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TRAFFIC WARDENS POUNCE ON TOWN CENTRE

Newton News received a few phone calls as Traffic Wardens descended on the town to issue tickets to offending drivers. It is reported they issued 31 tickets in less than an hour. Some are to be contested as they affect loading and unloading issues. We will report the full count of tickets in our next issue, but meanwhile be warned!

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Labour Take County and Town Councils With Ease

The Labour Party in Great Aycliffe are very pleased with last week's election results which put them totally in charge of the Town Council and a clean sweep for the County Council. There were shock defeats for Dorothy Bowman and Paul Gittins who have lost their seats on both Councils. Dorothy resigned from the

Labour Party after not being selected to represent her ward. She stood as an Independent in the West Ward and whilst her husband, a Labour Party member, was successful for the Town Council she lost her seat. There will be some new faces on the Council and some old faces returning, notably Eddie Adam and Arun

Chandran who brought about significant changes in how the Town Council was run last time they were in office. It was pleasing to see support for two 18 year olds, Tom Twissel and Dan Summers. Hopefully they will represent the younger generation in Aycliffe in a positive manner. These elections have proved that Labour still dominate in County Durham, and in Great Aycliffe they have increased their majority. Results on Page 6

Popular Priest to Leave Town

Father Michael Campion announced at Mass last Sunday that he would be leaving the parish (probably at the end of July) to take up duties in Jesmond, Newcastle. He will be Priest at Jesmond, plus new duties, given him by the Bishop. Father Michael Whalen will be moving from Jesmond to Newton Aycliffe. Parishioners were shocked by this news as Fr. Michael is much loved and has been a very good priest, active in the community and unafraid to comment on local issues. He is currently Vice Charirman of Great Aycliffe Residents' Association and has been instrumental in affecting much of the success this organisation has made since being formed.



Midridge Circular Walk

On Thursday 16th May there is an easy 6 mile circular walk from Midridge to Windlestone and back. The walk will be led by Elaine Field from the Parish Paths Partnership. All welcome, dogs to be on lead. There will be refreshments in the Village Hall at the end of the walk. Meet at Midridge Village Hall at 10am.

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2 Neville Parade - 300203
Menu for week starting Monday 13th May 2013

Mon - Roast Chicken Dinner
OR Spaghetti Bolognese

Tue - Sausage in Onion Gravy
OR Mince Pie, Peas & Gravy

Wed - Roast Pork Dinner
OR Chicken Salad

Thu - Minced Beef Dinner
OR All Day Breakfast

Fri - Roast Chicken Dinner
OR Chicken, Chips & Peas

Sat - Giant Yorkshire Pudding
OR Chicken Curry & Rice

Sun - Roast Pork Dinner
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Neville Community Centre
 Neville Parade, Newton Aycliffe
John Snowball Folk Concert
 Saturday 18th May, 6.30pm
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 Sunday 19th May, 3pm
 Admission: Adults £3, Seniors £2, Child £1
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Saturday 11th May - "Trilogy"
 Four guys that are making a big name for themselves in the North-East, packing pubs out and always getting return bookings.
 "There was a great party atmosphere at The Duke tonight and not solely due to the support the band brought with them as the regulars liked them just as much." Covering tracks by Foo Fighters, Jet, White Stripes, AC/DC, Ozzy, Motorhead, Blur, Oasis, Manic St Preachers, Green Day, Killers, T-Rex, Arctic Monkeys, The Who, The Clash, The Undertones, The Buzzcocks, The Sex Pistols, The Beastly Boys, Alice Cooper, Bon Jovi, The Darkness, The Beatles.
Saturday 18th May - "Franky's Mullet"
 A fantastic new(ish) local band making their debut at the Tub.
 Going down a storm in venues all over the north, getting return gigs.
 BIO: A four piece all live band, performing rock/pop influenced music such as: OASIS, WHITE STRIPES, BEATLES, FOO FIGHTERS, STONES, CLASH, WHO, KINGS OF LEON, KASABIAN, U2, STROKES, SEX PISTOLS, STEREOPHONICS and much more
 www.frankysmullet.co.uk/
Saturday 25th May - "The Kill"
 "The band took to the stage, from the off it was a great hard rock attack that set the vibe that would continue throughout the performance. Vocalist Gregg took centre point on stage and really went for it. Not just vocally but physically too! I've said it before and I'll say it again, The Office stage is bigger than most pub set-ups and it needs a band with a genuine physical presence to attract the audience's attention in a building of that size. They had that charisma about them. The rock style of the band continued on with a commercial AOR feel on such songs as Def Leppard's 'Animal', and even though the group did generally go down the path of recognisable rock anthems, it never became too cheesy or entirely predictable. I think they hit a marvellous balance of choosing songs that would have a larger appeal, and yet still maintained an element where you weren't too sure what was coming next!"
 Colin Smoult REVIEW.
 Tracks covered by: Bon Jovi, Foo Fighters, Def Leppard, Guns n Roses, Linkin Park, Metallica, Ozzy, Pearl Jam, Skid Row, Poison and more.
 www.thekill.co.uk
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Dogs Trust's Happy Ending for Puppy Auctioned for £2

A ten-week old puppy has found her happy ending after being sold at auction along with her siblings for just £1.88 each. The Collie cross pup was rescued by a local dog lover after being sold at a livestock auction in the "last chance section" at just six weeks old. The pup was brought to Dogs Trust Darlington where she was affectionately named Lottie by staff that nursed her back to health and found her the loving home she deserves. Hazel Richards from Teeside came across the pups, sold as the last lot of the day, at an auction in Somerset and took the litter of four straight to the vets. Sadly the starving pups were far too young to be separated from their mother and one of the pups passed away. Fortunately Hazel was able to find loving homes for two puppies and handed Lottie, the remaining pup, who needed some extra TLC, to Dogs Trust for rehoming. Hazel Richards explains "I was working in the area and saw the signs for the auction and thought I would see if I could pick up a chest of drawers. I soon discovered it was a livestock auction but was horrified when the last lot was unveiled as a cardboard box containing four filthy, severely malnourished, six-week old puppies. I couldn't just leave them so immediately bid on them and bought the box for a meagre £7.50." Hazel adds "When I collected the box after the auction I could see the terrible



condition the puppies were in, they had been sold as a box of three but tucked at the bottom of the box was the smallest pup, clearly starving with a deformed jaw. I believe that if I hadn't bid on the lot, the pups would have been put to sleep or worse - returned to the owner who has neglected them in the first place. Luckily Dogs Trust were able to take her in and find her a home." Sue Embleton Dogs Trust Darlington Rehoming Centre Manager explains "We were shocked to hear of the circumstances in which Hazel acquired Lottie, it sounds like something which would occur centuries

ago. It just highlights how easily puppies are also sold so flippantly in such circumstances and through pet shops and websites. We advise people to buy a dog from a reputable breeder or get a rescue dog so as not to encourage unscrupulous puppy traders who show little regard for welfare." Dogs Trust Darlington cares for around 120 abandoned and unwanted dogs at any one time. If you would like to give a dog a home or are interested in rehoming another rescue dog call the Rehoming Centre directly on 01325 333 114 or visit at Hill House Farm, Sadberge, Co Durham, DL2 1SL.

OSTEOPOROSIS - THE SILENT DISEASE

Today, women are living longer and as we get older our bones get weaker. Osteoporosis affects around 1 in 3 post-menopausal women and fracture following trauma is often the only indication of an underlying problem. This is why it is often called 'the silent disease'. Victims may suffer from deformity, pain, loss of independence and premature death. 3 in 10 women who suffer an osteoporotic hip fracture die within 12 months as a result. Risk factors include; being post menopausal, early menopause or hysterectomy, family history, use of steroid based medications, dietary factors such as coeliac disease and colitis, low calcium diet, alcohol consumption, rheumatoid arthritis and other medical conditions, low body mass and lack of exercise. Fortunately, there are steps you can take to prevent the development of the disease, as well as treatment for those who already have it. Following the 'STAIRs' approach as in the following is a good guide:
STOP smoking
TAKE exercise, especially weight bearing activity such as dancing, jogging, brisk walking, skipping, aerobics, badminton, pilates or training with weights.
ALLOW exposure to some sunshine (before 11.00am and after 3.00pm) between May and September to stimulate Vitamin D production.
IMPROVE diet by increasing those foods high in vitamins and minerals together with moderate amounts of protein. Avoid processed or sugary foods and drinks.
RESTRICT caffeine and salt and limit alcohol to two units per day.
 For those diagnosed with osteoporosis, several prescriptions and supplements now on the market have been shown to be effective in slowing down the bone-loss process and in strengthening the bone that still remains.

Another Dog Killed by Loose Bull Terrier

Dear Sir,
 I would like to warn dog owners round the Agnew and Cobblers Hall area about a man that walks a Staffordshire Bull Terrier. This black dog was allowed to run free and attacked our dog in the Burnhill Way field. Our dog was on a lead and the owner could see his dog attacking ours with my wife trying to fend it off! Even when our dog lay on the ground and my wife was shouting to the man for help he turned his back and walked away. My wife then tried to carry the dog out of

the field but could not lift him and had to flag down a motorist to help her carry the dog.
 He put the dog into his Land Rover and took my wife and the dog to the Vets but our pet was too badly hurt and had to be put to sleep.
 My wife was so badly shaken by this she says she will never have another dog as she feels she let our's down by not being able to protect him. I hope the so called man who walked away and left her in that situation is ashamed of himself.
 Eddie Bramham

CAR BOOT SALE
 To be held on Land at Rosemount Road
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Every FRIDAY starting 17th May 2013

 Public Entry from 12.30pm - Adults 50p
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Skate Park Contest at Town Park

Due to the success of the past two events the youth workers from Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre have worked with a core group of young people to organise another.

The competition is open to all young people aged 11 to 18 years and there are

a lot of prizes to be won! Consent forms are to be collected from the Youth Centre (opposite Tesco) and handed in by Friday 17th May. Safety Helmets must be worn on the day!

Wednesday 29th May 2013 from 1pm till 3pm (Weather dependent) at Newton Aycliffe Town Park

Categories: 11-13 Novice, 11-13 Advance, 14-18 Novice, 14-18 Advance. **BMX, Scooter, Skate Board**
Deadline for Consents: Friday 17th May
 If you would like any more information please contact **Francene Birbeck or Laura Langdale on 01325 307522**

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Council Act on Road Surface Complaint

Dear Sir,
 A few months ago, several residents living in Stanfield Road asked for my assistance in resolving a number of problems including off-road parking (chewing up the grassed areas in the never-ending inclement weather) and the continued deterioration of the road surface.
 As a Great Aycliffe Residents' Association committee member, I liaised with the committee, then organised a fact finding survey involving many residents, asking for feedback.

I contacted DCC about the road surface and had been told that the road had been inspected annually and was on schedule for repairs (one, five or ten years).

Whilst GARA can do little about the off road parking situation, I am pleased to note that Durham County Council

has listened to GARA and the concerns of those residents of Stanfield Road who contacted me.

The DCC have resurfaced the entire road which has made a real difference to the general environment. I wish to thank Durham County Council for carrying out this work, especially so at a time when all County budgets are under such pressure.

Finally, remember that GARA aims to ensure that all residents within the Parish of Great Aycliffe have a voice within their community and that their aspirations are fairly represented and acted upon.

Several of us, elected onto GARA, are also councillors. but we are non-political and seek to work with all other organisations and bodies.

Councillor Derek Atkinson
(GATC Simpstone Ward and GARA).



Students Perform with Band



HORNDALE ASSOCIATION CANCEL CAMPAIGN

Dear Sir,
 It is with regret I have cancelled the Anti-Loan Shark Week planned for June. After a lot of thought I came to this decision to protect the name of our Association and stop a possible white elephant which ultimately would have caused us a lot of embarrassment and problems in any further projects we organise.

I won't go into details but will say it was due to lack of support and a high expectation from the representative of the Anti-Loan Shark team. I fulfilled everything I promised when starting to organise this event and spent 3 months working on it.

It was with a heavy heart but felt this decision was the best for our Association. I will still support the Anti-Loan Shark team's work as the problem is worsening on a weekly basis. If you have money problems please get help, speak to Citizen Advice Bureau, or Livin if you're a tenant. There are agencies that help with sorting and giving advice. The Anti-Loan Shark helpline no is 0300 555 2222. Philip Clark, Chairman Horndale Residents Association

On Thursday 25th April students from Woodham Academy enjoyed a performance from the band Projekt Weekend. The band were in school to take part in a cross curricular Music and Personal, Social and Health Education project, which allowed students in Years 7, 8 and 9 to sing alongside the band. The boys are an up and coming new band who have played with bands such as The Saturdays in recent times. They are bringing out their debut single Second to None in the summer and will be supporting Little Mix on their next tour. Tori Hanson, a Year 8 student and budding singer, said "This was one of the most nerve racking experiences of my life but a real opportunity to perform alongside real musicians as an equal."

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7 St. Elizabeths Close Woodham Village
01325 320000 or 300900
 Open from 5.00pm to 11.00pm

New Display at Greenfield

This week we are pleased to continue to support local crafters and makers at Greenfield Arts, as well as the opening of our new exhibition in The Greenfield Gallery by Reg Mechen. We have also installed a display of "Hand Knitted Pottery" by Hugh Penney. Hugh is based in County Durham and creates unique hand made and hand thrown pottery. On display now in the craft cabinets at Greenfield Arts are mugs, bowls, noodle bowls and more, all of which are for sale. The exhibition will continue until Friday 21st June, and is a great opportunity to see the work of a talented local artist. For more information visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

THANKS FOR SUPPORT

I would like to thank the residents of West Ward for taking the time to vote, and electing me back on the Council, now the elections are over all your Labour Councillors will work together as a team in the interests of all the residents of Great Aycliffe to the best of their ability.
 Cllr Arun M Chandran
 88 Honister Place, Tel 313224
arunmchandran@aol.com

House of Eden House of Eden Children's Nurseries
 Important: Book your 15 FREE hours for 2 & 3 year olds
Limited Places - Contact your local nursery below:

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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

15 FREE HOURS 

COUNTY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION HOLD PUBLIC CONFERENCE

County Durham Residents Association has organised a conference at Haswell Community Centre on Thursday 16th May. The topics include recent changes to legal services and policing provision. Speakers include a solicitor who will show how this impacts on civil cases such as divorce, planning disputes etc. Inspector Dave Coxon will speak on how the police and community can interact through web pages, Facebook and PACT meetings. Information will be available on how to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. Police Commissioner Ron Hogg will be present detailing his plans for community protection. He will answer any questions and concerns so this is an opportunity to take an active part in policing decisions. Registration for the meeting is 9.30am and further details are available on 0191 3701233.

VICTORY FOR VANE ROAD

by Jessica, Class 14



On Friday 26th April, Vane Road Primary School attended a basketball competition at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Mike and Brad (two coaches from Durham Wildcats) were there to help referee and to give the young players advice. All the schools competing had two teams, A and B. First, everybody did a warm up which was led by the two Wildcats. It involved lots of stretches. After that, the matches began. As there were only 8 children playing at one time, two matches were played at once.

Vane Road and Rosa Street were in the final. The game ended in a draw, so they started again and the first team to score a basket was Vane Road! They had won!

Overall, Sugar Hill won a bronze medal, Rosa Street won a silver medal and Vane Road received gold. The whole competition was great fun.

Top Service Election Thanks

Dear Sir,
I write to offer a personal recommendation for J R Electrical Services. My wife and myself are in our twilight years and we find it difficult to know who to trust in today's society. We had a replacement fuse box since the one we had was old. After phoning J R Electrical we found Justin to be polite and well mannered and gave lots of information. The day of installation J R Electrical Services were on time, polite and talked us through what the day would hold. They CLEANED UP and did a FIRST CLASS job. So I would say to anyone who is looking for workmanship and value for money, which we thought had long since disappeared, that it was refreshing to come across such first class service. J.E.

Councillor Sarah Iveson thanks everyone who voted for her and supported her in her re-election to the County and Town Councils.

Councillors Bill Iveson, Val Raw and Jim Atkinson thank the voters of Central Ward for their support in electing them to serve on Great Aycliffe Town Council.

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01325 319846



(ROAD B6444 HEIGHTINGTON LANE AYCLIFFE) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2013

The Council, on 3 May 2013, made an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended, its effect being to close to vehicular traffic a 30m length of B6444 Heighington Lane equidistant from the centre of Heighington Station Level Crossing, Aycliffe to enable level crossing maintenance works to be undertaken.

The maximum duration of the temporary closure under the Order is 18 months and is required from 10 May 2013 and for the duration of the works anticipated to be until 31 May 2013 commencing on selected nights at 9.00pm until 7.00am the following morning including 10 May 2013. However, on rare occasions, alternative dates for closures may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

An alternative route will be available to vehicular traffic from the eastern side of the closure from B6444 junction with A167 at Aycliffe Village, southerly via A167 to Coatham Mundeville Interchange (J59), south westerly along A1(M) to Burtree Interchange (J58) then northerly along A68 and A6072 to the western side of the closure, and vice versa. A local (non-HGV) diversion will be signed from the eastern side of the closure, northerly via Whinbank Road, left onto Horndale Avenue then south westerly along School Aycliffe Lane to the A6072 Roundabout junction with B6444 to the western side of the closure and vice versa.

Dated: 10 May 2013

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL



TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS POORLY PLANNED

Dear Sir,
No doubt you have received many letters about the town centre and the farcical way the "improvements" are being handled.

Much like many other Newtonians, I welcome change especially for the better where our town centre is concerned. After all we have waited 21 years since the Avenue was knocked down to expect a new Newton Aycliffe Town Centre.

Plans were made (and shelved), Tesco was built, smaller shops closed and then the excitement that Aldi was coming to Aycliffe. I think the only excitement was that there would be somewhere else other than Tesco to shop.

Finally the word was given to start work on the new look of the town centre. A prospect by most that was greeted with cheer.

At first it was good to see sections of the town cordoned off to repave the floor. Then another section was fenced off as a new staircase was given to us. However, the first part was not finished so why the powers that be, decided to close more of it rather than finishing the first bit, is beyond me.

Again, a third part was sectioned (bottom of the ramp) and yet the first part is still not finished. Now the shops that we still have - for the moment - have limited access, and poor paving outside.

I witnessed two children falling as a result of the uneven surfaces and just

hope there has been no accidents involving others from these surfaces.

It now comes to the part that really got my attention - the multi storey car park! I read in this week's Newton News (3rd May) that the market has been moved to the car park on Greenwell Road. Why on earth have accesses from the multi storey car park been removed? Even parking on the roof, we have to go down the new staircase, which as pointed out is nigh on impossible for pushchairs and those with physical difficulties.

So where do we park - especially on a Tuesday. We can't park in Aldi car park as you get fined for parking longer than a certain time. The signs that have been put up explaining the situation of the car park facility and access are a waste of money as they are very wordy and difficult to read when we are driving. A simple sign saying "No access to town centre" would have been easier to understand.

It seems to me that this town centre planning was far from being planned. I appreciate some upheaval when making improvements, but by the time everything is finished, I would doubt there are any shops left open to enjoy the town centre, due to no-one wanting to visit until it is complete.

I agree the wall next to Aldi is a pain, and can't they do something about that first to make sure there are appropriate alternative routes into the town centre?

Glyn Stevens
Emerson Way

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Family motor dealer celebrate twenty years service in Newton Aycliffe



A familiar name on the town prove there's still the need for a local motor dealer in 2013.

Few retail sectors have endured the same rigorous changes faced by the motor industry over the past decade. However, one such Newton Aycliffe business not only survived, but grew in the face of adversity.

During sweeping changes and a double dip recession witnessing many retailers either seeing their doors close or becoming swallowed up by larger PLC's, Ramseys Garage in Newton Aycliffe were adapting to a new way of doing business.

Most Newtonians will be familiar with Ramseys Garage situated at the entrance to Aycliffe Business Park and set up in 1993 by Jeff Ramsey, Ian's brother and Gillian's husband who sadly passed away six years ago. Directors Ian and Gillian are still at the helm along service manager and Gillian's son Elliott.

"Surviving 20 years as a small non-franchise garage is some achievement considering the challenges we've faced, particularly during the past decade," says Ian.

"The motor industry was going through turmoil with gray imports flooding the market, the result of an official report in the late 1990's revealing prices for identical new car models were higher in the UK than in other European countries. The government came to the aid of main dealers and manufacturers with strategies to encourage new car sales, all of which did nothing to help the small non-franchise dealer."

“Surviving 20 years as a small non-franchise garage is some achievement.”

Ian continued, "Back in 1993 we didn't have the luxury of the internet for shopping, all of Ramseys' advertising went through the local press (which we still use today), although many of our sales now come through the website. Who would have ever imagined you could shop from your mobile phone- did we even have mobile phones in 1993?...I can't remember! I do remember finance terms were restricted to the age of the vehicle you purchased. Today 5 years finance is the norm."



Centre stage Left to right, Ian, Gillian and Elliott Ramsey with the sales and aftersales team

Newton NEWS

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TWO BIG CHARITY EVENT THIS WEEK

RAMSEY FAMILY BUY GARAGE/SHOWROOM

The AFG garage on the main road of the Industrial Estate has been bought by the Ramsey family, Jeff, his wife Gillian and younger brother Ian.

This is their first business, and taken because they believe there is a need for another car showroom in Newton Aycliffe. A wide choice of vehicles will be available with generous part exchange deals. General repairs, servicing, and replacement of tyres exhausts etc. will also be offered.

The brothers are from Shildon with Jeff working in the car trade all his working life. Gillian (nee Stubbs) is an ex Newtonian who worked for the Avenue School. We welcome the Ramseys to the town and wish them every success.

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NEW IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE

RAMSEY'S LTD

91 (J) ROVER 2140 Finished in Flame red with Red trim, 6 door family car economy and quality only. £2899

91 (K) VAUXHALL NOVA 1.6BR in red/grey two tone matching interior 1 owner from new, 4 speed electric windows, radio cassette & sport lounge. £2499

90 (H) METRO 1.1 C 860 in white with fully colour coded bodywork, radio cassette and graphics. £2399

91 (M) PEUGEOT 206GR finished in blue with matching blue trim, benefits from alloy wheels, radio, 5 speed, tremendous economical family car. £2499

89 (G) SIERRA 1.8GL Hatchback Finished in Silver with Grey trim, features include elec windows, sunroof, elec door mirrors, central door locking. £2699

87 (D) BMW 318 in white, Factory fitted Sunroof, quality music system, superb condition throughout. £2699

88 (P) SKODA BRNO 1.8 Finished in silver with black sports trim with quality music system and alloy wheels. £2499

90 (Q) PEUGEOT 205GL 1.5 4 speed in blue with body graphics, grey interior, super economy from the popular hatch. £2499

89 (T) NOVA 1.2 MERRY 8 Door, finished in Silver trim, A well maintained and economic family Hatch. One owner from new. £2399

87 (S) HISSAN BUNNY 1.8 86K COLOUR, Light blue metal, matching grey trim, Loads of goodness, only. £2399

88 (F) VW GOLF 1.3C in Maroon Blue with body graphics, radio cassette, rear wash/wipe superb condition throughout, a quality name for only £2399

87 (U) HISSAN BLUEBIRD 1.8 85K, in dark blue metal with velour trim, P.A.E. Radio Cassette, Extra too numerous to mention. £2399

88 (V) FIAT 1.1 Firstly in Flame Red with Grey Interior Trim, but One Base from this popular economy car. £2299

88 (W) ROVER 2140 in Flame Red with First Drive trim, a value for money 4 door family car, well equipped and maintained. £2299

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The company went full circle recognising to survive they would need to make their own sweeping changes to safeguard the future. Looking back, both Ian and Gillian acknowledge changes made proved the difference in preventing them from going the same way as so many other dealers.

"We could see how things were changing so we set up a series of objectives as part of a plan to steer us through uncertain times. We invested in new equipment and additional staff with new VAG factory-trained technicians. This meant we could now compete with main dealers and more importantly offer discounted prices for Volkswagen, Audi, Skoda and SEAT servicing. The investment in state-of-the art Bosch diagnostic equipment (determining fault codes), has resulted in new jobs for local people," added Ian.

Other changes introduced include a loyalty scheme for companies and staff on Aycliffe Business Park offering a collection and delivery service minimising disruption to their working day. Ramseys are also an accredited Fleet Assist agent which means companies such as Pendragon, Hitachi, Arval and Alphabet all now recommend Ramseys for service and repair.

"Instead of selling up, we decided to remain faithful to our customers and the surrounding area," says Gillian. "We still hold the same principles we had when setting out twenty years ago.

Remember when?... Ramseys' first press adverts in the Newton News in 1993

Jeff was passionate about customer care and relationships. He believed in looking after the small details as well as the large. When customers become friends you know you must be doing something right."

Ramseys loyal customer base extends far and wide with many of the same customers returning as parents and even grandparents.

"Family values are what make all the difference," continued Ian. "With so many local shops and stores now being replaced with high street chains, people value the real "local" retailer even more than ever before. Here's to another twenty years. We still have much to do, but one thing we've learnt over the years is never to stand still."

To celebrate, Ramseys Garage are holding a special open weekend on 11-12 May.

Helping Hands Support 500 Local Families

Due to the remarkable support the Helping Hands team have been given in the last year we are now expecting to support 500 families in financial crisis in the next 12 months. That is 200 more families than we first envisaged!! This has come just at the right time, as there is an ever increased need in our communities especially now community care grants and crisis loans have ended. We are so thankful that Helping Hands can help another 200 people facing short term financial crisis as we don't want to see those

that are most vulnerable turning to high cost commercial lenders. To our delight, many people who have been given help are now some of our core volunteers; and thankfully they have a pay it forward attitude. In general when people have been helped they are thankful and want to "repay" it back somehow. What Helping Hands encourages them to do is pay it "forward"—so many of them are now doing outreach for people they don't know without any expectation of return and with the hope that

the new recipients then go on to do random acts of kindness to more people in need. Helping Hands still require new or nearly new 0 - 16 year old clothes to distribute to the children of parents living on low incomes. Thank you to all the Newton News readers that have seen their new/nearly new clothes go to a new home. Helping Hands project support vulnerable people in financial trouble where members have lost their jobs, are struggling to pay basic living costs or have other personal circumstances that leave them in need of our support. If you need help just phone 07936431262. We offer a ring back service. Alwyn White - Project Leader

Activities at St. Elizabeth's

St. Elizabeth's in Woodham 14th of May at 7pm, a Pie & Peas Supper with Quiz. Tickets, £3. Call 0751 604 3318.
Film Show in Woodham -Showing on the 15th of May at 2:30pm 'Anna Karenina', An Epic Story of Love. £3 to raise funds for a replacement Church sign.

County Council Election Results

AYCLIFFE EAST ELECTORAL DIVISION

BLENKINSOPP Bill - Independent	598	
CUTHBERTSON Lileen - Independent	233	
GITTINS Paul Steven - Independent	456	
GOODSON Raymond - Conservative	119	
HILLARY Jed - Labour	732	ELECTED
IVESON Sarah Jane - Labour	885	ELECTED
TURNOUT 25.75%		

AYCLIFFE NORTH & MIDDRIDGE DIVISION

CLARE John D - Labour	985	ELECTED
DIXON Mike - Labour	884	ELECTED
GRAY Joan - Labour	988	ELECTED
HAIGH Sandra - Independent	660	
SWAN Marney Jane - Conservative	461	
TURNOUT 21.38%		

AYCLIFFE WEST ELECTORAL DIVISION

ADAM Eddy - Labour	697	ELECTED
BOWMAN Dorothy - Independent	274	
CROFT June - Independent	104	
GRAY George - Independent	445	
HAIGH Brian - Independent	185	
HOPPER Kate - Labour	761	ELECTED
MURRAY Fane t - Conservative	94	
SYMONS Sally - Independent	103	
TURNOUT 23.09%		

Town Council Election Results

AYCLIFFE CENTRAL WARD

ATKINSON Jim - Labour	219	ELECTED
GITTINS Paul Steven - Independent	174	
IVESON William - Labour	249	ELECTED
RAW Valerie Margaret - Labour	219	ELECTED
TURNOUT 27.2 %		

NEVILLE WARD

CUTHBERTSON Lileen - Independent	128	
GRAY George - Independent	122	
HILLARY Jed - Labour	181	ELECTED
IVESON Sarah Jane - Labour	229	ELECTED
TURNOUT 24.1%		

WEST WARD

ADAM Eddy - Labour	490	ELECTED
BOWMAN Dorothy - Independent	330	
BOWMAN Raymond - Labour	403	ELECTED
CHANDRAN Arun - Labour	443	ELECTED
CROFT June - Independent	242	
GRAY George - Independent	460	ELECTED
HAIGH Brian - Independent	274	
SUMMERS Dan - Labour	435	ELECTED
SYMONS Sally - Independent	277	
TOMLIN Tom - Independent	253	
TWISSELL Tom - Labour	409	ELECTED
TURNOUT 21.4 %		

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE WARD

BLENKINSOPP Bill - Independent	ELECTED UNOPPOSED
--------------------------------	-------------------

BYERLEY PARK, HORNDALE & COBBLERS HALL WARD

CLARE John D - Labour		
GRAY Ian - Labour		
HALL Brian - Labour		
HEWITSON Irene - Independent		
KJENSTAD Paul - Labour		
PALMER Alison - Labour		
ALL ELECTED UNOPPOSED		

SHAFTO / ST. MARYS WARD

FLEMING Bob - Labour		
HILLARY Wendy Patricia - Labour		
IVESON Malcolm - Labour		
WHEELER Chris - Labour		
ALL ELECTED UNOPPOSED		

SIMPASTURE WARD

ATKINSON Derek George - Labour		
CLARK John - Labour		
ALL ELECTED UNOPPOSED		

WOODHAM WARD

CLARE Barbara Anne - Labour		
COLLINSON Neil - Labour		
DALTON Mary - Labour		
DALTON Michael Augustinus - Labour		
HAIGH Sandra - Independent		
HENDERSON Keith - Labour		
ALL ELECTED UNOPPOSED		

Fuel Quality Mystery

Dear Sir,
I write in response to the article on Tesco fuel causing a breakdown. Myself and my husband recently moved to Aycliffe and have always used Tesco due to having a FuelCard. Since moving both of our cars have been stuck down with engine problems both relating to the fuel filters. I have just had mine fixed after I had engine malfunction lights and message came on, to a cost of around £160. My husband's van had repairs to it also to a cost of around £150 but still needs an anti pollution filter replacing which is going to cost over

£300 which at the moment we cannot afford.
As a result he has had to cease self employment. We never had any problems with our car previous to moving and it has been too much of a coincidence that both vehicles have faults since moving to Aycliffe and the only thing we do the same is we buy our diesel at Tesco.
I would be interested to know if this is similar to the gentleman who contacted yourselves and Tesco as perhaps we could all put pressure on Tesco to check their fuel!
Name and address supplied



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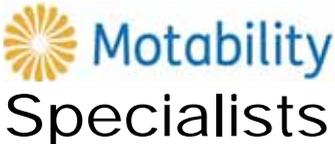
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WHEN SHOULD I CALL 101?

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- if your car has been stolen;
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- 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



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Closing Date: 24 May 2013



BISHOP F.M. FINALIST Whatever it is Labour is Against

Newtonian Brian Wilson, Secretary of SSAFA is a finalist in Bishop FM Brekkie's Best Boss.

Brian was nominated for Bishop FM's Brekkie's Best Boss competition and was chosen by judges to be in the top 3. as he 'goes the extra mile for his volunteers every day'.

The link for Bishop FM's webpage - <http://saturdaybreakfast.co.uk/sb/left/best-boss-finalists/>



Dear Sir,
I really enjoy the Newton News, especially the banter and arguments from local people plus the usual slugging off from one councillor to another and the way you publish all views. I am getting tired of John Clare's Labour party broadcast under the guise of information. In last week's issue he raised points of legal aid cuts and reform to the system as if they were secret. In Jan 2012 it was announced there would be a review of legal aid and consultation went out across the legal framework as, as usual the costs have rocketed

and needed adjusting. The reports came back and legislation came into effect on 1/4/13. As regards who deals with Legal Aid, the comment regarding G4S is spurious and frankly a lie. G4S do NOT carry out legal services in courts so the comment is rubbish. What was decided through 2012 was that the legal aid pot would be given out to larger firms with the experience and hopefully the expertise for people. In this area that would mean Hewitts or Meikles, local firms with court experience. It was designed to get the best for the available money and I assume quite sound economics. John commented on the Human Rights Act - the one Tony Blair signed us up to that wants to give prisoners the vote despite our MPs saying no (including some Labour) and bits we were opting out of. Parliament sets the law for this country, or used to until we signed it away.

Did Mr Clare notice Tony Blair signed the bill in 2007 which resulted in the lady being jailed without trial in secret a couple of months ago for trying to get her dad out of a home? Did he warn everyone that between 1997 and 2010 Labour built NO storage tanks for gas, no new generators, no nuclear power despite being warned we were running out of energy? Did he warn everyone when Ed Milliband signed his energy bill in 2010 to close all the coal fired generators in the country despite having no alternative?

For the record two closed last month and Drax, the most efficient in Europe is converting from coal to wood - shipping it across from the States. It will need the equivalent of Kielder Forest for 1 week's supply - good for the environment then.

As for the benefit room reduction (not a tax) did John warn all those in private rented accommodation that their housing benefit would not cover spare rooms? Of course not, as this has been the law under Labour and it's only being extended to the public sector now. Did he warn everyone when Gordon Brown took the 10% allowance off the first £2,000 that it would impact on the vulnerable? Labour good - everyone else bad, and since 2010 Labour's opposition policy has been that of Groucho Marx: 'Whatever

it is, I'm against it' On Radio 4 last week Ed Milliband denied he would borrow money to fulfil his promises. A day later he said he would, but only borrow at a cheap rate so that doesn't count as the deficit. Maybe he'll get a Wonga loan! Extra MPs were created in 2010 on the proviso that 50 would disappear by 2015 in the realignment. MP's voted against it so now we have 650 muppets sitting on minimum £65k plus expenses in an expensive talking shop with most of their powers in Brussels. The USA runs with 300 representatives and the UK is smaller than one State. By all means keep writing in John, but label your entries LABOUR PARTY NEWS as it is hardly balanced or factual. Woodham Resident Name & address supplied

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CANDIDATE'S THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me in the Parish and County elections on 2 May 2013. It is a great honour to represent Great Aycliffe at Durham County Council and to be re-elected to the Town Council. I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead and will strive to do my best as your elected representative.
Councillor Jed Hillary

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
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ANIMAL ANTICS AT SUGAR HILL NURSERY



Martin from Animal Stories visited Sugar Hill Nursery this week. The children had lots of fun meeting the animals that Martin brought along, including a millipede, rabbit, frog and a snake from the jungle. They also enjoyed moving around like the rabbit and the frog. The most exciting part was when an owl flew from one side of the room and landed on Martin's hand. This was a fantastic experience and has helped the children learn more about animals and also overcome some fears.



Good News on Fall in Crime

Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg is hailing a 15 per cent reduction in reported crime as good news for victims. Over 4,000 fewer people across County Durham and Darlington have fallen victim of crime following the significant drop in recorded offences in the last year. Between April 1, 2012 and March 31 this year, 30,090 crimes were reported to police compared to 35,260 the previous year. Victim-based crimes - violence against the person, sexual offences, stealing and criminal damage - reduced by 14 per cent, meaning there were 4,506 fewer victims. Chief Constable Mike Barton said: "Protecting the people in our neighbourhoods and tackling criminality in all its forms is at the heart of our business and what we strive to do every day. The

work we do with our partner organisations and agencies is paying off and making our communities even safer. The fall in reported crime is good news all around, especially for victims, but we are never complacent and our communities can be confident our efforts to reduce crime even further will continue unabated." All major crime categories have seen significant falls: violent crime fell by 11 per cent in the last financial year from 4,955 to 4,390; sexual offences by 14 per cent from 426 to 368; house burglaries by 14 per cent from 1,651 to 1,417; criminal damage by 12 per cent from 7,762 to 6,811; drug offences by 13 per cent from 1,432 to 1,240. Anti-social behaviour has reduced by 27 per cent from 41,985 reported incidents last year to 30,569. There have been 290 hate crime incidents reported in the last year, 67 fewer than the previous year, a decrease of 19 per cent. The force remains one of

the best-performing in the country with low overall crime and a detection rate of 38 per cent. Mr Hogg said: "This is great news and these performance figures are extremely impressive. I hope that the residents of County Durham and Darlington are reassured to know that we are doing everything we can to keep them safe. We are committed to keeping crime low and these figures show that Durham Constabulary is continuously improving and addressing the needs of our communities. We will continue to protect vulnerable people within our communities and seek to reduce the number of victims even further. It is for this reason that we protect the neighbourhood policing teams and will continue to do so despite future budget cuts. I would like to thank all officers and staff for their hard work in achieving these results never forgetting the massive part played by our communities and partners"

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NEWTON NEWS
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BINGO, FILMS & CONCERTS AT NEVILLE PARADE

Join us at Neville Parade Community Centre for Bingo every Monday and Friday at 7pm. Old and new clients welcome. Our next FREE family Film is on Saturday 11th May at 2pm. It is a Disney film "Brave" and we need your support. These film shows are provided by the PCSO's funded by GAMP. Dates for your diary: Saturday 18th May at 6.30pm a Folk Concert. Sunday 19th May - Aycliffe & Brancepeth Brass Band Concert at 3pm.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that:-

The Parish Meeting for the Parish of Great Aycliffe will take place in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

THURSDAY, 23rd MAY 2013
at 7.15 p.m.

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".

The Agenda will be available on Notice Boards, the Council Website and by request from the Council Offices (01325 300700) or our Website: (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) from the 7th May, 2013.

Overwhelming Victory for Labour in Aycliffe

Dear Sir,
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the voters of Aycliffe West and Simpstone Wards for electing me as your Councillor. I feel privileged that you have the confidence in me to represent you on Durham County Council and Great Aycliffe Town Council. I would also like to thank Julie, my family, friends and community groups for the overwhelming support given to me over the past months and weeks of the election campaign, it is truly appreciated. And finally, the help and hard work of all Labour Party members who have made this a memorable and overwhelming victory for Labour in the Town and County elections, not a bad result for 'virtually unknowns'. This result shows that by speaking to people on the door step and listening to their views had an impact in securing your confidence in Labour, demonstrating that we listen, understand and work for you to improve our

Town for the common good. It is now up to me and my fellow Labour Councillors to show you we can deliver on our commitment to work with and support all the residents of Great Aycliffe Parish. I look forward to the challenge; it will not be easy particularly under these austere times through massive funding cuts being inflicted on our local councils by this Coalition Government. But with your help we will endeavour to protect and improve our community services as best we can. My official contact details will shortly be displayed on DCC & GATC web sites. However, to help me support you in the meantime I can be contacted on my temporary number of 01325 315136 or 0795 7806185 and visit West Ward Labour on Facebook, our new web site for the community.
Eddy Adam
Durham County Council & Great Aycliffe Town Councillor


GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Customer Panel Meeting

The next meeting of the Customer Panel will be held on:
THURSDAY, 23rd MAY, 2013

The next meeting of the Customer Panel will be held on **THURSDAY, 23rd MAY, 2013** commencing at 6.00 p.m. The Panel meet in the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe. The Council's Works Manager, Mr. Don Thompson, will be in attendance at this meeting. We are always looking for new members. If you would like to know a little more about us and our work this would be a great meeting to attend. The group are informal and quite often have lively debates about a wide range of Town Council matters. Why not come along and join us at this meeting - we look forward to seeing and meeting new members.

Further information can be obtained from Christine Walton on 01325 300700 e-mail: Christine.Walton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

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Aycliffe Bands at Crookfest



The successful Aycliffe based rock band The Unsound and the emerging rock band Heroine who's bass player and backing vocalist is Aycliffe born Tom Bussey, appeared at a festival in Crook at the weekend. Crookfest had lots of northern bands displaying their talents and entertaining the crowds. Two rock bands from Aycliffe both gave there all with great sets and had the party tent rocking. Everyone had a great day and a big thanks goes to all

that attended the sell out event. A big thanks to the organisers also for keeping the festival at an affordable price and keeping food and drink at a decent price also. A big thanks to the weather also for being sunny. The Unsound will be appearing in Aycliffe on Saturday 25th May at the Big Club in aid of the charity MIND, the event is nearly sold out so get your tickets from MIND 01325 300121 or from Ian 07704 646346 before they all go. The Unsound will also be

attending a Festival in Stockton on 1st June called Looka' Teesside. Check out www.TheUnsound.co.uk for the full gigs list, photos, downloads etc. Heroine will be making their debut in Aycliffe soon, so watch out for them. You can check out Heroine on facebook www.facebook.com/heroineband. If you want to be part of the music scene in Aycliffe and need help forming or promoting your band get in touch with Ian 07704 646346.



Police Commissioner's Seminar on Hate Crime

Ron Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham held his first seminar yesterday, attended by partners from across County Durham and Darlington. Reducing the impact of Hate Crime is one of Mr Hogg's personal priorities which he recently announced in his Police and Crime Plan 2013-17.

Mr Hogg said: "The purpose of hosting this seminar was to identify gaps in service delivery and create a mechanism where organisations can work better together in the future. The ultimate goal is to improve outcomes for the public and to increase confidence for individuals to report these appalling crimes, instead of suffering in silence."

Approximately 80 representatives from a broad range of organisations including, public and voluntary sectors, victim services and community groups contributed by giving individual feedback and action points about how they would like Hate Crime services to be improved. The 6 areas covered included Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Race Belief and Faith, Disability, Gypsy Roma Travellers and Learning Disability. Mr Hogg continued: "The

public also needs to be aware that Durham Constabulary will be the next police force to begin recording offences motivated by hatred for members of alternative cultures, such as goths, emos and punks. I believe that correctly recording such incidents as hate crime will be an important forward for County Durham and Darlington."

Mike Barton, Chief Constable said: "The personal stories we heard from Sylvia Lancaster and another guest speaker were extremely moving and frankly those sort of stories is why I joined policing: to protect the vulnerable, to challenge bullies and to make a difference. This conference has further inspired me to put more effort into these three ambitions. We have got to call time on bullies that pick on vulnerable people just because they are different". Volunteers from across the organisations were asked to work together over the coming year in small groups to take the actions forward, to ensure that partners continue to work together to achieve the same goals and to improve confidence for the public. Mr Hogg announced that a follow-up seminar will take place again next year to review how actions have progressed.

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HOMES OF THE FUTURE?

A new building technology called bPod is being offered to solve the housing crisis. Buildpod International, claims to achieve savings of up to a third of construction costs through industrialised building methods. They can build half as much again with the same money and manpower. This does not involve cutting corners. Quality is higher than with traditional construction methods, building faults are fewer and the finished buildings are better places for people



to live and work. The most modern architectural styles are achievable and gone are the old style prefab blocks of yesteryear. Most of the construction and finishing work is in a modern factory, including windows, plumbing, wiring and decoration. The finished bPods are transported to the building site where they are stacked, and the only on-site work needed is load bearing columns and beams. Even though it is concrete, there is a high degree of insulation used in the system. The bPod technology not only achieves higher quality through modern production methods but also allows extraordinarily rapid construction.

One or more storeys can be completed per week, making it the fastest building process in existence. The speed and quality control of the entire process results in savings on all aspects of construction: materials, manpower, equipment, faults, damage and even lower finance costs. All this reduces building costs and therefore genuinely helps people on ordinary incomes find a home. Buildpod International is not a building contractor but a building technology provider. They license their patented technology to contractors, developers, building associations and local authorities, and the process is under development in a number of countries, most recently China. More information on www.bpod.biz.



Creative Families



Last weekend saw the last of our family creative sessions in three community centres in Newton Aycliffe. At Woodham Agnew and Greenfield Arts artist Adam Bligh worked with families, showing them about screen printing and giving out free goodie bags. All the families who attended had a great time, enjoying the experience of experimenting and trying new techniques. As a finale for this project, which has been funded by

GAMPAAP, we are holding a Free Family Fun Day at Greenfield Arts on Saturday 1st June from 10am to 3pm. The day will include free live performances, creative sessions, art workshops, food and more. The event is free and open all day, drop in with no booking necessary and each family will receive a free goodie bag of materials. For more details please visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk, or call us on 01325 379048.

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Private Landlords Only Interested in Rent Income

Dear Sir,
It is a sad fact that in these dire financial times, people with a few bob to spare are snapping up properties in our town for "buy to let".

Whether as a retirement plan or a 'get rich quick' scheme it is my belief that these rented properties should at the very least be maintained to a reasonable standard and tenants vetted so that they are not a nuisance to others living around them.

As you are aware my residents group is very active in the community and we try to help where we can for the benefit of not only our community but also our town.

Sadly, it is sometimes the case that, unable to secure a reasonable tenant, landlords are desperate to rent and just don't care who they accommodate.

All over the country, homes and neighbourhoods are being terrorised and destroyed thanks to absent landlords only interested in the rent.

Under the terms of the data protection act details of landlords are kept secret from the public so that they cannot be pestered by those persons being annoyed by their tenants.

I for one would like to make a complaint to the landlord of a party who are having a shouting match in the street at 1.30 am but I would like to make that call when it is happening!

In my role as chairman of a local residents association I often attend conferences about law and order etc where the social niceties are observed.

A police inspector, social worker or health professional will give a rambling oratory about how poor junkies and criminals should be

rehabilitated, treated with compassion and housed in a nice area where there are low crime rates. There they can be magically reformed when they see how law abiding people spend their lives. Total balderdash!

Reality checks show that neighbourhoods deteriorate, property prices go down, residents are afraid of reaction if they report incidents to the police. Police make the area a lower priority as its now become a "disadvantaged area". Groups of people on probation, who need support, and others hiding from their abusers are also parachuted in. Is it me, or is it a bit of NIMBYISM that police inspectors and social workers live in posh areas which never seem to suffer from these irritations?

If you want to get out you find nobody wants to buy your home because of your neighbours or if they do it's at a reduced price, and guess who buys it then?

Following is just some of the complaints I have received over the last couple of weeks:

1. A tree in a private landlord's garden is causing problems for neighbours - the landlord wants neighbours to pay for remedial action.
2. Tenants of a private absent landlord seen climbing on a local persons car.
3. Rubbish left in the garden to blow about the area.
4. Broken glass left on the road outside the house.
5. General poorly maintained exteriors, broken windows, etc. I am impressed with the reduced anti social behaviour figures lauded by local police forces, but I am beginning to think these are "lies, damn lies

and statistics".
Ken Robson (Chairman)
ACORN Residents Assoc.

Favourite Pet Photos



Jason's Dog enjoying the sun.



Vanessa Scott's pet gets a good night's sleep.

Send your unusual pet photo to syd@newtonnews.co.uk.

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CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's first team sponsored by Lift Right Fork Lift Training played two league games in the NYSD over the holiday weekend and earned an excellent draw away at Bedale on the Saturday and then on the Bank Holiday Monday they defeated top of the table Maltby at home. At Bedale the homeside scored a huge 236 for 5 in their 50 overs and in reply Aycliffe batted superbly to hold out for a draw. Luke Telford was the hero for Aycliffe scoring an excellent 61, but credit must also go to both Sean Morgan, who scored 24 and Matt Capper, who on his first team debut, held his nerve at the end to finish with 24 not out. Maltby's 100% winning start to the season was brought to an end when they visited Aycliffe and were well beaten by 5 wickets. Aycliffe's Luke Telford and Tony Travis both took 3 wickets as the visitors were dismissed for 89 after 44.1 overs and in reply 26 runs from captain Chris Palmer and 25 from all rounder Telford hurried their team to victory after just 14.3 overs. The 2nd team were unsurprisingly well beaten at home to a Wolviston side laden with first team players, eventually going down by 141 runs. Chasing an unlikely 263 runs for victory, Aycliffe were

bowled out for 121 with good contributions coming from Adam Gittins (27 runs), Ross Dixon (18 runs) and James Skerrett also with 18 runs. Newton Aycliffe's under 18's team lost their first game of the season at home to Crook by 8 wickets. Batting first Aycliffe scored a respectable 90 for 9 in their 20 overs with good scores coming from Matt Bowmer with 15 not out and Tom Gledhill with 13. In reply, two quick wickets from Aycliffe captain Dan Weldon had the visitors struggling at 15 for 2, but that was as good as it got for the homeside as Crook stormed to victory in the 15th over. The clubs u13's had a narrow defeat away at Yarm by just 4 wickets. Captain Dylan Tribble top scored with 17 during Aycliffe's innings of 42 for 8 and in Yarm's reply, 3 wickets from Usman Abbasi and 2 wickets from all rounder Tribble almost snatched victory for Aycliffe. Aycliffe's under 11's had a comprehensive 48 run home win over Billingham Synthonia in the NYACC league with good performances from Lucas Pilling, who top scored with a superb unbeaten 17, captain Nathan Parry who scored 9 not out and took 3 wickets for just 2 runs and Ali Abbasi who took 2 wickets for 8 runs.

AYCLIFFE RUNNERS IN TEES TRAIL



There was a record turnout for the first race of the Tees Trail summer series from Aycliffe Running Club at Preston Park. Dez Fielden was first home for the club and 1st o/40 finishing in 18m:21s and 9th overall. He was followed closely by Lee Wren 11th in 18:38, then Matt Heron 23rd in 19:37. Next home was Peter Milburn, getting back to racing after a period of injury, finishing 50th in 21:09. He was followed by triathlete Michelle Scott, 58th in 21:29, then John Burnside, currently in the form of his life, 58th in

21:30. Steve Smith was next 69th in 22:10, followed by Naomi Kellett, 77th in 22:40, Kevin Greenall, 79th in 22:43, Martin Sedgewick, 88th in 22:50, Trevor Needham 94th in 23:22, Susan Milburn, 107th and 1st o/55 in 23:46, Kelly Smith, 111th in 23:56, Shelley McCormack, 115th in 24:07, Jason Dixon, 128th in 25:54, Alan Kellett,

145th in 26:20, Penny Johnson, 147th in 26:23, Rob Nicholson, 153rd in 26:49, Kat Aspey, 160th in 27:37, Yvonne Williams, 174th in 29:16, Michael Williams, 176th in 29:24, Elaine Morgan, 184th in 30:35, and Elaine Pearson, 212th in 36:12. Entry forms are now available for the Aycliffe 10k on June 16th. Go to ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk

SWIMMING SUCCESS

The ASA North East Region Youth & Senior Championships, were held on Saturday 4th May & Sunday 5th May at Sunderland Aquatic Centre

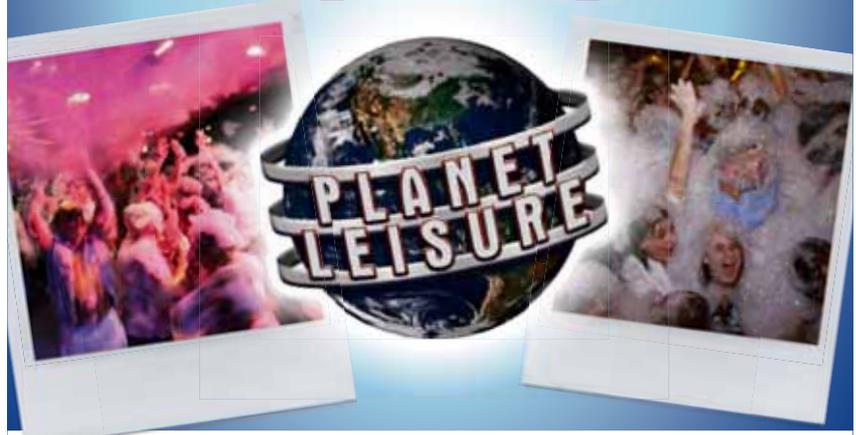
Sedgefield 75 Swimming Club were represented at the NER Swimming Championships by Philip Walker and Kye Cowton. Kye competed in the 50,100 & 200 metres Breaststroke events putting in superb swims but did not make the finals. This was his first competition at Senior level. Philip swam in six events winning gold medals in the 100 and 50 metres Backstroke. He took bronze medals in the 50 Butterfly and the 50 metres Breaststroke. A truly outstanding performance by one of the Senior A Squad members. Hannah Featherstone has been selected to represent the ESSA North Eastern Region at the National Swimming Championships to be held later in the year.

MIDDRIDGE AND AYCLIFFE NORTH ELECTION NOTICE

We would like to thank all those who supported us in the recent County Council Election. As your elected councillors we are available to help all residents with their concerns. John Clare, Mike Dixon, Joan Gray. Our contact details are: **JOHN CLARE: Tel: 01325 318333. Email: johnclare@sky.com. Twitter: @johnclare. Facebook http://bit.ly/JDClare.** **MIKE DIXON: Tel: 0191 3725808/ 01325 312872. Email: mike.dixon@durham.gov.uk. Twitter: @mickvicdec.** **JOAN GRAY: Tel: 01325 312872. Email: Joan.gray@durham.gov.uk**

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Honest John Donations

Johns latest round of donations to local good causes and organisations are as follows: £700 - Aycliffe Boxing Academy; £500 - 1st Newton Aycliffe Scouts; £550 - Year 11 2013 School Prom Awards. John would like to thank everyone that has donated to his stall and to all his happy customers. John has asked Newton News to remind all Newtonians and visitors that he is now based, six days a week in The Cubby, Monday to Saturday from 10am to 3pm and looks forward to seeing you soon.

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RESIDENTS SAFER AS CRIME DROPS BY 15%

Ron Hogg, Durham's Police and Crime Commissioner, welcomes the end of year policing figures, which shows a 15 per cent reduction in reported crime.

Over 4,000 fewer people across County Durham and Darlington have fallen victim of crime following the significant drop in recorded offences in the last year.

Between April 1, 2012 and March 31 this year, 30,090 crimes were reported to police compared to 35,260 the previous year. Victim-based crimes - violence against the person, sexual offences, stealing and criminal damage - reduced by 14 per cent, meaning there were 4,506 fewer victims.

Mr Hogg met with Chief Constable Mike Barton at a force Executive Board meeting on Wednesday to discuss the results.

Commenting on the crime figures, Mr Hogg said: "This is great news and these performance figures are extremely impressive. I hope that the residents of County Durham and Darlington are reassured to know that we are doing everything we can to keep them safe. We are



committed to keeping crime low and these figures show that Durham Constabulary is continuously improving and addressing the needs of our

communities. Chief Constable Mike Barton said: "Protecting the people in our neighbourhoods and tackling criminality in all

its forms is at the heart of our business and what we strive to do every day. The work we do with our partner organisations and agencies is paying off and making our communities even safer. The fall in reported crime is good news all around, especially for victims, but we are never complacent and our communities can be confident our efforts to reduce crime even further will continue unabated."

Anti-social behaviour has reduced by 27 per cent and there have been 67 fewer hate crime incidents than the previous year, a decrease of 19 per cent. As a result, County Durham and Darlington remain among the safest places to live.

JASON STEELES THE SHOW AT BORO!

Newtonian Jason Steele was a double winner at Boro's End of Season Awards night last week.

A glittering night was held at the Riverside in association with Boro's official sponsor Ramsdens.

There were seven awards, four of which were voted for by Boro fans on the club's official website, mfc.co.uk. Aycliffe lad Steele picked up both the Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year awards at the event.

"It's a privilege and an honour to pick up both awards," said Jason.

Sedgefield MP and Boro fan Phil Wilson was also in attendance, and he said: "I'm absolutely thrilled to bits for the lad. It's the first time I've met Jason, but I've heard a lot about him and how he keeps himself very grounded and works very

hard, so this recognition is fully deserved."

Newton Aycliffe firm HPM print Boro's match programmes and was also one of the evening's sponsors.

M.D. Richard Mortimer added: "It was a cracking evening, made special at the end by Jason picking up both of the main awards. Jason has visited us recently and we've got to know him quite well - as a local lad, we're absolutely delighted for him."

The awards on the night included:

Voted for by the fans
Player of the Season

Sponsored by Ramsdens:
Jason Steele

Young Player of the Season

Sponsored by Teesside University: Jason Steele

Goal of the Season
Sponsored by LJJ: Adam



Jason Steele with MP Phil Wilson and Richard Mortimer.

Reach v Burnley.

Not voted for by the fans:
Top Goalscorer

Sponsored by Cornerstone Business Solutions:
Scott McDonald - 13

Players' Player of the Season

Sponsored by Activ Telecom:
George Friend

A Lifetime Achievement Award

went to Ron Bone, Head of Recruitment at Boro's Academy in recognition of 25 years service.

Birthday Remembrance

PEARL MITCHIE 15-35. Now with her beloved Grandson David. Both with the Lord. We have our memories of you forever. Ron & Family **JIM**, we all just want to wish you a very happy birthday. We all hope you will be singing in Heaven. We miss you and love you loads. From your dear Wife Ann. I love you. From all the family

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Congratulations

Jo Howarth



Happy 18th Birthday
12th May 2013

Happy 10th birthday Joe, hope you have a brilliant time. Lots of love, Mam and Dad xx

Hope you have a great birthday Bro. Love, Jack x
Happy birthday Joe, lots of love, Nan, Grandad, Lee, Shellie, Morgan, Callum and Georgia xx
Happy birthday Joe from Grandad Syd and Barbara xxx

Happy birthday, have a great day. Uncles, Aunties and Cousins "Howarth"

Joshua Shiel



Happy 18th Birthday
14th May 2013

Lots of love from Mum, Ian, Steph and Luke xxx

In Memoriam

DAVID MITCHIE 14-5-98. Beloved Son, Brother & Grandson. You were only nine when our Lord took you to be with him. You will never be forgotten by all those you left behind. Mum, Dad, Granddad, Sister, Brothers and all those who ever met you

MICHAEL STEVENS 13th May 2004. Our beloved Son, missed more than words can say. Always in our hearts. Love, Mam and Dad

RAYMOND BRIGGS 20th May 2007. I think of you in silence and often speak your name. But you will never leave me, like your picture in the frame. Love, Doris and Holly

GARY WOODHEAD Happy 50th Birthday. Enjoy your time with Craig in Las Vegas Mam xxxx

GARY WOODHEAD Enjoy your 50th birthday and trip to America. All the best, Lynn and Den

CROSS Ron and Doreen, Diamond Wedding Day, 16th May. To our wonderful Mam and Dad on your special day. Congratulations and lots of love from Marjorie, Brian, David and Joy xxx

CROSS Nanna and Grandad, have a wonderful day. Love you lots. From all your Grandchildren xxx

CROSS Big lick from Max and Bud xx

MILES COLE TELFORD 1st birthday on 9th May. To our precious darling Son, happy birthday. Party Saturday, we love you lots, just like Jelly Tots. Mammy and Daddy xxx

MILES COLE TELFORD Yo Yo Yo, listen up it's my baby Bro MC 1st birthday. Love, respect, skin and Jelly Tots. TJ xxx

MILES COLE TELFORD Happy 1st birthday to our dinosaur grrrrrrr Master Miles, lots of love, Granny D and Grumpy xx

MILES COLE TELFORD Happy 1st birthday Miles. Lots of love, Auntie Stacey and Uncle Richard xxx

MILES COLE TELFORD To our Cousin Miles, happy 1st birthday. Lots of love, Barry and Scarlett xx

MILES COLE TELFORD Twinkle Twinkle Little Cousin Miles, happy 1st birthday. Sending kisses from my cloud. Faith Ella xxx

PATTINSON, Jean and Malcolm. Mam and Dad. Happy birthday on 11th May. You both maybe climbing up the hill, but you are not over it, maybe chillin in the pasture. Love, Dawn and Glen xxx

PATTINSON, Jean and Malcolm. Happy birthday to our Grandparents. Lots of love, Stacey, Richard, Ashley and Luke xx

PATTINSON, Jean and Malcolm. Hip Hip Hooray it's our Great Grandparents birthday. We love you both lots, like Jelly Tots. Trent, Miles, Scarlett and Bobby xxx

PATTINSON, Jean and Malcolm. Happy birthday to my Great Grandparents. When you both look up above, a wink from my star I shall send to you both. Faith Ella xxx

Laurie Guthrie Congratulations on your 21st birthday on 14th May, 2013. Lots of love from Leanne xx

Laurie Guthrie Congratulations on your 21st birthday. Best wishes from Jackie, Robert and Colin

MARION HUBBARD Happy 80th birthday on 13th May, 2013. Have a great time in the hot air balloon. Love always, Geoffrey, Debra, Colin, Angela, David, Christine, all the Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxxx

Obituary

ANNIE BIBBY (Nan). Aged 89 years. Passed away peacefully in her sleep on Monday 6th May, 2013 at Rose Lodge Care Home. Beloved Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Details of Funeral to be arranged, please contact 07896 925942 or 07809 898772

WILLIAM (BILL) MARTIN ASHBY. Died suddenly on the 4th May 2013. Very sadly missed by wife Maureen, daughter Jannette, his four Grandsons and Granddaughter, family and friends. Funeral Service to take place at Weir Valley Crematorium Thursday May 16th at 12.30pm. Followed by refreshments at the Royal British Legion Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe. No Flowers by request. Donations may be given to British Heart Foundation.

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CANE conservatory suite, 2 seater, chair, 2 seater breakfast table and lamp table, £125. Tel 317995 after 6pm

QUALCAST Concorde 320 electric lawn mower, £20. Tel 311953

RECLINER chair with matching armchair, autumn shades, can deliver, £60 (will separate). Tel 07881 917931

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Alice Springs



Happy 21st Birthday
10-10-10

to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden

on 1st Jan

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Fancy trying something new, never played Indoor Bowls before? Why not come along to the Oak Leaf Sports Complex and give it a go!

Our beginner's class start on 16th May, from 8.30-10.30, running for 12 weeks for only £1.00 per week. Just bring your own carpet slippers or bowling shoes if you have them, however don't worry if you don't, we have all the equipment needed. So go on do something different, phone Reception on 01325 300600 and book your place now.

Marathon Run Raised £500

Newtonian Susan Clark completed her first marathon at Sunderland on the 28th April in a respectful time of 4hrs 56 mins.

She would like to thank family and friends for the support you gave her, she couldn't have done it without you.

She would also like to thank family, friends and members of St. Mary's Church for sponsoring her and a fantastic amount of over £500 with some monies still to come, has been raised for research into Huntington's Disease.

Primary Schools in Woodham Football Tournament

Year 5 students from a number of the town's primary schools competed in the Woodham Sports Academy Year 5 Football Tournament. Bathed in glorious sunshine, participants from Stephenson Way, Heighington, Byerley Park, Aycliffe Village, Woodham Burn and St. Francis schools took part. The tournament was a culmination of an 8 week programme that has seen Woodham Academy Sports Staff, Liam Clough and Peter Watling, working alongside Premier Player Academy coaches, Neil Maddison and Andy Collett, in the primary schools.

In addition former Woodham student, Middlesbrough goalkeeper and their Player of the Year, Jason Steele was in attendance and assisted with the trophy and medal presentation. Woodham Sports Academy and tournament organiser, Liam Clough, said, "The afternoon was a resounding success with a very high standard of play in evidence. All participants should be proud of their level of performance." Congratulations to the team from Stephenson Way who picked up the trophy and were undefeated throughout.



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