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Aycliffe Shopkeepers Struggle as Residents Tire of Poor Access

The town centre redevelopment, which at one time was welcomed, is now affecting our shopkeepers and shoppers to the extent some businesses may not be here to see the completion of the work in November.

In a survey of the shops Newton News found drops in turnover and footfall as much as 50%. Everyone without exception, big stores and small shops, and including shoppers themselves, are sick of the inconvenience, dirt and worst of all poor access to the shops. Many shopkeepers put their problems down to this particular issue. Why they ask wasn't the upgrade done in stages and why disrupt the whole of the shopping precinct? Shoppers cannot be bothered to put up with the mess and the chaos. Even charity shops have lost up to 30% in takings.



Everyone sees the need to improve access into the centre as part of the overall plan, but why not do that first instead of closing the lot? The Aldi wall was pulled down in answer to protests but that entrance is still blocked with a wooden barrier! It does not make sense say shopkeepers and shoppers alike.

One shopkeeper said she received a phone call asking if the town centre was open yet? Another heard shouts from a balcony asking how she could get into the centre. The inconvenience to the elderly, wheelchair users and parents with push chairs is serious and if you want a taxi that involves a long trek to the only rank, in Greenfield Road.

The multi storey car park is almost empty, large shops like Boyes have lost 800 customers a week which is perhaps due to the fact the entrance from the car park at the side of their

shop is also closed.

continued on Page 3

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65th Anniversary of the Birth of Newton Aycliffe



65 years to the day, (Friday 28th June 1948) the first sod was cut to mark the start of the development of the new town of Newton Aycliffe.

Our picture shows the ceremony with Lord Beveridge cutting the first sod with a special chrome plated spade which carried the engraved signatures of all the VIP's present.

The spade and first sod in a box is on show at the Town



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Council Offices having being retrieved as "lost" a few years ago. A special cabinet displaying the spade and other artifacts are available to view on request by calling at the offices on School Aycliffe Lane.



The spade and first sod were found in the attic of a former Town Clerk during a police investigation.

MIDDRIDGE VILLAGE FETE

To be held on Saturday 6th July, commencing at 1.30pm. There will be all the usual activities including a raffle, tombola, bottle stall, plant stall, homemade cakes, bric a brac, books, toys, etc and the grand dog show to select the Mutt of Middridge. Thanks go to Livin who have given funds to replace damaged gazebos. This year the Fete will be opened by Sue Snowden, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for County Durham.

TOWN CENTRE PARKING TICKETS

There has been some confusion over whether traffic wardens can give tickets for parking on the roads behind Beveridge Way shops as they are "unadopted"

Lee Mowbray, major projects traffic manager, said: "Waiting restrictions are implemented on private land and enforced by the county council when the land owner has given consent for a Traffic Regulation Order to be introduced.

There are a number of such areas within Newton Aycliffe town centre that are owned by the town centre management company. These restrictions were agreed with the land owner prior to them being put in place and may be enforced to aid road safety in this busy area of the town."

DANCING CLASSES

A new dancing school for Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area is to start on 6th July at The Studio, Cross Street in Shildon for all classes of dance.

10am Rosette 3 - 8 years
10.45am - 9 and over.
12 noon Boogie Beebies for 2 year olds.
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New Classes Starting
3rd July at Newton
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4-5pm Recreational Gymnastics
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5-6pm Flexibility & Strength Class

Summer Camps
at Athena Sports Academy

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre:

5th, 7th, 12th, 14th, 19th, 21st and 28th August

Sunnydale Leisure Centre:

6th, 8th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 22nd, 27th and 29th August
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For more information or to sign up to the new classes
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Saturday 29th June - "1 0 1"

We are pleased to welcome back one of the tubs favourite bands, who play a great mix of modern & classic rock. Tracks covered by: Led Zeppelin, AC/DC, Kings of Leon, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Kieser Chifs, Nirvana, Razorlight, Pink Floyd and Green Day.
Davys Rock Page review: "All in all, a great night with a great atmosphere and a lot of people dancing, so if you want to hear newer covers with a good mix of older rock, 101 deliver."

Saturday 6th July - "Overdrive"
"These guys had the best debut gig ever in the pub last year"

Bio: "Overdrive are a dynamic rock covers band playing a selection of classic rock songs from the 60s to now. Taking you though the great ages of music from the Who to Kings of Leon, Madnes to Sex Pistols, Deep Purple to Foo Fighters. With an all-action front-line, a big sound and great lights, this is a band not to be missed"

Covering tracks by Stereophonics, Bad Company, Nickleback, The Fratellis, Bowie, Green Day, T-Rex and more - singing and dancing guaranteed!! These guys know how to party

Saturday 13th July - "Gatecrashers"

A rare public performance by the Gatecrashers on 12th March 2011 prompted this review in a local North East 'rag': "The Brandling Villa in Gosforth, Newcastle, buzzed with excitement. The place was packed to the rafters with fans as well as musicians from other local bands - all here to spend an evening with the fabulous 'Gatecrashers'. It was the first time I'd seen them with their vibrant new lead vocalist. And I was impressed - so very impressed. Nick (Saints of Arcadia) Jennison has more than enough charisma to set a stage alight - and then some. And he can sing - oh, can he sing! Sharing lead guitar with Ant Wright (who provides great backing vocals) they had a ball while entertaining their discerning Geordie audience. And the crowd roared.
Add the brilliant bass guitarist, Dave Hildreth and talented drummer, Doug Hayes to the flavoursome mix - and the 'Gatecrashers' were a big green GO!"

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Last weekend the British Legion Club held a Charity Night for the family of the late Drummer Rigby murdered in the streets of North London by a fanatic. There was a fierce reaction to this crime country-wide and Neville Jones (J & C Coaches) who runs a Band in the town, suggested a function to aid the victim's family, offering his services free of charge as he had done last year for Armed Forces Week.

Entertainment Secretary Sue Land agreed and with acts she secured free of charge, the event was held and raised over £3100 which Captain Rowbotham from Drummer Rigby's Regiment accepted, promising every penny would go to the family. The Chairman Eddie Graham presented the cheque thanking everyone for their support.

The club Concert Hall was packed for the occasion and money was raised from an Auction and Raffle. The Club itself donated £1000 and raffle prizes and donations were given from local businesses and members for which the committee extend sincere thanks. Raffle winners are listed in the club.

Thanks to the artistes JoJo, Sophie Richardson, Russel Bruce and the band Toxic, also to Julie Palmer, Hilary Wilson, Alison Burn, and Michelle Alderson who helped organise this very successful event.



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

15 FREE HOURS

Continued from Front Page

You have to feel sorry for tenants in the Thames Centre who have a different landlord and through no fault of their own are being affected by the re-development. Their trade is down significantly and are seeking compensation as should all shopkeepers. It is unrealistic to expect shops to survive such big losses in business until November. Shopkeepers are laying off staff and cutting their hours - all down to the fact that custom has dropped drastically.

One businessman said he was happy to see work being done to improve the town centre and even though he is struggling will hold on as long as possible, but if things do not improve come November he would have to close.

Something has to be done to help our shopkeepers survive. In the short term open all accesses now - temporary footpaths would be more acceptable than no access at all! Finish the job in phases taking down the railings as you go along the pedestrian walkway. Let's not wait until the whole job is done before Beveridge Way is opened again. Compensate shopkeepers for loss of trade and finally an appeal to all residents to support your local shops at this difficult time.

CONCERT AT St. MARY'S

Jonathan Parkin a talented young northern guitarist provides a Concert of easy listening music for a summer's evening at St. Mary's Church on Friday 5th July. He will be accompanied by the Marie Clare Singers and the evening starts at 7pm. Tickets are £5 and include refreshments. Ring for tickets on 316963.



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Aycliffe Freemasons Help Macmillan Cancer Care



Back row: G Dawson, R Davison, R Jones and Matt Spence
Front row: K Richardson, K. Paylor.

Aycliffe Lodge of Freemasons, Worshipful Master Ken Paylor is shown here presenting a cheque for £325 to the MacMillan Cancer Care representative Keith Richardson on Thursday 20th June at the PCP Centre where the charity has its offices. The money was the proceeds of a Social Evening held at Ferryhill Masonic Hall on 8th June 2013.

Vane Road Winner



Logan from Vane Road Primary School has won the Lindisfarne Gospel Schools' Competition. Logan's winning entry was a descriptive account of a recent exciting trip. His prize is a visit to the Lindisfarne Gospel exhibition at Durham Cathedral for 60 of his classmates. Logan said "I am very happy and feel very lucky to have won the competition. I am looking forward to seeing the Lindisfarne Gospels with the other children."

A Cuppa & a Good Film

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church is "My House In Umbria" starring Maggie Smith, Timothy Spall and Ronnie Barker. Tea and Coffee at 1pm followed by the film at 1.15pm. Everyone welcome to see this film which is bound to cheer you up!

Panto at Shildon Civic

Act One Panto a local touring theatre company is performing at Shildon Civic this Christmas. Day time shows sold out but tickets are now on sale for the evening. "Peter Pantastic" is suitable for all age groups and will incorporate all the humour of pantomime. All sets are portable, free standing, and adaptable to any stage or playing area including full size theatres sets. Batten down the hatches, swab the decks & sail with us to a land of fun and laughter. Can Peter download the right 'App' & to get him to Neverland in time. Will Hook ever find a hairdresser to put his locks right and get his mojo back. Or will Tinker end up being the Bell of the ball? This production has been especially commissioned by Act One for 2013to be enjoyed by people of all ages. The duration of this production is 2hrs

Woodham Academy Summer Concert

The annual Summer Concert is on Tuesday 2nd July at 7pm in the main school hall. After a successful production of 'We Will Rock You', students have been working hard rehearsing a variety of musical performances in preparation for the evening. Performances from the Jazz Band, Instrumental Group, Samba Band and Woodham Sound, along with soloists and other group performances will provide an evening full of high quality entertainment. Tickets are £3 for adults and £2 for concessions. Please contact the school on 01325 300328 for more information.



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6.30pm-8.30pm: 11-14 year olds

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To ensure your participation at the Foam Party, please complete your contact details below, detach and make your payment by WEDNESDAY 3rd JULY. Alternatively, contact Planet Leisure on the above number where you can make payment over the phone and we will complete the form for you. We look forward to seeing you. Thank You!

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St. John's "SJR's Live Lounge" Rocks



On Friday 14th June the Bistro at St. John's school became a hive of activity as SJR showcased its first ever Live Lounge!

Dreamt up by SJR Station Manager Mr Stephenson and SJR's Live Event Manager Ryan Robertson, the live lounge was a gig for the St John sixth formers to let their hair down during the busy and stressful exam season, enjoying some excellent live music.

The Live Lounge began during break on the Friday, as Mr. Morton and his band of technician geniuses invaded the Bistro. The transformation from sixth form grub hub into fully operational recording studio was by no means an easy task with Ben Wigham, Dan Lawson and Alex Best running around like seasoned roadies. The setup which should have taken at least a few hours to prepare was built and fully functioning in just over an hour. Period 3 descended into a hodgepodge of electric guitar wails, clashing symbols and scratching vinyl as the 6th form area prepared for its first ever live music gig.

Dinner time and SJR presenter Chloe Wearmouth took to the mic to open SJR's Live Lounge presenting like a pro she introduced the Pocket Snakes to a tirade of woops and cheers. Playing through enrichment the gig was headlined by 6th form band "The Pocket Snakes"-made up of Daniel Hodges, Josh Hoggart, Callum Merrington and drummer Joe Gallagher, who unfortunately had an RE exam having to be replaced with

Head of Sixth Form Mr. Dunn! The band played all their own tracks, stopping every so often for fun and high jinks with SJR presenters Chloe Wearmouth, Jack Rivers, Rowen Coulthard and Megan Hutchinson.

The Pocket Snakes were then followed by an Upper vs. Lower 6th DJ battle with lower sixth's Ryan Robertson and former SJR programme controller, James Hamilton-Trewhitt representing the absent upper sixth. Playing out to a packed bistro they rounded off the gig in style with Ryan winning comfortably (albeit as upper sixth have left).

Rowen, Jack, Megan and Chloe then rounded off the gig with a big thanks to the Northern Echo for promoting SJR and Bishop FM who broadcast the Live Lounge later that day. The afternoon then lent itself to band practise with The Pocket Snakes getting out acoustic guitars and doing poplar covers for all the sixth formers who were lucky enough to be free that period, passing guitars and mics around as other six formers tried their hand at the live lounge.

The recording went down with few technical glitches and the broadcast on 105.9 Bishop FM bringing the excellent gig to the whole community. Impressed with the professionalism and quality of the gig, Bishop FM is hoping to work more with SJR including broadcasting future gigs and shows. All that remains now is (finding/identifying) who is going to (will) headline the next 6th form Live Lounge.

Aquacise at PCP - Water Fitness Programme



Aquacise is an alternative way to work all the muscles in the body in the sociable surroundings of PCP's hydrotherapy pool in the Pioneering Care Centre.

Aquacise is an aerobic workout in water, whether you are looking to improve your cardiovascular endurance or rehabilitate a chronic source of pain, Aquacise can help. Aquacise is one of only a few sports that can be undertaken by anyone, regardless of age or ability. Using the resistance of the water in exercise is like exercising with weights or machines on land, but safer.

PCP currently have some availability at the following weekly Aquacise sessions: Monday 7.30-8.30pm, Wednesday 7.45-8.45pm, Thursday 7.15-8.15pm, Friday 9-10am. There are more pool times available Monday-Saturday including Ladies only and Parent and Toddler sessions, visit PCP's website for further information. The hydrotherapy pool is ideal for people of all ages and abilities and is safe for non swimmers. The pool area and changing rooms are also fully accessible to disabled people with overhead and chair poolside hoists available on request.

To book your place at any of the sessions please contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Carers' Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF, tel: 321234 enquiries@pcp.uk.net - www.pcp.uk.net

Wonderful Memories

Dear Sir,
May I thank everyone connected to Bewick Crescent Surgery for making my retirement Party so memorable.

I was very lucky to receive a donation towards a flat screen T.V. from the doctors and beautiful jewellery from my colleagues, both current and those I have worked with in the past. I also received various gifts and flowers from individuals and groups I have known for which I am most grateful.

A very enjoyable BBQ was arranged for myself and Dr. Ramsay so thank you all so very much. You are and were a great team to work with and I will miss you all.

Pat Lerigo
Bousfield Crescent

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Woodham Restaurant Celebrates Third Birthday

Over 25 years ago the father of the owner of Bengal Lounge had a restaurant where Aldi is now you had to go up spiral stairs to the Restaurant and Takeaway. "My father always had a love for Newton Aycliffe and said it was his biggest mistake letting the business go. When the opportunity arrived in Woodham the family returned to open a restaurant and takeaway in Woodham. Three years later it is still here with Mizan's father helping run the kitchen. "The first year was very hard as business wasn't what was expected. Some changes were made and slowly we have watched the business grow to what it is today," said Mizan.

"My aim is to provide a good service with great food cooked to the highest standards of hygiene. Watching and hearing customers enjoying their evening at the Bengal Lounge really makes my day" he added.

Most of the staff are family members living in Darlington travelling each day to serve our valued customers in Newton Aycliffe.

The management and staff celebrated their third anniversary with a special dinner for invited guests last Monday night. One family member skilled at Henna tattoos demonstrated her art on customers.



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LEADER OF TOWN COUNCIL REPLIES TO CRITICISM

It was sad news that Washington Developments and, therefore, Woodham Golf Club had been placed in the hands of administrators. Woodham Golf Course is an excellent course and facility for Newton Aycliffe. It was particularly sad news for me because I was one of the first members of the course when it was called Rushyford Golf Club and over the years I was pleased to serve the Club as Vice-Captain, Captain, Secretary and Chairman. My late wife and I had many happy memories of our time there and we made many friends. Unfortunately many of those friends are no longer with us.

I was not surprised that the Club was in financial difficulties as it is obvious to anyone who has looked at the current situation regarding golf courses that many have financial problems, owing to a decline in the number of people playing golf and poor weather conditions over the past four years. Some golf courses are closing and others are struggling.

One only has to look at the situation at the nearby Darlington Courses. Blackwell Grange and Stressholme Courses are having to amalgamate at Stressholme, and Blackwell Grange is to be used for housing developments.

In his letter on the subject, Bob Taylor, criticised the Town Council

on a number of issues relating to the development. I will try to address these.

1. The Council did not listen to the residents of Woodham. I, together with other Councillors and Officers attended the consultation and presentation by Washington Developments over a long weekend at the Club House. During that weekend I spoke with numerous residents and golf members about the proposals and the vast majority were in favour of the development. The survey returns that visitors filled in also reflected this majority view.
2. Councils and planners never check to see if funding is in place for a development. It does not matter if the development is an extension to a house or a large industrial development, for example Hitachi. The funding cannot be taken into consideration as it is not a 'Planning' matter. Yes, we knew that Washington Developments was an Irish based Company, had completed a number of projects in the North East and in other parts of Europe.
3. Bob Taylor also believes that the Town Council was instrumental in planning permission for the project being approved. Yes the Town Council are consulted on planning matters but only consulted and does not give the final approval. Once a plan goes out to consultation it is extremely rare that the planning officers recommendations are not implemented.
4. That Councillors changed their minds to support the developers plans.

I agree. When the plans were first discussed I was the Councillor who, not only spoke against the plan, but voted against it. I did so for three reasons:-

- Access to the C35 road.
- Nearness to a major gas pipeline.
- The public bridleway going through the hotel.

All three issues were addressed to my satisfaction so when the plan was next considered I voted in favour of the proposal.

5. Will the Town Council buy the Course. The answer to that is no. Both the capital cost to buy the course and the revenue cost in running the course will be too high. I have no doubt that the land will be offered for sale with the outline planning approval for 50 houses, a 72 bedroom hotel, and a new golf club house. Potential buyers will soon realise that the original initiative and provision of the Peterlee and Aycliffe Development Corporation was for the course to comprise of 27 holes. Those who have played the course and who know the area well will realise that only about half of the area is used for golf. At some time in the future the remaining half will be ripe for development. Another reason the Town Council would not buy the course is that we already have our own 18 hole course at School Aycliffe together with a 16 bay driving range.
6. Will the Golf Course at Woodham last.

In the short term I would say yes. I will be most surprised if restrictive covenants on the future usage of the course were not implemented at the time of the sale by the Development Corporation. Covenants can be renegotiated and bought out, and at the present time development planners are instructed, by the Secretary of State for the Environment, to presume in favour of developments for housing. So who knows!

Bob Fleming, Leader, Great Aycliffe Town Council

Students Win Fairtrade Competition



In March this year a group of Greenfield students worked to collect Fairtrade packaging to build inspired sculptures as part of Fairtrade fortnight.

Two sculptures were entered 'Tipping the Balance' and 'The Future's Bright,' representing the imbalance of trade in the world and how Fairtrade can make the future brighter.

The sculptures won a prize, voted for by other schools in the country via Facebook. A group of students involved visited Tropical Wholefoods at Fulwell Mill Sunderland, the

leading Fairtrade importer in the UK.

During the visit, they toured the factory to see how different products were made. They had a taster session, trying the different products made by the company and also the ingredients used. They designed our own Fairtrade snacks and made a prototype in the kitchen.

This will be produced in a bigger batch, packaged and sent to school. It was an enjoyable day and the students represented the school brilliantly – well done!

Leisure Centre Complaint

Sarah Barnes from Newton Aycliffe is another parent who needed to complain about the customer service and swimming facilities at Aycliffe Leisure Centre. She sent a strong letter, but months after has not received a reply.

She complains of the apparent lack of training and courtesy of staff who ignored concerns over her child affected by taking in water and coughing. The young lifeguard seemed only interested in whether the child was a good swimmer rather than his health!

The mother was upset and is fed up of being treated so ignorantly by the lifeguards who may have lots of life saving qualifications but lack personal people skills, finding them very rude.

Mrs Barnes said in her letter: "I'm not keen on Aycliffe swimming baths as the changing facilities are not clean and the toilet facilities filthy. I actually advised staff the toilets were filthy, full of toilet roll, the sanitary bins were overflowing and there was rubbish on the floors. My husband said the men's were not much better."

I know the facilities are old but they need cleaning properly. I kept coming as the staff were friendly but I now find the majority of the younger ones are not friendly or welcoming at all!

Sadly I will not be coming back to Aycliffe Leisure Centre, I prefer to make the journey to Durham or Darlington. Our Sunday swimming is family time, and supposed to be a happy and fun time to spend with my children but the lifeguards are miserable and the facilities are filthy.

I am not a person who complains and it takes a lot to

upset me but my biggest hate is impoliteness. I think the younger lifeguards need to be sent on a customer service course - a smile costs nothing!" Mrs Sarah Barnes

FROM AYCLIFFE LEISURE CENTRE:
Lesley Tindale, Manager

of Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre said "I would like to apologise to Mrs Barnes that she did not receive a reply to her letter. A full investigation was carried out following receipt of the complaint and she should have been informed of this"

In the Whale's Belly



Emily Langsley Melvin found herself at the bottom of the ocean swallowed by a whale! She is Jonah in the 'Shine' Choir's production of 'Jonah and the Whale', which is entertaining audiences this weekend at St. Clare's Church.

Please come along, pay your £3 on the door on Saturday 29th at 6pm or Sunday 30th at 3pm and find out what happens to Jonah! All 45 children in the choir have a part and have worked very hard to produce the show- please support them!

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For further information please contact Marie Oswald, Community Development Co-ordinator on 01325 375482

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Reader's Thanks for a Helping Hand

Dear Sir,
In 2003 I had to take early retirement due to a serious back problem that was caused by 30 years of nursing. This is when my depression started, I'd lost the job I loved and was dedicated to and the continuous pain eventually took its toll! Unfortunately I had to go bankrupt due to my son's drug problem. It was an extremely turbulent time of my life so in October 2012, I moved to Newton Aycliffe to be nearer my daughter to try and rebuild my life. Money was really tight but I still had to purchase carpets and curtains for my new bungalow & fortunately I was able to get help from Nurse Aid charity to get the essentials. Just before Christmas 2012 when I saw a piece in the Newton News about the Helping Hands Project. I was still struggling financially so I contacted them to see if they could help me in anyway as I was surviving on a very small income. Alwyn swiftly came out to see me. I was put at ease straight away as she was in no way judgemental. She was quite the opposite. Alwyn filled in a form and then I received a huge box of cleaning products, toiletries, towels, frying pan & a box of food, which released money so I could pay other



priority bills that were in arrears. After Alwyn had left I burst into tears as I was so grateful. Since then I have got my finances under control, which is a wonderful feeling, I am so much happier! I am now a volunteer for Helping Hands project as I want to help others who are struggling. So I would advise anyone who is in financial crisis to get touch with Alwyn from Helping Hands by phoning or texting 07936 431262. They support people in crisis in Newton Aycliffe & surrounding areas. I didn't think I would get any help but am so glad I got the courage to contact Helping Hands. Sheena

Summer Fayre Fun

CANDY FLOSS and COCONUTS are this years new attractions at the Summer Fayre at St Elizabeth's Church, Woodham. on Saturday 6th July starting at 10am. All popular stalls will be there; Cakes and Home Produce, Bric-a Brac, Knitted Goods, Books and Children's Toys, Tombolas, Raffle and Refreshments. Free Admission - Hope to see you there! The **SOUPER LUNCH** is on Wednesday 3rd July at 12.30 - Two Soups, 2 Puddings, Tea and coffee - all for £3.00

Opera by Youngsters

Young Opera Venture presents "Opera Appetizers" on Sunday 23 June 7.30pm at Bishop Auckland Town Hall. Six young singers and a pianist present a programme of bitesized chunks from: The Magic Flute, Carmen, The Merry Wives of Windsor and Cosi Fan Tutte, in a colourful and entertaining production. Tickets: £10 and £8 for concessions. Tel: 03000 269 524

The Day We Visited Beamish



Woodham Golf Course

Dear Sir,
Well done to Bob Taylor for reminding readers of the doubts behind the finance for the development of Woodham Golf Course since the planning application was first mooted. Looking at all the articles in Newton News on the project the most meaningful comment came from Jamie Murphy a Director of the company who said: "I can unequivocally confirm we have secured bank funding to take this project forward". Enough said! Alan Stubbs

Pupils from Year 5 at Sugar Hill Primary School went back in time for a day when they visited Beamish open-air museum. The children represented the school well as they always do and got into the spirit of the day's visit by dressing in clothes from the Victorian age. While at the museum the children took part in a 'Victorian' school lesson, and with their studies complete for the day they visited Beamish's own drift coal mine where they were given a deeper awareness of where coal came from and how it was used, particularly on the railways, in years gone by. This tied in very well with the excellent work the children are currently doing on their Year-5 novel, The Railway Children.

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SCHOOL COUNCIL VISITS MAYOR

On Tuesday 11th June, Vane Road School Council went on a mini-bus to the Newton Aycliffe Council Offices to meet the Mayor and Mayor's Consort. On arrival, the children were treated to orange juice and a biscuit. Meanwhile, they asked the representative of Newton Aycliffe questions they thought of themselves.

a member of the School Council said "We got to wear the Mayor's chain, and it was a lot heavier than I thought it would be!. Some of us even got to wear the robe!" The School Council found that Aycliffe Council do not actually own the town centre. A company in London owns it and are

re-paving it and adding statues. In the Council Offices, there were pictures of all the Mayors of Newton Aycliffe since the beginning. Before the School Council left, they were kindly given a badge with the Newton Aycliffe Crest printed on and were given a special pen (and another biscuit). By Emily and Emilie Vane Road School Council

Greenfield Students Visit France



A group of 24 Year 8 pupils from Greenfield Community College have just returned from a ten day educational visit to France which was fully funded by the British Council's Comenius programme. The project which enabled young people on both sides of the channel to explore a number of foci including stereotypes, barriers to communication and geography and history of the Picardie region combined dance, language and culture. Pupils researched and explored themes in the classroom and studio at school creating dance pieces

based on the Battle of the Somme, local cathedrals, the Baie de Somme and French stereotypes (which included lots of berets, moustaches and strings of garlic!). They then travelled to France on 3rd June to combine their ideas to create a mammoth dance piece with a cast of 52 which was performed at Abbeville's theatre to an excited audience. Mrs Dixon, Subject Leader for Performing Arts at Greenfield, who wrote the bid to gain the 25,000 euros to enable the programme,

said 'the pupils were superb and represented their school, families and community with pride. They all worked extremely hard and at the

same time 'grew' as young people developing a range of skills which they will remember for the rest of their lives'. Well Done!

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that:

A meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee of the Town Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

**WEDNESDAY 10th JULY 2013
at 6.00pm**

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. Agendas and Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees

Wednesday 10th July 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)

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".

Tea Dance at the Oak Leaf

OakLeaf Sports Complex will be hosting a traditional Tea Dance on Thursday 4th July from 1.00pm until 3.00pm; tickets are only £3.00 if bought in advance or £3.50 if bought on the day. Tea, coffee, cake and a selection of biscuits are included in the price. The Dance will be led by dance teacher Diane White. So Get your Dancing Shoes on and impress everyone with your Foxtrot, Quickstep, Cha Cha's or one of the many other dances which will be played. Come along and trip the light fantastic at the OakLeaf, tickets available from Reception, for more information phone 01325 300600.

Aid for Hospice



Greenfield School staff and students would like to thank Aycliffe Running Club for a fantastic day last Sunday and for their continued support of the school's athletes.

The 3k Fun Run and 10K Road Race was enjoyed by the local community and the many athletes that travelled from far and wide, to take part.

The Club kindly gave staff and students from Greenfield School free entry, which allowed donated entries to St Teresa's Hospice. Greenfield staff ran the 10k and a number of students ran the 3K Fun Run in support of the Hospice in Darlington. It was a very successful day – one that the local community, Club and race director Trevor Needham should be very proud.

For some of Greenfield staff this was the 5th Event they had undertaken as part of the Make it Happen team 2013 campaign, to raise money for St Teresa's Hospice. So far the team have raised over £6,000 which is truly

amazing! Some members are tackling the 3 peaks next weekend, so we wish them good luck.

Anyone who would like to support St Teresa's Hospice and the Make it Happen team can do so through www.justgiving.com/Makeithappen2013 or by texting the code MAHP73 with the amount in £'s to 70070. Thank you again to Aycliffe Running club for their support of Greenfield School, the local Community and St Teresa's Hospice. It is very much appreciated.

Unbelievable!

On Friday 21st June around lunchtime a grey haired lady in a tartan jacket was spotted stealing begonia plants from the roadside flower bed on Central Avenue. She took care to take the complete plant including the roots before making her way home via Shield Walk. All that remained was the vacant hole in the ground!

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SEDGEFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Bank Funds Company's New Site in Aycliffe

Working with Iain Pemberton, Senior Relationship Manager for Commercial Banking at NatWest in Chester, PEC secured a loan of £269,500 to help finance the purchase of the freehold of a new site.

Colin said: "We've been working with Iain at NatWest since 2006 and Iain has always been great; very supportive and proactive. He's helped us through difficult times and has assisted us with freeing up cashflow. Now that we've secured the future of our new site in Newton Aycliffe and 30 jobs overall, our plan now is to consolidate and bring new business on board."

With a turnover of over £8m, PEC Packaging aims to increase that to £9m by next year. Two more staff have already been taken on as a result of the funding with five



further staff anticipated by the end of the year.

As well as packaging and freight, the company has developed a further income stream worth £1m annually in a subsidiary company by reusing the wood waste from

the manufacturing process that would previously have been thrown away.

Colin added: "We're proud to be extremely green and are probably one of the most environmentally-friendly packaging firms in the industry. We've invested heavily in equipment to help us recycle and we even use our sawdust and off-cuts to make racehorse bedding and fuel briquettes."

Iain Pemberton from NatWest added: "It's a pleasure to work with someone as enterprising as Colin. From a young age, he's built up a successful business and his recent expansion has helped secure the future of many jobs. Working with him on the latest chapter has been very exciting and we wish him every success with cracking the north east market."

REPORT ON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

By County Councillor John Clare

Key news in the last fortnight includes:

1. The County Council continues to fast-track progress on the 'Combined Authority' – the alliance of the seven north-east councils to deliver an integrated strategy for economic growth, skills and transport – and notes with satisfaction that local newspapers are on board too, through their 'NEvolution' campaign
2. Delegations from Chicago, New York and Denmark have visited to learn from how County Durham organises its

affairs, particularly the Area Action Partnerships.

3. The County Council has arranged a stunning programme of events for the tourist season, including the visit of the Lindisfarne Gospels, the International Brass Festival, the Lumière and many others.
4. The Council has tendered its domestic waste to a company which does not put it into landfill, but turns it into electricity ... and has saved the Council £27m into the bargain.
5. The decision has been taken to merge County Durham's and Sunderland's IT departments, which will allow pooling of expertise and economies of scale.

Meanwhile, HealthWatch County Durham – the grassroots body set up to monitor the performance of the local NHS – is seeking to recruit for its Enter-and-View teams which visit medical premises and produce reports. If you are interested, you will have to join HealthWatch and express an interest in Enter-and-View before 19 July. Email: info@healthwatchcountydurham.co.uk

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

A Fashion Show by Bon Marche is arranged for Friday 19th July at 6.30pm. Tickets £5 inc supper. To book and collect on the door please ring 313924.

Table Tennis tuition for adults starts in July. If you are interested please ring. Kurling for beginners starts on Wednesday 3rd July from 10am till 12 noon. Suitable for all ages and you can sit down to play! First session free - to book please ring. Volunteer needed to teach adults how to use the Wii.

Aycliffe Marks Armed Forces Week



The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Mrs. Barbara Clare, attended the War Memorial outside St. Clare's Church on Monday, 24th June 2013 at 11 a.m. to raise a flag on behalf of the Town to mark the beginning of 'Armed Forces Week'. The Mayor was assisted by Officers from 102 Battalion (REME). Standard Bearers from the Royal British Legion were present together with members from the Club.

The bagpipes were played by PSB Gary Dodd, during the short Service which was conducted by representatives of 'Churches Together', the Revd. Julie Wing from St. Clare's Church, Methodist Preachers, Graham and Emma Morgan and Pastor Geoff Walvin from the Harvest Church. Councillors and members of the public were also present.

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Telesales Apprentice	Newton Aycliffe
IT Support Technician	Darlington & N/Aycliffe
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Please contact Laura Bell to apply
Telephone: (01325) 328443

NEWTONIAN'S SKILLS RECOGNISED IN NATIONAL FINAL



Kristian Pilmer, a painting and decorating student from Newton Aycliffe, has painted his way to third place in Dulux Decorator Centres' National Apprentice of the Year 2013 after impressing the judges with his great brushwork and eye for detail. Kristian, 20, fought off stiff competition from nine other talented painting and decorating students from all over the UK and Northern Ireland to secure third place at the thrilling grand final, which took place on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th June, at Sandwell College. The competition was followed

by a presentation ceremony held at The Mount hotel, Wolverhampton. As part of his prize, Kristian won £250 cash prize from Dulux Decorator Centres, and a selection of products from the competition's sponsors.

Film Show

St Elizabeth's Church
-30th June, Sunday
Matinée at 2:30pm
showing Australia. Cost
£3 towards funds for a
replacement church sign.

We are a local charity providing services to improve health and wellbeing based at the award winning Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe.



The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) is an award-winning North East charity whose mission is 'Health, well-being and Learning for all'. We are currently recruiting:

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To assist in the planning and delivery of a programme of events and courses in the South Durham area, focusing on the health benefits of sustainable transport.

Key tasks:

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- Design, development and delivery of a programme of courses
- Engagement with the local community, providers and other partners to ensure that the project aims and objectives are met
- To work, in line with organisational procedures, to provide a professional and courteous administration service to internal and external customers.

Key skills required:

- Interpersonal and networking skills, including ability to work as part of a team
- Working with people from a wide range of backgrounds, including members of the public
- Administrative and organisational skills (including promotional events and campaigns)
- Time management skills
- IT skills, including Microsoft Office.

As an equal opportunities employer, PCP values diversity and is a Mindful Employer. We welcome applications from all members of the community.

For an application form and further information please contact The Administration team:

Telephone: (01325) 321234
Email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net
Fax: (01325) 301129
website: www.pcp.uk.net

Closing Date for applications: Friday 12 July 2013



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Aycliffe F.C.'s Memorial Trek to Northallerton

Newton Aycliffe FC are appealing for willing walkers and cyclists to take part in an emotional fundraiser for the club.

Several fans have already signed up to complete all or part of the 25-mile route from Northallerton Town FC back to Moore Lane Park on Saturday July 20th as part of the Frank Swinburne Memorial celebrations.

Frank passed away earlier this year after a short illness and the club has organised a three-tier event to remember his work and passion for the Northern League outfit.

In April 2010, Frank, along with friend Peter Allison, completed the 25-mile walk from Aycliffe to Northallerton, raising over £1000 for the football club.

The walk this time will be reversed and supporters are encouraged to participate in any fashion, with staggered starting points to suit capabilities, while jogging or cycling the route is also an option.

Information packs detailing the event have been produced for interested parties, and people are asked to contact Paul McGeary on 07703732342 or email aycliffefc@hotmail.co.uk to request packs.

Following the walk, Aycliffe will host Northallerton Town in the Frank Swinburne Memorial Trophy as part of their pre-season preparations, with the game kicking off at 3pm. Proceeds from the game will be donated to a charity of the Swinburne family's choice.

The walk and the football match has generously been sponsored by Herbalife and further details can be found on their website www.healthynewyou.co.uk

And following the match, a barbeque will be available for supporters at the Sports Club, with everyone welcome to complete what is hoped will be a memorable day.

Meanwhile, boss Allan Oliver has made his first signing of the summer as Billingham Town player of the year Dan Molyneux has been snapped up to replace Bishop Auckland-bound Scott Pocklington in goal.

Stuart Owen, Danny Earl, Danny Lambert, James Oliver, Stephen Gibson, Paul Broom and John Close have also signed up for another campaign at Moore Lane Park.

- Newton Aycliffe FC are welcoming supporters to join them on their pre-season travels to South Yorkshire as they visit North East Counties outfit Athersley Recreation on Saturday 13th July.

The squad will travel by coach, leaving the Sports Club at 10am, returning around 9.30pm, and seats are available for the return journey, priced at just £10.

The game in Barnsley kicks off at 2pm, with Aycliffe's youth team taking on their Athersley counterparts in a game kicking off at 3pm.

Interested parties are asked to contact Paul McGeary (07703732342) or Steve Cunliffe (07872985501) in order to reserve their seat.

PRE SEASON FIXTURES

Sat July 13th – Athersley Recreation (a) 2pm
Wed July 17th - Darlington (h) 7.30pm
Sat July 20th – Northallerton Town (h) 3pm
Wed July 24th – Coxhoe Athletic (a) 7pm
Sat July 27th – Tow Law Town (a) 1pm
Mon July 29th – Cleveland Bridge (a) 7.30pm
Sat August 3rd – Athersley Recreation (h) 2pm
Tues August 6th – Darlington RA (h) 7.30pm

FUN RUNNERS HELP HONEST JOHN'S COMMUNITY KITTY



Newton Aycliffe Rugby club entered 12 runners for the recent 3K Fun Run, They all finished the course raising money for local charity fundraiser Honest John.

The rugby club has started its pre-season training and a brilliant turn out of 32 players attended the first session, and 34 for last Saturday. In order to accommodate the first British Lions Test against Australia, the next 2 Saturday sessions will start as early as 9am. The Lions KO time is

11:05am bst. It will be shown on the screens at the Sports Club after training.

Thursday training sessions will be added to the schedule starting Thursday evening 4th July 2013 at 7pm. Saturday sessions will revert to 1pm start as from 13th July.

Any new players still interested in rugby training can contact Head coach Pete Ryans for details: Mob 07796 172599 or turn up down the club for the planned sessions.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team team sponsored by Lift Right Fork Lift Training produced their best display of the season as they defeated Darlington RA 2nd XI at home by a club record winning margin of 247 runs in their NYSD 3rd division league match.

Aycliffe were asked to bat first and opener Sam Telford was in magnificent form as he smashed his maiden century from just 105 balls. The talented 18 year old was eventually out for a superb 129 and his innings included 17 fours and one six.

Captain Chris Palmer also got in on the action hammering his 4th half century of the season scoring 58 runs off 39 balls with 8 boundaries and 3 huge sixes.

Michael Howe blasted a late order 38 off just 12 balls and Dan Craggs hit an equally aggressive unbeaten 25 off just 9 balls as Aycliffe declared their innings with a new club record total of 344 for 6 after 42.5 overs.

In reply the visitors were blown away by a brilliant spell of fast bowling from Michael Howe as he dismissed the first five batsmen to finish with career best figures of 5 for 19 from his 7 over spell. Luke Telford and Dan Craggs each chipped in with a couple of wickets as Darlington RA were quickly bowled out for just 87 after 27.3 overs to give Aycliffe their record breaking victory.

The 2nd XI and under 18's

both had a fixture free week, but the under 15's entertained Mainsforth at home and their recent winning streak came to an end as they were beaten by 50 runs despite good innings from Patrick Howe (18) and Dylan Tribbley (11 not out).

The club's under 13's team had an excellent 41 run win at home to Yarm in the NYACC league. There were some solid batting performance for Aycliffe from Jack Lowery, Arran Taylor, James Knowlson and Nathan Parry, and some superb bowling from Ryan Patrick and Jack Lowery with both players taking 4 wickets each.

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team are scheduled to play Whitby CC on Saturday 13th July and will be running a coach to the game, leaving the Sports Club at 10.00am and returning from Whitby at 10.00pm. Seats costing £10 for adults £5 for children, with under 5's going free, can be booked by phoning 07976 392 173 and are open to anyone wishing to watch the cricket or just to have day out in Whitby.

NAJFC HELPED TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOAL

Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club has been awarded funding as part of The FA's Youth Football goalposts initiative, which was launched in 2012 in partnership with

the Football Foundation, the country's largest sports charity. The grant will mean that children at Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club will now be able to play matches with goalposts that are relative to their age and size.

The Football Foundation works with The FA to provide funding towards the installation of goalposts that supports the implementation of The FA's Youth Development Review. The new 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 formats – played on smaller pitches with smaller goals – aim to develop more technically-gifted English players. These formats will be mandatory from next season. Extensive research has shown that the game is more enjoyable for youngsters as they receive more touches of the ball and the game is less likely to be dominated by larger, more physical players.

The move to small-sided

matches requires goals smaller than the full-size goals used at present in Under 11 football. With a pair of goals costing on average £900, a ring-fenced funding pot of £1m was made available by the Foundation in association with The FA to support clubs and leagues taking up the new nine-a-side and smaller formats of the game – a key part of The FA's new approach to youth football.

The first window, which closed in September, saw more than 600 clubs benefit from a total of £444,000 funding. The new window, which is open for applications now, sees the remaining £556,000 of £1m funding up for grabs.

Sir Trevor Brooking, Director of Football Development at The FA, said: "The first funding window for 9v9 goalposts was extremely successful, with junior football clubs across the country making the most of the 50% grants available to them."

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CELTIC FC COACHES AT WOODHAM



Ryan Peart and Reed Molloy experienced a once in a lifetime opportunity last week working with coaches from Celtic Football Club. The two Woodham students took part in a full day of football working alongside the best coaches in Celtic's Academy structure.

The day was in two parts; with a morning coaching master class session delivered by the coaches Mr Clough Director of Woodham Sports Academy accompanied the students and said "It was a fantastic opportunity for Ryan and Reed to understand the different methodology and philosophy of one of the biggest club sides in the world. The day itself was both educational and practical and Ryan and Reed enjoyed the day tremendously".

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Heighington Football Club Race Night

Heighington Football club are once again hosting their popular Race Night on Saturday the 13th July, in Heighington Village Hall. The event will celebrate the Club's 10th anniversary, whilst also raising vital money to keep the village's only adult football club running for another season.

The race night kicks off at 7pm and will include 7 digital horse races for you to place your stake on. The event also includes a very competitively priced bar and a disco will follow the horse races. You are welcome to bring along your own snacks and nibbles to enjoy throughout the evening.

Tickets are available for £5 on the door. Table bookings for party sizes of 4 through to 20 are welcome in advance. If you are interested in being a sponsor for the club, or would like to reserve a table for the Race Night, please contact Charlie on 07842 696634. Heighington football club are part of the Crook and District League, playing in division one. The men's team have attracted players from across the area, including Heighington, Newton Aycliffe, Shildon and Darlington. New players are always welcome; if interested in joining the team, contact Charlie on the number above.

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MAYOR AT SQUASH CLUB PRESENTATION EVENING

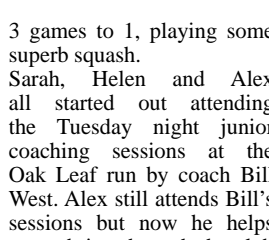


Aycliffe Squash Club's championship finals evening took place on Saturday 15 June, commencing with the plate finals, followed by the main events – the ladies' championship final, then the men's championship final. All of the matches were played in excellent spirit and well supported by a good turnout.

The men's plate final was a battle of the veterans, with Peter Morris beating Kevin Martin 3-1 in a close, sweat-drenched battle. In the ladies plate final, Meryl Graham beat Sarah Aisbit in straight games.

The ladies' championship final was a very high quality match between county champion Sarah Dowson and twin sister Helen, the two best ladies in the club by a wide margin, both of whom achieved national top 10 rankings as juniors, with Sarah getting as high as 6 and Helen as high as 8 in the country.

These two players had contested the final for the previous 7 years, with Sarah winning on every occasion. This year was no exception, with Sarah winning 3-0, though Helen came close in the first and third games, and she was always in the contest until the final rally was won. In the men's final, player of the season 17 year old Alex MacFarlane, who was nationally ranked in the top 20 as a junior, faced club veteran John Snowball. Alex had reached the final via an epic 3-2 semi final victory over four-time champion Neil Ross and was strongly favoured by the bookies. Although John put up a brave fight, Alex always looked in control and was the victor by



3 games to 1, playing some superb squash. Sarah, Helen and Alex all started out attending the Tuesday night junior coaching sessions at the Oak Leaf run by coach Bill West. Alex still attends Bill's sessions but now he helps try to bring through the club champions of tomorrow. Aycliffe Squash Club has 3 men's teams and 2 women's teams playing in the Durham and Cleveland leagues as well as a women's friendly team. It holds regular women's coaching sessions and will shortly be starting men's coaching and is always looking out for new players. Squash is a healthy sport for all ages and is easy to participate in at the Oak Leaf with equipment available to hire if needed. Watch out for drop-in taster sessions for beginners.

The Club thanks its new sponsors, car dealers Pulmans, for supporting the event, and Councillors Barbara and John Clare for coming along to watch the action and present the prizes. More information on opportunities to play or learn to play squash is available by contacting the Oak Leaf on 01325 300600.

RESIDENTS' MEETING

A meeting of the Linden Place Residents' Association will be held at Sure Start at Stephenson Way School on Monday 8th July 2nd at 6pm. All residents welcome.

Aycliffe Tri Club News



Michael Smith, Martin Sedgwick and Wendy Bake

On 25th May Michelle Scott competed at the Red Venom ITU Aquathlon World Championship Qualifiers and successfully guaranteed herself a place in the World Championship held in London in September.

The event was a 750m swim and a 5k run which Michelle completed in a fantastic time of 0:34:55. Then on the 9th June Michelle was racing again this time in Scisett Sprint Triathlon a 400m swim, 16k cycle and 4.5k run, Michelle was 1st in her category with an excellent time of 0:59:30.

Also on the 9th of June three members of the club were competing in the Cleveland Short Course Triathlon. A tough standard distance event made up of 1500m open water swim, 40km cycle and a 10k run. Andrew Sedgwick was first home in 2:12:02 placing 19th in his category. Then the twins Mark and Phil Harrop finished in 33rd and 34th category position with Marks time of 2:26:53 and Phils 2:29:44.

On 16th June the club had 4 triathletes racing at Weardale Sprint Triathlon. It was held at Stanhope open air pool and made up of a 400m swim, 22km cycle and 5km run. First home was David Greatorex with a speedy time of 1:13:04, followed by first timer Michael Scott who had taken the race at short notice but still managed a brilliant time of 1:20:07. Next home was Martin Sedgwick who raced home comfortably in 1:24:11 followed by the clubs only competing lady at this event Wendy Bake in 1:34:14.

All the above events were a great success and enjoyed by all athletes taking part. The club still has a very busy race calendar ahead of them so watch out for future race reports.

If you would like further details about Aycliffe Tri Club please contact the club on the website www.aycliffetriclub.onsport.com by email aycliffetriclub@gmail.com or you can call Club Coach Andrew Sedgwick on 07887817960

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Saturday 29th June 2013

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Woodham Summer Fair

Woodham Academy Summer Fair is on Saturday 6th July from 10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m., with free activities running throughout the morning
 The event will offer a host of fun and games including art workshops, Jungle Run inflatable, face painting, creative activities, mini Sports Academy, Let's Get Cooking and more. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
 Refreshments will be available throughout and a light lunch is included to round off the event.

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Girls Excel at Computing



Two Year 7 students at Woodham Academy were delighted to be presented with a Samsung Q1 tablet each in Friday morning's assembly. The girls were part of a larger group who have been attending the weekly Computer Club for Girls sessions at school since the beginning of September and were awarded the prizes for the excellent work they have created over the year. Computer Clubs for Girls (CC4G) is a school club for Years 7 and 8 that has been specifically designed to encourage girls to stay engaged in computing and IT. The

activities included the creation of covers for the CDs they produced using audio editing software and designing their own house using 3D design software. CC4G helps girls develop their skills in IT through a series of carefully-graded challenges, themed around their interests, such as fashion, music, sport and celebrity. It supports girls' learning in computing and IT across the curriculum, and benefits their confidence and self-esteem. The CC4G sessions have now finished but will start again in September.

BRASS AT GREENFIELD!



Following the success of last year's performances at Greenfield Community College as part of BRASS: Durham International Festival, we can now confirm we will be hosting "Always Drinking Marching Band" at Greenfield in July! Last year Band de la Maria performed at Byerly Park School in the morning, and Greenfield in the afternoon, then performed the community as part of "Cutting Loose" and this year we are pleased to be able to offer the opportunity

for local children, young people and the community. On Wednesday 17th July we will welcome the fantastic Spanish band to Newton Aycliffe for the day, and are looking forward to their visit! If you would like to see them perform, we are hosting a community performance on 17th July at 7:30pm at Greenfield Arts. Tickets are free and are available from us. For more information visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

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Birthday Remembrance

Agnes Williams



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FEATHERSTONE, Eleanor. 25/6/1906 to 8.5.2006. Fond memories on your birthday. Love from all the family xxx

In Memoriam

Jeff Clark

4th July 2002
Treasured and special memories of our dear devoted friend Jeff.
Forever in our thoughts.
Georgie and Joy-Marie

JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. Loving memories of a dear Brother-in-Law and Uncle. To us you were so special, we only wish with all our hearts that you were here today. Love always, Carole, Adam and Matthew xxx
JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. In loving memory of a loving Brother and Uncle. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. Liz, Roger, Joanna, Chris, Martyn, Andrea (Tunbridge Wells)
JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. Loving memories of a dear Brother-in-Law and Uncle. To us you were so special, we only wish with all our hearts that you were here today. Love always, Carole, Adam and Matthew xxx
JEFF CLARK Died 4th July 2002. In loving memory of a loving Brother and Uncle. These we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. Liz, Roger, Joanna, Chris, Martyn and Andrea xx
DES WALKER 30th June 2008. There will always be a heartache and often a silent tear. As we treasure the beautiful memories of the days when you were here. Love always, Wife Julia and all the family xx
ROBERT CLELLAND 1-7-1983. Think of you every day. Miss and love you so much. Mam, Debbie and Jayne xxx

Congratulations

Kalya Eden

Happy 16th Birthday
My precious Dad died, then a few days later, God sent you down from above. My very own special "little Angel" to cherish and to love. The years have flown past fast Kalya and as you now celebrate becoming "sweet sixteen", I want you to know that both inside and out you are one of the most beautiful girls I have ever seen.
LYTMAATWABAAEMTT
Auntie Pamela xxxx

Lucy Pollock



Congratulations
on gaining a First Class Honours Degree in Psychology from Durham University.
Lots of love from your very proud family. xx

George & Lily Richards



Diamond Anniversary
27th June 1953
60 years since you both said "I do". Wishing you every happiness on your special day. Elizabeth, Keith, all your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren and your loving family. We all love you so much xxxx

Jenny Toole

On your 85th birthday. To our special Mam, Nana and Great Nana. Lots of love comes from all your family. Have a great weekend xxxx

NEWTON NEWS

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Emma Hayman



Happy 21st Birthday
1st July 1992
Congratulations, hope you have a wonderful 21st birthday. Thinking of you on your special day. Lots of love always, Mam, Jimmy, Max, Taz, Tess and Jay xxxx
PS: You still got that little C.S. Smile

Colin Thompson



IS THE BIG 40
on 28th June 2013
Happy birthday Son. Love you loads from Mam, Dad and all your family and friends

Michael Kelly



Happy 65th Birthday
28th June 2013
Have a wonderful birthday Spike. Love from Joy and all the family xxxx

Bethany Maddison



Happy Sweet Sixteenth
To our darling Daughter Bethany "Bif" Maddison. Love, Mam and Dad xxx

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Happy to Hire at Greenfield

It will soon be the summer holidays at Greenfield Arts, as we prepare to say thank you and goodbye to our fabulous tutors until September but our amazing hirers will still be here to keep us company! We'd like to thank all our hirers and hope you have a lovely summer with us.

There's still room to join us though, we have many spaces available for room hire, either day or night! Why not use our art spaces for a party, dance studio for rehearsals or use our hall...for pretty much anything!

Contact us to discuss your requirements: us 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk. We are working hard on the programme for the Summer holidays - which will be released in early July - contact us if you'd like to be added to our mailing list or keep an eye on our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk for full details.

Tennis Thrives at Greenfield

Greenfield Tennis Club is delighted to welcome increasing numbers of players aged between 4 and 16 years. The players are offered a quality tennis experience in small groups on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

The Club coaching programme also supports Young Sports Leaders to gain experience and confidence, working with small groups of players. Some leaders attend to assist as volunteers but some take the prospect of becoming a leader more seriously and work towards achieving coaching qualifications.

The club have been successful in recent years supporting youngsters achieving LTA Level 1 and Level 2 Awards. Aidan Robson has now achieved a Level 4 Award and is coaching full time tennis in Huddersfield.

Amber Dolby from



Greenfield Community College has been leading tennis sessions since last November. Many young players appreciate her enthusiasm and commitment as they learn tennis and social skills.

Richie Howe attends Woodham Academy and has been leading regularly since last October. Richie has gained much experience in organising and coaching basic tennis



skills with a pleasant and confident manner. Richie has established himself as a first class leader and has earned a position at Camp Cody in New Hampshire, USA. He will be in the USA for 3 weeks in July where he will work with American students in a range of activities.

Several other leaders have assisted in the past year from both schools in Newton Aycliffe and the support will continue in the future.

Contact Ian Wilkinson (Head Coach) for details of all activities. rootennis1@hotmail.co.uk Or visit the club website www.greenfieldtennis.co.uk

SEE PAGE 5 FOR BENGAL LOUNGE NEWS

Aycliffe Baseball on the Rise

With the British Baseball season in full flow, Newton Aycliffe Spartans took the weekend off from their regular season to take part in a three team mini-tournament in Harrogate on 16th June. Spartans faced the 2012 AAA National champions, Liverpool Trojans, in their first game and it is testament to how far the Spartans have come as a team that they ran team from Merseyside close with Liverpool winning in the final inning of the game.

The game turned out to be real pitcher's dual with Spartans' American pitcher, Bryan Dunkel, keeping the Trojans bats guessing with some sublime pitching. Trojans went into an early 1-0 lead but were pegged back in the 2nd inning when Jarek Majka scored.

Trojans hit back and took a 2-1 lead before the Spartans tied up the game to head into the last inning. The game looked destined to finish a tie in the 5th inning but Liverpool sent home one of their runners to narrowly edge out the Spartans by a score of 3-2.

In the second game against the host Harrogate Tigers, Mike Holton took over the pitching duties and despite trailing 4-0 at the end of the 1st inning the Spartans kept themselves in the game with a confidence mix of hitting and base-running. The game was as close as the game between the same two sides earlier in the month, won by Harrogate Tigers thanks to a Grand-Slam, with the home side

opening up a 7-5 lead in the 4th inning. Spartans roared back to take the game, 11-7. Assistant Coach Mike Holton was delighted and commented "We went into these games with a short roster and every player played their part. It was a huge team effort and as we enter the second half of our season, we shall use these results and more importantly, the performances, as a springboard to get into the end of season playoffs.

It was nice to receive positive comments from the Trojans and the Tigers about how far we have come as a baseball team in such a short period of time"

If you fancy trying Baseball, new players, female or male, experienced or inexperienced are invited to come along and try one of the fastest growing team sports in the UK. Details of training sessions are on the Spartans website www.newtonaycliffespartans.co.uk

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