

## SKY Sports and ESPN

WATCH ALL THE  
ACTION HERE AT  
THE OAK LEAF  
SPORTS COMPLEX

# NEWTON NEWS

## MOT TESTING CENTRE

Now Open for Cars and Vans (Class 4 & 7)  
\* FAMILY RUN BUSINESS \*

### G.H. PALIN & SONS

Carlbury Road, Aycliffe Industrial Estate  
Telephone: 01325 300880  
After Hours Telephone: 07980 712733

Newton Press, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DX • Tel: (01325) 300212 • Web: [www.newtonnews.co.uk](http://www.newtonnews.co.uk) • Editorial: [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk) • Advertising: [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk)

Week Ending 30th December, 2009

**whitehouse**  
funeral service

Covering Newton Aycliffe and Surrounding Areas  
Contact Bryan A. Shepherd

cockerton house  
11 west auckland road darlington DL3 9EJ

"The truly independent family company caring for your needs"

T: 01325 482999 (24 hr)

**The WorkX**  
HAIR • TREATMENT • TANNING

5 Cobblers Hall - Tel: 308860 (Free Car Parking)

**Buy 100 Minutes  
Get 50 Minutes Free**

on any of our sunbeds  
235 watt VERTICAL  
225 watt VERTICAL  
235 watt LAYDOWN

When you produce this advertisement - Offer expires 31st December 2009  
Not to be combined with any other offer - One offer per customer

**LET US HELP YOU GET  
THROUGH YOUR LOSS**

**John Meynell Funeral Service**  
Office and Chapels of Rest:  
Cemetery Chapel, Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DS  
Telephone: 01325 301 405  
150 North Road, Darlington  
Telephone: 01325 382 542  
Monumentals & Pre-arranged Funeral Plans  
24 hours a day - Funeral Director: Penny Dawson DipFD, MBFD

**GREGG LITTLE  
TESTING  
CENTRE LTD.**

Celebrating 25 years in business in Newton Aycliffe and as a thank you for your support, and with today's difficult climate in mind we are offering for a limited period:

**MOTe Car, Lights Vans (Class IV) at £35.00**  
**MOTe Motorbikes (Class I & II) at £25.00**

Also lower rates on servicing and repair work, backed up with British Standards and Bosch OET.

**Quality Servicing from £119.95 + VAT**  
**Oil & Filter Change from £30.00 + VAT**  
**Budget Tyres (155/70x13) £17.50 + VAT**  
(inc balancing & new valves)  
Free estimates for body and paintwork

6 Leaside, Aycliffe Business Park  
Telephone (01325) 321621  
E: [info@gregglittle.co.uk](mailto:info@gregglittle.co.uk) - W: [www.gregglittle.co.uk](http://www.gregglittle.co.uk)

Est. **TaxEasE uk** 1998  
Taxation Services

An Independent Tax Practice

The final REVENUE DEADLINE  
for 2008/2009  
**INCOME TAX RETURNS**  
is the 31st JANUARY 2010

For a FREE APPOINTMENT  
Ring 07813 926622 or 01325 316958  
Email: [info@taxeaseuk.com](mailto:info@taxeaseuk.com) or Website: [www.taxeaseuk.com](http://www.taxeaseuk.com)

## TOWN HERITAGE ITEMS RETURNED



Our Mayor Mary Dalton gratefully received back into Council custody two items of town memorabilia which were recently recovered by the Police. The engraved spade and the first sod of earth cut to begin the development of Newton Aycliffe in 1948 is now safely back in the hands of the Town Council after 13 years. The police discovered the precious pieces of our heritage while investigating another incident at the home of the former Town Clerk John Farquhar.

## YOUTH CENTRE AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS



The Youth Centre now has capacity for bookings on Sundays for any organisation wishing to establish their meetings there. The modern premises opposite Tesco, with Gymnasium, Main Hall, Kitchen Facilities and Meeting Rooms is a popular, convenient venue, with reasonable hire charges. To view and or obtain more details ring 307522.

## Tesco Help Rotary Club with Hampers for Needy Families



Tesco Customer Services Manager Paul Davies and staff packing the 60 Christmas hampers for needy families in Newton Aycliffe, from cash raised by the town's Rotary Club in their annual appeal. The President and members wish to thank Tesco's for their invaluable support in

providing the hampers and allowing the collection in their store. "The townspeople have again been brilliant and responded with their usual generosity for which we are very grateful. The families who received hampers had a much better Christmas than they expected" said President Jean Thompson.

## Agnew Community Centre AGM

AGNEW COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION will hold its 27th Annual General Meeting on Thursday 28th January 2010 at 8.15 pm. The meeting will be open to all, but only paid up 2010 members will be able to vote for items on the agenda.

Nominations for officers, committee members and/or proposals must be with the Secretary on or before the 14th January 2010.

Present members will receive a copy of the agenda, nomination form and a membership form. For those wishing to join as new members may do so on receipt of dues.

A copy of the minutes is posted on the main notice board and all attending the meeting will receive a copy on the night.

Facilities for both renewal and new memberships will be available prior to the date given above up to 7.30pm on the day of the meeting for those wanting to qualify to vote.

Please note the Parent/Carer/Baby/Toddler Group has closed for the festive season and will reopen on Thursday 7th January 2010 at 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm. All welcome.

R. G. Michie 07518 035320  
Hon. Secretary

**FROM BUSINESS  
CARDS TO BOOKS**  
NEWTON PRESS IS YOUR PRINTER  
Tel: 300212 Email: [sales@gonp.co.uk](mailto:sales@gonp.co.uk)

**SafeLine Taxis**  
(Aycliffe's "Black Taxi" Company)  
**312 512**  
THE ONLY TAXI NUMBER YOU WILL EVER NEED  
All Durham County Council Licensed Vehicles  
**OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
Website: [safelinetaxis.co.uk](http://safelinetaxis.co.uk)

**elachi indian restaurant  
and takeaway**  
Sunday & Monday Restaurant Special  
Four Course Meal £9.95  
10% DISCOUNT FOR COLLECTION - FREE DELIVERY  
Open every night 5.30pm-11pm including Bank Holidays  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE - Open 4pm - Midnight**  
Fully Air Conditioned - Party Bookings Welcome  
1 Upper Beveridge Walkway - DL5 4EE  
Town Centre (next to Steven Russell) 316516  
Free Parking on Town Centre Rooftop Car Park

**SPRAY**  
Vehicle Body Repairs

Unit E460F, Woodham Road, Aycliffe Bus. Park  
Newton Aycliffe - [www.spraybody.co.uk](http://www.spraybody.co.uk)

- 15 Years Experience • Car & Light Commercial
- Free Insurance Estimates • Modifications
- Colour Coding • Body Kits • Plastic Welding
- Motorcycle and Scooter Fairing Repairs
- Touch Up Paints including Laqueur £7.50  
(Mixed while you wait)

**ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED**  
**Call Neil on 01325 319199  
or 07971 435 308**



# BEWARE OF ICE BANDITS

Motorists are warned to be vigilant as temperatures plummet this week. Organised car thieves will be roaming the streets this week looking for innocent motorists attempting to defrost their cars.

With a bitterly cold front forecast to sweep over the UK this week, some areas are facing temperatures as low as minus five Celsius.

Motorists who leave their cars unattended to de-ice windscreens give thieves an open invitation and worse still, invalidate insurance policies says the UK's leading high street car insurance retailer, Swinton. Swinton is warning drivers that their policy won't cover them for theft if their

car is stolen as a result of leaving keys in an unattended vehicle.

Steve Chelton, Insurer Development Manager at Swinton said: "We are predicting a hike in these type of attacks during the cold snap this week. Year after year we see at least a 20% hike in the theft of cars by opportunistic ice bandit type thieves during winter. On frosty days it's incredible how many drivers leave their car running and nip back inside to finish getting ready – an open invitation for thieves."

On frosty winter mornings drivers should cover their windscreen with a shield or newspaper to keep the frost off and use de-icer and an ice scraper on the windscreen.

# HEALTH AND SAFETY VISIT FOR LOCAL SCHOOLCHILDREN



Children from Vane Road Primary School in Newton Aycliffe donned their hard hats and protective clothing at Miller Homes' Cobblers Hall development to find out about the dangers of playing on a construction site.

The Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed a visit to the development to find out exactly what goes on behind the scenes on a working building site.

After discussing the perils of playing on or near the site, the children watched skilled craftsmen at work and helped lay bricks at the housing development which is located on the northern edge of Newton Aycliffe, minutes from Aycliffe Nature Walk.

Maureen Trotter, regional sales manager for Miller Homes, who organised the visit with the school children said: "We were

keen to talk to the children about the dangers of a building site as we have significantly increased the level of construction work at Cobblers Hall in recent weeks in order to meet the demand for the properties and cause as little disturbance for existing residents as possible.

"We know that a building site can look like an adventure play ground to some young children, but it is such a dangerous place to be, particularly now during the dark winter days.

"We wanted the visit to be both informative and fun, which is why the children helped lay some bricks and



Are you 14+ and looking for challenge and adventure in 2010?

Do you want to make new friends and learn new skills?

Join your local Duke of Edinburgh's Award Group, based at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre.

We will be starting Expedition training at all levels on Sunday January 10th at 6pm.

We meet each Sunday evening from 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Why not come down on our first session on Sunday 10th Jan 2010. For further details email to: info@naycdofeaward.org.uk

## M.V. MOBILITY

Scooters from £295.00

Powered Riser/Recliner Chairs from £495

No Obligation, Home Demo

Part Exchange Welcome

MOBILE SHOWROOM

All Major Credit Cards Accepted  
0% Finance Available

Tel Michael 01937 558 604

Wheelchairs  
Adjustable Beds  
Stairs Lifts  
Bath Lifts



## AutoSafe

01325 304432

Complete Garage Services

No Gimmicks, No Hassle Just a Quality Service You Can Trust

### FREE WINTER CHECK

Lights - AntiFreeze - Battery - Tyres - Oil etc

### Commercial Vehicle Specialists

Transit Service from £79.95

Sprinter Service from £84.59

Traffic Master Service from £84.95

From puncture repairs to engine overhauls  
AUTOSAFE can do it all.

24 HOUR  
BREAKDOWN  
RECOVERY  
07980 758 484

Unit 17 Leaside  
Aycliffe Business Park  
Newton Aycliffe  
Co. Durham DL5 6HX  
Tel: 01325 304432

SERVICING  
EXHAUSTS  
TYRES  
BRAKES  
MOT PREPARATION  
MOT REPAIRS  
WELDING  
TIMING BELTS  
PUNCTURES  
TRACKING  
ENGINE REPAIRS  
OVERHAULS

Any Make of Car & Van  
Serviced & Repaired

Punctures &  
Tracking £9.95

Free Brake Check  
& Report

Commercial Vehicle  
Specialists

Servicing from  
£59.00

Collection & Delivery  
Service

Free Mini Valet  
with Every Service

www.autosafeautocentre.co.uk

Punctures £ 9.95  
Tracking £ 9.95  
Servicing from £59.00  
(including 40 point check)  
Brake Pads from £29.95

FANTASTIC DEALS ON  
CAR & VAN TYRES

STEEL RADIALS

165/70R14 £29.95  
175/65T14 £29.95  
195/50R15 £36.95  
195/60R15 £33.95  
205/55V16 £43.95

UNIROYAL

£39.95  
£39.95  
£39.95  
£40.95  
£59.95

All Prices Include VAT, Valve & Balance

All Sizes available, please ring for a quote

Opening Hours:

Monday-Friday 8am-6pm; Saturday 8.30am-2pm

## Small Shops Can Open on Xmas Day

McColls at Beechfield have notified customers they would be opening on Christmas Day until 3pm. This annoyed some neighbours of the shop who hoped there would be one day in the year they would be spared the noise that comes from this superstore.

They queried whether shops are allowed to open on this day.

We asked a County Councillor who obtained the answer from the department which regulates opening times.

Current legislation states that if the sales area of a shop premises exceeds 3,000 square feet, the premises must remain closed on Christmas Day. Shops with a sales area of less than 3,000 square feet are not affected.

Although the total premises area of McColl's is in excess of 3,000 square feet, because the actual sales area is only 2,308 square feet they can legally open on Christmas Day and all day if they so wish.

## FORTHCOMING ENTERTAINMENT AT HARDWICK HALL HOTEL

### WEDDING OPEN EVENING



#### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>

Take this opportunity to view the Coleman Suite and John Burdon Suite set up for Wedding Receptions and a Civil Ceremony.

No appointment necessary just come along between 6.00pm and 9.00pm.

### THE 80'S EXPERIENCE



#### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

The best disco party ever takes place.

Arrive 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £10.95 PP

### ABBA SUPREME



#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>

The greatest hits - seventy fun packed minutes of nostalgia. Name of the game, Does your mother know, Voulez vous and many more.

Arrive 7.00pm for 7.30pm

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £12.95 PP

### FAULTY TOWERS EVENING



#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

A night of unlimited fun

Arrive 7.30pm. Dinner served 8.00pm.

DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT £20.95 PP

### JACKSON



#### Friday 8<sup>th</sup>

The ultimate tribute to the King of Pop - featuring James Aston. A superb live band and a truly authentic lookalike and soundalike.

Arrive 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £12.95 PP

### ABSOLUTE MURDER

#### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>

A night of fun, intrigue and whodunit.

Arrive 7.30pm. Dinner served 8.00pm.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £20.95 PP



### THE ULTIMATE 70'S

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Dust off your platforms and get out your flares for a night taking you back to this groovy era.

Arrive 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £10.95 PP



### SUNDAY LUNCH

Our popular Sunday Lunch is served in the Boyne Suite, accompanied by music from our resident pianist.

4 COURSES INCLUDING COFFEE £17.95 PP

## OTHER SPECIAL PROMOTIONS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT JANUARY & FEBRUARY

TELEPHONE: 01740 620253

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE ACTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY



# SQUASH CLUB CELEBRATE 3rd JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS



Jed Hodgson (left) with Joe Dale and Duncan Robson

The 3rd Aycliffe Junior Squash Open was held at the Oak Leaf Centre over the weekend of 5/6th December and was a terrific success. This years' tournament attracted 106 entrants, almost double that of last year, making it one of the biggest in the North of England with juniors travelling from as far away as Somerset and Merseyside.

The quantity of competitors was more than matched by quality with great squash played throughout the weekend. It was especially pleasing to see the high number of entrants in the girls events where in the under 13 section we had some exciting squash played by some very young competitors with 11 year old Millie Soulby from Yorkshire narrowly defeating 9 year Laura Neil from Northumbria in an exciting

first final of the weekend. The other girls events were equally impressive with wins by Maria Bainbridge in the under 15s and Samantha Ward in the under 17s, both from Northumbria. Durham and Cleveland had a clean sweep of the boys' events with under 13s Joe

Dale (Redcar), under 15s Luke Mabbott (Redcar) and under 17s Danny Hockburn (Norton) all having fine wins.

The presentation was carried out by Mr Duncan Robson, a Director of Holiways Ford, accompanied by Jed Hodgson Chairman at Aycliffe Squash Club. Mr Robson commented on how well the tournament was organised.

Aycliffe squash club is proud of it's achievement in hosting such a prestigious event and would like to thank the organisers: Margaret, Richard, June and Neil for their hard work and dedication to promoting Junior squash in our area. The Aycliffe Squash Committee would like to thank Holiways Ford for their continued support as the club's major sponsor and Pulman Volkswagen for their generous contribution towards the cost of the event. Special thanks go to Great Aycliffe Town Council and the Oak Leaf Centre. As far as we are aware this is the only England Squash sanctioned

tournament to be held at a council owned facility.



Samantha Ward

## RETRACTION

Dear Sir,  
I wish to apologise for an incorrect statement in my letter last week about a grant of £10,000 to MIND which states St Mary's Church, when it should in fact read St Clare's Church.  
Yours Sincerely  
Counc. Terry Hogan  
Independent

## CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS OF VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

CAVOS held their second annual Christmas Event which celebrated the achievements of voluntary and community groups across the former Borough of Sedgefield.

This year CAVOS requested nominations for an Achievement Award. Many nominations were received and the winners were: 1st Newton Aycliffe Scouts, Shildon Community Safety Group, Shildon Community Bus, Youth Link, Shildon Counselling Service and Spennyness. The CAVOS Organisation of the Year 2009 was awarded to Trimdon Community Gardens for their achievements, which included securing £9000 of funding which has helped them expand their services and improve their facilities, including installing a composting toilet and solar panels and

increasing the number of workshops they provide on environmental topics. Entertainment on the evening was provided by Tearaways Youth Theatre Group from Shildon.

The Celebration Event was attended by many different organisations from across the area and ended with everyone up on the dance floor!

CAVOS would like to thank the Tearaways for their performance and Colin's Disco for entertaining us on the night.

CAVOS provides support for community and voluntary groups across the former borough of Sedgefield around funding, governance, registering as a charity and a whole lot more, all for free. For more information contact Laura or Michelle on 01388 811115 or www.cavos.org.uk.

## CASH FOR GOLD

WE BUY GOLD FOR CASH

**TODAY**

WE BUY GOLD FOR CASH

*in the comfort of your own home*

*"You Ring, We Visit, We Quote, You Accept"*

WE BUY GOLD FOR CASH

*We buy Gold Rings, Gold Chains, Broken Jewellery, Gold Coins, Any Gold for cash - Call or text Martin on*

**07958 550893**

*Call or text Martin for an appointment*

**Come and visit us at the**

**Town Centre Post Office**

**9am - 4pm • Mon - Sat**

*and also at*

**31 Cheapside, Spennymoor**



Luke Mabbott



Danny Hockburn



Maria Bainbridge



Millie Soulby



**HARDWICK HALL**  
HOTEL  
SEDFIELD . CO. DURHAM . TS21 2EH

# FEBRUARY 2010

**FORTHCOMING ENTERTAINMENT AT HARDWICK HALL HOTEL**

**BUDDY HOLLY & COUNTERFEIT THE CRICKETS**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Celebrate this great artist in a spectacular show, all your favourite Buddy songs like Run Around Sue, Donna, Chantilly Lace and many more.*

Arrive 7:00pm for 7:30pm.

**ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £14.95 PP**

**WEDDING OPEN DAY**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Take this opportunity to view the Coleman Suite and John Burdon Suite set up for Wedding Receptions and a Civil Ceremony.*

No appointment necessary just come along between 11.00am and 4.00pm.

**VALENTINE'S DINNER**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Enjoy a romantic 3 course dinner with a bottle of wine per couple. Music from our resident pianist.*

**ROMANTIC 3 COURSE DINNER £25.00 PP**

**THE REVOLUTIONAIRES**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>**

*Scorching a trail across the live music venues is this sizzlin' hot 1950's R&B combo The Revolutionaires.*

Arrive 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

**ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £9.95 PP**

**THE 80'S EXPERIENCE**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>**

*The best disco party ever takes place.*

Arrive 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

**ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT £10.95 PP**

**SUNDAY LUNCH**

*Our popular Sunday Lunch is served in the Boyne Suite, accompanied by music from our resident pianist.*

**4 COURSES INCLUDING COFFEE £17.95 PP**

**OTHER SPECIAL PROMOTIONS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT JANUARY & FEBRUARY**

## TELEPHONE: 01740 620253

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE ACTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY

**HEWITTS SOLICITORS**



## Accident Claims

*Specialist Legal Advice on all Accident Claims*

**Accidents at Work**

**Road Traffic Accidents**

**Tripping Injuries and Industrial Disease**

**First Interview FREE and advice given on "NO WIN, NO FEE"**

**HEWITTS SOLICITORS**

Suite 5 First Floor Avenue House  
Greenwell Road, Newton Aycliffe  
Telephone: (01325) 316170

**Accident Claims**



## Santa Claus at Neville Community Centre



Alison and Jason Armstrong and their five children with Santa Claus who was available in his Grotto before Christmas to meet and take requests from the children.



## SIMPSON'S SHOE REPAIRS

\*\* Award Winning Shoe Repairs \*\*

WE ALSO OFFER:

Key Cutting - Trophy Supplies - Engraving  
Watch Battery Replacement  
Established over 50 years

TELEPHONE: 01388 77 77 09  
24 Church Street, Shildon

## GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 13th Jan. 2010**

Environment Committee - 7.15pm

Followed by the Recreation Committee

### QUESTION TIME

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

The press and public are cordially invited to attend.

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

# BRAVE MAYOR CARRIES OUT CIVIC DUTIES

There was great support for our Mayor, Mary Dalton at her Civic Carol Service held last Sunday at St. Clares Church which went ahead even though Mary was facing the Funeral of her beloved husband Reg, in the same church, two days later.

Mary, equally brave, chaired the final Council Meeting of the year last Wednesday, much to the admiration of all present.

Mary told everyone that her husband Reg would have wanted her to carry on with her civic duties.

Dignitaries from the County Council and other nearby towns attended the Service of Carols and Lessons on a very cold night. The Service



featured a lovely choir from St. Francis School and, although small in number, sang beautifully and with great confidence.

Two young girls from Byerley Park recited a Christmas Poem and the church choir sang

special items between popular carols sung by the congregation. Afterwards everyone was invited into the Church Hall to enjoy refreshments provided by the Town Council. Although tinged with sadness it was a pleasant event.



## WOODHAM TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE NOW A CAD/CAM SUPPORT CENTRE



Woodham College is delighted to announce it has been designated as a CAD / CAM focussed Digital D&T Support Centre for the North East region by the Design and Technology Association.

The support centre will work with partners across the region in developing the teaching of CAD / CAM, in addition to producing exemplar materials for the CAD / CAM curriculum framework and providing a range of other support for local trainers and teachers. "We are absolutely delighted to be able to take on this supporting role for the region" said Mike Nelson, Head of the Design and Technology department at Woodham.

Year 9 students have enjoyed studying Engineering and Manufacturing in the Design and Technology department and a group of students have used CAD / CAM technology to design and produce the College Christmas card this year.

## BAD WEATHER STOPS SANTA TOUR

Severe weather conditions curtailed the Rotary Club's tour of the town with Santa's Sleigh this year. The members apologise for having to disappoint so many people who look forward to meeting Santa before Christmas.

Obviously this affected the collection total for the appeal for the town's needy families, but the members were confident they will meet their obligation to help those in difficulty over the festive period.

## THE VILLAGE PHARMACY

Pioneering Care Centre, Cobblers Hall  
Burn Lane, Newton Aycliffe  
Telephone 01325 311297



### OPENING TIMES

Monday - Thursday 8.30am-5.30pm, Friday 8.30am-6.00pm  
(Closed 1.00pm-2.00pm for Lunch)  
Saturday 9.00am-12.00noon

*We offer a full range of services including: Free Prescription Collection and Delivery Service from any Surgery in Newton Aycliffe, Pregnancy Testing, Care in the Chemist, Pharmacist always available for help and advice*

**Also visit our NHS Stop Smoking Clinic on Tuesday and Thursday 9.30am-11.30am (Commit to Quit)**

**Pharmacist: Alisdair McConnell MRPharmS**

Call us for more details on 311297 where our friendly staff will be happy to help



# HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CHRISTMAS LEFTOVERS

With Christmas being the time for indulgence, most fridges are full to the brim over the festive period. However, this inevitably results in plenty of leftovers.

Most households tend to overstock when it comes to food at this time of year, but more often than not, our eyes tend to be bigger than our bellies!

Nobody likes to throw food away, especially as people's purse strings have been tightened, so it's important to store leftover food correctly to make sure things don't go to waste.

Here is a set of tips:  
It's important to let cooked food cool down before refrigerating, but make sure you place it in the fridge as soon as it reaches a suitable temperature to avoid the risk

of contamination. Store your leftovers in airtight containers and consider wrapping any cooked meat in cling film or foil to stop it drying out. Place a label on any containers to remind you of what's inside and, more importantly, the date you placed them in the fridge or freezer.

Keep a close eye on the temperature of your fridge. It should be at 5°C for optimum working efficiency and safety. Always store cooked food on the top shelves of the fridge, with raw ingredients at the bottom - that way there's no chance of the raw produce dripping and contaminating the foods below.

Try and use leftovers as soon as possible and never exceed the original 'use by' date, unless you're placing items in

the freezer.

Remember, leftovers need not just be solid food. You can always freeze excess gravy or milk for example to use again another day, as well as produce like herbs and bread crumbs.

Leftover food can result in a strange mix of smells in your fridge. Try using a deodoriser to combat them, but make sure you choose one that's been especially designed for use in refrigerators.

If you have lots of fruit and vegetables that are yet to be cut, there are products available that can be placed directly into the drawers at the bottom of the fridge to keep them fresher for longer. Once all the leftovers have been used and stocks are running low, take time to give your fridge a good clean.

# Final Comment on Toddler Group by Rector

Dear Sir,

Having read last week's letter and now Mrs Kemp's letter, I write my final comment in the newspaper on this matter.

I stand by what I have said previously. Amicable discussion resulted in a new rent being agreed at £3.75 per hour x 2 hours x 40 sessions = £300 to be gradually staged in by 2011. At the same time I advised that following the church's insurance company's instructions, groups using the halls were to have their own specific insurance and advised Mrs Kemp how to seek that and where to seek it. Life has changed in the world of finance and statutory regulations in the past nine years.

The subject of grants and a fundraising event was discussed with the church offering support and premises for this. Mrs Kemp has changed her mind, which she is entitled to do, and has chosen to close the group. Sadly, and disappointingly, she did this in a rather unpleasant letter which I chose not to dignify with a reply. I have retained the letter in church files. I did indeed offer a Pray and Praise session in the church play area( not the hall) and I offered twice - once three years ago and once this year. It was to be an invitation for those who chose to take part. Mrs Kemp didn't want this for the reason she has stated: this was accepted without further discussion.

I later advised that instead we were to offer baptism families some opportunities for Christian teaching through play and praise, but at a different time so there would be no clash for the group. I thought it showed that we had taken her viewpoint seriously and that I was assuring her that she need not worry about any pressure being exerted. In her letter Mrs Kemp advised me that it was illegal to do this and that it was discrimination in only having it for baptism families. We can't win!

I said nothing about being independent because the group has always been run independently with no restrictions on the way it was run. That has meant enjoying use of premises at the lowest rent in town for any independent group (ie not one run by a church or a statutory body): the use of good facilities including an indoor pram park, being known as St Clare's Toddler Group because it gives us an identity, but without having to take part in the life of the church. That is independence. Church affiliated groups using the hall pay more rent than the Toddler Group as well as working their socks off to maintain the premises for the use of the community.

Other groups paying the full rent offer help in different ways to support the efforts of the church to maintain and improve the facilities for the use of the whole community. The newspapers always include adverts for fundraising events in support of groups and organisations - everyone has to pay rents and insurance and cover costs for running groups and everyone has to supplement their income in this way. It isn't the Church

that is quibbling over pennies. In a fantasy world, the church garden would have money trees growing in it, instead of fruit and vegetables grown to supplement its income: pennies would rain from heaven instead of rain that came through the hole in the roof which we had to pay to have repaired- not at peppercorn rates but at business rates because the roofers also have to pay their running costs. This is the real world.

Public buildings accessed by the general public, have statutory requirements to meet Health and Safety standards, Disability Access Regulations, fire safety, gas and electric safety checks, to maintain buildings in good repair and to meet environmental health regulations. The church is not exempt and none of this comes free of charge. It's very easy to bury heads in sand when we don't want to know about these matters.

The question has been asked regarding the Church serving the community, including any underprivileged children. I fully agree that it should - and it does. It supports families in this town by collecting, week by week, staple items of food and household goods for needy families in this town, with Social Services distributing the goods. The Church building and

halls have been used by most of the schools in the town for various occasions with generous hospitality being given.

Alongside of that local, national and overseas charities are supported as shown in the church accounts. The Christmas collections all go to charities - but we don't make a song and a dance about that, we simply get on with it as part of our mission and ministry. The word community must be taken in its full context - mutual support - for it to be lived at its best. Every world faith and those of no faith would hold that as a maxim. It's a good one to practice and the church plays a full part in doing so.

I hold firm to warm regard for Mrs Kemp and her achievement: she has not let people down but has reached a point where she has decided not to continue. I hope parents were suitably appreciative on the last day. Mrs Peart has a wonderful record of service to others over very many years, and continues to help another community group in the church hall.

The respect and affection for her by both church and community are undiminished by this very sad and sorry business. I think Lily and Anne should now be allowed to retire with grace. I have been approached by a couple of parents about the continuance of the group, and they giving this some thought over the coming weeks. I accept that as the Rector I will be loved when things go right and everyone is happy with the church's largesse, and vilified when I have to help people face reality and on occasions challenge behaviour, statements and mischief making. That's the real world too.

Revd Linda Potter, Rector of Great Aycliffe.

## LETTER to the EDITOR

# PIPE BAND AT XCEL CENTRE



The Rotary Club thank Newton Aycliffe Pipe Band for their magnificent music at the entrance to the Xcel Conference Centre on the occasion of the annual Community Christmas Concert. They added something really special to the event and are a credit to themselves, bringing prestige to the town wherever they play.

**miller homes**  
the place to be®

Cobblers Hall, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4ZF

Own your 3 bed family home from just **£105,000<sup>†</sup>**



**Act fast, limited availability. Time's running out . . .**

COBBLERS HALL, NEWTON AYCLIFFE

The Gissing - 3 bedroom homes from **£150,000**

You could pay from just **£105,000<sup>†</sup>** with HomeBuy Direct

Showhomes open Thursday to Monday, 10.30am to 5.30pm

**Tel: 0800 840 8491**

**ONLY 70%<sup>†</sup>**  
**MORTGAGE NEEDED**

ON SELECTED  
PLOTS ONLY

NO INTEREST FOR  
THE FIRST 5 YEARS\*



If you qualify for HomeBuy Direct you could pay as little as 70%<sup>†</sup> now of your new home and borrow the rest from the Government and Miller Homes. After 25 years, or when you sell or transfer your home, whichever comes first, you simply pay back the 30%\* of your home's market value at that time.

**0800 840 8491 | www.millerhomes.co.uk/homebuy**



<sup>†</sup>If you qualify for HomeBuy Direct assistance and you raise a mortgage for at least 70% of the purchase price of your new home from a qualifying bank or building society, you can borrow up to the remaining 30% of the purchase price by taking out loans secured over your new home from each of the Government's Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) and Miller Homes over a period of 25 years. Credit is available subject to status and is provided by two separate secured loans from each of the HCA and Miller Homes Limited. HomeBuy Direct is plot specific and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer provided by Miller Homes. \*Subject to terms and conditions. For full details contact the development direct or visit our website at www.millerhomes.co.uk/homebuy. Price and availability correct at time of going to print. Photography represents a typical Miller Homes' exterior.

**YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP THE REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR ANY OTHER DEBT SECURED ON IT**



## EX-CHAMPION POLICE OFFICER & WIFE CELEBRATE 60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE



Fred and Beatrice Purser of Cumby Road celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on the 17th December and received a special card of congratulations from the Queen.

Deputy Mayor Dorothy Bowman visited the couple with a bouquet, bringing congratulations on behalf of the townspeople.

As a former Police Inspector and Superintendent Fred received a personal letter from the Chief Constable in recognition of his distinguished service in various parts of the County, including Newton Aycliffe, over 30 years.

Many will remember Fred as a quiet spoken gentleman yet, surprisingly, he was a super athlete winning trophies in weight lifting and Judo at world level. He later judged International competitions.

Beatrice was also interested in sport and won the North



**Fred the Policeman**

of England Health and Strength trophy in her early years.

Fred started his working life at a Shoe factory in Leicester where he had to go to get a job. He then came home to work at the Colliery Railway before joining the Police Force.

Fred met Beatrice on a camping holiday at Crimdon, he came from Seaham and Beatrice was

born in Thornley.

After their wedding at All Saints Church, Wheatley Hill they spent their honeymoon in Newcastle at a third rate hotel. "That is all anyone could afford in 1949, the weather was poor, but we were young, happy and still enjoyed ourselves" said Beatrice.

He and Beatrice moved to the town in 1955 and Fred was on duty in Newton Aycliffe when the Queen made her visit in 1960.

Beatrice was a Retail Manageress and for a while worked as an Avon Lady around the town.

The couple have a Son and two Grandsons. Fred Junior is in the music industry and lives with his wife and family in Newcastle.

The family came together for a family celebration and we join with them in wishing Fred and Beatrice many more happy years together.

**GREENFIELD SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY & ARTS COLLEGE**  
Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 7LF  
Tel: 01325 300378 - Fax: 01325 379058  
<http://greenfieldschool.net>



### BREAKFAST CLUB & LESSON SUPERVISORS

Scale point 12 scale 2

**TERM TIME - 22.5 hours per week**  
Spinal Point 12 - £15,029 / Pro rata term time £11,431  
To start ASAP

Greenfield wishes to appoint three Breakfast Club and Cover Lesson Supervisors.

Experience of working with 11-16 year olds is essential. Relevant qualifications are desirable although not essential (training will be addressed during a two week induction period).

Please contact Mrs Susan Mouyiassi on 01925 900379 or email [susan.mouyiassi@greenfieldschool.net](mailto:susan.mouyiassi@greenfieldschool.net) for further information and an application pack.

Application forms to be returned to: Mr. D. Priestley, Headteacher, Greenfield School Community & Arts College

**Closing Date: 14th January 2010**

## LETTER to the EDITOR MIND Maligned

Dear Sir  
I would like to correct some of the misconceptions published in your letter column about Newton Aycliffe Mind.

Kenneth Stubbs states that we are a branch of a large, well funded, national charity and implies we receive funding from national Mind.

The truth is that Mind is affiliated to national Mind, each "branch" is a separate charity, responsible for its own funding and running costs and receives no funds from the national organisation, Mr Stubbs is welcome to come and visit us in St Clare's Church if he wants to know more.

As for the over generous grant, Councillor Hogan neglected to mention the fact that the figure does not cover what Mind has invested in St Oswald's Old Pavilion, that the town council now has a building with superior facilities to the one

it leased to Mind 14 years ago and that the money, £10,000, awarded by the council will be used to improve facilities in St Clare's Church Hall for the benefit of all Newtonians, all of which I'm sure were factors in the Council's decision. Newton Aycliffe Mind has embarked on a new phase of its history at St Clare's Church; we aim to make it a successful one because the misery of poor mental health is a blight on too many and many more will be affected as they struggle to cope with the effects of the recession.

We have opened our doors and our hearts to those who are in pain, all we ask is that others do the same. Mind want to thank everyone at St Clare's for making us welcome and we invite anyone to call in and visit us in our new home.

Muriel Gordon, Manager

**MALE & FEMALE  
VIDEO PRESENTERS**

SELF EMPLOYED ON AN HOURLY BASIS

**PAY:** Hourly Rate + Expenses

**STUDIO:** based in Newton Aycliffe

**HOURS:** One Hour to Full Day Shoots

**DESCRIPTION:** Recite a short script to video for use on websites

Send a current CV and a recent photo to: [studio@allonthenet.com](mailto:studio@allonthenet.com)

Are you interested in a career as a **Home Care Worker**?

*Dale Care Ltd has been in operation since 1986 and is the largest private provider of home care currently operating in County Durham.*

**Salary: £6.30-£7.50 per hour + Mileage + NVQ Training**

**We are now recruiting in  
Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas**

### Dale Care Ltd

13 Hope Street, Crook,  
Co Durham, DL15 9HS

**The Dale Care Recruitment Line**

**Telephone: 01388 761 498**

or [recruitment@dalecare.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@dalecare.co.uk)

[www.dale-care.co.uk](http://www.dale-care.co.uk)



DALE CARE

## Tories Get Sums Wrong

Dear Sir,

I noticed the Tories proposed tax plan to cut Child Tax Credits for households on more than £50,000 per year in total, would raise only £45 million - not the £400 million they claimed it would.

To raise £400 million they would have to cut Child Tax Credits from couples earning as little as £16,000 each.

Can local Tories answer the following: Is this miscalculation simply a sign of the Tories lack of experience and inability to do their sums, or do they intend to remove Child Tax from lower earning couples?

Rita Taylor

Secretary

Sedgefield Labour Party

## Who Else Wants Guaranteed Body Transforming, Health Enhancing Life Changing Results Like This...



Patty lost 55lbs Of Body Fat and gained muscle tone in a few short Months ... Simply by following a Revolutionary New Weight loss System which is **PROVEN** and offers a **FULL MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!**



People all across the WORLD are getting life changing results from this **PROVEN** body transformation system.

### Advertiser News Reader Special Offer

Make 2010 the year you **FINALLY** get the body you always wanted.  
Call now and schedule a **FREE** fitness Consultation (£35.00 Value) And sign up for our **FAST TRACK** Program, **PLUS** learn how you can workout for **FREE!**

No Obligation Risk Free Consultation  
Special Offer expires in 7 Days  
Get Complete details at our website

### Bonus Download: **FREE** Report

Discover...

How to burn up to 9 times more fat in a workout.  
The **TRUTH** about **LONGTERM** Fat loss.  
Why 'diets' don't work.

[www.Fitness-Revolution.co.uk](http://www.Fitness-Revolution.co.uk)

**FREE Phone 0800 0488742 | 26-28 High Street, Spennymoor. Co Durham.**

**FIRST STOP  
PIZZERIA**  
**TELEPHONE**  
**01325 310943**

**OPEN: 4.30pm - Late**

### **SERVING**

Freshly Made Pizzas • Burgers  
Chicken • Donner Kebabs  
Parmessans • Garlic Bread

To all our loyal customers:  
**DURING DECEMBER AND JANUARY**  
**20% DISCOUNT ON ORDERS OVER £10\***  
only on request

See our full menu at  
[www.firststopfood.co.uk](http://www.firststopfood.co.uk)

**7 BRIGHOUSE COURT  
AYCLIFFE BUSINESS PARK  
TELEPHONE: 01325 310943**

\*not available with any meal deal



## LETTER to the EDITOR

### SBH FAILURE TO REPAIR DRAINPIPE CAUSES DAMP IN PRIVATE PROPERTIES

Dear Sir,  
A few weeks ago after a heavy downpour of rain we noticed the wallpaper in the corner of our living room peeling. Our home is part of four linked properties in Agnew, three are private and one is owned by Sedgfield Borough Homes. The SBH property is next to mine which is in the middle and another private house is behind. Any rainwater coming off our roofs run down the drainpipe on the SBH property and this is our complaint. This drainpipe is blocked so any rain runs down the walls and into the cavity wall insulation, making my living room wall damp. All three private homeowners have complained, but SBH will only talk to their tenant who told me yesterday that SBH admitted they had similar problems elsewhere.

It appears they are not going to take any action to sort out the problem and are leaving it to the homeowners. My wife and I suffer from lung related illnesses and are concerned the damp coming into our property will have an adverse effect on our health. If SBH will not accept responsibility for the blocked pipe we will consider legal proceedings for damage to health and property.  
A. Johnson  
229 Aldrid Place  
**ED: We contacted Sedgfield Borough Homes who issued the following response:**  
"We have spoken to Mr Johnson and assured him that the first we heard of this problem was when the repair was reported on Thursday, 17th December. The work was issued to Mears the next working day and we would normally expect the work to be carried out this week. However, I have explained that due to the extreme weather conditions and health and safety requirements the work may not be carried out in this time and Mr Johnson was happy with our response. Mr Johnson also confirms that he has not contacted our complaints team about this previously. I have asked Mr Johnson to contact us again if there are any further problems with the down pipes." SBH Spokesperson.

**AYCLIFFE EVANGELICAL CHURCH**  
Ladybower  
Signposted off Meadowfield Way  
Every Sunday  
Services at 10.30am and 6.30pm  
Everyone Welcome  
Tel: 07703 464971  
www.aycliffe-ec.org.uk

**1st 4 MOBILITY**  
FOR ALL YOUR MOBILITY NEEDS  
New and Used Scooters  
Free No Obligation Quote  
Scooters used from £249; new from £595  
Rise/Recliner Chairs used from £249; new from £549  
**Freephone 08000 375 980**  
Dave/Steve, 16 West Auckland Rd, Darlington  
Local Dealer and Aycliffe resident for 35 years

**CROXDALE FAST-FIT AUTO CENTRES**  
QUALITY SERVICE  
RENAULT VAUXHALL MG ROVER SEAT PEUGEOT FORD CITROEN HONDA SKODA BMW LANDROVER MAZDA TOYOTA VOLVO FIAT NISSAN  
Full Mechanical Repair Facilities  
Fast becoming the North East's favourite choice for all your motoring requirements  
UP TO 1.0 Ltr. (Mineral Oil) £14.95 INC VAT  
Inc. Parts & Labour £29.95 INC VAT  
OIL & FILTER CHANGE BRAKE PADS  
MAJOR SERVICE  
PRICES INCLUDE OIL & FILTER (mineral oil) PLUGS, AIR FILTER PLUS: OVER 50 CHECKS AND ADJUSTMENTS CARRIED OUT FOR TURBOS, DIESELS AND VEHICLES OVER 2201cc PLEASE  
FROM £95.00 1801cc - 2200cc  
FROM £85.00 1001cc - 1800cc  
FROM £75.00 UP TO 1000cc  
MIDDLESBROUGH 01642 318111 DARLINGTON 01325 389000 CHESTER-LE-STREET 0191 3874444 CONSETT 01207 507777  
GATESHEAD 0191 4787222 NEWTON AYCLIFFE 01325 321122 CROXDALE DURHAM 01388 814062

## BIKERS COLLECTION FOR HOSPITAL & WOMEN'S REFUGE



Sunday 13th December saw the latest annual Aycliffe Bike Club Charity Toy Run event. Throughout the year, in conjunction with The Turbinia Pub and its' Ladies Darts Section, the club raises money for local causes. This year we chose the children's wards of Darlington and Bishop Auckland Hospitals and local Women's Refuge locations to provide a much needed boost to those less fortunate. Over 30 bikes, including some members of the local Wanderers Motorcycle Club, left the Turbinia with support vans from Dave, Rob & Julie, and set off on a circuit of local pubs to collect new toys that had been donated by customers. Support was also received from Burnhill Way Methodist Church and local businessman Ian Cowey of USAB Co. Ltd. The generosity of local publicans and their customers was overwhelming. As well as the Ladies Darts Section, who donated £300, a very generous donation of £500 was received from 'Honest John' and our heartfelt thanks go out to them for their continued support. As you can see in the picture, we also had the support once again from Martin Norris and The Blazing Squad party fire engine. This was a huge attraction at all the venues on route and our thanks extend to Martin and his team. In total, we were able to donate close to £2500 worth of toys to those

charities, which in these tough times is a staggering amount. We would like to thank the following Pubs and their staff and customers for making this a hugely successful year: The Turbinia, The Locomotion (Heighington), The Dog Inn (Heighington), Wear View Café (Toft Hill), The Victoria (Witton Le Wear), Bay Horse (Bp Auckland), Manor House (Ferryhill), Half Moon (Kirk Merrington), The Ship (Middleston), Elm Rd WMC (Shildon), Bay Horse (Middridge), and the Huntsman (Woodham). If anyone is interested in joining Aycliffe Bike Club we

meet at the Turbinia on the first Sunday in the month at 1pm and the next meeting is Sunday 3rd Jan 2010. Our members have bikes of all kinds from scooters to hyper-bikes and everything in-between. When the weather improves we organise ride-outs during the weeknights, weekends and also attend rallies and other events with other motorcycle clubs. If you need any more information call at the Turbinia anytime as there will probably be one of our members propping up the bar or talk to Gary Soakell, owner of the Turbinia, on 319700

## STAGECOACH COMES TO ROBIN'S RESCUE

Local children are showing real talent through their performance in Bishop Auckland Theatre Society's production Robin Hood .... oh yes they are! Bishop Auckland Theatre Society used to have a strong youth section however the number of young people in the Society has fallen in recent years. It was therefore necessary to look to Stagecoach, a local performing arts school, for young talent to be involved with the Society's next pantomime. Stagecoach Bishop Auckland's Principal, Kate Ruddick, set up her Bishop Auckland franchise at King James I Community College over 5 years ago having already worked in other Stagecoach Schools as a teacher for ten years. Pantomime director Rob Berry said "this is a great way for us to engage with local children. Their quality individual and group performances have really

brought the pantomime to life". I hope as many people as possible take up the chance to see the show before it's too late - and with tickets at just £7 each, there's no excuse for staying at home!" Kate believes that the students at Bishop Auckland have been the best she has taught at any school, many of whom have been successful in securing leading parts in famous musical productions such as Oliver and Annie. "We have a number of committed, focused and talented young people at Stagecoach. This pantomime is a fantastic opportunity for local children to use their theatrical skills in a fun and creative environment" said Kate. Robin Hood is on at the Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland Town Hall, from Wednesday 13th - Saturday 16th January. Telephone bookings can be made on 01388 604351.

### 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.

<b>CHILDREN WITH AIDS</b>	£20
Peter and Maureen Wood (ex Newtonians) retired to Kenya 2 years ago and joined the local Rotary Club. One of the major projects for the club is helping children orphaned by AIDS (accommodation, medication and food).	
<b>EDUCATE AN ORPHAN</b>	£20
For £20 per year an Orphan girl is given school supplies and a uniform.	
<b>MOSQUITO NETS</b>	£2
Malaria is a killer if not treated properly, mosquito nets are good prevention.	
<b>PROSTHETIC LIMBS</b>	£20
The Jaipur Clinic provides prosthetic limbs for children as well as therapy and accommodation during rehabilitation and the fitting of the new limbs.	
<b>POLIOPLUS</b>	£1
Vaccinate a child against this crippling disease.	
<b>CATARACT OPERATION</b>	£17
Restore sight to a child/elderly person with a cataract operation.	
<b>BUY A GOAT</b>	£15
A goat will provide milk for a whole family and can be used for breeding.	
<b>FRESH WATER</b>	£10
To provide a fresh water well for a small village.	
<b>EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES</b>	£5
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?

Visit Newton News Advertising site for details: [www.newtonnewsads.co.uk](http://www.newtonnewsads.co.uk)

### 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



## LETTER Councillors Get the Job Done!

Dear Sir,  
I wish to thank Councillors Dixon and Iveson for their help in getting a parking bay in Peace Way. It was very dangerous the way it was, but now we can unload our groceries and get in and out of our cars without the worry of being knocked down. There is another bay further down the street, but it was too far to carry groceries, especially if you are infirm or disabled. It is also more convenient for ambulances and other service vehicles to get to the bungalows. It is nice to know our requests are observed and I would like to thank the men for the excellent work carried out with minimum inconvenience. Delia Stout.



# CHILDREN IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE AT RISK says N.S.P.C.C.

Children in Newton Aycliffe could be left at serious risk of harm over the holidays because people are less likely to report abuse over the festive season, the NSPCC warns today.

The charity is reminding the public that the NSPCC helpline - 0800 800 5000 - is available 24/7, 365 days a year. As families gather for a prolonged period, the reminder is timely that support is at hand for people that are experiencing family tensions and have concerns about a child, be it within their own family or in the local neighbourhood. Help is also at hand as well for adults who may have concerns

about their own behaviour.

Almost 65,000 people throughout England, including worried individuals from Newton Aycliffe, called the NSPCC Helpline last year with concerns about a child. This works out as an average of 178 each day. However, over the Christmas period calls started to drop and on Christmas Day 2008 only 63 calls were received.

John Cameron, Head of the Helpline which is open 24 hours a day all year, said: "Some children don't get a Christmas break from cruelty. It can happen at any time, any

day. But people seem reluctant to report cases of abuse and neglect at this time of year, possibly because they see it as a happy occasion and don't want to spoil it.

"However, this means some children could be left in dangerous situations when help should be on its way. Hopefully this year people will realise that a child's safety is more important and give us a call. We are here round-the-clock, 365 days a year." Last Christmas many of the calls were about children being physically and sexually assaulted or being badly

neglected. Six calls from across the North East were serious enough to need immediate police or social services help.

One caller rang on Christmas Day to report a family of three young children who were often missing school and slept on bare beds. When the counsellor alerted social services it was discovered the youngsters, aged, five, seven and nine, had walked over a mile to their grandparents for Christmas dinner because there was no food in their own house. The children eventually went to live with other relatives while their mother underwent treatment for a drink problem. The NSPCC aims to raise £50m for its Child's Voice Appeal over three years to expand the Helpline and ChildLine.

## AYCLIFFE XMAS FACTOR



Aycliffe got the Xmas Factor when Aycliffe Care Home's staff and friends put on a show for the residents.

It was an afternoon of dancing, singing and laughing. Can we say a big thank you to all those who took part and a very big thank you to Neil and Ann for coming and lending us their equipment.

The winner of the Xmas Factor 2009 was Heather Taylor as Dame Shirley Bassey and the runners up were Ray Pattison and Bradley Bialek.

## Medals for Local Swimmers

Swimmers from Sedgefield 75 Swimming Club have once again come away from a major championship with a haul of medals. Earlier in November, Caroline Saxby, Philip Hodgson and Kyle Boyek came away from the North Eastern Regional Short course championships at Freemans Quay, Durham with 4 medals after a good weekends swimming.

Caroline won a silver medal in the 100m, 200m and 400m freestyle. Philip finished 3rd in the 400m freestyle and 6th in both the 100m freestyle and 400m Individual Medley. Kyle Boyek finished 4th in the 100m breaststroke and 5th in the 50m freestyle.

Two of our younger swimmers competed last weekend in their Regional Short Course championships at the Aquatic Centre, Sunderland. Sam Dixon finished 2nd in the 100m freestyle and swam personal best times in 5 out of 6 of his swims and Hannah Featherstone finished 2nd in the 200m freestyle and 3rd in the 100m freestyle and also managed to swim personal best times in 4 of her 6 swims.

## Plumbing

### mpm.gas-services

**CENTRAL HEATING SPECIALISTS**  
• Condensing boilers supplied & installed by Vaillant Accredited Installer  
• Boiler upgrades and complete systems  
• All domestic gas and plumbing work carried out  
• All work guaranteed and references on request - Grants Available  
**01325 312271 CONTACT MATTY 07966 438037**

### W. HEATHCOTE PLUMBING & HEATING

Time served tradesman, 35 years experience  
Heating Systems installed and Repaired  
Boiler Replacements - Gas Safe Registered  
Bathrooms & Tiling - CALL OUT SERVICE  
Book your winter service now  
**Tel: 01325 307052**  
**Mob: 07595 051717**

### BA PLUMBING SERVICES

No Job Too Small  
24 Hour Call Out - No Call Out Charge  
• Repairs •  
• Bathrooms Supplied and Fitted •  
• Radiators Replaced - All Work Guaranteed •  
**CALL BRIAN**  
**01325 320798 or 07903 834523**

### FINEST HEATING & PLUMBING

For all your heating and plumbing needs  
• Gas servicing and repair  
• Combi boiler and heating installation  
• Bathrooms and shower installations  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED  
Ring Kevin Mather  
**01325 311446 or 07793 973 280**

### HEAT

24 Hour Call-out  
Plumbing, Heating and Gas Service Engineers

Free Estimates, Bathrooms & Tiling. All Work Guaranteed  
Ring John Nellis on  
**01325 358596**  
Mobile 07931 591381

### WATERWAYS

PLUMBING SERVICES  
www.waterways.talktalk.net  
• Bathroom Design/Installation  
• All plumbing work undertaken  
• Installation • Tiling  
• Repairs  
• No call out charge  
• FREE Quotes • Power Flushing

For a fast, friendly, reliable service, call Jason on  
**01325 301808**  
**07963 358338**  
waterways@talktalk.net

For all your printing requirements  
Newton Press 300212

### A-TECH Plumbing & Heating

Showers - Bathrooms - Kitchens  
All Plumbing Work Undertaken  
(inc. tiling, flooring & electrical)  
No job too big or too small  
Emergency Call outs  
OAP Rates  
Free Estimates  
**NO CALL OUT CHARGE**  
For Quality, Reliability & a Fast Friendly Service  
Call Craig on  
**07834 949 751**  
atechplumber@yahoo.co.uk

PLUMBING work undertaken.  
Tel A.J. Plumbing Services.  
01715 359774 or 07711 016959

### Gem's Plumbing

Plumbing, Landscaping, Electrical (Part P Approved)  
Painting & Decorating  
Tiling and Gardening  
No Call Out Charge  
Reliable Service  
Free Quotations  
Fast Response  
Any questions please call  
**Danny 319052**  
**or 07838 743869**

### ACORN Plumbing & Heating

Central Heating  
Boiler Conversions  
Bathroom Suits  
General Plumbing  
No Job Too Small  
Tel: 314955 or 320409  
Mobile: 07795 500593

### Guy Gas Services

Combi Boiler Installer  
Boiler Installations  
Servicing - Repairs  
General Plumbing  
Gas Fires  
For all Gas & Central Heating Enquiries  
**01325 304349**  
**07962 148116**

### Telecom

TELEPHONE MAN, Dave  
Bowers. Extensions fitted for phones, Sky, Broadband and internet. Extension lines moved and repaired. All jobs only £40 each. 01395 933929

### Locksmiths

SHILDON Locksmiths, reasonable rates. Tel 07749 044909  
For all your print requirements  
Newton Press 300212

### BENNETT'S APPLIANCE REPAIRS

ALL MAKES OF WASHERS  
TUMBLERS, MICROWAVES  
DISHWASHERS  
VACUUM CLEANERS  
FRIDGE/FREEZERS  
COOKERS  
• Free Estimates  
• No Call Out Charge  
• Appliances Plumbed In  
**Telephone: 321756**

### ALL CLEAN

Carpet & Upholstery  
Cleaning Specialists  
Car, Caravan, Leather  
Cleaning, Fully Insured.  
For free estimate call Alan  
**01325 360675**  
**07836 352 630**

### HANDYMAN SERVICES

Guttering Cleaned  
and Repaired  
Painting, Gardening  
and Odd Jobs  
NO JOB TOO SMALL  
**01325 320 506**  
**07599 789 045**

CARPET FITTER and Vinyl  
Specialist. Contact Richard on  
079933 or 07946 493 177  
WENDYS Star cleaning  
services. Domestic and  
commercial cleaning. For a free  
estimate please contact Wendy  
Wood on 07969 070 022

### AYCLIFFE CLEANING SERVICES

Carpet, upholstery, drives, paths, patios, decking, guttering cleaned, roof, Domestic and Commercial. Equipment for Hire. Tel 01725 717087 or 07595 697115

SERVICES. House, garage clearance, rubbish removal by licensed carrier. Tel 07949 507 956

LORAINES IRONING  
Reasonable rates and very reliable... Free Collection and delivery! Smoke & pet free environment! Tel: 01725 708017, Mob: 07852 169 161, Email: lps156@tiscali.co.uk

LIZ'S IRONING, free collection and drop off next day. Smoke and pet free home. 724 978 or 07966 265 829

JW NORTH EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE. Property Maintenance, Guttering Cleared, uPVC & Conservatories Cleaned, Painting, Tiling, Joinery, Polishing, Brickwork, Gardening Services and More. Tel 01725 304206 or 07950 072689  
JACKY'S Housework Services. All housework considered. Competitive Rates. Tel 01789 609 266 or 07597 400 760

## Home Services

### StainKleen

Professional Cleaning Services for Carpets, Rugs, Suites  
Valet Service - All Vehicles  
Leather Cleaning - Fully Insured  
**Tel Paul on 01325 310950**  
Mobile: 07817 573 604 - Web: www.stainkleen.com

### THE A & R ELECTRICS GROUP DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Indesit Hoover dyson Electrolux  
Spares Hotline 01388 778556  
QUARTER OF A MILLION SPARES IN STOCK TODAY  
DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS  
All Makes and Models Repaired & Serviced  
R. A. ALLSOPP (proprietor)  
1000s of DIY spares available Mail Order  
After 6pm & Weekend Calls available  
Covering the North East of England

**TEL: 01388 777353**  
**T G FRANCIS**  
DOMESTIC  
APPLIANCE REPAIRS  
Telephone 300542

### WASHING MACHINE REPAIRS

No Call  
Out Charges  
Free Estimates  
**01325 320747**

### Prince's Valeting & Cleaning Services

A professional valeting service for any vehicle we come to complete, carvans and petrol etc.  
No job too big or small  
We come to you  
www.princesvaleting.com  
Phone for a no obligation quote  
**07542 085695**

### RE-UPHOLSTERY

Suites and Chairs  
New Foams & Springs  
Large Pattern Range  
Free Estimates & Advice  
**TEL: 01740 655908**  
After hours 01325 313584  
**NEWAVE FURNITURE**

MODERN DESIGN  
INTERIORS Quality bedrooms and kitchens. Free home quotation. 3D Design, kitchen revamp service available. Tel 719119

### Electrical

FREE QUOTES from Part P/ NICEIC registered electricians with 20 years experience. Domestic or commercial, full or part rewires, sockets, lights, fuse boards, cookers, showers, Landlord inspections and more. Call Simon on 07966 266 657 or 713770 - all areas covered  
ELECTRICIAN 25 years experience. Tel A.J. Electrical Services. 01715 359774 or 07711 016959

### ABTEC Electrical and Plumbing & Heating

• Rewires  
• Sockets  
• Showers  
• Extensions  
• Lighting  
• Safety Inspections  
• Electric Cookers  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week  
Evenings by appointment  
7 Day Emergency Call Out  
RING NEIL ON  
**01325 384065**  
Mob: 07919 215 959  
a.b.tec@btinternet.com

### Joinery

LAMPTON JOINERY  
Kitchens and bedrooms fitted, doors, skirting, dado rails, laminate floors, general joinery. No job too small. Call for free estimates. Tel 07959 755437  
ANDERSON Building & Joinery Services. All Building & Joinery Work Undertaken. Windows, Doors, Skirting, Flooring, Decking, Tiling, Bedrooms & Kitchens Installation. Please for a free no obligation quotation. Tel: 07914 111 717

H&H JOINERY & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE  
All aspects of Joinery Work & Flooring, Painting and Tiling, Guttering, Fascia, Cladding, Painting and Sealing  
Tel: 01325 317172  
Mobile: 07769 907173

C SMILLIE  
JOINERY SERVICES  
24 HRS - 7 Day Service  
All aspects of Joinery Work & Flooring, Painting and Tiling, Guttering, Fascia, Cladding, Painting and Sealing  
Tel: 01325 317172  
Mobile: 07769 907173

### ABC Joinery

Kitchens, Bedrooms, Laminate Flooring, Staircases, Doors & Fencing  
All joinery work undertaken  
Time served tradesman  
Quality work guaranteed  
**01325 316683**  
07950 681195

### IMPERIAL JOINERY

For all Property Improvements  
Internal & External Doors Windows  
Replacement Kitchen Doors  
PVCs Doors and Windows  
Skirting, Staircase Bannisters  
Kitchen/Bathroom Units Fitted  
Free Surveys and Estimates  
Call John the Joiner  
Tel: 01325 317929  
Mobile 07771 571 284



*T.V. and Video*

**AYCLIFFE T.V. & VIDEO SERVICES**  
**RE-TUNE TO ALL T.V.'S & VIDEOS**  
**REPAIRS TO T.V., VIDEO, PLASMA and LCDs**  
**SPECIAL O.A.P. RATES - ALL WORK GUARANTEED**  
**No Call out Charge - FREE ESTIMATES**

**RING or BRING 300013**  
 UNIT 3, AERIAL HOUSE next to Council Offices  
 School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe

**WANT A GOOD TV PICTURE**  
**Get An Aerial From Dave Naylor**

**WHY ?**  
**Because From Just £40 I Can Fit You One**  
**And You Know Its Done Right**

**307075 / 0800 594 44 94**  
**DND Option 2. Budget. Fully Guaranteed**

**S CRABTREE**  
**Digital Aerials Fitted**

**Your New Digital Aerial**  
**Fitted to 1 Room - £40**  
*No Hidden Charges*  
*No Extra For Cable Used*

**I WILL BEAT ANY**  
**WRITTEN QUOTE**  
 Why not Network your  
 House and Tune In?  
 Ferryhill Based  
**07979 971 541**

*Storage*

**Storage to Let**  
*Within easy reach of*  
*Newton Aycliffe, Darlington*  
*and Bishop Auckland*  
**Various sizes available**  
 Weekly rates from  
 8'x8' lined £10.00  
 8'x20' containers £12.00  
*(Based on a year's rental,*  
*short term by negotiation)*  
 Storage and Removal  
 can be arranged  
**07834 349 021**

*Driving School*

**JACK'S DRIVING SCHOOL**  
*Established 1992 - Grade 6 ADI (highest achievable)*

**SPECIAL OFFER: £80 for your first five hours**  
 Discounts for Block Bookings  
**\*\* CHRISTMAS GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE \*\***  
**Motorway Lessons - Pass Plus - Taxi Test**

**\* BECOME A DRIVING INSTRUCTOR \***  
 ADI Training in your time, continue to work while you learn  
 Very competitive rates, job possibility when you qualify

**Telephone: Aycliffe 01325 320432**  
**Mobile: 07949 195184**

around the bend

first 5 for just **£65**

Friendly, Patient & Professional  
 Male & Female Instructors  
 Block Booking Discount  
 Mini Coopers & Clio  
 DSA Registered

**0800 316 36 33**  
 www.stuffing.co.uk

**INTENSIVE COURSE SPECIALIST**

**Tel: 07920 865780**  
 www.sureway-driver-training.co.uk

**SUREWAY**  
**DRIVER TRAINING**  
 1st 5 Hours **£50-**  
*\*\* Brand New Learners Only*

**NEW CLIO**  
**DUAL CONTROLLED**  
**AIR CONDITIONED**

**DIA**  
**DSA**  
 Driving Standards Agency

**• Block Booking Discount**  
**• Student Discount**  
**• Help with Theory Test**

**DAVE MASON DSA ADI**

**Graham Price**  
 School of Motoring  
 Aycliffe 311577  
 Grade 6 Instructor

For all your printing  
 requirements  
 Newton Press 300212

## NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE



Thanks to all who helped decorate our fifty Christmas Trees in readiness for the Santa Claus Grotto: Jim, Elsie, Norma and Maureen. Special thanks to our sponsors for the Extravaganza held before Christmas: Councillors Sarah Iveson and John Moran, Town Council, Bewick Crescent Surgery, B&Q, Tesco, Lidl, Wilkinsons, Mr & Mrs Twigger, Newton Aycliffe

Rotary Club and Sainsburys. We wish everyone a happy New Year and remind you activities for 2010 begin on 4th January. Thanks again to all who supported us in 2009 - you are brilliant!

## Builders

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

Extensions  
 Garages  
 Alterations  
 Modernisations  
 All Building Work  
 Undertaken  
 Quality Workmanship at  
 Fair Prices  
*Friendly Reliable Service*  
 All Work Fully Guaranteed

**01325 321334**  
 After hours  
**07831 664290**

**Jeff Horsley**  
*25 years experience*  
 Full Build of Extensions  
 Porches, Garages,  
 Garden Walls, Patios,  
 Concreting and Re-Pointing  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
 Guaranteed Quality Workmanship  
**Tel: 01325 313939**  
**or 07970 869967**

**ELDON HOPE**  
**BUILDING**  
**MATERIALS**  
 Old Eldon  
 01388 775261/07966 067522  
 www.eldonhope.co.uk  
**ROCKSALT**  
 £98.00 + VAT for 850kg  
 £3.60 + VAT for 25kg  
*Get Ready for Winter*  
*Same Day/Next Day Delivery*

**K. PEGLER**  
**PLASTERING**  
 Plastering, Coving & Ceramic Tiling  
 All work undertaken, interior and  
 exterior by time served tradesmen  
 40 years established  
 DECORATING  
 Re-skin over Artex  
 Ceilings & Walls from £30  
**01325 321887**  
**07534 036109**

HOUSE PLANS, Extensions  
 and Alterations Tel: 01325  
 307640 / 07795 965670  
**BILL LOWERY (Builder)**  
 Brick laying, plastering, joinery  
 etc. No job too small. Tel 01325  
 311 225

**ASPECTS**  
**Property Maintenance**  
*\* Interior Alterations*  
*\* Plastering, Tiling, Decorating*  
*\* Kitchen, Bathroom, Bedroom*  
*\* Patios and all types of flooring*  
*\* Insurance work welcome*  
 Free estimates  
 Guaranteed Quality Work  
**Tel: 312441**  
 Mobile 07841 202 222

## FURNITURE SCHEME TO EXPAND

The County Durham Furniture Help Scheme will be closed from 12 noon on 24th December 2009 until the 4th January 2010. The Scheme expresses thanks to all our helpers, donors and customers for their support and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Watch out for our expansion plans in the New Year. A Registered charity to relieve poverty by the provision of a furniture and household goods recycling service to those people resident in County Durham who are in necessitous circumstances. Please visit www.cdfhs.co.uk - for more details. Unit 20 Avenue 3 Chilton Industrial Estate 01388-721509 info@cdfhs.co.uk

## Roofing

**J. WATSON** *Property Services*  
**We specialise in Flat Roof Replacement and Flat to Pitch Roof Conversions**  
 Chimney Stacks - Slating - Ridge Tiles Replaced - Tiling - Flat Roofs  
 Pointing - UPVC Facias and Soffits - Guttering - Leadwork  
 Storm Damage - Velux Windows - Recommendations Available  
**For a Free Estimate Contact James Watson**  
**01325 486099 - or 07799 426110**  
 www.1stcalljwps.co.uk

**24 Hour Emergency Roofing Service**  
 All types of Roofing Repairs:  
 Slates, New Roofs, Tiles, Flat Roofs, Pointing, Guttering,  
 uPVC Fascias and Soffits, Insurance Work Welcome  
**R.A.D. ROOFING CONTRACTORS**  
**Office 01388 818286**  
**Mobile 07502 187578**

**Minster Plastics**  
**Roofing Contractors**  
 All types of roofs: Flat, New, Slate & Tiling  
 Insurance Work Welcome  
 uPVC Fascias, Soffits and Guttering  
**Tel 01388 450527**  
**or 07775 986592**

## Gardening

**HARRY THOMPSON**  
 Fences made to order, repair service, hedges removed. Free estimates Tel 316572 or 07713 257929  
**HIGHSIDE Road Nursery**  
 Heighington. Fencing Panels: 6'x6' £12, 6'x5' £11, 6'x4' £10, 6'x3' £9. Trellis 6'x4' £7, 6'x3' £5.50, 6'x2' £4, 6'x1' £2.50. Tel 316487 or 07809 028310  
**MARTIN SHIRES** garden Landscaping Services Block Paving Specialists. Fencing, Decking, Patios, Walls, Turfing, Hedges. Quality guaranteed work. Tel 321891  
**JW NORTH EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE.** All gardening services undertaken, fencing, decking, paving, block paving etc. Tel 01325 304206 or 07950 672689  
**ALPINE LANDSCAPES.** Patios, Driveways, Fencing, Decking, Gravel, Turfing, Walls. All work guaranteed. 16 years experience, professional advice. www.alpinelandscapes.co.uk - contact Alan on 01325 310128 or 07974 710 351

**GREENKEEPER**  
**LANDSCAPES**  
 Phil Thompson  
 Professional Landscaper  
 with over 20 years experience  
 All aspects of horticultural and tree work carried out.  
 Patios, blockpaving specialist  
 Hedges cut and trimmed  
 Fencing, Decking & Turfing  
 Grasscutting service (cheap rates)  
**Tel: 01325 308432**  
**Mobile: 07765 374 905**

**ANDREWS**  
 Landscaping and Gardening Services  
 Fencing, Patios,  
 Turfing, Walling,  
 Ironwork, Decking,  
 Grass Cutting,  
 Maintenance,  
 Gravelling etc.  
*All work guaranteed*  
**01325 316398**  
**07817 543677**  
 andrews\_d\_landscaping@hotmail.com

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

## TOP 20 FAMILY ARGUMENTS

- Household chores
- Treating the house like a hotel
- Taking each other for granted
- Being unable to find something in the house
- What to watch on TV
- Whose turn it is to wash up
- Whose turn it is to go on the computer
- The cost of the telephone bill
- Loud music
- Homework
- Constantly being asked for money
- Bad driving
- Where the remote control is
- What to have for tea
- Putting an empty juice/milk carton back in the fridge
- What time the children should go to bed
- Never ending sport on TV
- People spending too long in the bathroom
- What time teenagers should be back
- Who should empty the dishwasher

## WARNING TO BIG DOG OWNER

Dear Sir,  
 To the large dog who takes its owner walking without a collar or lead and leaves its mess all over the area of Sanderson Close, Bousfield Crescent, Elstob Close and Villiers Place. Be warned cameras are watching you and photos will be sent to Enforcement Officers at the County Council. You will then receive a fine for £70. Watching, Name & address supplied.

**Premier Events Promotions Ltd**  
**Specialists In Event & Hospitality Packages**

**METRO ARENA EVENTS**  
 Rihanna £60 - Peter Kay £60 - Westlife £60  
 JLS £55 - X-Factor £50 - Cirque Du Soleil £70

**UK CONCERTS**  
 Green Day (Manchester) £79.99  
 Muse (Manchester) £79.99 - Pink (Bolton) £74.99  
 Ben Jovi (London) £149.99  
 V Festival (Stafford) £225  
 Leeds Festival £225  
*Festival Tickets are Weekend Camping Tickets*

**SPORTS**  
 Scotland v England 6 Nations £129  
 York Races £90 - Cheltenham Festival £59  
 Grand National £45

**All Prices Include Coach Travel/Event Ticket**  
 To book or enquire about any event please call  
**07588 414408**  
 premeventpromos@aol.co.uk  
 all major credit and debit cards accepted  
 Company Number 0781812

## Decorating

**P & B HOME SERVICES**  
 Painting & Decorating

**TELEPHONE: 01325 308483**  
**MOBILE TEL: 07799 166 555**

**STEVE HUTCHINSON**  
 Painter and Decorator. over 25 years experience, reasonable rates, no job too small. Call today for a free estimate: 01325 483697 or 07745 037754  
**C. A. PLASTERERS** all plastering work, artex skimmed, small jobs, free estimates, 01388 721206  
**PAINTER** and decorator, over 30 years experience, free estimates. Tel Steve Pearson on 319862 & 07896 917880  
**A&T TILING** Wall and floor tiling, professional service at competitive rates. Free estimates. Tony 07858 755437  
**G.B.** Plastering, coving, rendering, artexing, free estimates Tel 07786 121 686.  
**ASPECTS** Interior and exterior decorating, plastering, coving, tiling, paper hanging, artexing, dado rails. For a free estimate 312441 or 07841 202222

**PREMIER**  
**PLASTERING**  
*"Plastering to Perfection"*  
**07773 180 007**

## Removals

**WOODHAM**  
**REMOVALS**  
**01325 313352**  
**07547 433801**

**RAPID REMOVALS** and Storage Tel: 308580 or 07871 795 155  
**"U" STORE** containers, domestic and industrial storage 317716, 07850 646 355  
**ACORN REMOVALS** Full house, part load or single items, local and national, Storage available. Tel 300557, Mobile: 0777 989 0006  
**MOVING A THING?** Call Phil from £9.50ph. 321084 or 07790 509925  
**VANMAN STEVE** Removals, call 07866 622243  
**ANYTHING** to move? Call Vanman Steve from £8. Tel 07866 622243  
**CHEAP LIGHT** Removals. Contact the man with the van on 07799 615959  
**AYCLIFFE REMOVALS** Deliveries and Removals, Washing Machines removed free of charge, storage available, house clearances. For details ring 01325 316799 or 07723 867350

**G. CROSSEN**  
 Painter & Decorator  
**304447 - 07981 218 583**

**1st Stop Decor & Tiling**  
*Established 1983*  
**Your one stop for all Interior and Exterior Decorating & Tiling**  
 Be assured you are getting a tradesman at a very competitive rate with over 20 years experience. All work guaranteed and insured. We will beat any genuine decorators quote. You can also obtain our 10% discount card from Tesco's business card section  
**Please call for FREE estimate**  
**Tel 01325 301633**  
**Mobile 07960 913 401**  
 www.firststopdecor.co.uk

For all your print requirements  
 contact your local printer  
**NEWTON PRESS**  
**Tel: 01325 300212**



## KARAOKE AT THE TURBINIA

**Fridays from 8.30pm**  
**Sundays from 6pm**  
**& NEW YEARS EVE**  
**25,000 TRACKS**

Come and try our new state of the art computer controlled system featuring 22000 tracks and professional sound equipment

### DRINKS PROMOTIONS

JAGERMEISTER chilled to -18°C  
3 x jager-bombs & energy drink = £7  
House Doubles £3 inc. ockellmon, etc  
Vodka / Gin / Whisky / White Rum  
"Probably Aycliffe's Best Karaoke"

www.turbiniapub.co.uk

319700

## DARLO OFFER CHEAP TICKETS!

Darlington fans can still take advantage of the club's Christmas Ticket initiative after Saturday's game against Northampton was postponed.

The Quakers were offering cut-price Christmas tickets over the festive period in a bid to boost crowds for three key games at the Northern Echo Arena.

The three-game ticket included their home tie with Northampton Town which was postponed.

It means supporters can still take advantage of the offer, with the price-busting Christmas Ticket made available for the games against Lincoln on December 28, Port Vale on January 2 and now Aldershot on January 16. Current Christmas Ticket holders who can't make the re-arranged Northampton date of January 26 can also swap that game for the Aldershot match.

The deal gives season ticket holders the chance to buy one ticket for the three games for friends or family for just £30, a saving of £24 per person on matchday prices, while 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.

It also 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 £5.

The Christmas Ticket package is available from the ticket office at the Northern Echo Arena or the Cornmill Centre, or call the ticket office on 0871 855 1883.

## COUNCILLORS SHOULD PUT COMPASSION BEFORE MONEY

Dear Sir,  
It is often discussed about what has happened to people's respect for one another. I for one truly believe that you should always lead by example and treat people on how you would like to be treated yourself.

With this in mind I find it unbelievable that Durham County Council can once again put Shafto House's future in the balance for the third time in as many years.

The decision to move into a Care Home is not taken lightly

and many having no choice because of the need of 24 hour care or the loss of a loved one. Some also will have to sell their loved family homes to pay for their care, adding to the distress. Anyone who has moved house knows how stressful this can be at any age never mind later in life.

In Shafto House the residents have security and stability with most of the staff working hard there for many years. Family members have peace of mind that their loved ones are well looked after in a professional manner, knowing that they are receiving balanced daily meals and friendship.

If this Council has any heart they should think of the residents first and the caring staff who work there, before they entertain any ideas of the value on the land which the care home stands, because sadly it will always come down to money and not compassion. If Shafto House was to close it will be a huge loss for the people of Newton Aycliffe. Miss Toni Hudson, Sheraton Road.

**NEWTON PRESS**  
for all your printing requirements  
01325 300212

### Property Wanted

**WANTED** 2 or 3 bedroom house in local area to rent and/or buy. Please call Telle on 07971 178150

**WANTED** 2 BEDROOM house, old part of town, needed now. 07956 340676

### Weddings

**BEAUFORDS**, Daimler limousines, Rolls Royce's, Mercedes and Jaguars available for weddings, anniversaries and special occasions. Tel 01740 620147 (Sedgefield), 07721 771 117 or visit our website on: www.darhamweddingcars.co.uk

### Public Notice

**WATCH BATTERIES** now available at Taylors Newforce. **DONATIONS** needed of Brion-Brio and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring John 310030. **RSPCA** Durham and District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccinations, also neutering and is cheap. Please Tel 311215

### Personal

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

**SAMARITANS** - 17 Woodland Road, Darlington. We are here for you 24 hours a day. Telephone 08457 90 90 90

### Autos

**Stigs Motor Factors**  
Unit 4 Whitworth Avenue  
Gile, Wipers, Filters, Brakes, Clutches, Suspension, Additives, Car Care, Bikes, Batteries, Anti Freeze, Bearings + more. Insurance from £29.99  
Free Delivery (10 mile radius)  
Full Recovery/Transport Tel 07960 216079  
Cash Given for Scrap Cars Reasonable  
Open 7 Days a week  
**TELEPHONE: 316566**

**WANTED - £50** for any complete vehicle, Cars, Vans, Motorcycles, HGVs, Motobikes, Scoop Cars, anything - Ring for a quote  
**FREE COLLECTION**  
Motorcycles wanted, dead or alive  
**Tel: 01325 300880**  
After hours 07980 712799

## TOP TIPS FOR WINTER DRIVING

As chaos continues on the roads safety experts have called on motorists to take more care to avoid being one of thousands of accidents that will clog the roads, and cost billions in lost productivity and extra insurance claims.

Accidents rise as people struggle to know how to drive in difficult conditions. Drivers are having to cope with any combination of deep snow, ice, localized flooding and excessive surface water. As a result of the poor driving by many and the impaired performance of conventional tyres at lower temperatures tens of thousands are heading for a prang or more serious collision.

Guy Frobisher, head of road safety for Continental said: "Every winter we have problems because motorists are poorly equipped to cope. Many of us still refuse to slow down and leave greater distance to the vehicle in front."

"We have a mix of snow, ice and excess water and all of these conditions combined with low temperatures will reduce the performance of conventional tyres and create the misery of an accident that could be avoided".

The number of road accidents is six times higher in winter than the rest of the year as a result of road conditions and plummeting temperatures. Drivers are being urged to make the switch to cold weather tyres as in other parts in Europe.

"If UK road users were on cold weather tyres we would not have seen as many problems as we have had with the enormous cost to the economy that represents."

Much of our road network is at capacity so any disruption has a disproportionate effect and means the kind of chaos we are seeing now".

Across Europe drivers will switch to cold weather tyres to combat the combination of poor conditions and freezing temperatures. The rubber compound in cold weather tyres is designed to perform better below seven degrees Celsius.

Tyres remain supple thanks to a softer and cold-resistant rubber compound. The special tread pattern also adds to reduce the braking distance. At just 20 mph on an icy road a car with conventional tyres will come to a standstill after 68 metres, some 11 metres -

or over two car lengths - more than a car fitted with cold weather tyres.

Even as snow and ice melts road users will face problems and the risk of aquaplaning. At 62 mph on a wet road with temperatures below seven degrees Celsius the stopping distance on conventional tyres is five metres more than with cold weather tyres fitted - more than the length of a car and potentially the difference between stopping safely or an accident.

Continental also recommend the following checklist:

- **Visibility is vital.** Keep your windscreen and windows clear
- **Check your lights** are

clean and working

- **Reduce your speed** on slippery surfaces and avoid harsh braking or acceleration
- **At low speeds** use second rather than first gear to avoid starting to spin the wheels and gently apply and lift the clutch to allow safer engine braking without the need to step on the brakes
- **Increase the distance** between you and the vehicle in front - in rain, ice and snow leave enough space to stop safely
- **Allow up to ten times** the normal braking distance, especially on motorways

## Well Done Ladies



On behalf of Woodham Village Community Centre's Committee, Chairman Joan Gray presented flowers to Betty Henderson, Margaret Leighton and Wyn Lydon (not available for the photograph).

This was in recognition of their hard work for the last 21 years in staging the weekly Tea Dance every Friday from 2pm to 4pm.

"It is down to the efforts of unsung volunteers like these ladies that many Community activities take place. May I thank all the many users of our Community Centre over the last year for their participation. We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year," said Joan.

## LETTER to the EDITOR

### Vicar Wanted Christian Worship at Toddler Group Session

Dear Sir,  
Lily and I, after a lot of thought, reluctantly closed the Toddler Group at St. Clare's Church as we didn't have much choice!

Rev. Potter had on more than one occasion asked to bring prayers and religion into the group, but we did not agree as we have a large mix of children with different religious backgrounds. It would be unfair to ask these children to take part in Christian worship.

We started the group with no funds, raiding our children's toy cupboards and paying for everything out of our own pockets.

The previous Rector, Rev. Broad, told us it was our group to run as we saw fit and not to worry about insurance as the Church was covered.

When we told Rev. Potter that we could not include religion she said we would have to be declared "independent" and the rent would be raised.

She misled you on the figure which is actually going to be £400 per year or £10 a week, not the £3.75p per hour. The insurance would be another £65 per year.

Some weeks we barely take an amount to cover our costs

and the organisers pay for refreshments themselves to provide this service to children.

We don't supply Birthday Cakes as the parents and carers bring those, but we have given treats to the children.

The new rent was to be payable from 2010 not 2011 as stated by Rev. Potter and if she is so concerned about the group closing why has she not replied to my letter?

At first we thought we might be able to manage the rent, but on careful consideration found we would have to be guaranteed 15 families using the service every week and that was impossible to foresee.

We are really thankful to all the wonderful people we have met over 9 years, many whom have become firm friends. Lily Peart will always have a special place in my heart, as she will with lots of parents, carers and children who attended our sessions.

We feel guilty about closing and letting people down. I also feel a great sadness, but we did not have much choice.

Mrs. A. Kemp.  
See page 5 for Rector's reply!

### Opticians

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

### Chiropody

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

### NEAT FEET CHIROPODY

Foot & Nail Care  
**0191 3778384**

### Pets

**DOG WALKER** available, contact 07512 358452

**ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION FROM ONLY 20P PER WORD.**  
**CONTACT PAUL AT NEWTON PRESS FOR MORE DETAILS**  
**01325 300212**  
paul@newtonnews.co.uk

### Health & Beauty

**WAVES** ladies: hairdressing and nails. Reliable and friendly. Discounts for OAPs! Milani manicure and Pedicure only £12.00! Tel 01715 308099 or 07986 620 397.

**EDEN ARMS** Day Spa, Rushyford. Non-surgical Facelift, Massage, Waxing, Facials, Nail Extensions. Contact Emma on 07594 921758 or 01399 720541

### Holiday

**FLORIDA VILLA** now booking for 2010. Sleeps 8, close to all attractions. www.villaflorence.biz or call 300212 (9-5pm)

### Tuition

**LEARN TO SIGN** "the fun way". Every Friday at 11am at Woodham Community Centre (for babies who already sign and toddlers who want to learn) up to 4 years old - **GREAT FUN!** Next set of Beginners Classes start Friday 9th Jan 2010 Nov at 2pm (6 months+) - learn over 50+ signs. **MAKE SURE YOU BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!** Contact JULES on 07966 969799 or email: signalgals@hotmail.co.uk www.signalgals.org.uk  
**MUSIC TUITION** Guitar, Bass and Drum Lessons in your home. Friendly teacher, 10 years experience. Tel. Roger 321444

### Hairdressing

**COLOUR CUTZ** Latest techniques in hair design. Tel 07772 189090 - www.colourcutz.co.uk

### SUE

Freelance Hairstylist

Top Salon Trained

Telephone:  
**07773 812 786**

### Computers

### AYCLIFFE COMPUTERS

Computers Built to your own Specification:  
Computer Repairs  
Upgrades - Data Recovery  
Windows 7 Installation  
Broadband Installation  
Networking - Anti Virus  
Call out within 24 hours, usually same day  
XBox 360, PS3, Wii and Online Gaming Setup  
~ NO CALL OUT CHARGE ~

**Contact Rob**  
**01325 310737**  
**07841 867 170**  
aycliffecomputers@gmail.com

### PC Problems?

Hardware - Software  
Upgrades - No fix, No fee  
Home Networking  
Broadband Installation  
No call out charge

**01325 317649**  
**0800 955 6867**

### GAMES CONSOLE PC REPAIRS

NO FINDING FEE  
NO CALL-OUT CHARGE  
PICK-UP & DROP-OFF  
UPGRADES  
VIRUS REMOVAL  
Computers Built To Your Own Spec.  
Andy McLeane 07520 032 007  
or 01325 312970

For all your print requirements contact your local printer

**NEWTON PRESS**  
**Tel: 01325 300212**



## NEWTONIANS MARRIED IN AUCKLAND CASTLE



Lindsay Rebecca Carlton, a Nursery Assistant at House of Eden Nursery, married Christopher Ian Palmer a Service Team Leader at Reflex Vehicle Solutions, on Saturday 19th December 2009. They were married in St. Peter's Chapel, Auckland Castle followed by a reception in the function room. The Bridesmaids were Ashley Carlton, Kimberley Richardson and Susan

Nicholson. The Best Man was Craig Clark, the Ushers/Groomsmen: Ricky Scott and Michael Fawcett. Sean Richardson was the Ring Bearer. A big surprise on the day for Lindsay was the choir "Gospel Shock" arranged for her wedding by her parents. The newly-weds have set up home in Newton Aycliffe. Photo Stuart J Allison

## TAXI ADVICE FOR PARTY-GOERS

Durham County Council has issued the timely warning for the festive season and is urging people to check the taxi they are using is properly licensed. All licensed taxis and private hire vehicles have a licence plate on the back of the vehicle, showing the unique licence number, and all drivers should have a valid identification badge issued by the Council.

Drivers and vehicles must go through rigorous tests in order to receive their licence, while unlicensed drivers and their cars will not have been subject to checks to confirm their suitability and safety. Neil Smalley, Public Safety Manager for the Council, said: "Members of the public should think twice before accepting a ride in an unlicensed taxi - they quite literally could be putting their life at risk. "Unlicensed taxis may not be roadworthy, they will not have the appropriate insurance and the drivers will not have had the necessary checks, such as criminal records checks. "We'd strongly advise people to check that the taxi they are about to get into is licensed and to check the drivers' ID badge. Where possible they should pre-

book their journeys or use one of the council's approved taxi ranks." Durham County Council enforcement officers are always looking out for unlicensed taxis and will investigate any concerns from the public who suspect that unlicensed vehicles are operating within the County. People can report concerns by contacting the Council on 01388 765555 and asking to speak to the licensing team.

**THE TURBINIA**  
**\* Saturday Night Live \***  
*The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge*  
**Saturday 2nd January - "Shanghai"**  
 One of the North East's top bands, big on the bike rally circuit. Songs from Purple, Whitesnake, Van Halen, Bon Jovi, T-Rex, Billy Idol, Def Lppard and much, much more.  
**NEW YEARS EVE - Karaoke Eight til Late**  
 For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk)  
 or 319700 Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

**Tel: Syd on 01325 300212**  
 or Email: [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk)

## NASTY LETTERS CONCERNING 'MIND'

Dear Sir,  
 It is bad enough suffering with a mental illness without the service, which gives help and support to some of the most needy people in society, than being castigated by those who do not fully understand the needs of the mentally ill. Being blinded by a sum of money, which in fact is not a grant but recompense for money spent on the council's property which was five times the amount which is being reimbursed, detracts from the real issue of those in need. If people were seen with open festering sores or

broken limbs which would not heal there would be a public outcry that something should be done but as mental illness is an illusive destroyer of people's lives which hides behind a cloak of seeming normality, it goes unrecognised by those who have not had first hand knowledge of the disease. So national 'MIND' is run from London in 'plush' offices, would it be more acceptable if it were run

from a shed at the bottom of someone's garden? It saddens me once again to find at this season of peace and goodwill, that intolerance and bigotry against the mentally ill is alive and well and resides in Newton Aycliffe. S. Blenkinsopp  
 Mental health survivor

## Obituary

**GORDON MINNIS** aged 89. Died 16th December 2009, peacefully at Laidlaw Care Home. Much loved Husband of Marion and Father of Dorothy and Barbara. Father in Law of Colin and Bill. A loving Grandfather and Great Grandfather. A very kind and respected Gentleman. Cared for with great affection by all the staff at Laidlaw Care Home. Cremation 29.12.09 at 3pm, Durham. No flowers please.

## Congratulations

**Stacey Newton**



**Happy 18th Birthday**  
 Squidgy  
 07.01.91  
 All our love. Mum and Dad

**Sam Hurst**



**Happy 18th Birthday**  
 January 2nd 2010  
 You have grown from a beautiful baby to a wonderful young man who we are all really proud of. Enjoy your day. Love you loads, Mum, Dad, Joe and Louis xxxx

**KAREN BROWN** Happy 40th birthday Karen. Love from Mum, Dad and Miao xxx  
**KEITH ELLIOTT** 01.01.2010. Happy 50th birthday. Lots of love, Pat, Family and Miao xxx

## New Year Wishes

**HAPPY NEW YEAR** from Godfrey and Shirley Branscott to Friends old and new

**CRAIG, SARAH-JANE, Madison and Mackenzie** Jackson with all their family and friends a very Happy New Year.

**Cllr. SARAH IVESON & Cllr. JOHN MORAN**  
 With Season's Greetings to the people of Great Aycliffe

**Cllr. MALCOLM IVESON & Cllr. WILLIAM IVESON**  
 With Season's Greetings to the people of Great Aycliffe

## Christmas Memoriam

**DENNIS CHENTRENS**, 1924-2005. Another Christmas without you Dad and we are still missing you so much. Christmas has never been the same again without you being here with us. Love from your Daughters, Margaret, Doreen and Denise xxx

## Thank You

**SCRAFTON**. Tess would like to thank all her many friends for cards etc, received for her 80th Birthday.

For all your print requirements contact your local printer  
**NEWTON PRESS**  
 Tel: 01325 300212

## NEWTON AYCLIFFE JUNIOR ATHLETES IN TOP TEN

On December 12th at Branksome School, junior members of Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club, proved their training had gained many of them a place in the top 10 for the North East.

The North East Cross Country Championship event draws talented runners from far and wide, and the day did not disappoint. The field was strong and the course was muddy, but Henry Johnson made his debut in the U13 event, a moment to be

proud of. Only 11 years old, he was running against athletes who were more experienced and older. However, sticking with the lead pack meant that he completed the 3k course only 1 minute behind the winner, and in 8th place with 12.58. The U15 4k race gave strong competition for the more experienced runners, William Crossen and Ryan Walton. They ran extremely well, despite the tough conditions. Ryan was close on the

heels of older boy William, and they both finished with very little breath left! A tremendous sprint finish for Ryan gave him 13th position with 15.01, but just in the lead was William with 9th place in 14.54. U20 was a longer course of 8.3k, and James Askew took the distance in his stride. He seemed to slice

through the mud with ease to bring himself home in 11th place with 30.50. All the boys feel confident to tackle next big calendar event which will be the Northern Championships in the beginning of January. Thanks go to their coaches and families who give up time to help the boys with their training.

## For Sale



**WOODEN** playhouse including slide, pole, rock climb, rope and ladders, great fun for the kids. £160 (no offers). Dismantled and ready to go Tel 707570

**BARGAIN BUYS** Bargains of the Week. Washing machine, 6kg load, A energy class, 2 year warranty, delivered and fitted for £219. Tel 721678  
**PALLETS** and Pallet toppers first come first served. Free, call at Newton Press M-F, 9am-4pm  
**YAMAHA** portable piano with musical accompaniment. Barely used, with stand, £50. 701692  
**DURHAM PINE** / Rubber wood dining table and 4 chairs, £75 exo. Tel 07966 542445  
**NEED** An old domestic appliance removing? Can't wait for the Council? Tel 721 678.

## Birthday Remembrance

**EDITH KELL**. Thinking of you on your birthday. Love and miss you, Bob and family x

## Accommodation

**KESTRAL COURT**, Newton Aycliffe, 3 bed semi det with garage. Rent £500, bond £500, admin £100. **HALLINGTON HEAD**, 1 bedroomed property. Rent £400, bond £400, admin £100. **CYPRUS GROVE**, School Aycliffe, 2 bedroomed property. Rent £425, bond £425, admin £100. Tel. 07814 022701  
**3 BED HOUSE**, Hewitson Close, £455 bond, £105 per week rent. Tel. 01725 707445  
**4 BEDROOM** house for rent with garden and garage. Rent £590 per month, bond and references required. Tel. 07891 031729 for details  
**FOR SALE** 3 bed mid terrace family home. Nice area, please ring for more information. 01725 310977

**3 Bedroom**  
 GCH  
 Newton Aycliffe  
 £95.00 per week  
 DSS Welcome

**GXI Property**  
 07973 273712

**3 BEDROOMED** property to rent. for details telephone 07724 714499  
**BETTER HOUSES** to let. Free if you get housing allowance. Call 01725 778206  
**TWO x 3 BEDROOMED** terraced houses available in Heolster Place, N/A, D.H.S.S. welcome. Rent £110 per week. Contact 07900 430 200

## Xmas Gifts for Care Home



Aycliffe Care Home would like to thank Ken, Mavis and Alan Proffitt who have kindly donated a new 42 inch LCD television for our residential unit. The Care Home would also like to thank Aycliffe Police for the kind donation of a hamper, which our residents thoroughly enjoyed.



# SHARON'S MEAL FOR CHARITY: BEETLE, WORMS, FISH EYE, RAW KIDNEY & LIVER



Premier Inn Team in Fancy Dress

In May this year it was announced that Premier Inn was adopting 'Water Aid' as their charity. This charity helps support the one in eight people in the world who don't have safe water to drink, along with the two and a half billion people that live without somewhere safe and clean to go to the toilet. As a result 4000 children die EVERY DAY, and communities remain trapped in a cycle of poverty and disease. There are 590 Premier

Inns in the UK and each hotel team were asked to raise funds to support this well deserving charity. The Team at Newton Aycliffe had several brain storming sessions to come up with an unusual way of fund raising. Sharon Scott, volunteered herself to take part in a 'Bush Tucker Trial'. All of the team were more than happy to sponsor Sharon, as all admitted that they would never be able to complete such a challenge. They did

turn out in fancy dress however. Sharon has NO FEAR, and was really enthusiastic about the task!

Thursday 17th December 2009 at 7pm was the date and time of the challenge. A couple of team members prepared Sharon's unique evening meal menu. This comprised for Starters a BEETLE, and 2 GIANT WORMS, The Fish course was THE EYE OF A LARGE COD, Main Course - RAW KIDNEY, and Dessert - RAW LIVER. This was all washed down with a pint of water! Up to the day of the event Sharon had £250 worth of sponsorship. Despite the blizzard blowing outside spectators turned out and the challenge in the reception of Newton Aycliffe Premier Inn began. Family and friends came to watch and people travelled from far and wide to support Sharon, while Sharon's team members cheered her on.



Sharon was true to her word, and completed the entire meal prepared by Colette Calverley, Deputy Manager at Premier Inn. Mr. Western, a regular guest at Premier originally sponsored Sharon £20, but after witnessing how brave she was, he TREBLED the money. Sharon and the Team raised an amazing £420.00 for Water Aid.



## LETTERS to the EDITOR

### THE PLOT THICKENS

Dear Sir,  
Why did every Labour Councillor vote to give MIND a £10,000 relocation grant to move to St. Clare's Church Hall.

Apparently the money will be spent on a new kitchen, tables and chairs from which the Church will benefit.

Could this be the reason why the Rector was so keen to get rid of the Toddler Group which had met there for more than 20 years? It seems to me a very convenient coincidence.

It will also be interesting to see what now becomes of the premises MIND vacated in St. Oswald's Park. Does someone have lucrative plans for the building? I believe this is why the Council was so determined to get MIND out. The plot thickens, so we will wait and see!

Suspicious  
Name & address supplied

### SNOW & ICE IN THE TOWN CENTRE

Dear Sir  
During the recent bad weather conditions with snow and low temperatures, the town centre has been a "snow go" area for many people due to difficulty in walking.

There would appear to have been no visual attempts to clear the snow and ice. Surely in this day and age we have a pavement snowplough? Our town centre is a sorry sight when you compare it with other towns.

I hope we can look forward to a better response from the Council in the future  
J.M Gowland  
Hopelands Court

*Ed: We have to point out the Town Centre is privately owned and the Council are not responsible for snow and ice clearing in that area.*

SAINT & FORSTER LTD  
Independent Funeral Service

Pre-Payment Funeral Plans  
24 Hour Service

Tel: 01325 485 111

3 Thompson Street East  
Darlington DL1 3BA



**CANDY**  
KNOWS HOW

**BARGAIN BUYS**  
Est. 1987

- 1400 Spin
- Mega 8kg Family Load
- 33 Minute Quick Wash
- Free Local Delivery
- Free Installation

Shafto Way - Newton Aycliffe - 321678

## NEW MEGA SHOWROOM



COOKERS +  
WASHERS +  
FRIDGES +  
FREEZERS +  
TUMBLE DRYERS +  
DISHWASHERS etc.

23 Northfield Way, Aycliffe Business Park

Tel: 01325 301916

## DARLO PLAYERS BRING CHEER TO CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL



Quakers players brought some festive cheer to poorly children in hospital before Christmas. Ten Darlington stars visited sick youngsters at Darlington Memorial Hospital's Children's Ward including Ian Miller, Dan Groves, David Davis, James Collins, Simon Thomas, Stephen Foster, Stuart Giddings, Ashlee Jones, Mor Diop and Nathan Mulligan. They dropped by the ward to deliver presents, sign autographs and pose for pictures. Captain Miller said: "It's difficult to comprehend what it must be like for these youngsters who have to spend Christmas time in hospital. Hopefully we were able to cheer them up with a few presents and bring a few smiles to faces."

## Furniture Factory Outlet

Fulbeck Road, Aycliffe Business Park - 0782 5777966

3+2 £449



Leather suites  
Fabric suites  
Corner groups  
Sofabeds  
Chairs  
Beds  
Wardrobes

Many other items in stock

Open weekdays and Saturdays



Frame only £150

