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Greenfield & Sunnydale Colleges to Merge in 2015

The consultation meetings are now complete on the proposed merge between Greenfield College and Sunnydale at Shildon. The Head Teacher at Greenfield, David Priestley, takes over as Executive Headteacher of both Greenfield Community College and Sunnydale Community College on September 1st and if the proposal is passed the schools will merge from 1st January



David Priestley

2015. Both schools will continue to operate on separate sites for students aged 11 – 16 years and parents / carers will be able to opt for which site they prefer. As a merged school the staff will stay working on the site they are currently based,

but will be able to support each other to keep at the forefront of developments. New courses will be offered to those who want them across both schools. The local authority will invest in both buildings for the future. Greenfield will have some major rewiring work carried out over the summer holidays. Parents and members of the community attending the consultation meetings were reassured that the proposal will enable two schools to have a secure future and so be able to continue to serve their communities. The Local Authority will consider all contributions to the consultation before deciding to serve a formal notice. A decision should be made by November 2014.

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Gleesons to Build 80 New Homes

A scheme to build 80 houses on a vacant 5.3 acre site, formerly a Nursery at Travellers Green, is proposed by Gleesons. A planning application has been lodged with Durham County Council, who have earmarked the land for Housing in its Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and emerging County Durham Local Plan. Ed Alder, Regional Director for Gleeson said "our proposals will provide a

range of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom family homes for low cost private sale, and provide further regeneration and economic benefits for Newton Aycliffe as a whole. We will also be employing local labour and create apprenticeships for young people residing in the area. We have worked hard with the Council Planners to come up with an attractive, well designed scheme and look forward to commencing development in the near future".

Gleesons completed a successful development on Shafto Way on the former Care Home site. The public has until 1st August to make comment on their new application to Durham County Council.

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World War 1 Display at Village Church

St. Andrew's Church at Aycliffe Village will open on Monday 4th August from 10am - 4pm for people to visit and reflect and remember the outbreak of World War One. The local History Society will have a display to commemorate the thirteen men named on the War Memorial.

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HOMEPLAN SUPPORTS WEST PARK PROJECT

Popular local hardware store Homeplan are the latest business to come forward in support of the Friends Of West Park group. Donating rakes and gloves to Andrew Anderson, representing the group, proprietor Jim Parkin said "This is a very worthwhile cause supported by local people to do something positive in the community and we are extremely happy to be able to help". The equipment will be put to

good use by the volunteers who are working hard at litter picking and cleaning out the lakes.

The Park was showcased at the spectacular Cutting Loose event held on Tuesday 15th July when around 1000 people turned out to see the show. The park is now becoming more popular, with many Newtonians discovering the boating lakes and the amenities that the park offers, for the first time! Ken Robson, Chair of the



Friends Of West Park group commented "I am frequently amazed and amused by people who have lived and worked in the Newton Aycliffe area for years and have not visited the park.

Comments from people visiting the park, from outside of our town, are that the park has a very specific WOW factor". Volunteers can contact the group through the facebook page.

Friends of West Park Newton Aycliffe" or by contacting Ken on 01325 321471 or just pop along to the park on a Sunday morning.

The Friends group welcome help in the form of donations of materials, sponsorship of furniture, such as seats and bins, and involvement in the group itself.

Of particular interest would be offers of equipment which may help us to clean up the lakes and over the summer months we will be visiting companies around the Business Park seeking help. Future plans involve a shopping list of activities for all ages from playgrounds, returning the boating lakes to their glory years and reinstating remote controlled model boats and yachts to the lakes. This will take time but a small army of enthusiastic volunteers are slowly coming forward to help make our dreams a reality.

Friends can be seen litter

picking in the park area around 9am on Sunday mornings followed by lake cleaning around 10am

Have you ever worked on the park under Aycliffe Development Corporation, Sedgfield Borough, Durham County or Great Aycliffe Council? Do you have access to schematics of the workings of the water works for the park or could you help us put together a map detailing where various services lie? If so we would welcome your input.

I am very impressed by what we have managed to achieve in such a short time and that is down to the public mood of wanting our town to be the best place to live in the world. The age range of our members is enormous which shows regardless of your generation we all love this place and want to help. Ken Robson Chairman Friends Of West Park

World War Remembered at St. Clare's Church

St Clare's Parish Church will be open each morning during the week of Monday 28th July to 4th August, for anyone who would like to visit and spend a quiet time of contemplation and remembrance. In that week there will also be a WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL DISPLAY in the church hall, daily from 10am to 1pm. It will include flags of the allies, posters and memorabilia and WW1 poetry, DVD, film and music of the time. Tea and coffee will be available, entrance is free but donations to "HELP THE HEROES" will be gratefully accepted. On Saturday 2nd August the film "WAR HORSE" will be shown. £2 inc tea & coffee at 1pm. Film starts at 1-15pm. All proceeds to "HELP THE HEROES". For further details please ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

Newton News New Website will Benefit the Whole Town

Over the next couple of months Newton Press is working closely with Design365, Newton Aycliffe's leading web design company, to improve the Newton News community website.

This website will be all about our community and what is happening on the town and we invite our readers to submit their ideas on what you would like to see on your site. We have some fantastic ideas of our own lined up, but would also like your input, after all this is for your information, use and enjoyment.

Alan Foster owner of Design365 says: "As an Aycliffe lad I am really proud to be working with Newton Press on this exciting venture. I know how committed the team at Newton News are at delivering current and topical information and helping Newtonians share our news and I know the new website will further enhance opportunities across the town for improved communication. Paul Howarth says: "We chose Design365 as they have a fantastic reputation across the north east and we are lucky enough to have them on the town. They have helped us with other smaller projects, but we want this new website to be a beacon for Newtonians and we know Design365

can deliver. We want this website to be something special for the town for all ages."

There may be some slight disruption to the Newton News website over the next couple of months, whilst work is underway, but we aim to complete the project by the end of September. The facilities planned will offer visitors to the website a very informative and

interactive experience. We are very proud of our town newspaper, which was first established in 1948, helped along by local residents who constantly supply us with great news items and stories.

We would like to hear your suggestions on how we can improve the site further. If you have any thoughts or ideas then please email paul@newtonnews.co.uk

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Saturday 26th July - "WitchKraft"

REVIEW: "First appearance this year for old favourites "Witchkraft", saw them playing with last minute dep drummer Mick Kerrigan, ex-Force, and currently bashing the skins for Blitzkreig. The band played a solid two hours, eventually coming off as the witching hour approached - sort of appropriate really. True to form, it was a different set from what we've had in the past but the good crowd still sang along and had a great evening. We hadn't met Ray, their new Darrass Hall bassist either, but he fitted in a treat and knocked out a canny rendition of 'Mr Big' which I've seen Free tribute bands make a balls of. Up front and central Mick belted out the vocals with humour whilst Mal dazzled us with his dexterity on the fretboard. As always, an excellent show and we look forward to their return."

Saturday 2nd August - "This Machine"

Saturday 9th August - "Elenbak"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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What's on at St. Elizabeth's

Our Coffee Morning is on Saturday 2nd of August at 10am as usual offering Cakes, Bakes and Home Produce, Seasonal Raffle. All this and scones, coffee and tea.

If you are having a stay-vacation, come and join us. The Souper Lunch team are having a summer break but will be back on Wednesday 3rd September at 12.30pm. Look out for news of future events taking place in the coming months.

CUTTING LOOSE AT WEST PARK



favourite places. A group of primary school technology enthusiasts created the designs for the costume t-shirts for the performers (and some for them too!).

A group of male volunteers spent their Mondays each week working with production company Bravura to create the finale of the event – a giant Faberge acorn as a gift from the Boggle King!

It has been a true community production, which was colourful, spectacular and full of energy. Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity at Greenfield Arts said: "The young people really made the event so wonderful, their energy, enthusiasm and smiles made it a fantastic evening."

Greenfield Arts would like to thank all the groups, schools and members of the community for their support of the project. With thanks to Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Action Partnership, Great Aycliffe Town Council, Livin, East Durham Trust and Greenfield Arts for funding this fantastic community project.

On Tuesday 15th July the Boating Lake in Newton Aycliffe's West Park was a hive of colour, music, dance and visuals for 2014's "Cutting Loose" spectacular. More than 500 young people and members of the community have been working hard since April, designing, making, dancing and performing to prepare for the event which built on the success of 2012's carnival celebration.

The community project was inspired by the fairies and boggles who live in Aycliffe, they aren't known to everyone but the King of the Boggles was very grumpy, so Greenfield Arts and Unfolding Theatre (a theatre production company based in Newcastle) proposed Cutting Loose as a way to cheer him up.

Primary school children worked with artists to design large flags, visualising the places in the town and surrounding areas that make them smile. They also recorded their stories of favourite places for a living archive, put together by



sound artist Nick Williams. The large flags and living archive formed part of the performance – the gifts to the King to make him smile! Secondary school performers provided dance, drama and musical support for the event; alongside professional musicians and German brass band Beat N Blow as part of

Brass: Durham International Festival. Greenfield Community College's STEM group worked with a puppet designer to bring the King of the Boggles to life, whilst a year 9 textile group created flags for members of the public to share their

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Honest John Backs New Community Association



Alan Lowe (left) receives cheque from Honest John

The WASPS Residents Association, at Simpature, have got their fundraising activities off to a flying start with a donation from Honest John. John said he was only too happy to help and praised the work of all the community organisations who work to benefit the people of Newton Aycliffe.

The WASPS committee send their thanks to John and wish him well in his future charity work. If you want to get involved with WASPS, even in a small way, you can ring Alan Lowe on 07754 094946 or John Clark on 07972 170190. Look out for us at Great Aycliffe Show where we will have an information stall.

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DISC Training Highly Praised by Ofsted Inspectors

Staff and young people at DISC are celebrating following an excellent Ofsted inspection where they were recognised as 'Outstanding in all areas'.

The Inspectors spent four days with the young people and staff at our Education Centre based in Newton Aycliffe. They observed teaching sessions, visited work experience placements and met with delivery partners as well as talking to DISC's managers, directors and members of our Board of Trustees.

Angie Hutchinson, Director of DISC's Health & Young Peoples Services, said 'We are thrilled with the result of the inspection. The Teaching and Learning alongside Leadership and Management have been exemplary. The Inspectors have also recognised the considerable work of the staff and learners and how close links with partner agencies and local employers contribute to the success of the service.'

In his letter of congratulations to DISC, Sir Michael Wilshaw, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector explained that 'the judgement of outstanding means that we are exceptional and those significant elements of our work are exemplary.'

Inspectors reported that 'teaching, learning and assessment are outstanding and lead to excellent outcomes for learners.'

An exceptionally high number 98% of young people completed their training programme last year. Achievement rates are excellent with a 90% pass rate for qualifications.

Last year, less than 15% of Ofsted inspections of Further Education providers resulted in an outstanding grade. The report also highlighted that:

- Learners make exceptional progress, achieve challenging learning goals and gain valuable qualifications during their training programme.
- Sessions are "stimulating and exciting".
- Learners develop excellent personal, social and

employability skills; making significant progress towards becoming self assured, confident and courteous and better prepared for life and work.

• Teaching, learning and assessment are outstanding. Tutors have good levels of experience, are well qualified and have high levels of enthusiasm. DISC's Board of Trustees and Senior Managers have established a clear mission "to help people realise their potential".

A learner from DISC's education programme, has successfully moved into an apprenticeship. Having struggled to engage in school, Peter left with no qualifications or direction. Peter joined DISC's summer programme though he was very anxious and often isolated himself from other students. With a little encouragement and support from tutors and staff at DISC Peter began to take part in sessions.

Peter said "I became relaxed after a while and was encouraged to take part in

the next course which was an employability course".

After some in depth one to one sessions with staff Peter decided to follow a career in mechanics. He attended an interview at a local garage and was successful in gaining a work placement. Over the months at DISC Peter became a well-liked member of the group and interacted well with staff and the team at the garage. Towards the end of the programme Peter's work placement were so impressed with his attitude and hard work they offered him an apprenticeship. Peter continues to do well splitting his week between the garage and Darlington College where he is completing a Diploma. DISC Steps4Success Course is 2 - 40 weeks in duration for 16-18 year olds. A typical programme will consist of 3 days per week, split between work placement and centre based qualifications depending on each learners programme. Places are currently available commencing in June and July - please contact Andrea Dixon on 01325 731160.

DARLINGTON MAYOR HOLDS CIVIC SERVICE AT HEIGHINGTON



Dear Sir,
I cordially invite residents from Heighington Parish to attend my Civic Church Service in St Michael's Church, Heighington on 27th July, 2014 starting at 9.30 am.

I am delighted the Bishop of Jarrow, together with 15 Mayors from across the north east with their consorts, will be attending, together with Borough Councillors. All will meet in the Village Hall, supported by the church choir, Rev Lissa Gibbons, Rev Barbara Hilton and Churchwardens. They will then process into church for the start of the Service. Our Junior church will sing two hymns in their inimitable way and Janet Walke, the well known opera singer from Darlington, will be singing The Lord's my Shepherd and Mozart's 'Alleluia'. The gathering of so many Mayors, all wearing their Chain of Office, will not have been seen in Heighington before or for some time in the future, so the occasion

may be of interest to young and old. I hope that you will join us and refreshments will be served in the Village Hall afterwards.
Cllr Gerald G. Lee
Mayor of Darlington.

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Sarah Allan is shown here being congratulated by Chairman of the Cubby Bill Blenkinsopp on gaining her Catering qualifications.

Sarah is a 27 year old mother of 2 children aged 7 and 5 who works as a volunteer.

"The Cubby offered good work experience for completing my NVQ level 2 customer service. Having passed the Level 2 food hygiene certificate I will now progress to complete Level 3 NVQ customer service. Working in the Cubby has built up my confidence and improved my catering skills." said Sarah.

Remembering World War 1 at St. Mary's

WW1 Monday 4th August 2014 at St Mary's Church will be open from 10.00am until 4.00pm for people to pay their respects. There will also be a Service at 11.00am.

Dear Sir,
For the first time in many years in County Durham, recycling is down – 2.5% less than last year. This is not due to a decrease in the amount collected; it is due to an increase in the amount rejected due to contamination – no less than 805 tonnes over the year (one fifth up on the previous year). Apart from missing recycling targets, when a load is

rejected, there is a financial penalty ... and then that load has to go to landfill and the council has to pay again! The problem, however, is about much more than realising (for example) that black plastic cannot be recycled. Certain people have been putting food waste, dog mess and dirty nappies into their recycling bins. Just as bad, some are putting liquid waste into their

recycling bins (e.g. cooking oil, meat juices etc.) The problem is that these things then get spread over or seep into the paper and other recyclates, which makes the whole bin (and in some cases a whole lorry-load) unusable. There will always be people who simply use both bins for general rubbish, or who can see nothing wrong with putting dead pets into the recycling bin. But I

wonder whether many other decent and publicly-minded people realise that they are contaminating their recycling simply by putting items unrinsed into their recycling bins? Could I please ask responsible members of the community to spread this message: that what we throw in our recycling bins must be fit to recycle.
Cllr John D Clare



I'm the neighbour from downstairs... it's about time you visited Franks!

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Join us for a fundraiser in support of **Jack Mason**, to purchase a new Terrier Trike.

Saturday, 6th September from 7.00pm
N/A Working Men's Club

Live Music by local artiste **"Claire Wingfield"**
Disco until 11pm, Courtesy of **Paul Gittins**

Raffle - Tombola - All Welcome

Tickets £2.00 each - ALL proceeds go towards a much needed custom built trike

For further information please contact Michelle on 07986 856166

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At Whitworth Hall Country Park

Saturday 23 August 10.30-4

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Summer Concert at Woodham Academy

Thursday 3rd July saw the annual Summer Concert at Woodham Academy, and as usual it was an entertaining evening which suitably celebrated the hard work of the students throughout the year. The academy ensembles performed as usual, and there was a wide variety of soloists who were keen to be involved as well, from old regulars to newer faces.

Y11 soloists Bethany Clarkson, Keira Durham, Gaynor Lambert and Francesca Porritt performed for the final time at Woodham, after having been a part of almost every concert, musical and talent show that took place during their time here. Along with Liam Brown, who performed with Woodham Jazz Band and Instrumental Group, and Jack Jacob who led Woodham Samba Band so well, they are sure to be missed.

The talent did not stop with Year 11 students, however, with other excellent performances from Year 10 students Emma Sandford, who gave a confident and upbeat

rendition of 'Spotlight', and Caitlin Finn, with a beautiful performance of Emeli Sandé's 'Read All About It'. Year 8's Kirsty Knight made her debut as a soloist at Woodham, with a lovely version of 'On My Own' for the piano.

The evening also gave the opportunity to welcome back some former Woodham students. Jordan Jacob, who left Woodham in 2012, returned to the stage with his own single, 'Underline', performed by Jessica Richardson. 'Underline' is to be released to support a Newcastle-based charity. Former student Lauren Sproates also returned to give a vibrant dance performance, prior to continuing her career in Performing Arts in London's West End.

The evening was rounded off with a performance from vocal group Woodham Sound, followed by presentations to outgoing Year 11 students. Woodham Academy are now looking forward to their next music department event, the Christmas Concert, which will be in December.

Town Centre Litter Concern



Sir

I would like to point out the state of the area of the town centre between Aldi and Argos. I think everyone passing would also think the area is in a disgusting condition.

I think Durham County Council should take action to see this area is cleaned or are they wanting Newton Aycliffe to be a shanty town? Utterly disgusting

Chad Kemp
Emerson Way

Editor: We asked Bryan Haldane, Town Centre Manager to comment and he said:

"Aldi are responsible for their own car park and my area of responsibility extends only to Dalton Way. As regards the Cubby/Argos/Tesco this is a joint responsibility between DCC, as they own the vacant section of land."



Digital Marketer Joins Aycliffe Company

Leading UK shower designer and manufacturer, Roman, is delighted to welcome a new member to their Marketing team, Andy Hudson. Andy joins Roman's Marketing team as Digital Marketing Executive.

Andy, 26 years old, studied Website Design at Teesside University and has experience and a real interest in website design, development and digital marketing. Andy's previous job role was to help develop businesses online marketing presence, which has seen him create a number of websites within different industries. Andy will be a key addition to the team, looking after and to further develop the Roman websites and social media activity.

Andy says of his new role, "I'm thrilled to be joining Roman as their Digital Marketing Executive and I can't wait to get involved with the marketing of such a well-established UK brand. I look forward to bringing new ideas to Roman's website portfolio and enhancing the company's online presence."



Volunteers Wanted to be Master Composters



(l to r): Rachel Gatland, Lesley Gowland and Master Composter Rachel Markham.

Green fingered volunteers are needed to increase home composting and reduce the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfill. Durham County Council will help the volunteers become Master Composters and they will be out and about across County Durham to advise residents on the benefits of composting, giving top tips on how to get the best from home composting.

Since May 2009, the Master Composters have put in some 500 hours volunteering at more than 100 events. These include roadshows, community gardens, allotments, farmers' markets and schools.

Rachel Gatland, waste strategy and policy officer, Durham County Council, said: "We are looking for enthusiastic gardeners, allotment holders or anyone with green fingers to become a Master Composter. There is a lot of material which goes to waste and could be easily composted and safeguard the environment. These volunteers do a great amount of work in encouraging others to be responsible and compost."

The scheme is open to residents of County Durham and volunteers must be over 18-years-old. More details are available from Strategic Waste Management on 03000 266 112 or email wasteaware@durham.gov.uk



SUMMER KIDS CLUB

At Planet Leisure, Maple Way, Newton Aycliffe Business Park

July 21st - August 29th

Monday to Friday only

Call 01325 310989 to reserve your child's place to avoid disappointment

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more to be added

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£17.95 9am until 4pm
Kids must be dropped off by 8:40am each day

OPTION 2
£20.95 9am until 6pm
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Option 2 includes evening meal & additional activity

We will provide each child with juice throughout the day along with a lunchtime meal.

(Chosen in advance, please inform staff at the time of booking with any special dietary needs)

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Email us at: info@planet-leisure.co.uk Visit us at: www.planet-leisure.co.uk

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All children's registration forms need to be completed in advance.
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Each Child Place MUST be booked 24 hours in advance to allow us to have the correct staff numbers available.

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Shafto Way Newton Aycliffe

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Milbank Road Darlington

Superbly presented 4/5 bedroomed extended detached house, situated in the prestigious West End within walking distance of the town centre & schools. Spacious hall, downstairs WC, 2 good-sized reception rooms with feature fireplaces, playroom/bedroom 5, breakfast kitchen with French doors to garden, utility with rear access, store room, 4 double bedrooms, family bathroom/WC with shower cubicle. Unfurnished with carpets, curtains, fitted appliances & fitted robes. Gas CH, private South-facing rear garden with decked sun terrace, block-paved front garden with parking. EPC rating 'D'. Rent £1200 pcm

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Morrison Close Newton Aycliffe

3 bedroomed semi-detached house in Woodham area of Newton Aycliffe, easy access to D'ton, Bp. Auckland and A1M. Hall, downstairs WC, fitted breakfast kitchen with glazed door to garden, lounge with feature fireplace, 2 double & 1 single bedroom, bathroom/WC with overhead shower. Unfurnished with carpets, curtains, oven, hob & washing machine. Gas CH, rear garden with paving & decking. EPC rating 'C'. Rent £450 pcm



Belford Way Newton Aycliffe

Modernised 2 bedroomed detached bungalow, unfurnished, recently refurbished & in good condition. Entrance hall, lounge/diner with feature fireplace, gas fire, kitchen, inner hall, bathroom, 2 bedrooms with overhead shower, 1 double & 1 single bedroom, conservatory. Gas CH, front & rear gardens (rear South-facing), parking. Rent £495 pcm



Birch View Darlington

Superior quality spacious modern 2 bedroomed 1st floor flat in very good condition, situated on pleasant residential development with picturesque grounds in the West End of Darlington, easy access to the town centre & A1M. Entrance hall, hall, fitted kitchen, spacious lounge/diner with balcony, master bedroom with balcony & en suite shower/WC, 1 further double bedroom, bathroom/WC with overhead shower attachment. Unfurnished with carpets, curtains, integral appliances & fitted robes. Gas CH, allocated parking, communal grounds. EPC rating 'C'. Rent £685 pcm

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Hairdresser Opens on Business Park

Lox of Love Ltd, which started as a mobile hair extension business 2 years ago opened a studio on Aycliffe Business Park in May providing a specialist service, extensive aftercare and advice, as well as a range of temporary clip-in extensions and hair pieces. After a fantastic start and a very busy few months they have now added an experienced hair stylist to the team in a bid to expand their service to existing clients, non-extension wearers. Previously of Steven Hall Hair Salon in Darlington, Newtonian Emma Stevens has joined Lox of Love to build on their success. For Managing Director, Victoria Cartwright, who is also a fully qualified hairdresser, having another



qualified hair stylist in the studio is securing the future growth of the business. "We are very excited to have Emma on board. She has an excellent reputation and is passionate

about hairdressing. "Having a full hairdressing service is quite unique for hair extension wearers and many Salons either don't have the correct training, or are reluctant to cut, colour and/or style clients who wear hair extensions. An additional hair stylist in our team means we can offer our clients a full service which will maintain the quality of the extensions throughout the period they are worn.

"Our focus has always been to maintain excellent quality to ensure our clients return. We welcome everyone to the salon, whether or not they wear hair extensions, and we're thrilled at how quickly our additional hairdressing service has already taken off." Lox of Love Ltd, based at Unit 6, Evans Business Centre, on Aycliffe Business Park offers a range of elite brand styling tools, as well as clip-in extensions and hair pieces from Halo and Hair Rehab London. The studio is currently offering a 30% discount off highlights (half head or t-section only, including cut & finish) for a limited time for anyone wanting a sun kissed summer look. Call 01325 327362 to book. www.loxoflove.co.uk or on Facebook /loxoflove.

Jumping the Gun!

Dear Sir,
A Tesco customer left a note on my car making disparaging remarks thinking I was parked in a bay reserved for disabled, which if he had checked properly would see I wasn't! The bay referred to is next to the footpath on the second row of cars next to the pedestrian crossing opposite the main entrance. It is the only bay not marked for use of disabled people on a long row of bays. It is a little bigger than most so allowed me to park the size of vehicle I was driving. As a parent of young children I too find it frustrating being unable to find a suitable spot as they are always taken up by customers who clearly have no children. I have never, or ever will, park in a bay marked for disabled, as I am not authorised. Whilst I appreciate the frustration of the mistaken customer, I think his parking monitoring efforts would be better channelled talking to the Superstore to come up with a plan of action that does not include putting unsuitable notes on windscreens of innocent customers. Former Tesco customer, awaiting an apology.

AYCLIFFE COMPANY CREATES NOVEL GREETING CARD

Mixing business with pleasure can be a challenge for some but not for David Grey and his wife Julie. The copreneurs, based in Newton Aycliffe, have set up a greetings card company with a difference! The greeting cards they produce, transform into beautiful boats which actually float – hence the company name Float a Boat.

The husband and wife team decided to set up a company, based on their shared passion for creative card crafting and they are looking to grow their business to make waves into the corporate market – offering a range of cards for cruise liners, ferries and special events. David, the firm's managing

director, said: "It was actually the Olympic Games in 2012 that inspired us to create these unique cards. Ben Ainslie had just clinched his fourth straight gold medal and it was summer, the weather was warm and the children were playing in the paddling pool.

"We decided to have our own Olympic sailing race with paper sailing boats but, after trawling the internet without much luck, I decided to design my own paper boats and this gave us the idea to turn these boats into greetings cards.

"Julie and I spent many months trying out new designs, researching and sampling coatings to get the cards to float and

looking at ways to package the cards. We have done everything from start to finish and after a lot of hard work; we are finally ready to go to market.

"We wanted to create something that had the wow factor – something unique which was much more than a card. We wanted it to be memorable and fun and wanted to create something that would be treasured after the big day.

"So many people receive cards and then bin them or

pop them in a drawer when the big day has gone. We wanted our cards to double up as toys so children could have fun transforming their birthday cards into boats and watching them sail. In this age of computer games and technology, it is so nice to sit down with your child and make something.

"We've trialled our cards at Craft Fairs and other events and people love them so we are hoping they will really take off" added Julie.



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SUMMER HOLIDAY ADVICE FOR PARENTS

With the start of the school summer holidays, parents are being encouraged to be prepared for the inevitable playground scrapes and minor illnesses. NHS experts from Durham, Darlington and Tees are asking parents, and those who look after children, to stock up their medicine cabinets, follow sun-care advice and to choose the most appropriate service if their child becomes ill or injured during the summer break. Choosing well will ensure

children receive the best possible treatment and save families a stressful trip to A&E. Medical Director, Dr James Gossow, of NHS England in Durham, Darlington and Tees, said: "The summer holidays are a wonderful time for children to be out and about, exploring the world around them and keeping fit and healthy. "Unfortunately we do see a rise in injuries associated with play and leisure activities at this time, so we would ask

parents to be especially alert to potential dangers, and also know where they can go to get the right treatment. "Many patients end up waiting in A&E when they could be treated more quickly by seeking advice from their local pharmacist or even by themselves with basic self-care and first aid," added Dr Gossow. "Pharmacists are trained professionals who can offer quick, confidential and expert advice on a range of common conditions. Advice on the appropriate service to use is also available by calling NHS 111."

People typically stock up on first aid items for holidays abroad, but it's also important to have items ready for the British summer from your local pharmacy. These might include:

- high factor sun cream
- insect bite and nettle rash cream
- allergy medicine
- antiseptic wipes
- cough, cold and pain relief remedies
- Plasters and bandages
- Cooling gel packs or flannels that you can dip in cold water

As the next few weeks are predicted to remain warmer than average, parents are also reminded to ensure their children wear sun cream and sun hats, take regular breaks from the sun and drink plenty of water.

For more information, visit NHS Choices at www.nhs.uk/summerhealth

north east
autism society

Trampoline Lessons

At North East Centre for Autism, Newton Aycliffe

Every Friday & Tuesday
10am - 12noon

- Open to all children, young people and adults with special needs.
- Running twice a week for four weeks, dates include:
- 22nd, 25th, 29th July
- 1st, 5th, 8th, 19th, 22nd Aug

How to register:

To register your interest please contact Theresa Arrowsmith on **01325 328080 (ex 118)** or email theresa.arrowsmith@ne-as.org.uk

The sessions will be at held at: North East Centre for Autism (Sports Hall), Cedar Drive, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6UU



FREE
LESSONS

Young People Help Clean Lake



Andy Anderson and Adrian Dixon with his daughter Emma, helping out on the top lake - the labours continue and anyone wishing to offer their help should contact the Secretary of Friends of West Park - Arun Chandran: Tel: 01325 313224

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Would the following Veterans ring Peter Beaty to arrange collection of their well earned badges: Kevin Philips, A Orton and K. Anderson.

The new Art Club, under the supervision of Gwen, is now well underway every Wednesday from 1pm - 3pm. Admission £2. Join us by bringing your equipment and experience, however little - You will receive a warm welcome.

New Thursday Clubs: Toichin - 5pm - 6.30pm with Paul Young. Karate: 7.30pm - 9pm with Steve Wilkinson.

During School holidays every Tuesday, 2 - 4pm for families. Adults £2, children free! To book Ring Peter on 313924. ideal for all ages from 6yrs to 80+.

Knit and Natter every Thursday 10am - 12 noon. come along and bring your work with you.

We are appealing for items to Auction in September. Please ring Peter.

MARRIED AT St. ANDREW'S CHURCH

Kimberley Parkin and Ashley Bailey were married at St Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village on Saturday 12th July 2014. Kimberley is employed by Premier Home Care and Ashley works for Brancepeth Engineering. The Best Man was Dave Shelton, and the Bridesmaids were Abbey Tyndall and Katie Hinchcliffe.

The witnesses were Lynsey and Neil Hinchcliffe. The Reception was held at Blackwell Grange, Darlington followed by a "Surprise Honeymoon" to Bulgaria, organised by the groom.



MEMORIAL SERVICE TO REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

The Memorial Service for the Parish of Great Aycliffe, will be held on Sunday July 27th at 4-00pm in St. Clare's Parish Church.

This short informal service, welcomes anyone who has been bereaved at any time, to come along and remember that special person they have lost.

The Service consists of short hymns and prayers and includes a time of silence when your loved one's name is read out.

At this time you can come to any of our windows around the church and light a candle which you will find already there. There will be assistance on hand if you need it, or you can just stay in your seat, and a member of the church will light your candle for you.

Please indicate on arrival which you would prefer to do. There will be a short quiet time when this is happening. After the Service light refreshments will be served in the adjoining church hall. You may also view our memorial book which is in a special room and have your loved one's name written in. A person will be present who can tell you all about this on the day.

If you would like further information please contact Pam Lovelass, the Parish Authorised Pastoral Assistant.

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SEDGEFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Hitachi Launches New Train to be Built in Aycliffe

Hitachi Rail Europe Ltd. have revealed its newly designed AT200 commuter train to an audience of 200 rail industry representatives. A life-size replica of the new train design was on show in London, giving attendees a first glimpse of the future of commuting.

Andy Barr, Chief Operating Officer at Hitachi Rail Europe, who unveiled the train, said: "At today's train reveal, we presented our newly developed commuter train to the rail industry. Our team of engineers and designers have gone to great lengths to take passenger needs, operator requirements and our wealth of experience in train manufacture and maintenance into account. The AT200 is our new, exciting offering to the commuter rail market, a highly standardised yet flexible design that improves the travelling experience for tomorrow's commuters."

Developed by Hitachi Rail Europe following close consultation with Train Operating Companies and key stakeholders, the AT200 is a new, modular electric suburban product platform. The concept which gives design flexibility from a range of options, allows operators to tailor trains to passenger needs, while reducing risk and maintaining highly competitive lead times. Famed for its 100% on-time delivery record, Hitachi's European rail arm is set to continue this success with the introduction of the standardised AT200 train platform.

Passenger needs played a major consideration during the design phase of the AT200. The result is a comfortable passenger environment including inter-vehicle gangways for better use of passenger space, tables and toilet facilities, ambient LED lighting throughout, air conditioning as standard, USB and power sockets available at every seat as well as passenger wifi provision.

Adequate luggage storage for commuter travel and cantilever seats in both standard and first class ensure that passengers find enough space for their possessions, while also allowing for fast and efficient cleaning and maintenance.

Ease of maintenance was an additional key consideration of the AT200 design cornerstones. At its core, the train has a high level of onboard diagnostics which continuously and proactively monitor the train and feed back to the maintenance base regarding aspects of its performance. This reduces maintenance, as inspections can be directed according to indications given by the diagnostic system instead of frequent checking. Using Japanese rolling stock maintenance philosophy as successfully demonstrated with the Class 395 Javelin™ trains, Hitachi's next generation commuter train applies real-time data collection and management solutions to make rapid and efficient maintenance in the shortest possible time a reality.

Hitachi Rail Europe's new AT200 commuter train can be provided in 3-car to 12-car formations depending on route line requirements. Made of lightweight aluminium alloy extrusions using friction stir welding, the trains are highly resistant to corrosion, further reducing maintenance requirements. The choice of material and welding technique also offers the best of strength and lightness for a highly crashworthy structure.

Hitachi has a proven strategy for managing all statutory and regulatory approvals for new train fleets including testing and passenger service. The AT200 for the UK market includes only proven technology from existing rolling stock products that are either in passenger service or in manufacture, greatly reducing the time to market.

The trains will be manufactured in Hitachi's new train factory, which is currently under construction in Newton Aycliffe.



THE TURBINIA CHARITY BUSHTUCKER CHALLENGE

"I'm a customer! Get me out of here"

Bank holiday Sunday (24th Aug). Our annual trial will see six victims, sorry, I meant volunteers, tuck in to some of the worst food imaginable, all in aid of 'Bishop Auckland Womens Refuge'. In previous years we have had very few eat every course, yes folks it IS that bad, even the drinks!

A prize for the person that raises the most money, but a forfeit for the one who fails the most dishes. If you have the 'nerve' to take on 'GARY'S GROSS TAPAS' call into the Turbinia and pick up a sponsor form, but be quick, only a few places left, or if you just want an hilarious night watching people suffer, for a good cause, call in, the show starts at 7.00pm

1 Upper Beveridge Walkway, Town Centre (next to StevenRussell)
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(Not available with any other offer)

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Available Sunday to Thursday only, price is per person, for restaurant customers only

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World Cup Food Tasting



During the World Cup we have been tasting foods from around the world and making a display about the World Cup. On the first week of the World Cup we had Italian food for tea; we had Margarita pizza, pepperoni pizza, pineapple and ham pizza, garlic bread and a salad. The second week was French food; we had croissants, chocolate brioches, baguettes and Brie cheese. As the World Cup progressed we sampled other World Cup related foods.

The display has been growing and growing throughout the World Cup, flags have been made and models have been built, all through the children's knowledge and interests of the topic. A Lego football pitch has been made with Brazil on one side and England on another, two mobile goals and a World Cup trophy to enhance the display's creativity. We made Lego flags, sorting them into groups and cancelling the ones that are

out of the competition. We also recorded scores on a wall chart. At the end of the World Cup we had a presentation to award the top 4 winning teams that the lucky children drew out of the hat.

We were all disappointed about England's loss but we support our team unconditionally. We hope next time England come through.

By Max Turner

Art Exhibition in the Library

Following last year's very popular exhibition, Newton Aycliffe Art Group will be again exhibiting a selection of their work in the library for the next month. We have a large collection of art books for you to take out to help start you a new hobby.

Fun in the Park Tournament



Newton Aycliffe Youth FC gave great support to Fun in the Park when over 20 young players from the club took part in a friendly football tournament. The players were from our development section through to our Under 9's and were split up into four evenly matched teams. On a glorious sunny day the effort and tremendous ability shown by these young boys was hugely appreciated by the large crowd. A big thanks to our coaches and helpers who looked after the boys and ensured that they enjoyed the day. At the end of the games everyone who took part were presented with medals by the Town Mayoress.

The club offers football for boys 5-16 yrs old and are

also developing a team of girls who are going into Yr5

after the summer holidays. Ring Berni 07939045242

Shanes Farewell Pie



Shane Hutchinson, Princes Trust volunteer, made special

farewell dishes as he finished his stint at The Cubby. He treated the regulars to a special chicken and mushroom pie and two jam roly poly tarts.

"Shane was with us for two weeks and adapted very well to the challenges that faced him. His pastries were absolutely excellent, and he will be greatly missed. I would recommend him to any one in the catering industry" said Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp.

Film Show

St Clare's Church "Feel Good Film Show" on WEDNESDAY 30th JULY will feature Rodgers & Hammerstein's 2nd and much loved, most poetic and lyrical musical "CAROUSEL" starring GORDON MacRAE and SHIRLEY JONES. Timeless songs like "You'll never walk alone" "If I loved you" "June is bustin' out all over" "When I marry Mister Snow" "When the children are asleep" "Real nice clambake" and "What's the use of wond'rin" make this a must for anyone who loves musicals. 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. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US. Watching in friendly company makes all the difference. For further details please ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

Sports Course Bike Winner



The Town Council Whit Super Sports Skills Bike Draw winner was Bridget, aged 8 from Newton Aycliffe. The Mayor Cllr Wendy Hillary presented Bridget with her new bike on Monday 21st July 2014.

For your chance to win a new bike get involved in the Council Summer 2014 Super Sports Skills programme at the Oakleaf Sports Complex. For further information visit www.great-aycliffe.gov.co.uk To book your place please contact Reception on 01325 300600.

Coffee Morning

Lindisfarne Care Home in Silverdale Place is holding a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 30th July at 10.00am. There will be a tombola stall and homemade cakes, pastries and pies for sale. All proceeds to the residents' amenities fund.

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Competing at the Great Aycliffe Show

With only four weeks to go until Great Aycliffe Show, entry forms are still available for the popular Handcraft and Horticulture competitions. The closing date for applications is Tuesday 19 August. The Show will take place on the showfield, next to the Oak Leaf Sports Complex, on August Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday 23 August and Sunday 24 August. The competitions are free to enter, only skill and imagination are required!

This year's handcraft sections include canvas work, decoupage, digital art and jewellery making, while home produce sections include sugarcraft, lemon curd and flapjack. For keen growers, there are sections for a variety of vegetables and flowers, plus the

closely fought Pot Leeks competition. Prizes of £5, £4 and £3 will be awarded for first, second and third place entries in each category. In the Pot Leeks category, the first prize is a portable television, plus £30 prize money and a trophy, with second and third prizes of £20 and £10. Trophies are sponsored by Deco Trophies and Engraving; horticultural trophies are sponsored by Gregg Little Testing Centre. Although judging takes place on the first morning of the Show, Saturday 23 August, all entries will be displayed to the public throughout the Show. Entry forms may be obtained from the Town Council Offices, tel 01325 300700 or downloaded from the website at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

TOWN SCHOOL RECEIVES TWO SPORTS AWARDS

A hugely successful year of sport at Stephenson Way has ended with yet more success. This time it isn't the children claiming yet more medals and trophies, but the whole school being recognised for a commitment to sport that has given the children who have tasted success over the past year the platform to succeed. The Sedgefield School Sports Partnership created the "Legacy of the Fire" awards to identify schools who are continuing the spirit of the 2012 London Olympic Games with their attitudes and approaches towards physical education. Picking up the "Commitment to Physical Education and Sports" award as well as the "Commitment to Inclusion" award is a fantastic

acknowledgement of the sporting culture that has been developed in the school over the past 18 months. The awards reflect the school's focus on giving every child the opportunity to play sports in an organised environment. The school's county final basketball team and county championship winning boccia team were invited to the event to speak to the audience about their experiences competing throughout the year to earn their place in the finals. Led by sporting co-ordinator Miss Whitfield, the school has actively increased the range of sports available to the children through a range of after school and lunch time activities, work in PE lessons and extra coaching provided by highly qualified instructors.



Mat Returns to Bat



Matthew Atkinson shown batting for Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club against Saltburn at Moore Lane last weekend. He went on to score 39 runs and captured four Saltburn wickets for 9 runs. Matthew returned to Newton Aycliffe at the beginning of the year following four years on a Sports Scholarship at South Carolina University and two years employment in the USA. He hadn't touched bat or ball for six years and is having an excellent season with the local team in Division 2. His elder brother David also plays for the town but as a Store Manager in retail (Boots) it is difficult to get Saturdays off on a regular basis. However he also is playing well scoring 59 runs in the same fixture which Aycliffe won despite interruption by rain.

Macmillan Support Moves to Town Centre

The Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service has moved from the PCC Centre to Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre at Burn Lane (opp Tesco's). It will be available once a month on the third Friday and commenced 18th July from 10 am to 12 noon. The outreach service is staffed by trained volunteers who can give information, support and access to other services. These include welfare rights, relaxation courses, headwear, bra clinic, counselling etc. For further information ring 0191 5874500.

Aycliffe Junior Polo Players Strongest in the North



Sedgefield Water Polo club Under 19 boys team travelled to Maltby in Yorkshire for the Northern League Junior Final with a very young team. In their first game they played Bridgefield from Liverpool and were comfortable winners 10-5. In the second game they played local team Castleford and after a score of 6-4 at halftime Sedgefield dominated the second half to win 14-7. In the tournament decider Sedgefield were up against the Yorkshire Champions and favourites Sheffield. Once again it was close at half time, 5-5, but Sedgefield's fitness told in the second half winning 10-7. This was an excellent performance by Sedgefield who are the only team that train in a shallow pool at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Once again this competition confirmed Sedgefield as the strongest club in North of England Junior Polo.

The team was superbly led by captain Sebastian Reichel (17) with strong support from James Pratt (16), Joe Barker (16), Adam Courtley (17), Ben Turnbull (15) and John Pratt (15). The younger members of the team Connor Keeble (13), Michael Cousins (13), Kris Egginton (13), Richard Murray (13) and Ben Stephenson (12) showed great maturity in matching up to much bigger and older opposition. Six of the Sedgefield team are

in GB junior squads. Anyone interested in playing this tough exciting sport

who enjoys swimming can get more details on the club website or ring 07818 554449.

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You must hold a relevant childcare qualification, with at least 2 year's supervisory experience.

The successful applicant must apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Application forms can be obtained by telephoning 01325 300700, e-mailing info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk, or from the Council's web site www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk.

Closing Date for applications: Friday, 8th August 2014

For further details or an informal discussion about the post, please contact the Early Years Officer, Jackie Swainston on 01325 319880 or by email at jackie.swainston@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

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Sky Diving for Charity

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Welfare Champions Supporting Your Community

"The Champions" is a local project aimed at supporting people hit by benefit cuts under the Government's Welfare Reform agenda, launched in March in Newton Aycliffe. The project has recruited

a small army of local volunteers who will provide advice and guidance to people in their own neighbourhoods to anyone who has been affected by the Welfare Reforms.

Six Champions are now available in local communities to provide support. Your local Welfare Champions are: David Sutton-Lloyd, Daniel Robertson, Peter Burgess, Julie Devon,



Jen Bewley, Peter Burgess, David Sutton Lloyd, Daniel Robertson, Ken Robson, Julie Devon.

Elaine Robson and Ken Robson.

Providing initial guidance, the volunteers will also signpost individuals to supportive services such as advice agencies, local housing providers and welfare rights teams. In addition to general queries from their community. Welfare Champion Pete said: "We came together to try and be a voice for those who may be vulnerable

to changes in benefit. A group of people with a social conscience working to reduce dis-crimination and prejudice for people who need help with their welfare. We don't have all the answers, we may not be the solution; but - we are working to make a small difference and highlight the need to be informed and the vulnerable to have a chance at welfare support."

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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN OFFICER AT HORNDALE RESIDENTS' MEETING

The next meeting of the 6th August at 6pm. Association is on Wednesday Refreshments available at

5.45pm. Angela Corner Great Aycliffe Community Neighbourhood Engagement Officer is our guest speaker. She was featured in last week's edition of Newton News.

Angela has been employed by the Town Council to speak to residents, community groups and anyone who has an interest in our great town. She will be asking locals what their views are on the future of the town and these will be fed into the NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN which will influence the decisions made by local councils. This is our last meeting before

we have a break in September and we will discuss our A G M and the opening of the M U G A which should be finished by the time you receive this newspaper. I would like parents and young adults to let everyone know this has been built with money raised by locals for locals. Our meetings are a good opportunity to meet your local councillors, street and park wardens, Livin and when possible the Police. We have a very casual and relaxed meeting and the only thing we insist you bring is fun and a smile. Looking forward to seeing you Philip Clark

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OPEN LETTER ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Dear Angela,
 I see at least 2 problems facing residents of Great Aycliffe. Poor shopping centre and disappearing green space. I moved to Newton Aycliffe in 1965 for work and a house. I got my first house in Bewick Crescent,

in July 1965. Then I was proud of our town centre and my Dad loved to travel all the way from Newcastle upon Tyne to shop in our town centre. A lot has changed since then and the town centre, although nice to look at, is not very good for shopping and rather difficult for the disabled and elderly. I believe that is because we have an absentee landlord. A company that doesn't seem to want to meet or talk to the residents. Shame the town centre wasn't sold to the sitting tenants, then we would have had some human faces to complain to. So what can we do about

it? As shoppers we go elsewhere to shop but that leaves us with a town centre with empty shops. Could we provide alternative shops (owned by the shop keepers) for our residents? Could we buy-back our town centre? As regards the disappearing green space? The town needs to grow to accommodate the ever increasing population. Accommodation that is affordable and social housing. I have seen how 'council houses' and the neighbourhood changed for the better when the residents 'owned' the property. People tend to

look after things they have paid for, better than something they rented/hired. How can we achieve this growth and at the same

time retain, improve and increase our green spaces in line with the growth of the town?
 Mr Chris Palmer
 40 Gilpin Road

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ATHLETICS NEWS



At the end of what had already been a busy week, members of Aycliffe Running Club were in action again in Victorian 10k at New Marske.

It was a warm muggy day but this didn't stop four members receiving age group prizes and one got a PB.

Dez Fielden was first home for the club, finishing in 8th position and 2nd v/40 in the time of 36 mins, followed by Richard Campbell, 22nd 38:50, Tom Porter, 38th 40:30, Nigel Homes, 63rd 43:22, Kelly Smith, 75th 44:50 PB, Sandra Collins, 84th and 4th f/45 46:27, Sue Milburn, 109th and 1st f/55 49:06, Trish Kay, 121st 50:19, and finally Dave Mackenzie, 134th and 1st v/70 53:11.

On the same day other club members were busy outside the region. Two competed in the Harrogate Town Centre 10k. Here it was also a warm sunny day. The 2 lap course included a couple of hill sections but a fast descent to finish on.

Newcomer Richard Johnson was 1st home, 54th in 41:26, followed by John Young, 179th 49:49, in a field of 403 finishers.

Elsewhere, Clare Rose ran in the gruelling 14-mile multi-terrain Northumberland Coastal Run and finished in the excellent time of 2h:13m:40s.

To complete the weekend ran the Leeds 10k and finished in 47:30.

The previous Wednesday evening five of our members took part in the Sunderland 5k.

Martyn Knox was 1st home for the club, 88th in 18:21 PB, followed by Richard Campbell, 91st 18:25, Justin Hindmarch, 203rd 21:13, Kelly Smith 228th 21:52 and Laura Knox, 334th 27:48.

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N.E. AUTISM'S GOT TALENT

Local charity, North East Autism Society (NEAS) launched a competition earlier this month to help showcase the talents of the children, young people and adults who access their services. The theme was 'Creative Skills'; this was open to interpretation so individuals submitted artwork, sculptures, poems, stories and even dance routines to showcase their skills. Vision Education sponsored the competition and provided the awards for the winners. Gavin Bestford, Chairman for the North East Autism Society and Brian Stoker, Head of Adult Care judged the competition. First prize went to Lauren Stephens aged 19 from Crook, who attends the North East Centre for Autism School in Newton Aycliffe. Christine Dempster, Director of Education at NEAS said; "The creative skills competition is a way to increase participation and provides an opportunity to showcase the talents of our service users across the Society. I am delighted with the enthusiasm and motivation from everyone involved in the project." The charity hopes to open the competition to other organisations next year to make it in to a regional event. For more information about North East Autism Society, visit www.ne-as.org.uk or call 0191 410 9974.



FREE SUMMER FUN ENJOYING NATURE

Great Aycliffe Town Council will again be offering a range of summer Countryside Events over the school holidays free of charge. The events kick off on Monday 4th August and will run throughout the summer holiday. Pond Dipping has long been one of the most popular events in Aycliffe but this activity will take place at Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve. The ponds here are a little hidden gem that team with life. During our last visit there was an abundance of dragonfly nymph's but the star prize went to a huge water scorpion. Come along on Monday 4th August at 1.30pm to see what we can find this time. On Wednesday 6th August we will be taking some time to discover and learning a little about some of the wonderful flowers and their associated folklore that make the meadow at Humphrey

Close in Woodham Burn home. The event will begin at 2pm and participants are invited to meet at the nearby footbridge. Krafty Kritters will again be gracing Moore Lane Eco Centre on Monday 11th August from 10am. Su and her trusted band of helpers will be on hand to explain all about her amazing animals and you will get a chance to handle the animals if you are brave enough!! Booking will be essential for this event by contacting Great Aycliffe Town Council on 300700. Further events are planned which you can find out more about by reading future editions of the Newton News or visiting Facebook page Aycliffe Moore Lane Eco Centre. For more information about any of these activities please contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700 or e-mail info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Autism Centre Fete



Students from the North East Centre for Autism, Newton Aycliffe held a Summer Fete last week and invited local Councillor Mrs Wendy Hillary. Special effort was made by one of the students Georgia who made seasonal homemade jam and lemon curd. There was a wide range of stalls with handmade products from the students, games, cakes and tombola. Karen Ferguson, Head Teacher said; "We had a fantastic day raising over £300 for the school, a big thank you to everyone who supported us."

ACORN ACTIVITIES

ACORN RESIDENTS 2014 Excursions
South Shields 30th August, leaving Royal British Legion at 9.30am. Price £2.
Forbidden Garden 6th September 2014 - (price tba)
Beamish Museum 20th September 2014. Adults £8, under 5's £3, leaving British Legion at 9am.
Keswick and Blackpool 22nd October, Price £4, leaving Royal British Legion at 9am.

AUGUST FUNDAYS ON THE GREEN
Great Animal Adventure 15th August 11am to 3pm
 featuring:
 Ponies to pet and ride, Farmyard Flyer Bus, Inflatables, Hook a Duck, Tombola, Face Painting, Fire Brigade & Police,
Teddy Bears Picnic 22nd August 11am to 3pm
 Teddy Bears Picnic, 3 Inflatables, Harry Potty Professor Nincompoop, Fire Brigade and Police
 Hook a Duck, Tombola.

Can you help? We need volunteers to supervise games and inflatables. Do you have a tombola prize?
 Excursion bookings – Tel: Christine Thompson 0790 2906144 or Leanne on 07919172676

Thank You

DOREEN SOWERBY - The family of the late Doreen wish to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness and sympathy shown during their recent sad bereavement. Thanks for your generous donations of £333 which has been divided between Doreen's four charities. Our thanks to Emma for lovely Service and to staff at Moore Lane Sports Club for the buffet afterwards. Special thanks to the Co-Operative Funeral Care for their guidance and support throughout this sad time.
PLAYDAYS STAFF - We would like to thank you all for making Lexi's time with you a really happy one, a great nursery and fantastic staff. Love from Julie and Craig Palmer xxxx
THANK YOU to the lady who handed my phone in to Tesco on Friday 18th. Glad to know there are still some honest people about
NOBLE Dennis and Marilyn would like to thank their family and friends for making their Ruby Wedding celebration on 20th July so memorable. Thank you for all the cards and gifts, your donations raised £186.50 for Breast Cancer Charities and we had a wonderful night.

In Memoriam

Sheila Hogan


 In loving memory of Sheila 27th July 2012.
 Two years ago today we had to part with our beautiful Mum and devoted Nana. If memories bring us closer we are never far apart because you're always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. All our love today and always Mum, Paul, Mark, Sue, Rossy and John, and all your beloved grandchildren. Xxxxx

CAROL ROBSON (nee Wallace) 29th July 2013. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed, and very dear. From your loving family Frank, Steph, Jayne, John, Bryn, Milly, Isabella and Seth

FUN DOG SHOW

Darlington Retired Greyhound Trust are holding a fun dog show at Hardwick Park Sedgefield on Sunday 3rd August 2014 and all breeds are welcome. Entries are taken from 10am and there are lots of other attractions including bouncy castle, RGT Merchandise, Tombola, Silent Auction, Home Produce and many more. This year we are holding a Mega Raffle, star prize is a 32" TV with lots of other amazing prizes including a weekend break, mobile phone and chocolate hamper. Lots of classes for all dogs, why not enter our speciality class Fancy dress or Best Biscuit Catcher! We are always looking for loving homes for these lovely dogs. Why not come along and support us on the day and have lots of fun. You can also visit our Facebook page just search Darlington Retired Greyhound Trust.

Congratulations

Robert & Maureen Ross
 (nee Lidster)

Congratulations
 on your Golden Wedding Anniversary on 25th July 2014
 All our love, Julie, Darren & Irene.
 Grandchildren Mark & Ashleigh, Anthony & Tor, Shannon, Paige and Megan
 Great Grandchildren Maisun and Cohen

Mason Longstaff

Happy 16th Birthday Handsome
 Loads of love, Mam, Dad, Mckenna, Cole, Nicole and Lewy

MASON LONGSTAFF
 Happy 16th birthday. Hope you have a brilliant weekend. Love, Grandma, Grandad and Nanna Connie
HAPPY 16th birthday "My Big Lad". Love you lots. Mother, Michael and Cracker
SAM HURST On the night that you were born our hearts we're filled with joy. We couldn't wait to show the world our perfect baby boy. All along our family journey, you've filled our lives with so much pleasure. Spreading love and happiness, making memories that we treasure. You've always worked extremely hard and gained a great degree. The University of Oxford doesn't give them out lightly! So now you're off to London, we wish you happiness in everything you do. And always, always, remember Sam, we're all so very proud of you. Congratulations gaining your B.A. in Jurisprudence (Law) from the University of Oxford. What a brilliant achievement. Love from Mum, Dad, Joe, Louis and all of the family xxx

Callum & Danielle Elliott

Congratulations
 Callum and Danielle on your Wedding Day on 28th July 2014.
 Welcome to our family Danielle. Loads of love, Mam, Alex, Ali, Kirsty, Benjy and Granda xxx

Channon Alise Nixon

Happy 18th Birthday
 Lots of love, Mam, Dad and Family xxx

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Medals for Local Roller Skaters

Congratulations to Caprice Roller Skating Club who celebrated various wins at a recent National Tyne Tees Skating Competition at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on 12th and 13th July. The wins include the club's Coaches, Lisa Firbank and Kay Taylor, receiving a Trophy and Gold for their Duo Dance with Kay Taylor also winning First Place for her Solo Dance. Other achievements were,



Victoria Hanley, Silver medal for Combined event (includes figures, solo dance and free dance) and Leah Toms, who received a Bronze Medal for the same combined event but also received Bronze Medal for her Solo dance. This is the first time the girls entered such an event. Little Hannah Anderson, aged just 6, won Bronze Medal for her Novelty dance (Ugly Duckling) and John Parlour with Andrea Vasey winning Bronze Medal for the Couples dance. A Silver medal was won by

the whole Caprice RSC Club for their end of competition show, "We Will Rock You!". Anyone interested in Artistic Roller Skating can come along to the club at Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon on Saturdays from 2.30 pm. £3 per hour (beginners usually for the first hour). The next session is 2nd August. Andrea Vasey Tel: 07876 354981

AYCLIFFE RUNNER IN GAMES



England have called up Kate Avery to replace Jo Pavey in the 10,000m at the Commonwealth Games, reports BBC Tees. The 22-year-old from Newton Aycliffe had previously missed selection for both the 5,000m and 10,000m. She will now be in Glasgow after Pavey withdrew to race in the 5,000m. Kate ran for Great Britain in the 3,000m at the European Team Championships in June, finishing ninth in an outdoor personal best of 8:56.24.

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Spartans Could Take the League Title

Newton Aycliffe Spartans Baseball team are on the verge of a first league title in only their third season, thanks to two victories over their nearest rivals, Sheffield Bladerunners, last weekend.

Having lost just once this season, the Spartans were in a positive mood as they travelled to South Yorkshire Game 1 saw a master class in pitching from Bryan Dunkel who stuck out 10 Sheffield batters in what was his most dominant performance of the season. Dunkel was backed up by impressive team defence not allowing one Sheffield run to score. Despite some impressive pitching from Sheffield's Nick Willis, the Spartans were quick to capitalise on numerous fielding errors. Spartans scored 3 runs in the 1st inning, 5 runs in the 3rd inning and they put the game out of sight with 6 more runs in the 6th inning. Ricky Scott, Lee Hill, Steve Rixon and Bryan Dunkel provided the bulk of the offence.



Game 2 saw both teams make personnel changes and the game was a tighter affair. Player-coach Mike Holton started on the mound for the Spartans. He limited the Yorkshire side to just two runs before Damien Valdez took over the pitching duties, pitching 4 innings, allowing only two runs. Jarek Majka led the Spartans into a 4-2 lead by the 4th inning with 3 Runs Batted In (RBI's) and Steve

Rixon had a perfect 4 hits from 4 at bats. Spartans extended their lead in the 5th inning and a 3-run 6th inning ensured the team returned from Sheffield with the two victories.

With only four games remaining in the 2014 regular season, Spartans know that one more victory will secure the AA Northern Title and top seeding for the playoffs that commence at the end of August. That could come as early as Sunday 3rd August when the Spartans play at home to Oldham North Stars (12pm first pitch)

The Spartans this season have been travelling to away games, using the Aycliffe Community Mini Bus. This has provided the team with a chance to travel to games as one and has been a great source of creating the positive team spirit that currently exists. For more information on how your organisation can make use of this excellent service can contact Dorothy Bowman on 01325 308094 or 07967 901477

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- At a time to suit you



Woodham Golf and Country Club Reopens on Friday 1st August

New owners Neville and Stephen Hall welcome all golfers. A considerable investment has been taken in the course, most noticeable in the course drainage, refurbishment of the club house, front entrances, and attention to detail - all uplifting Woodham's standing.

GREEN FEES

Weekday	£ 17.00	Weekend	£22.00
Weekday junior	£ 12.00	Weekend Junior	£15.00
Weekday w/member	£ 12.00	Weekend with Member	£15.00
Weekday day	£ 30.00	Weekend Day	£40.00

MEMBERSHIP

No joining fee. No waiting list. 8 month membership (1st August 2014 - 31st March 2015)

All week	£ 300.00	Juniors (17-21 years)	£133.00
Weekday	£ 267.00	Juniors (14-16 years)	£67.00
Joint	£ 565.00	Juniors (under 14 years)	£33.00

Members from 2013 who held membership until after 31st October will receive a 20% discount when joining in August. Payment by Cash, Cheque, Credit/Debit Card. Cheques to be made payable to "Woodham Golf and Leisure Ltd."

Members from 2013 who held membership until after 31st October will receive a free game of golf in the 1st week of August (valid from 1st August until 7th August). Bookings taken 7 days in advance.

SOCIETY PACKAGES

Tea/Coffee & Bacon Roll - 18 holes, Weekday £21.00, Weekend £26.00
Tea/Coffee & Bacon Roll - 18 holes - 1 course meal, Weekday £28.00, Weekend £33.00
Tea/Coffee & Bacon Roll - 9 holes - soup & sandwiches - 18 holes - 2 course meal, Weekday £48.00, Weekend £58.00

BUGGIES

Visitor	£ 20.00	Member	£12.00
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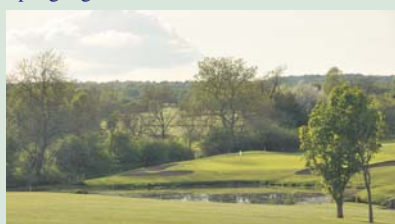
FULLY STOCKED GOLF SHOP NOW OPEN
Coaching available from PGA professional, Ernie Wilson

Golf shop telephone number: 01325 319977

Website: <http://www.woodhamgolfandcountryclub.co.uk>
Email: woodhamproshop@googlemail.com



Hole 14 drainage before and after



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