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# Letter to the Editor

# Our Schools are a **Credit to Great Aycliffe-Councillor**

We're often told that 'No News is Good News' and, that hard work, academic and social endeavours and recognition of the grit and strength of character needed to achieve today's high educational standards should go unsung. In the name of avoidance modesty, embarrassment and a hiding of academic lights

public concern. Despite all that, may I pay tribute to the generations of hard work and achievement of so many students of the Woodham Comprehensive School and the high standard of school work I

under other bushels of

there recently? Students, Staff and the Parents have every right to feel proud of their Education and Social achievements. They were excellent.

was privileged to view

Moreover, at the Annual Presentation of Awards and Prizes to Year 9, I was impressed at the numbers students whose achievements were recognised throughout the

Newton Aycliffe Youth

Centre have opened an

appeal in order to introduce

special Friday afternoon

A 'Teen Cafe' is planned

for the remainder of the

School Holidays and Town

businesses have been

circulated to help support

The Youth Centre also asks

if readers can donate

unwanted boxed games or

other indoor play equipment, such as table

tennis bats/balls, and art &

craft materials etc.

the cost.

sessions for teenagers.

YOUTH CENTRE

CAFE PROJECT

APPEAL FOR TEEN

Curriculum and Social Development.

May I also pay special tribute to the School Choir, which entertained and charmed a large audience with their performing abilities, talent and freshness which the youngsters have in abundance.

Whilst I appreciate it is not the 'in-thing' to praise and pay tribute to the hard work and social endeavours of our schools, I do so in the hope that Students, Staff and Parents might forgive me for so-doing as a parent, grandparent, former teacher and a Ward

councillor. Well done, Students, Staff, Parents and Governors of Woodham Comprehensive and all our Schools. With 50 years of achievement behind you,

we look to the future through the eyes and the Great Ayeliffe-educated minds of the generations you have endeavoured to guide, teach and influence to the benefit of our Community.

D M Fraser. Woodham Ward (SBC & GATC)

# SUPPORT NEEDED **FOR YELLOW** BRICK ROAD EVENT

Have you registered your family to walk the 'Yellow Brick Road'?

The annual sponsored walk in aid of sick North East children takes place around the beautiful grounds of Redworth Hall on Sunday 23rd August commencing 1.30pm.

There is a short 'Munchkins' walk for toddlers and a longer walk for older children and adults.

There will be lots to do on the lawns of the Hotel during and after the walk. Entertainment stalls and games are included with a Fancy Dress Competition for children.

The Rotary Club are organising the event and will be providing prizes to the winners - so start thinking about the costumes and bring all the family for an afternoon out at Redworth Hall. Why not bring a picnic?

An entry form is printed in this issue and further details are available from organiser Gregg Little on 321621.

He would be pleased to discuss any ideas you have to swell the funds for this very worthwhile charity which cares for the sick children in our area.

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# Praise for **Village Post Office**

May we offer thanks and congratulations to the Wilson Family Heighington Post Office for sensitive work undertaken on the exterior of the Post Office building over recent weeks.

The exterior of the building, originally brick, was totally out of keeping with the houses on West Green.

The building has been rendered and painted most attractively to blend with the other properties. Well done!

Pat & David Henderson Heighington

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Please ring if you can help on 312520.

The Youth Centre offers an ideal meeting place for youngsters providing disco music, pool, snooker, table tennis and indoor games also a gymnasium etc.

There are now adequate facilities for disabled youngsters who would be most welcome.

The Bear Club Disco is held each Thursday at 5.45pm. Junior discos are every Tuesday at 6.15 and the Senior Disco is on Thursday night starting at 7.30pm.

# BLINDS

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# **Look After Yourself**

Flipping through the pages of Hello, Vogue, Woman's Journal, Cosmo - whatever you read - chances are you'll come across a photo of a woman you admire, whose looks, hairstyle, image, or dress sense you aspire to. Chances are you dismiss the thought with 'it's alright for her - loads of money, luxury lifestyle, personal hair stylist, beauty therapist, trainers'.

You could be closer than you think to having it all yourself. Saks Stylists and Beauty Therapists are trained to provide

thorough consultations at each appointment. Ruth Roddam, of Saks Redworth Hall Hotel, advises, "Making full use of our consultation means that you are developing a one-to-one relationship with your personal stylist and beauty therapist. We use the consultation to inform us of our client's needs, taking into account face shape, skin type, lifestyle, personality, preferred style of dressing and so on".

What sort of things might a stylist, or beauty therapist, need to know?

- Do you gym and swim?
- Do you use styling products and appliances at home?
- Are you always in a rush in the morning?
- Is your life one long hectic whirl juggling family, work, social life?

Are you generally in good health?
Do you have specific complaints - back problems, circulatory complaints?

Training ensures each team member conducts the consultation properly - with regard to a client's confidentiality. Ruth continues, "Be honest. Would you use tongs or a hairdryer at home for example? Will you take time out for a regular stress relieving soak? If we know, we can ensure the advice you receive on homecare is designed to recreate your style and capture that feeling of wellbeing in between appointments.

Another trick employed by models and stars whose livelihood depends on looking on top of the world all the time is to commit to looking after themselves. This is easy to do - and will really boost your regime.

Book hair and beauty appointments in to your diary, in the same way you would with your dentist or gym sessions. Don't leave it till your hair needs a cut or you are desperate for that facial. Spending time on yourself and speaking plainly to your stylist and beauty therapists will go a long way to ensuring you are one of the beautiful people too!

### **SUITS** Made to Measure

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# **MEXICO COAST** TO COAST BIKE CHALLENGE

Do you have what it takes to cycle 600km across Mexico in less than a fortnight during February/ March 1999?

Mexico Coast to Coast is Macmillan Cancer Relief toughest cycling challenge yet: El Grandissimo.

Starting at the Gulf of Mexico and ending on the shores of the Pacific the route ensures some breathtaking views and a fascinating mix of cultures ancient and modern.

Cycling through tropical farmland and cloud enveloped forests, the route reaches a peak of 3000m at the highest point of the Sierra Madre before crossing more mountain ranges and finally dropping down to the Pacific Coast. If you think you have the strength and will power to undertake this challenge, Macmillan is eager to hear from you. Your challenge is to make it to the Pacific -

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OFFICAL PHOTOGRAPHER FOR

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE ROTARY CLUB

# WALK the YELLOW **BRICK ROAD**

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**ENTRY FORM** 

Name		
Address		
Post Code	Tel:	
Signed I understand the organises result of the event.	Parent or Guardian if under 16 are not responsible for any accident, injury or loss as	
Please complete this form	o obtain your Walk Pack and send with a £1 Registratio Road, PO Box 2YB, Queen victoria Road, Newcastl	

Further details from Gregg Little. Tel: 321621

Macmillan's is to improve the lives of people with cancer

In the UK, one in three people will be affected by cancer. In fulfilling this challenge, you will also be raising money for the charity which funds specialist Macmillan nurses and doctors as well as buildings for cancer treatment and care, services which help make the lives of cancer patients and their families easier.

For further details about the Mexico Coast to Coast challenge or other forthcoming Macmillan hiking and biking challenges, please call Caroline Hukins on 0171 887 8288/8225.

# Test Young Eyes Often

Are your children seeing everything in sight? Could they be missing out at school and fun time because of poor vision.

The only way to ensure that they are enjoying good sight is to have their eyes examined regularly - which is free!

All children under 16 are eligible and a generous discount voucher is provided by the NHS if glasses are needed.

The choice of young frames is enormous from the sheer femininity of Laura Ashley for Girls, whilst Snoopy or Garfield offer a high quality, tough, junior designer look.



Ask your optician about Blits Kids frames and the briefcase subtly takes children from testing to frame selection.

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For the littlest people in need of sight correction Peter Rabbit and friends have popped up with some adorable styles.

Make sure you ask your optician for polycarbonate lenses - they are tough and the safest lens possible for young eyes.

Warning list for young eye problems:

Child complains of headaches Sits close to the TV

Suffers poor school results Finds fine tasks, such as model making, difficult Struggles with fast ball games, misjudging speed

and distance. Call the Norville help desk for local opticians stocking good children's frames 01452 318116.

# Sahara Trek or Bike Through Turkey

Could you rise to the challenge of Macmillan Cancer Reliefs hike across the Sahara Desert from 14-22 November 1998 or get on your bike and cycle through Cappadocia in Turkey from 10-18 October 1998?

Mirage to Mirage Covering 100 kilometres of some of the world's most famous desert, the Sahara trek will be a once in a lifetime adventure. Toureg tribesmen will lead the trek and a caravan of camels will bear the luggage load. You will experience breathtaking views, panoramic sunsets and starfilled skies every day with the snow capped mountains of Morocco to the West. Travelling though remote desert, however, is also hard work: with gruelling terrain and temperatures varying between 8° and 25°C this won't be a trip for the fainthearted.

Turkey: (Not for Chickens)
If you would rather get on your bike, Macmillan is also organising a cycling challenge through Cappadocia in Turkey from 10-18 October 1998. Riding through volcanic landscape, wild uplands, the Taurus mountains and Mediterranean along coastline you will experience a country steeped in history and mystique.

To find out more about the hiking Sahara cycling Cappadocia challenges or about any forthcoming other Macmillan challenges, please contact Caroline Hukins on 0171 887 8288/

# SUBSTANCE **MISUSE - NEW** DIRECTORY LAUNCHED

Durham and Darlington Drug Action Team (DAT) have developed and launched the first ever information resource directory for substance misuse professionals. The directory will help professionals in County Durham and Darlington provide local people with the information and help they need to tackle substance misuse problems.

The new directory lists local and national organisations that provide information, counselling, treatment and advocacy services for people with drug, alcohol or related problems.

Each entry features details of the services provided locally including names of people to contact, how to make a referral, criteria for acceptance by the service and any associated costs organisations or individuals may have to consider.

The directory is the first hard copy version of its type specifically focusing upon the field of substance misuse and is in an attractive loose leaf format which will be updated annually. It builds on the 'Directions' database facility developed by the British Red Cross and funded by Durham County Council Social

Services Department. Over the next few weeks, 500 copies of the directory will be circulated across all DAT agencies including Health Service, Social Services, Education, Police, Probation and Prison Service staff as well as local support groups and charities in County Durham and Darlington. Local people will also be able to access the directory in the reference sections of major libraries in

the County.
David Cliff, Co-ordinator of the Durham and Darlington Drug Action Team said: "There has been a need for a comprehensive. Single directory for professional use for some time. We hope that professionals who work in the substance misuse field will help develop the directory

through their contributions and make it into a document which can be used to direct local people coping with the problem of substance misuse for the care they need." David added: "This is another

example of the DAT ensuring that high quality information services are available for local people and professionals to

It also demonstrates the importance and effectiveness of collaboration between the DAT agencies in County Durham and Darlington in tackling substance misuse." Lynn Clare, Secretary of the National Association of Parents Against Drug Abuse (PADA) said: "The directory has been invaluable to us in enabling us to refer callers from the area to the appropriate services. I only hope other DATs in the region will follow Durham & Darlington DAT in producing such a useful directory."

The resource directory has an alteration/addition sheet which can be faxed back to the Drug Action Team Coordinator's office where the directory will be maintain Alterations and additions the directory will also be forwarded for inclusion in the 'Directions' databases which are already available in many libraries across the County.



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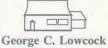
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supervisory exp. be a good team leader, able to make decisions. Driving Licence preferred. NEU12313

Home Visit Advisor, Co. Durham area, Basic/Comm. or comm. only. OTE £25,000 poss, various hours to suit. To visit private households to promote dual fuel on behalf of Northern Electric & Gas. Full training will be given but applicants must have good communication skills and an ethical and professional approach. Promotion are prospects good. NEU11762

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# DO YOU NEED TO LOSE WEIGHT?

At Slimming World you will get all the help you need, simply decide on a class which will suit you best and come along at the advertised time

**Neville Parade Methodist Church** Mondays 10am - Brenda 01325 720165 5pm or 7.30pm - Kym 01325 300475

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5pm or 7.30pm - Debbie 01325 300615 If you are wanting to join Slimming World for the first time then you will pay the normal joining fee of  $\pounds 9.90$ 

> Weight loss can only be achieved by control of energy intake and expenditure

Only £2.95 weekly, £6.95 membership 

Staff at Boots on Beveridge Way in Newton Aycliffe are inviting kids to be creative and design a 'Don't Smoke' poster in a national competition.

Boots have joined forces. with the Department of Health and are looking for young designers to draw a. poster showing the dangers which can be caused by tobacco.

The winning designs will appear in the Governments book about stopping people. smoking and controlling tobacco.

The young, local winning designer will receive a £10 Boots gift voucher and the place in the national final. Ten overall winners will be invited to London, will see their design in the.

Government's book and win £100 to spend in Boots. The Minister for Public Health, Tessa Jowell, said: "One of the Governments top priorities, which will be reflected in our antismoking strategy, is to try and prevent children from starting smoking. This competition will be a key test of the effectiveness of the strategy.'

She added: "Children throughout the UK are invited to take part and I hope it will help them think in an active and creative way about the issues involved."

The competition, which runs until 1st September, is open to 7-11 year olds and entry forms are available in your local Boots store.

The Gretna Green

Wacky Warehouse

CHARITY CAR

**BOOT SALE** 

Saturday 22nd August 1998

Starts 8.00am

Cars £5 - Vans £7

Gate proceeds to the National Childrens Home

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# **Business Suffers Road Congestion**

UK businesses (87 per cent) are suffering as a direct result of road congestion, according to a survey conducted amongst more than 3,700 firms by the British Chambers of Commerce and business finance specialists, Alex Lawrie. Of these, over half (55 per cent) have been forced to increase costs and prices and nearly one third (30 per cent) lost business opportunities due to

The survey reveals that nine out of ten businesses are using the UK road network to transport goods. Also, more than two thirds (76 per cent) of employees are travelling to work in cars and 79 per cent are using cars for business journeys. Currently only 8 per cent of employees are using public transport and just 2 per cent are using the rail network to travel to work.

Businesses are beginning to

Themed

Take 'A Walk Back in Time', 'Trace a Bygone Turnpike' or discover

'What's in a Name'.....

these are just three of the

interesting themed walks in

Durham County Council's latest guided walks

Starting in September and running until the end of

December, the programme

includes 78 walks which

take place at weekends and

on most Wednesdays.

programme.

Walks

problem of congestion with 21 per cent staggering staff starting times, one quarter changing times and frequency of deliveries and 11 per cent encouraging staff to travel by train. However, only 1 per cent of businesses has switched transporting goods from road freight to rail.

Despite lost business opportunities caused by road congestion, businesses would find moves to apply restrictive fiscal measures to the road network, unacceptable. Over half (58 per cent) would be against any policy that raises vehicle excise duty and almost two-thirds (62 per cent) would be against company car tax increases. In addition 70 per cent of businesses oppose fuel price increases.

Potential measures to introduce motorway tolls and urban road pricing are also not well supported by businesses, with almost half (48 per cent) opposes to motorway tolls and 62 per cent opposed to urban road pricing. However, this is not the case in London. Businesses in London would back plans to introduce motorway tolls (55 per cent ) and urban road pricing (48 per cent), perhaps because more businesses in London suffer from the effects of road congestion than in any other region, with almost half (49 per cent) encountering lost business opportunities as a

# **GREAT AYCLIFFE** 1998 GARDENS COMPETITION

Best Small Garden

1st Mrs A M Durham, 201 Kimblesworth Walk Ms J Ramsey & Mr D Clark, 4 Hareson Road Mr & Mrs A P Anderson, 91 Honister Place

Best Medium Garden

1st Mr & Mrs D W Findlater, 4 Wolsey Close

2nd Mrs D R Searle, 94 Honister Place 3rd Mr E Metcalf, 20 Garburn Place

Best Large Garden Mrs E Smith, 31 High Barn Road, School Aycliffe

2nd Mr & Mrs G Pollock, 5 Sheppards Croft, Sch Aycliffe Mr G Leybourne, 1 Acle Meadows, Woodham Village Best Children's Corner

Mr & Mrs D Wood, 1 Heighington Street, Aycliffe Village Laura Heron, Alan Heron & Sam Dixon Dawson Special Award for Best Hanging Basket

Mr S Waters, 16 The Grange, Woodham Village Special Award for Best Tub or Container

Mr K Leybourne, 14 Egerton Grove, Woodham village Best Vegetable Garden or Allotment

1st Mr A J Wareham - Plots 4a & 9 Aycliffe Village 2nd Mrs M Jefferies - Plots 21 & 22a St. Oswalds 3rd Mr J R Austin - plots 25 & 26 St. Oswalds Best School Garden Project

Walworth School Best Pub or Hotel

Mr P Wade, Iron Horse, Emerson Way

Best Commercial Premises (No Entries) **Best Industrial Entry** (No Entries)

**Best Floral Street** 

Residents of St. Oswalds Walk

TROPHY WINNERS

1st The Aycliffe Village 'Tidy Village Committee' Trophy for best front garden in Aycliffe Village, as chosen by Northumbrian in Bloom Judges goes to Mr A Hunt and Mrs Judith Owen of 5 Murton close, Aycliffe Village. 2nd The June Jones Trophy for Best School Garden

Project goes to Walworth School. 3rd The Ken Woodhall Trophy for Best Vegetable Garden goes to Mr A J Wareham of Aycliffe Village 4th The Harry Bilton Trophy for Best Senior citizen's goes to Mr & Mrs D W Findlater of Wolsey Close.

5th The Lady Beveridge Rose Bowl for the Best Garden overall goes to Mrs E Smith of School Aycliffe.

### 10 Year Old **Transplant Patient Wi** Gold Meda

Victorious Alexander Crawley Middleton-in-Teesda returning from the birthday celebrations of Guardian Health Br Transplant Games w golden prize.

Alexander, 10, who h kidney transplant in won a Gold medal in Obstacle Race.

Nearly 700 athletes, wi have been through trauma of transp surgery, all bed champions by just ta part in this fun-filled e The spirit of friendship overwhelming as to from hospitals all Great Britain enter variety of sports inclu golf, tennis and athlet This is the last year three-year sponsorshi Guardian Health before Games go to next y venue in Birmingham

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Mysteries and Function RAJAH'S PALACE

# HELP FOR CAR **CRASH VICITIMS** IN EUROPE

Local Labour Euro MP Stephen Hughes voted before the break for an EU Directive to speed up and simplify insurance claims for people who are the victims of road accidents in an EU country other than their own.

About half a million people are involved in such accidents every year. If a British person victim of a road accident abroad it can be very difficult to pursue a claim. Claims taken to court abroad can take up to eight years to settle. The language barrier and the cost of making claims in a foreign court are serious disincentives

Now the EU is proposing to allow the victims of road accidents abroad to pursue their claims in their home country. Every insurance company operating in the EU will be obliged to have a representative in each EU member state

So a County Durham resident who is the victim of a road accident in France or Spain can pursue a claim in Britain, in English, with the Britishbased representative of the insurance company of the person who caused the

Stephen Hughes Labour Euro MP for Durham and Blaydon said "Struggling to pursue a claim in a foreign language and a foreign court will be a thing of the past for victims of road accidents abroad. The EU is helping to make life easier for those who are unfortunate enough to suffer a road accident in another EU country. I am pleased to be able to vote for this sensible and useful piece of EU law". The draft EU law fills a gap left by the 'green card' scheme which helps drivers abroad if

they cause the accident - but is much less helpful if they are the victims. The law could come into effect by the end of

the year.
This legislation represents the first time the European Parliament has successfully used its new powers to initiate European legislation -normally the Parliament accepts, rejects or amends legislation but only recently has obtained power to initiate

Thursday and Sunday Evenings are "HAPPY NIGHTS" Giving you a new (as shown below) SEVEN COURSE MEAL for

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Newton Press, in conjunction with the Great Aycliffe Town Coun are preparing the 1998/99 Special Anniversary Issue of the Offic Town Guide for publication in the next few weeks. Town Organisations can be listed FREE OF CHARGE and

invite you to complete the form below and return it, as soon possible, to the address below.

ı	Name of Organisation:				
ı	Activity:	Venue:			
ı	Day of Meeting:	Time:			
١	No. of Members:				
l	Chairman's Name:				

Secretary's Name:

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