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Quiz starts at 8.30pm
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This is on Saturday 22nd December 2012 from 2.00 - 4.00pm. Tickets are only £4.00 per child.

The price includes a festive buffet, party games, disco, and a present from Santa.

Book early to avoid disappointment, anyone aged 4-7 years can come along and join in the fun. Children may be left with staff in the Function room but parents must stay in building.

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Up until the 20th December Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club are out in the early evening with Santa and his Sleigh, touring the streets raising cash to provide hampers for the town's needy families. Please support them when they knock on your door. They are out in the bitter cold weather, giving their time to help those who face a bleak Christmas.

Christmas Carols on Village Green

Heighington Parish Council wishes to invite everyone to join The Salvation Army around the Christmas Tree on Heighington Village Green on Saturday 22nd December 2012 at 6.30pm. Everyone welcome to come along to enjoy singing all your favourite Christmas Carols.

FeastLand MEALS ON WHEELS

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Menu for week starting Monday 17th December 2012

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Sun - Roast Beef Dinner

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Labour Take Neville Ward



The Neville Ward By Election held last week had a turnout of 10.52%.

Total votes cast were 164 including 135 Postal Votes, and one spoilt vote.

Jed Hillary the Labour candidate won with 90 votes (55%). John Turnbull, Independent received 73 votes (45%).

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SANTAS CHRISTMAS EVE TOUR OF NEWTON AYCLIFFE

ROUTE ONE

3.45pm-4.10pm

Welbury, St Oswalds, Central

4.10pm-5.00pm

Washington area, Wycliffe,

Armstrong, Wren,

Whitehead, Hutchinson,

Hylton, Matthew, Wolsey,

Richardson, Trevor, St

Aidans, Felton

5.00pm -5.30pm

Neile, Defoe, Trevor, Porter,

Wheeler, Lamb, Espin,

Bellasis

5.30pm-6.00pm

Wiseman, Ewbank, Hardinge,

Chandler, Chapman,

Crowley, Hardinge,

Bousefield, Faber,

Kendrew, Sanderson,

Redworth Grange, Elstob,

Burn, Westmorland, Henson,

Whiteley, Thurlow, Aylmer

6.00pm - 6.45pm

Dalton, Hartley, Faulkner,

Hullock, Allington, Walcher,

Lilburne, Macmillan,

Bertie, Alington, Webb,

Westmorland, Newburn

6.45pm -7.30pm

Humphrey, Silkin, Stead,

Wright, Priestman,

Marshall, Burdon, Lightfoot,

Stephenson

7.30pm - 8.10pm

Barrington, Ashfield,

Tunstall, Carileph, Ebba,

Bruce, Pease, Past RAFA

club to Paulinus

8.15pm

Back via Pease

6.45pm -7.30pm

Humphrey, Silkin, Stead,

Wright, Priestman,

Marshall, Burdon, Lightfoot,

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Tunstall, Carileph, Ebba,

Bruce, Pease, Past RAFA

club to Paulinus

Palmer, Cosin

4.45pm-5.15pm

Co-operative Store, Bury,

Wilkinson, Van Mildert,

Greathead, Shafto, and return

to Greville, St Cuthberts

5.30pm-6.00pm

Sharp, Sheraton Road,

Sheraton Close, Greville,

Henderson, Crewe, Sharp,

Hunter, Lumley, Sheraton,

Crawford, Sheraton, Biscop

6.00pm-6.25pm

Hatfield, Heild, Biscop,

Skirlaw, Flynn, Beck

6.25pm-7.15pm

Via Shafto to Creighton,

Moore, Swan, Gunn,

Mellanby, Liddell, Kenny,

Carr, Markham, Secker,

Joicey, Kemble, Bulmer,

Vane, Fowler, Warburton,

Jackson

7.15pm -7.40pm

Shafto Way, Shield Walk,

Stanfield Road, Denham

Place, Ramsey Place,

Eden Road, Langley Road,

Malling Green

7.40pm-8.00pm

Central Avenue (Fire

Station), Church Close

6.45pm-7.15pm

Hatfield, Heild, Biscop,

Skirlaw, Flynn, Beck

6.25pm-7.15pm

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Vane, Fowler, Warburton,

Jackson

Forresters, Smythsons,

Sheppards, Thursby, Wilbore,

High Barn, Meatlesburn

5.30pm-6.10pm

Springfields, Hazelrigg,

Lowfields, Hansard,

Jennison, Westfields,

Hillfields, Greenfield

6.10pm-6.30pm

Malvern, Colwell, Bedford,

Wilton, Greenfield, The

Chase

6.30pm-7.10pm

Staintondale, Rookwood,

Zetland, Covert, Stirrup,

Bramham, Bedale, Post Horn,

Saddlery, Greenfield, Byerley

Park

7.10pm- 7.45pm

Lascelles, Luttryngton,

Hambleton, Ranulf, Jesmond,

Colburn, Elwick, Claxton,

Russell, Yoden, Wynyard

6.30pm-7.10pm

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Zetland, Covert, Stirrup,

Bramham, Bedale, Post Horn,

Saddlery, Greenfield, Byerley

Barnard, Pemberton,

Farnham

6.00pm - 6.35pm

Beaumont, Kirkham,

Egerton, Dudley, Howson,

Clover, Sorrel, Yarrow,

Harebell, Campion

6.35pm

St. Elizabeth's Church car

park

6.45pm-7.00pm

Sandowne, Tattersall,

The Oaks, Beechers,

Paddock, Croft, Woodham,

Sunningdale, Low Green

7.05pm - 7.45pm

Spinney, High Green,

Granges 1-4, Bridle,

Woodham Gate,

6.45pm-7.00pm

Sandowne, Tattersall,

The Oaks, Beechers,

Paddock, Croft, Woodham,

Sunningdale, Low Green

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6.45pm-7.00pm

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**FESTIVE ISSUES
OF NEWTON NEWS**

Friday 14th December
Deadline: Wednesday 12th December

Thursday 20th December - Christmas Issue
Deadline: Tuesday 18th December

Friday 4th January 2013 - New Year Issue
Deadline: Wednesday 2nd January

Advertisements can be placed at our agents:
WALKERS at Simpasure,
NEWSFORCE in the Town Centre
or online at www.newtonnewsads.co.uk

Office Opening Times

Closing 3pm on Friday 21st December
Skeleton Staff in attendance until reopening
on Wednesday 2nd January 2013 at 8.30am

DEATH OF POPULAR COUNCILLOR

The death of Councillor Enid Paylor is a great sadness and loss to the family, and the people of Aycliffe. For the last four and half years Enid has been the faithful and conscientious County Councillor working as my partner Councillor for the good of the West Ward and the whole of Aycliffe. She was a hard working member of the South West Planning Committee and was especially welcome on the bus trips for site visits around the County, keeping members supplied with sweets. Her passionate concern and care for Children and Young People was shown in her Vice Chairmanship of the Corporate Parenting Panel.



But her forte was her advocacy and care for the ordinary people of the Ward. Her long history in the area meant she had a wide network of friends which

helped her keep in touch with the cares and concerns of those struggling with life. She was always willing to listen to the many individuals who turned to her for help, advice and support. She battled against anti-social behaviour, drug dealers and anyone disrespecting the area. I thank her for keeping me in touch with the people on the ground and many people are thankful for her quiet support and help she has given over the years. She will be greatly missed as a champion for the local people and for her many other qualities. Mike Dixon (Councillor West Ward)

"SLAM IT" FINAL AT GREENFIELD

Last week at Greenfield Community College we hosted the final of our "Slam It" performance poetry competition. Since September students in Year 6 at Chilton Primary School, and Year 8 at Greenfield have been working with performance poet Kate Fox and Alfie Crow to hone their skills, write their poems, and add their own creative flare to their performances. This project is a great example of finding innovative ways to develop skills, learn new things and work in a different way. The final event was a great success, with all of the students performing fantastically and showing parents and visitors how talented they are! We would like to say a huge thank you to Kate Fox, the staff at Chilton & Greenfield and the young people involved, including our fantastic Year 10 mentors from Greenfield - they all worked very hard and the results were fantastic. Thank you also to the parents and members of the community who came to the event on Thursday, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



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also provide entertainment*

SUNDAY 16th DEC.
2.30 - 4.00pm
Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre

Admission FREE! - Be early to get a good seat

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Aycliffe Village*	Manager: Tina Elmar	01325 313513
Fishburn Primary School	Manager: Carol Woods	01740 620683
Evenwood Village	Manager: Kerry Dixon	01388 834161
Newton Aycliffe	Manager: Vicky Hutchinson	01325 315623
Bishop Middleham	Manager: Natalie Richardson	01740 651224

*Aycliffe Village Ofsted Outstanding

Xmas Extravaganza at Greenfield Centre



Despite the snowy weather, last week we had an evening of Christmas themed fun at Greenfield Community & Arts Centre. Over 20 stall holders showed us their fantastic creations, we saw demonstrations on wreath making, chocolate flake making and fabric origami and listened to some fantastic music from our talented young musicians. This was a great opportunity for students from different schools in Newton Aycliffe to come together to perform and demonstrate their talent.

We also showcased the work of the fantastic GAMP AAP funded project at the event – Smart Crafts. Students from Greenfield and Woodham showed members of the community the work they had created over the past 3 months using smart materials and new techniques.

We would like to thank all the stall holders, musicians, demonstrators, parents and members of the public who helped make this event such a success!



New Courses at Greenfield

At our fantastic Christmas Extravaganza last week we showcased the work of two of our talented local artists who will be running courses at Greenfield Community & Arts Centre from January.

Lindsay Peter is a jeweller who will be demonstrating Soumak, Fishbone, weaving, and beaded techniques amongst others over 8 weeks to create unique jewellery. Anna Cole creates hand printed textile accessories, and over 5 weeks will show participants hand sewing techniques, including embroidery to make pieces to take away. Both of these courses will include materials and are a fantastic opportunity to learn from some of our talented local artists.

These are just a selection of the courses on offer for young people and adults at Greenfield Arts, which include French, Spanish, singing, guitars, flower arranging and more.

For more information pick up a course guide in the centre, visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk, or call us on 01325 379048.



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INSURANCE QUOTES

Newtonians at Memorial Carol Service

Dear Sir,

Thank you for publicising our Memorial Carol Service in the Newton News last weekend. There was a really good turnout of around 200 people despite the weather, and several Newton Aycliffe people mentioned reading about it in your newspaper and it made them decide to come along. Donations for the Anthony Nolan Trust amounted to more than £200.

Barbara Bates
Co-operative Funeralcare

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT NEVILLE PARADE

Wednesday 19th December
5pm Messy Church for all ages.

Sunday 23rd December
10.30am Service
Sunday 23rd December 6pm
Candlelit Carol Service

Tuesday 25th December
10am Christmas Day Service

The Ministers and Members of Neville Parade Methodist Church wish you a Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and would like to welcome you to join us at any of our services over the Christmas period



Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe Christmas Santa Route



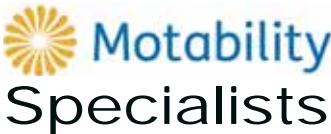
SANTA WILL BE VISITING THESE AREAS (Weather conditions permitting)

RAISING FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOOD HAMPERS FOR NEEDY FAMILIES IN OUR AREA AT CHRISTMAS TIME

Monday 17th December	5.30 -7pm	Simpasture area
Tuesday 18th December	5.30 -7pm	School Aycliffe, The Chestnuts
Wednesday 19th December	5.30 -7pm	Bluebell Way, All Estates
Thursday 20th December	5.30 -7pm	SilkinWay/Westmoreland Way Areas



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Great Variety in Woodham's Annual Christmas Concert

Last week, students from Woodham Academy took to the stage for their annual Christmas Concert. Around 60 students were involved in the performance, from newer members of Year 7 to the regular faces of Year 11 students.

A new addition to this year's programme was the inclusion of Woodham Dance Academy, which was launched in September. 25 students from Key Stage 3 took part in a group performance of 'El Tango de Roxanne', from the film Moulin Rouge.

Also performing were various solo singers and band performances, as well as the Academy's ensembles - Woodham Sound, Woodham Jazz Band, Instrumental Group and Woodham Samba Band. A special preview of the upcoming production, 'We Will Rock You', also came in the form of Rhys Kingston (Y11) and Gaynor Lambert (Y10) who performed 'Killer Queen' and 'No-one But You' from the musical. 'We Will Rock You' will be taking place from March 5th-7th in 2013, and promises to be an entertaining show.

Students also showed their community spirit on the night. At the interval, several students from Year 10 set up a bake sale, selling home-made cupcakes and shortbread, as well as the opportunity to win a gingerbread house created by the family of a student. All proceeds from these stalls were donated to Teenage Cancer Trust, in recognition of the support provided, particularly to local families.



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26 Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe Town Centre
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ARE YOU IN CRISIS THIS CHRISTMAS?

Thanks to the support of Newton News Lifeline Community Action are able to help more needy families in our community this Christmastime. Due to demand we have released more emergency

appointments to complete before Christmas.

Recently we have helped the disabled, people losing their jobs, one-parent families and people who have just lost a loved one. Each of these have been touched by the support given to them.

Do you find yourself in crisis this Christmas time? If so, why not contact Alwyn M:07936431262 who will try and make an appointment to come out and see you.

WILDLIFE EXPLORERS CHRISTMAS MEETING

The RSPB Wildlife Explorers hold their 3rd meeting this Sunday (16th) at the Eco-Centre at Moore Lane.

This group is for young people interested in wildlife and the natural world in general as well as those who have an interest in birdlife.

This month will have a Christmassy feel to the meeting and we will be letting the kids try their hands at making Christmas decorations such as holly wreaths. Our leaders will be on hand to supervise the proceedings and to ensure the youngsters have a good time.

This will be our last meeting for several weeks, as we have decided that it might be too cold over winter to take the kids out. Our next meeting is in March.

We are looking forward to seeing our young members as it is always a pleasure to work with them and to help encourage their interests and hopefully foster new ones. We are also looking forward to seeing new friends there too.

Further details from: Alan Warburton 01325 315182 and David Curran 01325 317347

Festive Cheer at the PCP Christmas Fair



The Christmas Fair, held on 1 December at the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe, was a great success with over 300 people coming to look around the 25 craft stalls and plenty of children coming to visit Santa and his elves!

The feedback from visitors and from one stall holder in particular was that 'we had a really good day and thoroughly enjoyed the event'. Reindeer dust was bought to let Santa know which houses to visit; lots of lucky people won tombola prizes and a big thank you to Sedgefield Hand bell Ringers who added to the festive atmosphere.

Thank you for the generosity of local businesses, Morrisons of North Road and Wilkinsons, Newton Aycliffe who kindly donated gifts. The centre is a lovely place to

visit at this time of year and the PCP has put up the 'Giving Tree', to raise funds for the Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service based at the Pioneering Care Centre.

People are welcomed into Centre between now and the 24 December, when the Centre will close for Christmas, to place a personal message to loved ones on the tree in return for a small donation. Message tags are available from reception and anyone that places a message can take home their very own bauble.

The Pioneering Care Centre will be closed from Monday 24 December 2012 till Tuesday 1 January 2013. The Centre will open its door again on Wednesday 2 January from 8.30 am.

From everyone at the PCP, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Christmas Functions AT PLANET LEISURE...

DISCO PARTY NIGHTS

Available: Friday 7th, 14th and 21st December - Only £25.00/person
Saturday 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd December - Only £25.00/person
Sunday 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th December - Only £20.00/person

80'S THEMED PARTY NIGHTS

Available: Wednesday 5th, 12th and 19th December - Only £20.00/person
Thursday 6th, 13th and 20th December - Only £20.00/person

BOXING DAY CARVERY

2 Course Meal -
Adults - Only £12.95/person,
Children - £6.95
3 Course Meal -
Adults - Only £15.00/person,
Children - £8.95

NEW YEARS EVE

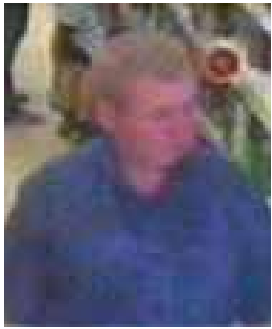
Adults - Only £25.00/person
Children - Only £15.00/person



FOR FURTHER DETAILS ASK OUR STAFF OR CALL 01325 310989
www.planet-leisure.co.uk

Police Wanted File

The following images are of people the Police seek help in identifying;
The male below entered Tesco on no less than 3 occasions and stole PS Vita consoles or mobile phones. He is described as mid to late 30's in age, fair to ginger hair and he wore a short sleeved blue checked shirt.



The male below is wanted for stealing cigarettes from McColl's Parsons Centre Newton Aycliffe



If you have any information please contact your Neighbourhood Police Team on 101 ext 673 2685 or ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111
Thanks
Steve WINTRELL
Intelligence Officer
Aycliffe + Spennymoor
01325 742706
0797 6072797

Good Service

Dear Sir,
Have just had two rear tyres fitted by the two lads at Aycliffe Tyres and I would just like to say how good they are.
I saw the advert in Newton News and thought, they are local I will give them a try. Good prices, Excellent service!
Edward Worthington

New Children's Hospice Opens in 2013

Jeff Coxon, from Seaham is a fundraiser for Grace House, the children's hospice being built in Sunderland to serve the northern region. It will open in March next year and Jeff wishes to thank customers of Tesco who donated £1275 during 2012. Jeff (68) himself has raised £45k and is aiming for a target of £100k despite being an amputee, confined to a wheelchair, suffering all types of illness. He is a popular figure at fundraising

events dressed as a clown and recently won an award for his charity work. Jeff spends 30 hours a week as a volunteer for Grace House and does it to help children whose condition he says, puts his own problems into perspective. The slogan of the Hospice is: "We cannot add days to their life, but we can add life to their days". If you wish to help or want more details ring 0191 5252885.

Death of Youth Centre Supporter

Dear Sir,
It is with deep regret we heard of the death of Cllr. Enid Paylor who served on the Management Committee until ill health forced her to retire, but she still managed to contribute to the refurbishment of the Youth Centre and was a frequent visitor. She will be missed by all her colleagues on both the County and Great Aycliffe Town Council, our thoughts and prayers go to Terry and the family.
Vince Crosby, Chairman Management Committee

Thanks for Your Vote

Dear Syd,
Following the By Election I would like to thank the residents of Neville Ward for placing their trust in me to be their representative on Great Aycliffe Town Council. I stand by my election promise to put the needs of the people Newton Aycliffe first and foremost and look forward to the challenges ahead. John Turnbull, Independent, fought a good campaign and I wish him well for the future. The elation of being elected is tempered with the sadness of learning of the death of Councillor Enid Paylor, who passed away on 10 December 2012. I would like to pass on my sincere condolences to Enid's family.
Councillor Jed Hillary
23 Ross Walk

Council Accused of Unfair Practice

Dear Sir,
Earlier this year I read in Newton News that Durham County Council were offering free driver training to small to medium size businesses, funded through government as part of a fuel saving initiative over the next 5 years. Since then I have found there are other important driver safety schemes being carried out by a small group of driving instructors, handpicked and funded by DCC Road Safety Team. These schemes are important, in today's busy traffic, with the numbers of serious injuries and deaths on the road rising for the first time in years, and this type of service can really improve road safety. However the way these instructors are chosen, with government funding available



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Thinford Roundabout Folly

Dear Sir,
Congratulations to the infant school pupil who won the competition to design the roundabout at Thinford! It is a fantastic concept on paper but who would have thought that an organisation would actually go and build it! The whole roundabout system is flawed and dangerous. The lanes are confusing and the lights do not adjust to the flow of traffic in the main direction i.e. the A167. You can sit at the lights and watch zero traffic come from other directions. At other times you cannot get onto the roundabout when your lights turn green because there is a queue of cars waiting for lights to turn green to move onto the next section. The lanes approaching the

roundabout are not clearly signed so you get cars in the inside lane, who should be turning left, carrying straight on causing other vehicles to adjust direction to avoid crashing. The system was better before it was changed. In fact, why was it changed? I am sure there are other people who think the same as I do. I use this route almost every day and have done for the last 12 years. Yes, there were times when traffic built up, but that is unavoidable. I can confidently state that I never had to wait at Thinford roundabout at 6.30 in the morning until the new roundabout and traffic light system was installed. Progress, I don't think so!
Michael Wild

Traffic Manager Replies...

Changes have been made at Thinford roundabout to accommodate the extra traffic set to use this junction as the nearby DurhamGate development starts to take shape. This development is set to create around 2,000 jobs and 370 new homes so improving the capacity of the roundabout is essential, not only in terms of dealing with increased traffic but also in terms of providing much-needed pedestrian facilities. We appreciate that these are significant changes which may take some motorists a while to get used to. However, we are confident that the new roundabout will improve both traffic flow and the safety of all road users. Some traffic management measures will remain in place until the access road to the development is open in March and we have recently introduced new temporary signs to help drivers ensure they are in the correct lane.
Dave Wafer, Traffic Manager Durham County Council

County Council Reply...

The instructors who deliver driver training and driver safety courses on behalf of the council are self-employed, mainly locally based, have been selected in line with the council's procurement policies and procedures, and have undergone a strict selection process. However, the amount of available work is such that only a small pool of instructors is required. We appreciate it may be disappointing for anyone who has not been able to secure a contract through this process but when the existing contracts expire we will be looking to explore the market to give eligible instructors who may not have worked with us before the chance to apply.
Alan Kennedy, Road Safety Manager
Durham County Council

and I wonder if DCC would consider looking closely at fair practice. Their actions have stopped local driving instructors, from carrying out the job that they have chosen and trained for at some expense. They also affect the ambitions of other instructors gaining further training and qualifications, as they will never be able to use them. This surely must stop, and a fairer system introduced. Town Businessman
Name & address supplied.

Family New Year's Eve Village Disco

Due to numerous requests we have decided to again hold our popular New Year's Eve Family Disco. Children are most welcome in the hall but unfortunately they will not be allowed in the bar area and must be supervised at all time. The cost will be £2 for adults and £1 for children, tickets are available by ringing 318901 and by email: beadle@sky.com We will also be holding a raffle on the night for which we would appreciate any donations. of prizes.
Sue Beadle

TESCO DONATE £500 TO ROTARY CLUB

Christmas has come early for the Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club! The charity has been invited to receive a £500 donation from its local Tesco Extra on Greenwell Road. Store manager Martin Butcher will present Roger Curtis, President of the Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club, with the cheque at the store this week. For the last six years the store staff have helped to put hampers together for the Rotary Club to give to those less fortunate at Christmas time. This year the store manager wanted to go one step further and offer a donation to ensure the hampers are better than ever. Martin said: "We are pleased to be able to continue our support of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and delighted to be able to offer a little extra help this year." Roger said: "To receive £500 also from Tesco is extremely generous. We have enjoyed a great relationship with Martin Butcher and his staff over many years and we are very grateful for the assistance we receive." The store has a bakery, fresh food, chilled and frozen

products, household items, daily essentials, clothing, electrical, pharmacy, newspapers, and magazines. The store also provides Click and Collect clothing, Click and Collect Direct, Wi-Fi and Travel Money. The store is open from 12.01am Monday for 24 hours a day until Saturday at midnight and is open from 10am to 4pm on Sundays. For added convenience the store also has a 24 hour petrol filling station.

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
01325 300212
or syd@newtonnews.co.uk

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09 09 Vauxhall Astra 1.8 Club Auto 5-Dr Grey Met....	£5490
10 10 Ford Fiesta Zetec, 6,000 miles	£7,690
12 12 Peugeot 107 1.0 Access In Blue 3-Dr	£6490
09 09 Vauxhall Astra Sports 1.6 SXi 3-Dr In Silver....	£6490
07 57 Vauxhall Astra 1.4 SXi 5-Dr In Black.....	£4790

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Aldi, in store, accepts cash, Maestro, Delta, Solo and Electron cards only. Visa and MasterCard credit cards accepted in Scottish and selected Welsh stores only. No cheques accepted in store. All offers subject to availability. Prices correct at time of going to print. Excludes R.O.I. For details of your nearest store visit our website at www.aldi.co.uk or call our Aldi Store Location Line on 0844 406 8800. Specially Selected Extra Thick Brandy Cream 250ml, 55.6p per 100ml. Specially Selected Luxury Topped Side of Salmon 600g, £9.98 per kg. Specially Selected Venison Steaks 400g, £17.48 per kg. Specially Selected Roast Potatoes in Goose Fat 1kg, £1.39 per kg. Specially Selected Mince Pies 6 pack, 44.5p per 100g. Specially Selected Christmas Pudding 454g, 79.6p per 100g. Specially Selected Luxury Black Forest Stollen 800g, 49.9p per 100g. Specially Selected Irish Cream 70cl, £8.56 per litre. In accordance with Scottish licensing laws, alcohol may not be sold in Aldi's Scottish stores before 10am. *Monday-Saturday only. Subject to store, see in store for details.

URGENT APPEAL TO KEEP ANIMAL SANCTUARY OPEN

Kays Hill Animal Sanctuary, Bildershaw, West Auckland is facing a desperate time in this current financial climate and desperately needs YOUR help.

Please donate directly to them or buy extra animal food in your weekly shop (especially cat food) to help keep them doing the great work they do to help animals.

Also if you have spare bedding, towels, animal baskets, toys or indeed anything it would help enormously. You can take them directly to the animal sanctuary or you can drop them off at The Foresters Arms, Coatham Mundeville and they will deliver them for you. Call Kays Hill Animal Sanctuary on 01388 834996 or Kate at The Foresters Arms on 01325 320565. Thank you.

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Christmas Opening Times:

Christmas Eve - 5pm to 12midnight
(Karaoke 8.30pm to 12midnight)

Christmas Day - 11.30am to 2.30pm

Christmas Night - CLOSED

Boxing Day - 12noon to 11.00pm

Friday 27th - 5pm to 11pm

Friday 28th - 3pm to 12 mindnight
(Karaoke 8.30pm to 12midnight)

Saturday 29th - 12noon to 12midnight

Sunday 30th - 12noon to 11pm

New Years Eve - 5pm to 12.15am
(Karaoke 8.30pm to 12midnight)

New Years Day - 12noon to 11.00pm

Expensive By-Election

Dear Sir,

It would be nice to know what the costs of the by-election were to taxpayers of Aycliffe. Surely the Council could have waited for the May elections instead of wasting our money.

The seat was held by an Independent so for the few remaining months an independent could have been co opted onto the council. Once again we had an election to put forward a Labour candidate to join his wife and other Labour families on the Town Council. Would not a new face been better and give someone a chance to be a councillor?

Alan Warburton

Independent Councillor

ED: A valid point on cost of the election as only 30 electors used the Polling Station and 135 voted by post.

Award for Newtonian



Gill Bedford HR Manager at Hall Garth has been awarded Student of the Year at Darlington College. Gill from Newton Aycliffe has worked at Hall Garth for 10 years and been HR Manager for 3 years.

Aycliffe School Presents Mascot to Polar Explorer



Headteacher Barbara Reilly O'Donnelly, teacher Debora Hargreaves and pupils Mia Brewster and Nicholas Salmon with the South African crew of SS Aghulas

Britain's best known polar explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes has been given a good luck mascot from a County Durham school as he sets out to be the first man to cross the Antarctic during a polar winter.

Packed in the 140 tons of supplies for the 2,000 mile trek across one of the harshest environments on the planet, where temperatures can drop to minus 70C, is a knitted mouse from St Mary's RC School in Newton Aycliffe.

Headteacher Barbara Reilly-O'Donnell and two pupils handed over the mascot to the expedition team as the ship SS Aghulas set sail from London.

Pupils will be able to follow progress of the challenge, dubbed The Coldest Journey, on the expedition's website and blog.

The mascot is culmination of events which started with Sir Ranulph speaking at Durham County Council's education development service's international leadership conference in 2010. Teachers then worked together to provide educational materials for an educational website to support the trek. Pupils at St Mary's learned

all about the journey after being told about Captain Scott's polar expedition 100 years ago which saw one of his team take a stuffed bear, named Joey, as a mascot.

This sparked the idea for designing a new mascot which was then knitted by one of the grandmas involved with the school.

The headteacher said: "We got in touch with the crew to see if they wanted to take it with them. They replied and said they wanted to have the mouse as their official mascot. We are absolutely delighted."

Phil Hodgson, Durham County Council said: "This



Sir Ranulph Fiennes with teachers and pupils.

Ways to Keep Active This Winter

Take a walk in a winter wonderland or take your chance with a Christmas lucky dip to get into the festive spirit next month.

Durham County Council is urging people to keep fit and healthy despite the cold weather this winter by running a series of guided walks and offering leisure centre users the chance to win some great prizes.

The council's guided walks are a great opportunity to wrap up against the cold, uncover history, discover birds and wildlife or get creative with an art or photography walk.

There are many walks across the county taking in different sights and sounds and walks for beginners as well as more challenging routes. Walks are organised by the council's countryside service.

Maria Murphy, countryside development officer, said: "Grab your walking boots and discover the wonderful countryside on your doorstep. All ages are welcome and we will help you find the walk most suitable for you."

For more information contact the Countryside Service on 0191 372 9100 or download a guide at www.durham.gov.uk/countryside

Until December 31, visitors at Durham County Council run leisure centres can enter a lucky dip to win prizes such as ipods and free gym membership.

The leisure centres have some great offers throughout December to keep people active. Anyone purchasing an annual fitness membership will receive 15 months for the price of 12 and a 30 day swim pass can be purchased for just £20.

For swimming timetables log on to: www.durham.gov.uk/swimming

Charlotte Dallas, business development manager with Durham County Council, said: "This is the perfect opportunity to visit your local leisure centre for a chance to win fantastic prizes. Also, take advantage of discounted leisure rates to swim, get fit, stay active and feel great."

Walks are led by a team of enthusiastic and

knowledgeable volunteers, supported by stewards who make sure everyone is safe.

Swim passes are available at Newton Aycliffe and Spennymoor Leisure Centres. Spennymoor Leisure Centre: 03000 261161
Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre: 01325 300 500

Pensioners! Are you Receiving Your Full Entitlement?

Age UK are at Neville Parade Community Centre on Wednesday 18th December at 10am to give advice on pensions to make sure you are receiving your full entitlement.

£millions are unclaimed every year so be sure you are getting all your benefits. To book a seat ring 313924 and bring a friend if you wish!

BE SURE YOU KEEP WARM THIS WINTER - EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO SIT WITH A BLANKET OVER YOU!

The Trustees of Neville Community Centre wish all supporters and every Senior Citizen on the town a very happy and healthy Christmas and our good wishes for 2013.

Christmas Greetings

Past Mayor, Councillor Mary Dalton, would like to take this opportunity to wish all her constituents Seasons Greetings and hope they have a prosperous and peaceful 2013.

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Christmas Day 11.30-2.30pm

Christmas Night - Closed

Boxing Day 12noon-11.00pm

Friday 28th 3.00-11.00pm

Live Entertainment "Generation Zero"

New Years Eve 3.00pm-12.15am

Karaoke and Disco

New Years Day 12noon-11pm

"Friday Night Live"

THE TURBINIA

FRIDAY 21st DECEMBER "ENZYMES"

The "Mayen" prophecies say "all moons, all ywears, all days, all winds, reach their completion. Measured is the time in which we can't know the benevolence of the Sun. Measured is the time in which the stars look down upon us."

In other words it's "GAME OVER". So where better to spend the last night than in your friendly local with the awesome party band "The Enzymes"?

Review: "The Enzymes hit Peterlee like a musical version of Hurricane Katrina... they set the place ablaze with their frantic hard hitting sets, loaded with a great fun attitude that was infectious. They have a powerful engine room with bass and drums, a touch of blistering guitar topped off with good vocals then just a dab of harmony, there's nowhere to hide so the place was jumping... This band just can't and won't be ignored, everyone I spoke to since the gig said they loved em and when are they coming back?"

The banter was canny and plenty of audience participation, several punters up as backing singers for "Johnny B Good" alongside Eddie Knee Jerk guest appearing on bass. If you like something different to the usual rock band go along and see this lot

Fancy Dress Optional = Theme: Zombies, if it is the apocalypse we might as well dress for it

For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 319700

Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke



MAYOR DRAWS PALRAM AS BUSINESS PARK WINNER



Paul Howarth Director of Newton Press with the Mayor

Newton Press recently decided to circulate Newton News direct to businesses on Aycliffe Business Park. All companies were invited to return a form giving their permission for future issues to be delivered and for their contact details to be held by Newton Press. As an incentive Newton Press held a free draw for all those who replied with £500 worth of printing or advertising. The winner was Palram who generously donated their prize to be shared by the Rotary Club and Inner Wheel Club, two well known charities in Newton Aycliffe. Both clubs have expressed their appreciation and will use the prize to promote their activities.

Fundraiser Wanted

Lifeline Community Action is a credible Christian registered charity that has helped over 200 families in our community over the last 6 months. We urgently need a professional volunteer fundraiser to help us raise more funds in 2013 to help even more people in crisis. All funds raised so far have gone directly back into the community, as there have been no overhead costs. If you think you can spare some time to support this worthy cause please contact Alwyn M: 07936 431262 who will give you more information.

Roman to the Rescue for T.V. Programme



Retail Development Manager, David Acheson, with Cowboy Builders' presenter Melinda Messenger

A NEWTON Aycliffe based shower manufacturer Roman was called upon by prime time home rescue show, Cowboy Builders, to help out two families in need, to renovate their bathrooms. Roman, who has worked with the programme on a number of occasions, was called upon to help a family based in Milton Keynes, who had nowhere to wash. The family had paid a builder to renovate their home and create a

downstairs bathroom with disabled access for the mum - who suffers from spinal arthritis. Part way through the project the builder walked off with the family's money and left the home in an unfinished mess. Roman offer a range of products which allow for easy access, but that aren't traditional 'disabled' products in their design. They are styled for the modern home, but with every user in mind. The company were quick to step in and provide the Cowboy Builders team with all the products they needed to create a designer style easy access wetroom. The products were supplied into Roman retailer, PHS, who is based in Milton Keynes. The Cowboy Builders crew, along with presenter Melinda Messenger paid a visit to the retailer to collect the products and PHS kindly supplied some other bathroom items to complete the project. Roman also helped out another Cowboy Builders family in Croydon, supplying them with a shower enclosure. This show is due to be aired in January 2013. Roman are regularly called upon by different home make-over shows and so far this year they have supplied; BBC's, DIY SOS; Channel 5's, Half Built House and Channel 4's, You Deserve this House, as well as Cowboy Builders. David Osborne, Managing Director at Roman, commented: "We are always very keen to support shows such as Cowboy Builders. They do a fantastic job in restoring peoples' homes after being left in often unliveable conditions after Cowboy Builders have destroyed them. We have now become a regular supplier for the show, having worked with them over many years. Because we manufacture all our products in the UK, we are able to work within their tight deadlines and deliver products within a matter of days. No matter what their brief, our diverse product range means we have a showering solution that will work in the space."

Watch Out for Christmas Present Snatchers

Christmas shoppers are being urged to be vigilant against thieves targeting gifts left in cars during the festive season. The stark reminder has been made by Ian Pugh, Managing Director of Fix Auto UK - the country's fastest growing vehicle body repair network - who believes a lot of heartache could be avoided if motorists remember that thieves will stop at nothing to snatch anything that entices them. He said: "It is extremely sad when someone has to take measures in their own hands to protect their property, but in reality thieves won't give the damage they cause - both physically to the vehicle, and mentally to the owner- a second's thought once they set their sights on taking something from a car." He added: "Our teams of vehicle repair technicians up and down the country are faced with the consequences of the damage that thieves cause at this time of year when a motorist brings their car in for repair after a break in. Incredibly, the owners seem to always tell the same tale: had they taken extra care to ensure their items were not left on view or were extra vigilant when putting their gifts in their cars, they would not have been targeted."

WOODHAM STUDENTS IN MOCK INTERVIEWS

In the first week of December Year 11 students from Woodham Academy undertook mock interviews in preparation for the next stage of their academic careers. The school welcomed interviewers from a variety of different careers into school to to test the students. They were marked according to a



variety of criteria, including first impressions, body language, quality of CV and communication skills. 'The experience was well worth it' said Daniel McGill, a student at the school. 'I came out feeling much more confident about myself and my ability to interview well'.

The event forms part of the extensive careers programme which runs at Woodham Academy. The programme aims to equip all students with the skills necessary to succeed in their working life. Interviews for Sixth Form and Further Education places will take place in the Spring term.

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZE

Lindisfarne Xmas Fayre Christmas Cake raffle winning tickets were Green 891-894 Serial No. AC756613. Please contact the Home if you are the lucky holder of this ticket. Tel. No. 01325 320227.

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MOTOR TORQUE

By Ramsays of Aycliffe



Last week, I awoke to the first day of the year with a real winter feel. As the temperature fell, the view into the garden was gripped by frost. Stirring my tea, thoughts began swirling to memories of previous too early winters.

As a child, I was never really fond of ice skating, having no grip has never been something that's much appealed. Being in control behind the steering wheel is probably the closest I'll ever come to being a control freak. However, the prospect of being unable to steer due to ice is an inevitable consequence of winter motoring. It makes no difference which vehicle you drive, if your wheels can't grip, then you can't steer which means you'll simply spin, your brakes will be of no use resulting in a skid and bang!-yes it's still November.

Front wheel or rear wheel drive, the result is the same. Did you know in winter, over 45% of road accidents are the result of skidding? The voice of the late Clive Dunn aka 'Corporal Jones'

comes into my head 'don't panic'.

There are however a few things you can do to help. If you go into a skid, try pointing the front wheels in the direction you're heading and try not to touch the brake (difficult but important) put the car into neutral until you've slowed sufficiently to regain control of the vehicle. If your vehicle is rear wheel drive, think about putting something heavy in the boot, that extra bit of weight can really help.

Due to front wheel drive vehicles having the engine over the wheels, a neat trick when trying to climb a hill, is reversing up the incline, (however, do so with caution).

Another option is to change your tyres during winter. Winter tyres are chunkier, with wider water channels and softer rubber providing much better grip. I did try to avoid any cliches with bangs during November, but hey!... there you go. I wish you all safe and happy motoring.

Elliott Ramsey
Service Manager

SOLVING THE PROBLEM OF LITTER

Sir,

Like many readers of Newton News I was full of indignation after reading about Greenfield School advertising for a Litter Picker who would be paid £2,800 per year to remove litter dropped by the students. The sentiments expressed by the writer, Pat Nash, would be shared by most people who read the article.

But on reflection, is the Head Teacher of Greenfield only acting responsibly? He has recognised and accepted there is a litter problem in the vicinity of his school. As Head teacher he is not directly responsible for the litter left lying outside of the school nor is he responsible for picking it up. The easy solution would be to chase his Councillor to have the litter removed or to contact the Council himself but instead he is taking action to solve it.

Students should not drop litter but sadly some do and I must emphasise NOT ALL. Students are told not to litter from Durham County Council 'Pride Team Officers' - and hear presentations from LitterFreeDurham. I doubt if there was ever a generation of young people who were so well informed about environmental problems -

climate change, depletion of species, the Ozone layer, just to name a few, and yet some seem oblivious to the problem and consequences of littering in terms of cost, the devastation to our animal and marine populations and the detrimental effect to the appearance of our towns and countryside.

As Chair of LitterFreeDurham, I am pleased there are many who are conscious of the problem and are active in helping to keep their community clean. We read in the Newton News about Community Groups and schools organising a litter pick in Newton Aycliffe. They all should be congratulated for the work they have done. Thanks also to Newton Aycliffe Youth Council who have spent a lot of their time going into schools to talk about the need to stop littering and we were delighted when St Mary's R.C Primary School and Woodham Academy

joined our Big Annual Spring Clean. Over 1100 volunteers removed 1245 bags of litter from the county and over 5 tons of debris from the River Skerne and Wear.

Parents, teachers & communities all have a part to play in getting the anti littering message across to as many people, young and old, as possible but people will continue to litter, Council Tax will continue to rise and tax payers will continue to complain unless communities accept that the litter problem is simply too great for our Local Authorities to tackle. One way to deal with it is to take a page out of Mr David Priestley's book by accepting there is a problem which needs a solution.

Mr Priesley has solved his by employing a litter picker - can you identify a litter problem in your community or street and will you help to solve it? If you want help, advice or support please telephone or 'e' mail me on 314622 or gerald.lee@darlington.gov.uk LitterFreeDurham supported by Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council are already planning the 2013 Big Spring Clean between 18th March to May 12th 2013. - why not join us - a special invitation goes out to Students of Greenfield School.

Councillor Gerald G. Lee

Is Aycliffe Ready for Winter?

Winter is here and whilst Durham County Council have spent millions on salt and new vehicles, their strategy is flawed on one single issue - getting people and vehicles out of their own iced-up streets.

Their solution to this is providing salt bins for a few residents to spread about. What is the point of having clear main roads if cars cannot get out of their own street?

Millions in production was lost to industry last year because workers were stuck at home unable to drive their cars through packed snow and ice on roads where their cars are parked.

Some clever thinking people parked their cars on the nearby main road to beat this problem, but if everyone did this the gritters could not do their job.

The task of keeping roads clear in Aycliffe should be delegated to our Town Council who could prioritise snow clearing and path clearance to make life easier for residents.

Taking out the cost of bringing gritters and snow ploughs into our town, from far away depots, would compensate for what it costs to have this work completed locally. We would also receive a quicker and effective response time.

The same applies to grass cutting when this year we discovered contractors carrying out work needlessly. Because they were contracted to do the job, heavy machines scrambled over badly flooded grassed areas causing deep wheel ruts whether it was the right conditions or not to cut! The County Council admit to having just over 2000 salt bins for the whole County. Residents can use the Council's on-line form to request a new salt bin or to ask for an existing salt bin to be refilled. Requests for new salt bins are assessed against specific criteria set out in the Winter Service Plan.

Aycliffe Bikers on C2C Ride for Charity



Aycliffe residents, Nigel Blackburn and Michael Hay, are taking time out to arrange a fundraising event in aid of children's charity CHILDREN with CANCER UK.

Their Coast to Coast Bike Ride, is on 20 - 23 June 2013, a 136 mile bike ride from Whitehaven to South Shields.

Nigel has organised similar events in the past and says "This is my second year of organising this type of bike ride and have decided to do it for charity. Last year was great but we are hoping for much better weather this time, although I doubt anything will be able to dampen our spirits once we get started. We have a team of 33 in total this time around and we can't wait!"

Nigel, who works for Carillion Construction Ltd and Michael Hay who assists in the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Football Club, chose to raise funds for CHILDREN with CANCER UK having raised large amounts in the Great North Run previously. CHILDREN with CANCER UK is the leading national charity dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer. The charity funds life-saving research into the causes, prevention and treatment of childhood cancer and works to protect young lives through essential welfare and campaigning programmes.

If you would like to sponsor the team you can do so online by visiting www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Coast2Coast2013

For more information on the event please call Nigel on 01748 874587 or 07931 564143.

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Junior Football Club Launch Development Team



Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club launched its new Development Team for the 2012/2013 season on 23rd November at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Pictured above are the first 11 children to sign up for the team. The team is run by three club members who play for the club U18's team, Jack Slatcher (Top Left) Harry Winwood (Centre) and Connor Lyon (Right). Jack started playing for Newton Aycliffe Juniors in 2000 at the age of 5 and has represented the club teams at every age group. During last year Jack successfully completed his Referee's Badge and was awarded the club's prestigious Chairman's Award in June 2012 for his commitment to the club. Harry joined the club this season signing for the newly formed U18's and is an integral

member of the squad. Connor will be assisting whenever he is available, and is also a long serving member of the club having represented the club teams at every age group since joining at the age of 6. Both Jack and Harry have an enhanced CRB check and are due to take an FA accredited level 1 coaching course. All three are currently studying at East Durham College on a 2 year football scholarship for a BTEC level 3 sports diploma. The club are keen to demonstrate their commitment to the new development squad so a number of "senior representatives" were present at the first session to show their support. NAJFC spokesman Nige Slatcher, the clubs conduct officer and U18 manager said "The club are very proud to see three of its older age group members

prepared to give some of their valuable personal time to coach and develop younger children's footballing skills. These young men are a credit to the club and themselves" NAJFC Development Team is open to boys and girls in Reception and Year 1. In training sessions the children learn new skills, have fun, develop football skills and meet new friends. Every year the Club holds a presentation day for every age group with all team players receiving an individual trophy. Bring your child to one of our sessions between 6.30pm & 7.30pm at the Leisure Centre on Friday 21st December then every Friday from 4th January. The first session is free and £2 per week thereafter. You will need football kit, indoor footwear and shin pads. If you would like further information or to book your place please contact Jack Slatcher on 07939 082 604 or Harry Winwood on 07889 141 275. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Clubs Development Team. Visit our website www.najuniorfc.co.uk

LOCAL SPORT

Surrey See Off Unlucky Wildcats

Durham were missing two key players going into Sunday's game against Surrey Heat due to illness which handed team debut's to local boys Tom Noble and Alex Riley. The Wildcats were missing big man Andrew Keister to a sickness bug and guard Paul Elderkin down to Viral Meningitis which could keep both players out for a few weeks. Surrey opened the scoring by a Cricelli lay-up to create a 4 point lead but it was short lived with some instinctive play by the Wildcats and Captain Ralph Bucci leading his team by example scoring 6 points in quick succession and a Baldarelli three giving Durham a 5 point lead at 11-6 when the Heat called a time out. The momentum stayed with the Wildcats for the rest of the quarter when Mike Baldarelli was fouled behind three point line and converted all three free throw shots ending the quarter at 21-14. The Heat made an early comeback to start the second bringing the score line back within 2 points but the Wildcats stepped up the intensity once again to free themselves from their visitors to open up a 7 point lead at 33-26. Some smart play by Surrey once again closed the gap with Cricelli and Margai at the forefront of the action as the score stood 33-32. Baldarelli confirmed the Wildcats lead going into

the half with a three pointer buzzer beater as the score board showed 42-38. It was a tied ball game early on in the third as Surrey came out on fire with early points from Cricelli and Holmes at 42-42. Surrey finally took the lead 2 minutes in when Brad Guinane forced a turnover handing the Heat Guard Margai an easy lay-up at 42-44. Surrey were in control after taking the lead dictating the pace of the game and finding their range from behind the three point line giving them a comfortable 8 point lead with 2 minutes left on the clock at 54-62. Some great ball movement gave them a clear advantage opening up their lead to 58-66 at the end of the third. Cricelli handed the Heat a 10 point lead to start the final stanza with a great post move to make it 58-68. Surrey went into lockdown defence as Durham failed to convert which helped the opposition gain their biggest lead of the game at 68-82 with 4 minutes remaining. The Wildcats tried to shorten the deficit but their efforts couldn't bring them back into the game as the Heat with their clock control, saw the game out winning by 15 on the final buzzer at 76-91. M.V.P - Ralph Bucci, his impressive display on defence and high score count gave the Wildcats hope despite falling short in the final quarter.

Aycliffe Karate Team in National Finals



Sensei Dez, Annalise Tinkler, Nathan Lovejoy & Jada (front)

Four representatives from GKR Karate in Aycliffe travelled to Sheffield to take on the rest of the country. We knew it was going to be hard but all trained very hard for this competition. Jada did very well in her Kumite, just beaten by half a point. Nathan Lovejoy is now National Champion after winning gold in Kumite. Annalise Tinkler had a great day in a Kata for 3rd place in the Junior Black Belt Opens. She was 4th last year and had to keep her cool. She performed brilliantly to take 3rd place and also took 3rd in Kumite, beaten by half a point, qualifying for Team Kata and Kumite. A team member had to pull out due to injury so a sub was put in the Kata to gain 4th place. Team Kumite took 3rd place. "I was so proud of them all" said Sensei Dez Tinkler.

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MAGNIFICENT SEVEN



Last Saturday seven athletes from Aycliffe Running Club took part in the North Eastern Counties Cross-country Championships, which took place at Summerhill Country Park, West Hartlepool. It was a freezing cold day and the recent wet weather had turned the course into a mud bath. On top of this the course was quite narrow and only added to the challenge and difficulty of it all, but all the runners from Aycliffe coped well. In the senior men's 12k race Daz Moore, who is fairly new to cross-country racing, achieved his best performance so far in the series finishing 292nd in 63m;11s. However, Lee Wren, who fell into the mud twice, picked himself up to finish first for the club in 54;09, 165th. He was followed closely by Peter Milburn who couldn't quite get the better of his much younger rival this time, finishing 178th, 54;52. Other results - Matthew Heron - 214th - 57;05,

Richard Campbell 252nd - 59;27, Kevin Greenall 310th - 64;34, Colin Gibson - 324th - 66;39

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Woodham Academy Prepare Visit to Berlin

Back in 2008, Miss Wass of Woodham Academy piloted a cross-curricular visit to Berlin which was a huge success and has since gone on to become an established visit for students. This visit is always oversubscribed because of its educational value as well as being extremely enjoyable. The Academy is delighted to be able to offer students the exciting opportunity to visit the capital city of Germany again during the Festive Season. The visit will provide students with the chance to improve their knowledge of German language and culture, as well as visiting sites that are closely linked to the KS4 History syllabus. We will include a visit to the Sachsenhausen

Concentration Camp, The Berlin Wall and Checkpoint Charlie as well as the Brandenburg Gate. On a lighter note students will also visit the 365m high TV Tower with revolving restaurant, Berlin Zoo and Aquarium (one of the largest in the world) and much more.

New for this year is a visit to the Reichstag and Dome. 'This is an excellent cross curricular opportunity to be able to bring to life what is written and spoken about in history textbooks and the classrooms of Newton Aycliffe!' said Mrs King,

Head of History at Woodham Academy.

As we will be visiting Berlin around Christmastime, we will be fortunate enough to participate in many of the traditional celebrations and activities that are on offer. These include the world-famous Weihnachtsmarkt (Christmas Market) which is a cultural must-see as well as providing a valuable Christmas shopping opportunity! You will catch Miss Wass and other daring students enjoying some winter fun on the city-centre snow slide from Sunday 16th December to Friday 21st.

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Durham's new Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg has vowed not to take on a Deputy PCC in his first term of public office. Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act passed by Parliament in September 2011, PCCs are entitled to appoint

a deputy PCC. So far, 15 of Ron's 40 counterparts up and down the country have done so.

However, Ron has confirmed that he will not be following the lead of many of his counterparts:

"Unlike many other PCCs, I am fortunate in that I have over 30 years experience as a former police officer and know how the system operates. As far as I see it, the people of County Durham and Darlington elected me to represent their needs and having a Deputy PCC was never part of the deal."

PCC salaries have been determined nationally, however, it is up to each PCC to decide how much they pay their Deputy PCC.

This has naturally sparked criticism from Police Think Tanks who believe that the substantial salaries emerging for Deputy PCCs would be better used on front-line policing.

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This festive celebration has been organised by St Elizabeths Church and The Huntsman Pub.

This free event is suitable for all people who can drink beer and sing carols (other drinks of course are available!)

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The numbers allowed the vote increased through 19th century, but it wasn't until 1928 that everyone over the age of 21 could vote. Now it is 18 and over with talk of bringing it down to 16.

At a recent MP By-Election the turnout was less than 20% and the poll for Police commissioner was only 10%.

If you want the public to vote make it as easy as texting, e-mailing or voting on-line. It is not beyond the skill of IT technicians to ensure security and a safe vote.

Think of the money it would save in hiring polling stations, printing voting papers organising postal voting and employing staff. It would also save closing 1000's of schools across the country the cause of

great inconvenience to parents. Talk of mandatory voting is too radical, but modernising the way we vote could improve the numbers. One could visualise groups of people discussing the merits or otherwise of the candidates and voting on their mobile phones - which are now part of their hands!

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LOVELASS Michael and Pam wish their Neighbours and Friends throughout the town a very happy and peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2013 xxx

JOHNSON Tom, Molly and Dandy of Beechers Grove, Woodham Village wish all of their friends and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and all good wishes for 2013 xxx

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All You Can Eat Buffet at Elachi



Elachi, popular town centre Indian Restaurant and Takeaway has now added an "All You Can Eat" buffet to lunchtime meals Monday-Thursday and on Sundays it is available until 9pm.

Owner Hosam (left) told Newton News "it is already very popular and customers are remarking on the quality and value for money".

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COUNTY RECEIVE AWARD FOR ANTI CRIME SCHEME

County Durham Youth Offending Service has been recognised for a second time at a national level for its contribution to improving the life chances of young people who offend.

The Fully Integrated Pre-Court System picked up the Youth Justice Award 2012 at the Children and Young People Now awards for its impact on diverting young people from the criminal justice system and reducing re-offending.

The aim of the project is to divert ten to 17-year-olds away from crime. Launched in 2010 the scheme swings into action the moment a young person first comes into contact with the youth justice system, at which point they are provided with assessment and early intervention to help prevent them from re-offending.

The project supported 742 young people during 2011/2012.

Gill Eshelby, strategic

manager, County Durham Youth Offending Service, said: "We are delighted to win such a prestigious award. These are the gold standard for everyone who works with children, young people and their families."

"The Youth Justice Award recognises the excellent work of the service and our outstanding partnership work with Durham Constabulary." The scheme also works with young people who already have an official police reprimand or final warning. It is supported by Durham Constabulary and all of the partners in the Safe Durham Partnership, Local Criminal Justice Board and Children and Families Trust.

Young people, parents and carers are actively involved in all decisions made.

Over the past five years it has seen a 74 per cent reduction in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system far exceeding the national reduction.

Accommodation

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4 BEDROOM Scott Place, Newton Aycliffe. 3 Bedroom, Aldfrid Place, Newton Aycliffe. DG, Combi boiler and gardens, housing benefit welcome. Tel: 07540 640591

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3 BEDROOM properties to rent in Aycliffe. For details call 07980 596563

HOUSE TO RENT - Bluebell Meadow, Newton Aycliffe. New kitchen and bathroom, newly decorated and carpeted. Front and rear garden with car parking, DG and GCH. Excellent condition throughout - No DSS. £115 per week - bond negotiable. Call Carol 07967 030443

4 BEDROOM house to let, newly refurbished, Osbert Close, £125 per week. Tel 07970 690305

3 BEDROOM semi-detached, Heighington to let, £575pcm. Unfurnished, 2 receptions, large kitchen/diner, gardens front and rear, parking and garage, GCH and DG. Tel 07792 092134 or email torent@uwclub.net

2 BEDROOM terraced house to let, double glazed, GCH, enclosed rear garden, £450pcm. Contact 07825 942544 or 07921 129851

TO LET

3 bedroom detached house in Annand Way, Cobblers Hall. £550pcm

Please call Property Finders NE 01388 746440

Births

SIM 10th December 2012. Congratulations Sean and Joanne on the birth of Aaron James. A gorgeous little Brother for Kayla and Robyn and a welcome Grandson, Nephew and Cousin

In Memoriam

Dennis Archer

19th December 2010

Two years have gone since you went away. Oh how we miss you more each day. Too dearly loved to ever be forgotten, by his loving Mam and Dad, Brothers, Daughters Sharon, Son-in-Law Neil, Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren and all his loving family and friends. PS: Merry Christmas Dennis from all of us xxx

Dad

19th December 2010

The day you passed, treasured memories that will always last. The jokes you told, Your heart of gold, A Dad I'll never forget. The funny man, that everyone knew. A loyal friend, I looked up to. Your caring ways, Those happy days. I'll miss you every day. All our love, Helen, Steven and Natasha xxx

BILL BAKER 17th December. Two years on, still sadly missed. Barbara

JOHN GASKARTH 13th December 2001. Dad. We speak your name with love and pride. We smile with tears we cannot hide. Thank you for the years we shared, the love you gave, the way you cared. Missed by your loving family

SEAN CRONIN 19th December 2011. We never got the chance to say goodbye, but you know I loved you Sean with all my heart. I'm so very lonely without you. The house is so empty. Chancey misses his Dad, he's always looking for you, our lives will never be the same again. You are in my heart always. Good night, God bless. Love you all the world. Till we meet again. Your loving partner Karen and your big boy Chancey

DADDY SEAN 19-12-11. It's been a year since you left us and became an angel. There's not a day goes by that we don't think of you. You are always in our hearts, miss you so much. Love you loads, Danielle and Tony xx

GRANDA SEAN We love and miss you lots and lots. Evie Jean and Harry Anthony xx

ATKINS, Flo, Harry and Myra. Thinking of you all at Christmas. Karen, Danielle and John xx

STEVE STEWART Three years since you were taken away. Loved and remembered every day. Love you, Mam

IN LOVING memory of our Daughter Pat, 24th December. Time goes by but loving memories of you will always stay. No words can say how we feel, as you were special and will never be forgotten. We love and miss you. God bless you Pat. Sadly missed. Mam and Barry

For all your print requirements
Newton Press 300212

Congratulations

Joshua Ridley



Passing Out

We are so proud of your outstanding achievement on completing your first year in the Army and Passing Out on 13th December, 2012. Love from Nanna, Grandad and family

Passing Out

So proud of you Josh on your Passing Out on 13th December. Love, Naomi, Charlotte and Dylan

Kayleigh Coulthard



21 TODAY

15th December 2012
Happy birthday Kayleigh. Have a great night. Lots of love, Mam, Dad and Colin
21 TODAY BABE'S
Lots of love always, Liam

Emma Sarsfield



Congratulations for Graduating at Sunderland University. "We are so proud of you". Mam, Dad and all your family

Kara



Happy 16th Birthday
Lots of love from Granny

Kara



Happy 16th Birthday
Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Fraser and Euan

MURRAY John, happy 50th birthday. Have a good weekend. Love from Mam, Brothers Trevor, Raymond and Ian, Sisters-in-Law Nicola and Karen and families
MURRAY Dad. Happy birthday for 14th December. Love, David

Christmas Dance Show

Sonya Marie Dance School hold their first Christmas Dance Show at Greenfield Arts College on Sunday 16th December.

It's called Winter Wonderland with lots of children bringing the festive spirit to the stage with singing and dancing.

The show is at 2pm and 5pm. Tickets are £6.00 adult and £4.00 child. Contact Sonya on 07861 747681 or email dancecrazykidz@hotmail.co.uk

Newton News Gets Over 10,000 Hits a Day!

Newton News website is receiving 75,000 hits a week which is remarkable and proves the popularity of our weekly community newspaper.

Go to our Website and you can see the hits being totted up as you watch. Our advertisers are particularly feeling the benefit and we are receiving more enquiries and orders for space.

Twelve pages was the norm two years ago. Our size now has increased to 16 pages on a regular basis and at times we are publishing 20 pages.

Our success is due to the fact we print local news and lots of it, and unlike our competitors give an excellent ratio of news to advertising space.

Our pages carry lots of local interesting news and photos. Advertisers know their announcements are not lost in pages and pages of advertisements.

We thank our many loyal contributors to Newton News, conscious they are a vital part of the success of your community newspaper.

	<p>SafeLine Taxis (Aycliffe's "Black Taxi" Company)</p> <p>312 512</p> <p>THE ONLY TAXI NUMBER YOU WILL EVER NEED All Durham County Council Licensed Vehicles</p> <p>OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK Website: www.safelinetaxis.co.uk</p>	<p>WILLIAMS TAXIS Open 24 Hours</p> <p>01325 308899</p>	<p>24 HOUR TAXIS</p> <p>300222</p>	<p>B. & C. YELLOWCAB TAXIS</p> <p>Tel: 307478</p>
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Great Historic Result for Aycliffe Against Darlington

Newton Aycliffe recorded what was probably the biggest result in their history, beating Darlington at Moore Lane Park last Saturday.

Danny Earl's first-half brace was enough to give Allan Oliver's side the three points, while goalkeeper Scott Pocklington saved a late penalty to seal a great victory. The win saw Aycliffe go three points clear of the relegation places in the Ebac Northern League first division, putting them fifth-bottom on 18 points.

Earl had an early chance when he latched on to Pocklington's long ball in the 11th minute before hitting the side netting. David Dowson's glancing header from Stephen Thompson's right wing cross was well wide a couple of minutes later.

Dowson beat Steve Gibson down the left channel in the 18th minute but Pocklington denied the striker, saving with his legs. Thompson flashed a shot just over Pocklington's crossbar from Dowson's neat lay-off in the 22nd minute.

But first blood went to Aycliffe in the 30th minute when Earl brilliantly took a Kris Hughes ball down to his feet, turned Joe Tait inside-

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Saturday 15th December: Penrith (A) 3pm
Wednesday 19th December: Penrith (H) 7.30pm
Saturday 22nd December: South Shields (H) 3pm
Wednesday 26th December: Bishop Auckland (A) 1pm

out before drilling past Norton just inside the post.

Aycliffe's lead lasted just four minutes, though, when Amar Purewal beat Stuart Owen to Adam Nichols' cross to head over a stranded Pocklington. But the home side regained their lead in the 40th minute, with Earl getting his second. He robbed Tait about 25 yards out, turned him then lobbed Jack Norton with an exquisite chip.

Darlington almost equalised again on the stroke of half-time when Purewal crossed from the right, but Thompson's diving header was just wide of Pocklington's right-hand post.

Both sides produced chances during an open second half, with Darlington dominating possession but failing to hurt Aycliffe. Thompson shot just wide in the 50th minute, and Purewal skinned Owen down Darlington's right but his pin-point cross was headed over by Thompson two minutes later. Aycliffe threatened in the 68th minute when Hughes

did well to tee-up Tom Hinchley on the edge of the box, but he ballooned his effort over. Dowson almost rounded Pocklington in the 69th minute but the keeper recovered well to save. Substitute Paul Broom then had two great chances to score in the 75th minute. He forced a good stop by Norton, and then his hooked shot was cleared off the line by Gary Brown.

Terry Galbraith's 80th-minute free-kick from 20 yards flew over the bar after Darren Craddock fouled Dowson. And late drama had hearts in mouths after James Oliver conceded a penalty when he up-ended Dowson in the box, but Pocklington went the right way to brilliantly deny Thompson's spot-kick.

Aycliffe held on for a hard-earned and richly-deserved victory in front of 1,032 spectators at Moore Lane Park. Team: Pocklington, Gibson, Oliver, Craddock, Owen, Tarling (Peck, 89), Hinchley, Young (Knox, 62), Lambert (Broom, 72), Earl, Hughes. Unused: Mellanby, Close.

Aycliffe now face two even more important games in the next few days – back-to-back clashes with relegation rivals Penrith, away this Saturday followed by a home game next Wednesday. They then face bottom club South Shields next Saturday – three wins would put even more space between Aycliffe and the dropzone, and would come as a welcome early Christmas present for the Newtonians.

Wildcats Form Four Academies

Durham Wildcats have set up four Basketball academies in County Durham. In September 2012 the Wildcats launched their academy at Greenfield School and have been delighted with the impact it received. With over 40 students attending every week, the standard of basketball has increased dramatically. The Wildcats provide top quality coaching FREE of charge to all interested students. They would like to thank the coaches and the club for their hard work and support. Recently Greenfield Year 8 boys travelled to Sedgfield for a County Durham Tournament. This event was open to all schools in the County and Greenfield finished in equal 1st place with Durham Johnston - a fantastic achievement.

More recently two teams of girls travelled from Greenfield and were placed 4th in the County in a very close tournament, with only one goal preventing them from finishing in 2nd place. Well done girls.

Last weekend the four Academies were invited to take part in a Year 7 inter academy event at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. This saw some excellent Basketball played – again Greenfield fielded two teams and Both performed extremely well. Durham Johnston finished top, with Greenfield 1st team finishing a close 2nd and Woodham finishing 3rd. Well done to all involved.

Thank you again to the Wildcats for giving up their time to organise this event and for the invite to watch a first class game against



Greenfield College Basketball Academy Team

Surrey Heat. Our students really enjoyed it.

Greenfield's basketball academy runs every Friday 3.30 to 5.30, and is open to

Year 5, 6 & KS3 girls and boys – All welcome.

Thank you to Kayleigh Stapleton and Sam Dawson, two of our sport leaders who

gave up time to support our year 7 teams on Sunday, along with a large number of parents, it was very much appreciated.

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