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We Deserve Better Treatment from County Council

Dear Sir,
Now that Durham County Council have emerged from their secret deliberations and decided to remove another amenity from the ruins of Newton Aycliffe, why don't long-suffering Newtonians take occupation of Shafto House and make a few demands? Why not use the building as a

Community Resource Centre? Ask the local Doctors if it could become a "Drop in Centre" for accidents like a Cottage Hospital. Use it as a Respite Care Centre or a specialist unit to relieve pressure on day to day services in the town's surgeries. Ask Age Concern how they run and organise their facility

FRONT PAGE LETTER

in Darlington with reasonably priced meals, information about legal matters, benefits etc. Trips for disabled and pensioners, advice and solutions to all sorts of problems affecting the elderly.

Ask the CAB, The Cubby and other Senior Citizens Clubs if they could use the building and the services already there.

I think we should also ask the people of Newton Aycliffe if they would prefer to be annexed to Darlington which has proved it can thrive away from the dated policies of retired Trade Union officials who are on Durham Council. These people have completely written off this southern tip of the County.

Nothing positive has been provided for Newton Aycliffe in the last 65 years and we struggle on in the ruins of a town centre, with no Bus Station, no toilets, a Post Office in the back of a shop - and yet we are the highest Council Tax contributor in the County!

Ask Darlington if they would like the Council Tax from an area stretching from Rushyford to the A1M in exchange for no services at all of a permanent nature. Everything is pending, nothing is getting done - is this valid?

The anniversary of Newton News reminds me of long ago when this was a New Town full of hope and vibrancy. Despite all I've said the people here are shown to be winning through with prizes and achievements of every kind. They deserve better treatment from their County Council representatives. Action please before it is too late!

Hopeful
Name & address supplied

"FIGHT TO BRING HITACHI TO AYCLIFFE" pleads M.P.

Newton Aycliffe is the preferred site for Hitachi to build new 155mph express trains in a multi £billion contract.

The enormous site near Heighington Station would prove to be an ideal location for a factory to build and transport rolling stock to customers at home and abroad.

A consortium led by the Japanese company Hitachi is behind the bid and if given the go ahead will bring 1000's of jobs. There could be a problem of government backing due to financial cut-backs and Phil Wilson wants to lead a campaign to secure this manufacturing unit for Aycliffe.

We received the following plea from our M.P.:

"We must fight for jobs to come to Aycliffe. I have written to the ministers responsible for the decision on the future of the Intercity Express Programme which could see hundreds of rail carriages produced here in Newton Aycliffe.

They would replace the aging Intercity coaches used on the East Coast and Great Western mainlines. But the Transport Secretary Philip Hammond made the project part of the Comprehensive Spending Review which could see it dropped.

Hitachi, who would build the trains, has selected Newton Aycliffe for its manufacturing site creating 250 construction jobs up front. The site would support as many as 800 manufacturing jobs when



Phil Wilson, M.P.

in full production. Hitachi also estimates that 6,700 supply chain jobs would be supported seven out of 10 in manufacturing.

The Hitachi project was part of the Labour Government's transport strategy. The Government would not start to buy the rolling stock until 2016.

There is no significant public expenditure for several years until the factory is built and the rolling stock is ready. The site would also be used to build carriages for the European market, especially Scandinavia and Northern Europe.

This is exactly the kind of manufacturing scheme Newton Aycliffe and the North East wants. Hundreds of manufacturing jobs, thousands of supply chain jobs and a major company in the area.

We all want to see the economy rebalanced in favour of manufacturing which are not just created for public sector procurement purposes but also for export growth. The economic argument stacks up, especially when the Government will not be buying the rolling stock for several years and there is no significant impact on the public finances in the short term.

I am also calling on business leaders and trade unions in the North East to join me in

campaigning for the project to go ahead. I believe if the Government is serious about investing in industry and growing the manufacturing sector they must allow this

scheme to go ahead. My concern is, if Hitachi does not build their train building site in Newton Aycliffe they may take it to another country in Europe.."

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SUMMER FAIR WINNER

The winner of the St. Clare's Church Summer Fair "Guess the Age of the Lonesome Pine" was Cormack. Can you please contact Ric Hargreaves on 01325 316755

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TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT SET TO COMMENCE IN AUGUST

The owners of the Aycliffe Shopping Centre have today announced that the next phase of the redevelopment of the town centre will start in August with the demolition of the old library and medical centre and the Dalton Way building.

In response to the public consultation exercise held on the wider master-plan proposals, the site is to be redeveloped to provide a 15,000 sq ft Aldi food store and some 73 parking spaces.

Demolition of the buildings on the site is expected to take 4-5 months and the site should have been cleared by the end of this year. Construction of the new Aldi store will take 6-7 months once detailed planning and highways approvals have been obtained.

Bryan Haldane the Manager of The Aycliffe Shopping Centre said that following the opening of Wilkinsons earlier this year he was delighted the next stage of the regeneration of the town centre was proceeding and that a new retailer was being attracted

to the town centre. "Aldi will be a great addition to the town and will complement many of the existing stores" said Bryan. Bryan also said "Prior to the demolition works commencing we will be contacting our retailers to explain how we intend to minimize disruption to the town centre".

Andrew Thomson of Freshwater said that despite the impact of the credit crunch his company were investing substantial sums in Newton Aycliffe and that the support of the Town Centre Partnership which includes Durham County Council, NHS County Durham and local MP, Phil Wilson, had been a key factor in deciding to press on with the redevelopment proposals.

A planning application for the improvements to Beveridge Way, including the removal of the ramp, is likely to be submitted later this year, with a start on site next year.

Bowls and Refreshments for Just £1

Would you like to try something new? YES? Then why not take advantage of this special offer open to non members of the Sports Complex during July 2010.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 21st July 2010

Full Council - 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda.

If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting.

Agendas / Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

"The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

BE YOUR OWN BOSS EVENT AT THE YOUTH CENTRE

Paul Abley worked as a Parts Manager for 12 years and following redundancy Paul looked at using his artistic skills and managed with help from Be Enterprising to start up his own business Aply Kreations.

Paul says "The support he had received from BE Enterprising has been awesome and has support right from the beginning and his coach Sian who has provided lots of advice on different directions the business could go and in the end decided to design the books rather than manufacture them as well". Grant funding helped cover printing costs and marketing material and website www.ablykreatations.com

Fancy a Spray Tan then come and meet the girls from Healthy Glow, a Spray Tanning company set up and developed by Louise Bell and a company that is expanding with the help and support of Be Franchising. Pictured with Louise are three young ladies who have taken on a Franchise and are well underway to becoming their own bosses, Tracey Buchan a young unemployed mum, Lisa Cook a student and Laura Flintoft who is expanding her experience in the beauty industry.

The girls will demonstrate their skills at the event and will gladly talk to anyone who wishes to become a franchisee.

Demonstrating her skills as a Mobile Reiki Therapist is Michelle Bromley - Davis from Newton Aycliffe. Her business skills include Counselling and Michelle has recently qualified as a Neuro Linguistic Programming Practitioner, Michelle says her treatments will leave you feeling relaxed, calm and one step closer to well being, Andrew Maxwell the Be Enterprising Team Manager certainly agreed after he agreed to try the Japanese system of hands on energy healing. Michelle is working with Sharmani her coach and commented that she felt confident about the support she was getting.

The stands include Business Link, Darlington College, The National Apprenticeship Service, Job Centre Plus, Avon Cosmetics, Northeast Tiling Training Service, Groundwork Northeast, Be Franchising, South Durham Enterprise Agency and The Pioneering Care Partnership. There's also fun and entertainment for the children.



Business start ups include Robbie Robinson with Pet Pride, Paul Dent Carpet Cleaning Services, Debra Farrell Magical Creations and Amanda Heavside with her delicious Fairy Hill Cakes. The event is free and open to everyone who is interested

in taking control of their own future, there is a huge amount of support available and we want you to come and see what is in your community.

For more information contact Dawn Huntrod on 01325 310730.



creating enterprising opportunities
IN COUNTY DURHAM

Be Your Own Boss...

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Find out how by joining us on Friday 23rd July at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre, Burn Lane, for our Business Start-Up Showcase.

Come and meet the Be Enterprising Team along with other business support agencies and take the opportunity to discuss your business ideas. We can give you free advice, support & answers to your questions. You could also be eligible for grant funding.

You can meet others like you who have taken the leap and will be showcasing their businesses - find out how we helped them to do it.



Part of the funding for this project is provided by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund 2007-13



Partnership about local enterprise

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IN COUNTY DURHAM

Free Holiday Activities

The school Summer Holidays are fast approaching and we have a fun packed programme of FREE activities at Greenfield Community & Arts Centre for children and young people (8 years plus). 'School of Rock' with John Melvin, 'Fun with Clay' with Sarah Chrisp, 'Crafts with Felt' with Donna Walton, 'Crazy Crafts' with Paul Belcher, 'Steel Pan Workshops' with Brian Wise, 'Scrapbooking and Cardmaking' with Debbie Jenkins. Clare Walton will be holding 2 weeks of dance workshops (a charge will be made for this event-details from Clare 07921 929562) To book your place and for more details 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk View www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

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STAIR CLOSURE HITS BUSINESS TAKINGS



Stephen Russell Hairdressers is facing even tougher times than most, due to the slow reaction to his predicament from the Town Centre Landlords.

The stairway up to his Salon has been closed since January awaiting repair, but he cannot get any answers as to when the work will be done. Meanwhile he is losing custom from passing trade estimated at £6000 per year. He wrote in April asking for compensation of some kind, but the Landlords in London have not replied.

To add insult to injury the Landlords have now decided to add VAT to Rent and Service Charges. In normal circumstances most shops would be VAT registered and can claim this tax back from Inland Revenue. Stephen Russell is outside the threshold and not registered so it becomes an extra charge of 17½% on his overheads.

He cannot pass such a large amount on to his customers and feels everything is against him. He believes he is due a



Stephen Russell

reduction on his shop charges as he is paying for access from the stairway which he is not getting. As Stephen cannot get a reply we have asked the Landlords to comment...

WOODHAM PROM NIGHT



Over 160 staff and students from Woodham Community Technology College assembled at Redworth Hall for the Year 11 Leavers' Prom. Stretch limousines, fire engines and even a horse-drawn carriage were all used to transport students to the event.

While non-alcoholic cocktails were served on the hotel lawns, proud parents took photographs as staff and students mingled. After a meal that was much appreciated, entertainment was provided by the year group's 'resident comedian', David McCormick, who reminded students of some of the highlights of the

previous five years. The rest of the evening was spent dancing before it was time for tearful farewells. Everyone agreed it was a fitting finale to the students' five years at Woodham.

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ABTA

Katie Shows Gymnastic Talent



Congratulations to Katie Leadbitter 8 years old from Newton Aycliffe for doing so well at her first Gymnastic competition. She came third in the Regional and 7th in the National contests. Her coaches at Spennymoor Gymnastics have recommended she move to levels where she is able to work up to National and GB team standard. Katie is obviously a very talented gymnast and we wish her a successful future along with her Mam, Dad, Sophie and family.

Byerley Park School Sports Week



Last week, all pupils in Byerley Park Primary School took part in National School Sports week. This involved all children being put into 14 world countries, when they worked together to compete in various different sporting events each day. On Monday morning we all went into the school hall and found out who was in our teams and listened to our country's national anthem. We then watched a presentation about celebrity athletes 'sports pledges' and wrote our own. Following this we looked at the London 2012 Olympic logo and designed our own. We had a competition for the best logos and Ebony in Y3 and Callum in Y2 won. In the afternoon we had a team water activities event including 14 different games, balloon bobbing, pass the water



bomb, water targets and water bomb relays. It was lots of fun especially when the water bombs burst!

On Tuesday we had a fabulous rock climbing wall in school and all classes had a go. In our class lots of children made it to the top and managed to press a button, which made a buzzing sound. Even our teacher Mrs Plumb managed to make it to the top! It was lots of fun.

We looked at the Olympic and Paralympic values and made our own kites with the value we found to be the most important. We got into teams and took part in a 'Quadkids Athletics Event' where we competed in two running, one jumping and one throwing event. It was hard work, but really good!

On Wednesday some of the classes learnt about the Paralympic sport of Boccia. We learnt what the game was about and had a go at playing it. The afternoon was a really important event as the children played the school staff at Rounder's.

In the first game the children won, and then the staff won the second game. The final was really close but the staff just beat

the children by two rounders! We hope that we can play more games like this.

Thursday morning was a busy time. We had Dance in Education in school and a Ju-Jitsu Master. In Dance we learnt how to street dance and our dance teacher taught us some really interesting moves, which were fantastic. The juniors were then introduced to the history of ju-jitsu and shown the different weapons that could be used. Some of them were really scary!

On the final day we invited our parents into school to take part in our 'Tesco Great School Run'. Our Mum's and Dad's and family members ran the 2km run with us and each scored 10 extra points towards our team scores.

The final scores were revealed in the closing ceremony. China received the bronze medals, Germany the silver medals and France took the victorious gold medal.

This week has been a fantastic experience and we have learnt so much. We can't wait to do it again!

Written by children in Year 3.

PIRATES ON SPONSORED WALK



The children, parents and staff at St. Oswald's Pre-School recently held a sponsored walk to the town park, to raise funds for the Barnardo's Early Years work with disadvantaged and vulnerable under 5's in local projects. This includes services for children with disabilities, young carers and Mums and Dads who need support to help their children.

The Barnardos theme this year was 'pirates', and everyone involved enjoyed dressing up and walking to the park. The Pre-School is open to all children from their 3rd birthday and an 'Open Day' will be held in the Pre-School on the 17th August 2010 why not come along and see what we can offer you and your child. For more information please contact Jackie Swainston on 01325 319880.

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B. & C.
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TAXIS

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ONLY WASTED CAKES TAKEN

Dear Sir,
I see someone is upset that I took two cakes from the Mayor's "At Home" Tea Party, but I only did what I had seen Dorothy Bowman do on previous occasions. I did ask the catering staff and was quite open about taking surplus food which would have been wasted. My husband and I were invited from the Mayor's office and it was a public event. I do not remember dancing on the tables or shouting insults. I have to admit however, I didn't kiss the Mayor. I am not a supporter of Dorothy Bowman as she is not an elected Mayor but one chosen by the Labour Group. I am happy to put my name to this letter unlike the person who complained. M. Tomlin.

Horndale School Leavers' Service

The Town Mayor, Councillor Dorothy Bowman with the children following their Leavers' Service which parents and friends also attended. Dorothy reminded the children about the importance of always telling the truth and wished them well for the future.

WOODHAM TAEKWONDO GRADING

Twelve students attended the grading on Sunday 27 June 2010 at Spennymoor Leisure Centre and all had a successful day. Six of the students from Woodham Club were first time graders, and nerves were a bit fraught on the day. They had all trained hard in the weeks coming up to the grading and were all rewarded by passing and receiving their white belt yellow tag. Four students received their yellow belts, one student received green belt blue tag and one outstanding student, Max Pentith, also double promoted to green belt and received the award for Best of Grade. Woodham Club has recently received funding from County Durham Community Foundation, which has been used to buy some new equipment and also to help with costs for students to enter competitions. If you would like to be part of this successful club please contact Kevin Mitchell on 07536 061450 or Andrea Mulhearn on 07790 438886 for more information. First two lessons are free!

Film Show at Woodham

It's Ladies Night at Woodham Movie Dome on Tuesday 20th July when "Priscilla" will be shown. On the following Tuesday 27th July the Musical "Phantom of the Opera". Admission to the pictures at St. Elizabeths Church Hall is by donation. Doors open at 7p.m. Movie starts at 7.30pm. More information from Brian on 319067.

Mayor Picks Best Garden

Linden Place Residents Association would like to thank the Mayor Mrs Dorothy Bowman and her consort Richard for judging Linden Place Residents' Association annual garden competition. Best Garden: 1st Mrs B Stacy; 2nd Mrs L Carlyle/Mr K Lowther. Best Basket: 1st Ms B Craggs /Michelle & Andrew; 2nd Mrs L Carlyle. Best Tub: 1st Ms B Craggs; 2nd Michelle & Andrew/ Mrs L Carlyle

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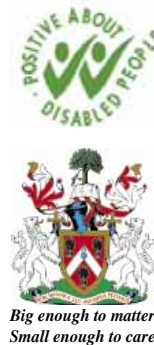
Great Aycliffe Town Council

Council Offices - School Aycliffe Lane - Newton Aycliffe - Co. Durham DL5 6QF

Telephone: 01325 300700 • Fax: 01325 301053

Email: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk • Website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

SUMMER 2010



FUN IN THE PARKS 2010

11.00 am - 3.00 pm

Tuesday 27th July - Town Centre Park
Friday 30th July - Moore Lane Park
Tuesday 3rd August - Aycliffe Village Park
Friday 6th August - Horndale Park
Tuesday 10th August - Simpasture Park
Friday 13th August - Woodham Park
Tuesday 17th August - St Oswald's Park
Friday 20th August - Oak Leaf Sports Field
Tuesday 24th August - West Park
Friday 27th August - Town Centre Park

Council Open Day

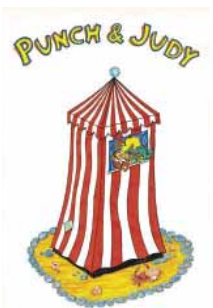
* **NEW: Visit the Eco Centre for clay modelling**

* **NEW: Scavenger Hunt in the Woods 12.00-1.00pm**

* **NEW: Wild Flower Hunt 12.00-1.00pm**

FREE Fun Fair : Punch and Judy : Balloon Modelling : Magic Shows : Face Painting

*** led by Steve Cooper, Council Environmental Officer**



COUNCIL OPEN DAY - TOWN PARK

TUESDAY 27th JULY 2010 • 11.00 am – 3.00 pm

The Town Council have arranged this event to:

- provide information about their services
- provide an opportunity for you to meet some of the staff
- allow you to discuss any concerns with us
- **Why not pop in and have a chat**

VISIT YOUR PARKS



WOODHAM PARK
Infant and Junior Play Areas
Multi Use Games Area

HORNDALE PARK
Infant and Junior Play Areas
Children's Football Kick-about Pitch



WEST PARK
Infant and Junior Play Areas
Ornamental Lakes



SIMPASTURE PARK
Infant and Junior Play Areas
2 Multi Use Games Areas
3 Tennis Courts



AYCLIFFE NATURE PARK
Woodland Walkways, Ponds,
Dipping Platforms and
Wild Grassland

TOWN PARK
Infant and Junior Play Areas
Children's Kick-about Area
Skate Boarding Facilities
Formal Gardens
Picnic Area
Toilet Facilities



ST. OSWALD'S PARK
Infant and Junior Play Areas
Formal Gardens
Picnic Area
Toilet Facilities



**MOORE LANE PARK
& ECO CENTRE**
Infant and Junior Play Areas
Basketball Area
Home of the Eco Centre
(Various activities as advertised)
(Available for Group Bookings)



TOWN PRIDE ENVIRONMENT WEEK

Following last years successful Town Pride Environment Week, Aycliffe Youth Council and Great Aycliffe Town Council will once again be undertaking this event. We will be working with volunteers and local schools to litter pick areas of Great Aycliffe.



The times and locations of litter picks are detailed below

School	Date and Time of Litter Pick			
St Joseph's	Friday 16th July	AM	10.00-11.30	
Byerley Park	Monday 19th July	AM	10.00-11.30	
Vane Road	Monday 19th July	PM	1.30-3.00	
Byerley Park	Tuesday 20th July	AM	10.00-11.30	
St. Marys (wild flower planting)	Tuesday 20th July	PM	1.30-3.00	
Stephenson Way	Wednesday 21st July	AM	10.00-11.30	
Aycliffe Village	Wednesday 21st July	AM	10.00-11.30	
St Francis	Wednesday 21st July	PM	1.30-3.00	
Sugar Hill	Thursday 22nd July	AM	10.00-11.30	

Why not come along and **take pride in your town** and help with the above events. Please arrive at the school gate 10 minutes prior to the start time.

MAYOR'S CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Oakleaf Golf Complex and Oakleaf Sports Complex

Friday 10th September 2010

(Tee Off Times between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.)

Entry Fee - £120 per team
(Includes Meal and Presentation Evening)

In Aid of the Mayor's Charities Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence

Further Information and Application Forms from:
The Mayor's Secretary - (Tel: 01325 300700) or the Oakleaf Golf Complex.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AWARD 2010

The Town Council wishes to receive nominations from local residents within the Great Aycliffe area for the awarding of Certificates of Merit for individual front gardens, front floral displays or streets that enhance the overall visual appearance of the area.

Please return this nomination form to Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham. DL5 6QF or e-mail the details of your nomination to: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk before the closing date of Friday, 13th August 2010.

I would like to nominate the following for a Certificate of Merit:

House No:Street:

or Full Street:

Summer Countryside Events

MONSTERS OF THE DEEP

Monday 26th July 1.30pm - 3pm

Find out which creatures live in the large pond at School Aycliffe Wetlands by joining Environment Officer Steve Cooper for this enjoyable family pond dipping session. Please bring along your nets, buckets and wellies if you have them. Meet at: Community Centre car park, Menville Close, School Aycliffe



ULTIMATE MINIBEASTING (Booking Essential as places are limited)

Wednesday 28th July 1.15pm - 3pm

Spend a few hours at Moore Lane Eco Centre learning all about minibeasts. Zoolab will be bringing along some of their exotic minibeasts to give an interactive informative talk about these creatures; there will be an opportunity to handle the creatures- if you are brave enough!! Environment Officer Steve Cooper will also be leading two minibeasting sessions around the park in search of the local varieties. Meet at Moore Lane Eco Centre. *(To book your place please contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700).*

FUN IN THE PARK- MOORE LANE

Friday 30th July 11am - 3pm

As part of this annual fair the Eco Centre will be opened so that everyone can attempt to spark their creative skills by modelling clay creatures. Meet at: Moore Lane Eco Centre

THE WILD WEST

Monday 2nd August 10.30am - 12.30pm

Join Environment Officer Steve Cooper in exploring the Byerley Park area of Aycliffe. Learn how to look for signs of mammals and other creatures that live there. Meet at: Blue Bell Garage, off the Greenfield/ Rushyford Road.

PICTURE THIS

Friday 6th August 1.30pm - 3pm

Spend a few hours wandering around Aycliffe Nature Park and Simpasture Nature Walk in search of great photographs. Whether you prefer nature photography or landscape shots there should be something for everyone on this relaxed photography session. Meet at: Travellers Green, off Clarence Chare.

ART ATTACK - IN THE SUMMERTIME

Wednesday 11th August 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Spend an afternoon making artistic pictures and models of things you see around Aycliffe in the summer. Your artwork will then be mounted onto a large display which will be displayed in the centre. Meet at: Moore Lane Eco Centre.



FUN IN THE PARK - WOODHAM PARK

Friday 13th August 12pm - 1pm

As part of the annual fair the Environment Officer will be on hand to organise a scavenger hunt for hidden treasure through Agnew Plantation. Meet at: the marquee in Woodham Park.

GOING DIPPY

Wednesday 18th August 10am - 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).



EVERYTHING EARTHLY

Friday 20th August 10am - 12 noon

If it's wild and creeps, crawls or walks we will try to catch it during this fun packed session. We will look for mainly insects and mammals but who knows what we will find! Meet at: Moore Lane Eco Centre.

GREAT AYCLIFFE SHOW - ENVIRONMENT MARQUEE

Saturday 28th August 10am - 4pm

During the first day of the Great Aycliffe Show there will be a marquee full of environmental exhibitors with displays and activities for all the family. Meet at: Oakleaf Sports Complex.

CUSTOMER PANEL

The Town Council Customer Panel meets on a regular basis. Meetings are advertised on the notice boards and in the Newton News. Members are encouraged to be pro-active with town council matters and are able to quiz Senior Officers and Members. Briefings are provided on a wide range of issues.

The next meetings is Thursday 22nd July when the Works & Environment Manager will be in attendance.

The meeting to be held on Tuesday 21st September will have a presentation by the Finance Manager on the impact of the budget cuts. A member of the youth council will also be in attendance to tell you about Aycliffe Youth Council.

The Town Council are always looking for new members for the Customer Panel. If you are interested and are a resident of the Great Aycliffe area we would love to hear from you. Please contact Chrissy Walton or Amanda Donald on 01325 300700 who will be happy to discuss any matters with you.

Oak Leaf SPORTS COMPLEX 01325 300600

SQUASH COACHING

8-15 years
with qualified SRA Coach
Bill West

Wednesday 28 July : 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Members £4.50 Non Members £5.25.

ARCHERY COACHING

8-15 years
with our resident coaches
Thursday 29 July
and Thursday 26 August
09.30-11.30 or 12.00noon - 2.00pm
Members £4.50 Non Members £5.25

FOOTBALL COACHING

8-15 years
with Active Inclusion
Wednesday 25 August
1.00pm - 4.00pm
Members £4.50 Non Members £5.25

BADMINTON COACHING

8-15 years with Active Inclusion
Thursday 12 August
1.00pm - 4.00pm
Members £4.50 Non Members £5.25

BOWLS COACHING

8-15 years
with Resident Coach Esther Helm
Friday 13 August, 2.30 pm—4.00 pm
Members £2.25 Non Members £2.65
Remember to bring your carpet
slippers (or any smooth soled footwear)

Do you want to
have fun and get
active?

Then why not
come along to our
Exciting New Club.

Every Saturday Morning from 9.30 am
until 11 am only £2.00 per session.

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OPPORTUNITY
TO TRY:**

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BADMINTON	BOWLS
FOOTBALL	GOLF
SQUASH	RACQUET BALL
TABLE TENNIS	
INDOOR FUN GAMES	

**PLAY
ACTIVE
SPORTS
SATURDAY**

Want to give Indoor Bowls a try?

Our Indoor Bowls Hall, has 4 lanes available for use by members and non members of all abilities, and is open in 2 hour sessions from 10.30am each day starting from £2.30 per person, with an 'earlybird' 9am– 10.30am session also available from £2.00 per person.

For the complete beginner, we periodically arrange coaching sessions, otherwise, there's sure to be someone here to help you get started, and equipment can be hired at Reception for a nominal charge.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?
Why not take advantage of this 'special offer'
open to non members of our Complex
during July 2010:

Bowls Session 4.30pm - 6.30pm
free hire of equipment
with cup of tea/coffee and biscuits
Only £1.00 per person
ON PRODUCTION OF THIS VOUCHER
Please ring 01325 300600 to book your place

Name.....
Address.....
.....

FREE COURSES!!

Open to 8-15 year olds
9.50am until 11.45am

Monday 26th July - Squash and Archery
Monday 2nd August - Badminton and Bowls
Monday 9th August - Football and Golf
Monday 16th August - Volleyball
and Team Games
Monday 23rd August - Table Tennis
and Rounders

FREE COACH PICK UP POINTS AVAILABLE:

- Point A: Youth Centre Car Park
- Point B: Cobblers Hall Shops Car Park
- Point C: Southern Club Car Park

All places must be pre booked at the Sports Complex

BAR AND FUNCTION ROOM



OPENING TIMES

Our Bar is Open
Monday to Saturday
11.00am to 11.00pm
and
on Sundays from
12 noon to 10.30pm

Food is available Monday to Friday
12 noon to 2.30pm and
again from 5.00pm to 9.30pm
(Sandwiches and Hot Meat Buns are available
between 2.30pm and 5.00pm)
and on Saturdays & Sundays
between 12 noon and 9.30pm

Traditional Lunches are served every Sunday
between 12 noon and 2.00pm
Adults £5.95 Children £4.00

Our function room, with panoramic views
of the surrounding area, and seating up
to 60 people, is suitable for any family
Celebration, along with a choice of Buffet Menus

Pre-School Learning Centres



Do you have children aged 3 – 4 years old?
Are you looking for Pre-School education ?

Great Aycliffe Town Council operates the following Pre-Schools:-
St. Oswald's Pre-School, St. Oswald's Park, Wren Close
NEW OPENING TIMES
(Open Monday to Friday 8.45am to 3.30pm., term time only)

**Woodham Burn Pre-School, Woodham Burn Community
Primary School, Humphrey Close**
(Open Monday to Friday 8.45am. to 3.15p.m., term time only)

We can offer **flexible hours** to meet your individual needs.

Only £3.00 per 3 hour session if your child is not eligible for
educational funding. Hours in excess of the first 15 are £3.50 each.

At Woodham Burn we also have a close working relationship with the
Out of School Club, which enables Parents / carers to access
childcare from 7.45am to 6pm each weekday

The Pre-Schools are open to all children from their 3rd birthday and
Free educational places (15 hours per week) are available the
term after their 3rd birthday

Our adult / child ratios are **1 adult** to every **8 children**

We provide the **Early Years Foundation Stage**, which sets the
standards for learning, development and care of children from birth to five.

Both Pre-School are registered with **Ofsted** and have received
good reports

For more information please call in to the Pre-Schools or
contact the Early Years Officer on 01325 319880

ST. OSWALD'S PRE-SCHOOL

St. Oswald's Park, Wren Close, Newton Aycliffe

OPEN DAY

TUESDAY, 17TH AUGUST 2010



11.00AM TO 2.00PM

Come along and have a look around our Pre-School
to see what we can offer you and your child.



For more information please contact
Jackie Swainston on 01325 319880

LOCAL SKATERS IN TYNE TEES TOURNAMENT

Sisters Natasha Hall age 8 and Lucy Hall age 5 and their friend Megan Durham age 10, started artistic roller skating at Caprice

Roller Skating Club, one year ago, training every Saturday at Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon.

SUNDERLAND v DARLO

Darlington will be opening the stadium concourses early this weekend when the Quakers welcome their North-East Premier League neighbours Sunderland. The Black Cats come to the Northern Echo Arena this Saturday in Darlington's first pre-season friendly of the summer.

And due to the anticipated large crowd, Darlington are opening their concourses and bars 30 minutes earlier than normal, from 1.30pm. Tickets for Saturday's game are priced £10 adults and £5 concessions (senior citizens, Under-16s and students) and are available from the club now as well as on the day.

Meanwhile, Darlington fans can also watch Saturday's high-profile friendly in style with a range of exciting hospitality packages on offer. There's a range of corporate hospitality packages available to suit a range of fans, whether it's a company looking to wine and dine clients or reward employees, or a group of supporters looking to treat themselves!

The packages start from as little as £30 per person, and include various areas of the Arena, including the plush Platinum Lounge and the Ron Greener Suite. To book or to make an enquiry, call the sales team on 01325 387000 or email commercial@darlington-fc.net

Fourth Anniversary

Newton Aycliffe Spiritualist Church celebrated their Fourth Anniversary in June. We are hosting a Special Evening of Mediumship with Harry & Lillian O'Dell from Cumbria on Monday 19th July at The Agnew Community Centre, 7pm. £5 on the door. We would also like to announce that from Thursday 22nd July at 1.30pm there will be an Open Circle at the Community Centre, £2 donation at the door. All welcome. For further details www.newtonaycliffespiritualistchurch.co.uk or 01325 313654



Caprice Roller Skating Club winning Gold



Lucy, Natasha and Megan

They competed in their very first major competition, the annual Tyne Tees Tournament which was held 10th and 11th July at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre when clubs from all over the country competed. Natasha and Lucy won gold and silver in the Newcomers Event.

Lucy also won bronze in the 6 years and under event. Caprice also won Gold in the Club Show event where all skaters of Caprice put on a show based on Phantom of the Opera. Caprice Roller Skating Club welcomes new members, any age or standard every Saturday at 2.30pm at Sunnydale Leisure Centre.

Darts & Domino League Change

Aycliffe Darts & Dominoes League have changed the format for next season. Teams will now play 5 games of singles darts 3 games of pairs dominoes, 5 games of singles dominoes and 5 games of fives and threes singles dominoes. This means that a team can now comprise of only six players.

Any Licensed Premises wishing to join the league next season should attend the EGM to be held at the Navy Club on Tuesday 20th July at 8.00pm where they will be considered for election to the League. More details can be obtained from the league Chairman Brian Venables on 320130.

Some Councillors Shun Civic Events

Dear Sir,
After reading the letter in last weeks paper regarding the Mayors At Home function, I was taken aback that some Town Councillors had a low opinion of our Mayor yet attended this function and took home bags of cakes.

I can understand this person being shocked by this action and also their comments about Councillors having a bad reputation, but you cannot tarnish all with the same brush,

I know several who serve on the Council and do not attend any civic events as they would rather see the money put to better use, to benefit the people of the town and not just the few who choose to attend these functions,
Mrs. A. Smith
Horndale.

Letters to the Editor

Can We Afford This Level of Care?

Dear Sir,
Reflecting on the current need to cut costs to reduce the country's enormous debt I was drawn to an instance which bears investigation.

I live near a bungalow which has been purchased and converted to house a disabled person. I notice three staff in attendance 24 hours a day and if you calculate the cost of the house and the salaries of all these professional people, it is colossal.

Whilst I agree with the policy of accommodating disabled people within the community there has to be a limit and a sensible economic approach especially when NHS funds are stretched to the limit.

Concerned
Name & address supplied.

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Tel: 01388 770645

E-mail:
redworthhall.hrmanager@barcelo-hotels.co.uk
www.barcelo-hotels.co.uk

Historic Bus Carries "Newtonian" Logo



Dear Sir,
I could not let your feature about the roots of Newton News go by without commenting on the title "The Newtonian". The Aycliffe & District Bus Preservation Society is the owner of a bus NDL769G which ran on the town in the 70's before it was replaced by United's Road Ranger.

In 1998 the bus was repainted in the red/white/blue colours of "The Newtonian" shown in the photograph. We now know where the logo came from, which must be unique as the graphic designer who copied it to put on the bus had to draw it from scratch as it was not a standard typeface.

The Society offers this historic bus to local groups and organisations for display and demonstration. Please phone myself, Ian Wiggett, Secretary, for further details 01325 317657.

"Saturday Night Live"

THE TURBINIA

*** Saturday Night Live ***
The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge

Saturday 17th July - "Something Real"
Jenny Lang, Steve Miller, Cream, Police, Tom Petty and The Cult were all played in the 1st half, great banter between Gary and this lot and a big plus to the frontman the way he connected with them, 2nd half and its my turn to be pleased because by now the pub's pretty full and they're in time to hear, Aerosmith, Clapton, Kings of Leon (not just sex on fire for a change) Free and Thin Lizzy amongst others, so many songs to remember really, so vast is this bands list of covers that they play. So what you've got with something real is an all round great rock covers band that's sure to liven up any venue and 5 guys that will play something that most audiences will appreciate, what something real brought here was a winning formula of covers that works really well, you only had to hear the crowd at the end of their gig to know that - www.somethingreal.org.uk

Saturday 24th July - "This Machine"
The ROAD RUNNERS were formed on 25/11/89 by 5 local musicians. Two of the band (lead vocal & bassist) came from the legendary Black River Band. They are a 5 piece band playing Rocky up-tempo R&B. Set includes tracks by: Rolling Stones, Free, Cream, ZZ Top, Joe Cocker, Tots, Humble Pie, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Robben Ford, Van Morrison, JJ Cale, Spencer Davis, Stevie Wonder and many others. Classic Rock, R&B, Rock n Roll, Soul/Funk
www.myspace.com/roadrunnersuk

Saturday 31st July - "1 0 1"
For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk
or 313034 Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

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waterways@talktalk.net

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Newton Press 300212

Free Courses on Cooking

Greenfield Community and Arts Centre are hosting 2 new FREE courses, delivered by the NHS. The first is 'Cooking Together'. Three, 90 minutes sessions for families and children aged 5 to 11, learning about cooking and preparing healthy meals on a budget. Sessions are all 1pm to 2.30pm 28/07/10, 04/08/10 and 11/08/10. The second Course is Cook4Life and is a course for adults who live with long term conditions such as diabetes, chronic heart disease, high blood pressure etc. Four, 2 hour courses will cover all aspects of healthy eating, food safety and how to cook on a budget. Sessions are all 1pm to 3pm 02/08/10, 09/08/10, 16/08/10 and 23/08/10. To book your place contact 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk view www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

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CLEAN-UP BLITZ AT GREENFIELD

A community clean-up got under way in Newton Aycliffe this week. Residents joined council and housing officers, police and neighbourhood wardens in an inspection of the Greenfield Way area of the town.

It is the first of six clean-ups to take place in the town up to March next year. The inspection, involved around 600 houses and looked at environmental and neighbourhood problems, including dog fouling and untidy gardens. As part of the "Altogether Greener" partnership approach, residents were joined by representatives from Sedgefield Borough Homes, Durham County Council's clean and green team, civic pride officers and neighbourhood wardens, and Durham Police.

It followed a collection between 10.30am and 2pm on Tuesday, July 13, of unwanted furniture for recycling by County Durham Furniture Help Scheme, which will collect, refurbish and sell on the furniture. Refuse vehicles were on hand to help in the clean up efforts and Greenfield Way

residents were encouraged to dispose of unwanted household items to help reduce fly tipping. Businesses in the area signed up to Tidy Business Standards, a national award scheme which encourages them to minimise waste and improve the local environment, while Tidy Ted, the county council's Altogether Greener mascot, will visit primary schools in the area to promote cleaner communities.

Oliver Sherratt, head of Direct Services said: "We all have a responsibility to help care for our neighbourhoods. Clean ups like this are a great opportunity for communities to come together, alongside organisations that serve them, and make a real difference to where we live.

"This is one of a series of similar activities, at least 14 over the coming months, in each of the 14 Area Action Partnership Areas which will collectively make a really positive impact across our county." The clean-up has been funded by Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Action Partnership and Sedgefield Borough Homes.

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Lib Dems Will Curb Tory Excesses

Dear Sir,
Although I do not necessarily agree with their flawed analysis, I have the greatest respect for local Labour Party die-hards, Councillor John Clare and Arun Chandran. Unlike many of their Labour Party colleagues they have a view and are willing and able to express it, through the

columns of the Newton News. The silence of so many of our elected representatives, both Labour and Independent, in seeking to express 'no view' on such as the closure of Shafto House, is proof-positive that the Coalition Government's decision to strip councillors absolutely of the Cloak of Convenience, behind which they hide, re Predisposition, is most timely.

As Arun Chandran correctly pointed out, Predisposition, did not prevent them from expressing a view, all along the chain of the decision-making process. It was just that they would rather not have a view! County Councillors must always express a view - why else do we pay them between £300 and £500 pound a week?

As for PR, AV and a fairer voting system, the British public will decide on that, in a referendum, in May 2011, with no 'if's' or 'buts'. Do our Labour Party friends remember the word 'referendum'? It is what was promised - then cynically denied it to the British public - by the last Labour Government, re the ceding of further powers to the EU, in The Lisbon Treaty. Following the result of the last General Election, all Party promises and wishes became redundant. Two political parties

had to pool their resources and their differences, to map out a programme of recovery, that the Labour Party knew was desperately needed, but had been unwilling or unable to carry out.

We will court unpopularity, possibly for over three years. But such are the demands of the global economy and the sharp knives of speculators in the money markets, that their was a real danger that inaction would bring further catastrophe to the British economy. The Labour Party always seems to know the answers to every problem - when in opposition! Unfortunately, these promises and answers crumble to dust, when they are in power!

I do not agree with every policy propounded by the Coalition Government. But, judge us on results, in May 2015. We as Lib Dems will curb the excesses of the Tories and in time, bring in many of the social policies, promised but not delivered by the Labour Party. Perhaps by then the wisdom of the British public in saying, a plague on all your houses, will mean that the Lib Dems will be the natural party of government, as we help rebuild our proud nation.

Derek G Atkinson.
Liberal Democrat Party

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TOUGH ON IMMIGRATION

Dear Sir,
What a brilliant letter published last week in the Newton News "Aussies Get Tough with Immigrants". I have discussed this with many people, family, friends and acquaintances. All were in total agreement with the author of this letter. It is high time our Government took the same action as the Australians. British people will one day rebel against being second class citizens in their own country.
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or 07790 702123

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR WORKPLACE

The Learning Development Team at The Work Place, Newton Aycliffe have won an award in recognition of their work with Tees Valley students for their innovative and interactive activities introducing learners to a range of career opportunities available in the NHS and healthcare sector. The Aimhigher Tees Valley Awards took place on Monday 5 July 2010 at the Wynyard Rooms and the team won an award in the Aimhigher Activity Category for their work with Year 10 and Year 12 Tees Valley students in the HealthTec, an innovative healthcare learning zone.

This work has involved four year 10 healthcare carousel events and two year 12 healthcare conferences, with up to 100 students at each event. Events were supported by a number of different health professionals and higher education institutions, with the aim to:

HIGHLIGHT the variety of opportunities available within healthcare sectors and increase understanding of career



options
RAISE awareness of the range of Further Education/Higher Education (vocational and academic) progression routes into these careers.
ENCOURAGE and motivate young people to consider.

RAISE aspirations and encourage students to reach potential.

Sarah Worsnop, Learning Development Co-ordinator said, "It is fantastic to be recognised for what we do, but we couldn't do it without the support and commitment we receive from our volunteer health professionals." HealthTec is a national

initiative and a partnership between education and the Health Service. HealthTec @ The Work Place is an exciting and innovative learning zone equipped with an ambulance, hospital ward, patient simulator dummies, old age simulation suits, health measurement equipment and much more. HealthTec enables students to work with healthcare professionals on activities developed to support a number of curriculum areas.

For more information about HealthTec please contact Kirsty Coates on (01325) 375983 or visit www.twpa.org.uk

SHAFTO HOUSE CLOSURE

Dear Sir,
Following the article in last weeks Newton News about the closure of Shafto House the report from the Labour group meeting has now been published on the web and is available to

all Cabinet members, who vote by consensus, meaning that the outcome of the Cabinet meeting on 21st July is a foregone conclusion. After all, which Labour Cabinet member is brave enough to vote against the party?

The report recommends the closure of all seven care homes including our own Shafto House.

It is interesting to note that our

Mayor voted for the closure which shows just how much she really cares for the people of the Town when party politics are involved.

Perhaps those who voted for the closure will search their consciences when the elderly residents are ill or perhaps even die from the stress they are about to undergo.

Yours sincerely,
George M. Dutch

Town Council Provide Fun in the Parks

School Holidays will soon be here so don't forget to enjoy the Town Council's Fun in the Parks events twice weekly throughout the period. See next week's issue for dates and venues, or call the Sports Complex on 01325 300600 for information on this and other holiday activities available.

BRITISH TOO MEEK & MILD

Dear Sir
With reference to the letter in Newton News last week, I entirely agree with what the Australian Prime Minister said. I have received the same article as an e-mail from different people, so it shows there are many out there that think the same.

The trouble with being British is we don't shout out loud enough when we disagree with anything, we just grumble among ourselves.

This year is the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Many of our young men and women fought and died to keep this island free. Are we going to let it be taken over subversively or are we going to take a leaf out of Australia's book and do something about it?

I am not a member of the BNP just a concerned British subject.

AA
Name & address supplied
Editor: We received many comments similar to this with none supporting an alternative view.

Future of Care Homes to be Discussed

Councillors will be asked to consider the future of seven local authority care homes when they meet next week.

Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked to approve proposals to close the council-owned premises at a public meeting on Wednesday, 21 July.

The sites being discussed are Manor House, Annfield Plain; Glendale House, Blackhall; Lynwood House, Lanchester; Shafto House, Newton Aycliffe; Hackworth House, Shildon; Stanfield House, Stanley; and East Green, West Auckland. The recommendation to close the homes follows an extensive consultation with residents and their families, carers, staff and trade unions, the public and stakeholders on the proposals earlier this year.

Cllr Morris Nicholls, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for adult services, said: "We appreciate this is a highly emotive topic and would like to assure everyone involved that it is not something we approached lightly.

"Members and officers have been looking at this for 12 months before reaching a point where we are ready to identify a way forward.

"Part of this work involved undertaking a consultation, during which we received a lot of responses. We would like to thank everyone who took part for their comments and feedback. The consultation has clearly demonstrated the strength of feeling among a range of people.

"However, Cabinet members are being asked to balance the responses with a wide range of factors, including the drop in demand for residential care places, the desire among older people to stay in their homes for longer and the cost implications of continuing to provide in-house care. This is at a time when finance is increasingly under pressure with the council facing significant reductions in funding over the next few years."

Cabinet will hear that average occupancy rates for council-run homes, including residents with short-term needs, between 1 May, 2009 and 30 April, 2010 was 64.5 per cent.

Private sector homes in the county, meanwhile, have sufficient capacity to offer a wide choice of homes for all those who require residential care, with about 1,000 beds available at any time.

Members will also be told that it will cost £3.4m over the next three years for essential repairs and running costs to the seven homes.

The bill for updating the homes so that they comply with disability law requirements and are in line with privately-run establishments would be considerably more.

The report also states that the needs, comfort and safety of residents are of prime concern. And should a decision be made to close the seven homes, great care will be taken to minimise and manage any disruption to residents.



Recently the town's Rotary Club were given a tour of John Wade's Recycling Centre at Aycliffe Quarry. After an introductory talk by a Director of the Company the members viewed the various recycling processes including wood, metal, garden waste, building materials and tyres. They were impressed by the cleanliness and efficiency of the operation and the benefit in jobs and services it brings to our area.

John Wade (Haulage) Ltd and Stonegrave Aggregates Ltd are part of the John Wade Group of Companies who operate from Aycliffe Quarry, Aycliffe, situated strategically close to the A1M. They offer a wide range of services to individuals and companies both large and small based predominantly around their quarrying and tipping facilities at Aycliffe Quarry.

Starting out as a small family business in the 1970s the business has grown rapidly and now employs over 120 operatives and technical workers complimented by 20 full time office and site staff.

John Wade still enjoys actively running the business and can be found at the helm passing on the benefits of his experience to all aspects of the company.

Strawberry Tea Down by the River

St. Andrews Church in Aycliffe Village is holding a Strawberry Teas event by the River on Sunday 18th July from 3p.m. If it raining the event will be held in the Village Hall. The cost is £3 and everyone is welcome.

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

A Sponsored Family Cycle Ride (not a Race) is organised for Sunday 15th August at 1.30pm along Great Aycliffe Way starting from opposite Stephenson Way School. Booking required. On Saturday 7th August, 10am - 1pm we hold a sale of Baby & School clothing, Baby equipment and Toys. Tables are available at £6 to sell your unwanted items. Ring to Book. Learn to play on the Wii machine as a family starting with bowling. Any Thursday 6 - 7pm. £2 per family. Booking required. Family New Age Kurling any Sunday afternoon 2-4pm. £5 per family. Booking is essential, instruction given. Table Tennis by appointment every Tuesday 10-12noon. Ferryhill Town Band entertains on Sunday 22nd August at 3pm. Admission £3 for Adults, Seniors £2 and children Free! To book and enquire any of the above ring 313924.

5 STAR RATING FOR INDIAN TAKEAWAY



Eastern Spice the oldest established Indian takeaway in the town received a 5 star award for quality health and hygiene from Durham County Council, the first to do so in Newton Aycliffe. Owned and run by Shuhel Ahmed and family, the Takeaway is part of the Spice Island group, with restaurants in Barnard Castle and Shildon. The Takeaway offers online ordering through their website www.easternspice.net plus other companies, www.just-eat.co.uk & www.munchmonkey.com

YOUNG STARS PACK FOR THE WEST END



Here are 10 of the 12 Stagecoach students who will be appearing at the Victoria Palace Theatre, in London's West End this coming Sunday evening (July 18th). Included in the group is Anabelle Crosby from Woodham returning to the West End where she played Debbie for a year in the Billy Elliot Show. They are appearing in the national Billy Youth Theatre Showcase as one of the final 14 groups out of the original 115 who started the project. They will be performing the 'Born to Boogie' number in

the show, which will include the four current professional Billy Elliot actors in its finale, singing together with the guest Billies.

The project was launched to celebrate the fifth Anniversary of the stage show and has been a very moving experience for the producers of the show to see their work reinvented by lots of young people all over the country.

They are packing to leave for London from Thursday onwards and then rushing back on Monday morning to go into final rehearsals for their own public performances of 'Billy Elliot' which starts at Darlington Arts Centre on Tuesday 20th July until Friday 23rd. Trudy Hindmarsh, principal of Stagecoach Darlington and Yarm, said "We have been so busy with our own rehearsals for our shows that the excitement about the West End has had to go on hold until this week. But now it is really sinking in that it will be a 'once-in-a-lifetime' experience for us all and we feel so honoured to have been chosen." For further information contact Stagecoach Darlington and Yarm on 01325 337667 or 0773 6164616

Bring Back Free Swimming

Dear Sir
I am writing to complain about the Government getting rid of free swimming in Newton Aycliffe and elsewhere. I think we should start a campaign to stop this happening as in the long run it will cost more! The NHS will have to spend more on fat people to keep them healthy and if kids are swimming they are off the street and not breaking the law or drinking. Wouldn't it be easier and cheaper just to keep free swimming? Do I have the Newton News support on this? I am writing to the council as well as our local M.P. Thomas Twissell
Teenager

Ed: This young person's point of view is well thought out and we do support his right to be heard. Unfortunately there are lots of similar false economies in this world where there appears to be a lack of common sense.

Lost & Found

STILL MISSING sin Friday 2nd July All white cat with large bushy upright tail (Byerley Park area). Please, please check your shed or garage, much loved pet to owners and Grandson (microchipped). Reward offered for safe return. Tel 314276

Obituary

SCOTT on 12th June, peacefully at St Teresa's Hospice. Jane, aged 84 years. Beloved partner of Tony, much loved Mam of Adam and Jodie, loving Step-Mam of Jessica and a devoted Nanna to Madelyn, Macie and Isabelle. Funeral Service to take place at St Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Tuesday 20th July at 1.30pm, prior to interment at West Cemetery. Friends please meet at Church. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to be made at the Iron Horse after the Service in aid of St Teresa's Hospice.

Accommodation

- 1 BEDROOM** Sheltered accommodation Flat, over 55 or disabled in Woodham. Contact 01325 320837 or 07747 004991
- 2 BEDROOM** house to let, Shildon. Lounge/diner, double glazing, central heating, close to centre. Benefits welcome. Tel 07798 860593
- 3 BEDROOM** large house, garden yard, neutrally decorated, double glazed, new bathroom, GCH, nice area of Windlestone, Chilton. Bond £300, rent £95 pw, one months rent in advance. Tel 316083
- HANDING** back the keys? Before you do, call Carol, your local property investor. 01325 520820
- 3 BEDROOM** house to rent Bates Close from 2nd August. £105 per week. Bond required. Tel 307445
- 3 BEDROOM** house to rent, Mackenzie Place, £105 per week. Bond required. Tel 307445
- 3 BEDROOM** house, old part of town, large garden. £120 per week. Contact Heather 07882 440377
- 3 BEDROOM** maisonette, Newton Aycliffe, GCH, double glazing, Sat TV, Broadband, £100 per week with Bond, no smoking, no pets, no DSS. Tel 07736 104698
- 3 BEDROOM** large modern house with garage and gardens, Oakfield area. No pets or smokers, bond and references required. £495pcm, vacant end of July. Tel 01325 717915 or 07578 081905
- 2 BEDROOM** compact bungalow, fully furnished, private parking, suit single professional, quiet location on Woodham, no pets, non smoking, no DSS. £550pm, available from 14th August. Tel 01325 321905 or 07974 910090
- 3 BEDROOM** house in Alston Walk and Honister Place. Terrace house to let. Bond £200 + Rent £400 pcm. DSS or professional welcome. Tel 07900 430200
- 1 BEDROOM** house in School Aycliffe, bond £500 + one month rent in advance £500. No bills to pay, fully furnished, professionals only. Tel 07900 430200

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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
BLACKPOOL. A welcome awaits at Holmelea. B&B from £20. OAP weeks from £105 BBEM. Reductions for child. All ensuite, parties welcome. www.bpoolhotel.com. Tel 01253 346411

Births

STEVE & YVONNE congratulations and well done, our first Grandson "Ben". Love from Mam, Dad, Uncle Paul, Auntie Laura, Uncle Anthony, Auntie Marris and Cousin Olivia

Birthday Remembrance

PAUL STEVENS 20th July. Flowers and love are all we can give, these are yours for as long as we live. With an ache in our hearts we whisper low, "happy 40th birthday Paul, we love you so". In our thoughts always. Mam and Dad xxx
DEAR PAUL No poems, no words made up, just a simple message and a light for you. Missing you Brother. Happy 40th. Wish you were still here. Love always, Julie
TO JIM Happy birthday for 17th July. Miss you every day. All my love, Helen

For Sale

BARGAIN BUYS Take-Away Deal: new autowasher, A energy class, full manufacturers guarantee, £189 boxed and in stock, ready to load into your car boot. Tel 321 678
PALLETS and Pallet toppers first come first served. Free, call at Newton Press M-F, 9am-4pm
LINE 6 Spyder II amp, £200 (good condition). Tel 07717 787123
TAMRON 70-200 F2.8 lens, Canon fit, mint condition, £500. Tel 07860 280915
BRAND NEW double divan with fully quilted mattress, can deliver, £120. Tel 07789 113 343
LITTLE TIKES Country Cottage playhouse, full height door, 4 windows with shutters, interior: pretend sink and stove top, very good condition, £60. Tel 07876 344498
MOBILITY Scooter, Sterling Diamond, 8mph in black, less than 2 years old, excellent condition, includes wet-weather cape, can deliver locally. £1500 new, accept £500 ono. Tel 301930 (Woodham) 07811 782556
WHEELCHAIR Invacare Alu Lite in blue. Manual, lightweight and easily folded for transport, includes padded cushion, excellent condition, hardly used, £60. Tel 301930 (Woodham) or 07811 782556
ADULT TRIKE 5 gears, GC, £250 ono; 4 wheeled mobility scooter, fits car boot, £350 ono; Mobility walker brakes, 4 wheels and seat, £45 ono; All weather canopy, used once, fits large 4 wheel scooter, £250 ono. Tel 07775 582298
PAIR OF Mission 763 stereo speakers + QED cables, teak finish, H30" x W10" x D12½", £40; Pair of Technics SB-C250 stereo speakers, walnut finish, H14½" x W9½" x D8", £20. Tel 01325 312895
BEIGE RISER recliner chair in excellent condition, £200. Tel 01325 319321
NEED An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel. 321678.

Congratulations

SOL CAMERON Happy 9th birthday to our special soldier. Love, Mam and Dad
SOL CAMERON Happy 9th birthday Bro. Love, Bekah and Jamie
SOL CAMERON Happy birthday. Love, Carrie, Cazzy and Ben
SARAH CHARLTON Happy birthday. Love, Angela and kids
JOEY AINSLIE Happy 1st birthday. Love from your big Cousin, Laura xx
JOEY AINSLIE Happy 1st birthday. Love from Gran Jean and Steve
JOEY AINSLIE Happy 1st birthday. Love, Auntie Max, Uncle John, Jack and Harry
JOEY AINSLIE Happy 1st birthday Son. Lots of love, Mammy and Daddy xx
JOEY AINSLIE Happy birthday little Bro. Lots of love, Gabie and Charlotte xx
CANT & BELL Gavin and Joanne, congratulations on your Wedding Day. Best wishes for your future, all our love always, Mam, Derek, David and Kim xxx
PALLISER John and Melanie. Have a wonderful day at your Wedding Blessing on the 17th and Christening of Saxon Callum, Kane and Jake Palliser and happy 30th birthday Melanie
ERIN Happy 1st birthday to our beautiful Granddaughter. Lots of love and cuddles, Nana, Granda and Auntie Ashley xxx
ERIN MCWILLIAM Happy 1st birthday to our gorgeous Granddaughter. Lots of love and kisses, Grandma, Grandad, Uncle Ross, Auntie Rachael and Uncle Carlos xxx
ALEX CRAWLEY 16-7-1984. To my wonderful Husband. Happy birthday. Love, Sam xx
ALEX CRAWLEY To the best Daddy in the world. Happy birthday. Love, Jayden, Saul and Tyler xxx

Thank You

THANK YOU to my Daughter's Adele and Julie, thank you so much for organising the celebration of my 80th birthday. My thanks also to the rest of my family who came together to make it such a special and happy occasion. Lots of love, Mam
ACORN PLUMBING Many thanks for a job well done, we would recommend you to anyone. Clean, efficient and friendly. H & J Dixon

In Memoriam

ANGELA FLEMING (nee Hillary). 20-7-2009. Life is but a moment, death that moment ends. We were wise to spend our moment well. Loving memories of our life together. Bob
ANGELA FLEMING 20th July 2009. A very special Step Mam and Loving Nan. In our hearts you will always stay, loved and remembered every day. Love as always. Lisa, Keith, Laura and Ellie
LAWRENCE BRUMWELL Died 15th July 1987. Always remembered and forever loved. God bless, Jeannette, Owen and Carl
JENNY Thinking of you - your friend, Helen
DEREK POSKETT Died 16th July 2002. Treasured memories of a dearly loved Brother and Uncle. Remembered always, Sandra, Michael and Gemma xxx
DEREK POSKETT Died 16th July 2002. Treasured memories of a special Brother and Uncle. Remembered always with love from Susan, Michelle, Kevin, Lisa and families

Louise Sanderson

Happy 18th Birthday
Lots of love from
Nana and Grandad

Kaye Huot
(nee Hindmarch)

Happy 50th Birthday
22nd July
Now living in the USA.
Love from Son Mike, Mam
and Grandson Jaxson xxx

Erin McWilliam

Happy 1st Birthday
to my gorgeous little
girl. Love you lots, from
Mammy and Gaffa xxx
Happy 1st Birthday
to our beautiful little Sister
"Squidge". Lots of love,
your big Brothers, Jay and
Parker xxx

Ellice Orr

18 TODAY
16th July 1992
Have a wonderful birthday.
Love always, Mam, Ian,
James, Sophie and Jack
xxx
Happy 18th birthday
Ellice. Love you always
from Nana Pat, Grandpa
Bill and Uncle Stephen xxx
To a wonderful Niece on
her special birthday. Love
you lots from Auntie Jacky,
Uncle Darren, Louis and
Owen xxx

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CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe's first team suffered a heavy 113 run defeat at home to Hunwick in the top division of the North East Durham league. Asked to bat first, Hunwick racked up an impressive 248 in their 45 overs despite four wickets from Aycliffe's David Turgoose. In reply the homeside were bowled out for 135 with the main contributions coming from Chris Palmer (23) and Luke Telford (20 not out). The second team also lost away at near neighbours Coundon by 69 runs in their third division clash. Four wickets from 15 year old Joe Haines could not stop the homeside scoring 187 for 8 in their 40 overs. In reply, Aycliffe could only muster 118 for 7 on a deteriorating wicket, with 15 year old Daniel Weldon top scoring with a gritty unbeaten 34. Newton Aycliffe's under 18's lost a high scoring game away at Willington by just 15 runs in the Durham County League. Chasing an improbable 174

for victory Aycliffe's Ross Dixon smashed a brilliant career best 93 to Aycliffe genuine hope, but it wasn't quite enough as Aycliffe fell just short of their target. The under 15's had an excellent 89 run victory at home to Beamish. Batting first, Aycliffe Captain Daniel Weldon hit eight boundaries as he reached his second unbeaten half century of the season and with good support from James Clarke (26) the home side set a new under 15's club record by scoring 148 for 5 in their 20 overs. In reply the visitors were bowled out for just 59 with Aycliffe's Matt Bussey leading the way, taking 3 wickets for just 6 runs. The best result of the weekend was by the under 13's who won away at Hartlepool by 14 runs after all excellent all round team performance. However special mention must go to Thomas Wickens and Ben Nicholson, who scored 17 and 15 respectively and Jack Petroczy who took 2 wickets.

Music in Town Centre

International musicians will take to the streets of Newton Aycliffe this weekend as part of Durham County Council's Streets of Brass Festival. It's hoped the festival will encourage members of the public to visit the town centre and Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Action Partnership (GAMP) has worked with the council's arts team to provide funding to help the event go ahead. Visitors will be entertained by a range of international brass bands along with local band Mute Antz, who will cause a stir

with a colourful performance dressed in ants heads. Horn Dogs is just one of the many diverse, international acts taking part along with French band Les Bobs. Music based workshops for young people will take place across the weekend with an events management course getting youngsters involved in the business side of things, as part of the festival, at Greenfield Art and Community College. The Streets of Brass festival takes place across the town centre on Saturday July 17 from 11.00am. More information on the festival is available from: www.brassfestival.co.uk

POPULAR TEACHER "MR MAC" RETIRES

At the end of this term Walworth School will sadly say farewell to a very popular and much respected teacher. Keith McClelland, or "Mr Mac" to the children, started at Walworth in 1992 and in that time has taught mostly in the upper school. For many of the 18 years Keith has been at Walworth he has served as Teacher representative on the Governing body. The Chair of Governors, Mr Matthew Robson, described Mr McClelland as "a very proactive member of the Governors who took his role very seriously and was very instrumental in making the school a good school through some difficult periods in the past". Peter Wallbanks. Headteacher, said "Keith was always a very dedicated teacher having the children at the centre of all that he did, and it was very pleasing to see several of the children he taught in previous years return before he left. Keith always brought a large amount of humour to the school and took much ribbing about his beloved Hartlepool United, being born and bred in Hartlepool". The Governors, children and all staff, past and present, would like to wish "Mr Mac" a long and happy retirement.

Remember This at Election Time

Dear Sir, Having read the letter from Kenneth Stubbs in last week's Newton News I once again find myself having to write to show my utter contempt for the Councillors of Newton Aycliffe, namely Mike Dixon, Enid Paylor, Joan Gray, and Dorothy Bowman who all voted to close Shafto House. The abstention to vote by Sarah Iverson was not that much better (only a lack of commitment either way). These people, along with Councillors in the recent past who voted to give away our open areas are an utter disgrace to our town. I would like the electorate to remember this behaviour because in the not too distant future these same people will be knocking on doors looking for support for re-election to very lucrative jobs. One last question I would ask is, when are they going to do something for the people of this town, instead of paying lip service to the Labour Party in County Hall? T. Spellman

BOOK REVIEWED

James Robinson of Bewick Crescent has published his latest book on astronomical meteorite falls in the British Isles. The book is reviewed in the Observatory Magazine - August issue. In addition to the book James has also published a companion volume on Pseudo Meteoric Events. The two books are the result of 4 years research and are considered to offer the most comprehensive data on the subject. The books can be purchased on line via Priceminister.com

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SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT LIBRARY

The following is a list of the activities the Library will be running throughout the summer. The crafts are space-themed to tie in with the Summer Reading Challenge. All activities are charged at 50p and it is advisable to book as places are limited. More information is available from the Library (01325 312856)
27th July, 10am Make a Martian, Age 4+
27th July 2pm Liz Million Children's illustrator, Age 8+
3rd August 10:30am Space Diorama, Age 7+
10th August, 2pm Charlie the Magician Space Magic Show, Age 3+
17th August, 10:30am Make a Rocket, Age 7+
20th August, 2pm Make a Flying Saucer, Age 4+
24th August 10am Make a Star, Age 4+
Also we are looking at running a poetry competition through the summer holidays, Ask at the library for more details. The summer Reading Challenge this year is the Space Hop and is tied into the Library's crafts and activities. Children entering the reading challenge will receive a poster, stickers, and a space spinner, and after reading SIX books they will also get a wristband, certificate and medal. The Reading Challenge begins on the 19th July.



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