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Anniversary Service - A Memorable and Historical Occasion

The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe, assisted by Rev. Bill Broad and the Chief Executive of the Town Council, can be very proud of the very well organised 50th Anniversary Civic Service held on Sunday 28th June.

It was a wonderful Community event for the 800 strong congregation representing all walks of life in Newton Aycliffe.

Our Town Band, led by Mike Priestley, led the singing of popular Songs of Praise, creating a marvellous sound and atmosphere in the large Leisure Centre hall, receiving appreciative applause from everyone present.

A Children's Choir representing all primary schools sang their well rehearsed hymn beautifully and were a lovely sight in their respective uniforms. Tapestries made by the schools made a splendid backdrop and were a much appreciated decoration. Thanks to Pat Henderson, Head Teacher at Woodham Burn Infants for all her efforts in co-ordinating the schools part in the Service.

A large Civic Party led by our Mayor, Angela Fleming, entered the hall at 5pm. Included in the Service was Newton Aycliffe's first official residents Don and Eve Perry.

Industry was represented by Tallent's Managing Director Bernard Robinson O.B.E. D.L. His bible reading was from Exodus XX, 1-17. Two girls, one from each Comprehensive School, Claire Wingfield and Melissa Hoskins, read in unison from Matthew vs 1-12.

Derek Foster, former M.P. for Newton Aycliffe addressed the congregation, remembering those people who pioneered the New Town.

He brought in names from the past who had done much to help the Towns development, and commended those here now, working to create a better place for the next 50 years. Others taking part in this memorable occasion were the Borough Mayor, John Moran, and Michael Rice of Great Aycliffe Town Council. Ministers of all religions in the Town led prayers and the Bishops of Durham and Hexam and Newcastle gave a joint blessing on a congregation who were delighted to be part of this historical event.

Thanks to All who Helped with the Success of our "50th"

Dear Sir,
As Mayor of Great Aycliffe Town Council may I take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed towards the success of the 50th Anniversary celebrations. Whilst I cannot name everyone involved, I would like to record my thanks to the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe for their huge contribution in planning the celebrations, to Sedgefield Borough Council for their support, the staff of Great Aycliffe Town Council and members of the 50th Anniversary Committee, all Schools, Pat Henderson and Rev Bill Broad, and the "Newton News" for its coverage of the events.

Most of all, I would like to thank the people of Great Aycliffe who enthusiastically joined in all of the planned events, especially the children and young people.

A very rewarding aspect of the celebrations has been their involvement. They wove tapestries; made masks; took part in the fun-run and

Letter from the Mayor



sporting events; fished; and produced and performed music specifically for the celebrations.

I would like to thank them for the manner in which they wholeheartedly supported all of the 50th Anniversary celebrations and the Show.

Yours Sincerely
Angela Fleming
Mayor, Great Aycliffe Town Council

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Parachute Jump to Help Vane Road School

Dear Sir,
I am organising a sponsored parachute jump to raise funds to buy computer equipment for Vane Road School in Newton Aycliffe (Registered Charity number 703078).

The jump will take place over the weekend of 25/26th July 1998, weather permitting, at the Skydive Academy in Peterlee. Anyone wishing to sponsor myself and Andy Emmett

who are undertaking the jump, please telephone me on 01325 317206, daytime/weekends. All sponsorship, no matter how small an amount, will be most gratefully received. Also, any business large or small who would like to offer sponsorship would be acknowledged in the publicity associated with this event, including press coverage. Thank you for your help Eileen Robley.

COUNTY RECEIVED £150 MILLION

County Durham has attracted more than £150m worth of European funding since 1975 and more than £56m since 1994 alone.

This funding has: Assisted the development and expansion of over 1,500 firms and the creation of more than 17,000 jobs since 1989. - Enabled more than 40,000 people in County Durham to acquire and enhance their skills. - Helped to build and

improve around 60 km of roads linking key industrial areas with strategic transport networks. - Helped to develop and enhance a wide range of tourist and cultural attractions, including the Riverside Cricket Ground in Chester-le-Street and Killhope Lead Mining Centre. - Supported the development of strategic industrial sites such as Seaham Grange Industrial Estate in East Durham.



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TOWN SCHOOLS COMPETE FOR SWIMMING TROPHY



On Wednesday 24th June, the Mike Reah Schools Swimming Gala was held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. The event this year was held in conjunction with Sedgfield Borough Council's Festival of Life Week, in the presence of Andrea Reah, Councillor John Moran and his wife.

Ten junior schools from the Aycliffe/Heighington area were competing for the chance of winning the Mike Reah Trophy. Vane Road Primary, the winning school for the past three years were out to try and make it four years in a row. As usual the competition was great fun with all the schools swimming extremely well, with Vane Road School coming out on top. Congratulations to all those who took part in the event, those parents and teachers who supported the teams throughout the evening and we look forward to seeing you again next year. Special thanks to the officials and helpers supplied by Sedgfield 75 A.S.A.

£1000 FOR VICTIM SUPPORT FROM SOMERFIELDS

VICTIM SUPPORT was nominated by Somerfield Community Charity to receive financial support from a share of the proceeds on the sale of scratchcards, between October 1997 and April 1998. Sue Hayles, the Scheme Co-ordinator recently collected a cheque for £1,033.11 during a presentation at the Newton Aycliffe Store. This donation has come at an appropriate time, when residents of Newton Aycliffe are in the throws of celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Sue said, "We are extremely grateful to the residents of Newton Aycliffe for nominating Victim Support.

We are constantly fund-raising to meet our shortfall in running costs, but this donation will certainly give us a kick start for the coming financial year. At this time of celebration we can all look forward to another year when Victims of Crime in Newton Aycliffe be assured we will be there for them, both in terms of practical and emotional support." If anyone has been a Victim of Crime and would like help, advice or support, please contact the Victim Support office at 4 Beveridge Walkway, Newton Aycliffe. Tel: 01325-319263 between 10.00 a.m and 12.00pm Monday to Friday.

P.T.I. LOOKING FOR SPONSORSHIP

Dear Sir,
I am a physical training instructor with the Royal Marines Reserve in Newcastle. I am organising a charity run between our unit in Newcastle to Darlington, via Newton Aycliffe. The sponsored run is in aid of St. Teresa's Hospice of Darlington. The distance to be covered will be 36 miles and will follow the route of the A167, on 29th August. I am writing to the Newton News to attract local business to support us. Anyone interested in sponsoring us please

contact me at the address below.
Yours sincerely
Corporal S J Corner, RMR
114 Guthrum Place
Newton Aycliffe
Tel: 301311

Football Season Near

SUNDERLAND v MAN CITY

England's involvement in the World Cup may have cruelly ended but the consolation is that the domestic season is just round the corner. Sunderland travel to Maine Road on Saturday 18th July to play City in a testimonial for long serving City player Ian Brightwell.

The Newton Aycliffe Branch of the SAFC Supporters Association will run a coach to this game if sufficient interest is shown. Anybody interested in travelling to the game should contact Stan Hall on 313172 before Friday 10th July when a decision will be made whether or not the coach will run.

Redworth Hall Offer Special Treat

Redworth Hall is taking a step back in time with an innovative Weekend Break. The hotel, which was built in 1693, is offering residents the opportunity to enjoy two nights dinner, bed and breakfast.

Breakfast is served in the guest's room by staff in period costume. All guests also receive tickets for entry into Beamish Museum, a guided tour of Redworth Hall and a look into its history and a souvenir miniature bottle of Lindisfarne Mead.

This two-day break is offered at £169.30 per person for two nights. For further information contact Linda Baker on 01388 772442.

W.I. Hold Garden Party

Heighington Women's Institute's Garden Party on Friday, 19th June in the grounds of Heighington Hall was a great success. The weather was warm, the food delicious and the Aycliffe and Brancepeth Brass Band played beautifully.

We would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Anderson for their generosity in making their garden available to us, and all the people who so generously supported us.

We still have some unclaimed raffle prizes. The numbers are listed below. If any reader wishes to claim a prize would they contact the Secretary on 01325 317992.

Yellow	Lilac
57	672
60	823
306	857
380	902
177	

Once again many thanks for your support.

Legion Football Team Presentations

The Royal British Legion FC held their presentation night on Friday 19-6-98.

The players had a great night collecting their trophies after a very, very successful triple winning season. The club captain Darren Griffiths was players player of the year,

Tony Landell was runner up for player of the year and David Walsh was player of the year.

The Legion Manager George Topping announced his retirement on the night. George was presented with a silver plate from the Legion and a mount bronze football boot from the players while his wife received a beautiful bouquet of flowers as a thank you. The new manager at the helm is Eddie Forster with Doug Grant as his assistant. Good luck for 1998-99 season to Eddie and Doug. I must say on behalf of the players and management a big thank you to the Royal British Legion for their support and putting on a great night. Report by Keith Braxell

Football Signing on Time

HUNTSMAN's new gaffer Darren Baxter starts his training this Sunday as the Club prepares for the new season.

Last year's players are all expected to extend their lucrative contracts, except for Rob Lothian.

But the players will be working hard to keep their places for the new season as new players are expected to turn up.

Anyone interested in joining Huntsman's 1998-99 championship bandwagon should be at the Town's Youth Centre playing field for 10am this Sunday, when all players will be signing on before going through the rigorous training session. "Get ya' sell doon", says Club official Tony Travis!

Golf for Disabled

Are you disabled and interested in Golf? We are able to offer 16 weeks of 1 hour golf sessions to disabled children, absolutely free of charge. This will be held at Woodham Golf Club at the end of August - time to be arranged.

For further details contact Gary Cooper. Tel 01388 816166 - Ext. 4412.



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Community Rangers Scheme Launched by Tony Blair MP



On Friday 26th June the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Tony Blair M.P., formally launched COMMUNITY RANGERS - the latest initiative of Sedgefield Borough - the Council responsible for the COMMUNITY FORCE.

The event which took place at SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE was attended by over 200 school children and their teachers, representatives of various prominent local businesses, the police and other agencies.

During the launch the Prime Minister and all the guests heard from Steve Gater, headmaster of Ferryhill Comprehensive - one of the many local schools which have agreed to participate - and Mark Hutchings from Sanyo, the international company with a base in Newton Aycliffe - this company has agreed to team up with two local schools to help with Community Rangers projects.

Both of these speakers confirmed their commitment to Community Rangers and encouraged other schools and businesses to join up.

Promotion of good citizenship is the foundation stone of the Community Rangers with achievements rewarded by points being credited to 'state of the art' SMART CARDS. Points can be converted to

discounts at leisure centres and local shops.

Councillor Brian Stephens, Leader of the Borough Council said, "I am delighted that Tony Blair was able to be present at the launch to add his endorsement. Community Rangers is a genuine partnership involving schools, children, business, borough council, police and the community - it gives the children of the borough a chance to be part of shaping our future society.

We are not surprised, that the prime minister wanted to be involved as the rangers initiative encompasses action to tackle many of the problems relating to good citizenship, community safety and the environment which have been targeted as priorities by the government".

SB is grateful to all sponsors and supporters of the Community Rangers

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LETTER P.M.'s ABSENCE WAS EXPECTED

Dear Sir,
I wish to respond to your leading article 'M.P. Tony Blair Snubs Aycliffe'. As a Member of the Labour Party I had the opportunity to vote for the Leader. I voted for Tony Blair to become Leader of the Labour Party, hoping that he would become Prime Minister and in the full knowledge that, as Prime Minister, he would be absent from the constituency on important world issues.

Tony Blair is a Christian but he is not God and cannot be everywhere! Derek Foster attended our Civic Service for the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of Newton Aycliffe. He has done an excellent job, serving as our M.P. for Newton Aycliffe for many years before the changing of the boundaries, and was the right man to attend this beautiful Service.

Your article refers to unnamed Labour Councillors 'being embarrassed by Tony Blair's apparent disinterest in Newton Aycliffe' - and I note that they are neither named nor numbered. I wish to state that I am not one of them.

Yours faithfully
Mary Morley.

Are you in the Picture?

"Newton News" Photographer Andrew Banks was commissioned by the Town Council to cover all the Anniversary events.

If you were in the picture and want a copy of the photograph get in touch with him on 310248 or 461166.

Rotary Club Honours Town's Ex-Shopkeeper



Harry Harding, the first shopkeeper to open in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre, was honoured by his fellow Rotarians with a Paul Harris Fellowship, the highest award the International movement confers. Harry, who owned the toy shop, up the ramp, was recognised for his work for the community in helping with the Sedgefield Furniture Scheme which provides household goods for needy families. He is seen here with Club President Roger Curtis (left) and Rotary's District Governor Joe Thompson. He received his award on board the Stockton to Yarm pleasure boat which was used for the annual President's Night last Sunday. His daughter Angela and one of Harry's Grandsons were present for the suprise award. Harry was completely speechless, but obviously delighted with the honour.

ANNUAL SUMMER FETE AT MIDDRIDGE

Middridge Village Association is holding its annual Summer Fete on the Village Green on Saturday, 4th July, with the official opening at 1.30pm.

There is plenty to interest for the whole family, with Grandpa Evans' children's rides, a bouncy castle, music from Greenfield School, competitions - including a goal shoot organised by Aycliffe Ladies Football Club, sideshows, stalls - cakes, bric-a-brac, toys, plants and grocery.

Continuity and background music provided by Paul Gittins. Tickets for the Grand Summer Draw, first prize a 14" colour TV donated by Alexander-le-Skerne, will be drawn at 4pm. Light refreshments are available.

Letter to the Editor Council will Tackle Lake Problems

Dear Syd,
The Council has recently received letters from children at Stephenson Way School regarding the condition of the Lakes in West Park. The Council's Environmental Ranger is to talk to the children about them.

The Council has requested the Ranger to examine a number of options for the Lakes and to report to them as it is very much aware of the issues.

The Ranger's report is now ready and will be presented to an early special meeting of the Environment Committee when the various options will be considered.

Any proposals from the Committee will be subject to consultation and feedback from the community.

Yours sincerely,
M Rice
Chief Executive, Great Aycliffe Town Council

UNSATISFACTORY CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,
As a life-long socialist I had correspondence with Mr. Blair some years ago and obtained little satisfaction regarding 'his' New Labour policy. I addressed my remarks with some experience too, as a graduate in Economics and History.

The tone of his replies (through his Agent, Mr. Burton) were (together with the content of same) very unsatisfactory.

Your article, Mr. Editor, did not surprise me at all. I was always treated courteously and fairly in my contacts with Mr. Derek Foster in correspondence and at his Surgery, so I endorse

your comments.

I wonder why Mr. Foster did not continue as Labour Party Chief Whip after the 1997 General Election? An interesting point in my opinion.

Yours faithfully
J Haynes (Mr.)
Newton Aycliffe

EDITORIAL NO RESPONSE FROM TONY BLAIR'S OFFICE

Lots of reaction in agreement to the front page story last week criticising our M.P Tony Blair for not appearing at any of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations. No reaction, however, from where it was needed - Tony Blair himself! No acknowledgement or apology for not recognising this important occasion in his own constituency.

We realise Tony moves in much wider world circles now - and Newton Aycliffe must seem insignificant compared with the awesome responsibility he has as Prime Minister.

But we do feel justified in expressing disappointment not to receive even a letter of greetings on the Towns 50th Celebrations or an apology for absence.

We are told that he might not even have known about the anniversary, as his diary is controlled by others. Can we believe he has no say in where he goes or what invitations he accepts or declines?

As Newton Aycliffe's community newspaper, with no political bias, we regretted having to criticise Tony Blair, a person we have come to admire for his many attributes.

Our only hope now is that he quickly redeems himself in the eyes of Newtonians.

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE CELEBRATES



Young entertainers in the Music Marquee



The Civic Service held in the Leisure Centre

On the 50th birthday of Newton Aycliffe many people took part in this year's Show making it a super finish to a week of celebrations. Every age group from Pre-School Learning Centres to the elder members of our community helped to make the Show a huge success.

Youngsters who had been working with musicians learning to make music as part of the 50th Anniversary Arts Development Project were amongst those who thrilled the spectators with their fine performances in the Playhouse Marquee of the music that they had written and recorded. More children's work was on display in the School Children's marquee. Banners made by the Pre-school Learning Centres, masks made by the primary school children with artists' input were displayed along with work the schools had produced themselves for display at the Show.

In addition, the tapestries made by schools with artist Alison Wood were also on display. Alison demonstrated tapestry making at the Show with a number of children who took advantage of her tuition.

Rabbits and Cavies came to the Show for the first time this year and were a huge attraction and of great interest as they were groomed and judged.

Sport was not neglected with Badminton, Football and Squash Tournaments along with Golf and Bowls Competitions and whippet Racing held in conjunction with the Show.

The ever popular Handcraft Exhibition received 816 entries, which was 168 more than in 1997. Judges commented upon the quality of exhibits, in particular of the 'Floral Art Section' which was of a much higher standard than in previous years.

Different crafts were demonstrated by some of the stall holders in the craft marquee who also offered a good selection of items for sale ranging from spectacular water colours to hand made mohair teddy bears.

There was a range of free activities on offer too, Quad bikes outside and a huge maze and ball pond in the Sports Hall. They say, 'There's no show without punch' and that must be the view of the hundreds of people who watched the performances of Punch and Judy. Although the shows are intended for the children, it's the adults who shout the loudest!

The varied entertainment in the arena attracted hundreds of spectators whilst Zippo's Festival Circus was enjoyed immensely by all who watched the performances.

Great Aycliffe Town Council would like to thank everyone who took part in the Show, whether to enter competitions or those who just came to visit.



Aycliffe's oldest resident Jessie Farow (101) was invited to Woodham Burn Infants Family Service held to celebrate the Town's 50th Anniversary. She was joined by the Mayor, Angela Fleming, who is shown here holding the youngest person at the Service, Emily Aitchison (5 weeks old). Helping Jessie cut the cake is pupil Chelsea Sowerby.

ARE YOU CLAIMING ALL YOUR BENEFITS?

For people on Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance there is help from the Benefit Department known as the Social Fund.

The Regulated Social Fund deals with such legally entitled grants as: Maternity Payments, Funeral Expenses and Cold Weather Payments.

The Discretionary Social Fund deals with three distinct areas of help: Community Care Grant; Budgeting Loans and Crisis Loans.

1 Community Care Grants - These are non repayable grants made to people leaving institutions to live in the community or to prevent people being institutionalised. To help families cope in exceptional circumstances; to help buy articles of clothing or household items, ie: cookers, fridges etc. If there is a definite risk to health and well being, physically or emotionally, these grants are made at the discretion of the Benefits Agency

2 Budgeting Loans - The loans are only available to people in receipt of Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance for at least 26 weeks. These loans are repayable through benefit deduction set at an amount that the claimant is able to pay repayable to a maximum period of 78 weeks.

3 Crisis Loans - These are loans that can be paid to meet short term needs due to an emergency, ie: fire, flood or burglary, it is not necessary to be in receipt of Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance, but the claimant must have no savings and there must be a serious risk to health and well being. The maximum loan is £1000.

For further information contact:

MR. R. BURCHELL
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The Angling Club held a day of Fishing specially organised for disabled people



Pipes & Drums entertain at the Showground

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUP OUT ON LITTER PICK



The Washington Crescent Neighbourhood Watch Group held a Litter Pick on Sunday June 21, 1998, in conjunction with Neighbourhood Watch Week and Tidy Britain Week. Lin Craddy, the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and her husband came along to offer their support. They would like to thank all who took part - making it a really community spirited event.

GF & JA Edwards

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Archery Display



Marquee Entertainment.



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Street Entertainment

CHEMISTS EMERGENCY ROTA

Sunday 5th July 1998
12noon-1pm - Cheapside
Sunday 12th July 1998
12noon-1pm - Moss Chemists
Sunday 19th July 1998
12noon-1pm - Woodham Pharmacy

LETTER

A JOB WELL DONE!

Dear Sir,
May I please through your paper congratulate every person concerned with the Community Fair and the 50th Birthday of our town for a job well done.
Our group are Newton Aycliffe YOC and we are the junior section of the Royal Society for the protection of Birds RSPB. May we also take the opportunity to thank the following: Occasions, McDonalds, McMahon, Floral Charm, Thames Butchers, Booze Buster, Weighhouse, Boyes, Superdrug for kindly donating raffle prizes to help our group take children to the Farne Islands.

Unclaimed Prizes (NO Ticket / NO Prize)
Yellow - 86 159 328
Green - 224 396 328
White - 9 175 176 186
A big thanks to all who helped us and leaders who donated prizes.
Yours Sincerely
All the children and leaders of Newton Aycliffe YOC - *The Biggest Wildlife Club in the World.*



Town Centre Entertainment

KEEPING THE KIDS OCCUPIED

he school holidays are on us so may we draw our attention to something that your children would really enjoy taking part in towards the end of their holiday period just when you are running out of ideas to what to do next to keep them occupied.

is the Annual Holiday club at Neville Parade Methodist church from

August 17th - 21st open from 1pm - 4pm each day. It is for girls and boys of 5yrs - 11yrs old and the cost is only 60p per day. They can expect - lots of fun, noise, crafts, painting drama, stories, games, videos and singing - There has to be something there for everyone - so book the date now and look for further reminders later on in 'Newton News'.

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In Memoriam

ENISE CONNELL In loving memory of a very much loved sister and aunty, missed and loved every day, thinking of you always, Jan, Mary and Becca

NNIE WILSON 7-7-97. In loving remembrance of a loved wife, mother and grandmother. Sadly missed by husband Ernie and all the family.

OBERT TOMLINSON died 8th July 1995. treasured memories of a dear dad, loved and remembered always, your daughter Hayley and son Mark XX

PETER WHARTON 9th July 1983. Remembering you is easy, I do it every day, it's the heartache of losing you that never goes away. I love and miss Mam. God bless Dad, lots of love Vikki (little princess) XX

Birthday Remembrance

AYNE T. FREER On his 5th birthday, June 29th. You've just walked on ahead of me and I've got to understand you must release the ones you love and let go of their hand, I try and cope the best I can, but I'm missing you so much, if I could only see you and once more feel your touch. Always in our thoughts and ever in our hearts, Mam, Dad and Kelly XX

AYNE T. FREER Loving birthday memories of our dear grandson on his 15th birthday. As we woke up this morning, we looked up love, we whispered "happy birthday Wayne" and sent you all our love. Granma and Grandad XX

Autos

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Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS
Gigio El-Hakim
on your graduation from Newcastle University from Mam, Dad and family

JORDAN WOODWARD 5-7-98, to my darling little boy on his 2nd birthday, lots of love, hugs and kisses always Mammy X

JORDAN WOODWARD 5-7-98, Happy 2nd birthday Jordy Pordy, lots of love and kisses Gran and Grandad XX
JORDAN WOODWARD Happy birthday to my big cousin, lots of love Reece X

For Sale

CONCRETE bird bath £12 delivered, high back chair, brown dralon £25, concrete foot steps for lawns £8 for 4 Tel 313924
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NINTENDO 64 for sale, boxed with instructions. 1 game (Turk) and 1 joypad, £110 ONO Tel 01388 815392

SMALL UPRIGHT chest freezer £50; small fridge £45, both white in very good working order Tel 320201

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Photography

STUART J. ALLISON Wedding portrait and pet photographer. Tel 300036

NEIL & DIANE Congratulations on the birth of your son "Mason" 28-6-98, lots of love Rachel XX. PS I cannot wait to be bridesmaid in St Lucia in October

DIANE & NEIL congratulations on the safe arrival of your son "Mason" 28-6-98 and thank you for giving us our first grandchild, all our love Mam and John XXX

DIANE & NEIL congratulations on the birth of your son "Mason", 28-6-98 and our grandson, love Mrs P and Joseph

DIANE & NEIL Congratulations on the birth of "Mason", lots of love Claire

DIANE & NEIL Many congratulations on the birth of your son, "Mason" love to all, Sheila, Jim, Deborah, Charlotte

SUFFIELD Linda, Kevin and Daniel congratulations on a beautiful baby girl, love Bev and Eddie XX

PRESCH Michael congratulations on your 18th birthday, love and best wishes Bev and Eddie XX
WENDY JENKINS Happy 21st birthday, with all our love and best wishes Mam, Bill, Glenn and Shane

STEPHANIE FRENCH 7th July, 10 today, happy birthday to a very special granddaughter, lots of love Nan and Fred

LEANNE BURNISTON Happy 19th birthday love from Dean and Liam XX
LIAM SHAW 1-7-98, happy birthday to a very loving grandson, love Nanna and Grandad XX

LIAM SHAW Happy birthday love Auntie Julie, Peter, Gary and Charlotte XX
LIAM SHAW 1-7-98, happy 7th birthday to a special boy, love Mam and Dad XX

LIAM SHAW Happy birthday Liam love from your big sister Stacey XX
LIAM SHAW A big happy birthday to our big brother, love Macaulay and Keaton

RAMSDEN Congratulations Jane and Lee on your engagement, love from all your family in Sunderland
RAMSDEN & PEARCE Congratulations Jane and Lee on your engagement love from Mam, Dad, Joann, Bobby, Lauren and Danielle

RAMSDEN Jane and Lee congratulations love from Mam, Dad, Simon and Angio

SIMPSON Congratulations Muriel and Les on your Golden Wedding anniversary, 3-7-98, from Ruby, Ray and family

NICOLA ASHBRIDGE Congratulations on gaining your 3A Hons Degree in History and Media. Best wishes for the future from Mam, Dad and Karen

RACHEL RAISTRICK Happy 13th birthday Rachel, lots of love Uncle Colin, Auntie Val, Daniel and Michael X

RACHEL RAISTRICK happy 13th birthday Rachel, lots of love Auntie Sue, Uncle Allan and Rebecca X

RACHEL RAISTRICK Happy 13th birthday Rachel lots of love Uncle Gaz, Rachel and Chloe X

RACHEL RAISTRICK 1st July, congratulations to a very special daughter on becoming a teenager, love you loads Mam XX

RACHEL RAISTRICK happy 13th birthday to my big sister Rachy, I love you lots, Stevie XX

RACHEL RAISTRICK Congratulations to a super granddaughter on becoming a teenager, love you forever, Gran and Grandad X

TIMISS Born to Donna (nee Mills) and Andrew a son "Jonathan", 25-6-98, first grand child for Janice and George, Nephew for Philip, congratulations from both families

Sits Vacant

GEORGE HOTEL, Piercebridge needs summer staff for banquets, bars and washing up Tel 01325 374576

HAVE YOU GOT what it takes to become your own boss with the backing of a 75 year old PLC company? Yes! Then call 01388 602292 for more information

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Public Notice

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Mon-Thur 9.30-4.30pm
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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

ST. MARY'S SUMMER FETE
This Sunday
5th July, 2pm
Family Fun Day Out

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 Tel 01325 320352

DON'T FORGET St Clare's "American" Garden Party on Saturday 4th July at 2pm
ACORN PLAYERS Raffle winners: 121 claimed; 24 family panto ticket; 191 wine; 181 wine, please claim prizes from John Eliots Shoe Shop

CLAIRE MIDGELEY of "Balance Reflexology and Bach Flower Therapy" wishes to announce the winners in the recent free prize draw for the anniversary celebrations: Sharon Mavin (bottle of wine), Susan Borsberry (bouquet of flowers), Mrs J Ebdon (Tea Tree gift set), Rita Smith (table decoration), Jean Laybourn (rescue remedy cream and drops). 50 further prizes of 1/2 price treatment vouchers will be distributed within the next 3 weeks. Clare can be contacted on 01325 317378

NASSA NEWS A car wash is being held at the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way on Sunday 5th July between 10am and 4pm, in order to raise funds - please come along and give your support.

THANK YOU
MARIE DUFF Thank you for giving me a wonderful son, it's been a long time coming, lots of love always, Glyn

DUFF Thank you Mammy for a lovely brother, Jordan, he's so sweet and I love him lots and lots, Courtney

I WOULD just like to say thank you to all my friends and neighbours for the lovely gift of flowers you sent me for my birthday. It was a lovely gesture. Love Jenny Toole

MARIA JOHNSTON 1-7-98, happy birthday Mam, lots of love from Lyn and Neil XX

MARIA JOHNSTON Have a lovely birthday grandma, lots of love from Natalie-Marie and Tia-Jordan XX

SANDY SANDERSON Happy 70th birthday love Margaret, Jackie, both Ian's, Ann, Robert and Janet

SANDY SANDERSON happy 70th birthday Pop, love Claire, Kate, Nicola, Sarah and Graham

SANDY SANDERSON Happy 70th birthday to my playmate, love Amy

SUFFIELD Thank you Linda on the birth of our beautiful baby daughter, "Amber May", 26-6-98, also a big hello from your big brother Daniel, lots of love Kevin and Daniel XX

SUFFIELD Congratulations Kevin and Linda on the birth of a beautiful daughter, "Amber May", sister for Daniel, lots of love Mam, Dad and Stuart

LLEWELLYN Marilyn and Brian congratulations on your Silver Wedding, June 30th, from Dad and Avril

Wanted

HOUSES CLEARED
CASH PAID for antiques, old & modern furniture, tables, chairs, drawers, china cabinets, dressers also old china, linen, clocks pictures, jewellery etc.
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3 PIECE Suites, fridges and cookers wanted, cash paid Tel 01388 608042 anytime

WANTED Our desperate old bingo machine has died and gone, Simpature Court residents need a machine to live on, without our nights out we're miserable and sad, a machine we require or we will go mad - Tel 315672

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PHOTOADS
Advertisements with a photograph can be placed at one of our agents:

STEVENSON (Town Centre)
DON WALKERS (Simpasturegate)
or direct to us at:
NEWTON PRESS (Aycliffe Industrial Park)

SMALL £10.00
Photo and up to 20 words)
LARGE £15.00
(Photo and up to 50 words)

(Photographs can be collected from Newton Press after publication)

Flowers on 90th Birthday from Mayor

Dear Sir,
I would like to thank the Mayor and her escort, who called on me on Saturday 27th June to bring me beautiful flowers for my 90th birthday, many thanks to Viv and Elaine who gave me a grand party at the W.M.C. in Newton Aycliffe, thanks for all the cards I received from my friends at the Club, also to my

daughter who came up from the South. Thanks to my sister for her beautiful gift, not forgetting my son who does so much for me.

Thanks Allen and John for my flowers, also the many cards I received from friends in Moule Close, thanks again.
Yours Truly
Phyllis N Rodwell

Opportunity to Visit Israel for Students

Dear Editor,
May I urge readers of your paper who may be considering taking a Gap year between the end of A-levels and the start of university studies to apply for our annual programme - the Bridge in Britain scheme.

Since 1980 the Friends of Israel Educational Trust has offered 12 scholarships annually to students interested in spending 6

months in Israel and the Arab World. FOI is now looking for students with an open disposition and a capacity for hard work for our January to July 1999 programme. Anyone interested can write to me c/o the Trusts office; Friend of Israel Education Trust, POB 7545, London NW2 2QZ.
Yours sincerely
Bronwen viscountess Astor

Sits Vacant

ROAD RACE Could be Annual Event

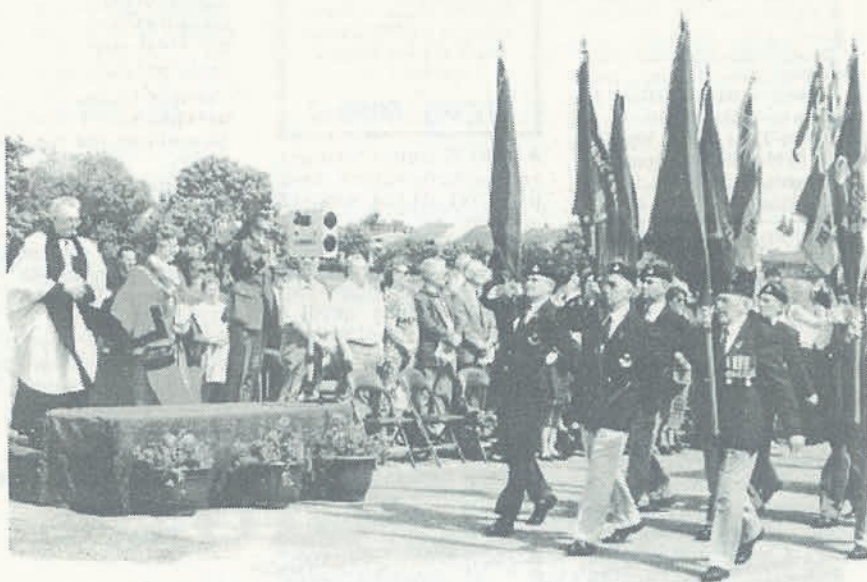
On behalf of Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club I would like to express our thanks and appreciation to our sponsors. 'Hydro' Polymers' and 'Great Aycliffe Town Council' (plus others) for helping us to make the event possible.

The overall male winner was Brian Rushworth from Sunderland in 32.40 and Karen Shaw (Shildon) was the leading lady in 36.52. Volunteers would be appreciated to marshal if we stage the event again. Yours in Sport
Susan Milburn - Race Director

OVERALL we have received very favourable comments from the participants and relatives. Hopefully we would like to run the event again next year.

Darlington & Newton Aycliffe Branch of the D.L.I./Light Infantry Association

Presentation and Dedication of New Branch Standard



The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Mrs. Angela Fleming, together with Lt. Col. C H C Lynch-Staunton, Commanding Officer of the 7th Battalion (Durham) Light Infantry, and Archdeacon, the Venerable Derek Hodgson, take the salute on the occasion of the presentation of a new Branch Standard to the Aycliffe branch of the DLI/LI associate. The event formed part of the Town's 50th Anniversary Celebrations.

The branch meets in the Royal British Legion Club at 7pm on the last Monday of each month.

New Deputy Manager at Redworth Hotel

Redworth Hall is pleased to welcome John Birnie as the new Deputy General Manager. Birnie joins Redworth from Stakis Hotels where he was previously Food & Beverage Project Manager, responsible for setting up themed restaurants.

Prior to this he was General Manager at The Charlescote Pheasant Country Hotel in Warwick and was an Assistant Manager at the Swallow Gosforth Park Hotel in Newcastle when it was 'Hotel

of the Year 1998'.

Commented John "I fell in love with the Northeast many years ago, having moved to the area from my native Scotland and later married a local lass now have two young daughters. My aim at Redworth Hall is to put the 'F' factor into food.

Dining should be exciting and fun with an emphasis firmly set on quality. My team and I intend to inject style and innovation and become recognised as trend setters nationally".

STOP PRESS

The Rotary Club thanks everyone involved in the two events they organised for the Town's 50th Anniversary Celebrations. Special thanks to Paul Gittins for providing the sound equipment and to the Leisure Centre staff for their co-operation.

The members hope everyone enjoyed these two occasions and look forward to serving the community in the future.

Please note the Yellow Brick Road Gala Day is to be held in Redworth Hall Hotel grounds on Sunday 23rd August. To book space for a stall contact Gregg Little on 321621

DURHAM POLICE USE QUARRY FOR ARMS PRACTICE

A PROJECT that could transform the floor of a disused quarry into an outdoor firing range - for the exclusive training use of police weapons specialists - is in the final stages of development.

Durham Constabulary, which has spent two years searching for a suitable location, confirmed today it identified a quarry at Running Waters as an ideal venue and intends within a month, to submit a change-of-use planning application to Durham City Council.

The 100-foot deep quarry, some three miles south east of the city, would be used as a training facility for the force's 142 authorised firearms officers which includes the armed team providing a 24-hour guard on the Prime Minister's constituency home in Trimdon Colliery.

Inspector Ian Coates, head of firearms training, said Durham had no range of its own on which the vital training time could be provided. Officers were forced to make time-consuming trips to already busy military or police ranges in North Yorkshire and North Northumberland to fulfil every growing training demands.

He said despite recently announced Government-backed proposals for the development of a privately funded purpose-built indoor range for use by the Durham and Cleveland forces, an outdoor range of the kind proposed at Running Waters remained vital to requirements.

In addition to being 30 metres deep at the quarry face, where target back-stops will be located to prevent ricochets, the site has the additional safety feature of a natural berm between the site and the nearby A181.

"This facility will be for the exclusive use of firearms licensed officers, each of whom needs to be regularly trained, assessed and tested during the course of a year. They will be using rifles over 100 metres and pistols on two 35 metre ranges. The bulk of firing will be carried out inside normal working hours between Monday and Friday," said Inspector Coates.

"Up to a dozen officers could be on the range at any one time but people living in that area, or the travelling public, can rest assured they will not be at risk. All firing will be controlled by the very procedures and other minor work in an around the quarry will be carried out to develop additional safety features," he added.

Ten days ago leaders of the county's police authority, accompanied by city and parish councillors as well as a local publican and garage owner, travelled to Catterick to watch Durham's officers undergoing training on Army ranges.

"We thought it was important to give local people, and their elected representatives, the opportunity to see at first-hand what our training involves. We believe this trip gave them a better understanding of exactly what we are proposing at the quarry," said Doug Swailes, the force's property services manager.

"It is now our intention to submit a planning application to Durham City Council within the next few weeks and if it wins the authority's support the training which is so vital for officers, and which is proving increasingly difficult to organise at present could begin as early as the autumn," added Mr Swailes.

Heighington News

Sergeant Tim Kelly attended the Heighington Parish Council meeting and spoke on Policing and Crime in Heighington. There has been an increase in recorded crime during May 1998 for Heighington Redworth and Walworth area. Of the total 41 crimes recorded to date for 1998 16 occurred in May. These figures are higher than for May 1997, but are still below the 1997 figure for recorded crime by 10 or 11 crimes. Heighington has been neglected while P.C. J Brown has been absent, and crime spots have been targeted, and maintained as far as possible by uniformed officers.

Councillor J Pallister had moved the concrete tube from East of the village and repositioned them in various locations in Heighington, and had supplied the stone for the Coronation Garden and Mr M and Councillor G Lee had set the stones in place.

The unkerbed nature of High Road Redworth has been given the reason for its omission from the street cleaning schedule. The area will be monitored and appropriate cleaning arrangements be carried out to maintain it in a reasonably clean condition. Parish Council commented that the appearance of the roundabout on the Heighington by-pass was greatly improving and that it should require less maintenance as it matures. Concern was expressed that the height of the trees might obscure visibility and thus danger to motorists.

The commemorative seat from outside the village hall has been moved as requested and is now situated near the wooden bus shelter in the village.

The Capital Programme for 1998/99 - 2000/01 had been set and does not include funding for a new cemetery at Heighington. Mr G Parsons has planted up the village flower tubs and done an excellent job.

The response had been poor for viewing the design of the village sign for Heighington, 5 people liked the design and could suggest no changes. 1 person did not like the design at all and suggested that a simpler shape was preferable minus bells, flowers, and George Stephenson. This person disliked the whole concept and style of the designs, sees no need for one and feels it would be a pot of sore thumb. 3 people favoured a double sided sign and 2 a single sided sign. Locations suggested for it were the Coronation Garden near the village hall, and on the village green. 2 comments mentioned that the money could have been better spent on something more practical. A survey carried out by Heighington school girls Kate Dixon and Jennifer Kirtley, both aged 9 years, showed that the village green and near the village hall were two most popular places.

Concerns regarding the levels of pollution at the site of the Reynolds Factory have been forwarded to the Health, Environment and Consumer Protection.

A total inspection of all the footpath signs and signposts in the Parish has been carried out. The footpaths committee met in June. A lot of work has been carried out by Footpaths Officers Mr Hindley and Mr E Lincoln, which includes way marking at sleeper bridge. The Caravan Club has cleared the paths in the south end of Cumby's Wood. Logs lying across paths in that area are brought to the attention of the footpaths Officers. It is thanks the work of Mr J Hindley and Mr E Lincoln that so many people enjoy walking the local footpaths.

Permission was granted for Heighington and District Horticultural and Agricultural Society to use the village greens for the Annual Show on August 22. There will be a Dog Show, Children's Sports, Children's Fancy Dress, Balloon Race and a Tug-of-War. The Fair is doubtful.

Funds are available from the Tree Council for planting trees with the general public can enjoy them and for tree planting in schools. Closing date for applications is July 31. This is in conjunction with National Tree Week.

The condition of the pavement in Water Lane Heighington causing concern, and is a danger to wheelchairs and pushchairs. The Parish Council are concerned about drug abuse and theft which occurs in Heighington and the Community Service Department of Darlington Borough Council are to be contacted. The next meeting of Parish Council will be held on July 16 at 7pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Mrs Blythe

T.A. MEDICS CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

Territorial Army Medics recruited from Tyne-, Wear- and Teesside as well as South West Durham, all members of 201 (Northern) Field Hospital of the famous Royal Army Medical Corps helped to celebrate 100 years of dedicated service with a full Regimental Parade and Drumhead Service on Sunday.

Members of the Unit, all volunteers, were at their Annual Camp at Cultybraggan in Perthshire and their parade of nearly 200 personnel was supported by the band of the Royal Highland Fusiliers, when the salute was taken by Brigadier RC Menzies, Commander Medical (Land).

This renowned Corps, which is responsible for all aspects of Army health, was formerly known as the Army Hospital Corps. It was renamed 'the Royal Army Medical Corps' when Queen Victoria signed her Royal Warrant on 23rd June, 1898.

Famous for its valour as well as its medical expertise, members of the Corps have won 39 Victoria Crosses, more than any other Regiment or Corps in the British Army. After the parade the celebrations continued with a Sports Day called 'Not the Highland Games' and this was followed by a barbecue and social evening.

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GRAFFITI BUSTERS CLEAN SUBWAYS

Community Service graffiti busters will be out in force cleaning up subways in Newton Aycliffe this week.

The offenders, who are all subject to Community Service Orders, will be using special portable equipment and cleaning materials provided jointly by Durham County Council, Durham Agency Against Crime and County Durham Probation Service.

Eleven of the town's subways have already been treated by County Council teams using environmentally friendly products.

Their condition will be regularly monitored by the Police and Community Safety Co-ordinators to determine if visits from follow-up teams of offenders provided by the Probation Service are necessary to keep them graffiti free.

Councillor Joe Knox, Chairman of the County Council's Highways and Design Sub-committee, said the subways were a vital asset giving people a safe route across Newton Aycliffe's busy roads.

"But they need to be kept clean and pleasant if people are to feel confident about using them," he added.

"This clean up campaign is a good example of how the

whole community - including offenders - can get involved working together to rid subways of graffiti and vandalism.

"It is demanding, physical work and experience in other areas shows that regular cleaning of graffiti offenders results in less graffiti appearing."

TABLE TOP SALE

The latest Table Top Sale will be organised by the Newton Aycliffe Brigade on Saturday 2 July from 10am at Newton Parade Methodist Church and in this will include coffee morning.

To book your table, which are still only £5, or to obtain further information please ring either 01325 3155 or 301747.

There will be a number of stalls including a cake stall and refreshments will be served all morning. There promises to be something for everyone that morning so why come along and pick up a bargain.

TAYLORS TOP VALUE

12 THAMES CENTRE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE

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OWN BRAND

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