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Charity Stall Finds a Home

Permanent Stall in "The Cubby"



MARKET DAY
BUSINESS
AS USUAL

Dear Sir
Along with the many supporters of "Honest John's" Fundraising Stall, I need worry no longer about its future.

A huge thank you to Syd and Paul Howarth from Newton

Press who have helped and advised me. They paved the way for Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp to come to my rescue and also offer a permanent stand in 'The Cubby' as well as storage space for the many items I have to sell, thus ensuring my weekly Tuesday market stall will continue.

I would like to thank Bill Blenkinsopp who has shown true support for the stall which raises much needed funds for organisations and clubs in the Newton Aycliffe area. Without Bill and The Cubby Committee, I would have to close down. The Cubby space was offered free of charge, but I will include them in my future fundraising to help maintain this superb drop-in facility for the town and its visitors. I also record special thanks to George and Maud Gray for their kindness and concern during this period of uncertainty; to NAJFC Under 16s, Colin, Linda, The Lads and Kaley; Valerie (for putting

up with me); Roger (for being a good friend); Les Gibson; and everyone who make donations or purchase goods, enabling us to continue helping many deserving causes; my cat, Charlie (for just being there), and again, Syd and Paul Howarth and Bill Blenkinsopp along with the committee of The Cubby for coming to my rescue.
Honest John

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THE TURBINIA

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Saturday 13th April - "Tony Liddle Band"

Bio: Tony has fronted many bands and has undertaken world tours with legendary musicians including 60's super group 'The Animals', 'Oliver/Dawson's Saxon', 'The Tygers of Pang Tang', 'Strangeways' and American rock band 'Liddle/Rush and Thrall'. He has also been produced by Kevin Elson, record producer for the legendary American band 'Journey'.

Reviews: "The room was full, and the sound was deafening with a mixed bag of people being entertained with the likes of Toto, Rainbow, The Cult, Bon Jovi, Bryan Adams, Judas Priest, Led Zep, Stereophonics, Whitesnake, AC/DC and Boston - my favourite 'More than a feeling'. Jon on bass/keyboards seems to be having a good time in the now settled line up; Ade looking Ice Cool out front with the shades on; Tony being his cheeky self cracking on to the crowd. Tony and co always deliver the goods and he has a cracking sense of humour. They sound even better now their set list has been re-vamped" One of the most talked about bands on the circuit.

Saturday 20th April - "Mugshot"

Bio: A four piece band from the South Shields area playing modern and classic rock covers by bands such as Bon Jovi, Chilli Peppers, Kings of Leon, Metallica, Muse, U2, Van Halen and Whitesnake to name but a few.

"We hadn't seen this band before so we didn't know what to expect and boy did they rock The Hearts !! Something for everyone in the set that had the dancers on their feet, the one's I remember were U2, Whitesnake, Killers, Kings of Leon, Tom Petty, Nirvana, Guns n Roses, The Cult, Radiohead . . . etc, all played and sung brilliantly. If you haven't already seen this band, go and see them, you won't be disappointed. www.myspace.com/mugshotrockband

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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Training for Volunteers



During the Easter Holidays a group of young people from Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre and The E Café in Ferryhill went to High Force Activity Centre for a four day residential

as part of the 'Young Volunteer Award' which is an accredited course for young people interested in becoming volunteers. The young people had to build and create a portfolio of information and knowledge in regards to equal opportunities, policies and procedures, the role of the youth worker, planning and delivering a youth session in their local youth club.

Franceene Birbeck One Point Area Youth Worker and Laura Langdale Youth Worker and Co-Ordinator for The E Café delivered the 15 hours of theory required by the young people and once back they will have 15 hours of volunteer placement to complete.

Making a total of 30 hours. The project was supported by One Point Family Worker Trisha Stewart who provided the young people with an additional perspective on working within the community. One day was put aside for team building activities, such as crate staking and Jacobs Ladder. Natalie Jackson a young person from The E Café in Ferryhill said: "It was great to meet other young people who go to different youth clubs and schools and see what they think, it was a good week away and we not only learnt new and important stuff but had fun while doing it!"

MEAN THEFT AT TESCO'S

Dear Sir

On 3rd April, I was outside Tesco's placing my shopping into the rucksack on the back of my mobility scooter. After I had zipped up the rucksack I turned round to take the trolley back and someone had taken it along with the pound coin!

I hope the pound does the person no good and a like action happens to him/her in the future. I enquired of Tesco's Customer Care whether they could reimburse my coin, but told that as it had happened outside the store nothing could be done, which seems hard with the profits made by Tesco. The loss of the coin does upset me, but it is the principle I am most angry about. It is disgusting to think that anyone could do this to a disabled pensioner.

Mabel Nicholson

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A "Windows 8 for the Terrified" Course is to be held at Woodham Community Centre. Find out the basics of using Windows 8. Four weeks of two hours starting Wednesday 17th April. Contact David Sutton-Lloyd 01325 316144

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The famous Marske Fishermen's Choir comes to Neville Parade Community Centre to give a Concert on Saturday 27th April at 7.30pm. This should not be missed and everyone is invited to give support. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. To book and collect your tickets on the door ring Peter on 313924. Adults £4 Seniors £2 and Children £1.

We are seeking someone to run a Children's Dance School each week. If you are interested please ring Peter.

We have vacancies for New Age Kurling. Easy to play, keep fit and make new friends. Ring to book a place.

You are invited to Knit & Natter any Thursday from 10-12 noon. Just bring in whatever you are knitting and join in the chit chat.

If you have any ideas on starting a new club or group meeting just get in touch with Peter on 313924.

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£5000 for Down Syndrome Children's Centre at PCP

County Durham Community Foundation is celebrating granting £22 million worth of wishes since it began in 1995. The Education Centre for Children with Down Syndrome (ECCDS) were the fortunate recipients of the grant that took the Community Foundation's grant making to the £22 million milestone having been awarded £5,000 for their 'Moving On' project. The project is aimed at supporting the education and development of children with Down Syndrome. The parents also acquire essential skills helping them to meet the future with confidence. ECCDS, based in Newton Aycliffe, runs regular weekday classes and other educational activities specifically designed for children with Down Syndrome. Regular sessions include speech and language skills, numeracy development and fine and gross motor skills for the 60 children who attend the centre.



Barbara Gubbins, Chief Executive of County Durham Community Foundation celebrates reaching the £22million milestone with mother Bridget Craven holding Cameron Craven and Maggie Hart of ECCDS with Lucy Peart

County Durham Community Foundation's Chief Executive, Barbara Gubbins attended the ECCDS's Annual Celebration Evening which also gave her the opportunity to celebrate the £22 million milestone. The Education Centre has held an annual event to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day since it was formed in 2005, the purpose of the evening being to bring together all the children and families involved in the centre with the Trustees, staff and volunteers. Maggie Hart, Head of Education and Training was delighted to say:

"The grant will dramatically help us as the charity is growing all of the time. We will be able to increase the number of group leaders that we have and develop a life skills group for older children. The Community Foundation has been extremely helpful." Since County Durham Community Foundation was established in 1995 it has handed out over £22 million worth of grants to individuals and organisations.

2,965 grants awarded to individuals
6,428 grants awarded to organisations
9,393 grants awarded in total
County Durham Community Foundation manages over 150 funds which are all bespoke. The money is distributed on behalf of individuals and companies in County Durham, each with their own grant criteria. The grants have supported a wide range of applicants

over the past 18 years and will continue to in the future. After recently employing four new members of staff it seems that even in these austere times the Community Foundation is still thriving. There is always a need for donors in County Durham. If you would like to support local individuals and organisations please visit www.cdcf.org.uk or call 0191 3786340

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JSB End Bus Route

Dear Sir,
While aboard the town service Bus No.18, run by JSB, myself and several passengers were made aware that this service is to end in June or July. The bus has been an excellent service for a lot of years with polite, friendly drivers willing to wait if we are running for the bus and the drivers knowing passengers by name and where they get off.

We are told that fuel costs and driver's wages are not covered by the number of passengers that use this service, but some today said they would contribute £1 per journey to enable the bus to remain in

service. A lot of pensioners will now find that they have a very long walk to get an Arriva Bus and will not have a convenient bus to Cobblers Hall for PCP and shops or Simpature for weekly meetings. This service must not go - it is a lifeline for the elderly, disabled and others wishing to shop in the Town Centre.
Ann Dunn.

Table Top Sale

A Table Top Sale will be held at Simpature Court on Saturday 13th April from 9am - 3pm. Lots of bargains, home made pies and cakes on sale. All welcome.

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House of Eden



'Little things that count'

House of Eden Children's Nurseries

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



*Aycliffe Village Ofsted Outstanding

PCP Nursery Easter Bonnet Contest

As part of their Easter celebrations, the House of Eden Nursery at the Pioneering Care Centre held an Easter Bonnet competition.

The children got their creative heads on and produced some very egg-stravagant bonnets and hats; some even had real feathers and chick egg shells!

The bonnets were judged on Friday 28 March by Carol Briggs, Chairperson of the PCP and Lynsey Todd, Programme Manager at PCP. Carol said "The effort and imagination that has gone into this hat making and decorating competition is remarkable! All the children, and staff, have truly 'egg-ceeded' themselves. The effort and attention to detail is 'egg-strordinary' "

The winners were:

Ages 0-2: 1st Will Hickman, 2nd Rosie Whitfield
Ages 2-3: 1st Shane and Joe Garrett, 2nd Will Simpson, 3rd Adam Hustwick

Ages 3-5: 1st Gracie Wilson, 2nd Lucas Grayson, 3rd Wesley Hunter
Staff: 1st Lindsay Palmer, 2nd Sarah Lewins

The House of Eden Nursery moved into the Pioneering Care Centre in May 2011. They provide day care facilities from birth to 4½ years and offer before/after school care and a holiday club for children up to the age of 12 years.

They are open 51 weeks per year from 8am to 6pm. Further details, from the Nursery Manager, Jan Hooper on 01325 329931 Email: cobbler.hall@edennursery.co.uk



RNIB Prize for St. John's



Last October students from St John's School took part in Read for the Royal National Institute for the Blind, raising over £500 for the charity. They also won a prize and were allowed to select 12 free books, displayed here along with their RNIB certificate!

WHO STOPPED COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING?

Dear Sir,
I have no political axe to grind but I take issue with Mr. Welsh who supports the Bedroom Tax and it was Mrs Thatcher's decision that we become a "Service Industry" nation.

He states there will be a demand for bedrooms when Hitachi starts up but I don't believe personnel from that company will be looking for rented property from Livin. I may agree that a single parent should not be renting a three bedroom house but this is also about families of four being moved, because two boys under 16 are expected to share a room. You could have a situation where one boy is trying to concentrate

on his homework while his older brother is entertaining his girlfriend.

Not enough money has been spent on one bedroom properties, but this is not the fault of New Labour as it was the Tory Government who stopped the building of Council Houses.

If Hitachi ever brings train building back to the North East (and I see no signs of a factory being built) it is only an assembly plant. There will be no benefit to our steel industry and not even fabric for the seats as we don't have a weaving industry worth shouting about.

I heard they may not even come here if they don't get the contract to renew the East

Coast rolling stock. It just reminds me of the promises of that super company Fujitsu with thousands of jobs being available.

A Symington
Isherwood Close

AYCLIFFE BAND LIVE ON RADIO

Aycliffe's own rock band 'The Unsound' were on Radio, Bishop FM, on Sunday Lunchtime. An interview with the four lads was followed by the first live airing of their single "An Eye for An Eye" and then their single that they released for download "Crazy". The 12 min interview was repeated later in the week on the rock show.

This followed another successful night at the Oak Tree in Newton Aycliffe, where the bar was rocking again with the great sound of The Unsound. There is a list of gigs on the website, www.TheUnsound.co.uk, including a great charity gig in aid of "Mind" in Newton Aycliffe on 25th May, where there will be lots of other great acts from Aycliffe and is sure to be a night full of entertainment. More talent is being discovered in Aycliffe every week, so please show your support.



Teenage Organiser Raises £520 for Charity



Hannah (centre) with Josh and Ellie-Jade

Hannah Day thought up and organised a tremendous "Night at the Races" at Woodham Community Centre, raising £520 for the Red Nose Day Charity. Together with friends Ellie-Jade and Josh she organised raffles, races, and on a very cold night, tasty pies and peas from Walkers the Butchers.

Their efforts were rewarded by a great turnout and a very worthy charity contribution of £520 was raised.

"Hannah and her friends together with their families should be very proud of

this effort" said David Sutton-Lloyd Treasurer at Woodham Community Centre. "Young people often receive unjust bad press, so it is great to report on youngsters making a real effort in our community for others. Hannah is already thinking about other ventures so watch out for further information.

There are many community venues in Aycliffe who will welcome the chance to assist with projects, so come on all you young people think of something and give it a try".

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JOHN D. CLARE

Standing in Aycliffe North

I won a scholarship to Oxford University, but after gaining my History degree came to Newton Aycliffe to do my teacher training . . . and never left! I ended up as Deputy Headteacher at Greenfield School – a job, and a school, I loved. In the 1990s, I became a Town Councillor, and am currently Deputy Leader of the Council. Schemes I have initiated include the Allotments Charter, the Great Aycliffe Way, the



Ecocentre and the Youth Council.

Recently, as readers of the Newton News will know, I have worked hard to encourage public interest in the wider issues threatening our town. You may remember that – with the Great Aycliffe Residents' Association – I campaigned successfully to enhance the role of Aycliffe in the County Plan.

The next few years will see the County Council budget cut by the government by almost a quarter. There is no way that this can be stopped, and there is no way those cuts will not harm our community.

We need to send to County Hall councillors who will at least strive to minimise the impact of those cuts, and to protect, wherever possible, the vulnerable. I hope that voters will regard me as worthy of that task.

Election Addresses

KATE HOPPER

Durham County Council Aycliffe West Labour Party Candidate

Kate Hopper has lived in Aycliffe West for more than 20 years. As a serving Great Aycliffe Town Councillor for the West Ward, Kate represents GATC on the Youth Council and Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Management Committee. She is a Local Authority Appointed Governor at Stephenson Way Community Primary School and volunteers at the Durham County Credit Union.

Alongside supporting local initiatives that benefit the whole community, Kate regularly attends both West Ward and Simpature PACT meetings –working with residents to identify and tackle local issues. She is a keen supporter of area action partnerships such as the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Partnership (GAMP) through which local people can help prioritise neighbourhood projects and participate in decisions that affect their area.

An active Labour Party member, Kate has long advocated Labour's core values of social justice, equal opportunity for all and helping communities to stay safe, vibrant and prosperous. Once elected, Kate will work conscientiously to represent local residents,



Newton Aycliffe and the wider County Durham community. Kate says "if you want your candidate of choice, don't forget to use your vote in the May2nd Durham County Council election". Aycliffe West residents need local councillors with commitment, integrity and ability who will listen to what matters most to them and work hard on their behalf.

Kate Hopper

JAMES ATKINSON

Standing in the Aycliffe Central Ward

Hello, I'm James Atkinson and I will be standing in the Aycliffe Central Ward as a Labour Party candidate for the Town Council on May 2nd, 2013.

I will be bringing some new ideas to the Party and into the Council Chamber as I am concerned about the amount of money Newton Aycliffe constituents spend outside of the town because there are not enough commercial facilities to meet our needs. People are looking elsewhere for fuel, clothing, furniture electrical goods, cars, entertainment and more. I am keen to bring new enterprises into the area to increase job prospects and fulfill the retail requirements of a town of this size.

We are all concerned about government cuts to the social safety net so I will work to reduce their impact on our most vulnerable. In addition, Government's punitive bedroom tax only aggravates the lack of affordable housing in Newton Aycliffe so we need to fight hard to tackle this



problem.

The area is brimming with talented people - we need to find ways to develop that potential and encourage entrepreneurial opportunities. We need to stimulate cultural and sporting enterprises to attract visitors and boost local economic activity.

I will do my best to make Newton Aycliffe a place we can be proud of. On May 2, I urge voters in Aycliffe Central to show their confidence with a vote next to my name. I will not let you down.

James Atkinson

Get Composting!

Green-fingered residents are being urged to get composting as they clear out their gardens for spring.

Compost bins are available through a Durham County Council-backed scheme for £16 plus a delivery charge.

Anyone with a larger garden or who teams up with a friend of neighbour to buy a bin can also get a second half price until the end of March.

Spring is the perfect time for composting as winter deadwood from planters and flowerbeds can produce a great source of nutrition for gardens.

Organic kitchen waste, fruit and vegetable peelings, teabags, coffee grounds and even the contents of your vacuum can also be added.

Order a compost bin online by visiting www.getcomposting.com or by calling 0844 571 4444.

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EDDY ADAM

Labour Party Candidate for Great Aycliffe Town Council & Durham County Council

Eddy Adam has lived in Newton Aycliffe and West Ward for more than 32 years, during which time he and his partner Julie and their family have actively contributed to the development of the town and the West Ward area.

Eddy started work as an apprentice mechanical engineer, developed his career through hard work and is now a lecturer in Engineering at Darlington College. He is also a trade unionist and branch secretary for the University and Colleges Union (UCU), where he is known as a highly-committed and respected member of staff and is an effective representative for working people. Eddy believes that education should be at the heart of the local community; forging strong relationships with employers to provide stable jobs, and to establish genuine apprenticeships linked to college courses creating a stable and economically-sound community.

Eddy has been an active Labour party member for 40 years and has campaigned for Labour's core values of strong effective communities, social justice, decent living standards and equality of opportunity for all.

Eddy has proven experience and ability as a Town Councillor from 1983 to 1994 and was Leader of the Labour-controlled Great Aycliffe Town Council. In this capacity he led the Council with integrity and



facilitated financial stability whilst still providing successful play groups, modern play areas, a golf driving range and free facilities such as Aycliffe Show, Fireworks display and OAP trips.

He continues to support and work within the local community to improve Aycliffe's overall environment and facilities, and by standing as a Labour Party candidate for the Town and County Council elections gives him the opportunity to influence the decision making process.

Eddy says, 'if you want to change and improve your local community, you have got to get involved and make it happen'. He is committed to working with and listening to West Ward residents, to develop and support valued, efficient and effective services and to strive toward an enriched community.

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Greenfield Welcome Army Engagement Team

On Wednesday 20th March Greenfield Community College had the privilege of welcoming the Army engagement team into school to give a fabulous presentation to our Year 10 pupils and those in Years 9 & 11 who have shown an interest in the armed forces. The presentation showed motivational videos and included real life experiences from our troops on the front line in places such as Afghanistan and previously Iraq and Kuwait. Pupils were taken aback by the honesty and insightfulness of the two Army presenters and showed how touched they were by the presentation from the huge response when asked “Are there any questions?”

Pupils were shown what it is really like living and working in the Army, some of the experiences that they could expect to encounter and the key personal qualities of a soldier or officer, so that the students could relate their individual strengths and weaknesses to life in the Army. Many of the pupils involved spent their break time speaking to the Captain and Corporal from the engagement team, discussing options about a career in the Army themselves. The engagement team really did engage our young people and the presentation proved highly inspirational – thank you to the Army engagement team for this opportunity for our students.



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TOWN & COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATES

Thursday 2nd May 2013

Election of County Councillors

The following is a statement of the persons nominated for election as a County Councillor for

Aycliffe East Electoral Division	Address of Candidate	CONTEST
BLINKINSOPP Bill	1 St Andrews Close, Aycliffe Village, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 8NA	Independent
CUTHBERTSON Lileen	3, Balliol Green, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 5DY	Independent
GITTINS Paul Steven	29 Aylmer Grove, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 4NF	Independent
GOODSON Raymond	42 Woodside, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, DL12 8AP	Conservative Party Candidate
HILLARY Jed	23 Ross Walk, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5AZ	Labour Party Candidate
IVESON Sarah Jane	12, Wilkinson Road, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5DN	Labour Party Candidate

Aycliffe North and Middridge Electoral Division	Address of Candidate	CONTEST
CLARE John D	25 Haslewood Road, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 4XF	Labour Party Candidate
DIXON Mike	2 Crowley Place, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 4JH	Labour Party Candidate
GRAY Joan	45 Pemberton Road, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 4RY	Labour Party Candidate
HAIGH Sandra	52, Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5QS	Independent
SWAN Marney Jane	Old Hall, Bedburn, Hamsterley, Bishop Auckland, DL13 3NN	The Conservative Party Candidate

Aycliffe West Electoral Division	Address of Candidate	CONTEST
ADAM Eddy	58 Arncliffe Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7EE	Labour Party Candidate
BOWMAN Dorothy	4, Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DT	Independent
CROFT June	64 Langdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7DY	Independent
GRAY George	35, Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 7AF	Independent
HAIGH Brian	52 Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5QS	Independent
HOPPER Kate	89 High Barn Road, School Aycliffe, Newton Aycliffe	Labour Party Candidate
MURRAY Fane Robert Conant	Park House Farm, Baldersdale, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, DL12 9UT	Conservative Party Candidate
SYMONS Sally Annmarie	42 Langdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7DY	Independent

Election of Town Councillors

The following is a statement of the persons nominated for election as a Town Councillor for

Aycliffe Central Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	CONTEST
ATKINSON Jim	6, Henson Grove, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 4NJ	Labour Party Candidate
GITTINS Paul Steven	29 Aylmer Grove, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 4NF	Independent
IVESON William	35 Westmorland Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 4NN	Labour Party Candidate
RAW Valerie Margaret	3, Morton Walk, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4HS	Labour Party Candidate

Aycliffe Village Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	Description (if any)
BLINKINSOPP Bill	1 St Andrew Close, Aycliffe Village, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 8NA	Independent

Byerley Park, Horndale & Cobblers Hall Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	ELECTED UNOPPOSED
CLARE John D	25 Haslewood Road, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 4XF	Labour Party Candidate
GRAY Ian	1 Cestria Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7QU	Labour Party Candidate
HALL Brian	Malbrieth, Blue Bell Corner, Middridge, Newton Aycliffe	Labour Party Candidate
HEWITSON Irene	233 Rowan Place, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 7BB	Independent
KJENSTAD Paul	89 Fox Place, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 7NJ	Labour Party Candidate
PALMER Alison	25 Emerson Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5HG	Labour Party Candidate

Neville Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	CONTEST
CUTHBERTSON Lileen	3, Balliol Green, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 5DY	Independent
GRAY George	80, Bury Rd, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5DL	Independent
HILLARY Jed	23 Ross Walk, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5AZ	Labour Party Candidate
IVESON Sarah Jane	12 Wilkinson Rd, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5DN	Labour Party Candidate

Shafto St Marys Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	ELECTED UNOPPOSED
FLEMING Bob	18 Welbury Grove, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham	Labour Party Candidate
HILLARY Wendy Patricia	23 Ross Walk, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5AZ	Labour Party Candidate
IVESON Malcolm	12 Wilkinston Road, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5DN	Labour Party Candidate
WHEELER Chris	18 North Top, Aycliffe Vill, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 6LG	Labour Party Candidate

Simpasture Ward of	Address of Candidate	ELECTED UNOPPOSED
ATKINSON Derek George	6 Denham Place, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 5OT	Labour Party Candidate
CLARK John	80 Moule Close, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 5HU	Labour Party Candidate

West Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	CONTEST
ADAM Eddy	58 Arncliffe Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7EE	Labour Party Candidate
BOWMAN Dorothy	4 Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DT	Independent
BOWMAN Raymond	4 Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DT	Labour Party Candidate
CHANDRAN Ann	88 Honister Place, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 7DN	Labour Party Candidate
CROFT June	64 Langdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7DY	Independent
GRAY George	35, Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 7AF	Independent
HAIGH Brian	52 Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 5QS	Independent
SUMMERS Dan	42 Bakewell Place, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7NQ	Labour Party Candidate
SYMONS Sally Annmarie	42 Langdale Place, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7DY	Independent
TOMLIN Tom	328 Loraine Walk, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 7NU	Independent
TWISSELL Tom	11 Bakewell Place, Newton Aycliffe, Co.Durham, DL5 7NQ	Labour Party Candidate

Woodham Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish	Address of Candidate	ELECTED UNOPPOSED
CLARE Barbara Anne	25 Haslewood Road, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 4XF	Labour Party Candidate
COLLINSON Neil	36 Heatherburn Court, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 4UY	Labour Party Candidate
DALTON Mary	17 Sunningdale, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4TS	Labour Party Candidate
DALTON Michael Augustinus	17 Sunningdale, Woodham, Co. Durham, DL5 4TS	Independent
HAIGH Sandra	52 Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5QS	Independent
HENDERSON Keith	15, Lowther Drive, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 4TJ	Labour Party Candidate

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 Email: syd@newtonnews.co.uk

Community Courses

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) has added a variety of community learning courses to their long list of activities. They are an ideal way to learn a new skill, discover a new hobby or improve confidence and self-esteem. Plus it's a great start in longer-term learning opportunities or employment.

STORY SACKS
If you're a parent, grandparent or someone who cares for children, this course will be of interest to you. PCP is running a 5 week 'Story Sack' course at the Community Shop, next to the Post Office in the Town Centre. Story sacks can capture a child's imagination and support their learning and development. The 5 week course starts Thursday 25 April 10am – 12noon and costs £22 or free if you receive JSA or other benefits.

INTRODUCTION TO PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID
Held on Thursday 2 May from 9.00am – 4.30pm at a cost of £16.10 (or free if you receive JSA or ESA). The course is designed to help you assess and gain understanding of an emergency situation, how to act safely and effectively and how to provide first aid for an infant and a child. To book your place, get in touch today: Call PCP on 01325 321234, email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net or visit www.pcp.uk.net.

NEWTON NEWS

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WIN £250 IN WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE



The Arriba! Community Weight Loss Challenge for January 2013 has just come to an end with some great success stories for some of the challenge participants! First prize of £250 was won by Sue Young. From Newton Aycliffe who lost an amazing 28lbs in weight, 4.6% body fat and 11.5 inches! She feels great and looks amazing! Everyone who joins the challenge always feels much better about themselves and more confident. A lot of success can be achieved within 12 weeks!

The Challenge takes the participants' through a 12 week course, teaching them about different aspects of nutrition – related to weight loss. The club is held at Agnew Community Centre on a Thursday evening and provides an informal and friendly setting. The next challenge is due to start on Thursday 18th April 2013 at 6.30pm.

As well as a weekly weigh in and a different topic of learning each week, every participant

has a one to one appointment so that their specific nutrition and diet problems can be addressed. As well as measuring weight, body fat % and hydration are looked at and monitored over the weeks so that participants get to see their statistics improving which really helps in terms of motivation.

Arriba! Club Leader Jules says “This unique mix of education and motivation, with the added incentive of winning a cash prize is providing Newton Aycliffe's slimmer's with a solution that works.

The 12 week Weight Loss Challenge costs £39 to join. The finishing prizes are based on percentage body weight lost and participants can win up to £300 (depending on number of participants joining the challenge!).

Newton Aycliffe based Arriba! Leader Jules also offers 1:1 weight loss coaching for those that are unable to attend a class. book your place - contact Jules now on 07966 968388 as its already half full !!

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 24th April 2013

Full Council Meeting from 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda of the Council, its Committees and the Planning Sub-Committee.

With the exception of the Annual and Extra-ordinary Council Meetings members of the public can submit a written question for the Council Agenda as long as it is submitted 7 clear days before a meeting.

If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting. Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend. "The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

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CUTS HURTING PEOPLE LESS ABLE TO COPE

Dear Sir,
I think it was disgusting of Mr. Welsh to attack John Clare for defending people facing the Bedroom Tax. Even if you agree with it in principle the tax hurts people least able to cope and is a very unfair policy. It was even more disgusting of Mr. Welsh to suggest we do away with the minimum wage and tax credits. I am angry the Tories are trying to reduce the minimum wage thereby attacking the poorest working people. I only hope that people who agree with me will go out and vote to stop these dreadful policies.

Fair Minded, (name & address supplied)

Aycliffe Villager's 100th Blood Donation



David Lewis accompanied by his wife Elizabeth receiving his award.

A long-standing blood donor has won an award for his dedication after saving the lives of up to 300 people through donating his blood. David Lewis from Aycliffe village made his 100th blood donation on Monday 8th April at the blood donor session at the Newton Aycliffe Methodist Church Hall, in Neville Parade. After his donation Dave joins an elite group of donors that have reached the 100th donation milestone. Only four per cent of the eligible population currently give blood and just one per cent of these reach 100 donations. Donna Batty, Lead Donor

Relations Manager for County Durham at NHS Blood and Transplant, said: "This is another amazing achievement by one of our long standing donors. It is great to see how passionate and dedicated David Lewis is about blood donation. It is easy to forget how much of a difference giving blood can make to people's lives. Mr Lewis is an inspiration to us all and we hope that others will follow in his footsteps to save the lives of many more people." Anyone aged between 17 - 65, weighing more than 50 kg (7 stone 12lbs) and in general good health could potentially start saving lives by becoming a blood donor. There is no upper age limit for donors who have donated in the last two years. To book an appointment call the Donor Line on 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk

Sponsored Swim to Stop Human Trafficking

Local school nurse Julie Sutherland is raising money to support the charity Hope For Justice. Julie and her husband Tim attend XCEL Church in Newton Aycliffe and for the past year they have been fundraising for this charity, aiming to stop Human Trafficking in the UK.

Last year Hope For Justice rescued over 78 victims from Human Trafficking in the UK. Zoe was the first victim rescued, she was trafficked from Latvia to Southampton. Actor Tom Lister (Carl King Emmerdale) and Ben Cooley (CEO for Hope For Justice) are cycling Zoe's journey, from Latvia to Southampton in 20 days! Julie wanted to be part of the English leg of the journey from Hull to Southampton however due to medical reasons she is unable to

cycle this distance. She didn't want to miss out on an opportunity to get behind the Zoe Challenge so she is swimming the distance across the English Channel from Dover to Calais which is 30 miles in her local

swimming pool. If you would like to support Hope For Justice and help make a difference to stop Human Trafficking you can sponsor her by following this link: www.justgiving.com/Julie-Sutherland

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Tackling Alcohol Harm in the County

A plan for reducing the harm caused by alcohol abuse will be presented to councillors this week. Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked to approve the County Durham Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2012-15 when they met at County Hall on Wednesday, 10th April.

The document is an updated version of a strategy originally launched in 2009 by the council and its partners, including County Durham PCT and Durham Constabulary, operating under the banner of the Safe Durham Partnership. Since then, partner organisations have introduced a number of awareness raising campaigns, launched the Durham Recovery and Wellbeing Centre, established a multi-agency licensing team and provided alcohol awareness training to almost 4,000 people. The refreshed strategy sets

eight objectives which sit under three themes – prevention, control and treatment. Progress against these objectives will be monitored by a Strategic Alcohol Group, including representatives from partner organisations.

THANK YOU

Dear Sir,
Could I please express my thanks to the person who found my handbag which I had left hanging on a trolley in a Tesco trolley shelter on Saturday 30th March.

I returned to the store expecting to have lost it for good, but someone had kindly handed it in to Customer Services.

I hope this reassures Ann Dunn, who reported having a bag of shopping stolen, that not everyone is dishonest.

B Wild

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Newton News Deliverers Appreciated

Newton News wish to record thanks to the 38 paper deliverers who have bravely battled through the very inclement weather during the past few months. They worked hard in very bad conditions to ensure the Newton News was delivered to all homes and businesses in Newton Aycliffe. Thank you everyone - it is much appreciated. The Directors
Newton Press

Over 500 Apply for Jobs at New MediTek Factory

Global homecare manufacturer MediTek, which recently relocated to a new factory in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, to build two new Stairlift models was inundated with applicants for new positions. Sales of the company's new stairlifts have proved so popular that additional production staff is required to cope with demand. Operations Manager, Steve Wilson, explains: "The new products were officially



launched in January and we always expected them to be popular and for production to increase just didn't think it would be this quick. Earlier this month I contacted the local job centre to place an advert for two production workers and within a few days we had over 500 interested applicants. I've had to ask the Job centre to withdraw the while we canvass the existing applicants." Adding "it was encouraging to see so many people apply for work with us and further cements the feeling we made the right decision to locate our new factory here in Country Durham, which has a reputation for traditional engineering based manufacturing."

MediTek has an excellent reputation in the industry for designing and manufacturing high quality, yet affordable products. Managing Director, Phil Rice, explains that the company are seeking to create an apprenticeship scheme too. "Our products are used by some of society's most vulnerable people so quality and reliability is just as important as a competitive price and as part of that commitment is ensuring we

have a first-class technical support team. As such, we are looking to expand that department and see apprenticeships as the perfect route to finding and training up the right people we need so that we can future proof the skills and experience required moving forward." MediTek will be showcasing there new stairlifts models at the international Naidex homecare exhibition at the NEC, Birmingham on the 1-2 May 2013. Stand E91

North Eastern Legend Built at Shildon



A good sized crowd turned out to see how the building of the Class G5 Steam Locomotive was progressing at the Rail Restorations in Shildon. The G5 Locomotive Project, which started in 2007, is recreating a classic steam locomotive; these historic tank engines were last seen in 1958 and none were preserved. This new engine is being built from scratch in sections, completed so far: the boiler (the largest new boiler constructed in the UK for a railway locomotive for 50 years); the chassis; the bogie; casting of 4 driving wheels and the fabrication of the cab

and bunker pieces ready for assembly. Once complete, she will be run on heritage steam railways such as Weardale, Wensleydale and Aln Valley. This train originated as the brainchild of a group of North Eastern railway enthusiasts, but we warmly welcome anyone to become part of recreating the G5: by becoming a Friend from only £10; sponsoring a component or becoming a shareholder. Come and be part of building a legacy for future generations, see us at our next open day Saturday 4th May, 10am till 2pm at Rail Restorations North East Ltd, Unit 8A, Hackworth Industrial Park, Shildon. Free admission. Light refreshments and merchandise will be available. Open Days thereafter first Saturday in the month till October. For further details visit www.g5locomotiveltd.co.uk or email leigh.taylor13@hotmail.co.uk

AYCLIFFE WANTS SHARE OF MARKETS PROMOTION BUDGET

Readers will recall we challenged the Council's policy on helping markets in the county, ensuring that any money put aside to help should be distributed evenly between all markets and not just those administered by the County Council. This was accepted, yet an article promoting markets in the Council magazine omitted Newton Aycliffe. We reminded them of their pledge and received the following response: "Durham County Council has developed a strategy for markets and possible improvements that could be made in the future. The basis of the article you refer to was the markets that Durham County Council manages. Due to the number of markets within the County, it was not possible to include all markets (ie the DCC ones and all other markets within County Durham) in this promotional literature. However, we would of course be very happy to work with you to seek ways to promote Newton Aycliffe market in the future. Lorraine Mulligan
Project Support Assistant
Economic Development and Housing
Durham County Council

Aycliffe Company Saves Allten

Last month Allten Windows entered administration, putting the jobs of all staff at risk. Newton Aycliffe based building maintenance company EHLUK, stepped in to buy the assets, launching the new company and saving the jobs of all existing staff. This week marks the launch of Allten Limited, based in Faverdale Darlington, serving domestic and commercial customers throughout the North East. Group Sales & Operations Director Paul Johns commented "We are delighted to secure the futures of the existing staff in these tough economic times. We plan to implement our proven growth strategies to grow the company and create new jobs as well as create a new sense of stability for the current staff". Details of the products and services provided can be seen on the new look website www.allten.co.uk.

New Salon In Leisure Centre



Natalie Bage, who has lived in Newton Aycliffe all of her life opens a new Hairdressing Salon on Thursday 25th April in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Natalie has been employed as a hair stylist for the last 10 years and her salon will offer professional styling, cutting and colouring and also a 'walk-in' barber service, aiming to provide quality service at affordable prices and to make everyone feel welcome. Appointments can be made now by calling 01325 313000

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Contact: Gail Anderson 07881 826345

Sessions to Help Family Research

Family history sessions are taking place at Durham County Record Office.

Why not book a half hour session of one to one advice with a trained archivist who can help sort out problems encountered in family research.

Each session costs £10 and must be booked in advance.

Two days of sessions are being held on Friday, 12 April and Friday, 26 April.

Dawn Layland, archivist with Durham County Council, Said: "These sessions can help you get one to one support with your family tree.

"It could be that you have hit a 'brick wall' or it could be that you want to know more particular sorts of record, such as workhouse or school records. Either way, the sessions offer the chance to get your research back on track."

Charity Night at Big Club



14 year old Tiffany Miller Thompson needs to raise just over £1000 to go to Morocco with her school next year to take part in a World Challenge where she will help rebuild an orphanage and help underprivileged families.

To help raise this money she is organizing along with her Mother and Auntie a Charity Night at The Big Club on the 11th May.

It is a movie themed night where you will walk the red carpet (fancy dress is optional) while the paparazzi take your picture then an evening being entertained by 2 drag Queens, Rouge Summers and Dusty Heels. There will be a live band, a disco, raffles, food etc. Tickets are only £5 and it's for a great cause! You can purchase tickets by contacting ashleythompson014@hotmail.co.uk.

Tribute to a Football Legend

FRANKIE SWINBURNE

18th March 1942 - 24th March 2013

Frankie Swinburne was no Sunderland fan, but he did his best Bob Stokoe impression when Newton Aycliffe won promotion to the Northern League first division on Saturday 26th March 2011.

A 6-1 victory at Seaham signalled the beginning of Aycliffe's early promotion party, and the final whistle sparked Frankie's solo pitch invasion, mimicking Stokoe's famous 1973 FA Cup Final sprint across the Wembley turf. Frank ran, like a giddy school kid, to celebrate with the Aycliffe players. The joy was reciprocated, because the players knew it meant as much to Frank as it did to them. Then, back in the changing room, with the champagne flowing, there were tears of unbridled delight.

Sadly, Frank passed away on Sunday 24th March after a short illness, leaving an irreplaceable void for his many friends and family.

He was involved with Aycliffe FC from top to bottom. He had no fancy job title, he had no interest in internal politics, and he was the ultimate unsung hero.

Chairman Gary Farley said "He cut the grass, painted the fence, laid concrete for the new stand. He walked 25 miles to raise money, aged 70. There was barely anything that Frankie didn't do for his club.

"He was in tears when Sean Tarling and Dan Mellanby lifted the second division championship trophy, and who can ever forget his smiling face at the presentation night? He was a true, true gentleman loved by everyone at the club and the Big Club."

Frankie and fan Peter Allison walked from Aycliffe to Northallerton for a game, to raise cash for his beloved club, a few years ago. Efforts which pulled in £1,250, and a cheque hand-over which brought a standing ovation - and more tears - at the club's presentation night.

Peter read some moving words at Frankie's funeral service at St Clare's Church, on Wednesday 3rd April, with hundreds of people turning out to pay their respects.

Peter recalling their trek to Northallerton said. "We were nearly there when a coach passed us with Aycliffe fans



cheering at us and shouting our names. Frankie turned to me and said, 'we've done it, son', before we linked arms to walk the rest of the way. He was simply the best."

As well as his love for Aycliffe, Frankie loved Horse Racing. He loved a bet, and 5s & 3s. He loved Newcastle United, Pigeons and Bowling. And, more importantly, he loved his family and friends.

Frankie was also a huge figure with Sunday morning side Newton Aycliffe WMC, ran by the Boro goalkeeper Jason Steele.

"We've lost a legend," said Steele. "A man who lived for his football. The nicest man you will ever meet. He made me smile every Sunday morning whether we won or lost on a Saturday."

Frank was born in Gateshead, brought up a staunch Newcastle fan and lived in Consett before moving to Aycliffe 40 years ago. He worked as a sheet metal worker at Darchems in Stillington for more than 30 years.

He leaves wife Pauline, son Frank, daughter Diane and son-in-law Kevin, granddaughter Hannah, grandson Luke and brother Billy.

Frank junior said: "We knew Dad was popular but when Hannah started to read out all the messages on Facebook and Twitter, it was just unbelievable. "Jason Steele's comment was read out and Mam started to cry, we never knew just how much he touched people's lives, it was lovely and it was a massive comfort for all the family.

"It was also nice to see everyone who came to visit him when he was poorly. He was particularly

Anyone for Table Tennis?

Jane Parsonage from Aycliffe is starting up an Adult Table Tennis Group for all age ranges from 20 - 75. If anyone is interested can you contact her on 315322. Jane5697@talktalk.net

Bar Meals at Oak Leaf

Oak Leaf Sports Complex offers an extensive bar meals menu. With low prices no matter what time of the day or night you call. There will be something you fancy.

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AYCLIFFE WELL REPRESENTED AT HARTLEPOOL ROAD RACE



Last Sunday saw the best ever turnout from Aycliffe Running Club in the Marina 5 mile road race at Hartlepool. With every athlete running so well it is difficult to single out any individual performance, but if pushed, that accolade must go to Floyd Jones, who was 1st O/50 and 17th overall in the superb time of 29:21.

It is also worth mentioning that it was the first road race for sister's Elaine Pearson and Denise Raine and Jason and Michelle Dixon and judging by the smile on their faces after the race, it won't be their last!

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Free Water Polo Trials Every Week

Sedgefield Water Polo Club held their annual Club Swimming Gala at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Being really swimming fit and fast is a massive part of being a good water polo player, so a lot of time is spent on serious swimming training.

Scott Carpenter who is flying the flag so successfully for Sedgefield WPC in Australia, is the fastest swimmer ever from this region with a recent 100m freestyle of 49.8 in Australia. Ben Stephenson had a clean sweep of all 4 events in the boys 12 years events. Jake Plant 13 won 3 out of 4 events with an excellent 60.8 in the 100m Freestyle. Ben Alderson and Saul Robinson both 7 each won 2 events each in the under 8 races and showed great potential for the future. Hollie Turnbull 11 had an excellent clean sweep in the 12 years events. Niall Coulthard 10 won 3 out of 4 events in the 10 years races. Sebastian Reichel 16 made a clean sweep of the open boys events and did an excellent 57.8 in the 100m freestyle. Rhiannon Foulds playing for GB juniors this week in Barcelona easily won all 4 open events for girls. Water Polo is a fun and exciting game and a great sport for club swimmers who are interested in achieving some real success. There is a free trial every Sat at 5pm or for more details ring 07818 554449.

Aycliffe Dance Academy's 3rd Birthday



Aycliffe Dance Academy was formed on 20th April 2010 and began to deliver dance and fitness classes to the people of Newton Aycliffe. Since then the Academy has grown from strength to strength and has exceeded everyone's expectations. The Academy started with only a handful of students teaching 4 different dance disciplines and now has over 200 students, 175 Zumba members and is delivering 9 different dance disciplines. The Academy has made many achievements over the

last 3 years which include various dance displays, local performances, exams, competitions, family fun days, Christmas parties and charity events raising £1679.94 altogether! If you would like to help Aycliffe Dance Academy celebrate their 3rd birthday, come and join them at their Family Fun Day on Saturday 20th April 2013 at the Bethany Centre in Woodham. Everyone is welcome and you can go along any time between 10am and 2pm. There will be: Face Painting,

a Bouncy Castle and Ball Pool (supplied by Partytime Inflatables), Nail Art, Kids' Tattoos, Cakes, Games, 2nd Hand Stall, Tombola, Café and much, much more! Plus there will be special visits from Minnie Mouse and Fireman Sam (supplied by Party Palz North East) throughout the day. All proceeds raised on the day will go towards buying costumes for this year's Show. Please contact Emma on 07908 162 868 if you have any questions on this event.

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AYCLIFFE HIT TOP FORM

Aycliffe Rugby Club played their best rugby of the season to beat neighbours Sedgefield in Durham and Northumberland Division 3. The first warm day of the year saw a strong squad turn up willing and able to face their rivals. Sedgefield, fielding a number of old Aycliffe faces, began well with the forwards keeping possession and they took the lead with a try. Aycliffe replied when James Thacker scored a solo try. Sedgefield regained the lead with a penalty goal, but straight from the kick off a Sedgefield mistake saw Thacker

collect a loose ball and score the try which Luke Tinkler converted. Aycliffe increased their lead when Thacker completed his hat-trick, despite hitting his head on the post in the process. A second Sedgefield penalty reduced the lead somewhat but Aycliffe re-asserted their dominance when Luke Crossen picked up another loose ball to score in the corner. A long lineup was thrown to Craig Holmes who powered through the defence to score. Quick handling saw Chris Wilson score his first try of the season when he was able to burst down the wing. At half time, the score was 36 – 11 to Aycliffe. Sedgefield were not going to take things lying down and, at the outset of the second half, they again used their forwards to good effect and soon had scored two converted tries to reduce the lead to 11 points. After a good talking too, Aycliffe shook off their lethargy to regain their dominance. Holmes picked up the ball from an attacking scrum and scored his second try before the backs began to run riot. Thacker added his fourth and fifth tries before turning creator for Crossen. The scoring was completed when the ball was quickly fed out to the wing where Michael Dunn was able to add another score, running the ball behind the posts to make the kick easier. Aycliffe could have added further scores but wasted a number of opportunities. Tinkler finished with 7 conversions from 11 to give a

final score of 69 – 25 to Aycliffe. Everything was in Aycliffe's favour, with the weather suiting their expansive game and Sedgefield missing some key players, but on this form they could have beaten anybody in the league. On 13th April, Aycliffe continue their league programme at home to Seghill, kickoff 3pm. 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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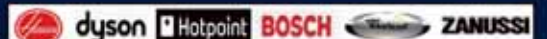
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wondering what to do with your unwanted furniture, the County Durham Furniture Forum can help. Six charities across the county make up the forum so why not contact one of the schemes who will collect reusable items free of charge.

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The forum provides low cost furniture to local people, a range of training and volunteering opportunities and reduces waste at the same time.

Ruth Smith, external projects officer with Durham County Council, said: "Spring is the perfect time to have a clear out of unwanted furniture or appliances. Think about donating them to the furniture forum who can collect them free of charge."

Last year over 500 tonnes of furniture was reused by members of County Durham Furniture Forum. For more information log on to: www.durham.gov.uk/reuse.

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POUNDS for LBs A weight loss programme in Newton Aycliffe is offering residents to win £'s for losing lb's. The Arriba Community Weightloss and Wellness Challenge starts again at Agnew Community Centre, Newton Aycliffe, on 18th April at 6.30pm and provides 13 weeks of weight loss education, coaching and support for just £39! Cash prizes worth £600 are awarded at the end of the challenge! Book today call: Jules 07966 968388

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DURHAM FOOD BANK AT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

Horndale Residents Association welcomed a speaker from the Durham Food Bank to our April meeting to speak about the very important work they do in providing food for the most vulnerable of our society. We wish to set up a drop off point for much needed food and toiletries at our meetings to supply the Bank to help those in need.

Our guest speaker for May will be Joanne Dunn, Financial Wellbeing Manager for Livin Social Housing who will talk about the new welfare reforms affecting many people. She will also explain how Livin is helping people through the process and how it will impact on their work.

We will have guest speakers throughout the year from various groups and organisations and if you know anyone who would like to speak or if you want

a speaker on a specific topic just ask and we will try to help.

Our preparations for the Anti Loan Shark week towards the end of May are coming together. Unfortunately as hard times get worse the Food Bank will be needed more and Loan Sharks will increase, to prey on society.

Please come along to your meetings and help us make a difference. Meetings are held at the Evangelical Church Ladybower on the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm. It is very relaxed and everybody is welcome so long as they come with a smile.

Representatives from the Police, Councillors, Street & Town Wardens, Livin and Gallifordtry and other organisations attend the meetings to assist in making your communities a better place to live.

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Iron Lady Thatcher Brought Unions to Their Knees

Dear Editor, Margaret Thatcher personified the brutal attacks on the working class continued by the coalition today. Across three terms of Tory office with Thatcher at the helm, neo liberalism found its way into the centre ground of mainstream UK politics, where it remains today. She was a firm believer in finance capital, a dominant strand of contemporary Tory ideology. The iron lady led an enduring project which brought the unions to its knees: closed the mines, de-industrialised many parts of the country including our own region, cut public services, sold off council housing, shut hospitals, and presided over mass youth unemployment. The first Thatcher administration in 1979, saw a degree of privatisation as a means to reduce public spending debt, by selling off profitable public sector companies such as British Aerospace and Cable & Wireless. As we moved through the 80's, the Tories saw privatisation as a way of making large companies more competitive on the European market. Thus following the teachings of the right wing economist Hayek, we saw the sale of Jaguar, BT, British Gas et al. During her third term of office, 1987, Thatcher became even more aggressive, BP, Rolls Royce, BA, even infrastructural staples such as water and electricity found their way onto the 'free' market. When


she was finally booted out after the poll tax fiasco, Michael Heseltine continued in her wake by finally selling off British Coal before the New Labour landslide election victory. 'Things Can Only Get Better', their election song, and we all believed that there was no other way for the country to go except up. Across her term in office, Thatcher had weakened the unions to such a point that they had little influence on the incoming Labour Party. New Labour continued with their own brand of Thatcherism under the auspices of Private Finance Initiatives (PFI). The first in their campaign of privatisation and outsourcing were the NHS and London underground. A move that saw the NHS fall into a fiscal crisis because of the high returns paid out to PFI investors. Post Blair, Brown only ever nationalised a string of banks to save neo liberal capitalism, but failed to re-nationalise any of our industries which would have seen the return of decent pay and full employment. The coalition government have unveiled the spin of PFI and reverted back to good old fashioned privatisation. They take credit for the sale of, Northern Rock, Royal Mail, The Probation Service, Highways and education to name but a few. And as we heard last week, our NHS is now out to private tender. Privatisation is supposed to allow the free market unfettered opportunity to an industry

whereby the business class move in and maximize profit. It's supposed to encourage private investment to make ailing industry profitable. And yet, businesses sit on 750bn and refuse to invest. This is because businesses know that the global economy is stagnant, and they wouldn't see a return on their investment. All the while, the Tory led coalition government make further cuts and dole out more of our industries and services to private tender. They do this knowing full well that it won't increase national prosperity; they do this simply because they believe in whittling the state away down to its smallest form. National industry offered a job for life. Industry was subject to central government control, people before profit. Young people left school to find a decent apprenticeship awaiting them which led to a decent paying job and standard of living. The young standing in the dole queue today has hit 1,000,000. A return to national industry might frustrate a few entrepreneurs, who need people to work long hours for next to nothing in a punt to see if their idea can get off the ground. But I'm interested in the needs of the many, offering the vast majority of ordinary working people secure employment for decent pay. We didn't get that from Thatcher, or New Labour, the Labour Party are making some reconcilable noises, let's hope they break from Thatcher's legacy. Warren Saunders Newton Aycliffe

Fund to Match Your Charity Giving

Spring for a Year is an initiative launched by Localgiving.com and County Durham Community Foundation to help charities and community groups grow throughout the year, with monthly donations in County Durham matched by up to £10/month for a year. A match fund of £40,000 donated anonymously and exclusively for groups in County Durham and Darlington is being used to match donations. This is the biggest pot of money available across all of the community foundations. The aim is to help local charities and community groups to grow all year around, so in 2013 it'll be 'Spring for a Year'! As a supporter, people can use Localgiving.com to search

for and make donations to eligible local charities that make a difference in their community. Pledging to give a small amount each month makes a huge difference to the charities' ability to continue the great work they do. This is a great opportunity to start giving to a charity or community group which supports a cause close to your heart – simply do a search on localgiving.com and set up your giving, and it will be matched at £10 a month for a year. The campaign will end at midday on 3rd May 2013 or when the pot runs out – whichever is sooner. If your charity or community group has not yet set up its page there is still time, visit www.localgiving.com/charitysignup to get started.



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MAMAS & Pappas cot bed, light wood, cost £200, accept £60. Can deliver. Tel 07587 736357

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2 CREAM leather sofa's, 2 seaters, matching, good condition, £150 each. Tel 307667

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

COUNCILLOR HELPS CLEAN UP LITTER

Dear Sir, In response to Sally Symon's letter regarding broken glass in Silverdale. If she had gone to the shop in Silverdale the staff would have rung me to either clear it up as they have done on previous occasions or I ring up and ask Street Scene to come and remove it. Twice a week a litter picker comes into the area to clear up the mess that is left by people buying from the shop and just throwing litter, bottles etc. away as soon as they have finished with it. Every morning staff from the shop clear up the mess from the previous evening after young people toss away crisp bags etc. Every Saturday and Sunday morning Kerry Wooton (a local mother from Eskdale Place) and myself go up to the play area and sweep up broken bottles takeaway cartons "blowbottles" etc after youths have used the play area as a meeting place to drink etc. Thankfully they do not damage the equipment or disturb people. If Kerry and myself didn't do this the young children could possibly cut themselves on the bottles. The police have been informed about the situation. There are many people who take pride in the area but it is just the few who don't. Unfortunately people who visit the shop and Post Office often come from other areas.



During 2012 I asked for two litter bins to be placed in Silverdale Place which are regularly filled and emptied. If anyone has any problems I report them and follow up to completion as I have just done in Honister Place after


receiving complaints regarding two empty properties. This area could be brought up to a fairly high standard if everyone helped to keep it tidy. Our area Motto should be "DON'T DROP IT BIN IT"! I do not ignore problems and apologise for not clearing the dangerous glass up at Silverdale Place. As for the rest of the mess on the way to the Town Centre other sitting councillors should be on the alert for broken bottles etc. It is not only

young people who toss rubbish away, adults are just as bad. Cllr Dorothy Bowman.



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KEVIN PEART Died 14th April 2012. Deep in my heart you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. Mam

JUNE CSENGEL 11th April 2012. Today we give thanks to someone who was so very special. In loving memory of a dear Daughter, Wife, Mother and Grandmother. June gave all her love and life to her family and those around her. She is hugely missed in all our lives and lives on in our hearts forever. May she now be free. With lots of love, Dad, Louie, Diane, Yvonne, Debbie, Louise, Guy, Josh, Giles, Kyuo, Zoe and Kya xxxxx

CSENGEL Treasured memories of our dear friend June. Sadly missed, Yvonne, Robert and family

STEPHEN IBINSON In loving memory of Stephen "Ibbo", died 16th April 2009. Some gifts in life you cannot buy, some gifts are rare and true. The greatest gift we ever had was a special Son like you. You always cared and were always there, but no chats any more for us to share. We now have beautiful memories we will treasure forever, they are locked in our hearts, now and for ever. Love and miss you, Mam, Dad and family

JOAN NICHOLSON 16th April 2007. Our heart still aches with sadness and our tears still flow. What it meant to lose you no one will ever know. Our thoughts are always with you and your place no one can fill. In life we loved you dearly and in death we love you still. Much loved Wife of Derek; loving Mam of June, Pat, Ronnie, Linda, Ann and Susan; also a very much loved Grandma, Great Grandma and Mother-in-Law; Sister to Brenda and Irene. Also remembering your birthday on 22nd April

JOSEPH LEDLEY 13th April. Another year without you, I am left with a broken heart. I never got to say goodbye, my life's been torn apart. Your loving Wife Grace, miss you always xxx

JOSEPH HEDLEY 13th April. Another year has gone by. Many tears we have, when we cry. Of memories we shared of what we had of times with you our loving Dad. Love from Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxxxx

GOTCHA !!! ANDREW




Happy 30th Birthday Captain!!!

I Love you loads Babes, xxx

To the best Daddy ever love, Joshua, Evan, Rhys, Jacob, Oliver and Ellena x

Look who is 30



NICOLA SMITH 14th April 1983

Happy birthday. Have a lovely day. Love from Mam, Dad, Lisa, Kyra, William, Sarah, Honey and Ace xxxxx

MOLLIE ATKINSON (15th April). Happy 80th birthday. have a lovely day. Lots of love from all the family


DAVID YOUNG Happy 50th birthday David. Lots of love from Trish, Dave and family

DAVID YOUNG Happy 50th birthday David. Lots of love from Kath, Ben and family xxx

DAVID YOUNG 12-4-2013. Happy 50th birthday David. Love, Mam xxx

THE BELTON BOYS Sorry boys, Mam's had a "tropical flush". Forgot your birthdays "again". Russel 46, Duncan 45 on 7th April. So proud of you both. Russel selling furniture on Ebay; Duncan selling flats and houses. You know I love you both lots. Mam and Ernie xxx


CHARLIE ARMSTRONG Happy 21st birthday, 12-4-13. All our love, Grandma, Granda, Katie and Rebecca



Tony Thompson 4th April

Happy 85th Birthday

Happy birthday Tony for 4th April 2013. No cards, but lots of memories. Your loving Wife, Grace



Maud Graham Died 4th August 2012 Birthday 17th April

My Maud, miss you so much, how we celebrated your birthday on 17th April. Your loving Husband Bob xxx

Missed by Sons Rob and Gary; Lisa, Cathleen, Laura, Jessica and Mason xxxxx

MARJORIE AITKEN 12th April. On your 80th birthday, loving and cherished memories of a very special Mother and Grandma. We love and miss you more than words can say and you are never more than a thought away. Love always, Linda, Stuart, Dan, Amber and Geoff xxx



MOLLY HEWITT would like to thank family and friends for all the support, sympathy, cards, Mass Cards and flowers received on the sudden sad loss of her Son John

GEORGE ELLIOTT (Hilton). Barbara, Pauline and families would like to express their sincere thanks to Family and Friends for the kindness and sympathy that was shown to them during the sad loss of their Dad. Also for cards and floral tributes and donations for Great North Air Ambulance

THE FAMILY of the last Frank Swinburne would like to thank friends, family and neighbours for the kindness and sympathy that was shown to them during their recent loss of Frank. A special thank you to Peter and all the Newton Aycliffe and Big Club Football Players for their regular visits to see Frank in hospital and at home. Thank you to Brian Shepherd, Rev. Julie Wing, Dr Jones, District Nurses and Cancer Support Carers

SPECIAL THANKS to Dr Scott and staff at Pease Way Surgery, to the Co-op Funeralcare. But most of all to all the staff at Rose Lodge Care Home for all the loving care you gave to our Dad. Also to Bill Simms for the lovely Service. Bless you all. Barbara, Rob, Pauline, Bruce, Michael and Stephen

THANK YOU To all the passengers on the No 7 bus that left Durham at 1.40pm on Tuesday 2nd April, for your kindness and concern and to the lady whose phone was used. This was after my accident getting off the bus outside the cemetery on Burnhill Way. Luckily not too much damage. Thank you all again

MASALA

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What Price Fitness?

Dear Sir,
I have been looking into joining the Lifestyle Gym in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre and went to their website to find out about fees and discovered that nearly everywhere else the monthly fee is £17.50 this includes Darlington and most of the country, but in Newton Aycliffe it is £34!
I bring this to your attention to ask the question why we need to pay double.
G.PARRY

Lifestyle Fitness Response:

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to respond to your reader's enquiry. Durham County Council works in close partnership with Lifestyle Fitness to provide first class health and wellbeing facilities at a number of leisure centres across the county. Newton Aycliffe provides three floors of fitness equipment, sauna, steam room, exercise classes and a 25 metre pool within its membership. In addition membership provides a personal and professional service from qualified fitness instructors, providing a detailed programme to meet the customers' individual needs, with regular reviews as part of the membership price. Memberships start from £22.50 per month (75p/day) rising to the £34.50 (£1.15/day).

Lifestyle Fitness also operate a range of low cost fitness clubs which do not have swimming facilities or paid instructors, located within areas of high population. The club in Darlington is one of these and on top of the membership fees at these low cost clubs any instruction, advice or fitness programmes need to be paid for directly to a self-employed personal trainer. For a full picture of what is on offer at Newton Aycliffe we would like to invite all of your readers to visit the centre at our open weekend from 27th to 29th April 2013. Over this period they will be able to experience the services we have for free as well as discussing with us how we can help to meet their health and wellbeing goals for 2013.
Alister Ruddick

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SUPPORTERS NEEDED AT AYCLIFFE'S SIX SURVIVAL GAMES

FIXTURES

Saturday 13th April: Shildon (H) 3pm
Wednesday 17th April: Ashington (H) 7.30pm
Monday 22nd April: Norton & Stockton Ancients (H) 7.30pm
Thursday 25th April: Whitley Bay (H) 7.30pm
Saturday 27th April: Guisborough Town (H) 3pm

Aycliffe FC Manager Allan Oliver is asking Newtonians to get behind the town's football club in their six-match survival scrap. The Royal Blues face six home games during an action-packed 15 days as they bid to stay in the Ebac Northern League first division after two seasons in the top flight. It's been a rollercoaster 2012-13 campaign for Aycliffe after a difficult start rooted them to the foot of the table, before an upturn in form saw them climb to moderate safety. But inconsistency crept in before a 2-1 defeat at home to FA Vase finalists Spennymoor on Tuesday night chalked up a fourth straight loss. And with other results going against them, Aycliffe have slipped back into the relegation zone. But they still have a good chance of staying up if they can take advantage of the six home games they have in the next fortnight, beginning with a local derby at home to Shildon this Saturday. Oliver worked miracles by guiding Aycliffe from the parks of the Durham Alliance League to the Northern League top flight in just four years. He said: "We really do need everyone's support now more than ever. We accept results and performances haven't been up to the expectation levels we've set in recent years. But right now we don't have time to start arguing over the whys and wherefores of what's gone wrong - it's a time for us all to

rally round, stay together and win as many of these last six games as possible." Aycliffe's game at home to Shildon this weekend is followed by the visit of Bedlington Terriers on Monday night and Ashington next Wednesday. Oliver added: "A few extra bodies through the gate will make a big difference, it will give the lads a lift and hopefully enough to get some precious points on the board. It really is crunch time. If there was a time to get behind your town's club, it would be now." Admission to games at Moore Lane Park is £5 adults and £3 concessions, Under-16s free with a full-paying adult.

Free Tai Chi Session

A free Tai Chi taster class for anyone 50+ to be held at THE YOUTH CENTRE on Wednesday, 24th April at 12 noon. A gentle exercise that improves posture, stability, and core strength, people also report enjoying a sense of well being and vitality. June Kneafsey
T: 01388 720064
E: june.kneafsey@ageukcountydurham.org.uk

New Fitness Fun at the PCP

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) in partnership with Nouveau Fitness CIC, have organised a brand new summer fitness timetable that aims to help improve people's health and wellbeing, whatever your age or ability.

The new classes will start from Monday 15 April and PCP are offering all new classes for FREE the following week from Monday 22nd to Saturday 27th April.

New Age Kurling & Boccia: New Age Kurling is an adapted in door version of the Olympic game Curling. The game can be enjoyed by able-bodied and disabled people of all ages. Boccia can also be enjoyed by anyone and involves rolling the boccia balls as close as possible to the jack or the target in a range of different ways.

Children's Street Dance: This urban dance class teaches moves in the style of street dance and break dance. Learn how to dance like some of the most popular dance groups today and be part of this new crew. Age 7+
Wednesdays 6.30 - 7.30pm



Cost: £2.50

Zumba: A popular Latin American dance, delivered in an aerobic style where you can burn to 1000 calories per hour! Wednesdays 10 - 11am & 11am - 12noon. Cost: £3.50

Family Dodgeball: Now all the family can have fun whilst getting fit. Its guaranteed you'll be having too much fun to realise how hard you're working!

Saturdays 10 - 11am Cost: £2.50 per adult £1 per child

Stride Fun & Games: Increase fitness, coordination, balance, self-esteem and confidence. Watch your child grow and

develop through a wide range of fun and stimulating games. Saturdays 11am - 12noon - £2.50

Nouveau Fitness CIC is an award winning enterprise that aims to develop healthy lifestyles and positive well-being through a vast range of popular but specifically designed dance and fitness programmes.

To book your place or for a full programme of activities on offer at the Pioneering Care Centre, Tel: 321234, email enquiries@pcp.uk.net or visit www.pcp.uk.net. facebook.com/PioneeringCare

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