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Week Ending 13th March, 2009

SUNDAY LUNCH AT OAK LEAF

Why not treat yourself to a well earned break, and let us take care of the Sunday Lunch this week? At only £5.50 Adults, and £3.50 Child's portion it's excellent value for money.

There's no need to book, we have plenty of space. You could finish off with one of our tempting delicious desserts. Lunch is served from 12.00noon until 2.00pm.

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BOROUGH COUNCILLORS SIGNED A BLANK CHEQUE

TOWN COUNCIL WILL WATCH AND WAIT

Dear Sir,
There is a need for the Town Council to exercise wisdom and judgement in the matter of the transfer of housing and open spaces to Sedgefield Borough Homes (SBH).

Gains and Losses

On the one hand, the transfer seems a 'good deal' - especially for the council house tenants, promised £100million of improvements over the next 5 years. In addition, although SBH are only giving £4.1million for the houses (paltry, compared to the £23million Sunderland Housing promised to pay), Council officers have secured a government grant, a VAT 'shelter' and other terms which push the gain to the council taxpayer up towards £50million, which is substantial by anybody's standards.

Unfortunately, along with the houses, Sedgefield Borough Council has given about 50 acres of publicly-owned open space to SBH. The housing transfer, therefore, comes at a significant cost to the people of Aycliffe, whose open spaces make the very character of the town.

The Councillors' dilemma
The issue for Councillors, therefore, is at which point does the cost exceed the benefits?

For some Councillors, the housing transfer is so beneficial that they would give any amount of land

to secure SBH. Equally, there are some Councillors who on principle are not prepared to see the loss of even a single square foot of publicly-owned land.

Most Councillors stand in the middle, and there is a point at which the cost in loss of land becomes too great to stomach, and turns them against the deal. Promises, promises Since July, therefore, when the Town Council began campaigning about this matter, the Borough Council has left increasing amounts of land in the public ownership. The criteria for the transfer of land have been altered. Land which was to be transferred has been retained (including plots recently pictured in the Newton News).

On the Tuesday before the final vote, Borough Council officers came to Aycliffe to negotiate with individual Town Councillors, many of whom left believing that they had 'saved' areas of open space in their wards. It is irrelevant whether you characterise this process as victories wrung by a brilliant Town Council campaign, or concessions generously conceded by the Borough Council.

The biggest concern

However, readers need to realise that the deal with Sedgefield Borough Homes is by no means finalised. The financial terms may still be changed. The maps Councillors believe they have agreed are only drafts, and may yet change.

And the Development Agreement - which has been presented as a 'belt and braces' assurance, 'better than a covenant', that the transferred open spaces will not be built on - has not actually yet been written.

A message to the Borough Council

Unlike the Borough Councillors, who had to decide on 27 February and signed what was in effect a blank cheque, the Town Council can wait until the agreement has been finalised.

So the message to the Borough Council is fairly blunt. If - when the Town Council at last knows the details - it finds that the Borough Council in the end did NOT 'save' all those patches of land it thought they were going to ... if, in the end, it finds that the vaunted 'Development Agreement' is in fact toothless ... then the Town Council has a number of very effective spanners it can and will throw in the works.

The Town Council's sole concern is the good of the people of Great Aycliffe, now and in the future. Many Town Councillors are somewhat reassured by the concessions the Borough has made, but they are watching to make sure that Sedgefield Borough Council keeps the promises they believe have been made.

Counc John Clare, Great Aycliffe Town Council

A CARD FOR CANCER CARE

There will be a Coffee Afternoon on Saturday 21st March from 1.30 - 3.30pm, at Neville Parade Methodist Church.

Come along and make a Greetings Card for the Docrafts Annual Marie Curie Campaign. The cards will be sold in Marie Curie shops. Each card sold will raise £1.

With the money raised from last year's campaign 4,900

hours of home nursing care were funded.

For the non-crafters there will be handmade cards on sale, the proceeds will be donated to the Marie Curie Nurses. We hope to see you for a creative, fun afternoon.

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4 Church Street
Coshoe, Co. Durham
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RENT FREE PERIOD AT TOWN MARKET FOR NEWCOMERS



The long established market in Newton Aycliffe has for many years provided residents with an assortment of goods and services from over 20 established stalls each week. New stalls are arriving each

week and the market is selling everything from fruit and veg, household goods, sweets and even watch repairs. Initially Sedgefield Borough Council as the Market Authority for this area ran

the market but in 2005 they approached the Traders and asked if they would like to run it themselves. So in 2005 Great Aycliffe Town Council became the Market Authority and the Traders became a Traders Association responsible for running the Market. Since then the Market has had its ups and downs but is still serving the community of Newton Aycliffe.

With the support of the Town Centre Management and Great Aycliffe Town Council we are providing from now until May 31st 2009 RENT FREE stalls for anyone who can provide a NMF membership and appropriate insurances.

This could be the chance for you to start that business you've always wanted!

It costs £78 per year to be a member of the National Markets Federation and that also includes insurance. You will have to provide your own stall and be responsible for its erection and dismantling.

Neil Herring is the Market Manager and can usually be found on his stall opposite Peacocks.

His job is to monitor the stalls allocate positions and take enquiries and complaints. He can be contacted on 07778 442737. Please see the advert in this week's Newton News.

BRASS BAND CONCERT AT NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

We have now completed the replacement of windows at the Centre with thanks to Kat Windows for a first class job. The work was done efficiently and the site left clean and tidy.

We welcome Aycliffe & Brancepeth Brass Band on Sunday 15th March at 2p.m. who will give a Concert. Admission is only £2 and £1 for students. Please come along and support this event. Salsa Dancing every Monday 7.30 - 8.30pm. Line Dancing every Friday 6.20 - 7.20 pm.

The next Senior Citizens Forum is on Mondya 8th April at 1.30pm. the speaker is Jan Slade from Help the Aged. To book a seat ring 313924. Admisison is £1 including refreshments. Bingo Luncheon Club - Wednesday 25th March at 12 noon. Bingo £1, 2 course hot meal £3. Please book on 313924.

Thanks to our latest volunteer, John Stanway, who is doing a great job for the community.

DIFFERENT NIGHT OUT

An evening with a difference is to be held at Shildon Civic Hall on Saturday 4th April 2009 starting at 6.00pm.

The Ultimate Gangster features the right hand man to the Kray Twins, "MAD FRANKIE FRASER" as special guest, plus full support will be given by London mood music, playing songs from the 60's era from Ronnie Scott's nightclub including Judy Garland, Helen Shapiro etc. Tickets are available now from the Civic Hall Shildon.

ZULU WARRIORS VISIT TOWN



Horndale Infant and Nursery School held an African Arts event last week and on Tuesday The Lions of Zululand roared into school. The Zulu warriors entertained all the children with traditional dancing and singing. They were adorned in rich Zulu costumes, and had sensational voices and fast paced action. The pupils and staff were mesmerised. After their performance the Zulus held workshops with the children where they learnt dance, singing, art, culture and language.

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Councillors Who Let the Town Down

Dear Sir,
I would like to congratulate the following councillors on their vote to sell off the open spaces in Newton Aycliffe, namely Helen Hutchinson, George Gray, and Vince Crosby, they did a sterling job of putting Party loyalty before their voters.

What I would like to remind them of, is that in the very near future they will be looking to these same voters for re-election and will make the same empty promises that they always make: "to listen to what the voters are asking them to do on their behalf". In reality they do what the Labour Party dictate! To the voters of the respective wards that these councillors represent at present, I would suggest they remember that these councillors have not done what they promised the last time they were asking for your vote, so do they deserve your vote in the future?

This is not a request from any other political body in the Town, it is from a resident of some 38 years who is disgusted that these people have the audacity to vote away the open spaces of our town, so that they look good in the eyes of the Labour Party.

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This Week Captain Cumby extends Birthday Wishes to CALLUM MacKENZIE (25)

ROCK DISCO NIGHT
Friday 27th March
7.30pm - 11.30pm
Dance the night away to your favourite Headbanging Tunes with guest DJs
Only £2.50 on the door

Rocky Horror Party Night
FRIDAY 20th MARCH
themed rock disco & karaoke
Admission £2.50 on the door
includes free glass of punch
Prize for best fancy dress!

Mothers Day Lunch
Sunday 22nd March 2009
2 Course Meal - Just £12.50 per person
(Bookings now being taken on 316753)

RON'S BIG QUIZ
Sundays 8.30pm
£50 JACKPOT
Cash Prizes, Play Your Cards Right
Snacks and Nibbles included

Sunday Carvery Served 12-2pm
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FASHION SHOW

Calling all ladies! Our 2nd Fashion Show at M & Co in Bishop Auckland takes place on 26th March at 6.30pm. The fashion show will include the latest spring and summer collection. All purchases on the night will receive a 10% discount. Tickets are £3.50 which includes a glass of wine. For tickets or more information call the Fundraising Department on 01388 603003 or email: lynnalbury@butterwick.org.uk Proceeds in aid of Butterwick Hospice.

Golden Wedding Celebration



Brian and Ann Arrowsmith of Washington Crescent were pleasantly surprised to

receive the congratulations of the Mayor and Mayoress, George and Maud Gray,

on their Golden Wedding Anniversary last Saturday 7th March.

They had already received a delivery of a bouquet of flowers from the Borough Council and were quite overwhelmed by the attention as the family, press and civic heads gathered in their small bungalow.

Brian from Darlington and Ann from Stockton met at the Palais de Danse when Anne's friend made up a foursome. It was a blind date for Ann who wasn't impressed at first by her young RAF partner. She warmed to him and told Newton News she has never regretted it since. Brian was an Air Frame Fitter and served for four years with postings in Australia and the Far East.

The couple were married in St. Chad's Church in Roseworth and in 1958 moved to Gunn Lane in Newton Aycliffe when Brian took a job with Bakelite (now Ineos). After 13 years there Brian decided to retrain as a Wood Machinist and worked for a School Furniture company before moving to Toothills, and then Presswork Metals until his retirement.

When not bringing up her three children Ann worked at Tallents, Union Carbide, GEC and Presswork Metals. They now have nine Grandchildren and 2 Great Grandchildren. The whole family met for a celebration dinner at the Bay Horse, Middridge and in May, Brian and Ann will take a Coach Holiday to Eastbourne for their own private celebration of fifty years together.

BE GREEN! THINK YELLOW

People in County Durham are urged to be green and think yellow. The new 2009/10 Yellow Pages directory is being distributed in the county and Durham County Council wants people to recycle their old copy.

Old Yellow Pages can be recycled in kerbside collection boxes and at most Household Recycling Centres in the county.

All the directories collected will be recycled into new paper.

"Recycling Yellow Pages is no longer the problem it used to be," said Councillor Bob Young, the County Council's Cabinet member for Environment.

"By putting them in kerbside collection boxes or taking them to Household Recycling Centres, it's easy to recycle Yellow Pages at any time of the year, not just when a new copy is delivered.

"Most people already regularly recycle newspapers, bottles and cans and now we're asking them to be green and think yellow when they throw out their old Yellow Pages.

"It will make a real contribution to our recycling effort," he said. For further information about recycling, visit the council's website at www.durham.gov.uk

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 2009

Friday 10th - "UNBREAKABLE" Westlife Tribute Band
 Top harmony band Envy present a truly authentic tribute to Westlife, Britain's most successful boy band - Arrive 7.00pm for dinner at 7.30pm
Buffet, Entertainment and Disco £14.95 per person

Saturday 11th - HIGH SCHOOL PANTO Especially for children
 Fab, fast moving, high energy family show with songs, dance, fun, laughter and audience participation. Guaranteed to entertain kids and parents alike.
 Arrive 1.30pm - seats at 2.00pm
Tickets £8.00 children - £10.00 adults.

Saturday 11th - THE 80's EXPERIENCE The best disco party ever
 Arrive at 7.00pm for an all you can eat buffet
£10.95 per person

Sunday 12th - EASTER SUNDAY LUNCH and EASTER EGG HUNT
 Three course Sunday lunch with a clue on each table to where your Easter Egg will be hidden.
£15.95 per person, bookings from 12.00pm until 2.00pm

Friday 17th - "KYLIE" By Faye Richards
 The ultimate tribute to Kylie Minogue. Two course buffet, entertainment and disco
£12.95 per person - arrive for 7pm

Friday 24th - "DIAMOND MEETS ELVIS"
 An unforgettable evening with Fisher Stevens who has the amazing ability to transform his vocals and performing style from Neil Diamond to Elvis Presley
Two course Buffet, Entertainment and Disco - £12.95 per person

Our popular Sunday Lunch is served in the Boyne Suite, accompanied by music from our residential pianist, 4 courses including coffee at £16.95

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PACT MEETING

GREENFIELD/MIDDRIDGE WARD
 WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL
 7.00pm
 AYCLIFFE EVANGELICAL CHURCH, LADYBOWER

The next PACT meeting (POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER) will be held on the above date. This is an opportunity to come along and discuss any problems you may be having in your community and work together with agencies such as the Police, and the council to look at methods of tackling these problems. PCSO Mike WELCH will be in attendance, and local councillors have been invited. For further information contact 0345 60 60 365, and ask for PCSO 6859 Mike WELCH.

Roman Do Their Bit for Charity



Local shower designer and manufacturer, Roman Ltd based at Newton Aycliffe, has raised a grand total of £11,000 for local charities over the last 2 years, and are already looking at ways to raise money for their chosen charities of 2009.

The two charities at the heart of Roman's fund-raising efforts were St Teresa's Hospice, and the Darlington and District Samaritans, both charities are based on Woodland's Road, Darlington.

A grand total of £7,000 was raised for both charities during 2008, which was evenly distributed.

The key fund-raising activity over the last 12 months involved a team of 12 Roman employees completing an 84 mile challenge to walk Hadrian's Wall, coast to coast. In addition, the Company auctioned off all unused laptops to employees, along with various cash collections round the factory to contribute to the overall total.

Roman's Charity Committee is currently deciding on their chosen charities and activities for the coming year. At present a quiz night for all Roman staff to attend has been scheduled for the early part of the year.

On Friday 6th March 2009, representatives from both charities visited the Newton Aycliffe based factory to accept their cheque from The Chairman, Gerry Osborne and The Charities Committee. Gerry Osborne, comments; "I would like to thank all those who have directly taken part in fund-raising activities, and those who have contributed sponsorship money. As a reputable and long standing company within the local area, it is excellent to be given the opportunity to contribute towards the efforts of these local charities. We are extremely excited at the prospects 2009 will bring for our Charities Committee, and activities planned for over the next 12 months."

GRATEFUL WHEN THE BUS TURNS UP!

Dear Sir,
I read with interest the article written by Mark Ellis, Commercial Manager, Arriva North East. One of the first questions I would like to ask is, does he ever travel with Arriva himself?

I travel 5 days a week to Durham on the 7a. The bus is always one of the very old ones. Windows that do not stay shut, so it is very cold. When it rains you have to sit on the wet seats with the water coming through the lights.

Regularly, pieces of paper on the bus windscreen are the only way of telling us the bus number and its destination. He states that 93% of customers would recommend Arriva. If someone had to get to Durham or Darlington and had no car, I would HAVE to 'recommend' Arriva as no other bus company operates on these routes.

On Friday 6th March, the day I read the article, the 7a, 16.02, 16.36, 17.06 from the Arnison Centre Durham did not arrive. So at 17.25 I went to another

bus stop and caught a Durham bus into the bus station just as a number 7 was pulling in. I asked the driver if he had been to the Arnison Centre, which is the beginning of the Durham to Darlington route, 'No' was his reply 'I'm late'. If the bus is late Arriva just misses off part of the journey, if passengers are waiting, tough! As Arriva is the only bus company the only way to get home is just to stand around and wait and hope one turns up.

Surveys: A few weeks prior, put a few good buses on, make them run on time, then do a survey, ask questions in a certain manner. The glass being 'half empty or half full' springs to mind.

How many times have we been told Arriva has new buses, yes, new to Arriva but other companies cast offs. Today, (Monday morning) the bus was only 16 minutes late going to Durham, but I suppose I should be grateful it turned up.

G Hudson

Fitness Classes at Woodham

Lose Weight, Burn Calories & Tone-Up and Pay as you go Fitness Classes at Woodham Community Technology College starting Monday 23rd March.

Aerobics - Monday 7-8pm; **Tone** - Monday 8-8.45pm

Aerotone - Thursday 7.15-8.15pm.

All classes are beginner friendly and fun! One class £3.70, two classes £6.50, three classes £9.00. For more information please call Paul 07968 442627 or Sarah 0790 0198079

TOWN THERAPIST WORKING TOWARDS HER DREAM



Beauty Therapist, Nicola Magneron with Lecturer Sue Usher

Nicola Magneron 18, an NVQ Level 2 Beauty Therapist student at Bishop Auckland College went on her work placement at the 'The Beauty Room Spa' at the Hall Garth Hotel and was delighted to be offered a permanent Saturday job working as a beauty therapist there.

Nicola from Newton Aycliffe said 'I really enjoy my job and working with clients and making them feel good about themselves is the best part. I am going on to study Beauty Therapy NVQ 3 in September and I am planning to study on a Teacher Training course at the College too, eventually I hope to become a lecturer in Beauty Therapy.'

Sue Usher, Nicola's Lecturer said 'Nicola is a credit, she is always willing to go the extra mile and knows what she wants to do.'

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 8th April 2009

Environment Committee - 7.15pm

Followed by the Recreation Committee

QUESTION TIME

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

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Sat 14th March - "F.M."

Davy's Rock Page review: "Was this the best midweek pub gig ever? Probably! What can you say about F.M., this was rock and roll utopia, a classic journey through rock and roll hall of fame." www.ffmpeg.co.uk

Sat 21st March - "Graham Russell"

National magazine, 100% Biker review: "The entertainment on Saturday night was Graham Russell, just 1 bloke and a multitude of guitars, but boy can he play, the marquee was buzzin', he really did the business, whatever they paid him, he was worth triple!" www.graham-russell.co.uk

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 319700

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Members of the St. Francis School Football team with residents of Aycliffe Care Home, the Manager, Louise Laing and Head Teacher Stuart Joyce.

The Manager of the Southern Cross Care Home at Burnhope, directly opposite our school, very kindly offered to sponsor a new sports strip for St. Francis School football team. We chose red which is a traditional colour for the school. The children are looking forward very much to using the new strips at upcoming sports tournaments and festivals which take place regularly and involve all of the local schools in our cluster. Everyone at St. Francis School is very grateful to Southern Cross for their kind donation and look forward to further future work taking place between the school and care home. Stuart Joyce, Headteacher.

GIRLS ON MIDNIGHT WALK FOR HOSPICE

Hundreds of women are set to step out together in a charity walk for local hospice care. Some 1000 places are on offer for women to take part in this year's Midnight Walk in aid of Butterwick Hospice Care on Saturday 20th June 2009. The sponsored walk took place for the first time at Sedgfield Racecourse last June and this year's event is set to be bigger and better with some important changes which we have made such as walking will take place on grass and floodlit. 500 women joined together last year to share the feeling and raised over £65,000 for local hospice services. Barbara Fountain, Fundraiser for Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland said, "We were overwhelmed by the amount raised from last year's Midnight Walk. The support went far beyond our expectations and everyone here at the hospice was very excited about the total. As it was our first Midnight Walk, we had no idea how successful it would be, but it just seemed to capture



people's imagination and the amount raised definitely showed how special the night was. We hope this year's event will be an even greater success."

All the funds raised from the 2008 Midnight Walk have been spent locally to provide specialist palliative care and bereavement support to people affected by life limiting illness or the death of a loved one. The Midnight Walk is not a race, last year women of all ages took part in the event for many reasons including to remember a loved one, to raise vital funds for a local charity, to say thank you for the care they had received or to have a great night out

with friends. Whatever people's reasons for taking part the money raised made a huge difference to people living in their own communities. The hospice team offer a package of care tailored to meet each person's individual physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual needs. Places for the Midnight Walk are limited, please return your entry form to be part of this magical event. Entry fee is £12.50, in return each walker receives a walking pack including: Sponsorship Form, Fitness Sheet. Unlimited bottled water, Chocolate bar, Fruit (banana), Breakfast (bacon sandwich, tea/coffee) and a well earned medal!

APPLICATION FORM

ONE FORM PER PERSON PLEASE

First Name _____

Surname _____ Age _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ Telephone No. _____

Mobile No. _____

Email Address _____

Any medical conditions _____

Any special dietary needs _____

I enclose a cheque made payable to Butterwick Hospice Care for £12.50 or please debit my credit card:

Card Number _____

Start Date _____ Expiry Date _____ Issue No. _____ Security Code _____

T-shirt	Small (35"-37")	Medium (38"-40")	Large (41"-43")	X Large (44"-46")

I will be walking the distance of _____ 5 laps _____ 10 laps _____

Would you be willing to partake in publicity about the Midnight Walk? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have a special reason for fundraising for Butterwick Hospice Care? _____

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

I understand that this walk is not a race. I am aware that the organisers and their employees and volunteers cannot be held responsible for any personal injury, accident, loss, damage or public liability. I can confirm I am in reasonable health and fitness. If under 16 I will be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Signed _____

Date _____

Your details will be held on Butterwick Hospice internal database and will not be sent on to a third party. If you do not wish to be kept updated about news from Butterwick Hospice please tick here. _____

Please complete & return this form to:
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FREE TICKETS TO SEE OZ

Shildon CentreStage's next production is the superb musical, Wizard of Oz and it takes place from Friday 20th March to the Sunday, 22nd March.

CentreStage would like to offer, a special discount for ALL readers of Newton News, so if you pre book your tickets, then we will give 1 free child seat with every adult full paying seat bought.

So come on and follow Dorothy's great journey along the yellow brick road where she meets some strange friends in her quest to meet the great Wizard of Oz. This production has lots of singing and dancing with many of the songs you may have heard Judy Garland sing, with a few added extra's

just to give the production a little extra twist. The kids will love it, as will the adults, so join Dorothy for her magical journey through Oz.

All the cast are local, from Bishop, Shildon and of course our own town of Aycliffe, including the director of the production, Andrew Timmiss. This great offer is only available on pre booked tickets, so give us a call today on 01325 313363 or check our group out on Facebook.

The Wizard of Oz is on at the Civic Hall, Shildon on the following dates: Friday 20th March @ 7.30pm, Saturday 21st March @ 2pm or join us on Mothers Day, after lunch @ 3.30pm, tickets are priced at £4 adults and £2 children, so don't delay, BOOK TODAY.

Aycliffe Bus Society 30 Years Old



Councillors Joan Gray, Dorothy Bowman, Sarah Iveson, Enid Paylor, Mike Dixon, Paul Gittins, and John Moran, recently visited the headquarters of the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society, Aycliffe's only accredited museum, to present a cheque for £700 to Society funds. The Society is now 30 years old and has

6 vehicles in the collection, 5 of which are in running order. Councillors were shown the current restoration project, a 1958 United LS coach together with winter maintenance of the Society's "Heartbeat" bus often seen on T.V. Ian Wiggett, Secretary of the Society, said that the concept of a working collection,

thereby taking its exhibits to the public rather than having a conventional museum building, was quite unique. On average the Society's vehicles undertake over 70 events in a running season with attendance as far as Holland.

During 2008 the Society has been working closely with Locomotion, Shildon especially at half term times when the Heartbeat bus has been used to augment the car park shuttle service. Children and adults have been delighted to ride on a well known film star.

In 2009 the Society will be expanding their educational outreach work when the 1942 United double decker will be taken to local schools, together with re-enactors in period costume, in order to give youngsters a "hands on" experience of life during World War II.

The grant money will be used to pay for the re-upholstery of the remaining seats in the restoration of the coach. Anyone interested in the work of the Society, particularly with practical skills or have a PCV licence, will receive a very warm welcome and an invitation to join a vibrant and enthusiastic team of volunteers. Phone Ian Wiggett 317657 for information or visit www.aycliffebus.org.uk

TOWN BUS SERVICE

Dear Sir,
Regarding the letter from Mark Ellis, Commercial manager for Arriva North East.

As a regular traveller on Arriva I have to agree that buses from Durham to Darlington are usually on time and the buses are in better condition and run often.

The No. 5 service, however, to and from Bishop Auckland is not good. The buses are often up to 25 mins late by the time they get to Shildon. Many are not low access and the buses are dirty and gaps are sealed badly with a resin. We used to have a bus to Bishop Auckland every 15 minutes, now they are every 30 minutes, if they are on time.

The Bishop Auckland bus used to go past Cobblers Hall but people from that end of the town now have no bus.

How many people were surveyed? I haven't met a person yet who took part in the survey.

Ms. Boshier

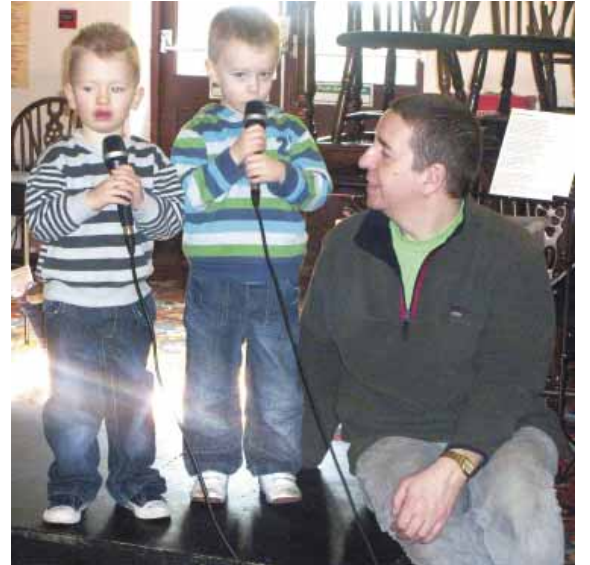
PLAYDAY NURSERY HOLD MUSIC SESSION

On Tuesday 10th March Playday Nursery had the opportunity to participate in a music session at the Cumby Arms provided by Neville Jones, a parent of children at the nursery. This was a continuation of the children's developing interest in different kinds of music and movement.

The children from the 2-3 room and the 3-5's room were able to experiment on synthesisers, and took turns singing on the stage, before having a dancing session. On the return journey the children

were all smiling and laughing and talked excitedly about what they enjoyed best.

"I liked being on the stage and singing" Erin and Olivia. "I liked using the microphone, it made my voice loud" said Leo. The children and staff would like to say a BIG thank you to Neville Jones, The Cumby Arms and J&C Coaches for providing the venue and transport. If you would like any more information about Playday Nursery please contact Linda on 01325 312050 or play.days@btconnect.com



Dance School's First Show at Greenfield

At Greenfield School performing Arts College on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st March 2009 there will be the first showcase for the K DANZ school. The dance school has only been running for 2 years and the majority have never been on stage before! All the parents are helping behind the scenes and a donation will be made to charity from the proceeds.

The show offers a variety of entertainment for all the family! From Disney to Michael Jackson's Thriller, from Men in Black to I Should Be So Lucky and from Ben 10 to step up!

We have the support of 'Highlights' - a big sound and lighting company, who are providing our technical support and Paul Lusby a local camera man producing a DVD Should anyone want any more information or would like to buy tickets. They are £5 each and can be purchased by ringing Kay Jones on 07900365892

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IL Divo

Newcastle Arena - 12th April - £70.00

Disney on Ice

Newcastle Arena - 10th October - £29.50

Sound of Music

Sunderland Empire - 20th November - £42.00

UB40

Newcastle Arena - 24th November - £45.00

Sound of Music

Sunderland Empire - 4th December - £42.00

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WAS VOTE RIGGED ON TRANSFER OF LAND & HOUSING?

Dear Sir,
Reference vote on the transfer of Open Spaces & Housing.
Prior to the last local elections I remember reading

in the Newton News a letter from a resident explaining what he would like to see from future representatives. The meeting to discuss this vote and what happened

during it now leads me to reflect upon just that and the fallability of our system of democracy. Many people purport to claim they are representing

you, but are they when they are even afraid to agree to a named vote on one of the most hotly disputed issues in Sedgefield Borough? What actually happened at this meeting I leave for you to make your own minds. Labour proposed the transfer to which I immediately objected on the grounds that insufficient documentation had been provided to help us come to a decision. For example, the maps we received were only drafts, and not finalised. We had not even been shown the development plan, which is supposedly in place. This was unsatisfactory to help us adequately deal with issues of importance to the people we represent. It was then compounded by the Chairman/Mayor informing me that my 3 minutes to voice concerns was up, to which I argued profusely. They disregarded me and immediately went to the vote.

I was then told by the Chairman it would be an individual vote, but Labour Councillors toed the line and voted as a group! In other words Labour representatives did not follow their consciences.

How else can you explain 3 members of Great Aycliffe Town Council who appeared to be vehemently against the transfer of open spaces, to then proceed to vote for the transfer to take place? To help the vote the Chairman of the meeting voted, despite being on the board of the new Sedgefield Housing Organisation. The Chairman of the New Sedgefield Housing company, plus a reserve also voted for the transfer. How can these people say they had no vested interest? How much longer do you wish to be represented by nodding dogs? But at least they turned up, which is more than can be said for the three Durham Unitary Authority Councillors from Newton Aycliffe, who are also on the Borough and Town Councils, They did not attend this meeting as they were called to County Hall.

Perhaps it is time you contacted your councillor to ascertain whether they are representing you or not. I will keep you informed of further developments, as we are not prepared to let this be the end of the issue. Cllr. Bill Blenkinsopp (Ind)

Liberals Introduced Minimum Wage

Dear Editor.
Your article last week about 'Workers being fairly paid' is very misleading. It gives the impression that the Labour Party, for the first time in social history is responsible for bringing about basic benefit improvement for employees and the claim that the Labour Party introduced the Minimum wage is just not true. The minimum wage had previously been introduced in 1906 by Winston Churchill. He was then a liberal MP and he built upon the work done by his predecessor Lloyd George the social reformer of Pensions. As president of the Board of Trade, Churchill introduced a series social change for employees, including Boards to set Minimum wages, he also introduced an 8 hour day for miners and he established Labour Exchanges amongst other things. Some decades later it was the Trade Unions who had the Minimum Wage system disbanded as it was seen to be keeping wages down rather than enhancing them. All Blair did by saying he was introducing the Minimum Wage was to take advantage of the lack of historical knowledge of low paid workers by letting them think they were getting

something for nothing. While in truth he was gaining their vote to keep him in office. And the question is still to be asked, are low paid workers being denied the right to demand an increase in wage while there is a minimum wage limit? The answer as the Unions concluded is still, yes! And readers will be concerned, since it's against the law for a Politician to interfere with the Administration or the Enforcement of law made in Parliament. This is the jurisdiction of the Police alone. Remember to-days politicians, unlike those of old, are self serving. They have set the retiring age to 65 years for employees but not for themselves. They have passed legislation that all Local Authority and Government jobs have to be advertised to the public. But Politicians don't have to advertise vacancies for their own departments, especially if the woman he lives with wants a job! Ever wonder if she is on the Minimum Wage? Unfortunately there is more than enough evidence to show we cannot trust our MP's to act on our behalf. Anything they do or say must be assumed to primarily benefit them. Henry Ballantyne

FANTASTIC "FAME"



Woodham Youth Theatre's production of "Fame" was outstanding and a testimony to lots of hard work and time in rehearsal by the cast and teaching staff. The students were amazing, displaying great discipline and maturity in their interpretation of this hard-hitting musical spectacular. The powerful and at times, shocking script, touched on problems around literacy, drugs, sexuality and prejudice, provoking much thought for everyone involved, whether performing or spectating. Everyone was caught up in the energy and enthusiasm of the players. The backstage personnel, front of house, lighting and sound all worked to produce a wonderful and memorable Show led by Miss Laura Tindall. The band was superb under their indefatigable Musical Director Miss Tina Hughes. The standard of acting was extremely high, thanks to Miss Ithurrealde, under whose direction the cast performed some poignant and tear jerking scenes. I do not wish to single out individual performances as this was very much a team effort evidenced in

the way the cast, band and production team supported each other. It was clear from the audience applause how much they enjoyed "Fame" and there were many parents who left the show very proud of their children. The Music Department at Woodham College continues to develop the talent of students whose involvement in music and drama boosts their confidence and self esteem. There were many tears shed after the final performance as those students, who were

leaving the College, paid tribute to their teachers who had given them the opportunity and confidence to perform. The deep bond teachers enjoy with their students was clear from equal amount of tears on their faces. The students expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to sing, act, play an instrument or support the Shows, believing very strongly it has helped their education and given them friends for life, along with great memories of their time at Woodham.



weekend grill menu

served friday,
saturday & sunday

6.30pm - 9.30pm

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starters

Grilled Cornish sardines, squashed tomatoes, balsamic	£4.00
Classic Caesar salad	£4.00
Fresh Scottish mussels, garlic, onions, white wine and cream	£4.00 / £8.00
Loch Fyne smoked salmon, capers, lemon	£6.00
Salmon fish cakes, caper mayonnaise	£4.00
Prawn and crab cocktail, marie rose sauce	£5.00
Smoked haddock, poached egg, hollandaise sauce	£6.00
Chicken liver pate, plum chutney, brioche toast	£5.00
Risotto with wild mushrooms or crab, parmesan shavings	£5.00 / £10.00
Pork rillettes, apple relish	£4.00
Aromatic duck wraps, sesame and soy	£4.00
Wild and button mushrooms, garlic and cream	£4.00
Soup of the day - please ask	£4.00
Grilled goats cheese, bluish tomato and olive ketchup	£4.00 / £8.00
French onion soup, gruyere crouton	£4.00

mains

- fish

King scallops, chorizo, black pudding, rough pesto	£12.00
Fish pie, salmon, crab and scallops, glazed with mull cheddar	£14.00
Tempura king prawns, garlic mayonnaise	£12.00
Grilled whole lemon sole, lemon and parsley	£16.00
Cod fillet, pine nuts, olives and tomatoes	£15.00

- from the grill

Each served with grilled vine tomato and field mushroom

10oz local sirloin	£16.00
8oz local fillet	£17.00
6oz local fillet for the lady or child	£15.00
10oz rump	£12.00
10oz rib eye	£14.00
16oz gammon steak, fried egg	£10.00
10oz butterflied cajun spiced chicken breast	£10.00
Please ask about steak specials	

- meal

Corned beef hash, roast tomatoes, free range hens egg	£8.00
Calves liver, pancetta, onion, sage mash, lemon	£10.00
Cumberland sausage, champ, ale gravy	£8.00
Hamsterley Forest rare breed pork chops, apple and black pudding, creamed pea sauce	£10.00
Mutton and hump suet crust pie, mash, onion gravy	£10.00
Grilled chicken breast, mash potato, creamy leek sauce	£10.00
Hardwick beef burger, vine tomatoes, pickles and ketchup	£8.00

- vegetarian

Fettuccine, wild and button mushrooms, parmesan	£8.00
Deep fried camembert, chard and rocket salad, garlic mayonnaise	£12.00
Isle of Mull cheddar omelette, green salad	£7.00

sides

Hand cut chips	£2.00
French fries	£2.00
Potato gratin	£2.00
New potatoes	£2.00
Mixed vegetables	£2.00
Onion rings	£2.00
Tossed salad	£2.00
Tomato and onion salad	£2.00
Peppercorn sauce	£2.00
Bearnaise sauce	£2.00
Red wine and shallot sauce	£2.00
Garlic and herb butter	£2.00

desserts

Knickerbocker glory	£4.00
Crepe Suzette, lemon curd ice cream	£5.00
Banana split	£4.00
Sticky toffee pudding, toffee sauce	£5.00
Crème brûlée	£4.00
Chocolate tart, clotted cream	£6.00
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NEW UNITARY COUNCIL SIZE UNLIKELY TO BE REDUCED

126 Councillors necessary to meet workload and represent electorate effectively, says Council leader

The number of councillors serving on County Durham's new unitary council is unlikely to be reduced, it was announced today.

Durham County Council Leader Simon Henig told the authority's Cabinet that the Boundary Committee had said it was minded to regard the present number of 126 elected members as being proportionate to scale of duties and responsibilities involved after next month's local government shake-up. Its announcement brought several months of consultation to a "satisfactory conclusion", he added, and now paved the way for a further review of the boundaries of the council's existing 63

electoral divisions.

There are currently 375 county and district councillors in County Durham, but from April 1, when the seven district councils and county council merge to create a single unitary council, they will be replaced by the 126 councillors who were voted into office in the May 2008 elections to serve the dual role as members of the existing county council and unitary councillors-elect. Coun Henig said although that represented a reduction of two-thirds in the total number of councillors, an all-party council working group had looked closely at the implications of even further reduced council sizes comprising 90 and 110 councillors.

But in both cases, he added, it was considered that the workload for individual members would

be too unreasonable and the members' ability to represent their electorate adequately and effectively would be compromised.

"Much has been made in recent years of the importance of recruiting and retaining councillors from all backgrounds and age groups and providing them with an attractive and meaningful role which at the same time offers a reasonable work-life balance," said Coun Henig. "These objectives will not be achieved if there are insufficient members to effectively carry the workload involved."

"From April 1, the Council will be one of a small

number of newly-created 'flagship unitary authorities. The expectations are high, both in terms of the local electorate and central government, and it is critical to ensure that there is adequate member capacity to meet them."

Councillor Henig said the council had given the Boundary Committee detailed information which highlighted the "very considerable" demands that will be placed on members of the new unitary council. "It reinforced our view that the present size of the council, with 126 members, is the minimum requirement for a fit-for-purpose unitary authority for county Durham," he added.

The second stage of the electoral review of the County is due to begin on March 17 when the Boundary Committee begins 12 weeks' consultation with the County Council, town and parish councils and local residents on how the existing 63 electoral divisions should look. The consultation will end on June 8, 2009.

ON TRACK FOR A GREAT DAY OUT

Dads and kids in the Durham Dales are on track to enjoy some quality time together at a North East railway museum.

They're taking part in a series of events at The Locomotion Museum, in Shildon, over the next three Saturdays.

The events have been organised by local Sure Start Children's Centres and are open to dads, grandads, uncles and male carers with children under five years.

As well spending time together the families will get to take part in different activities and learn new skills.

They'll have the chance to make their own model railways and trains and they'll team up to complete an exciting transport trail.

The cost to take part is £2 per adult, which includes breakfast refreshments. Transport is also available on request at a cost of £1 per adult.

The events are taking place on March 14, 21 and 28 between 10am and 12 noon.

To find out more and get involved people can contact Nigel Connah at Willington Children's Centre on 01388 746740.

Electrical

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Barrington Road Race Track

Dear Sir,
 At the weekend I was getting out of my car outside my house, which is close to Barrington Road, when I heard a man shouting 'NO STOP, STOP, STAY' and a car's brakes squealing. The man had been walking along the footpath in front of the houses taking his child to the park.
 From what I could see it looked as if the child was about to cross the road when a fast car came from Pease Way and had to brake suddenly to avoid the child. Then today a neighbour, his young son and I were having a chat outside my house. His son was a little restless and we became very concerned for his safety as a young male in an Audi sports car went

past us travelling at well over the speed limit. Many cars speed along Barrington Road using it as a short cut from Stephenson Way to Pease Way and vice-versa. It is not a bus route, but we certainly get a lot of taxis along this road and it is always busy. The worst area is between Tunstall Road and Paulinus Road as the Park is close by. It is on a slight curve and cars are usually parked in front of the houses. Most drivers know that the cars are parked there and slow down to go around the curve but there are quite a few who don't. Unlike most of the other 'fast or rat run' roads in Newton Aycliffe we don't have any traffic calming devices. My neighbour has tried to contact the Borough Council to find out if there are any plans for calming, but has not heard anything back yet. I would like to know when people are going to realise that speeding kills, and a real danger to children with other things on their minds as they go to the park.
 Concerned Resident.

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 The answer to why it fades out is that it has moved into the earth's shadow. It is also true that they have quite often been mistaken for U.F.Os.
 Ken Stewart.
 Amateur astronomer.

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CALLS FOR QUICK ADOPTION OF TEXT CHARGE CUTS

North East Labour Euro MP Stephen Hughes, has welcomed European Parliament backing for a cut in prices for texting while in another European country. Stephen said: “last year we introduced the regulation on mobile phone roaming charges for voice calls across Europe which has successfully slashed the cost of roaming calls. We gave industry the chance to voluntarily reduce the costs of text roaming or face further action.” “Consumers are being charged up to 10 times more than domestic rates for sending texts. We have been left no choice but to legislate to protect consumers and to force the industry to reduce their charges, with texts capped at 11 cents/ 9 pence. I want this legislation in force to protect consumers as soon as possible.” Commenting on rules included to ensure per second billing for consumers Stephen Hughes said “Many operators have responded to our law on roaming calls and cut their prices further, but some have tried to avoid giving consumers the full benefit by starting to round up charges to the nearest minute. This equals a 20% hidden charge for calls which consumers don’t actually use. My Labour colleagues and I have raised this issue with operators, regulators and the Commission over the last year and I am glad Euro MPs have clearly backed my call for a fair deal and a return to per second billing as a requirement for all operators.” The law will also introduce a new system of transparency for ‘data roaming’. Stephen said “We must also tackle overcharging for data roaming. In a recent example I was given, a constituent had been charged over one thousand pounds for accessing the internet twice while on holiday. The new transparency rules we have developed are crucial for ending this ‘bill shock’”.

CAB Expands With Extra £10m Funding

The Citizens Advice Service is using a £10m funding boost from the Government to extend its opening hours and ensure even more people can benefit from receiving free, independent and impartial advice. Sedgefield & District CAB covering all of Sedgefield Borough are one of over 340 CABs benefitting from the funding and has extended its opening hours by providing additional

advice sessions on a drop-in basis in: Shildon, Fishburn and Ferryhill. The bureau predicts this means they will be able to see 1770 extra clients from March 2009 to the end March 2010. The funding was announced by the chancellor in November’s Pre Budget Report and makes up a substantial part of the total £15m allocated. The extra funding will allow the

charity’s bureau network to stay open for approximately 170,000 additional hours, benefiting around 600,000 extra clients during the 14 month period to the end of March 2010. The service has seen a large increase in enquiries linked to the downturn, with sharp rises in people seeking advice on redundancy, benefits and mortgage and secured loan arrears. Last year (Apr 2007-Mar 2008) the charity dealt with 5.54 million issues overall and fears this will grow further as more people lose their jobs, get further into debt and risk losing their homes. The Citizens Advice bureau network currently deals with 450 new cases involving mortgage arrears and 475 new redundancy enquiries every working day. As well as seeing a 125% increase in redundancy enquiries between April and November 2008, daily enquiries about Job Seekers Allowance rose by 66% in the same period across the

service. Significant increases were also seen in enquiries about Bankruptcy, Council Tax debts, Fuel debts and rent arrears to private landlords. Sedgefield & District bureau opening times at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre
Mon 10am – 1pm
Tues 10am – 4pm
Wed 10am – 1pm
Thurs Closed
Fri 10am – 1pm
The advice line number is 0844 4994123 which also has full details of session times in all locations.

COUNCIL LEADER WELCOMES HOUSING RENT ADJUSTMENT

Durham County Council Leader Simon Henig, who only last weekend lobbied Housing Minister Margaret Beckett, over the initial size of the rent increase, welcomed news of today’s reduction. And he said his authority would work as fast as it could to pass the adjustment on to tenants. “When I met the Minister, it was clear we weren’t the only council that was unhappy about having to make council house rent increases of six per cent, especially given the economic downturn. “While at the time we weren’t able to secure

any immediate changes to Government policy that would soften the blow of the increases the Minister gave us a clear commitment to review the whole question of council house rent restructuring and housing subsidies before we look at our budget for 2010/11 “However, our comments clearly struck a chord with the Minister and the changes have come about a lot faster than we ever thought they would. “It’s very welcome news, and while it is a complex job to adjust rent levels twice in the space of a week, we shall do it as quickly as we can and pass on the reduction with as little delay as possible.” Current legislation requires housing authorities to give tenants four weeks’ notice of any variation in their rent. It means the council’s 19,000 tenants are likely to receive two letters in quick succession, informing them first of the six per cent increase and then news of today’s adjustment. Glyn Hall, the Council’s Head of Housing urged tenants to conform fully with whatever rent demands they received. “If that means they are over-paying for the first few weeks, the revised rent levels will be adjusted to recognized that and no-one will end up paying more than they should,” he added.

“Shocking” Driving Down Shafto Way

Dear Sir,
To the idiot who was driving down Shafto Way at 3pm on Wednesday 10th March at about 70mph! My father in law was coming the other way having driven past residents’ cars which are parked on the side of the road. You were travelling at a dangerous speed and had to slam your brakes on. You then shouted & screamed at my father-in-law asking him if he knew the Highway Code. I can only presume you don’t as you would know the speed limit for that road is 30mph. You also might like to know my father-in-law has a defibrillator fitted in his chest as he has a heart condition. As a direct result of your lunatic driving and road rage, the abuse you gave him caused his machine to shock his heart and he’s in hospital being treated because of YOU. So next time you are out driving think about that day and what might have happened or what may still happen as I am sat at home with his two small grandchildren waiting to see if their gentle Grandad is going to be ok. Kill your speed before you kill somebody. Anxious Relative

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MADISON JACKMAN Welcome home from your skiing trip to Italy with Greenfield School. We’ve missed you and hope you had a wonderful, exciting adventure. All our love, Mam, Dad and Mackenzie

AYCLIFFE BACK TO FORM

JARROVIANS 6 V NEWTON AYCLIFFE 50

With the scheduled match cancelled on the Saturday morning, Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club were fortunate to find a match with Jarrovians. Aycliffe took a strong squad of 23 to the game and after a bad defeat the previous week, they were looking to redress matters with a

Births

AMY & PAUL are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful baby boy "Zach", born 1st March 2009, weighing 7lb, 14oz
BAILEY - TOWLER Congratulations Caroline and Ian on the birth of your Son "Ethan" born on 12th February 2009. Lots of love, Mam and Keith xxx
BAILEY - TOWLER Congratulations Sis and Ian on the safe arrival of "Ethan" born on 12th February 2009. Nephew and Cousin. Lots of love from Peter and Liam xxx

For Sale

WOODEN PLAY HOUSE
 6' long x 4' wide x 5.5' high
 two windows, £160 ono.
 Tel 314657

BEDS BEDS BEDS at Bargain Buys, Divan Beds from £59, Pine Frames from £59, metal frames from £49. Special offer 4'6" leather sleigh bed, £269 including mattress Tel 321678.
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Advertisements with a Photograph can be placed at one of our agents:

TAYLORS NEWSFORCE (Towa Centre)
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Small PhotoAd - £15.00
 Photo and up to 20 words - extra words 15p each

Large PhotoAd - £25.00
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THESE ADVERTISEMENTS CAN BE USED FOR: BIRTHDAY GREETINGS, IN MEMORIAMS AS WELL AS CAR OR PROPERTY SALES

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 Photos are held on file for six months only*

Please ensure all Personal Advertisements are clearly written to avoid distressing errors

good performance. Aycliffe began well and soon scored an excellent try, Drew Gibson finishing off after good support work from both forwards and backs. A further try was added when Chris Wilson crossed the line for his first of the season. Jarrovians fought back with two penalty kicks, but further Aycliffe tries

Thank You

WE WOULD like to say a big thank you to Melvin, Eleanor and Garry for everything you did for Mum, before and during her illness. Mel, you couldn't have done more had you been her Son, thank you. Eleanor, I know you will say she was my Mum and I only did what any Daughter would, but you went above and beyond for Mum, taking her with you and including her in every aspect of your life, be proud of yourself. Garry, thanks for opening my eyes and for the love and respect you showed your Gran, your Mum and Dad should be proud. Love, Agnes, Georgie and Family xxx
WIN KENNEDY and family would like to thank everyone for cards, flowers and kind words on the sudden bereavement of Bob. Special thanks to Julie and the Cooperative Funeral Service; Isabel for the wonderful buffet. Also to Father Campion for a wonderful and comforting Service in celebration of Bob's life. R.I.P.
THE FAMILY of the late Maureen Mawson would like to thank everyone for their kind donations to Cancer Research. A total of £180 was raised. A special thank you to Amy, David and Shirley Ball for the wonderful music played at the Service.
ELLEN ATHERTON The family of the late Ellen Atherton would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards, love and support given over this sad time. Special thanks to Dr McKinty and Joanne (Mum's carer) for all the care and dedication given to Mum over the last year. Thanks also to Dr Skinner and all staff at Sedgfield Community Hospital who took care of Mum till she died. They showed compassion and understanding to all the family and treated Mum with the respect and dignity she deserved. Ellen was a truly amazing lady and will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Any doantions in Ellen's memory can be sent to Butterwick Hospice.

from Keith Greenwood and Jonathan Stephens together with 3 conversions by Luke Tinkler gave the visitors a 26 – 6 lead at the break. Aycliffe put on a number of subs at the break but they continued to have the edge, despite some scrappy play. Andy Newman and Mark Silvester added tries and Matt Adkins was everywhere in the loose. Aycliffe were still capable of moments of fine play and Tinkler and Tommy Cooper finished off the scoring with excellent tries showing good support running. Two further Tinkler conversions gave Aycliffe a convincing 50 – 6 victory and made the journey up the A1 worthwhile. Aycliffe host Winlaton Vulcans 2nd XV in a Durham Junior League game on 14th March, kick-off 3pm. Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club would like to thank their sponsors Aston Hotels and ServiceForce. More information is available on the website at www.ayclifferrugby.co.uk.

In Memoriam

Stan Davies
 16th March 2007
 Deep in my heart your memory is kept, to love and cherish and never forget. A smile can hide my sadness, a tear be wiped away, but the heartache of losing you will never go away.
 Loving Wife, Betty

STAN DAVIES 16-3-2007. A loving Dad and Grandad. Gone from our lives, but not from our hearts. Love from Ann, Stan, Terry and Grandchildren
HEANEY 15-3-2008. Silent thoughts and fond memories of a dear friend, Alma. Gone but not forgotten by Ellen and Les Cairns. Also this day in 2006 our dear Sister, Mirelle Phillips. Always in our hearts and lovingly remembered by all the family
TONY MOORE Died 16-3-2001. To the memory of a friend who we will never forget. George and Mima
FRANK REED 17th March 1997. Never forgotten, forever in our hearts and thoughts. Precious memories. Your loving Wife, Vera and family xxx
ALLEN FRAZER (18-3-1998). Time hides the sadness, like smiles hide the tears. But nothing hides the heartache, despite the passing years. Loved always, Ann and family
ELIZABETH POSTLE 13-3-2008. Mam, it's been 1 year since we lost you, the pain still hurts as much today as it did then. I miss you so much I can't describe, but I know you and Dad are watching over us. Love you always. Julie, Pete, Emma and Sarah xxxxx
ALMA HIENEY In loving memory of Alma, a golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands put to rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, he only takes the best. Always in our thoughts. Scott, Jacky, Heather and Laura
ALMA 15th March 2008. No cards to send, no words to say, only I miss my friend Alma every day. Lynn

JUDO IS FUN AND AN ART

Judo is many things to different people. It is a fun sport, an art, a discipline, a recreational or social activity, a fitness programme and a away of life. It is all of these things and much more, Judo is unique in that all age groups and both genders can participate together in learning and practicing the sport. Judo is year round activity which appeals to people from all walks of life. It develops self discipline, co-operation and respect for others. Judo provides the means for learning self confidence, concentration and leadership skills as well as physical stamina, co-ordination and flexibility. Newton Aycliffe Junior Judo Club sessions are held at the Leisure Centre on Tuesday 6 - 8p.m and Thursday 4.30 - 6.30pm. for children aged 6 to 16 years old. Each session is taught by a qualified Dan grade (black belt) Instructor, fully insured and CRB checked. It costs £3.20 per session. If you would like to try something different come and join us, say goodbye to the ordinary and be welcomed to the world of Judo.

Birthday Remembrance

Brooke Louise Dawson
 16th March 1980
 In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still. In our hearts you hold a place, no one can ever fill. Love and missed forever, your loving family

Obituary

Marilyn Baker (nee Dodds)
 1949 - 2009
 Died peacefully at home on 8th March 2009 with all her family at her side. Thanks to Dr Patrick C. Ojechi from Pease Way Medical Centre; Christine the Macmillan Nurse and all the District Nurses. A special thanks to Sonia Steele for all the support you have given all the family (you are an angel) and special thanks to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for all the support you have given us through this difficult time. Funeral to be held on Thursday 19th March at 1.30pm at the Mormon Church. Flowers to be sent to family address

Congratulations

Gavin D. Dodd
 Congratulations on achieving your BA in Physical Education. Excellent result. We are very proud of you. Love, Mam and Dad xx
 To my little Bro Well done, I knew you'd do it! Love Paul xx
 Congratulations on your BA in Physical Education. Well done, from a proud surrogate Grandma, Audrey

Lorna Roberts
 85 YEARS YOUNG
 Happy Birthday Mam
 Love from all the family

Alicia Harrison (nee McKay)
 Happy 50th Birthday
 15th March 1959
 Have a great day. Still young at heart. All my love, Mam xxxxxx

Tracy Anderson
 Happy 21st Birthday
 Lots of Love, Mum, Dad and Stephen xxx

Finance
 DO YOU HAVE BIG BILLS?
 Earn £100 to £300 per week in your spare time and pay them off!
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Public Notice
 WATCH BATTERIES now available at Taylors Newsforce
DONATIONS needed of Brica-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring John 316630
RSPCA Durham and District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and id chip. Please Tel 311215

Lexi Christon
 Happy 3rd Birthday
 GORGEOUS GIRL
 All our love always, Mammy and Daddy xxx
 Happy birthday Little Lady, lots of love from your Big Sister Dan xxx

Alana Thompson
 Happy 4th Birthday
 To our beautiful Granddaughter, Alana. All our love, Grandma and Grandpa Thompson, Pepsy and Maddie

Trevor & Sharon Kelly
 Happy 20th Anniversary
 16th March 2009
 Love from Mam and Grandad Oakley
Dad & Mam Well done, 20 years, Dad deserves a medal! Have a great day. Love, Lou and Kevin
Mam & Dad 20th Wedding Anniversary on 16-3-2009. The best parents we could have asked for. Love, Lou, Shane and Sharna
Mam & Dad Happy 20th Anniversary. Love, Shane and Sharni
Mam & Dad Happy 20th Anniversary. Have fun on this fab day. Love you lots, Sharna and Garath

Happy 20th Anniversary
 You are a wonderful Hubby, a great Dad and have a nice bank account! Only joking. Love you lots and snots, love you loads, Shaz
Happy 20th Wedding Anniversary to my beautiful Wife, all my love n stuff, Trev xxx



Mothering Sunday, 22nd March

Three Course Menu only £16.95 per person

Served from 12noon-3.00pm and 6.00pm - 9.00pm

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Early Bird Menu

2 courses £9.95

Available Monday to Sunday 6pm -7pm

Food now served Sunday's

6pm-9pm

www.the-county.co.uk

New Village Publicans Introduce Own Ale



Collette Farrell and Stuart Dale, have just completed their first year as publicans at “The County” in Aycliffe Village. As CAMRA members (Campaign for Real Ale) who serve a wide range of real ales in the bar, the couple thought it would be a good idea to introduce their own brew. Stuart contacted Alan at the Yard of Ale Brewery at Ferryhill and they have brewed a special copper coloured Session Ale with smooth, malty overtones and a mid-bitter finish at 4%. Imaginatively they have called it “The County Best Bitter” and already it is proving a hit with the regulars.

The Restaurant Pub is extremely popular and continues to draw discerning diners who enjoy what is offered on the extensive and reasonably priced menu. They have started a Sunday Pub Quiz. It starts at 8.30pm and will be run by Denise & Geoff who used to do the quiz at the Loco on a Sunday night. Collette and Stuart plan to open five rooms for Bed & Breakfasts and will be moving permanently into the upstairs of the County themselves soon. They are keen to become part of the village life and are very grateful for the welcome and support they have received.

ROSS RETURNS TO HIS AYCLIFFE ROOTS

Boro Goalkeeper, Ross Turnbull, from Newton Aycliffe, has presented a framed shirt for display in the Youth Centre as a tribute to the team he played for before turning professional. Until recently Ross lived with his parents Steve and Maureen. He has an older brother, Craig now a solicitor in Leeds who also played for the Youth Centre team. Ross attended Byerley Park Junior School and Woodham. He enjoys golf in his spare time and now lives in Durham with fiancé Nicola Hetherington and their baby daughter Maisy Jane. Ross joined the Youth Centre team when he was 9 years old, playing outfield for the Under 10's and then later in goal, but it wasn't unusual to see him taken out of goal towards the end of a game to play up front and score a couple of goals to win the game. Ross continued with the Youth until Under 13 level from where he was taken into the Middlesbrough Youth Academy. On his long road to the Premiership he played through the youth teams at the Academy and also gained England honours for the Under 15's through to the Under 21's, before gaining a first team place at the Boro. Photo shows Ross presenting Youth Centre FC Chairman, Joe Blackett, with his Premiership



debut shirt which was against Arsenal in the 07/08 season. The signed, framed shirt is on permanent display in the Youth foyer. With Ross are Kieron Todd, Jack Hobbs and Harri Lynch who are part of the Under 7's development team playing in the Cleveland Youth League. The U/7's are looking to build for next season as U/8's in the TJFA. If any boys or girls are interested in playing in this age group please contact Bernie

on 07939 045242 or Joe on 07983 390743. Everyone at the Youth Centre wish Ross a long and successful career as a professional footballer. They send him a big thankyou for what he does for the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Football Club.

Questions to Ask New Landlord

Dear Sir,
A recent Newspaper report stated the Government wish Council House Rents to increase to the same level as Housing Associations and private rents. I am informed that one of the Housing Associations in Aycliffe charge £73.30p per week plus Council Tax for a two bedroom flat. This may happen in the future for tenants of Sedgefield Borough Homes. When the new Landlord takes over, if it was me, I would insist on all repairs be done from day one and not wait for a new kitchen which may take years. Just a couple of questions you may also want to ask: Will you now pay VAT on your garage? This is in effect a rent rise. Will you have your gardens done as you do at present if you are elderly or disabled?
Alan Warburton, Independent Councillor



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MA BAKER
To a Mum in a Million
Happy Mothers Day
Lots of love from
Danny, Anita and Kenny
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Above example:
£12.00 (inclusive)
(maximum 15 words)

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

NEWTON PRESS
St. Cuthberts Way

TAYLORS NEWSFORCE
Town Centre or

WALKERS BUTCHERS
Simpasturegate

Deadline: 5pm Wednesday, 18th March
To be printed weekend 22nd March 2009

MOTHER BROWN - Happy Mothers Day to the best Mums in the World. All our love forever and ever. Love from Chas and Dave xxxxx

Above example:
15p per word

MOTHER NATURE
Have a great day on Sunday,
All our love,
Violet, Hyacinth & Rose
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Above example:
30p per word

No of words ©p = £..... - Box advert is required YES/NO = £12.00

UNDER 9's TAKE THE CUP

Despite a yo yo season in the league the Sports Club turned on the style to reach the final of the League Cup. Playing against a strong Ferryhill side, who have a striker with 26 goals in 12 games and 4 players at Newcastle, Aycliffe knew it would be a hard game. They stuck to their passing game, with Billy Wade and Thomas Gallagher looking strong at the back closing Ferryhill down well, leaving Liam Hardy and James Frankland to attack down the wings. t The deadlock was broken when Sam Dawson hit a long range shot that took a deflection to beat the keeper “Pepe” - 1 nil to Sports Club. With the wind now in their faces Sports Club looked to have sealed the game when Brandon Joss broke clear only for “pepe” to make a superb save. With only minutes left the impressive Joe Richardson hit an unstoppable shot which aycliffe keeper Arran Taylor could only get his finger tips to making it 1-1, sending the game into extra time. Aycliffe were the better team in extra time and Brandon Joss caused problems with his corners. With the game heading for penalties Sports Club had another corner which Man of the Match Sam Dawson headed in to win the game. The coaching staff would like to thank the whole squad for their efforts and everybody who braved the weather to come and support the team. Are you in year 4? Want to be part of a great squad? call Adrian 0797 0455139.

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Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
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Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £249.00
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A&S Candy	RRP £129.00	NOW £69.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £199.00	NOW £99.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £199.00	NOW £149.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £249.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
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3'0" BED SET		
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A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £279.00
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A&S Dorchester	RRP £299.00	NOW £209.00
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