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SIX GOLD D of E AWARDS FOR TOWN'S CADETS AWARDEES MEET PRINCE PHILIP



Six cadets from 1407 (Newton Aycliffe) squadron, Air Training Corps recently attended a ceremony at St James Palace, London to collect their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. Cadet Warrant Officer Richard Dolan, Flt Sgt Antony Marrison, Sgt Ben Lakey, Kate Spark, Joel Aldred and Andrew Walker were presented with their certificates by

BBC Look North presenter Colin Briggs. Flt Lt Karin Scott, the squadron's C.O. and awards leader, was introduced to HRH Prince Philip who then chatted to the cadets about what they had done to complete their Gold Awards. The cadets have completed all three levels of the Award achieving much along the way. They have all completed expeditions in the Lake District in typical

August weather - rain and wind; studied aeronautical subjects, some gaining a BTec in Aviation Studies; participated in a physical fitness programme and given many hours of their time to help others for the Service section. At Gold level participants must all complete a Residential which the cadets did by attending various ATC camps and leadership courses.

The ATC is the largest Operating Authority for The Award in the country and 1407 is a very active and successful squadron promoting participation to all cadets at all levels of the Award. The squadron is currently recruiting new members with young people aged 13 - 17 welcome to join. The squadron parades at Barnard Armoury, Greenwell Rd, Newton Aycliffe on Monday and Thursday evenings at 7 until 9.30pm.

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HOLIDAY BIN COLLECTIONS

People in County Durham are reminded to check for changes to their bin collection days over the Easter holidays.

Durham County Council has placed stickers on all household waste bins informing people of collection arrangements on Bank Holidays, up to and including August.

Oliver Sherratt, Durham County Council Head of Direct Services, said: "We want to make sure that everyone is clear about when to put their bins out."

"Our aim is to provide as normal a service as possible over the holiday weekend, which in some areas of the county involves collecting on Good Friday."

Residents who have not received a bin sticker should contact their local council office.

Bank Holiday collection arrangements are also featured on the council's website at www.durham.gov.uk/bincollections

AYCLIFFE COMPANY EXPANDS WITH SUPPORT OF SASDA

Newton Aycliffe based Revolution Power which provides renewable energy sources is going through a period of rapid growth and is anticipated to increase its turnover from half a million to £1.5m within the year.

In recent months the company has recruited three members of staff to cope with demand and received support and funding from SASDA, the local enterprise agency for the Sedgefield Borough. Andrew Greenall (left in photo) 28, of Newton Aycliffe, has been recruited as a renewable project engineer.

The company was also named the best new environmental business at the Tees Valley Best New Business Award after beating off stiff competition. Wayne Richardson, managing director of Revolution Power, said: "The business' growth is testament to the hard work of the team to provide the best service."

"Thanks to support from SASDA we have been able to strengthen and expand the workforce. We are now already considering recruiting another three members of staff within the next year to continue growing at the same rate."

By recruiting from within the region Revolution Power was able to receive business support and funding from SASDA, through their Working Neighbourhoods Fund. An added advantage of recruiting staff from within the community is that the



company has minimised its own carbon footprint, saving on long commutes to work.

Philip Beasley, chief executive of SASDA, said: "Revolution Power is not only a leading business in the North East but also on a national level in its industry. We are delighted we have been able to help them grow and will be on hand to provide support as they continue to expand."

"We are urging all companies in the Sedgefield Borough to contact us to find out how we can support them, in the same way we have helped Revolution Power."

Revolution Power has recently won its biggest contract to date, worth more than £70,000, to install air source heat pumps in a new building on Wellington Street, in Middlesbrough – the

first installation of its kind in the UK.

The project will mean 45 to 50 pc of the heating comes from the pumps and after April 2011 the systems will qualify for the Renewable Heat Incentive system, where they will get paid for producing heat and hot water.

For more information about Revolution Power please visit www.revolutionpower.co.uk or call 01325 320910. To find out how your business can receive support and funding from SASDA contact 01325 310730.

IT'S HAPPENING!

The owners of Newton Aycliffe Shopping Centre are gearing up to implement the next phase of the masterplan for the Town Centre. Phase 2 involves the demolition of the old Library, Medical Centre and former office block in Dalton Way to create space for a new DISCOUNT FOOD SUPERMARKET.

A Demolition Notice will shortly be submitted to allow demolition to proceed. Tenders for the demolition have been received and it is anticipated that a start on site will be made shortly after the six week notice period for the Demolition Notice has expired and the contracts to purchase the land occupied by the former Library and Medical Centre have been completed.

Bryan Haldane, Centre Manager
T: 01325 300 605, M: 07854 084 942
Email: bryan.haldane@mjmapp.com

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 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 to 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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Councillors Help Fund Scout Group

On behalf of the First Newton Aycliffe Scout Group, I would like to say a huge thank you to Cllr. Enid Paylor and Cllr. Mike Dixon for their very generous donation of £600 to the group. They may be sure that the money will be spent for the benefit of the Cubs and Scouts.

Bill Goudie
Group Chairman

Suitable Quotations

Dear Sir,
In reply to Honest John's letter "Bury the Lot" and the prospect of a General Election a number of apt quotations spring to mind. From First World War Field Chaplain Stud Kennedy: "A General Election is one lot of sinners replaced By another lot of sinners".

A famous preacher of the 17th Century, C. H. Spurgeon: "The best of men are men at best!" Maybe there lies within, the main problem

The last quotation from a King who lived about 950 BC, who said: "There was nothing new under the sun" I'm sure he would have something to say about the elderly vandal caught on video and the sad article relating to the stolen bird bath. The King's name is Solomon from the Bible! A Dille

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FORMER SCOUT COMMISSIONER CELEBRATES 60 YEARS MARRIAGE



Popular local couple Mary and Arthur Dye celebrated 60 years of marriage last week and received a visit from the Mayor Mary Dalton at their home in Cumby Road. They first met in a Newcastle Dance Hall when Arthur, dressed smartly as an RAF Rear Gunner, politely asked Mary for a dance. The romance blossomed and the couple were engaged for 5 years before being married in St. George's Church, Gateshead on 25th March, 1950.

Arthur was out of the RAF then and was a skilled Engineer and as a key worker was in demand in Newcastle and Liverpool where they lived for short periods. He was involved in the development of the first diesel electric engine. They came to live in Newton Aycliffe in 1955 when Arthur worked for Eatons and Northern Tool and Guage. His eyesight became poor and he had to leave this specialist work and take a job with Ayclife Hospital where he remained until retirement. Mary was a Shorthand Typist and worked for a Town Centre shop and Union Carbide for 20 years as Purchasing Officer. She is better known in the town for her work with Scouts, involving thousands of the town's children. She was appointed District Commissioner and Assistant

County Commissioner receiving the Medal of Merit and the Silver Acorn for services to scouting. Mary said: "I enjoyed every moment engaged for 5 years before being married in St. George's Church, Gateshead on 25th March, 1950. Arthur was out of the RAF then and was a skilled Engineer and as a key worker was in demand in Newcastle and Liverpool where they lived for short periods. He was involved in the development of the first diesel electric engine. They came to live in Newton Aycliffe in 1955 when Arthur worked for Eatons and Northern Tool and Guage. His eyesight became poor and he had to leave this specialist work and take a job with Ayclife Hospital where he remained until retirement. Mary was a Shorthand Typist and worked for a Town Centre shop and Union Carbide for 20 years as Purchasing Officer. She is better known in the town for her work with Scouts, involving thousands of the town's children. She was appointed District Commissioner and Assistant

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at Whitworth Hall last week. Arthur and Mary will have their own celebration with a holiday when the weather improves. "We've had a wonderful life together, blessed with a lovely family and lots of good friends" said Mary.

Casino Night

The Rotary Club holds a Casino Night at the Cumby Arms on Friday 23rd April from 7.30pm. Tickets including "chips" are £10 each and available from Walkers Butchers, Simpasturegate, Newton Press Offices. or ring 301423.

It is always great fun and Supper is also included in the price.

Firewalk for Charity

A member of Aycliffe Sports Club is putting his best feet forward in a daredevil charity stunt. Alan Shields will take part in a fundraising Firewalk at the Cobblers Hall pub this Saturday in aid of Daisy Chain.

Cobblers staff and regulars will walk over hot stones and coals to raise cash for the North-East charity.

"It's a bit of fun but will hopefully raise a lot of good money for a very worthy cause," said 52-year-old Alan, a fork-lift driver for Magnet in Darlington, who is being sponsored by the Sports Club, at Moore Lane. I like to do whatever I can for children's charities and when I heard about the Firewalk at the Cobblers I thought, why not?!

"I'm sure there'll be a lot of support at the event and all donations will be gratefully received."

All proceeds from the Firewalk will go to Daisy Chain, a Norton-based charity which provides support and respite care for families and children with autism.

Visit: www.aycliffe-sports-club.org.uk



"Madams" Live Entertainment

A Charity Night is to be held at the North Briton on Saturday 10th April at 7.30pm. In addition to a Raffle, Karaoke and Tombola special live entertainment has been arranged featuring "Countess Satine Sheets, Lady Visa D'Cline and Madame Mingelina Holie". They provide their own special Cabaret along with some fabulous games to keep you on your toes. Admission on the night only £2.

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Then we might have just the thing! The 'strengthening families programme' is a seven week programme for 2 hours a week ran by SureStart County Durham. The programme is completely free and is designed to bring you and your child closer together and to help improve communication. During the programme we will cover setting boundaries, exploring aspirations, team games and hopefully have fun.

If you are interested in joining the programme or would like to have an informal chat contact Barrie Evans, Parenting Early Intervention Practitioner for Sedgfield on 07769 191 999 or email: barrie.evans@durham.gov.uk

DID YOU SEE CRASH & RUN?

Dear Sir,
On Saturday 20th March between 12.25pm and 12.35pm white 4 x 4 or pick up vehicle reversed into my silver Micra parked two spaces along from the zebra crossing facing the park/ access road in Tesco car park.

I am appealing to anyone who witnessed this to please contact the Newton News with the car details. Alternatively to the driver to come forward if you have half a conscience.

I am a reasonable person and totally understand that accidents happen, however I am finding it hard to believe how anyone could drive off after doing so much damage without leaving their details! I would ask, if you are the driver, you now do the right thing.

Thank you in anticipation,
Name & address supplied

Prospective M.P. Writes Book on Miner's Strike

Lib Dem Parliamentary Candidate for our constituency Alan Thompson, has published his first novel "UBAC" a story written around the 1984/85 Miner's dispute.

His father was a coal miner for 51 years and Alan grew up in the mining community. Like most lads he worked for the National Coal Board and at the end of his first year, whilst enjoying the humour and camaraderie of the miners, decided to take an Engineering Apprenticeship. After living away for several years Alan returned to his home of Newbiggin by the Sea to settle with his wife and children in a community that was going through major change as the mines closed one by one.

During the 1980's a series of world changing events happened: Polish shipyard workers rebelled against their Communist dictators. The Chernobyl nuclear power station disaster in 1987 exposed the shortcomings of the USSR. And then the unbelievable happened: In November 1989 the so called 'Iron Curtain', symbolized by the Berlin wall, was breached and Germany was re-united. The 'cold war' between the former Soviet Union and the Western democracies was at an end and the puppet communist dictators of Eastern Europe were overthrown.



It was possible then to forge links with the peoples of the former Soviet Union and Alan's family hosted a ten year old boy called Dimitry from Belarus for a month together with an interpreter called Gennardy who spoke

fluent English. Dimitry was from an orphanage near Chernobyl that was badly affected by radiation fallout and although he was well when he was with them his anticipated lifespan was very limited. Dimitry became one of the family and he was so happy. Meanwhile Alan spent time with Gennardy talking about life in the former Soviet Union. He learnt even more when he visited Belarus.

It was from all these experiences, anecdotal evidence and his own observations that he wrote the fictional tale entitled UBAC ('CUBA' rearranged) set against a background of world and local events.

The book can be purchased on line from www.authorhouse.com or www.amazon.co.uk

MORRITT WINS DARLO KIT SPONSORSHIP



(L-R): Barbara Johnson, Chairman Raj Singh, Charlet Stephenson and Peter Phillips

The Morritt Country House Hotel won the right to be the Quakers' new shirt sponsor for the 2010-11 season after being drawn out of the hat last week.

The hotel owners, husband and wife team Barbara Johnson and Peter Phillips, reckon it's important for local firms to back the town's football club.

"Now is the time to give the club our support and encouragement so it can return to winning ways," said Peter, a lifelong sports fan. "Sport of all kinds is part of the life blood of a town and despite Darlington FC's difficulties, it is a great facility and there are some fantastic people working there."

Barbara added: "We believe in supporting all things local to our area - whether it is food, charities, businesses or other organisations. We're delighted to be part of what is an essential part of Darlington's sporting landscape."

The Morritt is an historic building at Greta Bridge, owned by Barbara and Peter for the last 16 years and is currently being run by their daughter, Charlet Stephenson, who is the manager.

The charming hotel is well known in the region as a

premier wedding, occasions and conference venue. It was drawn out of the hat at Darlington's sporting dinner last Friday, when seven firms were hoping to win the shirt sponsorship after joining the Business Backing Darlington Club, all chipping in £5,000 each as part of a hospitality package.

Darlington chairman Raj Singh said: "We're delighted with the support we've received from the local business community - not just with this campaign but on all corporate sides of the club - and we're delighted for the Morritt. We've been working hard with our corporate fans and sponsors and the majority of our executive box holders have already committed to renew for next season."

"This is largely credit to general manager, Phil Preston, and his hard-working staff who continue to do a fantastic job making sure everything is happening behind the scenes and we're maximising the Northern Echo Arena."

One of the first things I set out to do at this club was to relate with the fans, the local people and the business community and, while we've still some way to go on all scores, we are making great strides."

HIDING BEHIND FOG OF IGNORANCE?

Dear Sir,

I notice from both the Standards Board Web Site as well as former GATC Mayor, Arun Chandran's, informative web site, that the Board has published a 'Parish Councillors Tool Kit (2009)', which states very specifically as follows:

Dual-hatted members:

Where you have interests arising from service on other authorities and public bodies The rules on interests should not obstruct Members who are involved in other forms of public service, such as another tier of local government.

The rules on interests are not intended to interfere with the proper conduct of council business. You can participate on the same issue at more than one tier of local government e.g. parish or unitary but you should:

'...to avoid allegations of pre-determination at parish level, make it clear that you will reconsider the matter at

the other body taking into account all relevant evidence and representations there.

At unitary level declare a personal (not prejudicial) interest arising from membership of the parish council which has already expressed a view on the matter, but make it clear you are considering the matter afresh, taking all the evidence and representations presented to that meeting into account.'

One presumes that our Town Councillors get training on this subject or are able to read it up. Therefore, as GATC includes amongst its ranks, some FIVE Unitary

Authority Councillors, who are or should be aware of this material, one must ask the question, WHY do they deliberately choose to ignore it? Either our Town Council does not provide any training for councillors, or the aforementioned five, choose to hide behind the fog of their own ignorance on this matter.

I hope that this clarification dispels that fog and that they now, on the issue of Shafto House, choose to have eyes that will see, ears that will hear and hearts open to common humanity.

Derek G Atkinson
6 Denham Place

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KIDS CAN SEE DARLO GAME FOR £1

The Quakers will let youngsters in for the Hereford United game on Easter Monday on April 5th for just £1!

The offer will apply to all Under-16's, although Under-12's must be accompanied by a full paying adult, and young fans can either get their tickets in advance or they can pay on the gate on the day of the game.

"We're always looking at ways to encourage young fans to come to games," said the club's community liaison officer Damon Shaw. "It's a bank holiday and kids and parents will be looking for things to do. We've made this game affordable for the young fans to ease the pockets of the parents – a parent could bring four kids to the game and spend only £20! What else can you do so cheap on a bank holiday?"

"It would be nice to see lots of youngsters inside the ground cheering the lads on and will hopefully help to create a positive atmosphere inside the Arena."

Darlington fans can still take advantage of cut-price ticket bundles for the last five home games of the season, starting with the Hereford match on April 5.

The deal enables fans to buy a ticket for any five of the club's remaining home fixtures, at a reduced overall price, with adults priced £65 all together, Over-65's £40, Under-16's £20, Under-10's £12.50 and family tickets £150.

The ticket bundles cover the last five home games of the season against Hereford, Accrington, Grimsby, Notts County and Dagenham.

The Kids for a Quid tickets, and the ticket bundles, are available from the ticket office at the Northern Echo Arena, or call 0871 855 1883.

AYCLIFFE'S TOP COP TALKS TO ROTARY



Inspector Andrew Neill was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club last week. He is the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector for Newton Aycliffe, Shildon, Sedgfield and the villages, responsible for all aspects of policing in these areas and supervision of the Response Policing Teams and The Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

He gave an interesting and reassuring talk indicating a reduction in crime overall in the town. He urged everyone to make use of the PACT meetings held in the community as they were proving to be a very useful tool in dealing with public concerns. Andrew is shown here with President of the club Jean Thompson

SECOND TITLE IN THAILAND



Reece Mcallister returned to Thailand in February to train and fight for 10 weeks where Reece is the current Chaweng Stadium Champion at 65kg. On his return to Superpro in Koh Samui where he trains, he was asked to defend his Title against the current champion at 70kg.

Reece was quite willing to take the fight which meant both title's were on the line in a winner-take-all fight. Reece had fought people heavier before so this didn't worry him.

The fight was a tough one for Reece, but his skill and speed took him to the victory, down to his dedication, discipline and hard training. Reece returns to England on April 17th where he starts training for his fight at Bolton football ground in May

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Our M.P. Phil Wilson made a visit to Woodham Technology College last week to talk to students on the life of a Member of Parliament. He explained the business of the house, pay and responsibilities of Government. There were some interesting questions from youngsters who wanted to know what type of person Gordon Brown was, how much M.P.'s earn and how many hours they worked. Phil gave honest answers and found the exchange stimulating and challenging.

Dancing Opportunity

Dancers in County Durham are invited to step out at a three-day talent showcase. The event is part of Durham County Council's Sports Development Easter Holiday programme. Dance Celebration will take place over three days at East Durham College, Peterlee. It will run from Wednesday 14, to Friday 16 April, from 10.00am to 3.00 pm. The event will begin with a one-day optional dance workshop offering taster sessions of different dance styles taught by experts. This will also allows dancers to familiarise themselves with the stage and staff ready for their performances in the following days. Mark Jones, Sports Development Officer for Durham County Council, said, "The event is aimed at promoting dance across the county and to give all ages and ability levels the chance to develop new skills. "Dancers will experience performing a routine in front of small audiences at a fantastic local venue." The workshop and performances will be filmed for a DVD, which will be available to buy after the event. For further information and details of how to sign up for Dance Celebration, contact Mark Jones, Durham County Council Sports Development Manager, on 0191 527 0501 ext 4732, or email mark.jones@durham.gov.uk

FAMILY FUN OVER THE EASTER BREAK

Great Aycliffe Town Council have lined up a series of fun and interesting events over the Easter holidays to keep the whole family entertained. **The activities are all free and in locations throughout the town.** Steve Cooper said "Old favourites such as pond dipping and minibeasting is organised as usual but we have added two new activities this time. These are a photographic walk around Aycliffe Village- which is always photogenic but is particularly so in spring. The one I'm particularly excited about is the Pooh Stick race through Woodham Burn. I think this event should be fun and could get quite competitive; who would not want the honour of being the Pooh Stick champion of Aycliffe 2010!" All the events apart from Going Dipping are Booking Essential, telephoning

300700.
GOING DIPPY
Wednesday 7th April 10.30am – 12 noon. Discover the creatures that lurk in the water of the Nature Park. Please bring along your own nets, buckets and wellies if you have them. Meet at: Travellers Green (outside Aycliffe Nature Park).
THE GREAT POOH STICK RACE
Friday 9th April from 1.30pm – 3pm
First described by A.A Milne this quintessentially British pastime can become both enthralling and competitive. Spend the afternoon first designing your own personalised pooh stick and then taking part in the grand finale of a race between two bridges in Woodham Burn to see who is crowned the Great Aycliffe 'pooh stick' champion of 2010. The event is open to children

of all ages- including those adults who have to join in! Meet at: Entrance to Woodham Burn Primary School, Humphrey Close
PICTURE PERFECT
Wednesday 14th April 10am – 12 noon Do you fancy yourself as the next David Bailey but can't find the time to go for a walk and compose that perfect photograph? If so, why not join Steve Cooper, Environment Officer on this gentle amble around Aycliffe Village. Meet on the green in the middle of the village.
JEEPERS CREEPERS
Friday 16th April 10.30am – 12 noon Discover a world in miniature beneath your feet by exploring amongst the trees, leaf litter and rotten logs for minibeasts around the Moore Lane area. Meet at Moore Lane Eco Centre

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3k Run >> **£2.00 extra to enter on the day**
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Cheques to be made payable to 'Newton Aycliffe AC'

Entries (enclosing 9 x 6 S.A.E.) to: Colin Gibson, 12 Ainsty Hunt, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7PH

Closing Date for Entries Sunday 13th June 2010

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Address

..... County Post Code

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10k or Fun Run please tick 10k.....Fun Run.....male.....female.....
(For 10K runners must be over 15-years on 20th June 2010)

Reg Number

Declaration : I wish to enter the 3M 10k or fun run and I declare that I am an amateur as defined by UKA Laws and certify that I am medically fit to run. Furthermore, I agree that the organisers will not be held responsible for any injury or illness as result of my participation in the events. I understand that my details will be stored on the entry computer, but will not be distributed to any other organisation or running club.

Signature..... Date.....

Nursery Aid Sport Relief

Public Urged to Report Loan Sharks



Sugar Hill Nursery in Newton Aycliffe, have been involved in raising money in support of Sport Relief. On Friday 19th March 2010, they were all sponsored to take part in a "Fitness Challenge" involving a range of fun exercises including star jumps, jogging, stretching and press-ups. The children all completed the challenge and the staff at Sugar Hill would really like to thank all of their friends, families and colleagues who have been so generous in their donations. They have raised over £300 so far and the money is still coming in. Many Thanks, Miss Clish, Mrs. Ainslie and Mrs. Kay (Nursery staff at Sugar Hill Nursery)

People in County Durham are being urged to seek professional help to pay off their debts rather than turning to loan sharks. Durham County Council's Trading Standards team is warning members of the public about the dangers of resorting to illegal money lenders. The advice follows the prosecution of David Naylor, of Stockton Road, Darlington, who pleaded guilty to four charges of illegal money lending and one of money laundering when he appeared at Teesside Crown Court on 22 March. The court heard that in June 2009 a search of Naylor's then home in Wellgarth, Evenwood resulted in the discovery of seven small memo pads containing names and sums of money. When interviewed by police, the 40-year-old, who ran an appliance repair business in Darlington, admitted giving credit to people to enable them to buy washing machines but claimed to be unaware that because he did not have a credit licence he was acting illegally. Magistrates heard that since November 2008, Naylor had also given cash loans to a number of people at an annual percentage rate of six billion per cent. His solicitor, Dan Cordey, told the court Naylor was a hard-working man who had naively started the business to earn some extra money and had not realised the legal requirements for supplying credit. Passing sentence, the judge Recorder Simon Jackson, said that while Naylor's lending was not widespread it was a very serious business targeted at the vulnerable in society. Naylor was given a Community Order to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work. A further hearing to claim back assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 is scheduled to begin in August. Joanne Waller, Durham County Council's Head of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection, said: "Turning to a loan shark is never the answer to solving your money problems. "Once you have entered into any kind of agreement with them it is extremely unlikely that you will ever be able to pay off your debt. "We would urge anyone having difficulty paying bills or solving their cash problems to contact their local Citizen's Advice Bureau or get in touch with a licensed credit union. "The key to finding your way out of debt is always to talk to someone. Speak to a friend or family member and seek help from a licensed professional - and never allow yourself to fall into the clutches of a loan shark." To report a loan shark call the Illegal Money Lending Team for the North East on 0300 555 2222, visit www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks, or text 'loan shark' and then details to 60003.

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Alan Foster at the Business Park Post Office

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AYCLIFFE F.C.

SEASON NEARS END

Newton Aycliffe's season is drawing to a close, with a local derby to look forward to on Easter Monday! Allan Oliver's side take on neighbours Crook Town at Moore Lane Park on Monday (April 5), kicking off at 12noon. It follows their trip to Northallerton on Saturday before Aycliffe go to Hebburn Town on Wednesday (April 7th) for another re-arranged fixture. Aycliffe will then finish the season off with two home games in the space of three days, with title-chasing Sunderland RCA coming to MLP on Wednesday April 14 followed by the last game of the season at home to Team Northumbria on Saturday April 17. Aycliffe went a step closer to cementing their eight-placed finish in the Northern League second division with a comfortable 3-0 win at home to Washington last Saturday. Striker Elliot Gardner took his season tally to 17 goals with his second brace in as many games as Aycliffe moved four points ahead of Northallerton. Probably more significantly, however, the win moved them to within a point of seventh-placed Whitehaven in the race for final placings, which may well determine whether or not the club are playing FA Vase football next season. Gardner's first was a moment of individual brilliance, accepting the ball from the impressive Josh Knox, Aycliffe's number 10 beat two men on the edge of the area before unleashing a left-footed effort which former Darlington trainee Dan Molyneux could do nothing about in the visiting goal. Dan Mellanby got the second with another fine individual goal, beating two men and finding Molyneux's bottom corner on the stroke of half-time. Gardner's second was more of a poacher's effort as he slid in at the back stick to steer Chase McMullen's right-wing cross past Molyneux in the 84th minute. REMAINING FIXTURES Sat April 3: Northallerton (A), 3pm Mon April 5: Crook (H), 12noon Weds April 7: Hebburn (A), 7.30pm Weds April 14: Sunderland RCA (H), 7.30pm Sat April 17: Team Northumbria (H), 3pm

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Yorkshire has launched its new Executive brand which offers a much more flexible recruitment solution for clients that are looking to recruit high quality senior and managerial staff.

The company, which has seven offices between Newcastle and Scunthorpe, including Newton Aycliffe carried out a survey between September and November 2009 using social networking sites, and by emailing and calling contacts and potential new clients to discover the best way to approach the new venture. Sam Robinson, recruitment manager at TEMP-TEAM, was responsible for carrying out the research. She said: "Research proved there is general discontent about

recruitment agencies and how they work with companies to recruit senior managerial staff. By further examining this, it emerged that the new Executive brand should be adapted around the length of time it takes for a new appointment to be fully competent in their new position.

"This means that payments for our Executive service will be spread across an extended period of time and there will also be an option of employing the individual throughout this probationary time either through TEMP-TEAM or directly with the company." TEMP-TEAM's new brand will also make billing flexible, offering clients the chance to pay weekly, bi-monthly



or monthly depending on its circumstances. Nigel Begg, managing director of Aspire Technology Solutions, who is currently managing a growing team of 25, was impressed by TEMP-TEAM's different approach. He said: "Trust and strong relationships are extremely important in recruitment and I feel I have developed this already with TEMP-TEAM. Without hassling me with phone calls, Sam and her team are always looking out for

great opportunities for me to invest in high quality personnel and I know that they are there whenever I need them." Julie Cummings, managing director concluded: "At TEMP-TEAM we have a great reputation for being extremely customer-focused and I am delighted to launch our new Executive brand which reflects this. This research has proved a valuable exercise which we will be repeating to ensure we are always delivering the best possible service."

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SECOND: AYCLIFFE BOWLS CLUB



THIRD: FERRYHILL BOWLS CLUB

Great Aycliffe Indoor Bowls Club held their 3rd Mixed Triples Open Tournament at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex over Saturday/Sunday 27/28 March. It was a huge success with the Home Team taking first place, with team members D & M Barron, B Attwood and D Howard, in second place. Third place went to Ferryhill Indoor Bowls Club. The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Mrs Mary Dalton presented the prizes, and an enjoyable weekend was had by all.

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access facilities. Using these features they intend to identify Britain's most accessible places. To take part simply visit www.directenquiries.com, click on add a location and then post a review. "With this campaign we aim to raise awareness of the barriers some people face on a day to day basis. It is a way of getting people to think about what can be done to make our towns more welcoming for parents with buggies and disabled people" commented Dan Biddle, of Direct Enquiries. Directenquiries.com will announce Britain's most accessible place on 27th July 2010.



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POLIO VICTIM WALKS AGAIN

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 Tangueti 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 Tangueti, 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 work his hospital bill has been steadily growing. The overall cost of Martin's operations, physiotherapy 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 Newton News and the West Africa Trust will keep readers up-to-date on Martin's progress.



Photos: Top Right, Martin in 2007 before his operation when surgeons in the UK diagnosed amputation. Right: Martin in Physiotherapy. Above Martin's Wife Brigitte and Son Constantin.

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR MARTIN

Because Martin has been in hospital for the last 12 months and been unable to work his hospital bill has been slowly and steadily growing. The overall cost of Martin's operations, physiotherapy 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.

I/we would like to donate £..... to Martin's welfare, I would also like to gift aid my donation ☐

Name.....

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DANCE ACADEMY REGISTRATION SUCCESS



Aycliffe Dance Academy held their first registration nights on 24th and 25th March and were delighted with the level of interest from the Community. Demand has been so high that extra classes have already been arranged. Emma Cox, Principal Dance Teacher said "the young people and parents were very excited about starting their lessons – even the adult tap members can't wait to get started!"

Adult tap dancer Kate McLean said "the Bethany Centre is on my door step – I can't think of a better way of keeping fit". The Academy is offering classes in ballet, tap, modern, acrobatics and cheerleading for boys and girls. They also offer adult tap and modern for beginners and advanced.

If you did not manage to get along to the first registration night, additional evenings have been arranged. You can call into the Bethany Centre on Woodham Way on the 14th or 15th of April from 4pm to 7pm. Alternatively you can email Emma: aycliffedance@btinternet.com or call 01325 300119 Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm for a registration pack. All classes start after the Easter School holiday on Tuesday 20th April.

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR NORTH EAST VETERANS

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) is calling on World War 2 veterans in the North East to apply for grants under its Heroes Return 2 programme, which funds commemorative trips to places where the British Forces served.

Local veterans should apply as soon as possible, as the programme is closing at the end of the year. To date in the North East the Heroes Return 2 programme has awarded a total of 238 grants worth £173,225.

James Turner, Big Lottery Fund Head of Region North East, said: "We are trying to reach the veterans who are less socially connected through their families and friends. We don't want anyone to miss out. If you are reading this and you know a WWII veteran then please let them know about the Heroes Return 2 programme. Even those who have already received an award in the first 2004 Heroes programme can apply for a second grant now.

"The application process is very straightforward and it's not means tested. Anyone who served in WWII is eligible to apply. We are making it as simple as we can so as many local veterans as possible have the opportunity to travel back to the places where they saw action. They can then pay their respects, reminisce, meet old comrades and if need be have a chance to make peace with their experiences.

"Any veterans wishing to find out more should call our Heroes Return 2 helpline on 0845 00 00 121 or visit our website www.biglotteryfund.org.uk."

Veterans can apply as long as they are resident in the UK or Republic of Ireland and saw active service in the British Forces, or served alongside the Forces during the Second World War. Widows of veterans can also apply to the scheme and funding is available for carers to accompany those who need assistance to travel.

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In Memoriam

Irene Hood
24th March 2003



In loving memory of my dear Wife. The years pass by so fast, but my memories will always last. To me she was so special, someone set apart. God has her in his keeping, I keep her in my heart. Unseen, unheard, yet always near, still loved, still missed, still so very dear. Loving Husband, George and family

Photography

STUART J. ALLISON (LSWPP and LBIPP) Wedding Photographer. Photographs for all occasions. Tel 01325 300036, Mobile 07970 104646, info@sjallison.co.uk or visit the website: www.sjallison.co.uk

Birthday Remembrance

KARMEN Birthday memories for 5th April. Your special day we cannot share, but in our hearts you are always there. Love from Mam, Dad and Nadine

KEITH WILSON (1-4-10). Treasured memories of our dear friend Keith on what would have been his 60th birthday. Loved and remembered always. Mick, Kath and family

KEITH WILSON 1st April. Your 60th birthday, miss you so much, love always and forever, Pauline, Ian and family

KEITH WILSON 1-4-1950. We think of you every day, but none more so than today. Which would have been your 60th birthday. No party, but we'll have a drink for you. All our love forever. Anna, Julie, Helen, Louise and James

ADA HUTSON 4-4-1927. Beautiful memories treasured forever of the love and happiness we shared together. Thinking of you on your birthday my darling Wife, Ada. Loved and missed more each day. Your loving Husband, Dick xxx

ADA HUTSON 4-4-1927. Somewhere beyond the sunset Mam, where peacefulness never dies. You dwell in the beautiful garden, beneath the blue and golden skies. And we who have loved and lost you, whose parting brought so much pain. Will treasure your memory forever, till the day we meet again. Unseen by the world you stand by our side and whisper. Dear loved ones, death cannot divide. Loved and longed for always. From your loving family xxx

TINA LOUISE ALLAN 30th March. When I look at pictures of our childhood, my big Sister and me. I wish we could have grown old together. I wish our Brother could remember how much you loved him. I wish you had the chance to be an Aunt to our children. I wish you were still here. I wish you were here for your birthday and every day from then till now. I wish, I wish. Jacquie

ROBERT WHITE 5th April. Just a whisper away. Love, Lou, Re, Stu, Ian, Hannah and Ava

BRIAN FIRTH 3-4-1999. I thought of you with love today, but that is nothing new, I thought about you yesterday and days before that too. I think of you in silence and often speak your name, all I have are memories and your picture in a frame. Your memory is my keepsake, with which I'll never part. God has you in his keeping, I have you in my heart. Love Steve and Brenda

BRIAN FIRTH 3-4-1999. Gone but not forgotten. You will always be a part of me. Locked in my heart forever. Loved and missed every day. Loving Wife, Hazel xx

JOHN SNOWBALL (Wee Snowie) 4-4-2009. A year has passed since you left us. To meet with the old Shackleton crew. From our daily lives we still miss you. Together with all those you knew. Thelma and Trevor

DONALD FRASER 2nd April 2009. In loving memory of a dear Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Forever in our thoughts. Liz, Dave, Lisa, Paul, Alex and Paige

SLIM MILFORD 5th May 2006. Missed more than words can say. Jean and family

MIRIAM ROSSITER 08-04-04. Six years and sometimes it still feels like yesterday. The pain eases but memories never fade. Always in our hearts and minds. Loved and sorely missed each day. God bless you. Tony and Julie xxx

WENDY GRAHAM 5th April 2009. My beautiful Wife Wendy. Who passed away one year today. I think of you always, each and every day. I miss you and love you always. Your loving Husband, Charles xxx

WENDY GRAHAM 5th April 2009. Special Sister, loved always and sadly missed. Love, Mandy xxx

WENDY GRAHAM 5th April 2009. Treasured memories of a dear Sister and special Aunt. Love, Kay, Mike, Michael, Sean and Zoe xxx

WENDY GRAHAM 5th April 2009. Always in our thoughts. Always in our hearts. Love, Kim and family xxx

ALF SAXBY 4-4-2002. Our love is forever and although we are apart, it only grows stronger deep within my heart. Loving Wife, Eileen and all the family xxx

CLARE (Vidal Sasoon) **WILSON** Happy 40th birthday. My good friend, always there for me. I'd be grey without you, haha! Have a good one. Love, Viv xxx

PETER NEWBERRY Happy 40th birthday Peter. Enjoy your day. Love, Dad and Mam xxx

PETER NEWBERRY Happy 40th birthday Peter. Love from Michelle xxx

PETER NEWBERRY Best wishes on your 40th Peter. Love, Ste, Clare, Leah and Summer xxx

PETER NEWBERRY Lots of love Dad on your 40th birthday from Beccie, Jack and Kieran xxx

ALLEN 4th April, 2010. Congratulations Kathleen and Mick on your Ruby Wedding. Love and best wishes. Margaret and Joe and family

AMBER Happy 13th birthday. Hope you have a great time. Love and big hugs, Mam xxx

AMBER Happy 13th birthday Amber. Love from Katie and Lewis xx

AMBER Happy 13th birthday Amber. Love from Grandma and Grandad Roy xxx

ANTHONY BRYAN Happy 45th birthday Son. There is no one in the world could love you as much as I do. From "Ann" the Mam xxx

DENNIS ARCHER 60 on 4th April. Happy birthday Uncle Dennis. Love and best wishes, Paul and Katy xx

DENNIS ARCHER Happy 60th birthday Grandad. 4-4-1950. Lots of love from Samantha, Simon and Luke xxx

DENNIS ARCHER 4-4-1050. Happy 60th birthday Great Grandad. Lots of love from Jayden and Thomas xxx

DENNIS ARCHER Happy 60th birthday Dad for 4th April. Not long now, Whiteacres here we come and I will be fishing with meat on the bomb. Happy memories that will never fade of special times with my best mate. Love you to bits Dad. From Sharon, Neil and the gang xxx

POULTER Happy 70th birthday Fred. Hope you enjoy your party. All my love always, Freda xxx

POULTER Happy 70th birthday Dad. Love from Karen, Fraser, Jonathan, Claire, Leanne and Dean xxx

POULTER Happy birthday Grandad. Love from all your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxx

BIRKETT Sienna Leigh. Happy 3rd birthday to our special little girl. Love, Mammy, Daddy and all the family xxx

Holiday

FLORIDA VILLA now booking for 2011. Sleeps 8, close to all attractions. www.villaflorida.biz or call 300 212 (M-F, 9-5pm)

FLORIDA VILLA Disney, sleeps 8/10, pool, spa, games room, visit www.florida-villa-2-rent.com or call 320 409

Public Notice

WATCH BATTERIES now available at Taylors Newsforce **DONATIONS** needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John on 316630

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

Congratulations

Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em



Happy 60th Birthday to Dennis Archer
4th April 2010

To Dennis, Aycliffe's Funniest Frank Spencer. All our love Dad. from Helen, Steven and Natasha

Brandon Mason



Happy 6th Birthday
1st April 2010

Happy birthday darling. Lots of love, hugs and kisses, Mam xxx
Have a great 6th birthday little Brother. Lots of love, Jordan xxx
Happy birthday sweetheart. Have a lovely day. Lots of love, Granda and Grandma xxx

Libbie Mai Anderson



Congratulations on gaining 1st place for your Solo Freestyle in Stardance 8-10 years. You are amazing and sparkled on the dance floor, we are so proud of you. Keep smiling, lots of love and kisses, Mammy and Stephen xxxx

To my Big Sis, Libbie, you are the best ever, love your big smiles on the dance floor. Big hugs and kisses, Flynn xxxx

To our special Grand Daughter Libbie, you deserved your reward because you danced fantastic. Lots of love and kisses Gran and Grandad xxxx

A BIG thank you to Caroline Race and Lee Green Dance School

Dennis Archer



Happy 60th Birthday
4th April 2010

We hope you have a great day and night from Mam, Dad, Daughters Sharon and Helen, Sons-in-Law Neil and Steven. Grandchildren Samantha, Simon, Luke, and Natasha. Great Grandson Jayden. Brothers Ken and Dave and all the rest of the family and your friends. Lots of love from us all! We hope you enjoy your fishing holiday at Whiteacres with Sharon and John xxx

Rebecca Jarps



Happy 18th Birthday
Love always,
Mam, Dad and Adam

Hannah Black



Happy 18th Birthday "Time to learn how to fry that egg!". Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Charlotte, Luke and all the family xx

Caitlin Barber



Congratulations on getting Silver Medal at Edinburgh at the weekend. Me and Dad are so proud. Love you loads xxxx

Births

BECKY LAHENEY and Richard Proctor. A beautiful baby Boy "Isaac Richard". Born 28th March weighing 8lbs 5oz. Lots of love from Mam, Allan, Christopher, Nikki, Emma, Sam, Nanna and Grandad Gartland, Uncle John, Auntie Lyn, Ian and Lauren. Well done from all of us xxx

CRACKING EASTER FUN

Easter school holidays, got nothing to do? Get yourself along to the "The Young Entertainers Wacky Workshops" at the Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon, Wednesday's 7th, 14th April, 11am to 4pm. A spokesperson for the event said "These are fun days full of games, laughs, and music, for all young people aged 8 to 16 years. All we ask is you bring £1, entry to Centre, and a packed lunch."

For more information (01388) 774838

CAN YOU DESIGN A COMPUTER GAME?

Arriva North East is celebrating the launch of the bus company's official computer game by offering budding game designers in Newton-Aycliffe another chance to create a game to be hosted on the Arriva Bus website.

Last year Arriva North East marked the launch of www.arrivabus.co.uk by asking wannabe programmers to create a bus themed game, and now the company wants to build on the success of the 2009 competition by appealing for more.

Computer programming Games student Pro-student Chris

McKellar, 21, won the competition with his arcade-style game, 'Buster'. The game challenges players to line up three buses of the same colour and 'bust' their way through the rows. A multi-coloured Arriva bus wins extra points in the timed trial. The game is available to play online now by visiting www.arrivabus.co.uk/buster.

John Fozzard, marketing manager for Arriva North East, said: "The Arriva game is a great way to keep our site relevant and interesting for all of our customers in Newton-Aycliffe. 'Buster' has added a different dimension to the site because visitors can now buy tickets, find out information about our services as well as play our brand new Arriva game."

"We're looking forward to receiving lots more entries

which are bus themed and playable on a PC. Anyone who wants to enter should visit www.arrivabus.co.uk/design-a-game2010, and the deadline for entries is the 29th of August."

As well as seeing his game online and accessible to all via the Arriva website, Chris has won a bumper pack of goodies including a VIP trip around UK games house, Crytek, and a brand new desktop PC worth £500. The same prizes will be awarded to the winner of the latest competition.

The new Arriva website provides customers with increased information about services in Newton-Aycliffe, and offers tremendous value for regular customers with savings of 10% off 4-Weekly Saver tickets. Customers can take advantage by visiting www.arrivabus.co.uk.

YOUTHY UNDER 13's TOP OF THE LEAGUE

Newton Aycliffe Youth Under 13s took another step towards the title with 2 wins in 2 days to make it 10 wins from 10 games.

Saturday saw a top of the table clash with Eaglescliffe Elements with Youthy running out 2 - 0 winners in a hard fought encounter. The back four of Tom Gledhill, Bill Bradley, James Skerrett and Jordan Howe restricted the visitors to few chances.

When they did get forward keeper Jack McLaren was in good form. Dan Kenyon opened the scoring mid way through the first half with a piece of brilliance, pulling the ball down and driving the ball home.

Man of the match Bill Bradley gave Youthy the half time advantage with a blistering free kick from 20 yards out. In the second half skipper Ben Nicholson, Sam Pascoe and Matthew Dixon controlled the midfield and wide players Jake Cane and Connor Halford kept Aycliffe in control. A fine team performance gave Aycliffe all 3 points in this key battle.

Sunday saw a more emphatic win as Aycliffe travelled to Hartlepool to play Greatham B. Aycliffe were too sharp for their hosts in the early exchanges and a well taken goal by Dan Kenyon started the scoring.

A deflected shot from Jake Cane doubled the lead but Greatham punished Aycliffe scoring following a corner to

make it 2 - 1. Man of the match Jordan Howe was outstanding both going forward and defensively. Supported by Billy Bradley, Tom Gledhill and James Skerrett Aycliffe kept the visitors at bay.

A saved shot from the ever busy Sam Pascoe was turned in by leading score Kenyon as Youthy took command. Connor Halford and Matthew Dixon, backed by mid field enforcer Ben Nicholson, provided the drive through the centre and Pascoe broke forward to make it 4 - 1.

With flying wingers Cane and Ryan Mercer tearing the defence apart the town scored again as Kenyon completed his hat trick to sent them in 5-1 up at the break. James Wren entered the game in the second half and Matthew French replaced McLaren in goal. In the second half Kenyon

stretched the lead with a superb solo goal. Defender Gledhill scored from close range following a corner to widen the gap to 7 - 1. It was Greatham who struck next almost immediately but a second goal from Gledhill wrapped it up at 8 - 2 to take Youthy to the top of the league.

Flower Club

Shildon and District Flower Club will hold their monthly meeting on the 12th April, at The Civic Centre, Shildon starting at 7.30pm.

The demonstrator will be Don Billington, visitors are welcome admission £4.00

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EASTER WEEKEND AT BURNHILL WAY



There are a number of activities at Burnhill Way Methodist Church (near

The Turbinia). On Saturday from 10am-12noon there is an Easter Coffee Morning for everyone, which includes tea/coffee, hot cross buns, cake stall, raffle, etc. On Good Friday there is a Meditation at the foot of the Cross at 3pm with modern & traditional hymns and thoughts about the meaning of the crucifixion. At 7pm on Saturday there is an Easter Vigil (ever thought what Jesus was doing between Good Friday and Easter Sunday?).

There is Dawn Worship at 5.30am followed by breakfast on Easter Sunday and a Communion Service at 10am suitable for all ages which will include chocolate eggs and refreshments.

Everyone, as always, is welcome at all or any events at Burnhill Way.

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