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Week Ending 18th January, 1997

LOCAL FIRM HELPS SCHOOL

Security Fund-raising for Aycliffe Village Primary School received very welcome boost this week.

Mr. John Wade, local haulier and quarry owner, donated cheques amounting to £600 for the school's security appeal. Mr. Wade's work-force had held a raffle which raised £300 and a

further £300 was added to this. Mrs. Lowson, Head Teacher, expressed her grateful thanks to all who helped to achieve this magnificent sum. Mrs. Lowson has written to many firms, both locally and nationally, hoping to raise money for school security. The £600 has been a very welcome New Years gift for the school.

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HIGH INCIDENCE OF TEENAGE HOMELESSNESS DISCOVERED

A damning report to Sedgefield Borough Council indicates a high level of homelessness of young people, aged 14-22, in Newton Aycliffe.

More disturbing is the fact that our problem is being passed to neighbouring Darlington Borough as we have no facilities or policy to deal with these unfortunate people.

Two part-time detached workers, operating from Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre and funded by the Borough Council, have made startling discoveries on the level of homelessness in young people. Since being appointed in February 1996, to work on the streets of Newton Aycliffe and attempting to help these youngsters, the Youth Workers have highlighted glaring inadequacies in the Welfare Services provision for young homeless individuals. From April 1995-April 1996 75 young people from Aycliffe contacted

D.A.R.T. in Darlington for accommodation as they found no help available from their own housing authority. Another disturbing fact is that youngsters, who have fallen out with parents, some as young as 14, are "dossing" with friends, making them vulnerable to all manner of anti-social activities including drugs and crime.

At this age they should come under the care of the Health & Welfare Services, but these agencies may not be aware of the family break-up.

The local Authority assumes parents take responsibility for their offspring until the age of 18 when they become eligible for a Council House tenancy. But this is not the case and more youngsters are leaving home before they reach 18 - unprepared for the lack of care and accommodation they need.

We contacted Eric Porter, Housing Officer at Sedgefield Borough Council, for information, who said he accepted the details of the report with scepticism. But he agreed, as the law stands, there are few real solutions to the problem of accommodating homeless young people under the age of 18.

The Council did provide single person accommodation a few years ago at St. Godric's Road, but after a very short time the flats were ruined, and as the behaviour of the youngsters was so appalling the scheme was abandoned.

What seems to be required is a Hostel with proper supervision and rules of occupancy, but Newton Aycliffe seems to have nothing suitable for this purpose. Major cities provide and fund this type of facility

for homeless youngsters and qualified Social Workers run the establishment, helping the residents with their problems at the same time. Perhaps we should consider similar premises, catering for our district, because when Darlington change to a Unitary Authority they may not wish to take responsibility for the neighbouring Borough's homeless.

Sedgefield Accounts Healthy

In the opinion of the Audit Commission our Borough Council operates very well. They state the Council continues to seek value for money and their general financial standing is sound with healthy balances in the accounts. The Borough Council makes satisfactory arrangements to prevent and detect fraud and corruption. A full report is to be published.

Day of Prayer

In preparation for the 'Women's World Day of Prayer', a day of Bible Study and fellowship is being held in St. Clare's Church hall on Tuesday 21st January from 10am to 2pm.

The leader will be the Revd Michelle Ferguson, and ladies from all the Churches in Newton Aycliffe and Aycliffe Village are invited to come along to share in this event. Please bring a Packed Lunch, tea and coffee will be available.

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Aycliffe Bowls News

In the Festival of Bowls at Darlington, the Open 4s saw some first class bowling with 52 teams involved.

Aycliffe had three teams competing but the honours went to the Great Aycliffe 4 of Elsie Brown, Dorothy Howard, Jimmy Howard and Alan Metcalfe, winning all six games in their group and with the amount of shots they scored made them tournament winners.

With the start of the Great Lakes Spring Leagues now underway we see two ladies teams having won through to the Zone Final in the National Competitions, Ethel White, Lynne Jones, Jennifer Heslop and Esther Helm.

4s team clinched their place by beating V. Iansons team at Sunderland by 20 shots to 19 in the unbadged pairs Jennifer Helsop and Brenda Mangles played Edith Dunn and Doris Rawcastle of Darlington after the third end they were 9 nil down but fought back in an exciting game to win by 26 shots to 20, putting them in to the Zone Final for the second year running.

All are keen Bowling Club members playing in the Great Lakes Leagues at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex and representing the Club in Inter-Club, County Leagues and competitions.

Under 16's Through to Next Cup Round

On Sunday Aycliffe Under 16's were at home to Thornaby Under 15's in the North Riding Cup.

The wind made the conditions very difficult for both teams. Thornaby kicked off but Aycliffe won possession and went onto the attack with Will Swinburn taking it wide and putting in a dangerous cross but Thornaby cleared.

For the first ten minutes it was end to end but neither side made any clear chances. In the 15th minute Aycliffe pressed forward, the Thornaby defence could not clear and the goalkeeper knocked the ball to Will Swinburn who promptly put it into the corner of the net to make it 1-0 to Aycliffe.

The rest of the first half saw neither team get control in the blustery conditions.

The second half started with Thornaby pressing forward and looking the more dangerous. The Aycliffe defence looked very suspect at times.

Richard Bryan was having a storming game in defence for Aycliffe and he seemed to get better as the game progressed. Richard normally plays as a striker but owing to injuries he was asked to play in defence.

Chris Wilson was asked to make some good saves as Thornaby pressed for the equaliser. After 65 minutes Louis Martin went through on goal for Aycliffe but the Thornaby goalkeeper made a good save.

Time after time Aycliffe were caught in possession and Thornaby should have levelled the scores but Chris Wilson denied them on a number of occasions. After 75 minutes Aycliffe pushed forward and from a good chance the Thornaby goalkeeper saved again.

It was end to end stuff and a long range shot from a Thornaby midfielder crashed against the Aycliffe crossbar and the rebound was cleared. Aycliffe should have made the game safe after 80 minutes when Louis Martin was in on goal with only the goalkeeper to beat and an Aycliffe player standing on his own.

A simple tap across the goal would have been the correct ball for a tap in goal but he choose to shoot and the Thornaby goalkeeper saved. Thornaby deserved full credit for the game they played but Aycliffe were poor and never got to grips with the Thornaby Midfield - lack of team spirit - lack of talking to each other - giving the ball away too much and finishing once again let them down.

Still they are in the next round draw, a win is a win. Aycliffe were much stronger in the tackle in this 1-0 win. Two players stood out for Aycliffe - Chris Wilson, who made some really good saves to keep Aycliffe in the game but, by a cats whisker with his defensive performance and one run in particular when he made a run out of defence, tackled four Thornaby players, won the ball each time and ended up pushing the ball wide to an Aycliffe player near the Thornaby 18 yard box - man of the match was Richard Bryan.

This week Aycliffe under 16's are at home to Whitby. Aycliffe Youth Football Club are still looking for someone to come forward to assist in forming a sub-committee.

Is anyone interested, come on, score for Aycliffe and take the teams forward to the future.

We are looking, not just the present squads but for the next generation of young footballers in Newton Aycliffe, who knows you could be lending a hand to a young budding future star, a new Alan Shearer.

If anyone is interested please don not hesitate give us a ring on either 318731 or 316269.

POLICE PROMISE EXTRA PROTECTION TO VICTIMS

Thousands of house burglary victims are being promised extra protection under a new county-wide strategy launched by Durham Constabulary on January 1st.

The package has been put together to hand help and support to victims facing the threat of repeat break ins. It includes additional measures to track down persistent offenders - but senior officers have deliberately drawn a veil of secrecy over the fine detail of the investigative part of their new plans.

Between April 95 and the end of March 96 last year nearly 7,000 houses were burgled in the county. Nearly 800 of these were broken into at least twice in that period and in a tiny minority of cases some properties had been entered more than twice.

DC Penman, Sedgefield Borough Crime Prevention Officer said: "Recent national and in-force surveys revealed significant numbers of people had been the victim of several crimes and promised the police would be trying to establish why that should be and what could be done about it. Becoming a victim once is

traumatic but to be further victimised can and does have a devastating effect. In the first instance our approach is to prevent people becoming victims but, in the event they are victimised, we want to make sure it does not happen again.

"The old saying of 'lightening never strikes twice in the same place' is often used when talking to victims to reduce fear of crime. It may be reassuring but, unfortunately, it is not always true", he added.

Crime analysts in Durham believe repeat offending can be prevented by quickly offering victims practical crime prevention advice and support over and above the police investigation.

"This will be a partnership approach involving Victim Support and Neighbourhood Watch. Dozens of housing associations and local authorities will also be approached and recruited to join the partnership but the key partner in this whole equation will be the general public who will be asked to adopt the advice the police give. By all working together we can defeat the criminal" said DC Penman.

"Victims will get a pre-determined minimum standard of support with a built-in graded response, influenced by the needs at individual scenes of crime. Speedy repairs to properties are a key element of the strategy, which has taken a year to prepare. It is already being promoted as 'good practice' by the Home Office. "There is both a preventative and investigative focus to this strategy. Clearly the prevention is designed to give speedy reassurance to victims while the investigators with the specialised equipment and technology at their disposal designed to apprehend offenders.

"For some time this force has been successfully marshalling its forces against the hard core of burglars and others involved in persistent serious crime. We are targeting known offenders using intelligence driven information and computer technology. Obviously we are reluctant to say too much about the additional work being done as part of this initiative because it might prejudice our effectiveness.

"Traditionally January and

February are months when the numbers of burglaries increase and that is why we are launching the initiative now. Our focus on house burglaries is only the start and we plan to extend the strategy into other areas of crime. The victims will be the focus of our attention. Not only will we make efforts to arrest those involved in crime but we also try to ensure people are not re-victimised he added.

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This can make a big difference to some people as we heard recently when a death notice with Newton News was only £6.32p compared with £68.00 in a regional newspaper.

Of course advertisers have

to decide whether or not they need to make their announcement to the whole of the North East before deciding to save money.

Whilst our readers have more time to place ads, don't hold on to news items until the last minute as we have only a certain amount of space and copy is printed on a first come-first served basis - unless it is "hot news".

We are delighted to offer this improved service to our readers and look forward to issuing an even more topical weekly newspaper.

Please note Stevens, in the Town Centre, are our agents and will take your ads., news and any correspondence for the Editor.

Washington Beat 1st XV

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club First XV - sponsored by Great Lakes (Europe) Ltd - were narrowly beaten 6-5 by Washington away in the League, writes P. Sheen.

Playing conditions were atrocious and Washington used the fierce wind to their advantage in the first half.

Aycliffe gave the backs a clean ball but several penetrating runs were not converted to points.

Aycliffe gave away unnecessary penalties to end up 6-0 down at half time.

Aycliffe had the better of the 2nd half play but struggled again to convert pressure to points. P. Ryans finally got Aycliffe on the score sheet with a try in the latter stages of the match.

A SAD LOSS

LES JONES sadly died on the morning of the game and a minutes silence was held at the match. Les who was a Vice President of the Club, contributed a great deal to Rugby in Newton Aycliffe over many years.

He was ever present as first team manager but his days as second team manager were those he enjoyed most. Les is fondly remembered by all in the Club.

Kind thoughts of everyone at Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club are extended to Sue, Sian and Tim at this sad time.

VETERANS

Aycliffe Old Boys managed a 'draw' at Mowden Park on Sunday 12th, a big bustling player was spotted on Mowden's team. Anyone who can identify him ring the Club.

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CARERS CENTRE RECEIVES £45,000 FROM THE LOTTERY

Sedgefield Locality Carers Centre has been awarded a grant of £45,037 by the National Lottery Charities Board.

The Carers Centre at 19 Upper Dalton Way, Newton Aycliffe, was officially opened in October 1996, and is run in partnership with the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. It already provides advice and support for many local carers.

The lottery money will be used to set up a sitting service to enable carers to have some time off, leaving the person they look after in the capable hands of a trained sitter whilst they access any of the Carers Centre services, either centre based or outreach services in the local community.

The lottery grant which has been awarded over 3 years, will also part fund the Centre Manger's salary.

The Carers Centre already provides a range of services for local carers including Counselling, advice on benefits and entitlements, practical advice on care in the home, with specialist sessions such as lifting and pressure area care, back pain and basic first aid.

The Centre also offers a chance for carers to unwind with Reflexology, Aromatherapy and Yoga, and provides moral support and companionship.

The Centre also recently launched it's free telephone listening and information line. This line is currently staffed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm (with a 24 hour answerphone at all other times) by trained volunteers, the majority of whom are carers themselves.

The volunteers are there to listen to carers and provide much needed support and information, especially to those carers who are unable to drop into the Carers Centre.

The Freephone number is 0800 435299, and is available to anyone who is looking after an elderly, frail and/or disabled person at home.

Carers Outreach Officer - Louise Carlton said "We are delighted with the award from the National Lottery Charities Board, it will help us to provide a sitting service which will be of great benefit to local carers.

"We have over 150 carers on our mailing list already, but we know there are many more in this area and would like to hear from them".

If you are interested in any of the services or require further information you can contact the Carers Centre on the Freephone Helpline above or on 01325 308100 during office hours.

Jobs for Aycliffe as Firms Expand

Fujitsu is planning well ahead for its expansion programme which when approved and then completed will bring an estimated 600 new jobs.

The new manufacturing facility will be "state of the art" and the semi conductors produced will be among the most advanced in the world.

All the planning details have been finalised, but building is on hold until there is an upturn in the market.

"A £billion investment has to be timed exactly, but everything is in place ready to start pouring concrete as soon as we receive the go ahead" said Company spokesman John Evans.

A new printing press is being installed at Linpac who print on tin, bringing six new jobs and an extended factory at their Leaside site.

Oshino are also expanding with a 2 storey building at Long Tens Way. 30 Additional staff will be employed as a result of this extension.

Uponor are building a 68 metre x 30 metre extension to their works which manufactures plastic pipe for the water industry.

The new premises will allow them to diversify and increase production.

WARDEN CUTS AFFECTS COST OF T.V. LICENCE FOR RESIDENTS

Borough Council cuts on the time warden spend at Sheltered Housing establishments now means that all elderly residents will now have to pay the full T.V. licence fee.

The T.V. Licensing Authority has informed everyone that as the warden no longer lives or works on the site for a minimum of 30 hours a week the sheltered housing scheme does not now qualify for the concession of £5 a year for T.V. licences and they must pay the full fee immediately.

Subsequently the residents received demands for payment on January 1st.

Richard Burchell, Welfare Rights Advisor for Boddy Thomas & Pacitto, in our Town Centre, is looking into the matter on behalf of all those in sheltered accommodation in Aycliffe.

There are six conditions including the warden provision and it does seem mean to disqualify pensioners on one minor point which is open to interpretation.

CHOIR CONCERT

On Saturday 1st February a concert will be held in Neville Parade Methodist Church with the Newcastle Male Chorus - Director of Music, Norman Williams, Accompanist, David Scott. There will be a variety of music to suit all tastes.

The concert will start at 7pm, tickets are £2 each, available from any choir member or ring Aycliffe 312091 for details, admission by ticket only.

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PUPILS FROM St. FRANCIS SCHOOL HELP T.V. APPEAL

Dear Newton News,

I, Jemma with my friends, Jennifer, Tracey, Natasha and Deborah organised a Bring and Buy sale at our school to raise money for The Blue Peter Appeal. They are trying to raise £1.5 million for people in other countries who suffer from leprosy.

In total we raised £90 at our sale. We had lots of different things ranging from needlework kits to small packs of felt pens. All of us enjoyed ourselves.

It was good fun. It was also nice reading the thank you letter we received from Blue Peter.

We hope this has inspired others to have a Bring and Buy sale. We would also like to thank people who supported us by buying things and giving us things to sell.

All the best from
Jemma Ebdon, Jennifer Mackintosh, Natasha Kilburn, Tracey Neale and Deborah Jewell.

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LATE OFFERS - TELETEXT PAGE 279

SHOPKEEPERS WILL FORCE LANDLORDS TO CLEAN UP OUR CENTRE

Aycliffe Town Centre will be a happy, clean and tidy place to shop in the future - that is what a new organisation of shopkeepers, on the verge of being established, will hopefully accomplish.

Acting as a kind of committee, their aim is to clean up what was once an enjoyable place to visit.

Headed by Boots Store Manager, Roger Stephens, and fully backed by the Town's shops and 'Newton News', it aims to force the Town's Landlords into sweeping the trash out of Aycliffe. Graffiti and rubbish riddle the Town Centre and its areas, persuading many locals to shop elsewhere.

And the rapid exodus of shops is another major factor in the downward plight of the Centre. We have too many empty shops 'to let', all of which are either boarded up or, like most walls, naked with graffiti.

These grossly unattractive buildings bring down the status of the shops around them - and this too adds to the string of problems that need attention.

The Landlords of the Town Centre don't seem to care one jot about the standards of the area have, over a comparatively short period of time, deteriorated.

Residents of Aycliffe have aired their views profusely in the 'Newton News' during the last few years - concerned and very disappointed that this has been left to evolve, and they have every right to express their anger.

R. Stephens of Boots has kept a portfolio of photographs of the Town Centre, and of articles and letters printed in the 'Newton News'. He also intends to gather interest from everyone concerned to begin a forceful campaign.

R. Stephens said: "Over the course of about three to four years, the potential of Newton Aycliffe Town Centre has just gone to waste - and local people are going to Darlington and shop Auckland for their shopping".

"The campaign, he said: "It's a little too early to go into any of the details of what we have in mind at the moment, but I am hoping we can get the ball rolling within the next couple of months".

Her Store Managers are backing the proposed campaign. Non Ingham (Superdrug) said: "If something like this came out, I'd back it 100%. I'd be more than happy to help the campaign - it's about time we did something about the state of the Town Centre".

Polworths, Kwik Save, MacKays and Boyes have said that they will be fully behind the cause, while Graham Meikle, Store Manager of Somerfield, said: "This sounds like a very promising idea. I'd definitely back such a campaign, and do all that I could help persuade the Landlords to clean up the Town Centre - something that the people of Newton Aycliffe fully deserve".

Local authorities have already held talks with the Town's landlords, and negotiations between them are in the preliminary stages. Chairman of Environment for Aycliffe Town Council, Terry Hogan, explained how steps towards cleaning the Town Centre are well and truly in motion, saying: "We've held an initial meeting with some of the Landlords, and we're holding another in February. We're aiming to take the situation much further, anxious to clean up the Town - which is long overdue".

Councillor Hogan is aiming to tidy up the Town well before the end of the year, so its 50th Anniversary Celebrations next year can be something to remember for the people of Newton Aycliffe.

The prospect of joining the local authorities and the proposed committee of shop owners will only be another step forward, an idea backed by Terry Hogan. "That is another channel we would take" he said "we would then have the opportunity to look at the situation from both sides of the fence".

He said that our Council representatives are doing everything in their power to solve this problem. 'Newton News' began the campaign last year and the shopkeepers are now taking it a step further. Let's hope we get enough encouragement and enthusiasm to press the Landlords into making meaningful environmental improvements.

Any developments will be reported in future editions of the 'Newton News'.



Empty shops attract vandals



Unightly litter and graffiti under the Ramp

ROTARY BRINGS DRUG EDUCATION TO SCHOOLS

Dear Sir,
Drug abuse is now recognised as perhaps the greatest cost to both domestic and business communities today with almost every member of society affected either directly or indirectly. Every family in our community has at least one member who could be vulnerable to drug abuse of one form or another. We have all had to pay more for our goods and services as a result of the abusers turning to crime to feed their need for whatever substance they may be addicted to. Once the addiction is achieved the cost of the cure is enormous to both the addict and those that must fund the treatment. The Rotary Clubs of the Northeast of England have taken an initiative which attempts prevention through education.

They have brought to the area for a period of 6 weeks a Life Education Caravan which will visit Primary Schools with a trained educator and offer a series of exciting programmes which will teach children the importance of looking after their bodies and hopefully to learn how to apply peer pressure and say No to Drugs. Life Education Caravans have been extremely successful in every area in which they have been employed.

If you would like to help Rotary with the Life Education programme or visit the caravan whilst it is in Durham and the Northeast please contact John Billany on 01325 311331 during business hours or 01388 772965 at other times. IT COULD SAVE YOU MONEY AND MAY SAVE A YOUNG LIFE!

Give us Salt to Clear the Ice

Dear Sir,
I have just read the most recent edition of the 'Newton News' and was particularly interested in a front page article about poor ice and snow clearing, written by Councillor Tony Moore.

I feel embittered towards the Highways Dept. of Sedgfield Borough, as I'm sure other local residents must do, due to the none existent treatment of residential roads in my area.

I appreciate the enormity of the task in hand at this time of year. I understand it is impossible to treat every road and cul-de-sac, but the road in question is Pemberton Road which is arterial to at least a dozen cul-de-sacs.

This is a 'loop' road off the main road and is the only main road access to this estate.

During the recent cold 'snap' Pemberton road had a total covering of sheet ice and impacted snow. This was a kerb to kerb covering and an obvious danger to pedestrians and

road users alike, as I and another local resident found to our cost, as our cars were involved in a collision attributed solely to the icy road.

I feel this accident would not have happened at any other time of the year or if the road surface had been treated by the Council.

This will involve a great deal of inconvenience for two people and an expensive insurance claim. I feel that if the Highways Dept. are able to salt/grit Woodham Way, why can't they treat Pemberton Road which would mean all of a few minutes diversions.

After all what are we paying Council Tax for! If the reason for not sending a gritter up Pemberton Road is stationary local residents cars, parked either side, being damaged, could the Highways Dept. not provide several salt/grit bins at fixed locations for local residents to use should these conditions occur again.

Yours faithful

J S Turnbull
Woodham Resident

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE

Woodham Community Centre, St. Elizabeth's Close - Tuesday 6.00pm
Over 60's Club, Neville Parade - Wednesday 7.00pm
NEW - Leisure Centre, Beveridge Way - Thursday 5.30pm & 9.45pm - NEW

DARLINGTON

Weight Watchers Centre, 1 Beaumont Street - Monday 9.30am
Tuesday 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon, 4.15pm, 5.45pm and 7pm
Wednesday 5.30pm - Thursday 12.30pm
Friday 5.30pm - Saturday 9.00am - Sunday 2.00pm
Harrowgate Hill, White Horse Hotel, Harrowgate Hill - Monday 6.30pm
Mowden Park, Mowden Park R.F.C., Yiewsley Drive - Wednesday 6.30pm
Cockerton, The Brinkburn, Brinkburn Road - Monday 7.15pm
Hurworth, Hurworth Grange, Croft Road - Monday 6.45pm

BISHOP AUCKLAND

NEW - The Aclet, Watling Road - Wednesday 6.30pm - NEW
St. Peter's Church Hall, Princess Street - Thursday 9.45am, 5.30pm and 7.00pm

SHILDON, Methodist Church Hall, Main Street - Monday 6.15pm

SPENNYMOOR, Leisure Centre - Monday 9.30am and 6.15pm

FERRYHILL, Town Hall - Wednesday 9.30am and 6.00pm

SEDGFIELD, Ceddesfeld Hall, Rectory Row - Wednesday 5.15pm & 6.45pm

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Graffiti on the Town Centre Ramp downgrades the whole area

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Week of Prayer

The Great Aycliffe Council of Churches would like to invite you to any of the following services which you might like to attend during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18th to 25th 1997), when Christians concentrate on the beliefs they hold in common rather than their differences.

Mon 20th	7pm	St Clare's	Eucharist
Tues 21st	7pm	St Francis'	Eucharist
Wed 22nd	7pm	St Elizabeth's	Eucharist
Wed 22nd	7pm	Neville Parade Methodist	Alpha Course
Fri 24th	6pm	St Mary's	Penitential Mass
Sat 25th	6pm	St Joseph's	Mass
Sun 26th	6pm	St Mary's	United Service

Please come along and join us if you can, everyone is welcome.

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Letter Aycliffe Has Lovely Shops!

Dear Sir,
In answer to the charge of "tatty" Town Centre shops. My husband and I came to Newton Aycliffe in 1969 with 5 children. We were on the poverty line and our home was vetted after we moved in. I wonder if your correspondent's home was vetted, but I don't think so if he can afford a new car every two years.

We have some lovely shops and some very nice people serving in them - the best is the butcher in the Thames Centre where you always get a laugh.

Also the Chemists, Drug??? where you receive kind attention and understanding. And the new Somerfields is a great store.

I don't think there is any need to go out of town, unless you fancy a day out. There are still a lot of people on the poverty line and we need the Charity Shops as we do not have the money to buy new clothes.

I am glad to use them as I feel I am helping charities to which I can't usually donate money.

I don't know why the writer lives on the town if he doesn't use the shops here.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. D. Moore

UNDER 12's VICTORIOUS IN HARD GAME

Newton Aycliffe Under 12's are through to the last 16 of the North Riding Cup. On Sunday 12th they entertained Teesside Athletic Under 11's in the Second Round of the Cup. Aycliffe soon realised this was going to be a tougher match than expected, with the way Teesside Athletic started to play.

The first chance of the game fell to Aycliffe striker Turnbull with a shot just going wide, Turnbull then had another shot well saved by the Teesside Athletic Goalkeeper.

Aycliffe nearly took the lead when Wright crossed the ball into Teesside Athletic's box but once again the header went wide of the post.

But Aycliffe didn't have their own way with Teesside Athletic players screaming for a penalty when it looked like Aycliffe keeper Emmerson had obstructed one of their players. With five minutes to go Emmerson was happy to see a fierce shot go wide of his left hand post.

Aycliffe made one substitution at half-time bringing Laing on for Wright. Aycliffe finally got the breakthrough when having picked a loose ball up in Midfield, he passed to Craddock, who played a lovely chip over the defence for Cairns to run onto and slot the ball passed the advancing keeper.

Teesside Athletic then went searching for the equaliser but Aycliffe's defence, which was well marshalled by Newton Aycliffe's Man of the Match, Richard Thorne, withstood the pressure.

Craddock for Aycliffe then had a good shot which just went wide of the left post. Aycliffe

then brought J Bates on for Byrne who was playing his first competitive match for eight weeks.

With five minutes to go Aycliffe should have sealed the match when Tarling won the ball in midfield, played it to Cairns, who then played it back to Tarling on the right wing, who played a hard low cross across Teesside's box to the unmarked Turnbull, who somehow put it over the bar from six yards out. This was the final chance of a very hard and entertaining game. The Aycliffe team consisted of: Emmerson, Vickerstaff, Thorne, Byrne, (Bates), Tarling, Wright, (Laing), Craddock, Bowtell, Peddelby, Turnbull & Cairns - Subs: Bates, Jones, Dickinson.

Full time score - Newton Aycliffe 1, Teesside Athletic 0. Well done boys!

HUNTSMEN JOINT TOP WITH LEGION

**Huntsman - 7
Quaker Sports - 0**
In association with J & C Coaches.

Huntsman remain joint top of the table with neighbours British Legion after both sides won with consummate ease, writes Martin Walker.

Legion, who have played 11 and are on 21 points and are top on goal difference, beat previously third placed Alexander le Skerne 6-0, while Huntsman defeated lowly Quaker Sports 7-0, putting them on 21 points from 13 games.

Director of Football Stuart Hodgson had stern words with his players before the game. Hodgson said that certain unsettled players have been ridiculing his team selections and the way he runs the team behind his back.

He warned: "If any one has anything to say about the way I run the team, they can say it to my face instead of talking behind my back. And if you all want me to step down as manager, that's fine with me".

It seemed to fire up his team - they were comfortable in all parts of the field. Hodgson's selection for the game came as a bit of a surprise for some. Morgan Fielding, now available for section following his five week ban, wasn't included in the side, along with the somewhat experienced Dave Lee. I was again eating grass on the sideline - you know - like a sort of scape-goat.

Wayne Marram lifted the pressure from his shoulders by bagging a hat-trick - although he still might have took more. Rob Lothian also scored a hat-trick, but won the Minger-of-the-match award for missing

numerous gifted opportunities. Chris Walker scored another peach of a goal, taking on about four, nay five players before sweetly striking into the top right corner with that flashing left limb. Tony Travis was Man-of-the-match.

Team: Kent 7, Partridge 7, McCabe 7, R. Walker 7, R. Hodgson 7, T. Walker 6, Haigh 6, C. Walker 8, TRAVIS 9, Marram 8, Lothian 4.

Subs: Fielding 6, Lee 6, M. Walker 6.

Following the sad resignation of Kevin Keegan last week, Stuart Hodgson was again in the limelight for the position. He has refused to rule himself out of the job, but in the past he has repeatedly backed Huntsman when jobs at Arsenal, Blackburn Rovers, Nottingham Forest and Otter & Fish came up - he turned them all down.

A Hodgson departure would inevitably pave the way for Dave Lee - the old man with a golden tash.

Will Hodgson take the lucrative offer from St. James' Park, or will he remain faithful to Huntsman and continue with a serious title challenge? Find out in next weeks 'Newton News'.

This week Huntsman play away to Alexander le Skerne. Huntsman have already beat Eric Alexander's men twice this season, 4-2 and 4-1.

This weeks poser: What are the full names of Middlesbrough's Brazilian aces Emerson and Juninho? (Answer next week).

Last weeks poser: What West Brom player scored in every round of the FA Cup in 1968 (Answer: Jeff Astle).

Pram Services Start

On Friday 17th January St. Elizabeth's Church pram services start again at 1.30pm. We have a short service (about 20 minutes) during which we sing songs, listen to a story, make a craft item and say prayers, then we all go into the hall for coffee while the children play with toys. You don't have to have small children to come along and join in. Everyone is welcome.

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