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More Problems for Town Centre Shopkeepers SHOP SERVICE CHARGES DOUBLED

Having received notice of large increases in service charges a number of private shopkeepers in the Town Centre have come to the end of their tether and are being forced to close!

Jim Parkin, of Homeplan, has taken a survey of shops and finds everyone is struggling already without the addition of a further increase in overheads. The Elachi Indian Restaurant have been told the service charge which covers administration and maintenance has been quadrupled. This, on top of high rents, means they might not continue to trade. Other shops including Stephen

Russel the hairdressers face increases of 85% in times when they are barely able to survive. He and other shopkeepers do not understand the charges and why and for what they are being imposed. All believe they pay far too much for what services they receive and to pay more is unreasonable and unaffordable. McMahons will be closing, Bon Marche not sure how much longer they can survive. The Baby Shop is moving onto the Business Park. Cafe Pronto who have just moved into new premises are worried. Boola Dress Shop feels he has to close

through excessive charges. China Garden cannot afford to pay any extra. The list goes on, with each shop complaining bitterly over the new charges when they have lost so much trade over the last few months while the town centre has been refurbished. It appears the Landlords now want the money they invested in their own property, to be paid for by the tenants through extra service charges. Jim Parkin is hoping to get all the traders to a meeting to plan a protest in an effort to put a stop to the extra charge before it causes a mass closure of shops in Newton Aycliffe.

Community Shop Closes

The Community Shop kindly donated for use by the Town Centre Landlords is to be closed at the end of the month.

This is in preparation of the demolition of the whole block, including Churchill House, in the New Year. The PCP has been managing the use of the shop and certain people who had booked it have now cancelled their planned activity.

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Sat - Roast Chicken Dinner
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Sun - Roast Beef Dinner
OR Roast Chicken Dinner
Call Ian or Lesley on
01325 300203
to arrange your Meals On Wheels
www.FeastLand.co.uk

Garden Waste Collection

The County Council online consultation on the proposed garden waste collections is out now and people can contribute on <http://bit.ly/DCCgardenwaste2>
The consultation ends on Monday 28 October.

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Film Show

On 9th October at 7pm Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre will be showing the film "THE LORAX". Thanks to local police we get the opportunity to enjoy this film show free of charge. We have the GAMP community and voluntary sector to thank for this and other films being shown currently. All you need to do is to bring your popcorn, but a Tuck Shop will be open. See you there, make sure you are early for a good seat.

POPULAR FURNITURE SCHEME EXPANDS AT CHILTON

The County Durham Furniture Help Scheme Charity was an original idea of Newtonian Chris Palmer who has built the charity up from a one man band in the 70's to the thriving operation it is today. Chris had retired through ill health and saw the need. He constructed his own mobile

vehicle to collect unwanted items from an old pram and bogey. He put an advert in Newton News and was inundated by requests for help and from people who wanted to donate goods.

Such is the need for people to be helped with low cost household items and furniture that the County Durham Furniture Help Scheme now assists over 2,000 families each month and have expanded to meet this ever increasing demand.

Based on the Chilton Industrial Estate, the Charity, first established in 1970 and re-launched as the CDFHS in 2004, is run by volunteers and helps families in need. The charity makes free collections across County Durham and neighbouring counties of furniture, household goods, carpets, clothes, bicycles, toys, disability appliances, gardening items, scrap metals, waste electrical and electronic equipment. Items are restored and refurbished and then available for a suitable donation (low cost) from its warehouse in Chilton.

Whilst open to members of the public, the charity has noted an increase in the number of families seeking support due to a number of factors, the current economic climate, and the drastic change in benefits system, bedroom tax, unemployment, financial struggles, housing and health issues. To meet this increase in demand the Charity has just



opened its fourth showroom. The team of 30+ volunteers at the charity (some of whom are disabled or sensory impaired) all give their time to ensure the charity runs and meets the ever increasing demands. CDFHS has dedicated training programmes to help people of all ages improve their employability by helping them improve skills and gain new skills to help them into fruitful future employment or volunteering.

Founder Chris Palmer

comments: "We rely on the generosity of the residents and businesses of County Durham and neighbouring Counties who have surplus or unwanted items to donate. At the moment we are very short of white goods as well as pots and pans - we are always short of cookers and washers". "Support from Durham County Council means that the reuse credits we receive for recycling goods has enabled us to deliver our expansion plans and to be a very active part of the local community," said Chris.

If you are able to help or would like to find out more, please telephone CDFHS on 01388 721509 or visit: <http://www.cdfhs.org.uk>

Middridge Rejected Eldon Whins Site in 2011

We are informed by a reader that there is no need for our Town Council to approach Middridge to ask them to agree with the boundary change for Eldon Whins. Middridge wanted rid of it in 2011 recognising the proposed housing development on that site would quadruple the village population. They agreed it made sense to offload the site to Newton Aycliffe but obviously did not tell anyone of their decision.

This proves the point that local parish councils should be talking to each other and our Town Council's wish to have a closer relationship would be beneficial.

Chilton & Windlestone WMC

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS:

Friday 15th November

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£257 for Macmillan



A vibrant coffee morning was held on Friday 27th September in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support at the home of Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe.

The Whitehouse girls, Dot's Crafts and Archers Catering of Woodland Road, Darlington all helped by baking wonderful fresh cakes, scones and sausage rolls all served with coffee and tea. There was also an opportunity to buy raffle tickets, play games and to browse around the family run

funeral home. Many people attended the event, which was of course, for a very good cause indeed and the very generous amount of £257.00 was raised, to which we are extremely grateful to all concerned and all who attended. Bryan A Shepherd said 'We were over the moon with the response. The generosity of the Newton Aycliffe people made the whole event a big success. We have many other events planned so if you wish to attend then ring me on 01325 318600 for further details.

The Royal British Legion

Do you need a venue for your Christmas, Anniversary or Birthday Party?

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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 said 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 lads' 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

Saturday 19th October - "1 0 1"

We are pleased to welcome back one of the Tubs favourite bands, who play a great mix of modern and classic rock. Tracks covered by: Led Zeppelin, Killers, AC/DC, Kings of Leon, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Kierser Chiefs, Nirvana, Razorlight, Pink Floyd and Green Day.
Davy's 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.'

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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Something for Everyone

The bell rings to end the school day at Stephenson Way and a wave of excitement ripples through the classrooms. However, this excitement isn't for home time; it is because for many pupils their day in school isn't over, as they will be attending one of a wide range of extra-curricular activities organised by school staff.

The school already has a selection of successful after school clubs. History Club has ran for an incredible 15 years and has a rich tradition of winning the prestigious "Spirit of Normandy Award". Art club has provided a fun atmosphere in which to create some impressive artwork. Football and netball clubs have both produced trophy



winning sides over the past several years whilst the gardening club has overseen an astonishing redevelopment

of the school's garden area since starting earlier this year. All of these clubs will return during the school year, but they will also be joined by a host of new clubs as the school looks to broaden the horizons of the children by introducing new and exciting after school opportunities.

Children will have the chance to have a go at a range of arts and crafts. The aforementioned art club will continue in the juniors, whilst the infants will also now have the opportunity to attend arts and crafts sessions. A knitting circle and a cross-stitch club will be new to most children and give them a chance to develop needlework skills. Clay modelling will also be available, giving children the chance to sculpt and shape with their hands.

A performing arts society has been formed to allow the children to express themselves through singing, dancing and acting. The club hopes to build on previous successes in this area which has seen the school perform in area events in dancing and raised money and morale whilst choir singing around the town.

There are high hopes for the cricket club when it starts up next summer after success for the Year 5 team at the ASDA Kwik Cricket festival last year. Children will also have the chance to experience a tag rugby club as the school continues to promote and expand our team sport prospects.

Whilst the sports clubs benefit the body there will also be opportunity to nurture the mind. A chess and draughts club will aim to promote tactical thinking and consideration. A debate club will look to improve a child's ability to construct an argument whilst discussing some current hot topics in children's lives whilst a thinking club will try and make children think about the world in a different way. Advanced ICT will allow children confident with computers to test themselves further by delving into animation and discovering what else can be done with a computer.

Cookery club (pictured) will give children the opportunity to bake a range of scrumptious treats from scratch. Showing children that the effort that goes in to creating something yourself makes things taste that much nicer. The clubs will all start at various points throughout the school year, meaning the after school schedule will be packed full of activities term on term.

Council Plans Aycliffe Regeneration

Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked to approve regeneration masterplans for Peterlee and Newton Aycliffe on October 9. Both documents set out details of what measures can be taken over the next three to five years to encourage investment, create and secure jobs, meet housing demand and enable the two towns to thrive.

The proposals are designed to stimulate regeneration and economic development by helping to guide investment towards the opportunities and potential developments the towns offer.

Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for economic regeneration at Durham County Council, said: "These documents contain proposals for addressing key priorities in Peterlee and Newton Aycliffe and look at how we can work with our partners to achieve this."

"The aim is to support growth and investment as well as the provision of good quality housing, jobs and community facilities."

"There is a huge amount of potential and it is important that we tap into this to ensure both Peterlee and Newton Aycliffe are towns where people want to live and work."

The two masterplans will be considered side by side by Cabinet members as both settlements are new towns and have a lot in common.

Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet will discuss the proposals when they meet next week (Oct 9) at The Bowes Museum at 10am.

Forced Access! Library Events



Newton Aycliffe Library are holding a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support on Thursday 10th October from 10 am - 12 noon. We look forward to seeing you in the library for coffee, cake and a friendly chat, all in aid of this wonderful charity.

MY GRANNY IS A PIRATE A swashbuckling musical adventure!

Your opportunity to take part in this year's Durham Book Festival. The performance of 'My Granny is a Pirate' is to be held at the Library on Friday 18th October at 10.30am. There will be a charge of £1.00 per child for the performance. Anyone booking for a group of 10 only pay for 9 children. Please contact Library Staff (Tel. 03000 269519) for further details or to book places



floor of the multi storey car park which is probably more of a health and safety risk than the route between Aldi and Coffee Pronto.

Newton News have been watching the barrier between Aldi and Coffee Pronto for months waiting for it to be removed to give pedestrians access to the Town Centre from the multi storey car park.

The Town Centre Manager told us it couldn't be opened until Health and Safety issues had been resolved even though no one could see the problem.

After many frustrating months with no progress we finally asked for details to which safety issues they refer so that we could print them for our readers information.

We did not get a reply, but mysteriously and without notice a doorway was opened this week allowing people through for the first time. We asked for an explanation and found it had been forced open by persons unknown.

It has been closed up again. We were hoping the whole barrier would have come down by now to save people walking through the ground

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

Antiques Valuation Day



St. Elizabeth's Church at Woodham held an Antiques Valuation Day last Saturday with experts from Thos Watson & Son in Darlington appraising items brought in by the public. Also on view was an exhibition of work by Woodham Art Group. Refreshments were served with proceeds from the day for Church funds.

Ian's Photo Exhibition



Ian Dewar of the Wishing Well Club has taken up photography as a hobby and is enjoying some success. An exhibition of his work can be viewed at the Pace Shop in the Thames Centre. Ian told Newton News he was so proud to see his photographs on the wall and hopes Newtonians will call in to see them.

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British Legion Club Host ACORN Meetings

The A.C.O.R.N Residents Association are thrilled to announce they have a new home in the Royal British Legion Club

The Association incorporates Neighbourhood Watch and Little Acorns and is going from strength to strength.

Local residents invite participation of representatives from the Police, livin, and County and Town Councilors who attend, giving their time and experience to provide advice and help to our members. We acknowledge that help and assistance has been forthcoming from many groups within and outside of Newton Aycliffe.

ACORN meetings are preceded by Little Acorns junior section who plan their own activities with finance and guidance from the main group. Issues which concern our young people are discussed amongst themselves. Police play a pivotal role within the ACORN organisation and a very special function is enacted in keeping the group informed of current police priorities in the area.

livin housing also have representatives who come along to try to solve problems which affect our lives, and play a big role in supporting the group.

Our speaker for the month is Colin Bage area manager of Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue who will be giving us an update on the new extensions at our fire station and the reason why they are

necessary.

At a recent meeting of the County Durham Residents Association approval and moral support was expressed of our campaign to keep our fireworks display in the safer environment at the Oak Leaf Centre.

ACORN membership is open to anyone who would like to make a difference in improving our brilliant town. We try to deal with issues affecting us with humour and common sense; we have no political affiliations and welcome guidance from those who hold public office.

ACORN Residents Association has helped foster better relationships; encouraging development and change in our neighbourhood. If you think there is support in your area for a friendly group of neighbours to start a residents 'association' we would love to help in any way we can. Please feel free to contact us on the phone number provided or on the facebook page Aycliffe Central Open Resident Network

Or take a look at our website on www.acornresidents.com to see the type of activities which we organise and take part in.

A.C.O.R.N want to engage with any group with similar aims, insofar, as we look on the optimistic side of life and try to further improve our neighbourhood in any way that we can.

If you would like to get involved with us, speak at our meetings, help with our projects or suggest new ventures. Please contact me on the number below, or via our facebook page. Alternatively, come along to our meetings on the second Thursday of each month. We are a jolly lot and welcome new faces so come along and meet the neighbours.

Next Meeting: Thursday 10th October 2013
Venue: Newton Aycliffe Royal British Legion Club
Meeting starts at 6p.m.
following our little ACORNS meeting at 5.30pm
Ken Robson (Chair)
01325 321471

Languages Day at St. John's School

Thursday 26th September saw St John's transformed into a sea of colour, culture and languages from Europe and beyond. 'The European Day Of Languages' is always a big event in the MFL calendar, this year proved to be the biggest and best to date. 110 students descended on the school from twelve Catholic Partnership schools across the region.

After hot chocolate and croissants they took part in five exciting sessions in Spanish pop music, French fairy tales, Italian ice cream making and marketing, Japanese language

and culture and Hindi and Bollywood dancing. At lunch time students feasted on some of Europe's most famous culinary delights.

The day allowed students not only to experience how studying an MFL has far more to offer than simply lesson in a classroom but also make new friends from across our region. As a school and MFL department we were delighted by the success of the day and to have the opportunity to showcase our fabulous department and considerable talents.



Master Craftsman 2013



Ken Simpson, Shoe Repairer at Shildon has won the coveted Master Craftman of the Year award for the second time.

Ken is a regular advertiser in Newton News and has many loyal customers in Aycliffe. He has been in business for 23 years and followed his father who opened the cobblers shop in the 50's.

Ken also provides watch straps, batteries, key cutting, engraving and bespoke leather work. He is introducing a watch pressure testing service this week with a new piece of equipment he bought with his £600 prize money.

Ken keeps busy and is always on the look out to do something different. This winter he is offering special stick on soles to help cope with icy conditions. Contact Ken on 01388 777 709.

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PCP Celebration of 15th AGM

Exhibition of Textiles

ROSE LODGE CARE HOME SHOE BOX APPEAL

The Pioneering Care Partnership held their Annual General Meeting on 27th September. PCP is a local charity whose aim is to improve people's health, wellbeing and quality of life and reduce inequalities in health. The charity is responsible for running the Pioneering Care Centre at Carers' Way, where the meeting was held.

The meeting was significantly important as it was Jane Hartley's last day as PCP's Chief Executive; Jane has been at the helm of PCP since its opening in 1998. Jane's successor is Carol Wood who has been with the PCP for over 11 years.

PCP's Patron Lord Foster of Bishop Auckland paid tribute to Jane, and all PCP staff and volunteers saying "Great organisations are built by people, PCP has grown more than we could ever imagined in the past 15 years, going from 2 members of staff to 65. Jane has proved to not only be a good community leader but an inspirational team leader, managing a voluntary organisation that is efficient and innovative, meeting the changing needs of the community."

He went on to congratulate PCP for its growth and achievements, including the many Quality Awards and projects accomplished in the past year.

Attendees also got to hear from volunteers and service users who spoke about the benefits PCP has brought to them.

Gavin Gettings first came into contact with PCP whilst attending a recovery centre



in Durham, he told a PCP member of staff that he wanted to feel better, get active and improve his social circles. He joined the Walking Group in May, started volunteering as a Health Trainer Champion, successfully completed the relevant qualifications and is now employed as a Health Trainer for PCP.

Gavin bravely stood up at the meeting and said "After many years of personal health problems I had become inactive, isolated and very unhappy. I am now healthier, happier and employed, which is a huge step for me. Being involved with PCP has acted as a springboard to looking at a whole range of changes I want to make in my life."

Alfie Khulumula was also was introduced to PCP



through the Alcohol Health Trainer programme and spoke passionately about his journey. Alfie was in the army but left due to poor health caused by his addiction to alcohol. He said "I felt it was the right time to help others who were going through what I went through with drink, and to prove it can be done. I passed the relevant training courses and signed up to become a PCP volunteer Health Trainer Champion and am now also employed, thanks to the supportive team at PCP."

Danielle Barlow also described the enjoyment she gets out of attending the Options day service for local disabled adults and Options Social Club at the Pioneering Care Centre. This year Danielle's confidence has grown so much she now attends the Social Club on her own, without support. Her favourite thing about the Social Club is playing bingo with her friends.

If you would like to know more about the impact the charity has had on the lives of local people or hear about some of their key achievements the Annual Review is available to download at www.pcp.uk.net. For further information on the services and activities available at the PCP or to discuss volunteering opportunities contact: 01325 321234 email: equiries@pcp.uk.net

Last week saw the opening of a great new exhibition in The Greenfield Gallery. "Lost Stories and Broken Narratives" is a new collection of work by Textile artist, lecturer and published author Maggie Smith, featuring an array of printed, stitched and drawn works, including some 3-dimensional pieces.

Always engaged with surfaces, layers and hidden



A PACT Meeting will be held at the following venues.

Simpasture Court Coffee Lounge on Tue 8/10/2013 from 6-30pm to 7-30pm.

Neville Parade Church Hall on Thur 10/10/2013 from 6-30pm to 7-30pm.

PC Alan Thompson & PCSO Richard Scott are your Community Police Officers and they want to hear your views & opinions on any local issues. Councillors and Representatives from all responsible partners will attend when available. For more information visit: www.durham.police.uk

connections, Maggie uses drawing, print and stitch combined with a subtle colour palette and a love of process, working with fabric and paper. A collector and recycler of fabric and textile fragments with a history, she imbues her work with real or imagined stories exploring memories of childhood and interests in costume, theatre and literature.

This is a fantastic opportunity for local people to see a new collection of Maggie's work in The Greenfield Gallery, and we are pleased to be able to host the show here at Greenfield Arts.

For more information visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk



Neville Community Centre

Neville Parade, Newton Aycliffe

Marske Fishermans Choir

Friday 11th October at 7.30pm

To book your ticket ring 01325 313924

Rotary Charity Golf Day at Woodham



The town's Rotary Club held a very successful Charity Golf Day at Woodham last week. 20 teams took part in a Stableford competition followed by a presentation dinner where a team from T. Manners won the first prize. They are shown in the photograph with organisers left Robert Manners and Richard Gent (right). The club President Geoff Batchelor (centre) presented the prizes.

Top picture shows Rotarians Scott, Waine, Henderson and Fenwick who registered the entrants on arrival.

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BISHOP AUCKLAND ROTARY CLUB SUPPORT AYCLIFFE CHARITY



Bishop Auckland Rotary Club hosted Sue Birkbeck of the "Just Say Yes" fund for children with terminal cancer, based in Newton Aycliffe. The chairty was chosen by last year's president, Bill Robson in

memory of Mark Bulman, Sue's son. A cheque for £3,000 was presented to Sue by Bill to be used to provide opportunities and experiences for terminal child cancer patients.

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Harvest Event to Help Town Food Bank

Messy Harvest Children's Church will be on Saturday 12th of October at 4pm in St Clare's Church and hall. Activities on offer will be painting with fruit and vegetables, edible healthy necklace making, gluing and sticking with autumn leaves and creating your own Harvest Prayer which will be offered for all that is good in the world.

This year we would like everyone to bring a Harvest gift suitable to help support the valuable work of the Foodbank in Newton Aycliffe. The Foodbank endorses supermarket 'own label' brands as ideal items to be included in the food parcels given to families who need them. Jars, tins or packets are ideal and if every child brought one item along to Messy Harvest we may be able to fill our 'groovy' wheelbarrow and how wonderful that would be! The session finishes with a shared tea at 5pm for all the family, so please come along if you have enjoyed Messy Church before, and especially if you haven't experienced it yet, we welcome everyone. Please phone Helen on 319002 for any further details.

Coffee Morning Raised £700



Stephenson Way Primary School opened its doors to parents on Friday to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. The school hosted three, half hour, sessions throughout the morning to allow different year groups to join their parents to enjoy a hot or cold drink and choose from a wide variety of cakes; the majority of which were donated by staff members or parents. Each session welcomed a number of visitors who gave

generously to the charity. The coffee morning was organised from by the Year 6 children. In preparation for the day they came up with advertising and fund raising ideas for the event whilst on the day they helped with greeting and serving, and also ensured that everybody who came received a thank you card or a sticker.

In addition to the cake and coffee on offer, the school art club ran a stall selling items they had lovingly made for the charity. The Year 6 children also held a competition where guests were invited to guess how many coffee beans were in the jar; where three lucky winners shared the cash prize. However, the real winner was Macmillan with the children deciding that half the entry fee would go to the charity.

After the final coffee was poured and the final cake had been eaten, all that was left to do was to total up, which revealed a fantastic total of £700 had been collected for the charity and confirmed that the day had been a resounding success.

RUFF DIAMOND VISIT KDANZ AT AYCLIFFE



Famous dance crew 'Ruff Diamond' from the hit TV programme 'Got to Dance' made a special and exclusive appearance at KDANZ in Newton Aycliffe last week!! Crew Members Zac and Lewis who performed in the Live final at the Olympia in March 2013 came along to Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre to provide a workshop for KDANZ pupils. KDANZ, a non profit dance school, invited the boys to come

along and put their Excite crew to the test and KDANZ really impressed!! Both lads were so pleased with how advanced everyone was, they suggested group of 1v1 battles!! The night was a great success and a fantastic opportunity for children in the Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas. Principal, Kay Thompson said, "Zac and Lewis really inspired the boys in our group, not only with the amazingly

hard break dance moves but also by being good positive role models and challenging the negative attitude towards teenagers. It is so nice to see children in our area succeeding in their goals and at KDANZ we are so thankful that Ruff Diamond were able to visit. We have arranged for a Ruff Dimaond member to come and teach weekly sessions for us until christmas to spur on any budding break dance boys out there!"

So not only is there an exciting opportunity for boys to start break dancing at KDANZ with Ruff Diamond, but any men over the age of 16 can access break dance classes TOTALLY FREE OF CHARGE for 6 weeks, places are limited though so call Kay on 07900365892 asap to avoid disappointment.

Choir Concert at Neville Parade

The Marske Fishermen's Choir makes a return visit to Neville Community Centre on Friday 11th October at 7.30pm. Admission Adults £4, Seniors £3 and children £1. To book and collect tickets at the door ring 313924.

Saturday Family Fun mornings by appointment. New Age Kurling, Bowls, Table Tennis, Snooker 10 - 12 noon. Only £5 per family. We are looking for a couple of Senior Citizens to run a Tea Dance. If you can help please ring 313924.

Fashion Show - Wednesday 6th November at 2pm. Tickets £5.

Film Show

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church is on Tuesday 8th October and features the great classic "The African Queen" in glorious Cinemascope. Starring Humphrey Bogart, Katharine Hepburn and Robert Morley. Tea & coffee at 1pm, the film starts at 1-15pm and everyone is most welcome. Please ring Ric Hargreaves for more details.

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Commissioner Tackles School Traffic Problem



Durham Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg attended a public meeting at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre on Monday 30th September 2013 to discuss parking issues outside schools. Local councillors, residents, Head Teachers and Governing Bodies from schools in the area were in attendance. The main discussion points were:

- Neighbourhood Policing Teams are to formulate a strategy around the police response by conducting individual school assessments to consider how best to resolve parking problems particular to the school.
- Deployment of Neighbourhood Wardens outside schools and support for future co-location with the Police.
- Identification of safe crossing points outside all schools.
- Parents and guardians to be educated via newsletters.
- Introduction and implementation of 20mph speed schemes outside schools.
- Markings restricting parking

to be considered for certain schools.

- Joint working with Durham County Council and the Road Casualty Reduction Partnership.

Mr Hogg said: "I am committed to ensuring that our children can arrive at and depart school safely. I would ask all drivers in the vicinity of schools at these key times to take additional caution and to reduce their speed. It is also important to park with care and consideration. I look forward to working further with partners on this very important issue"

£150 FOR MACMILLAN

Newton Aycliffe Pathways in the Leisure Centre raised approximately £150 which was a great effort from all concerned. They also distributed cancer awareness information to visitors.

Aycliffe Village News

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: The village hall choir is reforming in preparation for its Christmas carol concert. The choir would be delighted to see new members, so come along and join in rehearsals as they start on Sunday, October 6th, from 3-4pm in the village hall.

BABY SENSORY CLASSES: For parents and carers with babies up to 13 months, there is a sensory class at the village hall on Tuesdays at 10.30am.

CRAFT CLUB: For anyone interested in learning skills in basic knitting, sewing, quilting, card-making or baking, there is a craft club on Tuesday, October 8th and 22nd, at the village hall from 1-3pm. This month, the club is making Christmas goodies. Entry is £2 and includes refreshments. For details, call Kathy Round on 01325-315732.

WI MEETING: Aycliffe Village WI meets on Wednesday, October 23rd, in the village hall at 7.30pm, when Steve Owers will give a talk on Search and Rescue in County Durham. The challenge is for a Hallowe'en Treat. For details, call Sue Hindle on 01325-310421.

BREAKFAST CLUB: The next breakfast club takes place on Saturday, October 12th, at the village hall from 9am-noon, and will be sponsored by Hub Workspace. There will be bacon, egg or sausage buns on offer, as well as cups of tea or coffee. There will also be activities for children and a book stall. The club will also be taking bookings to see Santa in his grotto at the December breakfast club! Proceeds to the

village hall.

HALLOWE'EN DISCO: The junior disco takes place this month on Thursday, October 31st, for Hallowe'en, from 6.30-8pm in the village hall. It will be a fancy dress event, so children are invited to dress up in their scariest costumes and come as ghosts, witches or ghouls; there will be a prize for the best outfit and the scariest lantern. Tickets on the door are £2.50. Older children will be able to watch a film in the committee room.

SHOP EASY AT TESCO'S

I do believe in praise where it is should be given. I visited the Tesco Store on 26/9/13 at 4.30pm and was greeted by the new scan as you shop programme. I'm all for new changes so I thought I would give it a go. What an amazing way to shop. I loved the whole experience and the lady (who I did not manage to get the name of unfortunately) that explained how it all worked was nothing short of wonderful. She explained in simple terms and assured me that any problems would be sorted immediately. The whole experience has made me want to use Tesco more and this is the way in which I will shop in the future. Satisfied customer

Community Centre Showcases Facilities After Revamp

Woodham Community Centre which will be 28 years old in March 2014 held an Open Day on Saturday to celebrate the completion of major refurbishments that has seen the building transformed over the last 6 years.

Improvements include wooden dance floor, new kitchen, refit meeting room, replacing all doors and windows, new boiler, ventilation system, solar panels, new toilets, cupboards, computers and projectors. The latest work was to renew the foyer kitchen office and toilet flooring, fire doors, and refit the computer facilities. Improvements to the value of over £100,000 have been carried out, with the centre users raising £43,000. We have had great support to raise the balance from County Councillor Joan Gray, former Councillor Paul Gittins, and Durham County Council.

Special thanks for their support advice and help go to the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Action Partnership Team of Brian Riley, Adam White, and Paula Stockport. The Gamp team have provided not only to us but many other groups and organisations in the area ways to raise funding and develop partnerships that



Chairman Joan Gray with Treasurer Davis Sutton-Lloyd

benefit our communities. A final thanks to Durham County funding support team based at Consett who do all the donkey work of processing funding and making funds available. The improvements have made a great difference and the Community Centre helps bring people together. Many new courses will be starting soon including

Digital photography, Family History and computers for the terrified. We are starting to take new bookings and have facilities and times available at very sensible hire rates. I would invite clubs, organisation and individuals to contact me to arrange a visit to see our new facilities. David Sutton-Lloyd Treasurer

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CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

New Teachers Welcomed at Woodham



Woodham Academy and Woodham Sports Academy extend a warm welcome this year to Charlotte Reilly-O'Donnell and Thomas Jonathon Taylor. They have joined as enthusiastic teacher trainees from Schools Direct as part of the graduate teacher programme.

Charlotte graduated in 2011 from Loughborough where she studied Sports Science. A former pupil at St. Leonard's School in Durham, she is a talented sportsperson, having rowed for Durham City Amateur Rowing Club. Charlotte also tried out as a potential British Junior Rowing Team member, with the opportunity to represent Great Britain at international level.

Thomas is a keen cricketer, playing for Chester-le-Street. Since his graduation from Sheffield Hallam University in 2012, he has gained a wealth of experience at Camp America, coaching groups of youngsters in a range of disciplines including paintball, soccer, and watersports. Prior to this, Thomas spent a period of time in the Maldives coaching football.

Both are keen to contribute to the broad range of sporting activities at Woodham. Charlotte is keen to establish rowing as a sport, as well as contributing to other sport activities including netball. Thomas is eager to help develop the prestigious American Football team, cricket, and to enhance the table tennis facility.

In addition, they will both be helping to develop the fast growing Skype Programme including Skype Olympics.

Please Support Local Girl in Modelling Bid

Newtonian Paige Kell is 18 years old and is currently studying hair and beauty. She recently entered a local modelling competition held by Durham BID and Saks Durham where the first prize is a modelling contract with Tyne Tees Modelling Agency and the opportunity to feature in fashion shows and modelling work.

To get through to the next round, Paige needs the public's support! She needs everyone's help! Durham BID have a facebook page where they have all the semi-finalists featured and the top models with the most "likes" on their picture will get through to the next round which is held mid

October in Durham.

We need your support to get our local girl through. This is a FREE feature and anyone who has a facebook account, is asked to "like" Paige's picture to give her a shot at getting through to the next round. She really deserves a chance at this as this is something she has always wanted to do.



Town Centre Litter Bins

Reader Janet Pye has noticed that so far, no litter bins have been installed as part of the new town centre development, after the old ones were removed a long time ago.

We contacted Bryan Haldane, Town Centre Manager who said there will be up to 16 new litter bins installed throughout the Centre.

"We did try putting in some temporary bins but these were vandalised and as such we took them out and the maintenance team now pick several times a day" said Bryan.

Sports Award for Greenfield



Following their Gold Kite Mark for outstanding achievement in school sport and leadership, Greenfield Community College were again riding high after picking up another award. They were nominated in the category of "Secondary School Contribution to P.E. and School Sport", at the County Durham Sport & Physical Activity Awards, on Friday 20th September. The awards ceremony was held at Spennymoor Leisure Centre and was a great success for all involved.

It was a chance to see the very best our region has to offer from volunteers to coaches, sports individuals and teams. There were also nominations for Rubi Alderson and Courtne Mills, both from Greenfield, in the "Young Volunteer of the Year" and "Young Sporting Achievement of the Year" categories. The standard of competition that spanned across all age groups, was extremely high and all involved should be very proud of their achievements in being nominated.

Greenfield Community College claimed victory in

their group but students Rubi & Courtne missed out on taking the awards for their respective groups as they were up against formidable opposition. The Young Sporting Achievement award went to Amy Tinkler from Bishop Auckland, who is a Great Britain International Gymnast and travels the world with the national squad. The evening was capped off by an appearance from guest speaker, renowned sports coach, strategist and motivator

Steve Black. Steve has worked with Sunderland AFC, Newcastle United, Wales RFU and Jonathon Edwards to name but a few.

Special thanks to Barbara Davis and the rest of the Greenfield teachers who were involved in the awards ceremony. Without their hard work and on-going dedication to school sport, none of the success we see today would be possible. Thanks to you all and keep up the good work.

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Croxdale Fastfit, Newton Aycliffe are supporting Chilton-based charity County Durham Furniture Help Scheme (CDFHS). The registered charity and not for profit organisation, which is managed by Directors/Trustees and supported by around 50 volunteers from the area, is entirely dependent on the smooth running of the charity's four vehicles for the collection and delivery of furniture and household goods.

The primary aim of CDFHS is to provide any individual in need with low-cost, affordable items, primarily furniture but household items too. Items are collected free of charge, repaired and redistributed in the area. This means that items around 200 tonnes plus in weight which would usually go into landfill are recycled and furniture along with other items, are repaired and sold at affordable prices to people in the area and across the region. Managing Director Chris Palmer comments "We are extremely grateful to Brian and the team at Croxdale Fastfit for their kind help. Each of our four vehicles has to cope with 20,000 miles per year and

we have to keep the vans in excellent condition as so many people rely on us to collect and deliver goods. As we are a charity, every penny that we can save counts and keeps us focused on efforts to help people who may be in need at the moment."

Brian Hoar from Croxdale Fastfit said "We are very happy to support CDFHS, there are a lot of people who need assistance with every day items from washing machines to sofas and we are pleased to provide help with the vehicles. Our team is helping out with the wear and tear and the safety critical work so that the vans are in good condition to meet the demands of the delivery and collections across the area."

Over 2,000 families, some in very real crisis visit the showrooms each month for affordable, quality furniture, washing machines, cookers, utensils, linens etc. If you would like to be involved and support with goods, times, donations, please contact the receptionist on phone 01388 721509 or visit our web site; <http://www.cdfhs.org.uk/> Find us on Facebook cdfhs furniture Chilton.



YOUTH ZONE


Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre

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GRAVES VANDALISED

Dear Sir,
After reading over three weeks about the theft and removal of memorial items from graves at West Park Cemetery we visited our Mother's grave at Stephenson Way.
She recently passed away so we were devastated to find memorial items and even flowers had been taken away, but luckily just removed and left elsewhere.
The people who do this are the lowest of the low and must be sick to vandalise and steal from graves. It is extremely distressing for families who are suffering from the loss of a loved one
These offences must stop and the persons responsible identified and prosecuted. I urge the Town Council to take action.
Name & address supplied.

STOP PRESS

The Police contacted Newton News to inform us two suspects have been arrested in connection with the cemetery thefts and a number of stolen items from the graves have been recovered.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 16th October 2013

**Environment Committee
Recreation Committee
from 7.15pm**

QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

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".



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Machines Replacing People at Tesco?

Dear Sir,
I'd like to make my disappointment and disgust known about the new self service tills installed in Tesco on our town centre. Half the tills where people WORKED have gone and replaced with machines.
A multi billion pound empire like Tesco has no excuse for not helping ease this area's crippling unemployment. I'm sure plenty of people on the town are struggling for income and would appreciate a job in a successful supermarket.
I can understand a smaller company doing this if they are

struggling to pay staff but Tesco has no excuse. It all boils down to this society's 'I want it and want it NOW' culture.
If people want to support peoples' jobs then they should have a little patience and stand in a queue. How many people these machines replaced and how many remaining staff work part time or who are on the Job Centre's so called 'Work Programme' hoping to be kept on? 'Kept on' until another machine replaces them? I for one will be queuing to be served by an employee from now on.
Claire Glendenning

"No Job Losses" says Tesco Manager

We have been live with our new Scan as You Shop system since Wednesday and the new Self Serve tills have been open a full week. The new Self Service tills have been superbly received in the main with positive comments from customers outweighing any negative ones. We have had Self Service checkouts instore for 10 years and they have grown in popularity. They were slow and needed replacement. The six were replaced with ten and a much improved queuing system. 41% of transactions

used them last week which is only slightly up from the old style ones, however it was a much quicker and slicker system for our customers.
As far as the Scan and You Shop is concerned we signed up over 1500 customers to use this service between Wednesday and Sunday and in fact many of these customers who shop regularly have been back and used it again. The feedback has been superb and very positive from all customers. I would re-iterate that no one has to use this service as there will always be a mainbank checkout open unless it is overnight where we generally would use Self Service (unless someone specifically requests a manned till to be opened).
As far as Staffing is concerned, no one has lost their job and there is no plan to do so in relation to these new services. We removed six checkouts to make space for the two new services. Since Tesco and JS in Bishop Auckland and Aldi opened we have never used the full bank of tills apart from seasonal busy periods.
Staff have been re-deployed elsewhere, but I understand how that assumption of job losses was made.
Martin Butcher, Manager

HELPFUL BUTCHERS

Dear Sir,
Thank you to Billie Slater the butcher in the Thames Centre who allowed St Clare's Church to sell our Autumn Fayre raffle tickets in front of his shop on Saturday 21st September. The generosity of the people passing through the Thames Centre buying the tickets raised £80 and, we had a really enjoyable morning, thank you.
Our Autumn Fayre is on Saturday 5th October 10am the draw will take place during the morning.
Denise Taylor
DCC Secretary

Decisions Decisions!

Dear Sir
Mrs Tomlin's letter last week was interesting and her diatribe regarding decisions by Labour behind the scenes reminds me that her own husband was a one term Labour councillor who, according to her, did as he was told, singing from the same sheet, told which way to vote, just like a sheep so she should know.

I was the West Ward Councillor who tabled the item regarding the Lakes at the last Environment Committee and I requested a detailed report (available from the Council) and deliberately opened up the issue to Council and public alike. Unfortunately instead of supporting us, on the issue of cleaning the lakes, the waters were muddied a little and instead of sticking to the issue the public spokeswoman introduced other issues which made it difficult to arrive at decisive conclusions on that one matter.

Nonetheless I think the officers of the Council took on board all councillors and public concerns and I am sure these will be taken on board. With autumn and winter coming the algae problem should subside for now.

I welcome any public views being expressed on this matter and in general welcome Cllr George Gray's letter last week and indeed anyone else's contribution to Lakes issue. No doubt we can look forward to furthering this in a way that serves the public interest and gets things done.

There was no Labour group decision on this, yes the 26 strong Labour Group discusses some things, policy and major expenditure and tries to arrive at a consensus on matters of importance. That surely is common sense and Mrs Tomlin's husband when he was a Labour councillor never once

objected to this.
West Park and the Lakes is not a party political issue. Cllr Eddy Adam and Ken Robson, chairman of the Acorn Residents Association in particular have suggested a group of like-minded people discuss the Lakes and West Park which I personally would welcome, and all public participation, ideas or comments.
Let's come up with ideas and get things moving. Incidentally Mrs Tomlin I am no sheep, as well you know, if there is a conflict of interest I will always put public interest before Party or self. I believe most of my fellow Labour Councillors would do likewise.
Cllr Arun M Chandran
Speaking personally

Musical Gift for Youth Centre

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre are eagerly looking forward to a new arrival. Steve Metcalfe from Music Junction Studio on Aycliffe Business Park met with his long term friend Miles Peter Kane who has signed a guitar which he has donated to the Youth Centre.
Miles is best known as the co-frontman of The Last Shadow Puppets and former frontman of The Rascals, before the band announced their break-up in August 2009
Keep an eye on the Newton News for more information as to what the Youth Centre will do with the guitar.

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AYCLIFFE FC EXTEND UNBEATEN RUN

Newton Aycliffe recovered from the loss of top scorer Danny Earl to extend their unbeaten start at home to the campaign. A dramatic 2-1 victory over Sunderland RCA was followed by a hard-fought 1-1 draw with in-form Consett to move the Royal Blues up to ninth in the Northern League Division One table. Allan Oliver's men have yet to be beaten at Moore Lane Park in the league in their six outings during this season, though have seen Earl depart for high-flying Marske United. That had not seemed the case when Sunderland RCA – still in the first division after receiving a reprieve despite finishing in the bottom three last year – led 1-0 with 15 minutes left. Former Aycliffe striker Gavin Barton had given them the lead shortly before half time. The Newtonians had struggled to get any rhythm into their game and it wasn't until the 65th minute that they created

a serious opening; Danny Mellanby's threading through a ball to releases Jamie Owens but the former Shildon man saw his effort desperately cleared off the line by Wayne Henderson. But 10 minutes later the hosts were level. Martin Young's header was cleared off the line by Barton but the midfielder regained possession and picked out Owens at the back post who nodded in from close range. There was only likely to be one winner from then on. Daniel Lambert was denied by Peter Jameson, the visiting goalkeeper getting down brilliantly to turn a fierce drive away for a corner. But there was no stopping the winger in the 85th minute. Lambert evaded two challenges with ease before unleashing a fizzing left-footed shot into the far corner – a goal worthy of winning any game. Consett's trip on Saturday was always going to be a tough ask.

They had scored 17 goals as they won three and drew one of their preceding four league games. The visitors started the better of the two sides and took just 10 minutes to open the scoring. A long ball caught out Stephen Salvin and Luke Sullivan tucked the ball past Gareth Young in the Aycliffe goal. Nathan Jameson should have made it two soon after but could not find the target when in acres of space on the edge of the area. Owens got the hosts back on level terms just after the half-hour mark. Having seen a curling effort drift just wide minutes earlier, the former Shildon man was on hand to force the ball home after Lambert's shot had been parried by visiting goalkeeper. It was the Royal Blues who appeared the likelier to go on and win the game in the second half as they created the better chances. Lambert's cutback from the byline was cut out before Owens could tap in, before the striker steered a header narrowly wide from Stephen Gibson's cross. Young was then played in down the left but a covering challenge denied him just before he was about to let fly and James Oliver - who has only ever scored one goal for the club - was inches away from ending his long drought with a stunning overhead kick.

Successful Season for Aycliffe Tri Club



Michael Scott and Mel Rowland

It's been a busy summer for this first full racing season for Aycliffe Tri Club. Members have taken part in challenges from Sprint races to Iron Man and travelled both around the country and abroad. In the latest batch of races going back to 28th July Richard Johnson took part in Redcar Sprint Triathlon and finished in 1hr and 16min an excellent result for fast course with a sea swim. The 14th August Michelle Scott, Andy Sedgwick and Vicky Howse took part in Capernway Sprint Tri on a wet and windy evening this hilly race was no match for the three with Andy 8th Male in 1hr 3mins, Michelle 4th Female in 1hr 7mins and Vicky 9th Female in 1hr 21mins. The next event for Michelle was representing GB in the world championships in London. With the Aquathlon event held on the 11th September Michelle finished in 37min and 37secs placing her 15th, then only two days later she took part in the Age Group Sprint race coming in 18th in her category with an impressive time of 1hr and 18mins. On the 8th September the Aycliffe Amazons and Aycliffe Trojans took part in the Cleveland Relays the all male team of Trojans came home in 2hr and 30mins placing them

9th in their category and the all ladies team of Amazons was 7th in their category in 3hr and 10mins. 22nd September saw two races with Teesdale and Hartlepool Sprint Triathlons taking place. Up at Teesdale Michael Scott was first home for the club in 1hr and 26mins putting him in 3rd place in his category. Mel Rowland the club's only lady racing gained an excellent result coming first in her category in 1hr and 46mins. Close behind Mel was Alan Kellett in his first triathlon also finishing in 1hr 46mins and placing 11th in his category. Over at Hartlepool brothers Martin and Andrew Sedgwick were preparing for their race which started with a swim in the marina. First home was Andrew in 1hr 6mins coming 8th in his category followed a few minutes later by big brother Martin in 1hr 13mins placing 28th in his category. Well done to all Aycliffe Tri Club members keep up the good work! If you are interested in Triathlon and 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 Wendy Bake

Cricket Club Annual Presentation Night

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club celebrated their successful season with a packed house for their annual presentation night held at the Sports Club. In their first season in the NYSD league, the first team secured promotion to the 2nd division at their first attempt and reached the knock out stages of the NYSD 15/15 league cup. During the evening, a number of individual awards were presented to players from the under 18's, 2nd and 1st teams as follows :- Under 18's :- Danny Weldon won both the catching and bowling award, Tom Wickins won the batting award and Craig Robertson won the performance award. Both Danny Weldon and Tom Wickins shared the player of the year award. 2nd Team :- John Wardle and James Skerrett shared the catching award, Ross Dixon won the bowling award, Ben Nicholson won the batting award and Danny Weldon was the player of the year. 1st Team :- Michael Howe won the catches, Luke Telford won the bowling and Chris Palmer won the batting award. The Ian Clark Memorial Trophy for the player of the year was shared between Sean Morgan and Luke Telford. There were some achievement awards for scoring centuries and they were presented to Sam Telford for his innings of 129 at home to Darlington RA and to Chris Palmer for scoring an unbeaten 106 away at Whitby. Finally the prestigious Clubman of the year award was presented to 19 year old Joe Haines, predominantly for his work with the juniors and general all round assistance at the club.



Left to right: Danny Weldon (2nd Team Player of the Year), Sean Morgan and Luke Telford (joint 1st Team Players of the Year) and Joe Haines voted Clubman of the Year.

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WOODHAM WARRIORS IN BRUSSELS Beaten at Their Own Game!

On Saturday 14th September, Woodham Academy's American football team started their High School League of Europe season with a long away trip to Brussels to play the Brigands, of Brussels American School. The 'DoDDs' League is usually reserved for American schools on US Army and Navy bases around Europe, but after

impressing in 3 friendly games last season against American opposition, the Warriors were invited to be a full member of the league, playing a full 6 game schedule. This is an honour that only one other British school has been given. Woodham's players and coaches travelled overnight by coach to the Belgian capital to play the game, with rain

and wind greeting them when they arrived. The game was played in a great spirit, with Brussels eventually running out 41-24 winners. There were exceptional performances from Chris Armstrong and Kyle Broad. Chris, who ran for over 300 yards in total, had touchdown runs of 80, 82 and 90 yards on the day. Kyle played every down for

Woodham and recorded a team leading 11 tackles and blocked 3 field goal attempts. It was the overall performance of everyone that impressed Head Coach Danny Ketch, who said "Everyone can be proud of the performance they produced. We knew it was always going to be a tough game, but all the boys proved they can compete with the best and match them. Individual performances from Chris Armstrong, Kyle Broad and Liam Wood led the team forward, but everyone stepped up and played a massive part in this game. We've learned a lot and hope to be better in the return fixture in October." Woodham Warriors now look forward to welcoming American competition for the first time, when they take on Lakenheath on September 28th kick off will be 1pm. All of Woodham's home games will be played at Darlington Rugby Club, with further games on Friday 4th October (7pm KO) and Saturday 12th October (1pm KO). All supporters are welcome.



Last Saturday Woodham Warriors American Football team from Woodham Academy beat an American High School for the first time. Although the Warriors have enjoyed unprecedented success in Britain over the past 10 years, they have only just began to play Americans at their own sport.

Last year, Woodham were invited to play in the American High School League of Europe against American schools based at US military bases across Europe. During last academic year, the Warriors played three games in the league including an away trip to Sicily at the Sigonella US Air base. This year they play six games, three at home and three away including a trip to Brussels.

Saturday saw the first ever home game against American opposition and the Warriors marked it in style with a convincing win against RAF Lakenheath. With a big crowd at Darlington Rugby Club to witness the event, the Warriors turned on the style and ran out winners to the tune of a 52-21 scoreline. Team MVP's for Woodham went to Ricky Mannion on defense, Chris Armstrong on offense and Liam

Wood for overall performance. Jon Tait, assistant head teacher at Woodham Academy said "We would have been laughed at 10 years ago for even suggesting that a team from Woodham would be playing American High Schools at American Football - today we have beaten one!" Seeing local students from Newton Aycliffe beating the

American's at their own sport really does bring home the progress that these students are making and the impact that the Woodham Sports Academy is having. Woodham play their 2nd home game at Darlington Rugby Club this Friday night under the floodlights against RAF Menwith Hill starting at 7pm. Entrance is free.



Running Club News



It was the beginning of the cross-country season last Saturday, with the NEHL Sherman Cup being held at Hedley Hill Farm near Tanfield Railway. Three members of Aycliffe Running Club competed in this testing course over farmer's fields and included crossing a small stream. The women ran 3.8 miles over 2 laps and on what was a very warm and sunny day. Susan Milburn surprised herself after illness and injury to come home 85th out of 184 women in 31m:32s. Penny Johnson also ran well to finish not far behind in 33:13, and 121st position. In the senior men's race, which was a 3 lap course over 5.8 miles, Peter Milburn dug in

hard to come home 135th out of 335 in 39:56. The following day 13 Members of the club took part in the Redcar Half Marathon. It was a nice sunny day but strong winds caused difficulties on parts of the course and there was a strong headwind between miles 7-10. In her first half marathon Laura Knox finished in the excellent time of 2:10:15, 934th. Her brother Martyn Knox was first home for the club, 209th in 1:35:41, followed by Tom Porter, 215th in 1:35:57. Kelly Smith and Peter Smith did the Middlesbrough Albert Park Run on Saturday. Kelly managed 22:25 (Five seconds over her pb) and Peter's time was 20:20.

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Although teachers came from all over the UK to attend, including as far away as London, Lincolnshire and Derbyshire, the event was also followed by teachers from all over the world via a

live Twitter feed. Teachers from America and the Middle East, as well as here in the UK followed the event with great interest and sent tweets and messages into the event during the evening.

Organiser of the hugely successful evening, Jon Tait commented "This has been an outstanding display of enthusiastic teachers sharing good practice with one another. Teachers have already done a day's work before they have come here tonight and this shows our commitment to improving the education opportunities for the students in our schools".

Jon also commented on how pleasing it had been to have so many interested teachers across the world looking in. "To know that there have been hundreds of teachers across the globe following our TeachMeet event tonight is amazing. It shows the quality of the staff we have here tonight and that their experience, knowledge and innovation is a sought after commodity the world over." Teachers from 65 different schools attended the evening, including primary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities as well as educational consultants, giving the event huge diversity with a

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Water Problems at Cobblers Hall New Housing Site

Dear Sir,

The letter from Graham Stevens (w/e 23 August) and his concerns for the Cobblers Hall Nature Reserve prompted me to actually read the planning documents and I now also have concerns, rather different ones but also involving water.

As expected water from roads and impervious surfaces of this high density site is to be directed into drains (but I note that in July 2013 Northumbrian Water were requesting 'further assurances re the restriction of the surface water discharge into their network').Also with any new housing water usage increases with car washing, gardening etc. - water which does not go into the drains.

It is apparently planned that the run-off from the remaining land is to 'be fed' into the wetland areas; in particular the Pond which is marked on the plans but is not shown as such on any maps I have yet found. Google maps actually show four boggy areas; two particular wet areas which are to be amalgamated further NE into 'The Pond' and it's surrounding 'wetland'. This could and I believe should, be of serious concern to the occupants of surrounding land and, more especially, houses. The other two wet areas visible on the Google map are behind the PCP and the shopping precinct and may or may not be of interest to those commercial ventures and the houses directly opposite.

The area is a bog; in rainy conditions parts are already virtually impassible on foot. In fact much of Newton Aycliffe is built on wetland. I didn't realise just how wet until I moved here and found that apart from an inch or two of soil the rest is clay - the stuff used to line reservoirs to keep the water on site. Perfect for soggy sites.

I am continually amazed by the number of residents, met in the street, shops, pubs and even the Leisure Centre Gym, who are quite voluble on

their, sometimes quite severe, problems with waterlogged gardens yet do nothing about it. Not just during the exceptional 2012 but also in the early part of this year, 2013.

After enquiry of Northumbrian Water and County Planning, the Environment Agency finally were the only people able to advise that the Water Table level is 20m below ground level - at the main aquifer - BUT that is at a bore hole at Low Copelaw 1.8k westward. What it is at Cobblers Hall no-one knows. It is much more relevant that the substantial layer of impermeable clay under Newton Aycliffe is in effect 'perched groundwater' (Wikipedia is a good start) which in practice means that surface water cannot easily escape down to the Water Table level as in normal soil - and is acknowledged in the documentation So it does what water does best and slowly(?) leaks away down-hill resulting in a saturated landscape and boggy gardens.

The Moor Nature Reserve lies on the 375' contour and falls away eastward, partly towards the Golf course and mainly towards Woodham Burn on the 300' contour about 1K to the east. There are water issues in both areas. Any land and properties in between those contours have a propensity to experience wetter gardens for longer.

A surprising number of homes are already being affected by unwelcome surface water, suggesting that (if) any consideration has been previously given to such developments it may well have been less than adequate. Climate change is now virtually beyond dispute and our weather is becoming wetter; a trend forecast to continue for the foreseeable future. So the situation is likely to worsen unless better foresight is employed - most especially in wetland building sites such as this one.

It follows that if the surface

water is to be directed into 'The Pond' it is going to be concentrated into an area much closer to the housing in Agnew, The Ballarat and Woodham, and all other areas beyond which lie downhill of the Moor. That surely cannot be a good idea unless the most stringent measures are introduced to absolutely ensure that properties in

susceptible areas are fully protected, remembering that the impermeable clay level is only inches below the surface. To do this 'The Pond' would need to be proofed against seepage and provision made for excess water to be run off into the main surface water drain.

I fully appreciate that the Nature Reserve has an

interested following even, as now, without an actual pool but the introduction of 'The Pond' now shown on the plan as a permanent feature and very much tucked up into the North East corner of the Moor must be subjected to stringent planning if it is not to exacerbate an already existing surface water problem.

J D Whittaker

JEANS FOR GENES



Trimmers Support Youth Theatre Group



Amy Connell, Jade Hind, Chloe Sowerby, Shaunnie Tonge, members of the Bishop Auckland Theatre Hooligans "BATH", the community youth drama group were involved in a hairdressing and makeover photographic session at Trimmers Hair Design. It was in support of a Jamaican Fun Night on Friday 27th September. Hairdressing was by Nicole, Claire, Tracey and Zoe and make up artist Kayleigh Rose Foxton. Outfits were supplied by "TRIMMERS" Salon.

Woodham Academy took part in the annual fund raising event for 'Jeans for Genes' on Friday 20th September. The event was preceded by a series of Year Assemblies given by Mrs Barker, 'Jeans for Genes' co co-ordinator.

She told students about the damage genetic disorders can cause and the heartache they bring to parents and children. She explained to students that wearing jeans to school for the day helps research into genetic disorders go forward and supports families with children living with genetic disorders.

As always the assembly ended with her notorious 'Jeans for Genes' rap and to the sound of students repeating her words 'Jeans on the Outside, Genes on the inside, you look OK so your genes must be fine, but I tell you man they are different from mine!'

The Academy raised £527.00 towards this great cause by students wearing their jeans and donating to the cause.

In Memoriam

KEITH WILSON 27-9-2009. Four years has gone, but we still miss you with each passing day. All our love, Anna, Julie, Louise, Helen, James and family

ANDY WOODHEAD It's 10 years since you were taken away dear Brother. In our hearts you will always stay. Miss you more than words can say, all our love John and Mandy xxx

ANDREW WOODHEAD 5th October 2003. Loving memories will never die, the years roll on and days pass by. Our loving memories of you are stored in our hearts. Love you always, Mam and Dad xxx

ANDY WOODHEAD, it's been 10 long years without you, you are always in our hearts, never forgotten. Love, Gary, Carol, Donna, Stu, Gary Dean and Chantelle xxx

GRAEME COOPER 4th October 1965 to 6th October 2006. 7 years have passed since that sad day, when the one we love was called away. The blow was hard, the shock severe, to part with one we loved so dear. Miss you loads Bro, Clive and Grace xxx

VALERIE DENHAM 8th October 1999. Thinking of you today and every day with lots of love from all your family xxxx

JACK MILLER 18/1/1922 to 24/9/2013. I thought of you with love today, but that is nothing new. I thought about you yesterday and days before that too. I think of you in silence, I often speak your name. All I have are memories and your picture in a frame. Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part. God has you in his keeping, I have you in my heart. Sleep well Granda. All our love forever and always, Leanne, Dave and Cameron xxxxxxxxx

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Greenfield Students Skype call to USA



On Friday 27th September a group of students at Greenfield College in Mr Butterworth's GCSE group made a long distance Skype call to Florida, to speak to professional golfer Jodi Ewart-Shadoff.

The call allowed the pupils to speak to her about her experiences representing Team Europe in the Solheim Cup (The Women's equivalent to the Ryder Cup) earlier this summer.

The pupils engaged in dialogue with Jodi relating to topics covered in recent lessons, such as Role Models, Sponsorship, Technology and Media in Sport. Every pupil in the class asked a question and were delighted with her enthusiasm and attitude in sharing her experiences and giving our young pupils advice and tips in order to realise their childhood dreams.

Jodi is currently ranked at 42 in the Women's golf ROLEX rankings but is aiming to soon break into the top ten with an ultimate ambition to reach number 1 in the world.

The pupils were engaged learners throughout the Skype call and were presented the opportunity to interact with a top-class sporting professional from across the globe. The pupils left the classroom feeling a huge sense of inspiration and motivation.

Massive thanks to Jodi for making this learning episode materialise and good luck in your upcoming tournaments from all at Greenfield Community College.

Congratulations

Paige Pearson

Happy 20th Birthday
Lots of love from Mam,
Mike, Courtenay, Olly and
all the family xx

Mike Trippett

Happy 50th Birthday
Lots of love from Angie,
Courtenay, Paige, Olly and
all the family xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy 30th Birthday. Have a great holiday. Love, Adam, Amanda and Adam Jnr xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy 30th Birthday. Have a lovely time. Love, Karon, Neil and Luke xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy 30th Birthday. Best wishes, Joan, Barry and the Langdale family xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy 30th Birthday Son. Love, Mam and David xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy 30th Birthday. All the best, Marion xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy Birthday Dad. Hope you have a day that is as great as you. Love you lots, Sophie xx

ANDREW BUSH. Happy 30th Birthday Mr. B. Hope you have a great day and enjoy celebrating. Love you, Laura xx

ANDREW BUSH. Happy 30th Birthday Brother. Love, David, Kate and Jack xx

ANDREW BUSH Happy 30th birthday. Enjoy your holiday. From all the Press Gang

SAMANTHA OWEN Happy 18th. Love from Stewie, Joanne, Lauren, Sophi, Luke and Ruby xxx

Mia Grace Holt

Happy 1st Birthday
2nd October 2013
Love from Mammy,
Daddy and all the family
xxxxxxx

Heather Bain

Happy 18th Birthday
with lots of love from
Mum, Dad, Samuel and
Grace xxxxxx

Cole Alan Gaskarth

Happy 7th Birthday
6th October 2013
Lots of love, Dad, Helen,
Grandad, Nanna, Auntie
Claire, Uncle Mark,
Fearne and Hannah

UNDER 11's TIGERS BEST LEAGUE TEAM

Durham Tigers RL's under 11 year old team has won a record 33 of 44 games (drawing 9 and only losing 2) at various rugby league festivals during their 2013 season making them the most successful under 11's of the season.

Club secretary Phil Selby said "It's impressive that these kids can be so successful at such a young age, we always try to encourage young people into rugby and it has defiantly paid off, the next challenge is to keep them interested in rugby through their teenage years. If this can be done I think some of them have the potential to play at a professional level. Another challenge is to recruit more Under 11's and train them to compete at this level"

If you are interested in the Durham Tigers or would like more information you can either like 'We Are Durham Tigers' on Facebook or just turn up at Sunnysdale Leisure Centre, Shildon at either: 6:30 on Tuesday Evenings.

Open age (16+) team at 10 am on Saturday mornings. Junior teams at 6pm on Monday evenings for touch rugby.

JOIN IN Multi Sport Session

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre
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to book or for more details
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MGFA FOOTBALL FESTIVAL



Photos: Top: Martin Gray, Graham Hodgson, Michael Rippon, Greenfield leaders and medal winners.

Left: Greenfield leaders, Martin Gray and Overall Winners - Vane Road Year 5/6 Girls.

Above: Byerley Park Year 5/6 Boys

Last week all schools in Newton Aycliffe were invited to bring girls and boys football teams to a pre league MGFA festival at Greenfield Community College. Well done to Byerley Park who were overall winners of the boys trophy and Vane Road who won the girls trophy with some fantastic football. Next week from Thurs 3rd Oct, is the start of Sedgefield's SSP Primary Football league at Greenfield. Sedgefield SSP are working in partnership with Greenfield to provide a number of CVL's on Greenfields floodlit 3G pitch. Twelve local schools

will travel to Greenfield to take part. Good luck to all involved, any schools not yet entered can do so via the sedgefieldssp.co.uk web site.

Martin Gray football academy at Greenfield is entering its third year and going from strength to strength. Offering girls and boys holiday programmes, U11 & U8 high quality coaching every Tuesday 5.30 to 7pm, Greenfield Academy for elite players aged 11 to 16, (including performance training, competitive opportunities, leadership training, club links, player mentoring

and educational support). This year has seen the introduction of our Primary OSH academy for elite players in our local Primary schools.

N.b. Girls interested in playing competitive football for a local team should contact Berni Borsberry from NAYCFC - 07939045242. Check out their website www.naycfc.co.uk, or come along to Greenfield school sports hall from Wednesday 23rd Oct 5.30 to 6.30 and join in.

New Buffet Menus Available at Oak Leaf

Having a Party?

Why not see what the Oak Leaf Sports Complex can offer, who now have an exciting new Buffet menu starting from as little as £3.00 per head, and we now offer a take away Buffet Service.

So whether you are looking for a venue for your celebration or just looking for a Buffet to make your celebration elsewhere more enjoyable, why not call in and see what we can offer you.

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Huntsman Win Sets Up Aycliffe Derby

Huntsman FC travelled to Tommy Crooks Park to take on Tompkins in the League Cup. Manager Neil Dodds was forced into making three changes with Shaun Mackintosh, Anthony Brockley and Mark Percival all unavailable from the side which narrowly beat Tompkins in the league game two weeks ago. Ryan Durr, Steven Williams and David Neale all returned while Anth Cox was back in the squad after a two week layoff and there was a long awaited return to the squad for Lee Gray.

Huntsman knew what to expect against a tough Tompkins side but started slowly and were second best all over the park for the first twenty minutes. They were punished for the sloppy start when they fell behind, the Tompkins centre forward turned and slipped in the winger who closed in on Dodds in the goal before firing in the top corner.

Huntsman rallied and began to keep hold of the ball better with Shaun Sproates impressing holding the ball up well. On 35 minutes Huntsman were level. Dave Neale arrowed a free kick goalwards which the goalkeeper could only parry out to the oncoming Callum Musgrave who bundled the ball over the line. They remained on top for the remainder of the half without testing the Tompkins keeper. The second half saw the introduction of Anth Cox in place of injured Mike Sproates who added some much needed pace to the side.

The second half was a dull affair with very little goalmouth action although Huntsman were pushing - a slight tweak in formation saw them gain more momentum and both Ryan Durr and Jamie Herd missed good chances but extra time was required to separate the sides.

Huntsman started slowly and goalkeeper Dodds was required to make three good saves in the first 5 minutes but they weathered the storm and hit Tompkins in the 7th minutes of extra time when Jamie Herd turned on the edge of the 18 yard box to smash home his 12th of the season.

It remained this way until half time before Shaun Sproates put the game to bed when he used his blistering pace to race clear and slot the ball home. The best was yet to come substitute Keith Dodds on the pitch a matter of minutes picked up the ball deep in his own half, played 2 lovely one twos before beating three men to go one on one with the keeper giving the keeper the eye before placing the ball in the bottom corner.

The win sets up a derby fixture in the next round against Aycliffe Sports Club on October 20th. Neil Dodds was awarded man of the match by the opposition while Lee Redpath picked up the Referee's award. Huntsman entertain Haughton Grey Horse in a difficult Heart Foundation Cup on October 6th at Simpature Park. It will be a difficult game against possibly the best side in the Darlington League so come down and show your support for the lads!

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