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CAMPAIGN TO BRING HITACHI TO AYCLIFFE GAINS MOMENTUM

M.P. Starts Petition to Present to Parliament

Local people, businesses, trade organisations, and unions have come out to back the campaign to see Hitachi come to Newton Aycliffe. If the Government goes ahead with the Intercity Express Programme, Hitachi will build the new carriages in at a purpose built factory in Newton Aycliffe, bringing 800 skilled jobs, with thousands more in the supply chain.

The factory will be a great opportunity for the town. However, the Government has seen fit to roll the programme into the Comprehensive Spending Review which will announce in October whether the programme will go ahead or not. Our MP, Phil Wilson, has started a campaign to raise the importance of the programme to Newton Aycliffe and the North East. The North East Chamber of Commerce, Northern TUC, Durham County Council, UNITE and the County Durham Development Company have all come out in support of the campaign. They are busy producing a report which will show the economic benefits of Hitachi moving to the North East. A petition has been produced

which Phil Wilson intends to present to Parliament. The petition on Page 7 can be signed and handed in at Phil Wilson's office in the town centre, Newsforce and Walkers Butchers at Simpasturegate. Any other business or shop who would like to take part in the campaign please contact Phil Wilson's office on 321603.



Aerial view of factory and link to Railway

County Council Ignore Public Opinion

Dear Sir,
I attended the meeting of Durham County Council Cabinet, where they voted to close all seven of the remaining Council run

Phil Wilson said: "Hitachi coming to Newton Aycliffe would be a great boost to the town and the North East. We need to all work together to ensure the Government hears loud and clear that the local economy would really benefit from the jobs and skills that would come to the area. It is an opportunity not to be missed."

homes in the county. Despite all the petitions, response forms, emails and letters all of which were overwhelmingly in favour of keeping the homes open, the cabinet took absolutely no notice at all and went ahead with this unpopular decision. I thought we lived in a democracy which means the views of the people are taken into consideration. I realise the Council has to save money but why are one of the most vulnerable groups of people in our society being made to pay the price? May I through your newspaper, thank Councillor Moran for his support in voting against the closure and as for the rest who voted for closure, or abstained - hang your heads in shame.
Ann Dryden

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24th July 2010, 11.00am - 3.00pm
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- Bouncy Castle
- Face Painting
- Burger Van
- Rides
- Tombola
- Cake Stall

AND MUCH MORE!

We are also inviting you to the chance of have a look around the nursery and the facilities we are offering. Please feel free to take a look!

Openings times: Monday to Thursday 7.30am - 6.00pm
Friday 7.30am - 5.00pm

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Voucher must be presented at the time of the eye examination. Valid until 31st July 2010

Call In or Phone For Your Appointment

4 Cobblers Hall Village Centre
Burn Lane, Newton Aycliffe
Tel: 01325 319922

4 Church Street
Cushoe, Co. Durham
Tel: 0191 377 0227

Bert the Flying Dog Entertains Students



Dear Sir,
I am sending you a picture

of one of our border collies called Bert, who since being a pup has always loved to jump over gates, walls etc, the higher the better! Part of our daily routine is to let him jump over various obstacles, which he is doing in this picture. We walk past Byerley Park School where he has many fans who encourage him by cheering on their way home after school. They like Bert so much they have asked me if you could put a picture of Bert in the paper. Steve (the man with the flying dog!)

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CHEAPER TO HOUSE DISABLED PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY

Dear Syd,
As a disabled person living in Newton Aycliffe I was extremely concerned to read the letter headed 'Can We Afford This Level of Care' in your issue of July 16th.

The writer of this letter questioned the economics of allowing a severely disabled person to live in their community, supported with care 24/7, as against institutionalised care. Institutionalised care was not directly mentioned but presumably this would be the alternative envisaged by the writer.

I feel saddened that the writer should consider that a disabled person should be excluded from their community on the basis of pure economics.

I have always considered Aycliffe to be an inclusive and welcoming town, containing as it does the wonderful Pioneering Care Centre which has done so much to promote inclusivity for people with disabilities. I'm very concerned that an individual should feel they have the authority to question another person's right to live in the community, based on pure speculation.

In point of fact it is substantially cheaper for a person to live supported in their community than in institutionalised care. The most human and caring course of action is also the most economical, thankfully. The 1991 Community Care Act closed hospitals and

transferred care for patients into the community, because it was cheaper. (This was an Act instituted by a Conservative Government, remember.) You can be absolutely sure that the most economic course of action has already been chosen.

The original letter stated that a bungalow has been 'purchased and converted to house a disabled person'. Purchased by whom? It may have been purchased by that disabled person, perhaps funded by parents or a legacy. If purchased by the local authority the disabled person will be paying rent and the bungalow will be a valuable addition to social housing.

Regarding the salaries of the 'three staff in attendance 24 hours a day' quoted in the letter. I presume the writer means one member of staff present 24/7. Who would employ these carers if they were not employed by this disabled person? Would they all in fact be claiming jobseeker's allowance and council/housing tax benefits?

We're rapidly descending into a country of informers and malcontents. Why don't people go after tax cheats with the same tenacity they uncover 'facts' about disabled people? This country would be infinitely better off if the tax cheats were brought to book. However, I would not think of writing in to the local paper suggesting that one of my neighbours was a tax cheat.

I mentioned that I am disabled. That phrase might lead you to assume I do not work and exist on benefits. In point of fact I work both from home and in the community in a highly professional and demanding job and contribute significantly to the local and national economy via the taxes I pay. If you are tempted to write a letter based on pure assumption, think of how hurtful and inaccurate those assumptions might be. Then do your homework and write a letter based on facts. Disabled Resident

Gardens Guild

The Garden Guilds Hut at Clarence Chare will be closed for the month of August and the last day of opening is 25th July.

They will re-open on 5th September when Jap onions and the usual range of quality products will be on sale

STUDENTS GIFT FOR CARE HOME NEIGHBOUR

A group of Year 9 students from Woodham Community Technology College recently presented a wrought iron planter to residents of Defoe Court Nursing Home. The six students made the metal and plastic planter over a period of three months in their technology lessons with Mr. Crawford, teacher of Design Technology. Students developed their skills during the manufacturing process using tools such as a file, hammer and gas welder.

On completion, the planter was painted black and gold and filled with compost and busy lizzies. The residents from Defoe Court were invited to the college for an afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes prepared by the students and presented with the planter. The residents were thrilled to receive such a lovely gift.



Beatles Tribute Band at Aycliffe Show

Beatlemania, the North's top Beatles tribute band, plus sounds of the sixties and seventies from Suzanne Douglass will be a huge attraction on Sunday in the Playhouse Marquee at this year's Great Aycliffe Show. Beatlemania are now firmly established as one of the finest Beatle soundalike bands around, playing to ecstatic sell-out audiences all over the U.K. and Europe and on national television and radio. Beatlemania were formed in the North East in 1992 making their debut in 1994 at the annual Merseybeat Convention in, of course, Liverpool, playing an open air concert to a capacity crowd of Beatle fans from all over the world.

Since then, Beatlemania have gained such a high reputation that they are in constant demand nationwide. They have also appeared alongside The Merseybeats, Herman's Hermits, The Tornados and Gerry and the Pacemakers. Just in case you need reminding, the Show will be held on the showfield at the Oakleaf Sports Complex on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th August, between 11 am and 5 pm. Admission is free, with ample car parking available at £1 per car.

WIN CRICKET TICKETS

England face Pakistan in a NatWest Series One Day International at the Emirates Durham International Cricket Ground, The Riverside at Chester-le-Street on Friday, 10th September, and it's guaranteed to be a fantastic day out, with world class stars on show such as Paul Collingwood, Eoin Morgan, Stuart Broad and Shahid Afridi. For your chance to win a pair of tickets (two pairs of tickets up for grabs) to this exciting match, simply answer the question below:

Where is the Emirates Durham International Cricket Ground?

- A) Chester-le-Street
- B) Sunderland
- C) York

Send your entries to Newton Press Cricket Comp., St Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DX or enter online via our website at www.newtonnews.co.uk - do not forget to add your own name, address and telephone number. Closing date for entries is Friday 20th August 2010.

This is the only game of international cricket taking place in the North East this year, so make sure you don't miss out! For further information or to purchase tickets, please contact the Durham County Cricket Club Box Office on 0844 499 4466.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 8th Sept., 2010

Environment Committee - 7.15pm

Followed by Recreation Committee

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".

Great Aycliffe Town Council presents

FUN IN THE PARKS 2010

11.00am until 3.00pm

**FREE Fun Fair, Punch & Judy,
Balloon Modelling, Face Painting and Magic
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Come along and join the fun!**

Tuesday 27th July - Town Centre Park

Friday 30th July - Moore Lane Park +

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

Tuesday 3rd August - Aycliffe Village Park

Friday 6th August - Horndale Park

Tuesday 10th August - Simpasture Park

Friday 13th August - Woodham Park +

***New: Scavenger Hunt in the Woods, 12-1pm**

Tuesday 17th August - St Oswalds Park

Tuesday 24th August - West Park +

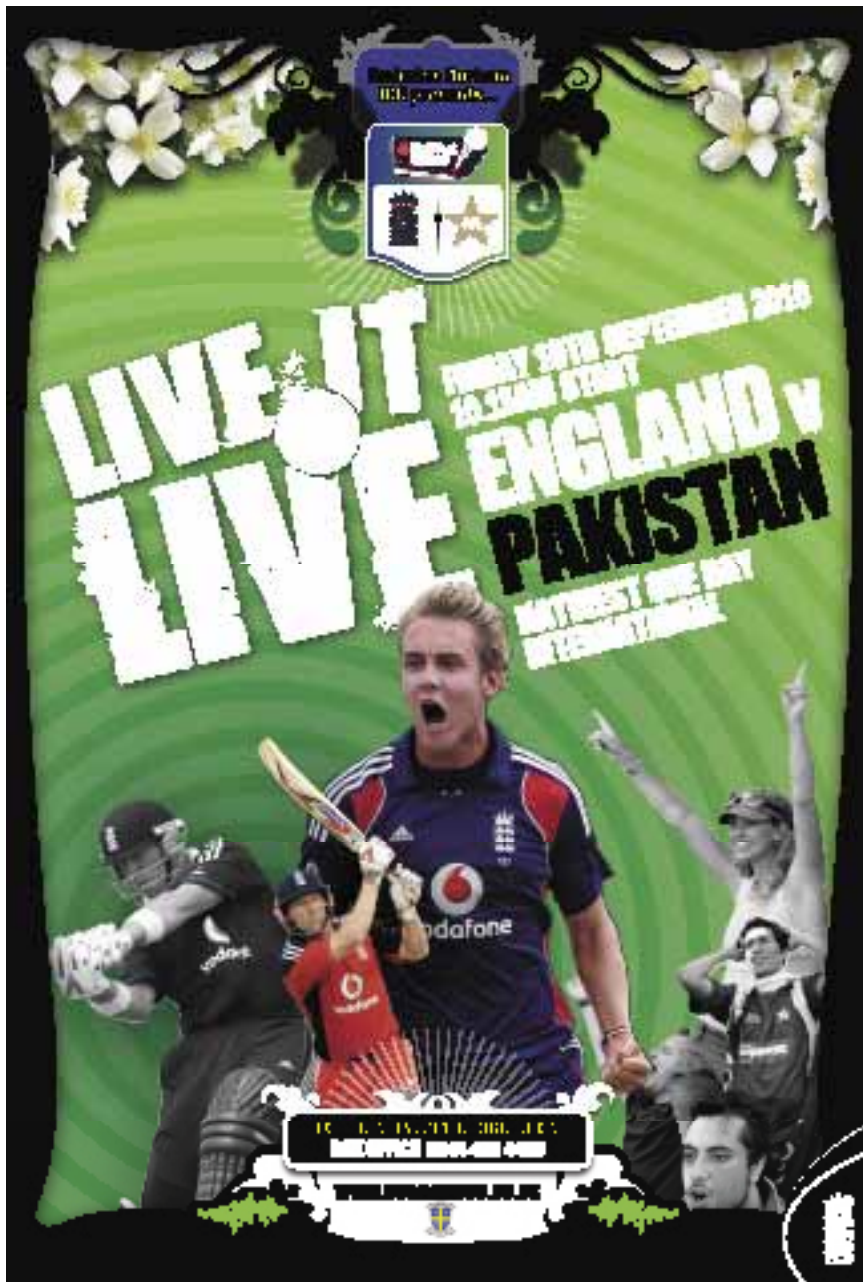
***New: Wild Flower Hunt, 12-1pm**

Friday 27th August - Town Centre Park

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



For more information Telephone 01325 300600



1000's MORE FEEL THE HEAT

Around 5,500 homes in County Durham are feeling the heat thanks to a grant of £6m to make them more energy efficient.

More privately owned or rented households are helped in the county by the government's Warm Front scheme, which is promoted by Durham County Council as part of its Warm Homes campaign, than anywhere else in the region.

Homes that qualify can get help for high efficiency boilers, central heating, cavity wall and loft insulation and draught proofing, to be installed.

Now the County Council wants even more people to apply for grant. Cllr Clive Robson, Cabinet member for



housing, said: "The county council's Warm Homes campaign promotes the Warm Front grant in 700 venues countywide to maximise the take up of this grant. "Warm Front can supply a free £3,500 grant for central

heating to those who qualify and the joint working between ourselves and Newcastle-based Eaga, who manage the scheme, has brought £6.2m of funding into the county in the last financial year," he said.

Erik Coates, Warm Front general manager at Eaga, said: "We are delighted that Warm Front has helped so many people in County Durham and we continue to look forward to working with the many strong partnerships across the county to ensure Warm Front is easily accessible to those who need it."

Anyone wanting to find out more about the Warm Front scheme should contact Durham County Council on 0191 527 0501 as soon as possible.

WOODHAM COLLEGE CELEBRATE 40th ANNIVERSARY



Woodham Community Technology College celebrated its 40th anniversary recently. Students from the first year group who started at the school in 1970, together with former staff, governors and members of the community enjoyed a buffet tea followed by a tour of the college. For many, it was an emotional experience, looking at old photographs and catching up with friends. Although remarkably unchanged from the outside, visitors are amazed by the level of technological investment in the college including over 300 pcs, interactive white boards and state-of-the-art CAD-CAM equipment. "The most hi-tech thing we had was an electric typewriter" commented one ex-student.

Principal Christine Forsyth says, "The class of 1970 were lucky to have brand new facilities. Let's hope that today's children can look forward to the same investment in their future".

"Bond" Girls Wanted for Casino Night

The Cobblers Hall Pub is holding a Charity Casino Night in aid of Daisychain their nominated charity, on Saturday 31st July at 7.30pm.

The night is based on a James Bond theme and customers are asked to dress up in tuxedos or cocktail dresses or if they want, as a Bond girl or a Bond baddie.

There will be two roulette tables and two black jack tables all with professional croupiers. The ticket price is £10.00 and this includes a free cocktail - canapés - funny money to use in the Casino and each ticket will be entered into a draw and the winner will get the opportunity to go on Spy Academy experience and become a Secret Agent for the day.

There is a raffle which will include a BMX bike, garden furniture, food & drink vouchers and a weekend stay in a Hotel. The pub would be grateful for any donations for the Raffle.

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FREE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

The Sports Complex still have limited availability on some free school holiday activities.

Monday 2nd August - Badminton & Bowls
Monday 9th August - Football and Golf
Monday 16th August - Volleyball and Team Games
Monday 23rd August - Table Tennis and

Rounders

All sessions run from 9.50am to 11.45am. Booking is essential so don't delay ring today - and ask us about the free pick up/drop off bus service:

For further information on any of the above sessions or to book your place, contact Reception on 01325 300600.

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE - *BACKING THE HIGH SPEED TRAIN*

To the House of Commons:

**THE PETITION OF RESIDENTS OF THE
SEDFIELD CONSTITUENCY AND OTHERS.**

Declares that the petitioners believe that the Government should implement the procurement of rolling stock through the Intercity Express Programme, which would lead to Hitachi building a manufacturing site in Newton Aycliffe, and further that this would result in the creation of hundreds of direct jobs and thousands of jobs in the supply chain, of which the majority would be in manufacturing, giving a much needed boost to the North East economy and improving rail services nationwide. The petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urges the government to implement the procurement of rolling stock through the Intercity Express Programme.



Phil Wilson MP

[illegible]

Please get as many signatures as possible and hand in to Newton Press Offices, St. Cuthberts Way or our agents Walkers Butchers, Simpasturegate or Newsforce in the Town Centre. you may also hand in at ou M.P.'s office in the Town Centre.

Free Family Countyside 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 on creatures with 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 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.

RUSTIC BIRD BOXES
Wednesday 4th August
Session 1: 10am- 12 noon
Session 2: 1.30pm- 3pm
Here's your chance to spend a few hours making bird boxes for our feathered friends with professional work worker Andrew Hall. Booking is essential as places are limited. Meet at Moore Lane Eco Centre. (To book your place please contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700).

PICTURE THIS
Friday 6th August, 1.30pm-3pm. Spend a few hours wandering around Aycliffe Nature Park and Simpature 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.

END OF FREE SWIMMING

Dear Sir,
I write in response to Thomas Twissel's letter on the loss of free swimming. I am a mother of two children who took advantage of the scheme and I now feel let down by the Government who said it would continue to March 2011.
To make matters more frustrating it will take effect a week after the children break up for 6 weeks holidays. Swimming keeps the children fit and healthy and off the streets.
We hear we are a nation with obese and neglected children yet it seems the Government are contradicting themselves by cutting this form of exercise.
I took it on myself to create a protest group on Facebook and after 5 days it has over 170 members all raising interesting points of view and agreeing we have been let down.
Thomas has my support and my next step is to get our M.P. involved.
Elizabeth Reeve.

Aycliffe Junior 3rd in BUPA Race



Newton Aycliffe runners joined the masses in Sunderland on Sunday 18th July, for the Great North 10k. The race is only in its infancy, but attracted thousands of competitors from far and wide.

Making his debut at 10k was Chris Nisbet, accompanied and paced round by his wife Julie. He was delighted with his achievement of just over the hour and was spurred on by the crowds.

Another family competition took place between father and son, John and Robert Young. Although they were all smiles at the start, there was disappointment on Robert's face as he realised his Dad had beaten him by over half a minute!

Another family affair was on a happier note as Mum, Penny Johnson ran as fast as she could in the 10K in order to meet her son Henry Johnson in the Stadium of Light. Henry was accompanied by his Nana and awaited eagerly to spot his Mum. Henry competed in the junior 12- 14 yr old 2.5k event and took a podium finish with 3rd place.

He was extremely pleased with his position and time of 9:18. "At last I get a trophy!" he remarked at the end. He is looking forward to watching the race on Channel 5 next Saturday morning at 10am.

Peter Smith ran 41.21, in 5th position for his age category. David White came 2nd in his category with 44.35.

RAINY DAY CINEMA AT SCOUT HALL

The Newton Aycliffe Scout's and Community Association, based at the Bluebell Way Community Centre (also known as the Scout's Hall), has organised a Rainy Day Cinema during the summer school holidays. Films such as Alvin and the Chipmunks, the Princess and the Frog and others will be screened on rainy days at 10:00 am. Parents are expected to stay with their children and enjoy the cinema. We have a large screen which adds to the atmosphere of being in a cinema and you will be able to buy some popcorn and soft drinks if you wish. Entrance is free but we would appreciate a voluntary suggested donation of £1 towards our building extension fund. Please call us on 01325-318 901 for more information.

New Rotary President



Barry Hutchinson of Westmorland Way is the new President of the town's Rotary Club and he is shown here receiving the chain of office from outgoing President Jean Thompson. Barry, a retired Accountant is a keen cricketer and a member of Yorkshire Cricket Club and travels regularly to see his team play. He also enjoys reading, walking and recently took up Indoor Bowls at the Sports Complex.

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Funding Secures New CCTV Equipment to Combat Anti Social Behaviour

Tenants of sbh will be comforted to know that their landlord has recently added new surveillance equipment to its existing armoury for tackling anti social behaviour. The funding from the Police was secured with the support of the Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving group (LMAPS). The group is made up of a number of agencies including Police, Fire Service and staff from local housing organisations who work in partnership to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour in your neighbourhood.

Wayne Harris Executive Director of Homes and Assets said "securing this funding demonstrates that we take our role as a responsible landlord seriously. We are committed to tackling nuisance and anti social behaviour as part of working to create a culture of respect that will ensure our communities are sustainable, safe and great places to live, the new equipment will strengthen our ability to do this".

Junior School Leavers' Prom

Sugar Hill Junior held their School Prom on Friday 16th July where everyone had a brilliant time, some arriving in style in limousines, a pink fire engine and a Hummer vehicle.

Everyone had gone to a lot of trouble and looked fabulous in their Prom outfits. On their grand entrance they had their photos taken which have been put onto a disc so that they can all remember this special occasion. There was Karaoke, a Disco, Party food and a special cake had been made with the words "Good Luck" to Year 6 leavers.



USING AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR THE MAJORITY

COUNCILLOR JUSTIFIES CARE HOME CLOSURE

Dear Editor,

The reason I haven't rushed to print over Care Homes is that there was a review, a process taking place which aimed at gathering some facts and figures; also I was interested in rational argument rather than mudslinging intimidation and threats.

The detailed report is now published, why not read it, it is on the Durham County Website? The problem we face as a nation and a County Council is how can we best care for our elderly? Some basic facts : there are 18 people in Shafto House and there are 358 people in Aycliffe receiving home care from the County Council; there is a limited 'pot of money' (which is rapidly diminishing thanks to the present 'condem' alliance) so how do we best use your taxes?

Do we spend millions to preserve the residential homes for the minority or use any available funds for the majority who wish for improved care while remaining in their own home. My vote, nothing to do with whips, was to use available resources for the majority and try to improve the care of the 358 at home whose voice does not seem to have been heard in this debate. After all, the care for those in residential homes will continue and for the most part in better physical conditions.

On the state of our economy there are 2 falsehoods being peddled by Lib Dems and Cons: 1 - Labour and Gordon Brown are to blame and 2- there is no alternative to this scorched earth policy for solving the deficit. On 1: this economic mess has its roots in the greed and selfishness of the unregulated private financial institutions; Germany France, Spain Italy Greece USA and the rest of the world do not blame Labour for the crisis, and

indeed recognise that it was the advice and actions of Gordon Brown (opposed by the Cons) which saved the banks and the country from a worse disaster. Private profligacy for which the public sector now has to pay. On 2: the alternative to the present policies is that taken by the Labour government of 1945 - faced with a bigger deficit than the present one, Labour developed the Welfare State and the National Health Service but reduced the deficit over many years. (Much like most people do with their mortgage). The present policy is ideologically driven to reduce the state and pour money into the pockets of the private sector with tax cuts and services provided by private companies

on the board of which will sit many Tories. We are seeing the obscenities of the dismantling of the Welfare State, National Health Service and our State Education by the Tories, and the Lib Dems provide a fig leaf for these obscenities. None of this was mentioned in the election campaign and indeed the Lib Dems opposed most of the policies which they are now whole heartedly endorsing. Principles for the Lib Dems are any passing band wagon; give them a whiff of power and they will say and do anything. There is only one party capable of mounting a defence of our most trusted, treasured and valued institutions. Mike Dixon

QUAKERS SEASON TICKET SALES UP

Season ticket sales at Darlington have increased this summer, with hundreds of fans flocking to book their seats for the 2010-11 season.

The Quakers have already surpassed the total number of season ticket holders from 2009-10 for the forthcoming Blue Square Bet Premier season, which kicks off in four weeks. Around 200 new and lapsed season ticket holders have signed up already, taking the current total to just over 1,300. "I'm absolutely delighted," said chairman Raj Singh. "We're just over the 1,300-mark already which is a little more than last season so we're hoping to get a few more between now and the start of the season, but we're thrilled."

Season tickets will be available for collection from Friday August 6 at the ticket office and every

weekday leading up to the opening game of the season against Newport County on Saturday August 14, when they will also be available up to kick-off from the Corner Bar. Fans who haven't taken out a season ticket yet have four weeks left to take advantage of the savings on offer against paying match-by-match prices at the Arena. Season tickets for the 2010-11 season are priced £280 adults, £175 concessions and £69 under-16s and under-10s. Match tickets in 2010-11 are: early bird £16 adults, £10 concessions, £5 under-16s and under-10s; matchday £18 adults, £12 concessions and £5 under-16s and under-10s. Season ticket application forms are available from the club or they can be downloaded on the club's official website at www.darlington-fc.net

The Agnew Community Centre News

The Elevate Youth Club will be having a well earned summer break after this Saturday 24th July 10-30am to 12 noon, until it reopens on Saturday 4th September. The Management Committee extend their thanks to James Ross and his dedicated band of volunteers from the Excel Church for the input for the young people of our area 5-12 years of age with 22 turning up last week.

Any parent wishing to contact James can do so by ringing 07966266642 or by email james.ross@bluebottle.com. Our Centre is available to hire for children's Birthday Parties most weekends at a cost of £24 for 3 hours with no additions, so ring the secretary on 07535 255098 for your booking for any occasion and we will quote you a fair price. Our Parent/Toddler group has room for more families so why not join Alannah Collin from 1pm to 3pm each Wednesday at a cost of only £1 per family. The outside space at the Centre

is slowly taking shape with the Picnic area ready in a few weeks time. A Play Area will follow and a community garden complete with a shed and tools is nearly ready for use with volunteers required to run this facility.

Labour Adopt Tory Policies

Dear Sir,
When I was a young lad the Labour Party were nationalising all services and businesses considered essential to the Country yet the Labour Party in County Durham now seem to be wanting everything to be privatised which was once the way of the Tory Party. It appears that they have swapped roles. What do the electorate of Newton Aycliffe think? Always remember the electorate employ the Politicians. Christopher Palmer

SILVERDALE ACTIVITIES

Activities at Silverdale Community House Junior Neighbourhood Watch during the summer holidays include Playrangers on a Monday and Thursday.

Every Wednesday there will be a bus trip away, subject to demand, to various places of the young people's choice. Unfortunately these will not be free trips and parents or a responsible person will have to accompany the young people. Details will be displayed in the window of the Community House.

Fun in the Parks provided by Great Aycliffe Town Council will take place on a Tuesday and Friday during the holidays and these are free events. Details of these were in Newton News last week. I hope the young people will find plenty to do during the school holidays. Dorothy Bowman T: 308094.

BOOKING CHURCH WEDDING OR BAPTISM

From the 21st July the Parish of Great Aycliffe have changed the way we take bookings for Weddings and Baptisms. Whilst it will make no difference to couples seeking to be married in the Parish we hope it will give

people more choice in choosing a date for a Baptism. Therefore anyone wishing to book a Wedding or Baptism at St Andrews, Aycliffe Village or St Elizabeths, Woodham, please call into St Elizabeths, Woodham (next to Woodham Community Centre and just along from the Huntsman) on a Wednesday between 5.30pm-6.30pm.

For those wishing to book a Wedding or Baptism at St Clares or St Francis' please call into St Clares on a Saturday morning between 10.00am-11.00am. For all enquiries with regard St Elizabeths or St Andrews please contact Revd Julie Wing on 320278 or contact the Administrator on 321711 for all other enquiries.

CLOSED FOR ALTERATIONS

The Furniture Recycling Scheme at Chilton Industrial Estate will be closed for refurbishment on Monday and Tuesday 26th and 27th July. This will enable them to re-organise the layout of their 2 large showrooms.

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BYERLEY'S GOT EXTRA TALENT



Byerley Park Primary School put on an "Extraordinary" talent show for the Juniors. Infants as young as 4 performed in the extravaganza. Mrs Robinson (Y5 Assistant) said: "I was absolutely amazed at the array of talent on show and I would not have liked to have been a judge."

Lucy Ryans (Y5) said: "I was amazed by the range of talent from children of such a young age." Also, Liam Hickey (Y5) commented: "The talent show was very good to watch and all the contestants were very good and they participated very well. The judges were very fair."

The judges were absolute stars to come all this way to see one of the best talent shows ever! The audience were delighted to see contestants performing the triple hula-hoop, magic tricks, listening to comedians and singers and watching many sporting feats. Thanks to all the staff of Byerley Park, the judges, the audience and you for reading this special article. It should be a blast of a talent show next year!

By Harrison Johnson and Adam Boyes (Year 5.)

SUGAR HILL SCHOOL SPORTS DAY



Sugar Hill School Sports Day was held on Friday 9 July 2010 in dry weather. The Junior and Infant schools were divided into teams, wearing brightly coloured T shirts to represent which colour council they were part of and the yellow team won the School Cup.

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TWO INSPIRATIONAL TEACHERS RETIRE



Peter Simpson (left) with John Clare

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING

The speaker on Wednesday, 28th July will be Amanda Donald, who will give a talk entitled 'Your Ancestors' Ailments'. We meet on the last

Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Shafto Way. New members are always welcome. Car parking and refreshments are free. For further information on NAFHS please visit our website at www.communicate.co.uk/ne/nafts or contact Keith Bell on 01325 307905.

PERFORMING ANTS



Pestguard got a call on Saturday 17th July saying there were Giant Ants in Aycliffe Town Center. He told Newton News if they get this big he is giving up pest control. The Band was engaged to entertain shoppers as part of the County Council's "Streets of Brass Festival" funded by Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership. A range of internationally renowned bands such as Horn Dogs and French ensemble Les Bobs played to shoppers as part of the Brass, Durham International Festival. GAMP is one of 14 Durham County Council run Area Action Partnerships set up across County Durham in 2009.

PACT Meeting Public & Community Together

The Shafto/St Mary's PACT Meeting is on Wednesday 28th July 2010 at 6pm at Newton Aycliffe Library, Central Avenue. All residents welcome to attend to discuss any issues they may have.

IT'S WHERE YOU GO IF YOU'RE IN THE KNOW!

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FREE SAVING WITH EVERY CALL!

Everyone connected to Greenfield School Community & Arts College wish to congratulate John D. Clare on his retirement this week and pay tribute to his outstanding contribution to education over more than 30 years. John has supported literally thousands of pupils and teachers across the country and beyond as a prolific text book writer and through his website presence. John's passion has been for history teaching (Teaching History magazine called him 'the best teacher out!') but in later years he has brought his classroom skills, once described by an HMI as making 'the hairs show up on the back of my neck' to ensuring pupil success in English too. As Deputy Head to two headteachers John has been part of the continuing success of Greenfield and will be greatly missed by pupils and colleagues alike. John has been involved in so much over the years as head of history, SENCO, text book author and leading visits to France. A unique contribution from a unique individual. Greenfield also say goodbye to Peter Simpson who has played a leading role as Head of Performing Arts to the development of the schools specialism. Tributes have been flooding in for Peter too. Both teachers will be missed and we wish them well as they enter retirement.

Christmas with Darlington FC

Bookings now being taken for Christmas Lunches and Christmas Party Nights with tribute/theme nights on December 10, 11, 16, 17 & 18. Other dates also available for Party bookings.

To make an enquiry call the sales team on 01325 387000 or email commercial@darlington-fc.net

KIDS' GUIDE TO SUMMER FUN

Children across County Durham are promised a summer of fun with dozens of activities to keep them busy during the school holidays. And this year, for the first time, details of sport and leisure sessions across the county are included in a single brochure. The Council's School's Out programme provides information on activities ranging from climbing and cycling to rugby and rowing. Youngsters can also search for sports sessions at leisure centres, clubs and community venues in their area by using an 'activity finder' on the council's website.



Sessions are aimed at children of all abilities and include coaching camps for children who want to improve their existing skills and tasters for those who would like to try

something new. Other activities include informal play sessions, themed events, family activities and sessions specifically for youngsters with a disability. Cllr Bob Young, Council's Cabinet member for strategic environment and leisure, said: "The summer holiday programme has great opportunities for the county's children and young people to participate in physical activity, whether to develop new skills, have a go at something they've never done before or just while away a morning or afternoon. "I would encourage all parents and youngsters to take a look at what's on offer, book up and be assured that they will have fun and keep fit in a friendly, safe environment and perhaps be inspired to take up something new as a result." For more details or to use the activity finder visit www.durham.gov.uk/schoolsout or call 0191 372 8165. Copies of the programme are also available from all Durham County Council leisure centres.

Don't Make More Problems for Disabled

Dear Sir,
I am a 23 year old new Mam, a lifelong Newtonian, that has recently become disabled for life. Due to it being a mobility impairment people have tended to assume, because I look OK, that I can walk and do things like everyone else, but that is not the case. I strongly rely on 'Carelink' and most of the people I know pay for the use of 'Carelink', which is an emergency system to which you can press a button and someone can attend your house, which I have used in instances of falls etc. I do not appreciate your reader's inference that levels of care for the disabled should be reduced. I personally live in a 2 bedroom house and have fought 15 months for a stairlift as I was not offered a bungalow. Luckily my husband is my 24/7 carer but not everyone has that privilege or ability and he has to do the majority of care for our 8 month old son, a pregnancy which was not planned as I was self employed! I cannot comment on this specific person but two people are needed to use a hoist. There are private companies that provide this care and if it was stopped or reduced, there would be more unemployment. Since becoming disabled I have received abuse even at times when we have been using services. We have been shouted at directly near our baby boy which we did not appreciate. We have spoken to managers and owners of some places, where we have received offensive remarks and suggestions that my husband uses service instead of me. We are adults that have gone from what you call a 'normal' and independent life to one

of great difficulty. I know of another lady who suffered abuse toward her disabled child, and this needs to STOP! There are people out there abusing the system, fraudulently receiving benefits, and I feel your reader is targeting an area he knows nothing about. Some disabled people pay for their own care and he assumes money to provide care is coming out of his pocket. His opinion would be different if he were in the same predicament. I helped disabled people into employment prior to becoming disabled, and now I am offering an online support network to other mothers suffering from similar conditions to mine. The statements made just increase problems for the disabled. There are less services for us already than you think and we have to fight for everything. I am still waiting for much needed services including a powered wheelchair. It is difficult for one person to push a pram and their partner in a wheelchair at the same time. Disabled people have enough problems - please don't make more! Mrs. S. Dightam Address supplied.

Schools Out for Summer

Calling all school age children. Why not come and join us at Burnhill way Church (nr Turbina), on 2nd to the 6th August. We are open from 9.30am till 12 noon every day at a cost of 50p per day. It's fun and entertaining with lots to do and learn with our theme "Busy bodies". So come along and see us, we are all very friendly.

WACKY FUN FOR YOUNGSTERS

Yes it's that time of year again that all parents dread - the 6 weeks School Summer Holidays! Maybe your young son or daughter has nothing to do? How about the The Young Entertainers Wacky Workshops? These workshops are run every Wednesday from August 11 th to September 1st, between 10am and 3pm at the Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon, for all young people aged 8 to 16 years to enjoy. A spokesperson for the event said "These days are full of fun, laughter, wacky games and music. It's amazing how a room full of young total strangers one minute, can end up as new found friends by the end of the day. The workshops are not for just having fun, but help with the young people's confidence, self esteem and teaches them new skills too." The cost is £1 entrance to the Centre and the organisers ask that you bring a packed lunch and a big smile. For more information ring (01388) 774838 / 07747 826324

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WIN TICKETS TO SEE QUAKERS vs NEWPORT!

Darlington's Blue Square Bet Premier League season kicks off in three weeks when Newport County come to the North-East. The Quakers will take on the Welsh side in the opening game of the 2010-11 season on Saturday August 14, 3pm kick-off. And the Newton News have teamed up with Darlington FC to offer one lucky reader a pair of tickets to see the game! Newport, managed by former



Wimbledon and Bolton striker Dean Holdsworth, won the Conference South title last season and will be looking to go one better this year, while Mark Cooper's Darlington side are hoping to bounce back to the Football League at the first attempt. Pre-match tickets for the game cost £16 adults, £10 concessions and £5 under-16s, while tickets bought on the day of the game cost £18 adults, £12 concessions and £5 under-16s. To stand a chance of winning our pair of tickets, simply answer the following question: Which North-East Premier League team visited the Northern Echo Arena last weekend to play Darlington in a pre-season friendly? A) Arsenal Football Club B) Sunderland Football Club C) Manchester United. Send your answers by email to dfccompetition@newtonnews.co.uk or by post to: DFC Competition, c/o Newton Press, St Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DX. The competition closes on Monday 9th August and the winner will be drawn at random.

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www.myspace.com/roadrunnersuk
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Davys Rock Page Review: 'A great night with a great atmosphere and a lot of people dancing, so if you want to hear new rock covers with a good mix of older rock, 101 deliver'
Saturday 7th August - "Bullet"
For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034 Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

YEAR 3 EXPERIENCE WITH BRASSHOPPERS



The children in year 3, at Byerley Park Primary School spent an afternoon at Greenfield School. They were lucky to be given the opportunity to take part in a workshop about brass instruments. The workshop was led by a group called the 'Brasshoppers', who certainly didn't disappoint! The children listened to a range of different music from around the world, played using drums, trumpets, flutes, and keyboard. Different children were also chosen to play different kinds of instruments and played together to make their own unique music. Our favourite part was when everybody put their parts together and marched around the room, playing their instruments.

By Adara & Ebony

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VOLUNTEER GARDENER

Agnew Community Centre requires a volunteer gardener to take charge of our new community garden which is being established at this time. Please contact the Secretary on 07535255098 for more details and a meeting to discuss this position. Please note that our Parent/Toddler group meet each Wednesday from 1pm to 3pm so why not join us - all welcome.

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Cost of Civic "Do's"

Dear Sir,
The fare on offer at the 'Mayor's At Home' at the Council Offices was cake, scones and sandwiches. There was also a hospitality tent (oops....I mean marquee!), serving juices, soft drinks, beer and lager. To be fair the drink only cost £70 in total, so it was hardly enough to wet the whistle of over a hundred people including civic dignitaries, councillors and members of the public. The 100 Teas, were provided at a cost of £489.36. Staffing cost, re setting up the Council Chamber and provision of the hospitality marquee, was about £160. With other sundry expenses, the total outlay came

to about £750 (GATC budgeted for £700).
The raffle raised £230 for the Mayor's Charity. (You do the maths). If you are in favour of such annual events - and many do believe that the 'Mayor at Home', does showcase the Council to a host of local top brass - is it money well spent? Many believe in these times of economic restraint and prudence, it is a waste of £520 of ratepayers money. Me? Oh, I wasn't there and never go. There is no such thing as a 'free' lunch and in my view it is a waste of money - your money and my money!
Councillor Alison Palmer
Liberal Democrat Party.

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Residents are being reminded that from next month Durham County Council will no longer offer free swimming at its leisure centres. A pilot programme offering free sessions for people aged under 19 and over 60 will come to an end on Saturday, 31 July, following an announcement last month that the government would no longer provide funding. However, those who would have been eligible for free swimming will still be able to take advantage of concessionary rates at council-run pools. The free swimming scheme

began in April 2009 and residents are expected to have enjoyed more than 400,000 free swims by the time it ends later this month. Cllr Bob Young, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for strategic environment and leisure, said: "We are obviously very disappointed that this extremely popular scheme, which has been enjoyed by so many of our residents, is coming to an end. "Swimming is a great way of keeping fit and I would encourage all those who have taken advantage of the scheme to find out how they can benefit from our concessionary rates." For more details of admission charges residents are asked to call their local leisure centre. Contact details are available from the council's website www.durham.gov.uk

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All Toed Party Line, But One!

Dear Sir, There was always an inevitability about the closure of the DCC-run homes, such as Shafto House. This was starkly illustrated, prior to the issue being kicked into the long grass - for the duration of the General Election campaign - by the Labour Party councillor dominated, Durham County Council. At the St Mary's Church public meeting, the County Council's, Labour Party representative for Trimdon, Councillor Peter Brooke, in the meeting's final answer, to a question posed by the Lib Dem PPC, Alan Thompson, honestly admitted that after all of the consultations had taken place, the decision on whether or not to close such as Shafto House, would be a politically driven one, taken by Labour Party councillors.

In political terms this admission may have been ill-advised, but it was admirably honest and he has been proved right. There had been talk about this all being taken out of the hands of our elected DCC councillors; it was to be a Cabinet decision, so there was no blood on the hands of our local elected representatives! However, at a secret DCC Labour Party group meeting - about two weeks ago - the decision was taken to close Shafto House. You may very well wonder how YOUR elected Labour Party representatives voted at this 'secret' meeting. To his credit Councillor John Moran, who has silently opposed the closure from the outset, voted AGAINST closure. Well done, John! Councillor Sarah Iveson decided to abstain. I am not sure why, yet again, 'sitting on the

fence', in any way helped the residents of Shafto House, or served her constituents. Semi-retired vicar, Mike Dixon, openly spoke in favour of the closure of Shafto House. He voted FOR closure. Labour Party DCC councillors, Joan Gray, Enid Paylor, and Dorothy Bowman, all remained silent, but voted FOR the closure of Shafto House. They all toed the Party line, rather than listen to the heartfelt views of many people of our town. This is not a purely Labour Party bashing episode. All Great Aycliffe Town councillors, apart from dual council representatives, such as Sarah Iveson, Dorothy Bowman and Enid Paylor - who all took the 'predetermination' route and walked out during discussions on the issue - emerge with great credit.

GATC voted unanimously to support the fight to keep Shafto House open. GATC, Labour Party, Council Chief, Bob Fleming, again showed himself to be a principled, courageous leader, as did his Deputy, John Clare, for opposing the closure. Cllrs Malcolm Iveson, Brian Hall and Vince Crosby also emerged with credit. What are we to make of all of this? Firstly, loyalty to the Labour Party comes before principles (and the needs of the most vulnerable), for DCC Labour Party councillors. Secondly, as a former member of the Labour Party, I can say for certain, that these representatives were hand-picked, by the Constituency and Regional Labour Party, for just that - they would do what they were told. Remember, being a Unitary Authority councillor is a well-paid job, especially if you show absolute loyalty to 'the Party'. There are opportunities to be had on certain lucrative committees, for the right sort. Finally, it may be a long time before Shafto House closes. Possibly, too long for some current Labour Party councillors, who hope to be re-elected in 2013. Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, Liberal Democrat Party.

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Youthy Under 8's Pre-Season Training



Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre AFC under 10's started their pre season training with an action packed adventure day with a Laser Battle at Witton Castle. This fun day out for all the players was organized as part of their preparations for the coming season in the Teesside Junior Football Alliance League. Manager Michael Hay stated that he wanted to give the lads an exciting day out before

the real work starts with Tournaments and pre-season friendlies coming up before the start of the season on 12th September. All the boys agreed that it was a fantastic adventure and were looking forward to the start of

the football season. If you are currently in year 4, and want to be part of the team or need more information about the football club and the other age groups. contact Berni 07939045242 or visit our website www.naycafc.co.uk

JULY ATHLETICS NEWS

Members of Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club continue to enter a wide variety of challenging events. Richard Harvey competed during June in the N/E Vets. Championships, in Jarrow finished 2nd in the 0/65 1500m and 800m. Last winter Gordon Carver and Stewart Vernon competed in Esk Valley Fell Club winter series. Gordon competed in 5 races and Stewart managed 8 of the eleven.

These involved running through water, snow, mud, peat bogs and heather usually uphill. They are now competing in the summer series of eleven races. On 29th June both were at Whitby for a 7.5 mile run. Despite challenging terrain, both men managed to finish with respectable times. Stewart in 62.12 minutes, and Gordon in 63.33.

Tricia Kaye went on her travels again 4th July for The Burn Valley Half Marathon, described as one of the most scenic and challenging in England. The race started and finished in the Village of Masham. The sheer amount of hills soon took its toll. The weather was windy and warm but there were plenty of water and wet sponge stations. She completed the race in 1hr 59mins. but felt she could have done better if she had not given in and walked so much. Afterwards tea was supplied in the Town Hall. and she had just enough time to visit the sweet shop and brewery before getting the bus home!

Several members took part in the flat, fast 3 lap course of the Croft Rally Circuit on July 7th

and NAAC were among the top runners.

James Askew (U20) won the 10k race in a time of 34.39. His first 10k victory! He was happy with his position and wants to concentrate on PB later in the year. Henry Johnson (U13) came 3rd, just behind two 15 yr and 16 yr old boys. He was extremely pleased with his time of 6min 26 sec over the 1 lap course of approx. 2K.

The biggest surprise of the night turned out to be for Penny Johnson, who was awarded 2nd F40 with her time of 49.21 sec. She has never been placed in a race in her running career which spans almost 4 years! Well done to all the other NAAC competitors.

HONEST JOHN HELPS SCOUTS

Once again, Honest John has raised £200 for 1st Newton Aycliffe Scout Group and he has asked me to thank all those who donate and buy goods from his stall. He said without their help he would not be able to carry on raising funds for charity. We cannot thank him enough and he may be sure that the money will be put to good use in the future. Please continue to support him so that other people will benefit from his kindness. Bill Goudie
Group Chairman

Family Event at the Work Place

The Durham Pedal Pushers are holding a Charity Family Coffee Morning on Friday 30th July from 10am - 1.00pm at The Work Place, Heighington Lane.

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Birthday Remembrance

BILLY BURRELL Happy birthday Dad for 25th July. Love and miss you always. God bless. Daughters, Mena and Son-in-Law Joe xxx

JANE WAKE (Burrell) Treasured memories of a dearly loved Mam. Beautiful memories treasured forever of happy days when we were all together. God bless, Daughter Mena and Son-in-Law Joe xx

SYLVIA BOWES 23rd July. To a loving Wife, Mother, Nanna and Great Nanna on your birthday. A little corner in our hearts is set aside for you. As long as life and memories last, we'll remember you. Wishing you a happy birthday from all your loving family xxx

JOSEPH HEDLEY, 29th July. Another year has gone by, my love for you will never die. I think about you all the time. Miss you so much. Grace xxxx

JOSEPH HEDLEY 29th July. Loving memories of a very special Dad on your birthday, who is always remembered and dearly missed. Lots of love from Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxxxxx

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

PAIR OF Technics SB-C250 stereo speakers, walnut finish, H14½" x W9½" x D8", £20. Tel 01325 312885

BRAND NEW double divan with fully quilted mattress, can deliver, £120. Tel 07789 113 343

BRAND NEW single divan with two drawers and quilted mattress, £100. Waxed antique pine table 18" square x 18" high, £40. Can deliver 07789 113343

MOBILITY Scooter Traveller Elite with charger, VGC, £150. Tel 01325 314958, buyer to collect or ride away

GOLF TROLLEY and Benross cart/bag, both VGC, £50. Tel 317608 after 5pm

SONY 32" TV, silver, digital, £60. Tel 07939 397945

DOUBLE Divan Bed base with 4 drawers. Excellent condition. Can deliver. £40 Tel 07541 137 502

FISHER PRICE adjustable high chair £25; Cane conservatory furniture, green/cream pattern £80; Next signature cream bridesmaid dress 3/4 years £10; Converse all star baseball boot, infant, size 5, red, brand new, still in box, £10. Tel 07854 655394

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

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

HANDING back the keys? Before you do, call Carol, your local property investor. 01325 520820

3 BEDROOM house, old part of town, large garden. £120 per week. Contact Heather 07882 440377

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, quite 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

2 BEDROOM modern property for rent in Hareson Road, N/A. Please phone 07824 391 086 for further info

In Memoriam

JOHN WHITTINGTON
Died 24-7-2008

We speak your name,
the tears still flow,
how much you are
missed you will
never know.
Love, Joan, David and
Cath xxxx

STEPHEN EALES Died 26-7-09. Those we love remain with us for love itself lives on. Cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone. All my love, Inga xx

STEPHEN EALES 26-7-09. We think of you in silence, and no eyes can see us weep, you're still within our aching hearts. Your memory we keep. Can't believe it's been a year, Dad. Miss you loads. Love, Paul, Susan, James and Georgia
MARY WHITTAKER 23rd July 2009. In loving memory of a dear Wife and Mother who is always in our thoughts. Love, Ricky and Neil

MARY WHITTAKER In memory of a dear friend, who is sadly missed. Love, Valerie
JUNE WOOD Died 28th July 2005. To a treasured Mam. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. All my love, Ann, Syd and Michael xxx
STEPHEN EALES 26-7-09. I wish that I could see you, Dad, for just a little while. I wish that I could hug you and see your loving smile. But wishing gets me nowhere and longing is in vain. So I will hold you in my heart until we meet again. Love always from Sharon, Rob, Charlotte and Emily

FREE ACTIVITIES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

This summer, Children's Network is working in partnership with organisations across County Durham to provide a range of free activities for disabled children.

The events are part of Durham County Council's Summer Short Break Programme and will take place throughout the school holidays. A variety of activities and short breaks, ranging from fun days out, family camping holidays and specialised respite packages are on offer.

A family fun day at Moorhouse Activity Centre in Durham is happening on August 26. This event will get families

involved in a range of fun and games which include crafts, circus skills, climbing, off road buggies and abseiling. Activities are tailored for all ages and abilities, offering plenty to do for the whole family.

Five superhero themed parties will also be taking place across the county. Parties will include discos, balloon modelling and face painting and children will have the chance to dress up.

Youngsters will also be given the opportunity to get active by joining in with Children's Network Sportsability Festivals, which include gymnastics, football and cricket games for children and young people of all abilities.

A free Paralympics event will also take place on August 16. This will focus upon a range of taster sessions and mini competitions for children and young people in Durham who have a physical or learning disability.

Sportsability Festivals will take place on August 23 and 24 at Spennymoor Leisure centre.

Other activities taking part in Durham County Council summer break programme include a private showing of Toy Story 3, Teddy Bear's Picnics, fishing and a range of residential breaks.

For more information on the summer short break programme visit: www.durham.gov.uk/childrensnetwork or to book a place please contact Children's Network.

Tel: 0191 383 4438
Email: childrensnetwork@durham.gov.uk

Obituary

RAY LANGSLEY

Passed away peacefully at home on 15th July, 2010. Loving Husband of Doreen, beloved Father of Susan, Neil, Andrew, Anita and Paul (late) and loving Grandfather and Great Grandfather. Service at Darlington Crematorium on Monday 26th July at 11.15am.

JACK LOCKEY Died peacefully at home on 14th July 2010. Beloved and precious Husband of Jenny. Much loved Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Sleep tight. Funeral Wednesday 28th July at 10.30am. Family and friends please meet for Service at St Clares Church, Newton Aycliffe, followed by private family cremation. Donations in lieu if desired to MacMillan Nurses (all enquiries to Cooperative Funeralcare)

Thank You

Many, Many Thanks



Many thanks to everyone who came to my 50th on 10th July. Special thanks to Woodham Golf Club who served us excellent food by excellent staff and we managed to raise £100 for the U14's Football. Thanks, Lynda

ALLISON FORSTER would like to say a huge thank you to the following people who helped me gain my BSc in Child Nursing. Firstly my Husband and Daughter (Chris and Alice) for their love, understanding and support. My Mum Pauline for love, support and endless childcare. Mr Dad, Rick for his love and advice (always good). My Brother, Trevor for his love and the ability to cheer me up when I'm down and his partner Mary for their internet, when mine was down, thank you all and love you loads xxxx

ROBYN MOLLOY would like to thank all her family and friends for coming to her 18th party and making it a great night xxx

THANK YOU to Stuart from 1-2-1 Driving School for getting me through my test first time. From Robyn Molloy

DUNN Margaret and Brian would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for the beautiful cards, flowers, messages and kind thoughts received at this very sad time. A huge thank you to all staff at the H.D.U. at D.M.H. Grateful thanks also to Jessica and all the staff at John Meynell Funeral Services and to Rev. Julie Wing for the lovely Service held at St Clare's Church

JOHN & MELANIE wish to thank all those family and friends that attended our special day and for all help and gifts received.

ANTHONY & CLAIRE BEST would like to thank all our friends and family for helping us celebrate our Wedding and for all the kind cards and gifts x

BARBARA GRAY 22-7-2010. Happy 50th birthday. Have a great weekend from George, Maud, Julie, Terry, Joanne and Andrew

BARBARA GRAY Happy birthday mate - how old? 29. Have a brill weekend!!! Love, Mandy, John, Claire and Emma xxxx

JAMES STERLING 24th July. Happy 18th birthday Son. Congratulations on your promotion in the RAF. Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Rebecca, James and Nanna xxx

KENDAL - GRIMES Happy 7th birthday Princess. Lots of love, Mam and Dad

KENDAL - GRIMES Happy birthday Sis. Love, Steven

KENDAL - GRIMES Happy 7th birthday. Lots of love, Grandad and Nana Rudd

KENDAL - GRIMES Happy 7th birthday Babe. Lots of love, Aunties and Uncles

KENDAL GRIMES Happy 7th birthday Doll. Love, Nana and Grandad Kelly

KENDAL GRIMES Happy birthday. Love, Auntie Donna, Uncle Wrighty, Auntie Shaz, Uncle Col and Kids

DANIEL DIXON Many congratulations Dan on your 18th birthday. Love and best wishes for your future happiness and success. "Don't know what I'd do without you!" Gran xxxx

DANIEL JAMES DIXON 24th July. To a very special Son and Brother on your 18th birthday. Congratulations and well done on your recent achievements. We are so proud of you. Love always, Mam, Dad and Paige

COLIN NEILL To the best Dad in the world. Happy birthday. Love, Cameron and Timba xxx

COLIN NEILL 21-7-79. To my fab man, happy birthday. Love, Shell xx

ERIN McWILLIAM To my gorgeous Daughter, happy 1st birthday. Love you loads and loads from Daddy xxx

ERIN McWILLIAM To our beautiful little Sister Erin. Happy 1st birthday, we love you lots, from big Brothers Jay and Parker xxx

ERIN McWILLIAM Happy 1st birthday to our beautiful Granddaughter Erin. Love you lots and lots, hugs n kisses, Nanna and Dave xxx

ERIN McWILLIAM Hip Hip Hooray our Erin is 1 today. Have a great day. Love you loads from Auntie Shannon xxx

BRYAN PARKINSON is 40 on 23rd July 2010. Happy 40th Bryan. All my love, Kathleen

BRYAN PARKINSON to the world's best Dad on his 40th. Love you lots, Jason and Kieran

BRYAN PARKINSON Happy 40th Bryan. Love you loads, Mam and Ken

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Lynda Coulthard



Happy 50th Birthday
23rd July 1960

Happy 50th Birthday! Many happy returns Mam, lots of love Donna & Lee. We love you lots Nana from Jordan & Brandon xxxxx

Lynda Coulthard



Happy 50th Birthday
Happy birthday Lynda. Love you loads, Big Col xxxxxxxx

Happy 50th Mam. Love you so much. Kayleigh and Colin xxxxxxxxxx

Brian & Joan Hughes



Golden Wedding
30th July 1960

Lots of love on this special day. Love from family and friends

Shaun and Michael Francis



Happy 21st Birthdays
Lots of love from all your family

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Congratulations

Louis Hurst



Happy 13th birthday
21st July 2010

We are really proud to have such a wonderful Son and Brother. Enjoy being a teenager, but please don't turn into a "Kevin" (like your brothers have!). Love you loads, Mum, Dad, Sam and Joe xxxxx

Sarah Bell



Happy 10th Birthday

to a special Daughter and Granddaughter. Love you loads from Mum, Dad, Nanna and Grandad. Also Auntie Diane and Uncle David xxx

Lee Wade



Happy 21st Birthday
27th July

Lots of love from Mam, Dad and Billy xxxxx

Shellie Graham 21 TODAY

Happy 21st birthday babe, have a great day, all our luv Lee, Morgan and Callum xxxxx

You're a big girl now, full rates for babysitting, have a great day, love as always Mam, Dad and Ellie xx

Happy 21st birthday Shellie, hope you have a fab time, try not to get too drunk!! Love Michelle, Chris, Jack and Joe xx

Hope you have a brilliant 21st Shellie, lots of love from Rob and Brenda xx

Happy 21st Shell, love and kisses Vicki, Paul, Caitlin and Charlie xx

Websites

R2 WEBSITE Designs, websites designed and updated. Call Richard 07812 990797 or visit the website www.r2websitedesigns.co.uk

Scott Norris B.Eng



Congratulations on your Graduation. We are all very proud of you. Love, Rachel and Leo, Mam, Dad and all the family

Chris Gowland



Happy 18th birthday
29th July 2010

Love from Mam, Dad and Steph xxx

Barbara Gray



Happy 50th birthday
Love ya Nana. from your Grandson, Liam xxxxx

Joshua Walker



Happy 9th birthday

Happy birthday Joshy!! Hope you have a great day, enjoy your party. Lots of love from Mam xxx

Joanne & Gavin Cant



Congratulations

on your Wedding on 17th July 2010. Thank you to St Clare's Church for a lovely Service and Woodham Golf Club for a brilliant reception. We could not have wished for a better day. All the best for the future. Love, Mam, Dad, Craig and all the family xxx

Barbara Gray



Happy 50th birthday

Lots of love from George, Leem, Emma and Steph xx

Laura Rodgers



Happy 21st birthday

Hope you had a great day, all our love, Nanna and Family xxx

Karen & Nicky Robinson



30th Wedding Anniversary
26th July 2010

Congratulations. Love you both loads, Mam

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Councillors Should Hang Their Heads in Shame

Footy Trials

Dear Sir

As we suspected all along the decision has been taken to close Shafto House and six other Council run Care Homes.

Let's get one thing straight from the outset, this disgraceful scheme was proposed by a Labour controlled Unitary Authority under a Labour Government.

Any reply by mealy mouthed local politicians that this new government would have made them do it anyway, just does not wash.

All the propaganda by Labour about what the Conservatives or Lib Dems would do to our way of life pales into insignificance, compared to what Labour is about to do in their heartland to the most vulnerable in our society.

This scheme was passed through on the nod by councillors who don't have the guts to stand up and protect their constituents.

This country is in the mess it is by 13 years of misrule by liars like Tony Blair and dictators like Gordon Brown who incidentally I had the faith to vote for.

Now the old and infirm must pay

the price for their incompetence. They have feathered their own nests with expenses and set up a Unitary Authority with leaders on six figure salaries and councillors on generous allowances and expenses, which they are loath to lose by being outspoken.

The leaders of the Authority and councillors who voted for this proposal should be the ones to inform my father and his fellow residents, that they are being evicted from their homes, and they should hang their heads in shame as they do so.

Mr. B. Bennett

NAJFC under 13's are a succesful team who are currently in the TJFA league Division 3 and last year came a credible 3rd place. We are now looking for additional team members to join our current squad and we will be holding trials at Woodham Technology College on the 24th & 31st July from 11.00 am - 12.30 pm.

If you were born between September 1997 and August 1998 and interested in playing League Football please just turn up on the day or contact Nick Scott on 07977159779

Students in Charge for a Day



After a long, tense election process our party U.W.I.P. (United Woodham Independence Party) won the vote to become Head for the Day. One of our election promises was students would receive an extended break and year 8's would be excused from homework!

On Wednesday 14th July our Administration began. The day started with a staff briefing where we told the teachers our plans and policies for the day. It felt really strange for us to be telling the teachers what to do! One teacher asked if she could go home early; I said "Yes" and everyone laughed and cheered! Unfortunately, Mr Harness said "No".

During the day some of our party completed a lesson evaluation on Mrs Barker's geography lesson. We wanted to make sure that the students were learning but also having fun in lessons. We gave Mrs Barker an Outstanding result because of her creative teaching methods! Mr Harness showed us the checklist that OFSTED inspectors use when they come into school to observe lessons. I was shocked at how many categories there were and how detailed it was. I can see now why teachers

get so stressed about observations!

We enjoyed a buffet lunch with Mr Harness and watched some videos.

What did Mr Harness think?

"What smashing lads! They had some great ideas and I hope they learned a lot too. I wish every day as a Head was as much fun as this!"

After lunch we inspected some of the lessons that were going on around school and were pleased that everything seemed to be running smoothly.

The Verdict?

"Overall we had a really great day. It feels strange to be back as a normal student again." Josh Brown.

"People reacted to us being dressed in shirts and ties yesterday. We really stood out and got treated differently." Jake Palliser.

"I really enjoyed the day as it gave me an insight into how Woodham is run. I felt really professional wearing a shirt and tie!" Matthew Bowmer.

Written by Matthew Bowmer, Josh Brown and Jake Palliser, Alex Evans and Michael Patterson. Year 8 pupils at Woodham CTC.

Off to the Big School



On Tuesday it was both a happy and sad day at the Little Acorns pre school graduation party. All the staff and children had a wonderful time celebrating the children's time at the nursery. It has been great to see the children grow in confidence and become ambitious individuals and continually developing throughout their time here.

The children will be sorely missed and the nursery will be quieter place without them and their individual characters. We wish the children every success in the future and hope they don't forget all of us. We will miss you. Good Luck x.

Charity Night at Big Club

The local Lib Dem Party are holding a Charity Fundraising Evening at the Big Club on Thursday 29th July from 7.30pm. Entertainment is provided by vocalists Marie Sinclair and Geogio plus the amazing duo "Baby Grande" There will be a raffle and Tombola. Tickets are £5 each.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Both of Newton Aycliffe's senior teams were defeated with the firsts losing away at East Rainton and the seconds losing at home to Hunwick. First team vice captain Luke Telford was in tremendous form, finishing with a season's best bowling figures of 6 for 17 to help dismiss Rainton for 151. In reply only Ross Dixon with 45 and David Turgoose with 15 managed double figures as Aycliffe were bowled out 61 runs short of their target.

The second team were asked to bat first against promotion chasing Hunwick and were bowled out for just 124 with Alan Mitchie top scoring with 23. In reply the visitors coasted to an easy win for the loss of just 2 wickets with more than 14 overs in hand.

The under 11's side had an exciting 2 run victory at home to Barnard Castle after an excellent team performance. Special mention must go to both Liam Hickey and Ryan Dawson for their all round performances and also Josh Pearson, who bowled 3 superb overs for just 4 runs.

The clubs under 13's team lost away at Stockton, the under 15's league match away at Shildon Railway was a victim of the poor weather and the under 18's team had a free week.

Aycliffe Freeze Ticket Prices

Newton Aycliffe have frozen their season ticket prices for the forthcoming 2010-11 season, which kicks off in just two weeks.

Aycliffe finished ninth in their inaugural Northern League 2nd division campaign last year. They're hoping to improve on that this coming season, with the signings of striker Warren Byrne, defender Michael Heckley and winger Fred Woodhouse, while they've also retained all their players from last year, including striker Elliot Gardner.

The club have decided to freeze their season tickets for the 2010-11 season, with an adult season ticket costing just £50, £30 for over-65s and £20 under-16s for the 19 home league games. The adult ticket represents an overall saving of £26, with adult matchday admission going up to £4. Over-65s can save £8 with matchday prices staying at £2 and Under-16s save £18 over the season, with matchday prices also £2.

Aycliffe are hoping to maintain their average crowds of just under 200, the highest gates in the second division and the fifth-highest in the whole league.

Chairman Gary Farley, said: "The people of Newton Aycliffe really have embraced the town's football club and we hope to continue where we left off last season and raise the bar again this coming season.

"We're quietly confident we'll be in a strong position to improve on our ninth-place finish last year and we'd be delighted to at least maintain our crowds.

"We think our matchday prices remain realistic, but the season tickets offer great value for money.

"We need the support so we're appealing to fans to come on board and join us for what promises to be another exciting season in the Northern League."

Season ticket application forms

are available from the club on matchdays and from Aycliffe Sports Club. Alternatively, contact John Gaskarth on 07590 925469 or email gaskarth@msn.com

Aycliffe are preparing for their huge pre-season friendly at home to Blue Square Bet Premier side Darlington on Wednesday August 4 (7.30pm kick-off). Allan Oliver's side will welcome Mark Cooper's team to Moore Lane Park in a first-ever meeting between the two local sides, to celebrate the official opening of Aycliffe's new stand.

The club are expecting a healthy crowd for the game and are looking into trying to make temporary additional parking as a one-off around the club grounds.

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES

Wednesday July 28: Wolviston (H), 7.30pm

Wednesday August 4: Darlington (H), 7.30pm

NORTHERN LEAGUE

Saturday August 7: North Shields (A), 3pm

Wednesday August 11: Whickham (H), 7.30pm

Sat. August 21: Guisborough Town (H), 3pm

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