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# NEWTON NEWS

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Week Ending 19th June, 2009

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## COUNTY COUNCIL ENTERPRISE FAIR FOR JOBSEEKERS

An enterprise Fair event is to be held in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, Wednesday 24th June - 10.00 a.m. in response to the number of large scale redundancies there has been. The format of the fair will be modelled on Job Centre Plus previous successful events.

Target clients are primarily unemployed individuals in the South West Durham area, but it will include those who have been made redundant but not yet signed on or those under threat of redundancy.

Other individuals interested in starting a business will also be welcome. A wide range of public and private sector bodies have been involved in arranging the event and will be present on

the day.

The format of the day beginning at 10.00 a.m. is opening remarks followed by workshops addressing the issues around unemployment and job creation/ job seeking. Any questions or further information contact Economic Development -01388 761515 or 08453 306401

## GREENFIELD MDDRIDGE PACT MEETING

This months PACT meeting (Police and Communities together) for the above ward has been changed.

The revised date is Tuesday 30th June 2009 at 7.00pm at Aycliffe Evangelical Church, Ladybower.

There will be representatives from the police as well as council and neighbourhood wardens. This will be an opportunity to discuss any problems you may be having with ASB in your area.

We look forward to seeing you there.  
PC 1760 Dave MCKENNA  
PCSO 6859 Mike WELCH

## Star Soprano in Town Concert



AYCLIFFE MUSICAL THEATRE group which practices at St. Elizabeth's Church presents a Summer Concert featuring famous northern Soprano Anna-Maria Jackson on 4th and 5th July 2009 commencing at 7.30pm in St. Clare's Church Hall, Newton Aycliffe  
Tickets priced £6 from 01325 318968 or 321729

## Record Entry for Road Race

A record number of entries have been received for the annual Newton Aycliffe 10k road race, which is being staged this Sunday (June 21st).

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe Councillor Mary Dalton will be starting the race at 10am from Greenfield Community and Arts College.

The annual event is organised by Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club and sponsored by local employers 3M Aycliffe and the Town Council. This year's chosen charity is the Arthritis Research Campaign.

"We've had almost 300 entries already and it's not too late to enter on the day," said race director Mick Beadle. "It looks set to be the best event ever this year." As well as the 10k race, which attracts runners from across the North East, there is also a 3k family fun run which starts from the same venue at 9.15am.

## TOWN COUNCIL WON'T ATTEND PUBLIC MEETING

The Town Council have stunned the Great Aycliffe Residents' Association by declining an invitation to sit on the panel for the Public Meeting on 25th June at St. Mary's Church, called to discuss vandalism, underage drinking etc. Other important representatives and officers from the County Council, Police SBH our M.P. and the Youth Service are attending, but the Town Council have voted to stay away.

"I find it incredible that our own local Councillors cannot see the value in attending this important Public Meeting to try and solve these issues. They have offered no reasonable explanation other than they voted against attending," said Chairman Syd Howarth. The whole subject was brought to the Residents' Association as a result of problems affecting Town Council property and the Association decided to call a meeting to support the Council in tackling the problem.

It was thought by getting the townspeople behind the Council a new strategy devised by all parties could evolve and so a public meeting was called.

"We are so disappointed by the Council's decision which on the face of it is very shortsighted and poor public relations on their part. Maybe they want to tackle it on their own, but there is evidence that without public support they will have little success" added Syd.

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## COMPETITION TO BRING DOWN BUS FARES

The Campaign for Better Transport has launched a competition to find the most expensive local bus journey in the country. By highlighting expensive routes Campaign for Better Transport hope to shame the Government into bringing down fares by investing more in buses. The person who submits the most expensive journey will win a £50 voucher.

Sarah Matthews, a campaigner in the group, said "More people in the North East would travel by bus if it were cheaper. Higher bus use would reduce traffic, making it easier for us to get around, and be better for the environment. Affordable buses are also a lifeline for many people, making it possible for them to get to work, the shops, the GP and other services. Through this competition we hope to shame the Government into investing more in buses, to bring down the price of bus fares. Funding could go directly to local councils to upgrade services, but could also go to bus priority measures – like bus lanes – to bring down operating costs." To enter the competition, people should visit the Campaign for Better Transport website, [www.bettertransport.org.uk](http://www.bettertransport.org.uk) or email journey details (distance travelled or time taken or destinations served), and cost, along with their name and your email address to [campaigns@bettertransport.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@bettertransport.org.uk). The competition closes on 31 July.

## Family History Society

The Society meets on the last Wednesday of each month at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Shafto Way. At our next meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 24th June, Vivien Ellis will give a talk entitled 'Smut, Scribble and Minching About' If you are interested in family history research please join us at one of our meetings. Car parking and refreshments are free. For further information please visit our website at [www.communigate.co.uk/ne/nafhs](http://www.communigate.co.uk/ne/nafhs) or contact Mr John Barraclough, Secretary, on 01325-315959.

## MAYOR WELCOMES INTERNATIONAL VISITORS



A group of European visitors attending a project meeting at Aycliffe Village Primary School met with Mayor Mary Dalton and her husband Reg, at the Aycliffe Council offices last Thursday. The group, two Danes, three Czechs, six Hungarians, three Scots and staff from Aycliffe Village School have been part of a project called the Comenius Project. This project is designed to raise European awareness and to allow teachers to share good practice and to allow pupils and staff to visit and experience different cultures. During the meeting with the Mayor, the pupils in the group tried on the Mayoral gown and had photographs taken. Gifts were exchanged between Mayor Dalton and the visitors, who brought gifts from the Mayors of Christiansfeld in Denmark, Malsice in South Bohemia, which is in the Czech Republic and Szolnok,



## Good Car Boot Sale

Dear Syd,  
Reference letter to Newton News about walking across land near the new Sunday Car Boot Sale at the Oakleaf Complex. I feel I should reply, having made a visit and found it a very good event.

It's on a very suitable site, away from houses etc, and I feel it is extremely well organised.

Can anyone remember how successful the one at the Equestrian Centre was and how people complained then about noise, cars etc? Now Newton Aycliffe has got this one we should support it and make it the success it deserves. What's peoples views on this?  
Terry, Woodham.

## Village BBQ

St. Andrews Church are holding a Barbecue on Saturday 27th June from 6.30pm in Aycliffe Village Hall.

Everyone welcome and tickets are £4.50p with concessions priced at £4. This includes a glass of wine.

Tickets from Dawn on 300040 or Alan 318663.

## Summer Fayre

St. Elizabeth's Summer Fayre 2009 Saturday 20th June 10am till 2 pm Refreshments, Raffle, cake stall, bric-a-brac, tombola etc. Fayre will be opened by Mrs Sheila Allen

## Dog Walkers Wanted

The Cinnamon Trust is in great need of help from anyone who would be willing to do a little dog walking in the NEWTON AYCLIFFE Area. There are elderly people in this area who have dogs and are unable to walk them.

Cinnamon Trust is the national charity for elderly and terminally ill people and their pets. We seek to keep owner and pet together for as long as possible with the help of a national network of volunteers who assist when any aspect of day to day care poses a problem. Some volunteers also offer foster care of these pets in their own homes, when the elderly or terminally ill face a short spell in hospital.

We are always seeking new volunteers and anyone with even an hour a week to spare can make a huge difference! Potential volunteers are asked to ring 01736 757900 during office hours to register or email [admin@cinnamon.org.uk](mailto:admin@cinnamon.org.uk) for an information pack. Anyone with any questions or who would like a little more information on any of the above, please do give us a call.

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# SELFISH BULLY IN THE TESCO QUEUE

Dear Syd,  
Early on Saturday morning there was a gentleman (I use this term loosely) and his wife wishing to purchase items from Tesco, and as the staffed tills do not operate until 8.00am he was required to use the self-service till.  
There was one member of staff to serve all six self-service tills, and it so happened that each one was full, with additional people queuing. When this happens the member of staff only has one pair of hands to assist customers with any difficulties, which seemed to be numerous that morning with the majority of tills "requesting assistance".  
This gentleman clearly believed that her priority was to assist him, and started abusing the member of staff unnecessarily. After about 5 minutes of this, I suggested that he may wish to take up his complaint with the Management and

not take it out on the staff, at which point he advised me "that's what they are paid for".  
She is not paid to take abuse, her job is to assist customers to the best of her ability with the given resources. I cannot repeat in writing what he called me for "interfering", and asked if I worked there, answer is no; did I have shares in the company, answer is no, at which point he advised me he did and therefore was entitled to complain.  
Again I suggested that he may wish to take up his complaint at the next Shareholders' meeting, but I would question the mentality of someone having shares in a company with which they are clearly unhappy!  
Whilst I don't often get involved in other peoples' squabbles, this was clearly a case of a bully taking out his frustrations on a member of staff who was not in a position to defend herself and typical of a bully he was too afraid to approach the Management directly.  
Perhaps he should start shopping after the 8.00am slot if he wants to be pampered, or better still find somewhere else and leave the rest of us in peace.  
I would prefer to remain anonymous, since this is the kind of person who would not think twice about taking out his frustration on individuals or property.  
Outraged

# CRAFT CAROUSEL

The 2009 Crafts Carousel will be at the Vintage Vehicle Museum Shildon from 11.00am to 4.00pm on Sunday 21st June for a Father's Day Special affordable gifts market.  
So Ladies, bring Dad along and while he's looking at the exhibition, doing his 'bloke stuff', spend his money! Further details [www.communitigate.co.uk/woodhamcommunityart](http://www.communitigate.co.uk/woodhamcommunityart)

# Search for Ex Squaddie

A bunch of ex squaddies are trying to get in touch with a guy called Jim Clerkin, who was born and lived in Newton Aycliffe. He joined the junior leaders regiment in Jan 1963 as a 15 yrs old. He was a brilliant musician and was always well turned out. If any of your readers can put us back in touch with Jim we would be very grateful.  
John (Spud) Rudd  
spudrudd1947@blueyonder.co.uk  
Tel :- 01512 843229  
Mob:- 07805 812 833

# Cinema Proposed for St. Clares Church Hall

Dear Syd,  
I read with interest Councillor Bowman's letter about young people in the town in which she mentioned that there isn't a bowling alley, skating rink or cinema locally for them.  
In September we propose to begin Film Nights at St Clare's Church Hall and we hope that people of all ages will use this facility. We have purchased an 8ft Screen thanks to a grant from Durham County Council, courtesy of Councillor Bowman, and a projector with a grant from our own Town Council.  
Most of us enjoy the cinema and get there when we can, but it isn't cheap these days. St Clare's has excellent facilities, is easy to get to and has good parking around it, as well as being on the bus runs around the town.  
We plan to have Saturday pictures for kids - remember them? - although these will be on Saturday afternoons rather than mornings. We shall also be having Family Nights and in the winter some Golden Oldies in the afternoons for those who might like to watch a film with other people along with

a cup of tea and a bun!  
We would like to invite parents to get involved in the Kidz Cinema to help run it and so that parents in the community have a say in this facility. It would be great to hear from interested parents, or indeed anyone interested as we prepare to open this facility - ideas are welcomed. We are finalising all the arrangements for this new venture, so please do get involved and note that CRB checks apply and will be undertaken for everyone involved.  
Opening Night will be Saturday September 5th at 6.30 pm when we shall have a Family Film Night with refreshments and a tuck shop available. Proceeds from this will be used to help finance the third Big Event for children and young people organised by Churches Together in Great Aycliffe, also in September - details later.  
Tickets are required for this show and these will be available in July - times and days will be published in Newton News.  
Revd Linda Potter

# SLOW PROGRESS

Dear Sir,  
I am pleased to see the Council repairing the supporting rails and brick work at the underpass at Byerley Park.  
What angers me is, we are now into the 5th week? Why so long? If this had been a private building company the Council would have been up in arms!  
Gerrie Selbey


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Tickets £4 each, Children £2  
To book your tickets  
Telephone 01325 313924

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL



**MAYOR**  
**"AT HOME"**

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Mrs. Mary Dalton, will be hosting her 'At Home' on Tuesday, 30th June, 2009 between 2.30pm and 4.30pm in the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe.

Mary would like to extend a warm invitation to residents to join her and her other guests on this occasion for light refreshments and hopefully a very enjoyable afternoon.

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# BUSY SUMMER FAYRE



Large numbers turned out last Saturday for St. Clare's Summer Fayre held in the Church Hall. There was lots of activity, numerous fundraising stalls and scrumptious refreshments including fresh cream scones - all home made. The Mayor and her consort Mary and Reg Dalton were in attendance and the Brownies helped out as waitresses clearing the tables.



## Lick of Paint for Hall

Heighington Village Hall Association is hoping to be able to smarten up some areas of the hall with a lick of paint this summer and in order to raise the money for materials they are planning a Coffee Morning on Saturday 18th July from 10am to 12noon.

Entrance will be £1.50 to include coffee (or tea) and a scone. There will be stalls selling jigsaws, bric-a-brac, books and plants as well as a raffle.

The Village Hall Association also has two electric organs for sale. A Lowrey Genius organ with a stool which was PAT tested in May 2009, and a Gem Wizard 325. All offers will be considered. For more information please phone 01325 - 313851.

## CHEMIST INVASION

Dear Sir,  
I have lived in the town many years and have witnessed the deterioration of our Town Centre.

I note with concern that Pease Way Surgery has opened its own Pharmacy and in my view we can certainly do without an extra chemists which will take business away from the town centre.

Tesco have opened a Pharmacy and I believe this back door increase in pharmacy shops should stop. We should all start using local shops and ignore the big boys to help our town centre survive.

Shopper

## After "The Head" "The Swirl"



The Swirl is the latest outstanding creation of Aycliffe Fabrications at over 30 feet tall and weighing just short of 6 tonnes. This highly polished stainless steel sculpture was one of 2 huge artist projects Aycliffe Fabrications have undertaken over the past 12 months along with the "Head" project.

The quality of work reflects the skills of the local work force, all employed from the Aycliffe area, Christine Bewley, Director said both projects lifted the company to another level as far as the skill aspirations needed to achieve the Artists requirements.

Working closely alongside Northumberland based artist Colin Rose, an internationally recognized artist, the finished piece is featured at the entrance to a multi million pound development on the Quayside at Newcastle.

Dave Spensley said on the Sunday it was installed the main developer of the site flew in from Moscow just to view the piece of art being erected. As it was lowered into position by 2 huge cranes the sun shone on the stunning piece and the developer was over the moon with everything Aycliffe Fabrications did.

## Keep Dogs Under Control

Dear Sir,

Dog owners usually have a code of practise to other dog owners, ie put their dogs on dog leads when needed, giving respect to dog owners who are exercising their dogs, calming their dog down if need be when someone is passing their house etc.

Lately this has not been happening, and a minority of dog owners are showing a lack of consideration. When I have been out walking my dog, one or two dog owners have been a pain. They throw dog toys in front of me and my dog when seeing us approach even though my dog is on a lead and theirs is not!

On Friday evening I was returning home with my dog after a walk, when a dog ran out barking and snapping at my dogs legs. I had to shout for the dog owner to come out of their house to get their dog off the road and under control. This was an obvious danger to everyone nearby.

Jane Parsonage

## POPULAR WORKSHOPS HELP COMPANIES TO NETWORK



SDBN Chairman Darren Race (centre) with presenters from 7Presentations of Gosforth.

The South Durham Business Network is attracting great support for the series of workshops they are running to help local companies improve their performance. Last week Colin Kendall from 7Presentations gave a very useful address on how to market products and improve sales. This was preceded with a Hot Buffet and a valuable opportunity for local business people to meet each other and network. It is proving highly beneficial to join SDBN and details of membership can be obtained by visiting the website [www.sdbn.org.uk](http://www.sdbn.org.uk). Here you will also find details of forthcoming events including a Summer Barbecue at Whitworth Hall.

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# MUSIC AT BOWES



The Friends of The Bowes Museum Music Group welcomes Cleveland Chamber Orchestra which will be performing at The Bowes Museum on Saturday, 27th June at 7.30 pm. The Cleveland Chamber Orchestra has been performing in Teesside and North Yorkshire for over 25 years. It has about 35-40 playing members, and typically gives 3-4 concerts a year between September and June. The Orchestra will be performing music from the Baroque era with works by the master composers of the age, Bach, Vivaldi, Corelli and Handel. Their music was intended to delight and intrigue the listener with its varied instrumental colours, intricate textures and

infectious dance rhythms. "Inspired by the Museum's two wonderful and vivid Canaletto paintings, we hope that the music will transport the audience back to the Baroque era", said Shelagh Turner, Chairman of the Friends of the Bowes Museum Music Group. The Bowes Café and Shop will be open until half an hour before the concert starts for meals and shopping. Adult tickets are £12.00, (£10.00 if you are a Friend of the Bowes Museum) and for accompanied children under 16, admission is free. Tickets are available by post from: The Friends Office, The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, County Durham, DL12 8NP. Telephone: 01833 690606 extension 233 (voicemail).

# Bonmarche Winners



Bonmarche in the town centre held a Bonus Day Event where two lucky ladies won a free £30 outfit. The ladies who are both from Newton Aycliffe were delighted when they pulled out their prize from the lucky dip box in store. Outfit winners were Mrs June Stewart (above) and Mrs M. Affleck.

# Vouchers for Care Homes

Bonmarche are sending out 30% discount vouchers to all Care Homes in the North East. These vouchers are for staff and residents only. The vouchers are valid for one week only, commencing 20th June. If your care home has not been contacted, please get in touch with your local store for more information.

# Tennis Facility Upgrade



Greenfield Tennis Club are thrilled to reopen the tennis facility after the courts have been repainted, returning the facility to its original specification. The courts have been used continuously over the past 8 years with over 27 000 players taking advantage of playing on the courts. A local contractor Dualaway Courts based in Newton Aycliffe has completed an excellent project. Greenfield Tennis offers a full range of activities including an Adult and Junior Club Night, Mini Tennis Club, coaching and Team Tennis in local league. All abilities and ages are catered for. Greenfield Tennis has benefited

recently from the support of Glaceau Mineral Water. Details of all activities can be found on the tennis website [www.rootennis.com](http://www.rootennis.com) Or by Email: [rootennis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rootennis@hotmail.co.uk) or calling Ian Wilkinson (Head Coach) on 01325 300 378 (Daytime)

# Bringing Wildflowers to Byerley Reserve

A change in management practice will reap rewards for wildlife at a local Nature Reserve in Newton Aycliffe. The reserve at Byerley Park is a diverse mix of habitats including woodland, scrub, wetlands and wildflower grasslands, enjoyed and treasured by the local community. An area of grassland that lies within the boundary of the reserve and located to the rear of Jesmond Court was until recently, mown very short resulting in little or no wildlife value. After discussions with the "Friends of Byerley Park" a local community group interested in the management of the reserve, it was decided to develop the grassland into a flower filled meadow, similar to what would have been in the area before the development of the town. The management has seen a "wait and see" approach that requires the area to be left unmown and already cuckoo flowers are growing among a carpet of dandelion. The Cuckoo Flower is important as a larval food plant for the Orange Tip Butterfly now seen regularly flying over the meadow and egg laying on the flowers. Durham County Council Countryside Officer, Ian Armstrong who manages the reserve said: "It may take a few years for a species rich meadow to establish but with patience, we may gradually see a superb habitat that will further enhance the nature reserve."

# £375 for Deaf Charity



Co-op staff members at Neville Parade shop, Denise and Ann, gave up their day off to run a Tombola Stall outside the shop on Saturday for the National Institute for the Deaf. They thank all who supported them and raised £375 for the charity.

## GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 8th July 2009**  
Environment Committee - 7.15pm  
followed by the Recreation Committee

### QUESTION TIME

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

The press and public are cordially invited to attend.

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

## GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

### NOTICES OF MEETINGS

**Wednesday 24th June 2009**  
Special Policy & Resource Committee  
7.15pm

### QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 15 minutes has been set aside for electors to ask questions at the Recreation, Environment and Policy & Resources Committee Meetings. Written questions must be received by the Town Clerk at least 5 clear days prior to the meeting. Oral questions may be asked at the meeting which relate to an agenda item or is a matter for which that committee has responsibility.

### 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:

**Wednesday 24th June 2009**  
Immediately following the  
Special Policy & Resource Committee Meeting

The item on the agenda will be to confirm the minutes of the Special Policy & Resource Committee. 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 press and public are cordially invited to attend. The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

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# St. Mary's Open School Garden



Following St. Mary's initial studies into the environment and climate change through the Climate Change Lead Schools Project, they have developed a thriving garden which was officially opened on Wednesday 3rd June. Parents and governors were invited to share in the celebrations with a blessing for both the new outdoor play area for Key Stage 1 children and their garden, from Fr. Campion. Work started last autumn the very unsightly prefab removed from school grounds. The land left behind was an ideal size and plot to create a school garden. Mr. Foster, the school caretaker very kindly offered to take a lead in developing just that. Early on in the Spring term, Class 6 were invited to help Mr. Foster with this project. Those who were willing brought in their willies and split into 5 groups. Each morning about 5 children went out to help turn over the soil carry out all the hard labour in preparing the soil for planting. Local Councillor, Mr. Moran, helped out, providing topsoil, turf and sleepers to create some raised beds. Eventually the ground was ready for planting. The children helped to plant potatoes, cabbages, carrots, a variety of beans, lettuce, radish, onions, courgettes and strawberries. He even encourages the whole school to keep apple cores, banana skins etc. from 'fruit time' to collect for the compost bins. Mrs. Minns also helped out with planting new tree around the school grounds and wildlife areas. Mrs. Moran helped the children in Reception to plant flowers in the raised beds and tyres in their new outdoor play area. This was sparked off by one of



the girls in Reception, named Poppy, bringing in some poppy seeds to plant. They have also planted sun flowers, nasturtiums and marigolds. Both our new outdoor play areas and garden were looking so good that we decided to hold an official opening ceremony. During the school's 3rd climate themed study days, which was actually spread over 3 days, involved creating and maintaining a school garden. Each class had a timetabled session, either morning or afternoon, where they could go and investigate the garden area. The first group from Class 6, who had carried out a great amount of work with Mr. Foster, had their work cut out as their session was the first after the half term break. They were pleased to discover the addition of a greenhouse and inside tomatoes had been planted. Class 3 couldn't decide whether to use our produce in our kitchen for lunch to save on produce being driven to us, or to have a 'market stall' to sell our produce to raise money for school for future garden projects and equipment or give

the money to charity. Hopefully a decision will be made at our next school council meeting. In the meantime they have added radishes from the garden to their salad trolley. Key Stage 1 children also had a fabulous time learning about to plant seeds, and looking after them. Class 1 painted some wonderful pictures of what they thought the flowers they'd planted would look like. During these 3 days, anticipation was high with the prospect of governors and parents arriving to see all of our lovely work, and to see how hard everyone had worked creating such wonderful outdoor areas. The whole school got together to practice songs for the occasion, and children practiced reading out loud so everyone would be able to hear them speaking outside. Key Stage 2 children had a quick last minute practice, and worked out where everyone was standing, whilst the children in Key Stage 1 and the choir congregated in the outdoor play area. The choir began the proceedings with hymn 'Think of a World Without Any Flowers', then the children shared their pictures and opinions with parents and governors, and finally Fr. Campion gave a blessing. Everyone then gathered together with Key Stage 2 in the garden to share their work, thoughts and ideas for the future before finishing with a blessing from our parish priest, Fr. Campion, and a final song, 'Cauliflowers Fluffy'. The children went on to enjoy a well deserved extended playtime as parents and governors were invited into the school hall for refreshments and strawberry scones. The governors in particular are delighted with the work Mr. Foster and the children are doing in the garden and eagerly watch their developments. Mrs. Leech, a local resident and school governor said, "Thank you very much for removing the hut and making it into a garden. The local residents are delighted, and look forward to seeing the children working in the garden each day. They can't wait to see what they will be doing next. It has really improved our local environment."

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# 10,000 FOOT JUMP FOR CHARITY



Newtonians Ryan Clegg (left) and his pal John Spellman, carried out a 10,000 foot Skydive in aid of Prostate Cancer last Saturday. The jump was seen by friends and family and over £400 was raised. Both said it was the best thing they had ever done and would do it again! "We would like to thank everyone who sponsored us including Tricogen, the Big Club and Blakes" said Ryan and John. Anyone interested in doing the same should visit [www.skylineparachuting.co.uk](http://www.skylineparachuting.co.uk). There are jump sites as near as Peterlee.

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# VILLAGE SCHOOL GIVE CONCERT FOR VISITORS



The pupils from Aycliffe Village Primary School entertained a group of European visitors last Thursday – treating them to a spectacular musical performance. The older pupils in the school played a number of tunes on the recorder as a whole class group; they also sang a number of traditional songs. The visitors - from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Denmark and Scotland also met the Governors of the school who attended the concert. The talented pupils continued to entertain the visitors with tunes on the flute, clarinet and cello accompanied by percussion from the drums. Two of the younger pupils played tunes on the keyboard. The two Scottish pupils attending the project meeting also played for the assembly on an instrument related to the bagpipe. The finale was an excellent rendition of Queen's 'We Will Rock You'. The visitors are here as part of a project

called the 'Comenius Project'. This project helps develop links between schools across Europe. Pupils and Staff from Aycliffe Village School have visited Hungary, the Czech Republic and Denmark in their quest to forge links with their guests. Mr Gargan, Head teacher, praised his staff and pupils. 'Everyone has worked hard in preparation for the visit.' He went on to add 'The project has been a most exciting venture.

It has allowed pupils and teachers to explore different cultures that are not easily experienced on the popular tourist routes. It has also given staff opportunity to exchange ideas with other professionals and has been extremely valuable for all who have been involved.' This was the final visit and will conclude the two year project. The pupils from the schools will continue to exchange e-mails and Christmas cards.

## NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Table Top Sale at the Youth Centre on Saturday 27th June from 10am-1pm. To book a table to sell your unwanted goods ring 313924. Hire charge is £6. Saturday 20th June at 3pm. Lyons Male Voice Choir. Admision £3, children free. Sponsored Family Walk around Great Aycliffe Way Sunday 19th July at 11am. Not a race, bring a picnic. Forms on request. Also Famiy Cycle Ride on Sunday 26th July Meet at Stephenson Way entrance on both occasions. Line Dancing for beginners on 13th July from 1.30 - 2.30pm. Admision £3, instruction by a professional. On Tuesday 7th July at 7p.m. a local Brass Oompah Band will perform, playing hits from the 70's - 80's. Unique opportunity to hear this top band. Admision £4, children £2. We have for sale a Mobility Scooter in good condition. £500. Bric-a-Brac wanted for our next fundrasing sale. We are grateful for any support you can give and are seeking people to serve on our Committee. please ring Peter on 313924 for further details on any of the above,

# ST. MARY'S IN QWIK CRICKET FINAL

On Wednesday 10th June 10 members of Class 6 represented St Mary's at the Kwik Cricket festival at Moore Lane Sports Centre. They were one of 18 schools taking part, last year there were only 10. St Mary's had to play their first 3 matches to decide which schools went through to the premiership, championship and divisions 1 and 2. Just like England's football league. Their first match against St Charles from Spennymoor was won by 4 runs. Second up was Cleeves Cross from Ferryhill. This was an even more closely matched game, St Mary's won by only 2 runs. The last match before lunch was against West Cornforth. By this time St Mary's were fully warmed up and had really gelled as a team. The result was that they won by 15 runs. During lunch they were told that they'd played so well, one of the top 4 teams, that they were selected to play in the semi finals of the premier league and had a chance of winning the whole competition! The first semi final match was against Timothy Hackworth from Shildon. The game was full of stunning catches, crashing wickets and excellent hitting and high scoring of runs by both sides. Again they won, by 23 runs. St Mary's were through to the final for the second year running. This last match would decide who won the trophy. Thornhill from Shildon were the opponents to beat. This was



the tightest match they played. Both sides had brilliant batters who sent the ball flying across the sports field and amazing catchers who ran like the wind to field the ball. St Mary's felt the pressure as wicket fell for both sides and runs were clocked up. After about 40 minutes of extremely hard play there was a result. By only 15 runs St Mary's had lost. Everybody who took part thoroughly enjoyed themselves, all knew their skills had improved enormously but above all they had great fun.

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## WALKING FOR AFRICAN CHILDREN WHO CAN'T

President of the Town's Rotary Club, David Scott, is walking 100 miles around Great Aycliffe Way in aid of children who cannot walk in West Africa. Rotary clubs in Great Britain and Ireland are raising cash for Leonard Cheshire Disability a



charity whose aims are to bring education to disabled children in Africa who cannot get to school. The project will enable disabled children overcome physical difficulties by adapting school facilities and also deal with the prejudice and stigma

associated with disabled children. From Monday to Friday next week David will complete 100 sponsored miles walking for 2 hours each morning starting at 7am. Any reader wanting to join or sponsor David should ring him on 316328.

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# Picnic and Party at the PCP WE NEED YOU AT PUBLIC MEETING



Great Aycliffe Residents Association extend a warm invitation to the general public and leaders of all the town's organisations to a Public Meeting to discuss the growing problem of vandalism, under-age drinking and anti-social behaviour.

The Meeting is to be held at St. Mary's Church on Thursday 25th June at 7.30p.m. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to express their views and outline the problems they have or are experiencing.

A panel of experts will be available to comment and answer questions. They include the Police, Council Officers and representatives, SBH, and Youth Leaders. It is appropriate the meeting is called at this time when these problems are causing great concern and even greater expense to the Council Taxpayer. It is also good timing for the forthcoming School Holidays when there is a general increase in this bad behaviour among a minority of our young people.

Many are fearful that if these problems are not tackled now they may get out of control. It is hoped the meeting might develop a strategy to show this behaviour will not be tolerated. If you have been affected or feel you might be in the future, it is important

you attend this meeting to show your concern. Further details from Secretary of the Great Aycliffe Residents' Association Alasdair Carter. E-mail: secretary@greataycliffesidents.org.uk or call the Chairman Syd Howarth on 300212. (daytime).

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# Defoe Staff Dress up for Charity



This month Defoe Court Care Centre is raising money for World Elder Abuse Awareness, and the staff had a fancy dress day on the 2nd June and are still selling tickets for a raffle. They hope to raise lots of money for this worthy charity!

# Hawaiian Ladies Raise £300



Rachael Humphries, Kerri Wade, and Tina Holly from Newton Aycliffe joined the "Race for Life" at Darlington on Sunday 14th June dressed as Hawaiian ladies. They completed the race and proudly raised £300 for Cancer Research. They enjoyed themselves and will do it again next year. They thank everyone for their support.

## TOWN CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Aycliffe's first team progressed to the quarter finals of the Glen Pattison Memorial trophy with a 97 run home win over Whiteleas. Mahesh Shenoy (73 runs) and Arvind Shetty (53 runs) smashed the visitors bowling attack to all sides of the ground as the homeside scored 186 all out after 33 overs. In reply, Aycliffe Juniors Sean Morgan and Matty Wheeler took 4 wickets each as Whiteleas were bowled out, 89, 21 overs. Aycliffe's second team were well beaten by 116 runs at home to Beamish thanks to visiting batsman Steve Nixon who scored an amazing 146. In reply to the visitors huge total of 263 for 2, Aycliffe reached a respectable 147 for 7 after 40 overs with veteran Dave Bennett scoring 59 and 14 year old Daniel Weldon hitting 18 not out. The under 15's team had an excellent 62 run home win over Langley Park in the Durham County Junior league thanks to a bowling performance from Sean Hardy. The youngster finished with 7 for 14 from just 4 overs to become the first ever Aycliffe bowler to take seven wickets in a junior match and skittle the visitors for just 32 in 8.1 overs. Earlier in the match, opening batsman Daniel Weldon scored with an excellent 35 and with support from Sam Telford (12) and Craig Robertson (11 not out), Aycliffe totalled 94 for 7 in their 20 overs.

# FLY THE FLAG FOR OUR ARMED FORCES

The MOD is encouraging councils, businesses and homes across the country to show their support for Britain's Armed Forces by flying a special flag designed for the occasion. The Armed Forces Day Flag will be flown to mark the first ever national Armed Forces Day on Saturday 27 June 2009. This new annual event celebrates the UK's Armed Forces - past, present and future. Hundreds of councils have pledged to raise the Armed Forces Day Flag at 1030hrs on Monday 22 June to officially commence a week of celebrations in honour of our Armed Forces and Councillor Mrs Mary Dalton will raise the flag on behalf of Great Aycliffe Town Council and the people of Newton Aycliffe. Recently in a visit to Afghanistan Prime Minister Gordon Brown said of the Armed Forces: "Britain's Armed Forces are second-to-none, and the whole country owes them an enormous debt of gratitude. Our troops risk their lives fighting the agents of terror here on the front line in Afghanistan to keep the streets of Britain safe, and they are a force for good standing up for the UK's interests right across the world. "Armed Forces Day is our chance to say thank you. I'm proud to be out here in Helmand province launching the Armed Forces Day flags campaign - I urge everyone to send off for this specially designed flag and fly it with pride."



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# GREAT AYCLIFFE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

# PUBLIC MEETING

**THURSDAY 25th JUNE**  
**St. MARY'S CHURCH, 7.30 p.m.**

**VANDALISM & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**  
**A GROWING THREAT TO OUR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT**

**COME & VOICE YOUR OPINION TO THE COUNCIL, POLICE, M.P. & OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

More info from: Secretary: Alasdair Carter  
c/o Newton Press, St. Cuthberts Way, Aycliffe Business Park  
Co. Durham DL5 6DX, Tel: 310328  
E.mail: secretary@greataycliffesidents.org.uk www.greataycliffesidents.org.uk



# TRIBUTE TO ABBA - SHAME ABOUT THE MEN’S WIGS!



The Cumby Arms rocked to the music of ABBA last Friday night when a local tribute band dressed up for the occasion. Everyone enjoyed the event and there was a crowded floor of dancers throughout the whole performance. A collecting box was sent round the audience during the evening and over £100 was raised for Macmillan Nurses.

## In Memoriam

**FRED WILLIAMSON** Died 20th June 2001. Always remembered, never forgotten. Des, Val and Trevor  
**GILBERT WILSON** Died 19-6-97. I was my Father’s Daughter . . . He is dead now and I am a grown woman and still I am my Father’s Daughter. I am many things besides, but I am Daddy’s girl too and so I will remain, all the way to the old folk’s home. Twelve years on Dad, miss you more than ever. Your loving Daughter, Pamela xxx  
**JOE FINN** 17th June 2008. Forever in our thoughts, missed, loved and remembered always by all of his family. Steve, Jan, Matthew, Andrew, Robert, Anna, Trev, Sue, Abbie and Sheila

## Birthday Remembrance

**TERRY LENDRUM.** Birthday memories of Terry. 23rd June. A special Mum and Nana. Treasured memories of our times together. Words could never say how much you are missed, loved and thought of every day. Husband John and family  
**GRANDA RILEY** 21st June. Stephen Riley, 24th June. You are in our thoughts every day. Lots of love, Vicky, Megan and Alex xxxx  
**ANTHEA SCOTT-ATESS** Birthday wishes sent to Heaven for our Mam. Love you and miss you so much. You blessed our lives in so many ways. We will cherish our Mam forever. Happy Birthday Mam. Scott, Victoria and George xxx  
**ANTHEA SCOTT-ATESS** If we could write a million pages we would still be unable to say, just how much we love and miss you on this your special day. Happy birthday to our Angel, Anthea. Deepest love from Mam and family xxxxxx  
**ANTHEA SCOTT-ATESS** Your birthday comes with sadness and tears. Loving birthday wishes for our dear Niece, Anthea. Auntie Marion, Uncle Allen and family xxx  
**BRIAN RILEY** (21-6) **STEPHEN RILEY** (24-6). Extra special loving thoughts for you both on your birthdays. So deeply loved, so sadly missed every day. By Ann / Mam. R.I.P. xxxxx  
**KEITH WILSON** 21st June. Mam. Your second birthday away from us. Hope you and Dad celebrate together on your Birthday and Fathers Day. Love and miss you always. Lorraine, Sean and the Boys

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**CROSS TRAINER** hardly used, £100. Tel 07596 436919  
**NEED** An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel. 321 678.

## Osteopathy

**Melanie J. Rowland**  
*BSc (Hons) Ost Med DO ND GOSc* at the  
**Pioneering Care Centre**  
**Newton Aycliffe**  
**Tel: 01325 321234**  
**Mobile: 07867 555801**  
*For relief of Back, Neck, Shoulder, Hand, Hip, Knee and Foot Pain*

## Thank You

**LOUISE HOLMES** Would like to say a big thank you to Graham at the Locomotion No. 1 for the lovely buffet he put on for her birthday on Saturday 13th June. Also another big thank you to my Mam and Alan for making it special. With lots of love, Louise  
**WE WOULD** like to say a big thank you to Geoff Robson for all your help and kindness after our accident on Monday. Also thank you to Kevin (the Paramedic). From Marie, Ann and Pat

## Obituary

**TEMPORARY GRAVE MARKERS**  
 Engraved, Same Day Service  
 Aycliffe Framers & Engravers  
 Telephone: 321280

**JANET FARRELL** nee Connell). Aged 71 years. Died at Freemans Hospital, Newcastle on 8th June 2009. The Funeral took place on 19th June 2009. Beloved Sister of Jean, Norma and John. Beloved Sister-in-Law to Jackie, Alan & Derek. Beloved Auntie of Susan & Andy, Michael & Janet, Karen & David and Great Aunt to Nicola, Alex, James, Olivia, Connor and Lexie. Donations in lieu to Great North Air Ambulance. Very much missed and loved by all  
**WIN WEBSTER**, Woodham Village. 15th June, peacefully in Bethany House, Win, dearly loved Wife of the late Eddie, much loved Mum to Anne and Alan, special Grandma to Daniel and Naomi. Funeral on Monday 22nd June. Would friends kindly meet for Service at St. Elizabeth’s Church, Woodham at 11.00am, prior to cremation in Durham Crematorium at 12noon. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu in aid of Cancer Research UK will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Cockerton House, 11 West Auckland Road, Darlington DL3 9EJ. Tel 01325 482999

# KEEP PARISH VOTING SIMPLE

Dear Sir,  
 I was present at the meeting of Great Aycliffe Town Council on Wednesday 3rd June 2009 when they discussed the review of Electoral Wards for Great Aycliffe.  
 Cllr Bob Fleming Leader of the Town Council and Town Clerk Andrew Bailey had gone through the electorate figures and came up with a proposal for 3 Wards covering Great Aycliffe. With no other Councillor expressing any view the recommendation was accepted as the Council’s proposal. Bob did suggest that others may wish to look at the figures and come up with their own suggestions, but there were no takers. We should thank Bob and Andrew for their efforts and hard work.  
 Whilst I agree Parish electoral wards should follow Unitary for convenience to all, the proposed 3 wards for the Town Council, one of 13 seats, one of 9 seats and one of 8 seats, seems to be anti democratic and favours those in a Party and capable of financing and contesting elections, to the exclusion of independents and others .  
 Candidates wanting to leaflet or canvass will find it more difficult to walk the streets in a ward of 8,000 voters than the previous 4,000, especially if they work for a living. Less canvassing means less opportunity for those who vote, to meet those seeking public office.  
 In 2007 47 people contested 30 seats In the proposed ward for 13 seats, if each seat was contested by Labour and Independents, there would be 26 candidates on the ballot paper for Town Council and more if others contested. The electorate would be selecting 3 Unitary Councillors on one ballot paper, and 13 out of at least 26 for Town Council on another ballot paper!  
 This argument also applies to the other two proposed wards for Town Council of 9 and 8 seats respectively; the electorate in each ward is reported as 8,601, 5,877 and 6,191.  
**Aycliffe Ward 1:** Unitary Councillors (UC) 3, Town Councillors (TC) 13, Electorate 8,601;  
**Aycliffe Ward 2:** UC 2, TC 8, Elec. 5,877;  
**Aycliffe Ward 3** UC 2, TC 9 Elec. 6191 giving 7 Unitary Councillors, and 30 Town Councillors. Total electorate 20,669.

## Congratulations

**LAURA GRAHAM** 18 years old on 17th June. Happy birthday Darling. Have a lovely day. Loads of love, Dad, Lisa, your lil Sis, Jessica and Nanna and Grandad Graham  
**PLASKETT** Congratulations Gemma on your 21st birthday. Love and best wishes, Mam, Dad and Michael xxx  
**PLASKETT** Congratulations Gemma on your 21st birthday. Love and best wishes Nanna Hazel xxx  
**FERN POSKETT** 16 on the 19th June. Happy birthday. Love from Nana Nice and Derrick xxx  
**SUSAN BURKITT** Happy birthday to a special Daughter and Sister. Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Kevin and Kursty xxxx  
**SUSAN BURKITT** Lots of love and kisses Mammy on your birthday. Abbie Lexi xxx  
**ROBINSON** Stephanie Marie. Just like to say how proud of you we all are, also well done on getting the job at Scarborough. We are all going to miss you lots and lots. Will visit all the time (LOL). Love from Mam, Dad, Michael, Lisa and David xxx  
**ALEX SMITH** To a special Granddaughter on becoming a teenager, 13 on the 24th June. With lots of love from Nana and Granda xxx

Rebecca Fee
 
 WELL DONE on your 1st place in Solo at Goldthorpe and losing your last life in Intermediates. You are now a champ. “WOW”. Also many thanks to a fab partner, Amy Dickinson and all of the teachers at Stepping Out with Clare Walton. Love, Mam and Dad xxxx

**PHOTOADS**  
 Small - £15, Large £25  
 inc. the first 20 words

Andrew James Brennan
 
 Happy 30th Birthday  
 25th June  
 To a fabulous Daddy and the best Husband. Adele, Anna and Lucy xxxx

Luci Heathcote
 
 Happy 5th Birthday  
 22nd June  
 Hope you enjoy your day. Love always, Mammy, Daddy, Benjamin and Ellie-Mae

Fern Poskett
 
 Happy 16th Birthday  
 Love from Mam, Lee, Amber and Alfie xxx  
**Happy Birthday Fern**  
 Lots of love, Dad, Laura and Lilly xx

I disagree with this and suggest the Unitary Wards for Town Council purposes should be halved or should remain unchanged: The Town Council as at 2007 was

| Ward                  | No.of Cll’s | electorate |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|
| Aycliffe Village      | 1           | 764        |
| Byerley Park Horndale | 6           | 3853       |
| and Cobblers Hall     | 3           | 1519       |
| Neveille              | 3           | 2645       |
| Shafto St Marys       | 2           | 1422       |
| Simpasture            | 6           | 4070       |
| West                  | 6           | 4307       |
| Woodham North         | 3           | 1536       |
| Woodham South         | Total       | 20,116     |

If we are to encourage multi party and “Independent” democracy at local level, we have to encourage multi skilled and diverse sections of the community to stand for election. Public office must remain easy to achieve and it should not be reserved for professional political parties who have the advantage of an organisation to give assistance to their chosen candidate.  
 Wards at Parish level, whilst running within Unitary Boundaries, should be small enough for this to be attained. Independents would face considerable costs and logistical obstacles fighting a ward of 8,601 rather than 4,000 or less. A small ward allows representation to be truly local and it would not interfere with the professional political parties.  
 We need to encourage more people from all backgrounds, skills and local knowledge into local politics not put obstacles in their way by making supersized wards, capable of being fought only by the professional political machines.  
 Many electors do not cast all their votes now because ballot papers can look complex, and daunting. What would a ballot of 26 or more names look like to vote 13 names out of, say 26 or more? A vote not cast is a wasted vote and a loss to democracy. We must keep Parish voting simple if we hope to attract the right quality of candidates.  
**Arun M Chandran**, Newton Aycliffe

# AYCLIFFE ATHLETICS

Penny Johnson took part in her first ever marathon in Edinburgh.  
 Following 6 months of training, Penny was pleased with her time of 4:12:49. This was an amazing time considering the weather was extremely hot, reaching temperatures of 22 degrees during the day.  
 Many of the runners required medical assistance, some of whom could not complete the gruelling 26.2 miles, and around 20 were hospitalized due to heat related conditions. Nevertheless, Penny battled on and raised £100 to go towards her school fund to buy a digital camera for her class. The route was varied, with views of the coastline and the town. Penny feels that she could not have completed such an endurance event if it were not for the support of her family, and her friends from Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club. Club members were impressed by Penny’s outstanding achievement and surprised by how she got through 4 hours without a decent natter!  
 In contrast to Penny’s marathon effort, six members of the Newton Aycliffe club ran a

mere 10k at Kirkby Malzeard. The rain stopped before the race started allowing the runners to enjoy the scenic undulating roads.  
 Results: Martin Randall 40:11, Julia Atkinson-Tait 43:34, John Edmondson 46:16, Chris Forster 49:20, John Young 49:37, Janet McRae 50:03.

## Fathers Day

**DAVID JAMES** Happy 1st Fathers Day. I couldn’t have wishes for a better Daddy. Love you, Ava xxxx  
**ALEX CRAWLEY** To the best Daddy in the world. Happy Fathers Day. Love, Jayden Saul  
**CRAIG JACKMAN** Happy Fathers Day to the best Dad in the world. Loads of love from Madison and Mackenzie. All my love from S-J xx  
**LEN JACKMAN** and **BOB JACKMAN** Happy Fathers Day and lots of love from Craig, S-J, Madi and Macca xx  
**BARRIE COOK** Happy Fathers Day. Lots of love from S-J, Craig, Madi and Macca xx  
**KEITH BLACKBURN** To the best Dad in the world. Hope you have a relaxing day. Love, Andrew and Samantha xx  
**ANDREW BLACKBURN** To a very special Daddy. Love you loads and loads. Love always, Megan and Hattie xxxx  
**VIC SPENSLEY** There’s only one No. 1 and I’ve got him! Love you loads Dad. Have a great day. Love always, Julie, Den and family xxx  
**STEPHEN HOWEY** My heart belongs to you Daddy. Love and kisses from your Princess, Poppy xxx  
**MICHAEL HOWEY** You are my No 1 star Daddy. Love you lots, from your little Princess Kya xxx  
**JOHN HOWEY** Happy Fathers Day Dad. Love you loads from Michael, Stephen, Paul, Tania, Kya and Poppy xxx  
**PAUL KJENSTAD** Happy Fathers Day to the best Dad in the world. Love from Chelsea, Dylan and Lauren xxx  
**SHAUN HARPER** Happy Fathers Day. To the best Dad in the world. We love you loads. Samantha, Dale, David and Mark  
**HAPPY FATHERS DAY** Daddy. We love you lots and lots. From Joshua, Evan, Rhys and Jacob xxxx  
**ETHERINGTON** Happy Fathers Day. Don’t spend too long down the pub! Love, Linz and Craig xxx



# Gurkhas at St. Joseph's



On 12th June a group of Gurkha soldiers came to St. Joseph's School to practise their English skills. They are based at Catterick Garrison and they help the British Army in Afghanistan. They taught us a little about their country and what sort of equipment they have to carry when on military exercises. They taught us about Nepalese culture including dance, language, music and clothing. We had lots of fun dressing up and dancing to their music. They taught us numbers, they wrote our names and taught us to speak a few words of their language. They also taught us military skills, they showed us marching drills and saluting. They showed us their kit, we tried it on and they also let us wear their camel paint as camouflage. Their English was much better than



our Nepalese and we were very impressed at how confidently they spoke in front of us. This was their first visit into a school. We had lots of fun and we hope they can come again next year.  
By Emily, Kimberley and Ross. (Year 6)

# AYCLIFFE F.C. LAUNCH 200 CLUB



Newton Aycliffe FC are offering keen football fans the chance to become part of the town's football club by joining an exclusive group of sponsors. The club are appealing for support from residents and fans as they represent the town in the Northern League for the first time. Club officials are busy attracting local corporate sponsors and advertisers to help fund what will be a more expensive season, as well as trying to stump up cash to build a new stand. Aycliffe are also keen to invite residents of the town to get involved by sponsoring them and play their own part in financing the town's football club. The exclusive 200 Club system involves 200 individual people contributing £20 each to the football club per year, which enters them into a monthly cash draw, beginning in August. The support of local businesses is already picking up and we're grateful to all the support we're getting, but the 200 Club gives individuals the chance to make their own contribution to the club, while also entering into a monthly cash draw. Anyone interested in being part of the Aycliffe 200 Club can send a cheque for £20, made payable to Newton Aycliffe FC, to: Norman Leighton, 3 Woodham Gate, Woodham Village, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4UB, providing your full name and contact details. Great Aycliffe Town Council has officially approved Newton Aycliffe FC's new club crest. The design, incorporates elements of the Town Council's official Coat of Arms, to represent the club's status as the town's football club. The Northern League fixtures have been announced and Aycliffe will kick-off the 2009-10 season with two home games, starting with Hebburn Town on Saturday 8th August (3pm kick-off), followed by Birtley Town on Wednesday 12th August (7.30pm). The full fixture list is available on the club's website. Aycliffe have lined up five home pre-season friendlies, including former Friends League rivals Easington (on Wednesday 15th July) and Wolviston (Saturday 18th July), Wigan Robin Park, from the North West Counties League, on Saturday 25th July, an exciting tie against local rivals Spennymoor on Tuesday 28th July and Teesside Athletic, from the Wearside League, on Saturday 1st August. Tickets for the celebrity Curry Night – with former Newcastle star John Beresford, Sunderland legend Kevin Ball and hilarious comedian Rudi West – on Friday 24th July, continue to be popular. 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; Martin Walker on 07826 525907, martinwalker50@hotmail.com; or Daz Verdon on 07774 011583. www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

# St. Mary's School Big Tidy Up



Last Wednesday, 10th June, St. Mary's RC Primary School took in a National Campaign 'The Big Tidy Up' to tidy up the grounds around their school. The whole school took part from Reception up to Year 6. The children wore bright green tabards, plastic gloves, some had litter pickers, and two large green bags to collect the rubbish. Class 1 and 2 tidied around the wildlife area and fence surrounding it, Class 3 and 4 went around the school field, Class 5 collected rubbish from around the hedge area at the front of school, and Class 6 went into the church car-park where parents park to pick up their children from school. Not only did we fill twelve bags of rubbish, but the children were made aware of litter being dropped and what people should do with their litter. They were all delighted with their efforts, and agreed how lovely school, our new garden and play area are looking. They have all promised to keep are school grounds tidy.

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# ARE THEIR STARS IN YOUR EYES?

A "Stars in Their Eyes" Charity Night in aid of Bishop Auckland Hospital MARA Unit, is being held on Saturday 27th June at the Belvedere WMC Bishop Auckland. The night is organised by Newton Aycliffe resident Mrs Julie Ward to show her appreciation for the help that the unit gave her and her family recently. The night consists of 24 individual singers and acts performing across a two hour show from

ages 9 to 60 years. There will also be a raffle and "sit down bingo" in the interval. Doors open at 7 pm and the first act starts at 8 pm the show finale will complete the night at 11 pm with all acts singing the final song together. Admission will be £3.00 on the door. For further information contact Mr Jackie Foster on 01388 605789 or Mrs Jan Bell on 07801 089339

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## Bargain Buys

### BARGAINS OF THE WEEK

#### BEDROOM PACK - £249.00

(Ready assembled)  
Wardrobe Robe, Chest of Drawers  
Bedside Cabinet and Double Bed

#### Black Leather Armchair £79.00

#### Stainless Steel Electric Cooker with Separate Grill £199.00

#### Double Metal Bed Frame including a mattress - £119.00

## BARGAIN BUYS

Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe 01325 321678