

Newton News

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FRIDAY, 18th DECEMBER, 1981

St. Cuthbert's Way, Aycliffe Industrial Estate

RECESSION MEANS GLOOMY XMAS FOR SOME AYCLIFFE FAMILIES

A LOT OF FAMILIES face a gloomy Christmas and New Year as a result of industrial recession.

The Eaton Axle Division redundancies come at a very bad time and a number of men not wishing to take voluntary redundancy have received their cards this week.

This district, which has the largest proportion of manufacturing industry in the county, has lost approximately 3,000 jobs in the last four years.

It is little comfort to all the men unemployed now that things could get better in 1982.

But we must face the New Year with optimism hoping the country will pull out of the economic gloom into a brighter future with full employment.

The ADC job finders are pledged to bring 5,000 jobs to Aycliffe and Peterlee by 1985. If they succeed it will only mean they have made up the jobs lost during the recession.

But even this "stand-still" situation must be regarded as a bonus, otherwise both towns would slide into complete decline.

Durham County Council's annual report indicates Sedgfield District is not growing as fast as anticipated. In fact the level of house building has begun to decline with only 125 houses built in Newton Aycliffe during 1981/82.

The report shows that the recession is having an adverse effect on the District. The County Council, however, are taking steps which it is hoped will lead to new initiatives to assist in the creation of new jobs.

We extend our sincere regrets to all the town's unemployed, particularly those who received the

bad news this Christmas.

It is hoped you will still enjoy this festive season with your families and quickly obtain new employment.

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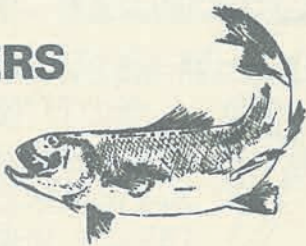
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SUCCESS OF NEW CARPET SHOP

Since September, when Burts of Darlington opened a new branch in Dalton Way, Newton Aycliffe, they have been delighted to find that business has been far better than they ever expected.

A spokesman said: "We like to think the reason for this success is that we offer a very wide range of carpets and floorcoverings at competitive prices, but perhaps the most important thing is the vast stocks we keep at our warehouse."

This means that customers can choose from patterns in the shop and have the carpet delivered and fitted without delay. In fact it is

possible for the entire transaction to be completed in a single day.

At Burts, the emphasis is always on value for money and personal interest in the customers needs. Being a family concern, the personal touch figures largely in the entire operation. Most of their fitters have been with them for years, so you can always be sure of quick and efficient fitting.

The new branch at Newton Aycliffe means Burts can now offer an even better service for their customers in the area, the same quick and efficient service already enjoyed by their customers in Darlington and Northallerton.

BUS TERMINUS FOR TOWN CENTRE?

The ADC are pushing the County Council to make a decision on whether or not they are providing a bus terminus in the Town Centre.

The project entails re-aligning the main road and the demolition of ten houses in Isherwood Close.

Tenants of these houses have faced the prospect of being asked to move out for 17 years!

Due to the possibility of this property being demolished, the houses were not transferred to Sedgfield District Council and remained in the ownership of the ADC pending the County's decision to include the provision of the terminus in their building programme.

With the "Right to Buy Act" in force some of the tenants have expressed interest in buying their houses, so the ADC want to know if they can offer the properties or not.

This should force the County Council to stop dilly-dallying and make a definite decision. There is no doubt the town would benefit from having a bus terminus in the town centre — a proper bus station would be preferable — but this is better than nothing!

And it IS time something was settled and not only for the tenants of Isherwood Close.

For too long has Newton Aycliffe Town Centre been the scene of feverish building activity with the dirt and other inconveniences the work brings.

If there is to be more upheaval let's have it at the same time as all the other work going on during 1982 with the new office block.

Break-in at Scout Centre

An object of great sentimental value was stolen from the Scout Centre this week.

The item, a bronze statuette depicting a Scout, was taken along with other goods by thieves who broke into the headquarters at Bluebell Way.

In addition to goods stolen the intruders caused damage which will be costly to repair.

If anyone has information which can lead to the apprehension of the culprits or the return of the statuette please contact the chairman, Syd Howarth, at Newton Press. A reward is offered.

Rheumatism?

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CLOSED DECEMBER 25th, 26th, 27th and JANUARY 1st



GOODWILL TO ALL AT CHRISTMAS

Dear Readers,

There must be many people in Newton Aycliffe or elsewhere who look at our present state of affairs and feel like agreeing with Scrooge when he said "Christmas — Humbug!"

To some extent they are justified: unemployment at the high level ever, the economy groaning at every turn of its rusty wheels, confrontation and mistrust between the super powers as they brandish their nuclear weapons at each other, Poland on the brink of disaster which might engulf us as it did in 1939, the spiralling cost of

energy, urban riots in England, racial hatred in our cities, crime and violence on the increase, more tension in Israel . . . the list is endless.

Perhaps you, too, are thinking that Christmas is all "humbug" and that once again we shall be stuffing tinsel into the widening cracks of society.

If you are, then STOP! Count your blessings and be of good cheer.

FRANK SHENTON
(Chairman of the Council of Churches)

God still loves the world and the baby born at Bethlehem 2000 years ago still showers His blessings upon you.

The sun still rises every morning, the birds still sing and the good earth still brings forth its abundance.

We still have our minds, our souls, our humanity and the priceless privilege of being alive in this last quarter of the 20th century on the incredible speck of dust which we call Earth, floating in the infinite Cosmos. Newton Aycliffe is still a good place to live; the town still has a heart "as big as a

bucket" and lots of good folk are still helping others to carry their burden.

When God sent Jesus in the form of a baby He didn't promise us a "bed of roses." He promised us much, much more — nothing less than partnership with Him as His sons and daughters in the exciting business of living.

Perhaps it will not be a bad thing if this year some of the tinsel is stripped from Christmas so that we can see to the truth of the matter. I wish you all a truly happy Christmas and a brave, bright and optimistic New Year.

Yours sincerely,
Frank Shenton
Chairman,
Council of Churches.

M. I. B. STRAKER
(Chairman, Aycliffe Development Corp.)

Dear Residents,

News about jobs and industry during 1981 has, on the whole, made gloomy reading for the nation and the region. At Aycliffe we have to feel fortunate that we've weathered the recession better than most parts of the north-east. But for 1982, we've committed ourselves to much more than that.

On November 1st Aycliffe + Peterlee Development Corporations came together as a single promotional team to create 5,000 new jobs before the proposed wind-up in 1985.

Already the signs seem good, because during that month we were informed of developments that will provide 137 new jobs for

Aycliffe and 75 for Peterlee from expansions and new firms attracted to the towns. This confirms our belief that a new promotional body of the kind we now have, is right for Aycliffe, Peterlee and the region.

So it is with some hope that I wish you all a very happy Christmas and perhaps your good cheer may be enhanced by the knowledge that we plan a very active new year. I, my Board and our officers, are resolved to making 1982 as prosperous as we can for Aycliffe + Peterlee.

Yours sincerely,
M. I. B. Straker
(Chairman)
Aycliffe Development Corp.

G. F. CHAPLIN
(Chairman, Sedgefield District Council)

Dear Readers,

This year has seen the most unhappy circumstances that we as a nation have encountered for a long time. Roaring inflation, massive unemployment, record numbers of factory closures, the economic strategy in ruins and not much of a ray of hope for the future.

It is, therefore, particularly hard when Christmas arrives to enter into the true spirit of the occasion with these pressures in the background. There are many who will be unable to give as generously as they would have liked because of the current situation.

Christmas was intended to be the season of goodwill particularly where children are involved and I am sure that despite these problems everyone will be able to

enjoy themselves. As it is the 'Year of the Disabled' please spare a thought for those who for one reason or another are more disadvantaged than we are. I am sure they always carry their problems, as well as today's burdens, with a smile on their faces.

Look around and you will see there are always other people much worse off than we are — so let us spare a thought and a prayer over Christmas for all those less fortunate than ourselves.

May I, as chairman of Sedgefield District Council, wish you all, on behalf of all my colleagues, a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,
Councillor G. F. Chaplin
(Chairman, S.D.C.)

COUNCILLOR F. G. TAYLOR
(Mayor of Great Aycliffe)

Dear Readers,

This last year has without doubt been one of the most difficult from a local government point of view, reflecting the wider social and economic problems faced by the country in general. Unemployment, reductions in living standards and the persistent attack by Central Government on the basic democratic rights of Local Authorities and their electorates threaten to destroy the very fabric of our society.

It is unfortunate that at this time of year, which should be a joyous occasion, I have to mention such unpleasant facts but we must not forget that there will be friends and neighbours who will not have such a happy Christmas as they have enjoyed in the past.

We in Aycliffe are, however, much more fortunate than many other areas in the country. Whilst

unemployment has effected the town it has not been on such a drastic scale as other areas have suffered. This has primarily been due to the tireless endeavours of the Aycliffe Development Corporation who have managed to continue to attract new jobs against all the odds.

We must thank them for their continued efforts on our behalf and if possible try to persuade Central Government to re-assess their present proposals to abolish the Corporation in 1985. There can be little doubt that they are needed as an employment seeking agency for Aycliffe beyond that date.

Finally may I and the Mayoress wish each and every one of you a Happy Christmas and a better year for 1982.

Yours sincerely,
F. G. Taylor
(Mayor of Great Aycliffe).

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from the Staff of

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CHURCH SERVICES

ST. ANDREWS, Aycliffe Village:
Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass, 11.45 p.m. Christmas Day, 10 a.m. Holy Communion. Normal times thereafter.

METHODIST CHURCH, Burnhill Way: Christmas Eve, 4 p.m., Midnight Communion with Neville Parade at 11.30 p.m.; Christmas Day, 9 a.m.; Carol Service, Sunday, 20th December, 10.45 a.m.

METHODIST CHURCH, Neville Parade: Sunday, 20th December, 10.30 a.m. Family Carol Service, 6.30 p.m. Candlelight Carol Service; Christmas Eve, Midnight Service at 11.30 p.m.; Christmas Day 10.15 a.m.; Sunday, 27th December, normal service times; December 31st, Watchnight Service 11.30 p.m. Everyone Welcome.

ST. MARY'S R.C. CHURCH: Christmas Day, Midnight Mass 11.30 p.m.; Christmas Day 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Sunday Services normal times.

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH, Clarence Hall, Finchale Road: Carol Service, Sunday, 20th December, 6 p.m.; Christmas Day 10 a.m.

ST. CLARE'S: Christmas Eve, 11.30 p.m. First Communion of Christmas; Christmas Day, Holy Communion 8 a.m., Parish Eucharist 9.30 a.m., Evensong 4.30 p.m.; Saturday 26th, Holy Communion, 9.00 a.m.; Sunday after Christmas, services at normal times.

ST. FRANCIS: Christmas Eve, Carols by Candlelight, 6.30 p.m.; Christmas Day, Family Communion, 9.30 a.m.

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and a

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SANTA CLAUS IS ON HIS WAY AGAIN

FATHER CHRISTMAS will make his annual tour of Newton Aycliffe, Aycliffe Village and School Aycliffe on Christmas Eve.

As usual his journey around the area will be accompanied by the sound of bells and car horns summoning the residents to their doors to give their cheery Christmas Greetings to Santa Claus.

After he has gone all the children are expected to settle down for the night. When they are asleep Santa will return with the Christmas gifts.

We hope all children have a Happy Christmas morning with some nice presents.

The following route will give you the time Santa Claus is in your area on Christmas Eve. He may be a little late so listen for his bells and horns.

A special thank you to the group of volunteers who take Santa round the town. Their work is greatly appreciated.

ROUTE 1

5.00: Dalton Way, Faulkner Road, Westmorland Way, Dalton Way, Hartley Road, Walcher Road.

5.10: Lilburne Crescent, Alington Road, Hullock Road and Back, Bertie Road and Back, Webb Close and Back; via Westmorland Way, Humphrey Close and back, Macmillan Road, Lightfoot Road, Burdon Close, Marshall Road.

5.35: Silkin Way (including Squares), Wright Close, Priestman Road, Marshall Road, Lightfoot Road, Stephenson Way, via Silkin Way, Stead Close.

5.50: Barrington Road, Ashfield, Tunstall Road, Carileph Close, Ebba Close, Bruce Road, Pease Way.

6.10: Past RAFA Club to Paulinus Road, Garburn Place.

6.25: Hawkshead Place, Honister Place, Silverdale Place, Kirkstone Place, Langdale Place, Whinlatter Place, Eskdale Place.

6.55: Elmfield Place, Beechfield, Oakfield.

7.10: Via Cumby Road to Crosby Road, Doxford Close.

7.10 Via Crosby Road to Lowery Road, St. Godric's Road, Mills Close.

7.25: Via St. Godric's Road, Cumby Road, Watson Road, Via Simpasture Gate, Moule Close, Finchale Road, Lambton Close, Lee Green, Hopper Road.

7.40: Via Finchale Road, Dixon Road, Walker Lane, Via Simpasture Gate, Emmerson Way and back, Via Butler Road, Castlereagh Close, Merz Road.

8.00: Via Butler Road, Ritson Road, Via Bowes Road, Marley Road, Wallas Road, Bewick Crescent.



ROUTE 2

5.00: Bede Crescent, Anne Swyft Road, Clarence Chare, Clarence Corner, Baliol Road.

5.10: Baliol Green, Travellers Green, Gilpin Road, Clanny Road.

5.20: Bury Road, Wilkinson Road, Van Mildert Road, Greathead Crescent, Shafto Way, Greville Way, St. Cuthbert's Way.

5.25: Sheraton Road, Sharp Road, Lumley Close, Hunter Road, Crewe Road, Henderson Road.

5.40: Crawford Road, Hatfield Road, Biscop Crescent, Skirlaw Road, Bek Road, Creighton Road.

5.55: Moore Lane, Mellanby Crescent and Closes, Vane Road, Fowler Road.

6.10: Shafto Way, Stanfield Road, Eden Road, Langley Road.

6.15: Central Avenue, Welbury Grove.

6.20: Aycliffe School.

6.45: Washington Crescent and Closes, Neile Road.

6.55: Defoe Crescent and Closes, Wiseman Walk.

7.05: Bousfield Crescent and Closes, Hardinge Road and Closes, Burn Lane, Elstob Close.

7.15: Kings Drive and Places.

7.30: Agnew Way, Wellhouse Drive and Closes, Wellhouse Ride and Closes.

7.45: Henson Grove, Whiteley Grove, Aylmer Grove, Thurlow Grove, Burn Lane.

8.00: Central Avenue, Church Close.

8.15: Isherwood Close.



ROUTE 3

5.00: Hallington Head, Tindale Green, Derwent Place, Scholars Path, Broomley Close, Stocks Green, Waskerley Walk, Fewston Close, Blackton Close, The Chase.

5.25: Meadowfield Way, Stainmore Crescent, Greenlee Garth, Ladybower, Winterburn Place, Grassholme Place, Burnhope, Stainmore Walk.

5.50: Cheviot Place, Cumbrian Place, Cleveland Place.

6.15: Lascelles Avenue and Courts, Colburn Avenue and Courts, Elwick Avenue and Courts, Wynyard Court.

6.45: Sid Chaplin Drive, Fox Place, Bates Close, Brockett Close, Loraine Walk, Mackenzie



Place, Thornton Close, Sampson Place, Hedley Close, Scott Place.

7.10: Burnhill, Malham Drive, Rylstone Close, Reeth Place, Askrigg Close, Skipton Close, Arncliffe Place, Aysgarth Close, Hawes Place, Pateley Close, Airton Place, Stainforth Close.

7.25: Bluebell Close.

7.40: School Aycliffe Estate.

8.00: School Aycliffe Hospital.

Sale of work

St. Clare's annual sale of work and the first Christmas Bazaar held at St. Francis together raised £1300. The Vicar, Rev. Granville Gibson, thanks all who helped by providing goods or by supporting the events.

Carol singing

St. Clare's Sunday School are collecting labels from all Heinz products.

Each label is worth 1p, paid by Heinz, and all proceeds go to charity.

If you can help drop off the labels at the church. The Sunday School have to get as many as possible by February.

Heinz labels

The Newton Aycliffe Council of Churches are organising Carol singing in the town centre this Saturday. The Methodist Church Sunday School are hoping to act out the nativity scene during the singing.

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