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Youthy Name New Public Snack Bar "The Beveridge"



Chrissy with the great value £1.50p Bacon Bun

The Social Room & Cafe at the Youth and Community Centre is to take on a new lease of life with effect from Monday 24th February. Staff and volunteers at the Centre have been thinking of an apt name for the new room. Not only are the management committee excited about this new project, but they also feel a buzz about what is happening generally in Newton Aycliffe. If a new town can be "born again" then the management committee believe this is the way it feels currently. With this in mind and in honour of Newton Aycliffe founder Lord Beveridge, it has been agreed that the new name for the Cafe, which is open to the public for hot and cold snacks, should be "The Beveridge".

Vince Crosby Chairman of

the management committee said, "We have been holding Brunch Clubs every Wednesday morning where our bacon butties at only £1.50p have been a big hit so we are all excited to launch this next step in the development of the Centre. Chrissy Askew is Events Co-ordinator in charge of the Cafe. She is a qualified catering trainer and served in the REME T.A. for 15 years as an instructor. Chrissy, originally from Middridge lives in Newton Aycliffe and one of her staff Jayne Latchman, and a Jobseeker, will assist in the kitchen. The Beveridge will open from 10am - 2pm each day Monday to Friday and will grow as fast as the people of the town want it to, so please get yourself along and help its growth".

Community Partnership at Woodham Centre

Woodham Community Centre in partnership with our Police Community Beat Team will be providing drop in sessions at the Centre for members of the public. Come and meet your local Police Officers, you can air any issues in a confidential local situation. Advice on crime prevention, Bike marking sessions, Home security and the latest updates on your local police activities will be available to the public. This new service will run three weeks out of four on a Wednesday morning. Dates and times will be published, displayed on notice boards and the police website:

www.durham.police.uk
The dates are as follows:
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If you are interested please come and take a look around! * Subject to criteria

WOODHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE A.G.M.

Woodham Village Community Centre hold their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 19th March 2014 at 7.00pm Open to all, but only members at 19th March 2014 will be eligible to vote for items on the Agenda.

Nominations for Officers, Committee members, proposals or any other business must be with the Secretary on or before 28th February 2014. Forms available from the Secretary or the Centre. (Notice published previously).

Copies of the Agenda and minutes of the previous meeting will be available on the night, posted on Centre outdoor notice board, or by request from the Secretary from 7th March 2014.

David Sutton-Lloyd
01325 316144 (home), 01325 300258 (Centre)

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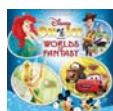
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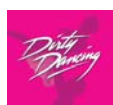
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BONE MARROW RECIPIENT ACCEPTS CHEQUE FROM MASONS ON BEHALF OF CHARITY



Back: Aycliffe Lodge members Robbie Davison, Robert Jones, Terry Green, Graham Parker.
Seated: Mrs Helen Dunnington Waters with her son Peter, and Ken Paylor (Worshipful Master of Aycliffe Lodge)

Peter Dunnington-Waters was 11 years old when he was diagnosed with Severe Aplastic Anaemia. This is a very rare blood disorder and the main form of treatment is a Bone Marrow Transplant. Peter had weekly blood and platelet transfusions at the RVI in Newcastle. Peter was fortunate through Anthony Nolan Trust to get a donor. The donor was a female from America, to whom the family are extremely grateful, and hope to meet

one day. Peter had to take a year out of school, which would have been his final year at Sugar Hill but the school kept in touch all the time. Peter was well enough in September 2013 to start at Greenfield College and the staff and teachers have been fantastic, especially Mrs Belinda Atkinson-Jones, who helped Peter settle. "We have been overwhelmed with support from family and friends and are now able to send a cheque for £600 to Anthony Nolan Trust

from the kind members of Aycliffe Lodge, which is wonderful. We have sent donations to Anthony Nolan previously and also helped with recruitment drives to get 16 to 30 year olds on the register" "If any one is interested in being on the register please contact www.anthonynolan.org for a spit kit. If any one would like to make a donation to this worthwhile group they can reach me at 31 St Oswalds Court, Newton Aycliffe. Tel: 314718." said parents Phil and Helen.

CLUBLAND'S CANCER GALA AT CHILTON CLUB

Stars of the North East Club circuit are holding an evening of entertainment to raise funds for a local cancer support charity. Respected entertainer Chyrelle Addams was diagnosed with breast cancer a number of years ago, and since then has worked tirelessly to raise funds to ease the suffering of other local cancer patients. Among her patrons is famous actress Denise Welsh, and up until his recent sad death, Ferryhill Flyer "Phil Nixon" was also a patron and loyal supporter of the Charity. Eighteen of the region's best-loved acts will be

performing at Chilton & Windlestone Working Mens Club on Thursday 6th March. All monies raised will be donated to the Charity as all entertainers have waived their fees. Secretary Mark Taylor said "This is one of the best line-ups that Clubland has to offer and you will never again see the same line-up of top talent gracing the same stage! We are hoping for a sell out, and at just £3 a ticket everyone has the chance to make a donation to the Charity whilst having a great evening out!" Folks can call into the Club for tickets or download them from our website at www.chiltonwmc.co.uk



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Saturday 1st March - "ELENBAK"

"We do covers by the likes of Bad company, Free, Sabbath, Poison, Brian Adams, eurythmics & many more.

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

Saturday 8th March - "Sticky Fingers"

1st set blasted off with Judas Priest's 'Metal Gods'; UFO classic 'Lights Out' followed and by now the Stickies are going full steam, rocking out good and hard. There is only one word for Phil's guitar playing on this track - awesome! Drop in Van Halen's 'Lets Talk About Love' followed by a huge guitar solo spot that led into Satriani's 'Surfing With The Alien' and 'Breaking The Law' for a bit more Priest and you have the makings of a great first set.

Second set opened with a Zeppelin medley of 'Communication Breakdown', 'Rock n Roll' and 'Whole Lotta Love' and it was here that the sheer volume and thump of Keith Moore's bass drum really made it's impact. Blending nicely with Phil Finley's bass, this is a good rhythm section for Phil Martin to build upon. Fronting a band like Sticky Fingers is no easy job, especially considering the length of time they have been around and the following they have built up but Mark Evans looks so relaxed on stage, moving bassman Phil to take centre stage to sing 'Teenage Kicks' really worked and when Mark returned to close out the set with 'Enter Sandman' and a bouncy 'Anarchy In The UK' the audience took their voices through the roof.

Saturday 15th March - "Tommy & The Oddballs"

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www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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Stiller Builds £700,000 Multi-use Factory

Part of Company's Expansion Plan

An Aycliffe distribution firm is investing £700,000 in a new multi-use building on its huge site as part of the group's long-term growth plans to create employment. Stiller Warehousing and Distribution has plans to develop a two-and-a-half acre piece of land which adjoins its main premises on Ridgeway, Aycliffe Business Park. The first phase of the development includes a 20,000 sq ft multi-use building, with the steel frame already in place, with plans to develop the rest of the land. Contractors will now begin building and fitting out the facility, which will be fully insulated. Stiller, which employs 115 people, say the property would be ideally suited for a small to medium-sized manufacturing or distribution company. Managing Director Paul Stiller said: "At this stage, as we're about to construct it, the facility could be built bespoke for end-users. The building is right in the heart of Aycliffe Business Park and could be divided into two 10,000 square foot units". There is also planning permission for other buildings on the site which are earmarked for further phases of the development. Stiller, which reported an increase in turnover to £10.5m at the end of 2013, is working



Stiller Warehousing and Distribution managing director Paul Stiller and Andrew Winney, director and company secretary, at the firm's new facility which is currently being constructed

with an increasing number of companies on Aycliffe Business Park. The group offers a "just in time" service to Gestamp Tallent and 3M - storing materials and feeding them into their factories and has recently started working with growing engineering firm Palram. The rapid success of national network Palletline - a national group of 70 companies across Britain of which Stiller is a member and major shareholder - is increasing business, resulting in two new members of staff being recruited. Stiller's premises includes a 15,000-pallet store of 160,000 square feet, storing for 15 customers from varying industries. "Palletline is a very successful national network which is experiencing growth. The system itself, of which we're an integral part, is growing at more than 20 per cent a year. "The numbers of pallets being transported around the country are going up all the time" said Paul Stiller. Because the number of pallets is going up by 20% a year, Stillers have to meet that demand. As they gear up to that - to trunk them up from the Palletline hub in the Midlands and back to the North-East -

they've got to generate more business in this area in order to keep the vehicles efficient. Otherwise the vehicles will be going down empty to the hubs to bring back lots of pallets, which isn't cost-effective. "We're already very active in the sales market place but we're investing in our sales team accordingly, with two new members of staff coming in, to build on the success of Palletline. "It's the market-leader in the transport of pallets and we recently invested more than £1m in a fleet of new vehicles, including four which were part of the Government's trial of longer semi-trailers (LSTs), which nationally are expected to save over 3,000 tonnes of CO2 over 10 years." said Paul.

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Valentine Fun at Care Home



The residents, staff, family and friends of Aycliffe Care Home, Burhope enjoyed a wonderful evening of entertainment from Tac-U-Bac which is a husband and wife duo. As well as the lovely cakes which were made by some of the lovely ladies in the home we sang laughed and danced the night away. Thank you to everyone that helped make the night special.

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*Aycliffe Village Ofsted Outstanding

Science Fun at Library

Last Friday morning children and adults enjoyed experiments galore with Professor Brainstorm. The session was held in Newton Aycliffe Library and all of the children were involved in the experiments from exploding balloons to potato spud guns. The event was a great success and everyone commented that if science was always like this more children would enjoy it.

New Homes Still Have No Telephones

Despite all the bad publicity for BT the residents of Greenwood Court are still waiting to get their new homes connected to the telephone system.

They are still getting wrong or incorrect information from their Telephone and Broadband suppliers. The residents are having to find out the correct information themselves and it is unbelievable that neighbours are talking to each other all with different dates for the connection to be made.

On Monday 10th February an Open Reach engineer attended the site and informed some residents that there is a collapsed duct under the road and blamed the contractors who laid the new sewers which is disputed by the builders. This would take 5 weeks to rectify, but at the same time a resident received a text telling her she would be connected that Friday.

Philip Clark contacted the local County Councillor to find out if the planned works had been requested from Durham County, the request was put into the Council the following Monday (so much for the hurry) and it was

confirmed the works would start Friday 21st February.

Another resident contacted Phil Wilson MP, on the Friday the contractors arrived on site and put in new ducting which was completed on Monday 25th. The residents are wondering is it a coincidence that things seem to be happening after other high profile people are getting involved including the MP, County Councillors and representatives from Livin.

Open Reach informed Livin before Christmas that they were aware of the collapsed duct and said it would be done before Christmas. Did they mean Easter?

The biggest complaint is that no one from Open Reach is prepared to tell the truth and explain what is happening and the residents would feel better if they felt that they weren't being lied to. They can only hope that this matter is resolved soon and can join the 21st Century. Come on Open Reach stand up and treat us like adults and give us the respect we deserve!

This letter has been forwarded to Open Reach
Philip Clark, Chairman

Care Home Hold "Come Dine With Me" Lunch Contest



Rose Lodge opened its doors again to the public and held their fourth "Come Dine With Me" lunch this week. Head Chef David Nevison was up against Second Chef Tracey Kilburn competing for the best menu.

Both were given a budget and asked to prepare a three course meal to serve to the guests. The guests then scored the meals out of ten. The scoring was very close but resulted in David winning the prize of chocolates and wine which he took home to share with his wife. Head Chef David said "It has been a lot of fun holding the competition and it was

great to see the residents, their families and guests all sitting together enjoying the meal" said David.

Following the meal guests were invited to join in a Quiz and enjoy further refreshments. One guest Marjorie who attended the lunch said "the food was fantastic, easily of restaurant quality. I have not eaten a meal as lovely as this in a long time, bring on the next one!" The event was advertised in Newton News and diners had to reserve a place. It was oversubscribed so a reserve list was opened and they will be accommodated next time.

The Oddest Items of Litter

From an artificial leg to a suspender belt – charity reveals the ten weirdest items found littering our streets

Every day, Keep Britain Tidy's survey team is walking the streets, looking at the litter that we, as a nation, drop – a staggering 30million tonnes of it every year.

The environmental charity does this surveying for an annual report for Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) on how clean our country is, the Local Environmental Quality Survey of England (LEQSE). As you would expect, the charity's surveyors find millions of cigarette butts, thousands of plastic bottles and crisp packets but, alongside the everyday stuff, the surveyors occasionally find something that stops them in their tracks.

We have pulled together the most unusual and downright odd items that our surveyors have found on their finds around the country.

Top 10

1. A colostomy bag.
2. An artificial limb.
3. Two really large pike, found at the side of a lay-by.
4. Hundreds of limes at the side of the road
5. A 'rabbit' toy that would be more at home in a well-known women's high street store.
6. A bin bag that was split

open and full of dog poo!

7. A suspender belt, black lacy bra and pants, on a rural road that only leads to one farm.

8. In a wood, a large grave that was probably for a dog which was very, very spooky!

9. A large collection of adult-only DVDs.

10. A Barbie doll, hung by the neck from a tree with one eye burned out and the rest of the doll slightly charred!

Whilst these items are certainly odd, litter and fly-tipping is a serious issue for England, which blights our nation's landscape, impacts on our local communities and causes harm to wildlife.

Annually, 30 million tonnes of litter are cleaned from our streets across the country with a cost to local authorities of £1 billion per year. Chief Executive of Keep Britain Tidy, Phil Barton, said, "The LEQSE survey helps us to assess the environmental cleanliness of the country. It is critical to ensure that government, local authorities, land managers, business and Keep Britain Tidy have the information we need in order to act."

"Some of the items found by our surveyors are quite weird, but these finds highlight the bigger issue of littering and fly tipping in particular. We all want to be able to access clean places around us, so

we all have a responsibility to put our rubbish in a bin or take it home with us."

PCP Welcomes New Hypnotherapist

Qualified practitioner Carole Briggs is joining PCP's Therapy Services to deliver Hypnotherapy and Private Counselling sessions.

Counselling and Hypnotherapy can help people through a wide range of issues including bereavement and loss, addictions, self esteem, anger, phobias, stress, anxiety and depression.

Or it could be that you just want to talk to someone about concerns that you are having. Whatever your reasons Carole is also a qualified Counsellor and can help you to make a positive change in your life.

Hypnotherapy has long been recognised to be very powerful method for personal development. It is simply a state of heightened relaxation where you can make contact with your subconscious mind, in order to effect change in your life.

Carole says "In life there are times when we all need some extra support – a place where we can be ourselves, without judgement, without advice, without being told what to do – to explore and understand what is going on around us and to us. My aim is to provide a safe, welcoming space where together we can begin to unravel life events,



twists and turns."

A typical session lasts for 50-60 minutes and day time and evening appointments are available.

The cost per hour is £40 and £30 for concessions. To enquire further or to book an appointment contact Carole directly on 0776 0246933.

The Pioneering Care Centre provides a range of complementary therapies that offer an alternative way to alleviate the effects of stress, increase energy levels, reduce aches and pains, improve mobility or help you relax. 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

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A Stroll in the Park

Dear Sir,
I took a pleasant stroll around West Park this morning, crossing Stephenson Way past the crocus patches which have burst into colour. Certainly an uplifting effect, and I continued on to cross the bridge and had a friendly chat with a park attendant cleaning up crisp packets and debris which had found its way into the water's edge. I walked passed the outside exercise equipment which surprisingly shows no sign of deterioration over the winter and along by the kiddies playground to the shop. The sodden ground is drying up and the pathway which

was covered in water on my last walk has dried up offering unimpeded passage. At the rear of the shop I saw what looks like a manhole cover (must enquire about its purpose at some time) which may be a possible site for a future toilet facility if the group and the relevant authorities agree. I followed a couple of young families out of the park with children running and milling around happily and back to the crocus display. Elaine and I thoroughly enjoyed our walk and fresh air and were ready for a hot cuppa.
Ken Robson, Chairman, Friends of West Park

Aycliffe Students Check Out Oxford and Cambridge



Five of the most able Year 10 students from Woodham Academy were invited to attend an information session about applying to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Students were given an insight into the entry requirements and opportunities available as an undergraduate student. This was an interesting and informative session, which also provided them with an opportunity to talk to current students from the universities.

Corin Lathan, who is currently on track to achieve outstanding grades at GCSE, commented "the visit gave great insight into future opportunities and made me realise that higher universities are quite accessible with much effort and determination". Corin hopes to go onto study medicine after completing

A levels at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College. Woodham Academy provides various opportunities for students to learn about higher education and entry to university.

The programme of activities is aimed to raise students' aspirations and has resulted in a high proportion of students progressing to university, including both Oxford and Cambridge.

Dementia Care Survey - Your Views are Needed

If you have experience of dementia services, then your views would be really valuable to local health and social care champions. Healthwatch County Durham and Healthwatch Darlington are the new local consumer champions for health and social care in this region. The two organisations give children, young people and adults a powerful voice – making sure their views and experiences are heard by those who run, plan and regulate health and social care services. Dementia is effecting an increasing proportion of the population, and the Healthwatch teams want to know what people think about the care and services they receive, for example assessment and diagnosis, or services such as chiropody or mental health support. A simple survey is available to complete – either online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CDDementiaSurvey> or using a paper version of the

questionnaire available by ringing 01325 375 960. The survey can be completed by either the dementia sufferer themselves or by a family member, or their carer. Responses are anonymous and it is not necessary to name anyone or any service provider involved. The deadline for responses to be received is 7 March 2014. The Clinical Commissioning Groups in the area are developing a new Dementia Strategy and have asked the Healthwatch organisations to gather the evidence from this survey. By making sure the views and experiences of people who use dementia services are gathered, analysed and acted upon, Healthwatch can help make services better now and in the future. Healthwatch actively seeks views from all sections of the community, especially from those who sometimes struggle to be heard and not just from those who shout the loudest.

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THIEVES RIDE OFF WITH EXPENSIVE PEDAL CYCLES

POLICE are appealing for information after two top of the range pedal cycles were stolen from a garage in Newton Aycliffe.

Between 11pm on Wednesday, 12th February and 3pm the next day thieves broke in to the garage which was attached to a house in Hunters Green. They stole two bikes, one of which is a brand new battery-powered machine which had only been bought by the owner a few weeks ago.

The Cube hybrid pro-reaction carbon framed race bike was black, with lime green markings. It also had a bag rack over the rear wheel, aluminium race pedals and the tyres are Panasonic with reflective tyre walls. The bike is valued at £2,300.

The second item stolen was a Focus Cayo Evo Dura Ace road bike, which had a black carbon frame. It had Speedplay pedals, 18 gears and is worth £3,300.

"The battery-powered bike was stolen without the battery charger, and once the battery is drained the bike is difficult to pedal," said Det Con Anne WRAITH of Newton Aycliffe serious crime team. "We believe these bikes may be of interest to a specialist rider or a specialist cycle shop. Anyone who has

any information relating to the burglary can contact us on 101 or they can ring the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555111."

This is the latest in a series of high value bike thefts in Newton Aycliffe and owners are being urged to take every precaution possible to protect their bikes. This includes securely locking sheds and garages where they are stored.

In December police launched 'Operation Spoke', an initiative being run in

conjunction with local cycle retailers to provide security marking and other crime prevention or detection measures.

A number of events are being organised in the Newton Aycliffe area where members of the public can take their bikes along and take advantage of the offer. Anyone interested having their bicycle marked up and registered should contact PCSO Richie SCOTT at Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101 x 673 2602.

P.A.C.T. Meeting
Police And Community Together

WEST WARD

A PACT Meeting will be held at Parsons Centre Methodist Church, Burnhill Way on Thursday 6th March from 6.00pm.

Please come along to hear updates and have your say on local issues. PC Mike Welch & PCSOs Nicola Shaw & Chris Noble are your Community Police Officers. Local Ward Councillors in Attendance.

For more information on whats going on in your area visit www.durham.police.uk

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World Day of Prayer's

The Women's World Day of Prayer this year is being held on Friday 7th March at St Clare's Parish Church at 11am.

The theme for the Service is 'Streams in the Desert' and has been written by Christian women in Egypt. All are welcome and a light lunch will be served after the Service.

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Young People Get "Equipped for Life"



During Half term last week a group of young people from Newton Aycliffe joined staff at Greenfield Arts and Graphic Designer Coral Wells-Porter for two days of exploring digital design. The residency was funded by GAMP AAP as part of the "Equipped for Life" project which also funded a range of new creative design and print equipment based at the centre. The young people, inspired by a recent talk from Creative Agency "Orange Bus," learnt how to use professional design software, creating logos for themselves and "The Shed." The young people

also had the opportunity to try out some of the fantastic new specialist design and print equipment, including an iMac and a digital embroidery sewing machine, which is now situated in "The Shed" a space linked to "Room 13" the new enquiry creative spaced recently opened at Greenfield Arts. The two days were a great success, with the group creating some exciting designs. The designs will now be passed on to Orange Bus who will help Greenfield Arts to choose a design to be used as the logo for "The Shed." The results will be released soon!

Aycliffe Scrap Metal Collector Seeks Support

Robert Carver, operating as "Steptoe & Son" for over 3 years, collecting waste and scrap metal in Newton Aycliffe, is looking for support from his customers in obtaining a licence from Durham County Council. So far they have refused and Robert who lives in the town needs written support for the service he provides. Failure to obtain his licence will put Robert out of work and

unable to collect unwanted items and scrap. All metal and electrical collections by Robert are free, but general waste is charged at a nominal fee. Letters can be sent to Newton Press at St. Cuthberts Way Newton Aycliffe and e-mails to syd@newtonpress.net. We will be happy to forward these to Robert. To contact Robert ring 07546 319311.

Garden Theft

Dear Sir,
I would like to ask the heartless thieves who stole a treasured memorial green angel cherub from my back garden in Kempton Close to return it.
We have a good idea who has stolen it and this person is not too far away from the address it was stolen from.
We are giving the thieves a week to return it, then we will call the police and report the theft.
Name & address supplied

FAREWELL MALLARD



Reader Jim Summerson sent in this photo at the end of the great gathering showing "Mallard" being towed back to York by the "Union of South Africa", passing through Heighington Station.

Aycliffe Couple Celebrate Diamond Wedding Anniversary



Derek and Mary Mooring of Bamburgh Crescent celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary at the weekly Luncheon Club held at St. Mary's Church. The Mayor Barbara Clare was present with a bouquet for the couple as was Pam Biro (right) who presented flowers on behalf of the luncheon group. Derek and Mary first met outside a theatre in Newcastle, Derek was from Gosforth and Mary from Heaton. They got on very well and Derek asked to take her home. He remembers it well as he then had a five mile walk to get himself home. A year or so later the couple became engaged and it soon came round to thoughts of marriage. Derek got the Newcastle F.C. fixture list out of his pocket and the date was arranged when Newcastle had an away match. They were married at St. Michael's Church, Heaton on 20th February 1954. Derek is ex RAF and served in Egypt and Shropshire. He left the forces after 5 years and became a long distance lorry driver until 1969 when the couple decided to move to Newton Aycliffe when Derek landed a job with UMM. Derek and Mary have two daughters who live close by and an adopted son who lives in Nottingham. There are four Grandchildren and three Great Grandchildren. Their advice for a long happy marriage is to care for each other and stay faithful. The family came together for a celebration last weekend.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 12th March 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)

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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Greenfield Lead Global Stage Line Dance



On Wednesday 12th February representatives from 17 schools visited Greenfield College as the 'Expert Centre' for the 'Global Learning Programme, funded by the Department for International Development.

The goal of the Global Learning Programme is to have 50% of all schools in the country working in the area of global learning and development education in the next 5 years.

Greenfield is leading a network of 17 schools, intent on making a difference for young people by developing a whole school global curriculum. Through this students develop the knowledge, skills and values which enable them to understand the world in which they live.

The programme will have

a huge impact on their understanding of social justice, how they can challenge poverty and on developing their critical understanding of international issues and topics.

Following the training and information at Greenfield, the network of schools will deliver the global curriculum in their own establishments before coming back together to continue the development over further training days.

Assistant Head Teacher, Stuart Dixon, who is leading the project at Greenfield said, "The GLP is an exciting opportunity for like-minded schools to come together to make a real difference for the young people they cater for. The development of essential skills and a greater understanding of the world around us will impact

upon achievement across the school and on lifelong learning skills. This is a strong team of schools and colleagues who are intent on making a significant impact on achievement and confidence on a regional basis."

Greenfield was chosen as an "Expert Centre" for the programme because of its excellent reputation for global learning and for providing a range of opportunities for students and staff which include teacher exchange opportunities, global learning "drop-down" days and innovative methods of learning both inside and outside the classroom. Greenfield feels privileged to have its excellent work acknowledged and to be given the opportunity to share its vision with other schools

New Friends New Places welcomes non members to their LINE DANCING with Angela on the first Tuesday of every month from 2pm until 4pm. cost £3. including a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit.

We also welcome you to our Armchair Aerobics with Dianne on the third Tuesday of every month cost £3, from 2pm until 4pm.

Ring 308094 / 07967 901477.

Flower Demo

Area Demonstrator Jan Faulkner from Great Ayton will present a seasonal evening of flower arranging entitled 'Spring Forward' at the next meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club.

The event will take place on Monday 3rd March at 7.30pm at Shildon Civic Centre. Free to members. Visitors £5. pay on the door.

Success for DISC Student on Work Placement

A DISC 'Steps4Success' student, Cassie, is enjoying her work placement at Durham with the Police and Crime Commissioners' Team and hopes to continue her passion for law once she finishes the placement later in February, working as an apprentice at a law firm.

Cassie has been on the S4S programme at the charity DISC since last year and as part of her course has been travelling one day a week to her work placement since November. "I was really nervous at first. Even on the way to the interview in the car, but it turned out really well."

Rebecca Drummond, S4S Employer Engagement Officer, helped secure Cassie's placement as she knew she had an interest in law and wanted to pursue

a career in the future. "It was really difficult to find Cassie a work placement and we were pleased when the Commissioners' Team agreed to take Cassie.

Cassie has really progressed as a person through this placement; she's matured and grown in confidence. "I've really enjoyed working at County Hall, the work's been fun and interesting. As well as administration support I've been involved in designing certificates for schools and working on the website" said Cassie.

"When I graduate from S4S I hope to continue my studies in psychology and law and I've applied to be an apprentice at a local solicitor's" adds Cassie.

Commissioner Ron Hogg said, "I have been delighted to assist with the work placement organised by DISC. Cassandra is a hard worker and has put her mind to any task asked of her. I wish her every success for the future".

Steps4Success is a young person's training scheme run by DISC which unlocks the potential of 16 to 18-year-olds who are not in education and employment.

Launched two- and-a-half

years ago, to date, over 200 young people have benefited from practical advice, skills and confidence building courses and work placements with organisations including the Durham Police and Crime Commissioners Team, Little Cubs Day Nursery, Roman td, XCEL Centre, Greg Little Testing Centre, Agnew Centre Day Nursery and Bluebell Workshops.

Work experience provides young people the opportunity to gain practical experience in a real working environment. It is a valuable contribution by businesses to the development of young people's employability skills and their career aspirations.

However, sourcing work placements can be difficult. and DISC thanks all the businesses that have supported the students and if any other businesses are interested in hosting a student on a work placement to make contact. Free transport and bursaries are available, as well as help with other course costs. Contact 01325 731160 or steps4success@disc-vol.org.uk

DISC, Sapphire House, Horndale Avenue, Aycliffe Business Park. Tel: 01325 731 160

POLICE LIAISON OFFICER AT HORNDALE RESIDENTS MEETING

Neil Langthorne is the guest speaker for the March 5th meeting, and will talk about Neighbourhood Watch which is recruiting new members to boost this vital role in our community. Neil will also answer questions on crime prevention for your homes, gardens and businesses.

As usual the Police, Livin, Councillors and Council

Wardens will be in attendance to give reports and updates and answer any concerns or questions you may have.

This is always a good chance to meet the people who are working hard to make your neighbourhoods and Newton Aycliffe as a whole, a better and nicer place to live.

We will be discussing events for the coming year as we have

nearly completed all work for the M.U.G.A project. We can concentrate our efforts in organising events such as an Easter Fun Day with egg painting competition and games for everyone, but more information nearer the day. We would also like to have a day at the seaside in the summer holidays and a Pantomime trip at Christmas. We can only succeed at organising community events if we are sure people want to attend. All our trips will be at an affordable cost and some may be free if we can get funding or work with other groups.

Please come along and join us in creating a fantastic community to live. The meeting starts at 6pm with refreshments at 5.45 at the Evangelical Church, Ladybower. Philip Clark Chairman

Last week was Half term and we had a great week here at Greenfield Arts. We started the week with "Equipped for Life" two days of creative designing by a fantastic group of young people, funded by GAMP AAP.

On Wednesday we were joined by artist and printmaker Theresa Easton for a session making "Book Birds" which are now on display in the Arts Centre foyer. This was a great creative session with participants making their own stamps and decorating the birds, having lots of fun!

On Thursday "Season to Taste" led two full sessions of Family Cooking, making delicious seasonal food for all the family, including our Facebook competition winner Karen Gillham! On Friday Environment Officer for Great Aycliffe Town Council Steve Cooper led a session for families making bird boxes, assisted by volunteer David Sutton-Lloyd. The bird boxes will be appearing around Aycliffe soon - keeping the local wildlife warm in this cold winter!

Each school holiday season we work hard to offer a range

of activities for young people and families in the town, most of which are free. We are now putting together plans for the two Easter weeks - all information about these activities is posted on our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk. Thank you to everyone who made last week such a success!



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Roman Support Local Fundraising Event

Online homewares retailer, Roman at Home (www.romathome.com), based in Newton Aycliffe is supporting a local fundraising team by donating an auction prize to raise money for Children with Cancer charity. Roman at Home is the sister company of Roman, based in Newton Aycliffe Business Park, the local company is a family owned business and regularly supports local charities. When Roman heard about a team of local runners undertaking various sporting events such as the London Marathon and also holding

a Spring Ball at Rockcliffe Hall to raise funds for the Children with Cancer charity they wanted to help them beat their impressive target of £12,000, which they raised last year. Roman donated a generous gift box which includes an assortment of products from their extensive collection of homewares to be auctioned off at the black tie event, with 150 attendees. David Osborne, Managing Director commented: "We saw this as a great cause and wanted to get involved and support the charity for Children with Cancer."



Paul Cook (one of the organisers/fundraisers) and Ally Chesney (Digital Marketing Executive, Roman at Home)

Ineos Employees Give Generous Support



Admin Officer Nora Brewster with the food and household goods collected from employees of Ineos for the Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership. The collection bin was only installed for a week and received this massive response from the generous workforce. All items collected will be distributed to individuals and families in need. Anyone wishing to support GACAP should contact the Secretary Joan Clark on 307522 or e-mail: treasurer.nayc@live.co.uk

APPRENTICESHIPS AT THE CORE OF TRAINING FORUM

INDEPENDENT businesses from across the North East will have the chance to speak to industry experts about the importance of apprenticeships

at a forum held in Newton Aycliffe next month.

South West Durham Training's CORE facility will play host to the North East Apprenticeship Forum on Wednesday, March 05 to give local businesses the opportunity to speak to training providers in the region who can offer Government funded training for vocational apprenticeships.

The 46-year old company that delivers engineering and manufacturing training support will be driving home the value of apprenticeships at the free event from 7:30am until 2pm alongside other training providers responsible for sectors including hospitality and catering, ICT, business administration and customer service, engineering and manufacturing, hairdressing, cleaning and support services, motor vehicle, construction, DGV and more.

Trevor Alley, chief executive of SWDT who will be speaking at the Business Networking Breakfast, the first segment of the event, said: "We aim to provide business leaders in all fields the opportunity to see and hear how some of the region's key companies are embracing apprenticeships and the message we need to get out to employers is that the apprenticeship route is not a risky one, but one that will produce a highly capable member of staff, with exactly the right skills and experience for their business."

"We believe the event will be a great opportunity for businesses in the region to network and find out about available grants and funding and we look forward to welcoming businesses to our facility. We're sure that it will be a highly informative and enjoyable day for everyone involved."

The forum will also offer local schools and those interested in becoming an apprentice the chance to view the various courses on offer in the region, browse current vacancies and speak to training providers in

their chosen sector between 10am and noon.

Businesses interested in exhibiting a stand at the forum and those interested in finding out about apprenticeships can register at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/apprenticeship-forum-tickets-10408400807.

Apprenticeship Event at the Youth Centre

National Apprenticeship week is a time when all eyes are on careers for young people. Aspire who are based in Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre are sponsoring an event on 4th March at the Youth & Community Centre from 9am - 1pm.

Companies as well as young people will be in attendance, and it's all about raising the profile on apprenticeships amongst employers and individuals, from Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas.

Kevin Stonehouse Area Manager for Aspire said, "We are a training provider and are running Traineeships from the Centre. These courses prepare young people for work. They get to understand a work ethic and gain the

skills that will help them in the work place."

"Companies need to realise great businesses are made by apprentices and apprenticeships lead to great prospects. We have up skilled over 500 young people and see first hand that these people want to work."

"The cost to a company is helped by Government money. We as a training provider give them the qualifications needed to progress and look forward to meeting companies who want to offer apprenticeships."

Everyone is invited to the event to learn more and any business interested in taking on apprentices who can't attend, please contact Andrew Longstaff on 07919 525560.

Can Feet Reveal Your Personality & Secrets?

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Fish, Football and Furlongs of Fun

Our local Racecourse is preparing to dish up a traditional English raceday, with the return of one of 2013's most popular fixtures. Sedgefield Racecourse, in County Durham, is hosting its Fish Fryers Raceday on Sunday, 2 March, serving up the traditional British treat of fish and chips to guests on the day. Plus, the first 50 guests through the gates on the day will receive FREE fish & chips! Collins Seafoods Ltd are supporting the day by sponsoring the fish, meaning racegoers can enjoy fish & chips for only £3.50 on the day. The raceday, which gets started at 12.10pm and has seven live races, will be the last weekend meeting at the racecourse this year. The Sunderland V Manchester City Capital One Cup Final will also be shown around the course as well as racing to support the local team. Jill Williamson, Executive Director of Sedgefield

Racecourse, said: "We are gearing up for what we expect to be a very busy day. Last year's Fish Fryers Raceday was exceptionally popular, and we're sure this meeting will be no different. Fish and chips are a British institution, and teamed with a great day at the races, it is a real treat for people of all ages. The thing that is most appealing is that children under the age of 18 go free with a paying adult, so it will be a great day out for families. We're really looking forward to it." It is the first of three March meetings at Sedgefield, with the next one being the Cheltenham Festival Raceday on Tuesday, 11 March, which allows racegoers to enjoy seven live races at Sedgefield and live racing from Cheltenham via the big screen. Plus the Betfred Series Final Rockin' Raceday on Friday, March 21 which will see the Class Two Hurdle Final sponsored by Betfred with the prize money valued at £20,000 for the lucky winner. Tickets start at £13* with a fish and chip package available at £22* and a Seafood Special Package available in the restaurant for £32*. For more information, or to buy tickets, visit www.sedgefield-racecourse.co.uk or call 01740 621925. *Advance bookings only.

Planet Leisure Bowling Results

The Pinheads have widened their lead at the top of the league by another two points to 90 by beating the Optimists 8-0. The Wenwees who were second lost 6-2 to the Clangers who move into second place. The Wenwees drop to fourth, as the Strike Force are joint second after winning 6-2 over the M&M's who are now sixth. The Misfits move up one place to fifth after beating the Shildon Strikers 8-0. Now eighth in the tables. The biggest shift is Bowl Movements who won 6-0 over the Late Starters moving two places to seventh. Meanwhile The Pinheads pushed up the high team series scratch from 1062 to 1080.

P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together



A PACT Meeting will be held at Aycliffe Village Hall on Saturday 8th March from 11am to 12noon. Your views and concerns on local issues are important so please come and meet your local Community Police Officers, PC Alan Thompson and PCSO Richard Scott. Representatives from all responsible Partners will attend when available. For more information on whats going on in your area visit www.durham.police.uk

Aycliffe Fell Walkers Take Coastal Retreat



Aycliffe Fell Walkers were happy to retreat before the wind that swept the Northumberland Coast at the weekend. Luckily it came from the south-west and was at their backs for much of the day, as they explored the many sand dunes along the shore. 'Sand-wedged' as they were, between the many golf courses and the sea, they maintained a steady pace on the coastal path around Druridge Bay - only lingering when there was a chance to appreciate the variety of wildlife seeking sanctuary, particularly along the shoreline of Ladyburn Lake, Hadston, then amongst the reeds of Hauxley Pond and later in the estuary at Alnmouth.

52 walkers alighted from the coach that morning; the super fit headed south to Ellington whilst the majority made for Widdrington or Hadston, Those 'not quite so fit' stayed onboard until the coach arrived into Amble - and then made straight for the nearest pub for beverage and sandwiches. "Got to get yer' priorities right!" was heard above the chattering throng, as they were welcomed by the sight of steaming mugs of coffee and trays piled high with sausage & bacon sandwiches. There was opportunity to explore the picturesque town of Amble and its marina. Eyes were cast towards Coquet Island, a nature reserve for Gannets and Puffins just a mile or so off the coast. Then followed a walk around the impressive Warkworth Castle walls - almost a must for visitors; exploration of the beaches along Alnmouth Bay followed and, shortly after passing a sign which said "Beware of Flying Golf Balls", a low-flying golf ball landed at our feet - wow! However, after scanning the horizon all around, the golfer was nowhere to be seen! Probably keeping his head down, just like us! The coast wasn't all sand dunes and 'ups n' downs'. There were sweeps along endless flat beaches, where legs could be stretched and a fast walking pace maintained. We were soon approaching our destination and our coach was clearly visible two miles away, in the parking area at Alnmouth. A heron's nest was spied whilst negotiating our way around Alnmouth estuary and

shortly afterwards a small group of walkers decided to extend their walk by taking in Lesbury, where there was a pub (of course!). Crossing the footbridge there, they spied a most unusual dappled goose, white with numerous dark patches around its body - as yet an unidentified species. "Good job it's on our way to the pub and not coming back afterwards, we may have thought we had had too much to drink!" After suitable refreshment, "essential anaesthetic to sooth aching knee and hip joints" said one, the party made for Alnmouth via a high level route and were soon to finish their walk - glad to regain the warmth and comfort of our coach. Several enjoyed ice-creams at the finish but had to guard

against contamination by swirling sand - not easy! All retired to the welcoming Alnmouth hostleries before boarding the coach for the long homeward journey. I swear I could hear someone snoring on the way back! If you would like to enjoy a day out with "probably the friendliest fell walking club in the world" contact Alan on 01325 488225 or visit our website: afwc.org.uk

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Three Legends Visit Aycliffe

Three North-East football heroes are set to star at a Newton Aycliffe event in March. Malcolm Macdonald, Richard Ord and Bernie Slaven - the new Three Legends - are coming to Aycliffe Working Men's Club for a Pie and Peas Supper on Friday 28th March, with tickets priced at £15 each. This is jointly organised by Newton Aycliffe FC, and Newton Aycliffe Juniors FC, with the proceeds split between the two. Macdonald and Slaven were part of the original Legends which hosted Real Radio's popular radio phone-in, while ex-Sunderland star Ord has replaced Micky Horswill, with the three now hosting a new show on local radio. Striker Macdonald, now 64, scored 95 goals from 187 games for Newcastle between 1971 and '76 before joining Arsenal for the unusual fee of £333,333.33. He also scored six goals from 14 England caps. Murton-born Ord, 43, played



285 league and cup games for the Black Cats between 1987 and '98, and was in the same Sunderland side as ex-Aycliffe coach Brian Atkinson that lost the 1992 FA Cup Final. Slaven, who won seven caps for Ireland, joined Boro in 1985 and played a huge part in Bruce Rioch's team that won successive promotions to the top flight after the club bounced back from liquidation in '86. Now 53, Slaven scored 119 goals from 307 games during eight years with Boro and remains a legend these days on Teesside. He also spent one season with Darlington. Aycliffe manager Dan Lewis

said: "All three players bring something very different in their experiences of football and have some very interesting stories from contrasting eras. "Having all three in one event is a big coup for us and will attract football supporters of all teams to what promises to be a cracking night, while also raising much-needed funds for both Aycliffe FC and the Juniors." • To buy tickets from Aycliffe FC, call or text Dan Lewis on 07581 784726, or email djl@thesoccerfactoryltd.co.uk • To buy tickets from Aycliffe Juniors FC, call Vicky Carr 07717 752594 or email vickycarr2507@gmail.com

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Open Mixed Bowls Competition

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The 3rd “Bill Potts Memorial Trophy” Open Mixed Fours Bowls Competition was held over the weekend of 15th and 16th February, 2014 at Great Aycliffe Indoor Bowling Club.

Thirty-two players took part in the event which was sponsored by local firm Gordon Fletcher & Sons, Family Funeral Directors who celebrated their 75th Anniversary year.

Top three places with cash prizes were decided on total points and shots with success for John Deller, Sandra Hind, Ronnie Dixon and Anne Bernard from Durham winning six out of seven matches over the two days with 12 points/37 shots.

Second place Sue Young with 9 points/30 shots and in third place Margaret Wigley 8 points/ 4 Shots. Why not try indoor bowls combined with a meal and bar facilities at the Oak Leaf Complex who supported the club in hosting the event.

“Rat-Boy” Penalty
Rescues Aycliffe AFC

Newton Aycliffe drew their third consecutive game 3-3 as they failed once more to hold on to a winning position, extending their winless run to four games.

Much like the reverse fixture three weeks ago, the Newtonians raced into a 2-0 lead against Crook Town, only to be pegged back and almost suffer defeat, but for a contentious injury-time penalty decision.

Allan Oliver returned to the Millfield, protecting an unbeaten record against his former club, while Owen, Dan Mellanby and Mark Wood all lined up against the Ambers which they once wore.

All three would score on an afternoon which saw the game tilt both ways, marred with refereeing controversy in front of a healthy crowd on a blustery day. Aycliffe took the lead when Mellanby, 35, stole an inch from his marker before firing low past lifelong friend, and fellow Newtonian Barry Poskett in the hosts net.

The referee had other ideas and as Aycliffe went forward in one last attack, he pointed to the spot as Tom Atkinson looked to fall under his own challenge inside Poskett’s area.

Up stepped Owen – known affectionately as ‘Rat Boy’ to his team-mates - to confidently fire home his second penalty of the week and bring the game to a close, a draw probably being the fairest outcome, though 2-2 would definitely have sufficed.

Spence; Wood, Clough (Raitt), Close, Mitton; Owen, M.Gibson (Butterworth), Green (Hedley), M.Young; Mellanby, Atkinson. Unused; Farley, S.Gibson

On Thursday 13th February, there was an amazing basketball competition held by members of the Durham Wildcats basketball team.

On that day, seven competed to be number one. These 7 teams were from Thornhill, Walworth, Saint Joseph’s, and, who I will be reporting on the most, Stephenson Way Primary School.

The teams began their warm-up routine before practice, and it showed me just how much they wanted to win. It was clear they’d been anticipating the day, putting all of their training to use. During practice and warm-up, they were agile and raring to go, passing the ball like crazy. Their team spirit looked like it was pulsating off them all.

At the beginning, after everyone got there, two Wildcat players talked about the rules and basketball in general. After the pair had finished giving advice, the first match of Stephenson Way’s started.

First up was Stephenson Way “A” team who battled Saint Joseph’s. This was the first match, so it was special. Both teams fought with determination in an effort to win, but Stephenson Way “A” team won 10-2.

During a match with two other schools, a child was injured and unable to play so a student from Stephenson Way stepped in to fill the gap in the team. This showed the sportsmanship and fair play of the teams.

The final two matches that day, were Stephenson Way “A” versus Stephenson Way “B”. It was friend against friend now, and a very close match. In the end, “B” team had won, with a



very close score of 4-2. However, that was not the final, and the two teams needed to play again to decide the overall winner. The entire court was being used to its fullest. They were taking the ball, passing the ball, shooting as many times as possible.

It was one of the greatest battles of the entire competition and once again Stephenson Way “B” came out on top with a score of 8-0. It truly was the battle of the ages.

Overall, Stephenson Way

B team finished 1st, but, Stephenson Way A also did brilliantly, finishing 2nd overall. Third place was won by Thornhill “A” who also fought valiantly in the competition.

The “Most Valuable Player” award (MVP) was won by Stephenson Way’s own Tristan. Stephenson Way came out with first and second place and went home after a successful day of basketball.

Written by Liam Year 6.

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Unplayable for the whole of the opening period, Mellanby turned provider shortly after as he scooped a through-ball to the overlapping Wood to register his first goal since returning for his third spell with the Moore Lane club.

Battling against the wind, Aycliffe looked to see out the first half with their two goal advantage, but couldn’t quite manage as former target Adam Nichols tore past Dan Mitton and John Close, before rounding ‘keeper Andrew Spence and squaring for the onrushing Alex Marshall.

Conditions died down in the second half and Crook took full advantage, laying siege to the Aycliffe goal, with Spence called upon several times. The same combination of Nichols and Marshall however breached the defence before the hour to restore parity.

Aycliffe couldn’t get going but defended resolutely until the 88th minute when Craig Price was dispossessed by Spence near the byline, only for the referee to point to the spot, much to the disbelief of even the most ardent home supporter.

Former Nottingham Forest and Darlington winger Richie Hodgson remained unperturbed, and fired low past Spence to seemingly hand his side the points.



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LOCAL SWIMMERS IN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Representing Sedgefield 75 Swimming Club at the Northumberland and Durham Swimming Championships were Mathew Bradley, William Angus, Zac Hodgkinson and Hannah Featherstone. They competed in nine events and made eight

finals.

In the open events held at the Aquatic Centre. Sunderland. at the weekend Mathew won Silver in the 200 Breast stroke and was eleventh in the 400 FS. Both swims were new best times. Hannah won Bronze in the 400 FS and was fourth in the 200 IM, tenth in the 100 Fly and sixth in the 800 FS. All of the swims were new best times.

William and Zac competed in the Age group events. William was fifth in the 400 FS and ninth in the 200 FS. New best time in both events. Zac was competing in his first County Championship so to make the final was an added bonus. He was seventh in a new best time. The final N&D Championship takes place in two weeks time and as we will be back in our home pool at NALC we will be looking for even better results.

Foul Play in the Village

This is an appeal to all residents of Aycliffe Village to be vigilant and report anybody not picking up after their dog. Unfortunately the presence of dog dirt has become an apparent issue, particularly in the Durham Road area of the village, which is also the main route to school. Leaving dog dirt for other people, especially children, to witness and step in, is not only disgusting, unhygienic, unsightly and illegal, it's downright inconsiderate. If you are the culprit, please show some consideration to your family, friends and fellow residents. This behaviour is totally unacceptable and disrespectful. This is a lovely village, let's keep it that way. Concerned residents of the village

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Public Notice

DONATIONS needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316 630
RSPCA Durham and District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311 215
R.A.F.A. A.G.M. The A.G.M. of the Newton Aycliffe Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association will be held in the Canopus Club, Barrington Road on Wednesday 12th March 2014. Doors close at 8pm prompt. All members are cordially invited to attend.

THE NORTH BRITON
Aycliffe Village - 312881
Thursday 6th March, 7.30pm
Medium "Scott Williams"
Tickets £7.00 on the door
Private readings £20

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Falcons Unlucky to Lose Away Match

Under 10 Falcons travelled to Seaton on a blustery Sunday morning. The boys started against the wind and kept the ball on the deck and played some attractive football. We should have taken the lead when good work on the wing

from Declan wasn't pounced on by Tom and Liam at the back. They were inches away from a tap in if they had gambled. Seaton got in the game and took the lead when a Seaton player kicked the ball out of our keeper's hands and to my amazement the ref allowed the goal.

On the stroke of HT Seaton went 2 up with a wind assisted strike. One or two of the boys lost their heads which was unlike them. A couple of changes and the wind in our sails and Seaton were on the back foot. We created some good chances and a great save from the Seaton keeper kept their 2 goal lead.

Declan was unlucky not to score when a drive heading in the top corner was pushed around the post by an alert Seaton keeper. As time was running out, up popped Tom Jasper to slot home and reduce the deficit. We huffed and puffed and created 2 glorious chances, Liam knocking over from 3 yards and Tom hitting the bar, but time just ran out on us. A good performance in bad conditions, but the winning run is over. We will pick ourselves up and hopefully end eleven unbeaten run this season. MoM Declan Scott, was back to his best, creating chances and unlucky not to score.

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Compare Wonga with the Aycliffe Credit Union

Dear Sir
Your readers may have heard about the problems of the many people struggling to make ends meet and resorting to Pay Day Loans.

These often entail exorbitant rates of interest and borrowers can end up in serious financial distress. Arising from this there has been a great deal of welcome publicity for Credit Unions: indeed the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has spoken out strongly on behalf of this organisation. Having worked now as a volunteer for the Durham County Council Credit Union, for two years, I would like to tell you of the advantages of joining the credit union in Aycliffe.

First of all I need to point out that we have had a change of name. We in Newton Aycliffe now operate under the banner of N.E. First Credit Union and there are over 20 branches running throughout the county. We are now housed in the Town Library and are open on Thursdays between 11am & 12noon. I realise this may not be convenient for all and I would love to be able to offer more opening hours. This may happen in the future, but is dependent on having sufficient members and sufficient volunteers. There are, however, other means of operating to which I will return later.

The Credit Union operates mainly on two separate fronts: (a) savings (b) loans. Members can save as little or as much as they wish. Individuals with small amounts to save may often encounter resistance from High Street Banks. They will receive no such resistance from the Credit Unions - save whatever you can afford. Once the habit of regular saving is established it is amazing how the savings grow. Then when extra money is required, e.g. for holidays, birthdays, Christmas or unexpected 'rainy days' there is something to turn to. I cannot emphasize too strongly the value of regular savings.

Jumping Jacks Fundraiser

a charity fundraiser for Jumping Jacks disability initiative based at St Clare's Church is to be held in the Thames Shopping Centre on Saturday 8th March. The stalls will be a bric-a-brac and raffle between 10am and 1pm. All proceeds towards future events at Jumping Jacks monthly meeting.

Bus Shelter Vandalism

Dear Sir,
I cannot believe yet again for the 3rd weekend running the windows in the bus shelter situated on Woodham Way has been smashed.

Does the idiot or idiots not realise that they are spoiling their own environment and the environment of the future generation at the cost of the tax payer. I also cannot understand why no one else sees what is going on or hear the noise and report it.
Annoyed Tax Payer

Raffle Prizes Unclaimed

Dear Sir,
A very successful evening was held on Friday 7th February for Ward 21 (Children's Ward) at DMH. I want to thank everyone concerned for making the evening so successful, but I have a couple of unclaimed prizes, with no details, hoping the winners concerned will claim the prizes. There is a "Winners List" at the Bay Horse for all to see, but the tickets are still unclaimed.

Pink ticket 46 - 50 (Serial no A3993483): It has the name "O'Hanlon" but no contact; Yellow ticket 736 - 740 (Serial no AD895162). Orange ticket 211 - 215 (Serial no AA344840) Name "Raymonds". Please contact the "Bay Horse" or myself on 01325 311426, I will be happy to arrange for collection. The deadline will be one week from the day of being publicised in this newspaper. Jean McCready

The problem of limited opening hours is easily solved. Once a member has joined he/she will be issued with a Pay Point Card which can be used at the Post Office and other Pay Point outlets at any time. Once a year a small committee, at H.Q. in Durham, meets to decide on Dividend (interest) to be paid on savings. This is at present small but at High Street Banks it is almost non-existent.

Loans: Once a member has saved for a few weeks it may be possible to take out a loan, should there be a need. This again is judged by a small committee and each application is treated on its own merits and on the apparent reliability of the borrower. The huge advantage in taking loans from us is the rate of interest repayable. This is variable but normally around 1% per month - compare that to Wonga!!!

This is briefly what the Credit Union is all about. I hope I have aroused your interest. Should you decide to visit us you will receive a warm welcome from our volunteers in very pleasant surroundings.

Undoubtedly there will be many of you who will say "well its not for me I cant get" the answer is simple ring me on 315645 and I will make arrangements to meet with you and hopefully enrol you. Please show this article to anyone you feel would benefit by joining us.
Harry Drake

Knit a Shawl and Pray

The Methodist Churches in Newton Aycliffe have begun a Prayer Shawl Group which continues to go from strength to strength.

Future dates: Tuesdays 1.30-3pm March 18th @ Burnhill Way Methodist Church, Sid Chaplin Drive

April 16th @ Neville Parade Methodist church, May 20th @ Burnhill Way Methodist Church, Sid Chaplin Drive
Please contact Sheena tel: 01325 314296

Wool and needles can be provided. This will include a time of prayer & reflection.

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Film Show

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church, on TUESDAY 4TH MARCH, features "AKEELA AND THE BEE" The story of a precocious 11yr old girl with a gift for words. Why not come along and get cheered up. Tea and coffee at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1-30pm. 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

Councillors' Surgeries

D.C.C. COUNCILLORS
SARAH IVESON
and
JED HILLARY
will hold a

Ward Surgery

in
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from 11am-12noon
Town Councillors for Shafto,
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LARGE plastic garden pond for sale. Ring for details. Tel 01325 954152

ALL INVITED TO GREAT AYCLIFFE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION AGM

Great Aycliffe Residents' Association hold their AGM on Thursday 20th March at 7.00pm in St Mary's Church Meeting Room at the rear of the Church. This is a PUBLIC MEETING: and all residents are welcome and entitled to vote.

Nominations are invited from the public for the Management Committee to reach the Secretary by 13th March. Current members of the Management Committee are: Chairman Syd Howarth, Vice Chairman Ken Robson (ACORN Residents' Association), Treasurer Barry Hutchinson, Secretary Arun Chandran. Committee: Derek Atkinson, Bill Curtis, Bob Fleming, Paul Kjenstad, Fr Michael Whalen, Chris Wheeler, plus the following Affiliated Members: Margaret Robson Friends of Senior Citizens (Neville Community Centre), and Friends of West Park, The Lakes & Dales Residents Association, Horndale

Residents Association, 2 Representatives of Great Aycliffe Town Council's Youth Council.

We are looking for more people to join the Committee. In addition all Organisations, Charities, Interest Groups are invited to be affiliated members of the Great Aycliffe Residents' Association. You will be entitled to one representative to serve on the Management Committee. We can co-opt members (non-voting) with skills and knowledge that are of use to the Association and that will enable it to fulfil its objectives. The Great Aycliffe Residents' Association provides a public forum for residents to voice their concerns and, where possible, to instigate action on their behalf. The Association seeks to work with Councillors and other public representatives for the good of the whole community. Come along have your say. Nominations to arunmchandran@aol.com

telephone. 313224
or: syd@newtonpress.net
telephone: 300212

Births

MICHELLE & CAMPBELL congratulations on the birth of your son "Zach" on 26th February 2014. Best wishes, Jean and family xxxx

Thank You

TOT (Tom) GRAY. Six years ago Tot was diagnosed with vascular dementia, on 10th February he died peacefully. Laid to rest at Wear Valley Crematorium on 19th February. Our family would like to thank the Co-op for the lovely Humanist Service; Mandy for the beautiful flowers; an extra special thank you to Aycliffe Care Home staff, past and present for the care, support, dignity, love and respect they have all shown Tom and our family over the years, becoming Tom's second family. Kind regards, Doreen Gray and family xx

Obituary

PIGGFORD At home on February 24. Keith aged 61 years (of Newton Aycliffe, formerly of Langley Moor). Much loved husband of Valerie, loving Dad of Don and Grandad of Declan, Kane, Connor and Kai, also a much loved Brother, Brother-in-Law, Uncle and Nephew. Will family and friends please meet for Service and cremation at Durham Crematorium on Wednesday 5th March at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu if so desired may be given for the Air Ambulance and The Marie Curie Nurses, plate provided at the crematorium.

Birthday Remembrance

BOBBY MORRELL As I opened my eyes this morning, I looked to the Heaven's above, I whispered "happy birthday Dad" and sent you all our love. Love, Roberta and Reggie

BOBBY MORRELL We never need a special day to bring you to our minds, for days without a thought of you are very hard to find. Happy birthday Granda. Love and miss you, Robert, Hayley, Ann-Marie, Andrew, Adele, Orin, Andrew xxxx

BOBBY MORRELL Another birthday, another year. With precious memories of one so dear. Thoughts today of our lives together, hold a love that will last forever. Happy birthday Bobby. From your loving Wife, Agnes xxxx

BOBBY MORRELL Thinking of you on your birthday Dad. But that is nothing new, for no days dawn and no days end without a thought of you. Happy birthday Dad. Lots of love, David, Jenny and Brogan xxx
BOBBY MORRELL Birthday wishes I send today, to a star in the sky, not far away. Engraved in gold on a cloud above, just for you Great Granda with all our love. Happy birthday Great Granda. Lots of love, Kaitlyn, Jodie, Jack, Rhys, William and Ava xxxxxxxx

In Memoriam

Sylvia & Vic Blowes

(Sylvia, 5th March 1999)
(Vic, 24th February 2012)

You were in our lives for many years, loads of laughter, sprinkled with tears. We were devastated when you died, you were always there, our hand our guide. We know we will never forget you, memories and keepsakes will last forever.

From all your loving family
xxx Chris, Hayley, Val,
Colin, Howard, Eleanor,
Lesley, Brian, Vicki, Dave,
Grandchildren and Great
Grandchildren xxxxxxxxx

RON RUSSELL 5th March 2013. You are always in my thoughts and my heart. Loved and missed so much. Your loving Wife Dot xxxx

MARGARET COX In loving memory of my wonderful Wife Margaret, who passed away on 24th February 2013. Always in my thoughts, my love always. Husband Peter xxxx

MARGARET COX A year has passed since you were sadly taken from us, although our fond memories of happy times still remain in our thoughts. Always in our hearts. Love, Karen and Stephen xxxx

MARGARET COX Beloved Gran to Abbie, Joe and Flynn. Love and miss you always xxxxx

WHARTON Loving memories of a very dear Husband, Joe. Died 2nd March 1988. A daily thought, a silent tear, a constant wish that you were here. I love and miss you. Jessie

WHARTON God bless Grandad. Love, Mark, Vikki, David, Hayley and Peter

DERICK YOUNG 2nd March 2005. Always in our thoughts, we still miss you and think of you with love. Michael, June and family xxx

DERICK YOUNG 2-3-2005. A loving Dad and Granda. Always in our thoughts. Forever in our hearts. Love, David, Louise and Grandsons xxx

DERICK YOUNG 2-3-2005. A loving Husband in my heart and you will always stay loved and remembered every day. Love, Mary xxx

SAVAGE Edward Ralph (Ted). In loving memory of my Husband. 15/5/1920 to 29/2/2012. I feel a warmth around me, like your presence is so near, and I close my eyes to visualise, your face when you were here. I endure the times we spent together, and they are locked inside my heart, for as long as I have these memories, we will never be apart. Even though we cannot speak no more, my voice is always there, because every night before I sleep, I have you in my prayer. From your loving Wife, Maureen and family

MARY GALLAGHER 25th February, 2011. Those we love don't walk away they stay beside us every day. Love always Vince, Clare, Paul, Victoria, Amanda and Flynn

Lost & Found

LOST on 10th February between Silkin Way and Wrights Close, Sony Xperia smartphone. If found please hand in to the police. Pictures on of my Mother who died 6 months ago. Pictures of grandchildren as well and would really appreciate it returned. Thank you

Congratulations

George Robert Gray



Happy 50th Birthday

Lots of love and best wishes on your special day.
Love, Mam and Dad xxx
Happy 50th Brother on your special day.
Love, Big Sis Jue, Terry and boys.
Happy 50th Brother. Have a great day.
Love, little Sis Joanne, Andy and Harrison xxx
All the best George on your 50th.
Love from Wife Barbara and family xxx

Mandy Holt



Happy 50th Birthday

Have a great time at Crufts. Lots of love, Ann and family xxxx

Mason Cohen Lawton



Happy 1st Birthday Cheeky Monkey

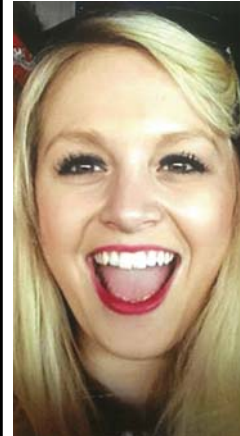
We love you all the world. Mammy and Daddy xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Congratulations Caroline Kidd

FAB AT 50 CILLA
Have a fantastic birthday
Love, Susanne and John
xxxxxx

Happy 50th Caroline
Love, Gemma, Luke and Poppy xxxxx

5th March



Happy 21st Birthday

To a very special Daughter and Sister. We love you lots. Mam, Dad, Jake and Quinn xxxxx

Mason Cohen Lawton



Happy 1st Birthday

to our gorgeous Grandson. All our love Glam-ma and Grandad xxxxxxxxx

MASON COHEN LAWTON Happy 1st Birthday to my wonderful nephew have a fantastic party. Lots of love and snogs Aunty Faith and Aunty Eddi xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

DAVID AINSLIE Happy 30th birthday David. Enjoy your day. Love from Pat, Dave and family xxxxx

DAVID AINSLIE Happy 30th birthday. We love you loads. Mandy, Gabi, Charlotte and Joey xxx

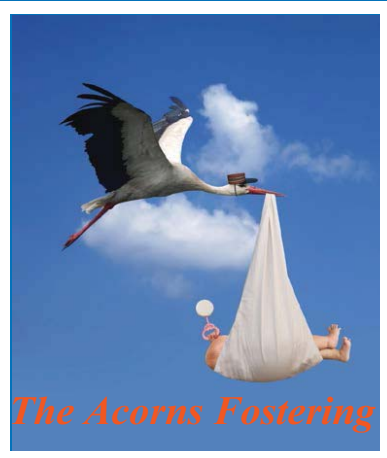
DAVID AINSLIE Congratulations on your 30th birthday. Love, Mam xxx
JOSH RAINE 5th March. Happy 16th birthday. Have a brilliant day. Love, Dad, Mam, Nick and Chloe xxx

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Announcing

The Acorns is pleased to announce the arrival of it's

Fostering Service

Caring for children and young people of all ages

Now recruiting carers in the Aycliffe area

Contact the Acorns via the website
www.acornscare.org.uk ring us on 01325 485143



Aycliffe Carers Coming Forward

Six Aycliffe families have come forward to join the new Acorns Fostering Service in recent weeks. Local company Acorn Care runs children's homes, an independent living project and a foster care service in the Durham, Darlington, Teesside and North Yorkshire areas. The new fostering service is still keen to talk to people interested in offering short or long term homes for children and young people who cannot live with their own



families. Foster placements can be long or short term and children from babies to older teenager's need people who can offer them the space and support they need to grow and thrive. Placements are particularly needed for children or young people who have had difficulties and who will need extra support to get back on track. This could be babies coming from hospital and waiting for adoption, children with disabilities or behavioural problems, young mothers with their babies or older teenagers. There is also a need for people who could look after a group of brothers and sisters to enable them to stay together. If you have experience of caring for children or young people – either your own, or in a work setting and you could see yourself in the fostering role,

please contact The Acorns Fostering Service today. Carers can be young or old, single or couples, with or without your own children and you do not have to have special qualifications. What matters is the ability to see a child or young person's point of view and help each individual to develop. You do need a spare room and the main carer needs to be available to attend training, meetings etc and support the child or young person full time. As you would expect there are a lot of checks, full training and a realistic payments and allowances package. Why not find out more and help the Acorns give local youngsters the chances and opportunities they deserve? Email fostering@acornscare.org.uk, phone 01325 485143 or find us on Facebook - TheAcornsFostering

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Rugby Club Triumph in Local Derby

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club finally came away with the win after a fiercely contested local derby at home to rivals Sedgfield. The game was a replay after the previous match had to be abandoned due to an injury to Sedgfield's former Aycliffe player Andy Brennan, who was at pitchside to watch this match.

The game took on greater significance as the winners would end the day in 4th place in Durham and Northumberland Division 3. In another noteworthy event, three pairs of brothers were playing for Aycliffe with Shaun and Darryl Pettit returning to the club alongside the Parsonage and Littlefair brothers.

The game began in a fairly scruffy manner with neither side able to impose themselves on the opposition. Sedgfield took the lead early on with a



try from the back of a scrum which was converted. Soon afterwards, Darryl Pettit stole the ball at the back of a Sedgfield scrum and fed Andy Littlefair who scored the try, with Luke Tinkler adding the conversion. The rest of the half was a stalemate but, just before the break, Graham Brennan scored a converted try for Sedgfield and the visitors went into the interval 14 – 7 ahead.

Early in the second half, a quickly taken tap penalty by David Judge saw him score a solo try; again Tinkler converted. A Tinkler penalty gave Aycliffe the lead for the first time in the game, but it did not last long as Sedgfield again scored a converted try to go back ahead. Another moment of magic from Judge produced another converted try in this exciting game. Sedgfield were still not to be cowed and a penalty goal saw the scores tied yet again. With 10 minutes to play, the score was 24 – 24, but finally Aycliffe began to play to their full potential as Sedgfield tired.

Another Tinkler penalty saw the lead retaken; then Judge split the defence asunder to give Craig Holmes the opportunity to score a try which gave Aycliffe the bonus point and a two-score advantage. As time ran down, and Sedgfield looked to score a try which would yield them 2 bonus points, Tinkler put in a big clearance kick; the ball bounced nicely into Chris Knight's hands and he ran half the length of the pitch, sidestepping a defender, to score in the corner.

The final score of 37 – 24 was somewhat flattering to Aycliffe who never played close to their best and it was hard on Sedgfield after their battling performance. The match ball was sponsored by Darren Bugg and thanks are due to

Walkers Butchers & Bakers for supplying pie and peas at short notice.

Aycliffe travel to third place Seaham on 1st March, with the kick-off at 3.00pm, a win will see them up to third and within touching distance of second spot. Newton Aycliffe are sponsored by Boola Clothing Aycliffe and Hayward Home Appliances, trading as Serviceforce. Visit the website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/newtonaycliffe.

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