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PAEDOPHILES USED TOWN **CENTRE TO MEET VICTIMS**

POLICE BREAK RING AND MAKE ARRESTS

This week Newton Aycliffe reeled from the shock news that a paedophile ring were using our Town Centre as a rendezvous.

Police acted quickly in a 50 man operation to halt this vile practise, arresting three men and placing 3 boys aged 11 - 15 years old in the hands of welfare workers.

The three men, who have been released on bail, have not been identified and full details on the extent of the problem have not been revealed.

But no one could believe our Town Centre toilets were being used as a meeting for place child prostitution.

Readers can take some comfort that it has been discovered and stopped thanks to police vigilance and prompt action throughout the County under "Operation Acorn".

Though it is sad to see the new town's symbol of growth, used by businesses, organisations and schools has also been used in connection with this distasteful crime.

We understand the allegations brought against the arrested men refer to incidents prior to 1st December, 1997 when the Town Council employed an attendant at the toilets. It appears no meetings have taken place inside the toilets since then, but it is possible the area outside may have been a focal point for paedophiles intent on corrupting young people.

County Councillor Tony Moore has expressed concern for the children involved, laying blame on the lack of facilities and investment in activities for children in our

Town's 50th **Anniversary** Service

Individuals who have a particular wish to attend the Town's 50th Anniversary Interdenominational Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday 28th June, at 5.30 pm, can apply to the Town Council for tickets.

It appears that admission to this event will need to be by ticket as the Leisure Centre will only seat 750 people.

Orgaisations who wish to be represented on this historic occasion should also make application as soon as possible.

The Service, which is hoped will be attended by Tony Blair and other Civic dignitaries, will be both memorable and interesting.

Whilst this news shocks and disgusts everyone, we have to put it into perspective, emphasising that the problem, relatively speaking, is very, very small.

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Town Sport - Top of the League

Report on Sport in our Schools By Year 12 students Andrew Noble and David Clay of Woodham Comprehensive

Recently British sport has not been living up to its reputation. An embarrassing defeat at the hands of the West Indies in cricket, English football teams crashing out of Europe and the domination of Rugby by the Southern Hemisphere teams do not live up to standards set by past sportsmen.

However schools in Aycliffe prove that the future could be

Primary school sports seem to be setting standards better than ever and are introducing pupils to a host of new sports. As always most of the towns schools compete against one another in sports.

Football is as popular as ever. despite the lack of a full league. Many schools play competitive friendlies and 5-aside competitions. Only Heighington school play in a Bishop Auckland league.

Many of these footballers are aspiring to become the next England star. Vane Roads Luke Smith and Clarke Docherty have scored 13 goals between them in the previous 4 games, and David Williams is proving to be a responsible Captain at Sugar Hill.

Elmfield, Woodham Burn and Heighington have also displayed enthusiastic team performances ,the latter reaching the semi-finals of the Rudd Cup. Many schools are eagerly awaiting the start of the new Netball League due to start after the Easter break.

This is a sport enjoyed by many schools producing an interest in the game which sticks with the pupils into later life. The town's schools also put strong teams into swimming galas. All primary schools take part in The Mike Reah Gala, an event won by Vane Road last year through various impressive performances by pupils.

The profile of Cross Country has risen recently. After weeks of training Woodham Burn, St.

ANDREW BANKS

Official Photographer



Pupils undergoing a rigorous football coaching session

Francis and St. Mary's took part in the County Primary Schools Cross Championships finishing well in fields of 200+

Heighington also ran tremendously well in The South Tyneside Cross Country championships. Their school team was placed 3rd out of 24. Their Year 3 and 4 girls winning their event.

A sign of the times does show through however, many schools now offer football and netball to both boys and girls. Sugar Hill's Michaela Edwards was recently faced with the decision of playing for the football or netball team after fixtures clashed. St. Joseph's have also managed to reach the semi-finals of a national girls football tournament at Durham.

Schools are assisted in the development of sports by local Comprehensive Schools. Greenfield offered 4 schools a day of 5-a-side and netball tournaments.

competitions were won by St. Joseph's. Woodham and Greenfield are also offering athletics competitions to all primary schools in the Summer

A major development in school sport is the involvement with outside coaches. St. Joseph's. Heighington and Stephenson Way schools have all received coaching from Terry Cochrane's football coaching

St. Joseph's have links with Durham Cricket Club and are receiving coaching on Kwik Cricket. Woodham Burn and Heighington are also taking an interest in Kwik Cricket, the latter entering a competition at Feethams, Darlington last year. Aycliffe Village are involved in Short Tennis as are Berley Park, they also partake in Golf coaching and are involved in a successful gymnastics awards scheme.

The introduction of new and children to broaden their horizons. Byerley Park and St. Francis plan to take advantage of orienteering facilities at

Greenfield, and Woodham Burn are introducing rock climbing and outdoor activities and, with the help of a coach are setting up a table tennis club.

The schools also have pupils successful in their chosen sports out of school. Daniel Metcalf of Aycliffe Village has competed in and won many Karate competitions and Woodham Burns's Graham Johnson has represented Co. Durham at squash. Many schools also have swimmers in the local Sedgefield 75 club.

The trend set in Primary Schools of successful sportspersons seems to be carrying on into our towns Comprehensive Schools. Woodham Comprehensive has its fair share of success stories. The standard of football at Woodham continues to impress, all teams (years 7.8,9.10.11) are placed in the top six of their leagues

The Year 10 team recently won the League Cup with a 2-1 win over Tudhoe, and they again face Tudhoc in the final of the Ben Potts Cup. Michael Mattimore (Y10) has been chosen to play for the District us has Craig Mason (U-14's) and a number of pupils at U-13's level.

Y11 reached the final of the League Cup and are still going strong in the league. Two year 11 player deserve special mention. Simon Ramsden and Craig Rand are pursuing a career in football. After representing the school, district and county they have signed forms to join Sunderland and Sheffield

Wednesday respectively. Woodham's Netball this season despite only the U-12's claiming any honours has been entertaining and a model of good sportsmanship. Special credit must go to Joanne Tenwick and Rebecca Pearson (U-15's) and Lianne Pacewitch (U-16's).

Woodham also sent a number of pupils to run in Cross County meetings. The Junior Boys returned successfull recently, winning their section. Keeping with tradition Woodham has also entered enthusiastic teams to the English Schools Area Swimming Competition. The three teams (Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Senior Boys) all swam well, the Senior Boys finishing second in their events. The overall positions are not yet known.

Woodham are also introducing a Water Polo team with the help of George Carpenter and are hoping to enter competitions soon. One Woodham pupil Matthew Bowden tremendously well to be chosen to represent the county at water polo.

coach he has fought 3 and won Last summer Woodham also received a successful first set of A-Level PE results. One pupil has moved on to study at Loughborough University.

Alex Summerson, a pupil at

Woodham has found success

in boxing. With the help of his

As part of this years A-Level PE course students have taken on the responsibility of organising a Mini Olympics for Primary Schools, This event will have an emphasis on participation and should be a great success.

Greenfield is also encouraging high levels of sports at the school. Football teams from all the years have had enjoyable and encouraging seasons despite failing to collect any honours.

The Netball teams from Years 9,10 and 11 all reached the semi-finals in their respective cup competitions and Year 8 were proud winners of their tournament. One of their players Jenny Cilff has already represented the County at U-

Greenfields U-16 team also represented County Durham in a major tournament at South Shields Greenfields Cross



up with the pacc

Country runners have also put in good performances after representing the school Cath Searby and Michael Turnbull (Y9's) have represented the county. Michael has also represented the county in the Schools Swimming Gala,

Greenfied are also involving themselves in the community through sport. They plan to enter a team in to this years Swimathon as well as competing, alongside a Woodham team, in a golf tournament for the British Heart Foundation. Greenfield also plan to involve the community in a Tennis Festival (23rd to 26th of June), where participants can gain tennis coaching professional.

The school also make use of the rock climbing facilities at the Leisure Centre. A group of pupils are currently climbing the equivalent of Ben Nevis! The pupils mentioned as well as many other of our schools children put in many hours hard and enthusiastic work to represent our schools, town and further. Much of this work and its achievements go unnoticed but nevertheless they deserve every credit. Well

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(See our editorial above)

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Heading for Cross Country Glory



Woodham Year 11 team in a League Cup Final

ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS SPONSOR



Marilyn and Eric Alexander

ewton Aycliffe shopfitting company, Alexander-le-Skerne, elebrated 10 years in business on 11th April with the Ianaging Director, Eric Alexander, celebrating his 50th irthday at the same time. The celebrations began with Eric nd his wife Marilyn, rejoicing in their life together, by eturning to All Saints Church in Shildon where they were sarried 29 years ago, for a blessing.

he Mayor of Darlington joined in the Company celebrations the Albert Hill Industrial Estate premises, where she cut ne cake and toasted the company's success and its ommitment to the Government's "New Deal" initiative. lexander-le-Skerne employs 50 staff at its Aycliffe and

arlington branches. Since 1988 it has sponsored Junior 5side leagues in the town and recently became sponsors of a N Ladies Football team.

We owe a lot of our success to a good team of workers at ur factories in Aycliffe and Darlington. Marilyn and I within ur family are also a strong team." said Eric.

WOODHAM PUPILS MASTER CLASS AT THE EDEN ARMS

The delicious smell of cakes baking will be wafting through the kitchen at the Swallow Eden Arms Hotel in Rushyford as 13 pupils from Woodham Comprehensive are given a 'master class' in cookery by head chef, Mike Reynolds.

The group, who are all studying housecraft, have been invited to the hotel to test out Mike's new state-of-the art kitchen which has been created at a cost of £250,000.

Over the last few months the kitchen has been completely refurbished and is now double its original size. In addition it has been equipped with top of the range equipment from Zanussi. Much of this equipment has been specially created for the kitchen at the Swallow Eden Arms and makes it the flagship kitchen for

Mike Reynolds comments: "This new kitchen is going to be a delight to work in. We have so much more space now which will enable us to extend the choice of food we are able to offer diners. "I am looking forward to being able to do a lot more baking in particular. And very soon we hope to be able to invite our guests to take afternoon tea with us and enjoy a selection of cakes and pastries all of which have been freshly baked on the premises.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR GOLFERS AT

Great Aycliffe Town Council are spending £85k, to provide much needed toilet and changing accommodation at the Oak Leaf Golf Complex. In an effort to provide additional facilities in the most cost effective way the decision was taken to utilise the present second shop unit, to provide the shell for male and female changing, toilets and showers. Additional storage for the operation of the pro-shop and driving range is also to be provided as well as entrance way improvements,

The project is due to commence on the 21st April, 1998 and will last for approximately 10 - 12 weeks.

There will be some disruption to the service but it will hopefully be kept to a minimum. The Town Council wishes to apologise for any inconvenience during the alterations.

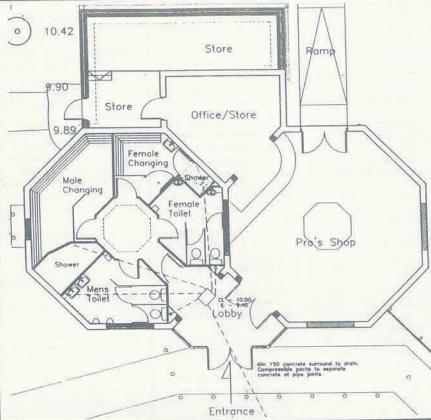


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GOLF RISE FOR OVER 60's OBSCENE

I read with disgust the Veteran Golfer's letter, and I have made some inquiries about, why and

Why, when the golf course is

making a profit. Do they have to put up the over 60s' fee by 40% - from £100 to £140

play on Saturdays and Sundays, so they put the price so high and vets cannot afford easy way around the problem, they will be unable to play in

weekend competitions. The Golf Course would be managed better, if the Council would let the Golf Pro manage it. I think it would improve and make more money. Let the council officer do other jobs. You will need us over 60s' some day in the near future. 1 am not a golfer but 1 like to see fair play.

A Voter.

Events

would like to advise Newtonians of forthcoming

Saturday 18th April Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon in St Francis Church Hall Friday 24th April

Line Dancing and Pie & Peas supper night Saturday 16th May

Coffee Morning 10am-12 noon in St Francis Church Hall Race Night in the Function Room of the Horndale Club, £1 entry fee with free raffle ticket, 7.30pm

Saturday 20th June Coffee Morning, 10am-12 noon in St Francis Church Hall Table Top Sale, £5 entrance fee, phone Penny on 310460 to reserve space

Village Student Breaks University Record



At the Norton-Rose 26th Oxford and Cambridge Varsity Games, held in Reading on the 21st February, Stephen Coulthard from Heighington Village achieved the highest sporting recognition Oxford and Cambridge Universities have to offer: the award of Full Blue. Stephen competed in the 100m freestyle, loom butterfly and led off the freestyle relay team. He achieved personal bests in all races and broke the Cambridge University Record in the 100m butterfly by clocking a time of 59.5 seconds. Stephen is reading the Engineering Tripos at St John's College and completes his second year in June.

Letter to the Editor SPORTS DAY FOR

THE DISABLED **PROPOSED**

As part of the celebrations for Newton Aycliffe's 50th Anniversary, Great Aycliffe Town Council, in conjunction with the Newton Aycliffe Local Advisory Group are hoping to organise a sports day aimed at the disabled in the

community. As yet no specific details are available, particularly with regard to date or what events will be staged. However, I would envisage some table top games (ie: dominoes and cards) and some racing events will be likely.

In order to find out if such an event will be viable we need to get an idea how many people would be interested in taking part. To this end I would be grateful if those people interested in taking part could 325934 or leave a message at Great Aycliffe Town Council's Offices on 300700.

Both the Town Council and the Local Advisory Group see this event as an ideal opportunity for disabled members of the community to play a full part in what is undoubtedly a great period in the history of Newton Aycliffe. It is not our intention to compel anybody to do anything that they don't want to do. Therefore if the overwhelming view of the majority of disabled people in Newton Aycliffe is that a sports day is not what they would like, I would like to hear from anyone with any other suggestions. Finally, as time is running out, I would be grateful if any responses could be made as soon as possible Yours faithfully

Cllr Michael A Dalton Chairman, N.A.L.A.G.

World Cup at Redworth Hotel

Redworth Hall Hotel & Country Club recently housed comedians,

David Badiel and Frank Skinner on Wednesday, 8th April 1998.

The pair who had a massive hit with "Three Lions", the Euro '96 English anthem, were filming a 'World Cup' documentary in the Hotel grounds.

Redworth is fast becoming the top north-east location for Footballers and those connected, Romania spent eleven days here preparing for Euro '96 and in 1997 Arsenal, Chelsea,

Liverpool and Newcastle were just a sample of the premier visitors.

On their visit Badiel and Skinner brought the World Cup to assist the filming of the documentary. This gave staff the opportunity to join a select group of people who have actually held the World Cup. Hopefully Alan Shearer will be the next in France this Summer.

Youth Centre A.G. M.

WED. 29th APRIL 7 p.m.

This is an open **Public meeting** Everyone welcome

Free Buffet

The Greenfield Centre

based at Greenfield School Telephone (01325) 300378 or 300386

The majority of classes are 10 weeks in duration and begin Tuesday 28th April 1998 (unless otherwise stated). Enrolment will take place on Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd April 1998 from 6.30-8.30pm.

TUESDAY: (7-9pm unless stated) Astronomy - Cake Decoration/Sugar Craft Italian Intermediate (Commencing 1-6-98) Painting and Drawing - Silk Painting Basic Computing (intro to PC's, 6-8pm & 8-10pm) FULL Making the Most of Yourself Can't Cook Won't Cook (basic cooking)
Holiday Spanish NCFE (final term of 3)
Introduction to Reflexology
Singing from Scratch (to be confirmed)

WEDNESDAY:

Basic Education (begins 22-4-98) FREE Dressmaking

Yoga (6-7.30pm, begins 22-4-98)
C.L.A.I.T.
(RSA 1 Computer Literacy & IT, final term, 6-8pm/8-10pm) Introduction to Sign Language German for Beginners (NCFE, final term of 3)
Emergency First Aid (5 week course - St Johns)
Floral Art (fresh flowers) — Painting and Drawing

Newton Aycliffe Ladies Football Club
(7.30-9pm, begins 22-4-98)
The Royal British Legion Pipes & Drums (begins 22-4-98) Aromatherapy (4 weeks bgeinning 3-6-89)

THURSDAY:

Decoupage - Dried Flower & Craft Work Word Processing RSA1 (final term of 3, begins 23-4-98, 6-8pm) Word Processing RSA2 & 3 (final term of 3, begins 23-4-98, 8-10pm) Gymnastics (6-8.30pm, 5-11 years, begins 4-6-98) Family History (5 weeks beginning 23-4-98)
Calligraphy (6.30-8.30pm)
Basic Computing (Intro to PCs) COURSE FULL Creative Writing (to be confirmed)

We are fortunate in being able to offer a remitted fee structure on some of the 10 week courses for unwaged recipients on a range of benefits. For further details you can contact Frances Vickerstaff, Head of Centre, between 6.00-9.00pm (Tuesday Wednesday or Thursday) or Susan Mouyiassi during school hours. The Centre re-opens Tuesday 21st April 1998 You can obtain a programme from the local library with full details of the fee structure and information about the other facilities we have to offer at The Greenfield Centre.

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AYCLIFFE DUO WIN BEST ATTITUDE AWARD



April 9, 1998 — More than 400 youngsters aged 11-1 8 from all over Tyne & Wear enjoyed a free day of NBA-style basketball coaching at the Parks Leisure Centre recently, as the NBA Mad Skillz Tour, presented by Nike and Channel 4, came to Newcastle. Ten of the best basketball coaches in the UK were on hand to pass on their expertise, headed by England coach Lazlo Nemeth and former Newcastle Eagle Paul Douglas.

A full day of basketball activity began with a funky fitness warmup, led by Mad Skillz Tour conditioning coach Clive Brown. All camp participants were then put through a series of skills stations to work on the basics of basketball and help raise their games to

Team action was the theme of the afternoon, with the youngsters representing the teams of the NBA in competitive action in different age group categories, putting all the skillz learnt in the morning sessions to good use.

To finish off the day a series of prizes were awarded, with the Spalding Best Attitude Award going to Joanne and Julie Stephenson of Newton Aycliffe.

NBA Press Officer Paul Smith said: "We are thrilled that the NBA Mad Skillz Tour was so well received in Newcastle. One of our top priorities is to grow the sport of basketball in the UK and events like this put us well on that road. The level of talent on display also bodes well for the future of basketball in the area

(excluding cassette type)

Head Light Alignment

Engine Setting Check

Musical **Evening** at St. Clares

The Richardson Singers will be presenting a "Musical Evening" in St Clare's Church on Saturday 25th April at 7.00pm. There will be a varied programme to suit all tastes. The "Richardson Singers" are a long-established ladies choir based in Darlington and are very well known in the area. Among their engagements are twice performances at the Dolphin Centre in Darlington. They sang in Austria in 1991, and one of their highlights was when they sang in Rheims

Tickets for the concert are now available at £2.00 each from the cake stall in St Clare's Hall on Saturday morning's or from the Builder's Arms Coffee Shop in the Thames Centre. Proceeds are for the Parish Development Fund.

LLOYDS EASTER EGG RAFFLE

For the last few weeks, typists at Newton Aycliffe Word Processing Centre, a department of I Bank Plc, have been organising an Easter Egg raffle within their offices to raise funds for a needs playgroup based at St Mary's School in Newton Aycliffe. This is the Mayor of Great Ayo chosen charity for her year in office. The Mayor, Mrs Sarah Iveson, kindly came and dre winning tickets on Friday 3 April. The sports club and the junior football club at Moore Lane shops and garages have very generously donated a variety of eggs and gifts, for which the Newton Aycliffe Word Processing Centre are extremely grateful. The amount raised was £184, Lloyds TSB Foundation will match pound for pound, giving a grand total of £368. A big "thank-you" to everyone involved for all their help and support.

Special thanks to: The Mayor, A1 Stores, Ayeliffe Village, Bells Stores, Parsons Centre, Boo Boyes Plc, BP Garage, Kwik Save, Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Newton Aycliffe Sports Club Footballers, Staff at PWS, Shell Garage, Somerfield Plc, Superdrug Ltd, Taylors Newsagents, In, Woodham Stores, Woodham Garage.



Ladies and Guests v

Aycliffe Sports Club on Easter Monday attracted a good crowd despite a bitterly cold wind. The Mayor, Cllr. Sarah Iveson playing at centre forward kicked the game

As expected the game was fiercely contested, the All Stars having a huge weight disadvantage tried to upset the Ladies with some dubious tackling, the Ladies however were made of sterner stuff and refused to be intimidated and went one up after 12 minutes, Lee (a lad) Woodward scoring. The All Stars pressed but the Ladies defence with husband and wife team Steve and Carol Jones solid in defence and backed up magnificently by goalie Colin (the Cat) Woodward. The All Stars were caught out again from a long ball, All Stars defender Alan Redhead decieved by the wind (he claims) allowed the ball to run onto Lee Woodward to score with a rasping shot, All Stars claimed offside, but ref Bob Wood, allowed the goal the stand.

Half time 2-0

The All Stars changed their team after the break resting Jimmy (Hacker) Griffiths who had broken a boot lace. All Stars came back into the game with rugby Bob Malvern finished off a fine move involving Neil Shaw, Neil Wilkinson and Mick Casey with some clever interpassing, rugby Bob hammered the ball past the Cat. All Stars equalised after 15 minutes. Alan Hutchinson beating substitute goalie Lucy Topping from close range. The Ladies fought hard but the All Stars continued to push forward and were rewarded when Neil Wilkinson blasted a 35 vard shot past the keeper Lucy.

Still the Ladies refused to be beaten and All Stars goalie Dougie Parrott had to make many fine saves.

The All Stars were rattled and had to resort to bringing ref Bob Wood into defence, to try and stem the Ladies attacks.

With only two minutes to go Lee Woodward ran onto a pass from player of the match Tracey Adams into the penalty area, goalie Dougie bravely dived at his feet and obviously played the ball but Lee took a dive and substitute referee Sol under intense pressure from the Ladies, breathing down his neck and bribed with telephone numbers, the lipstick smothered ref awarded a penalty.

Goalie Doug was in excruciating pain but insisted that his leg be removed and replaced with a corner flag to allow him to take up his position in goal to face the penalty. Lee Woodward stepped up and Dougie managed to send him the wrong way - final score 3-3, a travesty.

Mayor Sarah and husband Malcolm presented team captains Tara Woodward and Alan Batey with the Newton Aycliffe Sports Club Charity Shield.

All the money raised is going to the Mayors Charity Raffle - tickets are still on sale in the club for an Autographed Sunderland football among its prizes.

Thanks to all players and members of the sports club and to Newton News for advertising the game.

TOWN MAYOR PLAYED CENTRE FORWARD

Sports Club All Stars

The game played at Newton

NEW ACPC LEAFLET **GUIDES VOLUNTEERS**

A new leaflet aims to keep voluntary organisations on the right track when choosing people to work with children.

Produced by Durham Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC), it shows where to obtain information and gives local organisations a contact name and number if they need further advice

David Harris, Vice Chairman of the ACPC, said they were aware of the care voluntary organisations - including churches and activity groups - had to take when choosing either volunteers or paid staff to work with children and young people.

The new ACPC leaflet was part of the Committee's role to keep

the public and local organisations informed about issues concerning the safety and protection of young people.

"A whole range of voluntary organisations in the County do magnificent work in providing services for young people," he said. "The volunteers and staff tend to be very highly motivated and committed people who we would wish to encourage and support. 'Voluntary organisations and churches are aware of the need to have safe recruitment and support systems in place for volunteers and staff and this four-page leaflet gives some basic information, together with advice about further sources of help," he said. Copies of the leaflet are being sent to groups in County Durham.

Any groups not receiving one should contact Suzanne Welsh, secretary to the ACPC, c/o Social Services Department, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UG or telephone 01 91 383 3323.

Letter to the Edito **Agreed Council**

Policies Overturned

on 11/4/98, Members of The Town Council Labour Group pro and voted through a request to County and Borough Coun consider including Playing Fields, next to Woo Comprehensive, in the Avenue site developments. They without any prior written notice to all Councillors. Tacked recommendations which did not include that item,

In doing so, members of the Labour Group disregarde overturned agreed Council Policies. Again without prior of any such intention. Which I believe to be morally reprehe Town Councillors DID AGREE to an amended S.B.C. Local and retention of those fields for recreational use. Memb GATC VOTED FOR the Local Plan as LABOUR BORG

G.A.T.C. accepted from me, copies of resident wishes for th Minuted G.A.T.C support of the Local Plan and "RETENTI the fields as PUBLIC OPEN SPACE".

In Town and Borough they accepted without question, ev of the need.AN INSPECTORS REJECTION OF HOU PROPOSED BY D.C.C. and; Government PLANNING Guid on RETENTION OF FORMER SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD. RESIDENTIAL RECREATIONAL USE!

They AGREED to, and supported Local Plan designations future Housing sites in Aycliffe for the next ten years. Playing Fields were never, ever, included in The Local He

They supported and contributed to all Public Consultation the County and Borough councils for use of the Avenue site. OF WHICH EVER PROPOSED THE INCLUSION OF T FIELDS FOR ANY HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS THERE. Will Aycliffe Labour Councillors support other objectors Local Plan seeking to overturn decisions made against Will they now advocate TWO MORE ROUNDABOUTS IN LANE, at Hardinge Road and Morton Walk to cater for inc. traffic from the Avenue site? And Housing, if built on those J Will they advocate sending children through increased tra Burn Lane to playing fields proposed on the Avenue Site Town Council Labour Party members who overturned T AGREED POLICIES campaign to change The Local Plan. Labour County Councillors on GATC campaign to convince concerned that D.C.C. request for Housing consideration right? Or will a 'Party Press Agent' be asked do it for

Cllr. Don, Fraser. S.B.C & G.A.T.C. Woodham Ward.

CHEMISTS EMERGENCY ROT

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OG FOOD FACTORY **DOUBLES OUTPUT**



roduction is set to double at a County Durham dog food factory ollowing its acquisition by one of Europe's largest agribusinesse remium pet food manufacturer Top Number, of Newton Aycliffe, has been bought by Provimi of Rotterdam in the Netherlands. Provimi is one of the market leaders in Europe for animal nutrition and health products.

Top Number makes over 20 different varieties of complete dry dog foods, from high energy feeds for racing greyhounds to light diets for elderly overweight dogs. Top Number also supplies special feeds for cats, rabbits and hamsters.

In just 11 years Top Number has grown from a one-man operation to become one of the leading UK manufacturers in the specialist pet food market. The company was started by Albert Dodds, who began by mixing ingredients in his cowshed after he had been made redundant in 1986 at the age of 52. Albert Dodds will continue to be managing director of Top Number.
"I am very excited about the acquisition," said Albert. "Provimi

has the technical, financial and marketing resources that Top Number needs for sustained growth and increased market share. Our target is to double production over the next two years.

Top Number has a reputation for innovation. It was the first UK manufacturer to make gluten-free, hypo-allergenic dog foods and special skin care diets. It was partly this, and the company's healthy export record, that attracted Provimi.

"Premium pet foods is a rapidly expanding market, but one in which we were under-represented," said Eric Lister, who is managing the acquisition in the UK on behalf of Provimi. "Top Number is a specialist in an important market niche which is entirely appropriate for the technical expertise and development that Provimi can provide."

Production will increase immediately as a result of the take over.

SEDGEFIELD 75 SWIMMERS BRING **HOME 8 MEDALS**

In the second of the Northumberland & Durham County Championships held in Darlington in March, Sedgefield 75 A.S.C. collected 3 silver and 5 bronze medals plus 18 final placings.

Matthew Bowden (15), narrowly missed out on gold in the 100m

Breaststroke (1.10.31) and the 100m Freestyle (0.58.64) whole 12 year. Samantha Mitchell collected silver in the 100m Breastroke

in a time of 1.27.83. Club Captain Matthew (15) finished 3rd in both the 400m Freestyle

(4,28,32) and 200m Freestyle (2,06.51) Thirteen year olds Jill Hunter, Carol Mohan and Danielle Robinson finished 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively in the 100m Butterfly event. While in the 100m Freestyle event Carol, Angela Winstanley-Smith and Danielle finished 4th, 5th and 6th. Jill Hunter finished 7th in the Open 200m Butterfly achieving the National Qualifying time. Iain Cairns (16) was 8th in the 200m Freestyle (2.07.94)

Mark Surtees (16) finished 5th in the Open 50m Butterfly and was placed 3rd Junior (0.28.76), 6th in the 100m Butterfly (1.06.73) Michael Turnbull (15) was placed 8th in the 100m Freestyle (1.03.48)

Reserve finalists were: Mark Surtees (16-18), 200m Freestyle, Angela Winstanley-Smith (13), 100m Butterfly,

ATTEND COUNCIL **MEETINGS**

'An ardent Newton News Reader' raises an important issue at the end of his letter. Members of the public are, of course, ENTITLED to attend Town Council meetings.

I wish more members of the public would exercise this right - they might find that some of preconceptions about the Town Council and its Councillors are mistaken. I advise you NOT to go to a Full Council meeting. Most of the Council's decisions are taken in its Committees - especially the 'Environment', 'Recreation' and 'Policy Resources' committees. These are the meetings to attend, since the Full Council is usually a very short meeting which merely rubber stamps the of the decisions committees.

Additionally, if you are a member of the Labour Party, you can ask to go to the LABOUR GROUP meetings as an 'observer' from your branch. With few opposition Councillors present at Council meetings, these are the best meetings to attend - the ones where genuine, productive DEBATE occurs.

At the moment, we are reaching the end of the 'Council year', but when the meetings start up again after May, I will make sure that you are invited.

Yours sincerely, John D Clare

Labour Group Press Officer

Carers Meeting at Heighington

A Carer Support Worker will visit Heighington every week to provide information to CARERS. Based at the village hall on Tuesday mornings, 9.30-11am for further information please phone 01325 357533

BOROUGH MAYOR AT EGGSHIBITION



Counc. Brian Avery with a model egg Mayor at Hackworth Railway Museum Eggshibition held over

Letter to the Editor

TRAVELLING OUT OF TOWN IS AN TER NIGHTMARE

are not milch cows whose

increasing rate income is to

be spread about the whole

district whilst real problems

in the Town are being

It would appear that the

authorities will not be

satisfied until the whole of

the town is covered in

(Name & address supplied)

ignored.

concrete.

Yours faithfully,

Concerned citizen

Woodham Village

I feel that the people of Newton Aycliffe are being ill used by Sedgefield Borough Council and Co. Durham Council. It seems that permission is being granted to build houses in a very cavalier fashion but little or no attempt is being made to improve the infrastructure of the town. Moving off the "island" of Newton Aycliffe is an utter nightmare particularly at peak times, but it appears that nothing can be done to alleviate the situation. The old Avenue School was closed and demolished over 6 years ago but it is still a mere demolished site.

The Town Centre is a complete disgrace. Empty shops abound caused by greedy landlords asking excessive rents but apparently nothing can be done about this. Are there no compulsory purchase orders or civic bye-laws that can be invoked.

We are told that little can be done about policing the Town Centre because the properties are privately ned and so vandalism abounds. Again where are the bye-laws to protect us from the mindless.

I am not suggesting that resolving these problems would be easy but surely a start could be made. The citizens of Newton Aycliffe

Stolen Clothes Recovered

Local Police have recovered a number of items stolen from clothes lines.

To find out if your stolen clothes are part of this haul ring D.C. Robson at Newton Aycliffe Police Station on

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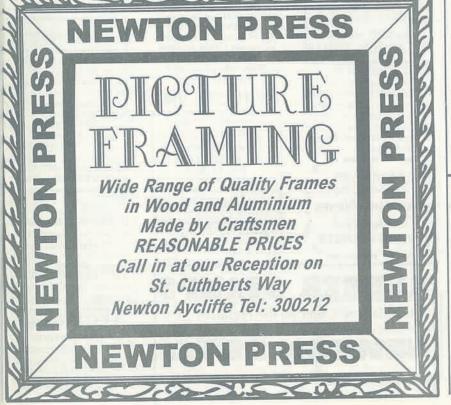
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GLOBAL TTERY SCAM

Foreign based companies offering huge cash prizes that don't exist could be cashing in on lottery fever in County Durham.

People who fancy aflutter are being tempted to pay money up front to find out if they can claim awards of between £250,000 and £2.5m from foreign Government sponsored lotteries.

But Durham County Council's Consumer Services is warning that it could all be just a global

Phillip Holman, head of consumer services, said: "We are aware that a large number of similar offers have been received by consumers up and down the country.

"It is, therefore, unlikely that any are genuine."

He said the offers are run by foreign based companies which mail prospective 'winners' indicating that they have won a large cash prize.

"The need for urgency is stressed and the mail shots are personalised in an attempt to lure the public to act quickly to secure their 'award.'

"Names such as Customer Service Network, Global Cash Delivery Program and Cash Award Centre are three that have come to our notice so far," he said.

People have received letters with post marks from Malmo in Sweden, and Budapest asking for £6.97 or £1 2 to be sent as an administration fee to secure the award.

It is believed the companies are just a mailbox front for a company operating out of Queensland, Australia.

Councillor Ken Manton. chairman of the County Council's Environment and Technical Services

Committee, said: "Our staff don't know of anyone who has received such an award in relation to these mail shots and the public should exercise great caution before deciding to send any money to followup such dubious offers."

Removals

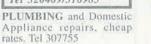
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Wednesday 7pm - Sharon 01325 315270

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5pm & 7.30pm - Debbie 01325 300615

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In Memoriam

JOHN DOUTHWAITE Died 4-4-90. Time slips slowly by, but our love for you will never die. Loving wife Betty and all the family XX

MAURICE DOBINSON (21-4-97) A dear friend who will

never be forgotten
MAURICE DOBINSON 21-4-97. One year ago I had to part with a husband I loved with all my heart. It's been a lonely one without you. A million times I've cried, if my love could have saved you, you never would have died. Love you always Mary
ANN BATCHELOR

(beloved wife, mother and grandmother), we cannot believe it has been three years, not a day goes by without missing you and wishing you were still with us. We will love you always, Geoff, Amanda, Leslea, Andy and baby Joseph ANN BATCHELOR 19-4-95. Those special years will not return, when we were all together, but with you love kept in our hearts, we'll hold you close forever. Remembered always, your friends Joyce and

JOE STOTT Died 18th April 1994. There are lots of husbands in this world I know, but you were mine and I loved you so. On earth you toiled, in Heaven you rest, God bless you Joe, you were one of the best. Loving wife Wendy

TERRY HARDY Died 18-4-95. Sadly missed and loved always, Enid X

TERRY HARDY Died 18-4-95. Dear Dad as the years go by, you are never forgotten, love and miss you more each day, your devoted family Peter, Lynne, Alyson, Anita, Karen, Andrew, Micky, Ian and Alicia

GRANDAD HARDY Died 18-4-95. Gentle Jesus up above please give our Grandad a great big hug. Miss and love you lots, Ross, Curtis, Robyn, Ricky, Bradley and Megan X GRANDAD HARDY Died

18-4-95. I never got to meet you, though in time I will learn to know I had the best grandad ever. Love you Reed X

Birthday Remembrance

KEN BODDY Birthday nemories of a dear husband, April his 70th birthday. God please give him a hug and a kiss from all his family and tell him we miss him very very much. Look after him God in your garden of rest, I'm sure you know he was one of the best. Deeply missed by loving wife Gladys and family

Tuition

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

Accountancy

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M.A.A.T., A.C.C.A. (Member of Association of

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

Thank you

JANE & NEIL would like to thank all family and friends for all the cards and gifts received on the birth of their son Luke James. Special thanks to Grannie Annie, Aunty Susan, Uncle John (YTS), Aunty Claire and Sophie B for helping Mammy, love and kisses Luke

A BIG THANK YOU to Yvonne and Andrea, my daughters, for making a night to remember. Also to all my friends for their lovely gifts for my birthday. A great big thank you to Lal of the Aycliffe Arms for a wonderful buffet, thanks for a special evening - Joy

FORSTER Thanks to all family and friends for the wonderful flowers, presents and good wishes on my 60th birthday. Special thanks to Eddie, Edward, Carol, heather, Paul, Matthew and Maxine for the great surprise party - also my grandson Edward for the lovely birthday cake. Thanks

Accommodation

JUBILEE GUEST House, 2 Bury Road, unemployed welcome Tel 319850

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

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

FUSCHIA's, trailing and outdoor hanging basket plants from 40p each -Travellers Green Nursery Tel

PINK, GREEN or blue A quality dralon suites, brand new catalogue returns from 17 only £200. Also quality second hand from £70, free delivery call anytime 01325 262775 or 0973 520074 (M) DIAWA Fishing rod, cushion seat box and fishing stool £20 Tel 01388 772921 CANOPY Sunbed, 5 tubes,

MIDID HI-FI £40 Tel 01325 300811 IVORY Wedding dress, size

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FISH TANKS pair 3ft long on a sturdy double metal stand, many accessories, £40 ONO Tel 314621

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THREE Piece suite, navy and pink, cotton floral, good condition £150 ONO Tel 310532 after 5pm 2 & 3 SEATER settees in

green dralon, wood facings, good condition 3150 Tel

TRAILER Tent with awning, sleeps six, good condition £700 ONO Tel TWO CHILD Upholster

chairs, new, suit child 1-5 years, £34-£40 each Tel 310092 GIRLS

RALEIGH Mountain bike for 8 years + £40, excellent condition Tel

MASTER System 2 joy pads, 6 boxed games, 1 built in game £30 Tel 317257 TRAILER £25 Tel 317257

SET OF 8 plates, Country Days, series by Chris Howells, Wedgewood China, plus shelving £100 317257
BLUE TWEED Two seater settee and one armchair. good condition, suit bedsit or small flat £40 ONO Tel

AMSTRAD PC + monitor £70, Hewlett Packard Deskjet 690C, used once, good reason for sale £160 Computer and Printer £220

Congratulations

REBECCA & MARK Congratulations on the birth of Ethan James on the 12th April, he's a smasher! Love from Mam and Ernie and Rachel XX REBECCA & MARK Thanks for a little play mate Ethan James, love from the big boy in the family, Jordan

JOHN WOODWARD Hope you have a great 50th birthday Dad, lots of love Joanne

JOHN WOODWARD To my Granda on his special day, lots of love hugs and kisses Jordy Pordy XXX JOHN WOODWARD To my

husband on his 50th. Nothing fancy, nothing smart, just a birthday wish from the heart. All my love Anne JOANNE GALLACHER

Congratulations and good luck for getting into university, love David, Elaine and Ryan LEE Happy 18th birthday

Adam, love you, Gran XX LEE Happy April birthdays Karen and Jayne, love you

LEE Congratulations Adam on you 18th birthday, made it at last. Lots of love for your future, Mam, Dad, Karen, Jayne, Lee and Andy

LEE Congratulations Adam, on your 18th birthday love Grandma and Grandad

RYAN MERCER Happy birthday to our darling grandson Ryan, I year old today, 19-4-98. Thanks for all the joy you bring us, love Nanna and Grandad

RYAN MERCER 19-4-98. To my great grandson Ryan happy 1st birthday love Nanna Rose RYAN MERCER To our darling nephew Ryan, 1 year old today, happy birthday love Auntie Amanda and Uncle

RYAN MERCER Happy birthday little geezzer, one year today, all my love Uncle Tony

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HORNDALE Function Room For Hire, every day and night of the week (except Sunday night) available for weddings, anniversaries, parties etc. Book now £10 fee DINING OUT - Do you want

to extend your social life, make new friends and meet new and interesting people? How? Join us for meals and many other great social activities. Add that new dimension to your life. Ring 01325 320352

BLUEBELL CLOSE Sheltered Tenants are holding a Jumbie Sale on Saturday 25th April, doors open 11am, admission 10p

Please Note

To avoid errors, please write your messages as clearly as possible.



GRANNY - Happy 50th birthday, you are "Simply the Best", lots of love from Beth BETTY STANWAY - Happy 50th birthday lots of love from Stan, Linda, Stephen, Mark

BELTON A great event, April 7th, my two sons birthday is here again. Russel is 31 and Duncan is 30, how time flies mother getting old soon to be a grandma, have a good night out (Mam paying), love you both lots and lots XX

PAUL ATKINS 15-4-98. Happy 30th birthday love you always and forever, Sharon XX TO DADDY Love you loads and loads, happy 30th birthday, love and kisses Brogan XX ANDRESS FLACK Happy birthday to a very special mam love Chloe Marie and husband

Christine Dick



Happy 30th Birthday



PAUL GIBSON Hip Hip Hooray 40 today, love Vicky and girls XXX

PAUL GIBSON Happy birthday Dad, love Mark, Carol and Boys XXX GIBSON PAUL

Congratulations on your 40th today, love Rebecca, Paul and

PAUL GIBSON "Gibbo" Happy 40th birthday love Andrew and David XX PAUL GIBSON Dad, happy

40th birthday love Sarah XXX KJENSTAD - KELL Congratulations to Paul and Claire on your engagement Saturday 18th April, love and best wishes from mam, Darryl

and Christopher GEMMA LEE 19-4-90 Hip Hip Hooray, Gemma's 8 today, lots of love Mammy, Daddy

GILLIAN BARKER 19-4-98 Happy 21st birthday to the best sister in the world, love always GILLIAN BARKER 19-4-98

Happy 21st birthday Aunty Gill, love and kisses from your No. 1 nephew, James XX GILLIAN BARKER 19-4-98 Happy 21st Gillian, lots of love

JOHN WOODWARD Happy 50th birthday from Audrey and Rich (how's your itch?)

Sally Ann Teal



19th April 1998 To our beautiful little girl on your 2nd birthday, lots of love Mammy, Daddy and Gabrielle XXX

SALLY-ANN TEAL Happy birthday to my great granddaughter, love Nana SALLY-ANN TEAL 19-4-98,

to our darling granddaughter on her 2nd birthday, love and kisses Granny and Grandad SALLY-ANN TEAL Happy 2nd birthday lots of love kisses Aunty Charlotte, Uncle Adrian and Scott XXX SALLY-ANN TEAL Hip Hip Hooray, Sally-Ann is 2 today,

SALLY-ANN TEAL Hip Hip Hooray Sally-Ann is 2 today. Nan and Grandad

love Aunty Gill, Aimee, Sain

SALLY-ANN TEAL Happy birthday Sally-Ann, love and kisses Auntie Julie

SALLY-ANN TEAL Happy birthday love Little Nan and

JACK WILLIAMS Happy 4th birthday, hope you have loads of fun and pressies, love from Uncle David and cousin

MERCER To our darling son Ryan, happy 1st birthday 19-4-98, lots of love and kisses Mammy and Daddy

MERCER Hip Hip Hooray my little brother is 1 year old today, 19-4-98, love ya lots

RACHEL Congratulations on your 18th birthday 18-4-98, love and best wishes Mam, MITCHIE & BLACKBURN

Rebecca and Mark congratulations on the birth of your beautiful son, Ethan James on 12th April, lots of love Carrie, Neil, Samuel, Joseph and Louis XXX

EMMA DUNN 16th April.

Happy 80th birthday Mam, all our love Eddie, Dulcie, Walter, Val, Ann and Dennis XXX EMMA DUNN Happy birthday Nana with love from all your grandchildren XX EMMA DUNN Happy birthday "little Nana", love from all your great grandchildren XX JOANNE GALLACHER congratulations on setting in to

congratulations on getting in to University, good luck for the future, lots of love Mam, Dad and Nanna XX BRIAN HUGHES 17th April,

happy 60th birthday love Joan BRIAN HUGHES Happy 60th birthday Dad, love Susan and Mark

BRIAN HUGHES Happy 60th birthday Granda love Jake BRIAN HUGHES Happy

60th birthday love Mam TIBBETT Happy birthday 20th April, Dad and grandad with love from Teresa, Carol and David and a special happy birthday from Great Grandson Joshua XX

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Lost & Found

LOST Black Labrador Tel 321600 (reward)

Redworth

Village News

The monthly draw winners were Mrs. Mattison (No 145), Mrs. Billany (No 26) and Mrs. Saunders (No 52). Please ensure payments for the draw are handed in before the end of the month.

Please note the A.G.M is on Wednesday 22nd April. Please attend this important meeting and consider serving on the committee.

The short meeting starts at 7pm and free refreshments will be served.

Photography

S.J.A. Wedding photography and portraits, done in the comfort of your own home. Tel Aycliffe 300036

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Appeal) Y.M.C.A. need donations of furniture, toys and bric-a-brac Tel 308070

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OWN BRAND

Royals£3.18

Kings Super Kings£2.45

(* with 10p coupon)

BECOME A WINNER BY LOSING WEIGHT



Do you pick red and it comes up black? Do you get any winnings from the lottery? Do you pick a horse that turns out to have three legs and always loses?

Well if this is you, fed up of being a loser why not come along to slimming world, and we will help you to be a winner. With slimming worlds healthy eating plans, and the support and encouragement from consultants Sharon and Kim who are definite winners. Sharon and Kim both joined slimming world classes, after feeling fed up with their excessive pounds. Slimming World not only helped them feel good and look good, it has also given them a chance of new careers as slimming world consultants. Classes held at St. Joseph's School on a Wednesday at seven pm. and at Neville Parade Church Hall on Mondays at 5 pm and 7pm., so if you want to be a winner here are your winning numbers. Sharon 01325 315270. Kim 01325 300475.



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BOOTS "BABIES OF THE YEAR" COMPETITION





Three babies are currently gurgling with delight at having been named Newton Ayclife store winners of the Babies of the Year competition.

From left to light Daniel Bage has become Boots Bubbly Baby, Liam Anderson has become Boots Brave Baby and Georgia Dunn has become Boots Bright Baby. Seen here with their mums being presented their Prizes by Angela Hatfield Store

TOO MANY EXAMPLES POOR COUNCIL SERV

Might I through the medium of your paper direct the following at the Council, no matter what they come under or whatever services they are meant to provide.

I believe many people on this town are just sick and tired or the constant wrangling and criticism that goes on between Councillors. If they're not doing that they throw figures and statistics at us, and then have the gall to tell us its for services provided. I think it is the standard of some of the services that is questionable. I would also suggest we're getting a raw deal for what we pay out in taxes, for example.

a) Grasscutting round housing estates, always done in a tearing rush (are they on a bonus system?). With large areas missed out, especially round post fences and trees, and grasscuttings left everywhere, in particular outside our homes, which is unsightly and

dangerous in wet conditionspossibly contravening safety regulations. We have to sweep up the grass if we don't want it all over our homes.

Then we have grass cutting on the park, round and in the lake, in which if not removed, stagnates and pollutes the water. I would suggest this is a health hazard. especially to young children. It is also unsightly - does the council believe this is a good service? b) Then we have the subways and

the graffiti, broken glass etc. This has been a problem for a long time, but it seems the Council are now tackling this, but with a lot of help from members of the Youth Centre - well done lads and lasses, it is appreciated. Surely this is a job for the council, and should be maintained and kept in good order. The problem of gangs of youths frequenting these subways, causing problems and also making members of the public feeling

threatened should have been nipped in the bud, with the Council and police liaising together and using the powers at their disposal to remove these youths, warning parents of the consequences of any further antisocial behaviour.

c) I would like to mention the Sports Complex where in general I would say the sports facilities are reasonable, but the bar upstairs should be geared towards the whole family. At the moment it seems to be frequented by aregular crowd, and has the feeling of being

caught in a time warp. It has a dining room which appears to be permanently out of use. What a total waste of an amenity. It should be opened up for meals and this in turn would attract more people to the Complex, Another example of poor service provided by the council!! R. McNeal

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