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TOWN'S PIPE BAND AT XCEL CENTRE'S INAUGURAL CONCERT



Newton Aycliffe Pipe Band will welcome everyone to the new Xcel Conference Centre on the occasion of the first public event, the annual Community Christmas Concert organised by the Rotary Club. This Gala Opening occasion is on Sunday 13th December from 2pm to 5.30pm. The concert is performed from 3pm to 4.30pm when Aycliffe & Brancepeth Brass Band leads the singing of popular carols and songs interspersed with items presented by eight schools from the town. The Mayor and Councillors will be present and light meals and refreshments will be available in the coffee shop and other leisure areas of this massive new complex on Aycliffe Business Park opposite the Waste Recycling

Depot. Father Campion from St. Mary's and St. Joseph's will

give the Christmas Blessing at the end of the Concert.

Family Day Including Santa

Saturday 28th November 2009 at the Agnew Community Centre in Morrison Close from 11am to 3pm.
We would like to thank those who have booked tables for the New and Nearly New sales. The children will be well catered for with Santa arriving at noon and staying till 2pm, they can write a letter to Santa and all will receive a reply before Xmas. A children's entertainer will be around for most of the day along with a face painting Lady, Food and Drink at reasonable prices. Should you wish to take out

a Membership for 2010 then you can do so now at no extra charge, £2 and £1 for concessions, members receive a discount on Children's Party bookings and several committee members will be available should you wish to discuss any item relating to the Agnew Community Centre. Any item prior to the day then please ring the Event Organizer, Margaret Lovelady on 01325 319857.

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Newton News would like to apologise to TaxEasE uk for the incorrect information published in the previous issue

HONEST JOHN HELPS TOWN DANCE SCHOOL

Dear Sir,
Anyone living in Newton Aycliffe will know that Honest John is always fundraising for Charities and good causes. He has his stall at our town centre market every Tuesday and is always there no matter what the weather brings. During the last few weeks, he has helped raise money for the Lee Green Dance Centre freestyle troupe and has raised an amazing sum of £600. All at Lee Green wish to thank him and the general public who contributed through their donations and purchases. He's one in a million and has a heart of gold. Please continue to support him so that others can

also benefit from his kindheartedness. Our thanks too to Margaret Bain and Audrey Robinson for their thoughtfulness and constant help with fundraising at the dance school.
Caroline Race
Teacher/Choreographer

Ed: Honest John has also donated £500 to the town's Boxing Club and is currently raising cash for Aycliffe Cheerleaders and the Turbinia Bike Club Christmas Appeal for disadvantaged children. John thanks all Newtonians who donate goods to his charity stall. Next year's fundraising is fully booked with 18 locally based good causes.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

1st Newton Aycliffe Scout Group would like to say a huge thank you to Evelyn Goudie who for the last year has been raising money to enable the group to purchase coats for the cubs, scouts and leaders to wear at scouting events. At the Remembrance Day Parade last year the weather was atrocious. Our young people marched in full uniform and they were so wet their shirts turned a different shade of green. Evelyn saw that other organisations were wearing coats so she made it her ambition that by Remembrance Day this year the group would have their own outdoor coats embroidered with the scouting logo. After raising over £1000 this was achieved and our cubs and scouts proudly marched to church for the two minute silence last Sunday.

Other people have helped Evelyn along the way and we also must thank her husband Bill, Anne Foster, Lynne Howe, Julie Bennett, Annie Turnbull, Chris Tate, Stephen Picken, Bryan Witt, Moore Lane Sports Club and Honest John who without their help and support it wouldn't have been possible to raise such an amount of money. Thank you again Evelyn, your ideas, enthusiasm, motivation and hard work is much appreciated.

More information on the Scout Movement including opportunities for young people and adults alike can be obtained locally from Ian Johnson on 0845 0944 084 or from 1stnewtonaycliffe@durhamscouts.org.uk

Carolyn Howe

Treasurer 1st Newton Aycliffe Scout Group



ONLY TWO TABLES LEFT FOR COURTNEY SUPPER

Only two tables are left for a Pie & Peas Supper talk-in with former World Cup referee George Courtney in a fortnight.

Newton Aycliffe FC have already sold more than 80 tickets for the event, to be held at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club next Friday (27th November). Courtney is the guest speaker for the talk-in, along with well-known hilarious comedian Ned Kelly. Tickets are priced just £15 each, which includes a Pie & Peas supper, and two tables of eight are remaining.

Chairman Gary Farley said: "As we thought tickets have been in quite high demand and we'd expect the last 16 tickets remaining to be snapped up in the next few days."

Anyone interested in buying tickets can contact organiser Martin Walker on 07826 525907, or email martinwalker50@hotmail.com. Alternatively, tickets are available from the Sports Club and at Moore Lane Park on matchdays. Aycliffe have jumped a couple of places in the Northern League second division with two big wins in the last fortnight. A 2-0 win at home to second-placed Whitehaven was followed by a 1-0 win at Washington last week, Elliot Gardner scoring the all-important goal.

The back-to-back wins have lifted Aycliffe to 11th in the table, with two home games in the next week sandwiching Wednesday night's big League Cup tie at home to West Auckland.

Meanwhile, Aycliffe's eagerly-awaited official 2010 Calendar is now available to buy. More than 50 copies of the calendar have been pre-ordered, meaning there's only 100 remaining for general sale, priced £5.

Copies are available from the refreshments cabin on matchdays, from any member of the committee, or call Martin Walker on 07826 525907, email martinwalker50@hotmail.com. Aycliffe would like to thank all advertisers and sponsors for their contributions towards printing costs.

FIXTURES

Saturday 21st November: Northallerton (H), 3pm
Wednesday 25th November: West Auckland (H), Cup, 7.30pm

Saturday 28th November: North Shields (H), 3pm
Saturday 5th December: Team Northumbria (A), 3pm

Saturday 12th December: Darlington RA (A), 3pm

Saturday 19th December: Birtley Town (A), 3pm

Saturday 26th December: Crook Town (H) 3pm

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PACT Meeting Public & Community Together

PACT MEETINGS

Durham Constabulary are dedicated to making your neighbourhood safer. If you have any issues affecting your quality of life and want to discuss it with your neighbourhood Police Team then get involved in your local PACT Meeting.

This is an informal discussion with the Police and local partners to resolve problems where you live.

Ring 0345 6060 365

Aycliffe Village Hall

Saturday 21st November
10am to 12noon.

Neville Parade Methodist Church Lounge

Thursday 26th November
6-30pm to 8-00pm

Family History Society

The Society's AGM will take place on Wednesday 25th November at 7.30 p.m., followed by a buffet supper. Members are kindly asked to bring any items borrowed from the Society's library collection for an annual review. There will be no meeting in December. The Society meets on the last Wednesday of each month at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Shafto Way. If you are interested in Family History, please come along to any meeting. Car parking and refreshments are free. For further information please visit our website at www.communicate.co.uk/ne/nafhs or contact Mr John Barraclough, Secretary, on 01325-315959.

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ROMAN SPONSOR BRITAIN'S MOST SUCCESSFUL FEMALE RACING DRIVER

Local shower designer and manufacturer, Roman Ltd based at Newton Aycliffe, has announced their continued sponsorship to Britain's most successful female racing driver- Amanda Whitaker.

Amanda has been racing for over 10 years and has achieved 3 consecutive National Single Seater Championship titles, over 50 race wins, multiple lap records, she currently holds 4 Monoposto lap records, the 2006 European Formula Atlantic Championship title, top points scorer overall in 2006 European F2 Championship, the first female in history to win a National Formula Ford Championship race and 2nd in the 2009 HSCC Historic Formula Ford Championship race- to name just a few.

When she is not busy racing she is occupied in her role as a performance driving instructor throughout the UK, Europe and USA working for most major racing car manufacturers and racing schools. Amanda is also a precision driver in many TV adverts.

Roman are proud to sponsor such a successful racing driver, especially as she is locally based in Newton Aycliffe. Amanda visited the factory on the 4th November to meet the Roman Team and to showcase her new racing car. The Team were delighted to meet Amanda and a few Roman employees even got to have a go in her



racing car.

David Osborne, Roman's Managing Director comments; "We are extremely pleased to continue such a successful and beneficial partnership with a thriving local racing driver.

Amanda has had a triumphant year with her racing and personal appearances. The factory visit was a great chance for our Team to meet Amanda and we look forward to developing this relationship."

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Sponsored Cambodian Student Gains M.Sc.



For some time now the Inner Wheel club of Newton Aycliffe has been sponsoring a young Cambodian lady Sisary Kheng as part of their Overseas Service. She has been Studying for a M.Sc. degree in Orthotics via distance learning and will receive it at Strathclyde University, Glasgow on November 6th.

She is now the best qualified practitioner in Cambodia dealing with the provision of artificial limbs for thousands of landmine victims left from the wars which still cause many amputations. As a Christian she faces problems from the belief of many Cambodians who think such injuries result from transgressions in a former life!

Sisary called to meet and thank some of her sponsors this week on her way to Glasgow. The Inner Wheel ladies are very proud of Sisary who on her return to Cambodia will teach what she has learnt to others.

Enterprise Agency is still the business 25 years on



Left to right: John Robson former CEO at SASDA and Karl Bone current CEO SASDA.

A County Durham enterprise agency is bang on track helping local businesses as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

More than 100 guests, including the very first Chief Executive John Robson, along with local business and board members past and present were invited to join in the SASDA celebrations at the Locomotion National Railway museum at Shildon.

The evening also served as a launch for the agency's flagship project the Working Neighbourhoods Fund - Engaging Employers, a source of funding which helps to provide advice and support to help local firms beat the credit crunch and cut unemployment.

The fund enables businesses to access four support advisors who can provide help and advice for small to medium businesses as well as the offer of a wage subsidy designed to give business owners and manager the incentive to recruit.

The support is available to businesses across Sedgefield borough and aims to provide the service to over 1000 businesses over the course of the project.

As well as the launch of the Working Neighbourhoods Fund, the evening was also a celebration of SASDA's 25th birthday, with the current and very first CEO of the agency providing a few words to mark the occasion.

SASDA's current CEO, Karl Bone said: "The event was a celebration of our 25th year and an opportunity to say thanks to everyone who has been involved with us over that time. It was also really important to us to give some inspiration to local businesses and it was great to see so many of those business people there. The agency is, and always has been, about the people that make up our region's small businesses. Without them there would be no business, so to have supported those people in their businesses for over a quarter of century is a real achievement."

Among guest speakers was the CEO of Durham County Council, George Garlick, who praised SASDA's work and commitment to the community.

Mr. Garlick's speech referred to the spirit of enterprise we have in this region and how businesses would need to harness that in the coming years.

WOODHAM STUDENTS CHOSEN TO COACH IN AMERICA

Eleven lucky students from Woodham Community Technology College are on cloud nine after the news that they have been selected to coach in America next summer on an American Summer Camp. This is part of the COACH USA programme that the college and Active Inclusion have put together.

The lucky students who were chosen from a large field of applicants from the college were put through a rigorous interview process before being offered a place on the programme. As part of the programme, and in the run up to flying out to America, the eleven students will be given access to an individually tailored coach education plan involving national governing body awards, practical coaching assessments and in house training from Active Inclusion. The students will also be marketing and launching their very own multi skills sports sessions every week in college for younger students to take part in.

The programme, which is believed to be the first and only of its kind in the UK (normally you have to be 18 to be eligible for schemes such as this), was first run last summer. It was a huge success with all seven students who went earlier this year gaining rave reviews from the camp and its staff. As a direct result of this, there is an opportunity to continue the programme and send more students to America this summer. Eleven places have



now been made available for year 11 students at Woodham this year. All seven students who went to Camp Cody last year have also been invited back to coach for a second year.

Jon Tait, Director of Student Support at Woodham and a key partner in the COACH USA programme said "I am so proud of all of our students who coached in America last summer. Their superb efforts have now enabled more students to experience the same opportunities this year. It is truly amazing to think that this year we will be sending 18 local young students to the other side of the world to work and coach for four weeks. It is quite simply a life changing opportunity for these students".

Darren Anderson, Managing Director of local sports coaching company Active Inclusion, said "To think that we are giving local young people from a

working class North East town the opportunity to travel to the other side of the world, realise their dreams and coach young children is wonderful". Their month in America will be spent on Camp Cody (www.cody.org) in New Hampshire where they will be coaching American children aged 7-15.

The camp is a traditional log cabin style camp situated in a stunning location in the heart of New Hampshire, 3 hours north of Boston. It offers a multitude of sports including water skiing, wind surfing and kayaking, alongside the traditional sports of baseball, basketball and American Football. Not only will the students have the summer of a lifetime, but they will also develop essential skills and characteristics needed in leadership which will undoubtedly see them continue to develop into successful, mature and dynamic individuals ready to realise their dreams and ambitions as young adults. The eleven students selected this year are: Josh Stephenson, Beth Gibson, Sam Jarps, Lauren Craggs, Max Aldred, Rhianna Bonas, Paul Heilbron, Amy Cossins, Josh Watson, Rebecca Harris, and Niall Smith.



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The Respect Trophy



Two Members of the Great Aycliffe Town Youth Council standing with County Councillor Dorothy Bowman after being presented with the RESPECT cup at the Greenfield Award Ceremony on Thursday 12th November 2009. Councillor Dorothy Bowman donated the cup to Greenfield School last year to be presented each year to the pupil(s) who had earned respect from their fellow students during their last year at Secondary school.

The Last Dance

This December the last Annual Dinner Dance takes place at the Shildon Civic Hall. The dances started 50 years ago by the late Captain Bob White and involved members of the Royal British Legion.

Over the years it has been held in many venues, including The Institute, various Workingmen's clubs, The Masonic Hall and its present venue, the Civic Hall. Over the last 20 years the organiser has been Frank Timmiss, who kept the charity dance going after the local Legion group disbanded. He put on the dance to help local charities including The Butterwick Hospice and local Breast Cancer charities. Many of the people who go and enjoy the annual dance have been going for 30 years or more, and indeed in its heyday the dance had nearly 150 people attending.

During the last couple of years the number has dwindled due to ill health and old age, so it has been decided, as all good things come to an end, this maybe the right time to call the "last dance" on this once popular event.

Frank Timmiss says, "I would like to thank all those who have supported the dinner dance over the years, and made it a great success, especially Graham Scarlett and his drummer Howard Miles who will be performing for the last time this year at the Civic Hall. Also Paul and his staff at the Civic have always helped to make this a great night with first class catering, and I'm sure this year will be just as good."

The last Charity Dinner Dance will be held on Friday, 11th December 2009 at the Shildon

OAK LEAF NIGHT QUIZ

The fun starts at 9.00pm in the bar, only 50p per person to enter. Whether your strength is General Knowledge, Film & T.V., Picture Round, Sport or Music come along and try your luck.

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NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Santa Claus will be coming soon! We are looking for volunteers to do Santa Claus w/e 21st December:

21st - 2-4pm and 5-6pm

22nd - 2-4pm and 5-6pm

23rd - 10-12pm and 2-4pm

24th - 10-12pm and 2-4pm and 2-5pm

Would you like to volunteer to do a shift? Ring Peter on 313924.

Nurseries are invited to visit us on Monday 21st December by appointment on the above number, £1 per child.

We are also looking for ladies to bake a cake for us for our Veterans Day parade on Saturday 28th November. Just drop it in before 11am on the parade day.

Calling all Veterans who applied for their veterans badges you need to be seated by 1.45pm on 28th November. If you haven't returned your guest form please do so this weekend. We are always looking for books, (paper backs only) ring the above number for collection please.

Cook for Life Course commences Tuesday 5th January 2010 over 4 weeks. Free NHS provide the food, you help to prepare and eat it. Only six places left. Ring 313924 to book.



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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 2nd Dec. 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 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

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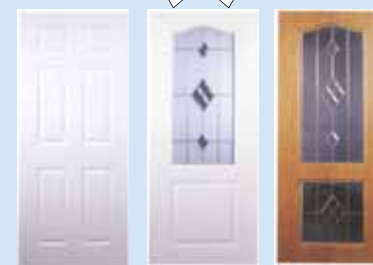
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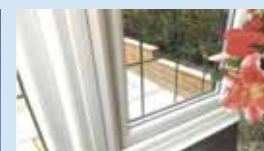
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AUTUMN ON THE LAKE



We are grateful to Richard Bainbridge for sending in this picture of the lake at West Park. The birds which now includes swans have obviously made this their home. The assumption that the birds will fly off for the winter is not borne out by this evidence and some residents want the Town Council to provide protection from dogs and hooligans.

PANTOMIME AT SHILDON

Panto time is well and truly on at the Civic Hall in Shildon next week when CentreStage present Cinderella. Mix a little music and song, with plenty of laughter, add a little audience participation and all together you'll get a great show for all the family to enjoy. There will be torment for poor Cinders as the stepmother and daughters do their favourite thing subjecting poor ole Cinders to a life of do this and do that. It's up to the audience to make sure she is cheered, saving loud boo's and hisses for the sisters. Buttons of course will help Cinders as much as possible and I'm sure he'll get the kids to join him. The Royal Cooks / Odd job men, Chip and Chop, will try to please everyone with their antics, not always to the King and Queens liking. I'm sure they'll get the job done, Oh yes they will! The director who plays Chip, Andrew Timmiss, who lives in Aycliffe says, "this is a show for all the family, and if the audience have as much fun as us in rehearsing, they will

certainly have a great time". Prince and Dandini will be searching for a lovely Princess, so to find out if he finds his bride, or if the Ugly Sisters ever become beautiful, if fairy gets away from her Fairy Conference, if Buttons ever

gets a letter, or Cinders ever get to the ball. join us at the Civic. It's on Friday 20th, 7.30pm, Saturday 2pm and Sunday also at 2pm, all for a great price of £4 adults and £2.50 kids. Don't delay, ring today, 01388 774838 or 313363.

Town's Catholics Raise £13,500 for South Africa



For the past year the parishioners of St Mary and St Joseph's Parish in Aycliffe have been supporting a Care Centre that cares for AIDS victims in Mandeni, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa. Mandeni is the AIDS /HIV capital of Africa - 88% of the tested population is infected. The Centre is run by Benedictine Missionaries and much of their work is devoted to running a hospice that cares for dying mothers and their infected babies. Since October last year the parishioners have raised £13,500 for the Centre. Fr Michael Campion, Parish Priest of St Mary's and St Joseph's, told Newton News: "I am extremely proud of our parishioners who have contributed so generously over the year to this project. It is just another reflection of their amazing commitment to people in need - wherever they are to be found." Photo: Lillian Molloy (left), representing the Order of Malta and the Blessed Gerard Care Centre, receiving a cheque for £13,500 from Maureen Osborn, Chairman of the Parish's Justice and Peace Group.

XMAS FETE

St Andrew's Primary School, in South Church, Bishop Auckland are holding their christmas fete on Monday 7th December from 2pm. Their will be a raffle, tombola, cake stall, face painting, Virgin Vic, Jamie At Home, hand knitting, plus loads more. All money raised is to be used within the school, by the friends of the school. Tea & coffee will be available, entry fee is only £1. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Younger People Needed as Councillors

Dear Sir, Democracy is the lifeblood of any community whether at the Palace of Westminster or at local level. We would not survive long without this provider of governance. Eventhoughlocalgovernment and the democratic process play such an all pervasive part in our lives, it is alarming that so few individuals are actively involved. In the Newton Aycliffe area, there are probably fewer than fifty people - out of a population of somewhere near 30,000 - active in local politics. What is particularly alarming is the fact that most of us - and I include myself - are over fifty, many of us are well past retirement age. Life experience is valuable in decision-making, but we really do need an infusion of new, vibrant talent, covering all political beliefs, to safeguard the future of local government and democracy. Whatever your political persuasion, there is a desperate need for younger people to get involved in local politics. Once we all gave our time freely, spending two or three evenings a week, locked in discussions on a whole range of important issues. Now, of course, the cost of democracy is somewhat more expensive; those elected to the higher tier of local governance can earn nearly £300 a week, some nearer £500 a week, if they have portfolios, board memberships or special responsibilities. It is an attractive career opportunity, for talented youngsters, willing to work hard. Therefore, I make a direct appeal to the younger element within our area to contact your local Councillor or activist and help breathe new life into the moribund, local democratic process. Politics can be both rewarding and fun. Play your part in building something special in

our town and our area. Derek G Atkinson Lib Dem 6 Denham Place Tel: 301395

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OVERWHELMING WIN

After surviving a pitch inspection Newton Aycliffe Youth Under 13s entertained neighbours Bishop Auckland St Marys C at the Oak Leaf. Aycliffe dominated the game and, although they put up a spirited performance St Marys spent most of the game in their own half. Youthy started brightly with Jake Cane and Dan Kenyon tearing holes in the visitors defence.

Skipper Ben Nicholson kept Bishop at bay and it was only a matter of time before the deadlock was broken. Connor Halford latched onto the ball to fire Aycliffe in front. Defender Billy Bradley sprayed the ball around and, with Matthew Marshall and Matthew Dixon solid in the midfield, the game was one way traffic.

A great run by Cane down the flank enabled man of the match Kenyon to open his account, to make it 2 - 0 to the town. Kenyon and Cane continued to create chances and a 30 yard free kick from Bradley just cleared the bar. Another run and cross from Cane saw Kenyon extend the lead, Marshall then getting on the score sheet with a clever run and shot on the turn. Aycliffe went into half time 4 - 0 in the lead.

St Marys started the second half with more endeavour and contained Aycliffe for long spells. Meanwhile, at the other end, Aycliffe centre back partnership Tom Gledhill and James Skerrett were rarely troubled and keeper Jack McLaren was odds on to collect five pounds from his Dad for a clean sheet. Kenyon completed his hat trick with a clever chip to make it 5 - 0. Dixon and Marshall made way for Sam Pascoe and Ryan Mercer and it was Mercer who struck the next blow after a good interchange with the lively Halford. After a superb performance full back Jordan Howe was rested and Richard Howe joined the game. Matthew French replaced McLaren in goal and Nathan Stott came on for Bradley.

As St Marys began to tire Youthy cashed in with Cane providing the cross for the lively Kenyon to score. The pace of Mercer tore open the visitors defence and Kenyon was on hand to make it 8 - 0. A superb lob by Halford was good reward for a top class performance from the midfielder and, moments later, Kenyon scored goal number 6 to cap a memorable individual performance and make it 10 - 0 to the town.

As the seconds slipped away it was left to Cane to provide the cross for Mercer to score his second with a well placed header to make the final score Newton Aycliffe Youth 11 - St Marys 0

St ANDREWS CHURCH, AYCLIFFE - A HIDDEN TREASURE

This ancient church has been at the top of the hill for centuries. The first church may have been built of wood from surrounding oak forest. Followed in Saxon times by a stone church (chancel and nave), it stood on land called the hermitage and was dedicated to St Acca or St Cecilia.

One of the dedications was used up to 1536 but subsequent records refer to it as "the Parish Church of Aycliffe". It is not known when it officially became St Andrews. The church welcomes visitors all year round usually by prior arrangement, but we hope to open the church one day a week next summer.

Visitors come from far and wide to trace their family tree or simply to look around such a beautiful and ancient church which still has many of the original artefacts such as two pre-conquest Crosses dating back to the 9th and 11th centuries, further evidence of the importance of Aycliffe. Our thanks must go to Val Brown who has painstakingly researched and recorded much of the life of the church for people to still enjoy today and also to the local History Society who have recently promoted St. Andrews in their DVD and booklet on the history of Aycliffe Village.

By its very nature a building of this age requires constant maintenance and restoration. Recently it became necessary to carry out major work on the belfry louvers and south aisle roof which needed complete replacement including stainless steel guttering.

The total cost was approaching £50,000 which was paid for partly by grants and money accumulated to this end by St Andrews. Our thanks go to all who gave financial aid including, Sir John Priestman



Trust, Northern Historic Churches, the Town Council, Garfield Weston Foundation, National Churches Trust. When I arrived at St Andrews in March of this year it was evident that the ancient churchyard had been sadly neglected over the years several memorials had become unstable and some had fallen, vandalism has also been a problem. It is hoped to encourage schools and other organisations to make more of this unique Church and to that end we have to ensure the safety of all using the grounds. Health and Safety has become paramount of late and it is necessary to carry out remedial work on a number of the ancient memorials.

Memorials are the responsibility of the families concerned but as many families cannot be traced, the DCC has taken the decision to cover the cost of repairing the twenty two ancient memorials deemed to be in most need of repair. The cost of repairing these memorials alone will be in excess of £2,500.

To this end the DCC has created a Restoration Fund and we hope through gifts from local businesses, and fund raising events to raise sufficient funds not only to

restore the memorials but also to clear the substantial amount of undergrowth and have the trees professionally pruned, throughout the old churchyard. The fund is off to a good start thanks to a charity Race Night held in the Village and our thanks go to Councillor Blenkinsop and all who were involved and all who attended. We also thank the Town Council for their donation. If anyone wishes to know more or can support us in anyway please do not hesitate to contact either Dawn Herbert on 300040 or The Reverend Julie Wing on 320278.

May I on behalf of the DCC take this opportunity to thank all those people who give their time freely to help maintain St Andrews in so many ways and ask for people's continued support and patience whilst this work is undertaken.

St Andrews church continues to run as normal and visitors are always welcome, so please do visit us simply contact Dawn or Rev Julie on the above numbers or contact Marie on 313360. The church is always open on Sundays at 11am for Holy Communion and on November 30th we are delighted to be able to announce that Bishop Mark will be joining us for our Patronal Festival all are welcome and please watch out for further information on dates for our Christmas Services. Reverend Julie Wing St Andrews, Aycliffe Village

Swimming Success

School swimming provision in County Durham's primary schools has received national accreditation. Durham County Council has become the first local authority in the country to achieve the Amateur Swimming Association's Aquamark status.

The Aquamark scheme is aimed at increasing the number of people who learn to swim by ensuring there are high quality learning facilities and lessons available. Co. Durham primary schools have seen a higher percentage of pupils learning to swim than the national average, with 80 per cent of 11-year-olds in the county able to swim a minimum of 25m compared to 70 per cent nationally.

To get the Aquamark status each of the nine primary school learner pools across County Durham went through a tough assessment process and all were found to meet criteria required. Cllr Vasey, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services at Durham County Council, said: "Achieving Aquamark status has given due recognition to our swimming teachers for their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to teaching children to swim."

"It shows that our primary schools swimming programme is of a very high standard and I am delighted that this has been recognised with the achievement of this national award. It's not just in schools that young people can learn to swim - they can also take advantage of free swimming in all of our leisure centres."

Christmas Crafty Fun

On Monday 23rd November Angel Arts are presenting craft sessions entitled 'Crafts for Christmas' at Burnhill Way Methodist Church (near the Turbinia). These sessions are open to all the community and you don't have to be an expert to join in - both sessions will be suitable for beginners.

These sessions will be 'hands-on' sessions where you can have a go at making the crafts yourself. The session for adults is from 1pm-3pm and costs £2.50 for materials. There will be a creche available at this session. From 5pm-7pm there is a session for school age children with a charge of £1 for materials.

So come along and join in the fun and discover those hidden talents!

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KDANZ PUPILS XCEL IN THEIR EXAMS

Kay Jones founder and principal of the KDANZ school is delighted to announce that all pupils have passed their Northern Counties freestyle exams. The exams were taken on Thursday 12th November and everyone looked extremely smart, all dressed in black and pink. The NCDTA exams ran smoothly and every dancer performed to the best of their ability.

The next project for the KDANZ school is to perform in the Xcel church christmas spectacular FROSTY which will be held in the new Xcel Centre on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th December at 6pm. Tickets for the event can be purchased from Xcel church or direct from Kay on 07900365892 - they're only £5!

KDANZ will also be moving their classes to the new Xcel centre building and expanding the choices of classes on offer.

New tap and ballet classes will begin to complement the existing street dance classes and we will also be offering BOYS BREAK DANCE classes. For more information please attend our orientation evening in the Xcel centre on Thursday 14th January 2010 at 4pm or email Kay - Kay@kdanz.co.uk for more information.

These are exciting times in Newton Aycliffe and the pupils of KDANZ passing their exams is only the beginning!!! We would like to say a big thank you to Ms. Lilian Aubrey who examined our pupils.

Exam results were as follows...

Pre Bronze with Honours: Harrison Jones, Ebony Young, Bethany Lunn, Ava Thomas.

Pre Bronze with Pass Highly Commended: Jaydon Jones, Dylan Jones, Katie Eltringham, Grace Proctor, Erin Davison, Ruby Horner, Evie Mawson, Evie Wilkinson.

Infant Bronze with Pass Highly Commended: Megan Bell, Hannah Murphy, Hollie Fowler, Tia Nicholson.

Infant Silver with Honours: Emma Gelder, Brooke Blenkinsop, Katie Longstaff, Poppy Stevenson.

Infant Silver with Pass Highly Commended: Bridget Proctor, Jasmine Beadle (younger), Emma Lovegreen, Alana Thompson. Infant Silver Star with Honours: Naomi Downing, Lily Mansfield, Kate Lovegreen, Abi Talbot, Lisha Roberts, Jack Gelder, Ella Purdy, Adara Nattrass, Alicia Rogerson.

Infant Silver with Pass Highly Commended: Erin Chester, Neave Maughan, Daniel Wilkinson.

Junior Pre Bronze with Honours: Georgia Henderson.

Junior Pre Bronze with Pass Highly Commended: Charlotte Payne, Courtney Oxley.

Junior Silver with Honours: Grace Clark, Lucy Ryans, Sophie Hayes, Megan Lothian, Elisha Haigh.

Junior Silver with Pass Highly Commended: Tira Sperring, Esther Southerton, Lauren Smith, Danielle Ord, Bethany Smith.

Junior Silver Bar 1 with Honours: Amy Clements, Megan Craig, Lauren Mackenzie, Brittany Fowler, Mia Southerton, Olivia Cherrie, Chloe Hunter, Lydia Hall.

Junior Silver Bar 1 with Pass Highly Commended: Maisie Clark, Laura Steward, Ellie Stevens.

Junior Silver Bar 2 with Honours: Lucy Clark.

Junior Gold with Honours: Holly Moffatt, Katie Moffatt, Lauren Robson.

Adult Bronze with Honours: Emma Wilson, Andrea Byles, Shauna Galloway.

Adult Bronze with Honours with Distinction: Toni Anderson.

Adult Silver Bar 2 with Honours with Distinction: Claire Hornsby.

BUSINESS ON THE FARM



A Year 11 class from Woodham Community Technology College studying Applied Business GCSE, which is worth two GCSEs, visited Hall Hill Farm as part of their studies. The purpose of the visit was to learn about private sector businesses and its impact on the local community. The group consisted of Adam Mawson, James Hare, Naomi Kidd, Abby Dobson, Kirsty Benson, Jade

Maughan, Ashleigh Turner, Mathew Philippo, Thomas Foulger, Brad Harrison, Joseph Pennington, Helen Brooke and Gary Watson.

During the visit the group had a chance to discuss how the business was run by one of the owners of the farm, Mrs Anne Darlington. The group learned how it was once a sole trader and then expanded in to a partnership which has become a roaring success. The group also had a chance to sample the many different attractions that Hall Hill Farm has to offer such as: feeding the animals and a tractor ride around the farm and they also had a chance to learn how the coffee shop and gift shop helped alongside the business.

Here are some quotes from the group: James Hare said "It is for the kid in all of us, young and old. I wish we could have been there all day" Adam Mawson said "The animals are friendly and are fun to feed" and finally Kirsty Benson said "The baby chicks were cute and cuddly". After the business trip, the group expressed how beneficial it had been with their studies as they are now using it as one of their study subjects.

Written by Adam Mawson

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Darlington Youth Team Game Re-Arranged

Darlington's youth game against Chesterfield on Saturday has been postponed.

The youth alliance match, originally due to be played on Saturday, will now be played next Saturday (November 28), at Crook Town's Millfield Ground, 12noon kick-off, with admission free for all. Darlington would like to thank Crook for their assistance in re-arranging the fixture and for hosting the match.

PACT Meeting Public & Community Together

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Shafto/St Mary's Ward
Thursday 26th November at 6pm

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE UPDATE

Over the past few weeks Freshwater, the owners of the town centre, have undertaken preparatory work for the demolition of the Dalton Way end of the town centre including the former health centre and library. Contractors have been stripping out the inside of Dalton Way to make it safe for complete demolition. Wilkinson's, as you know, has been open for over three months. The store is an excellent addition to the town and has seen the number of customers using the centre increase. This is an encouraging sign and offers an incentive to other retailers to join Wilkinson's.

I have now moved out of my old office on Upper Beveridge Way to a permanent location at 4 Beveridge Walkway. The other outlets on the Upper Beveridge Way site will also be moving in due course as Freshwater plans to remove the ramp. The temporary library is a vast improvement on the former building and the additional community room can be hired by local groups and individuals to hold meetings. The Cubby group were the first to be offered the use of the community room because of the present dilapidated condition of the hut currently used. At the time of writing they do not seem to have taken up the offer. The arrangement would be temporary. A more permanent venue is to be prepared for them as part of the community-hub at the leisure centre. This seems to me a good deal for the occupants of the Cubby, but if they wish to stay in the hut they presently occupy the decision is theirs. I know others have suggested there may be better

options available to the group, but I personally do not believe there is.

I have received a petition of 3,000+ signatures regarding the lack of public toilets in the town centre. There is a toilet in the leisure centre for public use and one in Tesco's, however, the petitioners' strong view is there should be a public convenience in the town centre until permanent toilets can be located as part of the community hub. The original public toilets closed in 2004 and at today's running costs the price would be in the region of £50,000. During the summer the public toilets in St Oswald's Park were re-opened. There were several incidents of vandalism including broken toilet seats and flooding due to paper towels jammed in sinks and taps left running. I have raised the matter of toilets with Freshwater and the local authorities and they are looking at what can be done. My intention is to write to all those who signed the petition. As you can imagine putting over 3,000 names and addresses will take some time! You will appreciate I can only write to those who provided their full name and address. Generally speaking I believe the regeneration of the town centre is making steady progress. There may be delays of a few days or weeks here or there. For example, Wilkinson's store opened in July and not in the spring as originally planned because of unforeseen planning issues, but it did open and is doing very well. When the demolition of the Dalton Way end of the town centre starts I've been told it will take up to 4 months to complete.

The preparatory work for the demolition is on-going and, according to Freshwater, the commencement of the demolition is only a matter of time.

I will keep you informed of developments and I will continue to give the regeneration of the town centre my full attention. If you need to contact me on this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to do so.

Phil Wilson MP, Sedgefield

Winter Events at the Castle

Walworth Castle Hotel have two events lined up for the coming weeks. An Elvis Tribute Night is on Friday 20th November. The cost is only £12 per ticket and includes a Carvery Meal and Disco.

Christmas Tea Dances will be held on Tuesdays 1st, 8th and 22nd December. For only £4.50p enjoy a Dance from 2-4pm and receive Tea and a mince pie.

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THRIVING VARTA BOOST AYCLIFFE

A thriving North-East firm has charged new life into non-league Newton Aycliffe with an advertising deal.

Washington-based Varta, a producer of consumer batteries, has taken out two pitchside perimeter advertising boards at Aycliffe's Moore Lane Park, as well as a seasonal page advert in their popular matchday programme. The company's divisional vice president Vince Armitage, who lives in Aycliffe, is delighted to get behind his town team, who are currently in the skilltraining Northern League second division.

"I'm a very sporty person, if only from the sofa these days!" he says. "I used to play a lot of football and run marathons when I was younger but now I'm just an avid spectator of all sports. It's great to be able to support local sport. As a company we're keen to help out as much as we can and in the past we've sponsored Rugby League matches which were live on Sky this year."

"We're also one of the main sponsors of the Darlington-born Rally driver Guy Wilks, who is the current British Rally champion, so all-in-all sport in the area has a big supporter in Varta. This is the first time we've sponsored local football but hopefully it's something that we'll be able to develop over the coming years."

Mr Armitage was born and bred in the shadows of Manchester United's Old Trafford and attended his first United game aged just four.

He moved to County Durham 25 years ago, and quickly settled in the region. Varta (Germany's number one and Europe's number two battery brand) has close ties to the area, being formerly Vidor in Newton Aycliffe and eventually Rayovac. Both Rayovac and Varta are part of the Spectrum Brands group of companies.

Mr Armitage adds: "We're a firm which is on the up. We're employing more new people this year and we're starting to re-establish ourselves as a leader in the market and our name will be in several high street stores as we approach Christmas."

"As a global brand we're certainly getting our act together, and the more successful we are then hopefully the more we'll be able to support our local sport such as Newton Aycliffe FC."

Aycliffe sponsorship manager David Brassell added: "We're



extremely grateful to Varta for their generous support.

"To be sponsored by our local firms is brilliant, but to get

this sponsorship from a multi-national brand such as Varta really is fantastic, and we look forward to hopefully working

closely with them in the long-term."

It costs just £295 a season for one perimeter board at Aycliffe, while they also have a range of other advertising and sponsorship opportunities available.

Anyone interested can contact the club's sponsorship manager David Brassell on 07870 777779, or email david.brassell@hotmail.co.uk

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The voyages fall right in the middle of Christmas holidays for most so they could be a great chance to get away if

you're not sure what to do this Christmas or if you don't know what to get that person who just has everything.

There is additional funding for those people age 16 to 25 who want to spend their festive break being adventurous while adding to their C.V. with Jubilee Sailing Trust's Leadership @

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a saving of £24 per person on matchday prices.

And non-season ticket holders can also make savings, with the three-match ticket available on general sale for £35 each, a saving of £19 on matchday prices, or £30 each if bought in a group of four or more.

The deal, which covers the Northampton Town game on December 19, Lincoln City on December 28 and Port Vale on

January 2, enables concessions to purchase the three-game ticket for just £20, a saving of £16, while Under-16s can save £19, with the three-game ticket available to them for just a fiver!

Chairman Raj Singh said: "This is one of many initiatives we're looking at to improve attendances at the Northern Echo Arena and bring more of our fans back to the ground.

"It's difficult to strike a balance between offering discounted match tickets and maintaining the incentive for fans to take out season tickets at the start of the season.

"We value the support of our season ticket holders especially, so this is mainly a reward for them, to enable them to buy cheaper tickets for their guests. "I'm sure they'll appreciate the opportunity to bring more people along to the Arena as we all hope to improve the attendances for home games, which have been lower than we'd budgeted for.

"This is a genuine, money-saving offer and we're sure it will prove to be a very popular one with our fans."

The Christmas Ticket package, which also includes live post-match entertainment from local bands, in the Corner Bar, from 5.15pm, is available from the ticket office at the Northern Echo Arena, or call the ticket office on 0871 855 1883.

Tuition

DRUM TUITION. All styles/aspects (grades etc) any age/ability. Contact Steven on 07707 281839.

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DO YOU own your home? Can't manager the stairs? Looking to buy or rent ground floor flat? I am looking to swap my flat with garden for house anywhere on the town. Call Amy on 01642 880030 for details

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LOST "Lainey", young grey white cat, had pink collar with bell and name tag, white chest and paws. Missing since 11th November. Deleval/Cobblers are. Tel Ian 07747 528077

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170,000 FREE SWIMS

Six months into Durham County Council's extended free swimming programme nearly 170,000 free swims have been enjoyed by residents and nearly 60, 000 people have registered.

The scheme offers free swimming to anyone under 19 or from their 60th birthday during any public swimming session and at any of the council's ten public swimming pools.

One person who is in no doubt about the value of free swimming is 63 year old Christine Gott from Stanley, she takes three year old grandson Ben swimming in Chester-le-Street regularly, "I think it's a great scheme, especially for families on low income. It's definitely encouraged me and my family to come more often. I am a strong believer in the importance of children learning to swim from a young age. It is an important life skill and lots of fun."

Head of Sport and Leisure Steve Howell say it's a resounding success, "It's really rewarding to see that so many people have taken us up on the free swimming offer. Our leisure centre staff hear from so many people about how the initiative has given them the chance to enjoy swimming regularly. Swimming is great fun and really good exercise for all the family."

Portfolio Holder for Leisure Cllr Bob Young is urging everyone who qualifies to give it a go, "This scheme covers 200,000 people in our county and although 60,000 have registered that leaves a lot of people who haven't. There's another 18 months to run on this programme and just think how much fitter you may feel if you take us up on the offer on a regular basis. You can use any pool and some of the centres are even offering free adult swimming lessons to help residents get back in the swim."

The programme is funded by central Government and NHS County Durham. To find out more about free swimming including how to register visit www.durham.gov.uk/freeswimming or just call into your local Durham County Council swimming pool.

SBH Sign Government's Respect Standard



Sedgefield Borough Homes (SBH) has signed up to the Respect Standard for Housing Management, part of the Government's Respect Action Plan.

The Respect Standard approach aims to ensure that SBH and partner agencies work together to tackle unacceptable behaviour and its causes to improve quality of life for residents – particularly those in the most disadvantaged communities.

The Respect Standard gives recognition for those delivering good services, whilst providing a benchmark to aim towards for landlords who are striving to improve. It is built around six core commitments:

Accountability, leadership, and commitment

Empowering and reassuring residents

Prevention and early intervention

Tailored services for residents and provision of support for

victims and witnesses **Protecting** communities through swift enforcement **Support** to tackle the causes of anti-social behaviour

Colin Steel, Chief Executive of SBH says, "We have promised to tackle anti-social behaviour and make our estates safe and pleasant areas for tenants to live. Signing up to a national scheme like the Respect Standard shows we are committed to these goals. It is a testament to the hard work of our officers that many of the targets set out in the Respect Standard are already met by the good service they provide but we recognise that there is always more we can do and we are committed to improving our services further in tackling ASB."

Pictured with this press release is: Tracey Craig, Head of Housing and Customer Services and Lee Dunn, Customer Services Manager

Tim Starts Painting Again



Fomer Newtonian Tim Cornley recently began painting again after concentrating on his career as a Secondary School Art Teacher. His latest paintings are portraits using oil on canvas, which are more abstract than earlier work. He has received positive feedback from his latest paintings and it is the best work he has done to date.

Tim is optimistic about the future, and in contact with a few galleries, hoping to exhibit next summer. He will update his website; www.timcornley.com on confirmation of exhibitions.

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TAI CHI Community Champion

Tai Chi (Taiji) is an ancient Chinese art that now transcends race and culture for the benefit of mankind. It is a method of bringing oneself in to harmony - where gross outer movements are refined into a smooth accurate flow, where emotions are calmed and harmonized, and where we learn to quieten deeply and allow the superficial brain chatter to subside. Some say meditation in motion. On an outer level the special Loosening Exercises and Form practise bring the mind intention (Yi) and bodily responses into co-ordination as we learn to release unwanted muscular tension and align the posture of the body. On an inner level we begin to increase our awareness to include the forces that move the body and explore the 5 inner senses. With Partner work we learn the principles of Yielding and Neutralising to an incoming force and over time we develop the potential to return the force through the stretched elastic state of the body. New Starters are welcome at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on Tuesday's 7- 8.30pm. Contact Joe on 01740 629452 E mail: joetaiji@gmail.com www.communigate.co.uk/ne/taijiquan The classes are suitable to all adults of enquiring mind who are prepared to make a little effort – like any discipline only with effort does the art unfold.

Evening Gazette Community Champion Award was presented to Dorothy Bowman who for the last decade has been running young peoples/childrens activities in her Community raising funds to take them on fun trips, Ice skating, bowling, by holding weekly discos until the venue closed. When interviewed by the Evening Gazette she said “I have always enjoyed working with young people - I believe they need direction and something to do. So many problems, such as anti-social behaviour, occur because some youngsters are bored, we need to listen to them to find out what is it that can be done to improve their lives and act on the findings of the consultations with them”. One of her projects has been to convert a bus into a youth club when the old Pub she had converted into a youth club was shut down. Such a scheme is typical of her energy and determination not to let lack of funds or logistical problems put paid to her activities. “I don’t believe that any children are born naughty or bad, circumstances in their young lives often change them - they just need guidance and support to steer them in the right direction”. The Awards took place at the Thistle Hotel on Friday 13th November and was attended by many celebrities.



“End the Prepay Meter Rip-off” says SBH

Sedgefield Borough Homes has written to local MP Phil Wilson to ask him to back a new bill which would make it unlawful for energy companies to rip off their poorest customers. A cross party group of 12 MP’s have already supported the proposed new law, which would outlaw tariffs which hammer low income families who pay for their gas through prepayment meters. The Equalisation of Tariffs for Gas and Electricity Bill was formally presented to the House of Commons on October 15. It could become law if the private members bill is selected in a ballot next month, when the proposal is likely to gain widespread support. The National Housing Federation, which represents housing associations, estimates around 1.5m households are still being charged £40 extra a year more for gas than customers who pay via quarterly bills and around £100 more than those paying by direct debit. Energy companies rake in an extra £50m a year through the excess charge they force prepay customers to pay - even though they have an average household income of just £13,500. While EON, Scottish Power, Npower and EDF have dropped the prepayment meter premium, British Gas and SSE are still charging their

1.5m prepayment meter gas customers a premium. Now SBH, which houses approx 8,500 tenants, is writing to local MP Phil Wilson to urge him to back the new bill. Chief Executive Colin Steel welcomed the bill and said a new law was the only way of ensuring energy companies stopped overcharging their poorest customers. “The energy companies have shamelessly ripped off their poorest customers over many years and at last this group of MPs is taking a stand by proposing a bill which would outlaw this blatant discrimination between different customer types. “Millions of low income families are already struggling to make ends meet during the recession. Hitting them with the very highest fuel tariffs in the market is simply not acceptable and must be outlawed.”

Thank You

MR & MRS HOPPS (Dan and Wendy) would like to thank all family and friends for attending our wedding at Lumley Castle and a big thank you for the fantastic gifts we received. Many thanks, Dan and Wendy
FAWCETT FAMILY would like to thank each and everyone of you for the sympathy cards, flowers and attendance at our Mam’s Funeral. It meant so much to us all knowing she had touched so many hearts. Thank you so much. Anthony, Sandra, Christine, Sue, David and Family
KEN WISE Norma, Debbie and Beth would like to thank all our friends and family who helped towards making the last six months of Ken’s life more comforting and peaceful. Sincere thanks to Rev. Julie Wing, the Northumbrian Community, The Golf Society, Brian Shepherd and Whitehouse Funeral Services and all who attended the wonderful, healing, thanksgiving Service. The Malawi fund that so many generously donated to in lieu of flowers has reached £1180 and still more being added. On behalf of the poor of Africa, thank you very much indeed. Love and prayers, Norma
CUTTER Heather and Ian would like to thank, on behalf of their Mam. The late Elsie Hawman, Doctor Scott for his special care over the past three years. Also the staff of Defoe Court Care Centre for their love and care. Further thanks to the Co-operative Funeral Service, especially Andrea and Father Grieves for a beautiful Service. Also for the cards and flowers from friends and neighbours
RALPH McNEILLIE The family of the late Ralph would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes and condolences and Seaton Leng Funeral Services for their care and attention and the Navy Club for their hospitality. A very special thank you to Aycliffe Care Home for the wonderful care, love and affection given to Ralph and also his family. Thanks also to Bradley for being his friend. Thanks also to the British Legion and the Rev Linda Potter for the comforting Service
JULIE PALMER would like to thank her Husband (Craig) and Mam (Jackie Waites) for all their support during her labour, couldn’t have done it without you both xxx
JULIE, CRAIG and Charley would like to thank all family and friends for cards and gifts received on the birth of Lexi-Mae Palmer. Thank you xxx
LEXI PALMER would like to say a really big thank you to Charley for being the best Big Sister ever xxx

Birthday Remembrance

RITA ANN CHAPE (nee Lawson). 18th November 1952. You would have been fifty seven today. But taken too early, 12th June 2006. Still loved and missed very much. Vaughan
TOM TOLSON 18th November. Birthday wishes to a dear Husband and Dad. Loved and missed by Margaret and family
SARAH TEMPLE 21st November. Sweet are the memories we will always treasure, loving you always, forgetting you never. Time slips by and life goes on, but in our hearts you will always stay. Happy Birthday Princess. Love always, Mam and Dad xx
SARAH TEMPLE 21st November. Happy birthday Sarah. Love and miss you not just today, but every day. Love, Michael xx
SARAH TEMPLE 21st November. Cherished memories of my Granddaughter, Sarah. There will always be a heartache and often a silent tear, but always beautiful memories of birthdays when you were here. All my love, Nana
SARAH TEMPLE 21st November. Birthday wishes we send today to a star in the sky not far away. Engraved in gold on a cloud above, just for you Sarah with all our love. Love forever sweetheart. Nana and Uncle Barry xxx
SARAH TEMPLE 21st November. Thinking of you on your birthday. All our love, Uncle David, Auntie Ruth, Andrew, Nathan and Niall xx
SARAH TEMPLE Loving birthday memories of Sarah on what would have been your 23rd Birthday. Love and miss you always. Wendy xx

In Memoriam

KATH HALL 20th November 2001. It’s now been 8 years since we had a loving Mother and Sister taken from us. Your wisdom and happiness had a major part of how we all are today. The love you gave us during your short time with us has filled our hearts with a wonderful feeling for a life time. We love you and miss you dearly. Julie, Edward, David, Kim, Ali, Glenda and Billy.
KATH HALL 20th November 2001. Nana. We love you and miss you so much. Shaun, Natalie, Rachael, Ben and Alfie
KATH HALL 20th November 2001. Great Nana. We never met you, but we can feel your love. Kate and Jazmin
RAYMOND EARL Died 12-11-09. From Simpasture Court. Much loved Husband of Mary. Will be sadly missed
RAYMOND EARL Died 12-11-09. From Simpasture Court. Will be sadly missed from Jeff, Lynn, Katie and Bradley xxx
TOM WILSON 24th November 2006. Unseen, unheard, you are always so near, so missed, so loved, so very dear. Loving Wife, Lily
TOM WILSON 24th November 2006. Thinking of you Dad. In our hearts you will always stay. Daughter Lorraine, Son-in-Law Alan, grandchildren Geoffrey and Gemma
JOHN WATSON 19-11-04. A daily thought, a silent tear, a constant wish that you were here. Love you always Dad. Joe, John, Lorraine, Karen and families xxxxx

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

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www.fancydressparty costumes.co.uk - looking for Christmas fancy dress? Visit our online webstore. Also party/club wear and lingerie in our sister store

Public Notice

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

Congratulations

Jamie Thomas Johnson

Happy 1st Birthday

Love from Mummy, Daddy, Lee and Abbie xxx

LAURA PRINCE 21-11-09. Congratulations on your 18th birthday Princess. With all my love, Nana x
LAURA PRINCE Happy 18th birthday with love and best wishes. Great Grandma xx
LAURA PRINCE Happy 18th birthday Princess. Hope you get all you wish for. All our love, Mum and Amber x
LAURA PRINCE 21-11-09. With love and congratulations on your 18th birthday. Uncle Jason and Auntie Abbie xx
LAURA PRINCE 21-11-09. To my “top chick” Goddaughter, happy 18th birthday. All our love Auntie Amanda, Billy and Ozzie x
CRAIG HYMAS Happy 40th birthday babe. Have a great day. Love you always, Maria xx
CRAIG HYMAS Happy 40th birthday Dad. From Dan and Anth xx
JULIE NEWTON Happy 50th birthday Mam. have a great day. Lots of love, Aimee
JULIE NEWTON To a Great Aunty Julie, happy 50th birthday. Love, Oliver
JULIE NEWTON To my little Sister Julie. Happy 50th birthday. Love, Denise, Derek, Billy, Daniel, Claire, Sarah and Oliver
JULIE NEWTON (nee Percival). Happy 50th birthday Julie. Have a lovely day. Lots of love as always, Mam and Dad
LINDA NELLIS (McNeillie). Happy 50th birthday on 20th November. Love and best wishes from all the family xx
MICHAEL ROWLAND Well done on winning three trophies for your golf. Love and good luck always. Nana, Grandad and Mark xxx
ANGELA WALTON Happy 40th birthday on 21st November 2009. Hope you have a nice day. Love from Mam, Dad and Kirsty xxx
LAING Lawrence and Susan. 24th November 1979, 30 years of bliss! Enjoy your romantic weekend. Happy birthday Susan for 26th November. Love to you both. Mam, Adam, Marc, Ashley, Chris and Roy

Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe

Christmas Appeal 2009

GIVE A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO PEOPLE IN THE WORLD LESS FORTUNATE THAN YOURSELF

HELP CHANGE A LIFE THIS CHRISTMAS

The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe is known in the town for its work in the local community, but it also seeks to serve a wider community throughout the world.

This year, in partnership with the Newton News, have produced this advertisement illustrating how a little bit of money can go a long way to helping the poorest people in the world.

It offers you the opportunity to help those much less fortunate than yourself by purchasing gifts in your own name, or those of your relatives and friends - gifts that will be truly appreciated for years to come, not just thrown away on the Christmas scrapheap or tucked away in a corner of a cupboard.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Simply choose the project you wish to support, complete the donation form below, giving your name and the name and address of the person on whose behalf you are making the gift - we will do the rest.

EVERY PENNY of your donation will go to the gift you have indicated. The Rotary Club will send a card to the person you have chosen informing them what you have done in their name.

If you wish to make a donation in your own name, then you will be informed that your wishes have been carried out. If you cannot afford the full amount suggested, the Rotary Club will make sure that your contribution is combined with others for the nominated project.

Sadly there will always be disease and hunger somewhere around the world, but these projects will bring lasting happiness to those you help. Together we can make Christmas a time for people all over the world to celebrate and enjoy.

CHILDREN WITH AIDS

For £20 per year an Orphan girl is given school supplies and a uniform.

EDUCATE AN ORPHAN

For £20 per year an Orphan girl is given school supplies and a uniform.

MOSQUITO NETS

Malaria is a killer if not treated properly, mosquito nets are good prevention.

PROSTHETIC LIMBS

The Jaipur Clinic provides prosthetic limbs for children as well as therapy and accommodation during rehabilitation and the fitting of the new limbs.

POLIOPLUS

Vaccinate a child against this crippling disease.

CATARACT OPERATION

Restore sight to a child/elderly person with a cataract operation.

BUY A GOAT

A goat will provide milk for a whole family and can be used for breeding.

FRESH WATER

To provide a fresh water well for a small village.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES

Children cannot attend school unless they have the supplies, and for only £5 a child could attend school for a year with the basic supplies required.

OTHER IDEAS FOR GIVING THROUGH ROTARY (at any time, not just Christmas)

We are also able to make use of Unwanted Mobile Phones, Used Postage Stamps, Toner/Inkjet Cartridges, Good Unwanted Clothes and Foreign Currency.

WHY NOT DONATE ONLINE?

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DONATION FORM

I would like to donate £ to the Appeal

As a taxpayer, I agree to Gift Aid the total (giving an extra 28%) ☐ Sign:

Person in whose name you wish to make the gift

Address

Your Name

Address

Please make cheques payable to "THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEWTON AYCLIFFE". Hand In at Newton Press, St Cuthberts Way, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DX or Taylors Newsforce, Town Centre or Don Walkers, Simpasturegate

Aycliffe Back to Earth

Dear readers,

To clarify that there has been a non too subtle change in local politics which we feel you all need to be aware of. Changes in members moving their political allegiances over the last year has led the current elected Independent Councillors to rethink and take stock of just how Great Aycliffe (town and village) can be best represented.

Currently the political landscape for Great Aycliffe looks like the following.

House of Commons - MP Phil Wilson (Labour)

Durham Unitary Authority Cabinet: 0 Councillors (None)

Durham Unitary Authority: 8 Councillors

terencehogan@rocketmail.
com

- Bearing in mind that we already possess amongst us sufficient skills and experience to enable us to help others meet the challenge ahead.

Yours faithfully
Kenneth Stubbs
(Secretary for the Independent
Opposition in Great Aycliffe)

Newton Aycliffe hosted 2nd place Whithy in the Durham and Northumberland Division 3 on Saturday 14th November. The early exchanges were even and both sides' quick backs made good runs. Whithy took the lead when poor Aycliffe tackling allowed them to break through the defence and two further tries gave them a 17 – 0 lead. Aycliffe now began to fight back. Excellent runs from Luke Crossen and Drew Gibson almost led to tries before a Luke Tinkler penalty put the home team on the scoreboard. Just before half-time, constant Aycliffe pressure saw Alan Layfield pick up at the back of a ruck and dive over for the try. Tinkler added the conversion and the score at the interval was 17 – 10.

At the start of the second period Aycliffe played some fine rugby with good breaks from flankers Michael Welsh and Neil Morgan. Whithy were in some disarray, but they managed to break out and add a further try. From this point on, Aycliffe tired and the visitors added 5 more tries in the final 20 minutes to run out 51 – 10 victors despite the scrummaging efforts of props Craig Wynn, Bob Malvern and Cymon Lee.

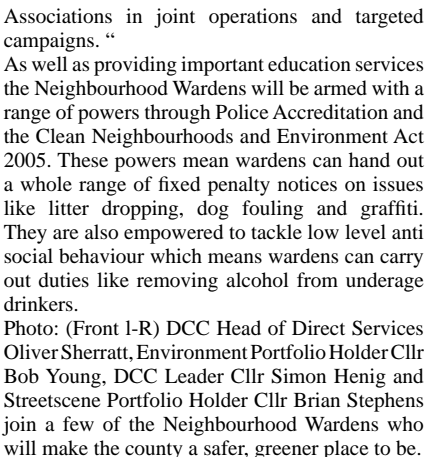
Whilst Whithy were worthy winners, the margin was flattering to them. With more concentration in defence, Aycliffe should fear no-one at this level. On 21st November Aycliffe host Richmondshire for a friendly at 2:15. Aycliffe's sponsors are Fabtech Engineering and Workshop Supplies. More information is available at www.ayclifferrugby.co.uk.

Reassuring Neighbourhood Wardens, with tough powers to clamp down on nuisance behaviour, are to become a more common sight right across County Durham, following the go ahead from Cabinet today. (November 11 2009)

Currently 59 Neighbourhood Wardens carry out a variety of duties across a number of former district council areas. From April 2010 the popular scheme will be rolled out right across the county bringing the total number of wardens to 70. Last year the wardens responded to over 15,000 incidents and have been involved in supporting a wide range of projects with local communities.

Streetscene Portfolio Holder Cllr Brian Stephens says extending the scheme is a high priority, "We feel very strongly that the Neighbourhood Wardens have played a key role in making our communities better places to live, work and visit. We know many residents find the presence of wardens reassuring and that the current mix of education and enforcement has a proven track record. I am absolutely delighted that we will now be able to provide wardens in Teesdale, Derwentside and Chester-le-Street, where they have not previously been available. They will be highly visible, wear the same uniform across the county and be armed with the same tough powers to carry out enforcement where necessary."

Head of Direct Services Oliver Sherratt says the wardens play a very key role in the county's communities, "Wardens improve the quality of life through enhancing the physical appearance of our neighbourhoods, building community confidence, deterring anti-social behaviour and helping to reduce fear of crime. From next year it is our aim that every area has a named local warden people can contact if they need help or advice. They will continue to work very closely with partners such as the Police and Housing



Members of the junior Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club are anxiously awaiting news from the London Marathon organisers. They travelled up to Exhibition Park, Newcastle, on Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, to compete in the Town Moor run. This was a qualifying event for the London Mini Marathon, which will take place in April 2010. The inclement weather had left the course water logged and more like a steeple chase than a cross country, however the young boys gave it their best shot. Not really sure of the course, Henry Johnson took part in the U13 boys, 3K event. A final last push forged him forward to over take many athletes during the final 300m. He finished 4th place in 11.33. His fellow athlete, William Crossen, also ran the same route and distance of 3K. The competitors were strong in the U15 event, but William completed it in 10.37, gaining 7th place. James Askew gained an amazing 4th place in the U20 men's, 5K race with a fantastic time of 16.57. In contrast to the flat race of the Town Moor, NAAC junior members travelled to Upsall Hall, Nov 15th. This rather hilly course was one to sort the men from the boys! U13 boys had an uphill start for their 2,400m cross country race. Henry Johnson, stuck behind the lead all the way until the final 400m, when he began to get tired after the hill. However, he drew strength from somewhere and despite getting jostled at the end, came in joint 6th place with 8.53. William Crossen and Ryan Walton, both took part in U15 boys distance of 2,900m. They ran well within the pack, and battled it out over the final 100m. Ryan was just pipped at the post, falling 2 seconds behind William. Boys finished 10.27 and 10.29 respectively. Daniel Inglis, U17, continues to perform well and took the 6,300m hilly event in his stride. He came home comfortably with 11th position and a great time of 26.15. James Askew, now competing with Senior Men, gained a staggering 6th place with 37.25 for the 9,700m. All the competitors performed well and continue to train hard through the winter season.

A dark wood sleigh bed with a curved headboard and footboard, featuring a light-colored bedding set and a patterned rug.

Opening Times - Mon-Fri 8-6 Sat 8.30-1pm

