allowances' from 2004/5 to 2009/10 The percentages ranged from an increase of 40% to 158%. The North East was not recorded in this article.
2) Northern Echo, February 8th. published a more representative section of the North East, including Durham, Darlington and North Yorkshire.
The table revealed that the lowest Allowance was paid in Richmondshire i.e. £2,990 and the highest of £13,000 paid as a Basic Allowance to Durham Councillors. This is £4,000 higher than Darlington and North Yorkshire Councillors. Not much equality here, though I understand that since 1995 Town Halls can set up their own payment schemes for Councillors. (Please note!) Some authorities have chosen to freeze allowances in light of severe budget cuts.
Simon Henig (Leader of DCC) is quoted as saying that "So far, nobody has proposed a reduction, although anyone could make this proposal at the Finance Meeting at the end of

the month. He goes on to say Durham's Allowances are on a par with unitary authorities in Bradford and Leeds.
Perhaps John Clare would like to encourage at least one of his colleagues to make such a proposal to take a reduction in not just Basic Allowance but all others.
Perhaps Durham Councillors could make a gesture of goodwill and appreciation of the severity of these threatened cuts to community services and take a lead in setting an example to other Authorities without saying we are the excuse of saying our allowances are "on a par with" other Authorities.
I wonder what savings could be made which could just possibly relieve some of the "impossible pressure" on front line adults' and children's services"?
P.C.

LET'S DISCUSS POLITICS

Dear Sir,
I just want to set John Clare straight as I never said "politics is boring" and I never said it doesn't worry me that the country is in the state it is.
He should not assume I don't "understand" what's going on. I am a professional female in a good career with a major company.
He has obviously misunderstood me, in fact. I did not say Politics was boring... simply that your letters trying to put other people down, are boring.
I authorise Newton News to pass on my e-mail address and contact details to you, if you would like to discuss anything about politics. Hopefully you will see that your "holier than thou" attitude is uncalled for.
Samantha Mitchell

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Aycliffe Muay Thai Reach the Heights



The Aycliffe Muay Thai Club is going from strength to strength, the club has attended numerous interclub tournaments during 2010 where both senior and junior members have proudly represented the club giving excellent performances all round.

The club has recently won a number of title belts. Peter Steed has won both Northern and Pro-am British National titles and will be representing the club along with Stuart Taylor in Thailand at the World Championships/Asian games in March. Any donation towards this would be greatly appreciated.

Money raised from a sponsored walk in the Lake District, Christmas party raffles and a generous donation from the Lee Smith Memorial Fund have allowed the club to purchase their first boxing ring which will be used by both senior and junior members to improve

their ring skills. The club is also planning to hold their own interclub gym shows, bringing other Muay Thai clubs to Newton Aycliffe.

Kru Sean Dooney and all members of the club want to thank everyone who completed the walk and to the sponsors, and a huge thank you to the Lee Smith Memorial Fund for the donations.

The club is looking for sponsors and would like to hear from anyone willing to support the club moving forward in encouraging even more junior and senior members into the world of Muay Thai.

Senior Sessions (14+ years):

Sunday: 10:30 – 12:00
Aycliffe Scout Centre
Tuesday: 18:00 – 19:30
Aycliffe Scout Centre
Thursday: 19:15–20:30
Methodist Church
Neville Parade

Junior Sessions (6-13 years):

Monday: 18:00 – 19:00
Aycliffe Youth Centre
Thursday: 18:00–19:15
Methodist Church
Neville Parade
For more information please contact Assistant Peter Steed on 07592 764 115 or steedys11@yahoo.co.uk



WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CLUB STARTS



Thirty students were introduced to wheelchair basketball at Greenfield School recently. Kathryn Eaason County Coach visited Greenfield School with 30 specialised sporting wheelchairs.

Wheelchair Basketball was indeed a big success with all who took part. Following this introduction we are hoping to travel to the Louisa Centre, Stanley on the 1st April 2011 to take part in the County Durham Wheelchair Basketball Festival and eagerly await the start date for the club based at Spennymoor Leisure Centre in March.

PREMIER WASTE SPONSOR TWO AYCLIFFE GIRLS TEAMS

Girls' football in Newton Aycliffe has been given a boost after scoring sponsorship from the region's largest independent waste management firm.

Premier Waste Management based in Aykley Heads in County Durham has helped two 7-a-side teams for under 11s and under 12s to reach their goals, as they compete in the Russell Foster Tyne and Wear Youth League.

Given the strength, quality and depth of the talent available in Newton Aycliffe, two promising squads instead of one were formed in October 2009 under the guidance of head coach, Berni Borsberry, and the girls have been training hard for their first competitive season.

Berni Borsberry, head coach, said: "The aim of the football club is affordable football for all ages, gender and ability but the cost of a new strip does tend to stretch our finances.

It was therefore a welcome boost for the girl's teams when Premier Waste stepped in to purchase our new strip. We hope this is the start of a long friendship between the company and the club" Adrian Denton, Divisional Director at Premier Waste Management, added: "As a responsible company, we believe that businesses have a duty to be actively involved with the communities in which they operate. That's why we are supporting youth football in Newton Aycliffe.

"Sport is a great way for young people to learn and enjoy themselves. These two local youth football teams are incredibly dedicated and talented. We are delighted to be able to support them." The squad trains indoors at Woodham CTC on Tuesdays at 5.30 – 6.30pm. New players at all ages are most welcome, contact Berni Borsberry on: 07939 045242



LOCAL SPORT

GREENFIELD BASKETBALL TEAM IN COUNTY FINAL



Adam Winterburn, Harry Maxfield, Callum Ridley, Jake Kell, Joe Stott, Sam McIver

In January, Greenfield Year 8 and 9 Boys basketball team played an excellent tournament to be crowned Sedgfield Champions. Well done.

Joe Riley from the Durham Wild Cats said the Greenfield team were very hard working and well organised, they showed a superb work ethic throughout and showed great respect for the opposition.

The boys were in training for the County Final which was held on the 15th February. Greenfield U14 Girls Basketball team came second in the U14 Girls County Final to Durham

Johnston recently. Lets hope the boys can go one better! Good luck.

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LETTER

Parking Fines in Darlington

Dear Sir,
Newtonians should be aware of what is happening in Darlington as they have employed a lot of what look like Garden Gnomes running about the town sticking parking fines on vehicles where they have parked free for years, with no problems.
As I understand it the Council have taken over from the Police as they were not executing their duty. It appears they have made an income of £90,000 in six weeks since the take over. Is this a way of retrieving what the Government has cut from their budget? My advice is KEEP CLEAR OF DARLINGTON!
William Milling

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SCHOOLCHILDREN VISIT 3M'S AYCLIFFE PLANT

Primary school pupils had the chance to see how the science they learn in the classroom is

put into action by industry during a visit to the 3M plant at Aycliffe.

Twenty seven children from Years 5 & 6 at Aycliffe Village School were taken on a tour of the plant, which manufactures respirators and products for the vehicle aftercare market. The visit was organised as part of the University of York's Children Challenging Industry (CCI) Project,

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LOST Mini car keys and 1 house key. Lost in Tesco's on 15th February. Tel 07800 745136

LOST CAT



Last seen Thursday evening the 10th February at Scott Place. Wearing an orange reflective collar with fishbone motif. Please look in your gardens, sheds, garages, boxes etc, as she likes to hide/sleep in dark areas such as these.

Tel: 01325 301852
Mob: 07909 545280

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Christiana Charlton-Johnston shows pupils (l-r) Danielle Ord, Anya Thornton and Alexandra Armstrong some of the valved respirators made at the 3M site.

which uses a combination of classroom-based training and liaison with manufacturing

companies to improve the quality of science learning and teaching and engage pupils in science.

The children are doing projects in school on enterprise and the manufacturing supply chain. Deputy Headteacher Ann Brown said it had been fascinating for them to witness these subjects brought to life.

"They have seen the plant from the outside and it was fabulous for them to be able to go inside and experience what the production process is all about," she commented. "The 3M staff were wonderful at explaining how the basic raw material becomes the finished product."

Maired Minto, the 3M site's community relations liaison, coordinated the visit with a number of colleagues. She added: "Supporting

the teaching of science, technology, engineering and maths subjects is the key theme of 3M's community programme. "We were very pleased to welcome the pupils, who showed great interest in what we had to tell them."

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In Memoriam

JEAN KIPLING Died 17th February 2010. Treasured memories of a dear Wife, Mother and Grandmother. Always in our thoughts and sadly missed. Husband Lawrence, Son Robyn, Bev, Andrew and Ashlyn.
MAUREEN LEE 21-2-2006. I remember the first time I saw you and the day God made you mine. We remember the last time we saw you and will till the end of time. Murvyn and loving Sons, Stephen, Clifford and Brian
BOB KENNEDY 23-2-2009. Good night God Bless, love you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you always. R.I.P. Win and family xxx
PAUL STEVENS 17th February 2004. No length of time can dim the past, too many memories hold it fast. These memories of you are proudly kept, you are too special a "Son" to ever forget. Always an emptiness. Love, Mam and Dad
PAUL STEVENS Although we did not know you well, we know from the stories we are told, we would have had a lot of fun together. Love, Kelly and Daniel
PAUL STEVENS Written in your stars, a million miles away. A message for you Brother. Season's come and go, my thoughts will never change, I miss you so much. Love, Julie
JOHN ARRAN HUGHES 21st January 1971 to 22nd February 1992. As each day dawns and starts anew and each day ends we think of you. No one sees our broken hearts, that lies beneath our smiles, you are missed and loved so very much. Love forever, Mam, Dad, Garry, Paul, Vicky and special love from Daughter Maxine xxx
YVONNE SCOWEN 22nd February 2010. Mam. You have been gone from our lives for a year, but you are in our hearts forever. Cheri, Gary, James, Ben, Oliver, Carl, Val, Amy and Kate
YVONNE SCOWEN Died 22nd February 2010. A year has passed. Still the heartache doesn't go away. I long for you to walk through my door. For Sunday lunch or Saturday tea. I long for you to say "Is there anybody in?" or "I'm not staying long". You are missed every day. So many things have changed since you've been gone. But one thing will never change, I will always love and miss you. I search for you every day, but you are not there, only in my heart and in my memories. Love you Mam. Michelle and Dave
YVONNE SCOWEN (Nanna). We little knew that night, God was to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose, but you did not go alone, for part of us went with you, the day God called you home. Love from Natalie, Jessica and Laura
YVONNE SCOWEN (Great Nanna). God will you please pick a bunch of flowers for our Nanna and place them in her arms. Love, Megan and Darcie

Birthday Remembrance

JAMES BERNARD McKAY (17th February 1929). Special thoughts of you Dad on your birthday. Love always, Alicia xxxx
JAMES BERNARD McKAY Happy birthday Grandad. Love from Dean, Wayne and Ricky xxxx
JAMES BERNARD McKAY (17th February 1929). To our Dad and Grandad, God bless and keep you in his care. Miss you so much. All our love, Daughter Heather & Grandson Christopher x
JAMES BERNARD McKAY (17th February 1929). As I openend my eyes this morning, I looked to the Heavens above. I whispered Happy Birthday Jim and send you all my love. The things you gave me I will cherish forever. The things you taught me are in my heart forever. I miss our friendship in every way, but now we are sepearated and a long time apart, you will be forever in my heart. Sending you all my love, God bless. Your loving Wife, Heather xxxx

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ALEXANDER Happy 30th birthday on 18th February. Love from Grandma
NICOLE WETHERIDGE Happy birthday "sweetcheeks". 7 today! Enjoy your weekend, all our love from Mam, Dad, Danni and Roman xxx

Colin McNeillie

Happy 50th Birthday
 22nd February 2011
 Love and best wishes from all the family xxxx

Happy 50th Birthday Dad
 Love Adam and Daniel
 xxxxx

Obituary

MLATILIK 12th February, suddenly at home, of Newton Aycliffe. Josef, aged 86 years, beloved Husband of the late Sheila, dearly loved Father to Michael and Alison. A devoted Grandfather to Michelle. Funeral to be held on Tuesday 22nd February. Will friends please meet at 3.45pm for Service and Cremation in Darlington Crematorium. Flowers can be sent to the Co-operative Funeral Care, Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe

Thank You

THE FAMILY of the Wilbert Ewin wish to thank John Meynell's Funeral Directors for their help and guidance. Vicar Julie Wing for a lovely Service. The Royal British Legion for the hospitality and support. Thank you to all relatives and friends who attended

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Kay Hughes



Happy 16th Birthday Kay
 Now a young lady - WOW !!! Hope you have a wonderful time with your friends. Lots of love from Nan and Grandad xxxx

Alexander Abraham



Happy 30th Birthday
 18th February 2011
 Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Matthew, Graham, Karina and Lauren xx

Alex Fraser



Happy 18th Birthday
 All our love from Mam, Colin, Ellie, Archie, and Rosie and all the family xx

Alex Fraser



Happy 18th Birthday
 Happy birthday to a wonderful Son on his 18th. Love you loads, Dad, Joannah, Ellie, Mica and Callum xxx
Happy 18th birthday to a very special Grandson. Lots of love from Grandma and Granddad xxx
Happy 18th birthday Alex. Lost of love from Auntie Linda, Uncle Dave, Lauren, Kate and Chris xxx
Congratulations on your 18th birthday Alex. Lots of love, Auntie Caroline, Jack, Michael, Olivia and Jack xxxxxxxx

Mackenzie Jackman



Happy 13th Birthday
 24th February 2011
A Teenager at Last!
Hope you have a great birthday. All our love, Mum and Dad xxxx
Hope you have a fab 13th birthday Macca. Love from Madison and Murphy xxxx
Happy birthday Mackenzie, a teenager at long last! Lots of love from Grandie, Grandad and Rose, Nan and Davy, Grandad and Lesley, Uncle Simon, Auntie Mireille, Bryn and Aron, Great Grandad Jackman and all your Family and Friends xxxx

Abbey



Happy 15th Birthday
 To our beautiful Daughter Happy 15th birthday Abbey. Love from Mam, Dad, little Sister Leah

Jack Lucas Conyers



Happy 3rd Birthday
 20th February 2011
 Happy 3rd birthday to our precious little boy. Love you millions. Mummy, Daddy, Stephen, Claire, Lucy and Daniel xxx

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or our office at: **NEWTON PRESS** (Aycliffe Business Park)

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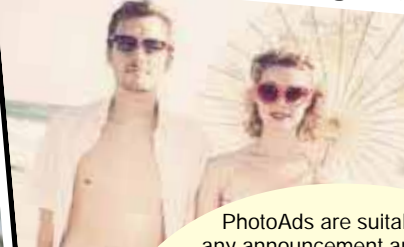
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Alice Springs



Happy 21st Birthday
 10-10-10
 to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden
 Congratulations Mar on 1st Jan
 hters, Gra.

PhotoAds are suitable for any announcement and are preserved forever on our website www.newtonnews.co.uk
 We are currently working on an archive site which will bring you ALL the past issues of the Newton News as far back as 1948!

BRITISH TITLE FOR AYCLIFFE FIGHTER

MMA fighter Gary Sivills, who trains at Phoenix Thai Boxing Club, won the British Light Heavy Weight title on the 5th February. Gary is one of many MMA fighters who attend the Phoenix gym to learn Thai Boxing. It was a hard fight over 2x5 minute rounds and Gary showed great skill on the floor.

Gary follows in the footsteps of other MMA Champions who train at the Aycliffe Phoenix Gym, such as Curt Warburton, Jonny Bilton and Bantam Weight Champion Davey Grant. The Phoenix Club will be starting its own MMA classes on the 15th March, taught by Paul Downes and Davey Grant. Both lads have a wealth of knowledge in MMA/Jujitsu. This is going to be a great Partnership with The Phoenix Thai Boxing Club.

For more details contact Gary Mcallister 07812 737 718.



LOCAL SPORT

SWEET CALL-UP FOR TOWN STRIKER

After successful trials in Hull and Leicester, striker Michael Sweet will join the England Clubs for Young People (CYP) squad at a training camp in Tenerife this weekend, making the last 16 from players around the country. He will represent England against Scotland, Wales and USA in a tournament to be held at Durham City in June.

Aycliffe Under-18s manager Paul Jarps said: "We're very proud of Michael's achievement. He is a dedicated young man who lives and breathes football. He already represents Durham County FA and Durham County School's FA Under-18's teams but this has to be a fantastic feather in his cap to now represent his country."

"Newton Aycliffe FC Under-18's and our sponsors, Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP), would like to pass on their best wishes to Michael."

Past players to play for England CYP have included current England and Manchester United star Michael Carrick and Everton's Jermaine Beckford. Many other players have gone on to play professionally, including former Aycliffe Under-18's player Adam Robinson, who is now in his second year at Bradford City FC.

The more recent crop of players from the North East to have played for England CYP has



included local lads Michael Richardson who is at Newcastle United, Dan Burn who made his debut for Darlington before Christmas, Danny Holden who is now at Hartlepool and Mark Cullen who is at Hull City.

Sweet began his career at the tender age of six when he was spotted by local coach Paul Bielby and went on to play for Darlington 21st All Stars and later Mount Pleasant Rangers, where he was the top scorer with 29 goals in 17 games in the TJFA first division.

Throughout his school years he played for Darlington Town, and went on to play for Durham County – which he still does. Having previously played for Darlington FC's Centre of Excellence, he has had trials with Middlesbrough, Hartlepool United, Leeds United, Grimsby and Carlisle United, and while with Boro he played in the prestigious Nike Cup in 2009.

After leaving school, Sweet managed to secure a place on Gateshead College's football scholarship programme, attending three trials and pre-season training throughout the summer holidays.

He has gone on to score several hat-tricks for the England College's Northern Premier league team, managed by Paul Bryson, often playing against players three years his senior. When Newton Aycliffe Under-18's manager Paul Jarps contacted him last summer, Sweet jumped at the chance to play for his local team in the Durham FA Under-18's league.

Sweet attended England Boys trials in Hull and Leicester and is now preparing to jet off to Tenerife with Alan Watson's side for a training camp this weekend, followed by the international tournament over the weekend of Friday June 17 to Monday June 20.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY COURSES

Half Term is coming, how do you keep the children amused? Why not let them take part in one of our holiday courses here at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex? We are offering Football, Archery, Dance Mats and Activity Days for children aged 8-15 years. We are also offering a Mini Activity Session and Dance Mat Fun for little ones aged 4-7 years.

For further information on any of the above courses or to book your place, contact Reception on 01325 300600, but hurry as all courses have limited availability and are very popular.

Councillors Back Aycliffe F.C.

John Moran and Sarah Iveson, Durham County Councillors for Aycliffe East, have handed over £500 between them from their Members Initiative Fund. The cash will go towards Aycliffe's ground improvements programme and erection of a second stand at Moore Lane Park.

They're also planning to invest in a new portacabin for guests and officials and other improvements to enhance the arena. Cllr Moran said: "I'm a big football fan and when I read about the club's appeal for ground improvements we just wanted to do our bit to help. Sarah and I are delighted to help out the town's thriving football club."

Cllr Iveson added: "A town the size of Newton Aycliffe should have a good football club and a good ground to go with it, so we're just pleased we're able to help them develop Moore Lane Park and we look forward to seeing their continued development."

The club also received a donation of £1,000 from "Honest" John Hilton, generated from his charity stall in the town's Tuesday market, taking the club's ground development fund past the £3,000 mark. John Hilton didn't want us to make a big deal of his donation which shows what kind of guy he is – but his support is truly appreciated and he can be assured his money will be well spent on the ground over the coming months.

"We're looking forward to developing the ground this summer and hopefully gearing up for some big pre-season friendlies and first division football next season, as well as FA Cup football for the very first time," said Gary Farley. Aycliffe had to come back from two goals down at home to Horden Colliery Welfare last Saturday but then hammered them by six clear goals to preserve their lead at the top of the second division.

The Newtonians were perhaps still reeling from their League Cup exit at the hands of local rivals



Spennymoor when they took to the field against 17th placed Horden at Moore Lane Park.

But top scorer Warren Byrne scored the first of four goals shortly after the half-hour mark before winger Paul Broom mopped up a loose ball from Byrne's missed penalty in first-half injury-time to draw Aycliffe level. Allan Oliver's side then put Horden to the sword after the break, with Byrne bagging another three and other goals from Broom, Dan Mellanby

and Fred Woodhouse.

After a lethargic start it was Aycliffe's biggest victory of the campaign and their second largest goal haul in Northern League history. Aycliffe go to Whitehaven on the west coast this weekend then face back-to-back away trips next week as well, at Crook on Wednesday night and Northallerton next Saturday.

• Aycliffe's January 200 Club draw went to number 18, with Luke Raine winning the £50 cash prize.

FIXTURES

Saturday 19th February: Whitehaven (A), 3pm
Wednesday 23rd February: Crook (A), 7.30pm
Saturday 26th February: Northallerton (A), 3pm
Friday 4th March: Darlington RA (H), 7.30pm
Wednesday 9th March: Thornaby (H), 7.30pm
Saturday 12th March: Team Northumbria (A), 3pm
Saturday 19th March: Brandon United (H), 3pm
Saturday 26th March: Seaham Red Star (A), 3pm

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