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## Aycliffe Steel Company Finleys Win Hitachi Contract

*"Proud and Delighted" says Managing Director*

Family-run steel company Finley Structures has been awarded a multi-million pound deal to construct Hitachi Rail Europe's train-building factory in Newton Aycliffe.

Shepherd Construction, the main contractor for the project, has given Finley's the task of constructing the steel frame of the main factory on the 42,700sqm site at Aycliffe Business Park.

Finley's, based within a mile of Merchant Park, where Hitachi's new £82m facility will be built, has also been handed a secondary steelwork package in a huge contract involving a total of 2,000 tonnes of steel.

The factory, which will include a research and development centre, is expected to take about 20 months to complete, and will support more than 200 jobs in its construction.

It will then employ 730 people once open by the end of summer 2015, and it's estimated thousands more in the supply chain.

Neil Matthias, Shepherd's



Finley Structures Managing Director John Finley (centre), Shepherd Construction Project Manager Neil Matthias (left) and Merchant Place Developments Director Geoff Hunton.

project manager for the Hitachi factory, says the deal is another example of how the firm is committed to using local companies after appointing Rushyford-based Hall Construction to carry out the groundworks.

Mr Matthias said: "This is great news for the project and for the scheme, and particularly John Finley who has been close to the project for a number of years and has worked alongside Shepherd for a number of years in the industry."

Finley Structures, started by managing director John Finley in 2000, has completed a string of high-profile contracts in recent years.

Mr Finley said: "It goes without saying we're proud and absolutely delighted to be given this contract. We have a long-standing relationship with Shepherd Construction and we've worked with them on a number of major contracts over the last few years, so we're looking forward to working on what is another flagship project."

"Hitachi Rail Europe

and Merchant Place Developments have said from the very beginning that they will use local suppliers and contractors as much as possible, and clearly this deal means they're sticking to their word.

"I would especially like to thank Geoff Hunton from Merchant. Geoff can be credited largely for helping to bring Hitachi to Newton Aycliffe."

In May last year (2013), Hitachi Rail Europe signed a deal with Newcastle-based developers Merchant Place Developments to construct and fit out the train-building factory, and then in November Shepherd Construction was revealed as the main contractor for the 20-month project during a high-profile ceremony attended by Business Secretary Vince Cable.

Darren Cumner, Manufacturing Plant Manager at Hitachi Rail Europe, said: "The appointment of Finley Structures for the steelworks contract is excellent news for the region. For Hitachi, it is most important that our rail vehicle manufacturing facility is built to the highest quality standards and we are delighted that with Finley Structures, a local company, has been able to answer to these requirements and to secure the contract."

Mr Hunton added: "Merchant Place Developments fully endorse the statement made by Hitachi and are delighted with the appointment of a local North East based company for the steelworks contract which has fully

continued on Page 2

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# THE TURBINIA

## \* Saturday Night Live \*

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**Saturday 8th February - "F.M."**  
*Was this our best pub gig ever? Probably!*

What can you say about FM? This was rock and metal utopia, a classic journey through the rock n roll hall of fame. They did the lot; Kaiser Chiefs, Foo Fighters, Sabbath, AC/DC, Zep and no real cheese, OK they did 'Whisky in the Jar', but hey! FM put a great amount of effort into this gig, sometimes mid week gigs just don't seem to have the same WOW/OOMPH.

The atmosphere was great as was the music, a superb night. What is particularly pleasing is that FM don't always take the easy option, ie: instead of sticking to 'Sweet Child Of Mine', they did 'Welcome to The Jungle', and on this performance many a year to come different GnR cover and one that takes a little more effort vocally.

**Saturday 15th February - "1 0 1"**

We are pleased to welcome back one of the Tubs favourite bands, who play a great mix of modern and classic rock.

Tracks covered by: Led Zepellin, Killers, AC/DC, Kings of Leon, Lynyrd Synyrd, Kieser Chiefs, Nirvana, Razorlight, Pink Floyd, Green Day and more.

Davys rock page review: "All in all, a great night with a great atmosphere and a lot of people dancing, so if you want to hear newer covers with a good mix of older rock 101 deliver."

**Friday 21st February - "Shotgun Syndrome"**  
 supported by "WE RISE TOMORROW" - "TWICE THE TRAUMA" and "CAIRO" - £3 cc - 7pm start

**Saturday 22nd February - "Beer Monkeys"**

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## Aycliffe Music Scene



Aycliffe has started to get itself on the music map over the last year - it has an emerging young scene, rock, DJs, you name it and it seems to be happening in Aycliffe. We have had 3 Aycliffe bands on the radio, "Unplugged" who have been going in an ever changing line-up for a few years now, "White Vinyl" who have had a great year, from birth till radio debut, including one of the best live radio interviews I have heard from a young band. You can next see them at Planet Leisure on 1st March. "The Unsound" have already been interviewed on the radio and now released their second single and will be recording

another interview for the radio this weekend.

There is another emerging group from the town "Skyway Mile" who make their debut at Planet Leisure along with a duo from the town called "Shipmate".

The room was bouncing and it was a great show by both bands with the audience well appreciating the great sounds created.

Aycliffe Young Talent Project, (AYTP) looks after the sound at Planet Leisure and helps Aycliffe artists get the recognition they deserve. There is lots of great gigs coming up, the big one being Aycliffe Music Festive (Aycliffe Fest) planned for the end of June.

This town will be well on the music map by then, so keep up with what's happening, add "Aycliffe Music-Man" and "Aycliffe Fest" on facebook. If you have any music on at a venue and you want me to check it out get in touch.  
[www.AYTP.co.uk](http://www.AYTP.co.uk)  
[ian@aytp.co.uk](mailto:ian@aytp.co.uk)

## ACORN Supports New Autism Centre

Innovative community residents association ACORN will be holding their monthly meeting at the Royal British Legion Club on February 13th starting with little ACORNS at 5.30pm and the main ACORN meeting at 6pm.

It has always been the intention of ACORN to collaborate with and support other community organisations therefore we are pleased to announce the latest of these partnerships by signposting parents and grandparents to the Autistic Centre who are offering free courses in supporting children displaying autistic behaviour.

[www.acornresidents.com](http://www.acornresidents.com)  
 Facebook acorn residents association. 01325 321471  
 Ken Robson, Chairman

### NEWTON NEWS

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## Aycliffe Company Wins Hitachi Steel Contract

*continued from Front Page*

justified our belief in the North East when promoting the benefits of the Newton Aycliffe site.

"Well done to all concerned." Our MP, Phil Wilson, played a big part in paving the way for Hitachi's successful bid for the £5.8 billion Intercity Express Programme (IEP). "This is fantastic news for the area and I'm delighted that more local jobs will be supported during the construction of the factory," said Mr Wilson.

"When you have a company like Hitachi prepared to build an £82m facility

here, it proves there is great faith in the area, and to see local companies all coming together to work on the project is just wonderful."

Finley Structures has appointed South Durham Draughting, based in South Church, Bishop Auckland, to carry out the detailing of the project. Finley's has increased its workforce in the last year to cope with a strong order book, up to 60 full-time employees, while its sister company, SCH Site Services, currently employs 34 people, making a total of 94 staff combined.

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## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Western Area Community Centre Silverdale House would like Volunteers to help run the Luncheon Club on a Wednesday. A cook and general help are needed and this could become a paid position.

An Admin volunteer with knowledge of funding applications etc would be very helpful and would suit a retired person or a mum with children at school. We want people with enthusiasm and ideas to help take this Centre forward.  
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## GREENFIELD TAKES A STEP FOR HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



Greenfield Community College students have been remembering the Holocaust and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Darfur. The students commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day through a series of assemblies and were encouraged to take their own steps, using social media, reading books, writing poems and more to ensure genocide is never forgotten and to help prevent it in the future. In addition each house group at Greenfield took a collective step by lighting a candle for each house shade in the assemblies.

Last week a group of year 8 students went to Durham Cathedral to study journeys of the Holocaust accompanied by their teachers Miss Newton and Mr Johnson where they participated in workshops about prejudice and discrimination and listened to Holocaust survivor, Ruth

Barnett. During the morning, students took part in activities which highlighted the dangers of prejudice and discrimination as well as considering the lessons we can learn from the Holocaust. In the afternoon, Ruth spoke about her experience of the Holocaust and the impact it has had on her life.

The students commented on the experience that they were very saddened to learn the true extent of the horrors of the Holocaust. One student reflected 'how the genocide affected different people in different ways' and were 'extremely shocked to find out Roma Gypsies were brutally murdered as well.' Students asked very pertinent questions and gained a huge amount from a very thought provoking and moving day.

Christine Stonehouse, Deputy Head Teacher at Greenfield said: "At Greenfield we

believe it is very important to commemorate this event and to encourage all young people to appreciate the role of each generation in preventing hatred and discrimination. Students at Greenfield have shown great empathy and understanding of the horrors of genocide."

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## Trying to Trace Dad



Dear Sir,  
I am trying to trace my husband's father who left home when his son was only 11 years old and and I only have this photo.

He is Allan Cay and would be about 70 years of age. He was married to Jean who was about the same age. They lived in Lilburn Crescent and had three children Leslie, Rodney and Dawn, but were divorced some years ago.

The photo was taken while on a holiday in Scotland in the 1970's. If anybody has any information, I can be contacted on my mobile 07783 590605 or by email: minx333@hotmail.co.uk  
Thank you in advance for

any help  
Tracy Maughan

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# Do You Know who Painted this Work?



When the Avenue School closed various items were given to a Charity Shop in the Town Centre and Doris and John Atkinson bought the painting shown above which was framed and had pride of place on her wall.

They now wish to give the painting back to the original student artist hoping he will recognise the work and get in touch with them to claim it back.

Doris and John would be interested to know if he or she is still in Newton Aycliffe and whether or not the undoubted talent shown in the painting was utilised.

The painting is signed Harrison '65. If you recognise the work or know the artist please contact Doris on 07999 602006.

# Encouraging Self Esteem in Girls

Over the past few weeks students at Greenfield Community College and Woodham Academy have been involved in a GAMP AAP funded project "Through the Looking Glass." The project, which has been developed and managed by Greenfield Arts, is encouraging positive self-esteem in girls at both schools.

So far the two groups have worked with Laura Agar Wilson, a trained youth worker, and artist Theresa Easton. They have been printmaking positive words and images and making feel good journals as part of a larger programme of activity. The project will continue over the next few weeks leading up to a creative and healthy tea party at Hardwick Hotel at the end of March.

**For more information  
about this project visit our  
website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk)**

# Raising Awareness of Lung Cancer



*Fancy Dress Party attendees*

Emma Flynn of Walcher Road is running in the Virgin London Marathon on 13th April. She decided to put herself through this ordeal when her mother was diagnosed with lung cancer in July 2013. She sadly passed away in November which has propelled her to raise even more money for the British Lung Foundation who do amazing work promoting awareness of the early signs and symptoms of lung cancer.

The latter this disease is diagnosed the deadlier it is and Emma's mother died four months after diagnosis. If she had been diagnosed earlier she may have had a fighting chance as Lung Cancer remains the deadliest in the UK.

Emma held a fancy dress party along with a raffle and lottery. It was a very successful night yet poignant as her Mum's funeral was held the day before.

After the success of this night Emma decided to hold a further fundraising night in June of this year at Planet Leisure with a target of 300 ticket sales. There will be an auction and raffle with a sports theme, but Emma is also collecting general raffle prizes too!

Emma told Newton News: "My mother was 57 years old and after being widowed three years ago had just found happiness with a new partner before being robbed of her life. I feel robbed too as do all her grandchildren.

"I'm trying to raise money to help prevent other families being put through this tragedy and I would be delighted with any kind of help."

Contact Emma on 0785 4045245, <https://www.facebook.com/emma.flynn.9862>, or donate on <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EmFlynn>



*Emma with her late Mother, Christine*

## Great Response to Form "Friends of West Park"

Residents throughout Newton Aycliffe are coming forward to join the new community group "Friends of West Park". The park popular with dog walkers and animal lovers boasts two lakes installed by Aycliffe Development Corporation previously used for model boats and small pedallo type craft.

With a country park feel, nestled closely to the town centre of our vibrant town, the new group are aiming to enhance this lovely part of Newton Aycliffe by volunteering to help park staff in keeping the area litter free and suggesting to Great Aycliffe Town Council improvements to the facilities and beauty of the park.

As a constituted group residents may attract grants and sponsorship to finance improvements such as bulb planting or even toilet facilities, relieving pressure on local government finance. The group would like to collaborate with the local authority and would welcome the participation of all town and county councillors as well as council officers. The object is not to take over the running of the park but to supplement and assist where possible those staff who work hard to keep the park in peak condition.

Recently grants from Councillor Mike Dixon and the late Enid Paylor resulted in the installation of outside exercise equipment. The Greenfield group staged a successful "Stepping Out" extravaganza and new seating has been installed.

Local community activist Ken Robson chairman of ACORN Residents Association who is spearheading the formation of the group comments "We are the luckiest people in the country to be able to live and work in Newton Aycliffe, the community spirit here is amazing and I really feel that year on year our town is evolving. Facilities adopted by the public will encourage a feeling of ownership and pride in residents"

The recent announcement of investment by Hitachi and other thriving companies such as Ebac inspires optimism in the future. The refurbishment of Aycliffe Town Centre is improving the look and feel of the town encouraging shoppers from far and wide.

Under the direction of GACAP and others, community groups are collaborating for the benefit of all. Livin are underlining their confidence in the town with sympathetic social housing developments providing desperately needed good quality housing to ensure families can live close to relatives.

A group of interested citizens are gathering at the Royal Navy Club on February 18th at 7pm to discuss a way forward and adopt a constitution. Anyone from the Great Aycliffe area is invited to attend, and this will be a fantastic opportunity to make new friends and feel useful in building an already great project.

"It really is great to live in Great Aycliffe" said Ken.

**Paul Priestley**  
**ELVIS** Tribute

A photograph of Paul Priestley dressed as Elvis Presley, wearing a white jumpsuit with gold sequins and a wide gold belt. He is holding a microphone and performing on stage. In the background, there is a large screen displaying the word 'ELVIS' in large, orange, dotted letters. Below the screen, the words 'On Tour' are written in a stylized, orange, cursive font.

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# St FRANCIS SCHOOL CONCERT TO LAUNCH MUSIC C.D.

St. Francis School is staging a Concert at Greenfield School Hall on Tuesday 11th February at 6.15pm to launch their own CD.



The children have been in rehearsal, coached by a professional performer from "Popuk" The songs are recorded on CD to be on sale at a modest charge of £4. In preparing for the concert and production of the CD the students have

learnt new songs and gained valuable experience in stagework and the use of microphones. Popuk is a charity working with schools to encourage children enjoy singing and performing. They have achieved amazing results

wherever they have been.

Everyone is excited about the launch and tickets are on sale at £1 for Adults and 50p for children, available from the school.

Headteacher Mrs Wilkinson said: St Francis School have invested a lot of money in this project, buying in the expertise and microphones etc. We are hoping all the children will attend the launch accompanied by as many relatives and friends as possible.

## New Exhibition at Greenfield Gallery

This week we are pleased to welcome a new exhibition to The Greenfield Gallery at Greenfield Arts! Jilly Greenwood and Mandi Mossaied present "The Painters Perspective" a show bringing together the work of these fantastic two artists. The work is primarily painted, with elements of print as well, with each artist using different techniques and styles – both abstract and figurative. This is a colourful and exciting exhibition that is sure to be a hit! The exhibition will be open from Thursday 6th February to Wednesday 5th March 2014. For more information please visit our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk).



## NEW ADVAN FIRM HELPS BUSINESSES



Local Newton Aycliffe resident and entrepreneur Angela Clark, launches A1 Advans. Thanks to the GAMP AAP's flagship 'Step into Business' scheme. Angela spotted a niche in the advertising market, and has now successfully made her vision a reality. Thanks to lots of hard work and planning Angela is now running A1 Advans, a quirky vehicle, which aims to provide affordable advertising to local businesses. Back in June last year Angela met South Durham Enterprise Agency's Business Adviser, Lynne Groves. Lynne provided her with guidance on developing her idea and informed her of the "Step Into Business" grant scheme which was vital to enable her

to complete her idea. Thanks to the Area Action Partnership and South Durham Enterprise Agency Angela's business went live at the end of 2013. Angela commented: "After developing my business as much as I could I found myself becoming stuck, and unable to complete what I had started. So I searched for inspiration and I came across South Durham Enterprise Agency. My business adviser, Lynne Groves informed me of the GAMP scheme, which was music to my ears. Thanks to the scheme, I was able to buy and add all the finishing touches to my vehicle, such as the van livery and the van tracker and even a website. After adding the final touches I was able to scoop myself a very beneficial contact with Cooper BMW Durham."

Angela is now running her fully-fledged business in and around the Newton Aycliffe area advertising local businesses along side targeted advertising, so look out for the quirky little white van. Any business interested in advertising on the van can contact Angela on: 07792 427404

Brian Riley, GAMP Partnership Coordinator said: 'The GAMP Business Start Up grant is proving to be successful in helping local people to fulfil their dreams, with funding assistance and sound advice from SDEA Business Advisors, especially in this difficult economic climate'

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# OPTIMISM FOR AYCLIFFE AS BUSINESS GROUP CELEBRATE 1st BIRTHDAY



The Aycliffe Business Park Community celebrated its first birthday last Friday, attracting 70 representatives from local factories and offices to the Xcel Centre breakfast meeting where everyone enjoyed hot sandwiches and beverages, taking home a birthday cup cake. Chairperson Kerina Clark welcomed everyone and expressed her appreciation for a good turn out, stating there was good reasons for optimism as a result of the formation of the group. More Aycliffe businesses were talking to each other and sourcing their requirements locally. "This is very encouraging and shows our aims and objectives are on track" said Kerina.

A video promotion produced by Mantis showing progress over the year was well received and Simon Goon Durham County Council Business Development Director said how impressed he was with developments at Aycliffe Business Park and the work of the steering group. "I am very optimistic about the future as Aycliffe is a key area for growth. There are great opportunities and industrialist are interested in locating here. We want everyone here to be part of the development and decision making of what will be the biggest Industrial Estate in the north" said Simon. He made mention of a small retail presence on the Park supplying the needs of the workers. He was not

proposing an operation as big as Teesside Park as he was interested more in providing high paid industrial jobs. Dave Spencer of Aycliffe Fabrications reported on the successful interaction with schools in promoting apprenticeships. Pamela Petty urged everyone to register on the website and use it to promote their business, advertise vacancies or use it to sell or buy equipment. "It is a very useful resource and it is free!" said Pamela, Managing Director at Ebac. John Finley was congratulated on being awarded the contract to manufacture and install the steel frame for the new Hitachi factory. He has been in charge of getting the Business Park tidied up and he said he was pleased with the improvements made and thanked the Probation Service for their excellent work. This year businesses on the Park will be encouraged to have a voice on what happens at Aycliffe. To that end various sub-committees will report back on how they see this development should proceed. South West Durham Training, who were expected to accommodate the proposed new University Training College reported this was now not viable as negotiations showed that it was commercially unacceptable to the charity's operation.

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## Dignity Day



Defoe Court residents took part in a Dignity Awareness Day on Saturday 2nd February. Residents were asked what dignity meant to them and quotes were written on balloons which were displayed on a notice board.

# Robotics at Woodham Academy

During the last week of the autumn term, Woodham Academy hosted the first Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng) County Durham VEX Robotic Challenge. This event was funded by the Academy's Connecting STEM teachers programme.

Michael Nelson, Head of Engineering and Design & Technology, who is also a RAEng STEM Teacher Co-ordinator for the North East of England, gained funding to buy VEX Robotics Clawbot kits. During the summer term Woodham Academy ran a workshop to introduce and train the teachers involved from other Durham schools, to understand the process and to feel confident in working with a group of their own students. The secondary schools involved were Park View School, Tanfield School, Ferryhill School and Woodham Academy. For almost a term each school built, tested and modified their robot, working towards the



RAEng final at Woodham on 19th December.

The event was action packed. The special guests were Dr Mike Leddre, from STEMNET at the Regional Technology Centre (RTC North), and Tony Swanick, Engineering and STEM Ambassador. Both guests were fantastic judges and attention to detail was needed to judge the build quality. During the event each team competed in four events. Then all went head to head in Robot Wars style carnage, to collect

as many bean bags as possible. The result was tight, but there could be only one winner and this year it was Ferryhill. The next stage, with very kind sponsorship from Autodesk software, has enabled all four teams to compete in the regional VEX Robotic finals. This is when twelve teams compete for places for the National Finals, at the Big Bang event in Birmingham in March, and hopefully qualify for the World Finals in the United States of America. To realise this dream teams will

be looking for sponsorship. Dave Spensley, Director of Aycliffe Fabrications, has been impressed with the attitude of the students and the activity that has been developed by Mr Nelson at Woodham Academy. He said, "It is so good to see STEM skills being developed within our local schools, especially robotics. These are the type of young people that we need to go on to be our future engineers. We will begin to solve the skills shortages that local companies like Gestamp Tallent and Hitachi will want". The future of robotics at Woodham Academy? Mr Nelson is currently waiting for funding from RAEng to recruit four more Durham schools to be involved in the 2014 competition. Woodham has also looked at funding to allow working with local primary schools and with Durham Local Authority, creating a programme to further develop STEM skills with younger students, using the VEX IQ platform.

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## Care Workers Nominated for National Awards



*Left to right residents (seated) Irene Lamb and Gladys Stevens with (left to right) Manager Karen, Beverly and Abigail*

Three members of staff at Rose Lodge Care Home at Cobblers Hall have been nominated for the 2014 National Carers Awards. Manager Karen Frew-McGill has nominated Carers Abigail Craig and Beverly Temple both from Newton Aycliffe for their complete dedication to their work and the residents' happiness and welfare.

Abigail (22) was offered a post as Carer at Rose Lodge immediately after she had finished her College course in Social Care where she passed with good qualifications. Since then she has progressed and now is a Front-line Leader enjoying the high respect of fellow carers for the quality of care she gives. "It is a great job and I love the residents and staff at Rose Lodge - we have a great team here and I would never leave" said Abigail.

Beverly Temple has worked as a carer at Rose Lodge for over 5 years. She took a complete change of career in sales and marketing to become the life and soul in Rose Lodge. Her effervescent personality lights up the place and she loves everyone. Beverly has been nominated for the Dignity and Care

award reflecting the respect she has for residents at all times. She treats them all as friends and told Newton News she looks upon them all as her extended family. "I treat them as I would want to be treated myself and I love them all" said Bev. The Manager Karen has been nominated by her Head Office for the magnificent job she has done at Aycliffe. Karen has been a carer since she was 16 years old and 2 years ago was appointed

Manager of Rose Lodge. She lives near Richmond and would love to live at Newton Aycliffe when her children finish their education. Karen was nominated for her exceptional management skills and her commitment to delivering a person-centred care service and her general passion for Rose Lodge. We wish all three ladies success in the regional competition and hope they all get through to the National Final in London.

## "Project Africa" Fundraiser at Agnew

Two ex-students of Woodham Comprehensive Jackie Bell and Debbie Hughes (Samms) are raising funds for "Project Africa". The Challenger Trust are offering Students of Wellfield Community School in Wingate the opportunity to visit a school in South Africa to learn their culture, take part in project based work at the school and visit some local areas.

An event takes place on February 8th at the Agnew Community Centre from 11am - 4pm to help raise money for this fantastic cause. Stalls will be provided by Coral Beauty, Herbalife, Glitter Tattoos, Nails, Kylies Candy Craft, Mini Beauty Treatments, Tombola, Bric A Brac, Cakes, Face Painting, Trimmers Hair Design, Surprise Dip and much much more.

If you would like a stall or wish to donate please call: 0785 7113246 or Email: [coralbeautyteam@gmail.com](mailto:coralbeautyteam@gmail.com) Wellfield Community School has an established connection with Mpondweni-Schietsdrift Primary School near Winterton, South Africa. They've had connections with Zulu pupils for a number of years and have raised in the region of £2,000 to fund vital improvements to the school buildings and purchase basic educational resources. After years of searching for a company that would be able to support such a visit, the Challenger Trust has provided a proposal for a Gold level visit to South Africa

following conversations with Contour Education Services. This is an exciting and once in a lifetime opportunity being offered to all students currently at Wellfield, including Year 11.

## ENJOY SINGING?

The Marie Clare Singers are seeking to enlarge their numbers for performances of songs from the musicals and other ballads.

The ability to read music is not essential, enthusiasm and enjoyment of singing is all that is required.

Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at St. Clare's Church 7.00-9.00 p.m. just turn up on the night or for further information telephone George Lee on 01325 316963.

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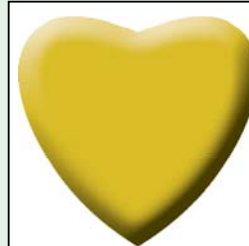
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## THIEVES TARGET GARAGES

Between 17:00 hours 23rd January 2014 and 11:00 hours 24th January 2014 two padlocks were broken off a garage door in Grassholme Place, Newton Aycliffe.

No property was stolen on this occasion, however, there has been a spate of this type of incident recently and on some occasions property has been stolen.

If you have any information which may assist police, could you please contact PC 2228 Debbie La'Borde on 101 quoting incident number DHM-24012014-0145



# Apprentice Competition Prize is a Job at Gestamp



The Apprentice winner 2013 James Newton who is now training as a technical apprentice at Gestamp.

This week saw the launch of the fifth Apprentice competition at Woodham Academy. The annual competition, run by Gestamp is based on the popular TV show. Like its namesake, the prize of 'The Apprentice at Woodham Academy' is also an apprenticeship. The winner will join Gestamp's new recruits in August and has the opportunity to continue his or her education to degree level whilst employed.

The competition consists of a series of challenges, designed to test out candidates' skills. The competition will culminate in a day of interviews at Gestamp with the trophy and a contract awarded before the GCSE examinations in May. Woodham Academy headteacher, Christine Forsyth, says, "We are delighted that Gestamp are once again offering our students this exciting opportunity. Choosing a winner will be no easy task."

## History Talk at Aycliffe

Aycliffe Village Local History Society is hosting a talk by Chris Lloyd on 'Attacking the Devil and Sinking the Unsinkable - W. T. Stead and the Titanic' on Wednesday 12th February at 7pm in Aycliffe Village Hall. All welcome - members £1 and non members £3 to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Contact: 01325 301093.

## Bacon Buttie for £1.50p

Lots have been going on at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre over the past few weeks - the most exciting of which could well be the launch of our Brunch Club. How often do you a fancy a bacon buttie around 11am? You can almost smell it! On a Wednesday Morning between breakfast and lunch follow your nose to the Centre, right opposite Tesco's and enjoy a bacon buttie and a cuppa for just £2. If you want another it will cost £1.50 or another cuppa 60p. Find out what else is going on during the week. You can choose from Knitting Club, to Keep Kit for the over 50's. Toddler groups, Tai Chi for the over 50's. If there is a group you would like to set up, pop in and see us and we will see if we can help. Telephone 307522.

# Question Time at Greenfield



Last week the Student Leadership Team at Greenfield Community College answered questions from their fellow students during "Student Question Time." The group, who are nominated and elected by students at the school, gave confident, thoughtful, mature responses to the questions

posed by each tutor group. The questions covered a wide range of topics, including the work of the Student Leadership Team, the impact they have, the school environment, teaching and learning styles, educational visits, supporting charities, campaigning and reward and activity days. The team also outlined the

work they have done so far in contributing to school improvements including the changes to the uniform, prioritising areas for redecoration, working with Sodexo through the catering council, and introducing the wearing of charity badges. The team have worked hard to achieve all of this to the benefit of their fellow students in the school community. The issues raised at the "Question Time" will now be taken to the joint meeting between the student and school leadership teams and responses will be fed back through Voice 4 Success, a weekly opportunity for Greenfield students to share their ideas with staff. Greenfield students certainly feel their voices are being heard.

## Club for Disabled Re-launched

Fred Tennant an employee of Darlington company Quality Carers UK Ltd is supporting Paul Ryder in the re-launch of his disability initiative "Jumping Jacks" at St Clare's Church. The session will run from 1pm - 3pm and include music, refreshments, cakes, raffle prizes and a chance to talk about where Paul wants to take the club in the future. All disabled people are invited to suggest ideas and what they can bring and take from the positive environment Paul is trying to create. If you have any questions please call myself on either 07794 404797 or 01325 488003. The launch is Wednesday the 12th of February - Everyone warmly invited.

# NEW ESTATE AGENTS FOR NEWTON AYCLIFFE



Tina Hall, Lettings Manager has lived in Newton Aycliffe since 5 months old and has a great knowledge of Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas. She worked in the housing market for over 15 years and has a sound knowledge of how the housing industry and letting market works. Tina is married to local Neighbourhood Police Inspector with 4 sons and a granddaughter. She spends her spare time with the family and enjoys travelling. John Chircop Sales Manager is Australian with two grown boys. He is ex-military and a structural engineer by profession. A competent property negotiator he has been in charge of two estate agencies abroad with high reputations. "I am a happy go lucky person who enjoys sport, reading and outdoor living. Satisfaction for me is knowing that I can and have helped someone" said John. Director Lindsay Naylor lived in the North East as a boy and went to Stockton Grammar School. He supported Darlington Football

Club when they played at the old Feethams Ground. His father was in the RAF and the family moved away when Lindsay was 12 years old. He is married with 4 grown up children and 4 grandchildren and is a keen fisherman in his spare time. "By a strange quirk of fate I found myself comfortably back in the North East pursuing my other passion in life which is property. I have been running my own property business for over 10 years, (the last 4 years in the North East) offering people the chance to own their own homes in many innovative ways, and have finally been persuaded to bring that opportunity to a wider marketplace. As fate would have it I teamed up with John Chircop and together with his vast experience we decided to look for a location which we felt provided an opportunity to help people. Newton Aycliffe jumped off the page when researching where we would open as it onlu had one estate agent serving 30,000 people - Bingo!"

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# Nursery Marks Chinese New Year



The children of Stephenson Way Nursery have been enjoying a range of activities to celebrate the Chinese New Year. The Year of the Horse began on January the 31st, and in China celebrations last over several weeks.

An area of the nursery has been converted into a restaurant, decorated with paper lamps and traditional Chinese artwork. Children enjoy a modified snack menu in this area, with savoury rice, noodles, spring rolls, prawn crackers and rice cakes for the children to try. For extra authenticity, the children were challenged to eat their noodles with chopsticks!

Children were invited to dress up in traditional Chinese outfits provided by the nursery, to ensure that they looked the part whilst enjoying the celebrations.

Videos of actual Chinese New Year celebrations were shown to the children, who enjoyed the range of bright colours and choreographed movements involved in dragon dancing. They could then put on their own celebration with children using instruments to create rhythms to dance to.

The Chinese celebrations are an excellent example of how nursery staff combine directed play and fun activities to teach very young children about different cultures. Stephenson Way Nursery also regularly invites parents in for "Stay n' Play" events, which are opportunities for parents to join their children in enjoying activities and projects they have been working on.

# Students Rehearse for Newcastle Samba Festival



## Pease Way Surgery Discontinue 0844 Telephone Number

Dear Sir,  
We have corresponded previously about the use of an 0844 telephone number at the surgery.

I am pleased to tell you – and your readers – that from Wednesday 12th February there will be a new local number – 01325 528000 – to ring. Patients should continue to use the 0844 number until this date.

It has taken us a while to realise our aim of completely removing the need for the 0844 number because we have had to wait for technology and the new BT "Fibre At The Cabinet" broadband supply to arrive.

The new service will use the Voice over Internet Protocol and will allow calls to be queued – so no one should ever get the engaged tone when ringing – and other features such as call recording and reporting.

It's required another large investment by the GPs here at Peaseway – one that they are pleased to make to ensure that our patients continue to obtain an excellent service.

For Peaseway Clinic – the "private" clinic – the number will also be changed. We will ensure that a clear message is on the old number which will provide all callers with the new numbers if they happen to use the old telephone numbers by mistake.

Mike Spence  
Practice Manager

Year 8 students at St John's School & Sixth Form College were treated to a day of Samba workshops in January. Jack Drum Arts visited school and presented the sights, sounds and energy of Samba in practical demonstrations creating plenty of noise.

Approximately 25 Y8 students have been selected to join regular Samba band rehearsals to prepare for a special Summer outdoor Festival "¡Vamos!" in Newcastle. Bring your earplugs – you will need them as Samba is sensationally loud!!

# Falcons in Fine Form

Newton Aycliffe Youth Under 10 Falcons hosted Darlington TSC B in the league this week. The lads started on the front foot and created lots of early chances, only to find the TSC keeper in fine form.

The passing and movement was exceptional and we finally found the net through Tom Jasper. Ht 1-0. Second half started slowly and credit to TSC who battled hard, but we soon upped our game and scored a great team goal.

Tom Jasper's driving run, fed the ball out to Declan

on the wing, who in turn drilled to the back post for Liam Horner to tap home. 2-0. Alfie Nichol-Brown was bossing the midfield and filled in at defence when called upon.

He had a hand in everything good today and his tackle to feed Tom, who in turn found Declan to lift the ball over the keeper for the 3rd was part of a MoM performance.

FT; 3-0. That's 6 wins in a row and 7 out of 7 home wins this season. Keep it up lads and you will go far

## Pop Punk Sensation Comes To Aycliffe



Do you like McFly, Busted and Green Day, then you will love a great band from Brighton called "As It Is", who have chosen to call at Planet Leisure to do a pre-tour warm-up gig on Saturday 15th February. This is a great for the town and the owner of Planet Leisure is giving residents of Aycliffe a great FREE show, giving you something back for all your support.

Planet Leisure doesn't have an age limit for their gigs as it is a family friendly venue. If you miss this event, you can catch "As It Is" on their UK tour, but all other venues are charging £6 up.

They have just released 2 new singles and will be doing signings at the venue. This is an event that no music lover should miss. Who will be the next big band to recognise Aycliffe as the place to play?

Watch the Newton News and all will be revealed.

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## MAD Concert Proceeds for Aycliffe's Welfare Partnership

The annual Charity Concert by MAD productions has announced the proceeds this year will go to Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership the new organisation formed to bring voluntary and statutory groups together to co-ordinate help for individuals and families in crisis.

Organiser Sonia Scott told Newton News the Concert is on 8th October at the Xcel Centre who support young performers from Newton Aycliffe in staging the production.

Other organisations wishing to support GACAP should contact the Secretary Joan Clark on 307522.

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## HEALTHY LIFESTYLE COURSES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES



Helen Smith tries Boxercise

Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) can support people with learning disabilities to be healthier; with thanks to a grant from the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP).

Two free Healthy Lifestyle courses are taking place at the Pioneering Care Centre for people living in Newton Aycliffe or Middridge who have a learning disability, dyslexia or dyspraxia. Participants will learn how to make positive lifestyle changes and how to maintain them.

The courses will run for 4 weeks on Mondays or Fridays. The first will start Monday 24 February from 2.30 – 3.30pm and the next one starts on Friday 28 February from 1– 2pm.

The 4 week course includes • What is meant by 'a healthy lifestyle' and how healthy is yours?

• Eat well plate information and the benefits of eating healthily

• Healthy swaps, fat and sugar content

• A weekly physical activity taster, including boxercise, circuits and active team games

• Stress awareness and the importance of being more active

PCP Health Trainers are trained to offer advice on diet and nutrition, physical activity, goal setting, making changes and much more. They can work with groups and individuals, including family members and carers, to raise awareness of the benefits of a healthy diet and lifestyle choices.

Angela Quinn, PCP Health Trainer said "Learning disabilities can make it more difficult to understand new information, learn new skills and communicate. This means some people with learning disabilities need help to live independently. For example, they may find maintaining a healthy weight difficult, and need help understanding information and advice about diet and nutrition, cooking and regular physical activity."

PCP are also looking to recruit volunteers to help with this project. Volunteers will receive full support and training to become Health Trainer Champions so they can work with the clients to help them become healthier. For further information on the Learning Disability Health Trainer service contact PCP. Tel: 01325 321234 email: healthtrainers@pcp.uk.net or visit www.pcp.uk.net

## Country's Second Best in Karate Kumite

Two students from Aycliffe GKR Karate Federation took part in the national competition in Sheffield. Both worked really hard to qualify and for Asa Fletcher it was his first nationals and a big stage to perform. He did well in Kata and Kumite but unfortunately didn't win any medals.

Annalise Tinkler worked well and won Silver in her Kumite which puts her as the second best in the country which is a great improvement as she was ranked 3rd last year. She also won silver in team Kata and Bronze in team Kumite. "I am very proud of both students" We now start again in preparation for the next nationals in November said Sensei Dez Tinkler."



## Cash for Girls' Football



Newton Aycliffe Youth Under 12 Girls are travelling to Blackpool to compete in a National Football Tournament in June this year. The girls have been hard at work fund raising to cover the cost of travel and accommodation. They have had several bag packs at local superstores, Sponsored runs and social evenings. They were therefore delighted to receive a donation of £250 from Walkers Crisps to help them on their way. Shaun Wilson our team goal

keeper's Dad, applied to their Give 'n' Win Fund outlining the tremendous work that the girls had been doing and the funding committee agreed. We still have a little way to go to reach our target but this has certainly moved us closer to our target.

Newton Aycliffe Youth now have an under 10 girls team

preparing for the start of the new Summer Season in June and are inviting Yr 4/5/6 girls to come and join us at training in Greenfield Sports Hall every Wednesday until the end of March before we move outdoors to the Oakleaf.

If you are interested contact Berni 07939 045242

## Burn 800 Calories an Hour at Heighington

Armageddon Fitness™ is unlike a boot camp or a conventional circuit, it's a group variable intensity training concept that's brought to you by a fully certified Armageddon Fitness Trainer, Steph Cook. She is an experienced personal trainer and class instructor who trains clients in the local area.

The concept was created by ITV 1 Biggest Loser Personal Trainer Richard Callender resulting in a functional fitness training class with a pulsating soundtrack and expert fitness advice. Armageddon is a fast paced, variable intensity group fitness concept suitable for all fitness levels and ages. The Unique blend of intensities and original body weight exercises encourage fast results and continuous progression. Burn up to 800 calories an hour! Join me at Heighington Village Hall every Thursday at 18.30-19.30pm. Cost £4.50.

Contact me on 07707686313, stepheacock@yahoo.co.uk www.facebook.com/stephcookpersonaltrainer for more details or to book a place.



## Film Show

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church, on TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY, features "TAKE THE LEAD" starring Antonio Banderas as a dance instructor hired by an inner city school.

Troubled kids don't want to know, so will the excitement of dance win through. Why not come along and get cheered up. 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

## Volunteers for Muddy Mayhem Race Needed

Volunteers are being sought to ensure one of the county's muddiest obstacle courses goes smoothly. Those who want to get involved in Durham County Council's Muddy Mayhem event without taking part are being invited to become Mayhem Makers.

The event takes place on Sunday, March 23 and volunteers could be called upon for a number of duties such as pulling a muddy runner out of a bog or directing their weary legs to the event village for refreshments. You could even help to prepare the registration packs before the event (a nice easy job in the

warmth).

You can volunteer as an individual or as a group but those offering their time are asked to bear in mind they should be able to stand all day in possible cold and wet conditions. You will be assigned a position depending on ability level.

16 and 17-year-olds can put themselves forward but must be accompanied by an adult. Please note this event is sold out for competitors.

For more information and to apply online go to www.durham.gov.uk/muddymayhem or Contact Deborah Hannaby by telephoning 03000 264592



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# Town Council Sell Land to Livin



The Town Council has agreed to the sale of a plot of land at Travellers Green, formerly used as caravan storage to homes and communities business, livin.

The land will add to land already under the ownership of livin and will enable a project to be put forward for the development of older persons' accommodation in the form of bungalows or apartments subject to its Board's approval. The access to the Great Aycliffe Way and Nature Park will be maintained during and following the completion of the proposed development. The Council is delighted to be able to assist livin in the development of a proposal to provide much needed accommodation for older persons in the town.

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**SAMARITANS** - 13 Woodland  
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## Public Notice

**DONATIONS** needed of Bric-  
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items for Newton Aycliffe good  
causes. Ring Honest John 316  
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London to Edinburgh Trip  
Re-charged at Aycliffe

On Friday 24th of January  
David Peilow and TV  
comedian Robert Llewellyn set  
out from London in a Nissan  
Leaf Electric car driving to  
Edinburgh.

Aston Hotel near Aycliffe  
has a rapid charger and was  
one of the stops. Members of  
staff were there to welcome  
the drivers and while the car  
was being charged they had  
refreshments.

There is now a rapid charge  
network all the way to



## Lost &amp; Found

**DOG FOUND.** Small fawn  
rough haired Lurcher type dog  
found on Aycliffe Industrial  
Estate on Wednesday 29th  
January 2014. Now at Coxhoe  
stray aid.

**LOST** Samsung Galaxy Fame  
mobile phone. Metallic blue  
in colour, lost around Tesco  
car park/Town Centre area. If  
found a small reward will be  
given as it was a birthday gift  
for my son. Contact 01325  
788745

Scotland. The route taken is  
approximately 391 miles and  
they expected to do it in under  
10 hours. Robert Llewellyn has  
111,000 followers on Twitter.  
He also has his own TV  
channel on YouTube dedicated  
to electric vehicles and his  
journey will be featured.

"If you drove the same journey  
in a modern, fuel efficient  
petrol car and didn't stop once,  
even for a wee, you could do  
it in 6 or 7 hours but I would  
suggest your bladder would  
explode before you got to  
Newcastle. Not only that, you  
would spend a minimum of £70  
on petrol whereas our journey  
will cost nothing" said Robert.

At the moment the companies  
who install the Ecotricity  
Chargers, do not charge for the  
electricity. They are installing  
them because they are getting  
into the market first as it it  
attracts customers (hotels,  
restaurants, diners, motorway  
services are all installing them)

They are also supporting the  
change to hydrocarbon free  
driving  
Electric cars don't actually  
use that much electricity.  
Ecotricity generates plenty of  
electricity from wind and the  
actual amount of kilowatt hours  
consumed by the few 1,000  
electric cars on the road today  
is relatively small.

## Aycliffe Village News

**COMMITTEE MEETING:** There will be a committee  
meeting of Great Aycliffe Village Hall Association on Monday,  
February 10th, at the village hall at 7pm; all are welcome For  
details, call Keith Johnson on 01325-314735.

**BABY SENSORY CLASSES:** For parents and carers with  
babies up to 13 months, there is a sensory class at the village  
hall on Tuesdays at 10.30am. For details, call Carly on 07881-  
922076.

**CRAFT CLUB:** For anyone interested in learning skills  
in basic knitting, sewing, quilting, card-making or baking,  
there is a craft club on Tuesday, February 11th, and Tuesday,  
February 25th, at the village hall from 1-3pm. Entry is £2  
and includes refreshments. For details, call Kathy Round on  
01325-315732.

**CHILLAX 'N' CHAT:** If you fancy unwinding at the end of  
the week, there will be chance to chill and chat at the village  
hall on Saturday, February 22nd, from 8pm-midnight, with  
a film and takeaway. The cost is £5 for grown-ups only. For  
more details or tickets, call Sue Hindle on 07775-680804.

**WI MEETING:** Aycliffe Village WI meets for its AGM on  
Wednesday, February 26, at the village hall at 7.30pm, so there  
will be no speaker this month. New members would be made  
very welcome.

**JUNIOR DISCO:** It's disco time for children aged five to  
12 years at the village hall on Friday, February 28th, from  
6.30-8pm. Hot dogs and a range of snacks and drinks will be  
available. Children can also have a glitter tattoo for £1. Entry  
is £1.

**VOLUNTEERS** are needed to help maintain Aycliffe Village  
Hall. If anyone can spare an hour to help clean and tidy up,  
the village hall is open on Mondays, from 10.30am, when  
committee members will be on hand to direct activities.

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## Available To Let

3 Bed, Guthrum Place  
£500 pcm  
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Housing Benefit Welcome

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4 bedroom  
apartment/maisonnette  
fully refurbished, DG  
Combi Heating  
New Carpets & Decor  
Old Part of Town  
£495 pcm  
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references required. Tel 01325  
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**3 BEDROOM** Property  
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Place, Newton Aycliffe. The  
property is spacious and  
has 3 bedrooms. There is an  
enclosed garden to the rear and  
open plan grassed area to the  
front. If you are interested then  
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**2 BEDROOM** mid terrace,  
Secker Place, GCH. new  
kitchen, garden, close to town  
centre and local amenities.  
£475pcm, bond required + 1  
month rent. Contact 07866  
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**3 BEDROOM** properties  
to let. For details call 07980  
596563

**3 BEDROOM** house, old part  
of town, excellent condition,  
GCH, DG, carpet, no DSS.  
£500pcm. Tel 07866 622243

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**For details and appointments**

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## Over Zealous Traffic Wardens

Dear Sir,  
I have just been to Bewick Crescent Surgery and I noticed it was Janet Hall's funeral. Janet belongs to a well known family in Newton Aycliffe therefore a vast crowd had gathered for this sad occasion, probably from all over the world.  
This caused a parking problem for a short while so it was disappointing to see the traffic control officer sticking tickets on people's cars who were attending the funeral.  
Have these officers no compassion at all and are they just trying to stop people coming to Newton Aycliffe. I was disgusted at what I saw. W.Milling.

## Obituary

**JEAN HARRISON** A year has gone since you passed away. You are always in our hearts and thoughts. Love, Keith, Kath, Nathan and Callum  
**RIDLEY, Leonora Eve.** Passed away on 29th January 2014. At peace now. Dearly loved and deeply missed by her family

## 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  
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**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  
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**STROLLERS** Hauck tandem, £90; Mothercare Jive £32. Like new. Tel 01325 318617

## Careers Guidance at Woodham Pays Off



Durham County school leavers' destination survey shows that almost all of Woodham Academy students have been successful in continuing in education, employment or training following their excellent GCSE results in the summer.  
The school's NEET (not in education, employment or training) figure of 1.9% is the lowest ever and compares favourably with local averages. What is especially noticeable is the number of Woodham Academy students securing high quality apprenticeships.  
At double the Durham County average, it is clear that Woodham Academy's careers education is paying off.  
Last year, Woodham Academy, together with local companies launched the Apprenticeship Awareness Challenge to promote opportunities available in Aycliffe and the immediate area.  
The annual Apprentice competition run by Gestamp has also helped young people to appreciate the possibilities open to them. All Year 11 students at Woodham Academy are guided

by specially trained teachers to help them to be successful in applying for education, training and employment. Woodham Academy was awarded the Careers Education kitemark in July for excellence in careers guidance.

## THE LAKES & DALES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Lakes and Dales Residents' Meeting is on Wednesday 19th February 6pm, Silverdale House (behind nursing home.) Please note change of date. and come and support us. Landlords of properties in our area are welcome to our meeting. The Police and Neighbourhood Watch will be in attendance along with a member of LIVIN. We are hoping to change our area's image to make it a place to be proud of. We can only do this with your support. 01325 308094 / 07967 901477 for further details.

## Poor Customer Service from NPower

A Senior Citizen is calling for more consideration for people who are effected badly by a sudden electricity cut.  
Peter Hull of Clanny Road a retired construction worker returned home at 4pm on Saturday 11th and found his electricity supply off and talking to neighbours found it had been lost since 11.30am that morning with no reason or explanation.  
The other side of the road was unaffected and Peter was struggling to find his way in the dark and could not cook a meal or boil a kettle for a cup of tea.  
In the end he dedecided to go to bed early, but due to illness had to get up around midnight. The electric was still off and as he moved into the kitchen he fell headlong over the doorway threshold, banging his head against the kitchen unit and it could have been a serious injury. Peter is not wanting any compensation for his injury but he does feel the electicity suppliers N-Power have a duty to contact their customers to let them know why the supply is off and when it will be restored.  
They do have an 0800 number, but it is difficult to get through to get the answers to your query. Peter did manage to make

contact and has received an apology and told there was an underground fault. NPower were very sympathetic and apologetic and took Peter's mobile phone number promising to notify him if there was a similar occurrence. Peter was surprised to learn there was an emergency number for vulnerable clients who could be kept informed about any cuts to their electicity supply.

## In Memoriam

**JOE BARNETT** In loving memory of my dear Husband Joe, died 12th February 2002. Twelve lonely years have passed. I think of you every day, I've never stopped loving you. Your loving Wife Eva  
**JOE BARNETT** In memory of a loving Dad and Grandad. Died 12th February 2002. We loved you then, we love you still and we always will. Daughter Betty and family  
**BILLY HAILES** Treasured memories of a loving Husband and Dad. We miss you more and more each day. You will never be forgotten and your love will stay in our hearts forever. God bless. Lots of love, Doreen, all your family, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxxx

## Birthday Remembrance

**BILL BAKER.** February 10th. Another birthday, sadly missed. Love Barbara x  
**KATH BENNETT** 11th February. Today it is your birthday Mam and Nan, a day that we find hard. You never wanted any fuss, but you always loved your card. It breaks our hearts to know that you are no longer here. We know before the day has passed we'll all have shed a tear. We never cease to miss you or ever cease to care. For in the corners of our hearts you will stay forever there. Love always, Helen, Sandy, Ben and Sam xxxx  
**KATH BENNETT** Happy birthday, beautiful memories I treasure forever of the love and happiness we shared together. Ben  
**ANN-MARIE DUFF** Missing you loads, all our love. Glyn, Courtney and Jordan xxx  
**ANNE-MARIE PATTERSON** 12th February. Happy 38th Birthday. Sent with love and a bouquet of Fresa. Missing you loads, Courtney, Jordan, Mam, John and Pidapad xxxx

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Special Set Menu £50.00 per couple

**SEVEN COURSE MEAL**  
Call us to find out more information and to book your table  
Telephone 316516



## Congratulations

### Sam Scott



**Happy 21st Birthday**  
Hope you have a great day, lots of love  
Mam, Dad, Dani, Candi, Jonny, Marley,  
Nanna, Grandad, Grandma and Grandad xxxxxxxxx

**ROB** Happy 50th birthday Rob. Love of love always, Bev xxx  
**DAD** Happy 50th birthday Dad. Love you loads. Zoe and Bobby xxx  
**LINDA MARSHALL** Happy 50th birthday to the best Wife and Mam. Love you lots, Gary, Amber, Jake and Quinn xxx  
**MILES CLARK** happy 8th birthday Miles. Lots of love, Mammy, Daddy, Jake, Ruby and Lottie xxxx  
**MILES CLARK** Happy birthday to our Grandson Miles. Love and kisses, Gran and Granda xxx  
**MILES CLARK** Happy birthday Miles. Love and hugs, Lynsey, Andy, Joel and Ellis xxxx  
**AARON** 'SuperMan' GREEN 9th February. Happy 18th Birthday Son. Have an awesome Party and an amazing Day. Love you lots, Mam and Dad xxx  
**AARON GREEN** 9th February. Happy 18th Birthday - you old man! Have a great day, and a fantastic party! Love you lots, from your little Sis Emma xx  
**AARON GREEN** Wishing you all the best on your 18th birthday. Love from Granda xxxxx  
**LOUISE PEACOCK** - OH NO! Louise it's the big 30!! Happy birthday to you Louise. Lots of love, Mam xxx  
**LOUISE PEACOCK** Happy birthday from your little boys, Damian and Logan xxxxx Stephen, Mam, Nana, Clare and all your family xxxx

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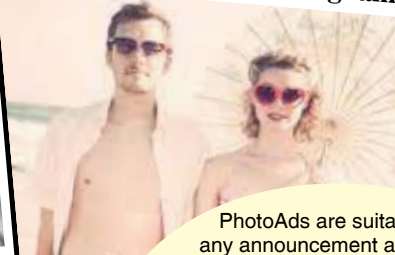
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We are currently working on an archive site which will bring you ALL the past issues of the Newton News as far back as 1948!



## Planet Leisure Bowling League

It was a fantastic week for the Misfits and Joe O'Connell who took the high game with handicap held by Paul Wilkinson at 259, which Joe took to 269.

Joe & and his team-mate Gary Applegarth took the high team game with handicap pushing the score from 450 to 456 taking it from the Late starters 6-2 on the night. Top of the league the Pinheads lost 6-2 to the Strike force who move up to third place. The Optimists won 6-2 over the Bowl Movements. Shildon Strikers played the M&M's with 4-4 draw.

## Aycliffe F.C. Frustrated by Bad Weather

Newton Aycliffe FC saw their quest to move on towards the top half of the EBAC Northern League First Division table frustrated by the weather this weekend, as their home game against Durham City was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

With the visitors fresh from a takeover by former Newcastle United full back Olivier Bernard, it was a game that Allan Oliver's men were looking forward to. They had

revenge in their eyes as well, following the heavy defeat they suffered at New Ferens Park back in August.

However, despite the best efforts of the grounds staff down at Moore Lane Park, the recent heavy rain had taken its toll, and the game was finally postponed following a pitch inspection on Saturday morning.

On the plus side, it gives long term injury victim Stephen Gibson more chance of regaining fitness ahead of the run-in to the season, as well as being a couple of weeks further into the expected 6 week period that Oliver will have to do without hot shot Jamie Owens.

As ever at this time of the Northern League season Clubs start to face a fixture backlog. In that regard Aycliffe are not as badly off as many. They have played 29 out of their 44 league games, and of course they don't have any cup commitments to distract them between now and May!

The Club have announced that the committee have decided to take on the highest peak in England to help raise funds for the Club, and prove they are just as fit as the playing squad! The sponsored climb is due to take place over the weekend of 5th April, and full details will be released in due course.

Next up on the pitch (weather permitting of course) is the short trip to Heritage Park to take on Bishop Auckland (and several former Aycliffe players) on Fri 7th Feb, followed by a third attempt at the game at Crook on Wed 12th, before returning to Moore Lane Park on Sat 15th when they welcome high flying and big spending Celtic Nation. They follow that with another home game on Wednesday 19th when Penrith follow Celtic Nation across the A66. As ever, your support is very much valued by Allan and the players as Aycliffe seek to finish the season on a high and aim for a top half finish.

## Aycliffe Angels Netball Club at Greenfield

On Sunday 2nd February a B2N (Back to Netball) Tournament was held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre organised by England Netball Development Officer Fiona Holden.

Our local team Aycliffe Angels, who train at Greenfield Community College, coached by Ellie

## Iron Man Visits New Gym



Iron Man with owners Vicki & Terry with their son Aiden

Both children and adults were stunned on Saturday as Aycliffe's new Crossfit Gym got a special visit from none other than the super hero Ironman!

Crossfit Allout was opened last month and has been very successful gaining over 100 members in its first few weeks and gathering lots of media attention from it's huge wall mural by local artists Dan Walls and Oxo of Illumination Wall Art. Ironman contacted the gym after following its success and wanted to stop by to see the gym for himself, meet the staff and be photographed with his fans.

The event hosted a bouncy castle provided by BounceaboutandPlay for the kids and everyone who came to the event had the opportunity to have a free photo taken with Iron Man courtesy of Paul Travis of Eye Dream Photography as a memento of the day. All the businesses involved have experienced a boom since Christmas and are all really excited to share their collective success and give something back to the local



Iron Man with 3 year old Brandon Travis

community.

"It's not every day that you get to meet a superhero, to be able to share that experience and our success with our

home town is a great thing to do", said Vikki and Terry Anderson owners of Crossfit. for more details contact: hello@crossfitallout.co.uk

## SWIMMING RESULTS

At the Northern Area Zonal Meet in Sheffield on 18/19th January, Mathew Bradley and Hannah Featherstone competed in six events. Hannah took the gold medals in the 100 and 200 Freestyle and the silver in the 100 Backstroke. Mathew was placed fourth in the 200 Freestyle and the 100 Breaststroke.

At the Northumberland & Durham Sprint Championships in Sunderland, Mathew Bradley and Kye Cowton competed in five events. Mathew won silver in both the 50 Breast and the 50 Freestyle. The results are a credit to the swimmers as they are training at Bishop Auckland, Darlington, Woodham Academy and Sunderland while work is carried out at Aycliffe pool. We are all looking forward to getting back to our home pool at NALC in the near future.

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