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Tuesday 16th Feb at 9.30am
£10 (all day session)

CRAFTY KIDS
Tuesday 16th Feb at 3.45pm
£3.00 members
£3.50 non-members

JUNIOR BOWLS
Thursday 18th Feb 10.30am
£2.25 or £2.65

JUNIOR BADMINTON
Wednesday 17th Feb 1pm, £4.50 or £5.25

JUNIOR ARCHERY
Friday 19th Feb, 9.30am or 12noon
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NEWTON NEWS

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Week Ending 29th January, 2010

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NEW BUS SERVICE TO PCP AND COBBLERS HALL SHOPS



County Council Officer Steve Lockwood with Carol Wilson at Cobblers Hall

The Bus route around the town provided by private company JSB is making a detour to include the PCP Centre and Cobblers Hall Shopping precinct.

This follows a request by the Centre to help more people access the extended services being offered and comes just before the new extension to the building is opened. It is also hoped retailers at the precinct will benefit from the new bus service.

The No. 19 Bus will run once an hour with additional journeys from the Town Centre to the Pioneering Care Centre and Cobblers Hall shops. The Centre's prestige and popularity

grows year on year as they provide a widening range of health services including Complementary Therapies. Ring 321234 or visit www.pcp.uk.net

Carol Wilson, Learning for Health Manager at the Pioneering Care Partnership, said: "Cobblers Hall is a thriving part of Newton Aycliffe and we are really delighted that this new bus route will help people to access the many facilities including the Pioneering Care Centre."

More information on transport can be obtained from Traveline on 0871 2002233 or www.traveline.org.uk

Are You Registered to Vote?

County Durham residents are being urged to check that they are registered to vote.

A general election will take place this year before June and anyone not included on the electoral register will not be eligible to vote.

Residents can check they are registered by contacting the electoral team for their constituency at the following council offices for the Sedgefield Constituency:

**CIVIC CENTRE
SPENNYMOOR
01388 824 304**

Anyone who has recently moved needs to ensure they are registered as a voter at their new address. Residents who require a postal or proxy vote should also contact their local electoral services team on the number above.

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£6,000 STAY WARM GRANT

The County Council's Warm Homes Campaign is again promoting a scheme to keep homes warm and more energy efficient this winter. As part of the government's Warm Front scheme, householders can claim grants of up to £6,000 to install central heating and insulation. Since 2000 the scheme, open to private homeowners who receive a qualifying disability or income related benefit, has helped nearly two million householders nationally. For households that do not qualify for the free scheme discounts on insulation are also available meaning that any home owner in County Durham can have their home insulated for as little as £99. More information on the County Council Warm Homes Team on: 0191 527 0501

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Off Road Parking Danger

Dear Sir
I would like to add my comments to Alderman George Gray's letter, on off street parking for the residents of Stephenson Way.
I have been a victim several times of careless drivers. Over the past 9 years, cars I have owned have lost wing mirrors, been dented, scratched, had the front bumper and side wing taken off and, incredibly, been shunted and hooked over the tow bar of my neighbour's van. No-one has the honesty to admit their carelessness despite on two occasions, forensic evidence from the distinctive paint used by a bus company which uses this route. I am therefore obliged to make claims on my own insurance, and the penalties this incurs.
I have a job in Children's Services which is totally dependent on having a car, and am therefore in a very vulnerable position. I would certainly appreciate safer off-road parking or perhaps the council would consider a reduction in my council tax?
Name & address supplied

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225:40Z18 - £56.95 (Mondeo, Audi etc)
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WORK STARTS
ON £40m CHILTON
BIOMASS PLANT

David Kidney MP, Parliamentary under Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change officially marked the start of construction of a new large scale life-expired wood energy plant at Chilton Industrial Estate last Friday. Designed to be fuelled on locally sourced used wood the new plant will generate 18MW of renewable electricity and is being built and operated by energy management company Dalkia.
The project received planning permission and followed Dalkia's UK launch of dedicated renewable biomass technologies to provide electricity and heat to communities, commerce and industry. Due to start generating electricity at the beginning of 2011 Chilton will deliver major environmental benefits by reducing CO2 emissions and landfill burden. The private investment in renewable generation will also deliver significant financial benefits to the local community.
It will also provide around 50 new local jobs during the construction phase, a further 17 jobs on the site and additional jobs in the supporting infrastructure for the site. The project will establish Chilton as a centre of excellence for sustainable energy provision that meets the government targets for biomass use.
The new company will also establish a major presence in the waste wood recycling industry, enabling companies to dispose of their wood by-products in an environmentally responsible way, while ensuring that this carbon-neutral fuel source is used to its full capacity.
By processing waste wood into biomass fuel Dalkia will not only provide an excellent local recycling service for any organisation producing waste wood, but will also ensure a sustainable supply of biomass fuel that cannot be guaranteed through use of green wood without a negative environmental impact on supplying forests. From this sustainable supply, Dalkia will provide biomass suitable for CHP applications.



Photo left to right: Ray Howell, Managing Director for Dalkia Bio Energy, Frédéric Pelège, CEO of Dalkia in the UK, David Kidney MP, Parliamentary under Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Phil Wilson MP for Sedgefield.

FREE ADULT COURSES
AT WOODHAM

An Introduction to Photography and Digital Imaging- A workshop that gets you involved in the joy of digital photography and computer based image editing.
A 5 week programme covering: Learning to see – composition, lighting and functions of a camera. Learning to use your digital camera and how to get the best results from it. Getting pictures from the camera onto the computer and editing them. Exploring digital imaging and editing on the computer using picasa, adobe lightroom and adobe photoshop. The programme is free! Starts 6.00pm on Thursday 25th February.
Salsa Dancing Starting with basic moves and grooves and incorporating improvers. The programme runs for 10 weeks and costs £20.00 Starting at 6.00 p.m. on Thursday 25th February.
Keep up with Your Kids Want to learn something about what your kids are doing in maths with a view to supporting them with homework and picking up a few skills yourself? Then come along and have a go. The sessions are friendly, informal and fun. We'll show you what's happening so you can keep up. The programme is free! Starting at 9.15 – 11.15 a.m. Monday 1st March, a series of five weekly sessions for parents/carers. For more information, or to enrol, please contact Marie Oswald, Community Development Co-ordinator on 01325 375482

MAKE FOOTBALL PART OF
YOUR NEW YEAR PLAN!

Greenfield Community Sports Manager Michael Rippon is encouraging Newtonians to take advantage of the town's £206,000 all-weather football pitch at a reduced rate on weekends.
The popular soccer facility was built in 2005, in partnership with Newton Aycliffe Youth Club and Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, thanks to a Football Foundation grant.
It's proving hugely popular on weekday evenings, but few people realise it's open on weekends as well.
Michael is now encouraging keen footballers to add to their New Year fitness resolution by using the facility on Saturdays and Sundays at half price, with the facility available for just £20 an hour.
The pitch, is made with the very latest rubber crumb synthetic material technology, and is the only one of its kind on the

town and is currently used by hundreds of people young and old in the community.
"It's a fantastic playing surface and ideal for groups of lads who just want a kick about with their friends, or for those who are not able to play their 11-a-side on a weekend due to the weather." said Michael.
"Literally anyone can use it, so this is perfect for those looking to get active in 2010 or to add to their fitness programme"
Michael joined Greenfield while studying at college and after completing a Leisure Management degree at Teesside University, progressed to becoming Community Sports Manager in July last year.
Greenfield also offers a variety of different sports in their gym and sports hall, from Cricket to ladies circuit training, where there is the possibility of joining a club or even just



hiring the facility with your friends.
It's available between 9am and 6pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Anyone interested can contact Michael on 01325 379041, 07879 117224 or email: michaelrippon@aol.co.uk

MILLIONS OF HAITIANS HOMELESS
PLEASE HELP PROVIDE SHELTER



The greatest need in Haiti is shelter and the Town's Rotary Club are appealing for funds to buy Shelterboxes which contain, among many other items, a 10 man tent, sleeping bags, cooking utensils etc.
Rotary International has already delivered over 4000 Shelterboxes, but thousands more are needed to accommodate the homeless millions.
Please help the cause and donate by filling in the coupon below
Bottom Right: Newton Aycliffe Rotarian Julia Barltrop travelled down to Shelterbox Headquarters in Cornwall to join the volunteers packing the boxes for Haiti.

DONATION FORM

I would like to donate £ to the Haiti Earthquake Appeal

As a taxpayer, I agree to Gift Aid the total (giving an extra 28%) Sign:

Your Name

Address

Please make cheques payable to "THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEWTON AYCLIFFE".
Hand in at Newton Press, St Cuthberts Way, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DX or
Taylors Newsforce, Town Centre or Don Walkers, Simpasturegate.
Donations can also be made via our website: www.newtonnewsads.co.uk

Ex-Boro Star Visits Aycliffe!

Former Middlesbrough star Craig Hignett will be the guest speaker at Newton Aycliffe FC's next fundraising event. The Scouser, who played for Boro from 1992 to 1998, will star alongside hilarious comedian Rudi West at the Chicken n' Chips supper in March, - tickets costing £20. Lennie Lawrence took Hignett, now 40, to Ayresome Park and he was part of Bryan Robson's side to win promotion to the Premier League in 1995, before scoring the first-ever goal at the Riverside Stadium in a 2-0 win over Chelsea. Hignett went on to play in two Wembley finals for Boro, the FA Cup and League Cup finals of 1997, but suffered relegation to the first division in 97, before helping them win promotion again a year later. It completed a rollercoaster six years on Teesside for Hignett, scoring 48 goals from 194 games, before leaving for Aberdeen. He went on to play for Barnsley, Blackburn, Coventry, Leicester, Crewe, Darlington, Apollon Limassol (in Cyprus), Spennymoor and Hartlepool before retiring. Hignett is now a youth coach at Boro as well as working as a match summariser for BBC

Radio Five Live. Aycliffe chairman Gary Farley said: "We've heard excellent reports that Craig is becoming a very popular after-dinner speaker with a growing reputation, so we're delighted to get him booked for what should be another cracking evening. "His stories range from old school to the fairly modern day, but we're told it's his funny stories about Gazza that we should be looking forward to! Rudi West is also a well-known and extremely amusing performer, so together they promise to be very entertaining!" The event is on Saturday 13th March at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, from 7.30pm (dress code smart casual). Tickets include a Chicken 'n' Chips supper, and tables of eight are available - call or text John Gaskarth on 07590 925469, or email gaskarth@msn.com Aycliffe maintained their excellent league form against second-placed Marske United with a well-deserved draw at Moore Lane Park last Saturday, thanks to a second-half free-kick by Dion Raitt. Allan Oliver's side go to



Seaham Red Star this Saturday and Thornaby on Wednesday night, but then don't have another game until their League Cup third round tie at home to Chester-le-Street on Wednesday February 10. **FIXTURES** Sat Jan 30: Seaham Red Star (A), 3pm Weds Feb 3: Thornaby (A), 7.30pm Weds Feb 10: Chester-le-Street, League Cup R3 (H), 7.30pm Sat Feb 13: Guisborough (A), 3pm Sat Feb 20: Brandon (H), 3pm Wed Feb 24: Crook (H), 7.30pm Sat Feb 27: Sunderland RCA (H), 3pm www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

CHANGE FOR LIFE! WITH HOME COOKING

We all seem to be busy in our modern, hectic lifestyles and don't often make time for healthy, affordable, home-cooked food. However, following the latest diet is often not a good idea for anyone who is looking to lose weight and keep it off. The only way to make these changes is by making permanent changes to the way we eat and exercise. The "Pass It On" County Durham cookery campaign gives people the opportunity to beat the bulge and make a lifestyle change that will help them maintain a healthier lifestyle without the yoyo dieting. The campaign helps people to live a healthier lifestyle by giving them the tools and support to cook simple, affordable, fresh food. Dawn Fenwick, who attended one of the Pass It On events, commented: "Going along to the course has helped me find out what's good for my son. Every child needs a healthy diet and I'm definitely

going to continue to cook more soup, curries and puddings myself from scratch." Members of the public can also sign up to take part in a free six-week course to learn some additional recipes, receive information on nutrition, advice on food labelling, fats, salts and sugars as well as shopping on a budget and how to plan a meal. People who attend the course will be asked to act as champion's and 'pass it on' to family, friends and/or work colleagues. **Courses will take place at the Youth Centre from 9.30am – 11am on Tuesday February 23rd and from 1pm – 2.30pm on Thursday February 25th.** For more information or to book a place on any of the events and courses taking place please visit www.pcp.uk.net, email passiton@pcp.uk.net or contact 01325 321234. Booking is essential as places are limited to 20 people per course.

Shafto House Proposed Closure

Dear Sir, It is no surprise that former County Councillor Keith Henderson supports the closure of Shafto House. New Labour bleat on about Tory cuts and lack of compassion in the national and local press, yet despite lack of money, they give financial; Institutions billions of our hard earned money to bail them out and allow bonuses. Why can't they take care of our own people? I for one condemn the Council for the threatened closure of this valuable asset for vulnerable people in our town. No doubt next we will see our MP signing a petition to keep it open just to get his picture in the press. A consultation exercise will take place but I believe a letter should be sent to every household in Aycliffe asking if you wish this facility to close. But if you say "no" it will still close due to high running costs. The Council have a big black hole in the pension fund that needs filling. Cut back on the pension fund and this will help. Alan Warburton (Ind) People before Politics

Viva Mexico!



Aycliffe Musical Theatre perform "Viva Mexico!" (concert version) in full costume and with accompanying orchestra on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th February at Greenfield School commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets still available from Greenfield School 01325 379048 or 318968/321729.

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Charity Night at the Legion

Leukaemia victim, Allison White is holding a Charity Night in aid of research into the disease at the British Legion on Thursday 25th February at 7.30pm. The club has been very helpful in arranging two professional acts in their function room free of charge. It promises to be a night of fun with games, raffle, auction and refreshments. Tickets are £3 available by ringing Alli on 07762 258696.

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LETTER to the EDITOR

Landlord Takes Over Garage by Mistake

Dear Sir,
I write this letter due to the stress caused to me and my family over the tenancy of our garage which we found had been emptied by mistake and the locks changed.
We used the garage to store our possessions accumulated over many years - some very precious, sentimental and irreplaceable, including our wedding photographs and items the family had bought us.
I have been suffering from Cancer and just before Christmas I received the good news I was in remission so we decided on a big family celebration. Unfortunately

we stored everything in the garage and it was all taken away. Sedgefield Borough Homes have apologised with an explanation that it was a mistake and that these things happen.
This is not good enough as nothing can replace what has been lost. My husband's birthday was also ruined as he spent it in the Police Station and SBH offices trying to resolve the situation.
Margaret Punshon
Swan Walk.
Editor: We spoke to Sedgefield Borough Homes who said they were dealing with the complaint as a matter of urgency.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 24th Feb. 2010
Environment Committee - 7.15pm
Followed by the Recreation Committee

QUESTION TIME
A period of up to 15 minutes has been set aside for electors to ask questions at the Recreation, Environment and Policy & Resources Committee Meetings. Written questions must be received by the Town Clerk at least 5 clear days prior to the meeting. Oral questions may be asked at the meeting which relate to an agenda item or is a matter for which that committee has responsibility. Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk).

The press and public are cordially invited to attend.
The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

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Village Pub Offers Seven Guest Rooms



The County in Aycliffe village is celebrating adding luxury guest rooms to its portfolio to become a Restaurant with Rooms. Situated on the village green it will now not only be known for its great fresh locally produced food and ale, but also its seven luxury guest rooms.
Each individually designed contemporary room will feature home comforts including en-suite facilities, comfy thick duvets, fluffy towels, toiletries, tea and coffee making facilities, Wi-Fi connectivity and flat screen TVs.
Stuart and Colette who run The County are delighted with their restaurant's transformation to a Restaurant with Rooms. Chef, Stuart who has 17 years of culinary experience, explains the reason behind the development:
"A great deal of people travel to The County to sample our menu of locally produced seasonal foods whilst staying in other hotels around the region. We realised there was an opportunity for us to make their lives easier by exploiting a gap in the market and launching a Restaurant with Rooms." The guest rooms are

perfectly situated for businessmen travelling to the nearby Aycliffe Business Park and also for wedding guests or even locals who want to take advantage of the locally brewed ale. They are already proving popular with bookings being taken already.
Colette, who has spent her career in the leisure industry, will be providing the hotel management experience. She said: "We are extremely proud of The County's transformation into a Restaurant with Rooms and we are excited to now offer guests the full package. Both Stuart and I class The County as our home and nothing gives us more satisfaction than when we see people enjoying our great, honest food in a happy and relaxed atmosphere and we can't wait to make guests feel even more at home in our guest rooms."
The County offers a real taste of village life making use of great local suppliers on its doorstep to develop and capture the taste and freshness of the superb range of produce in seasonal menus for which it has been awarded the prestigious Taste Durham Mark.
To see the latest menus and find out more information about the new guest rooms please log on to www.thecountyaycliffevillage.com

Well Done Honest John

Dear Sir,
May I thank you for the fantastic contribution that you made to Newton Aycliffe Mind. I encourage others to donate generously to your stall in Aycliffe Town Centre and to support you in your fund raising efforts for our small voluntary groups. Your belief in others and your commitment to help is a bright example of what can be achieved by an individual who works outside of the constraints of local 'politics'. Our community needs people like you and it should learn to place value on those who show that a generous spirit and kind heart is preferable to those who promote the opposite.
Chris Wheeler
Chairman of Newton Aycliffe Mind

LETTER to the EDITOR

Danger of Living on Stephenson Way

Dear Sir,
With reference to the letter from George Gray (w/e 15th Jan). I am a resident of Stephenson Way and live near the traffic calming measures on that road.
My car has been hit on a number of occasions, usually by a bus, and I agree with George that this situation needs addressing sooner rather than later as this has been going on for a number of years and has cost me money and a lot of distress. The problems lie with inconsiderate drivers who not only drive too fast, despite the traffic calming measures, but also refuse to pull over to allow the buses to pass the parked cars at a safe distance.
George also raises the issue of refuse collection wagons. I have noticed that they just stop in the road and will not let other traffic past. These situations have proved quite dangerous, especially when it comes to getting children out of the car. It is frustrating when I get in my car to find, again, damage down the side of my car.
Providing off street parking, as they have further along Stephenson Way, would help alleviate these problems and provide a much safer system for the residents of this street.
Can I also draw your attention to the traffic calming measures further up Stephenson Way,

near the Leisure Centre, which seem to cause more problems than they solve inasmuch that you have difficulty seeing traffic coming the other way especially from the junction of Macmillan Road.
A hopeful resident
Alan Bennett

£1,000 FOR MACMILLAN
A cheque has been presented for £1,011 to Macmillan Nurses. Big thanks to all customers and friends for donations at Bon Marche, Managers, Sam, Mary, Jemma and all staff. Special thanks to fund raisers Felicity, Carole, Judith, Audrey and Joan.

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Sunday 14th February, 2010

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Menus available

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ACTING AUDITION

Are you a budding actor or do you have a hidden desire to tread the boards? In two weeks time auditions for Stage One Productions debut play, the hilarious comedy 'Kissing Sid James', will take place on Saturday 13th February at St. Clare's Church from 11:00am.

This is an exclusive opportunity to help bring dramatic theatre back to Newton Aycliffe. We are currently looking for two amateur actors, 1 male and 1 female, minimum age 18, to play the lead roles. If you are interested then please come along, the opportunity is yours. For further details call 01325 324932 or visit www.stage-one-productions.co.uk

BOGOF AT NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Two bands for the price of one on Saturday 6th February at 2pm. Durham County Youth Band this will be followed by Durham Alumni Big Band playing Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Buddy Rich and more. Admission is only £4, Seniors £3, Children £2. Please book and collect your tickets by ringing 313924.

Could you help this event by baking cakes etc to feed the 40 musicians or providing raffle prizes? We are looking for people to join our fundraising committee for the upkeep of the Centre. Volunteers also wanted to run the Wii and Table Tennis Tuition for Over 50's. Unwanted gifts for our raffles would help our funds please ring 313924.

Line Dancing every Monday at 1.30pm. Admission £2. Followed by 50/50 Dancing at 2.45pm. Admission £3. Qualified tuition - just turn up!

Pop in to Knit & Natter with a cup of tea each Tuesday at 10am.

Volunteers needed to make tea/coffee on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

SASDA SUPPORTS HEIGHINGTON HOME-CHURNED BUTTERMAKER

A North East butter entrepreneur is on target to make her home-made products a household favourite after securing two new national retail deals.

Shildon-based Butter-fingers - which produces creamy, savoury and sweet flavoured butters - has added two renowned nationwide stockists to its client base after signing deals with department store giant John Lewis and gourmet foods company Lewis & Cooper.

Kairen Dods, who started out with a passion for making butters at home, set up the business a year ago after receiving advice from SASDA, the local enterprise agency for the Sedgefield Borough.

The products are now sold in more than 80 delicatessens, food halls and restaurants, including the Queen's retailer Fortnum & Mason and Harvey Nichols and she has created a new job by taking on another member of staff.

"I'm delighted with how the business has grown month-on-month, since it was established in late 2008. We've never looked back and it's a great achievement to see the products in such high profile stores and restaurants," said Ms Dods, of Heighington. "I contacted SASDA before the business was established to find out if they thought it was a realistic venture and they couldn't have been more supportive," she said. "They recommended a proactive approach, taking the butter to local shops to gauge feedback and within two months it was being sold in Lewis & Cooper, which is fantastic."

Support from SASDA's Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) - which aims to support businesses in the region and create employment opportunities for residents - has also ensured Ms Dods can continue to grow the business further.

The appointment of Joanne Mulley, 26, of Shildon, as production operator, has created more business development time for Ms Dods who can continue to promote the range to potential retailers without slowing down production.

Philip Beasley, chief executive of SASDA, said: "Butter-fingers is a fantastic local



business that is really going places. Through the WNF we have been able to help her employ a member of staff so she can continue to grow the business at the rate she has been and enjoy the success she so rightly deserves.

"The list of impressive national stockists is testament to the products and the company's determination to be market leaders."

The butter range - which includes sun-dried tomato and basil flavour, garlic and parsley, salmon and chive, and hot chilli and zest lime - has been receiving attention from chefs and food critics, including Charles Campion and will be reviewed in February by Delia online. Ms Dods, who was born in Singapore, has also received interest for the products from her home country and is looking into exporting in the coming year.

For more information about Butter-fingers please contact 01388 776186 or www.butter-fingers.org.uk or to find out how your business can receive support and funding from SASDA contact 01325 310730.

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LETTER to the EDITOR

ALL RESIDENTS
NEED CAR BAYS

Dear Sir,

In support of George Gray's letter regarding off street parking for those residents who live between 36 to 62 Stephenson Way of which I am one. It's nice to hear that someone is taking a stand for us poor folk who NEED to park our cars on the roadside day and night not entirely sure that its going to be in the same condition when you go back to it.

I am aware of the parking bays that have been put in further up the road for other residents which is great for them, but asking for parking for us is not a new matter for me, as I have asked a few times and the answer has been NO!.

I have been told it is due to pipes and cables running under the grass verge, but these run in the ground outside most houses and residents have still received bays.

My car as well as neighbours have been damaged - mine damaged twice in one day and my neighbour's car was struck from behind. It lodged itself onto the tow bar of my car and caused £1000 worth of damage.

I am begging for someone on the Council to get the job done. If it can be done for some residents on the same street it can be done for us!.

D. Patrick.

Ward Surgery

County Councillors Sarah Iveson and John Moran will hold a Ward Surgery on Saturday 6th February in St. Mary's Meeting Room from 11am - 12noon. Everyone welcome - just pop in to share any concerns you may have.

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Why Close Shafto House?

Dear Sir,

I am not surprised that Keith Henderson is an ex county councillor when all he can do is regurgitate the figures given by the labour group of councillors. These take no account whatsoever of the human cost of the closure proposals.

The County Councillors are depending on two factors for their case. Firstly, that the homes do not meet current government standards and secondly that they are under occupied.

I can only speak for Shafto House where the requirement is for en-suite rooms. However Health and Safety, so often used by the council, would suggest that these additions would be a positive danger to many of the residents who require help to use bathroom and toilets.

Overall, homes may be underused, but Shafto House is more popular than most with an occupancy rate in excess of 80%.

Completely ignored in the equation is the fact that Stockton Council is being taken to the European Court of Human Rights over their closure of homes. If the council loses that case they will face compensation claims greater than any savings they had hoped to make and the residents will have suffered for nothing other than councillors seeking easy targets for savings.

Mr. Henderson may need care home help one day and will regret it if the standards found in Shafto House have disappeared, thanks to the short sighted policies of our County Council.

George M. Dutch

MP Involved in Shafto House Consultation

Dear Sir,

Durham County Council recently announced a review of Residential Care Homes and Older Peoples' services in the County. A consultation is to start from February 1st on the closure of seven council owned residential care homes, one of which is Shafto House.

I understand how emotive such a consultation can be for the families of the residents of Shafto House. That is why I have called on the council to carry out a robust, objective and full consultation which takes into consideration all points of view ensuring the conclusions are well balanced and informed.

The consultation comes at a time when the emphasis is on significant developments in home care services, the opening of seven extra care schemes providing modern independent living in purpose built accommodation combined with helping people live at home longer.

Already, the average age of entry to a residential care home has increased from just over 83.5 years to almost 85 years. The County Council has reliably informed me that the cost of refurbishing their residential care estate would total £39 million to reach registration and inspection standards, this at a time when the independent sector accounts for 92% of residential care provision in the county.

This however may account for nothing if one of your family is resident in Shafto House today. That is why all avenues should be explored for keeping it open and I believe family members and residents need to be reassured about the alternatives if closure is to go ahead.

Whatever the alternative, it must be proven to be better than Shafto House and be as accessible as the existing home.

I have already written to the County Council asking

for assurances on what the alternative to Shafto House will be if closure goes ahead. I would be interested in hearing your views, please write to me at 4 Beveridge Walkway, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham DL5 4EE or email me at wilsonphil@parliament.uk

Phil Wilson

Woodham Students Collect for Haiti



Year 7 students at Woodham were so moved by the scenes of devastation in Haiti that they decided to have a 'Fill the bucket for Haiti' cash collection.

Students from 7KB visited every tutor group each morning, collecting any spare cash students had. Mrs Barker, Head of Geography, who co-ordinated the collection said, 'We set a target of £500 knowing that would represent 50p from each student.

We are very close to our target which currently stands at £460. Our donation will be channelled through the DEC Appeal.'

'It was great to see students giving out of compassion for the suffering they saw on their TV screens.

It is wonderful to see students give and not feel the need to have a reward for giving, such as a non uniform day. They saw the need and they responded.'

Students in Year 9 are planning to raise more cash by organising a Talent Show.

CANDLEMAS FESTIVAL AT ST. MICHAELS

St Michael's Church members invite you to visit their beautiful place of worship for the Candlemas Festival 5th - 7th February.

Friday 5th is a Preview Evening with Cheese & Wine and music from 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 available from Ann Dobson on 01388 772360.

The Church opens on Saturday 6th from 10am to 6pm for visitors to view the lighted candle display. Admission is £2 (children free if accompanied by an adult).

On Sunday 7th a Candlemas Festival Service will be held at 10am and everyone is welcome.

Valentine's Day



with Darlington FC

Enjoy the Famous Darlington FC Carvery on Valentine's Day, including live singer

One course £6.95, Two-course £9.90, Three-course £12.85

Booking advisable.



Sunday 14th February (12noon-4pm)

Call 01325 387000

Older People Should Get More Help to Live Independently

Thousands of older people in the North East could be spared traumatic hospital stays and costly long term care if they were given more help to live independently in their own homes, according to a new report.

The National Housing Federation's "In your lifetime" report warned that older people often struggled to access the support they needed to continue to live at home - increasing the risk that they will end up in hospital or a care home in the long run.

In the North East around 147,605 people aged over 65 in England need help with at least one routine task and this number is continuing to rise rapidly. By investing in preventative measures rather than caring for older people only when they become ill or immobile has saved the taxpayer £1.8bn a year. But specified funding on preventative services for older people has fallen over the last three years rather than increased - despite the savings to the public purse.

In the North East, the number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase to 656,300 over the next 20 years, with the number of over 85s doubling during the same period. But despite the rapidly ageing demographic and the huge need for specialised housing and support for older people, the options available remain limited, the report found.

Housing associations provide homes for almost one million older people, and are ideally placed to deliver tailored care and support services for older people in their local community. But the Federation, which represents England's housing associations, said its members faced a number of barriers which limited the number and range of services and housing they could offer to older people.

Investment should be focused on preventing hospital admissions and reducing the number of older people who need to be cared for in nursing homes, the report argues. Services such as adapting older people's homes to make them easier to use, regular visits from a support worker and personal alarm systems which allow users to alert a support worker when they need help are just some of the simple measures which can help people to remain in their own homes.

Currently the system fails to balance preventative measures with acute services meaning that too frequently older people only receive support when they end up in hospital. People who need to be cared for in a nursing home are likely to remain there once admitted. The average annual fee for a single room in a nursing home is £35,100. In the North East, the number of people in residential care is meanwhile expected to rise to nearly 32,380 by 2025. The number of emergency re-admissions for people aged 75 in English hospital rose by 69% between 1999 and 2007, with an estimated 9,331 older people admitted to hospital year in the North East every year. Preventative measures could cut these figures significantly, the Federation says. This kind of support also helps boost the health, quality of life and well being of older people.

The level and range of support currently available for older people varies wildly across the country, and needs to become more uniformly available. All older people should be able to access support in their local area, and local housing strategies which set out how councils plan to meet housing needs in their areas should specifically address how the needs of older people will be met. Federation North East regional manager Monica Burns said: "All too often

older people can only access care and support services once they reach crisis point when they end up in hospital or in a care home.

"By investing more widely in simple preventative measures which help older people live safely at home for as long as possible, the number of hospital admissions and care home places could be cut significantly as a result. "This would ease the burden on the NHS, save billions of pounds to the public purse, and most importantly allow people to live where they want to be in their home."

Woodturning Tuition for the Family

**Saturday 6th February Session 1: 10am—12 noon.
Session 2: 1pm—3 pm
Sunday 7th February Session 1: 10am—12 noon
Session 2 1pm—3pm
AT MOORE LANE ECO CENTRE**

Here is a rare opportunity to join local expert Andrew Hall to learn how to turn wood into many useful articles including some of your favourite creatures in a safe and friendly environment.

There will be plenty of time to work on your personalised design before having a go to create your masterpiece with the assistance and guidance of Andrew.

The event is free however if participants wish to leave a donation for materials for future events in the Eco Centre this would be welcomed. Places are strictly limited and can be booked by calling Great Aycliffe Town Council on 300700. For more information please call the Environment Officer on 07779 090842. All participants should be accompanied by a responsible adult and a minimum age limit of 10 years applies. Event organised by Great Aycliffe Town Council. Andrew Hall has spent a lifetime honing his skills on woodworking. He has

Newtonian Honoured

Professor Paul Keane, Dean of the School of Health and Social Care at Teesside University, has received the Honour as Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) from Her Majesty the Queen in her 2010 New Year's Honours list for services to healthcare.

Paul joined the National Health Service in 1966 in Derby and trained as both a Psychiatric and General Nurse. He spent many years as a practising nurse before going into teaching in 1978 and moved to York in 1983. He was appointed Director of Health Education in Durham in 1989 and became Chief Executive of a College spanning Durham and Teesside in 1993.



He was appointed Dean of the School in 2000 with a then population of 3,000 students. Paul was Conferred as Professor in March 2004 in recognition of his professional and academic leadership.

His School, now by and far the largest, has 11,500 students within what has just become the Times Higher University of the year. He has initiated and supported health and educational developments in many countries which include St Helena, Germany, Malaysia, Cambodia, Malawi, Ireland and Libya. Paul is married to Brid and they live in Woodham. They have a married daughter with one child who live in London. Paul who was born in Ireland enjoys gardening, golf and seeing his Grandson as often as possible.

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Sunday 14th March

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Labour members of the European Parliament have welcomed the announcement of government plans to give agency workers new rights today. Labour MEPs played an instrumental role in establishing the European legislation on which the new rules are based. They have also been lobbying hard to ensure that British agency workers get a fair deal as a result of the EU legislation. Stephen Hughes MEP and

a life-long trade unionist, said: "It has not been easy getting to this point, but today's announcement will make a big difference for some of the most vulnerable people in our workforce. This is a major boost for agency workers, many of whom can now look forward to a fairer deal at work." "All too often colleagues doing exactly the same job, side by side, can be treated entirely differently. Today's announcement will help thousands of

workers who've been the victims of an unfair two-tier workforce." "Colleagues will be concerned that many workers will need to wait until next year to access their rights, but that shouldn't obscure the fact that thousands of people will benefit from these new rules." "This is a great example of where Labour and Europe are making a real difference for working people."

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LETTER to the EDITOR

Independent Joins Labour Party

Dear Sir,
In his recent letter Honest John made the very eloquent point that we should all be careful who we vote for in the next election.

I have been informed by Counc Bill Curtis that the Town Clerk has confirmed one of our elected Independent Councillors Raymond Bowman is now a member of the Labour Party.

When elected as an Independent Councillor for the town he said in Newton News, dated June 12th 2008: "I will stay as a true Independent doing the best I can in the West Ward trying to bring true respect into our everyday life". We now have a situation

where there is a Town Councillor with a foot in both camps who surely cannot be expected to represent those who elected him in good faith. He now needs, through the Newton News, to come clean with the electorate.

Editor: We gave Ray Bowman the opportunity to reply to this letter but he said there is no comment to be made and he will neither confirm or deny what is stated in this letter. He may make a statement later.

We spoke to the Town Clerk who advises me he has a document signed by Counc. Bowman confirming he has joined the Labour Party.

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Classical Music Evening

The Chairman of Durham County Council is inviting residents to join him for an evening of classical music. Cllr Brian Myers will be hosting the event in the Council Chamber, County Hall, on Friday, 12 March in aid of his chosen charities. Taking to the stage will be Soraya Mafa, winner of the National Junior Song Prize in 2004. She will be joined by soloist Mark Burns and pianist Tim Abel, who are studying alongside Soraya at the Royal Northern College of Music. Also appearing will be cellist Alex McQuiston, who is currently studying with international soloist Johnannes Goritzki at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Tickets for the event cost £10 and include a champagne and canapé reception. Guests are asked to arrive at 7pm for 7.30pm.

Fun Starts Again at Silverdale

At Silverdale Place on Sunday 31st January at 2pm.: Free Hot Dogs, Bouncy Castle games etc.. This will be the start of the Summer Activities of the Red Bus so come along and join our club. It is also the start of our Happy Wanderers walking club for young people and

Parents. Warburtons are coming to give youngsters various things including Wii and WiiFIT Board, Goal Posts etc. All young people and parents welcome. The first 30 young people receive a free hot dog at the end of the session. We look forward to the start of many activities now that the snow and hopefully bad weather, dark nights has passed. Dorothy Bowman

Council Say Keep Shaftho House

At the Full Council meeting this week the Leader, Bob Fleming, raised the issue of Shaftho House. Vince Crosby and Malcolm Iveson supported Bob's proposal to invite the County Council to attend a Town Council meeting to answer questions and listen to Councillors views, It would seem a majority of Town Councillors will be against closure of Shaftho House.

Holiday

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FLORIDA VILLA Disney, sleeps 8/10, pool, spa, games room, visit www.florida-villa-2-rent.com or call 320409

Pets

DOG WALKING Services. Caring for your animals in their own environment, no matter how big or small your pet is. Call 07773 617265
4 MONTH old puppy Shitzu X Yorkshire Terrier. Lovely, excitable nature, selling for no fault of her own, due to a baby arriving and she needs more attention! Tel 07824 391 086

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Telephone: 01642 616077

SAMARITANS - 13 Woodland Road, Darlington. We are here for you 24 hours a day. Telephone 08457 90 90 90

YOUNGSTERS HAIRSPRAYED

Auditions will be held very soon by The Tearaways Youth Theatre Group, for their version of the hit musical "Hairspray", which will be performed in June . One of the producers for the show said " We are looking for young people aged 11 to 19 years of age, from the Newton Aycliffe, and School Aycliffe areas, who can sing, dance and act, or just want to improve on their present skills. All we ask is that they are willing to work hard and have a pleasant personality, we do all the rest". Anyone interested in being a future Tracy Turnblad or Link Larkin should ring (01388) 774 838, www.tearaways-shildon.co.uk

Beware of Theft from Vans

Dear Sir,
At approximately 4am last Saturday morning thieves stole numerous lengths of copper

Public Meeting on Shaftho House


Great Aycliffe Residents Association are planning a Public Meeting to discuss the proposed closure of Shaftho House. Offices and Councillors will be invited to provide information for the public to make a judgement on the issue as part of the consultation process. The date, venue and time is being arranged with details published in a future issue of Newton News.

pipe from my works vehicle on the Redworh Grange Estate in Newton Aycliffe. My next door neighbours were awoken by them and realised what was happening. They shouted out of the window at the two young males in the process of helping themselves to the copper from my van and received abuse in response. This was immediately reported to the police but as a registration number wasn't noted there is not much that can be done at this moment in time. The thieves were driving a blue Volkswagen Golf. A car matching this description was seen driving up and down our street prior to the theft. If anyone has any information however small, please contact Newton Aycliffe Police or Newton News to prevent this happening to anyone else. Andrew Galloway
Hamilton Close



THE TURBINIA
*** Saturday Night Live ***
The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge
Saturday 30th January
"Keenan" + Special Guest
"Keenan were absolutely amazing last night, first time I've seen the lads and I for one was very impressed, teh atmosphere was awesome, never seen anything like it and a really nice group of lads" Teen Rock Page Review.
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Place your Valentines Day Greetings in your local newspaper the "NEWTON NEWS"



Above example: £12.00 (inclusive) (maximum 15 words)
JOHN DOUGH To my "squidgy widgey" on Valentines Day, love from your little bunny X
JANE DOUGH To my little bunny, all my love on Valentines Day, love from "squidgy widgey"
Above example: 15p per word
JOHN DOUGH To my "squidgy widgey" on Valentines Day, love from your little bunny X
JANE DOUGH To my little bunny, all my love on Valentines Day, love from "squidgy widgey"
Above example: 30p per word

Write out your copy in the box below, add up the words, put the total cost on and hand in to:

NEWTON PRESS
St. Cuthberts Way
TAYLORS NEWSFORCE
Town Centre or
WALKERS BUTCHERS
Simpasturegate

Deadline: 5pm Wednesday, 10th February

No of words © p = £
Heart advert is required YES/NO = £12.00

GIGS AT SHILDON

Killers No 1 Tribute “The Fillers” are set to play their very first north eastern gig. The band from London who often have Ronnie Vannucci the drummer from The Killers play with them as occasional guest will play Shildon Civic Hall on Friday 5th February 2010. Supporting The Fillers will be 3ft Ninja from Middlesbrough.

Also at the same venue on Saturday 20th February 2010 will be a festival entitled Glastonbury comes to Shildon featuring Public Imitation Ltd, Winter in

For Sale



WOODEN playframe including slide, pole, rock climb, rope and ladders, great fun for the kids. £160 (no offers). Dismantled and ready to go Tel 307530

BARGAIN BUYS Bargain of the Week. Washing machine, 6kg load, Aenergy class, 2 year warranty, delivered and fitted for £219. Tel 321678

FACIAL sun lamp, hardly used, still in box, £10; Coffee table, 120x60, beech with frosted glass insert, £90; Boys first bike, £20; Leather framed mirror, 114x83, £40; JVC CD radio alarm clock, remote control £30, Ipod Shuffle (blue), £20; Gear 4, Ipod dock black box, 24/7, alarm/radio/, remote control, £20; Gear 4 blackbox speaker, remote control, £10. Tel 307530

PALLETS and Pallet toppers first come first served. Free, call at Newton Press M-F, 9am-4pm

IKEA Gramas glass topped dining table with 6 chairs, matching 5 tiered self unit, £75 ono. Tel 07789 557 620

LARGE GILT ornate mirror, 54" x 42", excellent condition, £55. Tel 313322 or 07976 719047

2 x Z-BEDS in new condition, including 2 sets of bedding, each + duvets, £60 each or £100 for the two. Tel 07816 159 193

SOLID PINE wardrobe, gothic style with one mirrored door, 5 drawers, shelving area and double railed area. Part assembled but with assembly instructions. Very good condition, width 62" (158cm), height 82.5" (209cm), depth 24" (61cm). £100 ono; Black/ brown coffee table with under shelf, very good condition, bought 3 months ago. width 31" (79cm), height 18" (46cm), length 47" (119cm). £15; 28" silver Pacific television for sale, good condition, £30 ono. Tel 07584 134 663

LIGHT OAK dining table, closed 3' x 3', extends to 3' x 6' + 6 ratten high back dining chairs, 18 months old, immaculate, can deliver, £350. Tel 311144 or 07814 539584

INDESIT washer, model IWC6125, used 2 months old, £180. Tel 310012

LARGE car top box, VGC, £50. Tel 310013

GARDEN SHED 6x4 apex window, heavy duty, tanalized, delivered and erected, £170. Tel 07538 812963

MAHOGANY CD stand £10; 14" colour TV £10; Raleigh Pioneer gents cycle £10; 300 watt amplifier. Tel 310963

CREAM leather 2 x two seater settees, 1 footstool, £10; Mahogany fire surround, excellent condition, £50; Coal effect Canon gas fire, excellent condition, £50. Tel 321517

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

Eden, Harriett Wigley-Smith, No Fun, Blizzard from Germany and The Jackdaws, doors open at 5.00pm. Tickets on sale now from the venue.

Council Tax Reduction!

This week our Town Council confirmed its precept for the next Financial Year 2010/2011 as £204 for Houses in Band D. This equates to a reduction in Council Tax of at least 1%.

In Memoriam

KEV DINSLEY 17-2-1991. Always loved, sadly missed, never forgotten. Teresa, Kevin, Michelle, Ian, Louise and Mark

KEV DINSLEY 17-1-1992. Miss you Grandad. Thomas, Teresa, Ellie-Louise, Luke, Mitchell, Callan and Molly-Rose

VALERIE MALONE In loving memory. Another year has passed, it's still not the same without you. I still think about you every day. Your loving Brother Nigel xxx

VAL MALONE 31st January 2007. Forever in our hearts. Lots of love, Graham, Kay, Jill and Sammi. God bless xxxxx

TONY WARBURTON 24-1-2002. We all miss and love you more each day. Loving Wife Felicity, Daughter Gail, Son-in-Law Graeme, Grandsons Jack, Winston and Oliver, Carole, Ron and family

JOHN LAMBERT To the one who loved and raised us, and cared for us as your own. Who helped us be who we are today, and gave us a loving home. You have gone to a better place where you will be at rest, and to sum up our love for you, you were the very best. You were a fighter and did so till the end, you were our Grandad, our guardian and our closest friend. Gone but never forgotten. Rest with the angels. Love, Mary and Michael

JOANHART 31-1-2007. Deep in our hearts your memory is kept, to love and cherish and never forget. Love always, Tom, Sean, Pat and family

JOHN GLASPER 1st February. In loving memory of our lovely Granda. Thinking of you always. Love, Nat, Maisie and Thomas

JOHN GLASPER 1st February. Wherever we go, whatever we do, in our thoughts we think of you. Love and miss you always. Very special and much loved Dad, Granda and Great Grandad

JOHN GLASPER Died 1-2-2009. Remembering my loving Dad. Love and miss you every day. Thinking of you always. Love, Vivien and Jessica xx

JOHN GLASPER Died 1st February 2009. Loved and remembered always. Your loving Wife, Doreen

JOHN GLASPER Died 1st February 2009. Loved and remembered. Grandson Christopher

NORMA LOWE In loving memory. Much loved and missed by Husband Steve and Daughter Heather. You are always in our hearts xxx

TEMPLETON, George Murray. 1st February 2009. To Dad. It's one year on. To your resting place we visit, place flowers there with care, there is never a day goes by that you are not in our thoughts. Miss you loads. All our love from Lynne and Martin

TEMPLETON, George. 1st February 2009. In loving memory, always in our thoughts. Loving Wife June and all the family

Love Notes in BHF Shop Window

February is National Heart Month and the British Heart Foundation is asking people to show their hearts by writing a Love Note in their local BHF Shop window.

Members of the public can support the BHF by writing their own Love Note for their loved one at the BHF shop. For a suggested donation of £1, people can declare their love in the BHF shop window for all to see, or go really red and donate £2 for a giant Love Note to their Valentine. By writing a Love Note and helping to turn our windows Red for Heart, people can help save lives through pioneering research, patient care, campaigning

for change and by providing vital information.

Martin Newton, manager for BHF shops in County Durham & Cleveland, said: We know people really do put their heart on the line when writing a Love Note – and we have even had marriage proposals. We welcome everyone to come and join in the romantic fun at their local BHF Shop."

To find out more about other ways you can go Red for Heart or to order a free Fundraising Kit today visit bhf.org.uk/red or call 0845 2410976.

Birthday Remembrance

Marilyn Baker



Happy Birthday
Love you, Miss you.
Love from Ken xxxxx

Thank You

ROSS, Denise and Hallie Louise, thank you so much for having me as your birthing partner. It was the best experience ever. Love you both loads, from your Sis, Lee-ann xxx

TO PAUL, the good Samaritan who kindly rescued me when the weather was at its worst and the Arriva bus which took me way past my stop found a garage, asked for a phone without success, but I was offered a lift and taken safely home. You saved me being buried in the snow Paul. Many thanks

ROBSON The family of the late Stella wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives and friends for the kindness and sympathy, many cards, messages, flowers and donations for the Butterwick Hospice, received in their recent bereavement. Special thanks to Rev. Linda Potter for her comforting Service and to Mark Gibson Funeral Director for his kind support and professional help

Births

Amy and Neil



Congratulations
on the birth of Jacob on 24th January. Lots of love, Mam, Dad and family

DENISE ROSS Congratulations on the arrival of your beautiful Daughter "Hallie Louise Ross", born 26th January weighing 6lbs 7ozs. Another gorgeous cousin and niece for us. Loads of love, Lee-Ann, Wayne, Jay, Parker and Erin xxx

Congratulations

Sarah E McCabe



Congratulations
on Graduating on Dental Hygiene and Therapy and achieving a special award for most professional. We are all very proud. All our love, Thomas, Elaine, Tom, Dad, Gran and both families

Lucas Fernando ACUNA OCANA



23rd January 2010
2 TODAY!

Happy Birthday to our gorgeous little man. Enjoy your party. All our love Mammy and Daddy.

Happy Birthday to our little brother 'Chunky Boy'. Lots of love Nathan & Macy Moo xx

Happy Birthday to a special Grandson. Love Grandad Peter.

Best wishes also from Great Gran, Great Nanny McCann, Great Nan & Grandad Stansfield, Nanny & Geoff, Grandad & Nanny Nicole and all your aunts, uncles and cousins.

Dan Burke



Happy 18th Birthday
25th January 1992
Love from Mam, Dave, Sarah, Ryan and Trina xx

Louise Marie Kelly



Happy 21st Birthday
30th January 2010

Happy 21st birthday. Love ya loads, Mam and Dad x

Happy birthday Big Sis, 21 today. Love, Shane and Sharni xx

Have a great 21st birthday. All our love, Sharna and James xx

Happy 21st birthday. Love, Grandma and Great Grandad Oakley xx

Darryn Thompson



Congratualtions
on your Passing Out Parade, 12th January at RAF Halton. Love, Mam, Dad and Family

Nathan Kellett



Happy 21st Birthday
30th January 2010

Have a great time. Love from Mam, Gemma, Alanta and Alisha xxxx

Connor Mattison



Happy 16th Birthday
Be careful on your scooter. Lots of love from Mam, Tom and Brogan xxx

Good Luck

GOOD LUCK to Jason Scott on his sky dive for Breast Cancer and Susan too. Love from all the family xxx

Stacey Mitchinson



18 AT LAST!

29th January 2010

All our love and best wishes for the future to our very special Daughter "Daisey" haha!! From Mam and Dad xxx

Happy 18th to you. My love always, Nana. PS: I hope you have a fantastic weekend xxx

Love and best wishes on your 18th from John xxx

Leanne Tidyman



Happy 21st Birthday
All our love, Mam, Dad and all the family

Weddings

BEAUFORDS, Daimler limousines, Rolls Royce's, Mercedes and Jaguars available for weddings, anniversaries and special occasions. Tel 01740 620147 (Sedgefield), 07721 771 113 or visit our website on: www.durhamweddingcars.co.uk

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Vehicles Damaged by Vandals

Between 20:00hrs on 16/1/2010 and 08:45hrs on 17/1/2010, four vehicles have been damaged whilst parked in MALHAM CRESCENT. An Unknown person has kicked a wing mirror off a Ford Fiesta, keyed both a Renault Megane Scenic and a Peugeot 206, causing extensive damage to paintwork. They also keyed and kicked a Citroen Picasso causing damage to all four panels on one side. The person responsible has made off unseen. Could anyone with any information on a possible suspect please contact the Police, incident references DHM-17012010-218 and DHM-17012010-220. Thanks
PC 2218 SURTEES
'D' SHIFT
Tel - 0345 60 60 365

Council Starts Care Home Consultation

Councillors have guaranteed that a consultation into the future of local authority care homes in County Durham would be fair and thorough. At a meeting of Durham County Council's Cabinet, members agreed to seek the views of residents, carers and staff on proposals for some council-owned residential homes.

The consultation will run from Monday, 1st February to Friday, 30th April and the Council will now begin the process of setting up a dedicated phone line and email address.

Everyone affected by any changes to provision will be invited to give their views and all feedback will be taken into consideration before any decision is made. Cllr Morris Nicholls, Cabinet Member for Adult

Services, said: "During a 12-week period we will not only be seeking the views of those currently living in local authority homes, but also their carers, family members, staff and other relevant individuals and organisations.

"Once the process is complete, we will then take some time to collate and consider the feedback we receive so that we can make a fully informed decision on the future of the services we provide.

"We are concerned that there has been some speculation that closures are inevitable and that the consultation will not be as full, fair, thorough and comprehensive as it should be. I would, therefore, like to stress that we are genuinely seeking people's views and that we will be taking those views into consideration when making any decision on the course of action to take."

Rachael Shimmin, Durham County Council's Corporate Director of Adults, Wellbeing and Health, said: "We are very much aware that this is an extremely emotive issue and one on which many people will want to give their views.

"We would like to assure people that they will have a fair opportunity to get involved in the consultation and that their opinion will count."

SLINKY SLIMMER



Denise before

Denise Evans from St. Clares Hall Limming World group was voted "Miss Slinky" by fellow members when she lost 2½ stone and fitted into size 10 clothes.

"From the moment I walked in that afternoon its been fabulous. Straightaway I was made welcome and when I heard about the eating plan I knew I had found the right slimming class," said Denise.

"I can still fill up with all the food I love, pasta, rice, potatoes, fruit veg, lean meat, poultry and fish. Just as Slimming World Instructor Debbie Wilson promised, I was never hungry and I could also enjoy the odd treat."

My friends and family can't believe the transformation and I look forward going to the group every Thursday because its so supportive and fun," added Denise.



Denise after

More details about Slimming World ring Debbie on 300615.

GREAT WORK ETHIC

Dear Sir

Following on from last week's Newton News 'Tougher Dustbin Men?'

I would like to thank the young lady who delivers newspapers for Stevens in the Welbury Grove area for battling against atrocious weather conditions to deliver her papers. My paper was delivered each day at the normal time and in good condition.

I am sure this young woman's work ethic will result in her gaining a good job and a successful future.

Bob Clarke, Welbury Grove

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Pursuit of Excellence

Top academic students from Woodham Technology College have been working alongside teachers from Queen Elizabeth Sixth College in preparation for their GCSE Mathematics examinations.

Year 11 students, who are

currently predicted top grades in Mathematics, have been fortunate enough to receive additional sessions, which will support them in their aspiration to study Mathematics and Further Mathematics at A Level.

A large proportion of students from the college undertake a variety of A Level courses at Queen Elizabeth College before moving onto further education at University. This is an excellent opportunity for students at Woodham to further develop their mathematical skills and at the same time improve links between the school and Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form.

This is one of several initiatives at Woodham College to support students in reaching the top grades. Woodham was proud to receive its best ever results in summer 2009 with 54% of students achieving A* - C including Mathematics and English.

A 13% increase on the previous year.

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A&S Majestic	RRP £169.00	NOW £139.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £229.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £249.00
4'0" and 4'6" MATTRESSES		
A&S Candy	RRP £129.00	NOW £69.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £199.00	NOW £99.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £169.00	NOW £149.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £249.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £399.00	NOW £359.00
3'0" BED SET		
A&S Candy	RRP £69.00	NOW £59.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £99.00	NOW £84.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £149.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £279.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £399.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £449.00	NOW £359.00
4'0" and 4'6" BED SET		
A&S Candy	RRP £119.00	NOW £99.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £139.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £299.00	NOW £209.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £499.00	NOW £399.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £549.00	NOW £449.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £599.00	NOW £499.00

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