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## Young People Support New Aycliffe Welfare Partnership



Junior members of the ACORN Residents' Association held a raffle and presented the proceeds to the newly formed Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership which is bringing all the voluntary and statutory welfare groups in Aycliffe together to co-ordinate help for needy families. The chairman Pauline Chambers is shown here receiving the cheque from the young people who commented on their kind gesture and regard for people less fortunate, assuring them the cash would be put to good use. GACAP can be contacted through the Secretary Joan Clark on 307522.

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**Wed** - Roast Pork Dinner  
OR Salad

**Thu** - Minced Beef Dinner  
OR Baked Potato with Chilli

**Fri** - Roast Chicken Dinner  
OR Fishcake, Chips & Peas

**Sat** - Roast Beef Dinner

**Sun** - Roast Pork Dinner  
OR Roast Chicken Dinner

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## County Councillors Fund Christmas Meal

Dear Sir,  
On 11th December 2013 members of the Wednesday Social Club in Aycliffe Village enjoyed a lovely Christmas meal in "The County". This was made possible by the generous donations from Councillors Jed Hillary and Sarah Iveson from their Neighbourhood Budget. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Jed and Sarah for their continued support and wish them both a successful and happy new year. Patricia Johnson Secretary/Treasurer.

## Charity Night at British Legion Club

Friends of Jennifer Murray, a cancer victim, attending Butterwick Hospice, are organising a charity night to raise funds for this worthy cause.

It is to be held at the British Legion Club on Tuesday 25th February at 7.30pm. Four live acts will perform including local singers Stan Fuller, Georgio, Marie Michelle and Georgia Lee.

In addition there will be Bingo, Tombola, Raffle and a Pie and Peas Supper all for only £5 per ticket.

The British Legion Charity Nights are very popular and excellent value for money. Tickets are limited and are available from the Legion Club Bar or phone 310429.



## PHONE SCAM ALERT

People in County Durham are being warned not to fall for a new type of scam which claims to offer protection from nuisance calls.

Durham County Council's fair trading team has issued the warning to make residents aware of a so-called service which offers to stop householders receiving unwanted telesales and marketing calls.

The scam involves a call from someone offering to stop people receiving unwanted sales calls for a fee, payable by direct debit or with a bank card. In some cases callers have falsely claimed to be from a large, well-known reputable company.

Joanne Waller, head of environment, health and consumer protection at Durham County Council, said: "There are a number of services which offer to stop people receiving unwanted calls and not all of them are genuine."

"We would strongly advise people never to give out their bank account details to anyone over the phone unless they are certain they are dealing with a legitimate company. We would urge caution if anyone is contacted by a company offering to stop unwanted calls for a fee."

People can register with the Telephone Preference Service, which is free, to ensure they do not receive unwanted telephone sales and marketing calls. Register online at www.tpsonline.org.uk or by telephone on 0845 070 0707. Anyone who thinks they have been targeted by such a scam is advised to report it to Action Fraud either online at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by telephone on 0300 123 2040.

## Ponies Visit Care Home



Bethany House residents received a pleasant surprise visit from two American miniature ponies last week provided by KL Pony Parties and Therapy from Middleton St. George, this was paid for by a donation from Honest John, from his charity stall at The Cubby. KL Pony Parties and Therapy is fully insured for public liability. The ponies are very clean and every precaution is taken inside to avoid embarrassing accidents.

Pony Therapy has been therapy for the elderly and infirm, but also great for professionals as a possible themed parties, schools etc.

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Plus Great Duo  
**"ALTER EGO"**  
Tickets available from the Legion bar or Sue  
Priced at £4.00 each

**Friday 14th February 2014**  
FOR ALL THE ROMANTICS  
We are holding a  
**"VALENTINE'S DINNER"**  
in the upstairs restaurant.  
Tickets are limited and cost £12 per person.  
The dinner consists of a three course meal with a choice as well as entertainment.  
Tickets are available from the Restaurant or Sue  
(Must be purchased before 11-2-14)

TELEPHONE: 01325 312876

## NASSA News

Newton Aycliffe Scout Supporters Association would like to thank everyone who came to the Family New Year's Eve party and all those people who gave us prizes for the raffle. There are a few unclaimed raffle prizes the ticket numbers are:- 261-sweets, 423-wine, 265-Black Magic Prizes can be collected at the bar. We had a fantastic night and hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Don't forget that we are open all year with the bar open each evening except Wednesdays from 8.00pm until 11.00 (earlier opening at weekends), and Saturday and Sunday from lunchtime. Everyone

is welcome. The Bingo is restarting on Saturday evenings from 8.00pm after the Christmas break - please come along and join in. We are a family club and young people (under age 18) are welcome in the bar until 9.00pm so long as they are accompanied by a responsible adult. New members are always welcome although you don't have to be a member to visit us. The hall is available to hire for meetings, functions etc. at very reasonable rates. Hope to see you all soon - don't leave it until next New Year. Thank you and Happy New Year to you all.

**SPANISH CLASSES**

A reasonable number of people got in contact and a Beginners Spanish Class at the Pioneering Care Centre is starting on 22nd of January. If you are interested in joining the class please ring 321234. If successful it may lead to more classes at a higher level.

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**Saturday 18th January - "Tony Little Band"**

Bio: Tony has fronted many bands and has undertaken world tours with legendary musicians including 60's super group 'The Animals'; 'Oliver/Dawson's Saxon'; 'The Tygers of Pang Tang'; 'Strangeways' and American rock band 'Liddle/Rush and Thrall'. He has also been produced by Kevin Elson, record producer for the legendary American band 'Journey'.  
Reviews: "The room was full, and the sound was deafening with a mixed bag of people in, being entertained with the likes of Toto, Rainbow, The Cult, Bon Jovi, Bryan Adams, Judas Priest, Led Zep, Stereophonics, Whitesnake, AC/DC and Boston. My favourite 'More than a feeling', Jon on bass/keyboards seems to be having a good time in the now settled line up; Ade looking ice cool out front with the shades on; Tony being his cheeky self, cracking on to the crowd."  
"Tony and co always deliver the goods and he has a cracking sense of humour. They sound even better now there set list has been re-vamped. One of the most talked about bands on the circuit"

**Saturday 25th January - "Bon Jovi Forever"**  
with special guest support - 'THE KILL'

Gig Pit Review: "I went up The Tuns, glad I did, never seen 'The Kill' before, known Mark for years, what a band, top drawer! Not a great fan of Bon Jovi, but I have to say these are the best tribute act I've seen, and Greggs vocals in both bands were awesome, guitar playing was immense and the rhythm section tight as anything. Grown men stood open mouthed, and the women went berserk. Great nite lads!"  
Rockermouth Review: "Great band! Still haven't seen the Bon Jovi Forever set, but it's the same line-up as The Kill . . . and they rock! Talented lads, the lot of them. A great set of musicians, and Gregg has frontman skills and stage presence to back up his excellent voice. Then add to that a cool and interesting set list, a quality PA rig, and you've got a superb package. Can't wait to see the lads play again. But maybe next time at The Office".

**Saturday 1st February - "Born Villains"**

For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034  
Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

## Come and Build an Ark

'Noah and the Ark' is the theme for St. Clare's Messy Church on Saturday 25th January @ 4pm.

Come along and help to build an ark, all children are asked to bring an empty box along with them, any shape or size, to help build an ark!

We will also be painting rainbows, making paper boats to float in the water tray and lots more. Prayers and promises for 2014 will be offered for the children and we will finish with tea at 5pm.

All families are welcome, admission is by way of donation to Messy Church funds. Please contact Parish Youth Team Leader Mrs. Helen McCormick on Aycliffe 319002 for any further details.

### PLEASE NOTE -

There will be NO Kidz flicks in February. We hope to resolve the sound problems before our March film date.

# Progress for all at Greenfield



Greenfield Community College is once again celebrating outstanding English GCSE results. 96% of the 98 students who sat their exam achieved grade C or above. More importantly, these results reflect the commitment at Greenfield to support every student to succeed as 100% of entrants achieved at least 3 levels of progress [in line with government expectations]. However teachers and students at Greenfield never settle

for just what is expected! By understanding the needs of every child and building their confidence, English teachers have supported 60% of the year group to achieve 4 levels of progress, 11% to achieve 5 levels and 4 extremely hard-working and determined students to achieve an incredible 6 levels of progress.

Tino Lewis, one of the 8 students with a target grade of C from primary school but who achieved an A/A\* grade was delighted with both his own efforts and the support of his teachers. Tino, who hopes to study A level English language and literature at college said "I felt prepared for the exam thanks to my teacher who was really helpful."

David Priestley, headteacher, said: "These outstanding results reflect the hard work and commitment of both staff and students at a time of great change in education."

## Nominations Open for Disability Sports Awards

Performers and participants involved in disability sport will be given the opportunity to thank their sporting heroes at the 2013 North East Disability Sports Awards.

Nominations are now open for the awards, which will see performers, clubs, coaches and volunteers from across the region recognised for their commitment to their sport.

The event is in its seventh year and is supported by the English Federation of Disability Sport and the four North East County Sports Partnerships (CSPs).

The categories this year are:

- MALE PERSONALITY
- FEMALE PERSONALITY
- YOUNG MALE ACHIEVER
- YOUNG FEMALE ACHIEVER
- CLUB OF THE YEAR
- COACH OF THE YEAR
- PARTICIPANT OF THE YEAR
- SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD

Nominating is easy! Simply fill out the online nomination form at [www.nedsa.co.uk](http://www.nedsa.co.uk). The closing date for nominations is Friday 10 January 2014

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## Greenfield Exhibition



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Last week was the opening of the latest exhibition in The Greenfield Gallery, a group show by "Phoenix Art Group." Friends, family and supporters of the Phoenix Artists joined staff at Greenfield Arts for an evening to officially open the exhibition, which will be on display at Greenfield until Wednesday XXX January. The exhibition showcases the talent of the artists involved in the group, which is based in Stockton-on-Tees and offers a safe and welcoming environment for people to be creative. Work on show includes artists books, sculpture, paintings, drawings, printmaking, installation art, knitting, textiles and more, creating an overview of the work of the group.

We would like to thank all who joined us last Wednesday evening for making the opening night such a success! The Greenfield Gallery is open Monday - Thursday 10am - 9pm and Friday 10am to 4pm, for more information visit our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk).

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

[www.edennursery.co.uk](http://www.edennursery.co.uk)

\*Aycliffe Village Ofsted Outstanding

# Standby Accommodation for Town's Fire Crew

Newton News was given a tour of the new accommodation for Aycliffe firemen which was recently completed as part of a new scheme designed to bring about cost saving efficiency. 2013 was a year of great change at Newton Aycliffe Fire Station. In December, Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service welcomed local policing teams into the station in a move that benefits both organisations and helps to provide a police presence in the area.

The collaboration, believed to be one of the first in the country, sees the fire and rescue service sharing accommodation with the police neighbourhood teams, community support officers and response teams.

The police station within the building is open from

10am to 5pm Monday to Friday and the fire and rescue service continues to provide its operational response and community safety services from the station.

In April, the fire and rescue service opened a new building adjacent to the fire station to accommodate a new crewing system designed to provide the same levels of operational cover in a more cost effective way.

The new Day Crewing Plus duty system allows firefighters to work 12 hour shifts through the day and then provide 12 hours of standby cover from purpose built accommodation next to the fire station at night.

The Day Crewing Plus system has been successfully introduced into several fire and rescue services throughout the country in recent years and so far it is

operating very successfully from Newton Aycliffe Fire Station and Seaham (another station that has benefitted from a new accommodation block).

The system has allowed the Service to make significant savings as the same level of operational cover can be provided using fewer staff.

It is a legal requirement that any standby cover must be completed away from the place of work; therefore a key part of the duty system was the construction of an accommodation building, where operation personnel can reside at the same time as they provide operational cover.

Due to the length of time that staff spend at the station when they are on duty, members of their family are allowed to visit during their standby hours.

The accommodation block houses seven bedrooms, a kitchen and a lounge area.

Robin Turnbull, group manager for County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, said: "The new duty system, which has been running for three months now, is working very well. It has allowed us to maintain the same number of fire appliances at the station and provide the same level of cover to the communities of Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area, while making significant savings."



## Who Do You Know Who Deserves the Chairman's Medal?

The Chairman's Medal is the highest honour Durham County Council can award, and is given to individuals or groups who have contributed significantly to communities in County Durham.

Working with local Area Action Partnerships, the Chairman of Durham County Council, Cllr Pauline Charlton is encouraging people to nominate 'individuals for voluntary effort' and 'outstanding charitable organisations'. The award is open to all ages.

Cllr Charlton said: "There are so many unsung heroes in County Durham who do things for their community that can go unnoticed."

"We will be holding a presentation event which will be a celebration of the achievements and effort that people do for each other." The awards will take place in April 2014, and the closing date for nominations is 14 February 2014.

For nomination forms please contact the Chairman's office on 03000 268828 or email [chairmansoffice@durham.gov.uk](mailto:chairmansoffice@durham.gov.uk) alternatively you can download the forms via [www.durham.gov.uk/aap](http://www.durham.gov.uk/aap)

## COMMUNITY LEARNING

We had a brilliant response for our new term of courses at Greenfield Arts and we welcome back our regular participants and tutors. Don't forget we also have courses and free tasters that haven't begun yet!

Maria Postma will join us on Tuesday 21st January (6pm-7:30pm) and Tuesday 28th January (6pm-7:30pm) for free taster sessions of Nail Art and Make Up, to gauge interest for full-length courses. Painting and Drawing begins on Thursday 23rd January (5.30pm-7pm) – enrol on this course and receive a free entry for this year's open art exhibition!

As well as these new taster sessions, all our popular courses are back this week, including Floral Art, Yoga, Spanish, Guitars with John Melvin and more. For more information, visit our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk), find us on [facebook.com/GreenfieldArts](https://www.facebook.com/GreenfieldArts) or send us a tweet @GreenfieldArts!

# Activities at



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Over 50's club

Thursday

10am - 12noon

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Activities include Bowls, Table Tennis, Archery, Badminton & much more

Ideal for people with time on their hands, who would like to feel a little fitter but the gym isn't for them.

### Adult Squash Drop In

For beginners

Thursday

6.15pm - 7.00pm

7.00pm - 7.45pm

£1.00 per session

All over 16's welcome and all equipment will be provided.

Squash players will be on hand to give any advice or guidance needed.

**Watch out for the children's holiday activities!**

# New Year - New You?



The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) has a huge range of activities, support and classes aimed at improving your health and making you feel better! The Pioneering Care Centre offers friendly exercise sessions for all ages and levels of fitness which are delivered by fully qualified instructors. Why not pop down to the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe to see what's on offer. Classes run Monday - Friday at varying times, all at very reasonable prices, if not free!

**MONDAY:** Cycling- beginners, 10 - 11am, free. Cycling- intermediate, 11 - 12noon, free. Tone and Stretch 1 - 2pm, £2.50. Aquacise 7.30 - 8.30pm, £6.30.

**TUESDAY:** Fitsteps 11am -

12noon, £3.50. Pilates 4.45 - 6pm & 6.15 - 7.30pm, £6

**WEDNESDAY:** Aquacise 9 - 10am, £6.30. Nordic Walking 9.45 - 10.45am, £2. Zumba Gold 10-11am & 11 - 12pm, £3.50. Back Exercise Class 5.15 - 6.15pm, £3.50. Aquacise 7.45 - 8.45pm, £6.30

**THURSDAY:** Health Walk 10.30-11.30, free. Back Exercise Class 5pm, 6pm, 7pm & 8pm, £3.50. Aquacise 7.15-8.15pm, £6.30

**FRIDAY:** Aquacise 9 - 10am, £6.30. Running Group 10.30-11.30am, free.

Further details from the Pioneering Care Centre, Carers' Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net; www.pcp.uk.net Or find us on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: /PCPandCentre

# Minimum Unit Price for Alcohol Influenced by Lobbyists

## Do the right thing say Police Commissioners

Dear Sir,  
This week public awareness of the influence corporate lobbying is able to exert on policy makers has been laid bare. This follows revelations in the British Medical Journal (published 8 January 2014) following the ditching last summer of Government plans to introduce Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) for alcohol and the confirmation of 'dozens of meetings' between Ministers and those with a vested interest in maintaining the status quo in relation to MUP leading up to that decision. Commercial corporate influence over policy makers is rarely positive for the wider public but it becomes more troubling when the issue affects public health and is also backed by a substantial body of evidence. Late in 2012 the Home Office requested a report from the University of Sheffield for their most recent analyses examining the effects of MUP. This was to inform the debate and impact assessment for policy proposals arising from the Government's Alcohol Strategy. The report's main conclusions included MUP policies would be

effective in reducing alcohol consumption, alcohol-related harms (including alcohol-attributable deaths, hospitalisations, crimes and workplace absences) and the costs associated with those harms. These are all areas which could potentially lead to savings against the current financial pressure faced by public services. Research in Canada has linked a 10% increase in alcohol prices to a 30% drop in alcohol-attributable deaths. We believe there is a direct link between cheap alcohol pricing and crime and disorder. During 2010/11, over £300m was spent clearing up alcohol related crimes in the North East. It causes concern to communities and residents across our region. It is therefore imperative that the debate on this and other issues are fully informed, with all sides being given equal access to present their case. Clearly this has not happened for Minimum Unit Pricing. An expose by the British Medical Journal has unearthed that the conclusions of the research by Sheffield University academics were

suppressed, at the same time as seemingly unfettered access was allowed from the drinks industry, supermarkets and trade bodies to policy makers at the Department of Health. This has led Dr Sarah Wollaston MP, to condemn this policy decision as a 'shabby truth' and highlight her personal difficulty in getting access to Ministers. A number of leading health professionals including Professor Sir Ian Gilmore, special advisor on alcohol at the Royal College of Physicians, have forcibly expressed their own concerns over vested interests influencing public health policy. It is imperative the public has confidence in politicians and that they develop policy on the basis of sound evidence and consideration of all the evidence, free from vested commercial interests. The evidence for MUP is established. It is now for the Government to do what is right and introduce a minimum price. Vera Baird QC, Ron Hogg, Barry Copping, Police & Crime Commissioners for Northumbria, Durham and Cleveland

# New Support Group for Cancer Victims

Dear Sir,  
As most may know I have been fighting a rare form of Leukaemia since July 2009. I want to take this opportunity to thank the community for all your support over the years. Unfortunately the chemotherapy I had made me unwell and I am in pain 24/7 and permanently on crutches. Over the years many people have come to me explaining they had no support and don't know who or where to turn and discuss their illness. On the 6th February at 6pm myself and a few others are starting a support group at Neville Parade Methodist Church for anyone that has cancer or has finished their treatment. It is also for carers and it

will be held monthly with guest speakers who will explain what help is available including welfare rights etc. Macmillan is supporting me and I receive a lot of help, so can refer people to the Macmillan Centres. A person struggling to buy food can also be helped. I believe there is not enough support for people with cancer because I have been there and people stop me in the street who need help. People think once you finish your treatment you are okay but that is not true and some people just want someone to talk to outside their own family. Please contact me if you require more detail. Allison White  
Tel: 0776 2258696

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### Forthcoming Taster Events:

16th January: 5 - 7pm  
19th February: 5 - 7pm  
5th March: 5 - 7pm (National Apprenticeship Week)

To confirm your place on any of the above, or for more info, contact Kirsty Haden on 01325 313194 or khaden@swdt.co.uk



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Have you received eviction papers or other court papers? Have you been threatened with eviction or court action because you are behind with your rent? Did you know that Legal Aid is still available for housing advice in your area?

If you have problems with any of the following we have a specialist housing solicitor who can offer you advice and assistance. We can even come with you to court to help with:

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## Aycliffe History Society Work with Greenfield Students



We are delighted to be working with the Aycliffe Local History Society to contribute to a public exhibition and publication taking place at Aycliffe Village Hall in September that commemorates the centenary of World War One.

All of Year 8 at Greenfield were inspired by a presentation of information and WW1 objects last week

to help them get started on their project. The students will be working on a cross curricular project over the next few months which will begin in Art and Design. Students will consider the work of artists such as Joseph Cornell and Leo Kaplan to create their own containers that represent a person or situation from WW1.

They will then use these to inspire some creative writing

in English to produce work towards the publication and in History they will be using digital technology and enquiry methods to discover how WW1 affected the local area.

Thank you to the Aycliffe local history society for inviting us to be part of this great work which has allowed Greenfield to do an exciting piece of creative cross curricular work.

## Legion Help Town Charity

ROCSOLID the support housing charity in Burnhope, Newton Aycliffe would like to thank the town's Royal British Legion Club for allowing them to host their fundraising night on their premises.

"The club always makes us feel at home" said ROCSOLID operations manager Mandy Shaw. "The young people did some supermarket bag packing as well and we raised £1,629 for activities and Christmas."

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## WORK BEGINS TO EASE CONGESTION ON A167

Motorists are being warned of potential delays as work is carried out to improve three junctions to ease congestion around Chester-le-Street.

It is hoped the improvements to the road layout will not only relieve existing congestion, but provide a boost to the local economy as potential bottlenecks are removed on important commuter and bus routes around the town.

Work started on January 6th at the first of three junctions which sees the start of a significant investment in tackling congestion next to the A1(M).

The first phase will see almost £1.5m invested into the signalisation of Northlands roundabout at the intersection of the A167 Newcastle Road and the A693 which links Stanley to the motorway. The improvements will not only help to reduce existing congestion problems but will provide much needed pedestrian and cycle facilities while helping to reduce delays for buses.

A further £3.1m will also be invested to improve the adjacent junctions with the A1(M) motorway at the Blind Lane junction and the roundabout at Picktree Lane. The Government will provide £2.2m of funding to this element of the works from the Local Pinch Point Fund.

Together these projects will ensure that the council can tackle current congestion issues while providing opportunity for economic growth in the area.

Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "We're

delighted that these works are now commencing and look forward to delivering improvements which will make life easier for motorists and pedestrians alike, as well as helping to boost the local economy.

"Motorists and those living within the town can be assured that we will try very hard to keep disruption and delay to a minimum."

Lane restrictions will be in place from next week to allow the different utility companies to carry out their necessary work. The different companies will be allotted a time slot to allow them to each take their turn in what is a very confined space. Although this will extend the overall duration of the construction phase,

it is essential as it allows Durham County Council to better manage the day to day disruption to motorists and residents alike.

The actual construction of the new junction will then commence in April with work expected to last at least five months as traffic lights are installed.

Working across the summer will allow for longer working days and will take advantage of the reduction in traffic across the summer holidays. Work at the Blind Lane and Picktree Roundabout junctions will commence in the summer months, taking place until March 2015.

Further updates on timescales and potential disruption will be issued thought the construction period.

## Entertainers Sought for Great Aycliffe Show

It may be only January but preparations are already well underway for this year's Great Aycliffe Show, to be held on the August Bank Holiday weekend, 23 and 24 August 2014. The Show is a popular and free attraction for the whole family.

The Show organiser, Great Aycliffe Town Council, aims to encourage community involvement in the Show and is looking for clubs, groups and societies in the area who would like to put on a performance on the grass in the arena. A wide range of entertainment is planned and all types of entertainers will

be considered - anything from marching jazz bands to gymnastic teams, acrobats and cheerleaders.

If you are interested in performing, please contact the Show Co-ordinator, Mrs Marie Robinson, at Great Aycliffe Town Council, who will also be pleased to offer advice and assistance if you are not sure if your entertainment would be suitable.

Contact 01325 300700 or e-mail [show@great-aycliffe.gov.uk](mailto:show@great-aycliffe.gov.uk) For further information about the Show, visit [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

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## GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 29th January 2014**

**Council Meeting - 7.15pm**

### QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend. "The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

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# POLLUTED BURN Computer Scam! Future Business Magnates



A reader sent this photo of the Burn which someone polluted with petrol or oil last weekend. If you see this sort of behaviour please report it to the Police or Town Council. Steve Cooper the town's Environment Officer walked the route and the pollution had gone which he says is due to high water levels washing the contamination through.

Dear Sir,  
We recently received a call on the land line (we are ex-directory and have yet to know how they got our number) telling us something was wrong with our Windows computer and this was a technician from Windows. (We own 3 but they would not specify which, saying all had problems). They direct you to find the event viewer on your computer which is a legitimate part of Windows, logging minor errors your computer has encountered. They use these errors to scare you into thinking something is wrong with your computer. They kept saying that because of the errors we had been cut off the main server and were on a temporary Windows server. They then instructed me to type a web address into my 'all programs search bar' but instead I typed part into google and had confirmation this was a scam as many forums had issued warnings. The scam is known as 'Ammyy' as this is the first part of the address they get you to type. I hung up the phone and they rang back and I informed him I knew it was a scam, as it was all over the

internet. He denied this and said it was real and threatened to cut our computers off the Windows server. I told him that my computer was fine and if I had any real problems I would take it back to the store from which it was purchased, I then promptly hung up the phone. Online, people who have fallen for the scam have had computer viruses and been charged money and had their computer remotely accessed by those running the scam. I hope this helps to raise awareness of those who use computers.  
Emma Dunn

## BRILLIANT WOODHAM STUDENT



For Newtonian Adam Nicholas 2013 was a good year. He completed his GCSE's at Woodham Academy in the summer and achieved a whopping 13 A\* grades and 1 A grade, in a range of subjects including Music, French, German and Latin. As languages are a passion, Adam also studies and speaks a number of other tongues: Swedish, Danish, Norwegian and he is currently working on Dutch, and dabbling with Icelandic (which is a little more challenging). Adam is now in his first year at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, taking A Levels in French, German, Mathematics, Geography, Critical Thinking and General Studies. For those who remember him from concerts at Woodham Academy, Adam continues to play piano and has active roles in bands at college and playing for weddings and private parties, when time allows. He was very pleased to be asked to perform for the "Mayor at Home" event and enjoyed meeting the Mayor's guests and had a wonderful Prom night at Redworth Hall playing in the band with his happy group of fellow musicians, joined by Mr. Jenkins for a classic number or two! Now in consideration are the options for University and Adam is open to all possibilities, such as studying in Germany, France, Cambridge or other colleges who offer good facilities for studying Modern Languages.



A group of year 8 students from Woodham Academy are taking part in the Durham Future Business Magnates Challenge this year. The challenge requires year 8 students to work together as a business to come up with a business idea and develop it into the prototype stage. The group is being supported in the challenge by a local company, Ebac who will work with the students during the different business tasks. In preparation for the challenge the group set up a cake business. The group manufactured and sold their products at a school event before Christmas. This gave the students experience of promoting and selling products to the general public.

Headteacher, Christine Forsyth, says "This is an excellent opportunity for young people to gain early experience of working in business. Once again, we are very grateful to Ebac for their expert help."

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### Zetland Hunt Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroomed semi-detached house, unfurnished with carpets, curtains & cooker. Entrance hall, lounge/diner with feature fireplace joined by archway, fitted kitchen, utility, 2 double & 1 small single bedroom, bathroom/WC with overhead shower. EPC rating 'D'. Rent £500 pcm



### Delaval Close Newton Aycliffe

2/3 bedroomed modern terraced house, unfurnished with carpets & cooker. Fitted kitchen, inner hall, lounge, 2 double bedrooms, 1 small single bedroom/study, bathroom with overhead shower, separate WC. Gas CH, enclosed garden with shed. EPC rating 'C' Rent £450 pcm



### Aldfrid Place Newton Aycliffe

4 bedroomed end terrace/link house, unfurnished with carpets & curtains. Modern fitted kitchen, lounge & dining area, 2 double, 1 single, 1 playroom/study/bedroom, main bathroom with overhead shower, downstairs WC. Gas CH, front garden. EPC rating D. Rent £450pcm

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## More Suggestions for Improved Bus Service

Dear Sir,  
Last week I contacted Arriva regarding bus services in Newton Aycliffe only to open Newton News and read correspondence on the same

subject.  
My comments to Arriva were that (A) they consider rerouting the 5A back to it's original route round Alston Crescent and Meadowfield Way as the present loop round Burnhill Way has neither houses nor bus stops. (B) that to make a fairer distribution of bus services on the Town they consider rerouting two of the No 7 buses ie - one via Burn Lane and the other via Meadowfield Way thus covering more of the area with a service to Durham. Needless to say that at the time of writing I have had no response.  
Mrs J. Dutch

## HELPING TEENAGERS INTO EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING

A new campaign aims to match young people looking for training or apprenticeships to vacancies available. The One Point Service Start Today campaign is aimed at 16 to 19-year-olds who are not in education, employment or training and will run until March. A booklet containing details of training and apprenticeship vacancies is available online at: [www.help4teens.co.uk/start](http://www.help4teens.co.uk/start)

The campaign, set to begin this month, is being supported by Durham County Council's One Point personal advisors and the Improving Progression of Young People Team. The personal advisors offer information, advice and guidance to young people who are unclear about their future career paths.

The council works with a number of colleges and training providers, New College Durham being one of them. Mo Dixon, assistant principal for curriculum, inclusion and higher education at New College Durham, said: "Our college enjoys a very successful working relationship with the One Point service and we have worked together very well on a number of projects over the last couple of years. "Together we have been particularly successful in engaging hard to reach groups and I see this as an excellent example of partnership working."

New College Durham and One Point is now also offering young people the chance to join a bespoke choices programme. This will give young people currently not in employment, education or training, the opportunity to see a wide range of full time vocational or apprenticeship programmes. Jack Haywood, 17, formerly of Gilesgate Sports College, said: "Initially I was very nervous at the prospect of leaving year 11 and missed my first couple of college interviews because of nerves."

One Point personal advisor, Tom Lynn, supported Jack through interviews before he left school last summer as part of the Start Today campaign and once he had accompanied him to the college to discuss possible courses, everything fell into place.

Thanks to the support received, Jack has gone on to study childcare and now has a placement at a primary school with a long-term aim of becoming a learning support assistant.

There are a range of opportunities available throughout the county and young people are urged to visit the Help4teens website or seek help from a One Point personal advisor. Last year 485 young people were helped thanks to this type of campaign and it is hoped this year the programme will be even more successful.

## Woodham is a Highly Effective Academy



"At the top of the "good" grade as judged in the school's most recent Ofsted report (September 2011) and working towards "outstanding". This was the judgement of five senior leaders from schools around the country who recently carried out a review of teaching at Woodham Academy.

They found the leadership and management of the school to be highly effective and the vast majority of the teaching to be excellent. The use of digital media such as iPads and Skype was seen as a major strength as was the high level of challenge in lessons. Students were described as "confident and proud". Of particular interest was Woodham Sports Academy, not just because of the professional coaching available in a range of sports (football, gymnastics, dance, basketball, American football, cricket, softball, table tennis, water polo and swimming) but also because of its unique student contract. All students are expected to maintain exemplary standards of behaviour, effort and attendance which led to 89% of members achieving 5 A\*-C including English and Mathematics in 2013. Having been confirmed as an area of excellent practice, Woodham Sports Academy is advising a number of schools from across the country on how to develop young people through sport.

Woodham Academy is a member of Challenge Partners, a network of excellent schools throughout the country dedicated to ensuring that all children get the best possible education. Headteacher, Christine Forsyth, says "At Woodham Academy, we believe that every child has a right to a high quality education. We are delighted that experts from outside of the school commented on Woodham Academy's high expectations, good behaviour and innovative teaching".

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Applications via email - CV and covering letter outlining your skills that meet our job requirements to Isobel Currie at the address below:

[communicators02@hotmail.com](mailto:communicators02@hotmail.com)

## Film Show

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church, on WEDNESDAY 22nd January, features "THE MAN WHO SUED GOD", Starring Billy Connolly at his hilarious best, in this critically acclaimed and heart-warming tale of one man's fight against the system. Tea and coffee at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1-15pm. Everyone is most welcome to join us. Bring a spot of lunch with you, tables are set out, and enjoy a friendly social occasion. Further details from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

## Promoted to Director



Leading UK shower designer and manufacturer, Roman, has appointed Jonathon Franks as Finance Director. Jon has worked at the Newton Aycliffe based company for three years as Financial Controller and has been promoted to the role of Finance Director within Roman and its associated Companies. Since qualifying as a Chartered Accountant, Jon has amassed more than 20 years of experience in the manufacturing industry and therefore brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and skill to the role. Jon commented: "I'm thrilled to be appointed as the Finance Director at Roman, I thoroughly enjoy working at the company and with such a great team. I very much look forward to the new responsibilities which the role holds and taking on new challenges that lie ahead."

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<b>IT Practitioner Apprentice</b> £100 per week	Darlington, Barnard Castle Bishop Auckland
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## Cooking Club Present Festive Meal



Woodham Academy's Let's Get Cooking Club invited their friends, family, governors and the local Community to a festive meal in December. The evening was very successful and enjoyed by all. The pupils prepared, cooked and served an impressive 3 course meal. All members worked extremely hard over a six week period to produce some exciting dishes to serve. Dishes included homemade minestrone soup with homemade bread, turkey breast stuffed with Italian sausage and sweet cranberry sauce, mushroom, cranberry and brie wellington, homemade Christmas pudding and caramel sauce, followed by hand crafted chocolates that were made by pupils during the evening in

front of guests. The evening was described as 'delicious and at restaurant standards' by one of the guests. Linda Vipond, Woodham Academy chef and the club coordinator, said "I am very proud of all the club members. They have demonstrated skills and knowledge of a high standard. I aim to arm children with appropriate life skills to make healthy meals and also mentor those that wish to work further in hospitality." The club runs on a Tuesday 3.15pm and is keen to involve the local community and family members in their activities with the aim to get more people cooking. Please contact Linda Vipond on 01325 300328 for further details.

## COMMISSIONER CONSULTS PUBLIC ON POLICE BUDGET

Durham Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Ron Hogg, is seeking views from members of the community as part of his annual public consultation on next year's budget.

Mr Hogg said: "So that I can deliver a policing service that meets the needs of local communities, I want to know what you think the increase, if any, in the police precept (police element of council tax) should be for 2014/15." All forces are faced with ongoing financial challenges and reduced spending power, due to the deep budget cuts imposed by the Government. This is likely to get worse in the future.

Mr Hogg proposes, at this stage, to increase the amount that people pay for policing in County Durham and Darlington by 2% for 2014/15, in order to balance the need for providing an effective policing service, while minimising as far as possible the cost to taxpayers. This will partly offset the 4.8% reduction in government grant funding for 2014/15. "Council Tax increases are likely to be capped at 2% for 2014/15, which for Durham and Darlington represents an additional £0.5m. This means you would pay an extra £3.13

each year (up from £156.47 to £159.50, or 6 pence per week if you live in a Band D property.

If you live in a Band A property this would be an extra 4 pence per week. Nearly three out of five households live in a Band A property. The precept in County Durham and Darlington is still below the national average.

"I strongly encourage everyone to have their say on this proposal and complete my short survey; it is open to all Council Taxpayers and you are asked to confirm which one of the following options you agree to support to meet the cost of your policing service:

**The precept should be increased by more than 2%.**

**A 2% increase is about right.**

**The precept should increase, but by less than 2%.**

**The precept should be kept the same or be reduced.**

"Last year, residents supported an increase for the 2013/14 Council Tax precept, which contributed towards keeping pace with inflation and offset, to a degree, the reduction in Government grant, which is reducing by about 4.8% in 2014/15, which means £4.2m less to spend than in the current year."

The consultation is open until Wednesday 22nd January and residents are encouraged to vote on the PCC's website at: [www.durham-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk) or by telephone on: 03000 264631.

## Honeymoon in Salzburg



Angie Pearson and Mike Trippett were married on 30th December 2013 at Bannatynes Hotel in Darlington and they went to Salzburg for their honeymoon.

Angie Pearson is a Civil Servant working for HM Revenue & Customs. Mike Trippett is employed as a Manager at the Trade Counter for Newey & Eyre.

The Bridesmaids were Courtenay and Paige, daughters of the bride, and the family live in Russell Court.

## NEW RESIDENTS HELPED WITH HOME SECURITY



PCSO Micheal Hutchinson hands over alarms to Andrea Lewis and David Pickering.

New residents at Greenwood Court have all received shed alarms to improve security at their new homes.

The alarms were paid for with funding from G.A.M.P, and the Police have also given bike locks and other security equipment to make Aycliffe a safer place.

Resident Association Chairman Philip Clark requested alarms be distributed to the new tenants. He said "On a new housing estate neighbours are still getting to know each other and may not know if visitors are genuine or looking for easy pickings. This is an easy bit of crime prevention and gives the tenants a warm welcome to their new homes". If anyone requires crime prevention advice contact their beat officer or call at the Police Station.

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**Olympian Visits Greenfield**

Chris Cook, double Commonwealth and Gold medalist and Olympic finalist came into school to work with Mr Butterworth's year 10 GCSE PE class last week. The retired swimmer's loyalty visit coincided with an initiative, Sky Sports Living for Sport, that Greenfield Community College have signed up too for the fourth year in a row that uses sport as a tool to motivate and



inspire 11-16 year olds. Chris and Mr Butterworth team taught a pre-planned theory lesson on diet in sport. It proved to be a fantastic opportunity for the Greenfield pupils as it isn't everyday they get to interact with an Olympic finalist in the classroom. During the lesson there were a series of engaging tasks focused around the key nutrients. Chris reflected on his commitment and dedication towards a balanced diet in order to help realise his dreams of becoming a professional athlete including the sacrifices he had to make along the way. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the lesson and were keen to inquire into Chris's expertise and first-hand experience of maintaining a balanced diet by asking a series of questions throughout. In addition, it was particularly interesting for the pupils to look at Chris's pre-Olympic final meal plan and recovery guidelines.

Chris found the visit extremely enjoyable commenting 'it was a pleasure to come back to Greenfield as the pupils are always exceptionally well behaved, inquisitive and a pleasure to work with. It was great for me to be in the classroom putting my hand to teaching a topic that has been so important in my professional career and passing this advice and knowledge on'. Greenfield look forward to the next visits from Sky Sports Living for Sport mentors after September.

**Match Day Experience for Junior Footballers**



Saturday 21st December saw NAJFC Development team at the grounds of NAFC to mascot and support their game at home against Ashington. NAJFC joined in the fun by taking part in their very own match day experience; the players from NAJFC Development were NAFC team mascots for the day which included the Aycliffe juniors walking out with the NAFC Players at the start of the game. In attendance was, Cameron Sevim, Emrehan Sahin, Keira Richardson, Robert Horner, Parker McWilliam, Erin McWilliam, Harry Lambert, Jayden Leaver, Thomas Francis, and Lucas AcunaOcana.

The boys were very excited and had a fantastic day enjoying every minute and were eager to give their own skills a go at the half time penalty shoot-out with their names read aloud on the tannoy. Newton Aycliffe Junior FC would like to thank the officials and players from NAFC for making the day really memorable to the development boys and wish them every success for the rest of the season.

If you are interested in joining a friendly and progressive junior football club who offer coaching from 4 to 21 years old then please contact us via our website www.najfc.co.uk or visit our facebook page Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club.

**Local Pub Helps with Fundraising Event**

Dear Sir  
In August 2013 my Grandson was a patient in the Darlington Memorial Hospital for a Major operation, which was a worrying time for all the family as he was only 5 yrs of age. Because of the help and specialised care given to him, the operation was a complete success! I wanted to give something back, so I approached the staff of Ward 21 to see if I could raise some funds for things they feel they needed to help the many children and parents going through similar situations. I discovered they would really appreciate things such as "cot mobiles" and "extra sensory equipment" for the smaller children. I started raising funds last year just by doing coffee mornings, and asking my guests to make a small donation for their coffee/ refreshments, then did a small Xmas Fayre at Middridge Hall in early December. Along with this, I started writing out to businesses, hotels etc for prizes. People have been very kind especially Redworth Hall Hotel, who has donated some fantastic prizes. The Proprietors of the Bay Horse at Middridge (Mandy & John) have been very keen supporters of my plans, and offered their venue to hold the raffle. They are providing entertainment on the evening and give help with ideas in general. It is on Friday 7th February 2014 at The Bay Horse at 7pm. Everyone welcome.  
Jean McCready

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# Aycliffe Push League Leaders Free 6 week Healthy Lifestyle Courses

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club came close to toppling the Durham and Northumberland Division 3 leaders Winlaton Vulcans on their travels. The game was notable for the return of Deryk Cairns to the team for the first time since pre-season.



Aycliffe won the toss and chose to kick downhill with the strong wind. The opening exchanges saw Aycliffe totally dominant, with the hosts unable to get out of their half. Before long, James Thacker scored the first try, chasing down a well-judged kick from Chris Richards; Luke Tinkler added the conversion. Soon after, Tinkler cut through the defensive line before passing to Thacker who offloaded to Jeff Hodgson in the tackle. Hodgson scored the try out wide.

There was now a lengthy delay due to an injury to a Winlaton player and, after the restart, Aycliffe were unable to match their earlier form. Neither side were able to make any headway until just before the break when Winlaton scored a converted try to leave the score 12 - 7 at the break.

Within the first minute of the second half Aycliffe scored a penalty goal through Tinkler to go back two scores clear. The Winlaton scrum was now dominant and they began to pressure the Aycliffe line; good tackling kept them out for a long period, but finally, a converted try was scored to narrow the gap. Soon after, Winlaton took the lead with a penalty. Further Winlaton pressure saw them score a further penalty to

leave Aycliffe needing a try with minutes left. Aycliffe attacked a number of times but it was always from a distance and they were unable to get the required score. The game ended 20 - 15, with Aycliffe having to be satisfied with a losing bonus point. Aycliffe again found themselves losing a game that could easily have been

won, but they will take confidence from a close game at the league leaders. On 18th January, Aycliffe host Yarm for a 2.15 kick-off at Moore Lane. Newton Aycliffe are sponsored by Boola Clothing Aycliffe and Hayward Home Appliances, trading as Serviceforce Visit the website at [www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe).

## POLICE DOGS VISIT TOWN SCHOOL

Police dogs Jet and Ben, visited Stephenson Way Community Primary School as part of work children have been doing on social awareness and safety in the community.

The dogs were impeccably behaved as their handler Clare spoke about the need to be wary of strangers and the importance of not taking anything from them and telling a parent or a trusted adult immediately. The presence of the dogs added a friendly face to a serious subject and the children listened carefully before asking important questions and recounting what Clare had said. Clare went on to speak about the roles that dogs undertake in the police force, with the children being amazed at the range of extremely important safety procedures that rely on specially trained dogs.

Following the talk the children enjoyed being allowed to gently stroke Ben, who visibly enjoyed their attention.

To encourage you to become fitter and healthier in 2014 Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) and Local Motion are organising free six week courses to help you kick start the new year.

Two courses will be running in Newton Aycliffe and if successful will be arranged for other areas, as part of the Local Motion programme which promotes the health benefits of active travel and PCP's aim to improve people's health and wellbeing.

There are still places left for the first course which starts next Monday, 20 January 10.30am - 12 noon from Woodham Community Centre and will run weekly until Monday 3 March. Each week provides a new activity people can try (so don't worry if you miss a week):

Week 1 Monday 20 Jan - Healthy Indian Cookery Workshop

Week 2 Monday 27 Jan - Guided Health Walk

Week 3 Monday 3 Feb - Zumba Session

Week 4 Monday 10 Feb - Nordic Walking

Week 5 Monday 17 Feb - Sound Therapy and Reiki

Week 6 Monday 24 Feb - A group activity of your choice

There will also be the opportunity to discuss future training and volunteering opportunities.

If you would like more information or would like to take part in these courses please contact Catriona Grime at PCP tel: 01325 321234 or email: [catriona.grime@pcp.uk.net](mailto:catriona.grime@pcp.uk.net) or Joe Cogdon at Team Local Motion tel: 03000 268007 or email: [joe.cogdon@durham.gov.uk](mailto:joe.cogdon@durham.gov.uk).

Or find them online at:

Twitter: @DoLocalMotion or @PioneeringCare

Facebook: Local Motion or PioneeringCare

www.dothelocalmotion.co.uk or www.pcp.uk.net



## New Exercising Craze Comes to Aycliffe

Young people are being given the chance to have a go at one of the latest exercise crazes when free-running sessions come to County Durham.

"Parkour", the art of using effective and efficient jumps, vaults, climbing and swinging to conquer obstacles, is similar to the popular free-running sport which has seen a surge in popularity recently and improves strength and endurance as well as teaching patience and persistence.

New sessions for 11 to 18-year-olds will be delivered by Apeuro in partnership with Durham County Council in three locations across County Durham.

Sessions will be taught in a safe and secure environment for beginners and will teach young people how to practice the sport safely. Durham County Council has secured Sportivate funding, a London 2012 legacy project, to deliver the sessions throughout County Durham. Sessions start this month lasting for eight weeks: Thursday, 30th January,

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, 5.00pm until 6.00pm. It's £1.50 per session at each of the three venues.

To indicate your interest in attending the sessions or for any further information please contact 07904 197861.

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**Sign up for Hardwick Muddy Mayhem**

People are being encouraged to kick-start their New Year fitness regimes by signing up for one of toughest – and muddiest – challenges. Registration for Muddy Mayhem, at Hardwick Park, near Sedgfield, is already open and those who sign up before the end of this month will receive a £5 discount on the entrance fee. The event, organised by Durham County Council, is on Sunday 23 March and competitors can choose between a 5km or a 10km obstacle-filled mud run. Standard entrance fees are £25 for the 5km course and £30 for the 10km course and the early bird discounts are available for people who register before 31 January. Maria Murphy, countryside development officer at Durham County Council, said: "We're urging people to sign up now for the Muddy Mayhem event. As well as being able to take advantage of the early bird discount people will also have a big incentive to keep up their New Year fitness plans. "And as an added incentive people can also choose to raise money for one of our three chosen charities – Help for Heroes, Butterwick Hospice or Butterfly Conservation." To register visit www.durham.gov.uk/muddymayhem

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**Council Budget Proposals**

Durham County Council faces continued financial cuts as expected reductions in Government grants are confirmed next week.

The authority's Cabinet will receive an update on the council's Medium Term Financial Plan 4\* (MTFP), the plan it uses to manage its budget, when it meets on Wednesday, January 22.

The paper reveals how the authority is proposing to respond to increasing financial pressures while taking on board feedback from a widespread public consultation carried out in the autumn.

The paper also includes initial details of the council's budget for 2014/15, which show that despite funding issues, the council continues to increase investment in the county and provide additional money for key areas such as winter maintenance.

Council Leader, Cllr Simon

Henig, said: "While local government continues to face the highest levels of spending cuts and despite us explaining our very serious situation to central Government, it is clear not all parts of the country are seeing the same level of reductions. There is little doubt that our area is again being hit the hardest.

"However, despite this, and in response to the views of our residents, I am pleased that we can continue to protect some areas identified as important by residents and also invest in our roads, schools and local communities."

Based on the details of the financial settlement announced just before Christmas, members will hear that the savings target the council now faces in the period from 2011 to 2017 stands at £224m, of which a total of £113.9m will have been delivered by the end of the current financial year.

There are still a number of areas of uncertainty where further information is required from Government.

Cllr Henig continues: "Members and officers have worked hard together to manage the savings programme and through strong planning and management we have ensured residents have been consulted at every stage and are updated on the progress and changes being made.

"The recent countywide consultation, where more than 4,000 residents provided their views, will be invaluable in helping shape our thinking as we seek to save a further £100m over the next few years."

The report outlines the next steps required to be completed before a further report is presented to Cabinet in February making recommendations to Full Council later in the month.

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**Let it Snow, Let it Snow**



Bryan Snape, senior project and development officer at Husqvarna (right) pictured handing over the snow blower to ROCSOLID housing support officer Brian McAnaney (centre) and director Derek Butler.

It was "snow" problem for Husqvarna in Newton Aycliffe to make a donation to one of the town's charities - and ROCSOLID young people are hoping for plenty of the white fluffy stuff so they can see the gift in action. ROCSOLID accommodates vulnerable young people, including young parents and babies. "Our drive at Hope House in Burnhope is on an incline and we've really struggled over the past few winters," said director Derek Butler.

"Husqvarna heard of our plight through a mutual contact at South Durham Engineering and

Manufacturing Forum and they decided to donate a new snow blower to us. We were amazed at their generosity!" The ROCSOLID flats are part of the Reach Out Care fostering and support services. Other regular visitors include children with complex needs and foster carers and young people. "When we heard about the work of the charity we wanted to help in a practical way," said Caraline Robinson, operations director at Husqvarna. "We're a major employer in the area and we take an interest in things going on in the wider community."

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# Busy Bees Charity Helps Needy Families



Nora Brewster (right) of the "Busy Bees" charity at Ineos on the Business Park, presents a cheque to Pauline Chambers, chairman of Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership which co-ordinates support for families in crisis. Pauline told Newton News how grateful GACAP was to all who support the aims of the new group which intends to ensure people in need receive all the help they require by utilising the resources of all welfare groups in the area.

# Slimming Success

For Mum of two, Jo Mackintosh of Newton Aycliffe, 2013 proved to be a year of highs and lows. Having been quite active all her life, she found herself struck with a debilitating illness. 'After suffering a difficult pregnancy I was heavier than I had ever been' said Jo. 'I was suffering from high blood pressure, my cholesterol was through the roof and I had diabetes! My self esteem was at an all time low and most importantly I couldn't be the mum I wanted to be. Having previously been a member of Slimming World, I knew the plan worked and although I was nervous about rejoining, my Consultant welcomed me with open arms'. In just 3 months, Jo has lost over 3 stone and feels like a completely different person. She eats family meals of pasta, chips and curries and her health has improved tremendously. She has dropped 4 dress sizes and most importantly is now active again with her family. Jo explained 'I had never taken my little boy swimming before as I was just too uncomfortable and self conscious but we have just had a fantastic family holiday and we were never out of the pool!' Slimming World has changed my life - let it change yours. Jo opens a brand new Slimming World group in Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Thursday 30th January at 7.30. Tel: 07540 098529 or just come along.



Before



After

# Taste of America in Newton Aycliffe

Games and Gums is an online Game and American Sweet Business independently established in July 2013, bringing to the community of Newton Aycliffe and Bishop Auckland the American Sweet Taste and the Love of Board and Card Games.

It's an idea born of a lifelong appreciation starting from nothing to an up and coming business venture. Philip Gibson the founder of Games and Gums has a great passion for his products, with a great range of choice, selling well known American brands such as Hershey's, Lucky charms and Reese's and games from around the world, products that undoubtedly will appeal to all ages.

Bringing 12 years experience in retail as a base to establish his own business, Philip hopes to establish a company ethos of fantastic service, providing the best products, charging competitive prices. Philip has designs in extending his business further by establishing a retail outlet in the near future for customers to come, taste and experience the joy that comes from his products.

People can already experience the games as Games and Gums host their own Club in Newton Aycliffe and soon in Bishop Auckland with No Membership or Table Fees. Currently the club runs in Newton Aycliffe weekly in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Shafto Way. The club has been running since August 2013 welcoming anyone to come, learn and play these exciting games. For dates and times refer to the website www.gamesandgums.co.uk. To learn of the recent releases, new lines and future business developments and why not indulge that sweet tooth by following Games and Gums on Facebook and Twitter.

## Obituary

**BOSTEN, Anna.** Died peacefully at home on Tuesday 7th January, aged almost 85, after a short illness. Dearly loved Mother of Anthony, Anna, Richard, Celia and Philip; Grandmother of Liesa, Steven, Jenny, Christopher, Leon and Lucas; Great Grandmother of Daniel, Emily and Lena. The Funeral was held at St Mary's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Wednesday 15th January at 12noon.

**JOAN RODGERS** sadly passed away on 10th January 2014, aged 85, a much loved Nanna. Service to be held at Wear Valley Crematorium on Monday, 20th January 2014.

**SLACK** Suddenly in hospital on 9th January. Dennis, aged 87 years of Newton Aycliffe. Beloved Husband of the late May; much loved Dad of Carole and Father-in-Law of Tony; devoted Grandpa of Dan and Rachael; also a loving friend to June. Will family and friends please meet for Service and Cremation at Durham Crematorium on Wednesday 22nd January at 11.30am. No flowers by request. Donations in lieu if so desired may be made for RACPA UK for victims of child abuse, plate provided at the Crematorium.

## 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

"**ALL SORTS**" selling anything and everything for Charity. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10am to 1pm at St Clare's Church

**NINTENDO** 3DS black in box £80; Nintendo 3DS blue in box £80; PSP GO in White £50; PSP GO in Black £50; PSP £45; DS LITE inc Guitar Hero £40; Swap Phone Watch never used still in box £60; 3DS Games Mario Cart £15; Super Mario Land £20; Pacman and Galaga £15; Lego Pirates of the Caribbean £15; Lego Star Wars 3 £8; Transformers £10; Ridge Racer £10; Street Fighter £10; FIFA 2012 £5; PES 2011 £5. Tel 07789 502173

**PANASONIC** DVD Recorder, Model DMREZZ7EB35. Excellent working order, £60. Tel: 07587 150392

**TREADMILL** £75, Rowing Machine £75; Exercise Bike £35. £150 for all three, ONO. Tel. 01325 320858.

**MATTRESS** memory foam orthopaedic sprung, 1 King size, 1 double, brand new, still in packaging, cost £500 each, will accept £100 each. Tel 07474 343579

**DISABILITY** scooter, Mercury M4, large size, all weather canopy included, £300. Tel 01325 324506 or 07968 649182

**RADIATOR** 1600 x 600, classic style, as new, £100; Overhead thermostatically controlled blow heater, fur use with central heating, £75. Tel 07814 539584

**DELONGI** 3kw electric blow heater, £10. Tel 07814 539584

**MACLAREN** double buggy with hood and screen, £75; Stair gate, 310. Tel 07814 539584

**KING SIZE** mattress, 5ft, nice clean condition, free if you collect or £20 delivered. Tel 07814 539584

**VERY CLEAN** double bed, complete with Memory Foam mattress and black leather headboard, £100. Tel 01325 319321

## Congratulations

**SUSANNE WILLSON** Happy 50th birthday. You are the same age as me now! All my love, as always. Your loving Hubby John xxx

**LOL BROWN** Happy 50th birthday Lol. Love from John and Sue xxx

**BETH GIBSON** Happy sweet 16th Beth. Loads of love, Mam, Josh, Ellie, Mel and Lexi; Nana and Grandad, Uncle Anthony, Auntie Susanne, Paul and all your Cousins xx

**HARRY BELL** 14th January 1996. Harry you are a shining example of everything that is right in the world. I am so proud of you. May your future be as bright, starting with your 18th birthday. Love you lots, Mam xxx

**HARRY BELL** 14th January 1996. Congraulations to my Grandson Harry, on your 18th birthday. I am so proud of you. Love you lots, love from Gran Brownbridge xxxxxx

**HARRY BELL** 14th January 1996. Congratulations to our wonderful Nephew Harry, on his 18th birthday. We are so proud of you. Lots of love, Auntie Anne and Uncle John xxx

**JEAN OAKLEY** Mammyo, Happy 70th birthday Mam. Love, Shaz and Trev

**JEAN OAKLEY** Happy 70th birthday Gran. Love, Lou and Gav xx

**JEAN OAKLEY** to Great Grandma, happy 70th birthday. Lots of love, Harry and Adam

**JEAN OAKLEY** Happy 70th birthday Gran. Love, Sharna, Corey and Lexi

**JEAN OAKLEY** 20th January 2014. Gran, happy birthday. Love, Shane and Adam

**JEAN OAKLEY** Mam, happy 70th birthday. Love, Mally and Debbie

**JEAN OAKLEY** Happy 70th birthday. Love, Michelle, Albey, Albert and Brandon

**JEAN OAKLEY** Happy 70th birthday Mam. Love, Jan and family

**SUSANNE WILSON** Happy 50th birthday. Hope you have a fantastic time and P.A.R.T.Y.! Lots of love from Caroline and Jack xxx

**SUSANNE WILSON** Happy 50th birthday Mam. Lots of love from Gem and Luke xxx

**SUSANNE WILSON** 22nd January. Happy 50th birthday. Lots of love from Laurie, Sue and Family xxx

**RYAN BANNISTER** - Happy 18th Birthday on 19th January. Enjoy your trip! Love, Mam, Grandad, Ste, Tan and Mia xx

**LAURIE BROWN** 50th birthday, 22nd January 2014. Happy 50th birthday to my darling Husband Laurie. Love as always, Sue xx

**Annette Gibson**

**Happy 50th Birthday**  
Have a great party. Lots of love, Chris, Kirsty, Kev, Jamie and Sarah  
Happy 50th Nan. Love you with all my heart. Benjamin

**ELLIS SHIELDS** 21st January. Happy 1st birthday to our lovely Son Ellis. Love and kisses, Mammy and Daddy xxx

**ELLIS SHIELDS** Happy 1st birthday "Ellis the Menace", love from your big Brother Joel xxx

**ELLIS SHIELDS** Happy birthday Ellis. Love and kisses, Nana and Granny Grey xx

**ELLIS SHIELDS** Happy 1st birthday to our Grandson Ellis. Lots of love, Gran and Granda xx

**ELLIS SHIELDS** Happy 1st birthday Ellis. Hope you have a lovely day. Lots of love, Granny Annie and Granda Pete xxx

## Catering

**CRAFTY CAKES** For any occasion, cakes made and iced or just iced. Tel 316 084

## Birthday

**DAVID PICKERING** 16th January. The love we have for you David, is special in every way. It can't be bought, it can't be sold and never given away. Happy 30th birthday. Love forever, Grandma, Auntie Jue and Uncle Gary xxxxxxx

## In Memoriam

**JEAN BISHOP** A dear friend of Mick and Marion. Always remembered.

**MENA CLISH** 17-1-2012. If we could visit Heaven, even for a day. Maybe for a moment the pain would go away. We would put our arms around you and whisper words so true. That living life without you is the hardest thing to do. No matter how we spend our days, no matter what we do. No morning dawns or evening falls when we don't think of you. God bless you Mam. Philip, Dorothy, Jo, Mick, Alan, Margaret, David, Grandbairns and Great Grandbairns xxx

**JOHN McNAMEE** 15th January 2010. We shared so much happiness in times of yesterday, and to say how much I miss you I could never find a way. I wish with all my heart, that you were here with me. And we could share the laughter that there always used to be. I know we'll meet again, in another life elsewhere, and those very special times we once again will share. Love you always. Jill xxxxx

**ARNIE MILBURN** died 15-1-2010. Loved and remembered always by Wife Brenda, Sons John and Kevin, Daughter-in-Law Pam. Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xx

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## Planet Leisure Bowling League

The Pinheads still have eleven points lead at the top off the table, as they won 8-0 in ninth position. The Clangers are in second place and won 8-0 over the M & M's, who have dropped one place to fifth. The Wenwees stay in third place beating Misfits 6-2 who drop down to eighth place. The Strike Force have moved up two places to fourth by winning 8-0 to Bowl Movements who are now seventh. Shildon Strikers won 6-2 over the Optimists who move to sixth while The Optimists stay in last place.

## Junior Football Club Party



Newton Aycliffe Junior Football Club hosted their 2013 Christmas Party on Thursday 19th December at Sunnyside Leisure Centre for children aged from development up to under 12's and their siblings. The party was attended by over a hundred children and they were a total credit to the club in their behaviour throughout the party. The children were kept entertained by Professor Nincompoo and a bouncy castle provided by the Leisure Centre. Santa Claus made an appearance and greeted each child with a gift. NAJFC is a completely voluntary organisation which is ran by a number of managers, officials, coaches and committee members who all give up their free time throughout the year to coach and develop the children. A massive thank you to all of the parents who support

their child throughout the season and at social events such as the Christmas Party. A special thank you to all who helped to organise the party, helped to set up, supervised the children and helped clear up. Thank you to Professor Nincompoo who managed to entertain all the children throughout the party and finally Sunnyside Leisure Centre for all their help and support with the venue, not only for the party, but throughout the season, providing indoor and outdoor training and pitches for the matches to be played. If you interested in joining a friendly and progressive junior football club who offer coaching from 4 to 21 years old then please contact us via our website [www.najuniorfc.co.uk](http://www.najuniorfc.co.uk) or visit our face book page 'Newton Aycliffe Junior Football club'

## Badminton at Aycliffe

The Darlington Badminton League tables at the turn of the year show Aycliffe's mixed team having a tough season as expected after winning promotion to the A Division for this season. They are currently 6th out of the 7 teams at the half way stage of the season. The Ladies team are faring little better sitting 4th out of the 5 teams in the league. If anyone is interested in playing badminton we have Club Nights at Aycliffe Leisure Centre every Friday evening from 7.30 till 9.30 visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information visit our website at <http://aycliffbadminton.webs.com/> or tweet us at @AycliffeBC

Mathew Bradley was the only swimmer from Sedgefield 75 who competed at the Sunderland New Year Gala. He swam in the 200, 100 & 50 Breaststroke. Silver in the 200 and gold in the 100 & 50. The 50 time of 31:20 for the Breast stroke set a new all comers record. His swims in the 100 Back, 100 Free, 50 Free, 100 fly & 200 IM all produced Gold Medals. Eight swims produced seven Gold Medals Five of which were National Qualifying Times. A truly great weekend and a good indicator of things to come in the future. The club had 20 swimmers competing in the Billingham Time Trials held on Sunday 12th Jan. Competing were Viven & Netanya Alwiss. Kate & Carla Abel Haydon & Alyssa Craggs, Zac Hodgkinson, Damion Lawson, Teagan Pickford, Kate Carmichael, Lauren Chatt, Sophie Wilkinson,

Grace Dutchburn, William Jones - Kennington, Christopher Jones, Niall Coulthard, Kye Cowton, William Angus, Isobel Hardy, Katelyn Craig. The swimmers were from both A & B Squads some competing for the first time. Most swimmers achieving personal best times and Zac and William gaining County Times. The pool closure at NALC for refurbishments could have been a disaster in relation to the training programme. Thanks to the efforts of Durham County Council, staff at Woodhouse Close Pool, Woodham Academy, Wear Valley ASC and Darlington ASC the training is going really well as I'm sure the results will show as the new season gets under way.. The club would like to have on record our appreciation of the support given by every one involved.

**BOOT CAMP IS BACK!**  
Aycliffe Youth Centre  
Mondays 7.15-8.15  
Shildon Jubilee Field  
Tuesdays 7.30-8.30  
4 Sessions for £10 or £3 per session  
Tel: 07903 449590  
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## Aycliffe FC Start New Year with Defeat

2014 started in the worst possible way for Newton Aycliffe, as they were on the end of a 5-1 thrashing as they travelled to Marske. New signing Liam Clough made his debut in the Royal Blues' backline, but he and his colleagues were powerless to prevent another away defeat for Allan Oliver's team. It was a game that Aycliffe actually started very well. In the very first minute Tom Atkinson, who has been so deadly in front of goal recently wasted a great opportunity as he fired over following a searching through ball from Davies. Shortly after, another chance for Aycliffe to take the lead, but the shot struck the outside of the post before going out for a goal kick. On 35 minutes, Aycliffe finally took the lead their play deserved. New signing Clough stood a great ball up to the back post where it landed at the feet of Butterworth. The midfielder slotted home for his second goal in 2 games for Aycliffe. Unfortunately, Aycliffe were unable to see the half out. Just a minute after taking the lead, Aycliffe found themselves back on level terms, with Martin Young

turning a Macdonald cross past Spence to give Marske the equaliser. With just 49 minutes on the clock, Marske went ahead. A powerful run from Butterworth ended with Craig Gott beating Spence with a cool finish. On 56, the same combination effectively put the game beyond Aycliffe. Again Butterworth was the provider, playing in Gott whose initial shot beat Spence but rebounded off the post, only to fall straight to Gott who made no mistake. After 76 minutes, Jordan Marshall marked his Marske debut with a goal, finishing a great move after an outstanding run from Macdonald. In added time, Gott did grab the match ball, completing his hat trick with a great solo effort. Aycliffe will finally return to home soil this week, for the first time in 2014. Saturday (18th) sees Crook the visitors to Moore Lane Park, before high flying West Auckland visit on Wed 29th. The Crook game will kick off at 3pm, with the West Auckland game being a 7.30 start. For both games admission is £6 for adults, £4 concessions, with u12s going free.

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