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Week Ending 12th March, 2010

Town Doctors Say Keep Shafto House

As one of the biggest GP Practices in Newton Aycliffe we are profoundly dismayed to learn that Shafto House Care Home is being considered for closure as a cost cutting measure. We wish to strongly register our support for this excellent facility and would request reconsideration of this decision.

As GPs in this town we have more than 60 collective years experience and have never failed to be impressed with the care offered to patients at Shafto House. The dedication and professionalism of the staff that work there has been built up over many years, and is not something that can be simply transferred from one location to another.

Closure of this Home can only diminish the quality of care for the many elderly residents of this area, and we would urge again that this be reviewed.
Dr R Pounder, Dr A Clarke,

Dr C Heath, Dr G Walker, Dr C Scott

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SHOULD COUNCIL CONVERT SHAFTO HOUSE TO **CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE?**

TWO COUNCILLORS BRAVE ONSLAUGHT AT PUBLIC MEETING

Over 100 people attended the Public Meeting called by Great Ayclffe Residents Association last week to discuss The eight County Councillors representing the town were invited, but only Joan Gray, Dorothy Bowman, Paul Gittins and Mike Dixon were present to listen to the views of residents.

Mike Dixon was the only one who made any effort to put the County case and with Peter Brookes a Councillor from Trimdon made a Presentation giving the Council's facts and figures which prompted the closure proposal.

Councillors other observed, but kept tight lipped throughout the debate. It was thought their silence was due to the erroneous belief that if they spoke on the issue they would be barred from voting at the end of the consultation. Chairman Syd Howarth thanked the two Councillors for bravely tackling the subject with an hostile audience who were under the impression that whatever the outcome of the consultation, the County Council had already made a decision to close Shafto House. The two Councillors stressed the decision was not made and it was a genuine consultation in which everyone should take part.

However people have to download the report and answer a questionnaire or attend an AAP Meeting for which they have to register. There was criticism that this would not produce a full and proper consultation.

The Council seem to be targeting those people who are most concerned when it should involve the whole town. A referendum with a return form was suggested which could be left at the Leisure Centre or other public buildings. If you simply asked the question 'Should Shafto House close" the majority will say no! The answers to the loaded questions can be misinterpreted and manipulated.

Experts on the danger of moving elderly people from Care Homes had travelled over 250 miles to attend the meeting. Yvonne Hossack a solicitor acting for clients affected by local authority proposals gave startling facts on the impact and mortality of elderly people in care homes, being forced to move out.

Other speakers including the Town Centre Chaplain, Pam Lovelass, gave impassioned pleas to County Councillors not to take this step and think very carefully about the vulnerable people and staff of Shafto House who will be affected by the closure.

One of the best suggestions from the meeting was that Shafto House become a Centre of Excellence for Care for the Elderly in Newton Aycliffe. In addition to permanent residency it could offer respite care, day care and other support services. Newton Aycliffe is the largest town in the Unitary Authority area and something is needed.

The Residents Association Committee were pleased with the number of people who turned out, satisfied the public meeting they arranged would attract more than the AAP Meeting where registration to attend was required.

Chairman Syd Howarth said: "We have given people an opportunity to hear the reasons behind the proposal and to express their opinions verbally. We are grateful to Councillors Mike Dixon and Peter Brookes the only councillors prepared to make the presentation. Without their presence other Councillors there would have been in a very difficult situation. The meeting was difficult enough to manage, but without these two Councillors ready to answer questions, it could have got out of hand."

"The Association wish to record their thanks to Fr. Campion and members of St. Mary's Church for the use of their premises. The Church provides a valuable service and is becoming a focal point for community action. Its availability as a venue, centrally situated, is much appreciated" added Syd.

NEWTONIAN WINS SINGING COMPETITION AT FIRST ATTEMPT



Hannah Bussey aged 9, entered her first ever singing competition at the Darlington Festival for Performing Arts on Saturday 6th March at Carmel RC College Darlington.

The competition was open to everyone up to 12yrs old and she beat everyone to win first place and take "The Philip & Isobella Bethall Trophy. Hannah sang a lovely version of Rodgers & Hammerstein's song 'My Favourite Things' from 'The Sound of Music'.

Her proud parents Lesley and Ian believe Hannah was a born singer and will go far. A big thanks goes out to Hannah's singing teacher Mr Lawson of School Aycliffe.

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4th BIRTHDAY FOR CHURCH

Newton Aycliffe Spiritualist Church which has gone from strength to strength will celebrate it's fourth birthday in

We have an interesting programme of events planned for the coming months including the popular Supper with Spirit on March 23rd.

Everyone is most welcome to attend our Meetings on a Monday evening at 7pm in the Agnew Community Centre. An SLU Lyceum is held on a Tuesday evening. Our website is www.newtonaycliffespiritualist church. co.uk with full details of our events. President Ann Marshall CSNU can be contacted on 01325 313654 www. newtonaycliffe spiritualistchurch.co.uk with full details of our events.



COUNCIL MUST LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE threatened by the Labour

administration in County

Hall and this time

Durham County Council

have to show that they are

listening to the people of

Newton Avcliffe and any

Dear Sir.

I was at the well-attended in Newton on Thursday meeting Newton Avcliffe to listen to evening the presentation given representatives of **Durham County Council** over the issue of care homes in the County.

Having listened to all the speakers, it was impossible not to be affected by the passion and the anger felt by the people of Newton Aycliffe over the potential closure of Shafto House.

Speaker after speaker emphasised the quality of care being offered by the staff working in Shafto House and that is what the debate is about; care. This is the third time Shafto House has been

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(SDEMF) has been working with 5 Schools located in South West Durham to design key elements of a bespoke transport system for the 2012 Olympic Village. 64, Year 9 students from Woodham CTC, Ferryhill BEC, St John's RC

Durham

Manufacturing

Engineering & curing Forum

School, Tudhoe Grange & Spennymoor School attended extracurricular sessions over a 13 week period, commencing beginning of November 2009. Industrial Mentors from SDEMF Member Companies visited the schools on a weekly basis to work with the students to design and manufacture fully automated transporter bridges and remote controlled vehicles.

The aim of the Engineering Challenge is to promote careers in Engineering and also allow the students to experience the exacting demands of the Engineering

and Manufacturing sector. working closely with BvIndustrial Mentors, the students were able to experience many different aspects of Engineering such as Design, Electronics and Fabrication.

'consultation'

Alan Thompson Lib Dem PPC

Schools Engineering

Challenge at Xcel

must fully address the

understandable concerns

of both the staff and in

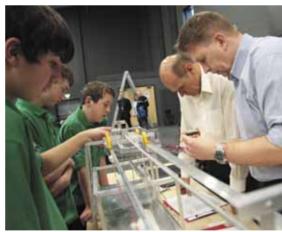
particular the residents.

The Grand Final was held on the 2nd March at the new Xcel Conferencing Centre and was a huge success. Judges' from SDEMF Member Companies gave expert opinion on the teams work to determine the winning school.

The final result was extremely close with St Johns retaining their title and only just beating Woodham to first place by 20 points, closely followed by Spennymoor/Tudhoe in 3rd and Ferryhill in 4th.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the competition having learned new skills, made new friends but most importantly equipped themselves with ideas to help them make informed decisions about their futures.







Newton News Appeal to Help Martin Walk

Martin Kpanou was struck down with Polio in his early teens. This affected his legs in such a way that it was not only very uncomfortable, but limited his mobility. Since January 2009 Martin, his wife Brigitte and their son Constantin have lived in the St John of God Hospital at Tanguieta in North Benin while surgeons tried to

improve his condition. Unfortunately they could only straighten one of his legs and amputated the other. Over the last year Martin has endured many more operations and will remain in Hospital until September 2010.

During the next six months he will undergo strenuous physio sessions to enable him to walk with the aid of a prosthetic leg and crutches. This is a huge improvement to the situation that Martin was in before his operation, only able to move around in a wheelchair (with his legs sticking forward and backward) or shuffling along the ground with his hands or on a skate board.

Before entering the hospital at Tanguieta, Martin was enrolled in a Government run College for Disabled adults in Benin. Martin was taught to weave on a traditional loom to run his own business.

On completion of his one year residential course, Martin and other residents were presented with the equipment needed to continue their chosen career in the local community, with the college acting as a co-operative for the sale of goods they manufactured, sold at a fair

price to the general public.
Because Martin has been in hospital for the last 12 months and been unable to Newton News and the West Africa Trust will keep readers up-dated on

work his hospital bill has

been steadily growing. The overall cost of Martin's

and accommodation whilst

in hospital is approximately £10,000. The West Africa Trust have a few benefactors

who are willing to put so much towards the expense, but we do have a shortfall

and ask for your help in completing this worthy

cause. Any amount would be welcome and 100% of your donation is guaranteed to go

to Martin's welfare.

Over the next few months

physiotherapy

operations,

Martin's progress.

I/we would like to donate £ to Martin's hospital expense.

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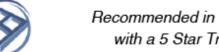
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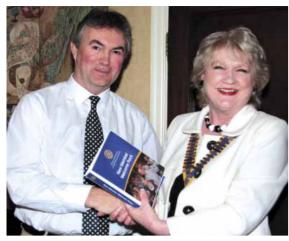


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NEW ROTARY MEMBER



The Rotary Club welcomed Joe Reid into membership at their meeting this week. Joe is a well known businessman on the town, running On Tap Plumbing. He is shown here with the President Jean Thompson after his induction.

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Amongst the cast of 4.3, are local girls and boys from Newton Aycliffe, Hannah Day, Courtney Fawcett, Aidan Robson, Madalyn Patrick, Alysha Patis, Amy Cooper, Andrew Stone, and Emily Lee". Tickets are priced £4 Adults, £2-50 Children and Concessions and can be pre-Concessions, and can be pre-booked by ringing 01388 774838. www.cats-theatre.

Megan **Needs Votes** for Teen Queen

DISNEY

COMES TO

SHILDON

Young Thespians aged 8 to 11 years take to the stage for their first ever musical, at the Civic Hall, Shildon later this month.

Hall, Shildon later this month.
C.A.T.S. Youth Theatre group
present "The Disney Show"
on Thursday, Friday, 25th,
26th March, 7.30pm, with one
final performance Sunday 28th
March at 2pm.
A spokesperson for the group

March at 2pm.

A spokesperson for the group said "The young people have worked very hard over the last 3 months creating this chart their first musical which

show, their first musical, which

has all the Disney songs and characters in it, like, Snow White, Mary Poppins, Aladdin,

Hannah Montanna, Cinderella, and many more.
Amongst the cast of 43, are



Megan Harrison (14) was spotted by Model Academy 'Fresh" while on a school trip to Birmingham last December. She was entered in a competition and has made it through to the finals.

You can see her with the her well.

You can vote for her on your landline 0901 331200 adding her number '16' for a cost of 50p. You can also

Family Receive Military Badge from M.P.



M.P. Phil Wilson applied for the Normandy Bar on behalf of Veteran Reg Dalton wife of current Mayor Mary.

Unfortuately Reg died suddenly two days later, just before Christmas. It was a great shock to everyone, but Mary with great courage continued her Mayoral duties with Michael taking his Father's role as Consort

Proudly Mary and Michael received the medal recently when Phil Wilson visited their home to present the special badge to commemorate Reg's part as a Tank Driver in the

Normandy Landings. It was in a liberated Dutch village that Reg first met Mary in 1944. "Mary said: "He stopped his tank near our house so we asked him in for coffee and a meal. I met him

every day for about three weeks and when he left he said he would be writing."

The romance blossomed and the couple married in Sowerby, North Yorkshire, where Reg lived. They started their married life together in Thirsk and retired to live in Newton Aycliffe in 1999,

close to Michael.
"He was very proud of his
military past and we were very
proud of him." said Mary.
Michael added: "I was

Michael added: "I was honoured to wear his medals at his funeral and I will be very proud to wear the Normandy Bar on his behalf. I'm sure my brother, Jan, would be too."

OPEN LETTER TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

I read with interest the article reminding Councillors on 'The rules on 'predetermination' which result in the need to exclude from the decision making process any member who has demonstrated that they have reached a firm conclusion before the relevant

meeting'.
Whilst understanding the concerns of those who see this as a gagging order I would like your confirmation that Councillor Mike Dixon will be excluded from the process

given that I believe his letter published in the Newton News of 12th February 2010 clearly demonstrates his belief that that Shafto House should close.

The article also refers to presentations being made at Area Action Partnerships Meetings - surely if these presentations are part of the consultation process they should be open public meetings and be widely advertised and accessible to all. I look forward to your response Maureen Osborn



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other finalists on the Miss Fresh Teen website for the second heat. The experience has interested Megan in a modelling career when she leaves school and we wish

text your vote.





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It would appear I have my dates jumbled up for the Dana visit - The actual date is Thursday May 6th and not Thursday May 10th at the Civic Hall, Shildon. Rev Graham Morgan

Superintendent Minister



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For details on topping up your existing qualification, Contact Emma on 01325 308840

WRONG DATE FOR DANA Woodham Celebrates Achievement LIES, DAMNED LIES



On Thursday March 4th over 200 Woodham students celebrated excellent mid-year success in a special assembly. Students are assessed three times a year in three categories: attainment, effort and behaviour. To be invited to the rewards assembly students must have excellent results in at least one of these areas. 32 students received a special Gold Award for outstanding achievement in all three categories.

Congratulations must go to these students.

A special mention must be made to Cameron Staughan who not only achieved a Gold Award but was also presented with a certificate for 100% attendance.

All of the students enjoyed the lesson off timetable to attend the rewards assembly and to enjoy light refreshments following the assembly.

happening here as this little

'acorn' of an idea is already

gathering momentum. The

Staff and I have already

raised almost £400 since the

Thank you in anticipation of

launch of the event!

your help Kindest Regards

Sandra Wheatley

SANDRA'S WATER-BASED EVENT FOR A WATER-BASED NEED

I hope you will be able to help me promote a fabulous fundraising event I am organising with the help and support of all the Staff at the Leisure Centre.

I am a first-generation Newtonian and have lived here most of my life.

I trained as a Nurse in Durham and then spent a short time in Africa (hence my long-standing interest in the Clean Water project)



working for National Charity supporting Families affected by Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus

I was diagnosed with MS in 1987 and as the disease has progressed so my need to use a wheelchair has increased. But one thing I discovered was, that despite having no function in my legs . . . I could still swim!

Over recent years the Staff at the Leisure Centre have been really supportive and helpful each and every time I go for a swim. They are a credit to Newton Aycliffe.

Together we have organised a Swimathon to take place from midday on the 24th March - midday 25th.

Just about every member of Staff has signed up to support this event – as well as raise sponsorship for Tearfund Clean Water Project in Uganda.

I have rallied a Team of Friends from far and wide to take part too . . . so all in all we will raise the profile of the Leisure Centre . . . and the Good Folks of Newton Aycliffe as they donate and sponsor us.

We will be raising money from a water-based event for a water-based need!

The Newton Aycliffe motto 'from little acorns mighty oaks will grow' seems to be

AND STATISTICS

The Council Officers saving that £39 million is required to bring the care homes up to standard have their sums wrong. This figure only refers to new build homes.

Those already in place may need some modernisation and maintenance but this is nearer £15 million in total and there is already some £5½ million in funds for this.

Spread this over several years and seven homes and the figure is insignificant compared with the Council's £6 billion budget.

Why are the physical and mental effects of the proposals on closure being ignored when the work of Prof. Jolley and Dr. Dalley were quoted at the Residents Meeting and are readily available on the internet?

Are the councillors aware that in accepting the council officers' proposals they are signing death warrants for a number of our most vulnerable

Why does the County Council

the community when Simon Henig, unsuccesfully tried to prevent the county's name appearing on a letter to the government, printed in the Times and reported in both the Northern Echo and Newcastle Journal on Friday 12th. February, 2010 stating that the plans, still given in great detail in the presentation, were both Unclear and unfunded"?

If it is to take a large increase in Council Tax to pay for these grandiose schemes why change a succesful system? Here is an opportunity for Councillor Mike Dixon to retain some creditability. You have been mis-informed by Council Officers so now is the time to support your electorate and persuade your fellow councillors that the proposals are terminally flawed and need to be rejected without further unnecessary expenditure to the Council Tax payers on whom you and your fellow councillors rely at the next

election. George M. Dutch



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NEWTON AYCLIFFE RUGBY CLUB PRESENTS

"RACE NIGHT"

The Dubai Races are coming to Newton Aycliffe This prestigious event will be taking place at the **NEWTON AYCLIFFE SPORTS CLUB** SATURDAY, 27th MARCH, 2010 at 7.30pm

Entry Tickets £3.00 - Buy a Horse for £10.00





A new and creative Dance Academy opening in Woodham, Newton Aycliffe on Tuesday 20th April 2010

Aycliffe Dance Academy is a new and exciting Dance Academy which will deliver Dance and Fitness Sessions for girls, boys and adults from Tuesday, 20th April,

Classes will include:

Groups:

Girls & Boys 4+ : Tap & Modern, Ballet, Acrobatics and Cheerleading Adults: Tap, Modern Dance

Choreographed routines for: Wedding Parties, Work Functions, Hen Nights, Special Birthdays etc

You can REGISTER by calling into the Bethany Centre (formally Christian Life Centre), Woodham Way, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4UD on the following

Wednesday 24th, Thursday 25th and Wednesday 31st Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th March: April:

Call in anytime between 4pm and 7pm to register.

OU CAN ALSO REGISTER BY EMAIL: Send your name and contact number to Emma and she will send you an application form and information pack. Send your

You can also TELEPHONE 01325 300119 (9am -5pm) to register your details.

Classes will be held on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening Discount on fees for multiple classes and families.

INTERESTED IN TEACHING: If you are an up and coming young enthusiastic dance teacher and feel you could offer something special to our Academy, please send your C.V. to Emma and find out more about our development opportunities:

* * * All classes start Tuesday 20th April 2010 * * *



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GREENFIELD LEAGUE REACHES CLIMAX

night seven-a-side league will reach its climax next week when the champions will be crowned.

Only three points separate the top four sides as recent results have blown the title race wide

Greenfield's community sports manager Michael Rippon is looking forward to seeing the 14-week winter season reach a nail-biting end on Tuesday night.

"It's been an exciting first season for us," said Michael. "It has proved very popular and the last few weeks have seen the title race open up so it promises to be a nervous final night!

The Breakfast Club maintained their lead at the top with a 2-0 win over FC Copenbadly last week and will seal the championship if they can beat

Inter Yeman on Tuesday. Second-placed Cobblers Hall stayed in touch with a 1-0 win against the Little Acorns, and face Copenbadly next week.

West Rummage Albion have come right back into the title race, meanwhile, and are just two points off the top so, depending on results, could still snatch the title if they beat Team Naughty and the top two fail to win.

seven-a-side league is keenly contested on Greenfield's all-weather pitch, built in 2005 using the very latest rubber crumb synthetic material technology. League organiser Michael is

looking to start a new summer league beginning early April, which will be extended from eight teams to 12 and will be played over 22 weeks until around August (between 7pm 10pm every Tuesday night).

Registration costs £20 per team and each game, which lasts 30 minutes, costs £21 per

There are still places left for teams to enter - so anyone interested should contact Michael on 01325 379041, 07879 117224 or email: michaelrippon@aol.co.uk





DARLINGTON have revealed their new home and away kits for next season, as voted for by supporters. The club offered fans the chance to vote for the 2010-11 strips by giving them two options for each.

The club received more than a thousand votes all together – by post, email and text – and the winning designs were unveiled at the Ouestion of Sport fans' night at the Northern Echo Arena. Option A for both home and away kits won the with the home kit reverting to the club's traditional black and white hoops, and the all-

red version winning the away vote.
"It's proved to be an extremely popular exercise," said community liaison officer Damon Shaw. This is the best way for us to make sure we have a popular kit for fans to enjoy so we'd like to thank everyone who took time to vote. Hopefully the winning designs will prove just as popular with the supporters, and they'll be ready for them to buy in plenty of time for next season

Fans who voted were entered into a free prize draw, with the first prize being a trip to Italy (terms and conditions apply), which includes a visit to Erreà, Darlington's kit manufacturers, plus two season tickets and a signed framed shirt, which was won by Tracey Foster.

Second prize is two season tickets and a signed framed shirt, won by Chuck Gutierrez.

There are also 10 pairs of tickets for the opening

game of the 2010-11 season as runners-up prizes along with a signed shirt, which were won by Andrew McFarlane, Mark Hathaway, Michael Walker, Claire Bloomfield, Steve Squirrel, Arthur Brennan, Paul Simon, Richard Kirkup, Christopher Waldock and Mike Hesseltine, congratulations to all our winners

Councillors Asked to Make Travel Fairer

Councillors are to look at providing a fairer deal for residents across County Durham when it comes to accessing alternatives to bus routes.

Unitary inherited a range of travel schemes from the former eight councils which delivered services across the county and has been consulting with residents on how best to provide one unified approach for everyone. Head of Transport Adrian

White says the aim is to find travel solutions which offer a fairer deal to the vast majority of people, "For example currently people over 60 and residents who are registered disabled and living in Teesdale are entitled to free travel (under the national concessionary travel scheme) but can swap their travel passes for £33 worth of vouchers.

'While most people have used this opportunity in an entirely fair way, we have been made aware of instances in which users have saved up their vouchers and redeemed them against coach holidays or late

really in the true spirit of the scheme.

"What we want to do is offer a flexible taxi and minibus service, called Link2, which can be used more frequently and will allow users to travel regularly into local towns and villages to access facilities and amenities there. We also want to work closely with the community transport network. 'This also means people

living in the more rural areas can make more frequent trips instead of using all of their vouchers on one or two trips.' Additional changes recommended in the report include using the community

transport operators, who have received extensive council backing for 18 new vehicles through the Local Transport Plan. This approach would replace the current scheme in Sedgefield.

hoped recommendations will mean services are offered in a more balanced way across the county and give better value for money for council tax payers.

Art Exhibition at Village School











XHIBITION

Saturday 17th April 10am - 5pm

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Ayclife Village School held an Art Exhibtion this week. Students' work was on display and parents were able to purchase the framed pictures as a memento of their child's education. The PTA organised the Gallery event as part of their fundraising. It was part of Arts Week - a celebration of the wide range of Arts covered within the school's curriculum. The PTA have raised thousands of pounds over the years and are currently in the process of purchasing new lap-top computers for the school.

Don't Close Shafto House - Expand it!

Amongst issues raised at the public meeting organised by G.A.R.A. on D.C.C's consultation on Residential Homes, an extremely positive and relevant proposal was made as to the future use of Shafto House.

That proposal, I believe, could truly energise Government Policy, funded by millions of pounds, for Respite Care, and, ease the work-load of Great Aycliffe Carers needing supportive relief.

It was proposed that spare capacity in Shafto House be used to provide local shortterm and intermediate Respite Care facilities for Great

Currently, Primary Care Trusts decide on how millions of pounds for Respite Care

is used. That money is NOT RING-FENCED for RESPITE CARE. The P.C.T's decide, and a Government review of it's use is now intended.

I believe Great Aycliffe Resident's Association with the Friends of Shafto House, and all Carers in Great Aycliffe, should organise and discuss with our M.P. how that funding might be used for Respite Care facilities in Great Aycliffe at Shafto House.

And, if agreed, that be put to Durham County Council, our P.C.T. and the Government's Review of use of that funding for Respite Care.

Positive proposals could energise the whole issue and give all concerned something extremely worthwhile campaign hard for. Don Fraser



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'THE APPRENTICE' AT **WOODHAM COLLEGE**



A group of Woodham Year 11 students have successfully been selected to take part in an exciting and challenging programme to demonstrate their potential and readiness for the world of

The students are being put through their paces in a scheme similar to the TV series "The Apprentice" by Thyssenkrupp Tallent, who are looking to recruit a new apprentice.

They have been set realistic, industrial tasks, and have had to work together in groups to find solutions. Their first assignment,

set by Stuart Blackett of TK Tallent, was to recommend a new supplier to the company, given a range of options.

Their first presentation to the TK Tallent panel took place at

Woodham this week. All the students performed well under pressure and all completed the task within the deadline set. Thankfully, unlike the programme, no-one actually got fired this week, however more challenges lie ahead.



Michael 01937 558 604

HOW DO WE GET RID OF **UNWANTED KNIVES?**

As a law abiding citizen of I felt that I had to write and first ask a question and secondly inform all other people of the official response I received.

I have some old kitchen knives that I need to get rid of and would like to know what is the correct procedure for disposing of sharp knives.

As I was unsure I phoned the Police for advice. I spoke to an operator who initially wasn't sure, but then came back to me and informed me that I just had to put them in the wheelie

To say I was shocked is a bit of an understatement, as surely in

this current climate of serious knife crime this can't be correct. If the knives got into the wrong hands after I'd put them in the bin and a crime was committed who would be held responsible?

There are also Health and Safety issues that arise for the refuse collection teams that empty the bins. If one of them was injured by a knife who would be held responsible? My knives are still at home and I'm not sure what to do with them. I am interested to find out what the response from the Police is on this matter.

Miss E Lambert Kenny Walk

POLICE RESPOND

In response to your readers concerns - any member of the public can safely dispose of knives/sharp implements at their local police office.

In Newton Aycliffe we would encourage anyone wishing to dispose of such items to initially contact Newton Aycliffe Police non emergency Tel No 0345 60 60 365 and ask to speak to staff at Newton Aycliffe Front Office. (or call in personally if preferred)

The front office is open to the public, Monday-Friday 8am-7pm and Saturday/Sunday 9am-5pm. The staff will them advise the caller to bring the knives etc to Newton Aycliffe Police Office where they will be safely disposed/destroyed. It is advisable to wrap the items up to prevent injury and most important to

carry them to the police office under some form of cover. This procedure ensures that the police are aware that the person is possessing these items lawfully in order for them to be disposed of safely at a police station.

I hope this clears up any misunderstanding. Many thanks

PC1452 Alan Thompson

NEVILLE COMMUNITY **CENTRE**

The new Bingo Club starts on 5th April on Mondays and Fridays at 7pm. Open to everyone over 18 years with a cost of £1 for 10 games. £1 Cash Flyer, 50p late cash flyer and Snowball up to £100 and over. You need to attend four consecutive weeks to qualify. Refreshments at half time only 50p.

Line Dancing
Monday at every Monday at 1.30pm Admission £2. Just drop in

and enjoy yourself. You can **Exercise to Music** every Friday at 10.30pm. Donation required only.

Domino Club starts April 5th at 1pm. Admission £2. To show intereset ring 313924.

Knit & Natter or just Natter over a cup of tea. Every Thursday at 10am.

Decoupage class every Thursday 10am. Come along and learn this wonderful art.

New Age Kurling Tuesdays at 2pm, Thursday at 1pm. £2 for 2 hour session.

Table Tennis Club commences Wednesday 7th April at 11am until 1pm. Club Ring to book on 313924.

Book our large Hall for parties. Two hours costs only £30 and includes access to kitchen. Ring 313924.

Youthy Under 13's Win 6-0

Newton Aycliffe Youth Under 13's travelled to Bishop St Mary's C on Sunday to play their first league game since before Christmas, due to the weather and cup ties.

Youthy made all the running in the early stages with midfield trio of Ben Nicholson. Connor Halford and 'man of the match' Sam Pascoe, controlling the play. Wide men Ryan Mercer and Jake Cane were too much to handle for the Bishop's defence and it was a only a matter of time before top scorer Dan Kenyon connected his account. opened his account.

The back four of Jordan Howe, James Skerrett, Thomas Gledhill and Billy Bradley gave Jack McLaren an easy day in goal as Aycliffe dominated. Kenyon scored another 2 goals, supported by goals from Cane and Mercer as Aycliffe showed why they are one of the division's top teams.

Matthew Dixon replaced Halford as the midfield trio were rotated. Skipper Nicholson completed the scoring to give the town a hundred percent league record for the season, so far, as they ran out 6-0 winners.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 7th April 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 sik questions at the Recreation, Environment and Policy & Resources Committee Meetings. Written questions must be received by the Town Clerk at least 5 clear days gater 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 Reiday afternoon preceding the meeting (www.great-nyoliffe.gov.nk).

The press and public are cordially invited to attend.

The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 70 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

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Sports Relief 2010

raising cash for good causes and changing lives why not take part in one of Durham County Council's Sport Relief events. The Sports Relief weekend takes place from Friday 19 to Sunday 21 March

Durham County Council is supporting Sport Relief by hosting 'The Mile' at three of its leisure centres in County Durham, as well as a charity dodgeball tournament.

Rise to the challenge by entering The Mile and choosing one, three or six miles, whichever is a personal goal for you.

The Sport Relief Miles are

being hosted at Meadowfield Leisure Centre, Durham, Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon, and Teesdale Leisure Barnard Centre, Castle, Sunday 21 March.

If you don't fancy that head down to Freeman's Quay Leisure Centre, Durham which is hosting a fancy dress dodgeball competition, guaranteed to be fun for all.

Beales, Community Sports Development Officer for Durham County Council, said, "It doesn't matter if you've never played before, or even seen the film, the rules will be explained on the night and it's going to be great fun for a good cause."

The event is to be held Friday 12 March at 6:15 pm, at a cost of £20 per team (six players per team, maximum squads of ten.)

Please note that players must be aged 16 or over and entries must be received by Wednesday 10 March. All

proceeds will go to Sport Relief.

For more details and to enter call Tom Beales on 0191 301 8425 or email thomas.beales@ durham.gov.uk.

For more information on the Sport Relief Mile contact your chosen venue for more details or enter online at www. sportrelief.com.

Mothers Day Family Service

Neville Parade Methodist Church invites you to a Mothering Sunday Family Service on March 14th at 10.30am. Everyone is

welcome.
On Wednesday 17th March starting at 6pm. JAM Club are organising a Family Quiz Night with Pie & Peas or Broth. Tickets are £2,50 with proceeds going to Zoe's Place.

Theatre Group Want you on Board

Avcliffe Musical Theatre are seeking new members to join them for their forthcoming production of HMS Pinafore, to be performed at Greenfield School Community and Arts Centre in July.

Anyone who enjoys singing and performing on stage is welcome to come along and join in the fun. For more details contact Margaret on

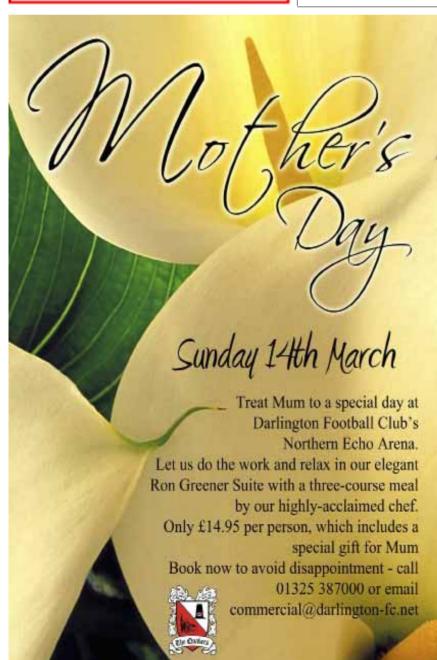


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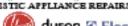
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HANDYMAN

Aycliffe FC's Fundraiser Job

Newton Aycliffe FC are looking for an experienced salesperson to help the club with a major fundraising drive this summer.
The Northern League club,
promoted from the Wearside

League only last summer, are looking to develop all areas of the club during the close and pre-season. It's hoped, once their new stand is in place, they can look at fundraising areas they haven't yet explored.

Sponsorship manager David Brassell attracted a number of local sponsors and advertisers last summer, but the club would like to appoint a new salesperson to assist him tap into additional corporate income, with a commissionbased remuneration.

Chairman Gary Farley, explained: "The majority of our efforts this season have Farley, been on getting the new stand in place and the team, as our first entry into the Northern League was always going to be the hardest

'It's been a great season for us up to now but we can't afford to sit back .We want to continue the development of the club and there are lots of income streams we haven't looked at yet.

This new fundrasing position will hopefully enable us to do that. Our club is run entirely by volunteers who all work for a living, but there is only so much time we can give. There must be people out there who

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Anyone interested in the new job should contact David Brassell on 07870 777779 or email: david.brassell@hotmail.

Newton Aycliffe will welcome near-neighbours Crook Town to Moore Lane Park in an Easter Monday Derby.

Easter Monday Derby.
The fixture, re-arranged twice due to bad weather, has been re-scheduled for April 5, kicking off at 1pm. Aycliffe's

kicking off at 1pm. Aycliffe's trip to Hebburn Town, has been re-arranged for Wednesday April 7th (7.30pm). Allan Oliver's side are due to welcome Jarrow Roofing to MLP this Saturday (March 13) MLP this Saturday (March 13) in the club's first home game for three weeks, then their next game isn't until a trip to Thornaby on Tuesday March

Aycliffe drew their last two games, both away from home, and both 1-1. Paul Broom put them in the lead in their midweek fixture at Seaham Red Star, while Broom also

put them ahead in the first half put them anead in the first half at form side Stokesely last Saturday before eventually succumbing to second-half pressure, but managed to hold on for an excellent away point. The North Yorkshire club had won 14 consecutive league games before their home tie with Aycliffe, climbing up to third in the Northern League second division.

winning number Aycliffe's February 200 Club draw went to 45, with Michael Stayman winning the £50 cash

prize. FIXTURES

Sat 13th March: Jarrow Roofing (H), 3pm Tues 23rd March: Thornaby (A), 7.30pm Sat 27th March: Washington (H), 3pm Sat 3rd April: Northallerton (A), 3pm Mon 5th April: Crook (H), 1pm Weds 7th April: Hebburn (A), 7.30pm Sat 17th April: Team Northumbria (H), 3pm TBA: Sunderland RCA (H) www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

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Mayor Congratulates Golden Wedding Couple



Town Mayor Mary Dalton called on Lionel (Leo) and Mavis Musgrave at their home in Bousfield Crescent last Friday to congratulate them on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Leo, who says his real name 'Lionel' is too posh, is well known in the town as a sociable and very talkative sociable and very talkative type. He comes from Coundon and met Mavis, born in Spennymoor, when they both worked at Smart & Browns. Leo was a spot welder and Mavis worked in

the Accounts Department. Leo used to be always around when Mavis walked round the factory and it wasn't long before he asked if he could meet her at the weekly dance. They were married at St. Andrews in Spennymoor and moved to Redcar for 11

ears when Leo took a job as a Process Worker at IČI and Mavis became Manageress of a cleaning company.

In 1967 they moved to Newton Aycliffe when Leo got a job with Cummings and Mavis was employed by the ADC as a Housing Assistant. When the ADC dissolved Mavis had the same job with Sedgefield Borough Council.

Borough Council.
Leo is a keen football fan and supported Bishop Auckland for many years. He is a DLI member and a regular at the British Legion. Mavis is very interested in general history, enjoys reading, crafts and genealogy.

The couple have two daughters Mandy and Jacqui who has three daughters. The whole family met to celebrate the anniversary at Whitworth

School Holiday Activities

During the Easter School Holidays Oak Leaf Sports Complex are holding activities for young people.

Age 8 - 15yrs only
Activity Days 9.30 – 3.30 various dates £11.00 per day Archery 9.30 - 11.30am on 9th April £3.00 members or 12.00 - 2.00 - £3.50 for non members

Age 4 – 7yrs

Mini Activity Sessions 9.30am - 11.00am various dates £2.25 members. £2.65 non members

The more courses you take part in, the more chances you have to win a bike! For further information on any of the above, or to book your place, contact Reception on 01325 300600, but hurry as all courses have limited availability and are very popular.

Sits Wanted

EXPERIENCED NVO3 carer avaialble to assist with personal needs, eg: bathing, cleaning, shopping etc. Contact Sue on 07596 058510



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Oak Leaf **Price Freeze**

Great Aycliffe Town Council is pleased to announce a price freeze on its sports and leisure facilities and activities at the Oakleaf Sports Complex this year, keeping prices as affordable as possible in the difficult economic climate. The Oakleaf Complex offers a wide range of sports facilities and activities, in addition to a bar and restaurant. For further details of what is on offer, please contact the Complex reception on 01325 300600.

Council **Leader Visits Rotary Club**

Simon Henig, Leader of Durham County Council was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club Meeting this week. He gave an insight into the changeover to Unitary Authority status. Simon said how complex the transition was, but believed it had gone reasonably smoothly and gave assurances he was keen to obtain the best outcome for the people of the County, despite the economic downturn.

Champions Look for **Sponsor**

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre under 12's football team are currently seeking a local company or business willing to sponsor them for the 2010-2011 season.

2011 season.
The lads play in the Teesside junior football alliance and were champions of their division last year gaining promotion to division 5.
They are having a successful season so far this year having only lost one league game and they have reached the quarter.

they have reached the quarter finals of the challenge cup.

If anyone is interested in

helping these local lads and having their company logo on our strip and website please contact Kevin on 07732370323 or Julie on 07938027960

Catering

CRAFTY CAKES For any occasion, cakes made and iced or just iced. Tel 316084

Public Notice

WATCH BATTERIES now available at Taylors Newsforce **DONATIONS** needed of Brica-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John on

RSPCA Durham and District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and

accination, also neutering and id chip. Please Tel 311215

AYCLIFFE Car Boot Sale every Sunday, 9am-1pm in the multi-storey car park. Enquiries 01325 320319

APOLOGY Newton News

apologise to Valerie, Daughter of the late Margery Thomas for spelling her name wrongly in the obituary printed in last week's issue. We are sorry for any upset this caused.

Accommodation

Hall Property **Solutions**

We have tenants waiting for properties in Newton Aycliffe

01325 351212 www.hallps.com

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2 Bedroom Terrace in Newton Aycliffe GCH

£95.00 per week **GXI Property** 07973 273712

2 x 3 BEDROOM houses for rent, top condition, working only, no DSS, £400 pcm, Osbert Place and Hallington Head, Newton Aycliffe. Tel 07899 076 316

HOUSE SHARE Aycliffe

Village Green, own living room/bedroom, shared kitchen/ bathroom and garden. Suit professional person. Ring for details. Tel 01325 320409 or 07798 860593

ATTRACTIVE 2 bedroom semi detached house for rent in Woodham Village. £420pcm. Tel 314031 or 07816 502883

REFURBISHED one bedroom apartment, close to town centre, £400pcm. Bond and references required. No DSS. Tel 07748 206036

Musical

EXPERIENCED vocalist wanted to complete 7 piece band ready to gig. Function band. Ring for details and an informal chat. Tel John 01325 339855

Weddings

BEAUFORDS, Daimler limousines, Rolls Royce's, Mercedes and Jaguars available for weddings, anniversaries and special occasions. Tel 01740 620 147 (Sedgefield), 07721 771 113 or visit our website on: www.durhamweddingcars.

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first come first served. Free, call at Newton Press M-F, 9am-

FENDER starcaster guitar, black and white, £120 ono. Line 6 Spider II 150watt guitar amp, £250 ono. Gears of War for Xbox 360, £5. Tel 07860

2 SEATER cream leather sofa and 2 wooden chocolate brown leather Ikea chairs, £130 ono. Tel 07979 310684

BRAND NEW double divan with fully quilted mattress. Can deliver, £120. Tel 07789

CHILDS metal frame cabin bed with pull out desk and shelves. Mattress not included. £30. Tel 07944 624675

BODY sculpture BR3050, magnetic rowing machine with display function, £50; Mini exercise trampoline, £10; Step/work bench £10; Pet cage (large) with feeding bowls, £30 Large suncamp tourist tent, 3 separate bedrooms and 2 large living areas, hardly used, £100; Camping cooker/kitchen, £40. Tel 07545 086240 BOX TRAILER 4ft x 3ft, 2ft

deep with lockable lid, separate gas bottle sized compartment. £100. Tel 07790 447504 CHILDRENS pine mid sleeper for sale, £40; White cot bed,

for sale, £40; White cot bed, £25. Both in good condition. Tel 07842 233642 **BUSH** 14" portable, TV/VCR, £30; Watcham 14" portable, TV, black, £20; Winnie the Pooh bedside lamp, £15 pair. Tel 308438. Tel 308438

WHITE DOOR, 6 panel, unused, 6ft 6" x 3ft. £8. Teak Louvre door 6ft6" x 2ft. £6. Tel; 01325 321309. CORNER SUITE, very

large DFS with pouffe, brown leather frame with beige velour cushions. Will accept any reasonablw offer. Tel: 315034 or 07872 167613. 2 BERTH Challenger Caravan, 1993. Shower, full cooker,

fridge, £1300. FQS. Tel

NEED An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel. 321678.

Clairvoyance

SPIRITUALIST Meetings are held at Morrison Close Community Centre every Monday evening starting 7pm sharp (closed Bank Holiday Monday). Details from Ann on

Sits Vacant

CLEANER required, 4 hours per week. Contact Box No MSV1, c/o Newton Press, St Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe

DOMESTIC carer wanted for disabled couple, cleaning and ironing. Tel 316886

WINDOW cleaner wanted for Rylstone Close area. Tel 316886

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levels (beginners welcome). Also Maths/English to KS/3. CRB checked, qualifed tutor. Tel 01325 312651 or 07972 531476

Thank You

William Albert John Hall



Newton Aycliffe Jean the family of the late William (Bill) would

like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind words and support at this sad time. Thank you for all donations towards Bills Memorial bench Thanks also to Penny Dawson from Meynels Funeral Services and to the Reverend Julie Wing, who conducted a lovely Service. To the staff of Moore Lane Sports Club for the refreshments.

THANKS TO Peter and Bob (Carelink drivers) for all their help and patience. Lillian and

fellow walkers

MARGERY

(Madge). 27-2-2010. Jennifer,
Valerie and Marian and
families would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for cards and flowers received on the recent bereavement of their Mother Margery. Special thanks to Dr Bamford, the District Nurses, the Staff at Moss Chemist and Co-op Funeral Directors. Thanks also to Jan Mole for a lovely Service, the British Legion and Ann for the buffet PONCHOS Panpipes, Paddington Bear. Raised £500. Thanks to all who were there THANKS TO Jack's Driving School for getting me through my test. Love, Charlotte

Obituary

LEDLEY (nee Salkeld). 5th March, suddenly at home.
DENI, aged 65 years of
Newton Aycliffe. A loving
partner of Harry, much loved
Mam of Stephen, Katherine,
Donna and the late Tracey. Step Mam of John and Peter.
Also a dear Mother-in-Law,
Nana and Great Nana. Funeral,
Thursday 18th March. Would
friends please meet at 12.45pm
for Service at St Clares Church,
words to relied to comments. prior to private cremation.

Birthday Remembránce

Brooke Dawson



on your 30th birthday 16/3/1980 - 14/4/2001

No cards to send, no kisses to give. But in our hearts you will always live. Love you so much. Mum, Geoff, Lewis and all the family xx

PAUL CLARK 17th March 1957. Your first birthday away from home. Missing you so much, you're always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts. With all our love, Carole, Adam and Matthew

Adam and Matthew

DAVID KENNEDY David,
it's your birthday, no card
to send, sadly missed and
remembered always by Mom

and family. PATRICK. Birthday memories, Deep in our hearts, your memories are kept. Someone so special, We'll never forget. Sadly We'll never forget. Sadly missed by your loving Wife Edie and family.

In Memoriam

Peter Soulsby March 10th 199

times together, special memories last forever. Love, Valerie xx

HENDERSON MALCOLM Died 7th March 2007 a dear Husband, Dad and Grandad Always in our thoughts. Love always from Anne, Linda, Carol, Brian, Susan, Louise,

Davy and Gemma. xxx ALMA. Two years have gone since you closed your eyes and left us. I think of you every day and miss you just as much. God

bless. Lynn xxx LITTLEWOOD RICHARD, 16-3-2009. We keep a place within our hearts and there you will stay. To walk with us throughout our lives until we meet again. Loving Wife and

family family.
FRAZER ALLEN, 18-3-1998. Silent thoughts of the times we had together hold memories and love that will last forever. Love always Ann and family

HIND MARY, 15th March HIND MARY, 15th March 2009. You were a wonderful loving Mam and a devoted Nana. We miss you so much, You are always in our thoughts and our hearts. Never forgotten. All our love, Janet, Tony and David xxx.

Silent thoughts of

CARE HOMES PRESENTATION

Presentations giving the background to a consultation on the future of seven residential care homes including Shafto House

will take place during the next five weeks.

Members of the public are invited to attend Area Action
Partnership meetings where senior managers from Durham County Council provide information on proposals to close the

The presentations are intended to ensure people understand the background to the consultation so that any response they make

Members of the public who wish to attend a meeting should call

O191 527 4580 to register.

Great Ayeliffe and Middridge AAP
Woodham Community Centre
on Tuesday, 30 March at 5pm
Email: residentialcarehomesconsultation@durham.gov.uk
Telephone: 0191 372 5594
Pacidattial Care Computation Team Adulta Wellbeim

Residential Care Consultation Team, Adults Wellbeing and Health, Durham County Council, 2/96 County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UG

The phone line will not be staffed 24 hours but an answer machine will be in operation. Callers can leave their comments or request that a council officer returns their call. As part of the consultation process, care home staff will also have the opportunity to give their opinions on how residential care should be provided in the future

For further details of the proposals visit www.durham.gov.uk and click on the Have your Say link. Any comments received after the closure of the consultation will not be considered.

Mothers Day

Mothers Day Remembrance

LIZ POSTLE Happy Mothers Day Nanna. Words cannot describe how much I miss you each day. I wish you were here with me. Love you all the world. Sarah xxx

ELIZABETH POSTLE Mam Another Mothers Day without you. If there really is a Heaven, I know that is where you will be watching and caring for us, your precious family. Love and miss you loads, Julie and Pete

ELLEN ATHERTON 21/1/16-25/2/09. Our hearts still ache with sadness, and silent tears still flow. What it meant to loose you Mum, no one will ever know. So if you still have a Mother, treat her with love and care, because you never know how lonely life is, when your Mother isn't there. Love and miss you every day Mum. Eleanor, Mel and family xxxx

family xxxx ELLEN ATHERTON On this Mothers Day without you, there's so much I want to say. So just look around your garden Lord, find the Mother that I love, put your arms around her Lord, I only wish I could. Love

always, Mary xxx JANE WAKE (Burrell). Thinking of you today Mam on Mothers Day and every day. God bless you. Love and miss you. Daughter, Mena and Sonin-Law Joe xx
PATRICIA FISK

(Pat) 24/3/1936-07/07/2000. Treasured memories of a dear Mother, so sadly missed. Love always, Susan, Michael and family xx

FEATHERSTONE, Eleanor. 25/06/1906-08/05/2006. Loved always Mam. Tony and family

DIXON MONICA. Thinking of you Mam today and always Wendy, Paul and Emma xxx

KELL EDITH. Mam, it's been four years, how time flies away, but our precious memories and love for you will always stay.
Love and miss you more each
day. Love you, Robin, Judith,
lan, Christine and Lindy xxx.

KELL EDITH, Thinking of you on Mothers Day and always. Love and miss you so much. Love you Nana. From all your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. xx

Mothers Day

JULIE WATSON Happy Mothers Day Mammy! You are the bestest friend a Daughter could wish for. You are the best!!! Love you all the world, Sarah and Gizmo xxx

SPENSLEY (Sylvia) Happy Mothers Day to the one and only, love you loads Mam. Have a good day. Love, Julie, Den and family xx

HOWIE (Tania). I love you with all my heart Mammy. Love from your little Princess,

BELLAMY (Natalie). Loves and big kisses to our Mammy. Love from Masie and Thomas

(The Chief) xxx JOANNE HOWARTH To the worlds best Mam. Always there, always helpful, always kind, always our perfect Mam. Adam and Alex xxxx

JULIE HOWEY Happy Mothers Day Mam. Thanks for everything you do. You mean the world to us, have a lovely day. Lots of love, Ste, Amy, Michael, Tanya and Paul. Nana, love you loads, Poppy, Thomas and Kya xxx

KAREN BOWTELL - Thank you for being so selfless and devoting all your life to bring us up. We love you; Ruth, Rebecca, Isaac, Daniel, Sara and Peter

ANNE KEMP Happy Mothers Day Mam. We think you are great. Love you so much. Love, Kieran and Matthew xx

JUDITH PROBYN Happy Mothers Day Mam "Simply the Best". Love you loads, Annemarie and Claire xx

DEBBIE LIVERMORE Have a great day Mam. Love always, Curt and Cloe xxx

TARVIT JENNY, Happy Mothers Day to our Mam. Have a lovely day being spoilt. Love from all the family xxxx RISEBOROUGH PAULA To the best Mam in the world. Happy Mothers Day from Shay

and Taylor xxxx. MANDY TURNBULL Happy Mothers Day to the best Mum in the world. Love you always. Daughter, Claire <3 xxx

SAM CRAWLEY To the best Mum in the world, Happy Mothers Day. Lots of love, Jayden, Tyler and the bump

Congratulations

MEAGAN HAMILTON congratulations on passing your Driving

MEAGAN HAMILTON congratulations on passing your Driving Test first time with Jack's Driving School KATIE RACE Happy 18th birthday to a special God-Daughter. Love, Auntie Val and Uncle Brian xxx KATIE RACE Happy 18th birthday Katie. Hope you have a great day. Love, Uncle Karl and Auntie Sarah xx KATIE RACE Happy 18th birthday Katie. Have a great day. Love, Auntie Jacqui, Uncle Mark, Nicole and Sophie xxx KATIE RACE Happy 18th birthday Katie. Have a great day. Lots of love from Auntie Carol, Uncle Tony and the Stubbies xxx KATIE RACE Happy 18th birthday Katie. Love from Karl xx MASON STEED Happy 13th birthday. Love from Uncle Jess, Auntie Lynn, Katie and Bradley xxx LOIS RICHMOND Have a happy 21st Love va Grandad and

LOIS RICHMOND Have a happy 21st. Love ya, Grandad and

ELEANOR ROBINSON 70 years young Mam. Thanks for everything. All our love, Donna and family xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON To the best Mum and Nanna anyone

could wish for, happy 70th birthday. All our love, Michele, Neil

and Michael xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON Happy 70th birthday Mam. Hope you have a really special day, as you are a really special lady. All our love from Lal and Brian xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON Nanna Eleanor, you are one in a million and we are so lucky to have you as our Nanna! Happy 70th birthday (still looking good) all our love always, Vikki and Tez xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON Nannanannana! Happy birthday to my wooderful Nannal. How our days together wood so the processor.

ELEANOR ROBINSON Nannanannana! Happy birthday to my wonderful Nanna! I love our days together, you spoil me soooo much! Lots of love and kisses, Ashton Lee xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON Happy 70th Nanna. You are one in a million. Love you loads, Kelly and Paul xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON Great Nanna, happy birthday Nanna, we love you lots and lots. Leon and Kurtis xxx ELEANOR ROBINSON To our Queen of the family, happy 70th birthday Nanna. We all love you so much, you are amazing. Love, Nicola and Daniel xxx

Nicola and Daniel xxx

ELEANOR ROBINSON Happy 70th Eleanor. A great Sister who

so deserves a great day. Love always, Pamela xxx **ELEANOR ROBINSON** Happy 70th Auntie Eleanor. Have a brilliant day. Let your hair down! Lots of love, Dione and Ross

XXX ELEANOR ROBINSON Happy birthday Ellie, with lots of love

ELEANOR ROBINSON Ellie (Mam). Thank you for being a Mam to me over the years. You deserve to have a wonderful 70th birthday and a few extra. Loads of love, Carl, Cath and Shaun

HUBERY, Eddie and Gwen Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary 12th March 2010. From All the Family

ROBERT TOMLINSON Happy 18th birthday. Love from Aunty

Kaz, Neil and Katie xx

CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS congratulations on passing your driving test. Lots of love, Mam, Nan, Grandad and Auntie Claire

ABBIE KENNEDY To our special Niece, congratulations on gaining 3rd place in Rosettes 6-8 years. You were fantastic and we are proud of you. Lots of love, Uncle Stephen, Aunty Kirsty,

McCLEAN KEITH. Happy 50th Birthday on March 18th. Love and best wishes from your Ma-in-Law xxx.



Entertainment



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Holiday 1

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Children's entertainer making birthday parties special. Balloons, magic and tomfoolery, midweek discounts. Discos for all occasions. Tel Gary on 310 646 or 07952 244 404. Website: www.professor-nincompoop

Katie Race



Happy 18th Birthday Hope you have a great party. Love from Mam and Dad xx

Happy 18th to my big Sis. Love, Bradley xxx To a special Granddaughter on her 18th birthday. Love from Nana and Grandad E

Lois Fayre Richmond



Happy 21st Birthday Congratulations on your 21st. Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Faith and Eddi xx Congratulations on your 21st birthday. Lots of love, Grandma xxx

Libbie Mai Anderson



Congratulations Babe on gaining 5th place in Stardance, 8-10 years in the Nationwide Street Competition held at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool. You were amazing and we are very very proud of you. Keep up the hard work. Lots of love always Mammy and Stephen.

To my Big Sis. Go Libbie, you are the best. Love, Flynn A big thank you to Caroline Race at Lea Green Dance

School

Libbie To our amazing special Granddaughter. special Granddaughter. You put the effort in and got your reward. We are so proud. Lots of love and kisses. Gran and Grandad

Chiropody

CHIROPODY Mr P. Oliver

BSc (Hons) - M.Ch.S for a Home Visit Tel: (01325) 320126

Caroline Louise Meakin





Happy 21st Birthday - 12th March 2010 Hope you enjoy your Party Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Andrew, Nanna, Grandad, Nanna Joyce, Tom, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and Friends xxxx

Natasha Slade



Well Done Natasha on coming third at Blackpool, dancing in the Nationals. We are so proud of you. Love from Dad, Kate, Grandma, Grandad, Uncle Mark, Auntie Julie, Mark, Kayleigh, Reece, Taylor and Charlie

Lexi Christon



Happy 4th Birthday To our Gorgeous Girl. We love you loads, Mummy Daddy & Elle xxxxxxxxx

Robert Tomlinson



Happy 18th Birthday March 2010 Have a fab day. Love from Mam and Hanny xx

Alana Thompson



Happy 5th Birthday beautiful Granddaughter! Lots of love from Grannie Witch and Granpa

Abbie Kennedy



Massive Well Done Abbie for coming third place in the Nationwide Street Competition at Blackpool. You danced absolutely fantastic and we are very very proud. Big thanks to Caroline Race for all your support. Love, Mam, Dad, Joe and both Gran and Grandads xxx

George Richards



16th March 2010 Many happy returns, have lovely day. Love from lily xxx

Happy birthday Dad. Enjoy your weekend. Love from Elizabeth and Keith xx Best wishes G on your 80th. Grandad on your 80th. All Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxx

Labour Councillors Will Vote as They Are Told

Dear Sir.

As someone with a parent being cared for in Hackworth House in Shildon, I do not agree with one word of Mike Dixon's letter about the Unitary Authority's proposal to close all the Council run Residential Care Homes in Co Durham. I will say this though; he has the courage to put his misguided opinions into print.

Although there is consultation period on this

HAVE A SAY ON LOCAL **ISSUES**

Residents in Great Aycliffe and Middridge can find out how local issues are being tackled when the local area action partnership meets later this month.

The Great Aycliffe and Middridge (GAMP) board will meet on Tuesday 30 March, between 5.00pm and 8.00pm, at Woodham Community Centre and local people are invited to go along to observe proceedings.

Members of the public can

also raise any local issues they would like the board to address. These need to be put in writing and sent by 20 March.
Anyone wishing to attend

the board meeting should register in advance by ringing 01388 816166, ext 7769, or by emailing paula. stockport@durham.gov.uk

COOKERS +

WASHERS +

FRIDGES +

Care Home issue, I believe that as soon as the party whip is cracked, which it will be, all our Labour Councillors will cast their vote the way they are told to, or lose party favour and the lucrative posts attached.

We have seen very little support from our M.P. or our local Councillors on this matter, and as lifelong Labour party supporter, I am now looking to actively vote against them at national and

Phil Wilson our M.P. is apparently not taking sides on this matter. I suggest in the next election he stands as an M.P. in the Swiss Parliament as they are usually neutral.

On a local level the choice is more difficult, our local politicians are obsessed with self glorification as they hop from party to party or independent group, whichever is the flavour of the month. Their overall record on local issues is abysmal. Take our new Town Centre, it's taking longer to build than Durham Cathedral.

They refer to themselves as Honorary Aldermen and we hear of such trivialities as a lost chain of office - so you shouldn't be the next Mayor and go to Garden Parties.

All this while their present or former Lords & masters are planning to deprive the old & vulnerable of this County of proper Care Homes that do such a magnificent job.

Priestman Rd

BEST VALUE

NEW & GRADED

DOMESTIC

APPLIANCE RETAILERS

HOUSING ALLOCATION

her daughter.

or do they?

With regard to Don Fraser's Letter on house allocation. While waiting at a bus stop I got talking to an elderly lady who had been allocated a house in the town, moving here from Kendal to be near

I don't know the circumstances, but it certainly needs investigation. I have no axe to grind as I have my own home, but my son's name has been on the list for years. He is single and just accepts he won't be housed, as families come first,

New Youth Shelter for Horndale Park



shelter funded from County Councillor Bopwman'sDorothy Neighbourhood Budget through the AAP. The young people chose the design and think it is "Cool" They have waited for nearly 3yrs to see their hopes realised and she hopes the young people appreciate the shelter. "I would like to thank Town Clerk Andrew Bailey for co-ordinating the project taking down the old shelter and preparing the site" said Dorothy



LEISURE CENTRE'S **EXCESSIVE NOISE**

Loud Music Wakes Children

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre have any concern for their neighbours? I live over the road and for the past 2 weeks, on a Saturday night, we have had to listen to the groups land long the property and the saturation. severely loud (banging) music coming from their building.

This continues beyond midnight and I ask if the sound equipment is governed by the noise pollution levels required? They must be breaking the law with regard to the level of noise coming from their building. Other night clubs/pubs have to be sound proofed to reduce poise. sound proofed to reduce noise pollution, why are they an exception?

I spoke to the receptionist on Sunday of last week (21st) and was told that they had 2 parties on that night and asked me what they were to do? I told them to respect people who live nearby. I also phoned the Leisure Centre on 27th February to complain

about the noise and they said they would turn it down to an acceptable level, but they did

This is having a detrimental effect on our lives as we work all week and would like to rest at the weekend, but the noise wakes our children up, who cannot go back to sleep and we are also robbed of our sleep. I am seeking advice from the local environmental team and the police. Clare Reilly

Honest Man

Emma Hindmarch, and Family would like to give a big thank you to the gentleman who found her handbag outside the Big Club and returned it to her with all contents intact. We are very grateful that a very

honest person found her bag and returned it to her. Emma Hindmarch

Why was 'Vote of No

Dear Sir,
Before joining the Lib Dems,
Cllr Bill Blenkinsopp had
made quite a reputation
taking issue with Labour on many differing topics despite personal attacks on him. So it came as a surprise to note that he had been quoted in a newspaper article about his intent to move a vote of no confidence.

Wardrobes

Many other items in stock Open weekdays and Saturday

ask questions such as . . . If I vote Lib Dem can I depend on vigorous political representation from the candidates?
Can voters really trust the Lib

Dems to deliver on any issue if their idea of representation

is to do nothing and just make noises in the press? If the Lib Dems did not stop Counc. Blenkinsopp from moving this vote of no

News which scenario it was? Secretary Kenneth Stubbs Great Aycliffe Independent

CELEBRATING WORLD BOOK DAY



Children from St. Oswald's Pre-School celebrating 'World Book Day'. All the children dressed up as a character from their favourite story book.



He said "I will move a motion of no confidence with regard to Cllr Dorothy Bowman not reporting she had lost the Mayoral chain of office 7 weeks previously". This was to be carried out at the Town Council meeting last Nednesday. No attempt to do so was made, despite support for this at the meeting. Paper talk is fine, doing the actual thing is another matter.

The Lib Dems will be standing candidates in Elections in Newton Aycliffe and are seeking people interested in improving representation in Great Aycliffe to approach them and bring issues to their attention. If you do, why not

is to do nothing and just make

confidence why did ne not carry out his intentions?

Maybe, the Lib Dems can assure voters through Newton

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