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4 Cobblers Hall Village Centre | Burn Lane | Newton Aycliffe

Double Award for Aycliffe Director



The old adage that 'lightening never strikes twice' was proven wrong on Friday 9th December when a South Durham businessman received two top awards.

It turned out to be double recognition for David Spensley when he attended the South Durham Business Awards at Spennymoor Town Hall.

Managing Director of Aycliffe Fabrications Ltd, in Aycliffe, he received the award for his Outstanding Contribution to Business

Development in South Durham from the Chairman of Durham County Council, Cllr Dennis Morgan.

And it turned out to be a double celebration as Cllr Morgan then presented David Spensley with the Chairman's Medal for the same good work.

Xmas Greetings

The Committee/Trustee's of the Agnew Centre send Christmas greetings to all of their Members, Centre Users, Funders, Supporters and Volunteers, who are too many to name individually.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2012.

COURSES FOR JUNIORS AT OAK LEAF

Christmas can be such a stressful time, but once the Big Day is over what can the children do (once all the presents are opened) to burn off some of that energy?

The Oak Leaf have the solution: Why not enrol them on one of our courses? We will be running a Crafty Kids session, an Activity Day, plus Archery Coaching and Sporting Fun all for 8-15 year olds, and for the little ones (4-7 year old) we will have a Mini Activity Session. Please ring Reception on 300600 and ask for more details.

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2 Neville Parade - 300203

Menu for week starting Monday 19th December
Meat-Gammon & Pineapple with Vegetables
Tee-Mince Steak Dinner
Well-Corred Beef Stew in Giant Yorkshire Pudding
The-Sausage in Onion Gravy
Fri-Roast Chicken Dinner
Sat-Roast Pork Salad
Sun-Pre-Ordered Christmas Dinner
Call Ian or Lesley on 01325 300203 to arrange your Meals On Wheels
www.FeastLand.co.uk

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Spray Tan and Eyelash Extensions £20

Newton Aycliffe W.M.C. Ltd.

Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe

We wish to inform residents of Newton Aycliffe the surrounding area that unless they are paid up members of this club or are paid members of an associate club, you will not be allowed admission to Newton Aycliffe W.M.C. at any time.

There are no exceptions.

By Instruction of the Committee.

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Merry Xmas to all Newtonians

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£5.00 per child

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Browse in our shop with a selection of gifts and locally produced food and meat from our farm



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The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge

Saturday 17th December - "THIS MACHINE"

"Well, I don't know what to say, apart from ... THIS MACHINE were absolutely amazing last night, one of the best ... especially when the guitarists were on the tables and bar, haha! Every song was awesome, perfect sound and just all round excellence. Also it was the best atmosphere I've ever seen, everyone was having fun." - GIG PIT REVIEW

One of the most entertaining bands on the circuit, music by Motorhead, Van Halen, Metallica, Pearl Jam, Bon Jovi, Guns N Roses, Deep Purple, AC/DC, Billy Idol, Thin Lizzy.

www.alanbweb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk

Saturday 24th December - "F.M." the Xmas Party

Davy's Rock Page Review: "Was this our best mid week pub gig ever? Probably! What can you say about FM, this was rock and metal utopia, a classic journey through the rock and roll hall of fame. They did the lot, Kaiser Chiefs, Foo Fighters, Sabbath, AC/DC, Zep and no real cheese, OK, they did "Whisky in the Jar", but hey! FM put a great amount of effort into this gig, sometimes midweek gigs just don't seem to have the same WOW or OOMPH

The atmosphere was great as was the music, a superb night. What is particularly pleasing is that FM don't always take the easy option, ie: Instead of sticking to Sweet Child O Mine, they did Welcome to The Jungle, different GNR cover that takes a little more effort vocally.

How long have FM been around now? Many a year and on this performance many a year to come. Thanks lads you were awesome

www.affermm.co.uk

Monday 26th December - The Elvis Experience

Our "show of the month" nights - One of the countries top ELVIS acts

"MIKE MEMPHIS & THE MEMPHIS BELLES SHOWGIRLS"

"2010 has been a fantastic year for 'MIKE MEMPHIS & THE ELVIS EXPERIENCE'. Regular bookings, referrals and re-bookings for 2011, along with a starring appearance at the Journal Tyne Theatre in Newcastle. The icing on the cake however, was that MIKE was asked to perform on the anniversary of ELVIS' birthday for the official Elvis Presley fan clubs 'birthday bash' - the first time an Elvis Tribute Artist has ever been allowed to perform for this official fan club. Testament not only to his ability as a performer, but also to Mike's own genuine admiration for the King of rock n roll. Mike has already been booked by the fan club for a variety of shows over the next 18 months. This year has seen the rise and increase in popularity of his 'road to vegas' cabaret show. This show features the gorgeous 'MEMPHIS BELLES VEGAS SHOWGIRLS' who join Mike taking you through the ELVIS years, performing fantastic dance routines and treating the audiences to some stunning costume changes. A very 'VEGAS' show!

A review from top north east music venue - 'If atmosphere is any judge of a performance, then MIKE MEMPHIS as ELVIS must rank along the top acts ever to play at THE THREE TUNS, because there have been few nights I have enjoyed as much as this - MIKE MEMPHIS IS ELVIS - AND ELVIS HAS MOST DEFINITELY ROCKED THE BUILDING' - www.ikeelvis.co.uk

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

SANTA CHRISTMAS EVE TOUR

Thank You

Great Aycliffe Town Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Newton Press for donating the space in the Newton News to publicise our Annual Santa routes.

Dear Newtonians

I am very much looking forward to touring Newton Aycliffe on Christmas and meeting all the boys and girls. Because there is so much to do I may be a little late, so listen out for my bell and horn.

Merry Christmas Santa



ROUTE 1
3.45 pm - 4.10pm: Aycliffe Young Peoples Centre, Welbury, St Oswalds, Central Avenue
4.10pm - 5.00pm: Washington Crescent area, Wycliffe, Armstrong , Wren, Whitehead, Hutchinson, Hylton, Matthew, Wolsey, Richardson, Trevor, St Aidans, Felton
5.00pm - 5.30pm: Neile, Defoe, Trevor, Porter, Wheeler, Lamb, Espin, Bellasis
6.30pm - 6.00pm: Wiseman, Ewbank, Hardinge, Chandler, Chapman, Crowley, Hardinge, Bousefield, Faber, Kendrew, Sanderson, Redworth Grange, Elstob, Burn, Westmorland, Henson, Whiteley, Thurlow, Aylmer
6.00pm - 6.45pm: Dalton, Hartley, Faulkner, Hullock, Allington, Walcher, Lilburne, Macmillan, Bertie, Alington, Webb, Westmorland, Newburn
6.45pm - 7.30pm: Humphrey, Silkin, Stead, Wright, Priestman, Marshall, Burdon, Lightfoot, Stephenson
7.30pm - 8.10pm: Barrington, Ashfield, Tunstall, Carileph, Ebba, Bruce, Pease, Past RAFA club to Paulinus
8.15pm: Back via Pease

ROUTE 2
3.45pm - 4.05pm: St Cuthbert's/Bede, Anne Swyft, Clarence Chare, Clarence Close, Clarence Green, Clarence, Baliol, Hackworth
4.05pm - 4.45pm: Baliol, Travellers, Linguard, Seton, Gilpin, Clanny, Palmer, Cosin
4.45pm - 5.15pm: Co-operative Store, Bury, Wilkinson, Van Mildert, Greathead, Shafto and return to Greville, St Cuthberts
5.15pm: St Clare's Church
5.30pm - 6.00pm: Sharp, Sheraton Road, Sheraton Close, Greville, Henderson, Crewe, Sharp, Hunter, Lumley, Sheraton, Crawford, Sheraton, Biscop
6.00pm - 6.25pm: Hatfield, Heild, Biscop, Skirlaw, Flynn, Beck
6.25pm - 7.15pm: Via Shafto to Creighton, Moore, Swan, Gunn, Mellanby, Liddell, Kenny, Carr, Markham, Secker, Joicey, Kemble, Bulmer, Vane, Fowler, Warburton, Jackson
7.15pm - 7.40pm: Shafto, Shield Walk, Stanfield, Denham, Ramsey, Eden, Langley, Mallng
7.40pm - 8.00pm: Central Avenue (Fire Station), Church

ROUTE 3
3.45pm-4.45pm: Greenfield, Burnhill, Malham, Reeth, Rylstone, Askrigg, Skipton, Arncliffe, Aysgarth, Hawes, Pateley, Stainforth, Keld, Marrick
4.45pm - 5.35pm: Garburn, The Lanes, Burnhill, Hawkshead, Honister, Silverdale, Lindisfarne Care Home, Kirkstone, Langdale, Whinlatter, Eskdale, Greenfield, Linden, Greenfield
5.35pm - 6.15pm: Beechfield, Rowan, Elmfield, Pease, Oakfield
6.15pm - 7.00pm: Cumby, Crosby, Doxford, Crosby, Lowery, St Godrics, Mills, St Godrics, Cumby
7.00pm - 7.15pm: Watson, Simpasture, Simpasture Gate, Moule, Finchale, Gregory, Lambton, Lee, Hopper
7.15pm - 7.30pm: Finchale, Dixon, Walker, Simpasture Gate, Emerson, Butler, Castlereagh, Merz
7.30pm - 8.10pm: Butler, Ritson, Bowes, Lyon, Bowes, Marley, Wallas, Isherwood, Bewick, Emerson

ROUTE 4
3.45pm - 4.45pm: (Aycliffe Village) Durham, Millfields, Atkinson, Orlands, Green (Mill House), South, St. Andrews, High St, Heighington, Oakley, Congreve, Bickford
4.45pm - 5.30pm: (School Aycliffe) West Cottages, North Cottages, Eastfields, The Garth, Midfields, Lord Neville, Binchester, Menville, Burnynghill, Forresters, Smythsons, Sheppards, Thurstby, Wilbore, High Barn, Meatesburn
5.30pm - 6.15pm: Springfield, Hazelrigg, Lowfields, Hansard, Jennison, Westfields, Hillfields, Greenfield
6.10pm - 6.30pm: Malvern, Colwell, Bedford, Wilton, Greenfield, The Chase
6.30pm - 7.10pm: Staintondale, Rookwood, Zetland,

Thank You

Great Aycliffe Town Council would like to thank Aycliffe Fabrications, Linden Hose, Ross & Wright (all of Newton Aycliffe), and Trevor Burns Fencing of Ramshaw, Bishop Auckland for the community spirited loan of their vehicles. This is much appreciated.

Covert, Stirrup, Bramham, Bedale, Post Horn, Saddlery, Greenfield, Byerley Park
7.10pm - 7.45pm: Lascelles, Luttryngton, Hambleton, Ranulf, Jesmond, Colburn, Elwick, Claxton, Russell, Yoden, Wynyard

ROUTE 5
3.45pm - 4.10pm: Brafferton, Grange, Chilton, Grindon, Whitton, Woodham
4.10pm - 4.45pm: Lowther, Brook, Cartington, Mulgrave, Helmsley, Middleham, Burleigh, Badminton, Stoneleigh, Lowther
4.45pm - 5.00pm: Hickstead, Stag, Kennilworth, Cheltenham, Gatcome
5.00pm - 5.35pm: Epsom, Kempton, Windsor, Fallow, Fawn, Hind, Raby, Brancepeth
5.35pm - 6.00pm: Village, Bamburgh, Chillingham, Alnwick, Barnard, Pemberton, Farnham
6.00pm - 6.35pm: Beaumont, Kirkham, Egerton, Dudley, Howson, Clover, Sorrel, Yarrow, Harebell, Campion
6.35pm: St. Elizabeth's Church car park
6.45pm - 7.00pm: Sandowne, Tattersall, The Oaks, Beechers, Paddock, Croft, Woodham, Sunningdale, Low Green
7.05pm - 7.45pm: Spinney, High Green, Granges 1 - 4, Bridle, Woodham Gate

ROUTE 6
3.45pm - 4.30pm: Hallington, Tindale, Derwent, Angram, Scholars, Broomlee, Stocks, Waskerley, Fewston, Blackton
4.30pm - 5.15pm: Meadowfield, Ladybower, Greenlee, Stainmore, Winterburn, Grassholme, Burnhope, Stainmore, Meadowfield, Hareson, Cestria
5.15pm - 5.45pm: Lisle, Lockyer, Hooe, Cheviot, Pennine
5.45pm - 6.30pm: Bluebell Close, Coverdale, Bluebell Meadows, Wolvestone, Alverton Drive & Court, Hamsterley, Barton, Paxton
6.30pm - 7.15pm: Lancelot, Temple, Gamul, Raddive, Spooner, Thwaites, Eade, Avon Court
7.15pm - 8.00pm: Scott, Bakewell, Booth, Bates, Sid Chaplin, Fox, Brockett, Loraine, Thornton, Sampson, Merlin, Kestrel

ROUTE 7
3.45pm - 4.10pm: Rose Lodge at Cobblers Hall, Foxglove, Ashtree, Pinewood
4.15pm - 5.10pm: Ropemoor Way, Forster, Patenson, Wakenham, Youens, Haselwood, Blackiston, Carwardine, Karles, Bloomesley
5.10pm - 5.20pm: Acle Burn, Acle Meadows, St. Andrews, Ryder, Agnew, Kings
6.00pm - 6.10pm: Ida, Osbert, Guthrum, Osric, Aldfrid, Wellhouse, Morrison, Tanfield, Stargate, The Ballarat
6.15pm - 7.00pm: Kimblesworth, Fenhall
6.15pm - 7.00pm: Hutton, Callerton, Deleval, Elemore, Phoenix, Brockwell
7.00pm - 8.00pm: Heatherburn, Foxton, Herrington, Hardwick, Butterwick, Rushyford, Layton, Woodham Way

Feastland With the exception of Meals on Wheels and Pre-Ordered Christmas Meals, Feastland will be closed from 9.00pm on Friday 23rd December 2011 to 11.00am on Sunday 8th January 2012

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our Customers

From Lesley, Ian, Michael, Laura, Nicola, Tom and Emily

Telephone: 01325 321123
www.facebook.com/feastland

MP at Simpasture Carol Service



Phil Wilson MP attended the Carol Service at Simpasture Court Newton Aycliffe on Friday night 9th December, given by the Brownies in conjunction with the Simpasture Coffee Morning Club.

Phil said "It was a special evening and the Carols were sung beautifully. I hope this event will now become a fixture for many Christmases to come. I congratulate all on the very high standards achieved".

Town Centre Chaplain's Christmas Message

This year has been particularly hard for many with the growing economic situation. It has been very hard for most retailers and even the Superstores who draw in the highest percentage of shoppers have expressed worries over their takings this year.

But what of our smaller shops in the town centre? Do we give them our support.

As Chaplain I visit shops, offices, banks etc trying to share their concerns by listening to their problems and just letting them know someone is there for them.

I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation to

all those I come into contact with. I am always humbled by their cheerfulness and hope that in the future, after the completion of the town centre redevelopment, they will take pride and receive support and encouragement.

Despite the current upheaval several new businesses have opened, joining the steadfast workforce already serving our community.

Along with the "Churches Together in Great Aycliffe" may I send Christmas Blessing of peace and hope and pray that

2012 will bring growth to our Town Centre and that those who work in it will reap the benefits.

Pam Lovelass
Town Centre Chaplain.

Top Teams Look for Players

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre under 13's and 14's football teams are looking for new players - all positions considered. Both teams currently play in the T.J.F.A league and the under 13's won the league and gained promotion last year. The under 14s have gained promotion for the last three years winning the league twice! Anyone interested in playing for these fantastic local teams please contact Kevin Loscombe on 07732 370323 or for more information go to www.naycafc.co.uk

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Two Donner Kebabs - £7.00
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Open from 5.00pm to 11.00pm

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ALSO AVAILABLE
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All food is freshly prepared with an array of fine and delicious ingredients for a truly authentic taste of Italy

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Unit 19, Gurney Way
Aycliffe Business Park DL5 6UJ
Tel: 01325 312218

We wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Newtonians

Newton News Got It Wrong!

Dear Sir,
Having praised the Newton News a fortnight ago, I am afraid that I must criticise its report last week of the Town Council meeting on the constituency boundaries.

In its front-page article, the Newton News stated that the Town Council had 'rejected' the MP's proposal. In fact - as the Council minutes state - the Town Council explicitly 'supported' the MP's proposal for an Aycliffe-Billingham constituency. The Town Council also insisted that Aycliffe should NOT be split between two constituencies but (as he said in last week's Newton News) this is something that our MP would wish too!

There is no rift between the Town Council and the MP on this issue.

Most Aycliffe people appreciate how excellent a constituency MP Phil Wilson is. He is unassuming and friendly. He shows his face regularly round the town, takes interest in its issues, and has his office in the town centre where you can talk to him person-to-person.

He has fought our corner vigorously over issues like the wind-farm and Hitachi.

As we face the economic and social difficulties of the coming months, we need more than ever to support and work with our MP.

John D Clare

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Popular New BTec Course



A brand new BTEC sports course in Newton Aycliffe is proving hugely popular with young people in the town, with more than a dozen youngsters already enrolled. The Martin Gray Football Academy will work alongside Greenfield Community College in partnership with Darlington College to deliver the full-time BTEC course at Greenfield and at the Excel Centre on Aycliffe Business Park, beginning September 2012.

The two-year Level 3 Diploma, equivalent to 3 'A' Level qualifications, will cover a variety of areas including physiology, sports coaching, nutrition and sports performance, and will provide scholars with a route to university as well as enhance their footballing ability.

Martin Gray and his team, including former Sunderland and Darlington midfielder Brian Atkinson, will work with Greenfield College's teaching staff to deliver the course, beginning September 2012.

Gray, who also works as Greenfield's director of football, said: "As expected, we have already received a great deal of interest into what is a unique and exciting new course for school-leavers in Newton Aycliffe. "This course will not only improve individuals as footballers, but it also provides a genuine, realistic career pathway and a stepping stone to university. "It's the first of its kind in the town and, as usual with Greenfield College, everyone is talking about it." Gray is pictured with Atkinson, along with (left to right) course tutor Martin Butterworth, Darlington College Principal Tim Grant and Greenfield assistant head teacher Stuart Dixon. Applicants must gain at least five GCSEs (grade C or above) to be eligible for the course. martingrayfootballacademy.co.uk

SDBN AWARDS NIGHT

A brilliant night was had by all on Friday 9th December when the members of South Durham Business Network (SDBN) came together at Spennymoor Town Hall to celebrate innovation, entrepreneurship and the success of business throughout 2011. The Chairman of Durham County Council, Dennis Morgan presented an extra special award 'The Chairman's Medal' to David Spensley - Managing Director at Aycliffe Fabrication for his special contribution and links with education. Other award categories and winners included; Best Home Business - Dowfold House (Bed & Breakfast) in Crook, Best Service Business - North East Medical



Services based in Bowburn, Best Retail Business - Warm Sanctuary based in Durham, Best Innovation - Demeter Ltd based in Sedgefield, Best Engineering & Manufacturing Business - Bignall Group based in Shildon, Best Start-up Business - Limeco based in Cothelstone and Best Employee - awarded to Elizabeth Malpas of Whitworth Hall

Hotel and Country Park. Congratulations to all the winners and the finalists which demonstrates that we have got some excellent entrepreneurs and innovators across South Durham. Thank you to the event and award sponsors; Barclays Bank Bishop Auckland, Durham County Council, Design 365, Durham Gate & Carillion, Newton Press, South Durham Engineering

& Manufacturing Forum, Wallworth Associates and Winning Sales. These were the first business awards hosted by SDBN but the success of the awards has provided a great foundation to build on for future years. To find out more about SDBN and how to get involved contact the Chairman, Darren Race at info@sdbn.org.uk or visit www.sdbn.org.uk

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Aycliffe Evangelical Church
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Join with us this year to celebrate the meaning of Christmas
Sunday 18th December
CAROL SERVICE
10.30am and 4.30pm
CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICE
10.00am
Christmas Greetings from Aycliffe Evangelical Church
For further details call 07703 464971 or e-mail: enquiries@aycliffe-ec.org

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P.A.C.T. Meeting
Police And Community Together

PC 1452 Alan Thompson will be holding a PACT meeting at Simpature Court Coffee Lounge on Tuesday 20th December from 6-30pm to 7-30pm. Councillors and Partners from Great Aycliffe Council, Durham County Council and Livin have also been invited.

LAST MOVIE

Woodham Movie Dome The 17th of December will be the last children's matinee for 2011 but we will be back on Saturday 7th January 2012. May I take this opportunity to wish all the boys and girls and Mom's and Dad's a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and thank you for your support from Brian & Charles

CAB - HERE TO HELP IN YOUR TIME OF NEED

Many of you will already be aware of the service that the CAB provides, or you may know someone who the CAB has helped. For those of you who have not heard of the CAB, we are a charity that provides free, confidential, impartial, non-judgemental advice to anybody who requires it. CAB are not restricted to only providing advice to people who are in receipt of certain benefits or need you to be referred by certain agencies to enable us to advise you. Contrary to popular belief, CAB advisers do not have to remember everything!! A CAB adviser uses an up-to-date comprehensive database which provides information on many subjects in addition to using local knowledge. The CAB is also aware of local and national issues that are currently affecting people in the area. Should these issues affect several people; the CAB can monitor and embark upon a campaign to rectify these

issues on a local or national level. Many people who seek advice from CAB leave the bureau feeling reassured after discovering that they are not isolated by having to deal with their problem alone. Despite a reduction in opening hours in recent years, the CAB strives to provide the best possible service to everyone who seeks advice and aim to continue this service as long as funding permits. Should you need to use the CAB, the drop-in opening times of the Newton Aycliffe Bureau are 10am -1pm each Tuesday. The drop in session consists of a short gateway interview and if necessary you will be referred to an adviser who is experienced in dealing with your issue. Alternatively you can phone the Adviceline on 0845 499 4123 where the gateway interview will be conducted on the telephone. The Adviceline is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10-1pm.

Bluebell Garden Centre
TOP QUALITY DOG FEED AT BUDGET PRICES
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Manufactured and labelled for us in the UK by a leading and well respected manufacturr in one of the most modern and up to date manufacturing facilities in the country. Sold in clear 15kg plastic bags (so you can see exactly what you are buying) fully labelled and VAT FREE. No artificial additives, No soya, No dairy, No cheap oils, No bakery waste whatsoever, No animal by products, No GM cereals . . . and the list goes on. Check out the price, ingredients and nutritional values against similar branded feeds. Our customers say there dogs love the food and they love the price!! Loads of parking right outside the door and we will even put it in the car for you or we can deliver to your home.
BLUEBELL GARDEN CENTRE
GREENFIELD WAY
NEWTON AYCLIFFE
Telephone 01325 312836
LOGS £4 / NET
Bird Seed 15kg Bags from 79p/kg

NICE STUDENTS

Dear Sir,
May I send a special thank you to Mrs Ryder's year 5 class at St Francis Primary school for all the beautiful hand written letters I have received after working with the school on a fantastic Young Enterprise programme.
Megan Jackson wrote: 'The biggest thing I learnt working with Mr Spensley was if you really want to do something, if you put your mind to it you can achieve it'
I wish them all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to working with them in 2012.
Dave Spensley
Aycliffe Fabrications

DISC Students Give Hospice a Christmas Boost

Students from DISC's Steps4Success project in Newton Aycliffe set up a stall at the market in the town centre hoping to raise money for the Butterwick Hospice. As part of their retail qualification, planning and running an enterprise project, the young people had designed and hand-made lots of Christmas gifts including giftbags, cards, bookmarks and wall hangings to sell on the stall. They also collected items for a fantastic tombola and hamper to raffle. It was freezing at the market that day but local people still took the time to stop and chat



and make a donation and they managed to raise nearly £100 for the hospice.

Thank you to all who generously made a donation. Steps4Success can help support you in taking the right steps for your future?

If you're a young person looking to move on with your skills or you are a parent who has a son or daughter aged between 16-18 and are looking for a place where they can achieve great support to achieve a qualification in 2-4 weeks and open up further education and employment opportunities then please get in touch.

A parent recently said, "Martin has moved on and done well in getting on a course in construction which he has always wanted to do but wouldn't have been able to do it without the qualifications he has achieved on the steps4success course." As well as improving your functional skills and employment potential Steps4Success course gives you the opportunity to

get involved with lots of practical and fun activities including fundraising for the local community, developing money making enterprise schemes, and experiencing vocational placements. DISC has recently moved from the old Phoenix House building in the centre of town to IES Centre, Newton Aycliffe Business Park, near the blue bridge, where we have fantastic up to date new facilities enabling us to create a productive and exciting learning environment. This year DISC's Steps4Success education programme has achieved:

- 87% of learners have achieved an award
 - 62% young people trained in their chosen area
 - All have improved grades in Maths, English and ICT
- Get in touch! Drop in to see us, telephone or email Steps4Success Unit 2 IES Centre Near Blue Bridge Tel: 01325 731160 Or email: andrea.dixon@disc-vol.org.uk

GREENFIELD STUDENTS DANCE MAT MARATHON

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the Dance Mat Marathon on Thursday 8th December from 3.30 till 6.30 pm for Team Green.

The pupils were Courtne Mills, Kara Elston, Leonie Wong, Chloe Stoker, Cora Gibson, Tanisha Waters, Megan Cross, Rebecca Lowes, Francesca Moody, Abbi Dunn, Daniella Parry, Samantha Clark, Holly Peacock, Charlotte Travis, Sophie Hayes, Ami Henderson, Eden Goyns, Megan Hamilton, Megan Lothian, Poppy Fisher, Lucy Farrar, Aoife Harrison, Jodie Wilson, and Emily Bloomer.

The pupils worked in teams performing different routines on the Mats ranging from easy to extremely hard! They collected sponsor money for a number of weeks for the CLIC Sargent Charity and Freeman Hospital and last night the running total so far was a massive £434 even with some sponsor money still to collect!!! The pupils really showed how much the charity means to them and were a credit to the school for all their efforts into the event.

We even had specially designed T-shirts from 7N and I even had a personal one to wear! A big thank you to all Team Green tutors (Miss Wingfield, Mr Tait, Mr Allison) and Year 7 tutors for all their support



and helping out on the night. Mr. Allison's dancing was out of this world! Finally a huge well done and thank you for the

pupils who took part and please congratulate them for raising so much money for this event, they made TEAM GREEN PROUD!

Premier Events Promotions Ltd

TEL: 07837 869020

COLD PLAY

Stadium of Light, Ticket and Coach £79.00

RED HOT CHILLI PEPPERS

Stadium of Light, Ticket and Coach £89.00

SCOTLAND v ENGLAND

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ALL METRO RADIO ARENA CONCERTS

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Monday-Friday 8am-6pm:
Saturday 8.30am-2pm

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GET READY FOR WINTER

FREE Battery Checks
FREE Antifreeze Checks

State of the Art Diagnostic Equipment
for ABS, Air Bag, Management Lights etc.

NEW STEEL RADIAL SPECIALS

195 x 60H15 - £46.95
205x55W16 - £49.95
225x40W18 - £59.96

PIRELLI SPECIALS

205x55W16 - £67.95
All Fully Fitted

SNOW TYRES FROM £54.95 inc

GREENFIELD ROWERS IN COUNTY FINAL



Well done to Greenfield's rowing team. The above students in years 7 8 9 & 11 qualified to represent Sedgfield SSP (School Sport Partnership) in the County Durham Finals on Thursday at Maiden Castle this week.

To have eleven students from one school in a County Final was a fantastic achievement for the school. Individually a number of Greenfield students finished in the Top 8 in the County.

In year 7 - Madalyn Patrick finished 8th and Katie McLaren 7th in County Durham

In year 8 - Lewis Crowe finished 7th in the County.

In year 9 - Jonathon Hampshire finished 6th with Dylan McPherson finishing 5th, with Victoria Pinner achieving 1st place in County Durham, which is a fantastic achievement - very well done Victoria.

In the relays, Greenfield School came 2nd in the Yr 9 event and 3rd in the Yr 8 event.

Victoria will now go through to represent County Durham in the Inter Counties in March. Good luck Victoria, and well done to everyone who took part.



*'Peace on Earth,
Good Will to Men'*

Carol Service

Christmas Eve
6.30pm

at
THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe

*Come and join us to
celebrate the birth of
our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
this Christmastime!*

Everyone Welcome!

12 LANE
FULL SIZE
10 PIN
BOWLING

SYNTHETIC
ICE
RINK

AERIAL
TREKKING

FULLY
LICENCED

Coors

BRITVIC
soft drinks

PLANET
LEISURE

FEATURING A BAR & TWO RESTAURANTS

COMING SOON... LASER QUEST...KARAOKE PODS...ARCADE AREA

CALL 01325 310989 FOR DETAILS

PLANET LEISURE, UNIT 7/8, MAPLE WAY, AYCLIFFE BUSINESS PARK,
NEWTON AYCLIFFE, CO. DURHAM DL5 6BF • www.planet-leisure.co.uk
Opening Times: Mon-Thurs 10am-12 Midnight • Fri-Sat 10am-1am • Sun 10am-11pm

Why Fork Out For School Meals?

He is now fundraising for MIND and would like to thank everyone who supports his stall including Town Centre Manager Bryan Haldane who helps with the storage of items donated to John.



move on homes

Emerson Arden Buildings, St. Chelmer's Way
Barnes Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL4 1BB
Tel: 01323 311737
www.moveonhomes.co.uk

**Malvern Crescent
Newton Aycliffe
£122,000**



Great Improved 3 bed
bedroom and terrace house,
first floor double glazing
modern bathroom, garden,
well paved

**Sunnydale
Shildon £80,000**



A 3 bed good looking hall,
bath, kitchen, 3 bed
a fully bathroom, modern
rear garden, parking, close
to school and shopping

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



Great Improved 3 bedroom
and 1st floor house, first
floor, double glazing, DCH,
rear garden, well maintained
house - excellent view

**North Road
Darlington
Reduced to £78,000**



Two story house
commercial property has
a good potential to be
transformed into flats.
Investment opportunity

**Lee Green
£550,000**



Two storey house,
Central Heating, Double
glazing, Kitchen,
Living, Dining, Kitchen,
Bathroom, Ensuite
bath, large garden with
patio and garden shed.
NO CHAIN & NO HITCHES
11:00 pm plus local
authority
Application No and
reference required

**Arundel Way
Cobble Hill
£190,000**



Competition price 3
bedroom detached house,
modern shower room,
bath, garage, DCH,
bath, DCH, large front

**Beechfield
Newton Aycliffe
£87,000**



Four bedroom house with 2
bathrooms, DCH, kitchen,
dining room, lounge, garage,
bath, DCH, DCH, DCH,
parking space, DCH and DCH,
DCH

**Brinkley Crescent
Newton Aycliffe
£87,900**



An extended four bedroom
and bathroom house, first
floor, DCH, modern
bathroom, DCH, DCH,
modern house

**Stirling Road
Newton Aycliffe
£82,500**



A well presented improved
three bed and three bath
house, first floor, DCH,
modern bathroom, large
garden, DCH, DCH, DCH,
DCH

**Oldfield
Newton Aycliffe
£100,000**



3 bedroom house property,
lounge, modern DCH,
bathrooms, garage, DCH,
very well maintained

**Guthrum Place
Newton Aycliffe
£80,000**



3 bedroom and 1st floor
in a modern development
in Newton Aycliffe. First
floor, DCH, DCH and rear
garden, DCH, DCH

**Chapman Close
Newton Aycliffe
£80,000**



Two bedroom and terrace,
modern popular detached
house, lounge, first floor,
dining room, DCH, DCH,
DCH, DCH

**Stones Road
Newton Aycliffe
£80,000**



Two bedroom and detached
property, offering DCH,
modern modern house,
bath, dining, DCH,
modern

**Kestrel Court
Newton Aycliffe
£125,000**



Three bedroom detached
property, lounge, dining
room, bath, modern
garden and garage, DCH, DCH

**Merc Road
Newton Aycliffe
£80,000**



Impressive 3 bed and terrace,
well maintained, DCH, DCH,
DCH, modern house,
DCH, DCH, DCH,
DCH, DCH

EMERSON WAY
2 bedroom terrace - £75,000
CHILLINGHAM GROVE
3 bedroom semi - £115,000
LINGARD WALK
3 bedroom terrace - £115,000
FINCHALE ROAD
3 bedroom detached - £185,000
IDA PLACE
3 bedroom end terrace - £74,950
BEECHFIELD
3 bedroom end link - £75,000
HONISTER PLACE
3 bedroom end terrace - £85,000
KARLES CLOSE
4 bedroom detached - £235,000
LANCELOT CLOSE
2 bedroom mid link - £89,000

XMAS TOY APPEAL

Open Monday to Friday 9am-4pm
or by special arrangement

Community Unites for Annual Christmas Sing Along



The annual Christmas Community Concert organised by the town's Rotary Club and held at the Xcel Centre was a tremendous success.

Schools from the town including St. Mary's, Woodham Technology College, Greenfield Arts College, St. John's School, Sugar Hill and Aycliffe Village all contributed to a very entertaining Concert. The Xcel Church Choir opened and closed the event with great performances and Aycliffe Musical Theatre gave a charming rendition of the Little Drummer Boy.

Two young girls, Lydia Hayman and Charlotte

Altringham sang and played guitar beautifully, but 5 year old Taylor Bowen stole the show with a brilliant solo, probably marking his debut as a star of the future.

One of the most popular and colourful items was performed by dancers from Greenfield Arts College taught by Tricia Wingfield. The dancers worked on the piece for 2 months, once a week after school. The students created their own costumes and despite not using props, due to space restrictions on stage, the girls adapted well and gave a fantastic performance.

Dancers in the photo: Frances Wade, Aimee

Reed, Lucy Clark, Connie Spittlehouse, Taryn Edgson, Zoe Blakey, Jessica Underwood, Megan Cross, Rebecca Lowes & Megan Hindmarch.

Our Town Band played for the community songs and Carols and were just marvellous, adding so much to this joyous occasion.

The Mayor, MP and Councillors from Town and County were in attendance and Father Michael Campion gave the Blessing to help people return home with the true meaning of Christmas.

The Mayor and Rotary President Alan Crawshaw gave greetings, thanking everyone who supported the event with special thanks to our Town Band and the Xcel Centre.

A grand raffle was held and a retiring collection as part of Rotary's Christmas activities to provide hampers for the town's needy families. The Green Number 1 ticket for a Xmas Hamper was unclaimed and the holder should contact Newton Press on 300212.

Master of Ceremonies Syd Howarth thanked the Directors and staff of the Xcel Centre for the use of their magnificent premises, wishing the management and staff continued success as one of the north's finest venues.

It was a wonderful, heartwarming community occasion and thanks are due to the Rotary Club for continuing this traditional event over 22 years. The members wish to express appreciation to all the teachers, children and other performers who attended and entertained a very appreciative audience.

£300 FOR BURNHILL JAFFA CLUB

Dear Sir,

Could we please, through the Newton News, say a great big THANK YOU to Honest John for all his hard work and commitment, which has allowed him to recently present the children of Burnhill Way JAFFA club with £300 towards group activities!

Without him we would not be able to do a lot of things we now can. Also, we would like to thank everybody who came and helped out, bought from us, or supported us in anyway at our recent Table Top Sale and Market Stall.

These events helped raise a further £145 and all of this money will go towards our trip to Seahouses next year! Anyone interested in joining the JAFFA club can come along to Burnhill Way Methodist Church, any Monday in term time from 3.30-5pm to join in all the fun we have learning about Jesus.

Children of JAFFA club

Safer Driving Course for the Elderly

Elderly drivers can shift their skills up a gear with the offer of a £10 course. Safer Driving with Age (SAGE) sessions are held throughout the year and provide support specifically to County Durham residents aged 55 and over.

People who will benefit most from the Durham County Council run course are those who avoid driving at night or steer clear of unfamiliar places when traffic is likely to be at its busiest.

The course is also designed to give advice on navigating new traffic systems, the meaning of new road markings, and tips on how to deal with the speed and acceleration of modern cars.

The council's road safety team has organised the training to be delivered by advanced instructors, who will carry out an eyesight check before the driving assessment.

Appointments can be made at convenient times for people to take a 40-minute drive in their own car, on roads they use regularly.

During the journey the assessor will give advice on ways of making the ride safer.

Alan Kennedy, road safety section manager, said: "SAGE is designed to help people keep on driving for as long as they are safe to do so, and the sessions are running very successfully in County Durham with many older drivers gaining huge benefits. "The full course costs only £10, which is a small price to pay to ensure everyone's future safety." For more information please contact the road safety team on 0191 383 4728.

NHS URGE PEOPLE TO PREPARE FOR WINTER

The local NHS trust responsible for planning and purchasing health services for the population of County Durham and Darlington is urging local people to get ready for winter.

Following last year's cold weather and extensive snow, people are being reminded to be prepared should we experience another spell of bad weather.

The NHS has produced a handy winter guide entitled 'Stay healthy this winter' available for people to pick up in GP surgeries, pharmacies and a range of other community venues across the area. The guide is also available to download from our website - www.cdd.nhs.uk

The guide has been designed for people to keep close at hand in their homes over winter and features:

- Top tips about keeping warm in the colder weather, including eating well and heating your home
- Looking after vulnerable people in your area - staying in touch with people who are ill, elderly or on their own and need a helping hand
- Don't forget your flu jab - if you're in an 'at risk' group you should contact your GP practice
- Danger signs of hypothermia - a serious concern for older people who might be prone to falls
- Information on NHS 111 - the free number to access across County Durham and Darlington 24-hours-a-day for health care, when it's less urgent than 999
- Useful contact numbers - local councils, social care, highways and more.

Similar messages will also appear in a series of

wraparound adverts in local newspapers during December. The wraps appear as the cover of the Advertiser Series of free newspapers delivered to homes across County Durham and Darlington and like the winter guide are designed for people to keep handy in their homes. They will also appear in the Seaham and Houghton Star, the Peterlee Star and the Teesdale Mercury as well as being available on our website - www.cdd.nhs.uk.

Berenice Groves, NHS 111 programme director said: "We hope that local people find both the winter guides and the newspaper wraparounds useful and will keep them handy in their homes. We've included information that covers a multitude of eventualities and signposted to where people can find relevant information quickly.

"Demand on health services is always much higher in the run up to Christmas and the NHS is well prepared to deal with unexpected pressures. Local people can play their part too by ensuring that they access services in the most appropriate way.

"We would urge anyone in County Durham and Darlington who needs urgent access to health care but it isn't an emergency, to dial 111.

"By dialling 111, people will be able to reach a full range of local health services, including out-of-hours doctors, community nurses, emergency dental care and late opening chemists.

"By calling 111, they can receive the most appropriate treatment and allow the emergency services to concentrate on those most in need."



Great Aycliffe Town Council

**Appointment of
Park Patrol Operative**

Post No W233
Salary Scale - Point 11-14
(£14,733 - £15,725)

The post holder will provide a patrol service in the Council's, parks, play areas, cemeteries and other Council facilities and property.

The patrol service will also provide a presence in Council property and facilities to ensure that they are clean, tidy and well maintained, appropriately and safely used and will discourage anti-social behaviour.

The post holder will work a shift rota, mainly during evenings and weekends.

A CRB check is required for these posts.

A full driving licence is required.

**Closing Date for Applications:
Noon on Thursday, 29th December 2011**

Application packs can be obtained by telephoning 01325 300700, e-mailing: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk, or from the Council website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk



**HARDWICK HALL
HOTEL**

SEDGEFIELD

Tel: 01740 620 253 - Fax: 01740 622 771
email: info@hardwickhallhotel.co.uk - www.hardwickhallhotel.co.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2012

Saturday 14th January - Best of Bond Casino Ball
Shirley Bassey Tribute performing all the greatest hits from the movies.
Casino Tables and competition for the best dressed evening gowns and tuxedos.
Evening includes three course dinner and disco.
Cocktail on arrival at 7.00pm, Dinner served 8.00pm - £20.95 per person

Saturday 14th January - The 80's Experience
The best disco party ever, two course buffet
Arrive at 7.00pm buffet served at 7.30pm - £10.95 per person

Saturday 21st January - Night Fever at the 70's Disco
Arrive at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, two course buffet - £10.95 per person

Friday 27th January - The 80's Experience
The best disco party ever, two course buffet
Arrive at 7.00pm buffet served at 7.30pm - £10.95 per person

Saturday 28th January - The Brainstormer Murders
The ultimate in Murder Mystery entertainment, come and enjoy a thrilling evening of fun, intrigue and whodunnit. The evening will be a 60's theme with a three course dinner and 60's disco to finish.
Arrive 7.00pm for dinner 7.30pm - £21.95 per person

Saturday 28th January - Hardwick's Family Meadery
Providing you with an excellent atmosphere, great rustic food cooked the old fashioned way served by our wenches, adults receive a glass of mead, children a soft drink. Evening includes a 3 course dinner, themed dressing and traditional music.
Arrive from 7.00pm Menu available - Adults £18.95 Children £7.95

Sunday Lunch is served in the Boyne Suite
accompanied by music from our resident pianist.
4 courses including coffee £18.95 per person

www.hardwickhallhotel.co.uk - Telephone: 01740 620253

Newton Aycliffe Town Centre



On behalf of the retailers, businesses and Town Centre of Newton Aycliffe, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*Regards
Bryan Haldane
Centre Manager*

CHRISTMAS EVE MARKET

in the Town Centre

(weather permitting)

GAMEBOX (Computer Games/Consoles)

AYCLIFFE FRAMER & ENGRAVERS

ALLIANCE PHARMACY (Pharmacy)

WILLIAM HILL (Bookmaker)

HOMEPLAN DIY (DIY Supplies)

QUICKSILVER (Gaming)

BOOTS (Pharmacy- Retail Shop)

SUE RYDER (Charity Shop)

BETTY'S (Fish and Chip Shop)

BHP LAW (Solicitors)

TAYLORS (Newsagents)

POST OFFICE

BON MARCHE (Clothes Shop)

HERON FOODS (Frozen Food Shop)

SPECSAVERS (Opticians)

THOMSON (Travel Agents)

HALIFAX (Bank)

BARCLAYS (Bank)

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK

CARD FACTORY (Greetings Cards)

E.F. McMAHON (Green Grocer)

OCCASIONS (Greeting Cards and Gifts)

CHEQUE CENTRE (Financial Services)

LABROKES (Bookmaker)

PETER'S BAKERY

SELECT (Clothes Shop)

SAVERS (Discount Health and Beauty)

PHIL WILSON (MP's Office)

STEPHEN RUSSELL (Hairdressers)

ELACHI (Indian Restaurant)

STEPHENS (Newsagents)

HAYS TRAVEL (Travel Agents)

BOYES (Department Store)

CARVERS (Estate Agents)

SWINTON (Insurance Company)

COFFEE PRONTO (Cafe)

BHF (Charity Shop)

M&CO (Clothes Shop)

PEACOCKS (Clothes Shop)

WILKINSON (Department Store)

SANTANDER

SHOE ZONE (Shoe Shop)

RAMSDENS (Jewellery and Pawn Broker)

POUNDSTRETCHERS (Department Store)

GREGGS BAKERS

BOOZE BUSTER (Convenience Store)

BRIAN VENABLES (Carpets and Blinds)

CUCCINA (Pizza Takeaway)

PIZZA COTTAGE (Fast Food Takeaway)

MIKE'S FISH BAR (Fish and Chip Shop)

EASTERN SPICE (Indian Takeaway)

VC CARPETS & BLINDS

FLORAL CHARM (Florists)

KRUMS SANDWICH BAR (Fast Food)

STAR CABS

GR8VIBES (Beauty Shop)

THE COMPUTER SHOP (Computer Supplies)

KIDZ GO GREEN (Childrens Wear & Pram)

QUICKSILVER

CHINA GARDEN (Chinese Takeaway)

£11M INVESTMENT IN NEW HOMES INCLUDES AYCLIFFE

As the construction of affordable homes drops by a dramatic 97% compared to last year's figures, one of County Durham's largest housing providers breaks ground on its first new-homes development in a bid to tackle the problem across south Durham.

livin is investing a total of £11.6million in its new home development programme and plans to build 100 new homes over the next four years. £1.85million of funding has been received from the Government's Affordable Homes Programme.

29 properties are due to be built in the first phase of the programme comprising of a mix of two and three bedroom bungalows in Newton Aycliffe, Middlestone Moor and Ferryhill.

National construction and development specialist Southdale has been appointed to build the homes on behalf of livin and the new developments at Baliol and Clarence Chare are the first of a number of schemes to be developed by the new partnership.

Chief executive for livin Colin Steel said: "The



Breaking the ground at Baliol Road, Livin Chief Executive Colin Steel with Southdale's North East Regional Director, Paul Oldridge, Wayne Harris, Executive Director Property and Development and Alan Cargill Vice Chair of the Board

need for social housing is growing rapidly and securing funding of this scale will offer a massive boost for the community as well beginning to tackle the housing shortage in the area.

The homes which will be built to strict environmental standards boast a range of energy saving features including high levels of insulation, double glazing and draughtproofing to help tenants save money on utility bills as well as being

more environmentally responsible.

Southdale's North East Regional Director, Paul Oldridge said: "Southdale are delighted to be working in partnership with livin on this flagship community regeneration scheme. Southdale look forward to engaging with residents on the positive changes which will occur within in their neighbourhoods and are committed to providing a number of apprenticeships and recruitment opportunities for local people across the area."

The properties which are already generating a lot of interest will be let to people in housing need and the first homes are expect to be occupied by the summer 2012.

Further information on property allocation will be issued by livin over the coming months. Keep up-to-date with news and updates about the development with livin on twitter @weare_livin or visit livin.co.uk

Could Town Council Assist E.U.?

Dear Sir,

I was interested in the letters submitted by SUE, Woodham and two other items concerning the Town Council. Namely the cancellation of meetings scheduled for Wednesday 30th. November and rescheduled for the following day due to "industrial action"!

Does this indicate that Councillors are members of unions which are taking part in the withdrawal of labour? If not the case, why postpone two meetings for one day?

I am certain everyone would join me in congratulating the Town Council being awarded a "clean bill of health from the Audit Commission". Perhaps the team concerned could be of assistance to the European Parliament who appear to have had no success in this area for the last fourteen (14) years.

I think perhaps the sooner the better as it appears that by the end of 2012 the EU want to impose much tighter budget controls over the 17-member eurozone. It is reported that countries will have to submit their budgets for EU approval before they go to national parliaments.

I am afraid their present track record does not inspire confidence after 14 years of not producing full and satisfactory material to warrant a "clean bill health" from an Audit Commission. Presumably the EU is not exempt from a ruling of this nature for an indeterminate number of years. How can they be deemed to competent to judge other countries planned budgets when they can not manage their own financial affairs?

P.C.
Ed: the point on postponement of Town Council Meetings obviously means they cannot meet without staff who are on strike.

Aycliffe's Got Talent Final

The Management Committee of Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre hosted the final heat of Aycliffe's Got Talent. Parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and friends supported a number of young people from the local area who were looking for a place in the final round of the competition.

There are now 10 acts from the heats to go through to the finals. The date and time for the final event has been set for 4.00pm on 21st January at the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre. Prizes, on the night will be presented by representatives of our three sponsors.

For more information about the final, or to reserve your tickets please do not hesitate to contact Joan Clark on joanclark2011@live.co.uk or leave your name and address at the Youth Centre. The cost of tickets were £1.50 if purchased in advance or £2 at the door, subject to availability.



Xmas Greetings

Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp wishes everyone in Aycliffe Village, the volunteers and patrons of The Cubby a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

Xmas Wishes

Best Wishes for Christmas to residents of the West Ward and I hope you have a wonderful and peaceful 2012.

Alderman George Gray
West Ward Councillor

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Christmas Day - 11.30am to 2.30pm
Christmas Night - CLOSED
Boxing Day - 12noon to 11.00pm
(Karaoke 8.30pm to 12midnight)
New Years Eve - 12noon to 12.30am
(Karaoke 8.30pm to 12midnight)
New Years Day - 12noon to 11.00pm

3M EMPLOYEES GROW HAIR IN AID OF CHARITY



Employees at the 3M site at Aycliffe who undertook a hair-raising bid for charity have collected £3,750 for prostate cancer research.

They took part in the annual month-long "Movember" campaign of growing moustaches to raise sponsorship and awareness of men's health.

Seventeen employees joined in with the active support of female colleagues who added to the total by selling homemade cakes and organising events around the Heighington Lane site.

"This is the fourth time we've been involved in the campaign and each year more and more men have been willing to lend their upper lips to the cause," said organiser Peter Lee. "It was very successful in getting men's health issues talked about at the site and we were delighted to have raised so much in sponsorship at the same time."

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Friday 23rd December - Christmas Issue
Deadline: Wednesday 21st December
Friday 6th January 2012 - New Year Issue
Deadline: Wednesday 4th January
Advertisements can be placed at our agents:
WALKERS at Simpature,
NEWSFORCE in the Town Centre
or online at www.newtonnewsads.co.uk
Office Opening Times
Closing 3pm on Friday 23rd December
Skeleton Staff in attendance until reopening
on Tuesday 3rd January 2012 at 8.30am

Sponsorship Renewed



Heighington Boys Under 11's, who play their matches in the Russell Foster 9v9 League Division 1 and who are managed by Jim Barr are pleased to announce that Neil Plews of Darlington Car and Commercial has again agreed to sponsor our youth football team.

To celebrate this event, the players were invited down to Alma Barracks, at Catterick, and were treated to their tea in the mess, got a chance to explore some of the army vehicles, including a Challenger tank. They were also challenged on an indoor assault course and finally got the opportunity to play a game of football on their astroturf pitch. Everyone involved, including the parents who supported the evening, all

had a great time, and would like to thank Staff Sergeant Chris Richards, his Captain and the rest of the soldiers from the Royal Dragoon Guards, for their efforts and kindness shown during the visit.

Junior Disco

A Junior Disco will be held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on Friday 23rd December 6pm until 9pm. admission £2. Father Christmas will be coming to meet the Children's with a small gift the young children. Parents are welcome. Tuck Shop and Bar are available.

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Revenge for Aycliffe

Seghill 6 Newton Aycliffe 33

Our Rugby Club gained revenge for their narrow National Vase defeat a fortnight ago with this comfortable win at Seghill. After two defeats, Aycliffe needed to get their season back on track as they aim for promotion from Durham and Northumberland Division 3. With a stronger squad available than for their previous visit they were hungry for a bonus point victory. The early exchanges went the visitors' way, with the scrum dominant and the backs showing more pace than their opponents. James Thacker opened the scoring, carving through the defence for a try; David Gibson converted. Good support play from the forwards saw Drew Gibson add a second try soon after.

Aycliffe now fell into their old habits of trying to match their larger opponents physically and that, combined with conceding too many penalties, saw the home side gain the upper hand for much of the rest of the half. Two penalty kicks saw the teams turn round with Aycliffe holding a narrow 12 – 6 lead. Finding their feet again early in the second half, Aycliffe soon increased their lead when Gareth Parsonage made a break, when he was stopped, Drew Gibson was in support, he fed Phill Sangster who touched down near the posts. Warren Parsonage was marshalling the team from scrum-half and released the backs again; Thacker drawing the defenders before releasing Craig Holmes to score the bonus point try; David Gibson adding his third conversion. Michael Dunn put the defence under pressure by consistently chasing kicks and tackling the Seghill back three. The Aycliffe forwards now put in a series of thrusts down the side of rucks with Jeff Hodgson coming close to scoring. As the game entered its final minutes, Thacker again broke free and, timing his pass to perfection, fed Ben Fowler who scored out wide. Stephen Middlemas slotted the kick. Seghill now desperately attacked to try to score a consolation try, but Aycliffe defended superbly to keep their line intact. The final score was 33 – 6.

This win sees Newton Aycliffe in 2nd place over the Christmas break, albeit having played a game more than 3rd place Prudhoe and Stocksfield, the game between the two on 14th January being a crucial one for both clubs. Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club are sponsored by Workshop Supplies and Lift Right Forklift Training. Visit the new website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe.

Family Sessions at Nursery



Children at Stephenson Way Nursery have been enjoying storytelling and drama with the Debutots. Paul and Tara from the Debutots have visited nursery every week for 6 weeks to tell us a story. The stories have included Autumn, Halloween, fireworks and Winter stories.

The children have been encouraged to join in with the action, with repeated refrains and to anticipate what will happen next. We were all having so much fun we decided

to invite parents to come. The family sessions were well attended and the parents enjoyed joining in too! These sessions included a follow up in the nursery where the parents and children worked together to create winter pictures, collages, explore ice and snow and make bird feeders to feed the birds in Winter. The nursery staff would like to thank Paul and Tara from Debutots and also all the parents who attended the family sessions.

Golden Anniversary



Teenage sweethearts from Shildon, Thomas and Verna Garlick, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Monday 12th December. Our Mayor, Mary Dalton visited them in their home at Ranulf Court to convey the best wishes of the Town Council on behalf of the residents of Great Aycliffe. The couple moved to Newton Aycliffe 38 years ago when Thomas known

as "Tot" started work as labourer in the town. Verna worked for Ozalid until the birth of their son Paul and daughter Jill who between them have produced three Grandsons. The celebrations began with a trip to Brugge and they returned to a surprise family Golden Wedding Party. Tot and Verna now look forward to an anniversary cruise on the Rhine in the New Year.

Councillors Xmas Cheque



Kath Avery from The Whitehouse, Aycliffe Village receiving a cheque from Councillors Sarah Iveson and John Moran to help fund the Christmas Party for Senior Citizens.



Christmas Opening Times:

Friday 23rd open till Midnight

Christmas Day - 12noon to 2.00pm

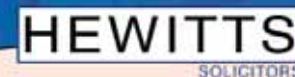
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AYCLIFFE BROTHERS ON ASSAULT COURSE FOR CHARITY



Aycliffe brothers Ben, Dan, Dale and Ian Robinson from the Iron Horse recently took part in a 12 mile SAS type Assault Course in aid of Help for Heroes. Ex Army Ben wishes to thank all who supported them and remind readers that a collection bucket is still in the Iron Horse for further donations.

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Woodham Students Design Medals for International Event



Durham County Council (Education Development Service & International Development Office), as part of its London 2012 "Join in" programme, is organising an international sports event.

The event is on 13th and 17th of June 2012 and will involve teams from Durham, competing against young people from countries all over the world including France, Italy, Hungary, USA, Germany, Sri Lanka, Jordan, Russia, Bangladesh and Slovakia.

Geoff Sheldon, Durham LA Inspector for PE, approached Woodham Community Technology College's year 10 Product Design group to design, develop and prototype 100 "gold", 100 "silver" and 100 "bronze" medals, one overall team trophy (awarded to the winning country) and 500 commemorative gifts, to be awarded to all delegates (adults and young people). This real life project began three weeks ago, with Geoff presenting the client brief to the students. Dave Spensley, from Aycliffe Fabrications, has been involved working with the students and helping them to do some "blue sky thinking", developing design

ideas ready to present to the client in January 2012. The students have set themselves up as a company with individual roles and responsibilities. One of which is trying to attract additional funding through sponsorship.

On Tuesday 29th November one member of the team, William Kirton, met with Lord Coe at St James's Park to discuss the project. William got an insight into the process of getting the London 2012 Olympics and discussed with Lord Coe the process that the class had undertaken into designing and manufacturing

medals for such an important event.

Deputy Headteacher, Jonathan Lumb, said 'This is a fantastic opportunity for Woodham students to work on a real life project with a budget, dealing with a client and coping with all the trials and tribulations that go with working within this sector.'

The sports festival will begin with an opening ceremony in Durham City and will conclude at the London 2012 Torch Relay presentation, in front of an audience in the region of 20,000 on Saturday 16th June 2012.

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DEBUTOTS SPARK A CHILD'S IMAGINATION

Debutots Early Years Drama, a nationwide franchise network, is brought to this area by Mum of two Tara Hallimond and her Father Paul Bell. Aimed at children aged 6 months to seven years old, Debutots is a unique blend of interactive storytelling and dramatic play where imaginations soar, communication skills grow and creativity and confidence blossom.

"The telling of stories and an ability to interpret and create new stories is crucial to the development of children's



early literacy skills," says Tara.

"Classes can also help support young children's emerging communication skills," says Paul, "which is one reason why they have proved so popular elsewhere in the UK." Paul and Tara run Baby Story Play classes for parents and

children aged 6 months to 4 years in Newton Aycliffe and Early Years Drama classes for children aged 3 to 7 years in Nurseries and Schools in the area. For a free trial session contact Paul and Tara at Debutots on 01325 317380 or see their website at www.debutots.co.uk

Christmas Wishes

JOHNSON Tom and Molly and Dandy of Beechers Grove, Woodham wish their friends and neighbours around the town a Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2012

LOVELASS Michael and Pam, Langley Road, send Christmas Greetings to all friends and neighbours and wish them a happy 2012

BEST WISHES for Christmas from Godfrey and Shirley Bennett

TOMLINSON Ann and Tom wish family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Donation sent in lieu of cards to Cancer Research UK

DORIS CASSIDY and family would like to wish all their friends and family seasonal greetings and a prosperous 2012. Love you all. Doris and family xxx

EILEEN MEALE Wishes all her friends and neighbours of Watson Road a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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MOBILITY Scooter Shoprider Sovereign Good condition. £195 Tel. 01325 314958

Christmas Remembrance

ANDERSON, Katie Ellis - What should have been your first Christmas. We longed for your coming, you did not arrive. Our hearts were broken, many tears we cried. As joy turned to sadness for our Katie we loved. Be at sleep with the angels in Heaven above. Grandma Rita and Grandad Ray

Obituary

LILIAN MARY HUDSON (nee Pearson)

Died peacefully on 10th December. Lily aged 87 years of Sharp Road, Newton Aycliffe. Dearly loved Mother, Nanna and Great Nanna. Cortege to leave the residence on Monday 19th December for a Service at Neville Parade Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe at 12.30pm. Prior to internment at North Road Cemetery, Darlington. Enquiries to John Meynell Funeral Service 01325 301405

Thank You

JACK BRALEY Thanks to all my friends and family for the cards and presents received at my 50th Birthday Party, the fancy dress costumes were fantastic. Also thanks to the staff at the Navy Club for all their help, Andy Coxon for the brilliant entertainment, and Don Walker for the lovely buffet. I hope everyone enjoyed the night as much as I did, Jack Braley.

THOMPSON The family of Ethel Thompson would like to thank all friends and relatives for their kindness and support during this sad time. The many cards and telephone calls were very much appreciated. Ethel will be greatly missed however the happy memories will be with us forever. Special thanks to Father Gary Nicholson (St James, Coundon), Dr Scott, Bryan Shepherd (Whitehouse Funeral Service) and all the staff at Lindsfarne Care Home for their outstanding dedication, care and compassion.

MISS PROUD and family would like to say a big big thank you to the staff at Value Vets at Cobblers Hall, especially Sandy Edwards and Louise Craggs for their fantastic support during our cat, Milly's, illness

I WOULD like to thank most sincerely, family, friends and neighbours for their kind messages, cards and flowers, sent to me on the death of my beloved Mother. Love to you all. Jean McKenzie

THE WECAN Parents Group (which is based at Greenfield School) would like to take this opportunity to thank the group members, all those who participated in the organisation of their fundraising event and the small local businesses that donated some fantastic prizes. The event was held in the Royal British Legion on Saturday 3rd December and was a great success and enjoyed by all. The event raised a total of £404 for the parent group. WECAN Parents Group would like to say a massive thank you to Newton Aycliffe Legion for all their help and for the use of their facilities.

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Congratulations

Jack Braley

Happy 50th Birthday to my toyboy! Lots of love from Caroline xxx vvvvv

WOW the Big 50!

Happy birthday Dad. Love from Jack and Laura xxx

Happy 50th Birthday Jack. Love from Michael and Olivia xxx

Happy 50th Brother Jack From Sister Linda, Dave, Kate, Lauren and Chris xx

Happy 50th Birthday Jack. Love from Gary, Joannah, Alex, Ellie, Mica and Callum xxx

Happy 50th Birthday you "old git". Love from Sister Wilson and the Grim Reaper xx

Nicola Maull



Happy 40th Birthday Lots of love from Mam, Dad and Steven Happy Birthday Mummy. Love you loads, Nial

Lee Hutchison

16th December 2011

Thank you for your support and help through my operation and happy birthday you old toad. Love from your little prince's, Callum and Morgan xxx

Rachael Macmaster



Congratulations

Rachael on your graduation, lots of love and best wishes for your future. Mam, Dad, Ross, Carlos and all of the family

Natalie Parker



Congratulations

on your Graduation from Teesside University. We had a fab day, we were all so proud. First one in the family. Your Granda Roach would have been so proud. Love, Mam, Dad (Tony), David, Nanna Roach, Nanna Durham, Toby and Poppy xxx

Evan Jay Lynch



Happy 18th Birthday Sweetheart Lots of love Mam and Dad

Natalie Parker

Congratulations

on gaining your Degree at Teesside University. All the hard work has paid off. I am so proud of you and you should be proud of what you have achieved Princess. Love always, Andrew xxxx

Natalie Parker

Congratulations

So proud of you Nats, on your Graduation. Had a great day, wasn't a dry eye in the house. Love, Sharon, Alan, Dannielle, Lee, Sophie and Jean xxxx

Margaret Norris



Happy 65th Birthday 20th December 2011

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STEPHEN HARDY Happy 50th birthday. Lots of love, Mam

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JUDITH PICKERING 21-12-11. Happy birthday to my very special Sister. Love, Gary xxx

ELLIE GIBSON Happy 10th birthday. Lots of love, Mam, Josh, Beth and Mel xxx

NIAL McKERR Happy 12th birthday. Love, Auntie Lisa, Josh, Beth, Ellie and Mel xxx

CHELSEA KELL Happy 18th birthday darling. Love you loads, Love Grandma xxx

CHELSEA KELL Happy 18th birthday. Love you. Love, Auntie AnneMarie and Auntie Claire xxx

CHELSEA KELL Happy 18th birthday. Love, you. Love, Great Granda xxx

Basketball Popular in Aycliffe



Now that the Wildcat Basketball team use Aycliffe Leisure Centre as their home venue the sport is fast gaining popularity in the town. Before the home games are played and during the interval junior teams from the town and surrounding area are matched against each other to help promote basketball with some hard games fought and enjoyed. Basketball is a fast and enjoyable spectator sport - check out the fixtures at the Lesiure Centre and enjoy a good night out with the family.

Walworth in London 2012's Get Set Network

Pupils and teachers at Walworth Special School celebrated when they were officially welcomed into London 2012's Get Set network, in recognition of their commitment to the Olympic and Paralympic Values. Jason Steele Middlesbrough FC first team goalkeeper presented the school with a plaque and certificate to recognise their achievements. The school have competed tasks including making their own Olympic torch and creating a mascot called 'Metro' which celebrates the heritage of the North East. Peter Wallbanks, Head teacher said: To earn the right to use the new education logo and become a member of the new Get Set network the school had to register and showcase their student-led work around the values via the dedicated 'Get Set' blog completing a short application form. The school, staff team and pupils are now all committed to promoting all of the Olympic and Paralympic values.

AYCLIFFE BOXING DAY BELTER

Newton Aycliffe FC are gearing up for one of their biggest games of the season on Boxing Day, when local rivals Bishop Auckland come to Aycliffe in the first-ever league meeting between the two sides at Moore Lane Park. A huge crowd of 491 turned out for the reverse fixture at Bishop's new Heritage Park - the sixth-highest Northern League attendance of the season so far - back in August, when Allan Oliver's side should have won but ended up taking a point in a 1-1 draw. And the Newtonians will be hoping to get one over their neighbours in another historic meeting at Aycliffe Sports Club.

They ended their three-match losing streak with a hard-fought 0-0 draw at Bedlington Terriers last Saturday, and entertain Norton and Stockton Ancients at Moore Lane this Saturday (December 17) followed by their Boxing Day derby with Bishop, which kicks off at 1pm.

Aycliffe are currently sixth in the Northern League first division, with Bishop one point and two places below them in the table.

Chairman Gary Farley said: "We're certainly expecting it to be one of, if not our biggest home gate of the season.

"Boxing Day is always a big date in the football calendar but we've been hit by bad weather in recent seasons. Hopefully, weather permitting, we'll see a game this year and it'd be great to see a big crowd at Moore Lane for what is a big derby occasion for the club and the town."

Aycliffe's bid to do the double over Bedlington was thwarted by an inept refereeing performance at Welfare Park last Saturday.

Allan Oliver's side were denied two penalties in the first half and while one could have been excused, the other, a blatant trip on Josh Knox, went unpunished by the man in the middle, despite his assistant flagging for the spot-kick.

Aycliffe did get a penalty late in the game, converted by the returning Ben Wood, but that strike only served

as an equaliser after Tony Shandran's superb solo effort opened the scoring early in the second period.

The sides were separated by one place and one point in the table but it didn't show as the Newtonians took the game to their opponents in the first half, playing some excellent stuff on a glue-pot of a pitch. Aycliffe still have a limited number of tickets left for their Christmas Comedy Night on

Thursday 29th December, when top female stand-up comedienne Sue Sweeney will join popular comic Terry Joyce at Aycliffe Sports Club

for a double-bill of laughs. Tickets are just £15 each, and are available from John Gaskarth on 07590 925469, or email gaskarth@msn.com

FIXTURES

Saturday 17th December: Norton & Stockton (H), 3pm
Monday 26th December: Bishop Auckland (H), 1pm
Monday 2nd January: Stokesley (A), 3pm
Saturday 7th January: Jarrow Roofing (A), 3pm
Wednesday 11th January: Shildon (H) Durham Cup, 7.30pm
Saturday 14th January: Billingham Synthonia (A), 3pm
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