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Spectacular Freedom Parade in Aycliffe



A large crowd gathered on the Car Park opposite St. Clare's Church to witness the town's REME 102 Battalion exercise its right to the "Freedom of Great Aycliffe". Since the last parade in 2005 the battalion has been engaged in operations all over the world including Iraq and Afghanistan and the parade last Saturday gave the townspeople an opportunity to applaud our soldiers as they marched through the town centre.

Reviewing Officer Brigadier M. J. Boswell. The Mayor inspected and addressed the troops before they marched off led by stirring music of The Pipes and Drums of the 102 Battalion. The Mayor said the town was proud of its association with the REME and gave a warm welcome to all members of the Company. Among the 100 guests were local civic leaders including our MP Phil Wilson and his partner Margaret. An Army Lunch for guests, soldiers and their families was served at the Armoury in Northfield Way. The Mayor exchanged gifts with the Brigadier to mark this splendid occasion.

Thanks to Arnie Lindley & Arun Chandran for photos. More on page 2 and the Newton News website.

PUBLIC MEETING

The County Council is sending a team of officers to the Public Meeting at St. Mary's Church on 7th July at 7pm to answer any queries on the proposed County Plan. The other item on the agenda is Wind Farms. Everyone welcome to attend.

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Tue: Spaghetti Bolognese and Salad

Wed: Roast Chicken Dinner

Thu: Mixed Salad

Fri: Minced Steak Dinner

Sat: Sausages, Eggs, Chips and Beans

Sun: Roast Beef Dinner

Call Ian or Lesley on **01325 300203** to arrange your Meals On Wheels

DON'T BE LATE FOR CIVIC TEA PARTY

Yes the Civic Hall in Shildon will be holding it's first ever tea-party when Centrestage take to the stage in there production of "Alice in Wonderland", from Thursday 14th to Sunday 15th July.

The story follows Alice's magical journey through "Wonderland" as she becomes very curious and follows the White Rabbit, and then her great adventure begins. Join Alice in Wonderland as she meets some very strange creatures from the White Rabbit who is always late, the very busy Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum, the Mouse who always wants to sleep, the dancing, but very rude flowers to the Royal Family with a very, very, loud evil Queen of Hearts.

So will Alice really be in Wonderland or will she be very much like the Mouse

and dream the adventure away? Whilst you all decide throughout the show, there will be plenty of great music for ALL ages to enjoy, and who knows we might all be dancing through this Wonderland of strange Tea Parties and even stanger Court cases. So if you are young or old, come along for a great couple of hours entertainment, Thursday/Friday at 7.30pm or at the weekend with both shows starting at 2pm.

Show spokesperson and director Andrew Timmiss who is from our own town says, "this will be a great show for all the family, and we have kept our prices low so everyone can afford to see a show that has everything from dancing, comedy and of course a magical story."

So don't be a silly Rabbit, and be too late for this very important date (JULY 14th - 17th), give us a ring and pre book your seat which can be collected on the door before the show, pick up your phone today and ring 01388 774838 or 01325 313363 for the great tea party in Wonderland.

We have even cheaper seats available for the Thursday show, so give us a ring today, see you at the show, and remember "Don't be Late"

UMM ReUnion

A re-union is being arranged for office and shop floor workers of Underground Mining Machinery.

This will be held on Thursday 7th July from 8pm at Elm Road WMC, Shildon.

Further details from N. Stockley on 07528 449457.

REME Parade



RESIDENTS' MEETING

Linden Place Residents will hold a Meeting on 12th July from 6pm till 8pm at the Sure Start Building - Stephenson Way School. All Residents welcome

Car Boot Sale at the Castle

Freinds of Senior Citizens at Newton Aycliffe are holding a Grand Car Boot Sale at Walworth Castle on Sunday 17th July from 11am till 3pm.

Cars £8 - Vans £12. All must be pre-booked on 01325 313924. Food available all day.

Visit Walworth Castle Hair & Beauty Salon's Open Day and check out the special offers available.

Brass Afrik Performance

The world renowned Brass 2011 Community Tour is coming to County Durham, and Newton Aycliffe, with numerous artists performing at schools, town halls and community centres around the region. Greenfield Community and Arts Centre are privileged to host and welcome the community to the Brass Durham International Festival, which is showcasing a performance by Brass Afrik at the Greenfield Community and Arts Centre on Monday 4th July at 7:00pm.

Tickets are £3.50/£2.00 for concessions. For more information and to purchase tickets visit Greenfield Community and Arts Centre or Tel: 01325 379048.

Folk Group in Concert

Folk group 'High Force' will be in concert at Grange Road Baptist Church, Darlington (near Sainsburys) on Saturday 9th July starting at 7.30pm.

This well known group play a great variety of instruments including mandolin, mouth organs, double bass, bodhran, whistles, 6 and 12 string guitars, banjo, keyboard, bouzouki and violin.

They will play traditional folk music and some of their own compositions. Tickets can be obtained at the door or from the church conservatory. Cost £5.00. Further details from 01325 319591

GREENFIELD SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The summer holidays are being livened up by Greenfield Community and Arts Centre, with a wide range of activities and classes being provided for all ages throughout the traditional 6 week school holidays.

A packed programme includes: crazy crafts, tennis, breakdancing, cooking, performing arts, glass fusing, steel pans, Zumba and much more.

Places are limited so book your place now. Contact Greenfield Community and Arts Centre on 01325 379048 or visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk for further information.

VERY LATE NOTIFICATION OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, 2nd July is Fête Day in Middridge. Everything starts at 1.30pm and there will be the usual stalls with entertainment provided by the Aycliffe and Brancepeth Brass Band. At 2.15 we will have our Dog Show where they compete for the prize as the Mutt of Middridge.

BYERLEY Park School Summer Fair is on this Saturday 2nd July. There'll be lots of stalls, hots dogs, ice cream, football speed cage and lots of family fun, it runs from 11 am to 2 pm.

EDITOR: We regret the late notice of these two events and we do try to impress upon organisers the need to get notices of this type printed well in advance of the date of their occasion. We are often blamed when this happens but it is not our fault. Newton News is distributed over the weekend and some readers will obviously receive their copy too late to attend.

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ZUMBA with Jaime FITNESS

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
MONDAY	7.30pm - 8.30pm	The Education Village, Darlington
TUESDAY	6.45pm - 7.45pm	Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre, Bishop Auckland
	8.15pm - 9pm	
WEDNESDAY	6.30pm - 7.15pm	Greenfield School Sports Hall, Newton Aycliffe
	7.30pm - 8.30pm	
THURSDAY	8.00pm - 9.00pm	The Education Village, Darlington
FRIDAY	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Greenfield School Sports Hall, Newton Aycliffe
	7.30pm - 8.15pm	
SUNDAY	9.15am - 10.00am	Greenfield School Sports Hall, Newton Aycliffe
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THE TURBINIA

*** Saturday Night Live ***

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Saturday 2nd July - "RUSS TIPPINS"

"His first set was done with an acoustic guitar, and it has to be said it was just like an intimate unplugged session you see on MTV, the atmosphere was amazing (as was his guitar playing) all the songs he covered were ideally suited for an acoustic set, Russ just oozed confidence. The second set was back to the electric guitar and back to rock, all the classic rock bands were covered, Floyd, Zep, AC/DC, Purple, Stones, Santana. In summary this was the best one man show we had seen in a pub." - DAVY'S ROCK PAGE review

Saturday 9th July - "INSANITY"

"Two great sets with something a bit different - early Sabbath, Pearl Jam, Nirvana, Foo Fighters and a brilliant version of Queens Of The Stone Age 'No One Knows', were amongst the stuff insanity served up. Not all my cup of char, but thoroughly enjoyable. I was most impressed with John 'I only play rhythms really' ... yeah, right!!! Trigg on guitar. Great, clean, but dirty tone playing in a variety of tunings and some real tasty phrasing and playing. Definitely a less is more style, but some lush soloing that was even more impressive considering the lack of saturation, each note ringing out nicely. Excellent stuff!!!"

GIG PIT REVIEW - www.insanity-rock.com

Saturday 16th July - "FACELIFT"

"Not the re-furb - THE BAND!!"

"Not a bad night crowd wise, a lot of regulars rejoining, but a few new faces which is always good to see. Band started with T Rex, '20th Century Boy', followed by Bad Company. Fratello had there all boppin in their seats. Paranoed next followed by a rocked up version of 'Spin Me Right Round', and Gilly missed it they played PRIEST, Free n Therapy were followed by Billie Jean, Green Day and Motorhead finished a crackin first set. Second half kicked off with 'Saturday Nights Alright For Fighting', 'Whiskey In The Jar', Cult, Purple, more Lizzy - did an excellent drum solo on a bass guitar, saw one on me. For encores we were treated to Led Zep, Sex Pistols and Metallica. Great band, great mix of music, classics to get them singing and dancing and a few unusual tracks they did in their own impressive style. They will be returning'

GIG-PIT review of a previous gig at THE TURBINIA

For more information on bands go to **www.turbiniapub.co.uk** or **313034**

Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

Students Help 'Smile For A Child' Charity



Students from Woodham Community Technology College are pictured with Chris Read from the 'A Smile for a Child' charity, presenting him with a cheque for £550 raised by students.

The aims of the charity are to provide grants for disabled and disadvantaged children, to allow them to participate and progress in sport, this can be to a club, an organisation or to an individual child.

The £550 donated by Woodham Community Technology College will allow for the full purchase of a walking frame for a young person to assist them with their mobility.

With this donation, students from Woodham Community Technology College have raised nearly £5,000 for a variety of charities during this academic year.

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MOTH & BUTTERFLY DAY AT AYCLIFFE NATURE PARK



Last Sunday on the Aycliffe Nature Park was a resounding success, as youngsters 3 to 13yrs came along for the Butterfly/Moth Day. Several families turned up too, some making a picnic out of perfect weather on the day.

Lots of creatures were found, beetles, spiders, grasshoppers and crickets, flies, bees and wasps, bugs, ladybirds, small frogs, and of course several kinds of butterflies and moths. Many of these were totally new to some of the kids who had never seen so many different varieties. It came as a surprise to many that what many thought were either a butterfly or moth, were in fact just the opposite.

This is what the Aycliffe Nature Park Association

and Newton Aycliffe RSPB Wildlife Explorers (ANPWEX) are trying to encourage....An appreciation of our natural heritage by our local population, especially the young people in the area, to whom this represents their future.

Several new members joined the Wildlife Explorers (WEX) on the day, which was excellent news, as the group is currently looking to increase its numbers. If anyone would like more information call Alan Warburton (group leader) on 315182.

One or two people took up the offer to bring their cameras along. One being respected amateur photographer/cameraman Bill Adams who

has recently moved onto the town from "down south". Bill has been taking footage from around the town, and hopes to eventually produce a presentation that can be distributed to local schools and organisations.

The grown ups too, were occupied, usually with healthy debates on nature and the environment, which invariably got around to wind farms. Let's say that in light of recent events these discussions got rather "interesting".

We will be having another "Day" down on the Nature Park on the last Sunday in July, pond clearing, and dipping. All are welcome to help out and as always, correct clothing should be worn. Refreshments will be provided and the activity starts at 2pm. For further information, contact Alan 01325 315182 or Dave 01325 317347.

PaintTechnics comes to Newton Aycliffe



A new business has opened in the Newton Aycliffe area, to meet all of your vehicle's cosmetic repair needs. A local family man, Nicholas Knox, has recently become a franchisee for the well-established PaintTechnics company, based in Lincoln. As the first franchisee, Nicholas is keen to get a good client base set up in the area and will be having a promotion weekend at the Co-op in Richmond on the 9th and 10th July.

Nicholas, 49, has lived in the Newton Aycliffe area for all of his life and has worked in the motor industry for over 30 years. He is pleased to now manage his own business, dealing with small to medium vehicle repairs

from his mobile van. He is able to offer repairs to bumper scuffs, vandal damage, alloy wheels and he also offers a valeting service and paint protection. These are all at very affordable prices, which are around 60% cheaper than traditional bodyshops and in many cases at less than your insurance excess.

Operating a mobile van means Nicholas can save you the inconvenience of courtesy cars and you would benefit from same day repairs rather than having your car off the road for several days.

If you are interested in a free no obligation estimate then please contact Nicholas on 07984 763318 or 01325 320692.

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Who Will be Newton News Website's Millionth Visitor?

Since launching Newton News on line on 12th June 2010 we have received almost one million visitors and the person who logs in as number one million will receive a prize.

Newton News has 1292 registered members and on average receives 18,300 hits per week. A large number of our visitors come from 69 countries all around the world where we presume Newtonians now live or work and wish to keep in touch with their home town.

In the last year Newton News has covered 3246 local stories and established 76 useful links for readers. We also have 252 followers on

Facebook. For some reason our issue on Friday 10th June 2011 was our busiest when 366 people were reading our website at the same time.

We have also posted an archive of past Newton News issues commencing with "The Newtonian" in 1948 when it was a single sheet, right up until 1977 showing the newspaper's development over the years. The work continues on scanning and uploading issues up till 2005 when we started to archive issues digitally (www.newtonnewsarchive.co.uk)

We are much encouraged by the interest this has generated and thank everyone for logging on.

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60 Years Marriage



Margaret & Ike (Sandy) Sanderson celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary on Thursday 23rd June and Mayor Mary Dalton called on them to bring congratulations on behalf of the townspeople. They were married on Saturday 23rd June 1951 at St Marys Church, High Harrington in Cumbria, followed by a Reception at the local Welfare Hall. The couple moved to Newton Aycliffe 47 years ago in May 1964 with their three children Robert, Ian &

Jacqueline. Within a year Margaret's Father & Mother (Jack and Margaret) joined them along with Bob and Ann, Margaret's Brother and Sister in-Law plus their two children Irene and John. It was a mass family move from West to East. Their first home was in Walker Lane quite close to the Iron Horse at a time when the Pub's rear car park was actually a bowling green. Their next home was in Dalton Way where they resided until all the children had flown the nest and moved into their current residence in Newburn Court. Both Margaret & Sandy worked at GEC from 1964 until their retirement. Margaret worked part time to look after the children. Sandy worked initially as an Auto Setter moving on to become Foreman & Paint Shop Superintendent. They have six grand children and seven great grandchildren. A party to celebrate their 60 years of marriage was held at Bishop Auckland Golf Club on Saturday 25th June.

SBH Dabble in Commercial Property

Businesses in County Durham could benefit from commercial lettings after a housing provider breathes new life into vacant shop units. Sedgefield Borough Homes (sbh), who own and manage over 40 commercial units as well as 8,500 residential properties across south Durham, have recently brought three commercial properties back into use. Traditional Butchers and Durham County Councils' East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership recently moved into their new premises on Church Road, Trimdon Village. sbh's partner Bullock also recently moved into an

unused unit in Shildon. Alan Smith, executive director of finance and governance, for sbh said: "Our local shopping areas are the hub of many communities and over the last few years we have seen a number of units close. It is important that sbh support local businesses by offering commercial units at reasonable rents in our neighbourhoods." To find out more about commercial units available from the housing association contact Gary Bainbridge on 01388 824 381 or email gary.bainbridge@sedgefieldboroughhomes.co.uk or visit www.sedgefieldboroughhomes.co.uk

Byerley Park School Wins Gold

Byerley Park Primary School, has been awarded a gold award by the Woodland Trust for getting involved in green activities including tree planting, reducing carbon emissions and recycling. The Green Tree Schools initiative, which has seen over 3,000 schools sign up since it was launched in 2008 offers schools the opportunity to bring the great outdoors, the wonderful world of wildlife and green issues into the classroom. The scheme rewards schools every time they participate in inspirational learning events, projects or initiatives provided by the Woodland Trust. Schools win awards



Hotel Staff Help Bubble Charity



The Aston Hotel Group General Manager Andrew Deighan is taking part in a sponsored long distance cycle ride from London to Paris on August Bank Holiday weekend with all proceeds to the Bubble Foundation. The staff at our local hotel held a Charity event last Thursday to support this cycle ride organised by Tracey Campbell. There were a variety of activities at the hotel including a 12 hour exercise-a-thon. Two of the team dressed as babies, cycling around the Business Park in the rain, another was

on a sponsored silence, and one went without her mobile phone for 24 hours. There was car washing throughout the day, a raffle supported by Bobbys Foods plus Adventure Valley. Buckets and donation boxes were spread around the hotel, and the support and response was amazing and raised approximately £500 with additional sponsor money still coming in. Mayor Mary Dalton went along to show her support. To find out more about this foundation please visit www.thebubblefoundation.co.uk

for participating in green activities, which include tree planting, reducing carbon emissions and recycling. The School has planted new trees in their school grounds and the children have grown trees from seeds, as well as recycling Christmas cards, visiting woods, reducing their carbon emissions and joining in various other Woodland Trust activities. Karen Letten, schools development officer, said: "The scheme promotes a range of opportunities, each designed to stimulate a child's imagination and sustain their interest in nature. The achievements of the school are recognised through an awards scheme in which they receive points for taking part in activities. As they reach milestones within the project they will receive bronze, silver and finally an attractive wooden plaque

which acknowledges they've achieved the environmental accolade of a gold award." Mrs Gargan, Head Teacher, said: "We are delighted to receive this award as recognition for our work in promoting learning of living in the outdoor environment. We have worked over the last few years to recycle much of our waste, plant bulbs and trees, reduce our carbon emissions and create an outdoor classroom. To receive this award gives pupils and staff a real sense of achievement for our work." Find out how your school can get involved at www.naturedetectives.org.uk/award The Woodland Trust is also offering free packs of trees to schools as part of its "More Trees, More Good" campaign, to plant 20 million trees across the UK every year for the next 50 years.

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Police Notice

Between 20.00 hours on Friday 24th June 2011 and 10.30 hours on Saturday 25th June 2011 a number of cars were damaged in MOORE LANE, NEWTON AYLCLIFFE. The vehicles have had deep scratches caused to the body work. The value of this damage is unknown at this time. One vehicle also had a tyre slashed. These acts are believed to be an act of mindless vandalism. Anyone with information is asked to contact PC 451 Emma MCCABE at NEWTON AYLCLIFFE POLICE OFFICE, tel 0345 60 60 365.

P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together

Middridge Village Hall
6.00pm
Monday 4th July

This is a special meeting where the big subject for the evening will be traffic speeding through the village. The meeting will give villagers an opportunity to put their views direct to Inspector Andrew Neil who will be attending the meeting especially to answer questions on that subject. They will also be able to meet our community support officer Matt Stasiak.

J&C COACHES

Forthcoming Attractions

DISNEY ON ICE - WORLDS OF FANTASY
Saturday 8th October 2011 - Newcastle Arena - £32.50

AN AFTERNOON AT THE BALLET
"La Fille Mal Gardee"
Saturday 15th October 2011 - Sunderland Empire - £32.50

CLIFF RICHARD
Friday 28th October 2011 - Newcastle Arena - £82.50

TINIE TEMPAH
Tuesday 1st November 2011 - Newcastle Arena - £35.00

SISTER ACT
Saturday 19th November 2011 - Sunderland Empire - £53.50

THE SATURDAYS
Saturday 10th December 2011 - Newcastle Arena - £38.50

STATUS QUO presents "QUOFEST"
Friday 16th December 2011 - Newcastle Arena - £49.50

CHRIS REA
Saturday 31st March 2012 - Newcastle Arena - £45.50

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SCRUTINY REVIEW PROPOSED CHANGES

Durham County Council’s Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to raise concerns about the closure of the midwife led maternity service at Bishop Auckland Hospital. County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust is putting into place a temporary closure of the unit due to staff sickness levels. The temporary closure is proposed to take place between 2nd July and 5th September. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will write to the trust to let them know of their concerns. Overview and Scrutiny Committees exist in every council. They are charged with examining the policies, performance and decisions of councils and their partners in the public sector, including the NHS

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NEW SECURE UNIT BUILT AT AYCLIFFE

Durham County Council has received £8.55m in Government funding to rebuild Aycliffe Secure Centre, in Newton Aycliffe, so that it meets nationally required standards. The centre is currently in an outdated 43 year old building, which no longer meets the necessary standards set by the Department for Education and Ofsted and would have faced possible closure – putting 170 jobs at risk. Members of Durham County Council’s Cabinet agreed plans to rebuild the centre in 2009 and early last year, following a robust procurement process, agreed to appoint Heron Brothers as the contractor to build the new facilities to ensure that construction workers, sub-contractors, facilities and equipment were sourced locally as much as possible. This brought huge benefits to the local economy, creating jobs for local people and providing contracts for local suppliers. In addition the development of the new facilities – which was essential in order to ensure the government’s standards are met – has safeguarded the jobs of 170



workers at the centre. The total cost of building the new facilities is £16m. More than half of this is covered by substantial government funding, with the remainder being paid for by income generated by the centre itself. It was built to meet national standards and throughout the design and build phase Durham County Council liaised closely with the Department of Education and Ofsted to ensure these standards were met.

Durham County Council currently has a contract to provide 30 beds for the Youth Justice Board, which monitors standards and procedures at the centre to ensure the terms of the contract are adhered to.

The centre houses some of the most vulnerable young people, many of whom have complex problems and need intensive support to help them turn their lives around. Many, but not all, of the young people there have committed offences and many are receiving treatment in the home to tackle issues such as substance misuse, mental health problems and self harm.

On average a young person stays at the centre for around 12 weeks, but the length of a person’s stay can vary from a few days to up to two years. While there, young people are challenged to change their offending or anti-social behaviour.

Gail Hopper, head of safeguarding and specialist services at Durham County Council, said: “The youngsters we care for cannot leave the secure unit for educational or recreational purposes and they are securely confined to their rooms at night.

“For this reason it is important that we recreate these opportunities so that they can continue their schooling and learn about what they can achieve and how they can change their lives.

Each of the bedrooms has a small interactive screen, which is used to access educational programmes, homework and offence reduction programmes. The screens can also be used for TV and as computers but access to this is tightly controlled by staff and is only given as a reward for improved behaviour.

The centre provides the young people with a mix of academic and vocational education in order to provide them with skills and knowledge that will lead them on to new opportunities

and hopefully prevent them from re-offending.”

Some of these young people have very complex issues and are often having a negative impact on their local communities as a result of their behaviour.

The centre is not a prison, it is a secure children’s home where young people are helped to change their behaviour and improve their lives. Their daily activities are tightly controlled and managed and any privileges must be earned.

Photo: Gail Hopper, Head of Safeguarding and Specialist Services and Gill Palin, Strategic Manager for Secure Services.

P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together

GREENFIELD WARD
Wednesday 6th July 2011
6.30pm

EVANGELICAL CHURCH
LADYBOWER
NEWTON AYCLIFFE

This will give residents the opportunity to speak with your beat officers and discuss any issues you may be having in your area.

Your local Councillors will also be in attendance as well as Council Wardens.

We look forward to seeing you there

Why not keep up to date with what the beat team by adding us on facebook, just search NEWTON AYCLIFFE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE

PCSO 6859 Mike WELCH
NEWTON AYCLIFFE
BEAT TEAM



A Vision of Aycliffe in 2030

by John D. Clare

The thriving Industrial Estate has by 2030 become a regional hub for economic activity and the basis for EVERYTHING. It has grown substantially in every aspect – area, number of firms, number of jobs.

Situated on the A1 corridor at the southern entrance to the County, it is nationally recognised as the warehousing base for the north-east region, and there is a constant flow of lorries in and out of the Estate.

The manufacturing sector has survived through difficult times, and Aycliffe Business park has also attracted a number of leisure providers (children’s play areas, bowling alley etc.). The number of jobs offered has increased to more than 12,000, and the Estate provides employment for people from all over South Durham.

The Estate’s success has become a factor attracting firms to set up their regional headquarters on a thriving Aykley Heads business park in Durham.

A direct road link to Teesside has been established by the construction of a ‘Darlington northern by-pass’ direct-route link road cross-country from the A1M roundabout to the A66.

Aycliffe’s population has grown proportionately to the economic growth of the Business Park. A number of discrete, private-housing areas have been built on the ‘Children’s Centre’ site. Surrounded by established woodlands and extensive ‘wild’ areas, they are healthy environmentally, and relaxing and attractive for the residents. The right-of-way has been reinstated to provide walking access into the Carrs.

Near the centre of town, there have been by 2030 significant housing developments. Through partnership working with Sedgfield Borough Homes, appropriate numbers of social housing have been provided for the less advantaged members of the community. They are within walking distance of the town centre, but a regular bus service provides sustainable access.

Even closer to the town centre facilities, large numbers of bungalows (including some sheltered housing schemes) provide homes for the older members of the community. The social services which support them are situated in offices in the Town Centre and other accessible locations.

On the western outskirts of the town, on the ‘Cobbler’s Hall’ site, are a limited number of executive houses. Again, they are intersected

by extensive eco-areas. The established woodlands around about provide an atmosphere of luxury and tranquillity. To the north of the town, Washington Developments have established a successful high-quality hotel and golf club, along with a further number of high-quality houses.

The C35 has been upgraded, not to carry industrial traffic, but sufficiently to cope with the increased volume of resident and commuter traffic to the A689 and the A1M. The upgrade includes environmental measures to allow safe travel of wildlife across the road into the environmental areas of the town.

Although environmentally the town had already achieved a mature and ‘green’ aspect by 2011, the environment has by 2030 further matured and is now recognised as being one of the most physically beautiful towns in the County. A Town Council with enhanced powers protects the environment through increased oversight over planning, and by coordinating significantly-increased voluntary activity.

Since the County Council gave it control over all the Council-owned environmental land on a long lease, the Town Council has administered a pro-active environmental policy which ensures sustainability. It is an active and critical member of the Tees Valley Biodiversity project.

With Council guidance and grant-aided investment, Aycliffe Village – the ‘jewel in the crown’ of the town – has begun to explore its potential as a tourist attraction.

The Town Centre by 2030 has become a place worth visiting. It has shed its ‘declining’ 60s new town’ feel and is open and architecturally-pleasing. Planners finally realised that they could never go back to the old ‘High Street’, and have developed a ‘retail-park’ form of shopping centre appropriate to the 21st Century.

A number of large and prestige retail outlets – including an electrical retailer and a furniture outlet – have built large stores, even though this involved demolishing substantial sections of the old shops. The Thames Centre has also been demolished, and the entire southern end has been roofed and turned into a shopping mall similar to the Cornmill in Darlington.

The town centre continues to incorporate a large open area on which a thriving market takes place every Tuesday. Burn Lane has been upgraded to handle the increased traffic to this thriving retail-park-cum-shopping-centre.

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Fashion Student's Auction for Charity

Local girl, Laura Walvin, currently studying Fashion at Westminster University, London is holding a Vintage Fashion Auction Show for charity on Friday July 15th. Vintage garments will be

auctioned throughout the evening with many other exciting extras.

A selection of musical talent will be performing whilst discounted High Street shoes will be sold along with many other vintage pieces and gifts. All proceeds will go to a Children's home and Old People's home in India, supported for many years by the local area, and also Age UK.

The event will be held at Bethany Centre, Woodham Village, at 7pm. Tickets are £5 adults and £3 children/students and are available from Total Garage, Woodham. For more information phone Laura on 01325 308284. We hope to raise as much money as possible for these charities which are close to our heart.



LEARNING ABOUT EGYPT



As part of their topic work Year 3 and Year 4 pupils at Aycliffe Village School have been learning about the Egyptians. The class, including the teachers, dressed in Egyptian style costumes for a day, ate a selection of fruit that would have come from the fields around the river Nile and had lessons Egyptian children would have had. Pupils have learnt about the way of life for the Ancient Civilization and have made a range of funeral artefacts, used hieroglyphics to send messages and work out puzzles and built a life size mummy. The pupils will be visiting the Great North Museum to see the Egyptian artefacts on display there.

KEVIN GETS TICKET TO DRIVE



A grant from County Durham Community Foundation has allowed Kevin Openshaw from the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society to complete his PCV Bus Driving Licence test.

Kevin a member of the Society, was part way through his PCV Bus Driving Licence when he was made redundant after working 42 years in the commercial vehicle industry. With time running out to take the practical driving test, he applied and was awarded a training bursary from the Foundation to fund the second part of the test. Kevin gained his PCV Bus Driving Licence in May. Kevin now joins the elite group of members of the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society who are able to take a fully loaded vintage bus to events and gatherings.

"This is great news" said Kevin "as it means I can do so much more for the Society rather than just ferrying buses to bookings. I can also help other voluntary groups who need a PCV driver. I am very

grateful to County Durham Community Foundation for the bursary which has helped me financially as I am unlikely to find a full time job at my age. Christina Rackley, Head of Grants and Donor Development at the Community Foundation, said "It is always wonderful to get feedback from grant recipients and it is particularly good to hear that through helping Kevin pass his PCV test this grant is also helping many other community groups with which he is involved."

There is a warm welcome to anyone wishing to join the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society. Driver training is available for people who have an appropriate current driving licence or are present holders of a CV licence and are keen to refresh their skills with a 'crash' gear box and relive the driving of yesteryear. Anyone wishing to apply for a grant from County Durham Community Foundation, or find out more about the organisation, should visit www.cdcf.org.uk

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 13th July 2011

Policy & Resources Committee - 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".

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TFM's School of the Week



St. Mary's Class 4 wrote fabulous letters to TFM radio, to persuade them to pick our school for their School of the Week feature. Last Thursday the crew came in and entertained the children with fun games and brilliant competitions. "We had great fun and a brilliant time playing all the games: a dance off, silly spellings, acting out ridiculous weather reports and guess the tune." Several of our children were chosen to record links for Anthony Collins' Kids Clues game and the Wake up with Wayne show's Dead or Alive quiz. "It was funny speaking into the microphone, because Anthony put it right up to my face!" exclaimed Mia and Damian.

So listen to "Wake up

with Wayne" next week, 7-9am, and "Anthony in the Afternoon", 3-7 pm. You will hear St Mary's mentioned

several times and possibly hear a child you know! Class 4, St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

Zumba Fitness Classes

Every Thursday Evening at 6.30pm
in St. Clare's Church Hall
New Session starting
Tuesday 28th June at 7.15pm

For more details contact

Sonya on 07861 747681

or email:

dancecrazykids@hotmail.co.uk



ZUMBA
FITNESS

Dance Craze Proves Hit for Charity



Greenfield School rocked last Saturday night as more than 50 fitness enthusiasts did their bit in raising over £800 for their chosen charity – Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

The group, spearheaded by Karen Everson, alongside Zumba instructors Jaime Hume, Amanda Whitehead and Sarah Naylor, danced to the latest craze on the fitness circuit for three hours in the Zumbathon event.

Karen and her team have been on a personal crusade raising money for the charity, with the latest contribution taking the total to over £3500

so far in 2011.

In response to the turnout, Karen said, "it was an absolutely phenomenal turnout, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It's not often people enjoy an intense workout, but each and every one who took part did so with a smile on their face."

The Zumbathon was the latest in a series of fundraising ventures organised by Team Everson/Armitage, which have previously included a bingo and karaoke evening and a series of collections at the recent theatre production of Calendar Girls in

Darlington.

Over the next couple of months the team aims to increase their total with the publication of a 2012 'Forget Me Not' calendar, a bucket collection at the upcoming Newton Aycliffe-Darlington game, sponsorship for completing the Great North Run and an exclusive evening ball, to be held at Hardwick Hall in late September.

Karen wishes to thank Injury Claims Advice who sponsored the event in the form of providing refreshments and fruit snacks, and also to Michael Rippon, Greenfield School and Stephenson Way

Primary School for hall hire and equipment.

To donate to the charity, simply log on to www.justgiving.com/bananaarmy2011, or follow the group on their new website www.bananaarmy2011.co.uk

NEWTON NEWS

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**Chillingham Grove
Woodham Village
£115,000**

An attractive 3 bedroom semi detached property. Fitted kitchen/diner, modern bathroom/WC, DG, GCH, pleasant cul-de-sac location.

**Osric Place
Newton Aycliffe
£75,000**

Much improved 3 bedroom end link terrace home, fitted kitchen, double glazed, GCH, rear garden, well maintained home - must be viewed.

**Bewick Crescent, Newton Aycliffe
To Buy £87,000
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**Silkin Way
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£79,950**

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**Byerley Road
Shildon
£75,000**

Three bedroom mid terrace which would suit FTB or investor. Central heating, lounge/diner, kitchen, rear yard. Available with immediate vacant possession

**Yarrow Court
Woodham Village
£109,995**

A realistically priced 3 bed semi detached property. Fitted kitchen/diner. Modern Bathroom/WC, GCH, private Garden and driveway

**Clover Court
Woodham Village
£161,950**

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

**Hamsterley Road
Newton Aycliffe
£130,000**

Three bedroomed semi detached house with gas central heating and double glazing would make an ideal family home.

**Emerson Way
Newton Aycliffe
£75,000**

2 bedroom terrace, double glazed, GCH, enclosed garden to rear, separate WC. Partly refurbished.

**Wren Close
Newton Aycliffe
£110,000**

A well maintained mid terrace 3 bed property. Bathroom/W.C., modern kitchen, DG, GCH, garage with garden. Immediate vacant possession, we advise internal inspection

**Cheltenham Way
Woodham Village
£179,500**

Realistically priced 4 bedroom detached, ensuite shower room, refitted modern kitchen, GCH, garage and gardens

**Merlin Court
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Three bedroom semi, central heating, DG, ensuite, Downstairs WC, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner Part furnished

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Golden Celebration



Jack and Ann Tinkler celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 24th June and the Mayor Mary Dalton called at their home in Linden Place to pass on good wishes on behalf of the Town Council and townspeople.

Jack was born in Ferryhill Station and Anne came from Spennymoor. They first met at Spennymoor Rink Dance Hall. Jack started his working

life as a Railway Fireman and Driver. He moved to Bus Driving before taking jobs with GEC, Tallents and Grays. The couple moved to Newton Aycliffe in 1970 and have two sons, Des and Darren. Ann enjoys Line Dancing, Jack enjoys socialising at the Scout Centre. A party was held at the Big Club for family and friends to help celebrate their special anniversary.

NEWTON NEWS FOLLOW US ON  **SIMPLY SEARCH newton-news**

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DO YOU ACCEPT THE COUNTY PLAN FOR AYCLIFFE?

Dear Readers,
For the last few weeks, I have been writing about the County Plan which will determine the future of Aycliffe over the next twenty years. Out of my letters, and after discussion with a wide range of people, has come the 'Vision for Aycliffe' which the editor has very kindly printed in this edition of the Newton News Page 5. It is part of a document which I am going to send to the County Planners as my response to the consultation. Many of the people to whom I have shown it have said that it is a vision to which they also support. If this would be your 'Vision for Aycliffe' too, then I urge you to tell the County Council. You can email them at ldfconsultation@durham.gov.uk - Or you can send them a letter to FREEPOST PLANNING POLICY (no other address details are needed).

If you agree with the Vision, all you need to say is: 'I agree with the Vision for Aycliffe in the Newton News', or even 'I agree with John D Clare'. If you do not agree, or have your own ideas - GREAT! Write them down and send them. If you ever had a good

idea for Aycliffe, now is the time to air it, because you will not get another chance like this until 2030. The consultation ends on 8th July. If we do not make our wishes felt, then we will get what we are given.
John D Clare

BAD DRIVER PLACED ON YOUTUBE

Dear Sir,
A driver of a light blue Fiat Punto (registration noted) nearly caused me and another car driver to have a fatal accident on Sunday 26th June 2011 at the junction of Burn Lane/Greenfield Way/Middridge Road. I did have my dashboard camera on and it was recorded and is now available on youtube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRJhYKJelZE> for everyone to see just how bad a driver you are. I have also contacted the police.
Brian Sowerby

First Class Information

Dear Sir,
Congratulations to Newton News for a wealth of information on Wind turbine technology - it's been first class! What residents need now is planning advice on what are material planning objections to wind farms to enable them to prepare potent and relevant objections at the time. I hope advice might be available at the public meeting on 7th July so that residents can pinpoint facts and make objections that carry weight with those considering submissions for wind farm development near Newton Aycliffe.
Don Fraser
Woodham.

Tesco Campaign to Cut Plastic Bag Usage

Dear Sir,
A couple of years ago Tesco pledged to cut carrier bag usage in store by 70% as the impact on the environment from excessive use of carrier bags is massive. Tesco have looked at other alternatives in a bid to encourage more customers to stop using the traditional free plastic carrier bag. We now sell a large range of bags in-store that can be re-used: traditional shopping bags, foldaway bags, wine carriers, cool bags, hessian/jute bags, designer bags etc. We are encouraging the use of cardboard boxes at our checkouts instead of bags and if you buy a 10p re-usable carrier 'bag for life', we will replace it free of charge everytime you ask us to, so you only ever pay for it once.

If you re-use any type of bag in our store other than the plastic carrier bag we will award extra 'green clubcard points' @ 1 point per bag, equivalent to 1p for every bag that is re-used. We are trying to reduce the usage of bags for environmental reasons not for cost saving reasons. (It costs Tesco more to reward our customers in this way.) Our store alone uses approx 60,000 carrier bags every single week approx 3.1 million bags per year. We are currently reducing our usage by 20% year on year, but still have a long way to go. We have a plastic bag recycling unit at the front of our store for customers to deposit used bags.
Paul Davies
Customer Services Manager

VOLUNTEERS WANTED TO PRESERVE AYCLIFFE'S NATURE AREAS

Dear Sir,
I am a Volunteer Environmental Warden with Great Aycliffe Town Council working with Steve Cooper the Environmental Officer for the Town Council. People who may visit places such as Aycliffe Nature Reserve (The Newt Pond) the wetlands at School Aycliffe, Simpasture Nature Walk, Woodham Burn and Cobblers' Hall Plantation and other natural green areas may be unaware of all the hard work that Steve Cooper and

the volunteer's do to keep the areas neat and tidy. Much work goes on behind the scenes to make these areas as good as they are and all the hard work and organisation that Steve Cooper does to keep this happening; such things as transporting volunteer's to and from sites, organising public events and keeping the day to day running of the sites in and around Aycliffe to a high standard.

At the moment there is a short supply of people like myself and other volunteers who are willing to give a little of our time to assist Steve.

We aim to keep the environmental areas around Aycliffe a good place to visit and to keep these areas clean and tidy and attractive for local people and wildlife alike.

This takes a lot of organisation and effort, so next time you're out and around Newton Aycliffe environmental areas, please give a thought for Steve and the volunteers and all the hard work we do.

I would like to take this opportunity through the Newton News to thank Steve Cooper and all the other volunteers for their hard work and support and would encourage anyone wishing to join us to volunteer a little of their time to contact Steve at the Town Council on 01325-300700.

Ray Fendley
Environmental Volunteer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Collection of Unwanted Bra's

Dear Sir,
Following on from our recent request for Bra's to help raise funds for Women's Aid and Breakthrough Breast Cancer I must say the response has been exceptional. We have had Newtonians bringing their Bra's to us at the address below and after a count on Monday 20th June we had 174! We would like to thank everyone who has provided these Bra's and to let you know we still have time for these to be brought into our Depot.

There is also a wheelie bin provided by Sedgfield Borough Homes placed in Tesco. The wheelie bin has our 'We need your Bra' labels all over it however instead of Bra's which are desperately needed customers are putting bits of paper in it, please can you use it for Bra's only and let's see this full too.

Thank you all again for your generosity, I will keep updating and give a final count when we send these to be chained together.
Yvonne Williams
Logistics (Teesside) Limited
Maple House, Maple Way,
Aycliffe Business Park
Tel. No: 01325 324960

Ban Smoking in ALL Public Places

Dear Sir,
I have read the letter on smoking around children and the mother did the right thing by walking away from this anti-social behaviour. Whereas before we could avoid smoking venues the ban has pushed smokers onto the streets and everyone is subjected to the filthy habit. They are in shop doorways, parks and on benches in the town centre with no consideration for non-smokers. I think smoking should be confined to the individuals own homes and banned totally in public places.
Kath

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DON'T STOP TOWN CENTRE PROGRESS

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to see my old friend Peter Robinson of the Ramblers Association is still around. But I must disagree strongly with his suggestion that people should object regarding the stopping of a footpath between the Magistrates Court and the former library. This stopping order is necessary for the continuation of the development of the Town Centre, it is not a farmers field or woodland. There will be ample rights of way and the stopping of this particular one hurts no one and detracts not one iota from public rights in the Town Centre. The only purpose of opposing would be to delay (but not prevent) the Town Centre development in which case one would expect the full force of costs to fall on those seeking merely to delay the development. There is no loss of amenity to the public. I would strongly advise the Ramblers Association to concentrate on what really matters on rights of way in Great Aycliffe. In 1992 Peter and the Ramblers Association supported me in proving the Bridlepath running through North Agnew Plantation. This is now blocked off and overgrown and needs re establishing and I would ask Peter and the Ramblers Association

to assist me to do this. But please do not oppose and delay just because you can, this pathway which as I said, its loss is of no consequence to the people of Aycliffe, but the delay will cost the people of Aycliffe in developing their Town Centre.

Arun M Chandran

WHERE HAVE YOU WHEELIEBIN?

Thank you to Newton News for printing my article so quickly and a warm thank you to the gentleman who called me about my missing wheelie bin. It's now back where it belongs . . . Thanks

Beautiful Landscape Could be Lost



Dear Sir,

To allow building on this land along Middridge Road would be to allow VANDALISM. This is a beautiful approach to Newton Aycliffe which could be lost forever. There are plenty of other sites in the town suitable for development without spoiling one of the best parts of the area.

Christine Young

Town Independents Object to Wind Farm

Dear Sir,

Energy in Newton Aycliffe is certainly coming to the fore via Newton News. Having discussed our policy with Cllr Warburton, who is the GAI party expert on environmental matters, I realised the fine letter from Arun Chandler last week may not have emphasised enough some points made. The fact is Eon, who makes massive profits at our expense, now wish to build 45 wind turbines rather than the original 10 sited near Newton Aycliffe. It is not because we need the extra supply from 35 wind turbines. No, it is down to planning permission and the route of least resistance for Eon. There would be a whole lot less resistance if it makes a planning application for 45 turbines instead of 10. Which Phil Wilson MP highlighted in his lettter last week stating Eon has withdrawn its original application for 10 turbines on the same site. The Secretary of State could well be involved in making

the final decision which could complicate matters even more. This is not to belittle the efforts currently being made by many people of all parties but to highlight the problem we are fighting. It is in everyone's interest in Newton Aycliffe to attend the meeting at St. Marys Church 7pm on July 7th and support the joint efforts being poured into this unjustified planning application. We are informed that each application will be judged on its merits and additional information will depend on the individual circumstances. So there would have been a noise assessment carried out by Eon as well as an Ecological study and information supplied on interference with emergency links. All are useful bits of information the people in Newton Aycliffe need to know from Eon.

Yours Sincerely
Kenneth Stubbs
(Secretary – Great Aycliffe Independents Party)



EXCELLENT COURSES AT WOODHAM

Dear Editor,

I have just completed 2 courses at Woodham Community Centre, Emergency First Aid at Work and Food Safety, both at Level 2. I cannot praise Dave and the team at the Community Centre highly enough. The courses which were advertised in Newton News, were well run, the venue was excellent and the trainer first class. I felt relaxed and welcome from the minute I entered the building. I do hope the Centre is able to secure additional funding to provide more courses in the near future - I will be more than happy to use my annual leave to participate and urge others to take advantage of the excellent opportunities provided by these dedicated individuals.

Val Halton
Kemble Green South

Good Article by Reader

Dear Sir,

The article by Arun M Chandran on wind farms was impressive and so refreshing from the MSM claptrap that is spoonfed to the public.

Andy Baxter

Town Centre Development

Dear Sir,

Last week I was reading in the Northern Echo a letter about public toilets being included in the development of the new town centre which indeed will be most welcome. However, I don't know how many of the older residents remember we once had public toilets in the town centre next to the old rent office which through lack of care became a hang out for schoolchildren and in turn became smelly and vandalised eventually closed by the Town Council. I do hope the new toilets will have a full time attendant and perhaps a small charge of say 20p to use them like many other town and cities the UK have done. The letter also mentions a memorial to the Aycliffe Angels, men and women who worked on our Trading Estate in the munitions factories making bombs and shells for the second world war. Some were killed and many injured due to the danger involved. I just wondered what sort of memorial this was to be as there is a statue already at St Clare's Church near the War Memorial in the town centre.

J M Gowland
Heighington.

County Plan & Growth of Aycliffe

County Council Team to Attend Public Meeting at Aycliffe

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read Councillor Clare's recent articles on the future of Newton Aycliffe. His passion for the town is clear and I must thank him for raising the profile of what are important issues for the future prosperity of the town and County Durham as a whole. We recently shared our thoughts on how each of the main towns in the county could continue to grow and prosper. We have been holding a series of public events in the area to find out whether you agree with this vision, this included the Area Action Partnership meeting to which Cllr Clare referred but we also have had a six week exhibition at the leisure centre and Primary Care Centre as well as discussion with the Town Councils at their forum. In addition we welcome the chance to discuss the issues at your upcoming Public Meeting at St. Mary's church on Thursday 7th July at 7pm. Our first priority is to do all we can to create new jobs. These are difficult times, but we know that Newton Aycliffe will continue to play a pivotal role in bringing new jobs to County Durham, building on the success of not just Hitachi, but the many other success stories we have in the town. We are in discussions with industrialists and developers, including Hitachi, to ensure that we have the right type and size of land to maximise any opportunities. There are choices and this is what we are asking everyone to help us with. Do we concentrate on filling the many vacant buildings and empty plots on

the estate, do we allocate new land or do we need both? We know that Aycliffe Town Centre needs to be improved and we will continue to support efforts to provide more quality and choice making it a better place to live, work and visit. We also need to provide for a growing population by developing a range of new housing opportunities to meet our changing needs. Affordable homes are important for the young and old alike, but we also need to provide a good range of family homes as well as methods of supporting first time buyers who need to get onto the housing ladder. However, we know that the town has developed rapidly over the last 30 years and that there are concerns over future growth so we need to get the balance right. The Plan therefore suggests 1,500 new homes over a long period at a rate of 75 new homes per year. Whilst we already have a number of sites with permission we do need your views on possible future development sites. In conclusion we would still very much like to hear your views on the Plan and your ambitions for Aycliffe. Is the Plan ambitious enough? Is it realistic? Can it be delivered at a time when public sector investment is greatly reduced? Help us, your thought matter. Your comments will help us to make sure that we have fully captured your ambitions for Aycliffe and created a Plan which will see us through the next 20 years. I look forward to hearing from you.

Stuart Timmiss
Head of Planning and Assets

To have your say on the County Durham Plan visit ldfconsultation@durham.gov.uk

Write to: Planning Policy Team, Durham County Council, Civic Centre, Newcastle Road, Chester le Street, County Durham, DH3 3UT. Or Tweet - Twitter @DurhamCouncil



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2011

Friday 8th July
The 80's Experience
The best disco party ever.
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet.
£10.95 per person

Friday 8th July
Stayin Alive
The ultimate Bee Gees Show. All the hits including Tragedy, Night Fever, You should be dancing. Stayin Alive recreates the most accurate portrayal of the Brothers Gibb. Evening includes three course dinner and disco. Arrive 7.00pm with dinner served 7.30pm.
£18.95 per person

Saturday 9th July
Night Fever at the 70's Disco
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet.
£10.95 per person

Monday 25th July
Wedding Open Evening
Come and take this opportunity to view the Coleman Suite, John Burdon Suite, Boyne Suite and Paddock Marquee set up for Wedding Receptions and a Civil Ceremony. No appointment necessary just come along between 6.00pm and 8.30pm.

Friday 29th July
Michael Buble Tribute
Dan James will be performing all the greatest hits from the No. 1 selling artist. Arrive at 7.00pm for dinner 7.30pm. Evening includes a three course dinner and disco.
£17.95 per person

Friday 12th August
Night Fever at the 70's Disco
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet.
£10.95 per person

Friday 19th August
The 80's Experience
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Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet.
£10.95 per person

Sunday 21st August
Wedding Open Day
Come and take this opportunity to view the Coleman Suite, John Burdon Suite, Boyne Suite and Paddock Marquee set up for Wedding Receptions and a Civil Ceremony. No appointment necessary just come along between 11.00pm and 4.00pm.

Friday 26th August
Disco through the Decades
Come and enjoy a night of music from the 60's all the way through to the 90's
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet.
£10.95 per person

Friday 26th August
The Brainstormer Murders- Murder they wrote
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The ultimate in Murder Mystery entertainment, come and enjoy a thrilling evening of 'who dun it.' The evening is a modern day theme at the Annual Congress for the Crime Writers Guild. How do they get their inspiration for their plots?
Arrive for 7.00pm for dinner 7.30pm Disco to finish.
£20.95 per person

Friday 2nd September
Time of your life
This pulsating song and dance spectacular features amazing versions of all the iconic songs including Hungry Eyes, Wipe Out, Yes, Be My Baby and many more from the famous movie Dirty Dancing. Evening includes a three course dinner and disco to finish. Arrive 7.00pm for dinner served at 7.30pm
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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting

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

WEDNESDAY, 13th JULY, 2011
at 4.00p.m.

QUESTION TIME
A period of up to 20 minutes has been also set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda of the Council, its Committees and the Planning Sub-Committee. If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting. Agendas / Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend. 'The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings'.

Father & Son On 5 Day Thames Adventure



Inspired by the adventure series "Long Way Around" and "Long Way Down" with Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman, Kit Slee (Age 8) had the idea to do something similar albeit on a much smaller scale in a Canadian Canoe.

His goal is to raise funds, which will be split between his school, Byerley Park Primary in Newton Aycliffe and 'North Air Ambulance'.

The journey will take Kit and his Dad from closest point to the source of the Thames, above Cricklade, all the way down to Henley, a distance of approximately 89 miles. His adventure starts on 10th July and will take five days; they will carry all they need in the canoe and camp on the banks of the Thames wherever they can.

The pair has set up their own blog-page to update followers on a daily basis, the journey is mapped and their progress, at any given time, shown. You can follow their adventure at www.longwaydownthethames.blogspot.com - If you wish to sponsor Kit in this adventure please email v.slee@virgin.net

Tony Blair Back in Town



Photograph of children from St. Francis Primary School enjoying meeting Tony Blair after an hour training session with the Durham Wildcats. It took place last Friday afternoon at Newton Aycliffe Sports Centre.

The event was the launch of the Tony Blair Sports Foundation Partnership with the Durham Wildcats. The children were inspired about the chances they have to become a leading sports person in County Durham. Children photographed were Callum Gorman-Summerill, Amie Henderson and Lewis Rigg. They were accompanied by teacher Mrs Lakey and the parents of Lewis Rigg.

Summer Fayre at Aycliffe

Aycliffe Village School's PTA is to hold a Summer Fayre on Saturday 16th July between 1am and 4pm.

In past years, the Fayre has been held inside the building but this year it will be a combination of inside and out, which means that there are more activities, including children's rides a bouncy castle and mini games.

There will be live entertainment, BBQs, craft stalls and food stalls. Some of the children will also be taking part in small displays including Leonie and the Gym club, Mr Melvin and the singing group and Macadams School of Dance.

All profit is fed directly back to the school by way of donations towards extracurricular activities or equipment, such as the newly installed projector and screen, that is not otherwise funded.

The fayre is an open event and we welcome you all to come along and enjoy an afternoon of entertainment with us.

Please remember that there is no car parking facilities within the school grounds and so please take care when parking on the street not to block access to the school or surrounding houses.

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If you feel like starting to make changes to a healthier lifestyle then come along to the drop-in sessions being held in the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe on either Monday 4th July from 4pm-7pm or Tuesday 19th July from 10am-1pm. Our Health Trainers are trained to offer information and support to help you make changes to improve your health and well-being on a one to one basis in a fully confidential service and will be on hand to offer advice

on how to achieve this the easy way in small steps. They can help with advice on diet and nutrition, physical activity, goal setting, stopping smoking and much, much more... Drop in for a chat, take advantage of a FREE health check and find out how easy it is to change your lifestyle. Refreshments will be available.

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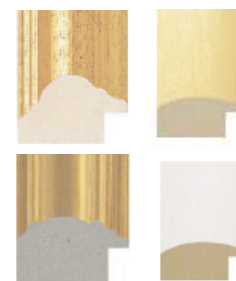


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MARTIN GRAY GETS NEWTONIAN BACK TO WORK

Former footballer Martin Gray has given two youngsters the chance to get back to work as part of his rapidly-growing Academy. Martin has added two new full-time coaches to his set-up, including Newtonian Ryan Gillham, as part of a two-year apprenticeship scheme.

The coaching roles are being funded by Aycliffe firm Baltic Training and its contract with the Skills Funding Agency to get young people back into work.

Ryan, 19, and 17-year-old Becca, from Ferryhill, will also be given day-release training to gain qualifications in Level 2 IT skills, including web design, publishing and marketing.

Ryan had been out of full-time work after being made redundant by Darlington Football in the Community earlier this year. After leaving Greenfield in 2008, he studied for a two-year Btec national diploma in sports development, coaching and fitness at Darlington College before taking up a sports coach apprenticeship with Darlington FITC.

As well as his coaching, Gillham holds qualifications in sports therapy – he is currently Newton Aycliffe FC's physio. Ryan is also a keen referee, reaching the Northern League and



Wearside League line before taking up his role with Aycliffe, and refereeing Sunday League football and local five-a-side leagues.

He'll now be managing coaching courses in Aycliffe, Sedgefield and Ferryhill as part of his new role. "It's a great challenge and I'm really looking forward to it," said Ryan. I'll also learn a lot from Martin through his professional experience, so overall I'm delighted to be working with him and I'm looking forward to getting stuck into the new role."

Martin, who set up the Martin Gray Football Academy last summer, added: "It's a fantastic opportunity for all parties and an exciting development for everyone, but more importantly it gives Ryan and Becca an excellent platform to launch their own coaching careers."

Baltic Training MD Tony added: "This is a great example of how we can work with other agencies to get young people into work. "Unemployment among 16 to 21-year-olds is at an all-time high, and with the support of the Skills Funding Agency we are able to give two youngsters in that bracket a real chance of forging a career in football coaching."

More details about the Martin Gray Football Academy can be found at www.martingrayfootballacademy.co.uk

Town Tennis Coach has Moved in High Circles

I love music. I was asked recently if I could play the guitar or any musical instrument. Tomyamazement I have never tried seriously to play any instrument. I now wonder if I could have been any good if I had played guitar or drums.

Fortunately I did commit to learning how to play and coach tennis from an early age. In 1983 I was offered a coaching position at Bjorn Borg Tennis School in Marbella, Spain. Cooking Sir Bruce Forsyth a breakfast was helpful as he introduced his wife Wilnelia a former Miss World, and keen tennis player. I became a culinary advisor for Sir Sean Connery who was forever seeking good and cheap places to eat. He allowed the owner to take his picture if he could eat free.

I was kidnapped by Liverpool footballers and released at a local beach bar where the team was preparing for a tournament in Estapona. Alan Kennedy became a great friend and is Godfather to my son Adam. I remember consoling a boy

who had asked Sting for an autograph which he declined. More recently I was able to persuade Sting to sign a book Gordon Sumner, possibly a unique event.

I am proud of my commitment to developing tennis opportunities and facilities over almost 40 years. I have been on court with celebrities, Wimbledon Champions and Tour

Professionals but equally I can relate many stories about the young players who have never played tennis before, or players who try and fail to hit the ball many times.

Perhaps not trying to play a musical instrument proved a good decision after all. Why not give tennis a try?

Ian Wilkinson, Head Coach at Greenfield Tennis Club.

www.rootennis.com



New Development Would Make Woodham a Year Round Course

Improving the local landscape and creating a sustainable environment are top of the agenda in plans to develop Woodham Golf and Country Club near Newton Aycliffe.

The £32 million development includes a four star, 75 room hotel, 50 executive homes and a new club house for the golf course with extensive development of the surrounding landscape.

Woodham has seen little investment since it's opening in 1981 and despite it's picturesque surroundings and challenging course it is unable to compete with other North East clubs.

Head Greenkeeper at Woodham, Mark Hodgeson commented, "Golf players joke that Woodham is just a six month course as often in the autumn and winter the bad weather will cause flooding and the course becomes unplayable so we have to close."

"It's a real shame because we've had professional golf players visiting the course who say that Woodham is close to being one of the highest standard courses in the country but needs investment."

"If these development plans, which include course improvements, were to go ahead, the course would be playable all year round. The hotel would attract international visitors as well as being a great venue for corporate guests and for events like weddings. Other golf clubs in the area have been purpose built to cope with all kinds of weather and to host large events Woodham needs these things to stay competitive because as it stands we're putting in a lot of effort for little return."

"There is so much potential and I've been here for over 20 years and although I've had opportunities to go elsewhere I've always chosen to stay at Woodham because I know it's a superior course. I honestly can't think of a single reason for this development not to go ahead."

Gill Beauchamp of environmental engineering consultancy Wardell Armstrong explains, "The proposed development at Woodham incorporates a high quality of design and will greatly enhance the environment of the area, as well as providing the basis for an improved golf facility. The proposed development looks to utilise an area of the course with little or no nature conservation and landscape interest, and will ultimately provide enhancements to the biodiversity of the area, as well as to the character of the



landscape." "Surface water drainage will also be designed with sustainability in mind, using swales and ponds to return water to the ground, as quickly as possible, rather than into a piped drainage system. This will have the added benefit of enhancing the nature conservation interest of the site."

"The development will retain the majority of the important mature trees and hedgerows within the site, and requires a minimum of work to the existing holes within the

course affected by the proposed development: the best / most challenging holes on the course are retained, the development will also facilitate a number of other improvements to the course, including new drainage to enable the course to be played all year round."

The scheme which was laid before the South and West Durham Area Planning Committee last year will be decided upon in the coming months, with initial construction work commencing towards the end of next year should the application be successful.

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members of the public to get involved in a community day. The drop in event is the chance for local residents and groups to find out about the AAP's activities, projects and priorities for the coming year. Local voluntary sector and community groups will also be on hand to give information about what's happening in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area. The event is taking place on July 12 between 3.00pm and 8.00pm at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. It is being hosted by GAMP, one of 14 Area Action Partnerships set up by Durham County Council in 2009, made up of public representatives, local Councillors from both the Town and County Council and statutory partners and stakeholders, such as the Fire Service, Police, Sedgfield Borough Homes and various other groups from the voluntary and community sector. The forum is open to anyone who lives in or works in the Great Aycliffe and Middridge area. Confirmed exhibitors include: representatives from Newton Aycliffe Police Force, representatives from the Fire Service, CAVOS, Citizens Advice Bureau, County Durham Furniture Help Scheme and the Agnew Community Association

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Forthcoming events:
Meccano Exhibition on Saturday 9th July from 11am till 4pm. Admission £1 Children Free. Refreshments all day.
Car Boot Sale at Walworth Castle on Sunday 17th July, 11am - 3pm. Cars £8, Vans £12. Book on 3132924.

TALLENTS EXPAND

News is emerging that Talents is about to expand. They have applied for planning permission to extend their existing manufacturing facility at Aycliffe sufficiently to need a multi-storey car park. It is great news for the town that this prestigious company continues to invest at Aycliffe - More details next week

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WANTED Vauxhall Corsa or small car, 1.2L, must have MoT. Price range £500-£600. Tel 07805 037022
'02 REG Rover 45 Saloon, 1.6, 53000 miles, full service history, tax and test, very good condition, £800 ono. Tel 312925 or 07851 403090
CLIO 1998 (R reg), 1.2, 4 months tax, 10 months test, good running order, £600 ono. Tel 07837 374995

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Police Apologise For Poor Response to Call

Dear Sir
There are a number of young people at Aycliffe Young Peoples Centre, many of whom do not come to notice of the police in relation to committing crime, but are the victims of domestic breakdowns. However, from time to time, problems have arisen with some of them, and these have been dealt with.

Currently there are a few that have been committing crime and anti-social behaviour in the town and this is definitely a cause for concern. The police are working with AYPC to get this situation sorted out. As a result of investigations the police have made arrests for a number of offences and work continues. The offenders have been charged and bailed to court. The bail conditions include curfews. These provide some element of control. If they breach these conditions they are arrested and taken before the court by us (without fail) where the magistrates make the decision, either to release them on bail, or to remand them in custody. Serious breaches or repeated breaches are more likely to result in detention. The police are also gathering evidence in relation to anti-social behaviour with a view to gaining ASBOs against some of these young people, primarily to protect the public from their offending, but also to prevent them from blighting their own lives.

The staff at AYPC are professionally engaged in the welfare of their charges and are well aware of their role in also protecting the wider public. They are supportive of the policing interventions. With this in mind I have apologised to Mr Joss. Having said that we are collecting evidence and this was obviously not the case in this instance.

Our response to his call is not good enough. We shall use the incident that he has reported to gain evidence against those involved to support our case and his family. A lot of good work has already been done by the police to tackle this and other problems on the town so it is a shame to see such a piece of poor individual work.

If you can help with information please contact Sergeant Mark Edwards in the Neighbourhood Policing Team 0345 6060365, or find us on Facebook, or you can contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Andy Neill
Police Inspector

Noah Receives Helmet Thanks to Honest John



The outstanding amount of £1300 needed to be raised for a special helmet for a disabled boy has been met by Honest John's stall.

The Plagiarism helmet was fitted a week ago and is doing its job to help Noah.

Honest John and all those who have contributed to his stall over the last few weeks wish Noah and his family all the very best for the future.

Pop into Aycliffe Village Hall for Breakfast and a Chat

FEARS that Aycliffe Village Hall might close owing to a lack of money have prompted a group of mums to organise a breakfast club.

The mums, who live in the village, met to brainstorm ideas designed to attract more people to use the hall, as well as raise some much-needed funds.

One of the mums, Andrea Walton said they had been shocked to discover the village hall was under threat. She said: "We had no idea things were as bad as they are. We want to make sure everyone knows what's happening to the village hall. And we want to help recreate a community spirit with everyone pulling together." The first event planned is a Breakfast Club which is to be held on Saturday, July 9, at

the Village Hall, from 9am-11.30am.

On offer will be sausage sandwiches, bacon butties, and also egg rolls for the vegetarians. There will also be juice, cups of coffee and tea and cakes.

It will be a chance for people to get together for a chat and have something to eat. There will also be a questionnaire for people to fill in on the kind of activities or events they would like to see taking place at the village hall in the future.

The action follows an emergency meeting held on Monday, June 6, to explain the crisis facing the hall.

Julian Lenahan, vice-chairman of Great Aycliffe Village Hall Association, explained that the hall is under threat because bills such as the electricity and gas have gone through the roof.

It is estimated that it costs the association £4,000 a year to run the village hall.

Other events and activities planned include a Zumba class, a keep-fit class, a fortnightly disco for junior schoolchildren and a monthly cinema evening for teenagers.

For more details about events or how to help, contact chairman Keith Johnson on 01325-314735 or vice-chairman Julian Lenahan on 01325-315573.

Cat With Kittens Found

A black female cat with a short tail has taken up residence in the gardens in Russell Court. She has 3 beautiful kittens which are about 7 - 8 weeks old.

She appears to be well cared for, although she is a little thin after feeding her kittens. I believe she must belong to someone in the Byerley Park area.

My neighbour and I are feeding them as we would hate to think of them getting hungry and ill. A local cat charity said they would come out to see if the female had a microchip, but they didn't turn up.

If this is your cat please ring 07907 638370

For Sale

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

PLAYSTATION 3 plus many games and accessories, £220 ono. Tel 320124 or 07971 216789

EARLY Learning Sizzlin Kitchen with accessories, excellent condition, £35. Tel 01325 310593 or 07790 299806

CALLAWAY Irons, 3 to SW, £120 + Big Bertha Driver, £50, will separate. Tel 07791 338853

PATIO SET Hexagon table and 4 chairs with cushions and parasol, as new £50; large green plastic storage bin, front and top openings £50. Tel 07826 134004

LADDERS 22ft, heavy duty aluminium, £40; Steps, 8 tread aluminium £20. Both in good condition, Tel 07826 134004

VINTAGE dolls prams from £20. Tel 301193 or 07722 546707

BRAND NEW double divan with fully quilted mattress, still wrapped, can deliver. £120. Tel 07789 113343

CREAM leather three seater settee with recliner at each end, excellent condition, can deliver, £100. Tel 07789 113343

NEED An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel. 321 678

Congratulations

Look Who's 40 - Diane Plews (nee Macadam)



Happy 40th Birthday on 2nd July, 2011

To my wonderful Wife on your 40th birthday. Enjoy your Hollywood party. All my love Neil xxx
To the best Mum in the world, happy 40th. Lots of love and hugs, Mason, Ellis and Evan xxx
To a fabulous Daughter on your 40th birthday. Can't wait to get dressed up. Lots of love, Mam and John xx
To a great Daughter-in-Law on your 40th birthday. Looking forward to the party. Mrs P and Joseph xxx
Miss Diane - The best Dance Teacher in the world. Have a fab party. Love from all your pupils and parents xxx

"Chutney"



Happy 18th Birthday "Chutney"

Lots of love, Mam, Dad and Nikki xxxxx

Annabelle Louise



3 Today - Happy Birthday Sweetheart
Love you so much. Love, Mammy and Scott xxx

Jordan Dawes



Happy 18th Birthday 30th June

To a special Son and Brother, all our love always, Mam, Dad and Stephen xxxxx

Donna and Mark (Mr & Mrs Brown)



Congratulations

to you both, what a fantastic Wedding. All family and friends said what a great time they had. Everyone sends there love and best wishes. Love from Mum, Dad and Lee xxxxx

In Memoriam

JEFF CLARK

4th July 2002

Treasured and special memories of our dear devoted friend Jeff.

Forever in our thoughts.

Georgie and Joy-Marie

JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. In loving memory of a loving Brother and Uncle. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. Liz, Roger, Joanna, Chris, Martyn, Andrea (Tunbridge Wells)

JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. Loving memories of a dear Brother-in-Law and Uncle. To us you were so special, we only wish with all our hearts, that you were here today. Love always, Carole, Adam and Matthew xxx

JOHN O'DONNELL 1st July 2010. No words were ever written, no verse will we ever say, how much love and miss you on this, our saddest day. Jean, Gail, Mark, Alga, Bonnie, Caitlin and Ella

JIM BRODIE 3rd July 2010. A special person, A special face, Someone I love and can never replace. Never selfish, always kind, those are the memories you left behind. You won't come back Jim, I know that's true, but one day, I will come to you. Love and miss you pet. Sheila and all your loving family

ROBERT CLELLAND 1-7-83. All these years that have past, I still think of you every day. Love and miss you always. Mam, Debbie and Jayne xx

Meeting Off!

The U3A/Third Age Trust meeting for people over 50, due on the first Tuesday of the month, has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond control.

Clairvoyance

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Obituary

BOLTON on 22nd June 2011, suddenly at home. Rene, aged 82 years of Heighington. Dearly loved Wife of Ted, also a much loved Mum, Nan and Great Grandma. Funeral on Monday 4th July. Would friends please meet at 3.15pm for a Service at Darlington Crematorium

Thank You

A HUGE Thanks to the Shafto Lasses for attending our special day. It meant so much to me to see you all there. Janette xxx
DAVE MASON Sureway - thank you for getting me through my driving test. (Curry, Thursday - offer still stands, LOL). Sam Elliott xx
BROWN Donna and Mark would like to give a massive thank you to everyone who attended our Wedding on the 25th June 2011. It was fantastic to see how much support we have from family and friends and it was this that heped to make it a wonderful day. Thank you for all the cards and gifts and an even bigger thank you to those that made the day possible. You know who you are. All our love, Donna and Mark xxx

JAMES KNOW Happy 3rd birthday James. Love you. Great Gran Lily xxx

JAMES KNOW Happy 3rd birthday. Love and kisses, Grandma, Grandad, Kim, Adam and Eva xxx

JAMES KNOW Happy 3rd birthday to our special little boy. Lots of love and kisses, Mummy, Daddy and Thomas xxx

SHOTTON, Ollie Thomas. Happy 6th birthday. have a great day. Lots of love, Grandma, Grandad and Family xxxxx

DAVIES, Rhys Anthony. 6-7-1988. Happy 23rd birthday. Lots of love and good luck in Afghanistan. Keep your head down! Love always, Mam, Dad, Nana, James and Bethanne

RACHEL BENNETT Congratulations Princess on qualifying for Stoke in your Street Solo. You were amazing. Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Sarah, Ritchie and Daniel xxx Thank you to Caroline for all your help and support

EMMA SMITH 29-6-11. Happy birthday Mam. Lots of love, Brogen xxx

Wanted

WANTED household items, old TVs cookers, washers, fridges, bikes etc. Garage clearances undertaken. Tel 321567 or 07984 817111

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CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe's 1st team, sponsored by Lift Right Fork Lift Truck Training continued their recent good form with an emphatic nine wicket home win over Stanhope in the top division of the North East Durham League. Batting first, the visitors were skittled for 77 thanks to some excellent bowling from Sean Morgan, who took 4 for 16, Michael Howe 3 for 18 and Luke Telford 3 for 20. In reply captain Chris Palmer smashed an unbeaten 51 off just 36 balls to lead his team to victory after just 11.4 overs. A seriously weakened Aycliffe 2nd team suffered a heavy 177 run defeat away at unbeaten division three leaders Belmont. Chasing an improbable 236 for victory in 40 overs, Aycliffe were bowled out for just 58 with only captain Dave Richardson (27 runs) managing double figures.

The under 18's had probably their worst performance of the season losing by 10 wickets away at Brandon. Batting first Aycliffe were restricted to just 46 for 9 in their 20 overs with only Craig Robertson reaching double figures with his innings of 15. In reply, the homeside raced to victory without losing a wicket in only seven overs.

Aycliffe's under 15's team were narrowly defeated away at Mainsforth after an excellent run chase left the visitors agonisingly short of their winning target by just 13 runs. Chasing 132 for victory, Aycliffe captain Thomas Gledhill batted superbly to hit a career best unbeaten 48 and 36 runs from Ben Nicholson helped take their side to a creditable 119 for 4 from their 20 overs.

The under 13's had a comfortable 57 run win at home to Blackhall after an excellent all round team display. The were also some good individual performances with Sam Dawson, Jon Hope and Jack Petroczy all taking two wickets and when Aycliffe batted, all rounder Petroczy top scored with 14 and captain Patrick Howe scored 10.

Aycliffe's under 10's had an exciting 14 run away win at Mainsforth, during which there were stand out performances from Ali Abbasi with 3 wickets and both Adam Gibson and Nathan Parry who took two wickets each. Aycliffe's star men with the bat were Adam Gibson and Daniel Lowe, who shared an 18 run partnership to help their side to victory.

LOCAL SPORT

More Local Sport on Page 10 & 11

'CHAMPIONS' DVD AVAILABLE NOW!

PRE-SEASON SCHEDULE:

Saturday 9th July: Easington Colliery (H), 3pm

Saturday 16th July: Esh Winning (A), 3pm

Saturday 30th July: Hartlepool FC (A), 3pm

Tuesday 2nd August: Darlington (H), 7pm

Saturday 6th August: Darlington RA (H), 3pm

www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

A DVD celebrating Newton Aycliffe FC's historic title win is now available to buy!

Aycliffe clinched the Northern League second division championship earlier this year, securing promotion to the first division for the first time in their history in only their second season in the league.

The club produced a 20-minute DVD to celebrate their success, which was played at their end-of-season presentation night in May.

And now Aycliffe have made a small number of them available to buy, priced just £5.

The DVD includes an action montage featuring interviews with chairman Gary Farley, manager Allan Oliver, coach Brian Atkinson, skipper Sean Tarling, star players Dan Mellanby and John Close and Supporters Club chairman Barry Waters.

It also features a Crossbar Challenge with the Aycliffe squad, a Supporters Club feature followed by another action montage and then messages of congratulations from Darlington manager Mark Cooper, Aycliffe lad and Boro goalkeeper Jason Steele, Newtonian and Chelsea star Ross Turnbull, Newcastle goalkeeper Steve Harper, Sunderland boss Steve Bruce, Manchester United legend Gary Pallister and England captain John Terry!

Aycliffe media manager Martin Walker, who produced the DVD with the help of Sunderland firm Makaveli Productions, said: "The whole DVD really sums up what was a truly memorable season for everyone connected to the club.

"It's not only a celebration of our second division title, but also of the rapid progress the club has made over the last few



years. It's certainly a collectors' item and, while we only have a limited number on sale to start with, we're pretty sure they'll prove really popular."

Anyone who'd like to buy the DVD can call or text secretary Steve Cunliffe on 07872 985501, or email stecunliffe@aol.com

Last Minute Sponsorship Allows Aycliffe Gymnast to Compete

A TALENTED young gymnast's dreams of competing in a national competition have been saved thanks to the helping hand of a North East firm.

Gabby Welsh, a 13-year-old girl from Newton Aycliffe, is one of the best gymnasts in the tumbling category in the North East for her age.

However, she came very close to missing out on competing at the recent 2011 NDP National Tumbling Finals in Stoke due to a lack of funding for her accommodation and travel expenses.

A business had promised to raise the funds to pay for her to fulfil her dream of competing against the best in the country but, shortly before the event, failed to deliver on its promise.

This left Gabby and her family with a week to raise the £300+ needed for her competition costume, petrol



and accommodation for the duration of the trip.

Fortunately, at the eleventh hour, specialist training firm Nordic Pioneer, of Darlington, stepped in to sponsor Gabby and allow her to compete in what is the biggest gymnastics tournament for school children in the UK.

After its management team heard about Gabby's story through her Mum Claire – a Nordic employee – the company topped up the sponsorship money the teenager had raised in the days running up to the competition.

Gabby said: "I would really like to thank Nordic in helping out at such short notice and am eternally grateful for all the company's kind support and well wishes, especially with my Mum being quite new to the company.

"I'm now looking towards competing for as long as I can at the highest level of competitions to demonstrate my ability."

Nordic's managing director Peter Robinson said: "We listened to Gabby's story and saw this as a great opportunity to sponsor a local young girl who was representing the North East. Our company values are based on helping young people to maximise their potential – so we were delighted to be able to help." Gabby competed against 293 tumblers from across the UK, becoming the first gymnast from her Gymnastics club to reach the national finals in 10 years and finishing an impressive 7th in her category. For more information on Nordic please visit: www.nordicpioneer.co.uk

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A&S Majestic	£249.00	£199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	£299.00	£249.00
Slumberland Red Seal	£349.00	£299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	£399.00	£259.00

3'0" BED SET	RRP	NOW
A&S Candy	£69.00	£59.00
A&S Winchester	£99.00	£94.00
A&S Dorchester	£159.00	£149.00
A&S Majestic	£249.00	£199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	£249.00	£279.00
Slumberland Red Seal	£399.00	£299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	£449.00	£359.00

4'0" and 4'6" BED SET	RRP	NOW
A&S Candy	£119.00	£99.00
A&S Winchester	£159.00	£139.00
A&S Dorchester	£299.00	£209.00
A&S Majestic	£349.00	£299.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	£499.00	£399.00
Slumberland Red Seal	£549.00	£449.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	£599.00	£499.00

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HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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