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Week Ending 3rd April, 1998

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#### JUNIOR ROLLER SKATING

Tuesday 7th and 14th April Thursday 9th and 16th April 2.00pm - 3.45pm

£1.00 per person, per session

Children should be between 8-14 years old and must provide their own roller skates

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#### LAST CHANCE TO COMMENT ON PROPOSALS FOR **AVENUE SITE**

200 About residents in Newton Aycliffe have returned questionnaires, giving their views on the future development of the former Avenue School site.

Printed & Published by Newton Press, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DX. Tel: (01325) 300212.

However, planners at Sedgefield Borough Council would still like to hear from more local people - particularly Community from Groups and local Clubs. Space for community groups and Clubs can be provided within a new development on the site, but only if the clubs let planners know what

space they need. So far only eight of the thirty three groups contacted have been back to the Council with

a response. But they still have time to return the Borough Council's "Town Centre Facilities Questionnaire" The deadline for completed forms is Thursday 9th April and should be sent to:

Projects and Plans, Sedgefield Borough Council, Council Offices, Green Lane, Spennymoor Durham DL16 6JQ. anyone requiring further information or who wish receive questionnaire should contact the Department on (01388) 816166.

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QUIZ NIGHT WEDNESDAY 9.15pm - 50p Pluck & Fiddle" Sunday 5th April - 5pm Easter Sunday 12th Irish band with Fiddler 7.30pm "The Rack of Kildare" free snacks Children's Easter Egg Competition open to all children

HAPPY HOUR Mon-Fri 5-7pm Magnet £1.25 pint

#### SAINSBURY'S SHOW INTEREST IN NEWTON

#### **AYCLIFFE**

"Newton News" has been in contact with Sainsburys for a number of years with regard to the Town Centre site.

We suggested it would make good sense for them to have a store in Newton Aycliffe as it would be ideally situated between their Middlesbrough and Durham branches.

With good access and parking Aycliffe could begin to attract shoppers rather than losing them to outlying towns.

We sent them copies of the new proposals for the Avenue site and they responded this week, saying they would be interested in being kept up to date with developments.

This is an indication that the proposed scheme is attractive to major developers and should give encouragement to the townspeople and those who will be responsible marketing the site.

It will also give some satisfaction to those who came up with the ideas for the development.

#### EASTER **CLOSING AT** NEWTON PRESS

Please Note Newton News will be published next week on Thursday 9th April and the deadline for copy and advertisements 11am, Wednesday 8th April.

**Newton Press printing** works will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. We will re-open for normal business on Tuesday 14th April at 8.30 a.m.

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SUNDAY LUNCH - Served 12-2pm Main Course £4.25 Children at less than half price (main course) Starters & Sweets Selection just £1.25

#### **CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES** FOR HOLY WEEK and EASTER

ST CLARE'S, TOWN CENTRE PALM SUNDAY - 23rd March 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Sung Eucharist and Blessing of Palm Crosses MAUNDY THURSDAY - 27th March 8.00pm Sung Eucharist and Vigil GOOD FRIDAY - 28th March

9.00am Morning Prayer 1.30pm Good Friday Liturgy EASTER EVE

8.00pm Easter Vigil and Confirmation service Celebrant & preacher the Bishop of Durham EASTER SUNDAY - 30th March 8.00am Holy Eucharist

9.15am Sung Eucharist ST FRANCIS, HORNDALE and ST ELIZABETH'S, WOODHAM PALM SUNDAY - 9.30am St Francis,

10.45am St Elizabeth's Sung Eucharist and Blessing of Palms MAUNDY THURSDAY -

7.30pm St Francis Holy Eucharist 7.00pm St Elizabeth's Agape Meal GOOD FRIDAY -2.00pm St Francis Good Friday Liturgy 2.00pm St Elizabeth's Good Friday Liturgy EASTER SUNDAY - 9.15am St Francis - Sung Eucharist

ST ANDREW'S, AYCLIFFE VILLAGE PALM SUNDAY - 10.15am Eucharist and Blessing of Palms MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7.00pm Eucharist GOOD FRIDAY - 12 noon Good Friday Liturgy

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10.45am St Elizabeth's - Family Eucharist

EASTER SUNDAY 6.00pm Evening service 10.30am Sung Eucharist

#### **Chairman of School Governors Was Not** involved in Protest

I refer to the "front page letter to the editor" featured in your newspaper on 27th March

I have to protest in the strongest possible terms and point out one simple but important fact - I did NOT write that letter! I am completely mystified as to why my name (and telephone number) appears as the signatory.

The contents of this article make it abundantly clear that it was written on behalf (or by a member) of Vane Road School Parents Action Group. I am NOT in any way connected to this group which is acting independently and separately from the school's elected Governing Body.

I believe that an unreserved and public apology is due for the embarrassment and stress this article has caused to me, the staff and parents.

Attributing a letter and publishing a telephone number without authenticating the contents with the contributor is nothing short of scandalous.

Be assured this is the first time I have written to a newspaper and I demand that you publish an apology and feature it as prominently as was the article. I would also expect you to rerun the PAG statement with proper accreditation.

Yours faithfully G. A. Gibson

ED: We do apologise to Mrs Gibson and the Parents Action Group for what was purely a simple mistake. The document submitted had Mrs Gibson's name and telephone number at the bottom of the page and we assumed she had written the

We print it again, but as there was no other name we cannot give the accreditation requested.

## No Hazard Wha

The article regarding the "dangerous school" was both untrue and mischievous in the extreme. I have two sons of which the eldest spent his entire primary education at Vane Road School and the younger is still there with several years to go.

The asbestos boards from which the school is partly constructed is typical of a building of that age and design and presents absolutely no hazard whatsoever in its present inert state. Only if the asbestos was considerably crushed and broken would it become a hazard and then one would need to breath it in large quantities for an extended period of time before it was a problem.

After the publishing of the handout entitled "Urgent Message" I decided to take a look at the school as I feared it had changed since my last visit. I was shown around by the head mistress after making an unannounced visit to ensure that no pre preparation could take place. I found the toilets to be in an excellent state of repair with all the bowls and sinks unbroken and the cisterns working perfectly, soap and towels provided and everything very clean and hygienic despite it being at the end of the day after the children had left and the cleaners had not vet arrived!! On inspection of the wiring I discovered it to be in perfectly safe condition, and despite that the old type round pin sockets were in some rooms, these were connected to multi sockets (again quite safe) to enable several appliances to be used at one time. I therefore

the delivery of the National curriculum

The person or persons who compiled this anonymous leaflet are simply troublemaking busy bodies that need to mind there own business, the teachers have enough to do in educating the children without this nonsense to worry about. I am interested in the comments of whoever wrote this leaflet and I would be obliged if they would visit the school with me to point out these dangerous crumbling areas as I was unable to find them, in fact I noticed the school was in particularly good order and in clean pleasant decoration. Finally

before anybo questioning my qualifications in can inform you t vested political in direction whatso my professional of an inspector buildings and fac as a specialist in t hazardous waste controlled by the Care Act" that control of asbes work for, or wi council but f independent p institute.

Yours faithfully Paul Raymond N Sunningdale Newton Aycliffe

#### PROPERTY FOR SA



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#### VANE ROAD SCHOOL PARENT ACTION GROUP

The Vane Road School P.A.G. was formed after several parents expressed concern about the handling of our recent asbestos leak. On further investigation within our school we became more concerned as other major issues came to light. We are now a committee of 12, 8 mums and 4 dads who have a singular strength of purpose, to ensure the safety and health of our children and their teachers.

We have issued a leaflet which precedes a petition of signatures to be collected on Monday 30th March. Our aim is to inform ALL parents of the problems within Vane Road School, detailed

Asbestos: It is impossible to guarantee the safety of our children and staff whilst asbestos remains in

Electrical Wiring: The original wiring system is still in operation. This was installed in 1959 and consists of antiquated round pin plug sockets, max load 5 amp. Infant

socket per classroom, Junior has 2. In order to use more than one appliance at once the staff are obliged to use extension cables which are at the very least a rripping hazard for children.

Sanitation: After nearly 40 years of constant use the toilet blocks are nothing short of disgusting. Peeling paint, jagged plywood partitions, tiles refusing to stay on and outdated slow filling high level cisterns leave a permanent stench

which defies belief. These 3 major potential hazards are providing an environment wholly unsuitable for adequate delivery of the national curriculum which is every child's basic right. questioning the governors it has become apparent that despite numerous letters and meetings they have made no headway with DCC. In addition, concerned parents when contacting DCC on these issues have been met with a very evasive attitude.

In Mr Blair's election campaign we were told his priority, if elected would be EDUCATION, priorities are Asbestos, Wiring and Sanitation

## **Apologies** for Print Error

Dear Sir Our article in last week's issue concerning problems at Vane Road School was a statement from the Schools Parent Action Group and NOT a letter to the Editor from Mrs G. Gibson, Chair of Governors. Whilst Mrs Gibson and the Governors share concerns raised, she has nothing whatsoever to do with the Action Group and we apologise unreservedly to her for any stress and upset this may have caused. The statement in its intended form is repeated

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# TOP CHEF'S VISIT TO OFFICIALY OPEN NEW VILLAGE RESTAURANT



Celebrity chefs converged on Aycliffe recently, when Andrew Brown, first winner of the Raymond Blanc annual scholarship, opened his own pub - The County.

Unemployed and living in the North East, in 1995 Andrew entered the Raymond Blanc competition to win a scholarship to turn amateur cooks into pros. No one was more surprised than Andrew when he won!

He started the 15 month apprenticeship at Raymond Blanc's Manoir aux Quat' Saisons and then joined the opening team for Le Petit Blanc in Oxford. Now, only three years later, in an increasing trend among up and coming restaurateurs he has returned to the North East to set up his own business, in partnership with Scottish & Newcastle Pub Enterprises.

Fellow chef Raymond Blanc came along to the County to offer his support and share recipe tips with customers, and also presented Andrew with a framed certificate in recognition of his achievement. Andrew intends to concentrate his efforts on creating a unique, high quality menu at the County to complement the picturesque, rural setting and welcoming, cosy bar and has already seen his efforts pay off as customers are returning on a regular basis.

aid Andrew, "it's a dream come true for me, I've gone from being unemployed to running my own business with Scottish & Newcastle Pub Enterprises in the space of three years!" He adds, "People are increasingly demanding a higher quality of food in pubs and the Michelin Guide has even introduced an award for pub food in recognition of this. I'm confident that I can offer people an exciting and varied menu and I'm really looking forward to sharing my love of good food with my customers."

# ORDER YOUR TICKETS TO BE AT SPECIAL 50th THANKSGIVING

To commemorate the towns 50th Anniversary Great Aycliffe Town Council, the Rotary Club and Church leaders are working together to organise an Interdenominational Service of Thanksgiving.

The service will mark the end of the week's celebrations. Our aim is to make sure that there is as wide a representation as possible from the town and we will be looking to invite as many organisations as possible.

At this stage we do not know how many tickets we will be able to allocate to each organisation, but it would be helpful if those organisations who would like to be represented would let us know. This will help us to plan the final arrangements.

If you organisation is interested in being part of the service would you please write to: Mr. M Rice, Chief Executive, Great Aycliffe Town Council, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF by no later than 24th April 1998.

# Do we want Borough to Run Everything?

Dear Sir, So Councillor Moore wants to abandon our present system of local government to be replaced by what?

Centralization of government may have some cost benefits but this is at the expense of local democracy.

Does Councillor Moore prefer Newton Aycliffe to be wholly run by Sedgefield Borough or Durham County Councils or a Newton Aycliffe Borough Council?

Services currently provided by Great Aycliffe Town Council would then have to be carried out by some other body. The fact that each Council is responsible for different service provisions does not necessarily increase the cost, the reason for doing so is to reduce the cost.

If Counc. Moore appears to have some grand scheme which will dramatically reduce the cost of local government let us hear what it is,

The real costs are in the provision of services, is he suggesting that the present services should be reduced or perhaps scrapped?

Which ones Councillor

Moore? Yours faithfully, Keith Henderson Chairman Ayeliffe North Ward Labour Party

# OVER 60's GOLFERS PENALISED

Dear Sir

Aycliffe Council have just announced the rates for members playing on the "Oak Leaf Golf Course".

The new rate for adult members up to the age of 60 has gone up from £160 to £165. This £5 increase is very fair and acceptable.

The Council in it's wisdom has put the rate for members over the age of 60 and pensioners up from £100 to £140, this £40 increase is both obscene and outrageous to those who can least afford it.

How can so called caring and responsible councillors justify such an increase is beyond me. I think the honourable thing for the councillors to do would be to sit down and re-think this increase and have it reduced to a £5.00 increase, in line with the other adult rate.

Along with many others I feel to strongly on this matter that I have written to the local MP and Prime Minister, Tony Blair.

We hope he may be able to intervene to help the elderly instead of penalising them as the council has done.

Hoping for a positive response from the Council Veteran Golfer

Name & Address supplied

#### Junior Golf NOTICE

Junior Golfers please note that the first competition is on Wednesday 8th April meet at 10.15am at the Oak Leaf Golf Club

## NATIONAL GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS AT AYCLIFFE

This weekend will see the arrival of one hundred and fifty hopeful young gymnasts, competing for National Titles at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

The British Schools Gymnastics Association, National Full Apparatus Championship is open to girls from 9 to 1 8 Years of age.

The Championship will involve teams from across the U.K. The Northern Area team will include Rachel Collinson of Shildon and Roxanne Jennison of Bishop Auckland who train with the National Squad.

Rachel is now the British Elite Champion for gymnasts of twelve years and over. Rachel and Roxanne are members of South Durham Gym Club training at Spennymoor Leisure Centre.

The National Championships take place on Saturday, 4th April and Sunday, 5th April. Doors open at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre at 8.30 a.m. Tickets are £3,50 per day.

For further information please contact Gary Cooper on (01388) 816166 or for tickets contact the Leisure Centre direct on (01325) 300500.

# Are You Happy With Our Work?

Dear Sir

We are the group of young people from the Youth Centre who have adopted Burnhill Way subway as part of the Square Mile Project.

For the last month we have been cleaning the subway and also removing graffiti. (we have been there every Sunday).

We were wondering if anyone had noticed our attempts to keep it clean. If anyone has any feed back, good or bad, would you please write to The Newton News or write to us The Square Mile Project, c/o Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre.

Thank You Paul Young Stacey Snowball Richi Dimambro - Walters Gemma Stott Andrew Blackburn Daniel Ainsley - Weighell

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Four Cadbury's Creme Eggs for £1.00

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Free Cadbury Creme Egg with all "Spice Girl" Egg Deals

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| Benson & Hedges  | £3.15  |
| Silk Cut         | £3.15  |
| Mayfair          | £2.42  |
| Sovereign        | £2.50  |
| Maxim            | £2.52  |
| Craven A         | £2.63  |
| Royals           | £3.18  |

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# **BOROUGH MAYOR LAUNCHES**

Serious climbers and local school children joined Sedgefield Borough Mayor, Brian Avery, to launch the Borough's "Festival of Life" at the Rock Antics Climbing Wall at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

The Borough's "Festival of Life" brings together over one hundred activities from the beginning of April to the end of June - sports events, concerts, arts and crafts, \*gardening and floral art, church activities. competitions, community galas and street entertainment. At the launch Mayor, Brian

climbing equipment and joined regular users of the Climbing Wall. Children from Greenfield School, Woodham Burn

Avery, was provided with

Primary School and a small group from Aycliffe Young People's Centre who also climbed on the rock face.

The first event of the "Festival of Life" is "Climb Ben Nevis" where climbers will try to climb the same height as Ben Nevis, over a three month period. They will need to make 1571/2 ascents of the 28 feet high Climbing Wall, to cover an equivalent distance. Other events include "Swim the Channel" - a junior swimming event Spennymoor Leisure Centre, Cross Stitches Embroidery - an exhibition at Spennymoor Library and events at Shildon Sunnydale and Ferryhill Leisure Centres.

#### The Newton Aycliffe Royal **British Legion Pipes and Drums**

Are you interested in joining the new Newton Aycliffe Royal British Legion Pipe Band - tuition

Are you a piper or drummer, or do you want to learn? Then come along to our practice sessions at the Royal British Legion Club, Newton Aycliffe on Sundays between 9.30-11.30am or Wednesdays at Greenfield School 7.00-9.00pm.

For further information call Mr. H. Clephane on Aycliffe 01325 300140

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#### WHO SPEAKS FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL?

by Cllr. J. D. Clare in the Newton News 20-3-98, that he spoke "officially for the Town Council" in that article

I am unaware of any such remit granted Cllr. Clare by G.A.T.C. Moreover, stringent statutory prohibitions apply to any Local Authority's 'publicity'. (Sec 2. Local Govt Act. 1986)

Especially material which "appears to affect public support for a particular political party."

Those regulations were tightened in the 1988- 1989 Acts of Parliament. In particular where 11 publicity is produced by a Member in a way, or on an occasion, which makes it appear to be issued by, or on behalf of the Local Authority,"

In that context, Members are warned against "producing press statements and publicity that might be interpreted as being designed to affect public support for a political party."
'Design' includes; "content, style of material, time and the

circumstances of publication, and the likely effect on those to whom it is directed." (The 1986 Act only allows Councils to publicise the functions and services they deliver.)
In view of the above, and Cllr. Clare's claim 20-3-98, that he spoke

"officially for the Town Council, which has not been corrected todate; the style, content and circumstances of that particular article are of particular relevance.

As was a previously statement, that he is Press Secretary to the Party Political Labour Group on G.A.T.C. (Newton News 272-98) As above, statutory prohibitions apply to Council publicity.

I have written to the Chief Executive of G.A.T.C. about those concerns and issues arising from Cllr.Clare claiming to have spoken 'officially" for G.A.T.C. in that article.

And requested they be clarified publicly, and raised in Full Council for ALL MEMBERS to questioners I sincerely believe it should

Yours faithfully,

Cllr.D.M.Fraser, GATC, Woodham Ward.

#### SCHOOL MINISTER SUPPORTS TONY MOORE'S CAMPAIGN

My campaign for school milk provision in Co Durham Junior Schools has gained the support of the Minister of Education, Mr David Blunkett. In a personal letter to me, he states he is aware that recent research has suggested consumption of milk in adolescent girls could reduce the risk of osteoporosis in later

An expert group of the Aspects of Food and Nutrition Policy (COMA) is currently considering the wider nutritionally aspects of bone health. COME is expected to publish its report next year and my Ministerial colleagues will also, no doubt, discuss this at their next meeting.

The Government will continue to advise that milk is an important source of calcium and forms part of a healthy and balanced diet for children. We also recognise that physical activity has an important part to play, not only in preventing obesity, but also through its important contribution to the prevention of osteoporosis

I share your wish to see more schools taking advantage of the European Union School Milk Subsidy Scheme. Participation is optional but Ministers will no doubt explore, at their meeting, the options for reminding schools about the availability of the subsidy and to encourage their

I will keep the families of Aycliffe fully informed of any further progress Yours sincerely Tony Moore County Councillor

#### Eggshibition at Shildon

Timothy Hackworth Victorian and Railway Museum in Shildon is to host colourful Easter "Eggshibition". There will be over 400 painted and decorated eggs on show that have been created by primary school children throughout the Sedgefield Borough.

The museum opens its doors for the new season on Friday 10th April and will be open from 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Visitors to the Museum over the Easter weekend on the 12th and 13th of April will be able to take advantage of having a steam train ride on the Merlin Locomotive.

For more information on opening times and steam event days Tel 01388 777999.

## OVER 60's **CLUB** RUNS **TABLE** TOP SALE

Newton Aycliffe Over 60 Club are holding a Table Top Sale on Saturday 18th April from 10am-2pm, tables can be booked by ringing 316123.

The cost per table is £4, admission to the public is 10p. Cakes tall, tea and coffee facilities, all proceeds to help towards the cost of refurbishing the toilets.

The Over 60 Club meets every Wednesday at 1.30pm and have a game of bingo, tea/coffee and biscuits - also, this year, a trip to Redcar on 2nd June

#### Mass of the Lord's Supper 8.00pm St. Mary's **GOOD FRIDAY** Celebration of the Lord's Passion St. Joseph's St. Mary's 12.00noon 3.00pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC HOLY WEEK SERVI

6.30pm 9.30am

11.00am

EASTER SUNDAY

Vigil Mass 8.00pm Easter Morning 9.30am 11.00am Easter Morning

PALM SUNDAY Vigil Mass

Morning Mass 9.
Morning Mass 11
MAUNDY THURSDAY

St. Mary's ( St Joseph's

St. Mary's



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#### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

#### Northumbria in Bloom Competition 19

The Town Council has entered Newton Aycliffe and Aycliffe Village in this y Britain in Bloom Competition.

Whilst the Town council enter the competition on behalf of the Town and Ayc Village, judging is not restricted to Town Council property alone. All area closely scrutinized by the judges, including industrial estates, housing a shopping centres and open spaces. Extracts from the Judging Criteria applie Britain in Bloom entries read as follows:

"Judges will be looking for the overall effort in support of the Britain in B. Campaign. The floral impact should be visibly evident on entry to a city, tow village and should extend through all areas - participation by residents and public on both private or Council housing estates will be looked for Judges look for efforts and improvements to the environment not only for residents by

As well as entering the Town and Village categories the Town Council can nominate entries for awards in the following categories:

ROD LEYBURN MEMORIAL TROPHY - best school horticultural projet MAY WOOLEY AWARD - Best voluntary project in support of Northumbr Bloom (eg: scouts/guides, church groups or local committees taking part in picks, clean-ups, plantings etc.)

NORTH TYNESIDE TROPHY - Best shopping precinct.
NORTHERN ROCK RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY AWARD - Best comb

efforts of residents of a clearly defined community, eg: street, terrace, cul-de which may have been improved and enhanced their environment. RON GRUBB MEMORIAL TROPHY - Best kept grounds of an old pe

BETTY WOOD TROPHY - Best kept grounds of a religious establishing

maintained by parishioners.

GLADYS WATSON TROPHY - Best individual commercial effort for the up and layout of external premises (excluding licensed premises)

IPRA PRESIDENTS TROPHY - Best conservation project by the I JENNIFER ROBSON TROPHY - Best kept and florally attractive bus, met

railway station.

WHITLEY BAY GUARDIAN TROPHY - Best effort for upkeep of exte premises by a public house or hotel

TYNE & WEAR COUNTY COUNCIL TROPHY - Best effort by a manufact for maintenance of grounds.

HORTICULTURAL TRADES ASSOC. AWARD - For outstanding over efforts by Chambers of Commerce or equivalent in support of a L A entr

THE BOB WOOLEY MEMORIAL AWARD - For the most attractive i garden (Aycliffe Village residents only).

For further details of how to enter nominations for any of the above categories please contact Mike Wilson at the Town Council Offices, School Aycliffe I

Britain in Bloom Judges will be pying their first visit on Thursday 16th A 1998. Please do all you can to support YOUR entry.

#### **WOODHAM PUPILS'** SPORTS SUCCESS

Amy McGuire, a pupil from Woodham Comprehensive represented the school and county recently at the English Schools Cross Country Championships in Cheltenham. Amy produced an outstanding individual performance, being placed 72nd out of a field of 352, despite this being her first national event. Durham County Junior Girls team was eventually placed 13th from 44 counties.

James Pike, a fellow pupil, helped the South Durham

Schools under 13s Judo team to reach the semi-finals of the National Schools Mixed Team Judo Championships a Birmingham recently. Despite being one member short the team were only one point off reaching the finals.

James won three out of his four fights and the team each received a bronze medal. Both James and his sister Amy Pike will be representing the school in April when the individual championships are held.



#### Part-time Bar Person

to work Tuesday 7.30-11.30pm and Sundays 7.00-11pm in the busy Sports Complex Bar

Applicants should have a friendly and helpful attitude and be able to communicate well with customers. The post offers a comeptitive rate of pay and annual leave entitlement. Application form and further details available from the Reception Desk at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4QZ Telephone Aycliffe (01325) 300600

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## School Raise over £1000 for NSPCC



The pupils at Vane Road Primary School raised £1028.06 for the NSPCC by holding a sponsored event. Lynda Johnson Area Schools Manager for the NSPCC started

the sponsored event by talking to the children about the work of the charity and making them think about the children the NSPCC helps.

The pupils then completed different sponsored games according to their age, ranging from a colouring game for the infant children to a geographical quiz for the older junior

The money raised will be directed into the NSPCC family centre in Middlesbrough which deals with referrals from throughout the local area.

Lynda then went back to school to say thank you on behalf of NSPCC to the children, parents families and friends who helped raise this fantastic amount.

For anyone who is concerned or worried about a child in any way the NSPCC runs a free 24 hour confidential helpline. The number is 0800 800 500.

#### **Aycliffe Rugby**

Bishop Auckland III - 25 Newton Aycliffe 15

This was a super game watched by a sizable crowd of spectators from both sides. The Aycliffe forwards once again scrummaged well and apart from one five minute spell in the second half, dominated their opposite

orange

evenly contested by both sides. Bob Malvern was once again at scrum half this week after his game at loose head last time out. His opposite number from Bishop Auckland was Christened "Bob's Wallet" by the crowd, after forward dominance by Aycliffe, it was no surprise when they took the lead through Mick Casey who scored a brilliant try in the corer. This was soon followed by a penalty popped over by Darryl Petit. At 8-0 Aycliffe were cruising, with Mick Kent on Bishop's rallied somewhat and Aycliffe conceded a silly try in the last minute of the first half. At the start of the second half, Aycliffe kicked to the opposition at the re-start, the ball was passed to Kent who drilled the ball 60 yards downfield turning the Aycliffe pack round. A second soft try

numbers. The line out was

Aycliffe were again required to kick to the opposition at the re-start with the same outcome. Ut was at this stage that the Aycliffe forwards seemed to run out of puff. There was no air about and oxygen was in short supply. By contrast Bishop were far from a one man band. Cancellation of their first team game left they over loaded with substitutes and a further five took the field as the clock ticked on.

The best try of the game was scored by Darryl Petit after some great interlinking with the forwards, this try was converted by TJ Cooper, at this stage Bishops were rattled causing them to loose sight of the ball. This was the only way to account for a number of kick and late tackles directed at Aycliffe players.

Peter Sheen was almost as knackered as his opposition hooker, but pleased when Kentie threw the ball away when faced with a tackle by the old man of Ayeliffe.

Thanks to club sponsors Great Lakes Chemicals

#### Darlington Tax 33% LESS!

Dear Sir The Council Tax for Darlington is 33% less than Newton Aycliffe. Besides the ludicrous burden of this we have to endure several building sites in the town - I know of at least 5 separate sites at the present time.

I am sure I read some three years ago that one development had to be completed prior to another being started?

We are paying more to live in Newton Aycliffe and losing our green field sites. Concerned

#### Burgled Items Recovered

POLICE APPEAL - During the early hours of Sunday 15th March, 1998, 3 persons arrested Coverdale Court, Newton Aycliffe in possession of a stolen pedal cycle, a child's quad bike and clothing, all removed from gardens during the night.

However a child's tractor and Hoselock garden hose have not been reunited with their owners. Anyone losing such property at the relevant time are requested to contact Detective Sergeant Storey at Newton Aycliffe Police Office Tel 314401

#### Running a Marathon for **Princess Diana Fund**



Gareth Elvidge of Beechfield has always had any ambition to run the worlds most

famous London Marathon and he has been chosen to run in this years on 26th April for Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund,

If you wish to help him, sponsor forms are at Woolworths in the town centre and Gregg Little's Testing Centre on the Industrial Estate.

On Good Friday, 10th April he will be collecting sponsorship donations at Morrisons on North Road in Darlington.

## **Stevens Newsagents**

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**Great Aycliffe Town Council** 

#### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

## West Cemetery - Rules and Regulations

The Town Council's new "West Cemetery" situated on School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe will soon be brought into use.

The Council will be responsible for the management and maintenance of the cemetery and is keen to ensure that the needs of mourners and future visitors to the site are catered for as sympathetically as possible.

The Town Council has given serious considerations to both the immediate and long term needs of mourners and visitors and also to the day to day and long term management and maintenance implications of the site, and has prepared draft rules and regulations which are now available for inspection and comment.

The draft rules and regulations cover a number of topics, including access arrangements, grave space maintenance, installation of memorials and day to day operational matters. Before the rules and regulations are finales the Town Council would like to hear from you. Your views are important and will be taken into account.

If you have any comments to make on the proposed rules and regulations, please write to:

Mr M. Rice Chief Executive Great Aycliffe Town Council Council Offices School Aycliffe Lane Newton Aycliffe Co. Durham DL5 6QF

Copies of the proposed rules and regulations will be available for inspection from Friday 3rd April 1998 at the following locations:

Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane 8.45am-5.15pm (Monday-Wednesday) 8.45am-5.00pm (Thursday) and 8.45am-3.45pm (Friday)

Newton Aycliffe Library, Dalton Way or

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, Beveridge Arcade

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#### THE MARCH OF HE MEDICS

Our local Territorial Army medical unit is set to gain International recognition later this year when it sends a team of Combat Medical Technicians to take part in the world-famous Nijmegen International 4 day Marches in Holland.

The event which takes place in July is the largest International marching event in the world and takes place over four days, each day involving around 25 miles of marching in teams of 12, each carrying 25lb packs plus a water supply.

The event, which is NOT a race, but which is designed to encourage fitness and International friendship, was first organised by a Dutch Public Health and Fitness group in 1908 and it has grown in size steadily ever since.

Over 8,000 military personnel from more than 16 countries will take part - and this is in addition to the many civilian teams which are involved. The marches start and end each day at the Dutch town of Nijmegen, close to Arnhem, the site of the famous Second

Training continues at weekends for these dedicated volunteer soldiers and their first test is the pre-selection weekend which will be held at RAF Benson in Oxfordshire towards the end of April. Team leader, Major Peter Wink, a 40 year old Area Manager /

So far the 201 guys and gals of 201 have received £200 in sponsorship from Crestacare (GB) Limited, a Nursing Home Company which has 66 nursing homes throughout England, Further sponsorship by either companies or individuals would be welcomed by the unit.



The photograph shows from left to right: Private Thomas Schacht, a 20 year old Production Worker from Shildon, Private, Ronald Tomlinson, 19 and a Landscape Operative also from Shildon, Lance Corporal Ronald Adcock, 22 and a Computer Support Engineer from Newton Aycliffe, and Corporal Glynis Hole who is 25, from Newton Aycliffe and who is studying for her Nursing Studies course at University.

#### **Calling Past Eden Arms Employees**

The Eden Arms at Rushyford has just spent £250,000 on refurbishing the kitchens and they will be officially opened on Wednesday 15th April.

General Manager Nigel Dibbs is looking for former employees in the 60's to write to him with stories of events at the hotel during their employment.

Those that reply will be invited to the opening event where they can be reunited with their former colleagues. Contact Nigel on (01388) 720541

#### No More **Police Dog** Displays

Durham Constabulary police dog demonstrations will not feature at fetes and fayres in future.

The police have decided they are too timeconsuming and the 2 dozen canine cops need to be out carrying out their real job catching criminals.

Each display team had a sergeant and four constables. In addition special arrangements had to be made for them to attend, not to mention extra Nearly training. weekend shifts are being lost a year because of the dog sections participation in public events.

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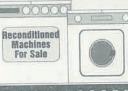
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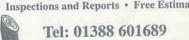
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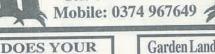
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#### In Memoriam

ATT William Raymond, sured memories of a much ed husband and father, died April 1991. Lovingly nembered by wife June, dren and grandchildren BPORTER Died 1st April 19. In loving memory of a ir husband, father and

ndfather. Loved and missed rays by your wife, June, ir children and ndchildren F DICKINSON 4-4-95

ways in our hearts and lughts, his loving wife nor and family EL BUTTERFIELD It was

leasure to call you our ends, you will be nembered fondly by us vays, God bless you Ray,

#### Birthday Remembrance

OBEL MACKENZIE membering you on your thday, 5th April, missing u still, love Mam and Dad OBEL MACKENZIE rever in my thoughts argaret. Gentle Jesus up ove, give Aunty Bell all our e Calumn and Alex

OB DICKINSON, ril. How I wish that I could y happy birthday to you this y, silent thoughts, many a ir of the one I lost and loved dear. Loving wife Peggy XX OB DICKINSON, 3rd oril. Birthday memories of a ar Dad, we miss you more an words can say, we only sh you were here today, love ian, Susan, Alan Linda and aron. Happy birthday andad, love Craig, Emma, acey and Amy XX

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#### Thank you

PEARCE Jean and Sarah would like to thank most sincerely family, friends and neighbours for all their sympathy, kindness, cards, letters donations, beautiful floral tributes and words of comfort in the very sad loss of Eddie (Vic). Special thanks to Ward 43, Darlington Memorial Hospital, Father Nicholas Chamberlain and also to Bryan A. Shepherd and staff for their care and support

HYATT Anthony and Anne would like to thank all family and friends for the gifts received for baby Mark's Christening. Special thanks to Aunty Joan, Sharon and David Scott and to Shaun and Sharon for the entertainment

MURRAY Gavin and Andrea would like to thank all family and friends for their cards and presents and for making their wedding day 28-3-98 a wonderful occasion. We would also like to thank Dorothy for making the flowers and Margaret Bewley for the

ANDREA MURRAY Thank you so much for making last Saturday (28-3-98) the best day of my life. I couldn't believe my eyes when you walked up next to me in the church, you looked absolutely stunning. The whole day and evening was fantastic, but the time we spent together at the Redworth was even better, I just know that we will last forever. All my love forever, Gavin

GAVIN MURRAY Thank you for the best day of my life, 28th March 1998. I love you so much Gav and cannot wait to spend the rest of my living days with you. All my love forever and ever, Andrea Murray XX WATKINS Geordie and Linda wish to thank everyone who came to their wedding blessing on Saturday 28th march a big thank you to Darren and Beverley for the lovely surprise of the Bentley car also our precious granddaughter for being the perfect bridesmaid, to Gwen for the beautiful cake, you did us proud and thank you to my wonderful husband for putting up with me for the last

ALLEN FRAZER - Ann and family would like to thank all family and friends for their kindness and compassion shown during their recent sad bereavement. The cards and floral tributes received were greatly appreciated. A special thank you to both the Rev Colin Jay for a lovely service and to Brian Shepherd Funeral

Director for his caring, compassion and support MRS EDITH TURNER and family sincerely thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness and sympathy and the many cards and floral tributes received during their sad bereavement. Special thanks to staff of Ward 18 Sedgefield Hospital and a special thanks to Ray Ellar and the Durham Branch of the 8th Army Veterans

#### Tuition

SAXAPHONE Tuition for beginners, Saxaphones supplied, reasonable rates, Tel 01325 262775

#### Pets

**BOARDING KENNELS and** CATTERY (established 18 years), White House Farm, Bolam, Near Darlington (off A68). Approximately 3 miles from Heighington - 01388

#### For Sale

THREE PIECE Suites, good quality, ex-catalogue, dralon suites, all brand new, all colours, amazing value from £220, friendly service, free delivery Tel 01325 266137 anytime

PINK, GREEN or blue quality dralon suites, brand new catalogue returns from only £200. Also quality second hand from £70, free delivery call anytime 01325 262775 or 0973 520074 (M) GARDEN SEAT All wood, treated £27 delivered, bird bath, concrete £12 delivered, drop leaf table, VGC £20 delivered Tel 313924

FISHING Tackle, quality rods, reels, poles, nets, seats, nite alarm, umbrella and many accessories (line, hooks, floats) absolutely everything £185 ono the lot (may split) 01388 772921 SILVERCROSS Hard bodied pram, navy hood,

white carriage, rose on side, matching bag from Thornleys, excellent condition Tel 311156 for MEGA CD with 3 CDs

Mega drive 2, one joy pad, Mega drive Plus 12 games, both Mega drives take the same games £120 ONO Tel 01740 650467 or 311038 ADAM's fire surround, white, £50 Tel 310667 FIFA 64 for Nintendo 64, one month old, £25 Tel

#### Sits Vacant

CLEANER REQUIRED Must be reliable, non smoker, person needed to do all aspects of housework, including windows (no feather dusters) washing floors etc. 5 hours, one day per week. Must have own transport Tel 01325 300212 for

#### Public Notice

Blue Bridge Centre
Horndale Avenue - 300185
Decoupage and framing
specialists. Same/next day
service. Over 40 wood mouldings and 50 mount colours to choose from and 1000's of prints, glue, glaze etc. etc Classes in decoupage take place on Wednesday evenings, and Wednesday daytime. Ring or call in for further details

Mon-Thur 9.30-4.30pm Friday 9.30-3.00pm Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm Wednesday Eve 7-8.45pm

HORNDALE WMC Function Room For Hire, every day and night of the week (except Sunday night) available for weddings, anniversaries, parties etc Book now £10 fee

HELP THE AGED Table top sale at Shildon Civic Hall 9am-12noon, Saturday 11th April. To book a table to sell your unwanted goods ring

EDINBURGH by coach, Saturday 16th May, £12. Pick up Byerley Park School, cemetery, St Clares, Aycliffe Village and Heighington Tel 313924 to book your seat BEGINNERS Yoga Class

6.30pm-8pm at Sugar Hill Primary School, Enquiries to Diane Macadam MSYA Tel 01325 317983

ST CLARE'S Coffee morning, raffle unclaimed prize, Ticket No 276, please note there will be no coffee morning and cake stall on Saturday 11th April AGNEW Newton Aycliffe, Morrison Close Community

Centre will hold their usual monthly family service on Palm Sunday, 5th April at 4pm, presented by St Elizabeths Church, Everyone welcome, refreshments

COMPUTER GAMES to rent (Playstation, N64, Saturn etc), £3, £5 and £7 per week. In your area Wednesday and Thursday - If you want us to call Tel 01325 489929

NEWTON AYCLIFFE Scout Supporters Association Annual General meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th April 1998 at 7.30pm in the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way

#### Congratulations

#### LYDIA MARIA SUFFIELD

Happy birthday, thirty today, give a cheer, hip hip hooray, Three decades old, how the years have flew, You're halfway towards



HAPPY 50th birthday Nana, love and big kisses from Beth and Grant

MAUREEN Bestford, happy 50th birthday Mam, lots of love from Stephen, Linda, Angela, Gavin, Shaun and Penny MOLYNEUX Luke James

Born 29th March to Jane and Neil, congratulations and thank you for the beautiful gift of our first grandchild. All our love Mam and Dad

MOLYNEUX Luke James Well done sis! Another supporter for Sunderland (can't wait to get him a season ticket). Sorry, Neil, Chelsea are not getting their hands on this one. Love from his one and only Uncle Philip

& DAD MUM Congratulations on 40 years of marriage, love from Ann, Neville, Christopher and Timothy

8 JANE Congratulations on the birth of your baby "Luke James", best wishes from Aunty Doreen and Uncle John, Michael and Lorraine

JANE 8 Congratulations on the birth of your baby "Luke James" (Sunday 29th March), lots of love Susan and Ian HOWARD STOUT 7-4-98,

happy 71st birthday to the most loving dad in the world, love HOWARD STOUT Happy

71st birthday to the Grooviest Granda, love Michael and SUFFIELD Your sell by date has been and gone, and now the weight is piling on! Your assets

are moving towards the ground, not sticking out, just hanging around. Happy 30th birthday you old sod, love from

SUFFIELD Happy 30th birthday Linda, 4-4-98, love from Linda and Scott. PS: I hope you take those Wham posters down from your bedroom walls now you've turned 30!! XX

LINDA SUFFIELD To my ery good friends Linda, happy 30th birthday, love Karen, Russell, Danielle and Ryan SUFFIELD Linda Maria, love and best wishes on your 30th birthday, Mam, Dad, Stuart and

COLLINS Happy 30th

birthday Bev, enjoy Paris, but don't do you devil impersonation, because they will lock you up - Love Old

COLLINS Best wishes Bev on your 30th birthday, 8-4-98, love from Sorry, not John Bon BEV COLLIN Time to join the over 30's club, happy 30th birthday you old git! Love from Linda, Kevin and Daniel X JANICE BATES Hip hip

hooray my mam is 40 today, lots of love from Laura XX THOMAS LEDLEY 7th April, happy 2nd birthday sweetheart, lots of love and kisses from Mammy, Daddy and big brother Jonathan XX RHIANNA BONAS 1-4-98. Happy 4th birthday to a special granddaughter lots of love

RHIANNA Happy birthday love from Aunty Julie and Uncle Alan XX

RHIANNA Happy 4th birthday Rhianna love from Uncle Lee and Aunty Claire RHIANNA BONAS To a special little girl on your 4th birthday, lots of love Mammy and Scott XX

DINSDALE 4th April, congratulations Mam and Dad on your ruby wedding anniversary, love Sharon, John and family

So enjoy your big day, sing a song, quench your thirst and hope that the next thirty, are as good as the first!!

#### Kim Hall (Nee Coates)



Happy birthday Kim on your 40th, lots of love and best wishes Mam, Dad Paul, Carl, Tracey & Jade

GARETH BOWEN-JONES (2nd April) hip hip hooray Gareth is 13 today, have a great birthday darling, love Mam and

**BOWEN-JONES** A teenager at last, happy birthday little bro, all my love Norman BOWEN-JONES Happy

birthday Gareth, love James, Nicolla and Courtney
BOWEN-JONES Congratulations on becoming a teenager Gareth, all best wishes love Nana, Uncle Robert and Kellya

BOWEN-JONES Happy birthday Gareth, love Grandma

and Grandad
BOYD Congratulations
George and Edie on your golden wedding anniversary, ove from Jean and Family BOYD George and Edie congratulations on your golden

wedding anniversary, love from Les, Barbara, Hayley, Jessica and James MALCOLM SHIRLEY Happy 65th birthday 6-4-98, congratulations from the gang at the British Legion

WHEADON - SHAW Andrea and Mally congratulations on your wedding day on 16th March in Antigua, lots of love from Mam and Dad (Wheadon)

SHAW WHEADON Congratulations and best wishes Malcolm and Andrea on your wedding day 16-3-98. Love from Mam, Dad and

WHEADON - SHAW Lots of love and best wishes following your wedding in Antigua, hope Mally enjoyed the cricket, this is what a taste of married life is going to be like. Lots of love from Denise and Andrew XX MALLY & ANDREA Congratulations on your wedding day 16-3-98, lots of love from the Gang, PS: I knew conuts would come in

KAREN MERCER Hip hip hooray our lovely mummy is 30 today, 2-4-98. Love and kisses from Blues Clues and KAREN MERCER Birthday

wishes to our daughter Karen, who's 30 today, 2-4-98. Love always Mum and dad KAREN MERCER Happy

30th birthday Karen, love Nan KAREN MERCER 2-4-98. To our special sister Karen, happy 30th birthday love Amanda, Tony and John

**HEPPER** Congratulations Colin and Keeley on your 1st wedding anniversary, 4-4-98. May you have many happy years together, love from Mam and Dad XX

HEPPER Happy Anniversary Mammy and Daddy, lots of love and kisses from your darling baby Alannah May X
COLIN HEPPER Lots of love on our 1st wedding anniversary, love from Keeley

## **Legion Keep it Going**

The Royal British Legion entertained DCSS in the league cup semi-final on Sunday 29th March. Could the Legion make it through to their second final in consecutive weeks? The Legion had the better of

the early exchanges with

DCSS relying on the quick breaks from defence. DCSS defended well until the 20th minute when, from a Legion cross a defender handled the ball in the box. Darren Griffiths stepped up to convert the spot kick, Legion 1-0. From the kick off Legion went to sleep and allowed DCSS straight back into the game. Some poor marking in the box saw Paul Robinson defect the ball into his own net. 1-1. The rest of the half saw chances missed at both ends with Legion goalkeeper Tony Landsdowne making some vital saves.

In the 2nd half Tony once again made some fine saves but the Legion should, but for poor finishing have clearly won the game. The score was 1-1 after 90 minutes and so into extra time. The first half of extra time was

even with the Legion taking the majority and once again lacking the finishing touch. In the 2nd half of extra time the Legion pressed forward and after 111 minutes were rewarded for their pressure. A DCSS player handled in the box and Darren Griffiths took the captains responsibility and sent the goalkeeper the wrong way, Legion 2-1. With 2 minutes left the Legion were reduced to 10 men when Darren was sent off for his second bookable offence. The Legion held tight to make another final and to keep their treble hopes alive.

Overall the Legion deserved their victory with the man of the Match award going to the captain Darren Griffiths, but I must make a special mention - this was a team performance - keep it going lads,

#### CHEMISTS EMERGENCY ROTA

Sunday 5th April 1998 12noon-1pm - Moss Chemists Friday 10th April 1998 (Good Friday) 12noon-1pm - Moss Chemists Sunday 12th April 12noon-1pm - Woodham Pharmacy

Monday 13th April 1998 (Easter Monday) 12noon-1pm - Cheapside

#### Wedding

L'EXCLUSIVE Bridal gowns, bridesmaids and evening wear, headdresses, posies all designed just for you. Also gown and accessory hire Tel 314146 Hire Mercedes Benz for that special occasion. White Mercedes, new model, elegance, telephone HMB 01325 313573

#### Accommodation

TO LET Evenwood, 2 bed house; C/H, large garden, unfurnished £75 per week, Tel 01748 825159

LODGER required, must be non-smoker, double bedroom, own bathroom all mod cons in a detached house in Woodham, Newton Aycliffe. Would suit a professional person £50 per week all in, no bills, call 01325 312860 or 0410 305988

#### Wanted

#### **BEST CASH** PRICES

For antiques, old & modern furniture, tables, chairs, drawers, china cabinets, dressers also old china. linen, clocks pictures. jewellery etc. HOUSES CLEARED

(01388) 608042

3 PIECE Suites, fridges and cookers wanted, cash paid Tel 01388 608042 anytime UNWANTED Bric-a-brac, household furniture and goods, will collect Tel 313924 (in aid of Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Y.M.C.A. need donations of

Hair Dressers

furniture, toys and bric-a-brac Tel 308070

Hair Travel Tel Pat: 300149

LISA DEVONPORT formerly of Saks

Vidal Sassoon Diploma Holder

Professional Reliable Hairstyling at home (14 years experience)

0966 491666

#### **JOBCENTRE** VACANCIES

Temp Joiner £5.71 per hour 8am-5pm Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm Fri (Temporary for 6 weeks)

Joiner required to work for local company, duties involve general joinery work, high level working including the changing of Lexan windows. Applicants will be able to demonstrate proven experience in the building field and an ability to work on their own with minimal supervision NEU 11924

supervision Part-Time Manager £3.50 per hour

9.15-5.15pm 3 days Person required to manage shop, will be supervising staff ncluding volunteers and trainees. Duties include cashing up, ordering stock and a lot of paperwork. Must be available to cover for sickness and holidays. Will be in sole charge one day each week. No

smoking at work NEU 12010 Toolroom Assistant Wage negotiable 8-4.30pm Mon-Fri

Person required to assist in the toolroom with general factory maintenance. Other duties will involve van driving (CCDL essential), dealing with stores when required, general machine maintenance and toolroom duties, must be enthusiastic and safety conscious, would suit mature person with engineering m/c shop experience, experience of factory environment essential, preferably dealing with NEU 11983 machinery

Part-Time Pizza Chef £3.50 rising to £4 ph 13 hours + overtime

Part time pizza chef required by a local company, main duties include taking order from customers via the telephone, so must have good telephone manner. Food preparation and making pizzas to order, previous experience and a hygiene cert, desirable.

NEU 11985 **HGV** Maintenance Fitter Wage negotiable

Experienced maintenance fitter required to work for local company duties will involve service and repair of 40ft flat trailers, applicant must have previous experience, HGV licence preferred. NEU 11503

# HYDRO'S AYCLIFFE PLANT WINS MAJOR SAFETY AWARD



David Summerbell (far right), planning & systems director of Hydro Polymers with members of the Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) management group celebrating two million man hours without a single Lost Time Injury (LTI).

Hydro Polymers Limited has been named as the winner of Norsk Hydro's President's Safety Award for 1997. The Newton Aycliffe PVC manufacturer beat five other finalists drawn from Norsk Hydro's 200 companies worldwide - an achievement the company is justly proud of.

The success criteria for the Award is largely based upon meeting the requirements of Norsk Hydro's Safety Health and Environment Rating System (SHE-RS). Hydro Polymers achieved first division status in May 1997, and attributes its latest success to its total safety performance.

"Safety is an integral part of our Business Plan," says Planning and Systems Director, David Summerbell. 'We have adopted the DuPont 'STOP' (Safety, Training and Observation Programme) system as our primary tool, and have used it to engender our own safety culture. This runs right through the organisation, and influences all our activities. Having won the distinction of being the best in the Petrochemicals Division for the last three years, and a finalist for the President's Award for the last two, I am thrilled that HPL and its employees have been recognised ultimately in this way."

Over two million man hours have been worked at Hydro Polymers without a lost time injury. Visitors to the company are constantly reminded of the high priority given to safety, by boards around the site which are updated daily. In making the award it was noted that Hydro Polymers' had maintained its excellent safety record in spite of the £35m expansion project 'D-Plant' which, during the construction period, boosted the site's workforce to 1000. The citation noted the company's work with contractor companies as having been outstanding.

#### QUESTIONS UNANSWERED

Dear Sir

I was very disappointed at the negative reply of Councillor Clares to Mr Elgey's letter. He only answered on question saying that the £30,000 was mainly for wages. He criticised Mr Elgey for stating where improvements were needed in services. To say that he could not comment on services supplied by other Councils is not an answer, I always though that Councillors were there to be asked questions and find out answers - not to say it has nothing to do with them.

The extras for next year are not new, they are an ongoing policy, except for changing facilities at the Golf Shop, but that is to increase profit not to benefit the tax payers.

This abolition of the Council: I don't care one way or the other, but there would be a saving if it was abolished through the upkeep or sale of buildings and equipment, cars etc. To say that staff would be redundant is misleading. He states in one part of his letter that staff from the town would go, and another part the Borough would have to hire more staff. What is wrong with being transferred?

Then he said we would lose the service of the golf course, Oak Leaf Centre and the Cemetery. These are not services, they are investments there to make money. Any investor would take them over at no cost to the tax payer. As for the outings, fireworks and grass cutting 2% of the town budget would pay for them, the rest would be saved.

Most of the above questions could be talked out and resolved if the Town Council offices were more accessible to people and not so remote. Yours - An Ardent Newton

News Reader

# S.A.S.D.A.'s CHIEF EXECUTIVE RETIRES

John Robson will retire as Chief Executive of SASDA

(Shildon and Sedgefield Development Agency) at the end of April after a long and distinguished career in Economic Development. He has been involved with local companies and in attracting investment to Sedgefield Borough for nearly twenty five years. His work was recognised in 1996 when he received the MBE for services to SASDA and the business community.

John became the first Chief Executive of SASDA when it was formed in 1984. His role was to promote the economic revival of the area, after the Shildon Wagon Works closed with the loss of 2,600 jobs.

He had previously been Head of Economic Development with Sedgefield District Council and as one of the first Economic Development Officers in the country, played a key role in helping companies develop in the north cast. Six years ago SASDA relocated from Shildon to Aycliffe Industrial Park, when the need was recognised for some modernisation of facilities on the Park, SASDA's more recent work has included the regeneration of Aycliffe Industrial Park jointly with Sedgefield Borough Council and other organisations.

John was also asked to fulfil a county-wide role on secondment to County Durham TEC, and when County Durham Business Link was established several years ago, he had prepared the Business Plan for its operations.

Originally, from West Durham, John looks forward to meeting new challenges and intends to spend more time on the golf course after his retirement on 30th April 1998. His other hobbies include walking, painting and foreign travel. His post will be filled by David

Greatorex who is, at present, Senior Economic Development Officer with Sedgefield Borough Council. David has nine years experience in local government, and will work alongside John from 1st April until John's retirement.

Peter Fisk, Chairman of SASDA said "Under John Robson's leadership SASDA has provided major help to companies starting up, expanding and re-locating in the Sedgefield Borough. He leaves SASDA well prepared to adapt to the changing needs of local companies."

#### THANKS FROM RINGS n THINGS

Thank you from all the staff at Rings n Things for your support in helping our "Mothers Day" campaign. We donated 10p to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund for every Mothers Day Carlwe sold - total raised £250.00.

Thank you for your cooperation
P. Cheeseborough

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#### WARNING! - SLIMFIT CAN SERIOUSLY REDUCE YOUR WEIGHT

Sugar Hill Primary School NEWTON AYCLIFFE Tuesdays at 5,30pm & 7pm

The Over Sixty Club NEWTON AYCLIFFE Tuesdays 10.00am



Weekly Fee £2.75 Enrolment Fee only £5.50 Senior Citizens 50p OFF Weekly Fee

Other classes in available in Darlington - 260060 for info

SLIMFIT members are continuing to lose weight easily and quickly in a relaxed and realistic way. Class consultants, pictured above, have lost 5 stone between them and are now committed to staying slim and helping their members stay slim for life.

If you would like to join our very successful classes just come along or telephone Mandy Drake on 01325 260060 or 0385 772029

# Rapid Fit AYCLIFFE

356 HILTON ROAD, NEWTON AYCLIFFE - TELEPHONE 30004

COOL FOR

ALL CATS FITTED COME COMPLETE WITH A 50,000 MILES/ 5 YEAR WARRANTY

Free Catalytic Converter Tests Carried out on request

LAMBDA/OXY SENSORS ALSO AVAILABLE

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WHY PAY DEALER PRICES FOR CATALYTIC CONVERTERS?

We are now stocking a comprehensive range of cats to fit most makes and models from as little as £199.95 (fitted inc VAT)

Just look at these comparisons: ROVER 214 - 1992 Dealer Price £432.40 (fitted)

OUR PRICE £246.75 (fitted)

**VOLVO 440 - 1992** *Dealer Price £517.00 (fitted)* 

OUR PRICE £256.95 (fitted)

CITROEN XANTIA - 1993 Dealer Price £336.07 (fitted)

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(See examples below)

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Ford Ka OTR - 7495

Deposit - NIL 24 months payment at £185.51 GFV - £4319 Ford Fiesta

OTR - 7495 Deposit - NIL 24 months payment at £188.04 GFV - £4050 Ford Escort

OTR - 10,995 Deposit - 2750 24 months payment at £189.34 GFV - £4631

Includes: 1 year free insurance, 1 year RFL, 1 year warranty, 1 year RAC cover (Insurance not free on Ka3 - only available on certain Fiesta models)

CALL IN FOR DETAILS

HOLIWAYS

MAIN FROM DEALER

Horndale Avenue Aycliffe Industrial Park - Tel 300003