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Permission Granted for 175 New Homes at Cobblers Hall



Last Thursday, Durham County Council's Area Planning Committee unanimously approved plans for Keepmoat to develop 175 two, three and four-bedroom houses on Site O at Cobblers Hall, Woodham. Site O has been earmarked for housing since 1967. Just nine letters of objection were received. The submission provided no 'affordable' houses - they had already been built for the

Hawkshead Place development but, as part of the proposal, Durham County Council agreed to ringfence £500,000 from the sale of the land towards the provision of further affordable housing in the local area. Campaigners who have recently complained about the slow progress of environmental works planned for 'the Moor' Nature Reserve will be pleased to see that the County Council has also promised a further

£375,000 to restore this wetland. Included in these works will be a Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme to catch surface run-off from the new estate. This will prevent the bog drying out, but will also reduce the danger of flooding along Woodham Burn by catching flood-water in a large pond. Local Councillor John Clare described the County Council's provision as 'very generous' and commented: 'this will secure the Moor as an area of local ecological interest and give the local economy a very significant boost at the same time'. The terms of the planning permission require the work on the Moor to be completed before building work is allowed to begin. Plans will be submitted shortly, and it is hoped to start the work in early 2014.

COUNTY COUNCIL FOLLY

The County Council Highways Department made a big mistake at the entrance to Tesco's, taking the cost of this minor change to the road to what is bound to be tens of thousands of pounds.

All that was needed was to change the road markings, but we ended up with a grandiose scheme involving new pavements and fancy bollards contradicting the County Council's need to save money! The work, over many weeks brought chaos to the area as busy traffic built up in and out of Tescos. When it was completed motorists found the turn too sharp and were mounting the kerb causing danger to pedestrians. The Council Officer said it complied with regulations, but following an outcry from Tesco and their customers they

reviewed the situation and came back this week to amend the scheme, causing further disruption.

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Sedgefield & District Citizens Advice Bureau are holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th October 2013 at 4pm in The Literary Institute, St Cuthbert's Terrace, Dean Bank, Ferryhill.

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£200 REWARD OFFERED TO CATCH GRAVE ROBBER

Dear Sir

Can I bring to your attention another West Cemetery memorial theft, committed only days after the Buddha stolen you reported last week. Sarah Temple, who was tragically killed outside Gretna Inn 10 years ago, is buried in this cemetery and ornaments cemented in, next to her headstone, have been stolen. I will personally offer £100 and Honest John will give another £100 reward to any person with any information leading to the prosecution of this low life person(s). Anybody with any information please contact Aycliffe Police on 101.

Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp

The Royal British Legion

presents a

Karaoke Contest

from Sunday 6th October for six weeks

We originally stated that you had to live in Newton Aycliffe, but would now like to invite anyone from the surrounding areas to apply.

Applications accepted on Tuesday 1st and Thursday 3rd October between 7-8pm, or you can ring the Legion direct on 312876 leave your name and contact number.
(Entries must be 18 or over and an amateur)

1st Prize £200 / 2nd £75 / 3rd £25 - £5 Entry Fee



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WHO OWNS THIS LAND? NEW BOOK SELLS OUT



For 10 years the land in the photo, next to The Cubby, has remained an eyesore waiting for someone to tidy it up. There have been complaints, but generally they have been disregarded until recently when an official from County Hall said the land was part of The Cubby lease and it was their responsibility.

This was startling news to the current leaseholders who were never aware of this and have no documents to say it is on their lease. They always considered it part of the Avenue School land owned by the County Council and sold to a developer. Chairman Counc. Billy Blenkinsopp is now in contact with the County

Council to determine who has the land.

One thing is sure that if the land had been part of the Tesco site it would have been put to use. The ownership ought to be established so that this area can be made more useful and attractive. Newton News wonders when the Library moves from its temporary site to new premises next to the Leisure Centre what will happen to that demountable building? The obvious answer would be to relocate "The Cubby" into those premises, freeing up a sizeable and valuable piece of land for new development. But then again that sounds too much like common sense and it won't happen!

Harvest Festival at St. Andrews

Harvest celebrations begin with a Parish Service on Sunday 29th September at 10am. There will be a Supper and Auction in the Village Hall on Monday at 7pm. Admission £3. Children under 11yrs - 50p. All proceeds to Farm Africa.
NB: Please note during the interregnum there will be no 6pm Evensong.

FREE MUSIC AT PLANET LEISURE

On Saturday 5th Oct, Aycliffe Young Talent Project and Planet Leisure get together to start fortnightly music events. Starting with a great local act, Aycliffes own "DJ Cal", a youngster whose love of music has seen him play many local gigs including being live on air sets.

Local girl, singer, songwriter and musician "Gemma Abley" will also be taking part, she will be singing and playing acoustic guitar to a mix of some of her own great music and covers of well known hits.

You can check Gemma out on facebook "gemmaableymusic". Headlining the night will be Aycliffes own rock band "The Unsound", www.TheUnsound.co.uk. If you haven't managed to get to one of their gigs yet, this is the ideal opportunity to support young talent and get along and see them.

Darren from Planet Leisure invited Tom and Ian from AYTP.co.uk to organise FREE to enter Live Music events and use his great facilities as he is all for Aycliffe's youngsters having somewhere to display their talent.

More information about gigs being organised can be found at AYTP.co.uk.

Another Grave Theft

Police are appealing for witnesses after another grave was targeted in West Cemetery, School Aycliffe whereby items were stolen between 16:30 hours on 06/09/13 and 18:45 hours on 20/09/13.

This is a despicable act and one of numerous thefts which have taken place within the last few weeks within the cemetery which is extremely upsetting to the families of the graves targeted.

On this occasion two glass ornaments of Winnie The Pooh and Tigger were stolen along with 3 pot angels. The glass ornaments were approximately 4 inch high and a gold coloured butterfly sat on Pooh's nose and another was in Tiggers hand. Two of the angels were seated and the other lying down all reading books.

If members of the public know of anyone who has been trying to sell the items as described or has any information which could lead to the apprehension of the suspects please do not hesitate to contact PC 2228 Debbie Woods quoting DHM-20092013-0420.

Local author Hilary Smith's book launch was well attended and she sold all of the books she had. Anyone wanting a signed copy can buy the book on Amazon and Hillary will sign it at St Clare's Saturday Coffee Mornings throughout October.

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Saturday 28th September - "Elenbak"

Covers by Bad Company, Free, Sabbath, Poison, Brian Adams, Eurythmics and many more.
Review: "What a bunch of fighters these guys are! Back again after previously strong showings in past BOTBs, Elenbak return with yet more melody driven and insanely catchy soft rock. More new material in their excellently delivered set, but still it's the wonderful 'Samantha' that gets under your skin and refuses to be ignored - a summertime hit single if ever I heard one. Partnered to familiar favourite 'In This World' these are two great songs that really show the quality running through this band. Closing with a triumphant 'Someday' you have to believe that there is a cracking AOR album in this band just begging to be unleashed."

Saturday 5th October - "Skinflint"

Twice stars of the main stage at 'STORMIN'

Previous review from the turbinia - "Skinflint's first blast in the Tub last night, and what a first blast!!! DI love Skinflint, cos they've got the only two guys I know who get their hair out more than me!! Absolutely ace! Everyone has had how good the lads were, and with an alternative venue just over the road havin a band on again, some of the folk who came over from there said they were well pleased they had done so!! The lads had the sound bang on for us, they sounded excellent!! (I loved 'the soundcheck song') Opening tune was Paranoid, swiftly followed by For Whom The Bell Tolls. Thin Lizzy's Cold Sweat was top notch as was Cat Scratch Fever, I heard that one at Crook and it's fast becoming one of my faves! Chris Isaac's Wicked Game and Ozzy's Bark At The Moon were followed by Rosalie, (which took away one of our lad's shout for his encore straight away!!) AC/DC's Whole Lotta Rosie removed Keith's second encore shout so he was stuck for what to shout for when the time came!! Bit of Foo Fighters and Sabbath, The Cult's L'il Devil had me and some of the lasses on the floor with the hair out, (nowt new there) and Status Quo's Sweet Caroline rocked!! Whisky In The Jar totally ruined Keith's chances of shouting for anything at all for an encore, Highway Star and Smoke On The Water, and the lads rounded off with my all time fave Rebel Yell, which guaranteed me whiplash this morning!! Saw these guys at Stormin last year, was looking forward to them coming to the Tub and they did themselves proud. I hope they enjoyed the gig as much as the punters did, and look forward to them coming back for another round!!

Saturday 12th October - "Thyn Lizzy"

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

For more information on bands go to
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Saturday 28th September 9.00am to 12noon

Saturday 5th October 9.00am to 12noon

Heighington Patients Welcome

Further clinics will run after these dates, if you require further information please call us on 01325 316637 or 0844 477 3708 .

Public Consultation on Traffic Around Schools

In recent months a number of concerns have been raised with County Councillors and the Police and the Crime Commissioner in relation to traffic around schools in Great Aycliffe.

A public consultation has been arranged to address these issues and will take place on Monday 30th September at 6.30pm in the Youth Centre, Burn Lane.

Ron Hogg and your County Councillors will be in attendance and look forward to meeting you and hearing your views on this important subject.

WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre are setting down a "challenge". in conjunction with Jules Weight Loss Challenge who invite you to discover a fun way to lose

weight and keep it off. The 12 week course includes: Group support, a personal wellness coach and nutritional education. There are cash prizes up for grabs if you are one of the top achievers. Intrigued why not come along and find our for yourself. Class sizes are limited so call now and reserve your spot. Your challenge starts on Friday 4th October at 12 noon for one hour and will cost you £39 for the 12 week course. For more information or to register your place contact Jules on 07966 968388 or ring the youth centre on 01325 307522

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Newton Aycliffe	Manager: Vicky Hutchinson	01325 315623
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Town Centre Shows Progress

Recent photographs reveal the Town Centre refurbishment is coming to an end with the overall design becoming clearly attractive. Completion is expected in November, but shoppers and shopkeepers are asking if those parts that are finished will be opened for use by pedestrians or will we have to wait until the whole landscape scheme is completed?

The next stage of the redevelopment involves the demolition of Churchill House and the shops facing down Beveridge Way. We have received notice from Solicitors B.H.P. that they



Photos by Piotr Siegien

are closing this week and will not be taking another lease in the Town Centre. We are aware that Newsforce is another that will not renew



Helping Hands Assisted Over 1000 People in Aycliffe Area

Lifeline Community Action (LCA) was founded by a group of like-minded Christians in 2009 after they identified a need for debt counselling and practical support for families and individuals in crisis in Newton Aycliffe and

the surrounding area. The organisation was registered as a charity in July 2010. All people involved in LCA are volunteers. LCA's core activity is the "Helping Hands" project which provides practical support in the form of "household packs" of basic goods and essentials to people in crisis in the Newton Aycliffe area (up to a five mile radius). The charity has helped over 1,000 people in the last year, but estimate that there are potentially 10,000 people who could benefit. We have just broken through distributing £350,000.00 worth of aid which is a lot more than we anticipated. As the charity grows we desperately need a fund-raiser, accountant and a PR manager that are also willing to work on a volunteer basis. Would you like to make a big difference in seeing peoples lives transformed? If so please get in touch with

Alwyn. People are referred to Helping Hands via voluntary and community agencies or by current beneficiaries, and a large number of people ring after seeing a story in the Newton News. Helping Hands volunteers then work with households to establish what an individual or family's needs are and which goods would make the most difference. Most of the people benefiting are having severe financial problems, are in financial crisis and/or in crippling debt. Helping Hands then gives out packs free of charge. If you need help then we would love to help and reach out to you in times of trouble, and offer emergency assistance, food & support. Please contact Alwyn on 07936 431262. We will visit you in the privacy of your home. Every application is dealt with confidentially. Our volunteers work with people in crisis who are struggling to afford even the most basic items. We've helped over 1,000 people in the last year but we estimate that there are up to 10,000 people who need help in the area.

The packs we make up are in response to specific needs – it might be toothpaste, shampoo, laundry powder or dog food, depending on the individual case. It's a struggle to find the funds and time to deliver our work, but it's worth it to see the smile on people's faces when we are able to help."

Alwyn White
Project Leader

ARRIVA REJECT BUS ROUTE SUGGESTION

Appeal for Support of Readers

Dear Sir,
I live in Woodham and we have a No. 7 bus that runs from Durham to Darlington every 15 minutes. They all go the same route to the Town Centre via Woodham, Agnew on to Burnhill Way and along Stephenson Way and then to Greenwell Road. I have suggested to Arriva that at least two of these buses could go down Burn Lane to give residents a service to Tesco and Aldi. This would be a great help to elderly people who do not drive. The route has bus stops

and the mileage is the same and it should increase Arriva's revenue on this bus. Arriva replied stating they did not believe bus users in Woodham, and along this route would want the route to change. I disagree and ask readers of this letter to support my suggestion by contacting Newton News or Arriva direct. Address: Paul De Santis, Head of Commercial Development, Arriva, 1 Admiral Way, Doxford Park, Sunderland, SR3 3XP. Tel: 0190 5204200. Lorraine Smith

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COMMUNITY CENTRES LAUNCH OCTOBER DRAWING COMPETITION



As October half term gets closer, four Community Venues in Newton Aycliffe have been working together to encourage young people and families to be creative and join in The Big Draw.

Agnew Community Centre, Woodham Community Centre, Greenfield Arts and Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre have organised a range of creative activities for young people and families across October (which is family learning month), November and December 2013.

Part of the programme of activity is "The Big Draw" with drawing activity taking place as part of Greenfield

Arts' family fun days on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th October.

As a pre-cursor to this the four community venues are hosting a "Big Draw" competition, asking young people of Aycliffe to "Draw the Future." We are interested to see what the future might hold for the area!

To enter the competition, and win some art prizes, visit one of the four community venues and pick up a form, which can be returned to any of the venues. For more information, including the full family learning month programme visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

TOWN COUNCIL SEEK CHANGES TO PARISH BOUNDARY

Our Town Council met last Wednesday night and among the mundane agenda items were a few topics of interest sparking heated discussion.

There was a presentation by newly formed "Healthwatch" which took over some of the duties of "Links". There was some head scratching as to what this organisation really does that isn't covered by other agencies, and their main role appeared to be just signposting complaints to existing organisations.

The Council agreed not to attend a Conference in London for larger local councils as the cost of sending representatives could not be justified.

A motion proposed by Counc Adam and seconded by Arun Chandran sought to change the boundary of Great Aycliffe to accommodate new housing designated for Eldon Whins which is currently in the Middridge Boundary.

This site is included in the town's Master Plan, and it was just the case of applying for a Community Governance Review. The council agreed however that as a courtesy Middridge Parish Council needed to be approached asking them to agree to the transfer. Counc Clare felt sure this small rural village would not want to change the nature of Middridge by adding a large housing estate bigger than itself.

At the same time the Council would wish to include in the review, the Chesnuts Housing Estate at School Aycliffe which is currently within Darlington's boundary.

The proposal was accepted with a slight amendment, and the two Councillors who forwarded the motion were congratulated on their foresight.

The Council is to consider changes to the list of neighbouring Councils invited to town events. It is proposed to add nearby local Parish Council representatives and delete far away authorities who have no connection with the town.

It was clear that when the item comes up at the next AGM some councillors would not agree to proposals involving extra costs by adding more Councils to the list.

Counc Clare was supported by other Councillors in the desire to raise the town's profile in the County by involving ourselves more in Civic functions. Counc Iveson said we should fly the flag for Aycliffe and Counc Raw said we are a large prestigious Council and we ought to get more involved.

Whilst the council agreed no changes to the list, involving extra cost, could be introduced now, the Mayor could extend informal invitations to our neighbouring small parish councils to civic events during her year of office.

JEANS FOR GENES DAY



On Friday 20th September, the staff and pupils of Sugar Hill primary school took part in a 'Jeans for Genes' day. The event was to raise money for Genetic Disorders UK which aims to change the lives of children with this condition. The children wore jeans and other denim clothes, and all brought in a small donation for this worthy cause. A great day was had by all!

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Students Celebrate 100% Attendance



Another proud moment for Greenfield staff and students occurred last Monday night when once again we celebrated 100% attendance, this time with Harry Maxfield and Nadia Kovacs at Chester-le-Street Cricket Ground.

We have been represented eleven times in the last twelve years, a fantastic achievement. Harry's brother Ben, who joined us in September from Byerley Park also received the award for 100% attendance throughout his Primary education, he now aims to go for the double and has been set the challenge for 2018.

Only fifteen young people from across the whole County of Durham were honoured at the celebrations, three were from Primary and twelve from

Secondary. Harry and Nadia have extra reasons to celebrate as both of them have done exceptionally well in their examinations this Summer, contributing to the record breaking results achieved by Greenfield students this year.

The awards were presented by Karen Wright from Metro/TFM radio, who was so impressed by Harry's results that she referred to him on her radio show on Tuesday morning. It has to be said that excellent attendance contributes to fantastic results and promotes the right attitude that many employers look for in their workforce.

We pride ourselves on excellent attendance and were delighted for the fifty eight students who achieved 100% attendance at the end of the Summer term.

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Helping Hands Free Giveaway Event

The Helping Hands Great Giveaway was a huge success in June when over 100 people attended the free event. We are now planning our second "Giveaway" for Thursday 3rd October from 7-9pm when our doors will be opened at St Clare's Church Hall on St Cuthberts Way - the perfect venue in our town centre! Life Church is fully supporting the event whilst our guests are having fun shopping around the stalls and chilling out with us for a few hours. Each guest will be given five vouchers to choose their items. There will also be refreshments, cakes and face painting for the children. To be eligible for this event you must be in financial crisis including things like benefit payment delays, debts and house repossessions. Please phone Jane Johnson on 07936 431262 for a personal invitation to what promises to be an enjoyable event.

AYCLIFFE WILDLIFE EXPLORERS MEETING

This Sunday 29th at 2pm until 3.30pm the Newton Aycliffe Wildlife Explorers will see the last of our monthly meetings at the Eco-Centre. This month the topic is Homes & Habitats where we will be finding out about the diversity of life, and ways to help wildlife by creating places for them to live as their natural homes are being destroyed. Leaders and helpers will be on hand to guide our members through the afternoon. New members are always welcome and we are happy to discuss what we do with interested parents. The Wildlife Explorers is a junior group of the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) and we aim to foster an interest in all forms of wildlife. Our meetings are usually held at the Eco-Centre at Moore Lane, which as of October, will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, and will be from 6pm until 7.30pm. We occasionally hold events at the Aycliffe Nature Park with pond dipping etc. These are planned in advance and everyone notified. A small fee of £1 per child is all we ask at each meeting to help cover the cost of the building, refreshments, and materials for activities. Parents are welcome to stay and join in. We look forward to seeing new faces, so why not come along? If you need any further information, please contact Dave or Sue on 01325 317347.

PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR NEWTON AYCLIFFE AREA AUGUST 2013

The information in this report relates to tasks and actions dealt with by Neighbourhood Wardens, the Antisocial Behaviour Team and Civic Pride Team.

Neighbourhood Wardens

Dog fouling is one of the major issues dealt with by neighbourhood wardens. We have investigated 3 reports of dog fouling and issued 2 dog fouling warning letters. We have also removed 17 stray dogs and issued 2 stray dog warning letters.

Litter is another important issue. We investigated 3 reports of littering and issued 15 fixed penalty notices and 1 warning letter for littering.

43 incidents of fly tipping were reported during August. We carried out 23 investigations into these incidents in order to try and find any evidence to link the fly tipping to those who dumped it. We carried out 5 duty of care inspections at business premises.

Untidy Yards & Gardens

We have issued 1 advisory letter and 4 Litter Clearing Notices to properties with untidy gardens or yards and have issued 8 fixed penalty notices to residents who have failed to respond to requests to clear their gardens or yards.

Wardens dealt with 5 incidents of antisocial behaviour reported directly by members of the public, as well as 21 incidents which were passed via the Police Airwaves system.

Since April 2013 the following numbers of Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued in the Newton Aycliffe area: Littering x 21. Dog Fouling x 3. Failure to comply with Litter Clearing Notice x 20

There have been 46 ASB cases received and investigated by the ASB Team in the area during August 2013.

Some of the interventions carried out by the ASB Team in the Newton Aycliffe area

during August 2013: Home visits/Meetings 3, Current ABCs 9, Current Court Orders (eg. ASBOs) 2. Cases currently managed on LMAPS 12.

Locality Based

Neighbourhood Warden

Actions

Newton Aycliffe LMAPS have identified a neighbour dispute at Rowan Place, as a priority. Nightly patrols of the area have been carried out.

Greenfield PACT have identified priorities of graffiti and litter around subways. All subways have been checked regularly. Small amounts of litter found in the subways have been reported for removal.

West Ward PACT have identified ASB and youth nuisance at Hawkshead Place as a priority. Foot and mobile patrols have been carried out.

Woodham PACT have identified drinking in Woodham Park as a priority. Foot and mobile patrols have been carried out.

Rotary Gift for Year 6 Students



Illustrated dictionaries were presented to year 6 students of St. Mary's R.C. Primary School by Rotarians Angela Stevenson (left) and Paul Whiting (back centre) with their teacher Mrs. Mason (back right). The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe is giving dictionaries to all year 6 students in the area as part of this International Organisation's aim to help improve English studies in the students' final year and promote literacy throughout the world.



St Francis Year 6 students received their dictionaries from the President of the Rotary Club Geoff Batchelor assisted by Rotarian David Thompson (at the back).



Rotarians Angela Stevenson (centre right) and Paul Whiting (right) presented illustrated dictionaries to the students in year 6 at St. Joseph's RC Primary School, pictured here with their teacher Miss. Williams (left) and Head Teacher Mrs. Duffy. The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe is giving these dictionaries to all year 6 students in the area as part of the Dictionary 4 Life Project to help with English studies in their final year at Junior School and their onward progression to Senior School.

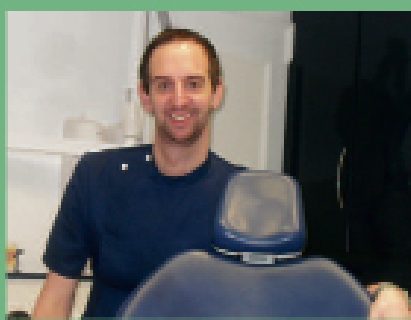
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GREENFIELD STUDENTS MAKE ART INSPIRED BY THE GOSPELS



Visual Arts at Greenfield Community College and Greenfield Arts this week provided a group of Year 10 students with the fantastic opportunity to experience a residency at Durham Art Gallery and Durham Light Infantry Museum.

The group spent 2 days in the DLI with artist Paul Merrick and staff from the school and Arts Centre, including a visit to see the Lindisfarne Gospels. The group looked critically at the gospels, and the current work on show in the Art Gallery by Sigune Hamman,

which explores journeys.

The students have created their own responses to what they have seen and experienced during the residency: mixed media work inspired by landscapes and journeys which will form part of their GCSE portfolio.

The group thoroughly enjoyed the experience and their behaviour and attitude to the residency was a credit to the school. Thank you to the staff from the school, Arts Centre and the DLI for organising this fantastic opportunity for the students.

County Council Cabinet Meeting Report

Last Wednesday Durham County Council's Cabinet met for the second week running, such is the volume of business. A huge amount of work is being done by the Cabinet at the moment; the reports for this meeting alone comprised 594 pages.

1. The County Durham Plan - this is the strategic plan which will set the direction of the County's economy, housing, retail, transport and mineral extraction etc. for the

next 20 years. The Cabinet agreed to put it out for final consultation. You can read the latest version at <http://bit.ly/DCCplan>, and you are invited to comment.

2. Garden Waste - the Cabinet agreed to go to consultation on a scheme based on a payment of £20 a year; this has been reported and debated in the Newton News, but you can read the full report here: <http://bit.ly/DCCgardenwaste>

decisions, the Cabinet:

3. Updated the County's Homelessness policy: <http://bit.ly/DCCHomelessness>

4. Heard an update on the wide-ranging work of the County Durham Partnership: <http://bit.ly/DCCcdp>

5. Heard an update on the progress of the Waste Management Strategy: <http://bit.ly/DCCwaste>

6. Received a very interesting report on last year's flooding: <http://bit.ly/DCCflooding>

£532 Raised for Wateraid



Woodham Academy Year 7 Students were inspired to raise money for the charity WaterAid after studying the book Millions by Frank Cottrell Boyce. In the novel the main character, Damian, collects money to build wells for the people in Nigeria. As part of their English lessons, students worked in groups to organise the whole event which included writing letters to local businesses, baking cakes and running a tombola stand.

On the day, students raised a whopping £532.24 from the sale of cakes, biscuits and tombola tickets. This donation will help WaterAid to bring clean, safe water to those who need it most.

APPRENTICESHIP AWARD FOR LIVIN



Homes and communities business, livin has been named as one of North East's best Apprenticeship Employers in the regional final of the National Apprenticeship Awards 2013.

The highly commended entries and winners were announced at a high profile awards ceremony organised by the National Apprenticeship Service, which was held at Radisson Blu in Durham on Thursday 12 September.

livin was highly commended in the Nuclear Decommissioning Site Licence Companies Award for Medium Employer of the Year category for its livin futures programme run in partnership with Mears, Bullock, Southdale and the Foundation of Light.

The programme focuses on supporting local residents and tenants to find sustainable

employment covering apprenticeships, training and work placements across a range of disciplines including construction, business and sport.

Alan Boddy, executive director for livin, said: "We are committed to building vibrant sustainable communities and we know one of the best ways of doing this is by helping people to find meaningful employment.

"Our apprenticeship programme supports people that need our help most and through our partners we have been able to offer more opportunities for training, work experience and employment." Visit apprenticeships.org.uk or call 08000 150 600 to find out more about Apprenticeships. For more information about the livin futures partnership visit livin.co.uk

MORE EFFORT NEEDED ON LAKES

Dear Sir,
I thank members of the public who are attending town council meetings and observing just what is going on and who are not frightened to send their comments to Newton News.

The West Park Lakes were transferred to Aycliffe Town Council from the Development Corporation as a boating lake for children, but the two lakes have never really been looked after the way that they should be. The council do what they can with what they have, but it is not enough!

I spent time visiting South Shields lake and phoned their environment officer asking what they did to keep there boating lake free of algae. They applied for funding and have Air Fountains in the lake that breaks up the algae and the boats are run by show people who have rides etc in this area. I also phoned the Environment Officer at Darlington Council and he had the Park Ranger answering my questions about South Park lake which I also visited. They also applied for funding to do what they do to keep the lake clean.

I do not know of anyone that requested tractors to go in to the lakes at West Park as this would do more damage than good.

I think the last time it was cleaned out by volunteers was seven year ago by two ladies and three men who worked at Glaxo, but live in Newton Aycliffe and what a very good job they did! They went in with water waders and forks lifting the algae out to put on the wagon to be taken away.

After speaking to other environment officers I am told there is a way of having water flowing through the lake to help get rid of algae and green weed. There is a culvert that controls water in the top lake, but to my knowledge it is turned off - we need the water to flow to see if this helps. If we still had paddle boats on the lake this would have broken up the green weed. At the end of the Recreation Committee meeting on 4th September I handed the Town Council Environment officer five pages of where funding can

be obtained. This was sent to me by a member of the public. Included was an idea to build a shop on the old bathhouse site, to be rented out to anyone who could also hire out boats on the lake.

This would be very good for the West Ward and everyone in Newton Aycliffe. I am aware this might seem like pie in the sky to the Council, but with a little bit of effort and cooperation it is surprising what can happen!
Alderman George Gray
West Ward

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More than

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OPEN EVENING

Thursday 3rd October 2013

6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

OPEN AFTERNOON

Thursday 10th October

1.30 pm - 3.00 pm



Headteacher Mr David Priestley warmly invites prospective students and their families to our open evening. We look forward to meeting you and your children as you make important choices about your child's future.

Talk to current students, join a guided tour or wander at your leisure to see for yourself what Greenfield has to offer.

Greenfield Community College is fast becoming one of the most improved schools in the area. Even our parents agree, as in a recent survey 100% of parents and carers would recommend Greenfield Community College to others.

Not only are we an academic school, but at Greenfield Community College we are also celebrating our most successful year ever, which began with a resoundingly **GOOD** Ofsted inspection.

In addition our Year 8 future Business Magnates walked away with top honours as the 2013 winners of the competition, a credit to our focus on Enterprise Education ensuring students are well equipped for the world of work.

In July we were delighted to be chosen as a Centre for Excellence for Global and Development Education, enabling our young people to benefit from an expanded range of learning opportunities to enhance their understanding and involvement with a range of global issues.

We have always prided ourselves on our caring, supportive approach. Every child matters at Greenfield and we are proud to be awarded our most recent Anti-Bullying Award (10th year running) as well as Young Carer's Charter.

**For further information
please contact**

Melanie Stubbs,
Assistant Headteacher
Care Support and Guidance.

Telephone: 01325 300 378

Email:
melanie.stubbs@greenfieldschool.net

*" This is a good school.
Teaching is typically good and
sometimes outstanding .
Students are very positive about
the school and their attendance
is good. They behave well in
class and around the school "*
Ofsted 2012



Village Scouts Work for the Community

Dear Sir,
I would like to thank the Heighington Baden Powell Scouts on behalf of the residents of Hopelands Court for their help in ground maintenance. It was a mixture of their leaders and boys and girls who gave up their free time on a Sunday to do work in the community. They were helped by our Councillor and Deputy Mayor of Darlington Gerald Lee who is a dab hand with a sweeping brush.
At least we know there is a good community spirit in our small, attractive village
J M Gowland

Apprenticeship Awareness Challenge at Woodham



Woodham Academy launched its second Apprenticeship Awareness Challenge on 18th September. The event saw 150 Year 9 students take part in a speed networking event in conjunction with six local companies from Aycliffe Business Park. Each student has been matched to one of the six companies and will spend the next nine weeks leading a research trail into the career opportunities available within the company, with a specific focus on the apprenticeship opportunities available. This year the school is supported by Finley Structures, The Bignall Group, Ebac, A Tech Fabrications and Training, SWDT and Gestamp Tallent as the students battle to become the Apprentice Awareness Challenge winner for 2014. Sarah McGinnety, lead for

Careers Education at Woodham Academy, said "This event has had a significant impact on student learning about local job opportunities and we look forward to working over the next two months with the chosen six companies to allow for those learning opportunities to be further maximised". Woodham Academy was awarded the Investor in Careers Kitemark earlier this year in recognition of its excellent careers education.

RC SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT

St. Mary's RC Primary School are having their Open Night next Thursday, 3rd October between 5.00 - 6.00 p.m. If you have a child that is due to start school in September 2014 you are very welcome to come and have a look around the school before completing your application with Durham County Council. All welcome to attend.

Heartbeat Bus on Lindisfarne Gospel Trip



Aycliffe Bus Preservation Society's ex United Bristol type L Bus (1969) caused a few tourist heartbeats to skip when it arrived at Palace Green, Durham on an outing organised by Woodham Village Community Centre to visit the Lindisfarne Gospels.

Photo shows some of the trippers arriving ready to board the bus. The Gospel display was enjoyed by all, and a lecture and question and answer session afterwards by a young American PHD student who was studying the book was very informative. Free time to have lunch, visit the Cathedral or enjoy some retail therapy was followed



by a speedy (downhill at times nearly 43 mph) return to Newton Aycliffe. Everyone had a great trip and our thanks go to Mr Ian Wiggett for providing the transport and some

very impressive driving especially manoeuvring around the ambulance on the narrow lane up to the Cathedral.

Photographs by Tim Randall.

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Free Training Guide

Expert trainer Simon Williamson of High Force Training at Aycliffe has published a new guide to introduce managers and leaders to the concept of emotional intelligence available online free. Simon explains... "The concept of emotional intelligence and its importance to both personal and team development is widely misunderstood. Many leaders and managers assume that their technical skills will be enough to develop successful, motivated teams. However, the very best leaders combine a high intelligence quotient with a high emotional quotient, so a proper understanding of emotional intelligence is

essential for any leader or manager, whatever the nature of their organisation. "That's why I wrote my new guide, "15 easy-to-learn, practical and dynamic secrets to increase your success". This unique guide introduces the fifteen key elements of emotional intelligence and explains in depth how they can be applied within the workplace to ensure all members of staff are achieving their full potential. "I've decided to make it available for free so as many people as possible can benefit from the information inside. "Anyone who'd like a copy just has to visit www.highforce.co.uk/freeguide."

Toddler Group Expands

Following the support from Newton News, Little Gems, the mother and babies/toddler group at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre has grown so much that some of them mums have asked for another session as well as its regular Friday Morning meeting. As a result the group will also be held on Thursday afternoon at from 1 pm to 2.30pm which allows plenty of time for mothers to collect their older children from school. Little Gems offer 90 minutes of fun with a healthy snack and drink for the babies/toddlers. Tea or coffee is available for mums, grans, uncles, aunts and granddads too for an optional small donation. For more information contact Joan at the Youth Centre on 307522 or just turn up on Thursday afternoon. There is still a few places for a few more toddlers on Friday morning. Also if you fancy volunteering at either of the sessions why not come along and speak to either Joan or Jayne.

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HOUSES ON FORMER NURSING HOME SITE AVAILABLE TO LET



22 new homes are now available to let in Newton Aycliffe after work to complete a £2 million development has finished ahead of schedule.

The new homes built by Galliford Try on behalf of livin, replaces the former Greenfields Nursing Home.

The development is made up of 11 two-bedroom and 11 three-bedroom homes and will be advertised to let next week, with the homes ready to move into by mid-November, three months ahead of the original schedule.

Ian Brown, head of development and allocations for livin, said: "Greenfields is our largest new build development to date and we've already experienced a lot of interest in the new homes. "We are urging anyone interested in renting one of the new homes to get in touch as soon as possible."

The homes which have benefited from funding from government's Homes and Community Agency have been built to strict environmental standards and boast a range of energy saving features including high levels of insulation, double glazing and high efficiency boilers to help tenants save money on utility bills as well as being more environmentally responsible.

The homes will be let to people with a local connection to Newton Aycliffe including people who work or live in the town. Homes will be available to bid on from 3 October by visiting www.livin.co.uk/findahome or durhamkeyoptions.co.uk For further information or support with applying for a home contact livin's Home Choice team on 0800 587 4538 or email homechoice@livin.co.uk

Scan as You Shop Comes to Tesco



In an effort to give customers a better and speedier service Tesco have introduced a new self service system at the cash tills.

"Scan as you Shop" is an electronic method of shopping whereby Clubcard Customers are given their own scanner to take around the store taking barcode information from all items purchased, and packing their bag as they shop. Tagged items to be kept separate.

At the till their purchases are transferred electronically and payment is quickly made by card or cash, eliminating long queues and making shopping a



more enjoyable experience.

Tescos have also enlarged the area for scanning and payments for smaller quantity shopping to speed up that service which often caused long queues down the aisle.

Manager Martin Butcher said he was pleased with the new system and thought customers would soon get used to scan as you shop which is a much easier way to shop. "It is also about trusting our customers to shop honestly" said Martin.

Staff will be around to help customers and initially will be checking purchases with scans until such time as each customer is fully acquainted with the new payment method.

SPORTS ACADEMY FUNDING AWARD

A successful bid to the BBC Children in Need fund has provided substantial funding to allow Woodham Sports Academy to expand the range of opportunities on offer for young people in Aycliffe.

Due to the amazing success of the Academy and ever-increasing demand from students for more activities, handball and water polo are now available alongside the existing sports of dance, gymnastics, football, American football, cricket, softball, table tennis, swimming and basketball.

The successful bid will also allow two of the most popular of sports football and dance, to grow. Woodham Academy will now employ an additional coach for dance and two additional coaches in football. The funding also lets the Academy offer an exciting opportunity for local primary school pupils. Starting Thursday 26th September Woodham Football Academy will run elite sessions for selected year 6 students from 5pm - 7pm. Pupils will be working with Neil Maddison (ex Middlesbrough), Steven Foster (ex Swansea and Darlington Captain), Andy Collett (ex Middlesbrough and Darlington Goalkeeper) and Kevin Dawson.

Liam Clough, Director of Woodham Sports Academy, said "This money will help the Academy grow and continue to develop. The impact of



Woodham Sports Academy has been unbelievable and surpassed all expectations. Students achieve better results than their peers. Our year 11 students who have just left achieved better GCSE grades not only for English and Maths but across all subject areas with 94% of students achieving 5 A*-C grades.

I am really excited for the year ahead and fully believe the money available will only enhance the experience of Woodham Academy students and those selected from our local primary schools".

Oak Leaf Birthday Party Service

Make it a birthday they will never forget! Why not leave it all to us, no mess or hassle for you - just sit back & relax.

The OakLeaf Sports Complex have party packages to suit all ages from 4 to 15 years including Football, Dance, Dance Mat, Team Games, Mini Dribblers & Little Tots Parties all include your very own party co-ordinator who will be there to assist throughout the party.

All Parties include unlimited juice and choose from our new exciting Menu - Hot or Cold Platters with lots of children's favourites. The Party Room is decorated with tablecloths & tableware. You only need to bring the Cake - we even supply the invitations! For more details visit www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk or telephone 01325 300600.

Questions Answered on Garden Waste

Last week's Newton News asked important questions about the new garden waste scheme. The answers are as follows:

1. The County Council is regrettably aware that some people will struggle to find the £20. Neighbours will be able share a bin, alternatively, if people wait and join the scheme in September, the cost will only be £10.
2. Unwanted brown bins will be collected free of charge by the Council, after a few months' delay to give people time to change their mind.
3. People who choose not to buy into the service will be able to dispose of their garden waste by composting, or by taking it to the Heighington Lane recycling centre (as everybody did before 2004). Whilst aware that some people occasionally sneak in the odd small bag of garden material, DCC cannot allow general use of the 'ordinary' bins for green waste. The Council now sends no waste at all to landfill - it has entered into a contract with a firm which burns its general household waste to make electricity.
4. The scheme has been costed on the basis of a 40% take-up involving 60% of the waste. One benefit of the new scheme is that anyone in Aycliffe will now be able to join; under the old garden waste scheme only two-thirds of residents in the south of the county were provided with the service.
5. Sale of compost has been factored into the price; it costs the Council £23 a tonne to have the waste composted. The Council is consulting on the scheme, which will be considered by Cabinet after the consultation.

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Kids Film

This funniest and heartwarming family comedy featuring the hilarious Eddie Murphy will be shown at St. Clare's Kids Flicks on October 5th at 2pm. This children's cinema club welcomes all children who are of school age and also any grown ups who would like to come along.

The club is run by the children's team and is in the church hall. There is also a Tuck Shop. Doors open at 1:45 and the film will finish at 3:30pm. So please come along and bring your friends-free ice pops for everyone!

Decisions Stitched up by Labour Group

Dear Sir,
After attending a Town Council meeting to hear discussion on the West Park Lakes, like Mr Robson, I was disgusted at the way Labour represented just themselves - all singing from the same hymn sheet. Is this because they all meet on the Monday before the Wednesday meeting, where the agenda is discussed and they are told who and which way to vote, just like sheep? It stands out a mile when even Labour representatives have no say, and when they do speak or ask questions they are criticised by other Labour Councillors. You never hear of a non-

Labour Councillor getting selected as Mayor of the town even when they have been on the council for years. I wonder why this is? Voters put them on the Council so why does Labour treat them as if they don't matter? If the people who put them there didn't think they could do the work they wouldn't have voted for them. There is one Labour Councillor who doesn't attend meetings so his Ward is not getting a fair representation. Who is looking after this Councillor's work for the Ward and is he getting paid the allowance?
M Tomlin

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AYCLIFFE GOLFER TAKES TOP PRIZE



Carl Morfoot winner of the 2013 Mizuno Race 2 Rockliffe with Jonathan Stacey, head professional at Rockliffe Hall

WOODHAM Golf Club's Carl Morfoot landed the top prize as Durham's exciting competition for young golfers reached its dramatic conclusion. The 2013 Mizuno Race 2 Rockliffe has seen up and coming golfers from across the region competing in 15 different events to score points on an order of merit. The leading 30 players across the three categories qualified for the grand final at Rockliffe Hall, which saw 19 year-old Morfoot come out on top in the gross event and be crowned the DCGP Mizuno Race 2 Rockliffe Champion for 2013. On a day when the damp and windy conditions made scoring tricky, Morfoot, who plays off one, returned a score of 79 to claim the championship by two shots to add to his success in the mixed gross category of the order of merit. He received a £500 voucher towards equipment from Mizuno, enthusiastic supporters of the event alongside Rockliffe Hall.

CHURCH FAYRE

St. Elizabeth's Church Autumn Fayre and Grand Raffle will be held on Saturday 5th October at 10am. Featuring home produce and cake stall, bric-a-brac, children's clothes and toys. The Grand Raffle includes wonderful prizes such as: £50 for first prize, a Food Hamper, Digital Radio, Gift vouchers from local cafes and restaurants and many others

Newtonians Qualify for National Championships

Three representatives of the Aycliffe GKR Karate club were at Bradford for the qualifying competition last week. All went well during the long day, but everyone was focused and had a great time. Sensei Dez Tinkler qualified for Kumite and took silver in team Kumite.

Annalise Tinkler took gold in Kumite, gold in Kata, silver in team Kumite and silver in team Kata. Asa Fletcher took silver in Kumite and silver in Kata. now concentrate on improving the Kata and Kumite for the nationals in November in Sheffield. Anyone interested in joining the club is invited to come along to Greenfield School on Thursday at 6:30pm and Saturday 10:30am.



NEWTON NEWS

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Aycliffe Cricket Team Promoted



What drama, what tension as Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team team, despite losing by 66 runs at home to Bishop Auckland 2nd XI, finally crawled over the line to earn promotion to the NYSD Division 2 in their first season. The day started well with captain Chris Palmer winning the toss and asking the visitors to bat first. Bishops were bowled out for a decent total of 171, despite some outstanding bowling from left arm spinner Luke Telford, who finished his marathon 15.1 over spell with seven wickets for 36 runs.

In reply Luke Telford (25 runs) and Chris Palmer (26 runs) had Aycliffe well set with the score at 66 for 1 and only 106 runs needed for both victory and the title, and still with 37 overs remaining. Aycliffe then dramatically collapsed losing their next 8 wickets for just 23 runs to leave the score at 89 for 9. Last wicket pair Tony Travis and Joe Haines batted under the most intense pressure as Aycliffe needed to reach 100 runs to earn the priceless bonus point that would take them to promotion. The heroic pair battled their

way through ten heart stopping overs and then veteran Tony Travis smashed a huge straight six to take the total to 103 as the ground erupted in jubilation. Travis was bowled out shortly afterwards for the most important 11 runs he has ever scored and his batting partner Joe Haines, who was celebrating his 19th birthday, remained unbeaten with two valuable runs as the celebrations began and then went on well into the night. The final league table showed Saltburn as champions with 371 points, Aycliffe and Bedale, both with finished with 360 points, but Aycliffe earned the runners up spot by virtue of winning 16 games, three more than rivals Bedale. The photo shows the happy players, officials and fans as they began the party to celebrate a fantastic first season in the North Yorkshire and South Durham cricket league. Newton Aycliffe 2nd XI finished their season with defeat at home to Stokesley 3rd team by 104 runs, despite creditable performances with the ball from both Joe Hodgson (4 for 28) and Dan Weldon (3 for 54) and an unbeaten 12 not out from John Wardle. Club Chairman Ian Palmer captained the 2nd team in what was his last game before retiring and he was given a guard of honour and generous applause from the players of both teams after his short innings.

Aycliffe Top of the League

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club went to the top of Durham and Northumberland Division 3 after a second big win of the season. Travelling away to Washington who themselves had had a big win in Week 1, Aycliffe were able to field a strong line-up, with vice-captain, Craig Holmes, having to start on the bench. After a strong start by the much larger Washington pack, Aycliffe took the lead when James Thacker made a clean break and Luke Crossen was on hand to score the try. Luke Tinkler converted. Despite being on the back foot in the scrums, Aycliffe's back row continued where they left off the previous week and the backs always had the beating of their opposite numbers. A second converted try came when Drew Gibson, playing prop due to a front-row shortage, found Tinkler and Andrew Littlefair in support went over. Good turnover ball enabled Thacker to get on the scoresheet soon after. A quick lineout from Adam Gascoigne saw rapid hands from the Aycliffe backs pass the ball out to Tinkler on the wing for another score. Tinkler was drop kicking all his conversions and added the extra points with a fine kick from the touchline. The scoring in the half was concluded when, taking a penalty from deep within his own half, David Judge saw a space and kicked the ball across field where Gascoigne caught it first bounce and ran in unopposed. The full set of



conversions saw Aycliffe lead 35 - 0 at the break. Washington remained on top in the scrums and competitive in the lineout and there was no score for the first 15 minutes of the second period. The next points finally came when Jeff Hodgson powered through the middle of the defence with first Holmes and then Judge on hand to score under the posts. Aycliffe were now able to use their full allotment of substitutes. Ronnie Gilyeat was the next to break the defence and he passed the ball out of the tackle for Thacker to score his second try. The hat trick soon followed for Thacker as he scored a solo try. The final try came when

Chris Richards gave the ball to Littlefair for his second of the afternoon. Tinkler's 100% record with the boot finally came to an end when the last kick rebounded off the post. The game ended with Aycliffe victors by 61 - 0. A second bonus point win, and a second clean sheet sees Aycliffe proudly on top of the league, but there is a long way to go and tougher opposition to face. Aycliffe are still to confirm a game on 28th September. Newton Aycliffe are sponsored by Boola Clothing Aycliffe and Hayward Home Appliances trading as Serviceforce. Visit the website at [www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe](#).

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Woodham Nominated for County Sports Awards



The success of Woodham Academy's PE Department has again been recognised after two of its staff and one of its Sports Academy clubs have been nominated for County Durham Sports Awards.

Danny Ketch has been nominated for 'Coach of the Year' and is an inspirational role model to students at Woodham Academy through his role as Woodham Warriors

Assistant Head Coach. This is a school based American Football team which has achieved national and international success and recognition. Through his commitment, hard-work and dedication since 2007, Danny has helped coach teams to British Flag Championships, European Championships and World Championships. His team is currently ranked

number one in the UK (2013) and at the National Finals has been runner up for the last three years. Danny constantly gives up his time after school and on weekends to coach students. Through his positive attitude and high standards he regularly has a positive impact on their sporting achievements and education. Since 2007 Danny has also been involved in the Great British Lions coaching set-up. He is currently working with GB's elite athletes in preparation for the 2014 European Championships.

Danny Morgan's 'Contribution to Sport' has been recognised, and he has been nominated in this category due his work in Physical Education. During his time at Woodham Academy he has fulfilled the roles of Head of Department and Assistant Head teacher, where he has successfully run school football, basketball, cricket, swimming, table tennis teams and managed Bishop Auckland Schools District football teams. However it is in basketball where Danny has had major impact upon students' success, not only at school level, but at district, regional and national level respectively.

Danny currently works with the Durham Wildcats, on their junior national league programme. He is also coaching the men's National League Team this season. Danny has coached the Wildcats U16 team to the league championships as well as coaching five Woodham school teams to the last 32 of the national schools tournament.

Danny is also a qualified Level 2 cricket coach and regularly works with the elite junior county players as an age group lead coach, as well as overseeing the Durham County provision at district level for a number of years. Danny has assisted a number of local clubs in junior development and he is widely regarded to be one of the most accomplished cricket coaches in the area. Currently Danny is working with the Durham County U17 squad.

Woodham Gymnastics Academy has been nominated for Junior Sports Club. Since the introduction of the Sports Academy there was so much demand for boys gymnastics that an extra training session was put on to accommodate the male gymnasts.

This year both male and female gymnasts have competed in the regional Trio competition, the regional Floor and Vault competition and the National Floor and Vault competition with some fantastic group and individual performances and results.

LOCAL SPORT

Aycliffe F.C. Look for Home Advantage

Newton Aycliffe are hoping some home comforts can help them climb back up the table. Last weekend's 3-0 defeat at league-leaders Celtic Nation was their third away defeat in four games this season. But their next five games in all competitions will be at Moore Lane Park, where the Royal Blues are unbeaten in four league games. This weekend sees Allan Oliver's side welcome Consett, who have yet to play a home game this season as they await their new ground to open.

And Oliver will be hoping to have a full-strength side available, after an under-strength Newton Aycliffe were unable to cause an upset last weekend as league-leaders Celtic Nation ran out comfortable winners in Carlisle.

The ambitious Cumbrians were unbeaten in their seven home league games this season and were rarely troubled by the Newtonians, who were missing goalkeeper Dan Molyneux, captain John Close and top scorer Danny Earl among others.

Teenage goalkeeper Ryan Farley was called upon between the sticks but he was picking the ball out of his net in the first minute as Colin McMenamin opened the scoring before the Royal Blues had touched the ball.

A long ball from Lee Hoolicklin picked out the striker who was scoring goals in the Scottish First Division last season for Morton and he steered a header over the onrushing Farley.

McMenamin added his and

Celtic Nation's second midway through the first half, flicking in from close range after Danny Hall had nodded down Nathan Luscombe's corner.

He was denied a hat-trick just after the half-hour mark when his shot from distance crashed back off the underside of Farley's crossbar and bounced to safety.

Dion Raitt fired over from the edge of the box minutes before the break in the closest the Royal Blues came to pulling a goal back in the first 45.

A quiet opening to the second half was punctuated only by a nasty injury suffered by the hosts' Tyran Taylor, who was carried off with a dislocated shoulder.

The game never really got going after the lengthy stoppage, until minutes from the end when the Newtonians thought they had pulled a goal back, only to realise the referee had brought play back for an Aycliffe free-kick.

Substitute Fred Woodhouse was fouled on the edge of the area but the ball rolled to Christian Selby, who slotted into the bottom corner after the whistle had gone. Selby took the resulting set-piece himself but couldn't replicate his earlier finish as it curled wide.

Deep into added time the home side added a third when they broke quickly after winning the ball in midfield and Glen Lane added the finishing touch.

Aycliffe now turn their attention to five consecutive matches at Moore Lane Park, where they remain unbeaten in league action this season, starting with Sunderland RCA on Wednesday night.

County Cup Fever at Aycliffe Sports Club

Last weekend saw the County Cup come to Moore Lane for the Sports Club FC's first ever outing in the competition. The 2nd Preliminary Round against Consett Fountain was always going to be a tough tie, one that would test the resolve of the Aycliffe side.

The game started brightly and straight from the Kick Off Aycliffe broke through the Consett defence and glanced a shot just past the post. The early signs were good with the home side dominating the midfield, with Paul Cook maintaining his good early season form alongside the hard working Gareth Boyes and Craig Barrigan.

The early dominance could have and should have paid off, but the Sports Club mis-firing centre forwards failed to make the away keeper work too hard. The second half mirrored the first half, with the home side having most of the possession but failing in the final third to make the dominance count and the game phased away with extra time looming.

With roll on, roll off subs being

allowed in the competition this year both sides used the rule wisely to try and maintain energy levels in the burning heat.

It wasn't until the 2nd period of extra time that the deadlock was finally broken. An excellent through ball found Chris Jones who held off the oncoming defenders, bore down on goal and confidently slotted past the Consett Keeper with only 8 minutes of extra time remaining.

However, this wasn't to be the end of this entertaining game and after winning a corner with only 4 minutes remaining, Consett netted the equaliser to take the game to penalties.

David Teder only had to score the 5th penalty to win the tie and did so under intense pressure – NASC FC's first win in the County Cup.

The Sports Club now anxiously await details of the next round draw which will be published shortly. NASC FC are away to The Wheatshaf in the League Cup next Sunday hoping to maintain their good early season form.

GYMNASTICS CLUB WIN AWARDS



Coaches, Brittainy Fuller, Samantha Robson (Coach of the Year), Gerry Fuller (Head Coach)

On Friday, 20th September the 2013 County Durham Sports and Physical Activity Awards were held at the Spennymoor Leisure Centre attended by sports groups, schools and colleges from the area.

Athena Sports Academy based in Newton Aycliffe and Shildon Leisure Centres were nominated for several major awards and left feeling well and truly proud. One of the founding members of Athena, coach Samantha Robson, came away with 'Coach of the Year' (Sedgefield Area), which is a great achievement not only for Sam but for the group.

Athena were also Awarded Junior Sports Club of the Year (Sedgefield Area). This is a great achievement for the Academy ,not only receiving these awards,but for the success that the Gymnasts have also had in the first 2 years of it's life.

This summer saw the Academy win gold and bronze at the NDP's in Stoke National Competitions where the gymnasts were up against the best from the country, as well as winning over 50 medals at a Gymnastics Competition in Durham.

It is a very busy time for Coaches and Gymnasts at Athena as they are currently preparing two routines for Gymfusion 2013 in Newcastle in November. One of the routines being put together is for Disabled Gymnasts. This together with another Gymnastics Competion, and their annual Christmas Showcase in the Leisure Centre in December, it adds up to a very busy ending to 2013.

If anyone is interested in Gymnastics, the Academy offers Recreation Classes from 3 years and above at both Leisure Centres, as well as classes in acrobatic gymnastics and tumbling. Telephone Sam on 07800 847527 for further information.

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AYCLIFFE COUNCILLOR LEADS SUBMISSION ON 'BEDROOM TAX'

When Councillor John Clare was campaigning for election in May, he promised to do what he could to help people hit by the 'bedroom tax'.

Shortly after being elected, he attended a workshop on the Sustainable Communities Act, which allows local communities to seek a change to a regulation where it can be demonstrated that it is harming local social cohesion.

Last week, councillors voted all-but-unanimously (with just one Liberal Democrat abstaining) in favour of his motion calling on Durham County Council to make a submission to the government under the Act, whereby tenants would be exempted from the under-occupancy charge if there is no suitable alternative accommodation in the local vicinity.

Cllr Clare told the Newton News: 'Many people oppose the under-occupancy charge, even the United Nations, but the government has just ignored them. It struck me that here was a way, not just to complain, but to use an existing law to alleviate the problem - as the Sustainable Communities Act is intended to do.'

'It is great news that the Labour Party has pledged to abolish the under-occupation penalty in 2015. But meanwhile, if our proposal succeeds, it will give many 'bedroom tax' victims a breathing space until the charge

can be abolished. 'The government has no reasonable grounds to oppose our submission because - where

tenants are trapped and unable to leave - it cannot be claimed that the charge is freeing up properties for families who need it.

In such a situation, the 'bedroom tax' becomes simply a malicious attack on tenants, with no other end than to drive them to debt

and despair ... and surely the government will not say that this was an intended outcome of the under-occupancy charge?'

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Horndale Residents' Association A.G.M.

Horndale Residents Association hold their A.G.M. on 2nd October at 6.30pm Refreshments at 6.15pm at Evangelical Church, Lady-bower.

The year since we first formed our Association has passed so quickly. As most people are aware we set up the Association. primarily to build a M.U.G.A (Multi Use Games Area) for our teenagers. To date Great Aycliffe Town Council have donated the land and committed to insure and maintain the facility for its lifetime, which was a huge factor in securing further funding.

We have secured £29,650 towards the total cost of the £40,000 to build this important project. We have consulted with local school pupils, businesses, churches etc and police with full backing from all.

However we appreciate that some residents may have reservations and would ask you to come and speak to us and we will listen and try to alleviate any concerns.

The meeting will look back over the last year and discuss the good and bad points and see if any mistakes can be rectified for the coming years.

We will need to appoint next year's committee and look at projects for the coming year. I personally would like to thank the committee for their hard work, Sylvia Dodsworth and Niki Duffy and other staff at Livin for their work and guidance, also all Councillors, Council Wardens and Police for their help in making our good neighbourhoods even better.

If I missed anyone just give me an ear bashing and on that note I had better thank my wife for putting up with all the papers lying about and also her ability to look interested when I am ranting on.

Looking forward to the next year
Philip Clark

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Youth Theatre Present Beauty and the Beast

A local youth theatre group for 8 to 11 year olds is now into final rehearsals for their latest production "Beauty and the Beast". CATS Youth Theatre Group will stage the family show at the Civic Hall, Thursday 10th, Friday 11th, and Saturday 12th October, at 7.30pm. A final performance is on Sunday 13th October, 2pm. Two local young people take on main roles in the production, Cain Harrison is the Prince whilst Madalyn Patrick is the hideous Beast. Other local girls amongst the 45 strong cast are Bethany and Lucy Elgey, Charlie Grayson, Elizabeth Timmiss, Emily Neal, Georgia Brown, Hannah Goddard, Grace Patrick, and Poppy Burton.

A spoke-sperson said "The production is roughly based

on the Disney film with a few new characters added, but still keeping the original story. There is lots of music, dancing and a lot of laughs to be had too in this young people's production. Something for all the family to enjoy"

Tickets for the Thursday 10th October performance ONLY are £3 each. Friday to Sundays performances - tickets are £4-50 Adults, and £2-50 Children (5-15) £1 (3-4) and £2-50 Concessions. So why not get your Beauty to ring 01388 774838 to prebook tickets? CATS next production is "Hairspray". If any young 8 - 11 years olds would like to be in the production go to www.cats-theatre.co.uk or ring 01325 313363.

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Thank You

A BIG THANK YOU to the patients of Heighington. Thank you for your friendship over the 28 years I worked at the surgery. I enjoyed my job which was made so much better by the caring and friendly manner and it was my pleasure to serve you. Thank you for the wonderful gifts and cards I received on my retirement. I was overwhelmed by your generosity, you will always have a special place in my memories. Love, Ann FAHEY, Marion and Gary would like to thank relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues for flowers, cards and support after the death of Harry, Husband and Dad. An extra special thank you to Bridget, Gary's partner, who has been an amazing support to us both. Thanks to Dr Pounder, District Nurses, all staff on the Respiratory Ward at Darlington Memorial for their care and compassion. Thanks and appreciation to John Meynell Funeral Services and to Amanda for a great buffet. £159.97 was raised for the Respiratory Ward. Thank you

Obituary

CURRIE (CASSON). Suddenly on 17th September, at home. Rose Marie, aged 73 years. Much loved wife of John Casson; loving Mother of Joyce and loving Gran of Christopher and Faye, also a much loved Sister and Auntie. Will family and friends please meet for a Service in St. Mary's R.C. Church, Newton Aycliffe on Tuesday 1st October at 12.30pm. To be followed by a private family interment in the West Cemetery, School Aycliffe. OLWYN JACKSON Died 19th September 2013, aged 95. Beloved Mam of Gloria and Billy; Mother-in-Law to Joyce; Grandma to Kevin, Tracey and Michelle; Grandmother, Great Grandmother and Great Great Grandmother. Sadly missed by all her family. Service at the Crematorium in Coundon on Friday 4th October at 1.15pm. JACK MILLER Died 24th September 2013, aged 91. Husband to the late Rita; Father to the late Robert, Billy and Brian; Loving Father-in-Law, Grandad and Great Grandad. The family would like to thank Care-Link, District Nurses and Premier Care for all their help over the last few years. Sleep well, your loving family

Ross Hindmarch from Aycliffe is currently an entrant in the show "The Complete Package" on ITV's This Morning and is shown second from the right, back row. He is 20 years old and attended St John's School in Bishop Auckland joining the Royal Navy at 16. Ross currently works as a Marine Engineer in Portsmouth. He entered "The Complete Package" amongst thousands of others and this is televised every Wednesday on ITV's This Morning until October when the remaining three go to a public vote. At present he is among 10 left in the show.

Film Show

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church is on Wednesday 2nd Oct, and features Martin Sheen in "The Way". Tom comes to France to collect the remains of his son, killed while walking "The way of St James". Tom decides to do the pilgrimage himself, to better understand his son. on the 800km journey he meets others from around the world, all looking for greater meaning in their lives. Tea & coffee at 1pm, inc in the £2, film starts at 1-15pm. All are most welcome.

Birthday Remembrance

Hilda Blenkinsopp Dearest Mam, Our thoughts are ever with you, Though you have passed away, And those who have loved you dearly, Are thinking of you today. Happy birthday. Love from your Girls and Grandchildren 23.09.1913

ARNIE LINDLEY 26th September - 70th birthday. Tears instead of wishes, flowers instead of cards. You left us precious memories that stay within our hearts. Loving Wife Pat and family xxx ANTHONY HAMMELL 1974-2008. Each year on this special day we celebrate your birth and treasure every moment you were here on earth. We took those days for granted and never dreamt or thought that all our lives would change so much and yours would be so short. Mam, Dad and al the family xxxx

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In Memoriam

Eileen Choppin Treasured memories of a very much loved Mam, Nana and Wife. A year has passed since you went away, but the love in our hearts is here to stay. Very much missed always, in our thoughts and prayers. With all our love, Caroline, Will, Andrew, Alan, David, Janet, Laura and Gemma

KEITH WILSON 27th September 2009. A dear friend, sadly missed. Always in our thoughts. Brian and Christine KEITH WILSON Treasured memories of a dear friend. Loved and remembered always. Mick, Kath and family KEITH WILSON 27-9-1999. Fourteen years has gone, but we still miss you with each passing day. All our love, Anna, Julie, Louise, Helen, James and family PEGGY GASKARTH 29th September 2004. A dear Mother missed more and more each day. Your loving family BETTY ROBINSON 25th September 2012. "Mam". If I could ask for just one wish, I know what it would be, to see you "Mam" whom I adore, smiling back at me. If I could only tell you Mam, how much you meant to me, you were my hero and my friend and you will always be. Miss you so much Mam. Lots of love, Julie, Andy, Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren Paul and Claire xxxx IRIS MASON 2-10-03. Ten years have passed since our Mam was taken from us. Remembered, missed and loved every day. From all your Sons, Daughters and their families xxx

Congratulations

JACKIE PIGGOTT 04/10/13 Happy 80th Birthday. Lots of love from Norah, the Children and Grandchildren BURNISTON, David Kyle. Happy 13th Birthday. Lots of love, Nanna and Grandad xxxx BURNISTON, David. Happy 13th birthday. Lots of love from Mam, Dad, Liam and Sophia xx BURNISTON, David. Happy birthday, love from Gran and Granda xxx KACI Happy 3rd birthday Princess. Hope you enjoy Benidorm with all your family. All my love, Mammy xxx KACI Happy 3rd birthday to our little Sister. Have a great birthday in Benidorm. All our love, Paige, Brooke and Leighton xxx DIXON, Tyler James. Happy 1st birthday to our beautiful Son. Lots of love from Mammy and Daddy xxx DIXON, Tyler James. To our little ray of sunshine, happy 1st birthday. Love you loads from Nana and Grandad Dixon xxx DIXON, Tyler James. Happy 1st birthday. Love, Jen Jen and Mark DIXON, Happy birthday to my little ray of sunshine "Tyler James". From Great Nana White xxx VALERIE CHAPE Happy 49th wedding anniversary on 3rd October. Love, Colin CONGRATULATIONS to Mr and Mrs Jeffery Raine on getting married on 25th September 2013. After all these years you have finally tied the knot! Love, Kay, Shaun and kids xxx SAM OWEN Happy 18th Birthday. 1st October 2013. Congratulations on your 18th birthday. It's here at last! Love always, Auntie Melanie, Uncle Ian, Stacey and Milo xxx SAM OWEN Happy 18th Birthday All my love on your 18th on 1st October. From Nana Sally

Samantha Owen

Happy 18th Birthday

To our lovely Daughter Samantha. We just have to say have a very happy 18th birthday on this your special day. When it comes to Daughters, there's lots of them about, but you are the very very best of that there is no doubt. Have a fab 18th birthday on 1st October 2013. Lots of love, Mam and Dad xxx

Happy 18th Birthday Mammy Sammy

Lots of love, Jack xxx

Happy 18th Birthday Sammy

Love you loads, Ryan xxx

Happy 18th Birthday

Congratulations Samantha on your 18th birthday. Have a lovely day. Love, Grandma xxx

Happy 18th Birthday

to my beautiful Daughter-in-Law Sammy. You are legal to drink now, so enjoy hun! Hope you have a great day and night. Lots of love, Liz xxxx

Happy Birthday Wonder Woman

Happy 40th Birthday

Enjoy your two weekends away. Love, Ado . . .

Happy Birthday Mam

Love from Az, Bethany and Amy-Jo

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Happy birthday Son. Have a great weekend. Lots of love, Dad, Bev, Carrie and Matthew. Happy birthday from all your family

John-Paul Howarth

Happy Birthday

30th September 2013 to a special Fiancee, have a fab day. Lots of love, Lisa xxxxxxxxxxxx

Happy Birthday Daddy

Lots of love and kisses, Dylan, Kameron, Loren and Aimee xxxxx

Sharon Saunders

28th September 2013

Happy birthday Sharon. Hope you have a fabulous weekend. Lots of love from Mam, Dad, Sister Judith, Shaun and Matthew xxxx

Wildcats Madourie is Woodham Academy Coach

Durham Wildcats have confirmed that summer signing and former Newcastle Eagle star, Joel Madourie will be their representative coaching



at Woodham Academy throughout the season. Madourie will be working alongside Assistant Head-teacher and Wildcats senior coach Danny Morgans to enhance the school basketball provision that has already developed significantly more North East Regional and National League players than any other in the county. Woodham has always had a very strong link with Durham Wildcats and provides a venue for their junior elite programme coached by Danny Morgans. Madourie will also be leading a Monday night session between 5-6pm at Woodham Academy for primary aged players. For further information about the session please contact Richard Warburton on 0191 334 4737.

Youthy Football Celebrate Club's 25th Anniversary



The original Youth Football Club in 1989

Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club is planning a season of celebrations for achieving 25 years of football provision for young boys and girls from the town.

The club was founded in 1989 by a group of enthusiastic parents after realising there were no opportunities for young children to play football in Newton Aycliffe at that time. The first ever Youthy team was an under 13 team that played in the Bishop Auckland Northern Echo League.

After that first season the club joined the Teesside Junior Football Alliance and during the following seasons the interest grew and the number of teams increased. Seasons 1995/96 and 1996/97 saw the club become the first in the Teesside Junior Football Alliance to be awarded Club of The Year in consecutive seasons.

In 2001 the club was awarded the FA Charter Standard Development Club Status which ensured that at least one coach within the club achieved Level 2 Coaching award and every age group is coached by at least a Level 1 Coach.

All coaches complete an

Emergency First Aid Course and a Child Protection Workshop to ensure the safety of the children. All coaches have a regular CRB Check by the Football Association. In 2010 the club were awarded FA Charter Standard Community Club status, one of only 24 junior clubs in County Durham achieving this award. In 2004 we were awarded both the Durham County and Northern Region FA Charter Standard Club of the Year in recognition of the standards the club were setting and achieving.

Our coaches have been rewarded over the years with many boys moving onto professional football club academies and several going on to play for football league clubs.

We have a thriving development section for boys aged 4 – 6 years old, 13 boys teams playing team football from the age of 6 to 16 years old, a girls development programme, and girls team playing at under 11 and under 12 level.

The club was awarded, for the 3rd time, the Teesside Junior Alliance League "Club of the Year" in 2012. This was

in recognition of all the hard work put into the club from administration to performances on the pitch. The league commented that the levels of performance, achieved across the club, were remarkable for the large size of the football club.

We are the only youth football club that trains and plays all their matches in Newton Aycliffe with excellent facilities at The Oakleaf Sports Complex. Winter training is also in Newton Aycliffe with 3G pitches and indoor facilities across the town. The club is proud to have reached this landmark and continue to be one of the top junior football clubs in the County.

Aycliffe Fighter Wins Title in 36 Seconds

Aycliffe Martial Arts fighter David Cunliffe took home the biggest win of his semi pro career on 21st September. Since losing his first MMA bout David has defeated all opponents in the first round either by submission or knockout.

David was matched against Newcastle's Ryan Hovells with an impressive 4-1 record. The fight itself was held on Total Combat in Spennymoor for the vacant British Featherweight title. David started quickly landing several strong low kicks before setting up a head kick only to be taken to the cage floor.

Although Ryan had a name for being extremely dangerous David, who is a blue belt in Brazilian Jujitsu, managed to secure

an impressive belly down armbar resulting in Ryan submitting very quickly. David is now the Total Combat Semi Pro British Champion after a 36 second submission over the favourite to win.

David would like to thank everyone involved in his training mostly his coaches Martin Wilby and Lanchana Green who run the Lab Gym in Darlington. A massive thank you to his family who never see him as he's always in the gym!

David will now seek to fight in other promotional MMA events looking for sponsors to help him to progress his career. If any local businesses are interested please contact david at davidcunliffe656@aol.com or via coach Martin on 07852 330687.



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RUNNING CLUB NEWS

The Club had another good turnout for the Serpentine race at Sedgefield. This is a completely off-road course and very muddy in places. It was also quite hot for a late September day.

Outstanding run of the day came from Judith Porter in her first attempt at this demanding course and was 2nd female o/60, finishing in 58:36. Peter Milburn also ran well in the o/50 age group in the good time of 43:16, but first home for the club was Dez Fielden in 8th position in 40:46.

Other results were as follows: Matthew Heron – 46:15, Peter Smith 50:39, Kevin Greenall – 53:25, Trish Kay – 55:23, Chris Forster – 56:53, Beverley Phillipo – 66:00, Ray Todd – 68:14 and 1st to 75.

On the same day three runners from the club took part in the Yorkshire 10k, which was also off-road around the Newby Hall estate. John Young was 1st home for the club in 48:47, followed by Elaine Morgan 63:56 and Yvonne Williams 67:12

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