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## MAJOR WORK STARTS ON TOWN CENTRE

### Minor Disruption - Business as Usual

Heavy equipment moves in this week to continue the redevelopment of the town centre.

Measures have been taken to ensure shops and shoppers are not inconvenienced and phased work will ensure good access with safety.

Town Centre Manager Bryan Haldane is personally very excited about the way the town centre will appear after this phase is completed in November.

New patterned paving, new lights, seating areas, trees and interactive play areas for children. "I have reason to be very optimistic about the future of Aycliffe Town Centre. It has a good occupancy rate and there is a lot of interest from traders in the redevelopment" said Bryan.

The Aldi development has given the town a boost, integrating the Tesco area with Beveridge Way. The plans for the older part of the centre will enhance what has been achieved and begin to provide a more attractive shopping precinct.

Next year Churchill House and the top row of shops adjacent will be demolished to give a clear view of Beveridge Way from Stephenson Way.

People who fear the town

clock will be lost are assured there are plans to re-erect it elsewhere in the Town Centre. It is also planned for the Library and other public facilities to be re-located in the shops opposite Bon Marche in a project to be undertaken by the County Council.

The wall barring shoppers from the Multi-storey car park access to the Town Centre is still under review. It was erected deliberately to stop pedestrians using this area as there is danger from large HGV delivery vehicles which supply Aldi and other large stores in the area.

However the problem has been recognised and if it is possible to safeguard the general public the wall will come down.

Phil Wilson MP said: "I am pleased the improvements to the town centre are continuing and seem to be building up momentum. The works that are about to start will improve the shopping experience in Aycliffe.

I'm looking forward to the changes the town centre owner's have promised in transforming the town centre over the next year or so. I believe we need to remember how far we have come.

The health centre has been demolished, the library has

been moved and the new Aldi store has opened. With the Hitachi announcement bringing over 700 jobs to the town I believe Newton Aycliffe's future is on the up."

Bryan Haldane said: "The Centre management are delighted to see this next phase of the master plan for the regeneration on Newton Aycliffe coming to fruition. We have had enormous support from the County Council, our local MP and the retailers all of whom are

more on page 2



Ramp to be demolished

## Apprenticeship Vacancies, News and Upcoming Open Door Events



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## SPECTACULAR EXHIBITION BY LOCAL ARTIST

On Thursday 7th February a new exhibition will open in The Greenfield Gallery. Local artist Lynn Rocks will have her work on display from Thursday 7th February until Wednesday 27th February 2013.

Lynn Maria Rocks lives in Tudhoe, where she has spent her whole life surrounded by the wonderful countryside, moorland, woodlands, rivers and waterways that rural

County Durham has to offer. This, along with frequent visits to nearby coastal areas has coloured her art with movement, energy and light. Taking her inspiration from Mother Nature's glory, Lynn's art covers many genres and styles, allowing for a wide audience to find something to their taste and interest. Her exhibition in The Greenfield Gallery will have something for everyone



and should not be missed. Also at the moment we have a fantastic display of textiles and watercolours by Sharron Bates in our Craft Cabinets – the perfect place to get a unique handmade gift and help us support local artists. The Greenfield Gallery is open Monday to Thursday 10am to 9pm, and Fridays 10am to 4pm, for more information contact us on 01325 379048 or visit our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk).

## Exploring Apprenticeships at Greenfield College

Plans are well under way for a project exploring apprenticeships, careers, and the opportunities for young people on our doorstep in Aycliffe Business Park.

This project, which has been funded by GAMP AAP, will give young people in Year 9 at Greenfield the opportunity to visit some of the manufacturing companies based on Aycliffe Business Park in February, design their own company and present their ideas to representatives from each of the Aycliffe based companies.

We hope this will give them a better understanding of career opportunities in the local area, and an insight into what goes on at Aycliffe Business Park. We would like to thank those companies involved in the project, and GAMP AAP for this fantastic opportunity for our students.

## MAJOR WORK STARTS ON TOWN CENTRE



New central layout



*continued from front page:* very keen for the works to get underway

This £2M investment in Phase 3 follows hard on the heels of the now open £1.5m Aldi supermarket.

At a time when town centre retailing has been under pressure nationally and major retail chains are closing the landlords have demonstrated their continued commitment to Newton Aycliffe by pressing ahead with major projects such as these.

We are working with existing tenants to ensure they benefit from the improvements and will be relocating some tenants such as Coffee Pronto to more prominent locations so they and all other tenants can benefit from the new shoppers being attracted to the town centre.

This rolling programme of investment and renewal

will continue and we have recently made a planning application to convert the former HSBC bank to a new shop unit."

## 'Brave' at St Clares

Fed up of being in the house, money sparse after Christmas? Well all children are welcome to come along to the children's film club – KIDZFLICKS – at St. Clare's on Saturday 2nd February to see the new Disney release 'Brave!'

Featuring Emma Thompson, Julie Walters, Robbie Coltrane and Billy Connolly as the voices of the main characters, this film discovers the meaning of true bravery.

Doors open 1.30pm, film begins at 2pm and will finish 3.30pm – so grab your friends and come along! Popcorn, pop, crisps, 50p mix up's on sale in our tuck shop. If you need to know more, contact Helen on 319002.



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## THE TURBINIA

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**Saturday 2nd February - "Elenbak"**

"We do covers by the likes of Bad Company, Free, Sabbath, Poison, Brian Adams, Eurythmics and many more.

Review: "Elenbak: What a bunch of fighters these guys are! Back again after previously strong showings in past BOTBs, Elenbak return with yet more melody driven and insanely catchy soft rock. More new material in their excellently delivered set, but still it's the wonderful 'Samantha' that gets under your skin and refuses to be ignored - a summertime hit single if ever I heard one. Partnered to familiar favourite 'In This World' these are two great songs that really show the quality running through this band. Closing with a triumphant 'Someday' you have to believe that there is a cracking AOR album in this band just begging to be unleashed."

**Saturday 9th February - "Bon Jovi Forever"**  
with special guest support - 'THE KILL'

Gig Pit Review: "I went up the Tuns, glad I did, never seen 'The Kill' before, known Mark for years, what a band, top drawer! Not a great fan of Bon Jovi, but I have to say these are the best tribute act I've seen, and Greggs vocals in both bands was awesome, guitar playing was immense and the rhythm section tight as anything. Grown men stood open mouthed, and the women went berserk. Great night lads!" Rockermouth Review: "Great band! Still haven't seen the Bon Jovi Forever set, but it's the same line-up as the Kill... and they rock! Talented lads, the lot of them. A great set of musicians, and Gregg has frontman skills and stage presence to back up his excellent voice. Then add to that a cool and interesting set list, a quality P.A. rig, and you've got a superb package. Can't wait to see the lads play again. But maybe next time at the Office".

ONE OF ONLY 2 FREE GIGS THE GUYS ARE PLAYING THIS YEAR

**Saturday 16th February - "Feed the Bear"**

Gig Pit Review: From a previous gig at the Turbinia: Well, What can I say? Awesome! What a brilliant band this lot are!! Very friendly and full of banter to a rather small audience. Steve was, as Mark had predicted, all over the shop, outside within 30 seconds of the first track kickin in! On the tables, on the floor, snogging the dog, the works! Mansell was extremely accommodating with Steve singing to him on the floor. Animal on drums was great to watch, bare chested and hair all over the place. The tattoo on his back is MEGGGGAAA!! Love it! Some fab renditions of some of my favourite tracks, including Alice Cooper, Faces, Bowie, Nazareth and a couple of AC/DC tracks in the first set. Have to say I thought 'Highway to Hell' and 'Whole Lotta Rosie' was fabulous. Proper loud and ear-splitting, just how we like it! Second set gave us 'California Man' (Mott the Hoople?), 'Bad Bad Boy', 'Sin City', 'Don't Believe a Word', and a track I've not heard in yonks - 'Black Knight! A couple of Zep tracks and 'Cat Scratch Fever' for an encore rounded off an absolutely brilliant gig at the Tub. I for one thoroughly enjoyed Feed The Bear, and look forward to their (guaranteed) return here soon! Nice one lads, some happy punters here!!

For more information on bands go to  
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## Marie-Clare Singers First Concert



Dear Sir,  
A successful performance of Karl Jenkins 'Armed Man' and Gabriel Faure's 'Requiem' was given by the Marie-Clare Singers at their inaugural concert in St. Clare's Church on Sunday 13th January. A small but very appreciative audience praised the choir's performance of both works. The plaintive quality of Florence Cowies voice so well-suited the opening 'Kyrie' of the 'Armed Man', the soprano solo 'Pie Jesu' in the 'Requiem' was convincingly performed by Debbie Wilson, full voiced and wide ranging in dynamic and colour. Trevor Fenwick's rich vocal

timbre gave an intensity to the 'Liberia me' of the same work. Soloists and choir were ably supported by the organ playing of Tim Walker. Thanks are also due to members of the Ordinarie Choir from Gainford who joined us for this performance. A retiring collection raised the sum of £156 which will be divided between the Food Bank at St. Clares and the Alan Shearer Care Centre in Newcastle. The choir is set to continue, the next rehearsal will be on Thursday 7th February 7.00-9.00pm at St. Clare's with an exciting programme of songs from the shows - 'Phantom of the Opera', 'Les Miserable',

'South Pacific', 'Oklahoma' etc. etc. New members welcome either contact 01325 316963 or turn up at the rehearsal.  
George Lee

## An Evening With Pam Rhodes

On Thursday, 14th March, Neville Parade Methodist Church are holding 'An Evening with Pam Rhodes' starting at 6.30pm. Pam has had a varied career on radio, television and as a writer. This more intimate occasion involves Pam talking to the audience with lots to make them laugh, and quite a bit that is thought-provoking. She shares reflections on a very varied career - during which she has met a rich variety of characters from the Pope to Dolly Parton - and includes a fascinating insight into the experience of presenting Songs of Praise for twenty five years. Tickets for the evening which includes a meal are £10 and are available from Liz Bates tel 310182 or Rev Graham Morgan tel 01388 772898

## Rotary Club Offer an Opportunity for a Free 4 Week Trip to Bulgaria

The town's Rotary Club invite anyone interested in applying to be a sponsored candidate for a free trip to Bulgaria later this year to get in touch as soon as possible. This is an opportunity for a professional person to widen their experience by joining the North East Rotary Group Study Cultural Exchange visit to Bulgaria 28th May to 25th June 2013. Candidates must be aged between 25 and 40 at the date of application and be UK citizens. They must be employed, full time, and have at least 2 years work experience in their chosen profession and intend to remain in that profession for a considerable time afterwards. They must be employed or reside in the North East and have the support of their employer. Candidates must be prepared and available to be interviewed by members of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and, if successful, by representatives of the Rotary

North East District. Candidates should have their own transport to attend pre-departure meetings with other candidates and the team leader. Candidates to contact: david.hogg@close-thornton.co.uk or 07811 353183 no later than February 15th to obtain an application form.

## Flower Club

Area demonstrator, Mildred Stafford, invites members and guests of Shildon and District's Flower Club to 'Throw Caution to the Wind' at the next meeting on Monday, 4th February at Shildon Civic Centre from 7.30pm. Free to members.

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Newton Aycliffe	Manager: Vicky Hutchinson	01325 315623
Bishop Middleham	Manager: Natalie Richardson	01740 651224

\*Aycliffe Village Ofsted Outstanding



## P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together

### Greenfield/Middridge Ward

Wednesday 6th February at 6pm at the Evangelical Church in Ladybower.

Come and meet our new Beat PC and our new PCSO, now that Mike and Matt have moved on.

County Councillors and Town Councillors will be in attendance.

Chris Curtis from ARRIVA may be available with info on 5/5a bus service.

The PACT meeting will be followed by the Horndale Residents Association.

# Target for RAF Fundraisers



After deciding to raise money for a Hospice, a group of RAF personnel in Afghanistan are approaching their goal.

For the last two months during their tour of duty, 1310 Flight from 18/27 Engineering Squadron have been steadily bench-pressing the weight of the entire RAF aircraft fleet to raise money for St. Teresa's Hospice.

The squadron, based at RAF Odiham and currently on duty at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan, have collectively lifted over 7 million kilograms and have nearly reached their target of 9,872,970 kilograms – the combined weight of every aircraft in the RAF fleet!

The squadron, which is responsible for the forces' heavy-lift Chinook helicopters, formally adopted the Hospice following a visit in December 2011.

Hospice Senior Events Manager and former serving member of the RAF Regiment, David Jones said: "It's fantastic to see a squadron taking time during their operational duties to raise funds for a much-needed cause. Everyone here at the Hospice greatly admires their effort."

To sponsor the team, visit [www.justgiving.com/Jamie-Jones2](http://www.justgiving.com/Jamie-Jones2)

## Eating Out

**Can't be bothered to cook but don't want to spend a fortune eating out?**

Why not come along to Oak Leaf Sports Complex, where you can enjoy a tasty and freshly prepared meal. We offer an extensive Bar Menu, with low prices and an ever changing Specials Board. No matter what time of the day or night you call, there's sure to be something you fancy.

Why not drop in and try one of our delicious new coffees from Rijo, Cappuccino, Mocha, Espresso, Americano or Hot Chocolate all only £1.00.

Food is available from 12.00 noon until 2.30pm, 5.00pm until 9.30pm weekdays, and 12.00 noon until 9.30pm Saturdays. Every Sunday we serve a traditional Sunday Lunch 12.00noon until 2.00pm. Between 2.30pm and 8.00pm, our Main Menu and Specials Board are available. You will always find a warm welcome waiting for you.

For further information, contact the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on 01325 300600 or visit our website at [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) and follow the links.

## AYCLIFFE VILLAGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Aycliffe Village Local History Society is pleased to welcome Dr. Robert McManners on Wednesday 13th February at 7pm in Aycliffe Village Hall. Robert will give a talk entitled 'Shafts of Light' about local pitmen artists.

All are welcome, members £1 and non member £2. Details from 01325 301093.

## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Aycliffe Village Church after snowfall by Lee Charlton



Here is a picture of a male sparrowhawk that had lunch in our Kemble Green garden last Thursday, 24th January. He's standing on the leftovers - mainly feathers! Pete Thompson

## Thoughtless Horse Riders



Dear Sir,  
I am dismayed at the thoughtlessness of the individual who is exercising a horse along the grassed area fronting Welbury Grove and Ross Walk on the Eastern side of the Town.

The ground is saturated and the horse hooves are leaving extremely large divots that will not naturally recover in the current wet and cold environment. This is not a recognised bridleway and the people who live in the area do not need the ground to be unnecessarily churned up and left looking blighted.

I have no objection to horses being exercised nor would I seek to curtail the enjoyment of horse riding. I would simply ask that some consideration be given to the local environment that we all cherish.

Councillor Jed Hillary

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The Importance of Good Posture

Town Centre Police Station

A FOND FAREWELL



Pupils from Aycliffe Village Primary School enjoyed a spine tingling experience when local Osteopath and Ergonomist, Melanie Rowland visited the school to deliver a talk to the classes about the spine and the importance of good posture.

Melanie showed the pupils very detailed models of the spine. She explained very clearly about the anatomy and function of the spine. She then demonstrated to the pupils the correct posture for sitting at desks, using computer keyboards and game consoles.

Miss Rowland explained to the pupils that if children routinely spend many hours watching television and playing computer games, they are more likely to experience neck and back pain than those who are more active.

Pupils were advised to spend less time in front of the screens and, if they are on them, to take regular breaks in order to prevent the pain from occurring.

Should you ever require Melanie Rowland’s advice, she can be contacted at the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, where her Practice is based.

NEWTON NEWS

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Dear Sir,

I am delighted that Cllr George Gray now wants a new Police Station in the Town Centre. Just two months from the next elections. I would point out that at the two meetings at which Peter Thompson Chair of the Durham Police Authority attended at the Town Council neither he nor any other Councillor called for or asked for a New Police Station in the Town Centre. Indeed when Great Aycliffe Residents Association wrote to the Council asking it to join forces with it for precisely that, the Town Council bluntly refused.

Only through the efforts of GARA with Public support and Newton News did we achieve the concession that Peter Thompson gave and Ron Hogg (now Police Crime Commissioner) confirmed, namely that of a Police Facility in the Fire Station offering exactly the same level of police service to the public as was previously provided when the Town Centre Station was open.

GARA the public and Newton News achieved this and with no support from any Councillor at any Council meeting. Personally I do not think it important that Inspector Mark Hall or PC Holohan need be present at the PACT meeting I would rather they were free to fight crime, PCSO Gavin Laycock

has done an excellent job in attending these meetings and dealing with issues raised. Though I am sure deep down he would rather be out combating crime too but some one has to attend these meetings!

The Police have done an excellent job in West Ward and I have every confidence they will continue to.

Arun M Chandran



A PACT Meeting will be held at the following venues: Simpasture Court Coffee Lounge on Tuesday 5th February from 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

Aycliffe Village Hall on Saturday 9th February from 11am to 12noon.

Please come along to hear updates and have your say on local issues. PC Alan Thompson & PCSO Richard Scott are your Community Police Officers. Councillors & Livin representatives have been invited to attend.

For more information on whats going on in your area visit [www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk)

We would like to wish Dr Ferguson all the best in the future in his new life in Canada, we are very sad that he is leaving after 29 years of being a dedicated partner at the Practice.

We wished farewell by holding a Ceilidh which was a very successful night, he was very pleased to see former work colleagues who gave him their best wishes.

He will be missed by many of our patients here at the Bewick Crescent practice, together with the staff.



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## Rosemary Boynton

The funeral was held on Tuesday at Heighington for a well known character from Heighington, Rosemary Boynton. Rosemary was born in Heighington and spent her life serving the community. During the 60's and 70's Rosemary and her husband Arthur ran the popular Fish and Chip shop in Heighington. Customers came from all over the local area and they often delivered up to a hundred fish and chip suppers to night shift workers on the trading estate.



Rosemary was forthright and tenacious but remained a popular figure in the village. She was instrumental in the opening and extension to the village hall when it was closed as a school in 1961; A facility which is invaluable to the village and well used even now.

She spent many years as a Parish Councillor and also a District Councillor where she fought for a fair deal for Heighington and the rural areas, often leading campaigns such as better street lighting, children's playing areas and keeping a local doctor's surgery open. During her lifetime she was an active member of The WI, attending a conference in London to represent Heighington, and enjoyed the homemakers, the church services and activities, the over sixties and remained a trustee of Heighington Village Hall all her life.

Councillor Gerald Lee gave a glowing tribute to her at the funeral quoting from messages of sadness and respect for her work from Linda Todd manager of democratic services in Darlington, Heather Scott Leader of Darlington Conservative Group and the Head of Darlington Council. As well as this she was a devoted Daughter, Wife to Arthur for 56 years, Mother to her 4 children, Grandmother to 8 and Great Grandmother to 7 and will be greatly missed by them all.

The family would like to thank Bethany House, Durham Stroke unit and local doctors for their excellent care and also John Blenkiron and Sons Funeral Directors and The Reverend Lissa Gibbons for the lovely Service.

Contributions are being accepted by The Village Hall for a lasting memorial to the time she gave to the village.

## CARE HOME CELEBRATES 20th ANNIVERSARY

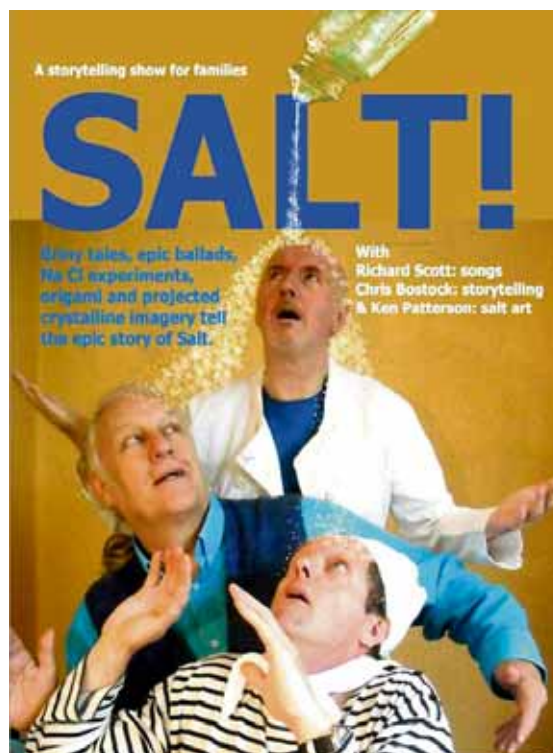


Aycliffe Care Home celebrated its 20th Anniversary this week with a birthday on Friday 25th January. Entertainment was provided by Miss Holly Wood which was thoroughly enjoyed by all and a beautiful cake was made in the shape of the care home by our head cook, Norma Leach. The Mayor, Val Raw and Mayoress, Barbara Clare came and joined in the celebrations and did the honour of cutting the cake. Mrs Doreen Bonnar, the home manager said, "I am very proud of the 20 years of excellent care the home has provided residents. Many members of staff have worked at the home for more than 10 years and have a wealth of knowledge of the care sector ensuring a high standard of support throughout the years. We are very happy to be marking this special occasion."

Akari Care Limited are the new company operating the care home and are planning to start refurbishment work in the summer time which the clients and the staff are looking forward to. Julie Bialek



## SALT at Greenfield Community College



At Greenfield Community College we are proud to be hosting a live performance of "SALT" for local primary children. The show is interactive, including storytelling, origami, science and music, and promises to be exciting, entertaining and educational. Several Primary schools from the area will be coming to Greenfield free of charge on Monday 4th February to see this fantastic performance, which we are sure they will enjoy!

## Tearaways Present "Blood Brothers"

A local youth theatre group are about to embark on a musical production that they have never staged before.

The Tearaways Youth Theatre Group will shortly be beginning rehearsals on their version of Willy Russells Blood Brothers, which will be performed later this year. A spokesperson said "The group are trying something different with their musical productions this time, and are on the lookout for young budding, actors, dancers, and singers aged 11 to 19 years of age in the area, who would like to be in the production. You don't have to have any previous experience, as we will provide training for you. Just lots of enthusiasm, and willing to learn new skills is all we ask. The group will help build your confidence,

your creativity and boost your self esteem. Blood Brothers is about twins separated at birth, who meet up later in their teens and become friends, and fall in love with the same girl. Tell Me It's Not True is the song most people know from the show".

Anyone interested in joining the group should ring 01388 774838 or go to www.tearaways-shildon.co.uk

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# YEAR 8 STEM CHALLENGE DAY



Woodham Academy has a tradition of all Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects working together. This has included a cross-curricular day looking at school building design and working with Gestamp GMF Tallent Automotive to develop solar powered cars. For the past two years Science and Technology have worked together to create an exciting design and make challenge, using scientific and engineering concepts, to develop a quality product with a fragrant wow factor.

Students spent an exciting day designing and manufacturing a range of toiletries. Students made bath bombs, room fragrances and soap, choosing their own combinations of colouring and scent and also adding a touch of sparkle. Along the way they saw first hand some real-life applications of the chemistry that they have been studying this year. Within Design and Technology all students designed and created their brand identity, including packaging for their fragrant products. These ranged from a designer draw bag to a vac formed blister pack with card inlay.

Michael Nelson, Head of Design and Technology and Royal Academy of Engineering Regional STEM Coordinator, described the activity as a “wonderful opportunity for all Year 8 students to see real life applications of how STEM can be used.” He also said that the activity had introduced students to a STEM related career path through apprenticeships or Higher Education.

At the end of the day everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, including the staff. The students’ creations were packaged and all students went home with a quality product.

# M & Co. To Close?

I was shocked last Saturday to find that M&Co in Newton Aycliffe will be closing sometime in March 2013. Firstly I feel awful for the very nice ladies who work there, who will lose their jobs, and with so few jobs around this is going to be difficult for them.

Some work 12 hours, and if they do manage to find work in Darlington or Bishop Auckland you can easily say it will cost about £20.00 in bus fares plus travelling time. Secondly, what about the people who live in Newton Aycliffe, we get Aldi and another shop is taken away. That also means extra bus fares that people can ill afford if they want to buy an item of clothing. Two ladies in the shop on Saturday said they cannot get a bus to Bishop Auckland, in March they will not be able to shop in M&Co, so one they can not travel to, and one will be closed!

It seems from what I understand, and I am sure I will be corrected if wrong, is that the landlords want higher rent, and they would rather have no rent than lower rent. When I came to this town it was a lovely and clean now look at it? It is awful. Can nobody do anything to save Newton Aycliffe, and make it a nice place to live in once more.

Jeannie Reid  
Osbert Place

# NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

We are looking for two golf volunteers to run a golf day one Saturday in June - to volunteer ring Peter on 313924.

We would also like to start a games activity event, every Tuesday 10-12. Including snooker, skittles, table tennis, darts and badminton at only £2 per person. To show an interest please ring Peter on 313924 today.

We can now cater for residential homes with Kurling every Monday 10-12 at £2 per person, this is a keep fit sport, even for those in a wheelchair. Bring a party from your home on a regular basis and have a good laugh! To book ring 313924.

Bingo Monday and Friday 7pm onwards, old and new customers welcome.

Volunteer required with knowledge to instruct the Wii machine. Ring 313924.

We are open Tuesday and Thursday 10-12 for the sale of bric-a-brac, just pop in to browse, we also have a range of Age UK leaflets, giving advice on a range of topics.

We may have the return of the Marske Fisherman Choir on Saturday 27th April, This is a must hear event, they are fabulous. Ring 313924

Dear Mr Bailey  
GATC Clerk

It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Senior Citizens especially, to write to you to thank your Pride Team for the excellent job they have done in ensuring that main footpaths are cleared of snow

and ice.

Please convey our sincere thanks and appreciation to your teams for carrying out this essential work during the time of heavy snow, a job well done.

This certainly makes life easier for everyone to get into

the town.

Also a big thank you to Colin, a resident in Ainsty Hunt, who not only cleared the whole of our Street with very little help, but went on to clear the main road into our street, well done and thank you.

Peter Beaty

# Horndale Residents Association

The first meeting of the year will held on Wednesday 6th February at the Evangelical Church it will follow the PACT meeting which starts at 6pm.

Our new PC Kathryn Putney will be in attendance please take this opportunity to meet her and discuss any concerns or problems you may have, I am aware of an increase of anti-social behaviour in Ladybower and Greenlee Garth, the more people who attend the better chance we have of resolving the problem.

A representative from GallifordTry the building company on the old nursing home site; they will update on the progress of work and answer any questions you may have. It appears that up to now the site has been run very well, the site foreman Gary Easton is very approachable and will endeavour to make sure any concerns are resolved.

Finally the committee would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year and hope we can help to improve our neighbourhoods.

Tea and coffee will be served between the meetings. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Philip Clark  
HRA

# READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Missing . . . Snow Dog answers to the name of snowflake, her owner Ava Lanche described her as a cross breed between a church puppy and a St Bernard, Ava said she is friendly and won't bite, but may give you a cold snap!

After having a bowl of flakes she had an ice berger, then drifted off in a blizzard. Ava said she must have been barking and will receive a frosty reception on her return. She could have gone to the north pole to visit her cousin Rudolph or had just run away to sea!

Ava Lanche (AKA Millie)

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## Review Your Timetable

Dear Sir,  
I would like to respond to the issue of the new bus number 116 and time tables in general. With regards to the new bus run by Central Coaches which I think most people are on about, the time tables can be found in Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre, Tesco and the Library that I know of. With regards to other time tables of buses run by "Arriva" these can be obtained from the above except Tesco but include the Leisure Centre, Town Council Offices, timetables of all buses are placed on each bus stand, probably other places also. If residents are concerned about the new bus then I think they would need to review its times and if Central Coaches

want to make money it also needs to review its own time table and do some market research; to start at 9.20 from Heighington and finish at 13.20 is not an ideal time when you consider school times. Greenfield School finish at 3.30 and when the 5 Arriva bus took that route and stopped at Greenfield School the bus was full. The other issue is shoppers not everybody has a car and most shoppers go out probably about 10am and return at say 2pm depending on the amount of shopping they need and any stops with coffees etc shoppers may need to make. The last bus to Heighington via School Aycliffe from Greenwell Road leaves at 13.35. So if you come down from the Northern end then you must time it right to get back. My view of the route is good but the timing is wrong, buses must meet customer needs. I feel it is that issue that needs to be addressed start time and finish time, something in the middle can be cut. This all goes down to market demand which leads to market research.  
Vince Crosby

## Hospital Club

The next meeting of Bishop Auckland Hospital Club will take place on Tuesday, 5th February at 8.15pm at the Hospital Club on Escomb Road.  
A free event. All welcome

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## No. 116 BUS TIMETABLE

The general route has been sent out before but here is a more detailed street by street route! Firstly the 116 starts at Heighington at 9.20am and the last one finishes at Heighington at 2.12pm, there are 5 bus runs hourly for a five hours period each day for 5 days a week Monday-Friday.

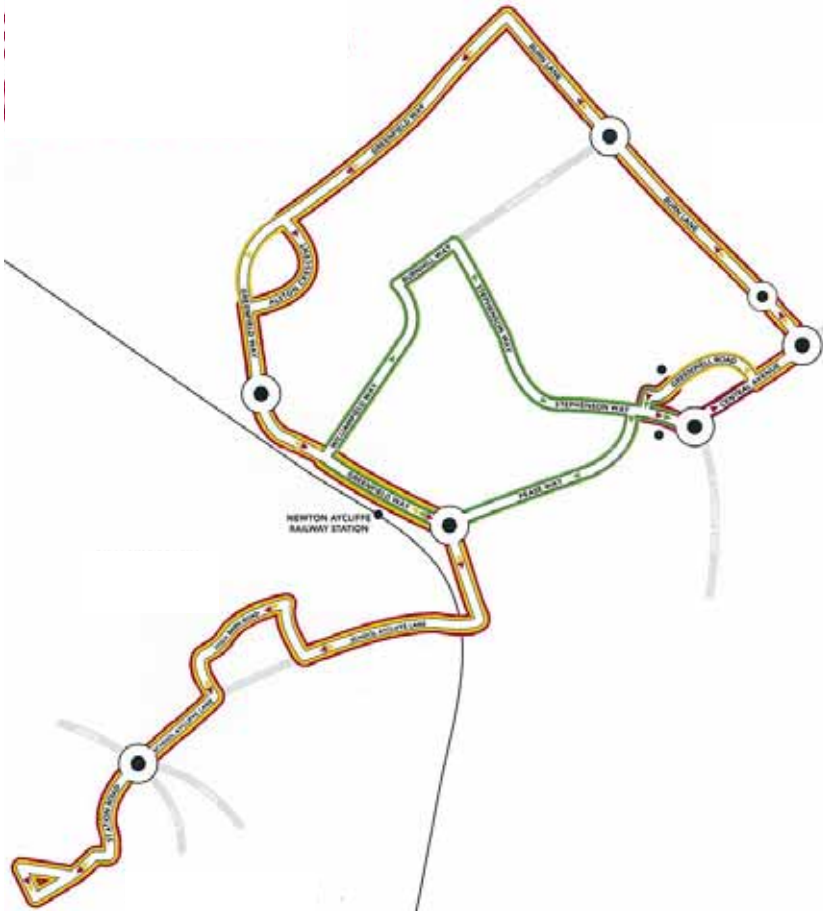
Heighington Darlington Road, Station Road, Beech Crescent, School Aycliffe Lane, School Aycliffe High Barn Road, Eastfields Road, School Aycliffe Lane Newton Aycliffe Horndale Avenue, Greenfield Way, Alston Crescent, Greenfield Way, Burn Lane, Central Avenue, Greenwell Road, Macmillan Road, Stephenson Way, Pease Way, Greenfield Way, Williamfield Way, Burnhill Way, Stephenson Way, Central Avenue, Greenwell Road, Macmillan Road, Stephenson Way, Central Avenue, Burn Lane, Greenfield Way, Alston Crescent, Horndale Avenue, Greenfield Way, School Aycliffe Lane, School Aycliffe Eastfields Road, High Barn Road, School Aycliffe Lane, Heighington Beech Crescent, Station Road, Darlington Road.

Heighington, Village Hall	0920	1020	1120	1220	1320
School Aycliffe	0922	1022	1122	1222	1322
Newton Aycliffe, Rail Station	0924	1024	1124	1224	1324
Newton Aycliffe, Alston Crescent	0926	1026	1126	1226	1326
Cobblers Hall	0929	1029	1129	1229	1329
Town Centre, Greenwell Road arr	0932	1032	1132	1232	1332
Town Centre, Greenwell Road dep	0935	1035	1135	1235	1335
Pease Way, Oakfield	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338
Williamfield Way, Dandy Cart	1040	1140	1240	1340	
Town Centre, Churchill House	0943	1043	1143	1243	1343
Town Centre, Greenfield Road dep	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400
Cobblers Hall	1003	1103	1203	1303	1403
Newton Aycliffe, Alston Crescent	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406
Newton Aycliffe, Rail Station	1008R	1108R	1208R	1308R	
School Aycliffe	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410
Heighington, Village Hall	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412

R = stops at Newton Aycliffe Rail Station on request only.

**Please Note:** The County Durham bus stops were updated from 2nd January 2013 along the route with this timetable! The Darlington area bus stops from Newton Aycliffe Town Council to Heighington were updated a good two weeks after the changes.

For those wanting to go along 16A route there is now an early morning bus to Darlington and a return one late in the afternoon. There will be an updated 16A timetable as of 4th February 2013. "Helming Hand."



## Newtonian Sells Hand Knit Babyware

### Looking for Local Knitters



Richard Rossi from Newton Aycliffe set up [BeaniesforBabies.com](http://BeaniesforBabies.com) because when looking for a gift for his nephew found he was unable to buy a handmade crochet baby hat. He decided to set up a business website to sell them himself. He employs knitters to produce the goods and buyers can purchase the hats at [www.beaniesforbabies.com](http://www.beaniesforbabies.com) and pay via PayPal. The hats are for newborn

babies, premature babies, 0-3 months, 3-6 months, 9-12 months. Handmade crochet baby boots are also available. The website was launched in December 2012, and still needs a little bit of work doing to it but goods are on sale now. If there are any skilled knitters with new designs in Newton Aycliffe, Richard may be interested in buying your work. Ring him on 07812 990797.

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## FREE FITNESS CLASSES

On Monday 4th of February Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre would like to invite you to come and take part in our Group Fitness evening for FREE.

**The class times are:**

Spin 6 - 7pm	Body Tone 6 - 7pm
XTrain 7 - 8pm	Boxercise 7 - 8pm
Pilates 8 - 9pm	

There will also be "meet and greet" 7pm - 9pm with Aycliffe Triathlon Club and Sedgfield 75 Swim Club as well as information on how to volunteer with Durham County Council Sports Development Team. You can also have a look round the facility to see what else we offer including Lifestyle Fitness Suite and Rock Antics.

Everyone taking part will receive a FREE Fitness Pass for Newton Aycliffe Lifestyle Fitness Suite and a Free One Session Swim Pass.

Places are limited on our Group Fitness sessions so booking is essential. For further information or to book your place please contact Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on 01325 300500 Wendy Bake

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# Gold Award for DISC



DISC are pleased to have been awarded the 'Equality Standard Gold' by Equality North East, a leading national equality and diversity organisation; the Gold Award is a practical tool for organisations to identify and promote themselves as an employer and supplier of choice.

Since developing the 'Equality Standard' and 'Equality Standard Gold Award', Equality North East has worked with regional and national organisations in particular the Government Equalities Office (GEO) to identify the key aspects which should be considered when organisations develop standards.

Liz Reay Chief Executive of Equality North East said, 'I would like to congratulate DISC who has shown themselves as an organisation that does truly embed equality and the Equality Standard Gold Award is the outward evidence of that. They really value diversity which is evident in their workforce and service users.'

"Those employers who recognise the importance of embedding equality are reaping the business benefits. Good equality practice ensures businesses attract and retain the best people and provide a fair and accessible service to customers. In the current economic climate it is even more important that we maintain fair employment practices, those employers who do that are finding it makes good business sense. DISC mirrors this in their partnership work and evidence of consulting with and responding to local needs."

Valuing diversity means being aware of, sensitive to,

and appreciating differences of: age, gender, race, culture, physical abilities, sexual orientation and lifestyles. DISC as an organisation value diversity in the workplace. "Diversity isn't just a paper exercise, it has to be part of everything we do, part of our work culture" quotes Mark Weeding DISC's Executive Director. We understand that each individual is unique and recognise individual differences. As part of this commitment all staff get involved each year in organising cultural events for diversity week including awareness raising for Alcohol Awareness Week, Diverse Fashion Show and Cultural World Food celebrations.

DISC were also very happy that earlier in 2012 DISC's Gypsy Roma Traveller worker Leanne Wilkinson was recognised for her outstanding contribution to both the work she does for DISC and her volunteer work with the homeless at the North East Equality Awards. Leanne won the 'Individuals who have made a difference' award and was pleased to receive the award at the annual North East Equality Awards dinner at the Marriot Hotel, Gosforth.

As well as her dedication to her work at DISC over the last 8 years, in her spare time, in the evenings and at weekends Leanne selflessly provides a food and drink service for street homeless people in Middlesbrough. Inspired by her late father and mother who started soup runs 21 years ago, she has been involved since her teenage years and is a well known, welcome face within the homeless community. Leanne is an inspiration to her fellow team members and deserves to be recognised for the difference she makes to people's lives every day.

The North East Equality Awards recognise and reward those employers, learning providers and individuals who strive to ensure that good equality and diversity practices are implemented in the work place thereby improving recruitment and retention for people from diverse groups.

To find out more about the Equality Standard and The Equality Standard Gold Award please contact the Equality North East Office on 0191 426 4399 or info@equality-ne.co.uk  
**DISC**  
Sapphire House  
Horndale Avenue  
Aycliffe Business Park  
DL5 6DS  
Tel: 01325 731 160

# Careers Advice is Ladder to Success

BETTER careers advice could hold the key to the growth of the North East's manufacturing sector, according to one of the region's leading training providers.

Michael Blades, business development manager at Newton Aycliffe based SW Durham Training (SWDT), a 45-year old company that delivers engineering and manufacturing apprenticeships and training support, believes that the absence of good, up-to-date advice for young people is leaving them ill-equipped to make decisions about whether or not to enter the industry.

He said: "Manufacturing and engineering in the North East are both thriving sectors, and we believe that they could hold the key to the region's economic prosperity. However, we absolutely have to do all that we can to ensure that this message is reaching young people leaving school.

"When it comes to apprenticeships, school leavers must understand that this is an option that can lead to a long and successful career. This is a message that has to be communicated early on to ensure that by the time people reach the age of 16, they are well informed about their options, and are able to make decisions based on reality rather than perception.

"We rely on schools and indeed parents to ensure that young people are well-informed about the different career paths they can and should take, and we firmly believe that apprenticeships are a fantastic route into business. We absolutely must see better advice for young people, and particularly advice about the manufacturing and engineering sectors, where there is no shortage of well-paid roles, but not enough talent."

Mr Blades' comment follows claims by MPs that careers services for young people in England show a 'worrying deterioration', after a report from the Education Select Committee that highlights

problems with the 'quality, independence and impartiality' of current careers advice. There were also concerns about the lack of individual advice available. The National Careers Service, launched last year, offers guidance by website and phone, but it does not provide young people with face-to-face advisers.

Mr Blades added: "As an industry, we face a real challenge, with outdated and inaccurate perceptions of what manufacturing and engineering roles are like. Far from the grey, dirty environments of days gone by, often our young people move into advanced manufacturing roles in clean, high-tech working environments. But often, this message is not being filtered down to young people.

"And of course, in more and more cases, our people are actually entering board rooms and offices after completing their apprenticeship. We teach a blend of academic and theoretical skills – and these are skills that equip people well for business. And we have seen many of our former apprentices go on to have high flying careers."

SWDT counts Gatwick Airport chief executive Stewart Wingate; Nifco UK managing director Mike Matthews and vice-president of Electrolux Major Appliances Gareth Berry, among its former apprentices. Most famous of SWDT's former students, perhaps, is comedian Vic Reeves.

Mr Blades added: "It's an impressive list and we're really proud of that. To see our students go on to have such success in the industry is a real sign that we have been getting it right, not only on a technical and practical level, but also in respect of the life skills we are teaching them. And that's something we hope that young people are starting to understand."

For more information about courses at South West Durham Training Ltd, visit www.southwestdurham.co.uk or call 01325 313 194.

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# Outstanding Fostering Agency Celebrates

"Outstanding" – that's how Ofsted have rated Reach Out Care Fostering Services in Newton Aycliffe.

The agency, which also holds Investors in People gold accreditation, works with 29 local authorities and is about to open additional offices in Billingham

"We are absolutely delighted!" said fostering manager Lynne Brown. "There were so many brilliant, positive things in the report."

"We work very much as a team and respect our foster carers as professionals. We also do things which are a bit out of the ordinary – like having a celebration day just for the children of foster carers because we recognise the important role they play in a fostering household."

"We were particularly pleased that the inspector said that children's needs are at the forefront of our operations and that they are provided with family placements that offer stability, love and safety."

"He also reported that our foster carers demonstrate an enthusiastic commitment to their work with children in their care and that we give them extra support to maintain the stability of placements."

The report also said that a strong feature of the fostering agency was the passionate commitment to finding the most appropriate placement for children and that children made exceptional progress at school compared to their starting points prior to being placed with their foster families.

To celebrate the team ordered in a special celebration cake, portions



Reach Out Care directors Derek and Dot Butler and fostering manager Lynne Brown (front) celebrating their outstanding Ofsted achievement with their team. The celebration cake will be sold in portions to raise money for the Samaritans.

of which will be sold during Feel Good Friday, the Samaritans fund raising day, this week. Agency foster carers and people interested in fostering are invited to the agency's new offices, the former GP surgery in Marsh House Avenue, from 10am until midday.

The new offices, which include a play therapy room and two supervised contact rooms, will be open for business from next month onwards.

If you are interested in attending the coffee morning to find out more about fostering, call the team on 01325 310009 (option 2).

## Valentine Special



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## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



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Aycliffe's Got Talent

THANK YOU

FUEL ADDITIVES

INSPIRED BY MATHS

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre and students from year 9 youth challenge at Greenfield Community College are working together to bring to the people of the Newton Aycliffe area year two of Young Aycliffe's Got Talent.

Last year the project was run solely by the Youth Centre but it was felt that this year it would be good to include the young people from Greenfield Community College in driving this community project into the second year. There are a number of Young People from the Aycliffe area who have already registered for the event but there is still time for YOU TO REGISTER. Registration for each person wishing to take part in the event is £2.50 per person. So if you have a talent get yourself along to the Youth Centre or speak to one of the students at Greenfield Community College to get your application form. There are cash prizes to be won too.

Joan Clark Secretary of the Youth Centre Management Committee said "it has been refreshing to go along and meet the young people of year 9 Youth Challenge Group at Greenfield Community College. Their enthusiasm for seeing the project through had been a real example of what the young people of the area can achieve. These youngsters have, with a limited time scale been inventive in their ideas on how they want to see the project work. I would also recommend that young people who registered last year but did not win that they should think about taking part again this year".

The event will take place on Saturday 23rd February at the Youth Centre commencing at 5pm. To come along and support the young people taking part in the event and to encourage the young people who are driving the event forward it will cost £2.50 per person, under 5's will be free of charge and a family ticket (two adults and two children) will only cost £5.00, a good night out for a reasonable cost. There will be a raffle and tea/coffee will be available.

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Dear Sir,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Rotary club and fellow Rotarians for their instant decision and generous donation to Alan and Lisa Maddison who had been without heating since 24th December (with no help from Durham Social Services).

I would also like to thank other friends and acquaintances who kindly donated to the cost of the new boiler to which are the following people: House of Eden (Nursery School), Honest John and the Huntington's Disease Association.

Furthermore, can I thank Hannan Plumbing & Heating who kindly gave up his Sunday to replace the boiler after seeing how bad the situation was.

I would also like to say thank you to "Helping Hands" a charity who I contacted on Thursday and came out Friday afternoon with food parcels to help the family in this situation.

We are still in need of donations, so if anyone can help please contact me on 07772 921166 or drop in at The Cubby on Greenwell Road.

Alan gave up his job as an accountant to look after his wife Lisa, who has Huntington's Disease and was in hospital twice last year with double pneumonia, so it was essential that the work was carried out as soon as possible.

Yours thankfully  
Bill Blenkinsopp

Dear Sir,

With reference to your article headed Diesel Fuel Problem. I feel that the information given in the article could cause some motorists to go to unnecessary expense in purchasing fuel additives which may be effective on only one or two nights in the year.

The U.K. has a specification for diesel fuel sold between November and March where the minimum cold filter plugging point (CFPP) is -15° centigrade. All the major oil companies market a fuel which exceeds this requirement by some margin, however these specifications are met in part by the use of very expensive additives and in the competitive world of the supermarket they may only add sufficient to meet the specification, not exceed it.


A further problem with using an additive is that it does not remove wax once it has formed and must be mixed

with the fuel before waxing takes place, ie when the tank is filled. In our unpredictable climate this would require that every fill would need additive to ensure 100% protection.

Another common cause of problems with fueling in this country is the fuel filters themselves which need to be regularly changed to ensure they are not partially clogged before encountering the minute crystals which may occur in the fuel or holding small quantities of water which will freeze long before the fuel.

The best advice you will receive from any organisation is to have your vehicle regularly serviced and use a quality fuel.

Hope this is helpful to your readers  
John Snowball



Year 8 maths students at Greenfield Community College have been working with their Maths teacher Ms A. Hender to explore data about their school. Analysing data to show how happy students are in school, the students inspired and commissioned artist Vicky Holbrough to design and make Greenfield's latest piece of art called CAPTURE which was installed and celebrated on Tuesday 29th January.

Headteacher, David Priestley said "It is so exciting to see how numbers, data, maths and statistics can be so inspirational. The latest data for our school shows high levels of satisfaction and high academic performance alongside strong attendance". The art work has pride of place in the main school hall it uses over 1,300 dip dyed cable ties attached to a three dimensional grid to form an eye catching visual representation of the data.

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Go along between 10am-4pm and have a go at cardio-tennis, aqua zumba, arts and crafts, family games, have a health MOT or get information on the many activities and services available in Newton Aycliffe.

The aim of 'Active Aycliffe' is to help get children, young people and families fitter and healthier and participate in activities to improve their lifestyles.

'Active Aycliffe' involves organisations such as DCC's Sport and Physical Activity Team, Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP), Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP), Woodham Academy, One Point, Great Aycliffe Town Council and local sports' clubs who have got together to run events and raise the profile of what's going on in Aycliffe.

Various activities are being planned under the 'Active Aycliffe' umbrella to enable local groups, clubs and organisations to showcase and promote their activities and encourage local children, young people and their families to join in and adopt healthier lifestyles.

For further information contact the Active Aycliffe Project Officer  
lindsay.manning@pcp.uk.net or call PCP on 01325 321234.

Place your VALENTINES DAY  
Greetings in your local community  
newspaper, "NEWTON NEWS"

JOHN JANE

To "squidgy widge"  
on Valentines Day  
love from your  
bunny  
X

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JOHN DOUGH To my "squidgy widge" on Valentines Day, love from your little bunny X

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# More Interest in Miller Homes at Aycliffe

Along with other pastimes such as watching TV, eating, drinking and spending time with family and friends, it appears many took advantage of their time off work to look for a new place to live in Newton Aycliffe.

Figures show that the number of people who logged on to the Miller Homes website to view new homes for sale between Christmas and New Year were up by more than 150% on monthly averages – peaking on 1 January. Of those who visited

the site 60% were visiting for the first time, exploring what opportunities there are in the property market in the weeks and months ahead. The introduction of 95% mortgage schemes in England and Scotland – NewBuy and MI New Home – are helping the market by supporting those who only have a small deposit. The schemes, which are available on properties at Miller Homes developments, allow loans to be secured at 95% of the property's value and provides a real opportunity for those who meet the qualifying criteria to buy a beautiful new build home. As additional support to potential purchasers, Miller

Homes also has some remaining funding available through the First Buy scheme on selected developments (for more information, visit [www.millerhomes.co.uk/Locations](http://www.millerhomes.co.uk/Locations)). The First Buy scheme gives aspiring homeowners the chance to buy a new home with the assistance of an equity loan. The value of the loan is a maximum of 20% of the full price of the property. Miller Homes also offers its own range of incentive schemes, including Home Exchange, MiWay, Recommend a Friend, Deposit Match, Family Deposit and Assisted Move. You can view a Show Home at Cobblers Hall in Newton Aycliffe.

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## More People Report Dirty Dog Owners

More than 330 fixed penalty notices for enviro crimes such as littering, dog fouling and graffiti were issued over a four-month period this year. Durham County Council neighbourhood wardens are working hard to stop people committing such offences to make County Durham a cleaner, greener place in which to live and work. Between July and October the council issued the following fixed penalty notices: 60 for dog fouling; 192 for littering; 3 for fly-posting; 82 for failing to comply with a litter clearing notice.

Oliver Sherratt, head of direct services at Durham County Council, said: "Littering and dog fouling are of great concern to local people and we are determined to tackle those responsible. While we adopt an education-first approach, and work closely with schools and community groups in local clean-ups, we do enforce against the minority who spoil our neighbourhoods. "Our neighbourhood wardens can also focus their patrols in areas where local people have raised specific concerns. "We very much rely on information from the community to help us identify when and where offences are

being committed and who is responsible. I would urge anyone who is concerned about littering and dog fouling to contact us with information so that we can take action." Information from members of the public has already enabled the council's neighbourhood wardens to tackle offenders. In a recent case an early-morning dog-walker was given an £80 fixed penalty notice for failing to clean up after his pet. He was caught after wardens received information from local people giving details of when and where the offences were happening. Four others have since been caught for dog fouling with fines and court costs totalling almost £1,400. If anyone can provide information on people who litter or fail to pick up after their dogs, please call 03000 261000 with as much detail of the incident as possible.

## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



"The Burn was lovely on my way to work" Shauna Mason

## Chilton Children's Writer Publishes First Books

Barbara Robertson was born and raised in London. She became a primary school teacher when she left school

and taught in London, Derbyshire and Hampshire before moving to Canada where her teaching career continued in Montreal, Quebec. Her three children were born here. She also taught in Ottawa and the far north of Quebec.

When her children were young she was actively involved in organising and teaching in Nursery Schools. She returned to University and also taught emotionally disturbed adolescents. On her return to England she taught in London before moving to Chilton. She is now fulfilling a long held ambition to write children's fiction. Barbara's first book for younger children is available from Amazon and to order from Waterstones, priced at £2.50. It is a story about two families of ducks who need to move when their village pond becomes polluted. A sequel to this story has been written and will hopefully be available at the end of the year. Her move to the north east has been a source of inspiration. A Summer of Trees is currently being published and was the result of her appreciation of the wonderful variety of trees she viewed on her journeys from Darlington to Durham on the number 7 bus. Another book, Viking Ventures, a story of time travel, is scheduled for publication in the summer and it was the history of the north east that prompted this book. It is planned to be launched at a London Book Fair this summer. Local residents of Chilton have been supportive and more than forty books have been sold locally and Barbara is very appreciative of their encouragement.

## Public Notice

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**FLORIDA VILLA** Disney, sleeps 8/10, pool, spa, games room, visit [www.florida-villa-2-rent.com](http://www.florida-villa-2-rent.com) or call 320 409

## Accommodation

## TO LET

**3 Bedroom House**  
Aldfrid Place, N/Aycliffe  
**3 Bedroom House**  
Cypress Grove, S/Aycliffe  
**3 & 4 Bedroom House**  
Fewston Close, N/Aycliffe

Housing Benefit Welcome  
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## House To Let

**3 Bedroom** unfurnished house in Fewston Close, Newton Aycliffe, £450 per month in advance, £150 admin fee. LHA rates apply. References required.

Contact  
**07925 845266**  
for further details

**1 BEDROM** bungalow in School Aycliffe, £499 pcm including bills. No DSS. Tel 07557 773633  
**3 BEDROOM** house for rent, £115 per week. Call Heather on 07882 440377  
**3 BEDROOM** house near town centre, GCH, DG, large garden, no DSS. Available from 20-2-2013. £500 per month, £500 bond. For more details ring 07523 444208  
**2 BEDROOM** property to rent in Deleval Close, £450 per month, £300 fee. Tel 07980 596563  
**3 BEDROOM** house in Stainforth Close and 2 bedroom house in Ingram Place. Tel 307445  
**3 BEDROOM** spacious mid terrace property is available to rent at Morrison Close in Newton Aycliffe. The property has enclosed gardens to the front and open plan grassed area to the rear. If you are interested then please contact Kevin on 07775 811527 for further details  
**3 BEDROM** house for rent, Neville Parade area, £525 pcm, 1st months rent and £525 bond required to secure tenancy Contact 07737 331156



# Health and Social Care - A Day in the Life

Year 9 Health and Social Care students at Woodham Academy recently had the pleasure of taking part in masterclasses which were delivered by healthcare professionals. One of the workshops conducted by a paediatric nurse gave the students an insight into a typical day on their ward. The students were able to make links between professional practice and their lessons on health measures, or patient observations, such as blood pressure, temperature and pulse rate.

A social worker in residential care presented a second workshop on careers in social work. The students were given a wide range of information on career pathways and progression. The workshop also encouraged them to use their problem solving skills with students being posed dilemmas to resolve. Once again the students were able to apply their understanding from lessons on confidentiality and safeguarding to the different situations.

Both Woodham Academy and the students are greatly appreciative of the professionals for using their time to support learning.

# Wine Glass adds a Little Charm

The Hall Garth Hotel Darlington is pleased to announce the arrival of new Restaurant Manager Walid Shennib who has twenty years experience under his wing. Walid began his catering career at the Blackwell Grange Hotel as a waiter whilst studying at University, little did he know at this stage it would become his lifelong passion. At 25 he became Restaurant Manager of Scotch Corner Hotel looking after the catering operation. At Redworth Hall Hotel paths crossed with Pam Mooney who is General Manager at Hall Garth Hotel. Then onto Tall Trees for 11 years as Restaurant Manager continuing his hospitality journey.

Being passionate about customer expectations, care and dining experience is the focus of Walid's ethos for being within the industry. To provide a great dining experience where our clients feel comfortable and satisfied coupled with delivery of great service. These are what Walid



brings to the table along with his team. Wine Glass Restaurant offers a selection of 40 fine wines and a new dining menu to choose from. We are open 7 days a week for Reservations please call 01325 300 400. Walid and his team welcome you to the Wine Glass Restaurant for fine food, excellent service, relaxed atmosphere and a great dining experience all with an added charm.

# For Sale

**BARGAIN BUYS** Bosch washing machine to rent, £3.99 a week! No deposit, no more unwanted repair bills. Tel 321 678

**SNOOKER** table, 8'x6', good condition, hardly used, cue, balls, chalk, triangle, brush, £300 ono; Q1 board game, unopened, £10; Girls pink battery operated bike, suit 2-3 years, £15; Folding metal camp bed, good condition, £25. Tel 07592 699521

**NATHAN** teak drop leaf dining table and 4 chairs, very good condition, £100 ono. Tel 01325 789254

**BRAND NEW** double divan with quilted Damask mattress, £120, can deliver. Tel 07789 113343

**DOUBLE** bed spread, beautifully hand made patchwork quilt in turquoise, teal and petrol colours. £50 ono. Tel 01325 315535

**MUSIC CENTRE** (separates), £25. For details ring 01325 307885

**RASCAL** mobility scooter, good condition, 8mph, £400. Tel 01325 317178 or 07931 699588

**BEDS BEDS BEDS** at Bargain Buys. Single Divan beds, Double Divan beds, Pine Frames, Metal Frames and Double Leather Frames from £99. All available on credit. Tel 321 678

# Property

Claxton Court

£159,950

Deceptively spacious 3 bed family house situated in Byerley Park. The property occupies a large plot with extensive gardens, and separate garage. The property offers large family size accommodation and is ideally located close to Byerley Park and Greenfield schools. Viewing is strongly recommended. Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Lounge, Dining room, 3 x Bedrooms, Bathroom, grassed garden to the front. Rear Garden has large grassed area, garden shed and play area leading to open aspect. Large Garage with electric socket and lighting. Tel 07772 790935

**FOR SALE:** Large 3 bedroom semi detached home in Westmorland Way, Newton Aycliffe. £149,950. Telephone 07929 077058 or 01325 316269

# Thank You

**TO JACKIE** Thanks for clearing and gritting the road in Matthew Close and garages. A real star, always with a lovely smile

**THANK YOU** so much to the Window Guy for a great job on our windows. They look fantastic, well done. Sue

# In Memoriam

Terry Hogan

In Loving Memory of our Beloved Father & Grandad

3rd February 2012

To think that a year has passed, Everyday you are in our thoughts. Remembered by those whom you loved, Rest in peace until we meet again. Your ever loving Sons, Daughters and Grandchildren

**JOHN GLASPER** 1st February 2009. We always hold you close Dad in our memory, even though we are apart Dad. Your spirit will always live on there within our hearts. Remembering you Dad is easy, we do it every day, the heartache of losing you will never go away. Your loving Daughter Sharron, Son-in-Law Colin, your loving Grandchildren Cheryl, Natalie and Sean; Great Grandchildren Maisie, Tyler and Thomas

**JOHN GLASPER** 1-2-2009. To a much loved and missed Dad and Grandad. Thinking of you every day. Love from Viv, Chris and Jessica xxx

**JOHN GLASPER** 1st February 2009. Remembering my loving Husband John. Love and miss you always. Doreen xxx

**TONY WARBURTON** Died 24th January 2002. In loving memory. Wife Felicity, Daughter Gail, Son-in-Law Graeme. Hugs and kisses Grandpa from Grandsons Jack, Winston and Oliver. Forever in our hearts

**BILLY HAILES** Treasured memories of a loving Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Another year has passed, the hour, the minute, we will never forget. Loved and missed every day. In our hearts you will always stay. Your loving Wife Doreen and all the family xxx

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

# Obituary

Robert Carr

Suddenly on 17th January, Robert, aged 79 years, much loved Husband of Annie, loving Dad of Jacqueline and Robert, also a much loved Grandad of Ryan and Keiran. Will family and friends please meet for a Requiem Mass in St Marys RC Church, Newton Aycliffe on Tuesday 5th February, 2013 at 10.00am. To be followed by Interment in the West Cemetery, School Aycliffe

# Birthday Remembrance

**MARK FLETCHER** Remembering my best friend Mark on his 42nd birthday, 1st February 2013. Paul Cooke

**EARLE RAYMOND FLETCHER** (Ray). 30/01/33 - 10/11/2007. Deeply loved Husband of Bea; precious Dad, Grandad and Brother. We cannot send a birthday card, your hand we cannot touch, but God will take our greetings to the one we love so much xxxx Also missing, loving and remembering our beautiful Mam, Daughter, Sister and Neice Anthea xxxx

**TYLER J BAMBRIDGE** 28th January 2011. Happy 3rd birthday my special angel. Love and kisses, Mammy xxxx

**TYLER J BAMBRIDGE.** To Tyler J our special Grandson. Happy 3rd birthday. Love and kisses, Grandma and Granda xxxx

**TYLER J BAMBRIDGE.** To our special Nephew Tyler J. Happy 3rd birthday. Love and kisses, Uncle Lee and Uncle Ross xxxx

# Births

Lee & Shellie

A beautiful baby girl, Georgia, born 20/1/13, a little sister for Morgan and Callum xx

**Congratulations** Lee and Shellie for a beautiful Granddaughter, lots of love Mam and Dad xx

**Finally** a girl in the family!! Many congratulations on the safe arrival of Georgia, all our love Michelle, Chris, Jack and Joe xx

**Congratulations** Lee and Shellie for a gorgeous Granddaughter, lots of love Mam and Dad G xx

# Congratulations

James Martin Atkinson

**Look who is 1**

Happy birthday to a special boy. Lots of love and kisses, Auntie Christine, Uncle Trevor, Paul, Kyle and Paige xxxxxxxxx

James Atkinson

**Happy 1st Birthday** to our gorgeous little boy. Lots of love and kisses Mammy and Daddy xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Charley-Rose

**Happy 1st Birthday** to our Princess Charley-Rose. All our love, Mammy and Daddy xxxxxxxxxxxxx

**SHANNON WILLIAMS** Congratulations Shannon on passing your driving test. We are so proud of you. Love you loads, Mam amd Dave

**SHANNON WILLIAMS** Well done kidda, we knew you could do it. Love ya loads, Denise and kids

**SAM ELLIOTT** Have a happy 40th on 1st February. All our love, John, Jessica and Mikey xxx

**SAM ELLIOTT** Happy 40th birthday for Friday. Love from Mam

**SAM ELLIOTT** Happy 40th birthday. Love, Claire, Dale and Jordan xxx

**SAM ELLIOTT** Happy 40th birthday. Love, Mags, Garry, Jessica, Callum and Lilly Pops xxx

**BOB NORRIS** Congratulations on your 65th birthday on 5th February 2013. With love from Sandra and all our family xx

Callum Scott

**Happy 18th Birthday**

Hip Hip Hooray, now its time for you to pay! Lots of love, Mam, Jim, Becca and all the family

**Happy 18th Birthday**

Now you are no longer a kid, welcome to manhood. Love from Dad, Joanne and all the family

**Happy 18th Birthday**

We are so proud of you. Love from Nanne Eunice, Nanna Sonia and Grandad Ley xxx

Jay Blakey

No. 3

**Happy 13th Birthday**

The dreaded teenage years have risen their head, gone are the days when you can get sent to bed. Bring on the sullen moods and the long lie ins, as you play some awful music making a din. But I'll still love you millions. Enjoy Wet n Wild. Grandma xxx

**STEPHEN COOKE** and Gail-Lee Handsen are celebrating their Silver Wedding anniversary on 28th January in Canada with their Daughter Stacey and family and send their love to their family and friends in Newton Aycliffe

**SPENSLEY** Happy Wedding Anniversary Mam and Dad. Lots of love from Julie, Den and all the family xxxxx

**CLIVE COOPER** Happy 50th birthday! Love and best wishes from David, Claire, Jackson and Ellie xxx

**CLIVE COOPER** Wishing you a very happy 50th birthday on 4th February. Enjoy Vegas and Liverpool. Lots of love, Grace xxx

**CLIVE COOPER** Happy 50th birthday on 4th February. Congratulations to a much loved Son. Enjoy all your celebrations. Mam and Dad xxx

**CLAIRE SUZANNE JARY** 1st February 2013. Happy 40th birthday Claire. Love from Mum, Dad, Dale, Jordan and all the Jary Family xxx

**CLAIRE JARY** To a very special friend of 27 years. Happy 40th birthday (1st February). Lots of love, Sam, John, Jessica and Mikey xxx

**ALLISON** Jack and Maureen, congratulations on your Diamon Wedding Anniversary. Love and best wishes from Angela, Anthony, Gavin, Zoe and Ebony

**ALLISON** Jack and Maureen. (3rd February 2013). All our love on your Diamond Wedding Anniversary. From Maureen, Amy, Laura and Sean

**CLAIRE COOPER** 5th February. Wishing you a very happy 30th birthday. Lots of love, Clive and Grace xx

Claire Cooper

**Happy 30th Birthday**

To a wonderful Wife. Welcome to the 30s Club. Love you loads from Dave xxx

**To Our Special Mam**

Happy 30th birthday, hope you have a fab day. Love you lots and lots, from Jackson, Ellie and Harry the dog xxx

**To a Very Special Daughter**

Have a great 30th birthday Claire. Lots of love, Mam and Dad xxx

Mitchinson

**Happy 21st Birthday** 29th January 2013

**Congratulations** on your 21st Stacey. Hope you have a great day. Love, Aunty Lesley, Uncle Dave, Samantha and Ryan xxx

**Congratulations** Stacey on your 21st birthday. Love, Stuart, Joanne and family xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday** 2nd February 2013

**Congratulations** Ian on your 50th birthday. Hope you have a fab weekend. Love, Lesley, Dave, Samantha and Ryan xxxx

**Congratulations** Uncle Ian on yur 50th birthday. Love, Stuart, Joanne and family xxx



	<p><b>SafeLine Taxis</b> (Aycliffe's "Black Taxi" Company)</p> <p><b>312 512</b></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: <a href="http://www.safelinetaxis.co.uk">www.safelinetaxis.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>WILLIAMS TAXIS</b> Open 24 Hours</p> <p><b>01325 308899</b></p>	<p><b>24 HOUR TAXIS</b></p> <p><b>300222</b></p>	<p><b>B. &amp; C. YELLOWCAB TAXIS</b></p> <p>Tel: <b>307478</b></p>
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## Read Regional

On Wednesday, 13th February 7.00pm at Bishop Auckland Town Hall come along and meet authors Michael Stewart, whose debut novel 'King Crow' was a recommended read for World Book Night 2012, and Cassandra Parkin, whose short story collection 'New World Fairy Tales' won the 2011 Scot Prize. Entry is Free

## TRI-CLUB OPEN NIGHT

On Monday 4th February Aycliffe Tri Club will be holding a "meet and greet" night at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. There will be club members on hand to give help, advice and talk about coaching, training sessions and racing. There will also be the opportunity to join the club with a special offer for those joining on the night who will receive 14 months membership for the price of 12! The session starts at 7pm in the Oakwood Bar and club

members will be available until 9pm so new members can pop in at any time. In club news ATC members have started the New Year by flying the club colours with Robin Horn racing in the Sedgfield Harriers Handicap on the 13th January with a fantastic time of 44.38. Also on the 13th Michelle Scott and Wendy Bake with Naomi Kellet of Aycliffe Running Club ran as a team at Durham Cathedral Relays coming in with an excellent team time of 36.46. This is a brilliant

start to the year for this new club whose members will be taking part in many more exciting races throughout the year. If you would like more information about the club and can't make it to the "meet and greet" night details can be found on the club website site [www.aycliffetriclub.onsport.com](http://www.aycliffetriclub.onsport.com) by email [aycliffetriclub@gmail.com](mailto:aycliffetriclub@gmail.com) or you can call Club Coach Andrew Sedgewick on 07887 817960 Wendy Bake

## Scouts Fundraise for Kieran



Heighington Baden Powell Scouts, on Wednesday 30th January 2013 held their Gang Show to showcase their acting and singing skills.

It encompassed the full troop, consisting of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Senior Scouts and Leaders all for the benefit of children's family and friends. As the evening was drawing to a close they had a presentation to make to one of their own scouts Kieran Maxwell.

Kieran who lost his leg to Ewing's Sarcoma, a cancer of the bone and soft tissue, at the age of 12 years and has been fundraising since

June 2011. Area Scout Master Alan Wilson presented Kieran, 14 years, with a cheque for £3,300 for the fundraising they had done.

Fundraising included table top sales, coffee mornings, band nights and various other events.

If you wish to follow Kieran's journey, even though Kieran has a leg at present, we still need to fundraise for his future legs and for maintenance, if you can help please either follow Kieran's website [www.kieranmaxwell.com](http://www.kieranmaxwell.com) or <http://www.facebook.com/KieranMaxwellFund>

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## Former Woodham Student Makes Wildcats Squad

Former Woodham student, Tom Noble, has recently been included in the Durham Wildcats men's BBL squad after being invited to train with them shortly before Christmas. Tom has been part of the Wildcats junior programme for a number of years, having been introduced to the game at Woodham Academy whilst in year 7. Tom has represented Durham Wildcats in the National League at all junior levels as well as representing the North East Region at England Trials.

Tom is the latest of a long line of elite basketballers to have progressed through the Woodham programme overseen by Woodham Assistant Headteacher, Durham Wildcats Assistant Coach and Under 18's coach Danny Morgans. Danny said "I am delighted with the progress that Tom is making, he will benefit enormously from the quality of coaching he will receive from Dave Elderkin as well as the input of high quality players like Ralph Bucci".



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## Dream Men at the Sports Club

### UPCOMING FIXTURES

Saturday 2nd February: Hebburn (A) 3pm  
Wednesday 6th February: South Shields (H) 7.30pm  
Saturday 9th February: Spennymoor (H) 3pm  
Saturday 16th February: Dunston (A) 3pm  
Saturday 23rd February: Newcastle Benfield (H) 3pm  
[www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk](http://www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk)

Newton Aycliffe FC are welcoming one of the country's leading female-entertainment groups to the town as they host a first-ever Ladies' Night. 'The Dream Men Show' will be featuring at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club on Friday 8th February, with tickets on sale now £10. Stars of the show have appeared on X-Factor, Britain's Got Talent and Big Brother, as well as in a host of print-based publications. "We hope the Ladies' Night is a success with the females on the town," said Dan Lewis "It's another 'first-ever' for the club but we're confident of a good turnout. I am sure that for our female supporters - or the wives and girlfriends of our male supporters - the £10 ticket will be excellent value.

"It is important we continue to put these events on and make sure everyone in the town has a connection to the club in some way. There are many who do not like football, but we can still offer a service to them with nights such as this, and last year's hypnotist evening with Adam Night, which was a huge success. Tickets for the event, which gets underway at 7.30pm and is strictly 18+, can be purchased by contacting Dan (07581 784726, [thesoccerfactoryltd@gmail.com](mailto:thesoccerfactoryltd@gmail.com)) or club treasurer Paul McGeary (07703 732342, [mcgearypaul@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mcgearypaul@hotmail.co.uk)).

While the club have been busy off-the-field, not much activity has been taking place

on it. Games against Celtic Nation, Durham and Norton & Stockton have all been postponed, meaning the club have not kicked a ball in anger since January 12th.

But the club will get the chance to add to the back-to-back victories that started 2013 this Saturday as they travel to Hebburn in league

action. This will be followed by a key clash with bottom side South Shields at Moore Lane Park on Wednesday night (February 6th), where a win would mark a huge step towards safety.

The game kicks off at 7.30pm, with admission £5 adults and £3 concessions.

## TIGERS LAUNCH SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

In the coming weeks Durham Tigers coaches will be visiting schools in the local area to educate young people about Rugby League and try to encourage them into the game, John Simpson, the Tigers chairman, says "It's disappointing to see that so many young people drop out of sport in their late teens. We need to encourage them to continue enjoying sport when they are this age, else they risk become distracted by their work and educational commitments and falling out of sport forever, which is a shame because sport is an integral part of their health and wellbeing."

He also said "Rugby League is a game which can be taken up at any age by anyone. We want to provide an opportunity to people who may have read about the game or watched it on television and thought of taking it up but never have done so. Lots of people in our community are unaware that Rugby League is played so widely in the area".

"If you are interested in joining us or would like more information" said Phil Selby, the Club's Secretary "you can either like 'We Are Durham Tigers' on Facebook, call us on 07949 706546 or just turn up at Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon at either: 6.30pm on Tuesday Evenings if you are interested in our open age (16+) team or at 10am on Saturday mornings if you are interested in our junior teams."

# BENGAL LOUNGE

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EVERY SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY ONLY

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- 3 - CHOICE OF ANY MAIN COURSE\*
- 4 - CHOICE OF RICE, NAN OR CHIPS

\* Conditions apply

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