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## New Council New Mayor



New Mayor Barbara Clare presents retiring Mayor Val Raw with a memento of her year in office.

A new Mayor was selected at the first meeting of Great Aycliffe Town Council last Wednesday. Councillor Val Raw handed over the Chairmanship and the chain of office to Barbara Clare who said it was a great honour and she will do her utmost to serve the town with dignity. Councillor Clare announced her chosen charities during her year of office as the Food Bank at St. Clare's Church and James Cook Hospital Heart Department which saves many lives including her own three years ago.



Wendy Hillary

Council. Wendy Hillary was elected as Deputy Mayor ensuring the post of Mayor is held by a woman for six consecutive years. Council. Bob Fleming proposed a Vote of Thanks to outgoing Mayor Val Raw and praised her work in representing the town, locally

and in the region. "This is Val's second term as Mayor and reports received indicate she has done a fine job" said Bob. With 26 Labour Councillors out of 30 members on the Council it was an easy job carving up committee jobs this year. The controlling group could afford to be generous and handed out committee places liberally to the four opposition members. The Leader and Deputy Leader was announced as Bob Fleming and John Clare. A number of Councillors are invited to join committees of town organisations and it



New Mayor Barbara Clare

was announced that more are available to serve if required. Contact the Town Clerk on 300700.

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OR Mince Pie, Peas & Gravy  
Fri - Roast Chicken Dinner  
OR Chicken Salad  
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**The Royal British Legion**  
*presents the show of the month*

Male Vocalist **Danny Stephens**  
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**ALL THREE ACTS ARE NEW TO THE CLUB**  
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chat and pick up a bargain . . .**

# Dance Academy Raises Over £2000 For Costumes

Aycliffe Dance Academy held a Family Fun Day to raise funds to buy student costumes for this year's Show! Hundreds of people attended the day which was held at the Academy's home, The Bethany Centre.

Members of the Academy and the public browsed stalls, got their faces and nails painted, played in the ball pool and on the bouncy castle and took part in activities such as Play Your Cards Right and The Ultimate Throwing Challenge!

The children (and adults) had a fantastic time; they even got the opportunity for a picture with Minnie Mouse and Fireman Sam which were kindly supplied by Party Palz North East.

The Fun Day was also a massive celebration to mark three years from when the Academy first opened back in 2010. There were balloons and banners decorated by the Academy's students dotted around the venue and the smell of cakes and hot dogs cooking in the kitchen enticed you in.

The day turned out to be a HUGE success and blew last year's total out of the water! £2003.75 was raised altogether which exceeded everyone's expectations!

Emma Cox, the Dance Principal of Aycliffe Dance Academy would like to thank everyone for their continued support over the last three years. She said that the support from the public, family and friends has been amazing and it comforts her to know that people of Newton Aycliffe are right



behind her.

Everyone is more than welcome to come along and support the show which 147 local children are taking part in! The show is being held on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th July at the Xcel Centre, Aycliffe Business

Park. Tickets go on sale on Friday 24th May between 5.30pm and 7.30pm at The Bethany Centre in Woodham. Any local businesses or individuals interested in sponsoring the show are asked to call Emma on 07908 162 868.



## FORMER COUNCILLOR THANKS ELECTORATE

Dear Sir,  
I would like to thank all the people in the Greenfield, Horndale Byerley Park, Bluebell and Middridge County Ward who have supported me over the past 14 years. It has been a pleasure to work with and for you all. Unfortunately the Ward Boundaries changed before the elections and I stood in West Ward and lost my seat. I made the wrong decision and I should have remained with the loyal people I have known for many years.

I will still carry out all my community work especially with young people, with my club New Friends New Places and older people. I am hoping to start a befriending group visiting older lonely people. I will still organise the Community Bus for all groups to use and offer to drive it if you do not have your own driver. Ring 308094 for details and or any help. Once again, thank you all Dorothy Bowman.

## Ex Councillor Gets Convicted Paedophile Removed

Despite losing her Council seat Dorothy Bowman is still active in her community. A very concerned resident in her ward asked her to help him on discovering a convicted paedophile, released from prison after serving 9 months of a 3 year sentence, was living next door to his young family. They had contacted Councillors, our MP, landlords and others to no avail.

He and his wife were sick with worry and thought their life had come crashing down, not daring to move from the house and constantly on the watch for their children. Dorothy acted immediately and using her experience contacted the right people to question how this could happen. The answer was that it should not have happened and the man was removed from the vicinity.

# SUMMER RAFFLE

Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club are holding a Grand Summer Raffle and prizes include an Acer Aspire V5 Laptop, Signed Liverpool Football Shirt, Flymo Easicut Cordless Hedge Trimmer, Nokia Lumia 800, Blackberry 8520 Curve, Mark Schwarzer Signed Goal Keeper Gloves and a 4 Ball Round at Woodham Golf Club plus many more fantastic prizes.

Tickets are priced at £1 each and are on sale now. Raffle to be drawn on Monday 8th July 2013. For tickets please email najfc@outlook.com

**The Royal British Legion**  
*presents top group*

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**THE TURBINIA**

**\* Saturday Night Live \***

*The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge*

**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

**Saturday 1st June - To Be Confirmed**

**Saturday 8th June - "Feed The Bear"**

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

*For more information on bands go to*

**www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034**

*Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke*

# HONEST JOHN AWARDED CHARITY STATUS



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Honest John is extremely happy running his stall in "The Cubby" and thanks Newton Press and Newton News for all their help in getting him settled in, including applying for Charity status from the UK Charity Commissioners on his behalf.

Paul Howarth, Director of Newton Press, is shown here presenting John with his charity certificate, Honest John's Charity is called "John's Aycliffe Community Kitty (JACK)" and Newton Press have also designed a website for John at [www.jack4.co.uk](http://www.jack4.co.uk)

John says he is delighted with the support he gets from the community and moving to the Cubby was the best outcome for him as he would have been worrying about finding the rent each week for a town centre shop and it would have reduced the amount of money he could donate to town organisations and charities.

"Newton Press have saved my life and given me a new purpose in life, I am so happy now, with no worries about storage, getting up at 5am on market day, or any other matters. I can just concentrate on selling and receiving goods from the generous people of Newton Aycliffe," said John.

"As Aycliffe's Community Newspaper Newton News have been keen to support John in his charity work because we see him as a community champion. Giving all his time and energy to help others is highly commendable and John is an inspiration to many" said Paul Howarth.

**THANK YOU**

Dear Sir,  
To all the people that voted in Durham County Council Elections, unfortunately with 598 votes I was unsuccessful, but fortunately I will still be representing Aycliffe Village on Great Aycliffe Town Council and can be contacted at anytime on 01325 788893 or mobile 07772 921166  
Yours thankfully  
Bill Blenkinsopp

# Disappointment of Oak Leaf User

No discretion for customer of 30 years

Dear Sir,  
Being a member and regular user of the Sports Complex for more than 30 years I am saddened by the intransigence and total lack of common sense shown by the current management regime to the degree that loyalty and judgement are now a latent quality.

Recently due to illness it was prudent for me to cancel a squash court and having provided 2 days notice was surprised to be informed by the receptionist that I was in default being liable for the £5.50 hire charge because I'd only given 46.5 hours notice instead of the requisite 48. The reasoning being that due to short notice they would probably be unable to re-hire the court, this was regardless of the fact that all the remaining 3 courts were still available.

I appealed to the manager Judith Simpson without success and so contacted Town Council Officer Christine Walton only for her to state that it was

council policy to charge regardless of circumstances and dismissed my plea for exemption on the analogy that if I'd tried to board an aeroplane after the gates had closed I wouldn't expect to gain access to the flight!

It is a sad indictment of our public services that even in these austere times our elected local government employees are unable to show any form of discretion or common sense and do not appear to have the ability to discriminate between bone-fide and bogus claims.

In effect the Sports Complex management are charging faithful and long standing patrons for facilities that haven't been used or caused any loss of revenue to the Council.

Derreck Pinkney  
Haselrigg Close

**WANTED**

Dear Sir,  
The Cubby are urgently looking for new, reliable volunteers due to an increase in customers. If anybody is interested please contact The Cubby on 01325 307449 between 9am and 1pm or pop in and ask for Bill or Sally.

**TRANSIT VAN SPARE WHEEL THEFTS**

Over recent weeks thieves have been stealing the spare wheels from transit vans located throughout Newton Aycliffe. The most recent incidents have taken place in Lightfoot Road, Stephenson Way, Bluebell Close, Henderson Road and Ross Walk. If anyone has any information which can assist with these offences please contact the Police on Tel: 101

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Do you have that special 'unique' outfit hanging in your wardrobe that you have worn once or never worn at all?  
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We stock quality unworn/worn once outfits to suit any occasion ie: Wedding, Day at the Races, Nights Out, Evening and Cocktail Dresses.

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COME TO OUR **OPEN DAY** ON **SATURDAY 1st JUNE from 12noon-5pm**  
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# Free Transport

Free Door to Door Transport to Silverdale Community House when you visit our KNIT, CHAT AND A GAME OF BINGO Club - £2 entry, every Monday from 12.30pm until 2.30pm. Come along and learn to knit, or if you can knit, come along and bring your knitting/crocheting and have a coffee and a game of Bingo. Everybody welcome. All ages. Come and meet new friends, don't sit at home

by yourself every day... Give it a try, please do not be shy!  
Ring 01325 308094 or 07967 901477 to be collected and for further details.

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

**15 FREE HOURS**

## Fear over Council Tax Rises for Singletons

Council Tax Advisors predicts public outrage at the Local Government Association (LGA), which is seeking to abolish the 25% council tax discount given to single person households.

The LGA, the national voice of local government, works with councils to support, promote and improve local authorities.

Following the abolition of council tax benefits and the creation in its place of Council Tax Support in April, the number of people struggling with council tax arrears has increased.

As reported in The Daily Mail, Communities Secretary, Eric Pickles, referred to the potential removal of the discount as the 'Bridget Jones tax'. According to The Daily Mail, more than seven million people are thought to receive the 25% discount. Abolishing it is likely to incur the anger of people living alone, who, typically, would see their council tax bill increase by an estimated £30 a month for a Band D property.

Chris Richards, MD and Founder of Council Tax Advisors, says, "Taking away the 25% council tax discount for single occupants will hit the most disadvantaged parts of Britain hardest. The cutback of funding in cash terms will be more drastic in areas where council tax benefit spending is higher." Council Tax Advisors recently predicted a 10% rise in the number of people falling behind with their council tax as a result of the elimination of Council Tax Benefits in April 2013. It also believes that the number of debtors vulnerable to bailiff action will increase by around 25%. Despite this, the LGA is calling for councils to be given full and unconstrained local powers to vary all council tax discounts, including the single person's discount.

## PACE Take Over Red Cross for a Day



The British Red Cross had a take over day on Friday 17th May. Paula Bruce, Manager invited PACE to come along for the day which was a great opportunity for us to get the local community involved within the society and to help promote the British Red Cross and of course the wonderful work of the PACE Shop. Vanessa Scott staff member of PACE came along with Colin Dunn, Jill Howard and Eileen Heslop at 10am until 2pm. Colin, Jill and Eileen were very keen to get started. Colin really enjoyed doing the CDs and DVDs. Colin has been a regular customer and always likes to buy CDs and DVDs it was heart warming to see the look on Colin's face of pure satisfaction once the job was finished. Jill and Eileen were of

great help putting plenty of garments out for the many customers to see, both were very keen to help customers find what they were looking for and Jill enjoyed being on the till, especially taking customers cash from them. Eileen was keen to put the purchases into the bags and together we all managed to keep the customers happy. Jill was very keen to help and make sure customers were greeted with a smile. Eileen managed to put a lot of new stock out to keep customers interest looking

through the rails. Vanessa was sorting through the many donations, she also became a real pro at hanging and tagging garments. Thanks to Vanessa, steaming the garments, we were able to keep Eileen busy putting them out. As the manager, I would like to express my thanks to all concerned. We all had a fantastic time together learning new skills. Now we have gained three new volunteers!! Paula Bruce

## COMEDY NIGHT AT CRICKET CLUB

After the success of the sell out Comedy Night featuring Steffen Peddie, Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club have arranged a second fund raising evening on Friday 7th June from 7.30pm at Moore Lane Sports Club. Top of the bill on this occasion is the hilarious Aiden Jay who was voted Comedian of the Year in 2000. With over 20 years experience Aiden has toured the country's Comedy Clubs as well as appearing



on TV and Radio. He has also travelled the world entertaining in holiday resorts and on cruise ships and is delighted to have had been asked once again to join the best of the best which is Thomson's Gold Entertainment.

In addition to Aiden, Inaspin Roadshow will again be providing the music and a Hog Roast, supplied by Piggan Lush Hog Roast, is also included in the price. A vegetarian option will also be available.

Tickets priced £8 (including food) are available from Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, from any member of Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club Committee or by phoning 07976 392 173.

## FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE SCOUT CENTRE

On Monday 27th May from 1pm - 4pm there will be a Family Fun Day at the Scout Centre, the bar will be open from 12 noon till late.

There will be raffle, tombolas, face painting, a BBQ and much much more, with some of the children's activities free... so come along enjoy yourself.

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## FAMILY FUN DAY AT GREENFIELD ARTS



We are busy finalising the plans for our exciting free Family Fun Day at Greenfield Arts which will take place on Saturday 1st June. The day has been kindly funded by GAMP AAP, as part of the "Out of the Bag" project, which aimed to encourage families to be more creative and work together.

The project has been a great opportunity for Greenfield Arts to work with some of our local community centre partners, Agnew Community Centre and Woodham Community Centre, who have hosted "Out of the Bag" workshops over the past few months. This partnership working will continue into the "Free Family Fun Day," where other local partners will also be involved, including One Point, GAMP and Wecan Parents Group from Greenfield.

We would like to say thank you to those partners involved in the project, and the upcoming fun day event - we hope it will be a great success!

The "Out of the Bag" Free Family Fun Day will take place at Greenfield Arts on Saturday 1st June, from 10am to 3pm with drop in activities all day. The event is free and everyone is welcome. For more details please visit our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk)

## NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

This Summer we are organising a variety of day trips:

1 - York on 8th June. Depart from Byerley Park School at 8.50am; Station at 8.55am; St Clares bus stop 9am; Aycliffe Village 9.10am; Heighington 9.20am. Return by 6pm. Cost £12.

2 - Alnwick Gardens 29th June. Pick up as above. Return by 7pm. Cost £12.

3 - Scarborough, 13th July. Pick up as above. Return by 6pm. Cost £12. To book ring Peter Beaty on 313924.

We were highly delighted to have the Aycliffe & Brancepeth Brass Band last weekend and they absolutely excelled themselves, what a super way to spend a Sunday afternoon. We wish to record our thanks for giving us your afternoon, it was great.

We are trying to bring carpet bowls into our centre, commencing 13th June. To show an interest ring 313924

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# Library Snack & Story Sessions



Reception age children who will be starting school in September 2013 are enjoying the opportunity to get to know their new classmates in a 'Snack and Story' session offered by the Children's Centre at Newton Aycliffe Library.

First up this week were the parents and children of Byerley Park Primary School. The children enjoyed stories, games and a snack before having the opportunity to join the library and borrow books.

Each school in Newton Aycliffe has taken up the offer of sessions and will be contacting the parents of their new starters directly.

Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre will be offering more fun sessions for each individual school in the next few weeks. Parents will be contacted directly by the schools concerned.

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY COURSES AT OAK LEAF

Half Term will soon be here, so how do you keep the children amused? Why not enroll them on one of our holiday courses at Oak Leaf Sports Complex.

Our activities include Archery, Crafty Kids, and Sporting Fun all for children aged 8-15years. We are also hosting a Mini Activity Session for the little ones, aged 4-7years. For further information on any of the above courses or to book your place, contact Reception on 300600 or go to our web site, www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk and follow the links, but hurry as all courses have limited availability and are very popular.

# FRIGHT NIGHT FILM AS YOU CAMP IN HAMSTERLEY FOREST

Season of chillers set in spooky surrounds will scare even the most hardened horror fans. A cinematic experience more immersive than any 3D blockbuster will thrill film fans this summer when a season of scary movies is unleashed in Hamsterley Forest and further afield. Needless to say, the feint-hearted should think twice before attending.

Working with the Forestry Commission, Picnic Cinema organisers, Eden Arts have carefully selected horror films and shocking thrillers befitting the fearful forest surroundings to create a unique cinematic experience that will be remembered long after the credits have finished.

This year's screening at Hamsterley is a camping event - where filmgoers set up camp before the films begin and can enjoy a whole night of fun, feasting and fright - a good night's sleep is hardly guaranteed after the cinematic terrors of the evening.

Dress up and grab a drink from the 'horse box bar' but expect some surprises and unusual goings on. Zombie runs, edible insects and themed quizzes and prizes are all part of the entertainment.

Adrian Lochhead, Director of Eden Arts and Picnic Cinema said "The forest screenings last year were an absolute highlight; it's just the maddest idea we have

had to take a huge cinema screen and plunk it down in the middle of nowhere and show classic films. The audience response last year was fantastic, I think everyone realizes that it's something special, an opportunity to do something that is really

out of the ordinary. That we will also be camping in some of the forests this year is an amazing development - particularly when you consider the films that go with that camping!!" To subscribe and receive more information visit [www.picniccinema.co.uk](http://www.picniccinema.co.uk).

**Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club** in conjunction with **Durham County Council** are pleased to present a **Tribute to the Paralympics Legacy** with the **Newton Aycliffe & Area Games for Children & Young People with Disabilities**

**Sunday 23rd June 2013**  
10.00am to 2.30pm

**Shildon Leisure Centre**  
Midridge Lane, Shildon DL4 2EP

for children aged 8 to 16 years of age  
Professional coaches will be on hand to advise and assist athletes compete in Running, Jumping, Wheelchair and Throwing events plus Boccia.

Anyone between these ages as at 1st July 2013 should apply for an application form from **Michael Dalton** (Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club)  
17 Sunningdale, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4TS  
Tel: 01325 320499 or 07954 290711  
Email: [madmike127@hotmail.com](mailto:madmike127@hotmail.com)

*All forms must be returned by 7th June 2013*

# Greenfield College Surprise Performance



Last Monday students from Greenfield Community College promoted fitness and Dance through a one off Flash Mob style performance. Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts Dance students went out into the community to stimulate awareness of fitness and how this can be achieved through dance. The group performed in the reception area of Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

We would like to thank Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre for agreeing to host the flash mob. Also, thanks to Miss L. Wall from Teesside University for leading the project. Well done girls!

# INNER WHEEL SPONSOR BLIND AFRICAN BOY

After hearing a moving account of the plight of children in the Kumi tribe in Uganda by Mrs Elspeth Robinson, who supports the charity, the Inner Wheel decided to finance the schooling of one of the children. Lazarus, a blind boy of twelve, was chosen and having had no education he now attends a nearby school for the blind and the club have supplied him with the necessary clothes and books. They will continue to do so for the duration of his



schooling. If you wish to help, please contact Liz Bates on 310 182.

**Councillors' Surgery**

On Saturday 1st June, from 11.00am to 12noon a Ward Surgery will be held in St Mary's Church Meeting Room. County and Town Councillors representing Neville, Shafto/St Mary's and Central Wards of the Town will be in attendance.



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## COLOUR YOUR LIFE CELEBRATORY ART EXHIBITION

A new exhibition has been put up throughout the Pioneering Care Centre showcasing some of the fantastic art work that has been produced in the second year of Colour your Life. The exhibition will officially open on Monday 3 June at 11.30am. Everyone is welcome to take a tour around the Centre to view the brilliant displays and enjoy some refreshments with the artists. Art sessions with professional artist Tina Fuller will also be taking place in the Stephens Room so feel free to pop along to see what's involved in the Colour Your Life project or have a go yourself.

Carol Wood, PCP Business Development Director explained, "PCP delivers 'Colour Your Life' across East Durham with funding from Durham County Council. It aims to provide free access to creative activities to promote positive mental health and wellbeing. The exhibition includes many of the crafts participants have produced with guidance from professional artists who are working in the marketplace today."

The weekly Colour your Life sessions take place at the Pioneering Care Centre on Mondays 10am-12noon and 1-3pm, Tuesdays 6-8pm. There is also a family session after school on Tuesdays 3.30-5.30pm. An additional adult session also occurs at the Settlement Centre in Spennymoor on Thursdays 10am-12noon.

All classes take place in pleasant surroundings and give everyone the chance to learn new skills, make new friends and relax in a friendly atmosphere.

For more information about 'Colour Your Life' please contact the team on 01325 321234, email colouryourlife@pcp.uk.net visit www.colouryourlife.org.uk

## THANK YOU

Dear Sir,  
The members of the Inner Wheel Club of Newton Aycliffe would like to thank everyone for their support at their recent Fashion Show. The event, which was held to support Cancer Research and Local Charities, raised £870. Thank you  
Gail Anderson

## Does County Know Aycliffe Exists?

Residents would have received the recent "Durham County News" magazine through their door, courtesy of our County Council.

Scouring the 32 page publication there is not one item referring to Newton Aycliffe, the largest populated town in the Authority's area. Surely there is enough

happening in Newton Aycliffe to be shared with the rest of the County to show we are alive and kicking?

There was a bit about the Wildcats Basketball Team but the editorial team missed the opportunity to say the games were played in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. There was nothing either in five pages of "What's on" in the county. Newton News manages to produce a 16 page weekly newspaper with lots of items of local interest which could be featured in the County Council magazine.

It should be more representative of the County with invitations to our Councillors to submit items of interest to this publication.

Hopefully when the redevelopment of our shopping centre is complete it might merit a mention to raise awareness and tempt people in County Durham to visit our town.

## FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE SCOUT CENTRE

THE FAMILY FUN and CLASSIC CAR SHOW are TWO events 'not to be missed' at The Scout Centre on Bluebell Way Newton Aycliffe. The family fun day, organised by the Newton Aycliffe Scout Supporters Association is on Bank Holiday Monday 27th May between 1.00pm and 4.00pm.

There is free entertainment for the children, face painting, tombola, raffle, stalls, BBQ and much more to keep the family entertained, and the bar will be open to keep the Mams and Dads happy. This event is your chance to come along to the Scout

centre and see what we have to offer.

Various groups use the centre and it may be a suitable venue for your group - we have a few unused slots and they may be suitable for you.

The hall can be booked for parties, meetings, etc. The hire charges are very reasonable - afternoon hire at weekends 12.30 to 4.30 is from £25. Membership of the Association is £2 per year, new members are always welcome.

We can be contacted on 01325 318 901 when the premises are open, or a message can be left and we will get back to you.

## Classic Vehicles to Roar into Aycliffe



THERE'S a great day out in store for all the family in Newton Aycliffe on Sunday 2nd June when there will be classic and vintage vehicles on display. The show will take place in the car park of the Scouts Club from 10am to 4pm and will feature vehicles from around the region.

The event is organised by "The Northern Bygones Society" - a club set up last year, and which is open to anyone who is interested in vintage or classic vehicles or indeed any vintage collectables.

It's free to see the show or to enter a vehicle in it. Entries are welcomed from TNBS members and non-members alike. Paul Jackson, TNBS

Founder, said: "We are

delighted to be coming to Newton Aycliffe's Scouts Club.

"This is a great opportunity for older people to take a trip down memory lane and for younger one's it's a wonderful chance to see some pieces of living history".

It's a great event for all the family, why not make a day of it and visit Newton Aycliffe Scouts Club. The Scouts will be selling hot dogs, bacon and sausage butties, curries, spaghetti bolognese, cakes, scones, tea, coffee and juice. There will also be a Table Top Sale, and a Tombola.

For more information about the show contact Paul Jackson on 312183 or 07968 367438. or visit www.northernbygones.org.uk

## Aycliffe Food Bank Receive Delivery of Donated Food



Horndale Residents Association, in cooperation with the Newton Aycliffe Evangelical Church, the local Police Team, house builder Gallifordtry and Livin collected much needed food that will feed between 5-8 families for 3 days.

The Food Bank works out of St Clare's Church on Wednesday and Friday between 1.30 and 3.00 and is always thankful for food donations to help the ever increasing people in need, they also require some more volunteers, if you can help to give a few hours a fortnight it would relieve the work load of the committed and wonderful volunteers without them a lot of people would be worse off.

The Food Bank are looking for more drop off points for donated food in shops, factories and businesses so if you know of any where a small bin could be placed it would boost their work. The volunteers would collect any donations when required. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far and hope we can continue to help the Food Banks fantastic and much needed work.

Philip Clark, Horndale Residents Association

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# Mayor Raised Over £6,500 for Charity



Mayor Val Raw shown here with her Secretary Christine Ryder after announcing her charity fundraising on behalf of Butterwick Hospice and donations to Combat Stress, Excel Food Bank and St Clare's Food Bank amounted

to over £6,511.00. In her final address she thanked everyone for their support and remarked on the wonderful year she had enjoyed as Mayor visiting schools, factories and many civic events.

# WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Newton Aycliffe WI have had to change their monthly venue to St Clare's Church Hall due to expanding membership. We have outgrown the previous venue 'The Cubby' and would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hospitality over the years. At the first meeting in the new venue, on the 14th May, the speaker was Kathleen Hamilton from Durham Green Lane Produce, where she exhibited her wide range of local produce. Our next meeting is due to be held again at our new venue, St Clare's Church Hall, on Tuesday 11th June at 7pm when our speaker will be 'Local Motion'. We would like to welcome new members or visitors from other WI's in the area. For more information, please contact Lynn Tel 01325 314805



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Burn Lane Dirt Track

Dear Sir,  
Several months ago now - at least - there was an article in your columns regarding the state of the road surface on the stretch of Burn Lane that runs from the Cobblers Hall pub towards Middridge Road. In that article was a response from the relevant authorities, in effect, promising that the contractor that had resurfaced the road, albeit badly, had been contacted and made aware of the state it was in. Supposedly the said contractor was going to return to re-do the road again in the not too distant future if I remember correctly. How many months ago was that now? I only use this stretch of road occasionally, however the residents of Cobblers Hall and anyone else that uses it on a daily basis must be getting tired of having to drive up and down what can only be described as little more than a dirt track. Surely the unevenness of

the surface of this road will increase the wear and tear factor it has upon peoples tyres, not to mention to a lesser extent but, I suspect, still relevant, the shock absorbers, suspension etc. Obviously the relevant people at County Hall do not use this road otherwise, perhaps, I might not find myself writing this article, as no doubt it would have been rectified months ago. Maybe it is time the people of Newton Aycliffe collectively refused to pay their Road Fund Duty and see if this accelerates an already well overdue repair. Perhaps someone from County Hall would like to shed some light on why this unacceptable situation has been allowed to endure. Ian Archbold, Woodham

## COUNTY COUNCIL REPLY

*Burn Lane was resurfaced last year by the method of surface dressing. The work was carried out by Kiely Bros. Kiely Bros won a competitively tendered (price/quality) tender to deliver a 5 year programme of works. They are just about to commence the 4th year of the contract.*

*We were aware during the winter months this site had failed and therefore contacted Kiely Bros. As determined in the contract Kiely Bros will resurface the road at their own cost. Surface Dressing is weather dependent and therefore must be completed during the summer months for the best results. Kiely Bros will be returning to Durham in June and the resurfacing of Burn Lane will take place, weather permitting, in the 1st week of June.*

*Paul Anderson  
Assistant Policy and Asset Manager*

### New Governor at Woodham Academy



Jordan McAteer has become Woodham Academy's fourth student governor. He will join the Governing Body to make sure that students' views are heard. Jordan applied to become a student governor because he wanted to make an impact on the school and the community. He says "Achievement for All is and rightly should be the schools motto because everyone has some sort of talent that is achievable and grade wise as well everyone has a chance to achieve in this school because it is a great school and I love being a student here. The school is very quickly improving in many areas and I like the thought of being part of this." Headteacher, Christine Forsyth, says "It is right and proper that students are represented at the highest level at Woodham Academy, because Woodham is their school. I am delighted that Jordan has been appointed and know that he will be a worthy successor to our previous student governors Richie Howe, Josie Eldridge and Callum Scott, all of whom have been great ambassadors for Woodham."

### Xcel Singer's Record Launch



Nikki Hopkins a Gospel singer, from Darlington is a regular fixture of the Xcel Church Music team. She will be launching her new record next Wednesday 22nd May. The lead single has already seen her invited to perform at the "Big Church Day Out" this year.

# EVENING SERVICE TO BEGIN AT HISTORIC CHAPEL

Residents in South West Durham are being invited to attend the first regular evening service to be held at the historic St Peter's Chapel located within Auckland Castle, Bishop Auckland. The evening worship, the first regular public service to be held at the former residence of the Bishop of Durham, will take place on the fourth Sunday of every month from 4-5pm, starting on Sunday, 26th May. Led by Rev. Dr. Caroline Friswell, the priest in charge at St Peter's Church in Byers Green, the new Service is designed to appeal to members of the community who don't regularly attend church, with each monthly service differing in style ranging from traditional to contemporary and involving a variety of choirs and musicians from the local area. During the first service on Sunday May, 26, those attending can expect a traditional evening prayer with organist and traditional hymns. Future services will include contemporary worship with modern songs led by

various music groups and choirs, and Book of Common Prayer Evensong with choirs.

Rev. Dr. Caroline Friswell is keen to hear from Christian musicians 01388 609436.

## Local Pastor Cycles Coast to Coast for Charity

Pastor John Greenow is getting on his bike on the 4th June! You may have noticed him cycling around the town with a yellow jacket on, well now the challenge is on to go from Whitehaven to Sunderland in 3 days. "It's something I've wanted to do for about ten years and finally managed to get the opportunity" said John. "I realise that many people have completed it, so it's not exactly a Guinness book of records feat, but for me it's a big deal! I'm fundraising for the charity 'cloud nine' through which we as a church sponsor many local projects to help the people of Newton Aycliffe such as a food bank, practical help for people in need, children's clubs in the community, so all of the money raised is



making a difference in our own community. I would love it if you would sponsor me!" To sponsor John or to check out more information on the ride, go to [www.just-giving.com/john-greenow](http://www.just-giving.com/john-greenow) or drop into the Xcel Centre with your donation. Thanks for your support! [www.xcelchurch.com](http://www.xcelchurch.com)

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**LISLE ROAD Newton Aycliffe**

Modern refurbished 2 bedroomed terraced house in pleasant area, unfurnished with carpets, blinds, fitted oven and hob. Entrance hall, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen, 1 double & 1 decent single bedroom, bathroom/WC with overhead shower. GCH, enclosed lawned rear garden with patio, front open plan lawned garden, parking space. Rent £485 pcm



**Hawthorne Drive Newton Aycliffe**

4 bedroomed modern detached house in pleasant situation unfurnished with carpets, blinds, fitted appliances, robes. Hall, stairs WC, fitted kitchen, lounge. Modern feature fire. French doors to adjoining dining room glazed doors into lounge, family room, 3 double & 1 single bedroom, family bathroom/WC, en suite shower/WC. Gas CH, gardens with decking, parking. Rent £750 pcm



**Zetland Hunt Newton Aycliffe**

3 bedroomed semi detached house, unfurnished with carpets, curtains & cooker. Entrance hall, lounge/diner with feature fireplace joined by archway, fitted kitchen, utility, 2 double & 1 small single bedroom, bathroom/WC with overhead shower. Gas CH, gardens, garage & parking. EPC rating D. Rent £525 pcm.



**Belford Way Newton Aycliffe**

Modernised 2 bedroomed detached bungalow, unfurnished recently refurbished in good condition. Entrance hall, lounge/diner with stove-effect gas fire. Kitchen, inner hall, bathroom/WC with overhead shower, 1 double & 1 single bedroom, conservatory. Gas CH, front & rear gardens (rear South-facing), parking. Rent £495 pcm

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# AYCLIFFE FELL WALKERS

Only the rain fell for Aycliffe Fell Walkers on Saturday, 18th May. On a damp day when the weather forecasters got it right, 39 AFWC members, including two new 'arrivals', boarded the coach to Ambleside with the intention of walking to Coniston in the Southern Lake District. Undeterred by the rain, most alighted at Ambleside and perhaps rather appropriately, 'ambled off' - but in different directions; hesitating to refer to their maps and risk getting them wet! Group members eventually reunited and, acknowledging

that there was low cloud all around with little chance of encountering spectacular views, determined that low-level walking was the order of the day. Once out of Ambleside the group stayed close to the course of the River Brathay as far as Skelwith Bridge, where they were able to take advantage of a chance coffee morning at the village hall. Maps were studied over a warming cup of coffee but no sooner had they resumed the walk than they promptly lost their way again, due of course to the incessant heavy rain. The satisfying remedy to

all this was that later, after a stop for some lunch, the path required that the group begin to ascend somewhat. Fortunately, this was just as the clouds began to roll away and the rain eased to a stop! At this point the group were able to appreciate glimpses of distant hill-tops; an easy descent toward Tarn Hows followed. The variety of greens, newly nourished by the rain, brought the scenery alive - and several other visitors were encountered taking a stroll round the tarn. The group lingered by a well-visited money tree (no more room to insert further coins!) and then, passing lots of newly born lakeland lambs and umpteen signs saying Coniston 1.5 miles, eventually arrived into Coniston village. They found the coach and were able to change into warm dry clothing before heading for the local brew house. Excellent locally-brewed ales were enjoyed and a cheerful journey back home ensued! "Does anyone know any songs by Wet, Wet, Wet?" Visit [www.afwc.org.uk](http://www.afwc.org.uk) for details of further walks during 2013.

**LOCAL Business News** Sponsored by  
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## Social Media Workshop

Friday, 31st May, 2013  
08.30 - 09.45  
The Hub, Aycliffe Business Park

Do you feel a bit of a twit about twitter?  
Is FaceBook a blank page?  
Has Linked-in got you locked out?

Don't be anti-social! Love it or loathe it, social media is now part of the business landscape. Do you want to join the conversation? If so, what do you need to be aware of? How do you approach it? This event will provide you with a brief overview of the most relevant and accessible applications as well as providing you with areas for consideration before taking the leap! We will take a look at what to do, how to do it, some tools which may help, as well as a candid view of the advantages and disadvantages to consider. Ultimately, like all promotional or communication-led activities, social media works best when driven by strategic intent - again, we'll share our experience and tips for success in this area too! We will also be offering one attendee the opportunity of a free social media evaluation and consultancy session. Details will be given on the day. Places are limited and allocated on a first come first served. Register your place here: <http://absocialmediaworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk/>

## Apprentice Challenge at Woodham Academy



Over the past 6 weeks students at Woodham Academy have been involved in an Apprenticeship challenge with local company Gestamp Tallent. Six students have worked in groups to design, develop and produce a concept one-person transport system. Students took their final ideas and presented them as a sales pitch to a group of company managers during a recruitment day. In the course of the day students found out what it was like to participate in a formal interview, completing an assessment task and having a plant tour. By working with the company, students got the experience of going through a real life recruitment process and gained interview skills for the future. The challenge concluded with a formal presentation at school by Peter Gallone, the company director of operations. The overall winner, James Newton, was offered an apprenticeship with the company. James said "this has been an excellent opportunity to give me both experience of applying for apprenticeships and also valuable interview skills." Deputy Headteacher, Jonathan Lumb commented "The apprenticeship link with Gestamp Tallent goes from strength to strength. We are delighted to continue to work with such an impressive company. Our Year 11 students are very fortunate to have this opportunity and to gain a real apprenticeship at this company."

Newton News Readers Pets Photographs



Rachael Small's cat Heather sunbathing

# Redworth Hall Event for Cancer Research

On Saturday 8th June Redworth Hall Health and Leisure Club are holding a Pink Day in aid of Cancer Research. It starts with a Fancy Dress Morning Bootcamp from 9am-10am. This is followed by an Ultimate Beach Body class. In the afternoon a children's football session takes place from 1pm-3pm. A Mini Golf Tournament charged at £2 per entry. There will be various activities throughout the day and a Cake and Coffee stall will be available. All proceeds to Cancer Research Funds. Sunday 9th June is the Race for Life in Darlington and the Redworth Hall team are participating in the event. A Beauty stall will be provided for leg and foot massages with all donations to Cancer Research. Redworth Hall is offering facility day pass for all runners and volunteers. Also the first month's membership for anyone who joins the club in June is to be donated to the charity. For all enquiries or to book - ring 01388 770649. Email: [redworthhall.leisuremgr@pumahotels.co.uk](mailto:redworthhall.leisuremgr@pumahotels.co.uk) Rochella Cutler T: 01388 770600

# Two Week Fun Fair Annoyed Neighbours

Dear Sir,  
How disgusting was it to allow a Fairground to operate in the car park at the Huntsman Public House for two weeks. This is a residential area with families and young children living close by. The music was so loud people could not enjoy the peace of their own homes. The litter generated from this fair was also unbelievable, and I would like to know who gave permission for this? Everyone I have spoken to who live in the area close to the fair have expressed their concerns, but seem to want someone else to complain. I just hope that this is not going to be a regular event.  
Vera McCord  
Editor: We have contacted the County Council and await their reply.

## GET INTO GOLF

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

## Gold for Stephenson Way



On Wednesday 1st May; Lee, Allannah and Jessica from Stephenson Way Community Primary School joined forces with Georgina from Hardwick School at a Primary Boccia Festival. The team played several matches and they were undefeated, earning them a gold medal and a place in the upcoming County finals. This is a fantastic achievement and all staff and pupils at Stephenson Way would like to wish them luck in this event.

## Rotary Disabled Games

Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club in conjunction with Durham County Council are pleased to present the Newton Aycliffe and Area Games for Children and Young People with Disabilities.

To be held on Sunday 23rd June at Shildon Leisure Centre, Middridge Lane, Shildon DL4 2EP for children aged 8 to 16 years of age from 10am to 2.30pm.

Professional coaches will be on hand on the day to advise and assist athletes compete in Running, Jumping, Wheelchair and Throwing events plus Boccia.

See our ad on page 5 for more details or ring Michael Dalton on 01325 320499 or 07954 290711.

## Courtney in County Finals

Courtney came first in the Long jump last week in the South West Durham Schools Athletics Championships whilst representing Greenfield. She will now represent South West Durham in the English Schools Athletics County Durham Finals next month.

Courtney is also one of Greenfield Adistar Sports Leaders, in addition to being a gifted and talented athlete. She has recently gained her athletics leadership qualification, to add to her tennis leaders, inclusion training and swimming leadership qualifications. She is certainly leading



by example, still finding time for her own training in athletics, badminton and dance, in addition to the time she gives to others. She has logged over 100 hours of leadership/volunteering hours. She gives her time to support younger children in a wide range of sports and activities, but particularly athletics through her involvement with Shildon Athletics Club and Greenfield Athletics Club. She is one of a number of inspiring leaders at the school who work with teachers and coaches on a weekly basis to enhance the schools out of school hours provision. Well done Courtney and good luck in the County finals.

## Sedgefield 75 Swimming Success Again



Sedgefield 75 swimming club took part in the annual Wear Valley May Gala and came away with 11 gold, 5 silver and 9 bronze along with 87% of all races entered being personal best times, Grace Dutchburn (14) lead the way with 4 gold 2 bronze, followed by Kye Cowton (15) 2 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze, Zac Hodgkinson (12) 2 gold and 1 Silver, William Angus (14) 1 gold, 1 silver and 4 bronze, Alyssa Craggs (12) and Claudia Chapman (11) both won 1 gold & 1 bronze each and Jordane Salmon (13), Damian Lawson (11), Sophie Wilkinson (11) and Lauren Chat (11) all achieved best times.

Attending Coach Lee Craggs commented "this was an outstanding performance considering teams from as far as Sheffield and Newcastle entered this event with some good swimmers, the hard work and dedication is certainly paying off as this comes off the back of national and regional success for our senior swimmers".

Also that weekend two swimmers competed at the Open Gala at Sunderland, Mathew Bradley came away with Gold in the 50 and 100 Freestyle and Silver in the 100 Butterfly, Hannah Featherstone won Gold in 400 Freestyle.

## Athletic Achievements at Stephenson Way

On Tuesday 21st May a group of children from Stephenson Way Community Primary School attended an athletics event ran by Sedgefield SSP at Shildon Track. All of the children did an excellent job and did Stephenson Way proud. Further congratulations go to Ebony, Owen, Katie and James for winning their events and gaining a place in the county finals on Friday 28th June 2013.



## SHILDON ATHLETICS

Shildon's athletes have had another busy week competing in events across the region. Taking place at Shildon's stadium 2000 on the 16/5/2013 were the Wear Valley Schools District Championships.

Aycliffe lass and Greenfields pupil Courtney Mills soared to a gold medal in the U15 girls long jump which set the scene for other Shildon athletes to win their events. Ciara Hughes (u15g 100m) and Lizzie Cramb (u15g 800m) followed Courtneys lead to record victories with these athletes now eligible to go through to the County Schools Championships taking place on the 08/6/2013.

A contingent of middle distance athletes was led by Cameron Boyek at Jarrow's Monkton Stadium on the 15/5/2013. Cameron opened his outdoor account for the season by racing to first place in the senior men's 3000m and his time of 8m 34s took him to no.4 in the U.K. rankings for the event. The junior men's 800m event was next in the programme where Michael Bleasby ran a solid 2m 00.2s. Representing the girl's Lizzie Cramb (u15g) also competed in the 800m and recorded a pb of 2m 32.1s which was enough for 2nd place in her race.

Younger athletes from the club were also in action this week, participating in the Gateshead Minors meeting. Aycliffe resident Rachel Bennett (u12g) and Leah Rutherford (u11g) did the club proud with both girls recording competitive times for their age groups.

Not to be forgotten club runners participated in the town's 5k Park Run which takes place at 9am each Saturday. Chloe Fairclough and James Trotter crossed the line in overall 8th and 9th place, with both recording pb's for the course.

Shildon Running & Athletic Club is open to anyone from the age of 8 upwards. If you are interested in joining the club please come along for a free try out session. For details of club nights and times to suit your age group please check out [www.shildonrunning.co.uk](http://www.shildonrunning.co.uk) or email secretary@shildonrunning.co.uk

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# RUGBY CLUB APPOINT NEW HEAD COACH

Pete has been a player member of the club since 1983 and has enjoyed spells with Bishop Auckland and Sedgfield collecting division champion medals and cup winning medals throughout his career. He has been involved with Aycliffe coaching on and off for several years and helped develop a youth team in the 90's from which some of those young lads went on to feature for Darlington, Durham City and Darlington Mowden Park over the years. Pete has recently been involved with youth coaching at Bishop Auckland. He has acquired Level 3 coaching standard with the RFU. He decided to return to his home club to offer his vast experience as coach, after deciding to retire from playing and help develop a squad at Aycliffe with promotion from Durham and Northumberland division 3 in mind. He hopes to consolidate the current coaching staff and club physio to build a mixed squad of youth and experienced players.

Pete said, "I'm looking forward to this challenge and would love to help put Newton Aycliffe firmly back on the rugby map, and show the teams beyond South West Durham area we can be a tough team to beat. I'm really hoping to work with a big squad, as some old heads like me have retired so we are looking for new players. Our

strength is our speedy backs but we are looking to improve the all-round performance levels as well as strengthen the forwards. If anyone fancies trying out rugby or has experience but not currently attached to a club come down and introduce yourselves and join in with some fitness sessions and then we will bring in ball handling skills before we move on to the contact and tactical training closer to the start of the new season. The more the merrier".

Pete is also interested in players who are leaving school this year who would like to play the sport at club level. Special training sessions will be set aside to coincide with the current squad and players who reach the age of 17 will be eligible to play senior rugby once they have been assessed on their ability to play at that level, by



the RFU. Please contact club public relations officer Stuart McLean mobile 07812 372675 or contact him by e-mail: stuiemadgiraffe@yahoo.co.uk to register for this summer's pre-season coaching sessions. The new training program starts Saturday June 15th 1.30 pm at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Moore Lane.

## ARNDALE

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Contact Peter  
01325 320915 or 07538 102195



# Woodham Gymnastics Academy at National Finals



On the weekend of the 11th and 12th of May Woodham Gymnastics Academy attended the national floor and vault final at Fenton Manor in Stoke-on-Trent. There were six girls, who made up the under 14 team, these were Charlie Lough, Lauren Towell, Lisa Robinson, Charlotte Jenner, Keera West and Rebecca Carr. The girls performed in the very first round and began the competition on the floor. All the girls performed really well considering it was in front of a very large audience. The girls then went on to compete on the vault. Overall the girls' team finished in 13th place, which out of the whole country is a great achievement. Massive congratulations to the team and may they keep going from strength to strength.

# Badminton in Aycliffe

Aycliffe Badminton Club based at the Leisure Centre are currently recruiting new members after having a successful season and looking to build and consolidate teams ready for the season ahead starting in September.

Last season they had 2 Mixed Doubles teams in the Darlington & District Badminton League. The A team finished 2nd in the A Division and the B team won the B Division having gone through the season winning every match.

The Mixed teams were also successful in the 2 League Cup competitions with the A team runners up in 1 and the B team winning the other.

The Men's team finished 4th in the league and the Ladies team were 2nd in their respective Level Doubles leagues. Anyone looking to play competitively or just for fun or fitness is welcome to join them between 7.30 and 9.30 any Friday evening at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Just bring suitable sports clothing and footwear and a racket. Ian Boyd (Aycliffe Badminton Club) ian\_boyd27@hotmail.com

# Tennis Leaders



Abbey & Becky, two of Greenfields Tennis Leaders with their certificates,

Eighteen of Greenfield's Young Leaders were selected to attend a tennis leader's course led by the LTA in partnership with Sedgfield School Sport partnership recently, held at Greenfield. All selected leaders achieved their qualification with flying colours. To complete their training they travelled to Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre where they led a year 3 tennis event for 10 local Primary schools in partnership with Sedgfields SSP. The event was a great success. Well done to all involved.

# Race Day Prisoners

Dear Editor, I have lived in the Bellway estate (off Meadowfield Road) since the houses were built, unfortunately as we are approaching Fathers Day residents will again be almost prisoners in our homes until almost lunch time due to the Annual Road Race.

As there are two entrances to our estate and Meadowfield Road being quite wide we have been advised residents should be able to enter or leave the estate, however despite assurances in previous years this has not happened. On one occasion I had to leave my car at the cemetery and walk, even though I explained to the Policeman I was disabled and confirmed this by my Blue Badge, I was told I had

to walk, despite explaining to the Policeman I was in pain. As the race is always on Father's Day it means that if your Dad lives on the Bellway estate he either gets up early before the race starts, or he can't leave the house till lunchtime when half the day has gone - neither option seems fair.

Could you please contact the Police and Durham County Council on our behalf to clarify once and for all whether roads are completely closed, preventing residents leaving or entering our homes? I have tried in previous years but unfortunately it appears neither Police, Race Wardens or Council know what to do. Many thanks, Bellway resident

# Organiser's Reply . . .

Dear Sir, Aycliffe Running Club is sorry for any inconvenience caused by the two hour road closures between 9:30 and 11:30 on Sunday June 16th, Father's Day. The closure is one of the many outcomes from the Safety Risk Assessment agreed by Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary to provide separation of competitors and traffic. Aycliffe Running Club must comply with this. The event has been held for many years on the same date and is one of Newton Aycliffe's major sporting events with

over 600 participants. The race is something that many people of the town participate in and support as an annual event in the town calendar.

The road closures are as follows; Burnhill Way in both directions closed with no access; Meadowfield Way is totally closed in both directions for the first lap 9:30 to 10:15; Burn Lane from Cobblers Hall to the junction with Greenfield Way is one way West-East towards the town centre; Greenfield Way from the roundabout with Burnhill Way is one way South-North towards Rope Moor. As for access from Meadowfield Way, concession is given to cross Greenfield Way at the discretion of the race marshals when it is safe and there is sufficient gap between competitors.

If the writer would like to advise his name and/or car registration we will ensure he gets access when it is safe to do so. We hope this answers your question and hope that you will be out to watch the event. Aycliffe Running Club

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# Yr 7 Netball Champions



Greenfield year 7 South West Durham Netball Champions and two of Greenfields qualified netball leaders Amber Dolby and Jessica Hall.

Greenfield and Sunnydale entered 4 teams (2 each) into the South West Durham Schools Netball tournament. All teams played extremely well against some very tough opposition from Bishop Barrington, Parkside, St Johns, King James, Whitworth Park, Wolsingham and Teesdale. Greenfield's 'A' team were

unbeaten throughout the tournament, eventually beating St Johns (Bishop Auckland) in the final by 6 goals to 1 to be crowned South West Durham U12 Netball Champions. Greenfield's 'B' team also performed extremely well, beating King James and Teesdale's 'A' teams, but eventually losing to

Wolsingham by 2 goals in their final match, to narrowly miss out on a place in the semi-final. Sunnydale also reached the semi-final after beating Bishop Barrington and Parkside, but lost in the semi-final to Greenfield year 7 on their continued success, and for retaining this title for a second consecutive year.

Jessica and Amber (pictured above), are part of Greenfields Sport Leadership Academy. Greenfield have over 100 sport leaders in their academy. Jessica and Amber have recently completed their Junior netball officiating course, in addition to a range of other leadership qualifications. They have also volunteered over 100 hours of their time. Well done girls. Netball is available to all ages and abilities at Greenfield School through their Community Netball Club. Primary netball takes place 4.30 to 5.30 on Wednesday's, Junior U14 & U16 Netball runs every Tuesday 4.30 - 5.30, with adult & U18 netball taking place 5.30 - 6.30 on the same night. Greenfield's teams play in a number of competitive local leagues, and they are always looking for new players. You are invited to go along and join them for a game. Contact Michael - Greenfield's Facility Manager on 07879 117224 for more information.

Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club started their first girl's team in 2004 with only 9 players at the under 13 age group. The club had the vision and ambition to grow the number of teams and offer football for all ages. Whilst developing the players we also needed more female coaches to work with these young girls.

The 2012/2013 season has just finished with over 50 girls regularly attending coaching sessions and playing competitive football in the Russell Foster Girls Football League. During this time we have had 8 female coaches attain the Level 1 Coaching Qualification.

The work on the training ground is also getting rewards in the leagues with several teams over the past seasons winning league and cup competitions.

This season our under 16's competed at 11 a side in the premier division eventually finishing mid table. They played against several teams with bigger catchment areas and larger squads but always matched their opponents in every game. Our under 13's completed their first season at 9 a side and finished an excellent 4th place. They also had a terrific cup run eventually losing in a tight final. The under 11 Girls have completed their first season in the league at 7 a side and have grown in confidence as they gained the experience of playing team football.

The improvement was evident as they finished runner up in the League Cup, which is a competition over 18 games, played from March to May. The under 10 team only started coaching sessions at the end of 2012 but entered the League cup in March. They had several excellent results and many good performances which will prepare them for the start of the next season commencing end of June, as girls football is a Summer League. This makes playing and watching a lot more enjoyable for everyone.

The football club is now looking to develop more girls and are offering coaching sessions for current year 4 and year 5 girls who are keen to

play football and want to be part of the growth of female football in Newton Aycliffe. If you want more information ring Berni 07939 045242 or check out our web site [www.naycafc.co.uk](http://www.naycafc.co.uk)

## LOCAL SPORT

### Aycliffe Girls Football



## Aycliffe Runners in the Cleveland Sprint

Members of Aycliffe Running Club continue to 'dip their feet in the water' of triathlons. On Sunday the 12th of May Alex Lineton and Andrew Robertson took part in the Cleveland Sprint Triathlon at Stokesley.

The event consisted of a 400 metre pool swim, 11 mile bike loop and a 3.1 mile run. It was a blustery day but thankfully no sight of rain. There was a strong local field gathered from the North East, with a lot of competitors using it as 'training' race.

Alex was pleased with his performance, finishing under the hour, with a time of 59:34 in 16th place overall. Andrew knocked a minute off his swim time, was steady on the bike



despite the conditions and finished with a strong run, managing to complete the course in 1:13:18 finishing in 85th position.

### Anyone For Table Tennis?

Jane Parsonage of Newton Aycliffe is starting an Adult Table Tennis Group at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on Thursdays from 1pm - 2pm. All welcome and for more information please ring her on 315322.

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#### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 5th June 2013

**Policy & Resources Committee 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](http://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".

#### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 29th May 2013

**Environment Committee Recreation Committee 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](http://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".

### FREE Junior Golf This Half Term

Children in the local area will have the opportunity to try the game of golf FREE of charge thanks to the HSBC Golf Roots Initiative and Woodham Golf & Country Club. The sessions are taking place on Tuesday 28th May at the club from 11am and will be delivered by Sean Kay, PGA Assistant Golf Professional. Golf is an excellent sport for children to take up demonstrating good values, rules, etiquette, sportsmanship and of course the challenge of the game itself. Anyone between the age of 5 and 13 is invited to take part so if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity please contact the Golf Shop on 01325 315257 to book your place. More information about Golf Roots is available at [www.golf-foundation.org](http://www.golf-foundation.org)



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# AYCLIFFE'S MISSED OPPORTUNITY

As more and more retail outlets and services move to West Auckland we begin to wonder what is wrong with Newton Aycliffe - the most highly populated town in the County Durham authority area? Residents ask why can't we attract big shops and a cinema? The reason is we lost the opportunity years ago to have a Retail Park on our Industrial Estate! Whilst it was happening elsewhere the planners

stuck to their guns, insisting our Industrial Estate should be for manufacturing only and to allow retailing would harm our Town Centre businesses. What a shocking lack of foresight and ignorance when it was quite obvious manufacturing was being lost in this country to cheaper imports. Newton News fought to change their minds, but the cries of Aycliffe residents went unheard. In recent years the 'manufacturing only rule' has been dropped and we have seen some retail and service industry introduced on the business Park as planners realise any new job is acceptable. There are still many advance factories lying idle and we can only hope the Hitachi train project will fill a few.

But it is too late for a retail development similar to West Auckland as other, more enterprising planners, and marketers have seized their chance as Aycliffe stood still. These new areas of business are now benefitting from Aycliffe residents, many of whom are now their customers because, as was always the case, our town centre is small and inadequate and Newtonians have to shop out of town for some commodities to get the choice they require. West Auckland has been added to the list of places they shop to the delight

## Editorial

of businesses opening in this small village with low rents and overheads. Newton News have been informed by two young Aycliffe ladies wishing to open a new business that they found the shops in Aycliffe to be twice the rental asked in Darlington. As you would expect they are opening there knowing Newtonians use Darlington to shop and the larger town will give a greater footfall and more business.

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### In Memoriam

#### WARDY Neil Ward



23rd May 2012  
 A dear Husband, Father, Son, Brother, Uncle and Nephew. Sadly missed and forever in our hearts. Gone but never forgotten

#### Matthew Goad (Cleggy)



is TEN on 31st May Double Figures!  
 We can't believe it! You are growing into a wonderful young man and you make us proud in everything you do. Lots and lots of love, Dad, Mam and Jake xxxx

#### Anthea Scott Atess



26th May 2006  
 In loving memory of our Anthea. A much loved and devoted Mam, Daughter, Sis and Niece. You will always stay in our hearts and memories as "simply the best". Love you xxxx

**ANTHEA SCOTT ATESS** 26th May 2006. Thinking of your today and every day. Love, Mandy, Gary and family xxx  
**RICHARD LOGAN** 24-05-12. We miss you more than words can say. Always in our hearts. Love, Nell, Karen, Janet, Richard, Pauline, Ian and families  
**NOEL NEEDHAM** 26th May 2009. No farewells were spoken, no time to say goodbye. You were gone before we knew it and only God knows why. Love always, forget you never. Love, Sheila and Family xxx  
**NEIL WARD** 23rd May 2012. Love you so much Daddy. Think and miss you every day. Love you always and forever. Your Princess, Ella May xxx  
**NEIL WARD** 23rd May 2012. Always in my thoughts and a place in my heart. Love, Sara xxx  
**JIMMY CUNNINGHAM** 27-5-2011. Think of you and miss you every day. Love, Susan, Allan, Brett, Ryan and Kayleigh  
**JIMMY CUNNINGHAM** 27th May. Memories of a wonderful Son. Miss you every day. Love, Mam  
**LOUISE CUNNINGHAM** 23rd May 2010. In loving memory of a beloved Niece, so sadly missed, always in our thoughts. Uncle Jack, Aunt Lilian and Family Circle

### Obituary

#### JEAN ELEANOR SMITH

Passed away peacefully on 11th May 2013, aged 93 years. Loving Wife of the late Norman; adored Mother of Margaret and the late George; precious Granny to Lee, Joanna, Julia and Melanie and Great Grandchildren, much loved by George's Sons; Treasured Sister and Aunt. Heaven is richer, for a beautiful angel has left this Earth to be with her Husband and Son in the arms of God. Funeral Service was held at St Clares Church on Thursday 23rd May 2013 at 2.15pm, followed by Private Cremation. Thank you to the devoted team of nurses on Ward 2 UHND, who gave my Mam exceptional care and compassion to her family. Thank you to all at Rose Lodge Care Home for your years of love and friendship, we are so grateful to you.

**NEWTON NEWS** apologises to the Smith family for the errors in last week's obituary notice for Jean Smith.

**BERMINGHAM** Joan Patricia passed away suddenly in hospital on 14th May. Beloved Wife of the late John; much loved Mother of Caroline, Lesley, the late Brendan and Lorraine; a dear Mother-in-Law to Susan and John. We have lost our much loved Mother, our hearts with grief are sore, in vain we shall be looking, for the face we'll see no more. Friends please meet for Service at St Mary's RC Church on Wednesday 29th May for 2pm. Followed by Cremation at Wear Valley. Family flowers only. Donations, if so desired, may be made to St Vincent de Paul Society (collecton plate at the church).

**BERYL ANTONCICH** of Newton Aycliffe, peacefully at home on 16th May, aged 64 years. Dearly beloved Wife to Jim. A much loved Mam, Grandma, Sister and Auntie. Family and friends please meet for Service at St Mary's RC Church on Wednesday 29th May, 11.45am

### Congratulations

#### Joseph Hammell



**Congratulations** on becoming an "Octogenarian". From your loving Wife Pam, Sons Philip, Andrew and Michel, Daughters-in-Law Sharon and Catherine; Grandchildren Gemma, Jake, Jodi and Great Granddaughter Evie xxx Have a lovely day

#### Katie Armstrong



**Happy 18th Birthday** 20th May 2013 All our love, Grandma, Granda, Charlie and Rebecca

#### Bethany Nielson



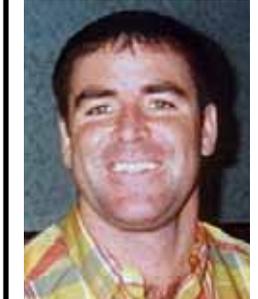
**Happy 18th Birthday** 28th May 2013 Have a great day. Congratulations on getting into Teesside Uni, with love from Dad, Mum, Becca and Tom

#### Eric



**Happy 84th Birthday** From Joyce and all the family

#### Les Toman



**Happy 50th Birthday** 28th May 2013 Lots of love from Mam and all your family xxx

### Birthday Remembrance

**LINDA HIBBERT** (Roscher). 25-5-1959 to 30-3-2013. No kisses, hugs or candles on the cake for a loving Daughter's birthday this year. You are missed so much, but will never be forgotten. Love from Mum, Joyce, Brothers David and Paul, Sandra and Deborah

### Thank You

**ANNE & MEL** are now settled in Lyon Walk. A huge thank you to our family, Trev Small and Phil Jones for all the help they gave. Thanks to everyone for the new home cards. **VERA LAND** would like to thank all her family and friends for the cards, presents and well wishes she received for her 80th birthday

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## GREENFIELD U13'S GIRLS CRICKET TEAM IN COUNTY FINALS

Sedgefield School Sports Partnership held their U13 Girls County Cricket qualifying festival on Tuesday 14th May at Sedgefield Cricket Club. (The U13 Boys event was unfortunately postponed from the 15th May to the 18th June due to the rain, good luck boys.) Three of Greenfields girls U13 cricket teams travelled to Sedgefield Cricket Club on Tuesday, and the day was a great success. Three schools (Sedgefield, Greenfield and Whitworth Park - Spennymoor) fielded a number of teams, with all teams playing each



Three of Greenfield's U13 Cricket teams at Sedgefield Cricket Club with leaders Rubi Alderson and Emily Farlow (Year 9)

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Left: Greenfields winning U13 Girls Cricket team with leader and coach Rubi Alderson (Year 9)

other throughout the day. Greenfield's 'A' team demonstrated some excellent batting and fielding skills and were unbeaten throughout the day. Gaining first position and a place in the County finals. Well done and good luck. During this event two of Greenfields cricket players were selected to attend County training at Chester le Street, Riverside due to their high levels of performance. Well done to Becky Adams and Katie McLaren. team will travel to the County Finals at Maiden Castle on the 5th July along with Greenfields Yr 7 Boccia team who qualified for the County finals last month, and Greenfields U15 Boys and U15 Girls Rugby teams. Good luck to all involved. Rubi completed her Cricket Leaders course in April, and has been selected by the FA to be part of their FA Futures Academy along with Sam Dobinson. Well done to both Rubi and Sam, and good luck to Greenfields cricket team in the County finals.

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## FOOTBALLERS NEEDED FOR UNDER 14'S TEAM

Newton Aycliffe Juniors U14's are now looking for new players to join our team for the start of the new season in September. Currently playing in Division 2 of the TJFA we are a club that prides itself on playing football in the right way with the right attitude from players, coaches and parents. Our Manager and Coach are both FA licensed coaches having achieved FA level 1 & 2 badges, in addition to the youth module 1 coaching awards, so the standard of coaching delivered is of a high calibre. Anyone who has an interest in football and would like to improve their game is welcome to come along and try a training session without any commitment. Children need to be entering school year 9 in Sept 2013 in order to be eligible to play. We currently train at Woodham Academy, Newton Aycliffe on Mondays 17:30 - 19:00, with matches on a Sunday and will soon be training at Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon. Anyone interested should contact Jonathan Gallagher on the number below. For further information about the club and other age groups please visit our website; www.najuniorfc.co.uk Jonathan Gallagher, Manager U14's Tel: 07790 618331 Email: jon1911@hotmail.co.uk

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