

Newton News

Published and printed by the Newton Press

FRIDAY, 11th JANUARY, 1980

St. Cuthbert's Way, Aycliffe Industrial Estate

Newton Press Shop

For General & Commercial Stationery,
Fancy Goods, Greetings Cards
PHOTOCOPYING SERVICE
Artists Supplies, Posters, Pens by
Parker, Papermate, Sheaffer, Water-
man, etc. School Supplies

Newton Press Shop SALE

*We are reducing stock in preparation
for new interior fittings*

MOST ITEMS ARE REDUCED

**50% OFF SPECIAL
ITEMS**

25% OFF

CALENDARS, DIARIES, PHOTO FRAMES,
TELEPHONE INDEXES, LEATHER WRITING
CASES, ADDRESS BOOKS, FANCY GOODS,
ORNAMENTS, ETC.

10% OFF

TYPEWRITERS, AIR BRUSHES, PEN SETS,
PARKER & PAPERMATE PENS, BRIEF CASES,
ARTIST MATERIALS

SALE

HURRY!

SALE FOR LIMITED PERIOD ONLY

REDUNDANCIES AT EATONS

THE ANNOUNCEMENT concerning redun-
dancies at Eaton Axles is unwelcome New
Year news.

Eatons, one of the biggest em-
ployers on the Industrial Estate,
has insufficient orders to keep its
1,200 workers employed and have
to trim accordingly.

We understand all the factories
in the Eaton group have made
losses with the exception of Spain.

This is ironic, because it could
have been Aycliffe being the only
profitable unit; an order which
should have come to Aycliffe was
transferred to Spain during the
period of the long dispute.

We have been unable to get
definite details as to how many
face redundancy, but it is feared
one sixth of the workforce could
be affected.

The following statement was
released by the management this
week.

Discussions have commenced
with hourly paid and staff unions
at Eaton Axles Limited at Aycliffe
on its reduced workload level for
1980 and its effect on manning
levels.

Full-time union officials have
been involved in these discussions,
which will recommence on 16th
January. Until these discussions
have taken place no further details
can be released.

Any redundancies are sad, but
this number is alarming and it is
hoped something will turn up at
the last minute to avert this
catastrophe.

LEGION OPPOSE PLANNED INFIL HOUSING

At a meeting of the Newton
Aycliffe Branch of the Royal
British Legion held last Sunday,
consideration was given to a
motion by Mr Harry Bilton,
objecting to the proposals of
Sedgefield District Council to infil
the open spaces in the southern
part of the new town by the
building of old peoples bungalows.

Mr Bilton referred to the
opposition over 30 years ago by
the local authorities in the area to
the building of the new town
which had led to the original target
population being set at 10,000
instead of the 30,000 originally
envisaged and how this low target
had been the root cause of many
planning problems since the town
was started. Mr Bilton suggested
that the original opposition to the
building of the town was being
rekindled by the district council
and they appeared to be hell bent
on destroying the original village
green planning concepts which are
such a feature of the early
development. Surely, with land
now available to accommodate
45,000 people and with the present
population around 27,000 there
was sufficient land available for the
building of old peoples bungalows
without infilling existing open
spaces.

Mr Bilton emphasised that at no
time had he expressed opposition
to the building of houses for the
elderly — the only point at issue
was the location of such houses.

The meeting approved
overwhelmingly, with only 2 votes
against, a motion to ask the
District Council to re-consider their
present proposals.

The meeting also approved
reports by Mr Tal Jones,
President, and Mr S. Mossop,
Chairman, on attempts made to
persuade Sedgefield District
Council not to take account of war
pensions when assessing rent and
rate rebates. It had long been the
practice of the Development
Corporation as landlords to dis-
regard war pensions and the
fact that the District Council had
changed the method of
assessment was strongly resented
having regard to the hardship
caused to Branch members who
were in receipt of pensions arising
from war service. Sedgefield
District Council has been asked to
receive a deputation from the
Branch to discuss this anomaly.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

A Gymnastics National Develop-
ment Plan for girls (under 16),
including girls from all over the
North of England, will be held on
Saturday and Sunday, 2nd and 3rd
February, from 9 a.m. Admission
will be 30p on each day.

The event is taking place at
Newton Aycliffe's Recreation
Centre.

Question time for gardeners

Every gardener must surely have
a question to be answered. The
opportunity to get an answer will
be at the Guild meeting to be held
in The Cubby at 7.30 p.m. on
Monday, January 14th. This will
be an evening of questions with
Peter Bennett, Garden Centre
Manager of Dickens Ltd.,
Stockton.

The Chairman and officers of
the Guild take this opportunity to
wish all members good gardening
in 1980.

MIKE MAKES MANAGER AT THE 'REC'

We are pleased to report the
appointment of Mike Page as the
new manager of Newton Aycliffe
Recreation Centre.

Mike has valuable experience,
having already served at the centre
in another post. His appointment is
a very popular choice with all who
know him at the "Rec" where he
excels at most sporting activities.
We congratulate Mike and wish
him every success.

GRANADA Aluminium Company Ltd

DOUBLE GLAZING
ALUMINIUM DOORS &
WINDOWS
PATIO DOORS
SHOP FRONTS

Visit our Town Centre
Showroom

ARCHITECTURAL ALUMINIUM
EXPERTS
SHOWROOM OPEN MON.-SAT.
24 CONISCLIFFE ROAD
D'TON. Tel. 55351

AYCLIFFE TAXIS Aycliffe 313156

ANY DISTANCE

SHOWERS INSTALLED
WASHERS PLUMBED
EXTRA LIGHTS OR
SOCKETS FITTED
HOUSE WIRING ALSO
UNDERTAKEN

B. & M. Services

Telephone:
AYCLIFFE 312464 or
318401 after 5 p.m.

ANY DISTANCE — CONTRACTS

WEDDING CARS

BLUEBELL TAXIS

Tel. AYCLIFFE 315457

Bluebell Car & Van Hire

Tel. AYCLIFFE 312640

DRIVER IF REQUIRED

REMOVALS — FREE QUOTATION

HALF PRICE SALE OFFER at HAIR CARE

1 NEVILLE PARADE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE
Telephone Aycliffe 313008



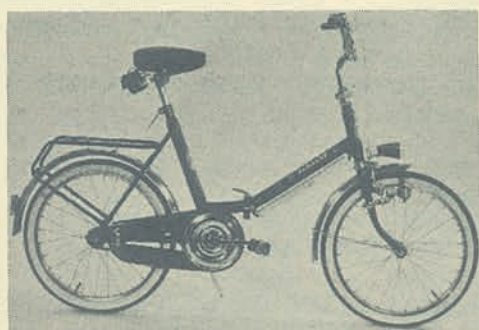
**L'OREAL &
WELLA PERMS**

for limited period only

**£6 plus V.A.T.
and £8 plus V.A.T.**

FREE CONDITIONING, RESTYLE, CUTTING &
BLOW DRYING

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY

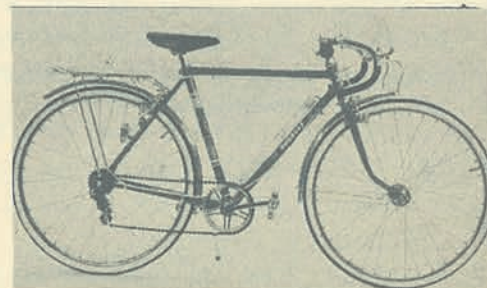


JOHN HARDY FOR CYCLES

A FULL RANGE OF PUSH
CYCLES FOR ALL AGES ARE
NOW IN STOCK

FINANCE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

BOYS AND GIRLS JUNIOR CYCLES £46.50; LADIES TOURER, 3 speed gears and rear carrier, £71.00;
UNISEX FOLDER with dynamo and 3 speed gears and rear carrier, £67.00; 5 SPEED RACING CYCLES from £66.99;
10 SPEED RACING CYCLES from £72.99; ★ THE NEW 12 SPEED RACING CYCLE £91.00 ★



JOHN HARDY

A MEMBER OF THE INDESCON GROUP

BRIDGE GARAGE, HORNDAL AVENUE, AYCLIFFE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. Telephone 313132

Somerset woman wins Sid Chaplin Literary award

The Sid Chaplin Literary Award 1979 run by Aycliffe Development Corporation has been won by Doreen Dade, who lives in Taunton, Somerset.

Mrs Dade and seven runners-up were in Aycliffe on Friday, December 14, for the presentation

of the awards by author Sid Chaplin.

A short story competition, the Sid Chaplin Literary Award is aimed at stories with a new town background. It is now in its third year and attracted an entry of 130.

Coun. Don Vickers, Deputy Chairman of Aycliffe Development Corporation, and one of the judges, said "We run the competition to focus attention on the new towns. We have discovered a wealth of talent and created a considerable amount of interest with the competition. We have entries from all over Britain, from people of all ages."

BATCHELOR'S SPECIALS

HANKEY BANNISTER £4.49
McKINLAYS WHISKY £4.49
COSSACK VODKA £4.49
BOUCHARD BRANDY £4.49
TENNANTS 16oz. Can BEER
4 for £1.09

Price Guaranteed all January

BATCHELORS

TOWN CENTRE
NEAR RECREATION CENTRE

T.V. REPAIRS & SALES

John's T.V.

Ansafone
Tel. 313823

INGRAMS

REMOVALS & STORAGE

DOMESTIC & OFFICE REMOVALS — CENTRALLY
HEATED STORAGE — PART LOAD SERVICE

Estimates Free

Write, Call or Telephone

PERCY STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND
CO. DURHAM

Telephone 61701 or 61051

Beavertex

CARLBURY ROAD, AYCLIFFE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

SEWING MACHINISTS

required to work at home

Please contact during office hours:

Mr Rewcastle, Aycliffe 318565

MARCH THE TAILOR

SALE

BARGAINS FOR ALL — SHIRTS AT
HALF PRICE

TOWN CENTRE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE

NORTHWOLD HIRE LIMITED

Howden Road Aycliffe Ind. Estate Newton Aycliffe

STOP PRESS

MOVING HOUSE IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

WE HAVE THE DO-IT-YOURSELF
REMOVAL KIT

SELF-DRIVE 35 Cwt. LUTON VANS

£16.90 per Day, 200 miles free of charge.

£36.00 per Weekend, 400 miles free of charge.

£91.00 per Week, 800 miles free of charge.

3 TON LUTON BOX VANS

(Ordinary Driving Licence)

£19.50 per Day, 7p per mile.

£120.00 per Week, 500 miles free of charge.

Insurance on 3 Ton Box Vans can be arranged

NORTHWOLD HIRE

YOUR LOCAL PROFESSIONAL HIRE EXPERTS

Telephone AYCLIFFE 318000



Elaine Shedden, another of our "Aycliffe Girls," lives on the town and works for Colston Domestic Appliances as a quality control inspector. She enjoys driving and dancing.

Methodist Church Choir Weekend

Neville Parade Methodist Church are holding their annual choir weekend and for this the Thurnscoe Harmonic Male Voice Choir will be giving a grand concert on Saturday, February 2nd.

This choir, although not known to many of you, has been in existence for over 50 years and has won many premier awards. Colin Leech has been their conductor since 1965 and his leadership had kept up the high standard that they possess.

Mrs Irene Hill, their accompanist is a talented pianist and has won many awards and appeared at concerts, she is also the wife of the secretary.

In 1974 the choir visited Holland and after a recording session at Radio Hilversum, went on to Arukem where in the town hall they gave a concert to a very enthusiastic audience.

Since our booking the choir has received an invitation to give a concert tour of western Canada in April.

To bring this choir to Newton Aycliffe has meant considerable expense and has only been made possible with financial assistance from the Northern Arts Council which we gratefully acknowledge.

Foden Brass Band concert

The Rotary Club Foden Brass Band Concert held this month raised £750. The money is to be used for charitable purposes and partly paid for a Christmas treat for 100 senior citizens last week.

A special Christmas dinner served by the Inner Wheel (wives of Rotarians) was given to a selected number of pensioners who were transported to and from their homes in Newton Aycliffe and Heighington.

In addition to a good meal the guests enjoyed a short programme of entertainment.

All present expressed their gratitude for a marvellous Christmas treat.

Short story

Anyone wishing to enter the Short Story or One Act Play competition run by Newton Aycliffe Arts and Entertainments Committee, details of which were given in our last issue, should send for an application form to Mr J. R. Lowe, 14 Thurlow Grove, Newton Aycliffe.

Admission is £1, OAP's 75p commencing at 7 p.m. Tickets can be obtained from E. W. Pryce, 48 Cumby Road. Tel. 313515; or from any choir member.

On Sunday, February 3rd, our services will be conducted by our friend the Rev. Peter Schofield, of Manchester. Peter is well known to many in Newton Aycliffe and we are looking forward to seeing and hearing him again.

Come and join us in what we believe will be a very rewarding weekend.

Cambodia appeal raises £557

The Great Aycliffe Council of Churches thanks all concerned for the splendid result of this appeal, recently held in the town. The grand total of £577.53 has been forwarded to Christian Aid headquarters in London. This amount represents the total of the town centre collections, donations from the various churches and from Sugar Hill School.

Other organisations are known to have forwarded donations direct, so the total sum raised in Newton Aycliffe is considerably above the figure quoted.

The Council of Churches would also like to thank the manager and staff of the National Westminster Bank for very kindly dealing with the money and accounts.

Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale

Fourth Newton Aycliffe Brownies would like to thank all the people who supported their Great Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale and Coffee Evening on December 7th at Neville Parade.

The Blue Peter stall raised £32.51 and some very kind employees of Electrolux Ltd., sent a donation of £30 towards our effort, so we have been able to send £62.51 to the fund.

The other stalls for various funds and the sale of admission tickets raised £41.96, which means that the total for the evening amounted to £104.47, and we are very grateful for such magnificent support.

Mrs B. Watson,
Brown Owl.

Three new advance factories for Aycliffe

Work has just commenced on three new advance factories in Aycliffe. Worth £870,000, the contract has gone to IBS (Construction) Limited, of Darlington, who anticipate completion during October 1980.

The largest factory has a floor area of 1,980 square metres and

offices of 210 square metres; other two each have 1,420 square metres of production area and 1,420 square metres of office area.

The contract represents the first part of a construction programme to take place during 1980 and totalling some 16,000 square metres.

Central Coaches

COACH HIRE, 29-53 Seaters

7 ROSS WALK, NEWTON AYCLIFFE

Telephone Aycliffe 312754



NEWTON AYCLIFFE RECREATION CENTRE

Film Night

WEDNESDAY, 16th JANUARY

SWARM

Starring

OLIVIER DE HAVILLAND

Admission 50p

Licensed Bar

Commences 8 p.m.

BY PUBLIC DEMAND CALVERTS of Thirsk

MANUFACTURER'S CLEARANCE

Cash and Carry

DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC

CARPET SALE

OVER 2,500 SQ. YARDS ON OFFER
to be held in

Aycliffe Village Hall
TUESDAY, 29th JAN.

5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

A large selection of perfect and slightly imperfect carpets. Cleared from one of the leading manufacturers in England, all to be offered for sale at

AT LEAST 50% BELOW
RECOMMENDED PRICES

ALL COLOURS ★ ALL QUALITIES
ALL SIZES

HEAVY DOMESTIC QUALITY CARPET

Normally retailing at £3 to £5 per sq. yard. In beautiful Axminster type patterns, to be offered at £1.00 to £2.00 per square yard.

WASHABLE KITCHEN CARPET

In loads of fabulous patterns and colours. Usually selling from £2.50 to £4.50 per square yard. A Give Away at £1.00 to £2.00 per square yard.

MEDIUM DOMESTIC QUALITY CARPET

In plain and two tone colourways (not to be confused with cheaper Evlon bedroom quality carpet) this quality is usually priced from £2.00 to £2.50 per square yard.

IT HAS TO BE THE CHEAPEST ANYWHERE
AT £1.00 PER SQUARE YARD

Loads of Quality BROADLOOM REMNANTS
at £1.00 square yard

IF YOU THINK THESE PRICES LOOK TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, COME ALONG AND SEE FOR YOURSELF, YOU'LL BE AMAZED AT THE ££££'s YOU CAN SAVE

Wm. CALVERT Manufacturer's Mill Clearance Lines

WESTGATE, THIRSK Tel. 22967

Open at the above address Mon. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Telephone charges to be increased due to substantial losses

Over 40,000 public telephone call offices and rented coinbox telephones in the North East are to be modified in order to accept 5p instead of 2p coins. The change to 5p is the only way to reduce the loss being incurred by the coinbox service and it is the first increase for thirteen years in the basic charge unit for telephone calls made from a coinbox.

Five thousand-five hundred — 1,500 public call offices and 4,000 renters boxes — will be altered in the Middlesbrough telephone area. Work will start on January 7th and most boxes will have been

converted within three weeks.

Letters have been sent to all private coinbox renters explaining the need for the conversion and making an appointment for an engineer to call and carry out the work. The conversion work, estimated to take about 30 minutes for each coin box, involves changing the coin 'runway' and fitting new coin slots.

The new charges have become necessary due to public coinboxes incurring substantial and increasing losses, a £38.8m loss was incurred last year.

Mobile Servicing & Tuning

ANYWHERE, ANYTIME
REASONABLY PRICED

SPECIAL OFFER FOR DECEMBER

Please give us a call

AYCLIFFE 315709
FERRYHILL53388

Hutchinson & Scott

LLOYD & BLAND

Specialists in DOUBLE and SINGLE GLAZING. JOINERY WORK done also.

Messages taken on 316804 or contact 12 BURDON CLOSE



NEWTON AYCLIFFE RECREATION CENTRE

COURSES

COMMENCING 4th FEB., 1980

ENROLMENT DAY

WEDNESDAY, 23rd JAN.

6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

JUNIOR "LEARN TO SWIM"
JUNIOR "STROKE IMPROVEMENT"

PARENT and CHILD
WATER CONFIDENCE

ADULT "LEARN TO SWIM"
ADULT "FITNESS & WEIGHT TRAINING"
ADULT SQUASH
ADULT BADMINTON FOR BEGINNERS
JUNIOR BADMINTON FOR BEGINNERS

WENTONS GENUINE SALE

BIG REDUCTIONS ON 3-PIECE SUITES

"EMPEROR" Multicoloured
Normal Price £745.00
Sale Price £475.00
SAVE £270

"WADE" VYNIL SUITE
Normal Price £695.00
Sale Price £495.00
SAVE £200

"CHESTERFIELD" in Brown Dralon
Normal Price £595.00
Sale Price £445.00
SAVE £150

3-PIECE SUITE in Oatmeal
Normal Price £195.00
Sale Price £165.00
SAVE £30

"ENGLANDER" in Leaf Pattern
Normal Price £695.00
Sale Price £495.00
SAVE £200

"BAMBI" in Blue Polypropylene
Normal Price £595.00
Sale Price £445.00
SAVE £150

"MAYFAIR" in Green Dralon
Normal Price £595.00
Sale Price £455.00
SAVE £140

SECTIONAL SUITE in Brown Dralon
Normal Price £527.00
Sale Price £427.00
SAVE £100

A FEW ROLLS LEFT
CARPETING
Only £2.95 Sq. Yd.

Bargains in all Departments — CASH OR TERMS
WENTONS
TOWN CENTRE
NEWTON AYCLIFFE. Tel. 313612

INDUSTRIAL "TASK FORCE" TO COMBAT UNEMPLOYMENT

An industrial "task force" to combat the effects of unemployment caused by closures of major industries such as British Steel plants has been suggested by Dennis Stevenson, Chairman of Aycliffe and Peterlee Development Corporations and a member of the National Enterprise Board.

In a review of the regions prospects for the 80's Mr Stevenson said:

"No industry and no community are immune to the effects of closure due to economic circumstances and the rundown of traditional industries. Neither, unhappily, is there any immediate panacea; no formula one can apply to bring in alternative sources of employment immediately.

"It must, on the other hand, be possible to do more than believe 'It will never happen here' and, when it does, that 'Something will turn up.'

Be prepared

"Britain and the North East in particular, must be prepared to think the unthinkable and formulate plans to cope with the economic and social effects of such closures. What is not required, however, are inflexible and uncaring form-filling machines wrapped up in red tape but a flexible organisation with the resources, financial and professional, to deal humanely with human problems and efficiently and professionally with the community's industrial needs.

"In outline form the scenario I would suggest is as follows:—

"Let us imagine a community told that its major industry is

scheduled for closure. No alternative source of employment in any numbers exists in the town and the future is bleak. The local authority recognises that it is not within its power to alter the closure decision or to offer much material assistance in job replacement.

"Our theoretical organisation — which, until such an emergency occurs, exists only on paper with its staff occupied professionally in local government, new towns — perhaps in industry — is asked by the local authority or Central Government to be involved.

Key staff

"Its operational plan goes into effect, bringing together previously identified key staff to assess the problem and identify resources required and attainable from central and local government. An operational base is established for the task force in the community and liaison set up with the industry facing closure, representatives of its workforce, local authorities and central government bodies.

"The purpose of this task force would be to tackle the problem at two levels — short and long-term. In the short term among the immediate requirements would be identification of job opportunities within possible commuting distance for those who wish to remain in the community and within the region/country for those who do not. Longer term solutions would include identification of buildings and sites for replacement industries, design and construction, and promotion and marketing.

"The size of the task force team

owing to industrial action.

Pre show ticket sales last year topped 500 and it was obvious that the local people were genuinely interested in supporting their local boxing club. The standard of some of the boys is very high and hopefully will be reflected in the forthcoming ABA Northern Finals, to be held in the Leeds Town Hall on 3rd March.

Sedgefield District Council have kindly agreed to sponsor us to offset the hire charge of the Centre and several local industries have sponsored us to offset the cost for trophies.

Tickets are available from the Youth Centre, Central Avenue, telephone Aycliffe 312520; Dunelm Sports Shop, Beveridge Way; and the Recreation Centre, Beveridge Arcade.

LETTERS

Mini-bus Fund

Dear Sir,

Mrs Janet Little, one of St Clare's Silhouette Club members, raised £14 on a sponsored slim. The money will be put in a Silhouette Mini-Bus fund. This is our 1980 project to donate a Sunshine Coach for handicapped children.

Yours faithfully,
June Bruce
4 Whitton Road,
Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees.

would vary and its involvement would be clearly defined in content and timescale. Its operational plan would require to be capable of alteration to cope with differing circumstances and the organisation able and free to achieve its targets.

"Financial resources are clearly of paramount importance. Can we as a nation or a region pay the price? I could not speculate here on the money required or its source but I can begin to quantify the alternative of the status quo.

"The cost of doing nothing is lost wages, unpaid rent and rates, lost taxes, the certainty of associated service industry closures, the additional drain on the exchequer of essential social

payments, additional funds required by existing industrial development agencies such as mine to provide alternative employment elsewhere.

"I have no doubt that the two sets of costs could be balanced with the former providing a fruitful investment for the future against the latter remaining a drain until the town itself died and its occupants dispersed at a crippling cost in human suffering.

"The people, the abilities and the will to tackle the problems exist in the north east and elsewhere in Britain today but the organisation, our industrial task force, does not.

"It will be required in the coming decade but will it be here to do its job?"

REMOVALS and STORAGE

EMIGRATION PACKING

HAWARD & ROBERTSON LTD.

15-21 GARDEN STREET
DARLINGTON

Telephone 62367 and 68657

ENJOY A GOOD

3 - COURSE LUNCHEON

FOR ONLY £1.10

at the

CHINA HOUSE RESTAURANT

UPPER DALTON WAY, TOWN CENTRE

TELEPHONE 313053 FOR YOUR TAKE-AWAY MEAL

HARDINGS

SUPERSTORE

TOYS — CYCLES — JEWELLERY
WATCHES & CLOCKS

1000's OF GIFT IDEAS

WATCH BATTERIES FITTED
FREE

UP THE RAMP — TOWN CENTRE
Telephone Aycliffe 312003

THE BIG CHOICE IN COLOUR T.V.

RENT YOUR COLOUR T.V. WITH A CHOICE OF LEADING MAKES AND THE BEST SERVICE AROUND

BUY YOUR COLOUR T.V. WITH A CHOICE OF 1, 2, 3 OR 4 YEARS GUARANTEE

PART EXCHANGE WELCOME

It will pay you to pay us a visit

C. MIDCALF
108 PARKGATE, DARLINGTON

Telephone 64636

WE BUY THE BEST — WHY DON'T YOU

AWARD FOR NEWTONIAN IN LITERARY CONTEST

The following short story is a winning entry by John Wearmouth of Westmorland Way.

The annual "Sid Chaplin Literary Award" is sponsored by the ADC and attracts many writers from all over Britain.

John is married with 4 children and is employed in the County Council Planning Department. He is now working on a history of Newton Aycliffe Methodist Church, which he hopes to have published for the 25th anniversary.

His story, entitled "The Foretaste," reflects this interest.

'The Foretaste'

It was one of those mornings when nobody stirs unless they have to. Even the birds were not to be seen. For two days the leaden skies had sobbed incessantly and now, after a bitterly cold night, it was snowing heavily again. And it was Sunday.

Climbing the hill on the edge of the town, the lonely figure of a man in his fifties could be dimly discerned, his long coat and bowler a sombre black to the rear, but now almost white with snow at the front. Half an hour ago, undaunted by the weather, he had left his cosy terrace house in the town with a spring in his step, as he savoured the thought of the fellowship he would meet in the chapel some four miles away. Normally, he 'enjoyed' the walk, with its fine views across the valley to the distant hills, and a chance to get the air into his dry lungs, weary after their week below ground in the pit. Today, however, he was beginning to wonder if he should have set out. The icy snow needed his face as it lashed him, and each gust of wind seemed to warn him to turn homeward as he found it increasingly difficult to pick out the steep quarry faces on the edge of the road.

The weight of snow grew heavier with every step. If only he could reach the crossroads on the crest of the hill he knew that it should be easier to follow a sunken lane dropping gently towards the chapel. This would guide him safely. But he had not reckoned with the full ferocity of the night's storm, for as he crested the hill he saw that the lane below was choked with snow that had blown from miles around. The depression was nowhere to be seen in the uniform whiteness ahead, broken only by the tattered ribbon of the hawthorn hedge marking the edge of the lane, and punctuated by an occasional weary ash, groaning under its icy load.

Beneath his feet, yesterday's snow was still hard from the intense frost of the night, and so he decided to try and walk on top of the drifts between the hedges. But, despite the frost, the snow would not bear the weight of the stocky miner, who soon realised that to make progress he would need to reach the side and climb into the adjacent fields, from which some of the snow had filled the lane. As the drifts deepened, each step became more difficult and he sank in turn to reach his knees, thighs and chest. By now, the snow had filled his boots and penetrated even beneath his great black coat. He was struggling now — and he knew it.

Persistence gave way to panic as he clutched at the cross bar of a fence and tried to lever himself

from the lane. Twice his hands slipped from the icy wood before he managed to secure his hold. The fence post shuddered, as the full weight of his frame pulled against it, and then cracked like a rifle as the rusty nail and the rotting wood could stand no longer, hurling him backwards into the snow and causing him to cry out, at first in surprise, and then in pain as his gloved hand ripped on the hawthorn and his head felt a sharp blow from the end of the fence post.

In the split second as he fell, a multitude of thoughts flashed through the preacher's mind: "What a daft thing to do," "Who will take the service?" "What will they think of me if I don't turn up?" "If it keeps snowing all day, no-one will find me."

For a few moments, which seemed like hours, the preacher sprawled helplessly on his back like a stranded whale. His bowler hat had fallen some distance from his body and the snow began to settle on his face. As his head throbbed from the blow, and the driving snow pricked the wounds on his hands and face, he opened his eyes to look upwards into the swirling storm. He watched in amazement as the snow seemed to change to cloud and the cloud to steam. As he listened, his head throbbed with the pulsing of mighty presses as they stamped out guns and bombs and tanks. Train after train came and went, bringing crowds of people and taking away others, and sometimes leaving iron and coal and pulling away trucks loaded high with guns and tanks. Back and forth went the steaming engines with their deadly loads as if on some eternal treadmill of destruction. The noise of the trains and the throbbing of the presses merged in a great crescendo until he could stand it no longer and he rolled his head into the darkness of the snow below.

As the sky cleared to reveal a patch of blue, he regained his composure sufficiently to catch a glimpse of the hawthorn hedge and the broken fence post. But then the swirling snow returned. Now, however, his initial fear was gone and he watched in fascination as the elements combined to recreate the engines. The trucks were there as well but this time filled with chairs and telephones, and the chemicals and plastics which he failed to recognise as he strained his eyes to see every detail. People no longer clambered onto the trains but walked from factories to nearby houses where children played in gardens as they excitedly watched schools and shops and clubs being built. As the snow flurried, others came to join them from north and south and east and west. Some were laughing — some were crying; some came with enthusiasm while others backed away; some paused only a little before turning away again, although many chose to stay.

Straining forward the preacher could hear their conversation as they talked of the homes that they had left and shared their hopes and fears for the future. In excitement he rejoiced at the realization that here was a place where good and bad, strong and weak, and rich and poor could live together. The vision grew nearer until the people were so close he could almost reach out to touch them — so near that he could feel their breath.

The sound of breathing grew louder and he opened his eyes with a jolt to look into other eyes above a row of teeth as an excited collie licked his face and a hearty voice called out: "Now then, Jack, what you doing down there?" It was the chapel steward, who, thinking it a nasty morning, had set out across the fields the meet the preacher. With the strength of a farmer who had lifted ewes out of a similar predicament on many an occasion, he soon had the preacher out of the drift and the warmth of the rescued body returned as the two men headed across the fields, followed by the contented collie.

Even on such a morning, about half a dozen people were gathered at the chapel to welcome the preacher when he arrived. As he climbed the steps to enter the old railway carriage which they had lovingly converted into the chapel, he was glad that he had reached them, for they were a friendly group, worthy of encouragement, and he had often wondered how long they would manage to continue as they grew older. His coat and boots were soon by the boiler in the corner and the service began: With the warmth of the fire and the fervour of the singing, the preacher soon forgot the ordeal of the morning, although it flooded vividly into his mind as he thumped out his text from the Revelation of St. John: "Behold I saw a new heaven and a new earth."

It was three hours later when he returned across the fields to his home town. By this time, the showers had given way to bright sunshine which transformed the terror of the morning into a scene of dazzling beauty. Nevertheless, he took care to walk along the field tops some distance from the sunken lane. As he passed the spot where he had fallen, a smile came over his weathered face when he recalled the words of the steward as they had shared a cup of tea after the service. "Well, Jack, I've never heard you preach so well — as if you were inspired! We'll have to drop you in the snow up to your armpits every Sunday!" As the preacher smiled, the sun caught the ice crystals in the snow, leading them to twinkle as if they knew that even the preacher did not realise the full significance of all he had seen that morning.

POSTSCRIPT The Primitive Methodist Society at Simpasture met in a railway carriage between 1919 and 1930 when the carriage was replaced by a wooden church. In the Second World War a large Ordnance Factory was built nearby. The site of the chapel was included in the new town of Newton Aycliffe which was designated in 1948.

FIVE-A-SIDE

MONDAY LEAGUE

Results for Monday, 17th December, 1979:

Durham Wanderers 10, Coniscliffe 7; GEC Sports 12, Sporting IBS 1; Geneva FC 12, Astraka 2; Shildon CC 3, Brelsacs 4; Causals 5, NARC 0; Brauvnecks 8, Diazos 4; Aycliffe Celtic 3, Homeplan 5; Gateshead FC 5, Batchelors Stores 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Gateshead FC	14	13	1	0	112	26
Batchelors	14	10	1	3	71	38
Brelsacs	14	8	2	3	76	45
Causals	14	10	0	4	69	41
GEC Sports	14	9	0	5	89	58
Aycliffe Celtic	14	7	4	3	52	45
Brauvnecks	14	8	1	5	86	47
NARC	14	7	0	7	70	64
Geneva FC	14	7	0	7	55	67
Durham Wand.	14	5	2	7	51	63
Homeplan	14	6	0	8	55	83
Diazos	14	4	3	7	60	70
Shildon CC	14	4	0	10	69	76
Astraka	14	2	1	11	43	97
Sporting IBS	14	1	3	10	31	94
Coniscliffe	14	1	0	13	49	124

TUESDAY LEAGUE

Results for Tuesday, December 18, 1979:

Ferryhill Utd. 2, Houghton Road 2; Simpson Sports 11, Broms 3; Conder Northern 1, Newton Press 3; Woodham Academicals 1, Perstorp 2; Commercial 4, Toothill 9; SAB 3, Darlington DP 5; Lorrimar Sports 4, William Press 2; Warerite 7, Untouchables 3.

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

NEWTON AYCLIFFE BOYS CLUB Football Section — Week 1: Nos. 218, 61, 5, 174, 382. Week 2: Nos. 192, 241, 266, 89, 40. Week 3: Nos. 226, 464, 204, 211, 368.

GRAND DINNER DANCE. King's Head Hotel, Darlington, 22nd February, 1980. Aycliffe Conservative Association. Tickets £7.30. Telephone Aycliffe 312260.

HOME STYLE CATERING. For all your Weddings, Parties, and all Functions. Ring Bishop Auckland 62666 (evenings).

QUALIFIED EXPERIENCED TEACHER, able to give English lessons to improve reading and writing skills. Children between the ages of 7 and 14 years. £3.50 per hour. Contact Aycliffe 315317 after school hours.

YOGA CLASSES to start on Tuesdays, 8 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., Heighington Village Hall, from 8th January. Wednesday, 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., Vane Road Junior School, Newton Aycliffe, from 9th January. For details phone Gainford 444.

MONARCHS JAZZ BAND Supporters Christmas Draw. Winning numbers: 0171, 0942, 4048, 0590, 3010, 0750, 0286.

JUMBLE SALE AND CAKE STALL to be held at Neville Parade Methodist Church at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 19th January. Proceeds in aid of the Staithes Holiday Fund for Underprivileged Children.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE FIRST AID. A Course will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7.00 p.m., commencing on 16th January, 1980, in the T.A. Centre, Greenwell Road, Newton Aycliffe. Fees: £1.00 for text book, 35p per Lecture (£3.00 for Course). All interested will be welcome.

NEVILLE PARADE WIVES CLUB Open Night, January 21st, 7.45 p.m. Concert by Neville Male Voice Choir. Admission 30p including refreshments.

IMPORTANT NOTICE. The Beveridge Roller Dance & Figure Skating Club, Newton Aycliffe. We have been told to cancel all our sessions on Saturday, January 12th. All skating sessions on that day will be cancelled due to no fault of the skating club. Arrangements for Sunday, January 13th: 10 a.m. to 12 noon normal tuition class when all pupils will be welcome. 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Public Skating session when everyone will be welcome. The rest of Sunday will be available for bookable tuition. For this weekend only pupils can book tuition during the morning class. The Hockey matches due to be played on Saturday, January 12th will now be played on Saturday, January 19th, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Members please remember your £2 annual subscriptions.

NIA SCOUT SUPPORTERS ASSOC. are holding a Jumble Sale and Bookstall in the Scout Headquarters, Bluebell Way, on Saturday, 2nd February, at 10 a.m. Admission 3p. Please come along. Anyone wishing to donate towards this function please ring Delia Stout, Aycliffe 314205.

WANTED

CROWN AND HALF SIZE COINS, pre 1946 Also Commonwealth and foreign coins. Phone 312967 or call 17 Church Close. If you cannot call on me I will call on you.

MEDALS AND MEDALLIONS of all sorts, especially War and Campaign Medals with all named bars, Korea, Near East, Northern Ireland, etc. Phone 312967 or call 17 Church Close. If you cannot call on me I will call on you.

ELECTRIC COOKER, KETTLE and Toaster. Ring Aycliffe 313808 after 5 p.m. and weekends.

BABIES HIGH FEEDING CHAIR. Telephone Aycliffe 317631.

A DUPLICATING MACHINE either flat bed or rotary type is urgently required by the Newton Aycliffe Town Combined Division St. John Ambulance Brigade. Age is not important so long as the machine is in reasonable working condition. Please contact Div. Supt. K. Clark, 43 Beechfield. Tel. Aycliffe 313014 if you can help.

LOST & FOUND

FOUND. Ladies Watch, in Newton Press Shop.

SITUATIONS VACANT

PREFERABLY A MATURE PERSON to live in for four nights to baby sit for widower's two children aged 4 and 6 years while he works. Sensible callers only please. Telephone Aycliffe 316436.

RELIABLE BABY-SITTER, Thursday nights. Apply 174 Guthrum Place, Newton Aycliffe, anytime.

HOUSE EXCHANGE

FROM 2 Bedroomed Bungalow, Gas Central Heating, Warden controlled community centre, free laundrette; To 2 Bedroomed House or Bungalow, near town centre. Must be Gas heating. Atkinson, 19 Bluebell Close, off Burnhill Road.

FROM 2 Bedroomed, Cumby Road; To 3 Bedroomed in as nice an area. Tel. Aycliffe 312569.

THANKS

MRS HARWOOD would like to thank the gentleman who helped me after my dog had a fall. He kindly brought us home in his car from Neville Parade. I don't know his name, but he works in the Rent Office.

MANY THANKS to Mr and Mrs Cartridge and all who helped to make the Christmas Party at Avon Courts such a success. Also thanks to Santa Claus and Punch and Judy. Margaret, Peter, Karen and Stephen Cox.

CARS FOR SALE

1975 GRANADA GHIA 3.0 Automatic. White with Brown Vinyl sun roof. Taxed and tested. Good condition all round. £1,800. Telephone Aycliffe 316810.

P REG. 1.8 MARINA S.D.L. Flamingo Red, M.o.T. and taxed until October. £900. Tel. Aycliffe 313744.

1973 L REG. OPEL KADETTE. One year's M.o.T., taxed 4 months. New exhaust, new hand brake cable, 4 nearly new tyres. Bargain at only £685. Mr K. McCormick, 13 Langley Road, Newton Aycliffe, or Tel. 318044.

SITUATIONS WANTED

BABY SITTING — Telephone Aycliffe 317218.

ARTICLES FOR SALE

3 SEATER 3 PIECE SUITE in Green Flexi-Hide and in excellent condition. £95. 36 Grassholme Place, Tel. 313070, after 5 p.m.

THORNLEYS BABY CRIB. White wood rocker with mattress, Lemon and White bumper, White Lace Drapes, in excellent condition. Suit baby up to 9 months old, £25 or near offer. Fridge £5. New World Focus Automatic II Gas Cooker, moving to house without gas forces sale; prefer exchange for comparable electric Cooker, but would consider realistic cash offer. Just over 1 year old, price in showroom now £232. Tel. Aycliffe 319298.

WHITE WEDDING DRESS. Size 14, long train with floral lace edging, perfect condition, worn once, Kay Winsor model, £40. £100 when new. 64 Mellanby Crescent, Newton Aycliffe. Tel. Aycliffe 319331.

LADIES ICE SKATES, size 2 1/2, with Guards, £8 or near offer. Tel. Aycliffe 315761 after 4 p.m.

SNORKEL FACE MASK, FINS (shoe size 4), £8. Tel. Aycliffe 315761 after 4 p.m.

LADIES FASHIONABLE BURGANDY Leather Coat, immaculate condition, size 14, £40. Tel. 317726.

COMMODORE 80 CALOR GAS HEATER with adaptor, 2 bar, one year old, £28. 67 Bewick Crescent, Newton Aycliffe.

4FT. MODERN ATLANTIS FISH TANK, complete with hood and all accessories, £65. Also assorted tropical fish, £15. Telephone Darlington 50226.

MAHOGANY SIDEBBOARD with glass sliding doors, in good condition, £20 o.n.o. Ring Aycliffe 318462 after 5 p.m.

CURLED PILE COAT, size 14, three-quarter length, never worn, £10. Tel. Newton Aycliffe 316382.

ARTICLES FOR SALE

AIR PISTOLS. Panther R071, £11. Diana SP50, £4 Tel. 312851 evenings.

PAIR AJAX 10 x 50 BINOCULARS, good condition, complete with leather case. £15 or near offer. Phone Aycliffe 318737.

KITCHEN CABINET, Formica topped table, 3 chairs, Cream and Red, £10 the lot. Tel. Aycliffe 316215.

GREEN/CREAM CHECKED TOP STOOL, natural legs, £5. Electric Kettle, excellent condition, £6. Ladies Navy Coat, size 12 good condition, £7. Ladies Green check coat, size 12, good condition, £7. Telephone Aycliffe 316149, after 5.30 p.m.

ONE INTERIOR DOOR, White, £5. One interior Door, oak, £5. Complete with handles. 21 Luttrington Court. Tel. 313924.

"KAY WINDSOR" model White Bridal Gown with extra long train, matching three-quarter veil and head-dress, size 12, £25. Tel. Aycliffe 312764.

MODERN FANTAIL SHAPE White Metal Bedhead for 4ft. 6in. Double Bed. Good condition. £10. Tel. Aycliffe 312764.

WHITE 2-DRAWER CHEST with nursery transfers, £5. White 2-Drawer Dressing Table, £5. White Single Wardrobe, £5. Tel. Aycliffe 312764.

G.E.C. COLDSPACE FRIDGE. Good condition and working order, £10. Tel. Aycliffe 318710.

SERVIS SUPER TWIN TUB WASHER, £25. Apply 30 Biscop Crescent, Newton Aycliffe (after 6 p.m.).

LADIES WHITE SANDALS, two pairs, size 4 and 4 1/2, worn once, £5 each. Tel. Aycliffe 313568.

G-PLAN SIDEBBOARD, good condition, £25 or near offer. Tel. Aycliffe 313568.

MAN'S LEATHER COAT, size 36 to 38. Cost £68, accept £20. Tel. 317691.

RESTMOOR COT for sale, excellent condition, £20. Tel. Aycliffe 317154.

TRADE ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR QUICK SERVICE in modernisation grant work, all types of repair, no job too large or too small. Tel. Aycliffe 312925.

FOR NO DEPOSIT TELEVISION with slot meters, Ring Darlington 485977. (Agent)

TYPEWRITERS, new and second hand, bought and sold at the Newton Press Shop, Upper Beveridge Way. Tel 312893.

STARLINE OUTSIDE CATERING Services. Buffets for all occasions. Tel. 314033.

CARPET FITTING SERVICE.Contract or Private. Tel. Darlington 58336 or Aycliffe 315577.

4-5 BERTH 14-FOOT CARAVANS for self tow hire. Tel. Aycliffe 312464.

PIERCE DECOR — Painting & Decorating, Free Estimates, Prompt Service. Tel. 313448.

DRAWINGS PREPARED for all types of Building and Engineering work. For prompt attention Tel. Aycliffe 316938 after 4.30 p.m.

T.V. AUDIO REPAIRS. Guaranteed work at reasonable cost. Gill, Aycliffe 318235.

ROVING HANDYMAN. Plumbing, Gut-tering, Roofing Repairs, Glazing. Anything considered. Tel. Aycliffe 317691.

AYCLIFFE LOFT INSULATION. 3in. and 4in. Fibreglass Rolls, Storage Tanks, Covers, Pipe Insulation. Private or Grant Work. Tel. Aycliffe 319637.

ALLSOPP & GARDNER. Electrical, Plumbing and Central Heating Contractors. Repairs or installations. No job is too small. Available on a 24 hour day or night service. Tel. Aycliffe 312510.

WREATHS, CROSSES, SPRAYS, Wed-ding Bouquets and Flowers for all occasions, from Floral Charm, Beveridge Arcade, Tel. Aycliffe 312934.

LOANS FOR TENANTS & OWNERS from £500 to £5,000. Security not necessary. Low Monthly payments by a fast personal service. Beacon Finance. Telephone (Agent) Darlington 485977.

DOG OWNERS — Vitalin, the complete dog meal, delivered in your area. Phone Crook 2938.

OLD OR ANTIQUE FURNITURE or Old Paintings required by private collector. Tel. Darlington 67972 after 6 p.m.

SYD WOOD Coal & Coke Merchant, Calor Gas Dealer, Delivery service. Tel. Aycliffe 313634 day or night.

DOUBLE GLAZING. Windows, Patio Doors, Manufactured and fitted. Free estimates. Alten, Darlington. Tel. 53362.

SINGER SEWING MACHINE Sales and Repairs. Halls Fabrics, Dalton Way, Newton Aycliffe.

WANTED

NEWTON PRESS are re-organising the distribution of Newton News and require persons in all areas of Newton Aycliffe to deliver the newspaper twice monthly.

The newspapers will be delivered to the distributors house for distribution on the weekend of issue.

Payment at the rate of £4 per thousand is made at the Newton Press Shop on the following Monday. Occasionally leaflets accompany the newspaper and this earns the distributor another £2 per 1,000.

Knowledge of the area to be circulated is essential and wherever possible those employed will be allocated areas near where they live.

If you are interested please complete the form below.

I apply for work as Newton News Distributor:

Name

Address