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## "Don't Try to Con Us!" M.P. Phil Tells E-on



These were among the stirring words Phil Wilson gave at the launch of the protest against E-on's plans to establish a 45 Turbine Wind Farm in our area.

Television, Radio and Press were all present at Mordon Village Hall last Tuesday for the launch of the campaign which will give E-on a hard fight.

Town Councillor John Clare was there and warned everyone to beware of the juggernaut's money, power and influence to push the scheme ahead, despite local protests.

John called on the whole area to unite against E-on who are intent on earning millions from the site whether or not it has an adverse affect on people nearby.

Phil Wilson is passionately against a scheme which brings 45 turbines near to Aycliffe, and altogether a disproportionate total in the North East. He made the comparison with other counties in the UK where there are no wind farms including the Energy Minister's own county of Hampshire. Phil warned people against loaded questions and trickery in the consultation documents.

Our MP will present the petition to Parliament and is calling for a fund to fight the proposal. He said we had to stand together and should expect a long, hard fight with



the German company who expect to gain nearly £600 million from the scheme.

"We all want to take advantage of renewable energy, but the whole country should take a fair share of wind turbines not just the North East" said Phil. Eon's consultation starts on 31st August and details of the

scheme are available on-line: [eon-uk.com/the\\_isles](http://eon-uk.com/the_isles) or at the Town Library.

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## CHANGE OF FILM TIME

Please note a change to the time of the Kids Flicks at St. Clare's Church Hall for Tuesday 16th August for this afternoon only. The Yogi Bear Movie will be shown at 3pm not the usual 2pm.  
H. McCormick

## FAMILY CYCLING FROM THE PCP CENTRE - BIKES PROVIDED!



Two cycle marshals Jane Pickard and Michael Quinn with Adam Byrne

A Free Family Cycling Day will be taking place this Sunday, 14 August from The Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe from 10am - 12 noon. This is one of a series of enjoyable Family Cycling Days 'Get Active' have organised in the area.

Kirsty Hill, Engagement and Marketing Development Worker for the Pioneering Care Partnership says "This is a great opportunity to have some free family fun in the great outdoors and get some exercise at the same time.

You don't even need your own bike, 'Get Active' can provide both adult and children's cycles, but both must be pre booked on the number below. All cyclists taking part must wear a cycle helmet and these can also be provided if required."

If you wish to book a bike then please contact the Physical Activity Health Improvement Team on 0191 5692847.

The Pioneering Care Centre hold weekly cycling sessions for over 16's every Monday 10.00 - 12.00 noon for beginners & intermediate and 1.00 - 3.00pm for advanced (cycling over 20 miles) plus a Wednesday evening intermediate ride 6 - 8pm. For more information please contact reception 01325 321234

### RAINED OFF!

There is no cricket match reports for Saturday 6th August as all games were cancelled due to bad weather.

## Sing & Be Happy

"Starting on September 1st at Bishop Auckland Town Hall is an exciting new opportunity for anyone interested in singing.

There is no audition, no music reading is necessary and it is open to all ages and abilities.

The Sing4Life Community Choir will rehearse and perform upbeat popular songs with the aim of providing concerts in the local area: as the group expands we will perform in a much wider area and the conductor, Alec Jackson (a former and founder member of the World Youth Choir in 1989), has contacts throughout the world.

The cost will be £4 per week and we will rehearse every Thursday, between 7:30, and 9:30 at the Town Hall Gallery in Bishop Auckland.

The choir is open to any enthusiastic singers of all abilities and we need a minimum of 30 singers to get the group viable so come along at the start of September and be ready to have a great time singing songs from the last 50 years of popular music making.

### WHAT CAN SINGING DO FOR YOU?

"Sing yourself happy and fit! If you have ever wondered why choral singers look to be on a high, here are some of the reasons. The health benefits of singing are well documented:

Singing improves your mood. It releases the same feel-good brain chemicals as sex and chocolate!

It is very effective as a stress reliever and improves sleep

Singing releases pain-relieving endorphins, helping you to forget that painful tooth/knee/whatever

Your posture improves  
Lung capacity increases

Singing clears sinuses and respiratory tubes

Your mental alertness improves

Singing tones your facial and stomach muscles

It boosts your immune system, helping to fight disease and prolonging life expectancy

Your confidence increases" (extract from the report "Health Benefits Of Singing" by the Barbershop Harmony Society)

For more information call Alec Jackson on 07790582809 or email sing4lifebishopauckland@gmail.com

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### Saturday 27th August

Mini Cook Ale Festival and Hog Roast 12noon to 6.30pm  
Live Music from "Tees Valley Jazzmen" 1-3pm  
A warm welcome awaits you at our dog friendly pub

## J&C COACHES

### Forthcoming Attractions

Creamfields Festival, Daresbury, Cheshire  
Friday 26th August - Return Coach Travel Only £25.00

#### We Will Rock You

Friday 30th September 2011 - Sunderland Empire Theatre £49.50

#### Disney On Ice - Worlds of Fantasy

Saturday 8th October 2011 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £32.50

#### An Afternoon at The Ballet . . . La Fille Mal Gardee

Saturday 15th October 2011 - Sunderland Empire Theatre £32.50

#### Motorhome & Caravan Show 2011

Saturday 15th October 2011 - NEC Birmingham £16.50

#### Cliff Richard

Friday 28th October 2011 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £82.50

#### Tinie Tempah

Tuesday 1st November 2011 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £35.00

#### Sister Act

Saturday 19th November 2011 - The Empire Theatre, Sunderland £53.50

#### The Saturdays

Saturday 10th December 2011 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £38.50

#### Status Quo presents "Quofest"

Friday 18th December 2011 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £49.50

#### Diversity

Friday 30th March 2012 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £45.50

#### Chris Rea

Saturday 31st March 2012 - Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle £45.50

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'Debutots' and 'Zumba with Jaime' are working in partnership to bring special drama and dance workshops especially for children aged 4 to 8 years.



The sessions are held at Greenfield School Sports Hall on Thursday 18th August, 25th August and 1st September from 10am till 1pm, charged at £10. Pre-booking is essential.

Contact Jaime on 07956588277 or Tara on 07976 674934



e: zumbawithjaime@hotmail.co.uk m: 07956 588277

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## THE TURBINIA

\* Saturday Night Live \*

The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge

### Saturday 13th August - "BULLET"

RIFFS MAGAZINE Review, TURBINIA 07: "The prognosis from tonight's performance is definitely a thumbs-up - passion, energy and excitement are what 'BULLET' deliver and watching the crowd at The TURBINIA go crazy for them, then it's obvious they are on the way up very quickly. BULLET seem to have got it right and given the odd break or two could seriously be set to worry some of the more established bands . . . Watch out for BULLET, they could just have your name on them."

Tracks by Guns n Roses, Pearl Jam, Def Leppard, Bon Jovi, Iron Maiden, U2, Ozzy, Foo Fighters, Velvet Revolver and more - www.bulletband.co.uk

### Saturday 30th July - "ATLANTIS KNIGHT"

'Atlantis Knight, were created about 4-years ago and are made up from a wealth of experience in members who have historically played in numerous other bands including North East Top Rock Band, 'Maiden England'. The band have recently resumed touring the North East circuit for a second time after a 6 month break, due to professional commitments to other artistic projects. The first thing which intrigued me on entering the upstairs concert room in Nikh's was the fantastic vocals of lead singer 'David Wilson'. His versatility and range of covers was encouraging and pleasingly received by the audience. AK's repertoire of covers encompassed at least one single perceptible likeness for the masses to gorge on, some of whom I'm sure, 'made bliddy right pigs' of themselves'. It was obvious that AK enjoyed playing together even though they re-sounded some minor collective timing issues. However this was unnoticeable and understandable knowing the bands absence from the stage the last 6 months. 'Garry' and 'Johnny' complemented each other on guitar, especially on 'The Trooper' and created pleasing tight instrumental fill passages. 'Bans' lower pitched rhythm and 'James' amplitude overtones provided a deep foundation for the others to bask. On the whole another thoroughly enjoyable live performance to feed the appetite' - Toon Rock Page Review

### Saturday 3rd September - "SHANGHAI"

GIG PIT REVIEW AT THE TURBINIA - "Wouldn't have wanted to miss this gig!! The first set kicked off with Purple's 'Hush' was followed by Whitesnakes 'Fool for your Lovin'. Another Whitesnake track, 'Is This Love' was followed by Purple's 'Burn'. I was taken by the effortless vocals of Russ. Nick on lead looked to be thoroughly enjoying himself. The opening tones of 'Radar Love' made me stop in me tracks. The second set began with Bon Jovi's 'Shot through the Heart', and The Kinks, 'You Really Got Me'. Def Leppard's 'Animal' and two of my favourite Billy Idol tracks, 'White Wedding' and 'Rebel Yell' were dished out, expertly done IMO. Aerosmith's 'Walk This Way' and Neil Young's 'Free World' were the last two tracks of the second set. Fun to watch and a great way to showcase talent and entertain the troops!! Rapturous encore shouts got us another 4 (!!!) tracks.

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

# NEW DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT "THE WORK PLACE"



The Work Place is offering a fabulous new range of courses which are open to everyone this Autumn. Making use of the innovative healthcare facilities, courses such

as Paediatric First Aid, Emergency First Aid at Work, Health & Safety in the Workplace, IOSH Managing Safely and Food Safety courses will be on offer.

With course costs starting at just £50 per person per course, they are already proving popular and are set to be a great competitor in the training market.

The Work Place already plays host to meetings, conferences, training and corporate events, offering first class facilities. In a good location and with onsite parking and good public transport access, the centre is convenient for the whole of the North East.

Dedicated learning zones allow The Work Place to offer a schedule of activities and courses including the HealthTec Zone - providing an innovative health & social care resource and education centre.

The Work Place is a not-for-profit organisation providing interactive learning and education opportunities for learners throughout the region. For more details contact Angela Wilkinson on 01325 375910 or at [angela.wilkinson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:angela.wilkinson@durham.gov.uk).

# Young Newtonians Make Film of Aycliffe

Young people from Newton Aycliffe now have the opportunity to create and direct their own film after successfully gaining over £9,000 of funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The project, devised and run by the young people, will look at the industrial heritage of the town and the changes it has seen over the years. Newton Aycliffe was a new town born out of the second world war some 60 years ago. It was seen as a bright new start for the people and industry in County Durham as the old industries such as mining were destined to decline.

The young people will research and document the changes in the town's industries from munitions to micro processors. They will produce and film a documentary from the

research.

Brian Wise, project manager at Capture Films, said:

"Our Town is an intergenerational project that sets out to explore the heritage, cultural traditions and social roots of Newton Aycliffe in County Durham, the young people will take the lead, researching and creating their film which will help share this story with others."

Ivor Crowther, Head of HLF in the North East, said:

"We are delighted to be supporting this project that will see young people getting out into the community, talking to older generations and learning about what life was like in Newton Aycliffe. The Heritage Lottery Fund is particularly pleased to see that the young people will be leading this project and will be learning tangible new

skills along the way. We are looking forward to seeing the final film."

The aspiring young film crew will work throughout the summer months with elderly members of the community, historians, archivists, and a local film company to record people's memories and stories. These stories will form the basis of the film and will establish a living memory for future generations.

The project will be based at Greenfield Community and Arts Centre and Capture Films Studio in Newton Aycliffe. The film will be premiered in the Autumn.

Outcomes from the project: 10 young people will achieve Bronze Arts Award Level 1 qualification on the NVQ framework for film-making. 10 young people will receive a reference and a certificate of attendance for their National Record of Achievement

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Tuesday 23rd August	Horndale Park
Friday 26th August	St Oswald's Park <i>plus mini beasting</i>
Tuesday 30th August	West Park
Friday 2nd September	Our final venue - Town Centre Park

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## Volunteer Holds Cake Stall



The Newton Aycliffe branch of Sue Ryder would like to thank all customers who visited their shop recently when they held a tasty fund-raising event. Long time volunteer, Brenda Innes, kindly produced an array of homemade scones and cakes. These proved to be extremely popular and raised £50 for the charity which provides palliative care for people suffering from illnesses such as cancer, heart disease and strokes. If anybody is interested in volunteering please call into the shop for a chat with Chelsie or Margaret. Margaret Maull (Asst. Manager)

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## All Change at Junior Watch AGM

An AGM of Newton Aycliffe Junior Neighbourhood Watch is called for Monday 5th September at 2pm at Silverdale House, Silverdale Place.

This is a public meeting and everybody is welcome. There will be proposals on the table to restructure the organisation. Ring 01325 308094 for further details.



PC 1452 Alan Thompson will be holding a Police and Community Together PACT meeting at Simpature Court Coffee Lounge on Tuesday 16/08/2011 from 6-30-pm to 7-30pm.

The meeting is open to all members of the community and you can discuss any issues or concerns that you may have with your Community Police Officer. Councillors and Representatives from Sedgefield Borough Homes, Great Aycliffe and Durham County Council have been invited.

## Town Students in London



Years 10 and 11 Creative and Media Students embarked on a research visit to London.

On the first day we visited the National Theatre, The Royal Festival Hall and The Tate Modern to visit art exhibitions and carry out research on theatres. We met with a wardrobe mistress who talked to us about working backstage and how the costumes are made and altered for different actors and actresses.

We gathered lots of evidence and research for the year 10's performance

unit and the year 11's campaign unit. It was a long day but was rewarded with a meal at Pizza Express. The evening ended with a trip to 'The Place' to watch a dance performance, which was part of the new choreographers' festival called Resolution. On the second day we went to the Victoria and Albert Museum. We met the Marketing Manager who

talked to us about how they advertise the different exhibitions and events.

We also looked around the jewellery gallery and performance galleries where we got to try on costumes that have been used in West End performances.

After lunch we went to see Wicked at the Apollo Victoria, it was amazing and we left feeling we could defy gravity.

## Aycliffe Firm Completes £350k Contract



A Newton Aycliffe steel firm has completed work on an exciting £10m software centre after starting on the centrepiece for Sunderland's growing software industry, earlier in the year.

Finley Structures was awarded the £350,000 contract to supply, fabricate and erect the structural steelwork, completing the 300-tonne job in five weeks, which included landing the decking packs and pre cast concrete stair installation. Managing director John Finley, pictured outside the Software Centre in the city centre, said: "From receiving the order to delivering it, everything went extremely well and according to plan. "It's the first time we've worked with BAM Construction, but they're delighted with our work and we'd hope it's just the beginning of a long and

fruitful partnership." BAM's senior project surveyor David Coe said: "We found all members of Finley Structures to be extremely helpful and competent. Tenders were returned swiftly, design works were produced in accordance with our requested programme, and the site installation was completed around two weeks ahead of programme." The Software Centre, which is due to open next year, aims to bring 140 jobs to Sunderland and will continue cementing the city's and the North East's reputation as a centre for hi-tech businesses. The 53,000 sq ft development will have state-of-the-art accommodation for 60 software businesses, as well as exhibition space, showing visitors in a fun and interactive way, the role software plays in their lives.

## Macmillan Cancer Service Launches Pilot 'Benefits Made Clear'

The Macmillan Cancer Information Service in Easington and Sedgefield is taking part in a national pilot in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support and Durham County Council Welfare Rights Team to promote and implement the Benefits Made Clear Tool.

Benefits Made Clear is an interactive guide that can help people affected by cancer find out what financial support they may be entitled to. It isn't an application for benefits and doesn't give a definitive answer about entitlement; what it does do is provide them with information about what it might be worth applying for and what information they will need to provide. The Cancer Information Service is supporting people in this area to use the web tool through providing free internet access and hands on practical support to complete the tool. We hope that the tool will help people affected by cancer to get the financial help they are entitled to, money that can make a significant difference to their quality of life.

Many cancer patients incur a substantial drop in household income both through their own inability to work through surgery/treatments and/or a carer's loss of income through reduced hours/sickness etc/ self employment. Some people have

lasting effects from treatment which prevent them from returning to work in their previous role. Some of the affects of cancer and its treatments can frequently include always feeling cold; being immune-compromised; weight loss; body changing surgery – these all incur a cost in terms of heating, new clothing, increased laundry bills etc.

Andrea Elsbury, Health Improvement Specialist for Cancer Information and Support Service, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust said: "We know that having a diagnosis of cancer is difficult enough to cope with, without the worry of financial difficulties that sometimes follow; we want to reduce those worries by making sure people are receiving all the financial help they should be getting as well as offering access to all our other services.

"We would encourage anyone who wishes to check out possible financial support they might be entitled to, to call in to the PCP Newton Aycliffe or Peterlee Macmillan Cancer Information Centres where help is on hand to complete the Benefits Made Clear tool and to arrange an appointment with a Macmillan benefits advisor to assist with any applications."

For further information please ring the freephone number 0800 783 4056 to speak to a member of the team.

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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, 24th AUGUST 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](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk))

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

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 Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th August  
 11.30 am - 5.00 pm  
 School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe

*With*  
**Imps Motor Cycle Display Team**  
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# Club's Fun Vist to Dentist

Recently the children and staff from Woodham Burn out of School Club visited Oasis Dentist in Bishop Auckland.

We were met by the staff, who gave us colouring sheets as we waited to see the dentist. Oasis had kindly closed the surgery for two hours, whilst the children were given the opportunity to experience many fun activities. These included the chance to sit in the dentist chair, and have their teeth checked by the dentist.

They looked at different foods that were healthy, and foods that were not kind to our teeth. The children were shown different foods and the sugar content. The staff at the dentist also kindly laid out different healthy foods for the children to try, which they really enjoyed.

Afterwards the children went back into the dentist rooms to be shown how to brush their teeth properly. Each child was given a disclosing tablet, which turned their teeth purple much to the amusement of all the children. Each child then took turns to brush their teeth with the support of the dentist all showing off lovely clean teeth.

On leaving the dentist, each child was given a goody bag, which included toothpaste, toothbrush, a timer, a disclosing tablet and a balloon.



The club all sat and had a picnic in the park before returning to the club on a train.

All of the children and the staff had a fantastic day and wish to thank all of the staff at Oasis Dentist in Bishop Auckland for making the trip fun, educational and informative.

To find out more information about the club, arrange a visit, or to book a place for your child during term time or school holidays, please do not hesitate to contact Maureen or Sandra on 01235 300080.

# South Durham Business Club Expands

Membership of South Durham Business Network continues to grow with over 250 local businesses. As the summer draws to a close and darker nights set-in some great events are planned including the first South Durham Business Awards in December.

The evening will provide an opportunity to celebrate businesses and their success across South Durham whilst enjoying an evening of delicious food, superb entertainment and dancing until late.

Information on SDBN, applications for membership and the awards is available on their website www.sdbn.org.uk.

## move on homes

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Two bedroom semi in a corner location in a popular area. Approx 2000 sq ft, approx 100 sq ft garden, double garage.

**Chillingham Grove**  
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 £115,000

An elegant 3 bedroom semi detached property. Well landscaped garden, double garage, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway.

**Hamberley** New  
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 £124,990

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

**Narrow Coat** New  
 Woodham Village  
 To Let £240 p.c.m.

Three bedroom semi detached property, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, double garage, private driveway and parking.

**Martin Court** New  
 Newton Aycliffe  
 £228 p.c.m.

Three bedroom semi detached house, 100 sq ft garden, double garage, private driveway and parking.

**Darwick Crescent**  
 Newton Aycliffe  
 £107,990

Two bedroom semi detached house, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, double garage, private driveway.

**Chaffham Way**  
 Woodham Village  
 £179,990

Four bedroom detached house, double garage, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

**Clover Court**  
 Woodham Village  
 £181,990

A new 3 bedroom 3 bathroom detached house, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

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

2 bedroom house, double garage, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

**Melton Way**  
 Greenfields  
 £104,990

A fully equipped two bedroom detached property. Grounding property, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

**Went Road**  
 Shildon  
 £75,000

Two bedroom semi detached house, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, double garage, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

**Silkin Row** New  
 Newton Aycliffe  
 £80,000

A well presented 3 bedroom semi detached house, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

**Oric Place**  
 Newton Aycliffe  
 £78,000

Well presented 3 bedroom semi detached house, 1000 sq ft, 100 sq ft garden, private driveway, 100 sq ft garden.

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 4 bedroom detached - £238,000  
**PARNHAM CLOSE**  
 1 bedroom flat - £84,990  
**RICHARDSON WALK**  
 2 bedroom and terrace - £98,000  
**HEATHERBURN COURT**  
 2 bedroom and link - £88,000  
**LAYTON COURT**  
 2 bedroom semi - £108,990  
**ANNAND WAY**  
 2 bedroom detached - £188,000  
**BEECHFIELD**  
 4 bedroom terrace - £97,000  
**FINCHALE ROAD**  
 2 bedroom detached - £188,000  
**KESTRIL COURT**  
 2 bedroom detached - £147,000

## Students Work on School Newspaper

Dear Sir,  
On Wednesday 6th July we wrote stories to put in our School newspaper. We were given different things to write about and had seven and a half hours to do it. We had to write about local news, national news and much, much more.

Most of the year 7's started as soon as the school day began, well close enough, but the year 10's joined us at 2nd period. Together we wrote a lot of different stories and had great fun and it was amazing to get together with the older children to work with them. I had an amazing day and I'm sure everyone else did too.  
Student Reporter



## CARE HOME COFFEE MORNING

Please come & join Rose Lodge Care Home at Cobblers Hall on Friday 19th August 2011 from 10.30am

The Mayor will be officially naming the new Dementia Units at 10.30am followed by a Coffee Morning with cake stall & raffle

From 1.30pm there will be an afternoon of entertainment & refreshments. We look forward to seeing you!



We regret to record the death of one of the town's oldest citizens and Second World War Veteran, Stan Harrison, who passed away peacefully on 1st August, 2011.

It was an unexpected death to the family as Stan seemed to be recovering from Pneumonia in Darlington Memorial Hospital and the Doctors were planning his rehabilitation.

His daughter Shona told Newton News that she was shocked, but oddly, Stan had said goodbye to her on her last visit telling her not to be sad as he had enjoyed a wonderful life.

Stan was born in Hull in 1918 and would have been 93 years old next month. He was a popular figure around the town and lived independently in Bewick Crescent since his wife Ann died 8 years ago.

Stan married Ann just before he was called to go to war. He fought in the desert for five years and was in the famous Battle of Alamein. He proudly wore his medals at each Remembrance Sunday Parade held in Newton Aycliffe.

Last year he made a visit with the British Legion to Egypt and Libya, laying flowers on



**STAN HARRISON**

the graves of his friends who lost their lives in the war.

Stan and Ann came to Newton Aycliffe in 1954 when he was employed as Sales Manager for Pax Paints who had a factory on the Trading Estate, as it was then known.

Stan was a faithful member of St. Clare's Church where he served on the Church Council and as Churchwarden. He also served on numerous committees; was a Governor at St. Francis School and Chairman of the CAB.

He leaves his daughter Shona, Son-in-law Alan, Grandchildren Robert and Lottie. The Funeral will be held at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 16th August at 11am.



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## Miller Homes Summer Photo Competition



IN CELEBRATION of summer North East house builder Miller Homes has launched a competition to encourage budding photographers across County Durham to submit their favourite summertime snaps. Miller Homes is looking for images that capture a typical North East summertime – the places people go, the people they are with and what they do when they get there.

The winner will win £100 worth of B&Q gardening vouchers, as well as seeing their print professionally framed for them to keep and another displayed within one of Miller Homes' sales offices.

Miller Homes' North East sales director Steve McElroy said: "As part of our calendar of summer

themed promotions and incentives we have launched a photography competition to encourage people to really appreciate the area in which they live, take pride in their region and sum-up what summer means to them.

A prize will be offered to the most interesting, thought-provoking and original photograph. Photos will be judged by professional North East photographer Barry Pells and a Miller Homes marketing executive Donna Brown.

Anyone interested in entering the competition should submit their photograph via email to Donna.Brown@miller.co.uk

Miller Homes will accept up to two images per person and the deadline for entries is Friday 2 September 2011.

# SBH - MORE THAN JUST A LANDLORD

A County Durham housing provider has published the first in a series of intelligence-led neighbourhood plans in a bid to improve its communities.

Sedgefield Borough Homes (sbh) which manages over 8,500 properties across south Durham is the first registered housing provider from the North East to publish plans of this type.

The housing association, which underwent major restructuring earlier this year, set up specialist teams to lead on the plans, which will result in the delivery of a number of services to tackle issues such as unemployment, health, welfare reform and environmental quality of neighbourhoods.

Alan Boddy, executive director people and communities, for sbh, said: "Strong and vibrant communities are about more than good housing, they are about sustainability factors such as employment, health, the environment and community cohesion.

"The neighbourhood plans align closely with the emerging big society and localism agendas. We want to support our communities but also give them the skills and tools needed to empower them to make decisions, and

a difference locally."

The detailed plans come after months of consultation and intelligence gathering with tenants, leaseholders, community groups and organisations from the area. The registered provider held a series of focus groups set around seven key themes, to identify the issues and priorities within the neighbourhoods.

This was followed by feedback sessions to ensure the actions developed to tackle the problems would make a real difference to people's lives.

Secondary data including census information, land registry records, and crime statistics was also utilised to inform the findings as well as developing a neighbourhood assessment that ranked localities as gold, silver or bronze based on criteria set around demand for housing, unemployment levels, rent arrears and environmental quality.

Alan Smith, executive director finance governance, for sbh said: "Efficiencies generate by the restructure and other initiatives have allowed us to start to resource the delivery of the neighbourhood plans and reinvest in our communities to deal with the issues that

face them.

Further reviews to drive out additional efficiencies will target further resources at delivering real change."

The housing association will continue to carry out consultation with the aim of producing 19 plans by March 2012. To view the neighbourhood plans or to find out more visit www.sedgefieldboroughhomes.co.uk

## W.I. Gear up for the Show

After a packed year of activities, trips and talks Newton Aycliffe W.I. are now gearing up for Aycliffe Show. The recipe books are out and the jam pans and fruit are being prepared for our annual stall at the show.

Hopefully the weather will be kind to us this year and as usual you will find us in the W.I. Tea Tent. We look forward to seeing all our old customers and lots of new ones too!

If you are interested in more information about the W.I. please ring Lyn Swyft on 314905 or come and pay us a visit at The Cubby ay 7pm on the second Monday of each month.

## NEW DOORS FOR OLD!



Peter Beaty Chairman of Neville Community Centre receiving a very welcome cheque from Councillors Sarah Iveson and John Moran from their County Council Community Allowance. The Trustees wish to express their gratitude for the continued support they receive from these two councillors. The money will go towards new fire doors to replace those now 40 years old.

## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Brent Moorfoot took this photo and it's bugging him! Can any reader identify this insect?

# Get Set Kids Charity Ladies Night

The "Girls Big Night In" @ Xcel will be on Wednesday 12 October, 6.30 to 9.30 pm at Xcel Conference Centre, Newton Aycliffe.

Last year's event was a huge success with over 350 ladies attending. Once again we've got a House of Fraser Fashion show, entertainment, Zumba demo, 40-50 shopping stalls, cakes, beauty treatments, raffles, and tombolas.

TFM Radio's Antony Collins is coming along to do the auction for us. In addition this year there will also be a fully licensed bar hopefully with some special 'Girls Night In cocktails'. We're once again supporting Cash For

Kids and also Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research. The dvd of last year's event is on the news page of our web site, www.getsetkids.co.uk.

Please put the date in your diary and help us make it even bigger and better than last year. Tickets will be available from mid September at £5.

Any local businesses wanting to exhibit please get in touch with Ally or Emma on 07971 577572/07534 997875 or email info@getsetkids.co.uk Also, if any local businesses would like to sponsor the event either financially or with prizes for the raffle and auction we'd love to hear from you.

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**PROPERTY OF THE WEEK**

**CHILTON CLOSE, WOODHAM - £179,999**  
Four bed detached, ideal for the FTB or growing family. Lounge, dining room fitted kitchen, wood DG, GCH, master bed with ensuite, drive, garage, garden, patio - viewing highly recommended

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**LANCELOT CLOSE**  
Newton Aycliffe  
Offers Over £192,000  
Well presented three bed detached house, ideal Family Home. Lounge/dining room & fitted kitchen, double glazing & gas central heating. Gardens front & rear, garage & drive providing off street parking, viewing highly recommended

**BRAMHAM CHASE**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£249,995  
Four bedroom detached house, ideal family home, lounge/dining room, kitchen, DG, GCH, Ensuite, gardens to front and rear, garage, viewing highly recommended

**OSRICE PLACE**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£89,995  
Three bedroom terraced house, ideal for the FTB or growing family. Lounge & kitchen, double glazing & gas central heating. Paved garden area to the rear. Viewing highly recommended

**MERLIN COURT**  
Newton Aycliffe - £199,999  
Vendor to pay Stamp Duty subject to offer  
Well presented three bedroom detached house, ideal family home. Lounge and excellent fitted kitchen, En-suite. Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Conservatory, Gardens, Garage and Drive. Viewing recommended.

**PINEWOOD CLOSE**  
Newton Aycliffe  
Offers Over £199,999  
Immaculate three bedroom detached house, ideal family home, household goods for sale, lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory & utility, g.c.h & double glazing & en-suite, garage conversion, drive & gardens. Viewing highly recommended

**HIND COURT**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£122,999  
Well presented three bed semi det house, ideal family home. Lounge & dining room, double glazing & gas central heating, excellent fitted kitchen. Gardens, driveway & detached garage. Viewing highly recommended

**KEMPTON CLOSE**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£199,999  
A well presented three bedroom detached house. GCH, uPVC DG, Fitted kitchen, lounge/dining room, Guest room (original garage) and cloakroom. Gardens, patio, drive and car on sea location. Viewing essential

**ROOKWOOD HUNT**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£129,999  
Three bedroom semi detached house, ideal for the growing family; fitted kitchen and lounge/dining room. GCH & DG, gardens, patio and garage. Viewing recommended

**PEMBERTON ROAD**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£99,999  
Two bedroom semi detached house, ideal for the FTB, fitted kitchen and lounge, GCH, uPVC DG, gardens and larger than average drive, no chain, viewing recommended

**ELMFIELD PLACE**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£74,999  
Three bed mid terrace, ideal for the growing family. Fitted kitchen, dining room and lounge, DG, GCH, Open garden to front and parking to rear. Viewing essential

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**DEFOE CRESCENT**  
Newton Aycliffe  
£119,999  
A well presented three bedroom mid link house. Fitted kitchen, utility room, lounge, sitting room (original garage), DG and GCH., sun room, drive and gardens. Viewing highly recommended

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# I MAY BE WRONG

but I doubt it . . .

**Arun Chandran on Wind Farms**

Campbell Dunford, director of the Renewable Energy Foundation (REF), says that Germany – which has the largest number of wind turbines in Europe – “is building five new coal power stations, which it does not otherwise need, purely to provide covering power for the fluctuations from their wind farms. I am not sure wind has been a great success for them.”

Mr Dunford claims that Germany’s CO2 emissions have actually risen since it increased its use of wind power. Though the wind itself might, in RUK’s words, be “free,” the subsidy isn’t and the cost of backup capacity is likely to be astronomical.

# Golf Course Director Replies to Critic

Dear Ms. Foster, I write in response to your letter re: Washington Developments posted in the Newton News on 7th July 2011.

I would like to thank you for your interest in the development, however while your opinion on whether or not the plans should be approved is entirely your prerogative I feel I should address your concerns regarding the consequences of an additional hotel in the same locality as the one in which you are currently employed, and ask that you take into account the anticipated benefits of our proposed development before campaigning for the plans to be thrown out.

I can assure you that a new hotel in the area will not harm the business of existing hotels because it is a new type of product. The plans are for a golf and leisure hotel resort, designed for business and recreational use the need for which was confirmed with the help

of our partners, real estate experts DTZ and planning consultants Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners.

In fact, the proposed development represents a significant economic opportunity for Woodham and indeed the wider South Durham area, a location which has suffered from major job losses over the past decade as I’m sure you’re aware after having your hours of employment reduced.

The scheme is forecast to create almost 100 new jobs and safeguard many more and will provide the business infrastructure to support employment locations nearby including those in the hospitality sector. It will help to create a more sustainable, year round tourism offer in the area, raising the profile of South Durham as a destination and bringing an additional £1.6m of visitor expenditure into the local economy annually.

In effect the re-development of Woodham golf and Country Club and subsequent regeneration of the Aycliffe won’t harm business but will go some way to reviving the struggling economy by providing a significant investment to an area in which we see nascent economic potential.

While I can’t comment on individual businesses, such as your hotel, I’m confident that this investment into the area can only be good news for the local economy. Our aim for this development was to generate prosperity for the area in a responsible and sustainable way.

I hope you’re satisfied that Washington Developments has the future prosperity of the Woodham locality as a priority and should the plans be approved, we have your support in our continued investment in the area.

Jamie Murphy  
Director,  
Washington Developments



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# What a Waste of Time and Money!

Dear Sir,  
As a resident of the area adjacent to West Park and lakes, on Thursday 4th August I witnessed a very interesting scene. First, a mini bus pulled into the lake car park and out climbed half a dozen young men who I can only assume were supposed to be undertaking ‘community work’, handed out to them for being found guilty of misdemeanour or other. They were ‘supervised’ (and I use this term very loosely) by ONE young woman, who spent the whole time writing against a clip board – her report on their work perhaps. By the time they drove away (about 20 minutes later) these 6 young men had managed to collect sufficient rubbish between them to cover the bottom of one black bag! Most of their time was spent wandering around in a desultory fashion with litter pickers, looking into the water, or out of sight behind the boat house. One young chap even managed to break his litter picker by using it as a ‘golf club’ to knock an empty pop bottle

around – move over Darren Clarke!

During their ‘work’ one of the Town Council Park Attendants arrived, and undertook his own duties of rubbish collection in the lake. He was closely followed by a Council worker in a blue pickup who, in the time these lads had been slopping around, managed to litter pick the entire circumference of the bottom lake.

What a complete waste of everyone’s time and, I assume, OUR money!

• If these people were supposed to be ‘helping the community’ why were they not encouraged to GET ON WITH IT!

• Was the total lack of supervision due to only one lead person being insufficient?

• Why is there, apparently, no communication between these community workers and the Council so that these tasks (if done properly) do not need to be overlapped.

• This, if the work had been carried out satisfactorily, would have released the Council workman to undertake other, more valuable tasks for the council tax payers of Great Aycliffe.

A concerned resident  
(name & address supplied)

## Community Centre Needs Chairman

Neville Community Centre is looking for a Volunteer Chairman to run the organisation.

There is also a need for volunteers to help with fundraising so vital to the success of the Centre.

If you can help in any way please contact Peter Beaty on 313024 or write to him at 5 Ainsty Hunt, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7PH.

## Change to Pothole Rules on Trunk Roads & Motorways

The Highways Agency has revised the rules on potholes in the road. Previously contractors were required to ensure that drivers were given a quiet, comfortable and even ride by making sure that any defects in the surface of the road were repaired within a 24-hour timeframe.

The new rules state that potholes smaller than 15cm wide or 4cm deep are not classed as urgent for repair. The new guidelines refer to trunk roads and motorways. The massive increase in potholes is a consequence of three severe winters with 2010/2011 being the coldest for 100 years combining with years of underinvestment in routine road maintenance.

IAM director Neil Greig said: “This just seems to be storing

up larger repair bills for the future. All large potholes start off as small potholes -- it’s easier and cheaper to fix them early and reduce the risk to road users.

“The reaction of the Highways Agency to this crisis is worrying because it seems to be an attempt to switch their legal responsibilities to maintain safe motorways and trunk roads from themselves to their contractors, in the hope they will come up with something.

“The Highways Agency’s roads are the backbone of the country’s transport system which is why the IAM would like to see their risk assessment of this decision to be assured that motorists will not be put at risk.”

## R.A. TAYLOR

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**MONDAY 15th to FRIDAY 19th AUGUST**  
10.00am to 3.00pm daily  
With a Showcase Performance at 2.00pm on Friday 19th  
Age ranges from 8 to 16,  
ages will be split subject to availability

Theme for the Week is "WIZARD OF OZ" which will involve singing, drama, dance etc.  
Course Fee £45 for the week which includes a FREE T-Shirt

Drinks and packed lunches should be self provided.  
Clothing should be easy moving and your own trainers should be provided.  
Limited spaces available, so book early to avoid disappointment.  
**Contact Clare on 07921 929562**

**KIDZ FROM THE STREETZ**  
invites you to a  
**STREETDANCE WEEK**  
at GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
**MONDAY 22nd to FRIDAY 26th AUGUST**  
10.00am to 3.00pm daily  
With a Showcase Performance at 2.00pm on Friday 26th  
Age ranges from 8 to 16,  
ages will be split subject to availability

Come and be taught by the teacher whose pupils have danced with Diversity  
Course Fee £45 for the week which includes a FREE T-Shirt

Drinks and packed lunches should be self provided.  
Clothing should be easy moving and your own trainers should be provided.  
Limited spaces available, so book early to avoid disappointment.  
**Contact Clare on 07921 929562**

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# Beware Wind Farm Trick Questions

Dear Sir,  
Last week, I asked people to start thinking about the windfarm consultation, and to be aware of the kinds of tricks that are played at these events. So, this week:  
**Wind Farm Consultation Trick Number Two:** Asking where on the site you would prefer the turbines to be placed.  
To be fair, this is a pretty transparent trick. Once you start talking with them about where on site you want the turbines, you go down by default as an 'agrees-to-the-windfarm' person!  
But it is a brilliant strategy because you fear that - if you don't say where you want the turbines - Eon will

say that people 'didn't seem to mind' where they put the turbines!  
Also, asking where on the site you want the turbines is a good strategy because it gets Bradbury people saying they should be near Aycliffe, and Woodham people trying to shove them over by Mordon, and it sets community against community and stops us uniting against the development.  
What you have to remember is that, if this windfarm goes ahead, Sedgefield area will have more than a hundred turbines - where the Arup report suggested some 25-or-so would be appropriate.  
What you need to ask Eon is how many windfarms David Cameron has in his constituency? Or William Hague in his? As far as we can tell, of the 24 Cabinet ministers, only TWO have wind turbines in their constituencies.  
Scandalously, Chris Huhne, the Energy Secretary, does not seem to have any windfarms in his constituency of Eastleigh in Hampshire.  
So if the nice Eon man shows you a map and asks you where you would like to site the turbines, tell him: 'Eastleigh'.  
That's where we want them.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### WE DO NOT WANT A PUB IN THIS AREA!

Dear Sir,  
I write in response to the letter on the development on the Southerne Club site which grieved me greatly. As a resident of Hawkshead Place I am grateful for any redevelopment to the site as this will prevent "boy racers" driving round the car park at all hours in the morning and will also discourage unsavoury members of society thieving, looting and generally creating a menace to residents.  
HOWEVER I resent the reader's idea that a pub on the site would be a preferable alternative. This estate has many young families on it and the last thing we need or want is something to encourage noise or drinking.  
As for residents not receiving notification - to the best of my knowledge people directly affected by the development were informed in writing unlike the reader who it would appear lives a

distance away from where he is proposing a pub would be a good idea.  
I am also sure the reader is aware there are proposals for a hotel/ pub in the Woodham area which are being held up. Would this not be a nice new eatery for the middle aged in Aycliffe?  
I would please urge people not to oppose this development purely on the basis that it is a care home. The site has been derelict for many years now with no sensible proposals for development and I hope people see sense and realise any development/improvement to the area is a good thing especially for those of us directly affected by it.  
Please don't let this turn into an argument for arguments sake or we will never get any new business or jobs on the town!  
Concerned,  
Name & address supplied

### County Need to Save Further 2% in 2012/13

Durham County Council's Cabinet heard that early planning and savings linked to the council's unitary status are the driving forces behind the authority's strong management of the spending cuts.  
However, members also heard that there is a great deal of work still to be done and that further savings of 2 per cent in 2012/13 may now be required to cover unavoidable rises in costs.  
Two reports going before members outline both the progress made to date and the actions needed to ensure the tough targets, necessary due to large reductions in Government grant, continue to be met.  
The authority's Medium Term Financial Plan, approved by Full Council in February this year, outlined total savings of £123.5m over four years. Reductions identified to minimise the impact on front line services include 1,600 job losses and cuts in management and support costs. 130 areas of spend were identified as subject to review.  
The council's assistant chief executive is Lorraine O'Donnell: "It is right to reflect the fact that our early planning and the process of Local Government Reorganisation left us better placed to manage these challenging times. However, there is absolutely no room for complacency.  
"While we are currently on target to hit our savings in this financial year we are already looking ahead to the following three and this

is essential.  
"To reach this goal we have combined reductions in support and management costs with finding new ways of delivering services, for example the creation of integrated teams with the NHS, reducing waste disposal costs through recycling and structuring a new Connexions service for young people.  
"We have done all this to minimise the impact on front line services but there will undoubtedly be many more tough decisions to be made."  
Included in the savings to be realised this year are those linked to changes in the council's home to school/college transport policy a review of indoor leisure facilities and further changes to the waste collection and recycling services.  
The reports conclude that 85 per cent of the planned changes contained within the council's MTFP and identified as savings within the first year, remain on track. It points out that failure to deliver on targets will result in greater sums having to be found in subsequent years.  
Members will also hear that one of those reports identifies the need to consider further reductions in spending of 2 per cent in 2012/13 and explains this may be necessary to offset the impact of cost rises beyond the authority's control.  
These include rises in employers' national insurance contributions and significant increases in energy and fuel charges.

# GREAT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE ANNUAL SHOW

This year's Great Aycliffe Show takes place on Saturday and Sunday, 27 and 28 August on the Showfield on School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, and this year will feature a wide range of showfield entertainment, in addition

to live performances in the Playhouse Marquee and Arena.  
Organised by Great Aycliffe Town Council, entry is free, with ample car parking available at £1 per vehicle.  
Action and excitement will be available on the showfield for all tastes. Water Walkers -large plastic globes which allow users to run, roll, flip and spin on water, but without getting wet - will be a main attraction, as will a large roller coaster simulator, which seats 12 people at a time, and promises a highly realistic experience.  
Of course, if you prefer the atmosphere and excitement of real fairground rides, these will also be on offer. You could test your skills on the rock climbing wall or try the extremely popular Bungee Trampoline - which allows you to jump high into the air, with the protection of a safety harness. There will also be

quad bikes and a Paint Ball range.  
Younger children will enjoy the Punch and Judy Show and face painting, plus large inflatable play equipment.  
Durham County and Darlington Fire and Rescue will be running their exciting annual Inter Service Extraction Competition - for spectators only. Teams from different local fire stations will compete against each other in a specially staged 'incident'. The scene of a road traffic collision, complete with a trapped live casualty, will be created, requiring a full 'rescue'. The competition will take place throughout Saturday and Sunday.  
Finally, for the motor enthusiast, don't miss the Vintage Vehicle Rally. Further information is available from the Council Offices, tel 01325 300700 or visit the website at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

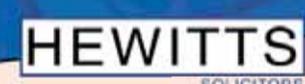


## I MAY BE WRONG

but I doubt it . . .

### Arun Chandran on Wind Farms

Professor David MacKay, who is now chief scientific adviser at the Department of Energy and Climate Change, pointed out that to cope with what's called "intermittency", you must do two things.  
First, you have to build far more wind turbines, in far more places, than you theoretically need. Prof MacKay says: "We need to be imagining industrialising really large tranches of the countryside." Every view, from every summit in Britain - apart, perhaps, from a handful of specially preserved recreational mountains  
The second thing you have to do is build more conventional, carbon-emitting power stations. Unlike wind farms, these can provide electricity predictably and more or less on demand.  
The wind turbines required in Britain alone, says Prof MacKay, would amount to about double the number of all turbines in the world. Even then, "the maximum plausible production from on-shore windmills is 20 kilowatt hours per day per person", about a sixth of Britain's actual consumption.



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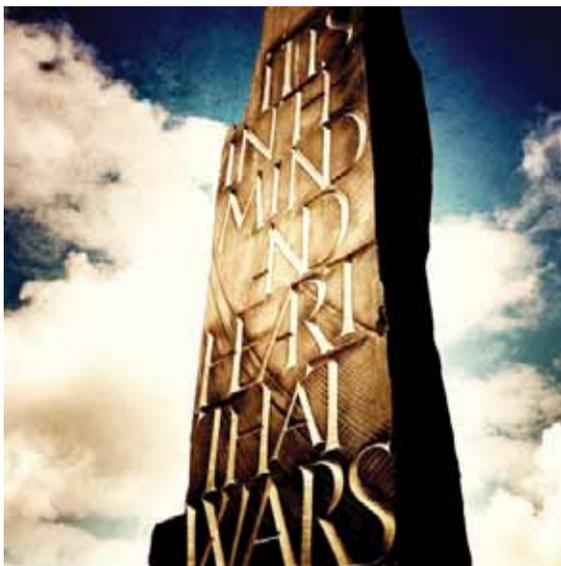
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## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Fine photograph of the War Memorial at St. Clares Church taken by Elizabeth Proud. The image identifies the artist's lettering skill and vision.

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## NHS Primary Care Launch Equality Consultation

NHS County Durham and Darlington is inviting members of the public to have their say on how equality can be improved in the NHS.

People are being encouraged to complete a questionnaire as part of a public engagement exercise, launched on 1 August, to help promote equality and fairness for all in the local NHS.

Questions include:  
 • **What could your local NHS do better to meet your needs?**  
 • **What actions would you like to see in the Equality Strategy?**  
 • **How can we improve the way we communicate with you?**

Ben Murphy, equality and diversity lead for north east primary care organisations, said: "The NHS is going through some big changes at the moment and we would like you to respond to the questions on the survey and tell us your views on how we can ensure equality for all is delivered within your local

NHS. "All the information collected will be anonymous and will be used to inform the Equality Strategy for primary care organisations across the north east. By completing the survey people can help us to understand the needs of the different communities in which we serve."

There are a number of ways in which you can complete the survey:

Online at <https://www.oc-meridian.com/nhstees/content/EqualityEngagement>  
 You can request a copy of the survey from [benmurphy@nhs.net](mailto:benmurphy@nhs.net) or call 01642 666700. Surveys can be completed up until 14th November 2011.

## HELP SAVE LIVES

Dear Sir,  
 As an Olympian and patron of Meningitis UK, I would like to challenge your readers to do something incredible to help save lives from this killer disease.

The charity has an exciting event coming up involving the highest mountains in Africa. Both seasoned walkers and brave novices can sign up for the more awe-inspiring climb up Mount Kilimanjaro in January 2012.

The trip of a lifetime to Mount Kilimanjaro takes place from January 12 to 22 and covers a variety of diverse terrains, from jungle to volcanic craters, en route to the picturesque snow-capped Uhuru peak - the highest point in Africa at 5,895m high.

The challenge, called The Big Trek, promise to push participants to the limit while helping to raise funds towards eradicating meningitis.

Thousands of people die from the disease each year and taking part in a charity challenge is one of the ways in which people can help raise money towards finding a vaccine.

I fell ill with meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia when I was 15, which left me in a coma for three days.

Thankfully, I was lucky to pull through and be able to go on to achieve my sailing dreams.

With your help, Meningitis UK will be able to beat this disease and spare thousands of families the heartache of losing a loved one in the future.

To find out more about this exciting challenge, visit [www.meningitisuk.org](http://www.meningitisuk.org), email [toya.champ@meningitisuk.org](mailto:toya.champ@meningitisuk.org) or call Toya on 0117 302 6191.

**Sarah Ayton**  
 Olympic gold medallist and Meningitis UK patron

## Stay Out of Quarries

Every year, young people put themselves at risk of injury and even death in their local quarries. It happens right across the country - and it happens in your area. Tragically, only this July, a teenage boy was drowned in a quarry in Lancashire.

With the long school holidays and warmer weather, young people will be looking for excitement and places to hang out with their friends. I would like to appeal to parents to ensure that their youngsters are not tempted to enter into local quarries uninvited.

While some of the hazards that they may expose themselves to are obvious, others are less so. The water in quarries can, for example, be icy cold and deep with unexpected currents and obstacles hidden beneath the water. Quarry edges can be unstable. Caves dug into sand stockpiles can collapse on you.

As part of their annual campaign, the Mineral Products Association has a Facebook page Stay Safe ... Stay Out of Quarries which includes videos that highlight not just what can happen if you venture into a quarry without permission but also the huge impact that the death of a young person in a quarry accident has on their friends and families. They are resources we hope parents and other members of the community will use to help deliver our warning. The videos can also be viewed on YouTube (type in - Stay Safe Stay Out of Quarries)

The message and the message of the parents of boys who have been killed whilst

trespassing in quarries and are now supporting the campaign is simple - unless you are invited on an organised visit by the quarry operator - Please Stay Safe ... Stay Out of quarries.

## ARE YOU OVER 50?

Would you be interested in joining an Over 50's Club for activities and outings? If so please contact Peter Beaty on 313924.

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**Friday 19th August - The 80's Experience**  
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**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 11pm and 4pm

**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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**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. £18.95 pp

**Friday 9th September - Benidorm Nights**  
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# CRACKDOWN ON OFF-ROAD RIDERS

Four bikes have been seized and 16 people issued with warning notices during the latest two-day phase of a crackdown on off-road motor menaces.

Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary are working together

under the Safe Durham Partnership to reduce the nuisance caused by the riders and drivers of off-road vehicles.

The on-going enforcement operation sees increased patrols by police officers, PCSOs and neighbourhood wardens acting on

information from the public.

Chief Inspector Andrew Huddleston of Cleveland and Durham Special Operations Unit said: "The nuisance caused by riders and drivers of off-road bikes and vehicles not only affects the quality of life of residents

it also has an impact on the environment.

"These current patrols are achieving excellent results and with the backing of all the partners will continue to pursue those responsible."

Nine people were issued with warning notices for anti-social behaviour during one day in East Durham. A further seven people received warning notices during a separate shift, while four riders in total had their bikes seized during the two days.

To report anti-social behaviour contact Durham Constabulary on 0345 60 60 365.

# DON'T DRIVE WITH "PROVISIONAL" INSURANCE

Nigel Lacey, co-founder of young driver insurance provider Provisional Marmalade, said, "We provide insurance for young drivers with provisional licences for as little as three pounds per day. Policies are issued by the week or the month and so young drivers are not tempted to rely on provisional insurance after they have passed their test."

Other companies in the sector write twelve month policies for provisional drivers. Provisional insurance is invalid after a driver has passed their test.

"A provisional driver is always accompanied by an experienced driver and

so provisional issuance is markedly cheaper than when the youngster heads out on the road by themselves," explained Mr Lacey. The leap in premium costs encourages many youngsters not to tell their insurance company that they have passed their test. Estimates suggest that as many as 50% of drivers with annual provisional cover are driving on the road illegally.

"Provisional Marmalade instigates every check that is practicable when selling provisional insurance and ensures that young drivers are fully aware that their provisional insurance is invalid after they pass their test," said Mr Lacey. "Our competitors sell annual policies and are less able to

check that their customers have not passed their test."

Provisional Marmalade is an offshoot of Young Marmalade, a scheme that provides small-engined, quality cars with excellent safety features and insurance as a combined package. Young Marmalade also requires young drivers to take additional training after passing their test.

Speaking about road safety for young drivers an AA spokesman said: "Government figures show eight out of 10 accidental deaths, from any cause, of men aged 15 to 19 are on the road — as drivers or passengers in cars. This is much, much more than drugs, stabbings or work-related accidents, which tend to grab headlines."

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## Wind Farm Petition

Local man Derek Atkinson has offered to man a 'Wind Farm Petition' table, at next Tuesday Market (10 am - 2 pm), to collect as many signatures as possible against E-on's plans.

He will position himself near the spiral staircase. Any reader against the proposed Wind Farm may take the opportunity to sign the petition being organised by our MP Phil Wilson.

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XCEL HOST EVENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Over 80 older people and their carers from Newton Aycliffe enjoyed a social event at the Xcel Centre on 4 August. The event was hosted by Cloud Nine a charity based in Xcel Church and was part funded by County Durham Community Foundation.

The visitors were from Care Homes or older people living independently with some support. They enjoyed entertainment including poetry and songs from the 50s and 60s. This was followed by afternoon tea with sandwiches and cakes. For many of the older people the event offered a

chance not only to enjoy the entertainment and the food but also a chance to socialise, meeting new people and catching up with old friends. Pauline Horner said "Our visitors had a wonderful time and we are grateful to County Durham Foundation without whose support we would not have been able to host the event."

The August event follows an earlier event also organised by Cloud Nine with support from the County Durham Foundation. There will be a series of Christmas concerts in care homes in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area too.

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NEW is the Aycliffe Community Nursery for children aged 2 to 5 years of age which will run each School Term Monday to Friday, 9-15am to 12-30pm. To book your Day or Days or to ask any questions then please contact Jane on 07761818514.

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# BENCH TOO FAR FROM CAR PARK

Dear Sir,  
 The new park benches in West Park have been a great success, they invite passers-by with their bags of shopping as well as the picnickers. A bench with wheelchair access is a real good idea but the bench is too far away from the car park area, so carers, who look after several people, will not be able to use them!

Litter bins in West Park are well used, particularly in the car park area so why not have new bins next to the new benches in the hope that the evening drinkers will put the bottles and cans in them. West Park is so beautiful at all times of the year and it takes a lot of looking after so it's a shame when people spoil it by filling the lakes with their rubbish. Richard Bainbridge

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# Tackling Bureaucracy in the Police

As part of its scrutiny role of local policing, members of Durham Police Authority considered reports relating to reducing bureaucracy and sickness levels within the Constabulary. The members were advised of a significant reduction in time off work due to sickness between April to June this year, compared to the same time period over

the last three years, with an average of just 13 hours for officers and 9 hours for police staff during the period. Durham Constabulary's Assistant Chief Officer Gary Ridley said: "These figures are well below the Home Office targets and show a real improvement in time off work due to illness, which we will carefully monitor to see if this trend continues".

Mr Peter Thompson, Chair of Durham Police Authority said: "The report in reduced sickness levels coincides with the recent introduction of the Force Operating Model, an internal re-structure of Durham Constabulary. Durham Police Authority is committed and signed up to the new operating model which will help to maintain and improve performance with reduced resources.

"As an independent body, Police Authority Members are dedicated to carefully monitoring the new re-structure very carefully and very thoroughly, in the interest of the police force and the residents of County Durham and Darlington". Members also approved the decision for police officers to stop recording 'Stop and Account' encounters as part of its drive to reduce bureaucracy. Changes in the Crime and Security Act 2010 states that there is no longer a national requirement to record 'Stop and Account' encounters. 'Stop and Account' is a process where a police officer requests a person to account for their actions, presence in an area or items in their possession. The encounter is recorded including the ethnicity of the individual concerned. Mr Thompson said: "The Police Authority is constantly looking at ways of ensuring local policing is as efficient as it can be. Members agreed the decision having taken into consideration the length of time it takes each police officer to record each 'stop and account', as well as the recommendation that there is no longer a national requirement to record such encounters".

# Art Exhibition

**Bill Lowery's Art Exhibition at Greenfield Gallery is open until 24th August.** Bill, a local self employed builder is delighted to be showing his work of paintings, drawings and prints - most of which are for sale.

# ARE YOU TERRIFIED?

Are you terrified about using a computer, a mobile phone/texting, internet/online shopping, online banking, online research, weather reports and route planning, email, skype, google earth or google maps street view? Why not come to our Drop in Coffee Morning on the 17th of August at 10 am. at Woodham Village Community Centre near the shops at Woodham As part of our championing community learning we want to find out what you would like help with. Come along or contact David Sutton-Lloyd on 316144. woodhamcommunitycentre@gmail.com

# INTRODUCING A NEW POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Durham Police Authority is inviting members of the public to a Police and Crime Commissioner Stakeholder Workshop on 30th August 2011 to learn more about the significant changes ahead to local policing should the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill going through Parliament at the moment receive royal assent at the end of the summer. Partners from the public, private and voluntary sector will be attending the event and the Police Authority is extending the invitation to members of the general public given that they too are a key partner in keeping our streets, towns and villages the safest places to live in the UK. New Police and Crime Commissioners will be elected, replacing Police

Authorities, in May 2012. They will hold the Police budget and will have the responsibility to address the concerns raised by local people within the force area. The workshop will discuss the broader role of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the impact of the changes upon partners and communities in County Durham and Darlington. The workshop is free to attend and starts at 9am. It will take place at Durham Town Hall and is expected to finish at 2pm. If you are interested in attending please contact the Police Authority on telephone 0191 383 6529 or email sarah.harris@durham.gov.uk to book a place. Please note places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

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Alice Springs



Happy 21st Birthday 10-10-10

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

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden Wedding Celebrations Mar 1st Jan

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

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**Birthday Remembrance**

**EVA RODGERS** (nee Robinson). Some gifts in life you cannot buy. Some gifts are rare and true. The greatest gift I ever had was a wonderful Sister like you. Love always, from Freda, Fred and family xxx

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**Thank You**

**I WOULD** like to thank the people from the Agnew Community Centre who helped me and phoned an ambulance when I took ill on Monday 1st August. I am out of hospital and feeling a little better. Hazel **BLACKLOCK** Alan and Margaret would like to thank all their family and friends for the lovely presents, flowers and cards that they received on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. The occasion was enjoyed by all and we enjoyed our holiday in the Dales

**MICHAEL WHALEN** Peggy, Tony and Michael wish to thank family and friends for all the cards of sympathy and kind thoughts given during this sad time. Many thanks to Fr Campion at St Mary's, all at John Meynell Funeral Service, Dr Pounder, Nurses and staff at Pease Way Medical Centre, Delphine at the Cancer Care Unit and all at the British Legion for the lovely buffet. Special thanks also to PC Bram Booth and the Paramedics who attended Michael and gave wonderful support to Peggy when she needed it most. So far, donations for Lung Cancer have raised £331. Thank you **ERIC WATSON** Mary, Neil and Jill wish to express their sincere and grateful thanks to relatives, friends and neighbours for their comfort and support at this very sad time

**PYBUS** Dave and Edie would like to thank all the family for making our Wedding Day (29th July 2011) extra special. It was a great day. Also many thanks to family and friends for the cards and gifts which were really appreciated. Thank you all. Dave and Edie xxx

**PYBUS** I would like to thank my wonderful Husband, Dave, for finally making an honest woman of me (HaHa!!) and thank you Dave for our great Honeymoon in Belgium. Love you always, Edie xxx

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**In Memoriam**

**Lee George El-Hakim**



14th August

Time goes so fast, it's five years since you left us. There is never a day that passes without thinking about you. You are always in our hearts and thoughts. You will remain there forever. You are loved and missed and will be loved forever by all your family and friends here in England and Beirut

To a wonderful Dad. We miss you so much. You taught all of us so much. We mention your name every day. You didn't live to see your Grandson, but he is named after you, so your name, heart and spirit lives on. You will never be forgotten by your children and Grand Children. George, Kay, Lee, Michelle, Alister and Solomon

**In Memory of A Dear Friend Lorain Sivell**

You are always remembered by me and a wonderful, loving, kind friend. My family and I will never forget you. Marie El-Hakim and family

**SHAUN HARPER** 13/8/10. Good memories never fade, in my thoughts. Glen **LEE, MARIA ELLEN.** (Ria). A very special person. Hearts that love you never forget. Remembered always.

**RUTH METCALFE** 13-8-2004. Always in my heart and thoughts, forever loved Ken **RUTH METCALFE.** 13-8-2004. We miss you everyday Mam, you are always in our hearts and thoughts, love you always, Karen & Garry, Alli & Alan, Paul & Tracey & Stephen

**RUTH METCALFE** - 13-8-2004. Nana you are loved and missed everyday. From all your grandchildren and great grandchildren **CARR.** Ronald James 09/08/1992. Always in our thoughts. Forever in our hearts. Steve, Denise, Christopher and Simon.

**Congratulations & Birthdays**

**Mam and Dad**



**Happy 25th Wedding Anniversary**

Lots of love from Emma, Andrew, Lindsey, Louis and Phoebe xxxx

**Cathy Cowens**



**Happy 80th Birthday**

16th August 2011  
Hope you enjoy your day. Love from all the family xxxx

**Kevin & Deborah Carr**



**Happy Silver Wedding Anniversary Mam & Dad**

Have a great time in the Dominican Republic. Lots of love, Lewis xx

**Kilburn - Robinson**



**Happy 8th Birthdays**

11th August 2003  
Happy 8th birthday Millie-Jo and Tyler-James. We love you so much. Enjoy your day Sweet Peas. Love, Mam and Dad xxx

**Happy Birthday**

Millie and Tyler, have a super day. All our love, Grandma, Granda and Ellie-Mae xxxx

**Colleen**



**Happy 21st Birthday**

Have a ball now that you are 21! My little rock has turned into a diamond. Muchly love, Mam, Ian, Carly, Si, Rhys and Rach xxxx

**Rachel Leigh Greaves**



**Happy 21st Birthday**

Lots of love is sent your way on your very special birthday. Have a great time. Love, Mam and Dad xxx

**Romie Beanna Cowens**



**Happy 7th Birthday**

to our stunning little Princess. You mean so much to us Babe. Hope you enjoyed your party and had a fantastic day. Love you billions. Mammy and Daddy xxx

**Happy 7th Birthday**

From Nanas Grandads, Aunties, Uncles, Cousins and big Cuz Dolci xxx

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**Happy 21st Birthday**

15th August 2011  
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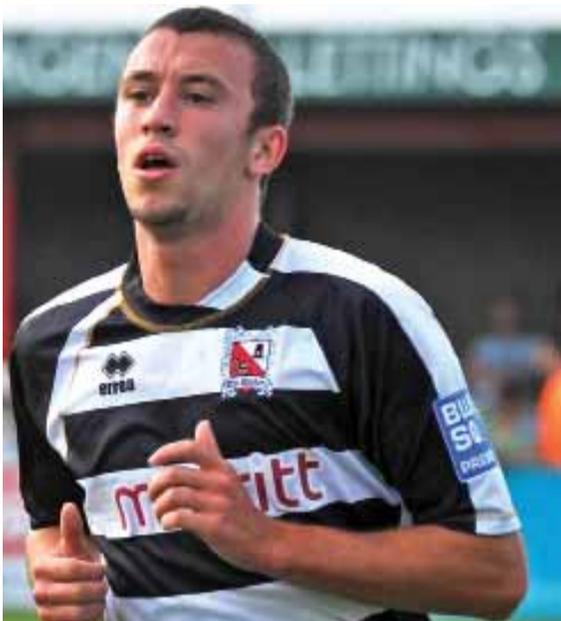
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# Aycliffe FC Sign Ex-Quakers Winger



Newton Aycliffe have pulled off their biggest signing of the summer, with former Darlington midfielder Josh Gray joining the club. The versatile 20-year-old, who can play as a left-back, left midfielder or up front, was released by the Quakers in May. He made 18 appearances for Mark Cooper's side last season, as well as a brief loan with Blyth Spartans, and played a total of 52 games for the club in three years. Delighted boss Allan Oliver said: "It's a tremendous signing for us and we're delighted Josh has decided to join us. He had other offers on the table after leaving Darlington in the summer and could have joined other, more established clubs in the Northern League. "But having played for Brian Atkinson in Darlington's Centre of Excellence a few

years ago, that played a big part. He adds some much-needed pace to our side. He's direct and will cause defenders problems. He's also a nice lad, has a great attitude and wants to do well for us so overall it's a brilliant signing for us and we're over the moon." Gray, from South Shields, made his debut for Darlington in an FA Cup first round game against Droylsden in November 2008, as a late substitute. He made his league debut four months later as one of four teenagers in a 1-0 victory against Notts County at the Arena. His first and only league goal came in April 2010, in a 2-1 League Two victory against Burton Albion. Gray is expected to make his debut in Aycliffe's opening game of the new season at home to Stokesley this Saturday (August 13), 3pm kick-off.

# LOCAL SPORT

More Local Sport Inside

## FA Cup Comes to Aycliffe!

### FIXTURES

Saturday 13th August: Stokesley (H) 3pm  
 Tuesday 16th August: Ashington (A) 7.30pm  
 Saturday 20th August: Billingham Synthonia (H), FA Cup Extra Prelim 1, 3pm  
 Wednesday 24th August: Bedlington Terriers (H) 7.30pm  
 Saturday 27th August: Billingham Town (H) 3pm  
[www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk](http://www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk)

The FA Cup is coming to Newton Aycliffe next week to celebrate another major milestone for the town's football club.

The Football Association have agreed to bring the famous trophy from London to Moore Lane Park at Aycliffe Sports Club for a special open day next Tuesday (August 16) from 1pm.

Aycliffe fans and members of the public are being invited down to the ground, where they'll be able to take pictures of the FA Cup free of charge.

The event is to celebrate Aycliffe's first-ever game in the 140-year-old competition, when they take on Billingham Synthonia at home on Saturday August 20. Chairman Gary Farley said: "This is a wonderful gesture by the FA and something I'm sure will excite not only our fans, but lots of people in the town and surrounding areas. "It's also a great way to celebrate something that was unthinkable just three or four years ago - FA Cup football being played in Newton Aycliffe.

"It's further demonstration of the tremendous strides this club has made for the town in recent years - going from park football in the Durham Alliance League to the Northern League first division and FA Cup football within four years." Aycliffe coach Brian Atkinson played for Sunderland against Liverpool in the 1992 FA Cup Final at Wembley, losing 2-0.

"It'll be nice to finally get my hands on it!" joked Atkinson. Fans and the public are able to bring their own cameras or camera-phones to get



pictures of the FA Cup for an hour, from 1pm at Moore Lane Park on Tuesday.

Aycliffe threw away a three-goal half-time lead against Division Two side Darlington RA in their final pre-season friendly last Saturday. Seven days before the season curtain-raiser against Stokesley this Saturday, the Newtonians were cruising to victory thanks to first-half goals by Elliot Gardner, Ben Wood and Jamie Poole.

And even after gifting their visitors two second-half goals, Gardner grabbed what should have been an 89th-minute winner. But RA grabbed two dramatic late goals, with the 91st-minute equaliser being literally the last kick of the game.

Team: Pocklington, Oliver (M Wood, 59), Poole, Peck, Craddock, McMullen (Robson, 59 (Sowerby, 73)), Knox, Gardner, Mellanby, B Wood, Owen (McHue, 65).

• Season Tickets are now available from John Gaskarth on matchdays, priced £75 adults and £45 concessions - alternatively contact him on 07590 925469 or email [gaskarth@msn.com](mailto:gaskarth@msn.com)

## Your Group Could Use Town's Community Bus

The Bus obtained by County Councillor Dorothy Bowman from her community allowance is available to all town groups on a self drive basis. It is not for commercial hire and can only be used by legitimate organisations operating in the Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership area.

Currently two local football teams and a Scout group are among the users and if you think you meet the criteria contact Dorothy Bowman who has details of the scheme. Tel: 308094. e-mail: [dorothyekdale62@talktalk.net](mailto:dorothyekdale62@talktalk.net)

Dorothy informs Newton News that the returns to the Charity Commission on behalf of the Newton Aycliffe Junior Neighbourhood Watch are on line and can be viewed on the Charity Commission website.

If anyone wishes to see the accounts or details of the last AGM they should contact her for an interview.

# TOWN FC CAPTAIN MEETS SOCCER TOTS

A group of keen young footballers were treated to a special visit during one of their training sessions last week. Newton Aycliffe captain Sean Tarling dropped in to see the Soccer tots at St Mary's School, taking the club's Northern League second division trophy along with him.

The youngsters, aged between five and six, train with the Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club's Development Squad. Their coaches are currently working with the children, with the progression into a league side happening in September 2012.

"We've been running sessions for a year now, and have around 20 kids attending sessions" said Andy Lee, one of the coaches. It was nice for the little ones to see Sean and the trophy - hopefully they



will aspire to play for the town's football club in the coming years."

The Development Squad has four coaches working with the children to develop their basic football skills - control, passing and shooting, as well as helping them with technique.

Two hold the FA Level Two coaching badges, while

the other two hold Level One, and all are fully CRB-checked.

They also hold sessions where they're assisted by a fully-qualified FA Skills Coach, with the next sessions on Friday 12th August and Friday 26th August.

Their regular coaching sessions are every Friday evening, 5-6pm, and are held at St Mary's School Field, but are moving to Woodham Community College in October.

More details can be found on the Development Squad section of the Club Website: [www.najuniorfc.co.uk](http://www.najuniorfc.co.uk) They welcome new children within the above age range (sessions are £3 per child).

Anyone interested can contact either Andy on 07510267187 or Jay on 07702974152, or simply turn up to a session!

## NOTHING TO DO?

BADMINTON FOR JUST A £1.00

Are you sick of the poor weather? Is it spoiling your plans for the six weeks holiday? Then why not come and try a game of Squash or Badminton at the Oak leaf Sports Complex. You can play any time Monday - Friday, between 9.00am and 4.00pm, we will supply equipment free of charge. All we ask is that you are between 8 and 15 years of age. So, either phone Reception on 01325 300600 on the day to book or you can just 'turn up', and, providing the courts are available, you can have 45 minutes of fun for just £1.00 per person

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