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Woodham Dance Showcase



On Wednesday 14th May Woodham Academy will be holding its first dance showcase. The showcase will include performances from Woodham Dance Academy, Woodham lunchtime dance club, Woodham Gymnastics Academy; Woodham lunchtime gymnastics academy and year 10 GCSE dance students. The pieces will be those that the students have been working on throughout the year, some of which have been used in other performances and some towards GCSE assessments. Some of the dances have been choreographed by teachers both from Woodham Academy and from Joanne Banks Dance School, who have been working with students in the Dance Academy.

However, a lot of the work has been choreographed by the students themselves. It should be a fantastic evening and a perfect way to celebrate student success and hard work throughout the year. Tickets are available from Woodham Academy 01325 300328.

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Collections as Normal

There will be no changes to bin collections over the two May bank holidays in County Durham. The bank holidays will take place next Monday (May 5) and at the end of the month on Monday 26 May.

Durham County Council will collect rubbish, recycling and garden waste as usual during those weeks and residents are reminded to put their bin out by 7am on their normal collection day.

People can check their collection day by entering their house number and post code into the My Durham section on www.durham.gov.uk

Neville Community Centre
Neville Parade, Newton Aycliffe

Mammoth Table Top Sale

Newton Aycliffe Town Centre
Saturday, 10th May, 2014

Set up from 8.00am £5 per table
Open to buyers from 9am to 4pm

Sell car boot gear - Craft products
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Living Help Fund Cutting Loose Event



It was an exciting first day back after the Easter weekend at Greenfield Arts on Tuesday – we received a cheque from Living, part of the funding for this year's fantastic Cutting Loose event. Malcolm Gray and Allison Lonsdale from Living presented the cheque to Katy Milne (Photo). Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity at Greenfield Arts said: "We are really pleased today to receive this funding for our community carnival based Cutting Loose event. We are looking forward to the event in July and all of the fantastic community activities before-hand. I would also like to thank our other funders for their support for the project." After the success of 2012's Cutting Loose Carnival, 2014's celebration of live music, dance and costume promises to be bigger and better, with fantastic live performances from professionals and local young people. In the lead up to the event on 15th July at West Park (boating lake) the community and young people will be involved in activities to develop and create artwork, props and performances for the event. Cutting Loose is a project managed and developed by Greenfield Arts, funded by GAMP AAP, Great Aycliffe Town Council, Living, NHS and Greenfield Arts. The event is being directed by Unfolding Theatre. More news about Cutting Loose 2014 is coming soon, keep an eye on our website for more information: www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

CHURCH MEMBERS AID TOILET TWINNING PROJECT



Each month, Neville Parade Methodist Church in Newton Aycliffe adopts a 'charity of the month' most recently it adopted 'Toilet Twinning'. Toilet Twinning is raising funds to enable people living in poor communities to have clean water, a decent toilet, and to learn about hygiene – a vital combination that prevents the spread of disease, reduces the number of deaths among children, and brings hope for the future.

Church members and friends of Neville Parade church are flushed with success having raised £261.95 for Toilet Twinning. They have twinned all four of their facilities with latrines in Bangladesh, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda.

Some 2.5 billion people don't have somewhere safe & hygienic to go to the loo. Toilet twinning is such an easy thing to do to make a real difference to people's health, safety and quality of life. It literally works on flushing away poverty!" UK-based charities Cord and Tearfund created "Toilet Twinning", a unique way to help transform lives in poor communities across the world. To find out more about Toilet Twinning or to twin your own loo visit www.toilettwinning.org



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HONEST JOHN CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR IN CUBBY



This week Honest John celebrates his first year operating from The Cubby with the introduction of a £100 Monthly Draw plus a £25 Voucher to spend on his stall. Tickets are available price 50p each and the draw is made on the last day of each month. The winning number for the first draw is 436 held by regular Cubby user Jenny West who received her £100 cash on Wednesday. Newton News has assisted

John with his fundraising stall and Director Paul Howarth made the draw. John thanked him and Newton Press for all their help. Recent beneficiaries of proceeds from John's Aycliffe Community Kitty are Newton Aycliffe Brownies - £400; Newton Aycliffe 2nd Guides - £400; Newton Aycliffe Falcons Under 7's FC - £300; St. Clare's Messy Church Kids Club - £150; King Cobras Thai Boxing Club - £150.

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Saturday 3rd May - "Avatar"

Gig Pit Review: I just couldn't resist the lure of me old mates in Avatar, who were playing their comeback gig with their new line up after far too long an absence! The band have been in a bit of a limbo since the departure of ace axeman Paul Nesbitt and the mighty lungs of Graham Mannion and the search to find replacements willing to give the commitment required and focus on the direction that the band wanted to go was long and hard, but in my humble opinion they've got it nailed now! Old soldiers Titch on drums, Jeff on bass and Stan on rhythm have now been joined by Skinflint's Kev Burdon on lead and ex Kimra front man, Chris Kerswell on vocals.

Avatar have always prided themselves on playing the tunes as near to the original as possible and Kev is well up to the task and oozes enthusiasm during his performance as Skinflint fans will know! Chris is a natural front man with a great voice well suited to the Avatar set and a great line of patter with the crowd, you just can't help but like the guy! I was told that he was a bag of nerves before he went on, but I saw no sign of that, just a bloke having a great time on stage and sweating like a pig! If you like your music hot n heavy, Alice In Chains, Pantera, Megadeth, Ozzy, System Of A Down and that ilk, you'll not be disappointed, the crowd wasn't and yelled for more! Another great night at a great venue with a great set of lads!

Saturday 10th May - "to be confirmed"

Saturday 10th May - "Mugshot"

Bio: A four piece band from the South Shields area playing modern and classic rock covers by bands such as Bon Jovi, Chilli Peppers, Kings of Leon, Metallica, Muse, U2, Van Halen and Whitesnake, to name but a few.

"We hadn't seen this band before so we didn't know what to expect and boy did they rock. Something for everyone in the set that had the dancers on their feet. The tunes I remember were, U2, Whitesnake, Killers, Kings of Leon, Tom Petty, Nirvana, Guns 'n' Roses, The Cult, Radiohead, all played and sung brilliantly! If you haven't already seen this band, go and see them, you won't be disappointed."

www.myspace.com/mugshotrockband

For more information on bands go to
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MP Phil Wilson's Visit to St. Francis School Aycliffe Group Win Award

Children in Y3/4LG enjoyed a visit from MP Phil Wilson who hand-delivered replies to the letters sent to him. Children have been learning where food comes from and enjoyed a very informative day at Broom House farm where they saw most of the process from lambs being born to appearing as meat in the farm shop. Children thought the meat in the shop was great because all around the farm they could see that the animals were happy. During the following days they looked at meat packaging in their home and realised that they did not know anything about the animals they were eating. This all coincided with the BBC Countryfile program discussion on labelling the slaughter method of meat products. The class agreed with this idea and wrote to MP Phil Wilson to persuade him to speak to the Government about changing food labelling. During his visit MP Phil Wilson watched the children receive their awards in our assembly followed by an hour question and answer session in class. He not only replied to the children but taught them about politics, his career path and was keen to hear about what they have been learning in school.

He has passed on the children's thoughts to the Minister and will be getting in touch once he has a reply.
Lisa Lakey
"Be the change you wish to see in the world" *Ghandi*.



On Friday 26th April Nouveau Dance & Fitness held their 5th Anniversary Celebration at the Glebe

Centre at Murton. The Zumba Gold group who meet at Neville Parade Methodist Church won the Community Group Award. The group gave a demonstration of a Charleston routine to Will I Am's Bang Bang. The group have been meeting for over 3 years & have great fun whilst keeping fit. A big thank you goes to Kimberly Cowan our instructor who is very patient & encourages us all. Thanks also to Bethany Ainsley, Carmen Slevin & Rachel Smith. Keep up the good work girls!

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SIMPASTURE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION TO BE FORMED

Due to confusion over the date of the last meeting to form the association I can confirm the next meeting will be held on Thursday the 8th of May at 5.30pm. All residents of the Simpasture Ward as well as any other interested parties are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.
G.A.T.C. Coucillors
John Clark: johnclark.labour@gmail.com Tel: 0797 2170190
Derek Atkinson: derek.atkinson.labour@gmail.com Tel: 01325 301395

Agnew Community Centre A.G.M.



Left to right: James Ross new Chairman, Paul Gittins retiring Chairman, Audrey Armitage retiring member, Jean Cochrane President, Ron Mitchie Secretary

At the annual meeting held on Thursday 10th April the following Officers and Committee were elected as Trustees:
President: Jean Cochrane, Chairman: James Ross, Treasurer: Jane Taylor, Secretary: Ron Mitchie, Committee: Rachael Mawston, Penny Gordon, Paul Whiting, Carol Easton, Gemma Bowes & Amy Bee. In attendance was David Sutton-Lloyd Treasurer of Woodham Community Association and Chairman of GAMP who is no stranger at the Agnew and always after our good brew. Finances held firm over the year and we continued to improve our fixtures and fittings, changing the accounting system onto computer by the outgoing Treasurer James Ross. Our guest speaker was Syd Howarth who was warmly welcomed to the meeting. He gave a brief history of the Association from 1982 and named the late Katy Gibson and our present President as two of the main volunteers that kept the then called 'Green Hut' going for many years, before the new Centre was built and in operation by August 2009. He praised the present volunteers since then for taking the Association forward with hard work and good decisions such as the Solar Panels installed and increasing the usage of the Centre. He mentioned the surge of new community organisations springing up on the town such as Residents Associations and suggested that Agnew Community centre look to forming or helping a residents association for this area. He was pleased the Agnew Centre were partners in the new GACAP set up to coordinate the work of the Food Banks and others working to help the needy of our town. He spoke about the work of Great Aycliffe Residents Association to which Agnew are considering joining in the near future. The retiring Chairman Paul Gittins thanked Syd for his talk on behalf of all present. The evening finished with refreshments and a photo taken with the two retiring Trustees after receiving a voucher and card each, presented by the incoming Chairman James Ross

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available Monday-Saturday including ladies only and parent and toddler sessions, visit PCP's website for further information. You don't need a doctor's referral to access the hydrotherapy pool as its one of the only pools in the region which is open to the public. It is ideal for people of all ages and abilities and is safe for non swimmers. The pool area and changing rooms are also fully accessible to disabled people with overhead and chair poolside hoists available on request. Booking is essential as places are limited to 6 per session. Please contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Carers' Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF, tel: 01325 321234 enquiries@pcp.uk.net, www.pcp.uk.net

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NEWTON AYCLIFFE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

19th May 2014 at 6.30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Chairman's opening remarks.
2. Minutes of the Previous AGM held on the 14th May 2013.
3. Presentation of the Annual Report and Adoption.
4. Presentation of the Accounts and Adoption.
5. Appointment of Auditors/Independent Examiner.
6. Amendments to the Constitution.
7. Election of the Management Committee.
8. Guest Speaker Mr. David Judge Director of Global Hands. On Global Youth Work Provoking Consciousness and Taking Action
9. The meeting will conclude with a demonstration from Destination Judo who are regular users of the centre followed by refreshments.

Any Person who wishes to raise a financial question or item must do so in writing to the secretary 7 days before the meeting. Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary.

Great North Air Ambulance Forest Ball



An indoor forest will be created at a charity's fundraising ball after a garden centre loaned dozens of trees for the event. The Great North Air Ambulance Service's Enchanted Forest Ball will look all the more authentic after Alan Brown, of the Sir Plants-Alot nursery near Billingham, stepped forward with his generous donation. The trees, mainly fruit and decorative species, will form a key part of the theme for the ball, which takes place on Saturday, May 10th at Wynyard Hall. Mr Brown said: "I just wanted to help out. I'm also donating some hanging baskets to be auctioned off on the night, I'm just happy to do anything that can make them a few extra pounds."

Darlington florist Flowers by Natrass is also helping to theme the event by contributing floral displays and decorative touches. More than 200 tickets have already been sold for the event, which organisers say will be their biggest yet. Ruth Davey, of GNAAS, said: "This is our most ambitious ball to date, but we would not be able to dream this big if not for the support of Sir Plants-Alot, Flowers by Natrass and all the other businesses who have contributed. "The ball has raised tens of thousands of pounds for the charity over the years, money which has been spent saving lives throughout the region, so we are hoping to sell a few more tables before

the big night." Tickets for the event cost £60 and include a three course meal and entertainment. For more information, call 01325-487263 or email events@greatnorthairambulance.co.uk

STUDENTS ON FIELD TRIP



Year 10 Geographers at Woodham Academy had the opportunity to see how the North East has been shaped by physical and human processes. First stop was at the Angel of the North, the iconic and symbolic art work. Many students and some staff had seen the Angel from the A1, but few had stood at its feet before. Mrs Barker, Head of Geography, pointed out that it was a significant day to be standing there, as the church celebrates the Annunciation of The Virgin Mary by the Angel Gabriel

on the 25th March! The second stop at Gateshead Quays gave the opportunity to view the Tyne and Newcastle from the fourth floor terrace of the Baltic Art Gallery. A walk over the Blinking Eye Bridge and alongside the Tyne showed clear examples of past and present economic development by the river. The third stop was at Marsden for a wet walk along the cliff tops and across the beach. Students were able to describe and explain processes of coastal erosion and deposition and take numerous 'selfies' for their case studies. At the end of the day students were welcomed into the warmth of the Marsden Grotto where packed lunches were eaten, chips ordered and clothes dried.

Woodham Academy would like to thank all who made the day so successful, Overlander Travel, The Baltic Art Gallery, Marsden Grotto and the staff and students involved.

Garden Club

The next meeting of Bishop Auckland Hospital Garden Club is on Tuesday, 6th May at 8.15pm at The Hospital Club on Escomb Road. Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, John Raw, will attend to talk about allotment security. A free event and all welcome.

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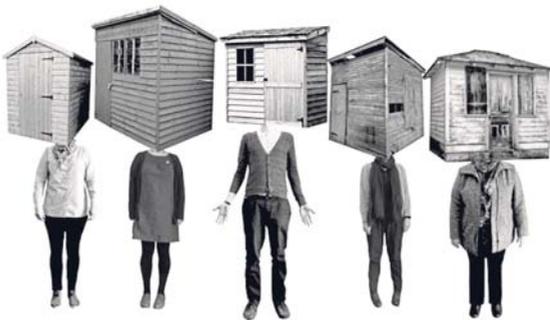
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SHED HEADS AT GREENFIELD ARTS



We are pleased to launch a new "Shed Heads" residency programme for artists taking place at Greenfield Arts. A group of five artists: Anna Cole, Nicola Parkin, Vicky Holbrough, Catherine Johnson and James Chincharo, who are based locally, will be using GAMP AAP funded equipment and facilities in "The Shed" over the next six months. These "Shed Heads" will be exploring their own creative practice and working with young people and the community on projects looking at creative, design and enterprise ideas. Their work will be shared on the

Greenfield Arts website (www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) and at our "Arty Party" on Tuesday 24th June. The "Shed Heads" can help you design and create branding and marketing material for your organisation, to find out more get in touch! The residency is a great opportunity for Greenfield Arts to work with some talented local artists, supporting them and their work and making use of the fantastic resource we have available. Keep an eye on our website and twitter (@GreenfieldArts) for regular updates on our "Shed Heads!" (Image by Nicola Parkin)

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Closing Date: 4pm Friday 9 May 2014



NEW COUNCILLOR REPORTS ON FIRST YEAR

Dear Sir,
After my first year as a Town Councillor I am writing to inform readers of things I have done, and what I feel are some of the key issues facing the Council. I have spent some time on research, to find out how the Business Park is

working and communicating with related organisations. As a member of the Personnel Sub-committee, I was involved in recruiting a new business manager for the golf course and a new officer who will organise the Neighbourhood Plan. This is your plan, and we

have recruited a local manager to oversee the project. The job will be to engage with the public to guide planning in the future. You will be asked to join steering groups to ensure the plan stays focussed on what people want.

The fireworks display presented Councillors with a daunting task and safety concerns dictated the responsible course was to cancel last year, but plans are now underway to address cost and safety concerns. After a difficult year when we suffered some poor weather conditions, the golf professional left. The Council made policy changes and recruited a new manager, Julie Welsh who has made a great start.

Great work has been done to highlight the problems at West Park, and a Friends of West Park group has been set up to improve its overall look. Gary Hale from Town Centre owners Bisham Group came to a Council meeting with Centre Manager Brian Haldane, to give an overview of work being done in the centre. The emphasis is on opening the centre, to show what is offered behind the door buildings.

I had many walks around the centre with my granddaughter and it is a much nicer place than before. The progress is quite dramatic and there are a number of new shops. I asked Gary if he was recruiting tenants for the shops, hoping business owners would take a look around and decide to move in. He assured me that the owners are always actively marketing to encourage new tenants. Newton Aycliffe residents have played a major part in pressing for these improvements and welcoming new tenants.

Further concerns are on-going in relation to the market. The consensus of those I canvassed, is for keeping the market. Desire alone is not enough and a lot of work needs to be done on ideas to make progress.

I have been to many PACT meetings and I would urge that you pop in to your particular ward meeting. The meetings help to keep your neighbourhood free from anti-social behaviour.

I would like to thank those councilors, officers and members of the public who have guided and helped me through my first year. Councillor Jim Atkinson

Aycliffe Designer Wins Headline Award



Newtonian Adam Hill a former Greenfield student progressed through college and entered University. In 2012 he made a poor decision and left to become a designer at a local agency which closed three months later. Adam was left with no degree and no employment so he set up his own business "Creativehill" in the hope of starting a new career. Last year he entered his firm into the Scoot Headline Award. Throughout the year he was in the top one hundred and then the top 50 and so on. In December Adam was informed he had won the headline award, which he received at a ceremony held at Millbank Tower in London on the 28th of April. Creativehill is now a thriving company based in Aycliffe and provides creative solutions in media and design to local and national clients.

"This is a great achievement for me, I've come from making a naive business decision, and turning it into a successful local company". said Adam

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

St. Clare's Church will be holding their Spring Fayre on Saturday 31st May at 10 am. Please come along and bag a bargain in our 'pound shop' and try your luck on the tombola and raffle. Something for everyone on the tasty treat cake stall and sweet surprises to win too! If anyone would like to come along and sell their goods by purchasing a table at £7 they would be made very welcome. Any enquiries to Judith on 0774 9779410

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and support the Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland
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If you have answered yes to any of the above questions the next questions you should ask yourself are how soon and where can I draw up a will?

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During May, Butterwick Hospice is working in partnership with reputable local Solicitors to help you make a will. These Solicitors are giving their time and expertise and all we ask is that you make a donation to the Hospice of £75 for a single will and £95 for a pair of matching wills.

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01388 660644 - lauradouthwaite@butterwick.org.uk
www.butterwick.org.uk

north east autism society

Dance & Drama Club

At North East Centre for Autism, Newton Aycliffe

Starting May 2014

We have secured funding to start a new Dance & Drama Club.

The is **FREE** and we welcome children and young people with autism and any other special needs. A formal diagnosis is not required.

Register now:

To register your interest please contact Susan Tron **0191 410 9974** or email susan.tron@ne-as.org.uk

Club will be at held at:
North East Centre for Autism
Cedar Drive
Newton Aycliffe
DL5 6UU

www.ne-as.org.uk

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

A PACT Meeting will be held at Aycliffe Village Hall on Sat 10th May from 11am to 12noon.
PC Alan Thompson and PCSO Richard Scott are your Community Police Officers. Representatives from partners will attend when available.
For more information visit www.durham.police.uk

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Friends of West Park

Friends of West Park will be holding meetings in the upstairs lounge at the Royal British Legion club on the following dates

Tuesday 13th May 7pm-9pm
Tuesday 10th June 7pm-9pm
Primarily these meetings are opportunities for the committee to get together in formulating an action plan and discussion to drive the project forward. Interested members of the public are invited to attend, make comments and suggestions. Progress from the previous meeting held on April 15th will be discussed to ensure the group does not become a talking shop and results can be confirmed.

• Behind the scenes work has been carried out on an action plan by Sonia Newhouse of County Durham Community

action.
• The Great Aycliffe Youth Council have made a substantial donation which has helped to provide a quantity of bulbs and trees.

• Officers of the Great Aycliffe Town Council and members of the Friends group, Acle Scouts and Cubs and the Youth Council have been planting bulbs in the park.

• Members of the Friends group have been involved in periodic litter picks supplementing work carried out by council staff.

Increasing public support continues to be the driving force behind the West Park project with many new ideas coming forward and excitement growing over what we can achieve.
Ken Robson (Chairman)

Helping Hands Team's Great Work for the Needy

According to government statistics parts of Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas are considered to be amongst the highest areas of deprivation in England in respect of employment, income, education and health. 1 in 3 people that contacted the Aycliffe "Helping Hands" team have either thought about suicide or have already tried to take their own lives. These are shocking statistics don't you think?

For those living comfortable lives it may be hard to think of a time when we could ever be in need of other people's help, however life is unpredictable and we can never tell when we might be in need of assistance to get our lives back on track. For those struggling with redundancy, breakdown in relationships or difficult times caused by benefit reforms, Helping Hands offer support to those in crisis to reach self sufficiency by placing household packs directly into the homes of those in need.

Unemployment can lead to high debt situations, which unfortunately can lead to other problems and they sadly can have a devastating effect on families. Helping Hands aims to support those through these difficult times to help create a positive future for all not only through the household packs but through our registered charity 'Lifeline Community Action' providing money education courses, job clubs and training for other relevant courses. For some, this assistance has literally been life saving.

Helping Hands Manager Alwyn White says "We are passionate about assisting people to get out of debt and poverty. Thousands of people have already found some hope and a solution. Debt and social isolation usually go hand in hand it is not just about getting your finances sorted but about getting you speaking to people again and getting your coping mechanisms working again."

Our services are offered totally free of charge because our funders care about people in our communities who are suffering and they want to help in some way. 'Lifeline Community Action' has a very strong emphasis on social action.

Mum of four Andrea was unable to cope with the stress of debts and finally ended up on anti-depressants to help her cope. Andrea says "When I first saw the Helping Hands article in Newton News just over a year ago I finally decided to meet a Helping Hands adviser. I recall it being quite emotional as I never thought anyone could help in the ways they did, also they never criticised me or made me feel stupid for the situation I found myself in" That meeting was the beginning of an eventful journey for me and my family. I started to go to Life Church, on a Thursday evening. It's great and my family always look forward to it too. I then took the money management course, the Job Club and various other learning and development courses. I am now a key volunteer for Helping Hands, which I love doing as I want to give something back and see others given hope in their difficult situations.

I've learnt so much as people from diverse backgrounds come in for help. It is very easy to dismiss those caught in the debt trap as being self-indulgent, careless or just plain



irresponsible, but the reality is that debt is a very easy trap to fall into.

Young people are inundated with offers of credit cards, bank accounts, overdraft facilities, store cards etc and through lack of experience in managing credit, many of them run up debts of several hundred pounds. Even families who have managed their finances well in the past are at risk. It takes only a short period of illness without sick pay to put rent into arrears. A sudden bereavement, the break up of a marriage or the loss of a job can plunge a family into serious debt.

Andrea concludes, "The good news is I no longer take anti-depressants and this year will be our first family holiday for 17 years. Last week I accompanied Alwyn to receive the County Council Chairman's Medal for the charities outstanding work and was astounded! While the hard work of the volunteers and the generous donations given so far have made a difference to so many lives, there are many more still in need of help. Helping Hands has helped over two thousand people in the last

year and distributed goods to the value of over £500,000. This allows those who are struggling to concentrate on tackling their bills and reducing debts. We are able to support another 50 families this week because of generous support and fundraising from Life Church

ACORN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

ACORN Residents' Association incorporating Little Acorns and Woodham Burn Neighbourhood Watch group will be holding their monthly meeting from 5.30 pm on the 8th May at the Royal British Legion Club. Speaker for the evening will be David Robinson from the Home group giving a short talk on the work of the organisation.

Little Acorns will be reporting on the Petting Zoo event which was received very well by over 400 visitors, the partaking in planting bulbs around the West Park boating lakes and the successful visit to Whitby which coincided

with the Goth weekend. 2014 is expected to be a busy year with many coach trips and community events so little ACORNS will be making plans for the next adventure.

Meanwhile the main ACORN group will be discussing topical local subjects which affect us all with Town and County Councillors in friendly comfortable surroundings. Police and livin representatives are expected to attend subject to other commitments. ACORN welcome residents from across the Great Aycliffe area to come along and join in our discussions and projects.

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Greenfield Inspires Creative Learning Building Houses on a Bog

What have blue whales, Sir Bradley Wiggins and Lego got in common? They were all subjects of a busy day of SOLE work last Friday at Greenfield in Room 13! We had many great SOLE sessions in Room 13 last week and a particularly busy day of sessions on Friday where questions about railway factories, humour in performance, the biggest living things on planet earth, the world's greatest toys and what you'd need to win the Tour de France were all explored. This is all part of the School in the Cloud project, the brain child of Professor Sugata Mitra of Newcastle University.

Did you know that one of the largest living things on earth is the giant sequoia, also known as General Sherman tree, which can be found located in California's Sequoia National Park. This is just one of the interesting and valuable facts discovered by pupils throughout the day. Comments from the young people suggest they were inspired in the space, exploring learning independently with the chance to share their findings with their peers. We were very pleased to welcome Dom and Alec from Highbury College in Portsmouth to Greenfield and Room 13, as well as

colleagues from Durham University and Newcastle University. They travelled to see the space, as it is one of two in the UK and only seven in the whole world. It was an interesting day of observations, questions and ideas! Watching the sessions and talking to staff and students has left our visitors feeling inspired and energised about enquiry based learning and SOLEs, it's great that we can share the knowledge and skills of the staff at Greenfield, and advise other educational professionals in their own work. The visitors from Highbury College said on Twitter afterwards "Awesome day - thanks so much for your hospitality and allowing us to witness the great work you are doing! Truly inspiring!" It's great to be working with partners across the country and in places such as Australia, Holland and California to influence teaching and learning. The School in the Cloud research will continue over the next three years at Greenfield, as we continue to inspire creative learning. Visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk for more information and to keep up to date with the research.

Dear Editor, I am pleased you published the 'Bad and Good Development' letter in your last issue, keeping this subject alive. It was my intention to make comment on the 'Development at Cobblers Hall' letter from Mr Clare in the 11 April issue of Newton News but I first read up on the Council's website he quoted, which shed a new light on things. The Moor has always been a bog, shedding it's influence on the surrounding area. While the Environment Agency may have no record of flooding; local regular users would disagree. It may be a matter of degree but it was frequently impassible on foot; now it's impossible naturally. However the creation of the SUDS project was clearly the absolute priority for the building of the 174 new houses. The much talked of Nature Reserve seems to be merely a byproduct of that essential. What I find most disconcerting is that the self contained Surface Water Storage Pond with an overflow pipe to the main drain, considered so necessary to protect the surrounding lower land, now seems to be of reduced effectiveness. The pipe diameter was shown on plan, without reference to it's small size and the implications of it's restricted capacity have never previously been made clear, anywhere. While the

area has always been a wetland I have known no permanent pool - of even 100sm - in the last two years. Now, the new deep excavation allows for the 8000sm Storage Pond to an as yet unknown - but deep - depth with only a restricted capacity outlet to the mains. That is a huge pool founded in a wetland locality We are not told, so I am curious to learn what capacity the Pond has in gallons. Certainly the very highest level of maintenance must be constantly exercised, as the very minimum. The application, web site and the 11 April letter seem to indicate that the main drains capacity is so limited in this part of Newton Aycliffe that they could not cope during heavy rain conditions without the SUDS system on the Moor. Perhaps the houses should not have been built in such a location? The much mentioned Nature Reserve which has aroused such interest is altogether missing. Quite reasonable really as the application specifically states that there are 'no protected and priority species on the development site or on the land adjacent to or near the proposed development' The Natterjack Toad receives no mention but the ecological assessment in this application specifically names other species and under para 3.3 confirms that despite surveys in recent years there are no Badgers, Red Squirrels, Bats and Reptiles and specifically the Great Crested Newt to be found within the area. The common frog, toad and smooth newt were found to be present before the diggers moved in. The report includes reference to earlier aerial photography as showing a pond of approx 100 sqm but concedes the area dries out during the

summer. I have only known it as a regular wetland with no permanent pond, until the huge one now being constructed. Thinking of maintenance, there is a salutary lesson to be viewed just across Burnham Road into Woodham Glade where a draining ditch, known to have been in existence for over three generations has been neglected. It runs, or used to run, the length of the Glade carrying away accumulated surface water unable to permeate the layers of clay a few inches down. It has been long neglected, allowed to infill over it's entire length so becoming incapable of fulfilling its function which has had effect in a number of places. Some welcome clearing work has recently been done in the Glade, also the ditch has received some intermittent clearing. Unfortunately the roughly excavated soil is already falling back in, the unblocking work remains disconnected, without a beginning or an end, so the system remains incomplete, therefore unworkable. Perhaps not a good example of maintenance? J D Whittaker, The Bridle

Good Start for New Baby and Toddler Group

The Harvest Christian Centre's newly launched 'Little Treasures' Baby and Toddler group got off to a great start at Woodham Community Centre. Group manager, Helen Forster said, "We were thrilled with the response on the first day of opening with numbers exceeding all our expectations! We were also delighted to get so much positive feedback from those who came to the group. We anticipate more growth as we move into the future." The group meets Tuesdays mornings from 10.15am to 11.45am, costing £1.50 per child and 50p for each additional sibling. For more information contact Helen on 07761 832715 or check out www.harvestchristiancentre.org.uk



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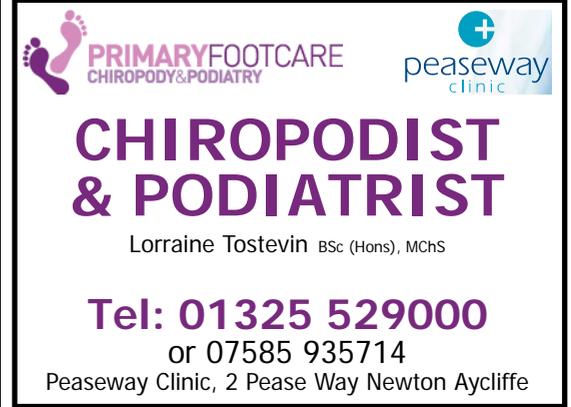
Monday 25th August 2014
TESCO PHARMACY
 Greenwell Road, Newton Aycliffe 11am-4pm

Vive le Greenfield

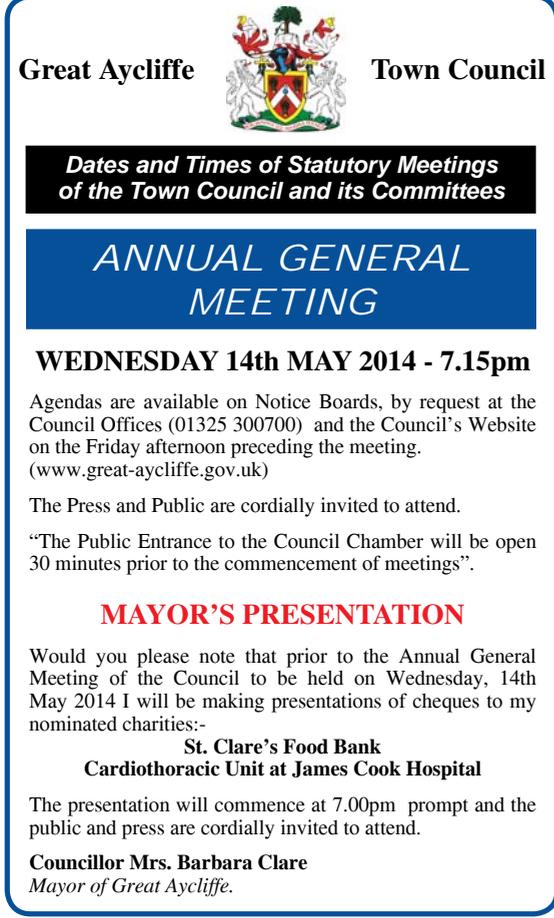


A broad range of educational opportunities is definitely on offer at Greenfield College at the moment. Renowned for their work in the international dimension, the college have recently made significant strides forward in relations with France. For two years the college has been part of the Jules Verne programme, where a French teacher works and teaches at Greenfield for the full academic year. This enables students to benefit from a different perspective in learning and from the French teacher's approaches to teaching and learning. An understanding of the differences in culture and heritage is another feature of the JV programme, along with the obvious advantage of a native French speaking teacher helping with Modern Foreign Language speaking and listening skills. Greenfield is required to send a teacher to work within the French education system as part of a reciprocal visit. Mrs Dixon has just completed a seven week placement in Picardi and is busy sharing experiences with students back in the classroom. This year's Jules Verne teacher, Mrs Poll, bravely decided, to

bring her two young daughters to the UK as part of her year long experience. Both girls are fully immersed into the English education system, with her younger daughter attending St Joseph's Primary school and Margaux, a pupil in year 8 at Greenfield College. Starting with limited English, Margaux settled quickly into life at Greenfield and has made spectacular progress with her language and studies. Over the last two weeks, the Greenfield French community has been strengthened further with three French students spending a fortnight in school to complete educational projects. The girls embraced the Greenfield culture and loved every minute of the 'busy and very rewarding' lifestyle. We hope to have secured strong links that can be built upon for years to come for both the students and our schools as a whole. Assistant Head teacher, Stuart Dixon, said 'Our relationships with France are particularly strong at present. We are constantly developing links to enhance our wider curriculum and to develop global citizens. This teaches true life skills to our students and develops rounded individuals.'



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Great Aycliffe Town Council

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 14th MAY 2014 - 7.15pm

Agendas are available on Notice Boards, by request at the Council Offices (01325 300700) and 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".

MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

Would you please note that prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday, 14th May 2014 I will be making presentations of cheques to my nominated charities:-

St. Clare's Food Bank
Cardiothoracic Unit at James Cook Hospital

The presentation will commence at 7.00pm prompt and the public and press are cordially invited to attend.

Councillor Mrs. Barbara Clare
 Mayor of Great Aycliffe.



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EBAC ON POPULAR T.V. PROGRAMME

Viewers of a top new primetime BBC programme will see one of Britain's best known business figures putting North East manufacturing bosses under the microscope as they prepare for a major product launch.

The former Trade Minister and CBI Director General, Lord Digby Jones, has spent months working behind the scenes with the team establishing the Aycliffe facility manufacturing Norfrost freezers.

Lord Jones helped management at Ebac to re-examine everything they have learned over 40 years as they worked to re-launch the Norfrost brand, taking on the likes of Indesit, Zanussi and Hotpoint, in a market which saw the collapse of Norfrost's previous owners.

The New Troubleshooter, sees Lord Jones working with businesses to drive forward major projects. The Norfrost brand and machinery were bought in 2013 by Ebac. Viewers will see how Lord Jones has been working alongside management, led by Managing Director



Pamela Petty, in the build-up to the first new Norfrost freezers being produced next month.

Pamela Petty said: "The launch of Norfrost freezers marks a major investment for us, so to be under the spotlight from Lord Digby Jones and the TV cameras at the same time has added a real element of external scrutiny to the process."

"Working with Lord Jones has been more than just filming a TV series. It has been a great opportunity to use and learn from his experience and to take on board his views and criticisms, as well as taking

pride in what he feels we do well.

"We have a wealth of experience in manufacturing products for the home and in refrigeration, but having an outside expert to give his view on what we are doing and how we are doing it has been hugely valuable. Lord Jones was very thorough and really put our plans, processes and thoughts to the test, which is great for us and for the final products because no stone has been left unturned."

Sports Club Celebrates Birthday of Longest Serving Member



A birthday celebration of the longest serving active member was held on Easter Sunday. Club stalwart Charlie Taylor turned 80 years old and the club marked the event for Charlie. As well as being the club's longest serving member, Charlie is also one of the founders of "The Big Boys Club" which raises funds every Sunday for a variety of good causes.

They provide money for the children's summer trips and Christmas parties, as well as donating to many more worthy causes.

Everyone at the Sports Club hopes Charlie enjoyed his birthday and look forward to many more!

Craft & Gifts Fayre

On Saturday 10th May we are holding a Spring Craft & Gifts Fayre at Neville Parade Methodist Church. There will be over 20 stalls attending hoping to attract you with their various displays of crafts & gifts. We have some new crafters hoping to tempt you with their work.

Items on sale will include cards, embroidery, jewellery, woodwork, photography, needlework, craft materials, cakes, paintings, toys, knitting, buttons, etc..

You can also try your hand at crafting by taking part in workshops being held throughout the day.

And don't forget to sample our bacon butties & great value Methodist lunches & refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you from 10am - 2pm. A warm welcome awaits you. For further details Tel 313397.

AWARD WINNING PIANIST AT AUCKLAND CASTLE



The second in Bishop Auckland Music Society's Summer Season of concerts is in the Throne Room at Auckland Castle on Friday, 16th May at 7.30pm.

Romanian born pianist, Alexandra Dariescu, will present an evening of classical music including Bach's Prelude and Fugue in B minor and Beethoven's Sonata op 10 no.2. Alexandra is an experienced soloist and chamber and orchestral musician. She made her debut at the Royal Albert Hall in 2013, the first female pianist from her native country to do so.

Amongst her many prizes and awards, in 2013 she won the arts and culture section of the Women of the Future Awards. Tickets: £12.50

(Young people aged 18 and under go free). Tickets available from Brian Varley (01388) 606075 or Cameo Fine Art

Aycliffe Live Music Festival This Weekend

Preparations are busy being finalised ahead of a big live music festival being held this Sunday (4th May). The event, jointly hosted by Newton Aycliffe Sports Club and Newton Aycliffe FC, sponsored by Newton Press, is being held at Moore Lane Park.

Live music starts at 12pm and runs through until 11pm, with an exciting line up of 11 different bands set to entertain the crowds throughout the day. Tickets for the event remain on sale, and can be purchased from the bar at the Sports Club and at £10 represent great value for money. There will be a fully licenced bar inside the ground as well as a number of fast food vans to ensure the real festival feel is present at the event.

Sports Club Secretary Shaun Saunders said "we can't wait. We think it's the type of event that has been missing in a Town of Aycliffe's size, and we are hopeful this will be the first of what will become an annual fixture in the Towns calendar".

Film Show

St Clare's Church "Feel Good Film Show" on Wednesday 7th May will feature "HELLO DOLLY" Starring Barbra Streisand, Walter Matthau, Michael Crawford and Louis Armstrong in just about the most feel-good musical of all time.

Tea and coffee will be served at 1pm (included in the £2). The film starts at 1-15pm. We provide a variety of chairs for your comfort, and provide tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you watch the film in friendly company. For further details please ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

Nice Gesture

Dear Sir, I received a telephone call from a lady offering surplus Daffodil bulbs from her garden for planting in West Park. What a fantastic gift, demonstrating true community spirit.

Also had an effective meeting with Sonia Newhouse from Durham Community Action along with Chris Wheeler to begin drawing up an action plan to drive the "Friends" project forward.

The next step is to find a little funding for administration and meeting room hire.

Kenneth Robson
Friends of West Park



The Village Pharmacy

Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe

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CLOSED:

3rd, 5th, 17th, 24th & 26th May, 2014

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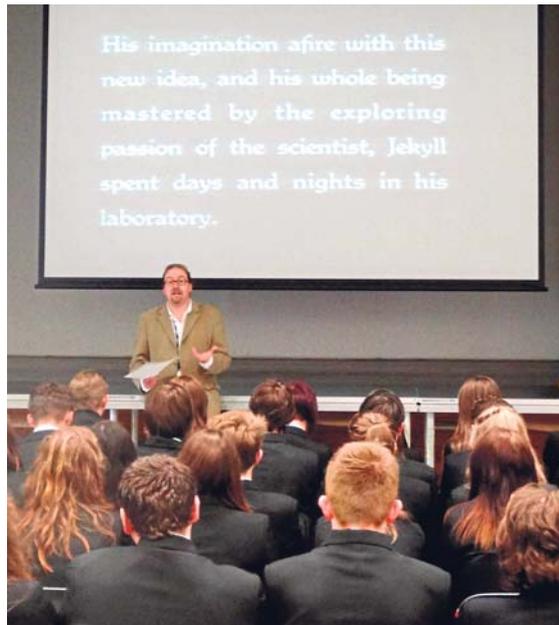
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English Professor Visits Greenfield College

Last week Professor Simon James from the Department of English at Durham University visited Greenfield Community College as part of the "Speakers for Schools" programme. He delivered a fascinating and thought provoking talk on Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde as a way of introducing literary criticism to a group of year 9 and 10 students. Students and teachers were challenged to consider big questions around

what makes great literature, whether it possible to predict which books will stand the test of time, how books reflect or challenge the morals and beliefs of their historical context as well as some complex psychological ideas about the purpose of life. His talk encouraged students to think more creatively and see links between science and literature reflecting the specialism of Greenfield. Sue Laing - Assistant Head

Teacher and strategic lead for literacy said "Events like this are brilliant because they prepare our students for the academic challenges to come and open their eyes to questions which resonate beyond the classroom." Professor James also made a variety of interesting links between nineteenth century literature and contemporary films such as 'The Hunger Games,' showing that despite a difference of over a hundred and fifty years, good stories will always capture the human imagination!



Livin's High Service Charge Increase

Dear Sir
Through your columns may I ask if there are any other "Disgruntled" Newton Aycliffe Leaseholders who are not happy with the current rise of some 40 - 70% in their "Service Charges" recently issued by landlords Livin?
If so would they please contact: Margaret Sowerby, 30 Boyden Court, Tel: 01325 316689 after 6pm to discuss this issue in more depth.

HORNDALE HOUND VISITS AYCLIFFE AUTISM CENTRE



Horndale Hound and his friend Acorn Squirrel visited the North East Autism Centre at Aycliffe where they joined Autism mascot Panda. The meeting was to see what is available ahead of Horndale Residents Association's May meeting when Susan Tron, their Fundraiser is guest speaker.

The Centre has excellent facilities that they want the general public to use or hire, including a swimming pool, rooms, large trampoline, and full size sports hall. They also have plans for the future, with a petting farm, small café, garden allotment with plants etc for sale, play park and wild life walk through the woods. All of these will enhance and improve the lives of the pupils who attend the school and be available to the general public.

When the plans come together they will be a great asset to Newton Aycliffe. The new school offers education to young and old people with Autism and also run training courses for parents, grandparents and relatives. Anyone who thinks they need help and guidance in caring for someone with Autism should get in touch. They also have parent toddler groups.

Please come along to next week's meeting to listen to Susan and see if you can use any of their facilities or offer help in their plans for the exciting future. Four local ladies are raising funds for a disabled ball pool and are taking part in an Iron Man event this year at Nottingham. They are looking for sponsorship, further details later. Representatives from Livin, Police and Councillors will be attending the meeting which starts at 6pm - Evangelical Church, Ladybower with refreshments at 5.45

Aycliffe Charities Win Exciting Contract

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) are delighted to announce that they, along with partners Leisureworks, Jack Drum Arts, East Durham Trust, 2D, Waddington Street Centre and Aspire have been successful in securing a contract to deliver a wide range of Social Prescribing opportunities for County Durham residents. This new and exciting service aims to provide access to social prescribing interventions for the improvement of mental health and the development of emotional resilience. Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive explained, "All 7 partners are thrilled that local voluntary sector organisations will be delivering this exciting new service for the people of County Durham. Our local knowledge, understanding of the community and aim to improve health and wellbeing will ensure that services are designed to meet local needs. In addition to a comprehensive

outreach programme our hubs in Newton Aycliffe, Stanely, Peterlee and Barnard Castle will be provide a range of activities including education, volunteering and arts on prescription. The service will also co-ordinate access into books on prescription and ecotherapy. The service will formally launch in May so watch this space for more information about what is happening in your area." For further information regarding the Social Prescribing Service please contact: enquiries@pcp.uk.net

BUSINESS AS USUAL

The Cubby and Honest John's Stall will be open as usual on Bank Holiday Monday. Hot and Cold food available at very reasonable prices. Great bargains to be had on Honest John's fundraising stall.

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NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

New Age Kurling for those that would like to have a trial for beginners is on Tuesday 6th May and Thursday 8th May at 10am. It is good exercise to help keep you fit and healthy and it is free, (normally £2). To show an interest ring Peter on 313924.

Trial Family Kurling at no cost on Saturday 17th May 10am-12noon. To show an interest ring Peter on 313924.

Large hall to rent by the hour or for you to hire on a regular weekly basis. Start your own club. Small meeting room to hire for a one off or regular weekly events. To view ring Peter 313924. You can also ring this number if you are a Senior Citizen and you have a problem or need assistance or advice daily from 8am to 8pm.

Problems for Aycliffe Runner in the Dales

The Three Peaks Race is an annual, organised event, in which competitors climb each of the Yorkshire three peaks - Pen-y-Ghent, Ingleborough and Wharfedale and is one of the oldest, most famous fell races in Britain.

It covers 24 miles of the most rugged and spectacular countryside in the Yorkshire Dales, taking competitors to 2,500 feet above sea level. It is a navigational event, with only some areas of the route flagged. Dez Fielden was the only member of Aycliffe Running Club to take the challenge on Sunday 27th April and unfortunately, things did not go according to plan.

It was an early start for Dez the rain was coming down before the start making underfoot conditions very soft. With a target time of 4 hours in mind

he started fairly steady up the first climb of Pen-y-Ghent then made up a lot of places on the long flattish stretch to Ribbleshead Viaduct. Next was a knee deep bog followed by the toughest climb up Wharfedale, which felt near vertical in places.

At this point he was still well on schedule and clawing back some of the places lost earlier. The second food station arrived just in time as his lower quads were starting to cramp and he hoped the salty crisps and liquid would save him. However, 40 minutes later, at the top of Ingleborough, after another hands and knees climb, disaster struck. Cramp in the front and back of both legs and he was on the ground needing assistance.

Dez thought his race was over with just a rocky 4.5 mile descent to go. However marshalls got him back walking and then into a jog. As he started to pick up pace he hit a rock, taking a nasty fall bringing the cramp on again. At this point he thought he would have to retire and join the other 76 who failed to finish the course. Somehow though, with great determination and strength of character, he managed to stagger the last few miles, with painkillers and lucozade donated by concerned spectators along the route.

He finished the race in 4hr 19 min 24 secs and 278th position of 704 finishers, having lost 125 places down the last hill. Although disappointed to miss his target, he was happy to have finished the challenging race.

Aycliffe Triathletes in Stockton Race

On Sunday 27th April Stockton hosted it's second Duathlon Festival. On a damp and cold Sunday morning 800 multi-sport athletes took to the roads of Stockton for the run bike run event. It was a closed road circuit three race event with novice, sprint and standard races.

Aycliffe Tri Club had 8 club members taking part. It was first time at a multi-sport event for 3 of the club members with Tracey Warrior and Darren Harrop taking part in the sprint race and Rob Cherrie in the standard race.

The sprint race was made up of a 5k run 20k cycle and a 2.5k run. It was a fast course which made for some excellent times with Andrew Sedgwick first home for the club in 1hour 10min, Michelle Scott first lady for the club and 4th in her category in 1hour 15mins, Darren Harrop 1hour 23min, Tracey Warrior 1hour 31min.

Also in the sprint Martin Sedgwick made a strong performance but at time of going to print Martin's race time was still to be confirmed. After the sprint race Tracey



Warrior said she loved the event especially the bike and couldn't wait for her next race. Following the sprint the next event was the standard race a 10k run 40k cycle followed by a 5k run. Weather conditions had not improved but this didn't dampen the spirits of the clubs next three athletes. First home was Graham Atkins in a fantastic time of 2hours 16mins next in Rob Cherrie in his first Duathlon in 2hours 25mins. Wendy Bake the clubs only lady in the standard race finished in 2hours 47mins. All 3 agreed it was a tough race but a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

Huge Congestion at Big Football Match



Newton Aycliffe Sports Club issued a warning to their neighbours that a big football game may cause congestion, but residents did not expect to be isolated in their own homes, unable to move.

Complaints to the club met with suitable apologies, but this was no consolation to those who suffered from some inconsiderate car owners.

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HAIR CUT FOR CHARITY

Nine year old Jessica-Marie Lambert's sponsored hair cut for the Little Princess Fund raised a total of £222.

Her grandmother, Anne Brook thanks everyone who sponsored her and Creations Hairdressers for cutting her hair.

Activities at Agnew Community Centre

Monday to Friday: Aycliffe Day Nursery, except Bank Holidays, 8am to 6pm, Ring Jane on 07761818514 for full details. Saturday Mornings if demand warrants.

Mondays: Aycliffe Spiritualists 7pm to 9pm.

Tuesdays: Art Class, 1pm to 3pm. Football Class for the 4 to 7 year olds, 6-30pm to 7-30pm. Aycliffe Spiritualists, 7pm to 9pm by arrangement

Wednesdays: Art & Craft Workshops for School aged children, 3-45pm to 5-45pm. Tai Chi Class, 7pm to 8pm.

Thursdays: Available to book in the evenings from 6-30pm. Ring Ron on 07749 236853 for long term or a one off booking for both Hall or Room.

Fridays: PK All Stars Youth Club for the 5 to 11 year olds, 6pm to 7-30pm.

Saturdays & Sundays: available for all occasions such as our Birthday Package which covers the use of the whole Centre for 3 hours at a cost of £25. Ring 01325-3215047 office or on 07749 236853, or Email us at agnewcommunitycentre@btconnect.com today for your booking.

Editorial Contributions

Editorial contributions, stories and tidbits can be sent to the Newton News editor via email:- syd@newtonnews.co.uk

Alternatively, you can "contact us" via our website:- www.newtonnews.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE:

Any letter for publication should be accompanied with the writer's email address, name, address and contact number. These details can be withheld from publication on request.

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Cup Victory for Aycliffe Team



Huntsman got their first piece of silverware after a last minute goal from David

Neale sealed a 1-0 win against Yates at Darlington RA's Brinkburn Road ground. The manager made 3 changes from the week before with Mark Percival, Lee Redpath and Carl Bates all returning to the side.

Both sides packed the midfield and space was tight and chances were few and far between but all the best ones in the first half fell to the Huntsman, firstly Jamie Herd broke the offside trap

but fired over with only the keeper to beat; next David Neale wriggled into the box but saw his low shot well saved. The Huntsman defence were never really tested but both sides went in at half time happy with 0-0.

The second half continued in the same way as the first with Huntsman dominating but chances were limited. They thought they had broke the deadlock but Adam McDonald had his goal chalked off for offside. Anth Cox almost scored with his first touch but his effort went just wide.

Yates had their chances aswell firstly they hit the post from a right wing free kick before Mark Percival cleared off the line following a mix up between Neil Dodds and Stuart Ord. Jamie Herd then had a goal chalked off for offside despite being well outside as he raced though and finished impressively.

Just as the game appeared to heading for extra time the Huntsman forced a free kick deep in injury time which was hit up to Adam McDonald whose back header was clawed out of the top corner but David Neale was on hand to put the ball in the back of the net to the joy of the Huntsman supporters. They managed to see off a free kick and corner before the final whistle blew to give the Huntsman the victory their performance deserved having dominated from start to finish.

Next up is the British Legion on Thursday 1st of May 6.30pm kick off, if Huntsman can get a win it means they travel to Spraire Lads on Sunday May 4th knowing victory will seal the league title!

Aycliffe F.C. End Season on a High

Newton Aycliffe FC finally produced the kind of performance they did regularly in the first half of the season, as they thrashed FA Vase finalists West Auckland 4-1.

Allan Oliver spent three seasons in charge of West earlier in his career, and so he will have particularly enjoyed getting one over on them. And make no mistake, despite their upcoming Wembley date; this was a full strength West side that were put in front of Aycliffe.

The performances of the team in this game, coupled with the last game against Shildon, will have given Oliver heart as he looks to develop his squad for a more sustained assault next season.

The game was open from the start, with both sides looking to attach whenever they could. It was the visitors with the first chance of note though, with Spence somehow managing to claw Briggs' effort out of the top corner.

And from there Aycliffe stepped on. The opening goal arrived on the half hour mark. Paul Broom crossed from the left. Mark Wood rose highest and saw his header come back off the crossbar, but straight to captain John Close who nodded home the rebound.

Unlike on Monday though, Aycliffe were able to double their lead as half time approached.

Lewis Green slid a delightful through ball into the path of Mickle, who slotted it to the side of the advancing keeper and into the net.

Into the second half and Spence was once again called upon, first to deny Briggs, and then Knight as the visitors showed what a force they are capable of being. However with just 15 minutes remaining, powerful striker Mickle outmuscled Hall for the ball, and played in strike partner Owens who coolly finished left footed.

In the 84th minute, Aycliffe grabbed another. James Oliver with a surging run into the box, only to be upended. Stuart Owen stepped up for the penalty and smashed it home.

In the last minute West grabbed a consolation. Briggs picked the ball up in the inside right channel, skipped inside his man and fired an unstoppable shot into the roof of the net.

Spence, Oliver, Clough, Mitton, Close, Butterworth, Broom, Green, Mickle, Owen, M Wood. Substitutes Owens, Atkinson, Mellanby, Farley, Raitt. Tickets remain on sale for the upcoming Party in the Park. The all-day live music event is being held on the pitch at Moore Lane Park next Sunday from 12pm. Tickets are priced at just £10 and can be purchased from the bar at the Sports Club.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team team sponsored by Franks The Flooring Store, began the new season with a 83 run defeat away at Middlesbrough 2nd team in the NYSD 2nd division. Middlesbrough batted first and were dismissed for 166 after 48.2 overs thanks to some superb bowling from fast bowler Sean Morgan who took 6 for 39 from 15.2 overs and two wickets from Colin Myers, who was making his debut for Aycliffe after transferring from Kimblesworth.

Aycliffe struggled throughout their innings and Luke Telford (18 runs), Dan Craggs (16 not out) and Matty Atkinson (13 runs), were the only batsmen to reach double figures in a disappointing display as they were bowled out for just 83 after just 26 overs.

The 2nd team began life in the NYSD 3rd division with a home defeat to promotion favourites Bedale by 91 runs. Aycliffe elected to bowl first and soon had Bedale struggling at 49 for 4, however the experienced middle order of

the visiting team soon got their innings back on track and they finished their 50 overs with a respectable 195 for 9. The pick of the Aycliffe attack was fast bowler Danny Weldon who finished his 13 overs with the excellent figures of 4 for 37 and he was given good support from Tom Wickins who took 3 for 33 from 10 overs.

Aycliffe found themselves in deep trouble at 39 for 6 with only captain Adam Gittins reaching double figures with 18 runs. However all rounder Danny Weldon, who top scored with 30 runs and Trevor Shingler who scored 23 not out, steadied the innings, however once Weldon was dismissed, the last 3 wickets fell cheaply as the home side were quickly bowled out for a fighting 104 after 36.4 overs.

The club's under 13's played well but were beaten away at Richmond, however there were good performances with the ball from Lucas Pilling, Keiran Shingler, Cameron Jennings and James Knowlson and captain Dylan Tribley batted well for an unbeaten 17.

Labour Candidates Visit Aycliffe

Phil Wilson MP took the Labour European Parliament candidates to the Hitachi site to emphasise the importance of links with Europe. He said: "Hitachi is building their train manufacturing plant in Newton Aycliffe because we are part of the EU. Hitachi rail Europe are building the factory on Aycliffe Industrial Estate bringing 730 jobs to the town with thousands more in the supply chain.

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Planet Leisure Bowling League

There is only one change in the league position this week with Wenwees taking second place from the Strike Force.

The Wenwees won 8-0 over the Clangers as Steve Goth was bowling by himself. The Strike Force lost their game 6-2 to the M&M's with Marcus Baker and partner Jan Hailes taking the high team series with handicap off the Late Starter - the series stood at 1239 and has now been pushed up to 1249 pins. The Pinheads remain top of the league.

Aycliffe Running Club

There was a great turnout from Aycliffe Running Club, on Wednesday April 23rd, for the Neptune relays at Hardwick Park in Sedgfield. The race is a four stage relay with each stage approximately 1.7 miles. It was a great team event organised by Sedgfield Harriers and in total there were 120 entrants.

John Young and Chris Forster took part in the Fountains Abbey 10K on Sunday 27th April. The race was centred around the village of Grantley, near Ripon. It is run over a one lap course on public roads and across scenic moorland within Nidderdale and is advertised as a mixed terrain route which 'may not be the fastest or the flattest'. There were 295 runners and John finished in 53.37 while Chris completed the course in 54.41.

Entries are now being taken for the annual Aycliffe 10K and Fun Run to be held on Sunday 15th June 2014. For details visit www.ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk The usual road closures will be in operation for the 10K race and full details of this will be published soon.

There was another good turnout for the first of the summer Tees Trail series of 5k trail races.

The race starts on what is now part of the Castle Eden Walkway, which was once the Castle Eden Branch Railway. There were some notable performances. Karen Newbould ran her first race for quite some time and enjoyed it and both Kat Aspey and Ross Garland produced much improved times.

Martyn Knox had an outstanding run to finish 15th in the time of 19:27 and was first home for the club by a good margin.

Next home was Matthew Heron, 21st in 20:04, Nigel Holmes 41st in 21:13, Peter Smith, 55th in 21:45, John Burnside, 56th in 21:50, Kelly Smith, 75th in 23:05, Paul Stretton, 96th in 24:05, Jason Dixon, 98th in 24:11, Trevor Needham, 102nd in 24:18, Rob Nicholson, 116th in 24:51, Simon Robinson 153rd in 26:39, Kat Aspey, 155th in 26:47, Michelle Dixon, 163rd in 27:19, Ross Garland 185th in 28:47, Anne Kellett, 188th



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Ron Hogg Appoints New Chief of Staff

Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg has announced the appointment of Alan Reiss as his new Chief of Staff. The Durham Police and Crime Panel met on Tuesday 22nd April where they considered and agreed to support the proposed appointment of Mr Reiss. Mr Reiss, aged 34, will officially take up his new role in the summer, succeeding Mrs Lesley Davies. He is a Senior Civil Servant currently working as the Deputy Director of Strategy at the Department for Education in Westminster. Mr Hogg said: "I welcome Alan who has a wealth of experience operating at a senior level within a challenging environment. I am confident he will make an excellent Chief of Staff and will fit in well in terms of helping make Durham and Darlington a safer place to live and work. "I would like to take the opportunity to thank Lesley Davies for her loyal service to my office, to Durham

Police Authority before that, to Durham Constabulary and our partners. I wish her well with her retirement". Discussing his new appointment, Mr Reiss said: "I am thrilled to be accepting this opportunity. I look forward to bringing my family to the North East and to working with the Commissioner, police and partners to deliver the Police and Crime Plan for the community in County Durham and Darlington".

Flower Demo

National Demonstrator Derek Armstrong from Carlisle will present an evening of flower arranging entitled 'The Scents of Spring' at the next meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club. Monday 19th May at Shildon Civic Hall at 7.30pm. £5 for members. £8 guests - Pay on the door

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Local History

Aycliffe Village Local History Society will host a talk by Gordon Morris at 7pm on Wednesday 7th May in Aycliffe Village Hall entitled 'The Later Edens of Windlestone'. All welcome members £1 non members £3 to include tea/coffee/biscuits. Details on 01325 301093.

NHS 111 Not That Successful

Dear Sir, I was astonished and dismayed to read the article in Newton News singing the praises of the NHS 111 service, based on my own experience of it. Dr James Gossow, the Regional Clinical Lead for NHS 111, is quoted as saying, amongst other things, that the service has 'successfully been running in the North East since August 2010'. It wasn't successful on 26th May 2012, when I called it (twice) on behalf of my mother, who was feeling extremely unwell. The 'highly trained call handlers' both incorrectly assessed the urgency of her needs, and she waited in some distress for nearly six hours for a doctor. It was only when she passed out and I called 999 that they realised she was in a life-threatening condition, but it was too late by then. After an investigation into her death, the NHS acknowledged that if the first operator had assessed my mother correctly, an ambulance would have attended within ten minutes. I dread to think how many more incidents of this nature there have been in other parts of the country if, as Dr Gossow claims, "The North East is one of the highest performing areas in the country for the NHS 111 service". My advice to readers is to only use 111 for anything you are sure is not serious. If it might be serious, call 999, and be prepared for a frustrating experience. It's easy to tell people to 'keep calm' in these situations, but it's not so easy in practice when you're in a traumatised state yourself and the operator says to you such things as 'if she gets any worse, let us know', when the patient is already unconscious! J. Snowball
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Nursery Raise £482 for Comic Relief



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

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WEDNESDAY 7th MAY 6.30pm at the Evangelical Church Ladybower, covering Greenfield Byerley Park Horndale Areas. PC Mike Welch, PCSO Mike Hutchinson, Park Wardens Neighbourhood Wardens and County Councillors will be in attendance.

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2 BEDROOM Semi Detached House in Woodham. Clean. Modern kitchen, large sun room, large gardens. Available June 2014. £460pcm. Bond required. 07709 555054.
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3 BEDROOM Property available to rent in Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe. The property is spacious and there is an enclosed garden to the rear and open plan grassed area to the front. If you are interested then please contact Kevin on 07775 811527 for further details

Available To Rent
4 Bed, Fewston Close £600pcm
3 Bed, Guthrum Place £500 pcm
3 Bed, School Aycliffe £550 pcm
Housing Benefit Welcome
Telephone 07540 640591

House To Let
3 bedroom property to let separate bathroom. Lounge, separate dining room, new fitted kitchen including oven and hob. Downstairs toilet. Fully carpeted throughout. Enclosed garden and garage. £500 per calendar month.
Contact Julia on 07811 345072 or 01539 436934 or Rob 07973 695253

Available To Let
2 bedroom bungalow Washington Crescent area Newton Aycliffe
Rent £450pcm (in advance)
Deposit required
Refs & Guarantor required
No smokers or pets
Tel 01325 311348 or 07976 393673

House To Let
3 Bedroom Houses Stocks Green Linden Place
DG, Combi Heating New Carpets & Decor
£450pcm
TELEPHONE 01325 351212

Former Student's Talk on Navy Life

Former Greenfield student

Owain Jones returned to school last week to talk about his life in the Royal Navy. Owain left school in 2012 and is now training as a Marine Engineer.

During his visit he talked confidently and passionately to over 60 students from all year groups about his life in the Navy – describing the tough physical training, the importance of having a goal and then working for it, and the satisfaction from pushing yourself a bit further to succeed.

He talked about his life and described a typical day from the 6 a.m. start through boot polishing to working on the engines and then the sporting opportunities. After his talk to students Owain answered individual questions about the best route for students into the forces depending on what are they want to specialise in. All of his teachers were delighted to see him and everyone commented on how smart he looked in his uniform.

Owain enjoyed his time at Greenfield and was keen to return and catch up with his



teachers and described his visit as 'great experience for me' and said 'seeing you all was amazing because you were all a big part of my life'. He has promised to return next time on leave to work with the PE department running circuit training and sharing some of his new skills and training. Chris Stonehouse, Deputy Head Teacher said 'It was wonderful to welcome Owain back to school. As a student he showed the determination and resilience needed for the academic success so that he could fulfil his ambition of joining the Royal Navy. Owain epitomises what is possible with a positive

approach and sheer hard work, we are very proud of him'.

For Sale

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

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

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

BEGINNERS John Lewis sewing machine for £40 or nearest offer. Hardly used and in excellent condition. Ring or text 07900 900237

WROUGHT IRON table and four chairs, excellent condition, £50; Single bed base, silver and pine, VGC, £15. Tel 319497 or 07904 219997

DOUBLE divan bed and headboard, pocket sprung mattress, excellent condition, £120 ono. Tel 01325 316063

CONSERVATORY chairs x2, Sanderson covers, removable. Top quality! Bargain at £50 each ono. Tel Woodham 01325 301125

BRAND NEW double divan with quilted Damask mattress, can deliver, £120. Tel 07789 113343

ACER LAPTOP £170 ono. Tel 320802 for details

TWO BIG double wardrobes in good condition, £40. Tel 07925 896 871

RASCAL Micro balance scooter, used only once, £400 ono. Tel 01325 324309

LILY CHRISTON Happy birthday Bud... A teenager at last!! Love you all the woods. Mum and Poppy xxx

PAUL COOK Happy 21st Birthday 1st May, have a fab weekend lots of love from all your family xxxxxxxx

NICOLE WALTON Happy 18th birthday. Lots of love always. Gemma, Paul and Mason

NICOLE WALTON Happy 18th birthday. Lots of love, Grandma xx

NICOLE WALTON Happy 18th birthday. Lots of love always, Dad, Angela, Michael and Lewis

RONNIE PLUCK 7th May. Happy 70th birthday. All my love always, Margaret.

RONNIE PLUCK Have a great day Dad. Love, Debbie, John, Vicky and Chris

RONNIE PLUCK Hugs and kisses to Grandad. Love, Lucy, Holly, Fenn, Ruby and Grace

ETHERINGTON 1st May 2014. Congratulations Macaulay on your 18th birthday. Love always and forever, Nana Liz and Granda Reggy xxx

Obituary

Lisa Jane Maddison
(nee Gibson)



Passed gently to spirit on 23rd April, aged 40. Finally free of your failing body my love. A devoted Wife, Mother, Sister, Nana, Daughter and Aunt, who fought for life every step of the way. Funeral at St. Clare's Church, Wednesday 7th May, 9.30am. Followed by cremation at Durham then on to the British Legion to celebrate Lisa's life.

Lisa Jane Maddison
(nee Gibson)



12/10/1973 - 23/4/2014
Our beautiful girl taken from us too soon. You will never be forgotten. Love, Mam, Dad, Gary, Terri, Alan, Tracy, Shaun and Ronja

GREENFIELD STUDENTS VISIT INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Fifteen Year 10 girls enjoyed a morning out of school on Thursday 13th March when they were invited to attend the event being held at County Hall in Durham. During the opening speech, the Chairman of the Council Pauline Charlton reminded everyone that, in 1911, if a girl chose teaching as a profession and then later decided to marry she then had to resign her professional post. How we have moved on!

We were then enlightened with speeches from two young women who had chosen careers in professions that were previously dominated by men. The girls were encouraged to follow their dreams and not be put off. The girls then watched a lady who had turned her hobby into a business when she was made redundant from the Civil Service; she encouraged them to use their talents and the skills they develop as they journey through life to open new doors.

The girls enjoyed their final workshop, where they all received a Henna Tattoo, whilst looking at how other cultures celebrate the role of women.

After an enjoyable lunch the

girls returned to school feeling good about themselves and thinking seriously about their futures.

Melanie Stubbs, Assistant Head Teacher who accompanied the girls, said "opportunities for girls today are vast; it is great attending events like this because it allows our students to see what they can achieve in the future and gives them a vision to work towards. We hope to raise aspirations, and this event certainly did that"

This was another opportunity for students at Greenfield to think about their futures and how self-belief and challenge can lead to interesting and diverse careers in what some may say is a "man's world".

Councillors' Surgeries

A Ward Surgery

will be held in St. Mary's Meeting Room on Saturday 10th May from 11am-12noon
Town and County Councillors for Shafto, Central and Neville Ward will be in attendance.

Congratulations

Eleanor (Nell) Logan



Happy Birthday Mam - 4th May 1926
Lots of love, Pauline, Ralph, Ian and Yvonne
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Dawn Kennedy



Happy 50th Birthday
30th April
Have a great day. All our love, Mam, Craig, Anthony, Les, Luran and Julie xxx

Madison Cara Jade Jackman



Happy 18th Birthday
30th April
Hope you have a lovely day. Lots of love to our one and only Daughter from Mum and Dad xxxx

Emily Grace Langsley Melvin



Happy 9th Birthday
2nd May
All our love sweetheart from Mammy, Daddy, "Baby Bump", Grandad, Grandma, Hollie and all your family xxxxxxx



Hope you have a good 18th Big Sis. Love from Mackenzie x
Woofs from Maverick, Marley and Madison

Nicole Walton

Happy 18th Birthday
Lots of love from Mam, Squiggy, Nanna and Grandad.
Have a great weekend
xxxxxxx

Photography

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KEITH BAILEY Experienced photographer with BA (Hons), available for weddings. Your every need catered for with personal attention. Tel 07719 592 302 for a quote.

Births

PROCTOR Richard and Rebecca, congratulations on the birth of your beautiful baby girl "Rose Star" on 20th April 2014. A beautiful Sister for Isaac and Belle. Love from all the Gartland family

In Memoriam

THOMAS TOLSON 6th May 2007. Dad. To hear your voice, to see you smile, to sit and talk to you a while. To be together in the same old way, would be my dearest wish today.

Tuition

ENJOY LEARNING Guitar, Bass or Drums at home. Tel Roger 01325 321 444 - Friendly, Experienced, Local.
C. EXLEY A.L.C.M. Piano/ Brass Teacher. Contact details 01388 773 588 or email colin.exley@btinternet.com

Lost & Found

LOST white gold wedding ring in the Tesco area. "Forever" engraved inside, small reward offered. Tel 07592 578527

Lost Cat in the Woodham Golf Course Area



Our cat went missing in the Acle Meadows area. Telephone 07840 895085 with any information

Lucie Hill



13 TODAY
Happy birthday Lucie. Loads of love, Grandma and Grandad xxxxxxxx

Newtonian Takes World Champion Title



Aycliffe resident Reece Mcallister has fulfilled the ultimate in his sport, by becoming World Champion at 66kg. On April 13th Phoenix Thai Boxing fighter Reece and Coach/father Gary took the short trip to Sedgefield's Hardwick Hall, with 140 fantastic supporters. Reece faced Jackson Barkhouse who sported a fight record of 44 fights with 3 losses beating some of the top names from around the world. This fight had "War" written all over it. When both lads weighed in the day before and the belt was shown at the face off the mood changed and winning was the only goal in mind. When fight day arrived it was like no other day. There was a massive buzz among the supporters of the show, but on announcement of Reece to the ring the place erupted. In the 1st round of the fight, spectators watched both fighters exchanging some fantastic technique. At the end of the round Reece had suffered a cut above his eye, but once patched up he went out for the 2nd round and put on an all-out assault on Jackson which saw the end of the fight with Reece knocking his opponent out with his elbow. The Phoenix camp boasts 43 titles and now has its own World Champion in Reece Mcallister.

Wildcats Thrilling Game Against League Leaders

Durham Wildcats' BBL season ended on Sunday with cheers and smiles before a packed auditorium, at their second-leg playoffs game against the high-flying Newcastle Eagles. Eagles started the game with a blitz which saw them move 15 points into the lead in the first five minutes, and they were still ten points ahead at the end of the first quarter. The second quarter, however, saw the tables turned. Eagles seemed unable to find the basket, whilst the Wildcats, their captain and play-maker Ralph Bucci dominant, scored almost without reply, at one point pulling out a four-point lead. Eagles steadied and came back at the Wildcats, but at half-time Durham were still only four points adrift. Eagles were carrying a 22-point advantage from the first leg, but euphoric Wildcats fans still dared to hope: could the Wildcats pull off the impossible and make it into the semi-finals? The third quarter was evenly balanced. Wildcats found it difficult to break down the Eagles' solid, well-drilled defence, and the game became an exciting contrast of styles, as Wildcats resisted the steady Eagles' pressure, striking back with high-speed counter-attacks. Wildcats' MVP Danny Huffor was electric, ending the game with 28 points and four



Team photo with guests including Town Mayor Barbara Clare and County Council leader Simon Henig.

assists. Only in the fourth quarter did the Eagles, this year's BBL winners, manage to impose themselves on the game, and they steadily pulled ahead, running out 97-82 winners. None of this phased the Wildcats' supporters. Led by the Aycliffe KDanz Cheerleaders, they encouraged their team throughout, gave them a standing ovation at the end, and then stayed to applaud the celebrations and photo-

shoot afterwards. Wildcats fans were aware that this has been their best campaign ever, and the final focus was for an even-better next season at the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.



Aycliffe Swimmer Breaks 20 year Record

Aycliffe swimmer Mathew Bradley has just received notification the times he set for the 100 and 50 meters Breast Stroke earlier in the year have been ratified and are new County Records. The previous record times were set by Darren Wigg, City of Newcastle ASC, twenty years ago. Darren is now the ASA Physiotherapist and works with the club on a regular basis. The new record times are 50 meters Breast stroke. Long Course. 30:60 and for the 100 meters Breast stroke Short Course 1:05:82.. A truly great achievement by an outstanding athlete. The following swimmers competed in the Chester le Street Open Gala on the 26th and 27th April. Hayley Bradley, Kate Carmichael, Katelyn Craig, Lauren Chatt, Mason Jacques, Mathew Bradley, Viven Alwis, Netanya Alwis and Zac Hodgkinson. They competed in a total of 11 Finals. 5 Gold. 3 Silver 4th and 2in 6th place Hayley won gold in the 100 and 50 Breast Stroke and silver in the 200 IM. She was 4th in the 50 FS. Mason won gold in the

100 Backstroke the 100 FS and the 50 FS. He took silver in the 50 Fly. Mathew won silver in the 200 Butterfly. Zac was placed 6th in both the 50 Backstroke and the 100 Butterfly. His time of 1 min:12 secs was his qualifying time for the North Eastern Regional Championships. Kate, Katelyne, Lauren, Natanya and Viven all put in great performances. Although they missed out on the finals they all swam personal best times and did the club proud.

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Kigendo Karate Club

Eddie Byrne is probably the most recognised name in Newton Aycliffe (and beyond) in the world of martial arts. He has influenced and trained some of the town's modern icons in the sport, most notably Karate and Thai Boxing. His career spans over 40 years from the early 70's at the old Youth Centre to the most recent, situated at Acorn House. Although he has officially hung up his gloves and retired from the sport, he is still an active supporter of the Thai Boxing club and now presents Kigendo Karate Dojo, with his son as the club's instructor. Eddie is still actively advising and is the Honorary Chief Instructor of Kigendo. Kigendo Karate Dojo is located at Acorn House on a Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoon, kigendokarate@outlook.com or find us on Facebook



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