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GARA Public Meeting to Discuss Benefit Cuts

Guest speakers at Great Aycliffe Residents' Association AGM and Public Meeting will be Phil Wilson MP and Ron Hogg Police Commissioner. Both will be available to answer topical questions of the day. Members of the public may wish to discuss the impact of the government's benefit cuts especially those deemed to have more bedrooms than they need. The first item on the agenda is the Election of the Committee and nominations have been received for Chairman Syd Howarth, Vice Chairman Fr Michael Campion, Treasurer



Barry Hutchinson, Secretary Arun Chandran. Derek Atkinson, Cllr Bill Curtis, Cllr Bob Fleming, Don Fraser, Chris Wheeler, (all elected unopposed) Members: Ken Robson ACORN Residents' Association, Margaret Robson Friends of Senior Citizens (Neville Community Centre), and 2 Representatives of Great Aycliffe Town Council's Youth Council. GARA are looking for three more people to join the Committee at the AGM who can be nominated on the night. In addition all organisations, Charities, Interest Groups are invited to be affiliated members of the Great Aycliffe Residents' Association.



These will be entitled to one representative to serve on the Management Committee. The committee is also empowered to co-opt members (non-voting) with skills and knowledge useful to the Association in fulfilling its objectives. The Great Aycliffe Residents' Association provides a public forum for residents to voice their concerns and, where possible, to instigate action on their behalf. The Association seeks to work with Councillors and other public representatives for the good of the whole community. Come along to what should be an interesting and informative meeting.

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Call Ian or Lesley on 01325 300203
to arrange your Meals On Wheels
www.FeastLand.co.uk

SIMPLE IDEA TO STOP TREE FELLING COMPLAINTS

Complaints against the County Council over tree felling are increasing. Residents recognise trees that are diseased, dangerous or causing damage must be cut down, but it is the lack of notification that riles. It would seem obvious that when the Council decide a tree must be felled they pin a notice on it to inform residents of the reason for its removal. Newton News would also be happy

to place a notice free of charge.

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Free Fun Ride for Schools

A local showman is offering his "Alice in Wonderland" T-Cup ride free to local schools who are holding school fairs this summer.

The offer is on a first come first served basis. Schools or PTA's can phone Paul direct on 07836 350507.



Newton Aycliffe Sports Club
EASTER SUNDAY
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"Two live bands"

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Tickets £3.00 each
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THE TURBINIA

* Saturday Night Live *

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Saturday 16th March - "Thyn Lizzy"

"Just got back from the THYN LIZZY gig at the Sandy Outdoor Tent. All I can say is, Phil Lynott dead? I don't think so... Jeezus H Christ, the dual guitars were incredible and the drummer was outstanding and I was totally humbled by Glenn on bass. 'Don't Believe a Word' was cool as out with a blues intro (5 mins) and then the usual version to finish it off was such a contrast and skillfully done. 'Boys' was great and 'Dancing in the Moonlight' with Kenny Sax guesting was sublime as was the 'Kayleigh' inspired 'Emerald'. Awesome guys, made my hellbent weekend!" - Gig Pit Review

Saturday 23rd March - "Kimera"

We are lucky enough to have had 'Kimera' play for us twice before. If you haven't seen them play already then definitely do so, otherwise you're missing out on a real treat! They're a four piece rock covers band with amazing female lead vocals (check out their cover of Evanescence's 'Bring Me to Life') plus musically, they're tight as hell. They've chosen a great set list, mixing old with the new. It's rare to see a pub band play with such enthusiasm, these guys manage to keep you captivated for a full 90 minutes, plus however many more songs you can manage to squeeze out of them, overall you'll certainly be impressed.

Saturday 30th March - "Reload"

Recent Review: "With Reload you know what you are getting? Classic Rock Songs covering the spectrum from Free to Deep Purple and everything in between, played by a band that confidently knows what it is doing, and does it extremely well. Check out the music videos and music files on their website for a fair representation of what the band is all about. No one leaves when this band is playing" - Don't miss them! - "Classic Rock never sounded better"

Re-booked after a very successful debut gig last year at the Tuburnia - www.reloadonline.co.uk

For more information on bands go to
www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034
Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

Members of Residents' Association Hosted by Darlo F.C.



Darlington Football Club played host on Wednesday 6th March to ACORN Resident's Association and their junior section Little Acorns.

Met at the gate by Deano Browne and Andrew Jinks the children were treated to a tour of the dressing rooms to meet the players and get autographs. Children formed a guard of honour while players walked onto the pitch and following an action packed first half where Darlington managed to score 5 goals against Norton, the children

were allowed to take penalties on the pitch and have their photographs taken with the mascot.

The second half ended with Darlington winning 6 - 1 in front of excited fans; who then went home happily on the bus with great stories to tell.

ACORN is committed to forging links with Darlington Football Club and others to expand activities for local residents and their children. Thanks to Dave Mills from Darlington Football Club for facilitating the visit and to Keith Lovejoy,

Youth Coordinator with ACORN for his assistance in organising the event.



Xmas Hamper Winner Found

Dear Sir,
May I thank the British Heart Foundation Shop for tracking me down as the winner of the Christmas hamper.

It contained lots of lovely things and had the best Cranberry sauce I have ever tasted. I hadn't checked my ticket because my 99 year old mother fell and broke her hip just before Christmas so winning this prize was the best tonic. Thank you once again. ps my Mum is doing fine. Freda Peacock

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Neville Parade Community Centre are looking for a Volunteer Pianist to play at Afternoon Tea Dances planned to commence soon. A Volunteer Dance Tutor is required for Under 6 years and Under 10 year old children every Saturday morning 9.30 - 11.30am. Ring Peter on 313924. Bric-aBrac Sale every Tuesday 10 - 12 noon. Unwanted gifts required for our fundraising raffles. Don't forget the Marske Fisherman's Choir Concert on Saturday 27th March at 7.30pm. Bring your own drink. To book and collect tickets ring 313924.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Last week was World Book Day and Greenfield students joined in the fun during Time 4 Success watching authors and illustrators streaming live as part of "The Biggest Book Show on Earth."

Students said they really enjoyed watching the live-streamed festival, finding it "fascinating" to see authors and illustrators they recognise talk about their work and their process.

During the day students also received their World Book Day tokens, and at lunchtime the library was buzzing with students enjoying activities including a book day quiz, book swap and a bookmark competition.

World Book Day aims to ensure as many children as possible explore the pleasures of books and reading, and is now in its 16th year. The activities were a perfect complement to the reading each student at Greenfield is encouraged to do every day during Time 4 Success.

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HONEST JOHN'S GOOD WORK COULD STOP



Newton Aycliffe Under 16's football team would like to thank Honest John and Newton Aycliffe's residents who support him, for their continued help and sponsorship with a further donation of £500. Honest John is now worrying he won't be able to sponsor us and other town charities and organisations soon as he only has four weeks left before he is left with nowhere to

hold his stall. Is anyone in a position to help John? Please can the owners of the shops in Aycliffe town centre, allocate Honest John a shop as they promised? This would enable him to continue his hard work which is very much appreciated! If anyone has space for his stall please contact him as soon as possible. Please help him help Aycliffe's voluntary organisations.



PACT Meetings will be held at the following venues. Simpature Court Coffee Lounge on Tuesday 19/03/2013 from 6-30pm to 7-30pm. Aycliffe Village Hall on Saturday 23/03/2013 from 11am to 12noon. PC Alan Thompson & PCSO Richard Scott are your Community Police Officers and they want to hear your views and opinions about your area. Councillors from Durham County Council, Great Aycliffe Town Council and Livin Representatives have been invited to attend. Great Aycliffe Town Council Representatives, Park Wardens and Durham County Council Neighbourhood Wardens will attend when available. For more information on what's going on in your area please visit www.durham.police.uk

GAMP Grants Agnew Centre £3,266

Agnew Community Association has used the funding from Cllr Joan Gray and Cllr Paul Gittin's Neighbourhood Budgets (£3266.) to purchase and install a new double fire door, a new PA System and also carry out improvements to the outside of the community centre. These improvements include new gates; fencing and garden play area for our nursery aged children. The centre was built in 2009 and is extremely well-used, hosting activities such as; a nursery, disability sports club and the PK Allstars kids club for young people aged 7 - 11 years. The club is used by approximately 35 young people on a weekly basis.

The community centre is a registered Charity and relies on income generated by the hiring of rooms. Adam White, GAMP Coordinator, said: "Supporting the town's voluntary organisations is a priority for GAMP and assisting the Agnew Community Centre with funding has allowed them to progress their plans. Earlier in the year the centre also secured funding from the GAMP Small Grants Fund for £963, to purchase a Laptop Computer and Digital Projector with mobile screen. Ron Mitchie, secretary, said: "The trustees and committee of the centre greatly appreciate the support they have received from County Councillors Joan



Gray and Paul Gittins and the GAMP team. The funding will make our centre and grounds ever more safe and user friendly for the benefit of local residents and user groups."

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Memorial of the Death of Jesus

Once each year in thousands of locations worldwide, Jehovah's Witnesses commemorate the death of Jesus. The next observance locally will be on **Tuesday 26th March, 2013 at 7.00pm**. We invite you to join us for this special occasion to examine what makes Jesus - and his sacrifice - so vitally important. The meeting, like all our meetings, is open to the public. Seats are free and no collections are ever taken.

The address for this special occasion is:
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
Rear of Allington Road, DL5 4LS

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Open from 5.00pm to 11.00pm

Stop Smoking



Julie Gallagher from Biscop Crescent receiving advice to stop smoking from Sheena at Bewick Crescent Pharmacy

Smokers were encouraged to kick the habit this week by thinking about the money they will save as well as the health benefits. A No Smoking Day drop-in was organised by County Durham and Darlington NHS Stop Smoking Service and Durham County Council, took place at Nana's Café on Aycliffe Business Park. Someone who smokes 20-a-day and pays £7 per pack of cigarettes, for example, could save £49 in just one week, enough for a family trip to the cinema or a meal for two. Over the course of six months, they could save up to £1,260 and over one year, as much as £2,555 enough money for the holiday of a lifetime. The County Durham and Darlington NHS Stop Smoking Service has helped more than 50,000 people kick the habit, providing advice, support and encouragement. Dianne Woodall, County Durham and Darlington NHS Public Health Portfolio Holder, said: "You can gain so much by stopping smoking, not only becoming healthier but wealthier too. "Smokers are four times more likely to quit if they get the right support and the stop smoking service here in County Durham can offer that help."

As well as one-to-one help, the service offers group and drop-in sessions in community centres, libraries, pharmacies, GP surgeries, health clinics and many other venues. For more information on how the service can help you call 0800 0113 405.

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PUBLIC MEETING & AGM

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St. Mary's Church
opp. Tesco's at 7pm.
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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



Council Campaign Targets Irresponsible Dog Owners

Dear Sir,
I am writing to you on behalf of Bethany's Wish, a charitable trust set up by Angela Polanco in memory of her daughter Bethany who died October 2012 aged 8 after a 4 year battle with Wilms cancer. The charity aims to raise awareness of this disease and help fund clinical research into the biology of Wilms and new treatments for children like Bethany, who relapse following conventional chemotherapy regimes. You can find out more about Bethany's Wish at www.bethanyswish.vpweb.co.uk

To help raise funds for Bethany's Wish I am holding a Teddy Bears Picnic, Sunday 5th May 2013 at the Agnew Community Centre Newton Aycliffe 1:30pm-3:30pm, there will be:
A bouncy castle, donated by ST bouncy castle hire
Arts and crafts, provided by myself

Face painting

Singing and stories

Butterfly release, butterflies provided by Butterflies for Occasions

I am asking local companies to donate raffle prizes or anything that may be beneficial for the event. Below is a list of things I still need for the event so if you cannot donate a raffle prize but can help with the following that would also be helpful.

Name stickers (for each child and teddy)

Balloons and Helium

Mini crayon packs (for activity packs)

Tea, coffee, milk and juice

Advertising

If you are able to help in anyway big or small I look forward to hearing from you. I also hope you are able to show your support by attending the event.

Sian Thompson - 07500 959724 - Pinkie_sian@hotmail.co.uk

Town and Parish Councils across County Durham are supporting the County Council's drive to promote responsible dog ownership. Durham County Council is running a month-long campaign to encourage dog owners to be responsible and pick up after their pets.

Support from the town and parish councils will help to boost the campaign and encourage more dog owners to get involved and help keep their neighbourhoods clean and mess free.

Free waste bags are available to dog owners in most of the areas to encourage them to pick up after their dogs have fouled.

The majority of dog owners are responsible and pick up after their dog, but there are a small minority who fail to pick up which is one of the major causes of complaint in the county and spoils the environment for everyone else.

Stephen Ragg from the County Durham Association of Local Councils, said: "We work closely with the county council and recognise that the problem of dog fouling is an issue raised

by communities on a regular basis.

"Many town and parish councils provide assistance such as additional dog waste bins and bags to encourage owners to clean up after their pet."

Ian Hoult, neighbourhood protection manager at Durham County Council, added: "We are very pleased with the campaign's achievements so far. Interest in the green dog walkers scheme and the take up of dog microchipping is particularly encouraging."

"Only a small number of owners don't clear up after their dogs and we would urge people to keep reporting details of offenders which will help us catch them and keep our environment clean."

During Durham County Council's campaign to encourage responsible dog ownership:

- 371 dog owners have signed up to the green dog walkers scheme, a scheme where volunteers pledge to clean up after their dog and carry extra waste bags to give to owners without one;
- 706 dogs have been microchipped so they can be easily identified if they become lost or stray;
- More than 467 golden tickets have been handed out to responsible dog owners who have a chance of winning a prize;
- 22 school assemblies have been held to encourage young people to be responsible dog owners in the future;
- 19 people have been issued with an £80 fixed penalty notice for failing to clean up after their dog and a further 16 were issued with warning letters.

As part of the campaign Durham County council neighbourhoods wardens are carrying out patrols to catch offenders. Residents are being urged to report dog fouling to the council, providing details such as the time and date of the incident as well as a description of the dog and owner if possible. Call 03000 261 000 or go to www.durham.gov.uk/dogfouling to report online.

COUNCIL SHOULD INFORM RESIDENTS

Dear Sir,
Following on from recent letters concerning cutting down trees around the town, may I suggest that the council or whichever body is responsible to advise the local population in advance, via this excellent newspaper. We should know which trees are to be felled and why. It would also be advisable to plant another tree of similar type in the near vicinity to replace the one felled. Should the Council do this they would be praised and avoid being maligned.
John Humble
Langley Road

PLANETARIUM VISITS AYCLIFFE VILLAGE SCHOOL



Aycliffe Village Primary School had a visit from Dr Paula Chadwick from the Physics Department at Durham University, who set up a Planetarium for Class 5. She taught us about planets, stars, the sun and the Milky Way. A Planetarium is a big black semicircle that the children enter. On the sides of the Planetarium there was information about the planets and facts like how long it takes for the

planets to fully rotate.

Afterwards it showed us all of the stars, there were so many and they were so bright! Paula turned the lights on to show what the sky looked like with street lamps on. All of the stars became very dim. The pupils enjoyed their visit and Mia Cooper said: "That was epic!" The Planetarium was a really fun experience for the pupils.

Georgia Armstrong.

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Woodhouse Close Church Furniture Project (Bishop Auckland area)
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Kings Church Furniture Scheme, Darlington
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For more information
www.durham.gov.uk/reuse



Two Local Schools Win Championships

Byerley Park and Aycliffe Village Primary Schools had a hugely successful day at the Sedgefield School Sports Partnership Key Steps Gymnastics Competition on 5th March.

Ninety five children from 8 schools took part in the event which was held in the superb facilities at South Durham Gymnastics Club in Spennymoor. The children were judged on a floor routine and also a vault. All of the children showed great concentration and skill and should be proud of their performances.

The results were a triumph for Byerley Park and Aycliffe Village who shared the all-round team trophies and had individual gymnasts scoring well and gaining medals.



Individual Champions - Aycliffe Village



Team Champions - Byerley Park



Team Champions - Aycliffe Village

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Newton News online

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Make a Difference in Your Community - Join GAMP

Ever fancied being a part of the decision making process in your community? If so then the chances are that your Area Action Partnership is looking for representatives to sit on their board and influence how the council and a range of other agencies address priorities in your area as well as reacting to neighbourhood issues to decide how a dedicated neighbourhood budget should be spent.

All AAPs are looking for people with a strong desire to improve their local areas who can relate to their community. Even if you have never played a role in your local community before, why not give it a go? Experience has shown the council that often those people with little or no experience prove to be very good board members who come up with the best ideas and contribute the most.

Gordon Elliott, head of partnerships and community engagement, said: "Public representatives are valuable to the AAP, bringing their individual experience and local knowledge of communities. I would urge anyone interested to get in touch with their AAP to find out more."

Since the AAPs inception in 2009 they have supported more than 600 projects across County Durham.

The partnerships were set up in 2009 to ensure the council is in touch with local people and to ensure members of the public have a say in how services are delivered and, more critically, have means to take action themselves.

Gordon added: "It's now

coming up to four years since they were put in place and they have proven to work, delivering action in communities to tackle issues. Crucial to their success has been the role of the public representative.

"Public reps have used local knowledge and information from residents to enable them to identify, prioritise and start to address some of the key concerns in their communities. "They have been the main drivers in addressing these concerns and, working alongside a variety of partners, have helped to shape and develop numerous projects, schemes and programmes."

Continues... Durham County Council wants to keep the boards vibrant and is looking to recruit to this exciting role. We want to recruit members of the public from across each of the AAP areas to try and get a good balance of public representatives from a range of communities.

If you're involved in your community already, or even if you're not and have never been involved in anything like this before but now have time to do more, get in touch.

A public rep can serve on the AAP board for up to four years and would be expected to attend board meetings which would take place at least once every two months. They can also get involved in a variety of groups which are designed to look at the communities concerns and develop ideas and possible solutions to address these.

Boards currently have representatives of all ages

ranging from a teenager to someone in their 90s and there are a number of people who have been inspired by their time with the AAPs and gone on to leading major projects in their community.

The partnerships have done so much to date but there is a still lot to do so if you feel you can add something then get in touch and ask for an application pack via your local AAP. Our closing date for full applications is 2 April.

More information on the AAPs can be found at: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/Pages/Service.aspx?ServiceId=6379>

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Aycliffe Families Sign up for Charity Walk



Maggie, Emily & Lucas Hannan, Lynn

Two Newton Aycliffe families have pledged to take part in an annual charity walk after organisers changed the event to allow families to participate. Maggie Hannan, and children Emily, 7 and Lucas, 5 will be joining in the 3-mile walk with family friends Jane Davison and daughter Erin, 7. She said, "We've supported Butterwick Hospice for years, and they always have great events for the children, but we're excited that this year the walk is open to men, women and children and we can all take part in the Twilight Walk."

The Twilight Walk, in aid of Butterwick Hospice, is now open to men, women and children and takes participants through the beautiful Raby Estate. The 3-mile sponsored event is a chance for family, friends and colleagues to enjoy an evening of outdoor fun and

fresh air while the scenic route gives walkers stunning views of the castle and surrounding estate.

Event organizer, Julie Nisbet said "The walk was becoming more popular with a greater demand, and we felt the time was right to open the walk to everybody. Lord Barnard very kindly agreed to host our event at Raby Castle, and the response from the public so far has been phenomenal. We still have groups of friends taking part, but now men and families can also join in."

The Twilight Walk takes place on Saturday, 15th June at 6pm, and entry fees are £15 per adult, £10 per child (under 5's free) and a family concession is available. For more information call Butterwick Hospice on 01388 603003 or visit the website www.butterwick.org.uk/twilightwalk13

Alexander Technique Demonstration

Dear Sir,
I'm the coordinator for the Federation of Holistic Therapists Local Support Group. We are a non profit making group running regular meetings at Woodham Community Centre. We do charge an entrance fee of £5 for FHT members and £6 for non members, to cover the cost of the hall and the guest speaker. We are holding an event on Tuesday 26th March at 6.30pm where Mary Rawson will be giving a talk/demonstration of the Alexander Technique. This is open to the public for anyone interested in health & wellbeing.
Sally McDowall, Bowen North East, Tel: 07790 081283

Bad Parking

Dear Sir,
The worst parking I have seen is a massive road markings lorry which is often parked outside the block of flats at Wolsey House in the middle of Washington Crescent. It is either parked longways taking up half the pavement and 3 or 4 parking spaces, or it parks on the pavement! This means anyone with a wheelchair or pushchair has to walk on the road. I've done this several times so I'd like to inform the driver I will be reporting him next time to his works and the police. He also parks it on a Sunday outside Tesco in a loading only area while he pops in for his shopping.
M Holland

St. John's Show - Outstanding



Greenfield Students in South Asian Festival



On 7th March 24 Gifted & Talented Greenfield College pupils were invited by the County Council to attend a South Asian Festival to celebrate on-going links with Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Greenfield are currently in their third year of a connecting classrooms project with schools in Sri Lanka and in their second year of a project with schools in Pakistan having just welcomed their respective colleagues into school last month.

Greenfield was the only Secondary school invited to County Hall where the pupils enjoyed various engaging and interactive activities. They had an opportunity to learn

some Sufi and Qawwali music, common in Pakistan and India, explore different textiles and clothing prevalent in Asian culture and learn different traditional dances.

The partnerships have helped bring an international dimension to young people's learning, to improve their knowledge and understanding of other cultures and prepare them for life and work as global citizens.

As a school Greenfield endeavours to place a huge importance on internationalism which is reflected by our vast array of different projects with schools in France, Italy, Germany, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan.

An outstanding production of 'Guys and Dolls' was enjoyed by many on the 6th and 7th March at Bishop Auckland Town Hall, as students from St John's displayed their fabulous acting skills, musicality and talent during their inspiring performance of the popular musical.

All cast members impressed, with the leading roles showing maturity and passion through their performances of Nathan Detroit (Laurie Kalus, Year 12), Sky Masterson (Stuart Thompson, Year 10), Sarah Brown (Alice Byrne, Year 13) and Adelaide (Chloe Nattrass, Year 9) grabbing the audience with their enthusiasm and talent.

Under the directorial skill of Miss Natalie Kirkwood – English & Drama Teacher, students entertained their audiences on both evenings, with many overwhelmed by the impressive standard of the show.

A great sense of community was felt by all and there were even tears on the final night as the show came to an end. An incredible amount of hard work and dedication was shown by all staff and students involved, and plans are already underway for next year's production!

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Famous Goalkeeper at Youthy Sports Evening



Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Junior Football Club held their annual Sportsman Evening on Friday 8 March. When the original speaker Micky Quinn was contracted to do extra work at Talk Sport and had to withdraw at the eleventh hour, Darren Williams our under 10 Manager and organiser didn't panic and began the task of finding a replacement. After several hours on the phone the replacement secured was England legend and goal keeper Peter Shilton, the most capped England player ever. The evening attracted a large crowd to the Big Club with fantastic support from current managers, parents and friends, as well as past players. Peter Shilton related stories from the many famous managers he played for including the legendary Brian Clough as well as the world class players he

played with. He then took questions from the audience. The evening was rounded off by top comedian Chris McGlade. An auction on the evening included a Chelsea Goal Keeper Shirt signed by the current Chelsea Squad which was donated by former Youthy Player Ross Turnbull. Jason Steele, Middlesbrough keeper, donated a signed pair of goalkeeper gloves and Peter Shilton brought along several shirts which he personally signed. Darren Williams thanked everyone for their generosity and reminded everyone that all the money raised would go to support the young boys and girls playing football and help grow the club in the coming years. If you want to know more about the football club or would like to start playing football visit our website www.naycafc.co.uk

Look After Us and Our Trees

Dear Sir,
I read the letter from the Tree Lover and I have to agree, we should be told when they are planting or chopping trees down in our neighbourhoods. My Neighbours and I have trees too close to our homes. The branches overhang my property and an Oak Tree is less than six foot away from my guttering and it blocks the light in the Summer. All these trees when shedding leaves, make the footpaths and our gardens untidy, slippery when wet, and block drains and guttering. I don't know what damage the roots are doing to drains etc., but If there was a list of trees to be cut down my neighbours and I would add one or two near us. The answer is not to plant trees too close to houses. Name and address supplied

Show Racism Red Card

An anti-racism project will bring a series of workshops, designed to hit home the message with school children, to the Newton Aycliffe Area. Show Racism the Red Card is an anti-racism educational charity working with schools to deliver workshops. The project will bring a team of educators and ex-professional football players who can visit primary and secondary schools and all schools in Newton

Aycliffe will be given the chance to take part thanks to support from GAMP. The project will run until July with the following schools taking part on the following dates: 22nd March: Greenfield, 25 April: St Francis Church of England, 6 June: St Joseph's, 17 September: Byerley Park. The scheme has been supported using GAMP's area budget and is in partnership with the Extended Schools Project. Michelle Postma the extended schools coordinator said: "Show Racism the Red Card is a fantastic project that familiarises young people with the causes and consequences of racism and equips them with a

range of skills that will enable them to challenge racism and encourage them to develop good relationships and respect the differences between people, regardless of ethnicity. "Our schools are very grateful to GAMP AAP, without their support hundreds of young people might not have benefitted from this project." Adam White, GAMP coordinator, said: "This is a proven and well designed programme which I am confident will have a positive impact in the area. We are delighted to find such an innovative scheme." Dates are currently being co-ordinated for other Aycliffe schools.

Woodham Will Rock You!



Students from Woodham Academy will be showcasing their musical talent in Newton Aycliffe next week, providing the community with a preview of their upcoming musical production. This will be taking place between March 25th – 27th at 7.00 p.m, in the main school hall. Students from Years 7 – 11, will be rehearsing numbers from the production in the Aycliffe Community Shop on the morning of Tuesday 19th March between 9am – 11 am. Woodham has a history of producing high quality musicals, with the last production of Little Shop of Horrors being an absolute sell out. For information on ticket sales please contact the school on 01325 300328.

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We always aim to deliver the very best customer service to all our patients with our highly trained and experienced team. We have recently completed our customer satisfaction survey and our rating by our customers was a fantastic 98.66%, placing our staff, shop and service provided in the Excellent or Very Good category.

As well as dispensing prescriptions, we also offer a **FREE STOP SMOKING SERVICE** with our specially trained advisor. If you want to quit pop in or call us on 01325 321010 - We can help you quit!

We, at Bewick Pharmacy, recently used National No Smoking Day on Wednesday 13th March 2013 to showcase our services on offer. Our smoking advisor Sheena offers a **FREE drop in STOP SMOKING SERVICE** and can be contacted on 01325 321010 - We can help you quit!

Thanks again for your support over the first year and we look forward to many more . . .

"Fab! Always friendly faces, extremely helpful!"

"Very efficient, friendly and welcoming. Very convenient service. Super! Well done!"

NO SMOKING DAY
Wednesday 13 March
We can help you quit **TODAY!**
Ask a member of the team about our stop smoking service

Aycliffe Mums "Move on Up"



"Moving On Up" is a group of Newton Aycliffe mums who, in December 2012, successfully completed a Level 1 City & Guilds qualification in Personal Development, funded by GAMP. The course was developed by the mums and staff to ensure that their needs were met and it was a service-led programme and still is. The group come from a variety of backgrounds but all have a common ground – to be the best that they can be for their children and themselves. They are all proud of what was achieved over a 12 week

period, and the group provides a marvellous support network for each other with a simple pat on the back for a job well done or to just be there with an ear to listen and a shoulder to cry on is required.

Moving On Up is now undertaking a new course on an Introduction to Counselling/Listening Skills, at Bishop Auckland College in a bid to improve existing skills and assist others outside the group in future.

They are also working with the College in the hope of gaining funding for future endeavours.

A special word of thanks goes to the lady who is the driving force behind the scenes. She will not be named, but the group recognise, that without her relentless determination they wouldn't have achieved what they had. "From all in Moving On Up words cannot express our gratitude for all that you have done and are doing to keep us 'housed' and educated, THANK YOU".

The group has come to realise the need to keep together and that the world is their oyster, the door is open and we will keep 'Moving On Up'.

Top Sports Wear Available from Shildon

Dear Sir,
In response to the article "Newton Aycliffe Needs a Sports Shop" there is a local alternative that can satisfy the demand for quality sports and leisurewear. Single Source Online supply Adidas, Nike, Regatta, Hanes, Kariban, Lotto, Spalding, Glenmuir, Craghoppers, Fruit of the Loom, and many more brands.

Single Source Online (www.singlesourcesonline.co.uk) is based at 2 Shildon Business Centre on Dabble Duck Industrial Estate. Although Newton Aycliffe town centre is now heading into a period of significant change and improvement, it may be some time before a specialist sport shop appears. For any of the major high street sports retailers, potential footfall is a key requirement in the decision to establish an outlet in any location, and that is a major obstacle for Aycliffe.

Although Tesco has done extremely well since opening, there are few of

their customers that shop in Beveridge Way.

We can supply individuals as well as business customers and are looking to expand our network of resellers, providing opportunities for individuals to sell to their friends, family and work colleagues.

In addition to sports and leisure wear we supply mens and ladies wear, casual wear, children's wear, school uniforms, work and safety wear as well as accessories such as travel/sports bags.

If someone out there has the entrepreneurial spirit to open a shop in Newton Aycliffe we can be part of their supply chain.

We hope that Newton Aycliffe town centre can prosper once more and become a thriving commercial centre like it was in the early years.

Andrew Corry
T: 01388 777424 M:
07702 546208 www.
singlesourcesupply.co.uk

MOTOR TORQUE

By Ramsays of Aycliffe



2013 Unlucky Reg?

Even though Triskaidekaphobia isn't a noun I drop this into conversation as the new 13 registration plate has amused some of the motoring press and you can see why. From March to August 2013, new vehicles will carry (the unlucky for some) 13 registration plate.

With many superstitions surrounding the number or 'Triskaidekaphobia' there's already expected to be a significant drop in new car sales, with many motorists preferring to wait until August and the '63' registration.

Many franchise dealers are already questioning the negative effects on new car sales with buyers avoiding any bad luck connected with

the new number. Only time will tell.

Word was the DVLA were planning to offer car buyers the chance to avoid the 13 registration with a window to revert back to a 62 plate however, this could see some motorists lose money when they come to sell their car as the vehicle will appear older than they really are - it now seems DVLA will stick with the norm.

One positive to be taken from the new '13' reg is the opportunity to make a private plate with the letter 'B'. RO13ERT (Robert), the possibilities are endless.

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UNSOUND ROCK THE OAK TREE



Aycliffe's own young rock band The Unsound, played their Debut Gig in Aycliffe on Saturday Night and rocked the Oak Tree like never before, starting with their debut single 'Crazy' and including rocked up versions of "James Arthur - Impossible", "Chuck Berry - Johnny be Good", "Ed Sheeran - You Need Me" and finishing on "Pearl Jam - Even Flow".

There was something for everyone, including the first ever playing of The Unsound's own song, 'Keith'. The bar was bouncing with a

mix of regulars and followers of The Unsound, people of all ages, singing and enjoying the party.

The Landlady was so impressed she has booked them for Sat 6th April for a repeat performance. The band would like to thank everyone for turning out and making it a night to remember and they are looking forward to playing the Oak Tree again. Check out www.TheUnsound.co.uk for a list of gigs, free downloads and other information on the band.

Parking Plea Ignored



Dear Sir,
Our pleas for help regarding these people who think it's ok to park across the pavements and grass are going unnoticed yet again! As a resident of Moule Close I am sick to death of these reckless drivers who park where they like so this time I am not blocking out registration plates, hopefully to shame the drivers.

When are the Council and Police going to do something about this dangerous parking problem? This afternoon there were two police officers in the area who walked past the offending vehicles and did nothing!

Name and address supplied

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International Women’s Day Event in Durham

Since the early 1900’s March 8th has been celebrated as International Women’s Day recognising and celebrating the achievements of women, to campaign for equality and to inspire girls and women across the globe. There was certainly plenty to inspire year 10 and 11 girls from Greenfield College who attended the event at County Halllast week. The day was introduced by the first female Chair of Durham County Council and the first female Lord Lieutenant. From the Elite Make-up Artist, Durham born, who followed her dream to become a make-up artist to the stars, to the Vicar, one of the first women ordained, ignoring the men who said women couldn’t be priests - the message was ‘you



Family Day Out at Woodham



This weekend sees the return of the popular Family Learning Day at Woodham Academy. Parents of year 5 students from across Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas are invited to come and take part in a range of activities aimed at combining fun and learning for the whole family. Activities for this year’s event include Digital Literacy, The Crystal Maze and Dance Central. All activities are being led by teaching staff from Woodham and will include refreshments throughout the morning. Assistant Head Teacher Jon Tait said “As an Academy that recognises the important part that we play in the community, we are thoroughly committed to providing family learning activities. Events like this help to engage young people and their parents, providing a platform for positive partnerships”. The event at Woodham Academy takes place on Saturday 16th March between 10.30 am – 1.00pm.

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Where Have all the Flowers Gone?

Mr Dawes of Henderson Road lodged a complaint with Livin over flooding of the inside of nearby garages, due to guttering removed and not replaced. Their reaction to this was not only to replace the guttering but to strip away all the flowers, bushes and shrubbery on land next to the garages, spoiling a beautiful area which neighbours enjoyed. It took some heavy plant and labour two days to destroy this site and when approached a Mr. Blews representing Livin arrogantly informed Mr Dawes that they owned the land and would do what they wanted and it had nothing to do

with people who lived in the area. Mr Dawes told Newton News: “I complained to Jed Hillary my local councillor who said I would receive a call from Dave Oldham from Livin the next day. When the call did not come I rang him, but was told he was not available as I did not have an appointment.” Mr Dawes did get to speak to a lady in the office who told him the removal of the bushes etc was a cost saving exercise.



REPLY FROM LIVIN . . .

Colin Kingshott, head of property services for livin said: “The garages suffered from flooding due to the high level of the surrounding land which was causing a steady stream of water through the

brickwork. As a result essential work was carried out to make the surrounding land level to prevent further flooding as well as adding guttering which the garages did not previously have.

Unfortunately due to this work we had to remove a number of overgrown shrubs from the land, however the land had been reseeded and will be maintained as part of the grounds maintenance service going forward.”



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Employee of the Year



Hall Garth Hotel are delighted to announce Shirley Farley as their Employee of the Year 2012. Shirley works in the Wine Glass Restaurant in the evenings and regularly receives fantastic guest feedback for her exceptional customer service. She lives in Newton Aycliffe and has worked for the hotel for 1½ years. Shirley has a daughter Chloe and son Ryan. General Manager, Pam Mooney (left) presented Shirley with a framed certificate and a £150 voucher to reward her for her achievement.

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Students Learn About Jobs at Primary School

On 7th March St Francis' School organised the second 'Believe and Achieve' event which hosted even more employers than in 2012.

Children spent the day speaking to employers from a wide range of sectors including builders, consultants, aid workers, travel agents, lawyers, armed forces, bankers and chefs all keen to learn about different career paths and what they need to achieve to get there.

This year was more hands on as children built walls with Barry Dobinson from home building firm Southdale, learning how to manicure with the Ladder Center in Ferryhill, using a till with Greggs and trying a range of new foods with Celebrity Chef, Mike Earnden.

David Bowes, chair of school governors, said: "Events like this are very important as children get the opportunity to see what life could bring them in the future." Headteacher Jane Wilkinson added: "It is all about giving the children a focus and showing what they can achieve if they believe in themselves."

"We are very lucky as a school to have a forward thinking Headteacher and so many companies supporting us. The business people enabled all of our children to think about possibilities for the future and develop good role models to shape their future aspirations."



School Challenged to Design Aycliffe Washing Machine

Bishop Auckland students have been stepping up to the challenge of producing designs for the UK's only manufacturer of washing machines.

Ebac, which is developing a production line to start manufacturing the appliances from Spring 2014, invited design and technology students



from St John's RC School and Sixth Form College to come up with their own designs.

The project resulted in 12 Year 8 students visiting Ebac in Newton Aycliffe to present the results of their work to management and designers from the County Durham manufacturer. Among the panel were designer Clyde Pittaway, who trained as a design and technology teacher at the school, and managing director Pamela Petty.

Clyde said: "Young people's creative work tends to be a lot less prohibited by potential practical barriers, so it has been hugely interesting to see what they have come up with and to consider how the designs could translate into reality."

"Ideas have ranged from some interesting aesthetic designs to such innovations as using Smart Phones to set programmes. We may not take all of the ideas and designs into final production, but the work of the St John's students certainly gives inspirational food for thought."

Pamela added: "It has been

exciting to see the enthusiasm of the students who have taken part in this project. Having attended the recent EEF conference and heard politicians such as Vince Cable, Ed Balls and Michael Heseltine talking about girls being less engaged in mechanical engineering, it was particularly pleasing to see the way female students embraced the project. It is also important that young people do get enthusiastic about engineering, to ensure there is a strong pool of talent for the industry in the future.

"When it comes to making products, ideas can come from everywhere and from anyone, and what we have seen from these students could well feed into that process."

Lindsey Hillyard, teacher at St John's RC School and Sixth Form College, said: "It has been a great experience for the students to learn more about manufacturing and engineering from this project. They have seen what goes on behind the scenes to make a product work, and that has been very inspiring for the students."

NOT MANY TOWNS OFFER FREE PARKING

Dear Sir,
I read with great interest the section on the many facilities offered by Great Aycliffe Town Council, which I applaud, but there is one facility that was omitted and that is FREE PARKING.

There are not many places if any, in the vicinity of our town that offers such a luxury, this includes Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

Long may this remain so for when our new revamped and modernized town centre is completed, this is sure to put Great Aycliffe Town at the top of the "Shopping List".

Alan Elders.

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- when you suspect drug use or dealing;
- to report a minor traffic collision;
- to give information about crime in your area;

or

- if you would like to speak to your local police officer

Agnew Community Centre Assoc.

Morrison Close, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4QZ

Annual General Meeting

WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2013 - 7.00pm SHARP

I am to inform you that in accordance with the Consitution and Charity Law, the Management Committee and Trustees have called the above meeting. The meeting is open to all, but only full members will be eligible to vote for items on the agenda.

Nominations for Officers, Committee Members as per the constitution (forms available from the Secretary or from the Centre); forms, proposals or any other business must be with the Secretary on or before 27th March 2013.

All Members and Attendees will receive a copy of the Agenda and Minutes of the previous meeting on arrival at the AGM, if you would like a copy up to 2 weeks prior to the meeting, then please contact the Secretary. Also available is a copy of the Agenda which will be posted on the main notice board and our website no later than two weeks prior to the meeting.

Anyone requiring any additional and relevant information, please contact the Secretary on the numbers below:

R.G. MITCHIE - 01325 321504 office or 07749 236853
Email to: agnewcommunitycentre@btconnect.com

Honorary Secretary
on behalf of the Committe and Trustees

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2 x Polymer Apprentice	Tow Law

Please contact Kirsty Haden to apply Tel: 01325 313194



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Support & Teaching and Learning in Schools	Durham
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Business Administration Apprentice	Newton Aycliffe & Darlington
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IT Support Apprentice	Darlington
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Customer Service Apprentice	Spennymoor
£100 per week	

Please contact Laura Bell to apply
Telephone: (01325) 328443

Millions Invested at 3M Aycliffe



3M senior vice-president Chris Holmes congratulates site manager Dave Watson on the completion of the new production line

A multi-million pound investment has been unveiled at the 3M manufacturing plant at Aycliffe to help further boost its sales to the worldwide market.

The new production line allows the plant to increase substantially its capacity to make cartridge filters for its respirators used to protect workers from vapour and dust.

As well as respirators, the diversified technology company's Heighington

Lane site also makes a range of products for the vehicle aftercare market.

Plant manager Dave Watson said: "Aycliffe is a flagship manufacturing site for 3M in the UK and this major investment underlines the confidence shown by the company in our highly skilled workforce."

The line was officially opened during a visit to the site by 3M senior vice-president Chris Holmes from the company's headquarters in the U.S.A.



Web Company Expands

Design365 are a leading North-East based Web Solutions company offering companies of all sizes various web design, branding and marketing services.

Established in March 2004 by Newtonian Alan Foster they have since grown into a hardworking and experienced team of hand picked design and development experts.

Their main office is situated in Newton Aycliffe Business Park but following a recent growth spurt of enquiries from Newcastle and Northumbria based businesses has fuelled the expansion into an additional office based in the Gateshead International Business Centre. They have also taken on a new member of staff to drive the business development further and offer social media support. The 9-year-old business provides solutions in web design and online marketing, producing professional, contemporary websites and implementing strategies to boost web traffic, improved search engine rankings and



sales conversion rates.

Web design services include the creation brochure, development and ecommerce websites, for any business, from international manufacturing firms to one-man-band SMEs.

The latest addition the Design365's web portfolio is mobile application development, which declares itself as 'the new-age promotional business tool', used by thousands of companies to endorse and provide easy access to their product or service.

If you're interested in speaking to design365 then give them a call on 01325 311 909 or email sales@design365.co.uk

Criminal Attack on Newton Press Van

A Newton Press employee took the company delivery van home last Monday night 11th March and when he went to go to work the next morning found all four tyres slashed. He lives in Guthrum Place and was amazed that someone could cause such criminal damage to a vehicle.

The Police have been informed and are looking for witnesses. Newton Press are offering a reward to anyone who gives information leading to the arrest and prosecution of the offender.

"The Neighbourhood Police Team are carrying out enquiries into this offence and any information by any members of the public that is received will be treated with the strictest of confidence, ring 101. Offences of this nature are mindless and disrespectful causing great inconvenience to the victim/s, and those responsible will be dealt with appropriately", said Sgt Mark Edwards.

Newton Press would like to thank Aycliffe Tyres who sorted out the tyres and got the van back on the road within 24 hours (Tel: 316826)

Family Start Bouncy Castle Business



David Wharton and his partner Susan from Aycliffe started 'Bounceabout and Play' at the beginning of 2013 after attending children's parties with their own two daughters, aged 3 and 1. The couple enjoyed seeing the children playing together and interacting with others of a variety of ages and it motivated them to explore the children's entertainment business.

After much market research and discussions with other established businesses, the couple picked out the products and chose their name. Bounceabout and Play's product range includes three Bouncy Castles with a football and princess theme – each are suitable for children up to the age of 11. They also offer a toddler bouncy castle suitable for under 5's with enclosed walls and a controlled entrance and exit, to ensure the smaller children can play safely.

Bounceabout and Play also offer a Soft Play Package, including a variety of soft play shapes, rockers, a large dice and a tunnel all on soft play mats. Completing the range is the Thomas Airflow Adventure – a fun maze of 4 pods and tunnels kept inflated by a continuous gentle airflow. This features favourites from Thomas the Tank Engine and is suitable for children up to 6 years old.

All the equipment required is supplied with each hire, set up and taken away at the end of the day. The products are available for hire seven days a week.

David commented: "We are very excited about our new venture, Bounceabout and have already had our first booking from a Newton Aycliffe family, which went extremely well. They were impressed with the products and the children certainly enjoyed making use of them. All equipment will be carefully checked and cleaned before and after each party. As the business grows, we will expand our range. For details telephone 07816 944876"

Greenfield Community College A Specialist Arts & Science School

Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 7LF
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<http://greenfieldschool.net>



INVIGILATOR

As and when required during exam seasons
Grade 1, Point 4-11 (£6.29 - £7.63 per hour)

Greenfield wishes to appoint Invigilators

Responsible for providing an efficient and effective invigilation support service to the schools examination section and ensure the integrity of its examinations.

Please contact Mrs Susan Mouyiassi on 01325 300378 or email susan.mouyiassi@greenfieldschool.net for further information and an application pack.

Only applications submitted on the school's application forms and completed in full by the specified date will be considered.

Greenfield Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of sex, race, marital status or disability

The school is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and require all staff to share this commitment.

All posts are subject to satisfactory CRB clearance.

Closing Date: 12 noon – 22nd March 2013

Your place of work will be Greenfield Community College. The school is part of the Aycliffe and Shildon Schools Education Trust (ASSET) and you may be required to work in any of the school sites within the Trust.

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14th March: 5pm – 7pm

17th April: 5pm – 7pm

To confirm your place on one of the above dates please contact Kirsty Haden on: 01325 313194

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AYCLIFFE MARTIAL ARTS CLUB MOVE TO NEW PREMISES

Mark Reay has run a part time mixed martial arts club from the Leisure Centre for over 2years. Now, with existing and new members growing every session, he has made the move into a full time gym which he calls Viper Mixed Martial Arts on Aycliffe Business Park on Durham Way (above Aspire Fitness) He will run a number of classes including mixed martial arts, womens fitness, street effective grappling and ultimate self defence. Mark intends to offer reduced rate sessions of MMA through the day for unemployed people to come along, train and give them pride in themselves. He also wants to encourage young people to look after their bodies by doing this ultimate form of fitness. MMA leads the way in fitness, and Mark believes there is no better way to achieve a high fitness



Mark (2nd left) with the Martial Arts Team

level. Mixed Martial Arts sometimes known as Cage Fighting has really found pace over the last few years with the UFC taking pride of place in the fighting sports. "We have many in our club that fight regularly all over Britain, and we



also have the current British Lightweight Champion as a member at Aycliffe. I am sure we have many future champs in our team" said Mark. The club is now ready for business on the top floor of Acorn House and new members are always welcome. It is a friendly club with everyone made to feel welcome and they stock a small range of proteins and pre-workout supplements. For more information contact Mark on 07809 323998 or find us on facebook.

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Personal Care and Companionship

Susanne McKerr has been in the care profession for more than 24 years. Her last position was Deputy Manager for Age UK. She decided to start her own business to offer more care and companionship than a large care company could. All care provided is personalized to the individual's needs and is changed on a regular basis as required. Care can range from personal care, bathing assistance, house work, doing the shopping, assisting the customer to go shopping, assisting the customer to go to the doctors etc, sitting service allowing family members to go out, assisting with preparing meals etc. "I strongly believe that all my customers are individual and care is assessed only on what that customer requires." said Susanne. Care can be delivered on a daily, weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis. I get to know the customer well and vice versa. Close friendships are formed creating more trust and reassurance for the customer. Susanne has many companions within outside agencies, so if the time comes when the customer requires extra help or she feels more help is needed (e.g. equipment to aid mobility or help that cannot be provided) then after discussion with the customer she contacts these agencies to request their involvement. Susanne boasts many qualifications and is police checked with full public liability insurance. Scrubba Dubb charges an hourly rate which is paid on each visit and a receipt given. Invoices can be issued fortnightly/monthly for payment. Scrubba Dubb can be employed using the Direct



Payments Scheme. If a reader feels they require any of Susannes services please ring and she will call to discuss in detail what I can offer to assist you. I will carry out an assessment and once we are happy with the level of care that can be offered then I will make every effort to arrange the visits at the time and day the customer has requested. Tel: 07902 812819.

School Aycliffe Lane Newton Aycliffe Co Durham DL5 6QZ Tel no 01325 300600

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FREE PASS TO FITNESS CLUB FOR AN EASTER EGG

Dear Sir,
Last year Newton News helped us spread the word about our Easter Egg collection. We had around 10 Easter Eggs collected before you put the story in your Newspaper and over 80 afterwards. These eggs went on to help St Theresa's Hospice. The hospice were very grateful and the eggs helped raise over £6000 at their Easter Egg Tombola in the Cornmill Centre in Darlington. This just goes to show how

well Newton News is read and how generous the people of Newton Aycliffe are and as such we would like to do the same again this year. We will swap each Easter Egg for a Free pass to use the classes and facilities at Lifestyle Fitness (these are

transferable to a friend). We will then take the eggs along to St Therasas Hospice for their tombola which will hopefully once again be very successful.
Alister Ruddick - Lifestyle Fitness - alister.ruddick@lifestylefitness.co.uk



The Burn by Mike Baker

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



James Skerrett sent this photograph of a Bluetit on his garden bird feeder. If you have a favourite digital photo send it to syd@newtonnews.co.uk

FREE ONLINE ADVERTISING

www.newtonaycliffe.com invites all businesses, organisations and clubs in Newton Aycliffe to register details on this new website **FOR FREE**

Visit www.newtonaycliffe.com, create an account then list all your details including, full address, 200 word description, website address, phone number, email address, Facebook/Twitter/LinkedIn account - you can also add up to three photographs and a video.

Adding your job vacancies and promoting special offers are all available **FREE OF CHARGE**. Listings can be amended, added to or upgraded at any time - over 200 Newton Aycliffe organisations have so far . . . **why haven't you?**

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AYCLIFFE SHOPPING CENTRE

ADVISORY NOTICE

The new staircase will be open to the public as of Wednesday, 20th March, 2013.

Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience these works may have caused.

Bryan Haldane
Centre Manager



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Fresh Food at Woodham Academy



Record numbers of students and staff are choosing to eat school dinners at Woodham

Academy. Indeed, the sales of school meals has gone up year on year since the school

took the decision to employ its own chef rather than an outside catering company.

All food is cooked at Woodham, using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Meat comes from a reputable local butcher. No processed meat products are served.

Woodham Academy chef, Linda Vipond, says, "We aim to give students a choice of healthy, appetising meals, with everything made in our own kitchen.

Unlike catering companies, we do not make a profit from school meals. We are therefore able to serve very high quality food at the same price as other schools in the area, giving parents excellent value for money."

French Fine Delayed

France has announced an indefinite delay on fines for motorists, including motorcyclists, who do not carry a breathalyser kit with them in their vehicle. Previously, it was decided that fines would be issued from 1st March 2013.

Currently, all drivers in France, including motorcyclists, are required to carry a breathalyser kit and the €1 fine for not carrying a breathalyser would have been applicable to all road users, except for those on mopeds.

Anyone driving in France is already required to carry a warning triangle and a fluorescent safety vest to use in an emergency. Additionally UK motorists and motorcyclists must display a GB plate.

IAM director of policy and research Neil Greig said: "The law for carrying breathalysers will no longer be enforced through fines, but in order to comply with the law we still recommend that you keep a breathalyser kit in the car whenever you're travelling to or through France."

Beware of Deliberate Crash for Cash

Crash for cash scams are staged collisions. The one to watch for is when some deliberately drives dangerously to force a crash so they can make an exaggerated insurance claim.

How to avoid them: Always look ahead and anticipate hazards

Keep a safe following distance from the car in front and watch traffic overtaking you so that you are not surprised if it pulls across and brakes in front of you.

Beware of tailgaters. The car behind you will try to get your attention so you don't concentrate on the driver in front. Pay attention to the vehicles around you and if you feel threatened by a tailgater, pull over somewhere safe to let them past.

Keep an eye out for criminal gangs using the same locations. Local news can suggest where it is.

If you are involved in one, remember:

If you're suspicious, don't ask them directly about it at the scene.

Try to take photos of the damage, discreetly - if possible, get a description of the driver and count the number of people in the other vehicle.

If you need the emergency services, call 999.

Stay calm. You'll need to swap details with other drivers.

IAM chief examiner Peter Rodger said: "Crash for cash scams are costing the insurance industry millions of pounds. Collisions are stressful and emotionally draining but it's important to be prepared."

"Despite high profile sentencing for these scams in the past, they're still happening. Make sure you follow this advice to ensure you know what to do if you're ever involved in one."

SOMETHING TO DO OVER EASTER

Fun with "Little Acorns" Group

Why not come along to both of the events arranged by Little Acorn's? Little Acorn's is an exciting new subsidiary of the main residents association and holds monthly meetings, half an hour before the main meeting of the group. Two events are the first to be arranged by the children and young adults that form the group, supported by the main Association.

Our Easter Monday Fun-day will be held in the Town Park (by Tesco) from 2pm until 4pm on Monday 1st of April 2013 with fun and games for the whole family. Everyone is welcome but under 16's must be accompanied by an adult and this event is free. There will be games such as egg and spoon races,

tug of war, and all sorts of EGGcellent fun including three legged races and an Easter Egg Hunt.

On Tuesday 2nd of April, the group have arranged a Petting Zoo in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre from 11 am till 2pm. There will be a selection of different animals and advisors will be on hand to inform how to care for these creatures. Again under 16's must be accompanied by an adult. Bring along an Easter picture for our drawing competition to be judged on the day.

Tickets are only £1 and are available for purchase from the Leisure Centre or Ken on 01325 321471. Hope to see you all there for some Eggastic activities.

WOODHAM CHI TAE KWON DO

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- Admission to Bletchley Park
- Melton Mowbray Visit
- Guided Walking Tour of Cambridge

Wind the clock back sixty years to the days of World War II and hear tales of heroes and spies with visits to RAF Coningsby, the home of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, The Imperial War Museum at Duxford and Bletchley Park National Code Centre. This four day trip is based at the 4 Kettering Park Hotel on a half board basis and includes admissions to all the places of interest as well as a visit to Melton Mowbray on the return journey.*

Depart Monday mid morning for RAF Coningsby with a comfort stop en-route. We pass the historical City of Lincoln arriving at the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Centre at approximately 2.00pm. The Hangar tour lasts for one hour and after a look round the Visitors Centre we travel to Kettering Park Hotel.

On Tuesday we visit charming Cambridge for a guided walking tour of the city. The highlights include pretty streets, historic market place and the majestic architecture of the Colleges. Duxford Imperial War Museum is the next visit to one of the finest examples of a wartime airfield with a wide variety of aircraft, seafaring vessels and land machines.

Wednesday is perhaps the highlight visiting Bletchley Park National Code Centre which includes a variety of activities and exhibitions including its Victorian Mansion, home to intelligence staff during the war. See the outstanding Churchill collection and the famous German Enigma Machine. There is more than enough to occupy and enthral visitors for a full day.

Thursday after breakfast its farewell to our hosts, heading north, calling in at Melton Mowbray, famous for its pies and sausages. Why not visit Ye Olde Pork Pie Shop and Dickinsons & Morris Sausage Shop next door? Afterwards we continue our journey back to the North East, arriving at approximately 5pm.



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Primary School Football

Sedgefield School Sport Partnership organized more football fixtures recently. The teams all played some entertaining football at Greenfield School and at Sedgefield Community College. The referees were very impressed with the skill levels displayed.



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Woodham Burn 4 v West Cornforth 2
Woodham Burn 5 v St Michaels 0
West Cornforth 0 v Aycliffe Village 3

Tigers Gain Focus Rugby Club Status

Durham Tigers Rugby League has been awarded Focus Club status by Rugby League's governing body, Sports England. The club has been awarded this due to their commitment to quality coaching staff, high quality training they provide and for the way they develop talented players from the area. Seven new coaches from across the north east have joined the club and received recognised qualifications. Club Secretary Phil Selby said "I think it is important that coaches are of the highest possible quality to inspire kids into playing rugby, or progressing into the sport professionally. If players see coaches that are passionate

about Rugby League then they are more likely to progress through the sport, which is the overall aim." Since the recruitment of new coaches, the Tigers have sufficient staff to give detailed attention to every player giving them confidence to be successful in the upcoming season. Training is in full swing, so if you are interested in joining us, or would like more information you can either like 'We Are Durham Tigers' on Facebook, call us on 07949 706546 or just turn up at Sunnyside Leisure Centre, Shildon. 6:30 on Tuesday Evenings for 16+ team or at 10 am on Saturday mornings for the junior team.

Newtonian Captains Australian Polo Team



Scott Carpenter from the Water Polo Club based at Aycliffe Leisure Centre, and Britain's leading water polo player, continues to succeed playing for Victoria Tigers in Melbourne Australia. Scott recently played for the International All Stars team in exhibition matches against Australia on Bondi Beach in Sydney. These games were played to promote the sport and crowds full of celebrities and other sports stars of over 4000 were in attendance. Scott was voted

most valuable player for the All Stars team despite two Olympic gold medallists in his team and 3 Italian World Champions. Each team won one game. Scott has been named captain of the Victoria Tigers a great honour for a foreign player, despite the Australian Olympic captain and an Olympic silver medallist being in the team. The Tigers have made a great start to the National League with 12 wins from twelve and it is looking good for the season ahead.

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DL5 TEAM MUDDY MAYHEM



Four intrepid guys Nathan, Ben, Barry and Daz from DL5 Sports Bar are taking part in Muddy Mayhem at Hardwick Hall, Sedgefield in aid of Help the Hero's on the 24 March 2013 and are looking for sponsors for this fantastic charity which as everybody knows provides lots of help and support for Members of the Armed forces. If anybody would like to sponsor the guys they can do so by calling into DL5 to show their support for the men and women who selflessly protect us.

PUTTING THE BRAKES ON FORECOURT CRIME

Police have joined forces with a national scheme to help put the brakes on garage forecourt crime. The force has teamed up with the British Oil Security Syndicate (BOSS) and independent retailers to introduce a Forecourt Watch.

Forecourt Watch creates a closer link between police, BOSS and retail staff to increase awareness, prevention and the reporting and recording of incidents. To celebrate the launch of the scheme in the area, teams of officers and PCSO's attended garage forecourts, speaking to motorists about crime prevention and acting as a visible deterrent to would-be thieves. "We're pleased to be working with BOSS to tackle forecourt crime, which has a huge financial impact and is also linked to other types of criminal offences," said PCSO Liam Robertson. Dave Young, BOSS co-ordinator for the north east, added: "Drive-off incidents cost the UK oil industry approximately £16million last year. Our aim is to maintain fuel stations as a safe environment for customers and staff, targeting those people who drive off without paying for their fuel and using service stations as a route to commit more serious crimes." Research shows that offences of driving off without paying for fuel are often linked to offenders or vehicles involved in other types of crime and disqualified drivers, those without insurance, tax or MOT.

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On Saturday evening the girls
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Clare's Vestry to celebrate
Mothering Sunday. 22 ladies
from the Parish were treated
to a selection of beauty
treatments and afternoon tea.
The photo's show ladies
receiving a hand massage,
manicure and polish. Our
Town Centre Chaplain is
seen as you've never seen
her before. Pam received a
super PAMpering by the
girls and echoed the thoughts
of everyone that it was a
wonderful afternoon and it is
hoped the girls will repeat it.
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each month to enjoy and do
their bit for Parish Quota!



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DANCE DURHAM, DANCE!



On Tuesday 12th March, Class 14, from Vane Road Primary School, attended the Sedgefield School Sport Partnership Dance Festival. The festival was spread over a two-day period; 27 different schools attended within the two days. Amazingly, the youngest performers were only reception children, doing dances involving being animals, whilst the oldest group were four talented year 10s from Greenfield with their contemporary dance (which they choreographed themselves) involving chairs, yes, chairs! Every school was lead through a fun warm up by a fantastic instructor. Even the spectators were dancing along with us!

Back at our seats we watched the first two dances by Greenfield then several other schools performed their superb dance. Soon, it was us. Our school performed our version of Grease, a dance that was partly made by Mrs Cowey, who unfortunately wasn't able to make it to the festival, and partly by us. Our teacher, Miss Bone, tweaked the dance to perfection. We wore costumes that consisted of decorated white t-shirts. The girls also wore fluorescent leggings and leg-warmers, finished with a grey net bow tied around their necks. We had a fantastic afternoon! Jessica M Vane Road Student

GREENFIELD HELP WITH NEW TEACHING METHOD

Greenfield Community College has recently been leading on a project continuing some innovative research in educational methods. They have been working with local school partners exploring an exciting creative approach to teaching and learning called 'SOLES'.

This was developed by Professor Sugata Mitra. Professor Mitra, from Newcastle University, who is a professional who works globally to explore the use of Technology, IT and a student led enquiry.

His methods involve teachers taking a step back from their more traditional role as transmitters of knowledge and students taking a much more active role. They develop their own enquiries in teams and use the internet to explore their curiosity of a subject.

We were delighted to hear that Professor Mitra had recently been awarded the prestigious international TED prize at the conference held in February in California, USA. Greenfield would like to congratulate Professor Mitra and Newcastle University on this fantastic achievement, we are very proud to be involved in this research, and to continue working with Sugata and Newcastle University.

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Birthday Remembrance

Brooke Louise Dawson



16th March 1980

Miss you so very much, especially today on your 33rd birthday. Our lovely Brookie, never ever forgotten. Our love always. Mum, Geoff and Lewis xxx

DICKINSON Walter James. 15/3/1940 to 25/1/12. Wonderful memories of a very loving Brother and Uncle. We love and miss you more than words can say. You will always be in our hearts and thoughts. Lots of love little Sis Denise, Steve and all the bairns xxx

Paul Clark

17th March 1957 to 8th July 2009

No cards or presents for one so dear, just special thoughts and a silent tear. My heart still aches as I whisper love, "happy birthday Paul, I miss you so". Love always, Carole xxx

Missing you so much. You are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. With all our love, Adam, Matthew and Sarah xxx

Obituary

Rena Leadbitter



Passed away suddenly, but peacefully on Sunday 10th March 2013. Loving Wife of John; adored Mam of Phillip, Linda, Margaret, Dawn, Rodney and Pat; special Nana to all her Grandchildren. Never forgotten, always in our hearts forever more. Service to be held at St Clares Church on Wednesday 20th March, 2013 at 12.45pm. Family flowers only, donations may be made in lieu to MS Society, a tray will be left at the church

RENA LEADBITTER To my special Nanny, miss and love you forever. Love you lots, Lola

RENA LEADBITTER To a very special and wonderful Nana, we will always love and miss you but you will be in our hearts forever more. From Gary, Craig, Leanne, Katy, Liam, Carl, Dale, David and little Darren plus Great Granddaughter Connie

RON RUSSELL aged 74 years, suddenly at home surrounded by his loving family on 5th March, of Heighington. Very dearly loved Husband of Dot, much loved Dad of Dee and Michelle, dear Father-in-Law of Eddie, loving Grandad of Sam, Lauren and Harley. Dear Step-Dad to Garry, Philip and Richard and a dear Brother, Uncle and friend to many. Funeral took place on Thursday 14th March in St Michael's Church, Heighington. Donations, if desired, may be made for Macmillan Cancer Support and the Great North Air Ambulance Service, c/o Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6EN

SEERY March 8th (suddenly at home) of Newton Aycliffe. Colin aged 48 years. Loving Dad of Simon, Carly and Nikki; Dearest brother of Jill and Terry. Would friends please meet at Neville Parade Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe on Friday March 22nd for a Service at 11:15am followed by interment at Stephenson Way Cemetery.

Congratulations

Scott Wayne Williamson

See what 40 years of good living can do!



From This



To This

Happy 40th Birthday Scott
Love from Mam and Dad xxxxx

Alan Brown



Happy 70th Birthday
16th March 2013

Happy birthday Alan darling. Love to you always, Carol xxx

Happy 70th Birthday

Dad. Love from Darren, Dawn, Martin, Suzanne, Keely and Colin.

Hooray Grandad is 70 Today

Love from Samantha, Stuart, Charlotte, Dale, Caitlin, Greg, Amy, Alannah and Mia. Hi-Five Great Grandad. Love from Finn xxx

Scott Williamson



THE BIG 40!
17th March 2013

It's all downhill from here. Lots of love, Nic and Liam xxxxx

Mandy Wise



Happy 50th Birthday
14th March 2013

Have a great weekend. Lots of love, Neil, Carly, Ash, Inky and all your friends and family xxx

Andrew Vincent



Happy 18th Birthday
15th March 2013

Hope you have a lovely day, enjoy your meal and your sailing trip in Kent. Lots of love, Grandma Sheila and Grandad Billy xxx

Dave Baldwin



Happy 50th Birthday

Special birthday wishes to my very special Husband, Dave on 16th March. Love you always, Tracy xxx Also lots of love to a wonderful Dad, Brother and Son. Hope you enjoy all of your birthday treats we have lined up for you!! xxxxx

Thank You

HEATHER MERCHANT would like to thank my wonderful family and friends for my 70th birthday. Thanks to Jacky and Scott for your hard work.

MICHAEL LIVERMORE would like to thank everyone for the wonderful gifts he received on his 50th birthday celebrations. Thanks also to Walkers Butchers, NASC, DJ Trev and Able/Novak Taxis.

Lost & Found

LOST DOG



Miniature Jack Russell, missing since 7pm Sunday 10th March from Newton Aycliffe. A very loved family pet and we are very distraught. He is 3-4 years old, black and white. If anyone has any information please contact 07727 119328 or 07447 491839

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Aycliffe's Battling Win

Newton Aycliffe 17 Yarm 12

Aycliffe Rugby Club conjured up a second successive win with a weakened team at home to Yarm. It was again a makeshift pack that took the field on a cold, wet afternoon, with Drew Gibson retaining his Aycliffe's strong back line. This was where the first score came from as Gareth Parsonage used his pace to cut through the defence and score a try which Luke Tinkler converted. A penalty kick from Tinkler extended the lead to 10. 0, before Yarm struck back. A missed tackle in defence saw a converted try reduce the deficit to 3 points. Yarm's forwards were now beginning to impose themselves on the game in the scrums and lineouts and eventually the pressure told as they added a second try. At half time, the score was 12. 10 to the visitors. The second half saw Aycliffe's beleaguered forces take a battering as the Yarm forwards continued to attack. Good tackling throughout the team

saw them hold the onslaught at bay. The Aycliffe scrum was going backwards most of the time, but from a scrum on their own 5-metre line, a quick strike saw the ball quickly passed to the backs by Mikey Dunn. James Thacker, with some room to work carried the ball past the halfway line before he fed it to Luke Crossen, who was too quick for the defenders and his try saw Aycliffe's lead restored. Tinkler added the conversion. Yarm's attacks became more fierce, but again the defence held firm. The game ended with Aycliffe winning 17 "C 12. Again a superbly passionate display saw Aycliffe to victory and shows what could have been done earlier in the season. On 16th March, Aycliffe continue their league programme at home to Chester-le-Street. Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club is sponsored by Workshop Supplies and Lift Right Forklift Training. Visit the website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe.

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Cricket Academy at Woodham



The last of the Woodham Sports Academy activities is now underway after the cricket sessions began this week. Students at Woodham are benefitting from the coaching expertise of Assistant Headteacher and Darlington CC opening batsman, Danny Morgans. Danny has been involved with Durham County Cricket Clubs Junior Programme for over 10 years and is a highly rated coach within the county. Woodham students are now working intensively on honing their skills developing batting, bowling and fielding. Sessions take place after school on Fridays

Year 5 Football Tournament



Andy Collett and Neil Maddison

Every Thursday Woodham Academy staff members will be going into the local primary schools. Mr Clough (Director of Woodham Sports Academy), Mr Watling (Woodham Sports Academy) together with Andy Collett and Neil Maddison from Premier Player Football Academy will be working with Year 5 pupils improving their skills and techniques whilst showing them the fun side of football. The sessions will give students the confidence to display their ability whilst learning the basic fundamentals of exercise. Each school will be given two weeks of training with all schools entering a tournament hosted at Woodham Academy on Thursday 2nd May.

Weather Hampers

Aycliffe FC Progress

Aycliffe Football Club were again frustrated by the weather and Last Saturday's clash with Ashington and Monday's planned visit of Newcastle Benfield were both postponed due to bad weather. It leaves the town's only member of the Football Association's pyramid with a fixture backlog as they aim to secure their Northern League first division status. The club have 11 games left with nine of them needing to be played at Moore Lane Park. Five of the fixtures – all due to be played at the home are yet to be scheduled. But while the club face frustration at the lack of action on the pitch, work has been done off it to try and boost the club's attendances. After averaging over 200 last season the gate is now down to 130 a game. With those figures it will be difficult to keep them in the first division. For the remainder of the season kids under the age of 16 are able to attend games for free, providing they are accompanied by a full-paying adult. It is hoped that a new generation of fans can be persuaded to follow Allan Oliver's ambitious club. The more fans the club has, the more likely they are to

challenge for the league title or go on a long FA Cup or FA Vase run, while also offering a place to be on a Saturday afternoon for youngsters. Club general manager Dan Lewis said: "We're always looking at ways to encourage all Newtonians to come and have a look at us, even if it's just for the odd game now and again. "We have one of the best set-ups in the Northern League, with a friendly family atmosphere and a club run by volunteers, with a team made up mostly of local lads. It's a great chance for youngsters to come and support their local club for the first time, and hopefully enjoy it!" Newton Aycliffe's next home match is this Saturday (March 16th) against Bedlington Terriers, before they face South Shields on Tuesday April 2nd. Any news on rearranged fixtures is available via the club's website and social media outlets (Facebook and Twitter).

FIXTURES

Sat March 16th: Bedlington (H) 3pm

Sat March 23rd: Billingham Synthonia (A) 3pm

Tues April 2nd: South Shields (H) 7.30pm

Satyrday April 4th: West Auckland (A) 3pm

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