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## Town Centre Shopkeepers Fight 85% Increase MORE SHOP CLOSURES IMMINENT

A large group of disgruntled town centre shopkeepers met this week to discuss the difficulties they are facing with increased service charges - nearly twice the amount they are paying at the moment. It was agreed the new charges are unreasonable, unjustifiable and unfair at a time when



Aycliffe shopkeepers have suffered their biggest downturn in business due to the current refurbishments and the general recession. One shopkeeper reported a loss of £100,000 in turnover since the redevelopment began. Three shops have closed already and it is feared more will follow unless the Landlords realise the seriousness of the problem and hold service charge increases until they can be afforded. Jim Parkin from Homeplan is heading the campaign for a review of the service charges as they appear to be different for each leaseholder. One shopkeeper admitted to paying no service charge while next door is expected to pay an 85% increase. Dr. Parkin himself has just been told he should pay no service charge as his premises are not in the town centre. Presumably this now applies to all businesses operating in Greenwell Road? Jim is obviously happy with his result, but still believes his town centre colleagues are getting a raw deal and will help them fight the increase. The shopkeepers complained the new charges were

announced without any justification and there was a distinct lack of communication from the Landlords. Service charges should be based on the size of each shop. Detailed information on these charges, and what each shop is paying, would be a useful starting point so that all lease deals were open and transparent. Further meetings will be held and it was agreed to send the minutes of the meeting to the Head Office of all the large national stores who have premises in Newton Aycliffe calling for their support.

## £3,300 from Honest John

Honest John has donated a further £3,300 to good causes from sales from his charity stall at the Cubby. Five Care Homes in Aycliffe will receive £500 each. The "We Can" Aycliffe group and The Cubby each receive £400. John thanks all those who donate goods for him to sell on his stall and also Valerie who helps him.

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## DOROTHY (77) THANKS NEWTON AYCLIFFE'S GOOD SAMARITANS

Dear Sir,  
On Friday 12th October I tripped on the pavement near St. Mary's Church and had several injuries. I write to say how wonderful the people of Newton Aycliffe are as everyone round about hurried to help. First on the scene was Graham Thurm who stopped his car and phoned for the Paramedics and then went to pick up my husband.

Pam Lovelass stayed with me until the ambulance arrived as did Dave and his wife and about eight others.

On Monday Graham called at my home with flowers to see how I was and I am so overwhelmed by this kindness and thank everyone including my neighbours, ambulance staff and the hospital. Dorothy Percival.

## OPTIMISTIC FIRMS AT OKTOBERFEST

Confidence among manufacturers and engineering firms is on the rise according to exhibitors at one of the region's leading trade shows.

Well over 100 firms packed into the Xcel Centre in Newton Aycliffe today for the Durham Oktoberfest among a growing optimism over the region's economy.

Angelika Schneider, the lead

Lib Dem candidate for the North East in next year's European elections, toured the show and welcomed the upbeat mood.

She said: "It is really encouraging that all the firms I spoke to reported an improvement in trading conditions. While there is clearly some way to go, the view I heard time and again

was that we have started to turn the corner.

"It was also striking to see the number of companies for which exports make up a large part of their business, up to 95% in some cases. It further emphasises the importance of the UK remaining part of the EU so that these companies can continue to grow and create more jobs."

## Engineering Excellence Showcased

By Darren Race, Chairman of SDEMF and MD of e4 Learning Solutions Ltd.

On Thursday 17th of October the Xcel Centre, on Newton Aycliffe Business Park hosted the 6th Durham Oktoberfest (The North East's Premier Engineering & Manufacturing Show).

The event showcased the region's most innovative and forward thinking companies with 120 exhibitors and over 1,500 visitors coming together to celebrate business and create wealth.

Pamela Petty, Managing Director of the Ebac Group was the key note speaker and spoke optimistically and enthusiastically about the level of innovation and expertise in the UK to compete globally. She said, "Amongst the exhibitors here are some wonderful examples from the region of things we can make from fabrication, processing, assembly, machining, moulding, crafting – the list is endless. The one thing we



Counc. Neil Foster, Pamela Petty and Darren Race

all have in common is that we take something, change it and add value. The buzz words of today are innovation and export, selling our clever technology and unique designs to the emerging economies." Pamela added that she was delighted that Ebac was moving into white goods. "In 346 days we'll have the first washing machine rolling off the track here in Newton Aycliffe and in 85 days we'll have the first chest freezer."

Darren Race, Chairman of South Durham Engineering Forum and MD of e4 Learning Solutions Ltd said, "It's fantastic to see so many exhibitors and visitors this year at what is shaping up to be the biggest and best event since our first show over six years ago. This year has been oversubscribed with people on a waiting list to exhibit, resulting in us releasing the date for next year early, which is Thursday 23rd of October

2014 at the Xcel Centre." The event was organised by Engineering Clusters County Durham comprising North Durham, East Durham and South Durham Engineering & Manufacturing Forums all working together to showcase the regions world-class capability and expertise.

To book for next year and receive a 10% discount contact Telephone: 01207 524366 or email: info@durhamoktoberfest.org.uk. If you join one of the Engineering Forums you will receive a 50% discount on your stand.

## NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The members were sad to hear that Jim Rodwell had died. He was keen supporter of Senior Citizens and attended all our events and served on the committee. He will be missed by a lot of people and organisations. "We will remember him".

We are planning a Charity Variety Concert for Saturday 7th December and looking for volunteers to perform on the show. Please ring 313924 to discuss.

Are you lonely and would like to meet others in a similar situation? Ring 313924 to hear about a new scheme being considered.

## THE IRON HORSE

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**Friday 1st November**

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**Saturday 2nd November**

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Adults from 7pm onwards

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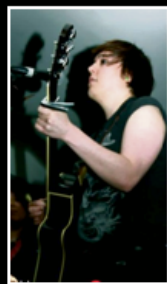
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**Saturday 26th October - "Tommy & The Oddballs"**

Massive on the Bike Rally Circuit, always first band booked for the Heart n Soul

Recent reviews from the Toon Rock Pages: "They are a superb band, prob THE BEST in the north east, period!"

Tracks covered by: The Who, Bryan Adams, Thin Lizzy, Free, Hendrix, Stones, Bad Company, Kings of Leon and much, much more. Should be one of THE gigs of the year, don't miss it!!  
www.tommyandtheoddballs.website.orange.co.uk

**Saturday 2nd November - "The Whole Hog"**

gig pit review - The Comrades welcomed The Whole Hog back with their eclectic mix of rock that although you're familiar with, you don't often hear played by local bands. The fact there were members of at least 5 local bands in to see The Hog gives an idea of how highly the band are respected among the local musicians. Kicking off with Fleetwood Mac's Oh Well and running through classics by Family, Jethro Tull, Free, The Climax Blues Band as well as a couple of newer numbers by Joe Bonamassa & The Foo Fighters the bands gave a superb show that was well received by the punters. Rob on vocals & Sax is an excellent front man whose vocal talents and onstage athletics are a visual focus that other bands could learn from. Twin guitarists whose on stage empathy speaks of long experience of working together are underpinned by a solid rhythm section fronted by John on bass who bounces well off Rob on vocals in giving the appearance of a party on stage. Musicians having a good time whilst playing always carry the crowd with them - we look forward to seeing The Whole Hog later in the year.

**Saturday 9th November - "Bon Jovi Forever"**

For more information on bands go to

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# Business People Visit Woodham

## LINKING THE WORKPLACE WITH SCHOOLS

Woodham Academy continued its work with local industry on Thursday 10th October by hosting the Aycliffe Business Conference. The event was aimed at business leaders seeking to work with education providers to maximise the

quality of the future work force. Over twenty companies were represented at the event which involved tours showing education in action and giving an opportunity to reflect on current practice.

The morning allowed professionals within education and local industry to discuss how we might come together to support all young people to successfully contribute to the economy of future society when they leave full time education, said Sarah McGinnety, the event's organiser. The outcomes of discussions will be used in the future to plan further collaboration between Woodham Academy and local business to prepare our young people for working life.

In July 2013, Woodham Academy was awarded Investors in Careers status, which acknowledges excellence in Careers Education. It is intended that the new links developed through the conference will support the existing curriculum further. Newton News was privileged

to attend this event which was a rich experience. Meeting the staff and students in their natural environment was rewarding and reminded visitors of their own much different schooldays. Schooling today is a much more interactive and relaxed method of education where students are encouraged to express their opinions.

They learn in an atmosphere of tolerance with teachers demonstrating a greater understanding of the adolescent mind. Woodham Academy is a fine educational establishment led by an inspiring Head Teacher and a very dedicated and highly qualified staff.

The school premises are a joy to visit with a ready smile of welcome from the receptionist and warm greetings from staff and students as you walk through the corridors.

The business people who made this visit came away very much impressed, praising the high standards set at the Academy and also the quality of food served to students which they sampled as the visit concluded with a tasty lunch.



## HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

The cold weather is coming; the children are on their half term break so why not keep them busy with something a bit different. OakLeaf Sports Complex has a wide variety of activities over the October holiday week.

We have Archery or Crafty Kids at only £3.20 for Members or £3.70 for Non Members. We are also trying something new with Racquets and Bats plus Balls of Fun, both at an amazing price of just £1.00 per session.

For the little ones between the ages of 4-7 years, our Mini Activity Day is perfect, they can make and do exciting craft projects and enjoy some fun sport for only £1.00, while parents can enjoy an hour and a half of freedom.

Booking is essential so hurry before all places sell out.

Don't forget during all School Holidays, if you are aged 8-15 years you can enjoy a game of Squash, Badminton or Table Tennis for just £1.00 per person Monday-Friday 9.00-4.00, just call in or telephone on the day, if a Court or Table is available you can enjoy 45 minutes of fun.


Telephone Reception on 01325 300600 for more details.

## Vane Road School New Starter Visits

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2014? Or are any of your friends children due to start school in September 2014?

We will be holding open evenings on Thursday 7th November and Tuesday 12th November from 3:30pm to 5:00pm.

This will be an opportunity for you and your child to visit the school, meet the staff and have a look around. You will have the chance to ask any questions and see what we can offer. We hope to see you there!

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## AUCTION

the 1st Newton Aycliffe Scouts Group and the Northern Bygones Society hold an Auction on the 23rd November at the Scout Centre Bluebell Way. Doors open to the public at 11am. Auction starts 12 noon.

We are looking for donations of tools, garden equipment, kitchen equipment, nearly new toys, etc, but not furniture.

If you would like to donate anything please contact Paul or Yasmin to arrange time and date for collection on 01325 312183 or 07968 367438.

A good time for a clear out before Christmas.

## House of Eden



'Little things that count'



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

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## Fashion Show

A grand Fashion Show is to be staged by Bon Marche at Neville Parade Community Centre on Wednesday 6th November at 2pm.

Tickets are £5 each and include Afternoon Tea. To book your place and collect your tickets on the door please ring Margaret Gent on 317308 or Peter on 313924.

## XMAS FAYRE

Middridge Village Christmas Fayre takes place on Saturday 9th November in the village hall from 10 :00 until 12:00. Come and buy some early Christmas presents - craft stalls, gift stalls, tombola and refreshments Entrance 50p. If you would like to book a stall - cost £5 - please contact Marion on 01325 321753.

# CARER AND CLIENT DUO ENTER COMPETITION

Rose Lodge Care Home in Newton Aycliffe show they have the X Factor as a touching duet performed by a resident and care assistant for national competition Care Home Idol 2013 is getting significant attention online.

"Care Home Idol" is an annual competition to promote and celebrate entertainment in UK care homes and aims to challenge ageist stereotypes and show that many people in care homes live happy and fulfilling lives.

The competition is run by organisation carehome.co.uk. The video has been attracting a lot of attention on the site with the view count already in the hundreds. Davina



Ludlow, director of carehome.co.uk, said: "Gladys and Bev's video is very touching and demonstrates the bond that a carer and a care home resident can mutually enjoy. Their video is exactly what Care Home Idol is all about, challenging ageist stereotypes and showing the fun that happens in care homes. We wish Gladys and Bev the best of luck with the competition!" The video entry from Rose Lodge Care Home sees 94 year old resident Gladys Stephens and Care Assistant Bev Temple sing a heart-warming duet of the classic Elvis song 'Are You Lonesome Tonight'. Other residents and care staff are seen cheering at the end of the video.

Star of the video, Gladys, said: "Rose Lodge is a lovely home, myself and my family are all made welcome. I could not ask for a better place to be. There is always something going on in the home. Filming the video was great fun, We are always singing and having fun here." Karen Frew-McGill, manager of Rose Lodge Care Home, is delighted that the video has had such a good response from the local community as well as residents and families. "Singing is a fantastic way for staff and residents to interact and relive memories together. Active engagement really

brings people together. We believe it is important to offer our residents activities that will benefit their well being and keep them healthy and happy." "I personally think care home idol is a great and fun way to raise awareness of the positive aspect of living in a care home. Gladys and Bev's friendship is an example of this. They are quite often singing and dancing in the home with the other residents. All too often care homes can be portrayed unfairly in the media so we thought this was a fantastic way to show the public what a caring and fun environment a care home can be."

"Since recording the duet the residents have really enjoyed the excitement around the voting system and are becoming quite competitive! Gladys and Bev continue to entertain us all with their singing. I feel the warmth in their friendship really comes across in this video." The winners of the competition will be announced in April 2014 with the winning entries receiving a trophy and cash prize. For more information on the Care Home Idol and to see all the entries, please visit [www.carehome.co.uk/idol](http://www.carehome.co.uk/idol). To watch and vote for Gladys and Bev's performance please visit [www.carehome.co.uk/idol/idol.cfm/id/63](http://www.carehome.co.uk/idol/idol.cfm/id/63)

## Dogs Left to Starve to Death In Romania

Dear Sir,  
Sarah-Jane, Madison, Expressley Pets and all at Homeward Bound Dog Rescue UK would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who has given so generously to the appeals made in the Newton News over the last month.

We had a large van full of dog food, treats, toys, beds, blankets, coats, bowls, leads, collars, etc, to take on the rescue mission which left the UK on 24th October.

As we said in the appeal the situation in Romania for dogs is desperate and sadly getting much worse with another new ruling made last week that at the end of October all dogs in public shelters will starve to death unless volunteers from charities arrive with daily/ weekly parcels of food to feed them whilst these animals face the death sentences in place.

We really do not want this to happen as it is cruel and barbaric, so the appeal remains open over the winter months as food and monetary donations are even more crucial.

If you need further details on how you can help please contact Sarah-Jane on 07834 614659 by text or call after 4.30pm on weekdays or anytime on weekends, log onto the Homeward Bound website of [www.homewardbounduk.com](http://www.homewardbounduk.com) or find them on facebook Homeward Bound Dog Rescue UK. Many thanks once again for all your help.

Homeward Bound Dog Rescue.

## FOUND BIRD

A lost pet bird has been found, it's young, pure white with a fan tail and very tame. The bird is under the care of the vets at Neville Parade at the moment and appears uninjured.

# Tribute to Jim Rodwell

I consider myself privileged to have been able to call Jim Rodwell a friend (and fellow member of The Labour Party). My sadness at Jim's passing after so many months bravely battling illness is eased only by my desire to highlight Jim's remarkable, long-term, selfless contribution to the life and development of our community.

For many years up until the very end, Jim gave generously of his time, energy and expertise; being a member of numerous committees, local organisations and school governing bodies.

In that respect his commitment was truly amazing. He would often spend the whole day, travelling to and fro, attending meetings, representing local bodies, both in greater Aycliffe and further afield. Jim did not drive a car; he either walked or travelled by bus. He received no travelling expenses, nor payment,

being content with a cup of tea and a few biscuits. In an era when higher tier councillors are well paid and often claim thousands annually in travelling expenses, this puts Jim's contribution and sacrifice into its true context.

I well remember one winter's evening, after a meeting of Sugar Hill School governors, Jim mentioned that he had to get the next bus to Durham and then on to County Hall. He returned that snowy evening on the last bus, but that was Jim and so typical of the man. I salute you Jim and your contribution to our town and community. You moved quietly through the pages that are the history of Newton Aycliffe; without fanfare and trumpets or personal gain.

You and others like you are the true essence, that encapsulates everything that is good about service to the community.

Derek G Atkinson (Cllr)

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

## Customer Panel Meeting

The next meeting of the Customer Panel will be held on:

**WEDNESDAY, 6th NOVEMBER, 2013**

The next meeting of the Customer Panel will be held on **WEDNESDAY, 6th NOVEMBER 2013** commencing at 6.00p.m. The Panel meet in the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe.

'At this meeting the Finance Manager will be discussing the future budget together with the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, Councillor R.S. Fleming'.

We are always looking for new members. If you would like to know a little more about us and our work this would be a great meeting to attend. The group are informal and quite often have lively debates about a wide range of Town Council matters.

Why not come along and join us at this meeting – we look forward to seeing and meeting new members.

Further information can be obtained from Christine Walton on 01325 300700

e-mail: [Christine.Walton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk](mailto:Christine.Walton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

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

# Aycliffe's White Vinyl on Ice



A young band from Newton Aycliffe "The White Vinyl" brought together by AYTP.co.uk made a great impression on Saturday night on the skating rink at Planet Leisure. All members of the 7 piece band are from the town and are 17 yrs or under, with a trio of female vocalists Keira Durham, Gaynor Lambert and Fran Porritt.

They are backed by drummer Rhys Morton and a three guitarists Robert Grainger, Steven Grainger and William Kirton. The young group will be back at Planet Leisure on Saturday 21st December playing in the AYTP Christmas and Glam Rock Night. Tickets go on sale soon, so keep your eye on facebook page AYTP.co.uk for more details.

"Feed The Bear" followed them on stage and

rocked the rink and entertained the crowd. Next up in this series of Free events at Planet Leisure is a whole night of Aycliffe's young talent. DJ Cal aka Calum Dunn, will start the night's entertainment and well-known William Kirton will make his debut solo gig playing acoustic guitar and singing only like he can.

The second guitarist / soloist Victoria Brewster will be next - Vicky has been playing in bands for a number of years at many venues up and down the country and loads of festivals. Headlining the night is "Unplugged" who have played all over the UK to audiences of 1000's, been on the radio and are back in Aycliffe to get the place dancing. This will be a great FREE night of entertainment, so get down to Planet Leisure on 2nd November from 7pm.

FREE ESTIMATES

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contact Kelly on 07775 241530**



# ACCESS AT LAST!



Unexpectedly and without notification the barrier between Aldi and Coffee Pronto, denying access from and to the multi-storey car park into the town centre, has finally been opened. It appears any Health & Safety issues have been resolved and pedestrians can now use this access, saving them the long walk through the car park which in itself is a safety hazard.

## Aycliffe Student Raises Cash for Charity



On 16th October Kymberley Morgan-Lynskey, a student in Year 11 at Greenfield Community College raised over £50 in her COPE lesson for the RSPCA charity by organising a car wash. Kymberley contacted members of the Newton Aycliffe Fire station crew to assist during the car wash, which was a great success! Anthony Collins, the Fire Officer in charge of the group that came to assist with the event said: "I would like to congratulate Kimberley for all her hard work, organisational

skills and enthusiasm that she showed both in the arranging and throughout the time we spent at the school. It is very pleasing to see a young person doing such fantastic work in trying to help others through charitable works." Greenfield would like to say a huge thank you to all those who were instrumental in making the event a success, the Fire Officers, staff, and those who joined us at the event. A particular well done to Kymberley for her hard work and success!

## BROWNIE TRIP TO "DISNEY ON ICE"

On Thursday October 10th Brownies from Newton Aycliffe Division came together for a very special event – a trip to see Disney on Ice: Dare to Dream at Newcastle's Metro Radio Arena! We met at St. Clare's church at 5pm, and got on two special coaches to the Arena. On arrival we got drinks, snacks a programme and a hat or a special treat like a special Disney cup. We had an excellent view of the ice, and could see everything that was happening. We saw Princess Tiana, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves, Cinderella, Prince Charming and all the mice (and the Stepmother and Stepsisters, boo!) After the break we saw the rest of the Cinderella story and then Rapunzel and Flynn Rider telling the Tangled story. We also saw Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy who came out to introduce each of the Princesses. We all had a fantastic time. Evie said she liked 'all of it', Shannon, Grace and Zara all liked Rapunzel and Flynn Rider using Rapunzel's hair to fly around! Abi thought it was really, really good, Chelsea thought the whole show was excellent and she liked Sneezy falling over all the time. Erin thought it was 'Awesome', Bria loved it and I thought it was good that they all lived 'Happily Ever After'. By Nina, age 8 8th Newton Aycliffe Brownies. "It was really exciting and everyone enjoyed the journey on the bus as we sang songs. At the show we bought sweets and shared them with each other. I especially enjoyed the story "Tangled" and the ice skaters were really good." Emily F. "There was loads of entertainment and loads of actors, dancing on ice!" By Alana. 3rd Newton Aycliffe Brownies



## Death of Former Mayor and Community Champion

Jim Rodwell came north from Fulham in 1973 to Newton Aycliffe and was a well-liked and popular figure, particularly in the Simpashire area where he lived. For more than 20 years he worked as a Clerical Assistant with the Department of Education and Science at what was in those days their regional headquarters in Darlington. He served as a Councillor on Great Aycliffe Town Council for 18 years, and was Mayor in 1995/6. Jim's listed hobbies when he became Mayor were gardening, theatre, and the local Operatic and Choral Society. Most of his time, however, was spent helping and serving on, a wide range of voluntary and community groups. At various times, Jim served on the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Committee, the Crime Prevention Panel, the Local Health Advisory Committee, the Alzheimer's Committee and Newton Aycliffe MIND. He was a Friend of Darlington Memorial Hospital and a volunteer for the Coronary Care Unit. He was at some time Vice Chairman of the County Durham Residents' Association, Chairman of the Agnew Community Centre Association, a trustee of the Woodham Village Community Association and of the Greenfield Centre Community Association, a Committee member of the Great Aycliffe Residents' Association and, even after he retired as a Councillor, a member of the Great Aycliffe Town Council Customer Panel. Many people who remember Jim will have known him as a Governor of their school: Vane Road, Sugar Hill, Aycliffe Village and Greenfield Schools. For nearly 30 years he was Chairman of Governors at Horndale Infants School, where his involvement and love for the school was exemplary. It is almost certain that the above list misses many organisations that Jim supported. His was an unassuming service to the community, but, wherever he found people trying to make Newton Aycliffe a better place he was eager to give them his loyal and caring support. Most people who knew Jim will remember his devoted care for his mother for many



of the later years of her life. She was his Mayoress during his year of officer and, long after his term as Mayor was over, they continued to be invited to civic events throughout the region. Jim Rodwell was a genuinely kind and gentle man, and the town he loved pays tribute to a lifetime trying to build our community.

## CREDIT UNION MOVES BACK TO LIBRARY

Members and prospective clients should note that because of ongoing town centre development we have to leave the Community Shop and return to the Library. It is also necessary to alter the day of opening and will now be open on Thursdays between 11am and 12 noon. If you are not yet a member why not consider saving with us? Even a small amount put away each week can help when it comes to holidays, Christmas or unexpected crises. If at that point it becomes necessary to take out a loan you can do so at extremely low interest rates. If our opening time is unsuitable then ring Harry Drake on 315645 to discuss other arrangement which can be made to help.

### Little Acorns Nursery

Clarence House, Durham Way North, Aycliffe Business Park  
Newton Aycliffe DL5 6HP - Telephone: 01325 309100

#### PROMOTION 1

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## Christmas Fayre

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Saturday 30th November  
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## Spooky Movie

The children's film "Hotel Transylvania" will be shown as a half term treat at St. Clare's Kidzflixs on Saturday 2nd November at 2pm. Everyone welcome to join the Cinema Club, Free Hallowe'en sweetbag for any children who come in fancy dress.

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## Council Help Carers Take a Break

County Durham's army of unpaid carers is being offered a helping hand to take break from their responsibilities. Durham County Council and the North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) have once again secured funding to help some of the 60,000 carers in the area take time out for themselves.

The Government cash can be used to pay for a variety of break activities and equipment as well as holidays for carers of people

with a range of conditions. Cllr Morris Nicholls, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for adult services, said: "The council and the CCGs recognise and value the support provided by unpaid carers in the county and through this funding we hope to give them the chance to have a well-earned break from what can be a very demanding role."

For more information about carers' breaks, visit [www.durhamcarers.info](http://www.durhamcarers.info) or call Social Care Direct on 0845 8 50 50 10 during office hours.

## Half Term Fun at Woodham



Pupils from all primary schools in Newton Aycliffe were invited to be part of the exciting holiday programme at Woodham Academy during the Summer holidays. The Academy has teamed up with Education Enterprise to offer specialist sports coaching to children aged 4-12 years. We have now had over 300 different children take part in the programmes which focus on transition from primary to secondary, whilst also promoting healthy lifestyles, keeping children active whilst

enjoying sport and physical activity.

Lewis Marr, Managing Director- "The children have been fantastic, their enthusiasm towards the programmes have been the most fulfilling part of the whole journey here at Woodham Academy. We hope to see all the children, plus

many more at the October half term holiday activities."

For further information regarding October programme at Woodham Academy please get in touch [lewis@marr.educationenterprise.co.uk](mailto:lewis@marr.educationenterprise.co.uk) 07962175023 or check the website [www.educationenterprise.co.uk](http://www.educationenterprise.co.uk)

## BONFIRE NIGHT AND ICE CREAM!



FIREWORKS and ice cream will be the order of the day when a popular parlour hosts a fundraising bonfire night. Sue Archer, of Archer's Jersey Ice Cream at Walworth Gate decided to organise the event as a result of bonfire nights in neighbouring towns and villages being axed.

The business is supporting the Great North Air Ambulance Service at the ticket-only event. Mrs Archer said: "We wanted to support the local community while helping a life-saving charity. There have been a few local displays cancelled in recent years, so we are hoping for a good turnout."

The event will take place on Saturday 2nd November, with the bonfire lit at 6.30pm, and fireworks at 7pm. There will be a barbecue, jacket potatoes and soup on sale, as well as a late-night opening of the cafe for those fancying an ice cream or hot drink.

Ruth Davey, of GNAAS, said: "We are looking forward to celebrating bonfire night with all at Archer's. "The money raised will go directly to supporting our air ambulances and keeping them flying life-saving missions."

One thousand tickets are now on sale and are expected to sell-out. Ticket prices are £4 for adults, £2 for children, free for under 5s and £10 for a family ticket, which includes two adults and two children. Tickets

must be bought by 31st October and are available at Archer's, by phone on 01325-300336 or through the GNAAS website at [www.greatnorthairambulance.co.uk/shop](http://www.greatnorthairambulance.co.uk/shop)

## Money for Macmillan

Recently staff at Medical Services (North East) Limited heard the tragic news that one of their popular and well respected ambulance drivers has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. This came as a huge shock to the company and immediately it was decided to help raise money for the fight against cancer.

In July of this year, the female office workers, including the Director of Human Resources, Joanne Hall, completed the "Race For Life" raising nearly £700.

On Saturday 28th September, we teamed up with the Active Life Centre in Coxhoe to host "More Than Just a Coffee Morning" in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. On the day there was a Bouncy Castle, Face Painting and games for the Children

and some of our new state of the art ambulances were on display. A successful Table Top sale was in full swing and the raffle with some excellent prizes all donated by local businesses helped raise almost £500. Our Third fund-raising event will be held at Spennymoor Leisure Centre on Friday 8th November 2013. The popular Billy Black Band will be performing there "Bon Jordi" Act, a tribute to Bon Jovi. Doors open at 7pm and tickets are only £8 and are on sale now via our office - email [lstewart@msne.co.uk](mailto:lstewart@msne.co.uk) or telephone 0191 3778841 for payment details. It promises to be a fantastic night with a raffle during the interval and some fantastic prizes to be won. All money raised from the ticket sales and the raffle will be donated to MacMillan.

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# AYCLIFFE TEMP-TEAM MAKES NEW TRACKS



North East recruitment firm TEMP-TEAM diversifies and makes new tracks into the Rail Industry and is aiming to double its client base and number of jobs by 2014. Specialising in Technical, Industrial, and Commercial recruitment, the expansion comes after securing a number of clients within the growing rail sector and seeing increased demand for engineering roles.

The Rail industry is expanding in the UK, this means the industry workforce has also steadily expanded and professionals are needed for every aspect of the transit infrastructure. At present, the industry is experiencing a skills shortage, which is projected to continue in coming years as the sector expands. TEMP-TEAM aims to prevent these shortages and is currently working with companies in the Rail Sector, supplying experienced and skilled staff that are currently in demand.

With the Rail industry developing and a new train assembly plant opening in Newton Aycliffe, TEMP-TEAM's Newton Aycliffe Senior Consultant, Sam Dixon, has great plans to increase the number of jobs in the local area.

Sam Dixon said: "With recent news of a new project coming to the local area it was a great route to develop and grow. "The project will bring 900 jobs to the area, which is fantastic news, especially for our younger residents who now have fresh hope for careers in manufacturing and engineering for the foreseeable future". Rachel Young, TEMP-TEAM's Operations Director, said "We have a great team of recruiters with years of experience between them. Their passion about recruitment and identifying a need within certain industries is what has led us to this growth". For more information please call Kate Smith on 0191 493 1188 or email ksm@temp-team.co.uk

# CONSULTATION STARTS ON COUNTY PLAN

Residents and businesses are being asked for their final views on the plan that will shape the future of County Durham. Following extensive consultations with residents, businesses and key stakeholders, such as neighbouring authorities, the latest version of the County Durham Plan has been produced. It sets out a vision for the county up to 2030, including proposals to bring forward jobs, housing, shops, and road improvements. The plan aims to create a thriving economy, vibrant towns, and more visitor attractions in County Durham whilst protecting and enhancing its heritage and character.

Prior to its submission to Government, which will hold a public examination in summer 2014, the final consultation includes a series of public events across the county between 14 October and 6 December. Council officers will be available at these sessions to discuss the plan and advise people on how to respond. Summaries of the plan and DVDs containing all of the plan documents will also be available to take away. A full list of the public consultation events is available online at [www.durham.gov.uk/cdp](http://www.durham.gov.uk/cdp)

**The Aycliffe session is on Friday 8th November, 4.00pm to 8.00pm, at Woodham Village Community Centre.**

From the start of the consultation period on 14th October, the plan, documents, and information about how to respond will also be available at all council Customer Access Points, Libraries and on the council's website. There will be also be a range of meetings with business groups, Area Action Partnerships, town and parish councils and other stakeholder groups.

Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "The County Durham Plan is one of the most important documents the council has produced since becoming a unitary authority. This will shape the future of the county for the next 20 years, helping to develop a thriving economy, promoting business and providing homes whilst protecting the key aspects of this historic and beautiful county.

"I would like to thank the many people who have helped shape this document over the last three years and value their ongoing assistance. The consultations carried out throughout the process have given the council vital feedback that has helped shaped the final draft of the plan. We would encourage all residents to come to one of the sessions to see the changes made and let us know what they think of the vision for the future of our county."

# Aycliffe Fell Walkers Look Out for Pirates

The club walk on Saturday 12 October went from Robin Hoods Bay to Scarborough, along one of the most beautiful yet demanding stretches of Yorkshire's coast. It was a fine and breezy day when 36 walkers alighted from the coach to undertake a 13-mile stretch of the Cleveland Way and whilst the low clouds barely lifted above the hilltops, there was no rain and the ground stayed dry throughout! This section of coast is incised with several inlets, known as Wykes that require walkers to negotiate steep-sided ravines. The most notable of these are Hayburn and Cloughton Wykes and steep steps are provided, but these were quite slippery from recent muddy boots and it was a site to behold to

see otherwise fit and agile walkers holding on tightly to the handrails that accompanied the steps, in order to progress downwards under control – and not in freefall!

It was a great day for chatting all the way round as the route was easy to follow "just keep the sea on your left"; the only concern was that somebody might slip into the North Sea, like many of the houses hereabouts.

For the wildlife enthusiasts there was evidence of seals and the pleasant accompaniment of oyster-catchers foraging as the tide receded. For beer-lovers there was the lure of the pub at the end, with some excellent food and real ale. All enjoyed a great day out - and there wasn't a single pirate sighting!

# Beware of Loose Alsation Dog at Cobblers Hall

Dear Sir,

I thought I should let your readers no there is an elderly man who walks his dog through the woods at the rear of the Cobblers Hall estate. He lets his white Alsation dog run free and it can be 50 metres in front or behind him fouling the footpaths, with or without this owner's knowledge. I have asked him on a couple of occasions to please put his

dog on a lead as my wife is scared of this dog roaming free. We only get abuse from him telling us if we don't like his dog running free to walk somewhere else. Please warn other walkers and responsible dog walkers asking them to be careful in this area.

E Bramham

**Ed: This information has been passed to the Dog Patrol Wardens**

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**Be part of our success**



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# OPEN evenings

**For Entry September 2014**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

6.00pm - 9.00pm

Tim Fisher, the Principal, will talk about the College at 6.00pm, 6.45pm & 7.30pm in the Hall

QUEEN ELIZABETH SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

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# Durham Leader First Chairman of Association of Labour Councillors

Councillor Simon Henig, the leader of Durham County Council has been elected chair of the newly created Association of Labour Councillors (ALC). Simon has been a councillor since 1999 and leader of Durham since 2008.

The ALC is a new body to represent Labour Councillors' views and make sure there continues to be a strong local government voice at the heart



of the Labour Party.

At its first meeting in London earlier this week, Executive members addressed the issues facing Labour groups across the country and were joined by Shadow Communities Secretary Hilary Benn MP and Shadow Housing Minister Jack Dromey MP.

Councillor Simon Henig, Chair of the ALC Executive and Leader of Durham County Council, said:

"The ALC executive will meet throughout the year and help shape Labour's work in delivering Labour values locally through strong and active local government.

"The issues raised at the first meeting included the vital work councillors do across the country, the difficulties facing councils forced to implement the cuts being passed on because of the Tory-led Government's economic failure and how councillors can play a more active role within the Labour Party"

# Aycliffe T.A. Open Day



The TA at Northfield Way held an Open Day last Saturday and put on an impressive display of equipment demonstrating their role in the Armed Forces.

Members of the public were given an insight into Army life and the importance of reservists who are a vital part in the defence of our country. Many have served in the current conflicts abroad and the training they receive at units like Aycliffe equips them well for their tour of duties.

Visitors were treated to Army food as the Cookhouse soldiers prepared tasty sausage and beefburger buns for sale on the day.

The event was interesting and enjoyable for all, spoilt only by inclement weather which affected the numbers attending. The publicity on the Open Day was also at fault and more people may have attended if Newton News had received the information before that weekend. A number of our readers would not have received their copy of Newton News which was unfortunate for those who had worked so hard to put on a good event.



# NURSERY CHILDREN PLANT SPRING BULBS



On Monday 14th October, the afternoon children of Sugar Hill Nursery, had an enjoyable time planting bulbs in the community. The project organised by Steve Cooper Environmental Officer for GATC in association with Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre enabled children to plant flowering bulbs at Seven Oaks a newly acquired council site.

Although the weather wasn't ideal for planting, fun was had by all. Sugar Hill Nursery would like to say many thanks to the organisers and the parents who volunteered their time. We can't wait to return in the Spring to see how much our flowers have grown.

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# Spooky Family Art Session at PCP

Every Tuesday afternoon, 3.30pm-5.30pm, 'Colour your Life' with Arts on Prescription run creative workshops for families at the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe.

Workshops are led by local professional artists for children of all ages and include activities such as Puppet-Making, Printing, Messy Play, Making Bird/Bug Boxes and many, many more.

A special 'Spooky' session is planned for Tuesday 29 October which will include Pumpkin Carving. The sessions are free for the first 8 weeks and all creative materials are provided so just bring yourself and your children!

'Colour Your Life' also run creative sessions for adults every Monday, 10am- 12pm and 1-3 pm and Tuesday 6pm- 8 pm. Sessions include painting and drawing, combined crafts and skills such as glass painting and upholstery and many more.

Again the first 8 sessions are free and all materials are provided.

The Colour Your Life with Arts on Prescription service is a 'social prescription' for the management of mental health and wellbeing, funded by Durham County Council.

For further information on this programme or to book a place please call 01325 321234 or email: colour.your.life@pcp.uk.net. For a countywide Colour your Life timetable visit: colouryourlife.org.uk



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# Family Fun Days Harvest at St. Clare's



Family learning month continues with Greenfield Arts working in partnership with local community venues and organisations to offer a range of activities for families. Following high demand for over the Summer period and the success of our "Out of the Bag" fun day in June, this half term we tried something different, and will be hosting two free family fun days on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th October from 10:30am to 2:30pm. The days will be "drop in" to offer a wide range of activities that can be accessed by a larger number of families. We are pleased to welcome new artists and facilitators including Ruby Singh, and Eat, Sleep, Hoop hula hoopers, and are looking forward to trying the new activities! Also joining us will be Steve Cooper, Environment Officer for Great Aycliffe Town Council who will be delivering Halloween inspired activities. As well as these activities we have "Pro Energy," the Big Draw, Out of the Bag, SMART materials and healthy food inspiration, hopefully something to please everyone! We are pleased to be able to work with such great artists and facilitators and to be able to offer this great opportunity to local families for free! This is just one of the great activities we have planned over this month, including more "Out of the Bag" sessions at local community centres. Visit [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) or call us on 01325 379048 for more information!

## CRAFT FAYRE

Aycliffe Village Christmas Craft Fayre takes place on Saturday November 16th in the Village Hall. We still have one or two tables for hire. These cost just £5 each and we ask that you donate a prize for our raffle. All monies raised will be donated to the Village Hall. If you have not received a reply to your telephone query, will you please call me again. Kathy Round 01325 315732

Messy Harvest Children's Church thank all the families who supported the Food Bank this harvest time. The groovy wheelbarrow was filled to overflowing and the church was filled with laughter and love as 52 children and their families enjoyed the messy harvest activities including song and prayer. The church was beautifully decorated with the children's artwork and the children learnt the most important words HARVEST is SHARE and that if we all did our best to share fairly, we would be helping to end poverty in the world. The next Messy Church is Messy Advent on Saturday November 30th at 4pm. Come and start preparing for the reason behind the season. St Clare's Food Bank was overwhelmed by the response not only by the messy church but also classes 3 and 4 from Sugar Hill Primary School who brought their harvest contributions with them. They enjoyed looking around the church, especially looking after the church 'mice' and viewing the stained glass windows from inside. Many had been in St.Clare's before, but for some, it was their first visit. The church was very happy to have such well behaved and interested children come along to find more about the church which belongs to them.



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Active Half-Term at Stephenson Way

Preventing Homelessness in the County

This week brings to an end an extremely active sporting half-term at Stephenson Way, which has seen a high proportion of pupils either undertaking extra sports coaching or competing in sporting events.

Year 4 visited Greenfield to enjoy an afternoon of football and handball. The children welcomed the opportunity to play football with pupils from other local schools and quickly grasped the basics of, the less familiar, handball. Greenfield also played host to our Year 6 children for a multi-sports event, which gave the children an opportunity to enjoy football, table-tennis, basketball and tennis.

After enjoying great success over the previous school year, the school football programme has been expanded to afford more opportunities for more children to play competitively. Stephenson Way has entered two teams in Sedgefield School Sports Partnership leagues and, for the first time ever, is competing in the Spennymoor and Ferryhill District School's FA league; winning their first game with an impressive 6-1 scoreline.

An extensive sports programme also runs in school, with experienced staff and outsourced coaches offering many different opportunities. Four classes have enjoyed afternoon dance sessions and Year 5 are currently involved in the FISCH (Family Initiative Supporting Children's Health) programme which combines physical activity with educating children about healthy eating and living.

A new netball initiative has proved so popular that two teams have been formed. The teams have received extensive coaching to prepare for competition in the upcoming Sedgefield SSP netball league. Children and staff have been working hard at both the after-school netball club and during timetabled practice sessions to ensure they are prepared. Everyone at Stephenson Way wishes them well as they play their first league matches this week. Most importantly, all the events attended have seen the children behave superbly and display excellent sportsmanship to all teammates, opponents and staff.

More than 3,500 households have avoided losing their home since 2008 thanks to help from Durham County Council and its partners.

It is estimated that helping these families remain in their homes could have saved at least £85m in costs to the council and government departments such as the Department for Work and Pensions and Department of Health.

The figures are included in a report to Durham County Council's Cabinet, which will be asked to approve a new Homelessness Strategy for 2013-18 when it meets next week.

The strategy explains the challenges facing the council and other organisations and sets out how they can work together over the next five years to tackle the problem of homelessness.

It also outlines what the council has done since 2008 to prevent homelessness and how social and economic factors have affected its work.

Cllr Eddie Tomlinson, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for housing and rural issues, said: "The county council's first Homelessness Strategy covered a period of transition as we became a unitary authority.

"But despite the challenges of setting up a new, countywide homelessness service and a rise in the number of people applying to the council for help to prevent losing their home, we have achieved some significant results.

"Between 2008 and 2013, we saw an increase of 281 per cent in the number of families who we helped avoid the misery and distress of being made homeless."

The report also reveals that during the five-year period of the first strategy, no 16 or

17-year-olds were officially declared as homeless.

And while domestic abuse remains the main reason for homelessness in the county, there was a 28 per cent drop in in the number of homelessness applications due to domestic abuse between 2011/12 and 2012/13.

The installation of additional security measures in the homes of domestic abuse victims has

FROM SQUADDY TO SQUADRON LEADER



Stuart (2nd left ) with his TA friends

A former Aycliffe TA Solider, now an RAF Squadron Leader, returned to his roots in the military at the TA Open Day last weekend.

Stuart Rhymer attended Byerley Park and Greenfield Comprehensive. He joined up from school and at the end of that engagement went to Teesside Poly, while spending 10 years in the TA, four years at Aycliffe with two operational tours as an Officer in Bosnia and Kosovo.

Stuart then joined the RAF as a regular Engineering Officer, specialising in communications and has completed many tours to Iraq and Afghanistan, working with the Army. He currently works as a project manager for Information Systems and Services (ISS).

"The Reserve Forces played an important role in my personal and professional development, helping immensely in both my military and civilian careers . The sense of purpose, community and being able to give something to the wider fabric of society is something I feel strongly about and the Reserve Forces give people that opportunity," said Stuart

THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEWTON AYCLIFFE

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Tuesday 19th November, 7.30pm

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Pet Pride Dog Grooming Services, welcome a new member to the grooming team. when Robbie's husband Barry passed his grooming certificates at Houghall College. Barry decided he could have taken on the dogs that Robbie

had to postpone during last summer when she was unable to work because of illness. He is already proficient in hand stripping his own Wire Fox Terrier Millie, with which he has won many prizes at local shows. He qualified for Crufts, and placed her 5th out of 9 dogs.

Barry decided to learn the trade and enrolled at Houghall College last October and has passed both courses with flying colours. "I found it quite a challenge going back to school at my age, but discovered that I enjoyed grooming the whole range of dogs, and am looking forward to working with them as a full time occupation'.

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EVENTS AT AGNEW

Under the banner of Greenfield Arts Family Learning Month we have a Big Draw Competition which is free to enter, simply pop in and pick up an entry form. Open 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday or ring 321504.

The "Out of the Bag" Community Workshop at the Agnew on Saturday November 2nd, 10.30am to 12pm, so come on down with your children and be creative using recycled and unusual materials, best to book Tel 321504, 07749 236853 or agnewcommunitycentre@btconnect.com - Support your Local Community Buildings.

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# Wildcats Fight Back for BBL Cup 1st Round Win

BBL Cup action returned to Newton Aycliffe on Saturday night as Durham Wildcats fought back from 15 points down to secure a 3 point victory over Cheshire Phoenix. The result takes the team through to the 2nd round for the first time in their short BBL history. The Wildcats have looked a much improved team under their new head coach who takes his record to three wins from four games. Durham started Saturday's game strongly in front of an energetic home crowd with an Attah 3-pointer within 60 seconds followed by a second basket without reply. Cheshire soon settled into their stride with an equally impressive 3-point shooting display lead by new signing Kai Williams. Both teams continued to trade baskets for the rest of the first quarter but it was the visitor who took the lead into the first break 28 - 21. Cheshire quickly increased their lead with only a minute gone on the clock in the second. Coach Davie reacted by introducing RJ Evans injecting much needed energy into the team. However, a big 3 pointer by Captain Ralph Bucci was quickly cancelled out by two successful attempts from outside the arc by Cheshire's Reggie Middleton who led his team into the dressing room at half time leading by 11. The second half started slowly with both teams failing to find their feet. With 15 minutes left

in the tie, it was the visitors that still led by double figures. Coach Davie reintroduced point-guard Devin Ginty into the game with 5 minutes left in the third, and his two quick fire 3-pointers soon reinvigorated the home crowd. Huffor and Evans continued to make key baskets, and a Phoenix turnover resulting in an Attah dunk with 60 seconds left in the quarter completed the Wildcats comeback. A phoenix basket on the buzzer meant it was the visitors who took the lead into the final break, although momentum appeared to be very much with the home team. Nerves crept in for both teams in the early stages of the final quarter as baskets were becoming hard to find. A 3 point play by Odiba Attah, quickly followed by a Danny Huffor lay-up, finally gave the Wildcats a decisive lead with just 6.40 left on the game clock. The visitors were not done yet, as Victor Moses pulled his team back into the contest with a quick fire double, and when Reggie Middleton hit a two pointer to take him to 25 points for the night, the game was level once more with less than 5 minutes remaining. A basket from RJ Evans followed by a big defensive rebound by Mike Allison, allowed Attah to breakaway for a dunk that brought the home crowd to their feet. Devin Ginty held his nerve at the free throw line to convert his two chances



and extend the Wildcats lead to 6 points with just 90 seconds left in the game. Williams and Middleton both missed 3 point attempts in the final stages for the visitors, and when Coleman finally did convert from outside the arc with seconds remaining, it came too late for Cheshire as the buzzer soon followed with the Wildcats taking the victory 78-75.

Kirk Crecco mirrored Coach Davie's comments, "I'm delighted to get the win, we started off a little sluggish but then gained a bit of composure. We really led on a comeback and stepped up our defence. It's exciting to get through to the next stage and we are confident we can go even further in this competition". Durham Wildcats will travel to either Sheffield Sharks or London Lions in the second round of the Cup; the winner of this 1st round tie will be decided in Sheffield in a fortnight's time. Coach Davie's team return to BBL League action next week with a double header away trip to Sheffield on Friday, followed by the longest trip in the league to Plymouth on Sunday afternoon. The Wildcats are next in action at Newton Aycliffe on Sunday November 3rd, where BBL Champions Leicester Riders will provide the opposition, tip-off is 4pm.

## LOCAL SPORT

### Aycliffe FC Goalkeeper Retires

Newton Aycliffe goalkeeper Dan Molyneux has regrettably retired from the game as a result of the head injury sustained in last month's Cup game at Tow Law. Despite being given a clean bill of health by specialists, the 26-year-old has made the decision with his ongoing health and wellbeing in mind. Molyneux suffered a facial injury and a bleed to the brain in the collision at Ironworks Road, and any further blows to his head could prove dangerous. Molyneux signed for the Newtonians in June, following the exit of Scott Pocklington, and counts Washington, Whickham, Shildon, Esh Winning and Billingham Town amongst former employers. The popular stopper made his debut in the club's victory at Penrith in August, and went on to play 12 times for the club, keeping two clean sheets. Molyneux also made history for the club, becoming the first Aycliffe goalkeeper to score a competitive goal, when he netted from his own half in the 5-1 FA Cup rout of Darlington RA. Molyneux said, "It's been strange and I never expected it to come to this, so early in my career. To retire at 26 is obviously a shock, but it was one of the easiest decisions I've ever had to make. To be told that if I played again and suffered another knock, that the circumstances could be worse, made the decision simple for me. My health and wellbeing are paramount, and because there's a risk factor with my brain, I can't afford to take that risk. Dan added: "I'd love to stay

involved and I'll still come and watch the lads when I can and cheer them on to have a good season and hopefully finish the season in the top half of the Northern League." Newton Aycliffe suffered more woe on the road as they fell to their fifth defeat in seven league games away from Moore Lane Park. It was the opposite from Tuesday's win at Billingham Town, as Ashington crashed four goals without reply against the Newtonians, who finished the game with 10 men. It took the hosts 40 minutes to break Allan Oliver's side down, but Marc Walton – so often a thorn in the Newtonians' side – tapped home from close range to give the Colliers a half time lead. Prior to the goal, Martin Young and Jamie Owens had both fashioned half chances for the visitors, to no avail. The second half was more one-way traffic, as Gary Middleton's side took charge and looked every bit the title challengers they are, as the victory took them to within five points of leaders Spennymoor Town. Andy Johnson scored a superb treble – two of which were fine headers – to put Aycliffe out of sight, while Young was unluckily dismissed late on for a second booking, to compound Oliver's misery. It looks no easier for Aycliffe as they remain on their travels this week, with local derbies against Oliver's former employers Crook Town, before Friday's visit to the Brewery Field – were they have already been brushed to one side in an FA Cup replay last month.

# Huntsman Beat Sports Club and Progress to Semi-Final

The Huntsman played Newton Aycliffe Sports Club in the quarter final of the Division 2 Cup on Sunday and had a 3-1 victory. With both sides unbeaten in the league the impressive crowd got a decent game. Manager Dodds tweaked the formation to ensure they weren't overrun in the middle with 3 changes and Calum Farley replaced Anthony Brockley who had a slight groin strain, while Steven Williams and David Neale replaced Ollie Gell and top scorer Jamie Herd. The visitors started well forcing a number of early corners which were defended well with the first chance seeing Dave Neale flash a shot just wide from outside of the box. The game ebbed and flowed without much action, Huntsman ball retention was poor while Sports Club were looking to exploit the wind and sun with lots of long balls forward. It was from a long ball the opening goal came when the opposition keeper punted a ball forward which was

put behind for a corner. The corner was drilled in and flew over Dodds in the Huntsman goal to be headed home at the back post by former player David Teder to give Sports Club the lead. The Huntsman lads responded in emphatic style, and immediately put the pressure on the Sports Club backline and were soon on level terms; Michael Sproates in a more advanced role on the right wing played a short ball inside to Dave Neale who fired into the bottom left corner to score his first of the season. The Huntsman weren't finished and 2 minutes later were ahead, Michael Sproates shuffled his way to the byline before cutting the ball back to Shaun Sproates who fired in the net for his 8th goal of the season. Things got even better for the Huntsman minutes later when Neale added a third as a corner ball was headed out to the edge of the box where Neale controlled and hit a shot threw the bodies. It could have got even better but Calum Farley saw his

effort superbly turned over the bar. The sides went in at half time with Huntsman the happier leading 3-1; they expected an onslaught from the Sports Club at the start of the second half who applied pressure for the first 10 minutes without really testing the goal. Huntsman ball retention was much improved, and a double substitution saw Ollie Gell and Carl Bates replace Anth Cox and Calum Farley. This took the sting out of the game with Bates in particular linking up play and keeping the ball moving while Lee Redpath was protecting the back four, putting in a man of the match performance, breaking up play doing all of the dirty work. Huntsman could have added more through Bates and Neale but they comfortably saw the game out to progress to the semi-final. Next up for the Huntsman is another cup game against the British Legion at Moore Lane on November 3rd. 10.30 am kick off. We hope to see you there.

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# Halloween Ball at PCP Film Show

Options Social Club (an evening club for local disabled adults) are holding a Halloween Ball at the Pioneering Care Centre on Thursday 31st October, 6pm – 8pm.

The Ball will include fancy dress, disco, murder mystery and light refreshments. Please purchase tickets in advance, £3 each - on sale now at the PCP reception. Everyone is welcome along with friends and family.

Options Social Club is managed by the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) and offers a safe and friendly environment for local disabled adults to socialise, make new friends, try new activities and give carers a break from their caring responsibilities. Weekly activities include pool, table tennis, hydrotherapy pool usage, Wii games, bowling, boxercise, new age kurling, computer and internet access, parties and discos.

The PCP also manages the Options day project, a service for local disabled adults which aims to promote independence, choice, control and social inclusion. Activities include daily living skills, adult education courses, healthy lifestyle promotion, community visits and confidence and self esteem building sessions.

St Clare's next "Feel Good Film Show" will be on Wednesday 30th October at 1.15pm and features "BELONGING", a bitter sweet drama starring Brenda Blethyn, Kevin Whately, Rosemary Harris, Anna Massey and Peter Sallis. The range of rich and diverse characters, and the closely observed trivia of family life transform this simple story into a glorious depiction of human endurance. Tea & coffee served at 1pm, included in the £2. Everyone is most welcome, please ring Ric Hargreaves for further details on 316755

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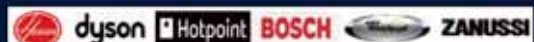
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- Introduction to Raising Community Awareness of the Effects of Drugs/Alcohol at Greenfield School starting Wednesday 6th November

for 6 weeks from 10am – 12 noon.

- Drugs & Alcohol and Dealing with Conflict - One Day Awareness Course at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre, on Wednesday 18th December from 9 am – 4.30 pm.

Fee Policy – £2.50 per hour. If a client is claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA), Employment Support Allowance (ESA) in the Work Related Activity Group or is in receipt Universal Credit and unemployed, the course is FREE.

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Britain's young-people may have come near the bottom of a global league table of literacy skills recently, but an Aycliffe school has hit on a solution which, it is hoped, will see its own students come out tops. Woodham Academy has recently introduced a number of major improvements to its reading policy. Year 7 learners (plus selected individuals from Y8 and Y9) have been enrolled on an Accelerated Reading programme which provides an accurate assessment of their reading and comprehension skills, matches them with appropriate books, and then tests them on how much they have learned. Those who score well on these on-line quizzes are then able to move up a level and the number of words they have read triggers rewards. Reading takes place in the newly refurbished Reading Area and students are free to find a quiet corner or crash on a cushion to make the most of this leisurely opportunity. In addition to what the school has termed 'free reading' students are also provided with a complimentary Guided Reading programme, where learners discuss matters relating to themes, current issues and deeper meanings, and where they can get to grips with the author's actual intentions; all of which forms part of the English curriculum. The intention behind these new initiatives is, says programme leader Josie Marsh, to make reading enjoyable and relevant. To further encourage students to read Woodham has also launched a reading facility on Moodle, the school's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The Prize Read scheme offers opportunities for learners to read social and historical articles and win prizes for their thoughts and observations. This, says, Mrs Marsh forms part of the school's 'holistic' approach to reading and writing - this being, she says 'vital' for future achievement and success: "If learners read a lot and read well they will develop a better understanding of the world around them and of the issues they face when they are adults." The scheme should also have a positive impact on other school subjects right across the curriculum, and, perhaps, help learners' future promotion chances.

Kindhearted residents at Rose Lodge Care Home have been donating boxes of goodies to some of the world's most needy children. Staff and residents at Rose Lodge Care home have taken part in the Children in Distress Love in a Box appeal, which encourages people to fill shoe boxes full of toys, sweets and gifts for children in need. Crayons, t-shirts, sweets, writing pads, bubbles and balloons were just some of the gifts that went into the 20 shoe boxes that residents put together. Rose Lodge looks after those with personal care needs and dementia, and took part in the campaign at the suggestion of Newton Aycliffe Methodist Church. The home enjoys strong links with the church where many residents attend weekly services. The church also regularly visits the home to conduct services and sing hymns with residents. Home manager Karen Frew-McGill said: "The appeal was one that our



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Photo: Claire Stockhill (activities co-ordinator), Julia Gill, Beverly Musgrave, Hannah Pratchett, Lyndsay Farrell, Nicola Wheatley (care team at Rose Lodge) Gwen Morrison (from the Methodist Church), Frank Ruddy, Gladys Stephens and Irene Kell (residents at Rose lodge).

Kindhearted residents at Rose Lodge Care Home have been donating boxes of goodies to some of the world's most needy children. Staff and residents at Rose Lodge Care home have taken part in the Children in Distress Love in a Box appeal, which encourages people to fill shoe boxes full of toys, sweets and gifts for children in need. Crayons, t-shirts, sweets, writing pads, bubbles and balloons were just some of the gifts that went into the 20 shoe boxes that residents put together. Rose Lodge looks after those with personal care needs and dementia, and took part in the campaign at the suggestion of Newton Aycliffe Methodist Church. The home enjoys strong links with the church where many residents attend weekly services. The church also regularly visits the home to conduct services and sing hymns with residents. Home manager Karen Frew-McGill said: "The appeal was one that our

Tuition

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residents thought was really worthwhile and they have really enjoyed putting together the shoe boxes and supporting the charity."

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**4 BEDROOM** property to let in Askrigg Close. Rent £500, bond £500. Tel 07814 022301

**3 BEDROOM** houses in Newton Aycliffe. £425 per month. DSS welcome. Tel 07825 134278

**3 BEDROOM** in McKenzie Place, Newton Aycliffe. spacious with 3 bedrooms. The property has enclosed gardens to the front and open plan grassed area to the rear. If you are interested then please contact Kevin on 07775 811527 for further details.

**3 BEDROOM** house to rent, Hornedale area, £385.00 per month, £400 bond and gaurantor required. Tel 07950 684129

**3 BEDROOM** house to let, Rylstone Close, £100 per week. Tel 07970 690305

**3 BEDROOM** newly refurbished house with garage. Newly fitted kitchen and bathroom with new carpets and decoration throughout. £475pcm. Tel 07970 106393



# Drop in at PCP for Diabetes Information

Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) can help people living in Newton Aycliffe or Darlington who have been recently diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes and those told that they are at risk of developing the condition.

The project aims to improve people’s knowledge, skills and confidence; enabling them to take control of their own condition by promoting positive health and wellbeing.

PCP Health Trainer Donna Kelly said: “We encourage positive behaviour changes and provide participants with the information and resources that they require to make changes and hopefully improve their health and wellbeing. The programme will entail attending information sessions and one-to-one appointments to review goals. We also welcome carers and family members to attend the sessions as well.”

People interested in finding out more are invited to the Pioneering Care Centre on Monday 28th October between 10am-12noon for a coffee and a chat about how PCP can help people manage and take control of their condition.

# Pirate Show at Greenfield College



This week local primary schools and members of the community joined us at Greenfield Arts for a swashbuckling performance of “My Granny’s a Pirate!” The show, based on the popular children’s book by Val McDermid came to Greenfield as part of a current tour across the North East organised by New Writing North.

Pupils and staff from Horndale Infants and Byerly Park Primary School thoroughly enjoyed the fantastic performance, which was filled with music to accompany the engaging story of a Granny who is a pirate with a dog called Jolly Rodger!

The pupils set sail across pirate seas during the performance and sang pirate songs and carried out the actions with great spirit! We were also able to offer the schools the opportunity to take part in workshops before the performance, to learn the

songs and create their own pirate gear – which they wore to the performance!

This is the twelfth live performance Greenfield Arts have hosted and provided free of charge to local primary schools and the community this year. We are pleased to be able to provide these opportunities for local schools, partners and the community, sourcing funding and liaising with national tours and festivals, and plan to continue to do so into 2014!

Next is a performance of “H2O” for children aged 2-6 which will take place on Friday 25th October. For more information about all the great opportunities on offer at Greenfield Arts visit [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk).

# Students Work with Plaster and Textiles



Over the past two weeks artist Maggie Smith has been working with a group of year 10 Textiles students at Greenfield Community College developing their skills and experimenting with different techniques.

Maggie is an established textile artist, a member of the Embroiderer’s Guild who has worked in higher education and regularly delivers courses on textiles and embroidery, as well as creating her own mixed media pieces.

Her recent exhibition at Greenfield Arts “Lost Stories and Broken Narratives” was a great success, receiving over 200 visitors whilst on display.

During the sessions with the students they have been exploring techniques Maggie demonstrates in her two published books “Get Plastered” and “Get Stuffed,” including mark marking, working with plaster, fabric and colour and transferring images using different methods.

This has been a great

opportunity for the students, who have been enthusiastic and interested in the methods Maggie has been showing them. The work they have created will be included in their GCSE portfolios. We would like to say a big thank you to Maggie for this fantastic opportunity for Greenfield to continue its partnerships with local professional artists!

# STUDENTS HITTING THE HIGH NOTES

Staff and students at Greenfield Community College were delighted to share in celebrating the success of members of the school choir who received their results and certificates from singing exams taken earlier this year. This is a great achievement for these dedicated students, who regularly give up their time after school to rehearse.

Samantha Ashcroft, a year 10 student, achieved Grade 8 with a strong performance with a powerful and well controlled voice. Also in Year 10, Holly Hardy and Cora Gibson both achieved Grade 5 with confidence, and Lucy Ryans in Year 9 showed strong technical ability when she gained her Grade 3.

Head teacher David Priestley said “Music is an integral part of the school curriculum at Greenfield and we are very proud that these young people have done so well in their exams.”

The school choir rehearses weekly, and has a number of events planned over the Christmas period - we look forward to seeing them perform!

### Congratulations

**Christina and Caroline**

**28th October 2013**  
Wishing you a very happy 30th birthday  
Love always, Mam and Dad

### In Memoriam

**JANET JACKSON** 29-10-09. Thank you for everything that were to us, Wife, Mother and Nan. Loved forever, Brian, Sarah, Stephen, Robert, Naomi, Joshua, Amanda and Ian

**RAY DODDS** 27-10-12. It’s one year since you passed away, but you remain forever in our thoughts. Loving memories from Stephen, Carole, Emma, Tony, Ashley, Craig, Neil, Jenny and your Great Grandchildren Annie, Freddie and Amelia who sadly you never got to meet xxxx

**BARBARA JONES** 29th October 2012. A million times we’ve needed you, A million times we’ve cried, if love alone could save you, you never would have died. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still, in our hearts you hold a place, that no one could ever fill. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn’t go alone, for a part of us went with you, the day God took you home. Miss and love you Mam, Paula, Edwina and Jessica xxx

**BARBARA JONES** If Roses grow in Heaven Lord, please pick a bunch for us. Place them in my Nanna’s arms and tell her they’re from us! Tell her that we love her and miss her, and when she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile. Because remembering her is easy, We do it every day, but there’s an ache within our hearts that will never go away. Love and miss you Nan. Grace, Aidan, Cameron, Gemma, Ryan, Isaac and Eddie xx

**ANTONY HAMMELL** Born 26-9-1974, died 27th October 2008. Not one day passes Son that we don’t think of you. The love in life we had for you, in death grows stronger still. Let the winds of love blow softly and whisper for you to hear, we love and miss you sadly, as it dawns another year. Love, Mam, Dad and all of the family

**THOMAS BARTLEY** 25-10-2009. Forever in my thoughts, all my love, your Wife, Nancy xxx

**JEAN STEVENS** 26th October 2012. Love and miss you every day Mam. You are in our hearts forever. God bless, until we meet again. Love you from Eileen, Bas and family xxx

### Fletcher Chatha

Fletcher today you’re one. I can’t believe a year has already gone. No longer a baby as your character comes out. We know you’re around, as you scream and shout. So enjoy all the toys you get today. Wishing you a very happy 1st birthday. Love you lots, Mummy & Daddy xxx

### Laurie Catherall

**27th October**  
Happy 21st Birthday Laurie with lots of love from all the family xxx

### Births

**TURNER FLACK**, Helen and Ron, congratulations on the birth of your baby boy on 22nd October. First Grandchild of Brenda and Douglas, Nephew to Stephen. Love from all of us.

### AYCLIFFE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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# Dog Owners Falling Foul of the Law

Eagle-eyed residents have been urged to keep up the good work as Durham County Council’s clampdown on dog-fouling and littering continues. Figures for last month show that neighbourhood wardens issued 95 fixed penalty notices for the so-called “enviro-crimes”.

A total of 57 penalty notices were issued to people caught dropping litter, 31 were issued to people for failing to comply with a litter clearing notices and seven penalty notices were handed to dog owners not stopping to “scoop the poop.”

Ian Hoult, neighbourhood protection manager at Durham County Council, said: “Dog fouling and litter are concerns that

residents often raise and we will continue to tackle those responsible for these offences.

“We need the continued help of the public to keep reporting any such incidents and to give us specific information so that we can take appropriate action and target our resources.”

Fixed penalty notices are £50 and go up to £80 if not paid within two weeks. Failing to comply with a litter clearing notice carries a penalty of £80, increasing to £110 if not paid within two weeks.

Litter and dog fouling can be reported either online at [www.durham.gov.uk/](http://www.durham.gov.uk/) or [www.durham.gov.uk/dogfouling](http://www.durham.gov.uk/dogfouling) or by ringing 03000 26 1000.

### For Sale

**BARGAIN BUYS** Bosch washing machine to rent, £3.99 a week! No deposit, no more unwanted repair bills. Tel 321 678

**AVONDALE** Argente 640/6, Reg 2005. 6 berth twin axle. Fridge, cooker, fixed bunks, large end bathroom, toilet and shower. excellent condition. OIRO £6000. Contact John 07739 232 066

**COMPACT** semi-automatic twin tub washer, no plumbing required, ideal for caravans, students or limited space. Used twice, genuine reason for sale, £80. Tel 07773 610 277

**HALF FRAMED** patterned shower screen with toughened glass, as new, £30. Tel 07773 610277

**BMX STUNT** bike, yellow, VGC, £50 ono. Purple 3/4 violin with bow, blue case, £25. Tel 07887 895079

**IPHONE 3GS 8GB BLACK**, excellent condition, locked on Orange, comes with original packaging, £75. Tel. 07789 502 173

**ZANUSSI** freestanding electric oven and ceramic hob. Plus Moffat cooker hood. Good condition. Reasonable offers considered. 07834 531267.

**ANTIQUE** pine extendable pine table, 6-8 person, 163L x 99w x75h, £60 ono (collection only). Tel 01325 320690

**MOBILITY** scooter, excellent condition, was £1000, will accept £350. Tel 07854 499676

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### Thank You

**SANDY FLYNN** would like to thank friends and family for cards and gifts and for attending my party. Special thanks to Pat for organising it and Kathy for the lovely buffet. Love and thanks to everyone. Sandy

**MCDONALD** Eddie and Maureen wish to thank everyone who helped make their Golden Wedding memorable. Many thanks to the Knights and Knightesses (OK, the Round Table) and all friends and family for all the lovely cards and gifts. Thanks to the Woodham Golf Club for their excellent facilities. Special thanks to Sharon, Lesley and family for their collaboration to make it such a lovely night.

### Obituary

**JIM RODWELL** 16th October, peacefully in hospital. Jim aged 74 years of Newton Aycliffe. A dearly loved Brother and Uncle. Funeral on Monday 28th October. Would friends please meet 3.45pm for a Service at Darlington Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu if desired may be made after the service for The British Heart Foundation.

**HEDLEY** Suddenly, but peacefully, on 16th October with her family by her side. Grace, aged 80 years. Beloved Wife of the late Joseph; much loved Mam of Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth; also a loving Nana, Grandma, Great Nana and Mother-in-Law. Will family and friends please meet for a Service in St. Clare’s Church, Newton Aycliffe on Monday 28th October at 12.45pm, to be followed by cremation at Darlington Crematorium. Family flowers only by request.

### Birthday Remembrance

**CHRIS ELLIOTT** 25th October. Loving birthday memories of a dear Brother, Brother-in-Law and Uncle. Always in our thoughts. Pauline, Bruce, Michael and Stephen xxx

**CHRIS ELLIOT** 25th October. Treasured memories of a dear Brother and Brother-in-Law on your birthday. 28th October you were sadly taken from us. Always in our thoughts. Love and miss you, Barbara and Rob xx

### Property

**3 BEDROOM** house for sale, cheapest in Newton Aycliffe, £49,995 all certificates, ready for rental. Tel: 07950 684129



# NEW DANCE STUDIO AT WOODHAM ACADEMY



Woodham Academy unveiled its new-look dance studio this week. Full length mirrors together with recently installed

flooring have transformed an old-fashioned facility into a state-of-the-art dance studio. This investment has allowed

Woodham Dance Academy to run twice as many coaching sessions as last year, in partnership with Joanne Banks Dance.

This summer has already seen significant investment in facilities at Woodham Academy. All PCs have been replaced with brand new computers and monitors. Following a successful Awards for All bid, an overgrown courtyard area has been transformed into an outdoor classroom. This is only the start of a planned refurbishment of Woodham Academy, which will soon see new science laboratories and upgraded sports facilities.

# New Equipment & Facilities at Aycliffe Gym

Lifestyle Fitness at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre are holding a series of events to celebrate the prelaunch of their new facilities and equipment.

Lifestyle Fitness which is a real asset to Newton Aycliffe and already has an extensive range of equipment and well qualified staff is now undergoing something of a re-fit. Plans have been drawn up for the introduction of new functional training equipment, improvements to the layout, decoration and changing rooms.

Kendra Hulbert pictured who is spearheading the refit said "I have been working in the fitness industry nearly all of my career and I always thought the facility in Newton Aycliffe was one of the best I have seen anywhere but I was asked to help design a new layout with new equipment. I think the results will be well worth the investment we have put in"

Work has been underway for two weeks now and things are really starting to take shape. This week the functional training equipment is due to arrive and already



the ground floor has been opened up with the removal of partition walling. Soon the changing rooms will undergo something of a refurbishment and a new lifting platform and E-Spinners will be in place. To celebrate they have organised a series of events aimed at encouraging more people to come along and get re-acquainted with fitness. On the 29th an open event will take place. In attendance, as well as Lifestyle's own instructors and trainers, will be Slawek Kochan from Vitamin Shop in Darlington, Julie Baxter from Herbal Life, David Hopwood Sports Massage, Kerry Smith from Forever and Up and Running from Darlington who will all be giving away free products and tasters on an evening in which Mark Travis DJ will be providing the motivational tunes. Use of the facilities will

also be free for everyone to try on the evening but it is likely to be very popular so Lifestyle Fitness would ask that people inform them of the time they wish to visit. If you would like more information or would like to get involved in the event you can call 03000 266 466.

# Aycliffe Ten Pin Bowling

Two of PLANET LEISURE teams in the bowling league are the Clangers the top of the table, with 13 points.

Dropping down a place is Strike Force with 12 points. The next three teams consisting of Pinheads, M@MS and the Misfits all on the same 10 points each.

The Wenwees are in sixth place on 8 points then come Shildon Strikers in seventh with 7 points. In eighth place is Late Starters with 6 points, ninth is Bowle Movements with 4 points and coming tenth and last place with zero points are the Optimists.

Paul Wilkinson holds the high h/c game of 232 high of Late Starters. The high scratch game is held by Steve Dauber of Strike Force with a total of 201 pins. Strike Force hold the high team game with handicap of 443 also the high team series with h/c of 1164 pins.

The Pinheads have the high team game scratch with 347 pins and the high team series scratch is held by the Misfits with 927 pins.

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# TRI CLUB TAKES ON NEW CHALLENGES

On the 6th October, Kevin Greenall Aycliffe Tri Club's super veteran travelled up to Scotland to enter the Hardrock challenge. This race is a Duathlon over the marathon distance of 26 miles contained within Dalbeattie Forest. The event consists of a 10 mile run on woodland track, followed by a 16 mile bike run over the 7 Stanes red route, which is rough and steep single mountain bike track. Kevin came 30th individual male and was 4th in his class, an excellent result over a tough course.



Then on the 13th October Melanie Rowland took the wet and muddy challenge of the Newcastle Stampede. The event saw Newcastle Race Course turned into 10k Army style assault course. Mel fought her way through mud and freezing water with grit and determination. Mel thoroughly enjoyed the race and finished still smiling although all be it covered from head to toe in mud! 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 07887 817960

# Table Tennis

Come along and try a taster session for no charge for the first time and enjoy the benefits of a low impact sport that people enjoy for life  
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Greenfield School, Main sports hall, Greenfield Way, For more information: Tel: 07523 871373

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