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Following the announcement of the re-opening of Woodham Golf Course old and new members are returning in numbers to sign up. They know they will be playing on a much improved course with super new facilities in the clubhouse which will also be open to the general public. Local family business, Halls Construction, have invested a huge amount of cash in this facility including new drainage, and a completely refurbished clubhouse.



Co-owner of Woodham Golf Course Neville Hall with his daughter Sarah



Ernie Wilson with Rebecca

Neville Hall will be running the golf course business helped by his daughter and accountant, Sarah, while popular Golf Pro Ernie Wilson looks after bookings

continued on Page 2

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Golf Course Re-opens

Continued from Front Page

and the shop assisted by his daughter Rebecca. The shop is already well stocked and Ernie is open now for sales of everything from tees through to clothing, shoes and golf equipment. The course is also open, and the small bar, but some work is ongoing for the next fortnight on the clubhouse ready for a grand opening of the new bar and restaurant run by Mandy and John from the Bay Horse at Midridge.

Free Health Check at Aycliffe Leisure Centre

People are being encouraged to take up free health checks at County Durham leisure centres. Check 4 life health checks are aimed at assessing the risk of developing serious health problems such as cardiovascular disease, stroke, kidney disease and diabetes.

They are available at most Durham County Council run leisure centres for people aged between 16 and 74.

Lynne Archer, aged 57, from Spennymoor, is one of many people who have already benefited by taking advantage of the checks. She said: "By having this health check I found out I had high blood pressure and high cholesterol, which I wouldn't have known about otherwise."

"I was advised to visit my GP where I was diagnosed with type two diabetes. I now go to the gym three times a week and have drastically changed my eating habits." Your Check 4 Life health



Lynne Archer gets health checked by John Lynn, fitness instructor at Spennymoor Leisure Centre

check takes around 30 minutes and includes:

- Height, weight, waist and blood pressure measurements
- Simple finger stick test for cholesterol;
- Questions about your health, diet, exercise and family medical history;
- An assessment of your level of cardiovascular risk
- Advice on improving your

health and fitness.

They are available at Chester-le-Street, Freeman's Quay, Newton Aycliffe, Riverside, Shildon, Sunnydale, Spennymoor, Teesdale and Woodhouse Close leisure centres.

To arrange an appointment contact the leisure centre or telephone 03000 266 555. Contact www.durham.gov.uk/leisurecentres

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Fox & Hounds Refurbished



Customers old and new will be pleasantly surprised with the internal makeover of this popular country pub and restaurant. Steve and Lynda extend a warm welcome. See advertisement (right).



Former Bar Manager at the George & Dragon in

Heighington, Steve Metcalfe and his partner Lynda, have taken over the Fox & Hounds at Kirk Merrington.

Initial Developments Ltd approached the couple after spending over £200,000 on refurbishing the popular Pub and Restaurant which can accommodate over 100 diners.

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Successful Launch of Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan “Consultation Launch” on 24th July 2014 held at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre received a great response from townspeople.. The aim was to raise awareness of the Neighbourhood Plan and gather initial priorities from the residents and businesses of Great Aycliffe.

The event was opened by The Mayor Wendy Hillary who also presented a prize to the winner of the logo competition, Ellis Catterick aged 12 from Greenfield College.

This was followed by a Neighbourhood Plan presentation by Angela Corner. Guests were invited to take part in a number of activities which asked residents to give their views on a number

of issues. These included protecting our green spaces, future housing needs, retail and social issues, general priorities for the town and also what the vision for Great Aycliffe should be over the next 20 years. These are currently being analysed and the results will be released later.

Angela Corner has been out and about over the last two weeks at Fun in the Park asking people to name three good things about

the town and three things residents would like to see improve.

A Neighbourhood Plan presentation was given to The Rotary Club on Tuesday 29th July and members were asked for their general priorities for the town.

The Neighbourhood Plan team had a stand at PCP Wellness Festival where they were asking people their general priorities for the town.

Next week Angela Corner will be at Horndale Residents meeting. Why don't you pop along? At this meeting you will be asked what your priorities for the Neighbourhood Plan are. If you have an issue with your area, or the town in general. Everyone in the town is entitled to their view so you should come and have your say!



Wishing Well Club's Fashion Show



Wishing Well models Louise, Emma and Cheryl with Eric Crawford and Robbie Davison of Aycliffe Freemason's Lodge

The Wishing Well Fashion Show is an annual event that always thrills and delights the audience and this year a Day at the Races and A Night on the Town were topics in the show featuring clothes supplied by the British Heart Foundation. Members of Aycliffe Freemason's Lodge recently donated £100 to the Club and, to say thank you, Eric Crawford and Robbie Davison were invited to join Wishing Well Club members for the evening. Wishing Well Club

is open every Tuesday evening at the Pioneering Care Centre and new members are always welcome (NB: the club is closed during the month of August). Activities are funded by Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership and, in the coming months, include Harvest Moon Ball, Hydro Pool Fun Night, Race Night and pampering therapies. Wishing Well members and volunteers thank all their supporters who ensure the continuation of the club.

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Aycliffe Couple Married in Cyprus



Amy-Jane Shepherd and Scott Hudson, both from Newton Aycliffe, were married in Protaras, Cyprus on Monday 14th July 2014. Twenty four members of family and friends made the special trip to the wedding and enjoyed a special holiday in the place which Amy loved and where she always wanted to be married. Both families and all friends of the couple send their love and congratulations.

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Throughout the economic downturn, one company has been helping local families in Durham put extra cash in their pockets. Bradford based Study Links International has been giving families the chance to earn extra money by offering homestay and hosting students from Barnard Castle, Polam Hall and Durham School.

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Becoming a homestay is a wonderful opportunity to share our great British culture and at the same time learn about other cultures from around the world. Homestays also get paid a generous allowance which in most cases is tax free as the government's Rent a Room Scheme allows you to earn up to £4,250 per year tax-free from being a homestay. Rebecca Duggan, Marketing Manager at Study Links International, says; "There is no blueprint for the perfect homestay: single, couple or family; young, middle-aged or retired; any race, creed or colour - as long as you are a caring person

with a genuine interest in the students that you host, you will be perfect!" If you think you are too old to host a student, think again! Many homestay families are retired people with lovely homes and loving friendships to offer. At the opposite end of the spectrum, the experience can be very rewarding for

families who have children of their own as students are often very willing to teach your children about their country as well as being a positive role model and inspiration to your children. To find out more contact Study Links International on 01274 679710 or homestay@studylinks.co.uk

Married at St. Clare's



Married in California



On July 3rd Matthew Abraham married Erika Ramirez at The Sweet Pea Ranch in California. Matthew used to play football for Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre and was a pupil at St John's, Bishop Auckland where his team won the County Cup. The bride's sister Juniper Garza conducted the Service and the Maid of Honor was Lauren Trenton. Graham Abraham, brother of the groom, was Best Man. Two of the groomsmen, Peter Laskey and Keith Barber, were also from Newton Aycliffe with family and friends from England and Scotland also able to attend the wedding. After their honeymoon at Hermosa Beach the couple will settle in Claremont, California, where Matthew is a football coach.

Stuart Owen married Joanne Flack at St. Clare's church on Saturday 5th July, 2014. The Bridesmaids were Joanne's daughters Lauren and Sophi, along with Stuart's sister Samantha Owen. The Flower Girl was Ella Hughes. The Best man was Wilson Wills and the Ushers were Will Swinburne, Liam Cooper and Mark Laign. The groom is a well known local footballer who plays for Newton Aycliffe F.C. and The Big Club Sunday Team. The reception after the wedding and in the evening was held at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club. Afterward the couple left for a Honeymoon in Portugal.

What's Gone Wrong? Asks Resident of 60 Years

Margaret Bradley, a resident for 60 years, who lives at Oakfield, rang to express her opinion on two issues, bugging her at the moment. First she mentioned the state of the West Park Lake near to her home and where she loves to visit. She has noticed how much the lakes have deteriorated over the last few years and welcomes the efforts of volunteers to clear the algae which makes it very unsightly. "However it is a thankless job as the algae keeps returning and a more permanent solution is required" said Margaret. She believes there was a pump filter system at one point as the lake was used by a model boat club and for pleasure boats. She

can't remember the lake looking as bad then. The other disappointment for Margaret was the magazine issued by the County Council as she found no reference to Newton Aycliffe at all despite the numerous activities held in the town. "We are ratepayers and we should get our fair share of everything going and I have noticed over a number of issues that Aycliffe gets little mention, if at all" said Margaret. Newton News did bring this to the attention of the Editor of the magazine two years ago, but it has made little difference. Newton Aycliffe on the the south west border of the county seems to be disregarded.

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Graffiti Removal Service Opens in Aycliffe



Photo (L-R) Paul Kirby, Mandi Kemp and Gavin Rodgers

A local company and their volunteers are aiming to tidy up the town, with the launch of their graffiti removal services. The "More Time" graffiti wagon has been based at the company's Hull office since 2011, but volunteers felt there would be a bigger demand for its use in County Durham.

More Time UK Ltd, based on Horndale Avenue in Newton Aycliffe, is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of DISC, whose main objective is to create employment pathways for people who may struggle to access mainstream employment.

The company offer a range of services, from commercial and new-build cleans, to facilities management and empty homes projects. It also oversees the DISC Furniture Scheme, providing affordable furniture to those on low income or others looking for upcycling projects, as well

as the "More Time Cafe" & catering.

Business Manager, Julie Nisbet, said "Our graffiti wagon is a self-contained unit with a high pressure washer, with the ability to clean out buildings, brickwork and driveways, as well as tackle graffiti.

Our volunteers are highly skilled with an excellent work ethic. They're passionate about the work of More Time, and the opportunities it opens up for the future."

The company and its staff pride themselves on offering a flexible service with a consistently high quality of work. If you would like More Time to provide a free, no obligation quote, contact Julie on 01325 731160 or email Julie@moretimeonline.com for further details. More Time can also be found on Twitter (@Moretimeuk) or facebook.com/moretimeuk

GREENFIELD STUDENTS GO FISHING WITH TOM



The Year 10 COPE group at Greenfield Community College enjoyed great weather and great experiences with fishing for Tom at the end of the Summer term.

This is the fifth year that Greenfield has participated in this great skills based activity. The course is provided by Tom's fishing, and the students spent the afternoon with Tom and Geoff as part of their course work. The trip not only met their coursework requirements, but also provided a different environment for the group to develop skills including

fishing, teamwork co-operation and dedication.

The students really enjoyed their session saying "fishing was good because it was really peaceful at the ponds, I learnt a lot about myself."

The visit by the Greenfield students was followed up with the WECAN PARENTS' group, who are based at Greenfield, having a session as their children did at the ponds. It is anticipated that over the summer holidays the families will visit the ponds together. Many thanks to Tom and Geoff for leading these great sessions!

American Students Visit Woodham Academy



Woodham Academy was delighted to welcome a group of students from Missouri Baptist University, organised by Mrs. Janet Davison, Head of RE. The students were thrilled to have the opportunity of seeing a British school in action and were intrigued by the differences between education here and in the US. Their comments included "British students are so polite" and "your lessons are so much more interesting". Over the course of three days they observed and participated in a wide variety of lessons, including Art, PE, Technology, Music, English, Geography and RE. They also ran an after-

school activity and over 100 Woodham students stayed to participate. "It was brilliant, we can't wait for them to come back!"

Knowing the reputation of the American Football team, Woodham Warriors, the Missouri group brought a gift of a signed St. Louis Rams' helmet, which they presented to Danny Ketch, Head Coach of the Warriors.

Mrs. Christine Forsyth, Head Teacher, commented "It is so good for our students to have the experience of meeting overseas students; this was a very successful visit".

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WOODHAM ART EXHIBITION

The 8th of July was another resounding success for the staff and students at Woodham Academy's annual art exhibition. Work was presented by year 11 GCSE and BTEC students who have studied art for 5 years now at the school. The highlight of this year's show was the inclusion of a selection of light sculptures which the students produced as a response to the "Lumiere" exhibition which the students and staff visited around the

streets of Durham earlier in the year. The remainder of the exhibits were displayed in the departments recently refurbished exhibition space. Our young artists get a particular thrill from having their best pieces presented to the public in such a nice setting. It was wonderful for the winner of our most improved artist award, Jordan Duff, to be able to share his success with friends and family. The artwork was



complemented with a buffet and musical accompaniment from Samuel Gittins one of the Music departments rising stars. Friends from the community and colleagues involved in art education visited the exhibition and were hugely impressed by Woodham students' achievements.



Volunteers Needed to Befriend People with Autism

Local charity North East Autism Society are looking for more volunteers to support their Befriending Programme launched earlier this year after the charity won the public vote in the Local Papers Lottery Fund Campaign.

"Demand for the service has exceeded all our expectations", explained Marjorie Clifford, who manages the service on behalf of the society. "As a result we need more befrienders who can work on a one-to-one basis to help young people with autism who may have difficulties making friends or feel isolated because of their condition."

Volunteers gain valuable experience and knowledge into the work of the charity and learn how to work with young people with autism before they start befriending. TJ Hardman aged 22, is a befriending volunteer and has supported Jamie 22 from Sunderland said: "The Befriending service has taught me how to manage my time, plan activities and personal organisation skills. I have even learnt skills about how to modify my own body language that will help me with interviews and relationship building in the future. These skills are certainly transferable to numerous fields of work but this is insignificant compared to the meaningful difference the service makes to the young people with autism. I know it's a real challenge for Jamie just to go out, he finds it hard to socialise or take part in activities we all take for granted. The project opens these doors for Jamie in so many ways and this is reflected in the smile he regularly carries on our trips."

Marj explained: "The Befriending Project is making a huge difference to the lives of the young people it touches, and a great way for people with autism to socialise and gain more confidence with the help of our befrienders. The project not only helps people with autism it also makes a real impact on the families of young people who tell us how much their son or daughter looks forward to the befrienders visit and the difference the programme has made to family harmony!"

If you have a few hours to spare on a regular basis and could donate to help with the volunteer Befriending Project they would like to hear from

you. In return they provide full training and the opportunity to gain experience and learn new skills. For an informal chat call 0191 410 9974 and ask to speak to



someone from the befriending team or email befriending@ne-as.org.uk. For more information visit the charities website at: www.ne-as.org.uk/befriending.

For an informal chat call 0191 410 9974 and ask to speak to

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All children's registration forms need to be completed in advance.
 We abide by Ofsted rules and regulations and are awaiting approval for certification
 Each Child Place MUST be booked 24 hours in advance to allow us to have the correct staff numbers available.

FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW

St Clare's Church "Feel Good Film Show" on Wednesday 6th August will feature "MANDELA LONG WALK TO FREEDOM". The incredible true story that inspired the world, of Nelson Mandela's journey from small rural village to the end of apartheid, and his election as the first democratically elected president of South Africa.

We are showing this film as part of the run up to International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and it's Abolition on Saturday 23rd August when we will be showing "TWELVE YEARS A SLAVE". Please join us for two amazing films. 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

New War Game Club Opens

A new War Gaming club has opened in the town sponsored by Games and Gums. The club meets at Woodham Community Centre and are looking for new members. Table Top Newton Aycliffe play everything from strategic card games, magic, the gathering, to miniature board games and Warhammer. The club starts on Thursday 7th August from 6-9pm. The first week is free, and then just £2.50 a week. Regular events will be held and these will be advertised and posted on facebook or contact 07582 742979

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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

Thank you for your support Sponsored by **Newton Press**

REMEMBRANCE AND WAR HORSE

This week we are remembering the beginning of World War One at St Clare's Church with a display in the church hall which will be open on Monday 4th August. It includes pictures, posters, memorabilia, poetry of the 1st World War poets, music and song of the time, and the last surviving soldiers telling of their memories. The display is designed to give visitors a time for quiet remembrance and reflection. A chance also to learn, from the last survivors and their families, something of what they went through for us.

Everyone is most welcome. Entrance is free and tea and coffee are available. There is a collection plate and all donations will go to "Help the Heroes". On SATURDAY 2nd AUGUST we will also be showing the film "WAR HORSE" a very powerful, moving and poignant story of friendship in war. Tea and coffee will be served at 1pm (included in the £2). The film starts at 1-15pm with all proceeds donated to "Help the Heroes" For further details please ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

VOLUNTEERS MAKE GREAT PROGRESS ON LAKE CLEANING



Last week Andy Anderson, Arun Chandran, Adrian Dixon, Ken Robson and young Emma Wilson helped on the top lake and on Sunday Andy, Arun and Ken were busy again. They hope to get the top lake clear first, so that children can play with toy boats and remote control model boats without worrying they will get stuck. Anyone who walks round the boating lakes can start to see a tremendous difference the Friends of West Park dedicated band of volunteers have made, and are still making. Friends of West Park next meeting is on Tuesday 12th August 2014 7pm in the upstairs Lounge in the British Legion Club. The Guest Speaker is Cllr John D Clare, Deputy Leader and Chairman of Environment Committee, Great Aycliffe Town Council. All residents of Great Aycliffe welcome to attend, listen, ask questions, and express their ideas or views.

Holiday Activities at Greenfield Arts

We've been having a great time these past two weeks with the start of the Summer holidays here at Greenfield Arts! Our Art Club have painted, printed and are moving on to sculpture next, this club will continue after school in September. Last Wednesday we made sculptures in the sunshine with artist Paul Belcher, and we have been enjoying Messy Play with Jilly Greenwood on Tuesday mornings - this week we exploded paint! Fridays are film day, and last week we watched "Monsters University" in our own cinema (our Studio 2 was converted for the afternoon!). Everyone has thoroughly enjoyed these first 2 weeks, taking advantage of the great weather and being creative - thank you to all. The fantastic programme of activities continues over the next four weeks, with Family Cooking supported by Livin, an Arts Passport trip and preparation for the Great Aycliffe Show! If you want to find out more or book a place contact us on 01325 379048, or visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk



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Noah's Ark Fun Day

Noah's Ark Fun Day will be held at Burnhill Way Methodist Church on Sunday 10th August from 11.00-3.00pm. The Farmyard Flyer will be there with all its live animals on board. Lots of different things to make and face painting will make it a fun day. Bring all the family - refreshments will be available

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First World War Vigil Service

St Elizabeth's Church, at Woodham Village will be holding a short Vigil Service to recognise the beginning of World War One on Monday 4th August at 7pm. "The lamps are going out all over Europe, we shall not see them lit again in our life-time" said Sir Edward Grey on the eve of the First World War. You are invited to bring a piece of wartime memorabilia to place in front of the altar. Everyone welcome.

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College Launch Fitness Campaign with Sport England Grant

Bishop Auckland College is launching a new campaign aimed at increasing participation in sport and fitness in south west Durham after securing a £70,000 grant from Sport England.

The college was one of 67 across the country to be successful in its bid for a share of the second round of Sport England's £4m FE Activation Fund.

A new sports development officer will join the college in September and their remit will be to increase participation in sport and fitness related activities and create new links with local sports clubs and associations. The funding will also provide investment and resources to further enhance and develop sporting enrichment opportunities for college students over the next three years.

Katy Graham, Learning Area Manager for Sport at Bishop Auckland College, said: "This is great news - a huge boost for our efforts to increase participation in sport and fitness activities across South West Durham."

"The Sport England grant is funding a new sports development post, a range of new activities and an awareness campaign aimed at our own students, school leavers and sports clubs in the wider community."

Sport England CEO Jennie Price added: "Our investment in further education and sixth form colleges is vital if we are to get more young people playing sport. By investing in these 67 colleges, we're helping to make sport more accessible, more attractive and more convenient to young people as they move



Sport Lecturer Andrew Dixon and County Council's Senior Sports Development Officer George Richardson in the college gym.

on from school to college." The campaign is one of a number of new initiatives the college is leading to increase

participation in sport and fitness. In September it is launching the region's first ever apprenticeship in school sport. The two year School Sport and PE Apprenticeship has been designed to enable schools to grow and train their own staff as part of a Government drive to increase the PE expertise in primary schools. The first apprentice will be Luke

Elms, 19, of Willington, who has been hired by Peases West Primary School in Billy Row, Crook, to help run its PE department. The college is also helping international bodybuilder and personal trainer Wendy McCready find a fitness apprentice to assist her in running her new gym Wendy McCready's Planet Fitness in Morton Park, Darlington.

Local Boy Magician Raises £1200 for Charity



Ryan Metcalfe, aged 17, from School Aycliffe raised £1200 for Hartlepool Hospice at a fundraising event in July.

The evening at Wynyard Business Park included a charity auction with prizes such as football tickets, designer clothing and having Ryan entertain guests at an event of their choice.

After a bidding war which resulted in one of the highest prices of the evening, Ryan offered to do two events at £600 each, raising over £1000 for the Hospice.

After starting in close-up magic two years ago, Ryan has gradually worked his way up professionally, going from birthday parties to weddings and large corporate events.

"We would have no hesitation in recommending Ryan for any event, his act is great fun, full of wonderful surprises and he is an absolute pleasure to work with."

A member of our staff booked Ryan for a family wedding on the strength of his performance," said Greg Hildreth of Hartlepool Hospice.

Mammals, Pond Dipping & Bug Hunt

There will be a meeting of the Newton Aycliffe Wildlife Explorers on the Aycliffe Nature Park at 9.30am on Saturday, August 2nd looking at life in the Park.

This will be followed by an opportunity to meet the leaders and have a chat about who we are and what we do for young people in our community and more importantly, what you can do to help.

Refreshments will be available from about 12 noon and we look forward to seeing you there!

The Newton Aycliffe Wildlife Explorers are

your local junior branch of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Our monthly meetings are held at the Eco-Centre at Moore Lane, and at the Aycliffe Nature Park, and are aimed at getting a broad variety of "natural history" subjects through to young people in a fun way. These include education, play, and craft.

Our ultimate aim is for our young members to grow up with knowledge and respect for the world around them. Meetings are £1.50 per child, and include refreshments.

Contact Your Group Leaders, Sue & Dave on 317347

THE UNVEILING OF THE PAINTING "WW1 BLOODY GLORIOUS OBSCENITY"

The Painting commemorates 100 years since the start of WW1. and is helping promote work done by ex-service charities. The painting by Newton Aycliffe based Artist John Palliser will be unveiled in Gateshead on Friday 8th July at the Old Town Hall Council Chambers, Gateshead before starting a four year UK tour that plans to include several national museums and galleries.

The large painting 150 x 200cm is oil on canvas supported by a small exhibition of additional paintings. John was influenced by the obscenity of the war with the total number of military and civilian casualties over 37 million with over 16 million deaths and 20 million wounded, ranking it among the deadliest conflicts in human history.

The painting respectfully portrays the acts of extreme bravery, bloody obscenity and the consequences of the Great War that has rippled through to modern times.

The unveiling will coincide with ITV's WW1 commemorative week. John expects a number of high profile guests and local business people to attend along with representatives of local ex-service charity organisations. The event is free and open to the public.



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Nursery Funday **BUSINESSES PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR APPRENTICESHIPS**



After a hectic period of preparation we were very pleased with our Funday on Saturday July 12th. We were lucky with the weather as at least 139 adults passed through the gates not to mention the children that came along with them. The fire brigade was a great hit with adults and children alike (although they did have to leave they still managed to come back). There were plenty of opportunities to meet Minnie and Mickey Mouse, Iggle Piggle and Ups a Daisy, and Peppa and George Pig. At the end of the day the staff

were all exhausted but very pleased to be able to announce we made £1283. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported us either with donations, prizes, selling raffle tickets, manning a stool, dressing up as a character or by attending, also Newton Press who sponsored our event. There are just two prizes not yet claimed 2 passes to Blue Reef Aquarium (Anne-Marie Francis) and name the teddy (Blake) If you would like more information regarding the nursery please call Linda on 01325 312050

LEADING businesses from across the region have pledged to take on manufacturing or engineering apprentices after attending a key business conference hosted by South West Durham Training (SWDT). The leading training provider played host to Manufacturing in the North East - Engineered for Success earlier in the month (8 July) and asked firms to show their commitment to apprenticeships by signing a pledge. SWDT has since welcomed a number of key regional businesses to its apprenticeship pledge board, including Hitachi, 3M, Hendersons Engineering, Berco, Ineos and Husqvarna and in return, has pledged to look after the paperwork, provide mentors and even help source funding to simplify taking on the young recruits. Supporting the initiative were guest speakers including Andrew Hebden from the Bank of England, Sue Houston OBE, Department for Business Innovation and Skills, James Ramsbotham,



CEO Trevor Alley of SWDT

CEO of NECC and Sarah Slaven of Business Durham. Andrew Hebden, Bank of England deputy agent in the North East, said: "We continue to see evidence of growth in the UK economy, and the North-East certainly reflects that. There is no doubt the manufacturing and engineering sector is a central part of that growth story. "That's not to say things are easy and many firms tell us recruiting people with the right technical skills can be a challenge.

"Many of them are turning to apprentices to fill this skills gap and the growth in apprenticeships has been a defining feature of the recovery in employment across the country, which has to be a positive thing for the future of the economy." Trevor Alley, chief executive of SWDT who hosted the event, said: "At SWDT, we train up to 300 learners each year in a range of manufacturing and engineering disciplines and techniques to make sure they're job-ready and the event was a great opportunity for employers to meet and interview the trainees to see if they wish to take a learner on a job trial. "I'm delighted to see leading North East businesses respond to the pledge as not only have they committed to supporting the local community, they've made a great business decision as apprentices are great for business - they provide such measurable business benefits, including an increase in productivity and efficiency, while bringing new and fresh ideas into an organisation."

Your Mobile Business Information Expert



John invites you to join him for a coffee at Jacksons

Business people not wanting the chore of travelling to Durham City to visit the County Council Business Development Agency can access the service more locally through Southern Area Manager John Parnell. He offers an informal meeting venue each Monday afternoon at Jackson's at the Xcel Centre where he can help you with any query on your company's development. You can ring for an appointment or just drop in for a coffee with John. He is also available to call at your place of business at anytime to discuss issues such as planning, help with expansion, Business Park Group membership and premises etc. If he doesn't have the answer John is able to signpost you to the right place or obtain the information you require. Contact John by e-mail: john.parnell@durham.gov.uk or telephone him direct on 0191 261253, mobile: 07500 817806.

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Helping the Hospice



A group of people from Fit4longer decided to do the "ToughMann" in February just for fun. Shortly after signing up one of their

fellow members lost her Dad to cancer. He spent his final days at St Teresa's Hospice who looked after him and made his final moments comfortable for both himself and his family. From that day on the group weren't just running for fun, but for Katie's Dad, raising funds for the hospice.

The girls ran hundreds of miles to get fit for the challenge. They've gone from people who couldn't run 30 seconds to being able to cover 10km in under an hour. They completed their last boot camp for the charity this week raising £127 which brings the grand total to £519. Well done to Sarah, Donna, Katie, Lindsey and Paul as well as a big thank you to Grants Gym and Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre for free use of their hall.

Business Durham on the Move

Business Durham moved to new premises on Friday 25th July in the heart of Durham City. We aim to have everything in place by Monday 28th July, but there may be some disruption so please bear with us.

Our new office address is: Millennium Place, Durham, DH1 1WA.

The main office number will remain the same: 03000 261 261 and we can also be reached on enquiries@businessdurham.co.uk

Town Dance School has Built a National Reputation

Lee Green Dance Centre are celebrating their 35th year and have trained thousands of students under the owners Bryan and Brenda Thomson. They cater for all ages of all abilities from 3 to 83 yrs. The owners are members of the International Dance Teachers Association and enter students for Exams and competitions if they wish.

Students represent Aycliffe and the North East at national level and have achieved amazing results over the years. Some past members have started their own Dance Schools, bringing National Competitions to Aycliffe Lesire Centre. Bryan is a qualified Examiner and trains amateur and professional dancers

to ensure dancing remains popular in Newton Aycliffe. Bryan and Brenda are committed to providing the best tuition for their students who can rest assured the Lee Green Dance School will remain open and continues to operate with a high national reputation. contact: 01325 318239 or mobile: 07757 484851.



Div. 5 Champions



L to R: John Snowball, Mike Rippon, Harvey Solway, Shaun Mackintosh, Graham Johnson and Aaron Shepherd. Aidan Hindhaugh is the other squad member, not in the photograph.

Congratulations to Greenfield Tennis Club whose first team are now champions of division 5 of the Cleveland Tennis League, and the only team in all divisions to win all its matches. The team also remains unbeaten in the Darlington Tennis League. The Club plays at Greenfield School and runs two teams in the Cleveland League and one in the Darlington League. All matches are doubles. The Club offers very competitive membership rates with no extra charges to play, the courts being open on evenings and most weekends throughout the year. There are club nights and we also offers professional coaching opportunities, and would welcome new members.

Players of all abilities are welcome to a free visit on Wednesdays from 7pm. To learn more about the Club: www.greenfieldtennis.co.uk

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YEAR 5 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT PROVES A GREAT SUCCESS **Aycliffe Launch Junior Member Scheme**

Talented young footballers battled it out for the annual from the Great Aycliffe area Woodham Sports Academy

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The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 4 GCSE's, or equivalent, including English and Mathematics, together with previous experience of working within a customer care environment.

The post holders will be required to work as and when required. This post will require a Disclosure and Barring Service Enhanced check. The post holder must be 18 years or over, due to being required to work in licenced areas.

For further details or an informal discussion about the post, please contact the Leisure Manager Judith Thexton on 01325 300600 or by email at judith.thexton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Closing Date for Applications:
Noon on Friday 15th August 2014

Application packs can be obtained by telephoning 01325 300700, e-mailing: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk, or from the Council website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk



Year 5 Football Tournament. Enthusiastic pupils from four local primary schools fought it out for the title won last year by Stephenson Way. In the end it was Suagr Hill Primary School that proved victorious, triumphing over rival teams from Walworth, Vane Road and Woodham Burn, beating Vane Road B team in a tight and tense final 2-1. Every student taking part received certificates and medals from Woodham Sports Academy Director Liam Clough. Mr Clough said he had been impressed with the standard of football on show. "The idea is to give the pupils an opportunity to come to school and get a feeling of what it is like to compete competitively for their school in a local tournament against friends and teammates from other schools. The important thing is that the students have fun and enjoy themselves". The tournament followed a yearlong programme delivered by Woodham Football Academy, where year

5 and 6 students came into Woodham and worked with Andy Collett, Neil Maddison and Kevin Dawson of Premier Player on a Thursday evening free of charge. Due to the success of this initiative, Woodham Sports

Academy is delighted to announce that this provision will continue in September, and students will work with the new Newton Aycliffe First Team Manager Danny Mellanby on a Thursday evening at the Academy.

TRIATHLON CLUB NEWS

The last two weeks of July have seen a busy race schedule for the town's Triathlon Club with both experienced and beginners racing at various events across the country. Cleveland Steelman took place on Saturday 19th July starting at Ellerton Lake. The half iron distance event saw three members taking part in relay teams. Vicky Howse who swam and cycled, Michelle Scott who ran and Andy Sedgwick cycling were all part of two of the top placed teams. On Wednesday 23rd Gary Smith entered into the Army Standard Distance Triathlon, South Cerney in the Cotswolds where he finished in a fantastic time of 2hr 26min. On the same day Penny Johnson and Michelle Dixon made their triathlon debut's taking part in Triology Events Super Sprint. Both ladies were nervous going into the open water swim but soon relaxed and went on to finish in excellent times of

1hr 2mins each. Both Penny and Michelle are planning entering many more triathlons in the future.



Penny Johnson & Michelle Dixon

Free Entry to Home Games

Newton Aycliffe FC have announced details of a community scheme that will see more formal links developed with both Newton Aycliffe Youth FC and Newton Aycliffe Juniors FC. With immediate effect, every junior member of both Clubs will become an affiliate of Newton Aycliffe FC. This will entitle all juniors to free entry to all home games at Moore Lane Park, as well as half price entry for an accompanying adult. It will also see Aycliffe feature the logos of both junior Clubs on their matchday shirts. Aycliffe FC General Manager Dan Lewis commented "we are delighted to announce the details of our Junior Affiliates scheme. We are working very hard to place the Football Club at the centre of the local community. We want the people of the Town to feel part of what we are trying to do, and we feel the best place to start this is with the local footballers and their families". Dan continued "last season we launched some trial schemes such as our matchday experiences, our players have presented awards for the junior players, and we see this as a natural progression to welcome as many of these young footballers as possible to the ground to see top level local football on a regular basis, and hopefully a few of them will progress from the

junior teams to represent the Towns team in years to come". Aycliffe Youth Secretary Berni Borsberry and Aycliffe Juniors Chairman Nige Slatcher are in full support. Berni said "Newton Aycliffe Youth are delighted to be part of this initiative by our senior team, which will encourage the growth in support from the young people of the town. The links that are now being forged with the grass roots teams will hopefully benefit NAFC in the coming years, as some of our young players go on to play for NAFC in the Northern League". Nige said "Newton Aycliffe Juniors are very keen to see NAFC become more successful and schemes such as this are a great way of demonstrating a willingness to continue and grow the development links that are already in place. I am sure our junior membership will be very excited and keen to participate as an affiliate member of NAFC and attend as many home games as possible which is great for them and NAFC as this will hopefully foster the next generation of supporters." The season is fast approaching. Pre season games are in full flow and on August 9th Aycliffe welcome last seasons FA Vase finalists West Auckland to Moore Lane Park and it is hoped that the game will see a whole load of new supporters through the Gates.

Great Aycliffe Town Council



COMPLETION OF AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2013/14

In accordance with Regulations 8 and 11 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, I hereby give notice of the conclusion of the annual audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2013/14 by the Council's external auditors, Mazars LLP, and the availability of the Accounts for inspection by local government electors.

Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 sets out the following rights of local government electors in relation to the inspection of statements of accounts and auditors' reports:-

A local government elector for the area of a body subject to audit, other than a health service body, may:-

- inspect and make copies of any statement of accounts prepared by the body;
- inspect and make copies of any report, other than an immediate report, made to the body by an auditor; and
- require copies of any such statement or report to be delivered to him on payment of a reasonable sum for each copy.

Anyone elector wishing to inspect the Accounts should telephone the Council Offices on 01325 300700 to make an appointment with the Finance Manager. Appointments are available at the Council Offices between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

In addition a full copy of the Statement of Accounts has also been made available for inspection on the Council's website at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Dated this 25th day of July 2014.

Mr Dan Austin C.P.F.A
Finance Manager
Great Aycliffe Town Council



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Woodham Academy requires a friendly and reliable person to supervise and provide care for students at lunchtimes within the college building and grounds. This position will involve some working in the outside in a range of weather conditions.

Woodham Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory DBS Enhanced Disclosure and references.

Woodham Academy is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be invited for interview if the essential job criteria are met.

For an application form, job description and person specification please contact the reception desk.

Closing Date: 9.00am Monday, 11th August, 2014

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Watch Out for Cold Callers

Residents of County Durham are being urged not to do business with cold callers who knock at the door offering repair services. The warning comes after a resident paid £200 for unnecessary work to her roof which was never carried out.

Joanne Waller, head of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection, said "We would always urge residents to be on their guard when answering the door to unexpected callers offering goods and services. In particular those offering repairs to a roof, driveway or gardening work. The work will often be unnecessary, overpriced and of poor quality. When things go wrong the trader can rarely be found to put things right."

"Far from being a Good Samaritan and pointing out what they claim to be vital and urgent work, they can sound convincing, preying on the fears of householder and pressurising them into agreeing to costly work not needed. Often the sole aim is to con people out of their money." The law gives householders a cooling off period in which to think about things and change their mind before agreeing to work being done. Rogue traders rarely give consumers these

legal rights and pressurise them into agreeing to an immediate start for the work. This can be a criminal offence.

The warning comes just after Scams Awareness Month, an initiative aimed at educating consumers about scams which could target people in their homes, and on-line. New legislation came into force on 13th June, which gives consumers a longer cancellation period of 14 days in which to change their minds.

Joanne added: "We would urge all residents not to do business on the doorstep from cold calling traders offering repair services as it could prove to be a costly mistake. "It is far better to seek a recommendation from family or friends as to someone who can be trusted and to do a good job."

The County Council also runs a Registered Trader Scheme, where residents can check out the feedback about members who agree to abide by the schemes aim to trade fairly. Further information on registered traders can be found at www.durham.gov.uk Anyone needing advice on goods or services that they have bought should contact the Consumer helpline on 08454 04 05 06.

Welfare Champion Assists

A lady who increased her hours from 6.25 to 13 hours a week, wondered if she would still be able to get help with her council tax.

The Welfare Champion checked and saw her wage was still under the allowed weekly limit to claim benefit. She was advised to call into the council office with her payslips and inform them of her change of hours.

She did this and received a letter thanking her for updating the information they held, informing her that she is still entitled to full council tax benefit, so she was over the moon.

To receive support from a Champion visit one of our drop-ins at: Woodham Community Centre: Wednesday's 11.00am - 1.00pm, Pioneering Care Centre: Thursday's 12pm - 2pm or Phil Wilson's MP Office in the town centre, Wednesday's 10am - 12pm.

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Durham Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg

welcomes reports that the Government is considering doubling penalty points for using a mobile phone while driving. The Government is considering changing the law after Metropolitan Police Chief Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe recently called for stronger penalties for offenders and it is suggested that drivers could receive six points if caught using mobile phones as opposed to the current three handed down for the offence, meaning that anyone caught breaking the law twice in three years would receive a driving ban as a result. Ron Hogg said "Using a mobile phone while driving is extremely dangerous, which is why I fully support this option to deter drivers. The person who is using their phone doesn't realise the damage or the danger that they could be in, and it could end up ruining people's lives. I believe that an increase in penalty points is a step in the right direction and it could provide a more effective deterrent if second time offenders receive a 12 month ban"

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MOROCCO EXPEDITION 2014



On the 9th July, 13 Greenfield Community College pupils and their teacher Mr Butterworth travelled to Morocco in North Africa as part of a World Challenge expedition. They had raised the £1250 for their place during the previous year and a half with activities and efforts including sponsored abseils, leg waxes, staff car washes, multi-days and a quiz night to name a few. The expedition proved to be a once in a lifetime experience for all who were involved and certainly lived up to and beyond expectations. It was split into three stages; a trek across the slopes of the High Atlas Mountains, a project phase where they renovated a run-down playground at a pre-school and also a rest and relaxation period in Marrakech. The title 'World Challenge' couldn't

be more appropriate as it most definitely proved one of the toughest challenges of their lives to date. Early starts such as 3am wake up calls and the extreme heat during the day, with a peak of 46 degrees Celsius, proved very energy-sapping for the challengers whilst trekking over 35km during four days. Furthermore, a high proportion of this distance was travelling up steep inclines making it much harder and time consuming. This culminated in staying in the highest village in Morocco, Tacheddirt which is 2300m high and climbing to a peak height of 3300m on the third day. The first phase of the expedition saw the group facilitate their own individual and team skills to renovate an old playground on the periphery of the High Atlas Mountains. It was a race against the clock to complete before the deadline on the third day. The pupils worked tirelessly to ensure that they didn't disappoint even though some were combatting a group sickness bug. Particular attention was paid to managing the budget of what they could and couldn't afford, organising specific skills of people into certain areas and ultimately creating a play environment that will be truly special for the young pupils upon their return to school. During the ten days all the pupils developed invaluable

life skills that will help them develop into mature young adults and this expedition seemed the perfect way for the year 11s to round off their time at Greenfield Community College. Each student was given the freedom and guidance to assume the roles needed on an expedition (leader, budget holder etc) and whilst assuming these roles they learnt more about their own strengths and weaknesses within teams. The challengers certainly took ownership for their own expedition and whilst staff were there at every step to advise and support, they showed superb self-reliance and responsibility for themselves and their team. The life skills learnt on expedition will prove very helpful in future life and in particular college or job interviews. Many special memories were shared during the visit that will last a lifetime. For instance, it's not every day you walk up mountains 3300m high, experience 46 degrees Celsius heat, play a big game of football against young Moroccans, paint animals on the classroom walls, sleep on a rooftop under the stars, camp and have a bonfire, spend time at a waterfall, haggle with Marrakech stall owners to get the cheapest price possible, go in the cockpit of a plane, watch the World Cup Final in a Moroccan bar, eat an evening meal in the hustle and bustle of Marrakech square with thousands of people surrounding you, see animals such as a cobra, camel, mule and monkey, and of course not forgetting the fantastic treks through the High Atlas Mountains and the feeling obtained knowing that you have played your part in making what was previously an old, run-down playground into a playful environment that that will help develop and educate young Moroccan pupils. This brief account can only highlight a few stories with many more in the memory of those challengers who can share experiences and tales of their time in Morocco for years to come. The challengers did their school, their families and most importantly themselves proud during this visit to Morocco. Well done to all challengers; Andrew Archer, Max Atterby, Cora Gibson, Harry Heaton, Tino Lewis, Danielle Pepper, Owen

Preston, Emily Ramsay, Byron SOWELS, James Steel, Ellie Stevens, Fraser Ward and Max Wilson. The school is planning on running another World Challenge expedition to an unconfirmed destination in the summer of 2016 for the pupils going into year 9 and 10. More details and an assembly will follow during the autumn term where you can register an interest with Mr Butterworth.

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County Council Remove 0845 Phone Number

A new and easy to remember telephone number starts from August 1 for adults and children needing to ring social care services at Durham County Council.

The new 03000 26 79 79 line replaces the old 0845 50 50 10 number for First Contact Service (children) and Social Care Direct (adults)

Anyone phoning the old number in the first six months will be advised of the changes and automatically transferred to the new number.

The new telephone number will be cheaper than the current 0845 number as it can be included in free minutes from landlines and mobile phones.

Editor: Newton News and Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership are delighted our suggestion to stop the use of 0845 number for this service has been taken up. It shows the County Council are listening to us and our efforts, first through our County Councillors, and then the officers, has been successful.

Neighbourhood Plan Facts

For those of you who didn't attend the event here are some Neighbourhood Plan FACTS!

- 1) It is a planning document which covers land and business use
- 2) It will have a vision of what the development of Aycliffe will look like in the next 20 years
- 3) It is community led. If you work, live or do business in Aycliffe you can contribute to its content. It is YOUR plan
- 4) It is not about saying no to housing – however you can have a say in what type of housing and the design

- 5) It can protect what we have e.g. green spaces
- 6) When any planning decision are being made it is the first document planners will look at if developers want to build
- 7) It must have deliverable objectives
- 8) The Council are financing the plan
- 9) It should be completed in 2016

Thank You

A BIG thank you to everyone at NAFC for the lovely day at the Frankie Swinburne Memorial Football Match on 26th August. Thank you from all his family

ACORN on Alnwick & Bamburgh Adventure

It was a fantastic summer's day outing for ACORN Residents on Saturday 26th July with a coach of excited residents leaving from the British Legion club heading for the Northumbrian coastline.

First stop was Alnwick with its historic Bullring market square and a chance to sample a cup of tea or a stronger beverage. The Swan Hotel was high on my list of places to see with its interior decorated with panels from the decommissioned RMS Olympic incorporated into the fabric of the building.

History buffs will recall that Olympic was a sister ship of the Titanic under the White Star Lines flag. Wikipedia relates "Olympic's most notable achievement was the ramming and sinking of the German submarine U-103 on May 12, 1918 which was the only merchant ship to sink an enemy warship during the war.

Korvettenkapitän Claus Rücker, commander of the 9-month old U-103, had

unsuccessfully fired two torpedo's at Olympic just missing so Olympic turned around and rammed the u-boat sinking her and killing the crew. It is believed that Olympic could have easily outrun the u-boat on a zigzag course and not have risked the lives of the thousands on board.

With our affable driver Baz we continued along the rural Northumberland coastal route through twisting lanes and lovely villages on our journey to Bamburgh. The route took us close to the coastline and afforded many beautiful views of the beaches culminating in the majestic beauty of Bamburgh Castle glistening in the summer sunshine.

The golden beaches which are overlooked by the castle were hectic places of fun enjoyed by families flying kites, kicking footballs and playing in the water. Another triumph for the ever popular residents group, look out for further excursions throughout the year.



LOCAL CHEF PROMOTES HEALTHY EATING



Karl Rochford, Executive Chef at Hall Garth Hotel, returned to school last week at St John's C of E Academy taking a step back to basics with pupils aged 6-11 years during the school's Health Week. – to dismiss the myth that salads are boring. Hall Garth's Food and Beverage Manager Walid Shennib, whose daughter attends the school, co-ordinated the visit.

Up to their arms in fresh healthy fruit and vegetables, the children prepared their own Italian Caprese and fresh fruit salads, not before first having fun trying to identify ingredients from basil to lolla rosso lettuce.

Chef Karl said he was really impressed with the knowledge that the children showed in identifying fruits and vegetables saying "when I was a kid, I wouldn't have been able to identify many of the items that were put in front of me, yet these youngsters, had an impressive knowledge for their ages". The children had a thoroughly enjoyable after-noon creating their own healthy salad combinations.

In Memoriam

Dorothy Lowe



Died 4th August 2009

To my darling Wife Dorothy and loving Mam. It's been 5 years since God took you away and I have never missed thinking and talking to you each day. We have a million memories we shared but wish we still had you. We miss you so much as we always do. To what it has meant and the stress to me and your family to lose you, no one will ever know. You gave us love, kindness, wisdom and guidance, to me and your family which we will never forget. Fond memories of you are always so close to our hearts. Deeply loved and always remembered. From your ever loving Husband, Leslie and your family xxxx

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Bill Talbot



4th August 2012

Precious memories of a dearly loved Husband, Dad and Grandad. Two years have passed since we lost you. We think about you every day. Missing you lots. Val and all our family

BILL TALBOT To a very special Dad and Grandad. Two years have gone since you were taken away. We love and miss you every day. Sending you a big hug. Deb, Tim, Sophie, Katie and Toby xxxx

MAUD GRAHAM 4th August 2012. A dear Mam, Mother-in-Law and Nanna. We all miss you so very much, 2 years have passed since you were taken from us, we talk and laugh at the lovely memories we are left with, miss you so much, always in our hearts. Loads of love, Rob, Lisa, Jess, Laura and Mason xxxxx

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Public Notice

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Obituary

AUDREY HARNETT, of Newton Aycliffe, died peacefully on 27th July aged 82 years. Beloved Wife of the late Tom; much loved Mum of Josephine and Paul; dear Grandmother of Bethany; also a dearest Sister of Winnie. Funeral Service at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Newton Aycliffe on Monday 4th August at 11am followed by private committal. Will relatives and friends please meet at the Church. R.I.P.

Congratulations

Brittany Clair Louis Hauxwell



Happy 21st Birthday

You are a beautiful girl inside and out. I am so proud of you. Lots of love, hugs and loads of kisses, Mam, Wayne, Baillie and Ellis xxxx

Matthew Bruce



Happy 21st Birthday

1st August 1993
Happy birthday Son. We are so proud of the man you have grown to be. Love always, Mam and Dad xxx

MATTHEW BRUCE Happy birthday Bro. Love, Carl, Rachel and Jessica

LEWIS JOHNSON 2nd August 1996. Happy 18th birthday to a fantastic Son and Brother. All our love, Mam, Peter and Nicole xxx

LEWIS JOHNSON 2nd August 1996. Happy 18th birthday to a wonderful Grandson. Lots of love, Gran and Granda xxx

Newton Aycliffe Football Club Manager Resigns

Newton Aycliffe FC have been rocked with the news that Manager Dan Mellanby has resigned, 2 weeks before the big Northern League kick-off. The news is a shock to the team who were looking forward to the new season with optimism, generated by Mellanby's appointment.

The Club said "We can confirm Manager Dan Mellanby has resigned as Manager with immediate effect, due to personal circumstances". Chairman Allan Oliver has said "it's a blow to us to be looking for a new Manager before the season has started, but its business as usual. We have a number of very capable people to lead the team in the Club which will allow us the time to make the right decision for the future."

The Club works very hard to develop close links with the community, not least through its exciting Junior Affiliates scheme. It insists whoever is the new Manager will continue to develop those links and make sure the Club remains central to the community.

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FOOTBALL IN A BUBBLE

There was a buzz of excitement in the air as 20 giant balls were inflated on the football field at Woodham Academy on Wednesday 16th July. Before the school day started, students looked on with a mixture of trepidation and excitement at the prospect of putting the balls over their heads and trying to play football.

Each year, the three houses within Woodham – Raby, Brancepeth and Lambton, compete to win the coveted Bulman trophy and the chance



to be invited to a final rewards day. This year, the prize was to play bubble football and a fancy dress photo booth with Lampton scooping the prize with the most achievement points earned over the year. All students from the winning house with outstanding grades throughout the year were invited as well as any student with 100% attendance record and the top academic achievers from the other two houses.

Each year group played each other with some far too over enthusiastic members of staff also getting involved. There was a staff match at lunchtime which resulted in the only injury of the day – of course, a member of staff! Most of the school turned out to watch this and there were some side splitting laughs throughout the day as both students and teachers took epic forward rolls, tumbles and flips. Congratulations and a huge well done to everyone who was rewarded on Wednesday and to everyone who took part in the competitions over the year. The only question now is who will be victorious next year!?

Memorial Game for New Cancer Support Group

Newton Aycliffe FC hosted Northallerton Town FC on Saturday in the annual Frank Swinburne Memorial Trophy.

This year, the game was held to raise funds for Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group, who are supported by Macmillan.

The day raised just short of £500 for the group, a sum that organiser Allison White was delighted with “this will make a huge difference to our group, she said.

I would like to thank Newton Aycliffe FC and everyone who kindly donated on Saturday”.

Newton Aycliffe General Manager Dan Lewis was equally pleased “we are delighted that such a special day for our Club, remembering one of our

most loyal supporters and committee men was able to help the people local to our Club who are suffering from cancer themselves. I am sure Allison will make sure the cash is able to make a real difference to these people” And the game itself was also a success, with Newton Aycliffe running out 4-1 winners to retain the Frank Swinburne Memorial Trophy.

The Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group is held on the 1st Thursday of every month at Neville Parade Community Centre, Newton Aycliffe, starting at 6pm until 7.30pm.

For more information regarding the group, Allison can be contacted on allisonwhite75@yahoo.com or 07762 258696

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WOODHAM Golf & Country Club

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

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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

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BUGGIES

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Hole 14 drainage before and after

NAFC NEWS

Newton Aycliffe have confirmed that Player/Coach Adrian Webster has been installed as the club's new manager, in the wake of the shock resignation of Dan Mellanby last weekend.

Ironically, Webster was one of Mellanby's first signings when he himself took over the reins at Moore Lane Park just six weeks ago, replacing long term boss Allan Oliver.

Webster, 35, took charge of his first match this evening, a 0-0 draw at home to Division Two outfit Darlington RA. Gary Farley will continue in his role of Assistant Manager, despite being absent from the dugout due to a family holiday.

The move sees Webster, a former New Zealand international, take up his first managerial post, following a career which has seen him play for Colchester United, Charlton Athletic and Darlington in the football league.

Webster returned to Aycliffe this summer after 18 months with Bishop Auckland, having previously played a handful of games for the Newtonians back in 2012-13.

Aycliffe dominated their game with rivals Darlington RA in front of a crowd of 79, with Lewis Wing twice striking the upright for the hosts. Craig Mickle and Tom Atkinson both tested goalkeeper Matty Calvert while the closest the visitors came was when Freddie Huscroft tested Andrew Spence from the edge of the area. Aycliffe conclude their pre-season campaign on Saturday when they host Athersley Recreation from Barnsley.

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