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## DISGUST OVER COBBLERS HALL CANCELLATION

Bob Fleming, Leader of the Town Council expressed his disgust on hearing the recreational development at Cobblers Hall was not going ahead. In going through the history of the project he stated Sedgefield Borough Council promised and owed this development to Newton Aycliffe and even though they had handed over all their assets to the Unitary Authority the plans to provide recreational facilities in this area of the town should still be honoured. He said the former Council took over £50 million from the sale of land for housing in Newton Aycliffe and this cash had benefitted other towns when Aycliffe should have received the lion's share. The Town Council voted to press Durham County Council to honour the agreement to develop a park and recreational facilities at Cobblers Hall. (See letter on Page ???)

## New Agnew Centre Open Soon

The new building is going up at a cracking pace and we hope to be open for business late August. Following a Management Committee meeting this week hope to announce soon a programme of events to both inform and celebrate the old and the new. We still have room for people to join us on a Tuesday 1 pm to 2 pm for basic Line Dancing which will help you learn the footwork, simple turns and to make new friends. Please come along to the Agnew Centre at Morrison Close, Green Hut. For just £3 learn to Dance and it includes Tea/Coffee and a Raffle entry. For all bookings, prices still competitive and information on any item please contact Ron on 0751 8035320, open all hours as they say.

## COUNCIL CALL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OVER LAND TRANSFER

The Town Council were almost dumbfounded when they viewed the latest maps showing land to be transferred to Sedgefield Borough Homes. The areas identified in purple showed the extent of the giveaway which is a considerable acreage. Here and there, land near to main roads, had been retained and only the curtilage of houses there are to be transferred, but the vast majority of land, with the exception of known "greens" are to be given to Sedgefield Borough Homes free of charge. It was resolved the Council call an Emergency Extraordinary Meeting to view the maps in detail and if they were not satisfied to uphold their previous decision to seek a Judicial Review. All this hassle over land transfer is completely unnecessary and the simple answer would be not to give away any land and simply limit the transfer of land to the curtilage of each house. Why should a private landlord be given public land? It makes no sense!

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## YOUTHY MEMBERS HELP FRIEND



Chloe Miller (centre) with some of her Youth Centre friends who tackled various fundraising projects to raise sufficient cash to send Chloe and her family on holiday. "These are all great kids and all worked very hard and I am so proud of their achievement" said Youth Worker John Brittain.

## AYCLIFFE LOSE FIRST GAME IN TWELVE

Aycliffe's title assault stumbled slightly this week when they lost their first game in 12 at Moore Lane Park. Allan Oliver's side lost 2-0 at home to Teesside Athletic in front of another healthy crowd, with 264 turning out for the game, but they remained one point clear at the top of the Wearside League going into their home game against Hartlepool FC on Wednesday night. Aycliffe now have just three league games remaining, and entertain Jarrow at Moore Lane Park this Saturday, admission £2 (concessions for children), while the season will draw to a close with the Sunderland Shipowners Cup Final against

Teesside Athletic on Friday May 22. Their remaining fixtures are: Sat May 2: Jarrow (H), 2.30pm; Sat May 9: Teesside Athletic (A), 2.30pm; Sat May 16: Annfield Plain (H), 2.30pm; Fri May 22: Teesside Athletic (H), 7pm, Shipowners Cup Final

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## CLUB'S THIRD AWARD



Aycliffe Squash Club has been awarded their 3rd Award in 4 Years, the County Durham Sport Club Mark.

The club was amongst Seventeen clubs from across the county that were recognised for achieving accreditation in 2008/09 at the County Durham Sport Club Support Evening on Thursday 26 March 2009 where they gained a England Squash Club Charter Award. Durham County Sport said "Achieving accreditation shows that a club has addressed issues such as equality and child protection, giving confidence to parents choosing clubs and providing a quality experience in a welcoming environment.

Clubs who achieved accreditation in 2008/09 received a plaque from County Durham Sport to mark their great achievement as well as the opportunity to claim £250 towards club development".

This is a true sign that Aycliffe Squash Club continues to move forward year on year and is indeed a club for all. If you are interested in playing squash who will be more than happy to answer any questions you have or you can visit the website at [www.aycliffesquash.co.uk](http://www.aycliffesquash.co.uk)  
Photo: Club Chairman Jed Hodgson (Left) and Club Secretary Neil Ross.

## Road Chaos Predicted

Dear Syd,

Your readers should be aware that the A6072 is to be closed from the 5th of May to the 22nd of May from the junction with Darlington Road to the Roundabout where it joins the A68.

This is a very busy 'A' road and the only diversion route as far as I can ascertain would be a diversion through Heighington Village to the junction with the A68 at the Dog Inn, or down through Aycliffe Trading Estate and over the level crossing at Heighington Station.

I am sure that people will be trying all sorts of routes to avoid this traffic chaos, including diverting down School Aycliffe Lane and the bottom part of Newton Aycliffe. To make matters worse a lot of the Arriva buses are changing at the same time. Some are being taken over by Scarlet Band (one being the number 16) and other routes are implementing timetable changes from 5th May.

My wife has been trying to find out without success what is happening to the 16 bus in particular. If you just get on a bus and pay there will not be any issues other than the timetable changes but if you have an Arriva pass, eg a post 16 student pass, then this will not be valid on Scarlet Band. My son asked an Arriva

driver whether the 8.00am bus through School Aycliffe which runs the 16 route but is actually the number 19 would be still run by Arriva, or would Scarlet Band also take over this service, but the driver could not tell him.

Both the No.16 and the No. 1 run down the road that is to be closed. Nobody is volunteering any information on bus diversions or changes to services. This leaves a lot of people especially, people in School Aycliffe, with a dilemma.

If the 16 is to be run by Scarlet Band and the 19 is to be run by Arriva, holders of Arriva bus passes will be able to get to College in Darlington but not home without paying an extra fare.

The only alternative is to get a bus to Heighington or Aycliffe Train station and walk. This may be fine in the summer months but in the winter it is along a dark unlit stretch of road for about a mile whichever way you go.

It would be worrying for a young girl walking the same route. Whatever happens come the 5th of May I predict travel chaos. Closing a very busy main road for over two weeks seems foolish when there is no obvious alternative for a lot of travellers.

Paul Arnold, School Aycliffe

## Sedgefield Borough Homes Celebrate Handover



Two long-serving former council tenants played a leading role in the celebration of the launch of Sedgefield Borough Homes. Margaret Longstaff and Margaret Woodhall joined more than 100 people connected with Sedgefield Borough Homes this week to mark the progress the organisation has made since taking over on March 30th.

Both ladies have been tenants for more than 90 years in total, long before the former Sedgefield District Council became their landlords in 1974.

They were guests of honour at the event at Hardwick Hall, which attracted SBH tenants, staff, local politicians and partners of the newly-formed organisation. Now they can look forward to a share in a £100 million five year investment programme that will see 8,500 homes brought up to the Sedgefield Borough Homes Standard, exceeding the level set by Government.

In the first year alone, around £16 million will be invested in improving 3,700 homes in the Spennymoor, Ferryhill, Sedgefield, Shildon and Newton Aycliffe areas, with around £23 million in investment planned for the following year. Improvements will include new kitchens, bathrooms, central heating, rewiring, windows and doors. SBH Chair of the Board Billy Waters said: "Our first month



has flown by and it is right that we have been able to take this opportunity to mark the transfer to SBH today. "It's great to have some of our longest serving tenants here - the work that we have done to get to this point is for the benefit of people like Mrs Longstaff and

Mrs Woodhall.

"But the hard work now begins in delivering all the promises made to tenants. Transfer is about ensuring long term investment in homes and services. "Tenants will soon start seeing the changes they voted overwhelmingly for."



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### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

### ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given that:

The Parish Meeting for the Parish of Great Aycliffe will take place in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on

**WEDNESDAY 6th MAY 2009**  
at 7.15pm

The Agenda will be available on Notice Boards and the Council's Website from Friday 14th April ([www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)).

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

### NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Salsa Dancing is cancelled for Monday 4th May, resumes 11th and is open to all ages - Just turn up. Line Dancing 7th May - 6.20pm. Only £2 per session - everyone welcome.

Whist every Thursday 12.30pm and at 10pm you can learn Decoupage. A weekly Domino Drive starts Friday 15th May at 1pm. Admission £2 with prizes.

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# No Change to Shafto Way Traffic Calming

Changes to the type of traffic calming on busy Shafto Way in Newton Aycliffe have been given the thumbs down. Durham County Council asked people who use Shafto Way and Greville Way in Newton Aycliffe for their views on proposals to change existing speed cushions to round-topped road humps. Some people were unhappy

with the cushions as they cannot function as intended if vehicles are parked. Cushions allow traffic to straddle them while road humps span the full width of the road. "There was a mixed response to the consultation with opposition to the proposed change and no appropriate alternative," said Lee Mowbray, area traffic officer.

"We said at the outset that changes would be made only if those who use the roads agree and that plainly is not the case. "As well as comments from residents, bus companies, the police and Great Aycliffe Residents Association also responded. "The bus companies did not support road humps and said they would not be prepared to

operate a service in Shafto Way if they were introduced. "Traffic calming in the form of pinch points and chicanes was suggested as an alternative but an inspection of the area has shown that it would be difficult to locate them safely at regular intervals and some car parking would be lost. more "Because of the opposition and no appropriate feasible alternative, we won't be progressing this further," he said. The original traffic calming dates from 2003 when 15 sets of speed cushions were installed on the bus route. It has reduced traffic speed and personal injury accidents.

## ACCESS TO COUNCIL MEETINGS IMPROVED

The Town Council is keen to attract the general public to its meetings at the Council Offices and access to the Council Chamber has been improved with good car parking and a path to the public entrance at the front of the building. Members of the public have a right to attend any Council Meeting and can ask questions and in some cases address the Council. Details of meetings are printed each week in Newton News and are also displayed on the Town Centre Notice Board.

# PUTTING "THE HEAD" ON ITS SHOULDER

On Monday, Aycliffe Business Park was a flurry of activity when a 35 tonne crane from Ross Wright Ltd carried out a dramatic manoeuvre moving the HEAD section of artist Joseph Hillier's new public art landmark 'In Our Image'. The head was lifted over 25-metres into the air and craned only a few yards away from its current workshop base at Aycliffe Fabrications to a specially constructed 10-metre high scaffold tower that has been erected for the next stage of the sculpture's building process. This process will involve the four-metre high and 1.5 ton head being put onto the shoulders section, ready to be sandblasted and later painted. This is the final stage of the process before the stunning sculpture is prepared for installation at its permanent home of the newly developed Heighington Lane West section of Aycliffe Business Park; where it will act as an impressive gateway to the southern entrance of Business Park, an essential driver for the regional economy and the second largest industrial business park in the North East.

The original commissioners were Sedgefield Borough Council and due to local government reorganisation the project will now be delivered by Durham County Council. Joseph Hillier has been working alongside a nine-man team of highly skilled fabricators at Aycliffe Fabrications. The fabrication process has also been an education programme enjoyed by young people from over 45 local schools and colleges visiting the workshop. It has provided a priceless opportunity for them to see first-hand the creative aspects of engineering which will hopefully encourage a high percentage of them to consider entering the industry. Gateshead-based artist Joseph Hillier, said: "This was a very exciting and nerve-wracking



stage of the project with the results of over eighteen months work dangling from the end of a crane arm. It gave a strong impression of how the piece will be seen against the sky when it is in place, later next month"

## JAKE WINS A BIKE



Following the Easter Holiday coaching courses at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex our bike winner is shown here collecting his prize from Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Cllr George Gray. You too could be a winner! Course places are available now for May holiday week. Contact 01325 300600 for details.

## High Cost of Celebrating St. George's Day Parade

Dear Sir, I was proud to attend the Baden-Powell Scout Group's parade last Sunday held at St. Clare's Church to celebrate St. George's Day. We English are constantly reminded that we do not celebrate our Patron Saint whereas the Irish tend to do it in full style and I'm sure other nations do likewise. I was therefore dismayed to see the many Scouts, Cubs and Beavers parading on the pavement, not allowed to march on the road showing their banners, emblems and uniforms off in true style to celebrate St. George's Day! Having discussed this with a Scout Group leader it was due to the Council refusing any road closures and if they did, charging £500 per road. What do we pay our Council Taxes for? The cost of Policing makes up a large proportion of my bill. We should be proud of our young people, their achievements and their right to march in celebration of our Patron Saint. Nigel Blackburn

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# Recognising Volunteers of the Year

Do you know any volunteers who deserve special recognition? The Volunteer Centre at CAVOS, are looking for nominations for 'Volunteer of the Year' and 'Organisation of the Year' which will be presented at their Volunteer Thank You and Awards Evening, on Thursday 4th June 2009, at Spennymoor Town Hall. Tickets for the evening, which includes entertainment and a pie & pea supper, are free for anyone who volunteers or works with volunteers in Sedgfield Borough. For more information, tickets or nomination forms contact Sharon Vasey on 01388 811115.

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# PARTY MEMBERS AT EACH OTHER'S THROAT

Dear Sir,  
Did I really read a letter from a New Labour Councillor criticising another for the failure of the development at Cobblers Hall when he was Leader of Sedgfield Borough Council?  
As Deputy Leader of SBC for the last two years Vince Crosby should have read his own papers to see where the money went. Or were the decisions made for him with his one robotic hand going up and the other one coming down with a rubber stamp?  
With regards to Councillor's money allocation, The Independents spent their cash providing off Street Parking, much needed in the Town and it was a joint venture between all three Councillors in our area. This was because residents were concerned about children playing and at risk crossing the road from behind parked vehicles. If more money was available we could have provided even more parking, but this was a one off.  
We appeal to Vince to keep up the good work on our behalf by pulling his own Party down. Good Luck in the Ferryhill Elections next time, I am sure the residents of Ferryhill would welcome you as a Councillor. Aycliffe First and Foremost People Before Politics  
**Alan Warburton**, Ind Cllr.

# SKATING CLUB'S GREAT START FOR 2009



For Durham & District Artistic Roller Skating Club it was always going to be hard to follow the success at British Championship level they had in 2008. However, the 2009 season could not have gotten off to a better start than in the "Espoir" age group championships held in Leicester at the end of March. Representing the club was 11

year old Newtonian Chloe Lodge, a pupil at Greenfield School.  
Chloe (pictured above left) won the British Championship for the Free Skating by a large margin and this helped her take first place overall within the Espoir age group.  
Chloe now joins a growing list of British Champions from the club including both Mens & Womens senior champions in Andrew Smith & Katie - Beth Lodge as well as Frances Wade & Jessica Higgins (both also pupils at Greenfield School). All 4 will be competing at their respective British Championships in the coming weeks, and good luck goes out to all of them from all at the club.  
The club was also represented at the championships at Leicester by Ellie Jeffries-Mayhew, (pictured above right) who despite being only 6 years old, and having another 2 years to compete in the "tots" category, finished an excellent 3rd in the free skating and 3rd in the overall combined event, Ellie is definitely "one for the future".  
The club continues to train at Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon, under the expert guidance of Head Coach Janet Lodge & Assistant Coach Rachel Masters.  
They hold Saturday morning sessions for beginners if anyone is interested in joining, and the current age range of skaters is from 3 to 22 years old, with abilities ranging from complete novices to world championship competitors. It's a great way of keeping fit and socialising, and who knows where it could lead.

# LAND TRANSFER AGREEMENT "AS CLEAR AS MUD"

Arun Chandran on behalf of Great Aycliffe Residents Association obtained the following land transfer agreement with Sedgfield Borough Homes under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000:  
He supplied it to the Town Council Meeting and the legal jargon having been read to the members was referred to their solicitors for clarification.  
The development agreement is an exempt item although I can reveal the clauses concerning the development of the Amenity Land are as follows  
"Amenity Land" means the open and amenity areas forming part of the Property as the same are shown coloured purple on the Plans Numbered 28,29,39-72,48-52, 63-66,67 and 67.1, 68 and 69  
Not during the period of eighty years from the date hereof to carry out the development of the Amenity Land without the prior written consent of the Transferor (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed) PROVIDED THAT any consent granted by the Transferor under this clause 3.6:

public  
When talking about the development agreement we are talking about two different things and I will try and explain this for you. The document that we call the development agreement is a financial document concerning the development of the SBH stock and does not cover the development of the open space land.  
This is the document we are saying is commercially sensitive.  
What you seem to be asking for is the document that covers the development of the open spaces. The clauses that cover this are contained in the Land Registry transfer of portfolio of titles (TR5) and those are the ones I included in the email yesterday in full.  
The TR5 document is registered with the land registry and becomes a public document normally after about 2 months. I hope this helps to clarify the situation for you  
Jeremy Miller,  
Customer Services Manager

# Children's Fishing Club Seek Caravan

Dear Sir,  
We are a children's Fishing charity in Newton Aycliffe working with children from all walks of life. most of whom are disadvantaged.  
We have limited funds as we have just opened a teaching unit at West House Trout Lake in Bishopston a place we can give children the chance to learn in a safe place free from abuse or crime  
We are looking at going to around 15 shows per year to help promote the charity and we need a 4 berth caravan for storage space to do this. With the help of Newton News we are hoping someone out there has an unwanted caravan they would donate to this worthwhile cause.  
Readers can check us out on [www.fishingwithtom.com](http://www.fishingwithtom.com) or ring 01325 308049 / 07759 469032

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# Aycliffe Village History Society

The Aycliffe Village Local History Society will meet in the Village Hall at Aycliffe Village at 7pm on Wednesday the 6th of May 2009. Mr Chris Lloyd, Deputy Editor of the Northern Echo, will speak about "Four Scandals and a Gooseberry". There is on-street car parking, refreshments are provided, and the meeting will end at 9pm.

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Students at Woodham Community Technology College were recently treated to a visit during their Science lessons from Julie’s Pets, Newton Aycliffe. In addition to the more usual pets, Julie’s have a range of exotic pets, as well as tropical and cold water fish, tortoise, reptiles, parrots, parakeets, canaries, love birds and many more. It was some of the unusual exotic pets which were brought along to Woodham, as you can see from the picture of Year 7 student Daniel Seal with a tropical friend!

# MAYOR’S CHARITY CEILIDH

SATURDAY, 25th APRIL 2009

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor George C. Gray, held a Charity Ceilidh event in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre to help raise funds for his nominated charities during his year in office. Councillor Gray has jointly nominated the British Heart Foundation and BLESMA (British Limbless Ex-Service Men’s Association) as his charities. The evening was a huge success with the audience being entertained by the Mussel Square Boys (Ceilidh Band) and the attendance of Mr. Bryan Robinson (Piper from 102 Battalion). An amount of £411 was raised which will be added to the total amount raised during the Mayor’s year of office. Councillor Gray will be presenting the cheques to representatives of both Charities at the Annual Meeting of the Council to be held on the 13th May 2009. The Mayor would like to give a special thanks to Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, the Mussel Square Boys, Mr. Bryan Robinson and the caterers from the Royal British Legion who supplied the delicious pie and peas. Thanks must go to Newton Press for advertising the event and the many shops in the Town Centre who kindly displayed notices. A big thank you must also go to everyone who supported this event.

# PUBLIC TOILETS ARE OF GREAT CONCERN

Dear Syd, I must comment on the recent flurry of letters from Vince Crosby, particularly concerning the provision of Public toilets at Ferryhill and the lack of them at Aycliffe. Being of a certain age group, and having a liking for regular cups of tea, the lack of Public Toilets in Aycliffe is a great concern. Considering the size of Aycliffe, many like myself consider this a disgrace. I certainly find that a lack of these basic facilities limits my usage of the Town Centre, and you regularly see parents with small children experiencing difficulties. I remember Vince had a letter published last year which went to great lengths to explain how it was the Victorians who first realized the importance of providing Public toilets. So I conclude from all this correspondence . . . Newton Aycliffe is even further back than Victorian times, but given the Dickensian dump that many think the Town Centre is turning into this may be appropriate. A smaller Council not too far away has been able to unite all its members to not only provide capital to build Public Toilets, but also provide funding for their upkeep. Most worrying, a local Councillor of Vince’s standing, is prepared to say that toilets are not an issue for the Council as the Town Centre is not their land. It is this negative attitude that has got the Town into the state it is in now, and should be discouraged on all levels. We seem to be able to provide

thousands of pounds for things like the “Aycliffe Wall” at the entrance to the Industrial Estate, and the new “Empty Head”. Whilst you can applaud work being provided to a local Company in these difficult times, I reserve judgment on this new “icon”. I think that any firm considering a new start in our area would put good local facilities for workers as a greater priority, rather than interesting local sculptures. I hope I am proven wrong. So Councillors follow the good example of Ferryhill, stop squabbling with each other in the press, stop wasting time writing to tell us negative news, and adopt a positive attitude for future of Newton Aycliffe. I am fully aware that Freshwater own the Town Centre, and that the County is the body responsible to the Public. However I feel that the Town Councillors have a moral responsibility to keep the pressure on for action to take place on redevelopment of the Town Centre. Progress of the latest “new master plan” the publicity for which Councillors were only too pleased have their names added to, has stalled. The promised move for “the cubby” has not happened, and the new library seems to be a long way off. The northern end of the Town Centre resembles a “war zone” but once again our Councillors are starting to find time to slag each other off in the Press. Desperate of Aycliffe. David Sutton-Lloyd

# MATRIX AND SENSTRONICS SIGN BUSINESS CONTRACT



Matrix Intelligence and Senstronics signed a Contract Agreement in January 2009 for the Assembly of Digital Video Recorder (DVR) units. This followed a number of weeks of discussions on capability and pricing. A dedicated Process cell has been set-up at Senstronics to carry out the work and Customer identification sign was also produced by a Sedgefield Engineering Forum member to be displayed above the cell. Senstronics personnel were trained and approved by Matrix Intelligence engineers to ensure that they were capable of carrying out the work to exacting standards. Matrix Intelligence design and manufacture ruggedised video recorders for vehicle and covert surveillance applications. Senstronics design and manufacture Pressure Transducers. This agreement gives Senstronics the opportunity to utilise its technology and expertise in the area of electronic sub-assembly, expanding its range of services. Another key Matrix requirement was the

Quality Management Systems ISO9001, and in practice meeting TS16949 Automotive levels of Quality and Process Control. Senstronics, with well trained flexible staff can fully utilize available resource capacity. This provides Matrix Intelligence with a minimum of 4,000 units per year capacity. Matrix Intelligence has further opportunities to consider with Senstronics including modification of some of the subassemblies used in the DVR for example the Power Supply Unit and their Hard Disc Memory Storage Unit both currently outsourced elsewhere. Matrix intelligence has been proud to show the work cell to a number of strategic customers and the feedback has been very positive. This partnership is working extremely well for both companies, and, were it not for Senstronics involvement in the Sedgefield Engineering Forum the two companies would not have been introduced to each other. Matrix Intelligence has subsequently joined the Forum.

# Editorial SMALL FISH IN LARGE POND

It is quite clear that Newton Aycliffe is way down the pecking order now that we are part of a much larger Unitary Authority and we will have to shout loud to make our voice heard. Even with 15 Councillors on the Borough Council we had little impact on big decisions and stood idly by while money from land sales in Newton Aycliffe was used to improve other areas. Now we have only 8 representatives at Unitary level who will find it very difficult to be counted among 126 other Councillors. It is therefore quite important we take the opportunity to rally and unite public opinion to ensure we get our views across in future. The Town Council will need to take a lead and firmer grip on local issues, supported by Residents Association and other town organisations who should be lobbying our Unitary Councillors to carry our opinions, hopes and aspirations to County Hall. We have some competent Town Councillors in Bob Fleming and John Clare and the current leadership has proved they are not shy in fighting Aycliffe’s corner. Newtonians are asked to take an interest in all aspects of our town’s development, using strength in numbers to make our views heard. Newton News will help that cause and as always, help readers express those views in print.

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# NEW LANDLORD WILL KEEP THEIR PROMISES

Dear Editor,  
The supreme legislative body in this country is Parliament, and housing policy has been changed several times over the last 20 years, the first being the 'right to buy'. This caused a reduction of housing stock with the money from sales going to Westminster.

Then the Government came up with stopping that flow of money by allowing councils to set up their own housing associations called social housing and many have been created around the country. I find it incredible that Great Aycliffe Town Council are still

talking about a judicial review when Sedgefield Borough Homes are now offering £200,000 per year for the next ten years and asking for ideas to spruce up areas.

If we are to believe the town councillors that Sedgefield Borough Homes was set up to take all the green spaces and use them as building land then why are SBH offering such large sums of money to create community gardens etc. I believe Sedgefield Borough Homes are going to deliver on their promises given to the tenants in the documentation given to us before the ballot.

What I don't believe is the false rumours put out by Great Aycliffe Town Council. Myself and others around me believe the Town Council should come clean and admit to being wrong.

Councillor Blenkinsopp wanted to be part of the Housing Board and I wonder if he would have shown the same amount of opposition if he had become a member.

I am disappointed that the other Independent members just followed him without asking them and us what we thought, we are after all the tenants.

Mike Haley

# ROMAN RAISE FUNDS FOR AYCLIFFE "OPTIONS" GROUP



Shower designer and manufacturer, Roman Ltd based at Newton Aycliffe, have chosen their charity for 2009. Options is a project delivered by the Newton Aycliffe based charity 'Pioneering Care Partnership'.

The PCP was formed to provide support and opportunities for local people, with the mission to improve health, wellbeing, quality of life and to reduce inequalities. It has grown to include a number of projects and also manages the Pioneering Care Centre - a one stop shop for health and wellbeing.

Options is the project at the heart of Roman's fund-raising efforts and provides two key services - the Options day project and the Options social club. The day project is a user-led project for locally disabled adults and aims to promote independence, integration and equality through the development of new skills.

The evening social club is held fortnightly providing a safe and friendly environment where friends can meet in a relaxing and fun atmosphere.

To mark the start of the fund-raising partnership a group of Service Users and their Support Workers came to visit the Roman Factory on Wednesday 15th April 2009. The factory tour was an ideal opportunity for both Options to meet the Roman Team, and for Roman employees to interact with the people that their fund-raising efforts will directly benefit.

The Roman Charity Committee is now more determined to raise more than last year's

grand total of £11,000. Over the next 12 months they will be working closely with Options to organise fund-raising events that will encourage everyone to get involved.

Roman's Chairman, Gerry Osborne comments; "We are extremely privileged to have been given the opportunity to work closely with a locally based charity like Options. It gives Roman the opportunity to give something back to the local area. Options rely on local companies recognising their efforts so they can continue providing their much needed service."

Colin Grainger, Disability Services Co-ordinator for Options who visited the Roman factory said: "We found the factory tour a great informal way of getting to know the staff at Roman while involving our members in fund-raising efforts."

We are always very grateful to companies like Roman who provide much needed resources to assist us develop even better service for the community. The money raised by Roman will contribute to activity and transport costs, the running of the social club, and to setting up a gardening project which we have wanted to do for sometime."

## Free Talk on Family History

Our Town Library is holding a Family History talk on Wednesday 13th May at 2pm given by a member of the DCC records office.

The event is free but people will need tickets, which are available now at the library.

## Residents Want Humps

Dear Editor,

As one of those who asked for the installation of speed humps in Finchale Road, I would like to give my view.

Before the humps, Finchale Road was a race track, a lot of cars were travelling at speeds of up to 60 mph. Fifty years of driving all types of vehicles gave me a good sense of speed.

Thousands of vehicles have used Finchale Road without damage, so does John M drive a foreign car with a lower sump and can he tell me when and how he managed to measure the height of the speed bumps?

J. R. McCormack

P.S. All residents of Finchale Road want the humps.

# POT CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK

Dear Sir,

Last week Mr Crosby made the statement that I am confused, but where former SBC Deputy Leader Cosby is concerned, this is more a case of the pot calling the kettle black!

I stated there is a very large proportion of people in Greater Aycliffe who are really concerned about the issue of Open Spaces. Most of whom will be very keen to know the outcome of the GATC Special meeting on May 12th considering just what the official Town Council recommendation will be regarding a Judicial review.

I dare say for those people who read his quote from a speech by Gov Minister John Healey that it comes across quite strongly he supports the view that its OK for Councils and Government departments to push through things that the majority of people don't want and then cry about the cost of challenging such blatant disregard for their views by claiming they are unnecessary.

Now that he appears to be in a more expansive mood when it comes to supplying information, perhaps his apparent keen grasp of housing programmes in Newton Aycliffe, could help illuminate readers as to just how it came about thousand upon thousands of pounds of taxpayers money

were spent on a new housing estate in Byerley Park where he lives? I asked the question of SBC officers for an answer without success.

It's really quite remarkable that, now he is no longer deputy leader, he is keen to discuss openly titbits to support his attacks when they were not so readily available when he was in office.

Take the comments on why we don't have Public Toilets in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre like Ferryhill. Is he really suggesting that all it would have taken was for local councillors to pool their money to provide Public Toilets in Newton Aycliffe instead of for pet projects? If so, it also begs the question, why, as Deputy Leader he did not use his influence to help make it happen?

I have no problem revealing what projects to benefit the people of Aycliffe Village and the town of money allocated to myself as a councillor. But having raised the topic perhaps he would be willing to provide Newton News with the facts of that for all councillors? Everyone then can be made aware of where their Council Tax goes.

His letter raises more issues than it answers.

Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp (Independent)

# GIFT FOR THE WORK PLACE BENEFACTOR



This week Stuart Howarth of Newton Press presented a framed photograph to Jane Ritchie, The Work Place founder and benefactor. Jane put millions of her own money into building the facility on the Business Park providing a bridge to work for young people. Newton Press decided on the gift hoping The Work Place will hang the portrait as a reminder of Jane's commitment to advancing the careers of young people.

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| <b>BATTLEFIELDS OF WW1</b><br>18 <sup>TH</sup> MAY<br>£229.00<br>(5 Days - B&B) | Our tour gives us an insight into the tragic events of the Great War where some of the bloodiest fighting the world has ever seen took place between 1914 and 1918 in the killing fields of Northern Europe. We include 2 nights accommodation in Belgium, return ferry crossings from Hull and guided battlefield tours. |
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| <b>DISNEY ON ICE</b>  | 10.10.09 | Newcastle Arena   | £29.50 |
| <b>SOUND OF MUSIC</b> | 20.11.09 | Sunderland Empire | £42.00 |
| <b>UB40</b>           | 24.11.09 | Newcastle Arena   | £45.00 |
| <b>SOUND OF MUSIC</b> | 01.12.09 | Sunderland Empire | £42.00 |
| <b>MAMMA MIA</b>      | 22.12.09 | Newcastle Arena   | £50.00 |

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## THE TURBINIA

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#### Sat 2nd May - "Witchkraft"

The first set was a good mix of well known songs from Jethro Tull, Golden Earring, Free, ACDC, Led Zep & more. Second set was Deep Purple and Rainbow as this is their trade mark. Cliff on drums and Gaz on bass have created a really tight and punchy rhythm section. Mr Big was excellent, really showing off Gaz's skills. John on vocals, was suffering with a chest infection, but it didn't stop him delivering with a good high and gritty rock vocal. Mal... is Mal, looks and plays like Blackmore, has all the moves and the sound of Mr B, but can also show he's really good at the other stuff. All in all it was a good show, good crowd, nice choice of rock classics mixed with the best of Purple and Rainbow' jarekmac review

#### Sat 9th May - "1 0 1"

One of the north east's top bands, massive on the bike rally circuit. Tracks covered from Snow Patrol, Killers, Kaiser Chiefs, White Stripes, Fratellis, Led Zep, Nirvana, Green Day, Foo Fighters, Arcade Fire, Pink Floyd, Kings of Leon and many more

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**GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL**

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

## Wednesday 13th May 2009

Council Annual Meeting - 7.15pm

### QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 30 minutes has been set aside for electors of the Parish to ask questions of appropriate members of the Council at its Council Meeting. Questions should relate to the work of the Council or affect the Parish in some way and they should be given in writing to the Town Clerk at least five clear days prior to the date upon which they will be asked. Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.



# SUGAR HILL WIN HEALTHY SCHOOL AWARD



Sugar Hill Primary School were awarded with Healthy Schools status last week. This national initiative looks at improving school health by Healthy eating, Physical activity, Person and Social Education and Emotional health and well-being. Helen Richards (Healthy Schools coordinator) presented this award to the School Council, Governors (Mrs. Foster and Mr. Atkinson) and Mr. Ridley (Deputy Head teacher) in recognition of the work the school has done and continues to do towards this special status.

# NO HELP FOR DISABLED

Dear Sir  
 My husband and I have paid our taxes and Council Tax all our working lives. I ask why? Last year I found it increasingly difficult to get in and out of the bath so I approached the Council for help. I was told by them I require a walk-in-shower.  
 My condition has deteriorated and since last October I cannot get in or out of the bath and it is so bad I have to stand at the wash basin for a wash down. Is that why I pay Council tax for NO HELP when I need it? I have approached my new Unitary Councillor and there is no help there either. I appeal to Councillors, if it

would be possible to install a bath/shower before Christmas? Please!  
 Mrs. P. Cox  
 Lincoln Close  
*Ed: We referred this matter to Sedgfield Borough Homes who called on the lady immediately to help the situation.*

TRADE UNIONISTS  
 Newton Aycliffe T.U.C. meets on Wednesdays at Aycliffe Complex, further information from Dave Hardaker, 51 Watson Road, Newton Aycliffe.

# WOODHAM COMP (1988) REUNION

Dear fellow former Woodham Comprehensive pupils,  
 Do the names Smudge, Jimll, Haggis, Kipper, Scissors, Boris, Torty, Rimmer, Olly, Crod, or Nobby mean anything to you?  
 There is a school reunion being organised for those of us who sat our GCSE's and left Woodham Comp in 1988 (or 1990 if you went on to Woodham 6th form). It is 21 years since we did our GCSE's and some of us left Woodham altogether. It was therefore decided that 21 years would be a good time to have a get together, reminisce and see how we have all turned out after all this time.  
 The reunion has been booked for Saturday 10th October 2009, at the Sports (Cricket) Club at Moor Lane. If you are still about in Aycliffe, and would like to attend this event, (and have not already confirmed your attendance on Facebook) please could you confirm via email to chris.jenkins0@hotmail.co.uk  
 Obviously this date is a while away but we need to track down a lot of people. There has been quite a lot of interest already, and there are scores of names already confirmed and interested. The more we can get the better it will be.  
 So, if you are interested, please let Chris Jenkins (Jimll) know on chris.jenkins0@hotmail.

co.uk or sign up to the Facebook group "The Woodham class of 1988 school reunion" Again, this is for those of us that sat

# PATHS PLAN SCOOPS NATIONAL AWARD

Durham County Council has picked up a national award for its work to make the countryside more accessible. The council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan was named the winner in the 'best contribution to local prosperity and quality of life' category at the Natural England Awards last month. The plan – called Passionate about Paths – sets out more than 100 action points for the county council and other organisations that will help to improve public rights of way

over the next few years. Victoria Lloyd, the council officer responsible for the plan, won a national award last year from the Institute of Public Rights of Way and Access Management, for her work to develop the Passionate about Paths plan. Victoria joined Coun Ossie Johnson, the council's Cabinet Support Member for the Environment, and Geoff Hughes, Chair of the County Durham Local Access Forum, when they collected the latest award from Natural England. Coun Johnson said: "To have won two national awards for our work on improving rights of way and access to the countryside is a great honour. "There is a strong emphasis in the plan on the links between public rights of way, recreation, sport and health and it is gratifying that this has been recognised by the judges in the Natural England Awards. "This is an award for everyone who has contributed to the plan and is now working to implement it. "The role of the Local Access Forum is crucial, and additional members are now being sought, particularly amongst farmers and land managers." Cara Courage, Natural England's Regional Landscape and Access Senior Specialist, said the award won by Durham County Council is highly coveted and added: "We are delighted that the judges recognised the very high standard of work carried out in County Durham. "They particularly praised the way that Durham County Council's plan made a strong link to health issues. "In due course these plans will help more people to access more places and provide new opportunities to enjoy the benefits of the high quality natural environment of Durham." To find out more about the Local Access Forum, including how to get involved, people can contact Mike Ogden at Durham County Council on 0191 383 4082 or email mike.ogden@durham.gov.uk

# STUDENT WINS HONOUR OF OPENING NEW KITCHEN

Parents, pupils and governors were invited to the official opening of the newly refurbished kitchen at Aycliffe Village Primary School last week. The ceremonial cutting of the ribbon was carried out by Sophie Holmes, a Year 4 pupil who won the privilege of opening the kitchen in a raffle. The evening also gave parents the opportunity to sample the excellent food that the new catering supplier, Taylor Shaw, provides for the pupils. A wide selection of dishes was available for people to taste. On the menu was Pizza, Sausage Pie, Chicken Goujons and Salmon fishcakes. Cook also made special fairy cakes for the event and all the food was of a very high standard. The menu rotates on a four weekly basis and the pupils really enjoy their meals and a high percentage take advantage of the facility. Mr. Gargan, Headteacher, is delighted with the new kitchen. 'The work took six weeks to complete and we had some disruption but this was kept to a minimum by the commitment of our excellent catering staff.' He thanked parents, governors, pupils and the catering staff for giving up their time to make the evening a success.



Photo: Sophie cuts the ribbon watched by Head Teacher Jed Gargan, Mrs Hughes, Taylor Shaw staff: Mrs Chappell, Area Manager and Mandy Turnbull, Area Trainer.

Great Aycliffe

Town Council

Notice on an  
**EXTRA-ORDINARY**  
 MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that:  
  
 An extra-ordinary meeting of the Town Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on  
  
**TUESDAY 12th MAY 2009 at 7.15pm**  
  
 The item on the agenda will be the Large Scale Voluntary Transfer of Land.  
  
 Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting ([www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk))  
  
 The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open thirty minutes prior to the commencement of meetings.  
 The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

## Summer Play Leaders, Play Workers and Volunteers Needed!

To enable disabled and non-disabled children to access inclusive play opportunities in a fun and safe environment, whilst supporting individual requirements.

- You must be over 18 years old and be available to work between 20th July and 21st August 2009
- Experienced and/or qualified in childcare/playwork
- Excellent training opportunities available

**Closing Date for applications is Friday 15th May 2009**

**For more details please call Garry West on 01325 360524 or email: [garry@darlingtondisability.org](mailto:garry@darlingtondisability.org)**

**Darlington Association on Disability Children and Young People Service (ChYPS)**  
 Registered Charity No. 1125848  
[www.darlingtondisability.org](http://www.darlingtondisability.org)

## Free Workshop on Tax Self Assessment for Self Employed

On Thursday 7th May SASDA- The Sedgfield Development Agency- has arranged for the Inland Revenue to run a workshop in Newton Aycliffe. The workshop is specifically for self employed people, rather than Limited Companies, and will cover all aspects of completing self assessment forms. This will provide an opportunity for new and recently started businesses to get the right information and avoid some of the common problems experienced. This friendly and informal workshop is free for participants and will run from 9.30 to 3 o'clock. Places are limited to 25, to book a place please phone SASDA on 01325 310730 or e-mail Tracey Davis on [tracey.davis@sasda.info](mailto:tracey.davis@sasda.info) first come, first served so please book as soon as possible.

## Tuesday Meetings at Navy Club

New Friends New Places (formerly D.I.D.O.) meet every Tuesday 2pm at the Navy Club. All members new, past and present are welcome. We are planning our outings and activities etc. for the Summer months and would welcome new ideas. We can also update you on the New AAP that has been formed by Durham County Council and any County Council information that you need, Dorothy Bowman 308094.

## Colour PhotoAds

Advertisements with a Photo can be placed at one of our spots: **TAYLORS NEWSFORCE** (Town Centre) **DON WALKERS** (Sedgfield) or direct to our office at: **NEWTON PRESS** (Aycliffe Business Park) **Small PhotoAd - £5.00** Photo and up to 18 words - extra words £15 each **Large PhotoAd - £15.00** Photo and up to 18 words - extra words £15 each **VIDEO ADVERTISEMENTS** Can be used for: BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS MEMORABLES AS WELL AS CAR OR PROPERTY SALES *Photographs collected afterwards from Newton Press office. Photos are held on file for six months only. Please ensure all Personal Advertisements are clearly written to avoid disturbing errors*



# VISIT TO HAMSTERLEY

By Matthew Venus, age 8.



On Wednesday 15th April we went to Hamsterley Forest with Woodham Burn Out of School Club. We went on the bus for a long time, but it was fun. When we got to the forest we played in the park. Next we had dinner because we were all very hungry, and had dinner on the picnic mat and benches in the park.

After dinner we went for a long walk, we took the bike route by mistake. The paths were very small so we had to keep moving to the side to let the bikes past. On our walk we played in different parts of the forest. We were all playing different games like hide and seek, catch and i played lost in the woods with my friends.

After our exciting walk we went in the river with our wellingtons on, we paddled, climbed on the stones and used our nets to try to catch fish. Before we went home we had a chance to play in the wood maze which was great. After a busy day we got the bus back home to the club and had tea.

This is what my friends said about our outing:

Jack Clarkson age 3 said: "When we were walking we dropped one of our balls, it rolled in the river and floated away, we couldn't get it"

Callum Cain age 9 said: "I liked the massive park and maze park made from wood. I liked playing in the shallow river, throwing pebbles and enjoyed the stepping stones."

Joe Howarth age 5 said: "I loved the park"

Georgia Thelwell age 6 said: "I liked the flowers and enjoyed the park."

## £1055 Collected

I would like to thank everyone in Heighington Parish who donated to the Children's Society collection at the beginning of the month. We collected just over £1055, which was a wonderful amount. Thank you all very much. Janet Archer

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morning until late evening. "With our national network, almost everyone has a handy PayPoint which will be open when other places they might usually use will be closed," says Peter Brooker of PayPoint. "In fact, at the last bank holiday, Easter, more than 2.5 million payments were made at PayPoints. "We're all busy people with lots of things to think about, so it's easy to let our utility meters run down. But that's no reason to panic - PayPoint retailers are at the heart of their communities, providing a local service to their customers when no-one else is there for them.

"So keep a look out for the distinctive yellow and purple PayPoint logo outside local convenience stores, you can use any of them to make your payments and can keep on cooking and won't miss the bank holiday sport on TV!" For people who have not used a PayPoint to pre-pay for their gas or electricity, or need to top up mobile phones, pre-paid credit cards or pay council tax, the nearest PayPoint can be found at [www.paypoint.com/locator.aspx](http://www.paypoint.com/locator.aspx)

# PACT Meeting

(Police and Communities together) **Evangelical Church, Ladybower off Meadowfield Way**  
**Wednesday 6th May 2009 7pm** PCSO Mike Welch welcomes you to this meeting to discuss any problems you may have. We hope to have the Neighbourhood Wardens to discuss their roles and responsibilities regarding Litter, Fly tipping and Dog Fouling. County and Town Councillors of the Greenfield Middridge Ward will also attend. Everyone is welcome.  
**0345 6060365 or 308094**

# AYCLIFEE VILLAGE PACT MEETING

A Police and Communities Together meeting (PACT) will be held at Aycliffe Village Hall on Saturday 9th May from 10am-12 noon. The intention is to discuss and agree local policing priorities identified by the community. Updates will be available regarding previous problems encountered by residents. Local Councillors will also be invited to take part.

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BILL LOWERY (Builder). Brick laying, plastering, joinery etc. No job too small. Tel 01325 311 225

A.W. HUNT Construction. Large or small we do it all! All aspects of building work including extensions, garages, loft conversions, porches, garden walls, patios, drives, concreting, roofing and property maintenance. Service with a smile. Please call 311568 or 07979 751662 for a free estimate. Guaranteed quality work with 30 years experience.

DAVE MIDDLETON Masonry Services. Small job specialist, brick work repairs, repointing, pitched roof repairs, repoint chimneys, plastering and tiling. 39 years experience. Reliable service at reasonable prices. Tel 01388 817 473 or 07913 340 551

**K. Harrison**  
(Builder) North East Ltd.

Extensions  
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Modernisations  
All Building Work Undertaken

Quality Workmanship at Fair Prices  
Friendly Reliable Service  
All Work Fully Guaranteed  
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After hours  
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**ASPECTS**  
Property Maintenance

- Interior Alterations
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- Kitchen, Bathroom, Bedroom
- Patios and all types of flooring
- Insurance work welcome

Free estimates  
Guaranteed Quality Work  
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Fences made to order, repair service, hedges removed. Free estimates Tel 316572 or 07713 257929

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Heighington. Fencing Panels: 6'x6' £11, 6'x5' £10, 6'x4' £9, 6'x3' £8. Trellis 6'x4' £7, 6'x3' £5.50, 6'x2' £4, 6'x1' £2.50. Tel 316487 or 07809 028310

ALPINE LANDSCAPES. Patios, Driveways, Fencing, Gravel, Turfing, Walls. All work guaranteed. 16 years experience, professional advice. [www.alpinelandscapes.co.uk](http://www.alpinelandscapes.co.uk) - contact Alan on 01325 310128 or 07974 710 351

MARTIN SHIRES garden Landscaping Services Block Paving Specialists. Fencing, Patios, Walls, Turfing, Hedges. Quality guaranteed work. Tel 321891

GATES Solid timber, any size, any style. Price includes fitting with hinges and bolt. Tel 01325 300091, mobile 07944 020203

## ELDON HOPE BUILDING MATERIALS

Old Eldon  
01388 775261/07966 067522  
[www.eldonhope.co.uk](http://www.eldonhope.co.uk)  
Old York paving from £11.75 per sq metre. Circles 1200mm (4') up to 3500mm (11.5"), bricks from £10 per 100, path edging £1.50, pillar caps and coping stones, stepping stones, walling 450mm x 450mm (18x18), paving from £1. Also sand, gravel, dolomite, top soil, plastering sand, decorative slate and gravels, blocks, cement, plaster, all prices + VAT. Free local delivery on orders over £50. Deliveries to most areas.

**GREENKEEPER LANDSCAPES**  
Phil Thompson  
Professional Landscaper with over 20 years experience  
All aspects of horticultural and tree work carried out  
Patios, blockpaving specialist  
Hedges cut and trimmed  
Fencing, Decking & Turfing  
Grasscutting service (cheap rates)  
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**DJ Gardening Services**

Mini Digger Hire with Breaker. Block Paving, Fencing, Patios, Brick Work, Turfing, Hedges cut and removed. Tarmacing, Concreting, Graveling. All rubbish removed, all pressure wash services, Driveways, Patios, Walls, Conservatories etc. Distance no problem.

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**Tel 321567 or 07984 817 111**

**Highside Road Nursery**  
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**Tel: 0780 9028310**

**BEDDING PLANTS**  
FROM **50p** PER PUNNET

Over 100 Varieties of Plants, Shrubs and heathers  
**OPEN 7 DAYS 9 - 4.30pm**



# COBBLERS HALL RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OWED TO THE TOWN

Dear Editor  
The article ‘Cobbler’s Hall Project Dependent on New Housing’ in last week’s Newton News was misleading. It is a lame excuse for the former cabinet of Sedgfield Borough not delivering on their liabilities and promises before the Council was dissolved. The Cobbler’s Hall Development Plan was part of the Northern Area Study Plan of the 1980s and of the subsequent Development Plans of Sedgfield Borough Council.  
Under the Cobbler’s Hall Development Plan, Sedgfield Borough Council received large areas of land between Meadowfield Way and Woodham Golf Course. This land had outline planning permission to build housing and, over the years, a large number of houses were built on the land. This land was a multi-million pound asset for Sedgfield Borough Council.  
To give readers an idea of how valuable an asset the land was, between 2003 and 2007 when I was Leader of Sedgfield Borough Council, three plots of land were sold to developers. Plot 1 alone raised 12.3 million pounds and the other two sites raised almost six million pounds. These sites made up only a small percentage of the Cobbler’s Hall Development site and the Council received very large sums of money for the land from developers. With the demise of the Borough Council, some large areas of undeveloped land with outline planning permission for housing were transferred to Durham County Council.  
With the assets Sedgfield Borough Council received, with the Cobbler’s Hall site, came a liability. That liability was ‘to provide extensive recreational facilities in the northern area of the town’. It was envisaged that, as well as play areas for children, there would be football pitches (to Northern League standards) rugby pitches, tennis courts, cricket pitches and a bowling green. These recreational facilities were to be sited on the land which is known as the ‘Moors’.  
In 1996, together with the then Town Clerk, Mr John Farquhar, we met with Mr Norman Vaulks (Chief Executive Officer, Sedgfield Borough Council) and Mr John Litherland (Chief Development Officer, Sedgfield Borough Council). At that meeting, we were informed that the ‘Moors’ area could not be developed

as a recreational area owing to the land in that location being unstable. The Officers from Sedgfield Borough Council offered alternative sites adjacent to Burn Lane and Burnhill Way, which were accepted.  
In 2003, I became Leader of Sedgfield Borough Council and I was determined to move on the provision of the recreational facilities at Cobbler’s Hall. Consultants were employed by the Council to evaluate the current recreational needs of the town and to survey the sports providers and the public on what they required in the way of recreational provision.  
The result of the survey was that the Borough Council agreed to provide an urban park, running from Burn Lane to Horndale Park. The football pitches between Meadowfield Way and Greenfield School would be drained to provide good playing surfaces for both junior and adult football teams. The present changing room would be demolished and replaced by new changing facilities. The urban park would have play areas for children, flower beds, seating and footpaths.  
This plan was going to be expensive but the Council had large balances of money available and most of these balances came from the sale of land at Cobbler’s Hall. When I met with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Chief Executive of Sedgfield Borough Council on 7 July 2008, I was informed that the project was going ahead, with some minor alterations. No mention was made of matched funding or the need to sell further land. Indeed, Sedgfield Borough were anticipating a large receipt of money from the sale of land on the Industrial Estate.  
At the Town Council meeting held on 23 April 2009, the Cobbler’s Hall Development Plan was discussed at length. It was resolved that as Sedgfield Borough Council had recently transferred a large number of assets to Durham County Council, including assets at Cobbler’s Hall and Rope Moore, the Town Clerk was instructed to contact Durham County Council and point out that they had also received the liabilities associated with Cobbler’s Hall. The Town Council will advise the residents of the town of future developments on this issue.  
Bob Fleming, Leader of the Town Council

# AYCLIFFE COUPLE COULD WIN £25,000 WEDDING



Local Children’s Charity, ‘TFM Radio’s Cash for Kids’ is set to receive thousands of pounds and one happy couple will be walking away with an all expenses paid dream wedding in the ‘Five Brides One Wedding’ promotion, which was launched last week. Dawn Carney, Charity Manager explained; “Over 600 people applied for the competition online. The panel of Judges then shortlisted down to 20 who attended Bridal Boot Camp at the fabulous Crathorne Hall Yesterday. After a number of embarrassing activities, 20 became 10 who then had to portray their vows in the most innovative way. The video can be seen here [www.tfmradio/cashforkids.com](http://www.tfmradio/cashforkids.com). “  
Alan Thom, 35 and Lisa White, 33 both from Newton Aycliffe have made it through as the final five. The hardest task is yet to come as they now have until Sat 25th April 10am to raise as much money for Cash for Kids Children’s Charity as possible. The couple who raises the most will win the dream wedding package. Alan, who works as a Electrician for Northumbrian Water has already gained their support with a dress down day on Wednesday 22nd April. Lisa is currently on maternity leave with her second daughter from Department for Education & Schools based in Darlington. Lisa has been unwell lately and

this wedding would mean the world to them!  
Alan and Lisa are looing for your help. If you are holding an event and can help them raise money call Dawn Carney on 01642 888222.  
Lisa & Alan would like to thank friends, family and everyone who supported them during their fund raising week for TFM Radios Cash for Kids, with special thanks to Syd at Newton Press, the Navy Club and Bev at Woodham Golf Club.  
With everyone’s help we managed to raise a fantastic £6,670.97 in just one week! This will make a difference to local sick and deprived children. There will be a Celebrity Football Match at Middlesbrough FC on Thursday 21st May. For tickets and full details visit [www.tfmradio.com/cashforkids](http://www.tfmradio.com/cashforkids) to support this great cause.

# NEW GOLF PRO SOON

The Town Council is to appoint a new Golf Professional/ Manager at the Oak Leaf Course.  
This follows the sudden departure of Alan Hartley. The post has been advertised and a shortlist of five candidates will be interviewed for the job.

## Photography

**KJB PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Specialists in all styles of photography including weddings. Professional Photographer. Call Keith 01325 307783, mobile 07900 583131. e/web: [info@kjb-photography.com](mailto:info@kjb-photography.com)

## Entertainment

**PAUL GITTINS DISCO** For any occasion, also Karaoke. Tel 317666 or 07831 269526.  
**FUN-n-BOUNCE** Bouncy Castles for hire with and without slide, adult sizes available. All parties catered for, also available for indoor use. Tel 01325 307445 or 07594 436127

## Weddings

**BEAUFORDS**, Daimler limousines, Rolls Royce’s and Jaguars available for weddings, anniversaries and special occasions. Tel 01740 620147 (Sedgfield), 07721 771 113 or visit our website on: [www.durhamweddingcars.co.uk](http://www.durhamweddingcars.co.uk)

## Caravans

**4 BERTH** 2004 Bailey Senator Arizona, top of the range. For ful details ring 01325 308580 or 07871 179155  
**1990 COMPASS** 2 berth caravan, awning, cooker, fridge, electric hook up, hot & cold water, good clean van, £695 Tel 301084

## Lost & Found

**LOST**, Diamante brooch in the town centre on Tuesday 21st April. Sentimental value, small reward. Tel 316919  
**MISSING** Black and brown tortoiseshell male cat, since 26th April. Contact Sam on 07594 737791

## Opticians

**K. McGuinness**  
**OPTICIAN**  
Town Centre  
Newton Aycliffe  
**Tel: 316600**

## Public Notice

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

## Clairvoyance

**SPIRITUALIST** Meetings are held at Morrison Close Community Centre every Monday evening starting 7pm sharp (closed Bank Holiday Monday). Details from Ann on 313654.  
**DARLINGTON** Spiritualist Church, Denmark Street. Mind, Body and Spirit Festival. Saturday 2nd May, 10am-5pm. Admission £2. Private setting, Crystal Readings, Colour Readings, Complementary Therapies, Healing, Various stalls. Refreshments available

## Computers

**AYCLIFFE COMPUTERS**  
Computers Built to your own Specification:  
Computer Repairs  
Upgrades - Data Recovery  
Vista Installation - Networking  
Broadband Installation  
Anti Virus Protection  
**Call out within 24 hours, usually same day**  
**XBox 360, PS3, Wii and Online Gaming Setup**  
**Phone Rob**  
**01325 310737**  
**07841 867 170**  
[aycliffecomputers@googlemail.com](mailto:aycliffecomputers@googlemail.com)

## PC Problems?

Hardware - Software  
Upgrades - No fix, No fee  
Home Networking  
Broadband Installation  
*No call out charge*  
**01325 317649**  
**0800 955 6878**

# RESIDENTS MEETING

**Williamfield Residents Association Meeting Wednesday 6th May 6pm**  
**Western Area Community House, 8 Silverdale Place**  
**Come and support your local Residents Assoc.**  
**The Police will be in attendance. Everyone Welcome. 01325 308094.**

## Sits Vacant

**SEWING PERSON** reliable, local person required to cut and sew simple cotton goods, must be high quality. Regular work offered to start soon. Wage per hour or per unit to be discussed. Please call Elizabeth on 07787 500546  
**OFFICE** based sales person required within the manufacturing industry at Bishop Auckland. Contact PMN on 01388 777700 for details

## Personal

**BVA Foundation**  
**FREE Confidential Post Abortion Counselling available**  
**Telephone: 01642 616077**

**SAMARITANS** - 13 Woodland Road, Darlington. We are here for you 24 hours a day. Telephone 08457 909 090  
**WILLS** written in your own home - Free details. Tel 313197  
**ANN SUMMERS** To book a party and get 10% discount, call or text Tara on 07833 451908. Free gift for parties held in May!

## Licence Applications

**Goods Vehicle Operators Licence**  
David Spence trading as D Spence Haulage of 17 Short Street, Bishop Auckland DL14 6BN is applying for a licence to use Unit 21, Thames Centre, Gurney Way, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6UJ as an operating centre for 4 goods vehicles and 4 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the traffic Commissioners Office.  
1-5-09

## Catering

**FILLING STATION.** Outside catering for all occasions. Prices to suit all budgets. Call for details 01325 300 212



**CRAZY CAKES**  
*For that something extra special*  
Designer of Wedding & Celebration Cakes  
For Friendly Service and Advice please contact:  
Joanna  
6 Hardinge Road, Newton Aycliffe  
County Durham DL5 4JJ  
**Tel: 01325 313282**  
[www.joanna-crazycakes.co.uk](http://www.joanna-crazycakes.co.uk)

## Hairdressing

**LADIES HAIRDRESSER**  
Have your hair styled in the comfort of your own home by an experienced hairdresser. Roller sets available. Tel 01325 319 497 or 07776 420 653

**SUE**  
**Freelance Hairstylist**  
*Top Salon Trained*  
**Telephone: 07773 812 786**

**GEM**  
**FREELANCE HAIRSTYLIST**  
*(previously of Joels Studio, Cockerton)*  
**7 years experience**  
**Competitive Prices**  
**Shampoo and Sets available**  
**T. 07746 131321**

## Autos

**WANTED - £50**  
for any complete vehicle, Cars, Vans, Motorcycles, HGVs, MoT Failures, Scrap Cars, anything - Ring for a quote  
**FREE COLLECTION**  
*Motorcycles wanted, dead or alive*  
Tel: 01325 300880  
After hours 07980 712733

**AYCLIFFE MOTOR FACTORS**  
**“STIGS”**  
*Unit 4 Whitworth Avenue - 316566*  
Oils - Wipers - Bulbs - Brakes  
Clutches - Filters - Plugs - Belts  
Body Panels . . . Plus lots more  
**ALL CAR PARTS . . . NEW**  
*Mon-Fri 9-5pm, Sat 9-4pm, Sun 9-12*  
**TELEPHONE: 316566**

**WANTED** cars with or without MoT. Tel 07747 175137 or 07881 897231  
**CAR AIR** conditioning repairs and gas top ups. Contact Dean on 311767 or 07786 998413  
**VOLVO S40** W reg, 6 months Tax & Test + set of spare alloys. £999 for very quick sale. First to see will buy. Tel 07825 885675

## Chiropody

**CHIROPODY**  
Mr P. Oliver  
**BSc (Hons) - M.Ch.S**  
for a Home Visit  
**Tel: (01325) 320126**

**CHIROPODIST HOME VISITS**  
*07973 686 589 - 01388 665 924*  
**Ms. Carmel Moran**  
*BSc (Hons) Podiatry*  
*M.Ch.S. Reg Member of Health Professions Council*  
Treatment of Corns, Hard Skin, Verruca, Ingrowing Toe Nails, Foot and Nail Problems  
*Friday & Saturday Clinics at Auckland Physiotherapy Centre*  
*29 Cockton Hill, Bishop Auckland*  
Call for an appointment

# Accommodation Wanted

**WANTED** 2 or 3 bedroom house in Newton Aycliffe to rent or/and buy. Please call Mark on 01388 722 208

## Accommodation

**TO LET**  
**CUMBY ROAD**  
*Two bedroom end terraced house*  
**£385.00 per month**  
**Tel: 07872 098835**

**3 & 4 BEDROOM** properties to let in Aycliffe area from £500 per month. 3 bed in St Aildens Walk; 3 bed in Cypress Grove; 3 bed in Deleval Close; 4 bed in Morrison Close. Housing benefit welcome. £300 admin fee to secure property. Please tel. Butler & Chester Property Management Ltd. on 07949 564116  
**2 BEDROOM** house in Shildon, good area, bond and references required. Tel 07962 335405  
**3 BEDROOM** house in Shildon, good area, bond and references required. Tel 07962 335405  
**2 x 3 BEDROOM** houses for rent, great condition, Osbert Place & Booth Walk, Newton Aycliffe, £105 per week. No DSS. Tel 07899 076316  
**TIRED OF Struggling?** Walk away from your Mortgage, but keep your credit clean. Call Julie 01748 900490  
**3 BEDROOM** semi with garage and private garden with Summerhouse at the Chase. No DSS or pets, £490 per month + £490 deposit. References required. Tel 01325 308148  
**3 BEDROOM** semi with garage in Woodham Lea. Maintenance free, gardens at rear, double parking at front. No DSS or smokers. £550 per month plus £550 bond. Tel 01325 324978 or 07528 474690  
**LARGE 3 Bedroom** semi with garage and conservatory in Welbury Grove. £595 per month + £595 deposit. Deposit and references required, ready 8th June. No DSS. Please Tel 07920 447350  
**3 BEDROOM** property available to rent. For details. Tel 07742 261543  
**TO LET** 2 bedroom terrace in Darlington. New kitchen. New carpets. GCH. UVPC windows. Rent £89.00 per week in advance. Tel 01325 354333  
**2 BEDROOM** bungalow for rent in Oakfield, Newton Aycliffe. UPVc double glazing and GCH with front/rear gardens. £400 pcm. Tel 07908 167400  
**3 BEDROOM** Guthrum Place, unfurnished, DSS welcome, Bond required. Tel 01325 307445  
**THREE** bedroomed home with parking and garden for BBQs In quiet area of Newton Aycliffe. Close to train station, shops, bus stops and golf course. Rent £120 a week Bond of £480 and references required. No pets or DSS Please call 01325 316328 to arrange a viewing  
**IMMACULATE** 3 bedroom house in Marshall Road. Modern interior, complete with carpets, blinds and curtains. Built in s/s oven, shower over bath, gardens laid to lawn and patio. Professionals only, bond and refs required, £475 pcm. Tel 324949  
**PROPERTIES TO LET**  
Fenhall Green, Newton Aycliffe, 3 bedroom property, Rent £375, Bond £375, Admin £100. Ross Walk, Newton Aycliffe, 3 bedroom property, Rent £500, Bond £500, Admin £100. Cheltenham Way, Newton Aycliffe, 3 bed detached property. Rent £550, Bond £550, Admin £100. Tel 07814 022301



# HELPING CHARITY AND A COUPLE WIN A £25K WEDDING



Three Aycliffe ladies, Allison White, Barbara White and Janice Goff on a sponsored Bike Ride to Darlington. The young ladies are family and friends of Lisa and Alan who are competing to win a £25,000 Wedding supporting at the same time the charity Whizz Kidz. To win the prize they are competing against four other couples and the ones who raise the most money for the charity win the wedding.
   
*Story opposite*

## No Change to Bus Service

Bus services and times in the town are unchanged except on some routes where the Bus Operator is different.
   
 Scarlet Band has replaced Arriva and their white buses with a scarlet band should be easily identified.



**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 321 678
   
**BLACK HOOVER** 15 place dishwasher, new, 5 year warranty, unwanted gift, first £250; Compact dark brown leather circular table and 4 chairs, unused, first £80. Tel 07511 372952
   
**BRAND NEW** double divan with orthopaedic mattress, still wrapped, cost £450, accept £160, can deliver. Tel 07900 857992
   
**CONSERVATORY** 14x11, dismantled, cost £7500, first £600 takes. Tel 07999 819370
   
**PINE LAMP** table, 49cm (w) x 38cm (d) x 45cm (h). Excellent condition, 320 Tel 01325 263953
   
**FARMHOUSE** style pine table, 3' x 5'5" and 4 chairs, excellent condition, £80 Tel 01325 263953
   
**COMPUTER DESK** excellent condition, beech effect, 30" (w) x 20" (d) x 33" (h). £20. Tel 317489
   
**28" SILVER** Bush TV, teletext, excellent conditiion, digi box included, 4 years old, £85. Tel 318659
   
**SILVER** coffee table, glass top, 4ft long, 2ft wide, under shelf, excellent condition, £20. Tel 318659
   
**BROWN** leather suite 3+2, £200 ono; 19" LCD TV with stand, £120 ono; Double bed divan with mattress, £100 ono; Cooker £50 ono; Washing machine £50 ono; Fridge £40 ono; Freezer £40 ono; Glass table (x3 set) £40; Imperial rug (160x230) burgundy, £50 ono. Tel 07725 183405
   
**TOSHIBA** 32" TV (not LCD) £50; Electric cooker £15. Call for details 07834 949751
   
**IKEA** Klippan 2 seater sofa and a made to measure removable washable cover, £60. Excellent condition. Tel 314991
   
**PINE DRESSER** 51" x 71"m excellent condition, phone for details. £75 ono. Tel 01325 314021
   
**ELECTRIC** wheelchair, joystick control, as new, hardly been used. £300 ono. Tel 01325 317041
   
**INDIAN** carpet, high quality, 8ft x 11ft, £80 no offers, Tel 320901
   
**MAMAS & PAPAS** child's wardrobe, honey pine, excellent condition, £80. Tel 01325 317349
   
**BOY'S BIKE** Storm Ambush, 18" wheel, red and black, heavy duty frame, good condition, £30. Tel 01325 317349
   
**MEGABLOCKS** large box of bricks, buildings and vehicles, excellent condition, 315. Tel 01325 317349
   
**SLIM LINE** corner unit, teak, with lights, £25. Tel 310963
   
**MOTHERCARE** glider crib, immaculate condition, £60. Tel 324978
   
**SILVERCROSS** cot bed, good condition, £80 ono. Tel 324978
   
**LOW PROFILE** tyres on alloys £200, bought new, hardly used, 205/40ZR17 84w XL. Tel 07707 227295
   
**COT WITH** spring interior mattress with Humphrey corner bedding, £90 ono Tel 307855
   
**2x2 SEATER** black leather sofa's, £200 ono, VGC' Electric cooker, £50 ono; Table and chairs, £80 ono, VGC; Fridge Freezer, £60 ono; Microwave, £10; Standing Lamp £10; Sony TV with built in freeview, £50 ono. Tel 07828 957255 or 312224
   
**NEW LARGE** walk-in tent, lightweight, (view online: Suncamp Invader 600), will sell for half price, £130. Tel 310019
   
**NEED** An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel. 321 678.

## Toilets a Long Delay?

Dear Sir,
   
 The town's Independent Councillors have been seeking information on Public Toilets. We have found it will be the responsibilty of Durham County Council to provide them under the Public Work Scheme sheduled in the new town centre development. The exact date we do not know as yet, but I would urge readers to press our elected County Council Members to get this done as soon as possible and not wait until the latter stages, years away.
   
 Maybe our MP could allow members of the public to use his office toilets after getting it up to DDA standard. After all he costs us pounds and shouldnt mind us "spending a penny".
   
 Independents believe in Aycliffe First and Foremost and People Before Politics.
   
 Alan Warburton
   
 Independent Councillor

## Exchange

**FROM** 3 bedroom, Darlington (Haughton area) **TO** 3 bedroom, Newton Aycliffe, old apt of town. Tel 01325 482609 or 318778

## In Memoriam

**DENNIS POSKETT** Died 22nd April 2007. Kind and unselfish a Dad so true, my dearest possession is the memory of you. Remembered with love, Daughter, Susan xxx
   
**DENNIS POSKETT** Died 22nd April 2007. Treasured memories of a special Grandad and Great Grandad. With love from Michelle, Kevin, Lisa and families xxxx
   
**DENNIS POSKETT** Died 22nd April 2007. In loving memory of a special Dad and Grandad. Always remembered, Sandra, Michael and Gemma xxx
   
**GEORGE MEREDITH** 5-4-1996. A special person, a special face. Someone we loved and can never replace. Always remembered, Sadie and family

## Thank You

**PARKIN** Sally and family would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, flowers and kindness shown following their sad loss of Robert (Bobby). Special thanks to Dr Pounder of Pease Way Medical Centre, Day Care Staff at Shafto House and Redworth House. The Rev. Linda Potter for a lovely Service. Also Norma, Peggy, Pamela, Newton Aycliffe Sports Club and Isobel. Special thanks for the perfect guidance of Funeral Directors, Seaton Leng & Co Ltd, especially David Brassell for their help and support throughout. Thank you to everyone who gave donations, £250 has been forwarded to the Alzheimer's Society
   
**THANKS TO** all family and friends for all the lovely cards and presents and for all who came for a drink in the Big Club for my 40th birthday. Hope you all enjoyed it! Love, Myra Fairhurst xx
   
**THE FAMILY** of the late Frances Downing wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, flowers and messages of condolence received during their recent bereavement. Thanks also to the Church of Jesus Christ of LDS and to Penny Dawson and the staff of John Meynell Funeral Services for their caring support

## Congratulations

**HOWEY** Happy birthday Michael. Love and best wishes from Nana and Grandad xxx
   
**TARVITT** Congratulations Jenny on your 80th birthday. Love and happiness always from Sylvia and Vic xxxx
   
**JENNY TARVIT** Happy 80th birthday. Have a great day Nana. All our love, Abi and Ben xxx
   
**JENNY TARVIT** Happy 80th birthday Nana. All our love and big hugs, Paige and Brooke xxx
   
**JENNY TARVIT** You gave so much so often, in so many special ways. You do so much for others and never expect praise. Your words of understanding which always are so wise, show your deep concern and love for all your family ties. Happy 80th birthday Mam. Love from all the family xxx
   
**JEAN and DAVID** congratulations on your Wedding Day, 2nd May. Wishing you a very happy future together. All our love, Dawn and Anth xx
   
**JEAN and DAVID** have a fantastic Wedding Day. With love from Norah and Eunice x
   
**ASHLEIGH COOK** To a very special Daughter on her 18th birthday. Had a lovely time in Cyprus with you. Love you always, Mam xxx
   
**ASHLEIGH COOK** Happy 18th birthday little Sis. Have a great day. Lots of love, Liam and Carl xx
   
**ASHLEIGH COOK** Congratulations on your 18th. Hope you have a great time celebrating. Love, Jayne, Lewis and Ben xxx
   
**ASHLEIGH COOK** Happy 18th birthday. Well done for all you have achieved this year. Love you loads, Grandma
   
**ASHLEIGH** Happy 18th birthday to our lovely Niece. Have a fantastic day! Lots of love, Scott, Aunty Jacky and Laura xxx
   
**TERESA DINSLEY** Happy 21st birthday. Lots of love, Dad, Mam, Ellie-Louise xx
   
**TERESA DINSLEY** Happy 21st birthday. Lots of love, Tom, Amy, Billy, Leah, Jade and Jodie
   
**DENNIS HALL** Happy 60th birthday to a special Dad and Grandad. Who loves ya? All our love Julie, Lee, Daniel, Aaron and Amie Leigh xxxx
   
**DENNIS HALL** Happy 60th birthday Dad. "How's the quiff?". All our love to a wonderful Dad and Grandad. Love, Karen, Phil and Katie xx
   
**DENNIS HALL** Happy 60th birthday. Love from Rosalinde xxx
   
**LAND**, Alfie Stephen David. 1st May. Happy 1st birthday to my darling Grandson. Lots of love and kisses from Grandma Pam xxx
   
**LAND**, Alfie Stephen David. Have a lovely 1st birthday. Lots of love from Uncle Stephen, Aunty Kelly, Owen and Brandon xxx
   
**LAND**, Alfie Stephen David. Happy 1st birthday. Love you lots, Mammy and Daddy
   
**ALFIE LAND** My little bro, love you, Zoe
   
**ALFIE LAND** Happy 1st birthday. Love you, Grandma
   
**ALFIE LAND** To our wonderful Grandson, happy 1st birthday on 1st May. Lots of love and kisses. Love, Nanna and Grandad Land xxx
   
**ALFIE LAND** To my brill Nephew. Happy 1st birthday. Love, Uncle David xxx
   
**ETHERINGTON**, Macauley. happy 13th birthday on 1st May. Lots of love from Nanna Liz, Granda Reggy, Dad, Claire, little Sis Leah, Bump, Troy, Auntie Shelly, Rich, Cousin Calum, Auntie Lindsey and Craig xxx
   
**KEVIN SCOTT** Happy 50th birthday Kevin. 3rd May. Love, Mam xxx
   
**REBECCA HODGSON** A teenager at last! Happy 13th birthday. Love, Mam, Dad, Leanne and Kyle
   
**JODEY** Happy 18th birthday with all my love, Aunty Mavis xxx
   
**SPENSLEY**, Samantha. Happy 18th birthday Sam. Have a lovely day. Lots of love, Grandma, Grandad, Aunti Alison, David, Uncle Duncan and Sam xxx
   
**SPENSLEY**, Samantha Happy birthday Sam. Don't get too drunk. Love from Jermaine, Brydie and Henley xxx
   
**SPENSLEY**, Samantha Happy 18th birthday Sam. Have a good one. Love u loads, Mam x
   
**ETHERINGTON**, Macauley. happy 13th birthday on 1st May. Lots of love from Nanna Liz, Granda Reggy, Dad, Claire, little Sis Leah, Bump, Troy, Auntie Shelly, Rich, Cousin Calum, Auntie Lindsey and Craig xxx

## Simpasture Convenience Store

SUNDAY OPENING NOW EXTENDED
   
 9.00am-1.00pm and 4.00pm-8.00pm

Paypoint - Lottery - DVD Rental
   
 All Grocery - Wines - Beers etc.

## Birthday Remembrance

### Jodey Slater

4th May 1991

I've tried to write a verse a hundred times for this your 18th sweetheart. My bin is full Jode, silly old Mam! This is from me to you Jody. Did I ever tell you that you are my hero and everything I'd would like to be. It might have appeared to go unnoticed but I've got it all in my 'heart'. I would be nothing without you. "Because you are the wind beneath my wings Jodey". Happy 18th Jodey, never forgotten, just like the song, you are my "hero". All our love, Mam, Dad, Louise, Blake and Enock



**JODEY SLATER** 4-5-1991. On this a special day, your 18th, you will always be in my thoughts until the day I die Jodey. Just wish you were here to celebrate your 18th, my lovable Granddaughter always. Love, Nanna Hill
   
**GEORGE WAYMAN** 3-5-22. Thinking of you on your birthday and every other day. My huisband I miss you and love you every day. Winnie
   
**JUDITH COLLEY** 2-5-42. Thinking of you my Daughter on your birthday. I miss you and love every day. Mam

### LUKE POWELL

### Happy 18th Birthday

Have a great holiday.

Love always,
   
 Mam, Dad, Eve,
   
 Fred, Adam, Nana,
   
 Grandma, Aunties,
   
 Uncles and Cousins



### Kevin Scott



### Happy 50th Birthday

Love from Susan, Kirsty, Luke, Oliver, Mam, Ken and Olive

### Nicole Walton



### Happy 13th Birthday

Lots of love, Mam,
   
 Squiggly, Gemma and Paul.
   
 Have a great weekend
   
 xxxxxxxxx

### Kaylie-Marie Swainston



### Happy 21st Birthday

Hope you have a great day.
   
 Love always,
   
 Mam, Dad and Gemma

### Krystal



### Happy 1st Birthday

Lots of love, Mammy,
   
 Nampsy, Grampsy, Uncle
   
 Chris and Andrew xxxx

### Georgia Thelwell



**Congratulations** on your recent success in Under 8 Slow Dance, 1st Place at "Northern Star Slow Dance Championships" and achieving Intermediate Level at 6 years old! So proud, Mummy, Daddy, Emilie and family.
   
 Huge thanks to Clare Walton and everyone at "Stepping Out"

### Emily Grace Langsley



### Happy 4th Birthday

to our Princess, gorgeous sweetheart! Hope you enjoy your party at Ruff n Tumble! Love and kisses from Mammy, Daddy, Grandma, Granda, Hollie and all the family xxx

## Pets

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# YOUTH CENTRE UNDER 8's DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS



**P&P WINDOWS U8's TJFA DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS 2008 - 2009 P&P WINDOWS**

Back: Luis Longstaff, James Lepoidevin, Adam Lamb, Jacob Trevor, Joshua Bayne, Harry Hobbs.  
Front: Elliott Stonehouse, Jack Hobbs, Connor Cranswick, Niall Blenkinsop

Aycliffe Youth Centre Under 8's sponsored by P & P WINDOWS have recently been crowned TJFA Under 8 Division 1 champions.

In a season that was disturbed by poor weather over the winter the squad had to endure many weeks without a game. Thankfully the quality of training through this period ensured that when the games were able to be played the team could continue where they left off.

The style and quality of their play through the season has been exceptional, with numerous entertaining matches particularly at the end of the season against their title rivals when top form was reached beating the Sports Club 3-0,

followed by a resounding victory against Norton & Stockton 4-0. Aycliffe were at their very best and as throughout the season played football well in advance of their age. Well Done to all the squad who are all local lads and special thanks to the parents for their support, and Roy Longstaff and Anth Hobbs for the exceptional training throughout the season.

Anyone interested in joining the Youth Club for next season under 9's can come to the training on a Tuesday Evening 5.30 at the Sports Complex (ask for John) or contact the club secretary Berni on 07939 045242 for other age groups or via [www.naycafc.co.uk](http://www.naycafc.co.uk)

# BUDGET FOR JOBS & TARGETED INVESTMENT

By PHIL WILSON, M.P. for Sedgefield

Last week's Budget was a Budget for jobs and targeted investment so we can secure a strong recovery. I believe the only way we can see ourselves through this global financial crisis brought about by a world-wide failure in the banking system, is to grow our way out of the recession, not cut our way out of the recession, as proposed by the Tories.

I believe we need to support people through these hard times while preparing the country for the upturn in the economy when it comes. That is why the Government is supporting people back to work by giving Jobcentre Plus an additional £1.7 billion, supporting 18-24 years olds with a guaranteed job, training or work placement for all who reach 12 months unemployment starting from 2010. We do not want to return to the horrors of previous recessions when 40% of those out of work were out of workforce 12 months or more. In the 1980s unemployment reached almost 5,500 in my constituency, with over 2,000 out of work for over 1 year. Today, the figure is 2,500, with less than one hundred out of work for the same period.

The Government is continuing to support pensioners with an additional payment alongside the Winter Fuel Payment worth £100 for households with someone aged over 80 and £50 for households with someone aged over 60. We have helped savers by increasing the tax free ISA limit to £10,200.

Those made redundant will see an increase in statutory redundancy pay to £380 per week. Through the Government's Homeowners Mortgage Support scheme, eligible borrowers will be able to reduce their monthly mortgage interest payments to

affordable levels for up to two years to help them get back on track with their finances if they suffer a temporary loss of income (if you require further information on this please go to [www.directgov.uk/HMS](http://www.directgov.uk/HMS)).

The government has also extended the stamp duty holiday to the end of the year for properties under £175,000. And to help the automotive industry, the government has introduced a car scrappage scheme to enable people who scrap vehicles older than 10 years to replace them with new vehicles at a discount of £2,000. All of this is on top a basic rate cut in tax for 22 million people, an additional £60 to 12 million pensioners and an increase in child Benefit brought forward to January of this year.

I believe we are putting in place the building blocks of future recovery. Last year, when the banks failed, the economy was at great risk. If the Government did not act, we would be in a worse state now than we are. The Government's political opponents will try and make people believe that this recession is home grown, but the problems we are facing in the UK are the same in many countries around the world including the USA and Europe. And let's get some facts on the table.

The decline in the country's economic growth is less than countries such as Japan, Germany, the US and Italy. Government debt in this country is less than any of the

top 7 economies in the world and by 2014 will continue to be so, with the exception of Canada.

This Labour government is doing all it can to get us through these hard times. Our priority is to get people back to work and help those who need it most. If you need help please do not hesitate to ring my constituency office on 01325 321603 or email me on [wilsonphil@parliament.uk](mailto:wilsonphil@parliament.uk).

## Excellent Community Centre

On Sunday 26th April, my wife and I had the pleasure to attend the Open Day at Neville Community Centre. We watched the groups who use the Centre put on a great demonstration in Karate, Line Dancing, Kurling, and many more groups.

A good display by all and if anyone has not heard of Kurling you should go along to the Centre and watch this club and take part. It is a great way of meeting new friends and keeping active. The ladies also enjoyed doing Line Dancing. Altogether a great afternoon, and a credit to Peter Beaty and his committee.

Well done.  
Mayor and Mayoress, George and Maud Gray

# TOP AWARD FOR YOUTHFUL FOOTBALL COACH



At the recent Cleveland Youth League Presentation Evening Dave Todd, manager of Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre AFC under 7's, received the award as runner up Manager of The Year.

This is his first season as a manager after he successfully completed his Level 1 Coaching badge. Dave thanked all the young lads for their efforts and thanked the parents for their help throughout the season.

The club commented "To coach young players is very rewarding anyway, but to receive this award really tops off the season for Dave"

The under 7's move on to the TJFA next season and more players are needed. If you are currently in year 2 and would like to play football contact Berni 07939045242

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## MICROCHIP YOUR PET

Free micro chipping of your pet by the RSPCA. Cats, Dogs Rabbits and Ferrets - No appointment needed. Woodham Village Community Centre on Thursday 7th May from 4pm to 8pm.

## Former Football Pro's Visit Aycliffe



TWO popular North-East football personalities will come to Newton Aycliffe for a sporting dinner this summer. Kevin Ball and John Beresford are due to star at a Curry Night in July, to raise cash for Newton Aycliffe FC.

The pair, also well-known for their punditry roles on Tyne Tees North-East football show Soccernight, will be joined by hilarious comedian Rudi West for the evening, due to be held in a giant outdoor marquee adjacent to the Sports Club, on Friday July 24.

Beresford played 179 games for Newcastle between 1992 and '98 and is famous for recounting memories of his time during Kevin Keegan's heyday at St James' Park. The 42-year-old left-back also had spells with Barnsley, Portsmouth and Southampton during a 17-year career in the game.

Hastings-born Ball, now 44 and currently Academy coach at Sunderland, played 340 games for the club between 1990 and

'99 and also had spells with Coventry, Portsmouth, Fulham and Burnley.

Organiser Martin Walker said: "We're delighted to be hosting such a high-profile event at Aycliffe and are convinced these two speakers will be popular and also superb value on the night."

"It will also help us to raise vital funds which will contribute towards costs required for our bid to join the Northern League this summer. We need to raise a lot of cash to support that, which will include new stands, subject to all the relevant planning approval, but this event will hopefully make a significant contribution towards those costs."

Tickets for the Bez & Bally night are priced just £20, which includes a Chicken Curry, and are available from: Steve Cunliffe on 07872 985501, [stecunliffe@aol.com](mailto:stecunliffe@aol.com); Martin Walker on 07950 203816, [martinwalker50@hotmail.com](mailto:martinwalker50@hotmail.com); Daz Verdon on 07774 011583.

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| 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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| A&S Dorchester         | RRP £299.00 | NOW £209.00 |
| A&S Majestic           | RRP £349.00 | NOW £299.00 |
| Slumberland Blue Seal  | RRP £499.00 | NOW £399.00 |
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FREE ADMISSION

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Roast Beef, Pork or Turkey  
with a large selection of freshly prepared vegetables

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Just £3 on the door

We will be open for Family Fun on Bank Holiday Monday  
Bring the kids to enjoy the sunshine and play out on our Bouncy Castles and in our Children's Play Area  
(English Weather Permitting!!!)

For further details of all our forthcoming attractions  
Telephone 01325 316753