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WILKINSON'S PLAN BIG OPENING DAY CELEBRATIONS

Shoppers in Newton Aycliffe are in for some giant-sized entertainment as the new Wilkinson store prepares to open its doors on Wednesday 29th July. The celebrations will commence with the official ribbon cutting by the Mayor, Councillor Mary Doulton and store manager Kay Armstong, at 9.00 am. Giant dragonfly stilt walkers will also be entertaining visitors outside the new store on Beveridge Way throughout the day. Wilkinson has involved the whole community in celebrating its arrival to Newton Aycliffe. Play Day Nursery has created some fantastic countdown posters to be displayed in the shop windows in the run up to

the big opening and the retailer will also be kitting out Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre A.F.C with brand new football strips to help kick off its new season in style. With school holidays imminent, the new Wilkinson store offers families some fantastic bargains and value products, including; outdoor furniture, barbecues, toys and games, guaranteed to keep the children and families entertained throughout the summer. New store manager, Kay Armstong, commented: "We are really looking forward to the grand opening day, it will be a great event to announce our arrival to the town of Newton Aycliffe.

We are arriving at the perfect time, when families will be spending more time together over the holidays and with more people choosing to stay in the UK this summer, we have everything a family will need to make this season special." The opening celebrations continue as the store will host a family fun day on Saturday 1st August. Free balloons and sweets will be given away along with a face painter who will create some amazing designs between 10am and 4pm.

Unfair to George Gray

Dear Syd
Rita Taylor, Constituency Secretary of the Labour Party accused George Gray by implication without any supplied evidence or guilty verdict, over matters of serious complaint. She should withdraw her statement unless the Labour Party is prepared to go through with the investigation and publish the results in the same way that it has published the undisclosed accusation. No one should be allowed to use the local media to blacken anyone's character without evidence. A.J. Bergg
20 Lascelles Avenue
Editor:
After seeing documentary evidence we have to agree with this correspondent. It appears the allegations against George Gray are both trivial and unproven. There may be further announcements on this issue should it prove necessary for George Gray to take legal action against the Constituency Labour Party.

Sudden Death of Former Town Mayor

It is with deep regret we record the death of former Town Mayor Angela Fleming, wife of Bob Fleming, current Leader of the Town Council. Angela who died suddenly on Monday aged 62 years was the second child of a family of eleven, born in Shildon. On leaving Timothy Hackworth Girls' School she took a Secretarial Course at Bishop Auckland Technical College. After taking various posts in industry Angela was appointed Secretary to the Chief Executive of the Health Authority. From there Angela received numerous promotions and, until her recent retirement, was Facilities Manager, commissioning new build and refurbishments. Angela's hobbies included crafts of all types. She was an extremely gifted artist and a member of the Darlington Art Society. She also enjoyed gardening and had an allotment. Angela loved pets and would often be seen walking her little black dogs around the town.



Angela Fleming

For a period she was a member of the town's Rotary Club, but pressure of work forced her resignation. For 25 years Angela served as a Governor at Greenfield School. She was a stalwart member of the Labour Party and served 16 years as a Councillor. She had

the privilege of being elected Mayor for the town's 50th Anniversary and was responsible for the installation of the Aycliffe Angels monument and Remembrance Garden outside St. Clare's Church. Angela was a loving Step Mam to Shaun, Julie and Lisa, a much loved Nan to Andrew, Laura, Kai, Victoria and Ellie. Her husband Bob told Newton News "I will miss her terribly and you will know the saying "behind all successful men is a supportive wife" I owe a lot to the support Angela gave me in all my endeavours." On behalf of the townspeople Newton News conveys heartfelt sympathy to Bob and all the family. Angela was a quiet, dignified and caring lady, liked by all who came into contact with her; we will remember with gratitude the contribution she made to her adopted town.

SWIMMING TEACHER RETIRES AFTER 40 YEARS

Dear Sir,
May I take this opportunity to thank the Head Teachers and staff (past and present) of all schools in Newton Aycliffe, and the parents of the thousands of pupils, for their help and support during 29 years of teaching swimming at the Leisure Centre, Woodham Comprehensive and for the last 23 years, Sugar Hill School. My final message to all will be familiar to those I have encouraged to stay afloat: "Keep Going! Don't stop now!" Mrs. Andrea Bean
Sugar Hill School Pool



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AYCLIFFE'S FAST GIRL FIRST AT BRANDSHATCH



The Innovations Group who run a Thursday Coffee Morning at Woodham Community Centre wish to thank all who supported them on their first day. There was a good turn out and the members really enjoyed meeting everyone who came.

Aycliffe's Amanda Whitaker took a comeback win at Brands Hatch in another thrilling Historic Formula Ford race on the fabulous full Grand Prix circuit. Although she missed the last round of the Championship due to a minor operation, she was straight back on the pace in practice. In qualifying she initially set the fastest time, but her engine was slowly losing power and eventually broke. This left her unable to complete the session and she dropped to 4th on the grid.



The engine problem was serious enough to require her team Amaron Racing to change it to the spare unit - no easy task with only 2 hours to the start of the race! However, they just managed it and she made it to the grid with only moments to spare - to the applause of her fellow competitors. From 4th on the grid she made a great getaway at the lights to take 2nd into Paddock Hill corner and then dived down the inside of Robert Wainwright at Druids hairpin to take the lead! Title leader Westie Mitchell grabbed 2nd from Wainwright approaching Surtees and from thereon it was a 2 horse race with Amanda gradually easing the gap out to Westie who in turn was pulling well clear of Wainwright. After 6 laps Amanda had pulled out a gap of over 2 seconds from Westie but she then started to suffer an overheating engine and Westie slowly began to close the gap. As Amanda clipped the apex kerb at Graham Hill bend she found herself in neutral as her car jumped out of gear. She quickly recovered but her lost momentum was enough for Westie to fly past. Amanda wasn't to be deterred and she chased him all the way around the fast back section getting good momentum through Clearways to make the pass back into Paddock Hill bend. Westie tried to retaliate into Druids but out braked himself and nudged the back end of Amanda's car damaging his nose cone. From thereon it was stalemate with Amanda holding off Westie despite his best attempts to take back the lead. He made 2 final attempts on the last lap to make the pass but Amanda had him covered and she took the win by just one tenth of a second!

Good Friends & Neighbours

Dear Sir,
May I thank Brian Poole who organised a collection for me when money was stolen from my house last Friday. I want to thank my neighbours and residents of Moule Close for their generosity and also Lileen Cuthbertson who came round to visit me and left £10. It was good of everyone to help me out with this money and will be a great help till I get back on my feet again. People have been so kind. God bless you all.
Jim Rodwell, Moule Close

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and nudged the back end of Amanda's car damaging his nose cone. From thereon it was stalemate with Amanda holding off Westie despite his best attempts to take back the lead. He made 2 final attempts on the last lap to make the pass but Amanda had him covered and she took the win by just one tenth of a second!

"I'm really happy to come back with a win - although it wasn't easy!" said Amanda. "I was really losing power from early on due to the overheating problem. But I would like to

CARE HOME FETE



quickly recovered but her lost momentum was enough for Westie to fly past. Amanda wasn't to be deterred and she chased him all the way around the fast back section getting good momentum through Clearways to make the pass back into Paddock Hill bend. Westie tried to retaliate into Druids but out braked himself and nudged the back end of Amanda's car damaging his nose cone. From thereon it was stalemate with Amanda holding off Westie despite his best attempts to take back the lead. He made 2 final attempts on the last lap to make the pass but Amanda had him covered and she took the win by just one tenth of a second!

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Aycliffe Care Home at Burnhope held a Fete on July 4th with an American Independence Day theme. There were lots of stalls, raffles and refreshments including hot dogs, ice cream and home made cakes. Residents families and people from around the area supported the event which was blessed with good weather.

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Mayor's Charity Events

Mayor Mary Dalton, hosted her "At Home" in the Council Offices on the 30th June. The event was attended by Councillors, Members of the Community and Civic Dignitaries from surrounding areas. A raffle was held and an amount of £200 was raised in aid of the Mayor's nominated charities which are the Army Benevolent Fund (North East) and Town Organisations.

In addition Major (Retd.) Eric Ingram, carried out a sponsored Abseil from the top of the Malmaison Hotel in aid of the Charity and a large number of visitors to the 'At Home' pledged sponsorships. Eric completed the Abseil twice on the 5th July and a £232 was raised.

The Mayor would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported this annual Mayoral event.



COLLECTION FOR CHRISTIAN AID RAISED £3207.37

The amount collected as a result of the house-to-house collection this year consists of £2948.35 from the envelopes and £259.02 from Gift Aid declarations making a grand total of £3207.37.

Thank you to all the church organisers, distributors and collectors of the envelopes who gave of their time and effort to raise this sum, and to those who gave so generously to the charity.

The money collected will go towards assisting the poorest of the poor to help themselves out of poverty. For those with nothing, your gifts will be a means of improving their lives, health and dignity. They do not want charity whilst doing nothing to help themselves, just the initial help towards projects for which they will be responsible and which will be monitored.

These projects do save lives and give hope to so many in need in desperately impoverished communities. Despite the hard financial times through which we are all going at this time, you have shown great kindness by your generosity. Many thanks again, Terry Anderson

Christian Aid organiser for Churches Together In Great Aycliffe. The Church Of

England, Roman Catholic and Methodist Churches of Great Aycliffe.

For more information on Christian Aid visit the website: www.christianaid.org.uk

First Dance on New Floor

Dear Syd,

Can I please, through your columns, let everyone know that the Line Dancing will be starting up again at the new Agnew Community Centre on Tuesday 28th July at 1-2 pm.

The class will be an absolute beginners class, so, all you people who have been telling me that they would love to learn to Linedance, here is your chance!

It is not just a dance class, we have a raffle, cuppa and a laugh! We can't wait to dance in the new building on the new floor! Please come and join us! We would love to see you, don't be shy! See ya'll there! Enquiries, on 07518 035320. Lileen Cuthbertson

N.A.S.C. UNDER 10'S NEW SPONSOR



N.A.S.C. Junior FC would like to thank REDCAR PLUMBING AND HEATING who have kindly bought a new strip for our under 10's. Despite the credit crunch the Redcar firm have sponsored the lad's who had out grown their old strips.

The team took part in their last tournament as under 9's last week in the Darlington Spraire Lads 6 a side competition. With new signings Arron Mudd and Jamie Lovagreen taking part expectation's were high as the team have been in excellent form in the last few months.

Wearing their new strips the Sports Club got off to a great start in the group stages with 1 nil win over the host's with a goal from Liam Hardy.

The next game was against 21st allstars which was a

comfortable 2 nil win with Arron Mudd scoring on his debut and Blake Airey getting the second. The third game was a hard fought nil nil draw with Thirsk Thomas Gallagher defending very well. The team new that they needed a draw at least to progress and were playing against a very good Whiteleas side who had already won their 1st three games comfortably. The team were at their best with George Slatcher keeping his 4th clean sheet in a row with some fantastic saves. The Sports Club dominated and got the break through when Liam Hardy turned his man and scored the goal that put the lads into the quarter final.

The quarter final was against Martin FC we created chance after chance but just could not score and the game went to

penalties. James Frankland and Arron Mudd both scored their penalties leaving the pressure on goalie George Slatcher to take the last penalty which he smashed into the top corner sending the team into the semi final. The semi final was against Richmond and the Sports Club got into their passing early and only the Richmond keeper kept them in the game. Unfortunately we were caught twice on the break and looked to be out 2 nil down with a minute to go. Sam Dawson changed to an emergency forward and scored a goal that sparked the lads back into life and with the last kick of the game Liam Hardy scored to make it 2-2. Unfortunately Richmond won the penalty shoot out which ended the day and the hope of a third cup final on the trot.

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THE DAY NEWTON AYCLIFFE FLOODED



We were grateful to receive photos from one of our readers, Kevin Ferguson, showing how badly roads were flooded in the town on Friday 17th July. Vane Road School suffered more than most when water flooded the boiler and electric room, causing children to be sent home the following Monday.

Newtonian to Work in African Orphanage



A CARING student who plans to work with children in an Africa Orphanage has received a cash boost. Stacey Most, 18, of Newton Aycliffe, who will be helping to care for babies and children in an orphanage in Ghana for three months, has raised more than £2,000 for her trip with a number of sponsored events. Her efforts were boosted with a £300 grant from Darlington College's Horizon Fund, which gives its students the opportunity for international work experience, volunteering and overseas travel. Learner involvement manager at Darlington College Diane Evans said: "Stacey's tutor got in touch with me about her trip and as she fitted all the criteria for the Horizon Fund we were able to give her an award to help towards some of her costs. "It will be a fabulous opportunity for her to see the world and get an appreciation of developing countries and I am sure it will have a major impact on her life and her future career." Darlington College will also

be shipping out supplies for the children in the orphanage including pens, pencils, toys, books, clothing and any other donations made by students and staff. Stacey, who has recently completed a health and social care two year course, hopes to study for a nursing degree at Brighton University on her return. "I'm really excited about going to help in the orphanage," she said. "I know that it will be a massive culture shock and that I will see a lot of deprivation but I just want to be able to go and support and help in any way I can. "The college have been amazingly supportive and has really helped me in this once in a lifetime opportunity that I'm sure I will remember for the rest of my life."

CRICKET SCOREBOARD RESULTS

Newton Aycliffe's talented young cricketers continue to set new standards after more junior club records were broken last week by both the under 18's and under 15's teams in the Durham County Junior Leagues. Matty Wheeler smashed eleven boundaries and eight huge sixes on his way to an amazing 56 ball innings of 115, which was the highest individual score by an Aycliffe player in a junior match as the under 18's innings closed at 163 for 3. In reply Aycliffe bowlers Sean Morgan (4 for 11) and Luke Telford (3 for 9) helped dismiss the visitors Tudhoe for just 69. The under 15's match at Hylton was badly affected by heavy rain and was eventually abandoned as a draw, but not before Aycliffe's Dan Weldon and Sam Telford both hit superb unbeaten half centuries as their side totalled 135 for 2. The pair set a new under 15's club record in the process as their brilliant 2nd wicket partnership of 99 was the highest for any wicket at this level. The weather played havoc with both senior teams and the under 11's and under 13's matches as all of them were either abandoned or completely washed out as draws.

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TEEN THUGS, WE THINK NOT . . .

SUCCESSFUL YOUTH COUNCIL

Our first year in office is nearly over and it's been a strange year. Seventeen young people coming together to work with Great Aycliffe Town Council and venturing into the unknown. We had a slow and boring start, because not everyone knew each other and we had all the paperwork to agree. 'I feel this has been a great opportunity, helping to build confidence and start to break down the barriers between the young and old. We are not all teenage tearaways getting drunk and causing anti-social behaviour, this is just a small minority but we all get the same label' stated Tom Hunter, the youngest Youth Councillor. We finished on a high, working with the schools in Aycliffe to deliver the Town Pride Environment Week. We went into most schools to give a presentation and speak to them about the environment and litter as well as taking part in the litter picks with the schools.

Armstrong states 'We have identified our strengths and weaknesses and I feel we work well as a team and are able to cooperate effectively in meetings'. Chrissy Walton, Great Aycliffe Town Council's Corporate and Policy Officer said 'this whole process has been difficult. I think both the Town Council and the youth representatives all had clear ideas about what we wanted to happen and how things were going to progress but, in reality, the Aycliffe Youth Council gathered a momentum all of its own. It has been hard but worth it and I look forward to working with the new youth councillor representatives in October.' If you would like to become a Youth Councillor, see your Head or Deputy Head Teacher or Darren at the Youth Centre in September and put your name forward for election. If you would like some more information on the Youth Council, please contact Chrissy Walton at the Town Council offices, Tel: 01325 300700.

Youth Councillor Victoria

SCHOOLCHILDREN LEAD THE WAY AGAINST LITTER BUGS



Aycliffe Youth Council and Great Aycliffe Town Council recently joined forces to organise a programme of presentations to the town's primary schools about dumping rubbish and the potential consequences. The presentations were followed by a Town Pride Environment Week consisting of litter picks across the town. The children learned a great deal from the Youth Councillors' presentations on litter, the effects it has on animals and the length of time it would take to decompose naturally if left where it was dropped.

With the assistance of the Town Council, local primary schools then took the lead with litter picks taking place through Woodham Burn, West Park, the Town Centre, Aycliffe Village and the woodlands adjacent to Mellanby Crescent.

Great Aycliffe Town Council Environment Officer Steve Cooper said "For the purposes of this project we were keen to collect litter from any areas in the town where the children thought there was an issue, regardless of ownership, including the Town Centre". He continued "All the children seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves and the presence of the children doing something very proactive in their locality really brought some very positive comments from passing members of the public. All the children were very well behaved and a credit to their schools. In addition the school children managed to remove a significant amount of rubbish from the land we cleared, including a large amount of fly tipping, and we hope they made a positive difference to where they live".

Steve added "The project has been so successful I'm sure we will run a similar scheme next year, hopefully we will get some members of the public helping out next time".



VILLAGE SCHOOL IN ATHELTICS FESTIVAL



At the recent County Athletics Festival at Shildon, four members of Aycliffe Village Primary School, Ellen Davies, Rebecca Lindley, Emilie Thelwell and Emily Scott represented the Sedgfield District in the relay and in the individual sprint races. Ellen Davies came first in the 60 metre sprint and the Aycliffe Village girls came second in the 100 metre relay - an excellent result. The score from both these races helped the Sedgfield team come first overall throughout the County. Well done girls!

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 Friday 31st July - Horndale Park

Friday 7th August - Simpasture Park
 Tuesday 11th August - Woodham Park
 Friday 14th August - West Park

Friday 21st August - St Oswalds Park
 Tuesday 25th August - Aycliffe Vill. Park
 Friday 28th August - Town Centre Park

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THANKS FOR THE GOOD NEWS

Dear Sir,
 I would like to express my appreciation of the latest edition of the Newton News. Its content was so refreshing. Lots of good news. News of appreciation, achievements, support for local activities and congratulations. Such an uplifting read. Please can we have more of this sort of thing. We live in difficult times and to read good news is wonderful. Thank you.
 Mrs Mary Hancock

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STALWART STOUT PROVES WORTH

ALLAN OLIVER: MY MESSAGE TO FANS

YOUR NEW-LOOK PROGRAMME!

Pre-season friendly
Newton Aycliffe v Spennymoor Town
Tuesday 28th July, 2009 (7.30pm)

Moore Lane Park
Moore Lane Sports Club
Newton Aycliffe

www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

Stalwart defender Paul Stout has predicted a safe and promising future for hometown club Newton Aycliffe as they look forward to life in the Northern League. Aycliffe won promotion to the league for the first time in the club's history after winning the Wearside League earlier this year.

Former West Auckland, Whitby Town and Crook Town centre-back Stout reckons Allan Oliver's side will hold their own in the Northern League this coming season, which kicks off in a fortnight. Stout is the featured player in Aycliffe's first brand new matchday programme for their friendly at home to Spennymoor Town at Moore Lane Park next Tuesday night.

Speaking about the club's promotion, the skipper says: "It is a big step, but when you look at how much this club has come on in the last two years, it's unbelievable.

"The standard we're playing at is improving every year, but this group of players is capable of competing in the Northern League second division.

"Hopefully our fans will see that we're making good progress, but we're making a big jump in standard, so although it is exciting times, we should be prepared for some very tough games."

Aycliffe are producing a full-colour, 32-page programme for their inaugural season in the Northern League, and the club are hoping to raise a few eyebrows with the matchday publication, which costs just

£1. Editor Paul McGeary said: "We think this will be the first regular full-colour programme in the Northern League which will have a unique front cover for every issue, and it'll be packed with lots of fun and interesting features which will hopefully make for an interesting read."

The first new-look programme will be on sale for Aycliffe's friendly against Spennymoor on Tuesday night, followed by every home game thereafter (excluding Teesside Athletic friendly), starting with their Northern League curtain-raiser against Hebburn Town on Saturday August 8. It will be available in the Sports Club bar, on entrance to the ground and at the refreshments portacabin inside the ground.

Aycliffe continue their pre-season programme this weekend when they entertain Wigan Robin Park, from the North-West Counties League, at Moore Lane Park on Saturday, 12noon kick-off, followed by the Spennymoor game on Tuesday night and another home friendly against Teesside Athletic next Saturday (August 1).

Their scheduled friendly at home to Wolviston last Saturday was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

Friendlys: Sat July 25: Wigan Robin Park (H), 12noon; Tues July 28: Spennymoor (H), 7.30pm; Sat Aug 1: Teesside Athletic (H), 3pm

Northern League Season: Sat Aug 8: Hebburn Town (H), 3pm; Weds Aug 12: Birtley Town (H), 7.30pm

3M Road Safety Champion

The diversified technology company 3M – which has a manufacturing site at Aycliffe – has become a 'business champion' under the Government's Driving for Better Business campaign.

The campaign is managed by RoadSafe on behalf of the Department for Transport and is aimed at encouraging companies and organisations nationwide to implement best practice in road safety management.

A key feature is highlighting best practice fleets – the 'business champions' – which are used to fly the flag for at-work driving safety at seminars, conferences and shows both locally and nationally.

3M has been singled out as a champion after it introduced a complete ban on all its employees using mobile phones while driving. Campaign Director Caroline Scurr said: "It is a move we applaud and one we hope other organisations follow as there is no doubt that the distraction of a call contributes to the number of deaths and injuries on Britain's roads."

3M managing director Doug Mitchell said the ban had been introduced in the light of compelling evidence that using even hands-

free phones affects driving performance. "Our employees' welfare and safety is paramount to 3M," he commented. "No phone call is so important that it must be answered immediately."

3M, which develops and makes personal respirators at its Aycliffe site, has also become one of the latest signatories to the European Road Safety Charter.

The Charter forms part of the Road Safety Action Plan launched by the European Commission in 2004 with the goal of halving the number of deaths on European roads by 2010.

Signatories' commitments and experiences in action are made accessible to the public via the European Charter website – www.erscharter.eu – so that others may be inspired to carry out similar actions.

As well as the mobile phone ban, 3M has also shown its commitment to road safety by adopting it as a key theme for its community programme in the UK. Some 13,000 teachers have registered for its online teaching resource at www.3Mstreetwise.co.uk, which is aimed at 7-11 year-old children.

SUPPORT LABOUR AND KEEP THE MINIMUM WAGE

Dear Sir,
I have collected some useful information that your readers may be interested bearing in mind that the Tories will have it repealed if they come to power.

If you want the benefits given by a Labour government then why not come and join us in the fight to keep what we have.

From 1 October 2008 minimum wage is £5.73 per hour for over-21s, £4.77 for 18-21 year olds, and £3.53 for 16 and 17 year olds who are above school leaving age and are not apprentices. These rates will go up on 1 October 2009 to £5.80, £4.83 and £3.57.

From 1 October 2010 the adult rate will apply to 21 year olds, and minimum wage may be extended for apprentices. Apprentices are currently exempt from minimum wage if they are under 19, or are 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship. There is a minimum rate of pay of £80 per week (to go up to £95 from August 2009) for Learning and Skills Council apprenticeship contracts.

TIPS, GRATUITIES AND THE MINIMUM WAGE

Organisations which employ staff in restaurants, bars etc where they may receive tips need to know that under an employment appeal decision in June 2008, confirmed by the court of appeal in May 2009, tips paid to staff via a tronc do not count towards minimum wage. A tronc is a system for pooling

tips, paying them into a troncmaster's account, and distributing them to staff. Tips paid direct to the employee by customers also do not count towards minimum wage.

However, under the National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 reg.31 (1) (e), tips paid to staff through the employer's payroll currently count towards minimum wage. Following consultation, the government

announced on 22 May 2009 that from 1 October 2009 this will be amended, and no tips or service charges will count towards minimum wage even if paid to workers through the payroll. If readers wish to have a fuller explanation of the legal issues involved they should contact me.

Vince Crosby
Trade Union Liaison Officer
Sedgefield Constituency
Labour Party.

BYERLEY PARK FUNDRAISING EVENT

On Friday 17th July, the Infant children at Byerley Park Primary School held a 'Strawberry Tea' event, to raise money for Breast Cancer Care.

Children worked extremely hard to prepare for the tea, making strawberry invitations, posters and table clothes. Letters were also written to local businesses, asking for their support by donating ingredients required to make the strawberry teas.

The children were delighted to receive donations from 'Acorn Dairy', who supplied all of our cream for the day, 'Heron's Food' who provided us with a selection of scones, 'Sainsbury's at Bells' for the delicious strawberries and 'Tesco' for the promised £10 voucher. On the day of the event,

the weather was dismal, however; this didn't stop us! The event went ahead as planned, indoors. Both parents and children flocked to the event, to enjoy their strawberry teas and raffle. The afternoon was an astounding success, raising £332 for Breast Cancer Care and an enjoyable time was had by all. A big thank you to the infant children and staff for their preparation. Also to parents and local businesses for their support.



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Crime prevention officers from across Durham County were in attendance. They were extremely impressed by the demonstration and all agreed that this level of security should deter even the most determined intruder, allowing householders to sleep a little easier at night.



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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 9th Sept. 2009

Environment Committee - 7.15pm
Followed by the Recreation Committee

QUESTION TIME

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

The press and public are cordially invited to attend.

The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 70 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

PACT Meetings

SHAFTO/St MARY's Ward Police and Community Together Meeting will be on Thursday 6th August at 6 pm and will be at the Defoe Court Nursing Home, Defoe Crescent AYCLIFFE VILLAGE PACT Meeting is in Aycliffe Village Hall on Saturday 1st August 2009 10am to 12noon.
NEWTON AYCLIFFE BEAT TEAM

Aycliffe's Training Unit Celebrate Achievements

Training provider S W Durham Training on the Aycliffe Business Park celebrated learners achievement at the annual presentation day last Thursday (16/7/09).

The first awards were for pupils who attended the training centre to do GCSE and BTEC awards away from school in an engineering environment. Pupils from Woodham Community Technology College Aycliffe, Ferryhill Business & Enterprise College, St John's Catholic School and Sixth Form Bishop Auckland, Greenfield Community Art College Aycliffe.

The winners were:

Best Year 10 School Pupil 2009 Dual Award GCSE
Dean Lowes of St John's Catholic School and Sixth Form Centre Bishop Auckland.

Best Year 10 School Pupil 2009 BTEC 1st Certificate
Kieran Simpson of Ferryhill Business & Enterprise College

Best Year 11 School Pupil 2009 Dual Award GCSE

Jessica Middlemas St John's Catholic School and Sixth Form Centre Bishop Auckland.

Best Year 11 School Pupil 2009 Dual Award GCSE

Jonathan Collinson of St John's Catholic School and Sixth Form Centre Bishop Auckland.

Best Year 11 Special Achievement Award 2009 Dual Award GCSE & BTEC 1st Certificate

Thomas Ward of Woodham Community Technology College

S W Durham Training has been involved in helping Ferryhill Business & Enterprise College Year 9 pupils attain 100% attendance and the following pupils received a certificate and silver salver:

Shauna Brannigan, Luke Cameron, Andrew Dolphin, Kane Gent, Stacey Hole, Rosie Owen,

Lauren Scott, Liam Todd, Kelly Wigham and Gavin Woodward.

The following awards are for apprentice and adult learners.

Darlington College Award Best Performing Student: Matthew Taylor employed by Thyssenkrupp Tallent Ltd at Aycliffe.

S W Durham Training Ltd Adult Learning Award: Robert Vincent employed by Wavin in Durham.

Renown Engineering Ltd Engineering Machining Award: Daniel Stephenson employed by The Fin Machine Company Peterlee.

Thyssenkrupp Tallent Ltd Mechanical Engineering Award: Hannah Carr employed by The Fin Machine Company of Seaham

Lorimer Electrical Engineering Award: Ian Mackenzie employed by SCA Foam Products of Spennymoor.

Darchem Engineering Fabrication Award: Scott Smith employed by Caterpillar Peterlee

Palram Manufacturing Award: Steven Varah employed by O F Bell of Consett.

South Durham & North Yorkshire Safety Cup: James Herbert employed by Husqvarna of Aycliffe.

Award For Best Portfolio Business Services: Sarah Barion employed by Uk Insurance.Net of Darlington

South Durham Engineering & Manufacturing Forum Award For Best Portfolio In Engineering: Thomas Robinson of SWDT Aycliffe.

Black & Decker Award For Effort Engineering: Jamie Pawlett of SWDT Aycliffe.

Wright's Office Supplies, Darlington Award For Effort Business Services: Rebecca Philipson Director of Ur Inthepaper Ltd of Stanhope.

S W Durham Training Award For Best Apprentice On European Exchange Programme: Matthew employed by Taylor Thyssenkrupp Tallent Ltd. This award was presented by Darlington Mayor Jim Ruck. (Nine S W Durham Apprentices spent three weeks in Mülheim, Germany on a Transnational Engineering Awareness Programme working with Siemens Energy Sector apprentices on a joint design project. On the reciprocal visit the Siemens apprentices worked at SW Durham Training and in local companies).

S W Durham Training Award For Business Services Apprentice Of The Year Runner Up

Apprentices Company : Rebecca Robson employed by Castlebeck Care Darlington.

A Lea Award For Business Services Apprentice Of The Year: Jaclyn Murray employed by Robson Scott Associates of Darlington.

Northern Rock Award For Professional Development: Robyn



Molloy employed by Highlea Care Homes of Shildon. The Franklin Callaby Award For First Year Engineering Apprentice Of The Year Runner Up: Hannah Carr employed by The Fin Machine Company Seaham.

The Franklin Callaby Award For First Year Engineering Apprentice Of The Year: Daniel Stephenson employed by The Fin Machine Company Seaham.

The Final Year Apprenticeship Awards

The J R Richardson Award For The Business Services Advanced Apprentice Of The Year: Beverley Wade employed by Dyslexia Action Darlington.

Cummins Engine Andrew Denham Memorial Award For The Engineering Final Year Of Apprenticeship: Stuart Braines employed by Lorimer Electrical Aycliffe.

Guest Speakers

The guest speakers were two ex S W Durham Training apprentices who gave a very graphic account of the career paths they had followed and how the skills they learnt during their apprenticeships has helped them. Caraline Robinson Managing Director of Husqvarna (Flymo) on the Aycliffe Business Park started her working life as a first year engineering apprentice at S W Durham Training in 1980. Whilst Caraline was working through the various job roles in her company which included Engineering manager and Mould shop manager, she also completed a Engineering Degree at Teesside university and a MBA.

Caraline talked to the audience of 300 guests, company representatives and apprentices about the skills that she has developed over her working life and the need for everyone to have flexibility and the willingness to accept and embrace change.

The second speaker was Gary Clement of Palram on the Aycliffe Business Park. Gary started his working life as a first



year engineering apprentice at S W Durham Training in 1979. Gary's apprenticeship was with a small engineering company at Richmond called Sabre Engineering. Gary's skills and knowledge developed during his apprenticeship and continued to develop working in companies like Marley Extrusion, Hepworth, Uponor and Wavin. In 1992 Gary joined Durham Plastic which later became Palram DLP. The skills and knowledge service him well and he progressed to Production manager and now holds the post of General manager of Palram a company that at present is exporting 75% of its product abroad. Gary's message to the apprentices was to work hard, develop your skills, be willing to change and be flexible.

The 10 Years Service Award was presented to Learning Coordinator Ben Devine. Chief Executive Ann Cant talked about the special relationship S W Durham Training has with local schools and added a very special thanks Martyn Oliver Deputy Principle at Woodham Community Technology College who has been a proactive supporter to vocational education and training. Martyn who is moving into a different post away from County Durham was given a special gift as a reminder of the excellent working relationship with S W Durham Training.



Strong Leadership for Regeneration

An inspection by the independent watch dog, the Audit Commission, praises the strong leadership at Durham County Council heading the authority's plans to transform regeneration and housing services.

The Audit Commission's inspection on sustainable communities was carried out between October 2008 and April 2009, prior to the launch of the new unitary Durham County Council on April 1st.

The report praises successful regeneration work, carried out in the county and former districts, over the past decade and what it calls 'a strong management team' with a 'real commitment' to tackling the huge challenges that today's harsh economic climate brings.

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration is Neil Foster, "This inspection was carried out in unique circumstances as the fourth biggest unitary in the country was preparing to launch and in a hostile economic climate.

However, a great deal of work is already taking place to help our residents through these difficult times. Since becoming a unitary we have wasted no time in putting in to place a robust network of advice and support to help both residents and businesses through the recession, covering everything from employment training and mortgage and rate relief to accessing national schemes helping first time buyers get on the housing ladder."

The Director of Regeneration and Economic Development is Ian Thompson, "Since April 1 we have implemented a series of work shops, advice centres and support networks offering

real grassroots help to businesses and residents in the county. These are all tailored to meet local needs because we recognize there is not one single approach that will 'fit all.' Bespoke employment resource centres targeting clients who would not typically engage with Job Centre Plus will open in Peterlee, Spennymoor, Newton Aycliffe and Consett imminently, and the newly formed County Durham Economic Downturn Task Force is looking at short, medium and long term solutions to today's challenging environment."

The inspection also looked at the need to provide affordable and decent homes for residents across the county, something the Portfolio Holder for Housing Councillor Clive Robson says is vital, "Building more affordable housing for the County's residents remains a top priority. I will make sure that new partnership working with both Registered Social Landlords and with the new government agency for housing investment, the Homes and Communities Agency, will increase the supply of homes for those in need.

The recent launch of the South & East Durham Growth Point will also keep us focussed on the delivery of extra homes for all sectors of the community.

"Investment funding for the majority of the County's social housing stock is in place. Most tenants will have homes that reach the required standard by 2010.

For instance, the recently established Sedgfield Borough Homes has levered in a further £65million of funding especially for improving peoples' homes."

£930 Raised for Hospital Mara Unit



Julie Ward would like to make a special thankyou to everyone who attended a "Stars in your Eyes" charity fundraiser held at the Belvedere WMC on 27th June 2009. The night raised a total sum of £930 in aid of The Mara Unit based in Bishop Auckland General Hospital.

The event was organised by Mrs Jan Bell who prepared the programme so well and provided the Karaoke backing for the volunteer singers. A big thankyou to all the volunteer singers who participated. Thanks also to all who donated raffle prizes for the evening.

Special thanks also goes to "The Northern Boys" who gave their own time to perform in aid of the charity, Julie, a resident of Newton Aycliffe, who is currently recovering from Breast Cancer handed over the cheque to Lynn from The Mara Unit who was absolutely delighted to receive the donation

A Great Loss

Dear Sir,
I was sad to hear of the death of Angela Fleming. It was a great honour to work alongside Angela for the town's 50th anniversary celebrations. She was immensely professional and dealt with large workloads with grace and enthusiasm. On behalf of the people who knew her, I know she will be a great loss.
Bill Blenkinsopp.

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Wii Games for Over 50's

Luncheon Club and Bingo every Wednesday at 12 noon. We have vacancies for Senior Citizens wanting a good lunch including dessert for only £3 followed by Bingo at only 10p per game. Ring 313924 to book your place.

Exercise to music every Friday - just come along at 10.30am for a warm welcome.

Sale of Goods on Saturday 8th August 9am - 2p.m.

Please join our Sponsored Family Walk around Great Aycliffe Way on Sunday 30th August at 2p.m. Not a race, bring a picnic. Forms on request. Meet at Stephenson Way entrance.

Sponsored Family Cycle Ride on Sunday 6th September around Great Aycliffe Way at 2p.m. A casual ride with a medallion for all children. Forms from 313924.

Line Dancing for beginners on Mondays from 1.30 - 2.30pm. Admission £3, instruction by a professional. Family New Age Kurling each Saturday. Only £5 for the family. Suits all ages and tuition is included.

Nintendo Wii machines arrive with games for Over 50's starting 31st August. Everyone welcome.

Bric-a-Brac wanted for our next fundraising 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,

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Wasp Treatment No Longer Free - Even if you are Blind!

Dear Sir,
Recently we have become aware of the distress caused to one of our residents, an 80 year old woman, blind with a disabled son. She was experiencing a problem with Wasps gathering around her front door, which suggested the removal of the nest. She contacted Sedgefield

Borough Homes and was told the cost now for any such service (which used to be free) would be £34. When she informed them she was blind she was told quite clearly that there were no concessions and it applied to all services. Our Council Tax increases year by year, and now we are being made to pay for

previously Free services. Is this previously FREE service completely lost to us? Is it true that after the promises made previously we are now going to be forced to pay? Would tenants have voted for this transfer going ahead if you had been informed of these new service charges? When being wooed to become a Unitary Authority we were led to believe it would be in our best interests and save us significant sums of money. Is the reasons for this charge down to something more disgraceful and reprehensible?

Signed: W.M. Blenkinsopp, Alan Warburton, B. Curtis, A. Palmer, P. Ducker, L. Cuthbertson, S. Haigh, B. Haigh, Paul Gittins.
The Independent Group of Councillors, Newton Aycliffe

an exception to the rule, where a bit of humanity and compassion stepped in to help the vulnerable. This brought a smile to the face and a general acceptance that the Authority acted properly.

Not SBH Responsibility

This charge has not been introduced by Sedgefield Borough Homes. This service was provided by Sedgefield Borough Council's Environmental Health section to residents of the Borough irrespective of their housing tenure, it was funded by Council tax income and provided, as required, 'free' at the point of delivery to Council tenants, Housing Association tenants, private rented tenants and owner occupiers. Durham County Council now delivers this service to Council tenants, Housing Association tenants, private rented tenants and owner occupiers as required throughout the County. The Council are charging approximately £35 for a 'one-off' wasp treatment. Sedgefield Borough Homes

Editor:
There seems to be an attitude in local Government that everybody should be treated the same, which in our view is damaging to society. There always used to be

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HORNDALE SPORTS DAY

As in most schools, **Horndale Infants** took part in the annual sports day - but with a difference! Last year's Olympics proved to be a huge success with the children and we decided to repeat it this year. Once again it was met with great fun and enjoyment as the children took part in a

Public Notice

WATCH BATTERIES now available at Taylors Newsforce **DONATIONS** needed of Brica-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring John 316630
RSPCA Durham and District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and id chip. Please Tel 311215

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

Licence Applications

Goods Vehicle Operators Licence
 Darren Heath Simpson trading as Heath Transport of 45 Mildred Street, Darlington DL3 6NG is applying for a licence to use CEMEX off Cumbie Way, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6YA as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle. 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. Representatives 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.
 24-07-09

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range of olympic events over three days, including team games of: running, skipping, balancing, egg and spoon, hurdles, pot running, obstacle, penalties, target practice, and relay. The children were split into 6 teams and an overall score was awarded throughout the events. The team that came top

Health & Beauty

MOBILE Holistic Therapist. Swedish body massage £20; Aromatherapy massage £20; Indian head massage £10. Ring 01388 775134 or 07732 276928 to book an appointment

Pets

TOP DOG Groomers
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PROFESSIONAL Dog Groomer. Tel 07521 736 122
STAFFIE PUPS KC Registered, first injections given. colour: red. 5 bitches, 1 dog, brought up around kids, mother can be seen. Ready 26th July. Viewing essential. £400 Tel 07816 331208
FREE TO good home, Labrador (Golden) male, 2 years old, good with children and other animals. Tel 310590 or 07546 809130

Thank You

GAYSON Jennie and Jim would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their cards, flowers and kind enquiries during Jennie's stay in hospital. Now well on the way to recovery. Again, many thanks
HEATHER HARKER and Debby Carr wish to thank family and friends who sponsored the Race for Life. Also big thanks to Krystal Cole who stepped in at the last minute. Well done. Over £200 raised.
GASKARTH Arron and Laura wish to thank all the family, friends and neighbours that attended their 18th BBQ party and for all the cards and presents received. Linda and Dave would also like to thank everyone who attended and express their appreciation to all those that helped with the preparation of the garden before and tidying up after. It was a fantastic day to remember.
I WOULD LIKE to thank all my family, friends and neighbours for attending my 80th birthday party on 18th July and for the beautiful cards and presents received. I was truly grateful. Special thanks to my Daughter Barbara and to Kev, Les and Joline for helping with the buffet, it was great. God bless you all, Peggy Raw
PALMER Julie and Craig would like to thank both sets of parents, all family and all of our friends for making our Wedding a lovely day. Also big thanks for all cards and gifts received. Thank you very much xxx
CRAIG PALMER would like to say a really big thank you to Suzy Fawcett, Clare Sams, Berna Clough, Nicola and Derek Cairns for all the help they gave Julie on the Saturday morning. Without you all the hall wouldn't have looked like it did. Thanks. Love, Craig xx

FIELDS OF GLORY

Fields of glory, we hear it said,
 But where's the glory when men lie dead?
 A brother, a mother's son will not be home,
 Where's the glory in such pain?

When war is done, it starts again
 Men sent out with gun in hand
 To make some place a better land.
 They don't say "We've had enough"
 They take the smoothie and the rough
 By God, at times, it can be tough

Someone has to face this plight
 Even though they wish not to fight
 There's a job to do for freedom's sake
 Even though some lives it takes

Forget not those that lay in a grave
 All for freedom's sake
 So my friends, when you feel down,
 Remember those who left your town,
 whose face no more you'll see around

They went and solidly stood their ground
 For freedom that for you is sound.
 More will follow to stand that ground
 So that you can all sleep sound.

When you awaken to the day
 Think of the price to those that paid
 To give you that awakening day
 As they will not be home again.

Geordie Twissell

Horndale Leavers Service

Horndale Infant and Nursery School Year 2 pupils presented their Leavers Service to parents and friends on Thursday 9th July 2009. The children told their audience about the many topics which they had enjoyed working on throughout the year; Africa, the Victorians, The Great Fire of London, the Seaside and film making to name a few. Mr Stuart Joyce, Head Teacher of St Francis CE Aided Junior School presented each child with a leavers award.



Weddings

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THULE TOP BOX side or front opening, very good condition. Thule feet and roof bars, new, still boxed, £150 Tel 07766 403439
KING SIZE Divan and mattress, £100; 2x2 seater sofas and footstool, £100; 27" Panasonic TV built in Freeview, £70; Silvercross Burleigh pram/pushchair, cost over £500, accept £80. All excellent condition. Tel 07930 955604
ELECTRIC mobility chair, Quantum 600, new batteries, £600 ono. Tel 07833 944501
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GORGEOUS cream leather corner sofa, immaculate condition, only 4 years old. £30. Tel 301719 or 07717 642642
MOUNTAIN bike for sale, Emmell Intense, 26" wheels, blue and yellow, excellent condition, £60 ono. Tel 310606 or 07968 980835
NEED An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel. 321 678.

VANE ROAD SCHOOL LEAVERS' POEMS

"Goodbye" by Casey

The last day has finally come
The day that I've been dreading
So many faces that I will miss
Will I ever see them again?

Throughout the world there's lots of people
New friends I'm bound to meet
Work and play I've both enjoyed
Through what Vane Road had to offer

My final goodbyes won't be short and sweet
They will take forever to say
But at least I've had a good time
What more could I say

"Leavers Last Laugh" by Holly & Yasmin

From Reception to Year 6
All the teachers I will miss
The big step in my life is starting to begin
I am going for my goals, I hope I will win!

It will break my heart knowing I'm leaving Mrs Beattie behind
For the oncoming teachers I know they will not be as kind
If I tell you I will not cry
I am telling you now I will be telling a little white lie

I am struggling to keep my emotions inside
I wish so much I could just turn the tide
The time I have attended this primary seems so long
But now it has come to an end I feel like I need to move on

I keep having strange feelings that I can't leave my home
In Comp I just feel I will be alone
Primary so small keeping the happiness inside
Secondary so big even so in the corridors you collide

I think I am ready to move on but as well I feel I need to stay
My goodbyes are not going to be easy to say
The dinner ladies well what can I say except I will miss you
And thank you for making me feel at bay

I hope this primary has enjoyed watching me mature
As every single second I have felt secure
As I mentioned before I can't say I won't cry
But what I can say is I will leave Vane Road with my head held high

GARDENS GUILD NEWS

The Guild Hut will be closed for all of August and re-open on Sunday 5th September from 10am-12 noon when Onion Sets should be available.

Birthday Remembrance

DORA WILSON 28th July. Treasured memories of my dear Wife. Your loving Husband, Jack
DORA WILSON 28th July. Happy birthday Mam. Always remembered. Love, Pauline, Ian, Debra and Marie
DORA WILSON 28th July. Behind our smiles there lies a tear, for a loving Mother and Nana we loved so dear. Keith, Anna, Julie, Helen and Louise
JOSEPH HEDLEY 29th July. If tears could build a stairway and memories build a lane. I'd walk right up to Heaven and bring you back again. Missing you always Dad. Lots of love, Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxxxx
JOSEPH HEDLEY Another birthday gone by without you near. The sound of your voice I long to hear. I close my eyes and see your face. Missing you so much. Your loving Wife, Grace xxx

Births

BOWRON Leanne, Simon and Millie, congratulations on the birth of your Son/Brother. Thanks for our first gorgeous Nephew. All the love in the world. Louise, Ali, Rhys, Joshua and Lucy
WAYNE & LEE-ANN Congratulations on the birth of your beautiful Daughter, "Erin". Born on 17th July 2009. Lots of love, Nicola xxx
WAYNE & LEE-ANN Congratulations on the birth of our beautiful Granddaughter "Erin" born on 17th July 2009 at 1.40am, weighing 8lbs 3.5oz. Well done to the both of you. Lots of love, Mam and Dave xxx
WAYNE & LEE-ANN Thank you for a gorgeous Niece "Erin". Love you loads, Shannon xxx
JAY and PARKER Congratulations on your Baby Sister "Erin". Here at last! Bet she was worth the wait? Hope you both take special care of her. Lots of hugs n kisses, Nanna, Dave and Auntie Shannon xxx
McWILLIAM, Wayne and Lee-Ann. Congratulations on the birth of your little girl, "Erin Rae". Little Sister for Jay and Parker. Lots of love, Dad, Lynn, Rachael, Ross and Carlos xxx
LEE-ANN GITTINS Thank you for giving me such a beautiful Daughter. Love you loads, Wayne xx
WAYNE McWILLIAM Thank you for giving me our gorgeous baby girl "Erin Rae McWilliam". Love you loads, Lee-Ann xx
ERIN RAE McWILLIAM To our beautiful baby Sister. We love you very much. Love, Jay and Parker xxx
WAYNE and LEE-ANN Congratulations on the birth of our beautiful Granddaughter "Erin Rae McWilliam". She is gorgeous. All our love, Mam, Dad and Auntie Ashley xxx
DAVID and MANDY Congratulations on the birth of your Son "Joey". Love, Mam, Michael, Ann and Poppy xxx
DAVID and MANDY Congratulations on the birth of your Son "Joey". Love from John, Maxine, Jack and Harry xxx

Congratulations

Sharan Kelly (nee Oakley)



Happy 40th Birthday 27th July 2009

To my darling Wife on her 40th birthday. Lots of love, Trev
Happy 40th birthday Know, I mean Mum, LOL! Love you, Shar and James xxx
Mam - Happy 40th Shorty. Love, Shane and Sharni xxx
Happy 40th birthday Mam. Love, Louise xx
Happy 40th birthday little Sis. Love, Mally and Debbie
Happy 40th birthday Daughter & Granddaughter. Love, Mam and Grandad Oakley
Have a great 40th birthday Sis. Love, Jan, Alisha, Jordan and Charlotte xxx
Happy 40th birthday little Sis. Love, Michelle, Albey, Sarah, Rob, Albert and Baby Bump xxx

Emma Elizabeth Gelder



Happy 4th Birthday To our daughter Emma. With all our love, Mum, Dad, Jack and Nana

Emma Curran



Congratulations

on obtaining your BA Honours Degree and your Qualified Teacher Status. Well done and good luck with your new job. Love from Mam, Dad, John and all your family xxxxxxx

Stephanie Jane Stayman



Congratulations

on achieving a BA Honours Degree. We are so very proud of you. Love, Mum, Grandma and Grandad xxx

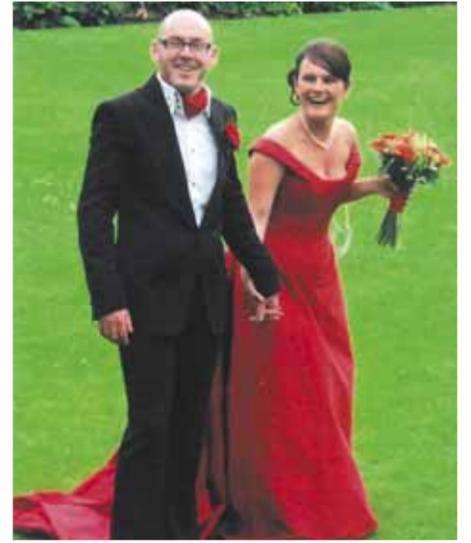
Zoe Deanne O'Hara



Happy 13th Birthday Bobo

Love from Mam, Dad, Michael, Jamie and Grandma xxx

Simon Melvin - Emma Clark



Congratulations Simon and Emma

on your Wedding Day at Headlam Hall on Sunday 5th July. What a fantastic day. Wishing you lots of love and happiness for the future. Love, Mam, Dad, Lindsay and all the family xx

Congratulations to a very special Mammy and Daddy. Lots of love and kisses, Solomon xxx

DAVID JEFFREY MAVIN



WELL DONE DAVID

We are so proud you achieved a BSc Honours Degree at the University of Central Lancashire, Preston. All our love, Nana, Grandad, Mam, Dad and Nicola

Kim Rowling



Congratulations

on achieving your BA (Hons) at Sunderland University. From a very proud Mam and Dad

Vikki Carter



Congratulations

on achieving your LLB with Honours, we are so proud of you. All our love, Mum and Dad
Congratulations Vikki on achieving your Law Degree with Honours. Good luck for the future. Love, Nana and Grandad

Shellie Graham



Happy 20th Babes

All my love, Lee xxx
Happy Birthday Mammy Love you lots, Callum xxx
Happy 20th Birthday Love, Rob, Brenda & Morgan xxxxx
Happy Birthday ALI our love, Mam, Dad, Vicki, Jay, Paul & Kaitlin x
Have a Good One! Love, Chris, Michelle, Jack and Joe x

Caleb Luca Wren



Happy 1st Birthday 25th July

To our gorgeous little miracle, lots of love, Mammy and Daddy xxx
Happy 1st Birthday Lots of love, Grandad and family xxx

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.

In Memoriam

John Whittington

One year today you closed your eyes, there wasn't time for last goodbye's. But in our hearts you will always be. Loved and remembered till eternity. From your loving family, Joan, David and Cath xxxxxx

Peace After Pain

JANE WAKE (Burrell). Close to our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. God bless you always. Daughter Mena, Son-in-Law Joe and their families xxx
BILL BURRELL. Dad. Remembering my Dad today (25th July) and always. God bless you. Daughter Mena and Son-in-Law Joe xxx
EDWARD WOOD (Ted), 29th July. July comes with a sad regret, to lose someone we will never forget. Four years have passed since that sad day. You closed your eyes and slipped away. Love you forever. Your loving Wife, Joyce and family
JUNE WOOD 28-7-05. To a much loved and missed Mam. Gone yet not forgotten. Although we are apart, your spirit lives within me forever in my heart. Your loving Daughter, Ann, Syd and Michael xxx
MONICA DIXON Thinking of you today and always Mam, since you passed away, 21st July, 2007. Love always, Wendy, Paul and Emma xxx

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Nursery Schoolchildren Graduate



Sugar Hill Nursery Schoolchildren held a Graduation Ceremony last Wednesday as they left Nursery to go into Infants Class. They were dressed in cap and gown and received their diploma from the Assistant Head Teacher Mrs. O'Rourke. The event was attended by parents who took the opportunity to record their child's move from nursery to the big school on video and camera.



Tesco Car Parking Abuse

Dear Sir,
Recently I was involved in an incident at Tesco in which I, as the innocent party, was made to feel like the victim. After leaving my car to enter the store I walked past the Parent and Child spaces just as a car with two adult passengers pulled in and parked. Having seen this on numerous occasions in the past, often when I have my two children with me, and never having said anything before I was going to walk away and leave well alone. I wish I had!
I decided to challenge the driver, little realising what would transpire. When I did ask him why he was parking there his response was aggressive, so I advised him I would see what the store management's opinion was. As I walked away, he and his wife pursued me, surprisingly sprightly for the occupants of a car displaying a disabled badge (it is worth highlighting that numerous disabled spaces were free). Once inside the store the driver, a rather ignorant man, threatened me and a rather loud exchange ensued, with me explaining why I was angry. His response to me pointing out the error of his ways was for him to take the security guard to one side and accuse me of swearing and threatening behaviour. This same security guard then suggested, only to me, that I quieten down or be ejected from the store. If anyone was there and was upset then I apologise for my behaviour, but it was an emotive issue for me - an unimportant one some may feel but emotive nonetheless. I went to Customer Services whose attendant staff member advised me pointedly "don't get me involved". So, having failed to get anywhere with the store staff, I decided to write this missive to both the store manager and the Newton News to both find out what others think and to get the Tesco view.

Why have Parent and Child spaces if anyone can park there? My daughter is not only small but also disabled so the extra room those spaces afford me is invaluable when I do my shopping.
Why have security guards who don't give a damn about anything except rowdy children who congregate outside? I didn't swear or act in an aggressive nature merely stated a perfectly valid point, yet was treated like the guilty party. Why have a Customer Service desk manned by staff whose attitude makes the whole concept an oxymoron? I know I am not the only parent who feels this way or the first to approach someone parking in these spaces without their children. I would never park in them without my children and similarly would not park in a disabled space.
It is lazy, thoughtless and self-centred - and the couple in question were not in the store for more than ten minutes. But that ten minutes could have been when a mum or dad were doing their shopping and could not find a space to safely alight their children from the car.
I await the store manager's

comments eagerly and will not be using any Tesco stores or services unless I receive an acceptable response. Please withhold my name as I would be fearful of reprisals.
Tesco Reply: The company is working hard to find a resolution and put a stop to the abuse of disabled and parent and child parking in our stores. In Newton

Aycliffe we do place leaflets on car windscreens when they are not displaying the correct badge. Where we are able to we will approach customers who are clearly abusing these spaces in a non-confrontational manner. We have been trialling in 60 of our stores a permanent onsite marshal, who protects the car park against abuse.

Near Miss for Newtonian



Last week former Town Mayor Arun Chandran was on his way to work in the outside lane, overtaking a lorry at about 50 mph, when a wooden post flew off the back of the lorry, bouncing off the road and hitting his car windscreen. Having assessed the damage to life and car, he overtook the lorry and waved him down. They drove off the A66 where Arun took details, photos, and phoned police to clear the post from the road. No injury was suffered, but looking how close the post came, Arun could count this as one of his nine lives.

Special School Assembly for Retirement of Swimming Teacher



Andrea Bean with Chair of Governors Lynn Swift

All Staff and pupils of Sugar Hill School turned out to bid farewell to Andrea Bean (left) on Wednesday this week. Each class had a special song for the popular teacher who received gifts and flowers to mark her retirement after 40 years of teaching.

Furniture Clearance Sale

Great value for money guaranteed

- Prices start from -
- Corner groups £299
- 3 + 2's £199
- Chairs £69
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- Wooden beds £60
- Divans £60
- Wardrobes £99
- Sofabeds £89
- Leather 3+2's £399



Many other items in stock. **Elly corner group only £349**
Landlord deals available.

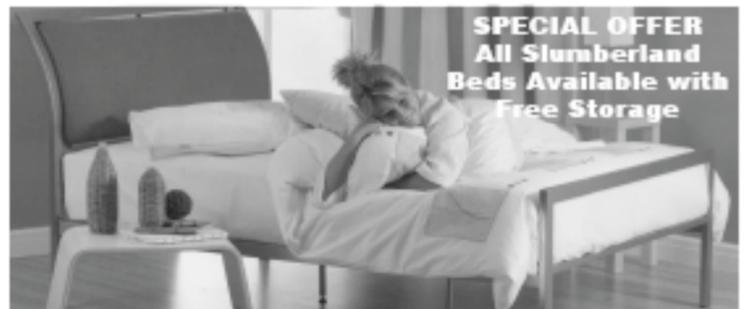
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A&S Winchester	RRP £69.00	NOW £59.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £99.00
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Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £229.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £249.00

4'0" and 4'6" MATTRESSES

A&S Candy	RRP £129.00	NOW £69.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £199.00	NOW £99.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £199.00	NOW £149.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £299.00	NOW £249.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £399.00	NOW £259.00

3'0" BED SET

A&S Candy	RRP £69.00	NOW £59.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £99.00	NOW £94.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £149.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £249.00	NOW £199.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £349.00	NOW £279.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £399.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Ortho Seal	RRP £449.00	NOW £359.00

4'0" and 4'6" BED SET

A&S Candy	RRP £119.00	NOW £99.00
A&S Winchester	RRP £159.00	NOW £139.00
A&S Dorchester	RRP £239.00	NOW £209.00
A&S Majestic	RRP £349.00	NOW £299.00
Slumberland Blue Seal	RRP £499.00	NOW £399.00
Slumberland Red Seal	RRP £549.00	NOW £449.00
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