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Young People's Centre Face Uncertain Future

Durham County Council is to consider cuts in services at Aycliffe Young People's Centre which may include closing one of the four secure units.

The proposed action is to protect the long term viability of the Centre as a whole.

The move, which could involve job losses, is one of a number of options which the Council is having to consider to reduce costs in the face of under-occupancy and over-provision of secure unit places for young offenders nationally.

A reduction in costs has been made all the more urgent because of Prison Service plans to provide its own extensive juvenile facilities which, if they go ahead, are likely to reduce the need for local authority secure accommodation even further.

With 43 secure places, Aycliffe is the largest local

authority facility of its kind in the country. The centre also provides a range of small, specialist children's home for up to another 30 children in need and various none residential education and training services for young people living in County Durham.

Aycliffe is self financing through fees charged for services and receives no funding from the County Council.

Over the last four years the Centre has adopted a more commercial outlook, introducing significant changes designed to raise the quality of its child care and educational provision. General Manager Ken Black said the Centre is currently facing a deficit of around £700,000 and although this could be offset by a contribution from its Development Fund it would not cure the underlying problem of lack of demand.

"Similar losses next financial year would cripple the centre within the first three months. Long term stability can only be achieved by reducing costs in line with demand," he added.

"I am optimistic that if we take the necessary action to solve the Centre's financial problems in the short term we will be well placed to take advantage of any contractual opportunities presented in the future. This will involve being able to offer similar standards of services but at a reduced cost," he added.

"Aycliffe is not alone in facing this dilemma. Every local authority secure unit in the country, of which there are more than 30 offering a total of approximately 450 places, is faced with the same predicament and having to take some tough decisions to survive.

"If the Youth Justice Board decided to continue to use a significant number of places in Young Offender Institutions some local authority units will be forced to close and my job is to ensure Aycliffe Young People's Centre is not one of them", said Ken.

ROTARY CLUB TOY TRAIN USED FOR CHRISTMAS APPEAL

As part of their Christmas Appeal for Needy families in Newton Aycliffe, the town's Rotary Club are touring parts of the town, skirted by Greville Way, Shafto Way, Central Avenue and the A167, with their Toy Train Engine, complete with Santa Claus, Lights and Xmas Music. Residents are asked to look and listen for the Train and make a donation to the fund. This should not be confused with the Christmas Eve Tour organised by the Town Council, which will be publicised next week.

The Rotary Club are carrying out this trial run of their train between 5pm and 7pm on Tuesday 15th December.

But it will also be on display at Somerfields at various times near to Christmas and the club wish to acknowledge the kind assistance of the management and staff at the town centre Superstore.

Part of the appeal will be a tin collection to help fill Xmas Hampers going to Newton Aycliffe families who would face a bleak time without this kind of help. Shoppers may also wish to donate their Somerfield Vouchers which Rotary can redeem for grocery items.

The Toy Engine and Santa will also be at the Community Xmas Sing Along at the Leisure Centre on Sunday 20th December 2.30pm - 4pm.

For a donation the Toy Train and Santa are also available for private party visits. Please ring Newton Press on 300212 and we will put you in touch with the organiser.

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TOWN CENTRE SHOE SHOP CELEBRATES 20th BIRTHDAY



Newton Aycliffe has seen a lot of shops come and go, but we are proud that in the 20 years the John Eliot shop has been at 55 Beveridge Way it has, without exception, been a warm and friendly place to visit for both regular and occasional customers. Indeed, the very fact that we have customers who make special trips to visit the shop, would suggest that we are doing something right.

At this point, I should mention Anne Harland, whom many of you will refer to as Auntie Anne. If anyone, Anne is the face of John Eliot shoes in Newton Aycliffe. She has been working for us for the whole 20 years that the shop has been open and has made many friends. Recently she realised that a lot of the toddlers she was fitting for shoes were actually the second generation of children who she has fitted with Clarks shoes. She had actually fitted the parents of toddlers when they themselves were toddlers!

This is a wonderful example of her commitment to both John Eliot and also the people of the town and area, and you can see her with her two generation of 'kids' in the photograph accompanying this article.

As the present manager of the shop I should like to thank anyone who has been involved in the shop since it opened. I would especially like to thank all of our shoe club agents, our customers and our present staff - who are the cheeriest group of ladies you are ever likely to meet. If you are in Newton Aycliffe on Saturday I invite you to visit the shop where we will be celebrating our anniversary with festive style. So come and say hello and have a drink with us.

Matthew Eliot

BUS COMPANY TO THE RESCUE

The wiring in Vane Road is ancient. We're getting all brand new. Our school is full of workmen. There's such a lot to do. We moved our Christmas Service. Due to lack of space. Up to St. Clare's we went this week. Rain lashing in our face. Then I had a brain wave. K & J might save the day. They loaned us a coach - free of charge. So we stayed dry all the way. On behalf of the kids I thank you. You saved us a long cold wet trudge. It's nice to know there are people like you. Your kindness you didn't begrudge.

PW

£400 RAISED FROM CHRISTMAS EVENT

The Simply Christmas event held at St. Clare's recently raised the sum of £400 for the Stage Fund. This fund is for new dressing rooms/meeting rooms to be built behind the stage area and to complete the refurbishing of the stage and toilets.

Unclaimed Raffle prizes are no's 352, 335 and 341 and can be claimed from the church hall on Saturday

12th December between 10am-11.45am or Thursdays between 10am-11am.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Coffee Morning and Cake Stall in St. Clare's Hall on Saturdays 19th and 26th December. Thanks to all who have supported us in 1998 and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Government Interference

Dear Sir
Once again we have a government attempting to interfere with our lives and pensions.
The buying and selling of houses is a matter for those involved who may use an Estate Agent.
It is a matter of negotiation and the paying of legal fees, surveys etc is up to individuals.
Where the seller holds the "upper hand" any fees will be added to the sale price required and the buyer with the "upper hand" will know this and negotiate accordingly.
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SANTA'S GROTTO

The Silverdale Community House in association with A.S.K. (Aycliffe Support in the Community) presents their 4th annual Santa's Grotto on Saturday 19th December from 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

There will be a 30p entrance fee and refreshments will be on sale. We ask that all children must be accompanied by an adult. So come along and join in the festive fun!!!!

GENEROUS RESPONSE TO YOUTH CENTRE GAMES APPEAL

The Youth Centre Management Committee thanks all who supported the recent appeal for unwanted indoor games. There was a magnificent response to the notice in the Newton News and they are very grateful.

Another appeal is made this week for a six burner catering cooker. (If any reader knows where this item is going spare please ring 312520 or 300212. The old cooker is past repair and this piece of equipment would be very expensive to replace.

WOOLIES WINTER WONDERLAND COMPETITION

Calling all children aged 12 and under. This is your last chance to enter our Christmas Wordsearch competition. To be a Woolies Winner all you have to do is find the 12 words listed below in our Wordsearch. Place your entry in the Post Box in Woolworths - closing date Friday 18th December 1998. The first 3 correct answers drawn on Saturday 19th December 1998 will be deemed our winners. P.S. - Good Luck from all your friends at Woolies!

Find the 12 missing words in our Wordsearch grid below.

Heart Snow Christmas Tinsel Woolies
White Gifts Baubles Santa Cards
Family Wrap

C	W	Z	X	B	W	O	O	L	I	E	S
T	R	G	U	A	L	K	S	N	O	W	G
S	A	R	L	U	Y	R	W	S	Z	U	I
P	P	W	T	B	T	N	A	S	X	P	F
L	Y	L	P	L	S	A	A	W	H	P	T
E	K	L	E	E	V	M	S	D	W	H	S
S	Q	H	X	S	T	N	O	W	H	I	T
N	T	E	W	S	W	F	Q	G	I	Z	T
I	M	A	I	V	Q	S	A	N	T	A	O
T	O	R	P	B	S	H	L	H	E	F	L
R	H	T	C	A	R	D	S	F	V	R	N
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Christmas Fayre Evening Menu, 4 course £12.50 per person
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Roast Loin of Pork with savoury stuffing and apple sauce

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POLICE REPORT BIG REDUCTION IN TOWN HOUSE BURGLARIES

Police are pleased to report that in November saw a further 10% reduction in House Burglaries in Newton Aycliffe, 7 compared with during the same period last year.

This dramatic success is obviously down to a number of factors, including an increase in the number of Neighbourhood Watch groups, support from voluntary organisations such as the Great Aycliffe Crime Panel who recently held an awareness day in the Pomerfields Store in the

town, and good police work which, in one case, resulted in the arrest of a burglar, 6 days after being released from prison.

Your continued vigilance is encouraged and is of course essential to further resources.

Christmas is the season of goodwill, unfortunately certain sections of society don't subscribe to this way of thinking. Seven burglaries still indicate someone is making life miserable for those falling victim.

I do believe 'together we'll crack it'. Anyone seeing anything suspicious are encouraged to contact Newton Aycliffe Police, Tel: 314401.

If you have information on any crime, remember you can contact Crime Stoppers Tel: 0800 555 111. On behalf of Newton Aycliffe Police I would also like to thank Newton Press for their continued support over the past 12 months.

Neil Langthorne
Crime Prevention Officer

Work on A167 Bridge to Cause Delays

Bridge strengthening works will mean an overnight closure of part of the A167 in County Durham this weekend. (Saturday, December 12th).

Bridge beams are to be put in place at Croxdale Station railway bridge as part of the £310,000 strengthening works and will mean the A167 will be closed in both directions from 10pm on Saturday, Dec. 12 until 6am on Sunday, Dec. 13.

Diversions will be signed with northbound traffic leaving the A167 at Thinford, following the A688 then A177 to rejoin the A167 at the Cock o' the North.

Southbound traffic will leave the A167 at the Cock o' the North, follow the A177 then A688 to rejoin the A167 at Thinford.

GOOD RESPONSE FROM COMP. SCHOOL STUDENTS TO FORM NEW SERVICE CLUB

A group of teenage students from Greenfield and Woodham Comprehensive Schools met this week to consider forming a Service Club in Newton Aycliffe.

'Interact' is a junior version of the Rotary Organisation with clubs all over the world working in friendship on local projects to help their communities and further International understanding.

The Rotary Club was delighted when the two schools agreed to come together to hear about Interact and were very encouraged by the initial response which resulted in over 20 youngsters wanting to become Interactors to serve Newton Aycliffe.

There is only one other Interact Club in the North East, at Birtley, but there are others in 88 countries throughout the world.

Each club runs itself and can call upon its Rotary

sponsors for help and guidance. They elect their own President, Officers and Committees to decide on what projects to pursue.

It is an organisation which develops friendships, promotes team spirit and, in an enjoyable way, also helps their community.

An Interact club meets twice a month and each member serves on a particular sub committee which reports back to the full meeting.

Interactors can support their community in different ways, clubs dream up novel ways to raise cash to help charities in their towns and in poor countries. Interact has been known to highlight problems in the communities and pressure local authorities to improve the environment, or facilities.

Being an 'Interactor' is an opportunity for the youth of our town to show the positive and responsible side of being a teenager.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE AT St. CLARES CHURCH

You are invited to come along to the annual Carol Service at St. Clare's Church on Sunday 20th December at 6pm.

There will be a variety of seasonal items performed by St. Clare's Choir and St. Elizabeth's Music Group. There will be traditional readings and also an

opportunity for everyone to join in the singing of favourite carols.

A collection will be taken for the Central American Hurricane Appeal. Light refreshments will be served in the hall after the service to which everyone will be welcome.

Do come along and bring your family and friends.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees

TUESDAY 5th JANUARY 1999
Learning Centres - 7.15pm
WEDNESDAY 6th JANUARY 1999
D.L.O. Sub Committee - 7.15pm

The General Public are invited to attend all meetings

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Family of Swans at Nature Park



A single swan sighted a few weeks ago on the Town's Nature Park was greeted with surprise, but now everyone who visits the area is delighted that a whole family seems to have settled on the pond. However one reader has expressed concern for the safety of the birds from unruly and irresponsible youngsters who sometimes meet there for illegal activity. Please keep an eye on the birds and report anyone being cruel. The R.S.P.C.A. will prosecute these people.

Burnhill Methodists Celebrate Christmas

Everyone is invited to share in the Christmas Celebrations at Burnhill Way Methodist Church during the festive season. All the events will be suitable for all ages from babies to pensioners so that all the family can enjoy Christmas together. So why not join in the festivities and make this a really special Christmas this year!

On Sunday 20th December at 10.45am there will be a special Family Service all about Christmas. At 4pm there will be a Christmas Tea and this will be followed at 6pm by Carols by candlelight.

On Christmas Eve at 4pm there will be the singing of Carols around the Christmas Tree with tea and mince pies and at 5pm there will be a Christmas Communion.

There will be Family Worship on Christmas Day at 9.30am to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the joy of Christmas. Children are encouraged to bring one of their presents with them for us all to see.

Sunday 27th December will have morning worship at 9.45am and no evening service that day.

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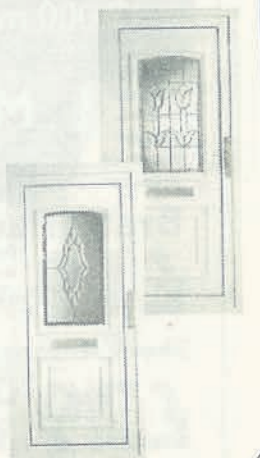


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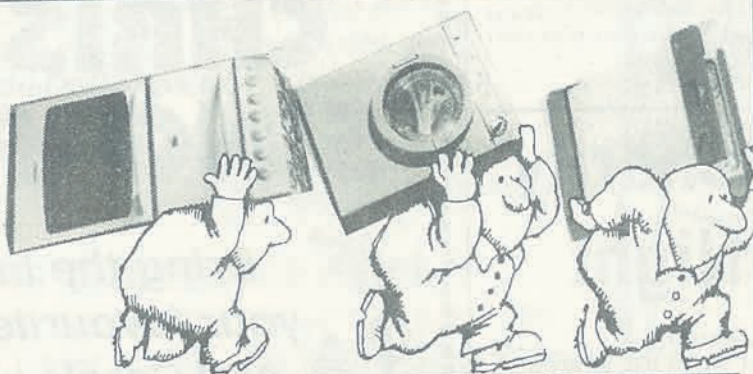
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Aycliffe Teenager Signs for the Boro



Congratulations to Ross Turnbull a pupil at Woodham Comprehensive School who this week signed for Middlesbrough Academy under 14's team as Goalkeeper.

Letter to the Editor CHEAP IMPORTS CAUSE JOB LOSSES

Dear Sir,
RE: The comments made by Mr. Macgregor (4/12/98). I couldn't help but feel a certain empathy. Being an experienced GMB Branch Secretary/Safety rep I am very well aware of the misery caused. To this end the GMB (The trade union for the low paid worker who needs help) - have been very active in their efforts to prevent and alleviate the situation which brought this all about. As he is very disturbed about the recent job losses then perhaps he would join with me and do something about it. I would however suggest that this possibly puts me much more in touch with the reality of the situation than he appears to be himself. It concerns the policy of Marks and Spencers. As he so rightly points out - they are a very famous business and their reputation was made, as you all know, by selling the very best quality goods (and British at that). Their policy now is to import cheap inferior goods for sale in place of our superior ones. It was Marks and Spencers who were telling everyone they were the best! Not me or anyone else. Remember the furore regarding the comments of the Directors at Newcastle United FC about football shirts.

When you read about the M&S profits I hope it reminds everyone about the misery heaped on workers in the UK to pay for it. Coincidentally, the logo for the GMB is 'Working Together'. We in the GMB are, with the Labour Government! Even though we may disagree from time to time with some decisions we feel are not in our members interests, we will

work our socks off to help ensure a Labour victory. However re: his letter, as for high interest rates, under Maggie Thatcher and John Major they reached astronomical proportions with disastrous effects. I didn't hear much protest then. Because of the forthcoming elections early next year, too many people are using this as an excuse to slag the vast improvements in the state of our economy made since Labour took office. Quite frankly these pathetic attempts smack of desperation not a well structured argument needed from someone in opposition. I trust he has better luck, but somehow I doubt it. Respectfully yours
K Stubbs.

LETTER RETURN JUNK MAIL!

Dear Sir
In last weeks Newton News, Consumer Watchdogs were reported as giving advice regarding "mail shots". The waffling quotes from Councillors and Officers are not enough, most if us receive mail from firms trying to sell us something some have the company name on the envelope, others do not. For example the recent plain envelopes with Budapest postmark. Many who have not asked for information from these firms and know that these plain envelopes are just attempting to get you to phone them at £1 per minute and probably win a 5p piece, simply write on the envelope "return to sender" and put them back in the pot box or have it done for them, this is not illegal. If you think these letters have been personally typed to you, they are not, simply produced by computer from Electoral Register Lists and address lists bought and sold by companies.
People Power

Charity Night

Dear Sir,
I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Charity Night on Friday 6th November at the Southerne Club in aid of Aycliffe Nursing Home. I would like to thank Arofa Sofa Beds for contribution of a Sofa Bed, A&A Taxis for their Taxi Voucher and all the girls at the Nursing Home and Residents families for their help. A thank you to all local shops who kindly donated prizes. Also thanks to the three artists and disco for making the evening even more special and the Southerne Club for the use of the Hall. All raffle prizes claimed on the night. Once again a big thank you for helping us raise a healthy £1,014.00.
Kath

C.C.T.V. WILL HELP COMBAT XMAS THIEVES

Would-be shoplifters in Sedgefield Borough have been warned they face being the unwitting stars of local TV if they enter the area's main towns this festive season.

'Operation Eagle-Eye', a joint venture between the Police and Sedgefield Borough Council, has been launched to combat the expected tide of Christmas thieves.

The Police have provided to the Council's closed-circuit TV operators pictures of two dozen convicted, prolific shoplifters.

If they are seen and recognised in the principal shopping areas of the Borough's towns, including Ferryhill, Shildon and Spennymoor, the Council's 30-plus cameras can be used to keep a track on their movements.

The CCTV control centre in Chilton will then inform police in Newton Aycliffe, allowing officers to watch and direct the monitoring team via the permanent link to the Police communications room.

"Shoplifting is potentially a big problem at this time of year in Sedgefield Borough, as it is just about everywhere," said Det. Ch. Insp. Jeff Watson.

"It's not a 'victimless crime', it is theft pure and simple, often carried out by determined, well-organised gangs. With 'Eagle-Eye' we want to remind the thieves we know who they are, and we are watching out for them," he said.

Councillor Brian Stephens, leader of Sedgefield Borough Council, said: "The substantial investment in town centre closed circuit

television systems is clearly producing significant community safety benefits, in our objectives to increase public protection, deter crime, provide reassurance and enhance commercial growth.

"Initiatives such as Operation Eagle-Eye reinforce those objectives and assist local businesses in the fight against crime. Therefore, the CCTV monitoring team are being encouraged to be extra vigilant, particularly at this busy time of year," said Councillor Stephens.

NEW YEAR PARTY

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre are partying on New Years Eve to the sound of Dexter and the Revelations and a disc extravaganza. Tickets are priced at £6.50 and are on sale available from the Leisure Centre reception. Doors open at 6.30pm with the party seeing in the new year and running through until 12.30am. With a late license bar this provides the perfect way to celebrate the New Year so for more information contact Aycliffe Leisure Centre on 01325 300500.

Newton Aycliffe WMC Forthcoming Attractions for December

Monday Night Line Dancing
Monday 14th, 21st and 28th - £1.00 c/c

Friday Night Dancing
11th & 18th "Terry Deane"
(Christmas Day and New Years Day - NO Dance)

Saturday 12th December
"Dexter and the Revelations" + Support
£2.00 c/c

Sunday 13th December

"Clive Collins" £1.00 c/c

Saturday 19th December

"Big Deal" + Support £2.00 c/c

Sunday 20th December

"Terry Deane" £1.00 c/c

Thursday 24th December - Christmas Eve

"Paula Jay" (upstairs lounge) No c/c

Saturday 26th December

"Six of the Best" £3.00 c/c

Sunday 27th December

"Panache" £1.00 c/c

Thursday 31st December - New Years Eve

"Monty Boys" feat. "Paul Monroe"

+ Support - Tickets on sale £4.00 each

Friday 1st January 1999

Afternoon Karaoke in the Concert Hall 1-4pm

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no Bingo on Christmas or New Years Eve
Artists could change at short notice

CHEMISTS EMERGENCY ROTA

Sunday 13th December 1998

12noon-1pm - Village Pharmacy, Cobblers Hall

Sunday 20th December 1998

12noon-1pm - Hancock & Ainsley

Friday 25th December - Christmas Day

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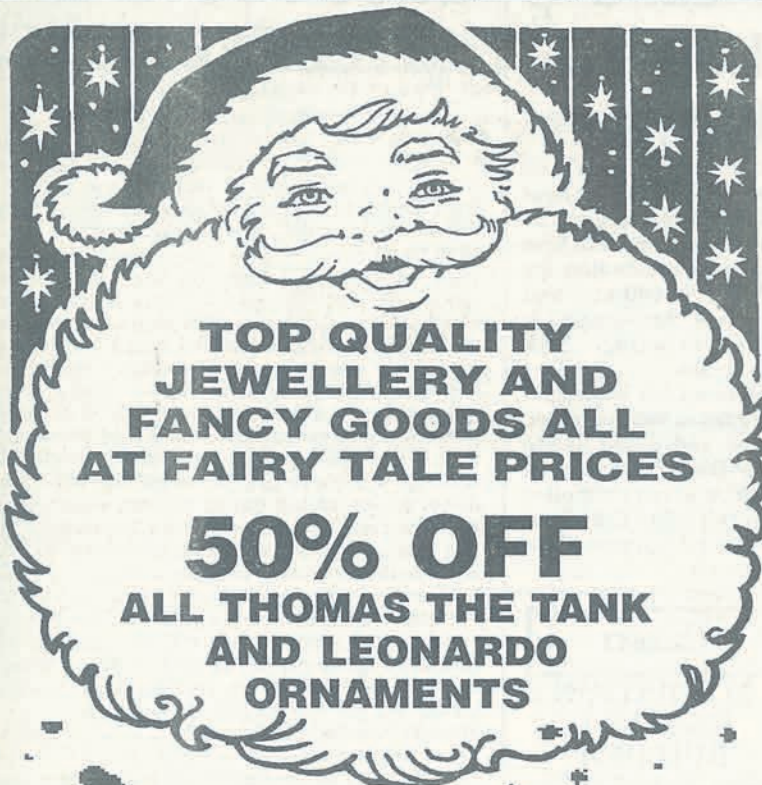
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GOOD FOOTBALL B
AYCLIFFE LADIES

Newton Aycliffe LFC 2

Middlesbrough Reserves LFC 4

Following a very positive start to the season, Middlesbrough were lying fourth in the table going into the game, an expecting to have things all their own way. But the A team refused to lie down and showed excellent character determination, as well as some great football. Both teams began brightly, but it was Middlesbrough made the first breakthrough after fifteen minutes, making score 1-0. Aycliffe were awarded a free kick in Middlesbrough's penalty area and Sarah Alexander was unlucky not to score the equaliser, having her shot pushed wide of the post by the Middlesbrough keeper. Two before half time, Aycliffe captain Kim O'Connor awkwardly after a tackle, injuring her knee, to leave A down to ten. It was in this period that Middlesbrough their second goal and made the score 2-0 at half time. After having time to re-group at the interval, Aycliffe out in the second half feeling that they could get something from the game. Unfortunately, Middlesbrough scored five minutes into the half to extend their lead to 3-0. Aycliffe then increased their work rate and got the ball they were looking for when after a long ball over the top the Middlesbrough defence, Pamela Beenham used strength and speed slotted the ball past the advancing Middlesbrough keeper into the back of the net. Pamela again in much the same way, ten minutes later to score a second, and her seventh goal of the season. With the score at 3-2, Aycliffe now believed that they go on to get a least a point, but after a defensive Middlesbrough scored their fourth goal. Pamela was not hit a hat-trick when the Middlesbrough keeper managed to push her shot across the face of the goal. Aycliffe played one of their best games of the season against Middlesbrough team ranked eight place above them in the table and no one could be faulted on the amount of effort put into the game.

Tough Training Session
for Off Form Huntsman

Huntsman Director of Football Darren Baxter is coming down hard on his players following the British Legion defeat two weeks ago. Legions knocked neighbours Huntsman out of the ASE Cup after beating the Woodham club 7-1. And now Baxter, who could not make it to the Moore Lane match is furious. He will put his players through a tough training session on Sunday if Huntsman don't have a game. "We've got to be better" said Baxter, before taking a puff on his trademark cigar, Malcolm Allison-like. Reports from the Legion game haven't been good and we cannot expect to compete for honours playing that." At the time of writing Huntsman are yet to see whether they'll have a game this Sunday. But Baxter is insisting players turning up as regardless. Huntsman top-of-the-league but played more games than fellow Aycliffe outfit House and the Legion are both breathing down the necks of Huntsman. Baxter is obviously looking to step it up for the rest of the year - Huntsman notorious for fading at the second half of the season. Meanwhile, Huntsman holding its Christmas Draw on the evening of Sunday 20th December.

FINE WIN FOR
RUGBY TEAM

An injury hit Aycliffe side welcomed Barnard Castle II in a game which held no major importance other than play pride. This proved to be a good tester in readiness for next league game at Yarm. Gareth Parsonage opened the scoring with a try from a well worked forward drive which he touched under the posts. D. Pettit converted. Gareth was again in the action soon after when he scored a 5 pointer as a result of some barbaric rucking from the forwards. This again was converted by D. Pettit who made score 14-0 in Aycliffe's favour. The forwards began to dominate and further pressure enabled Warren Parsonage and Adrian I to run in two further tries, the second being a cheeky fell the back of the scrum, dummying two players (one from side) and scoring close of the touch line. To finish off an eventful 1st half, Trevor Machin scored his first ever Aycliffe. A delighted Trevor said after the game. "Give me a and some film and I'll make anything; a statement that absolutely nothing to do with rugby". The second half brought only a glimmer of the first halves, resulting in only one try being scored. Neil Shaw took the oppositions 22 and beat off four tackles before scoring the posts. D. Pettit scored the last of his 4 conversions. tiredness setting in for the last 20 mins., Aycliffe held on to Barnard Castle scoring only 1 consolation try towards the game. According to the Arabic Proverb "On the day of no fatigue is felt". The final result was Aycliffe 38 - Barnard Castle 7. Tires: G. Parsonage x 2, W. Parsonage, A. Dawson, T. Machin. Cons: D. Pettit x 4. Our thanks to ball sponsors Roman and our main sponsor Lakes Chemicals. Photo shows: Coaches Mark Hill, Bob Malvern and Chris Peter Sheen presenting Jan Presch (middle right) from Great Britain with a framed photo of Aycliffe Rugby Clubs new strip.

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In Memoriam

OLIVE BENTLEY 10th December. Unseen, unheard, but always near, always remembered, love Percy, Eileen and family

OLIVE BENTLEY 10th December 1989. Loving Mam and Nana. The golden gate was opened nine years ago today, with farewells left unspoken, she quietly slipped away. So ask a host of angels to sing their sweetest song, place a kiss upon her cheek and tell her who its from. Our love always Olive, Olga, Rob and Tom XXXX

OLIVE BENTLEY 10th December 1989. Loving Nana and Great Nana. Along the of suffering, you found a little lane, that took you up to Heaven and ended all your pain. Love and miss you. Edith, John, Tracy and Barry XXXX

CROSSEN (Bill) 9-12-97. You are always close to me, I'm following all your ways, may I be close to you, each and every day Dad, Good night and God bless, Louise and Peter

WILLIAM CROSSEN 9-12-97. Good night, God bless Grandad, love Luke, Cameron and Gerard

WILLIAM CROSSEN 9-12-97, one year passed, time seems to stand still, love and memories Dad, Gerard and Sharon

CROSSEN (Bill) 9-12-97. Dear Dad, it's been a long year without you, love Monica, Tom, Paula, Stephen and Michaela

WILLIAM CROSSEN 9-12-97. You are with us when we are awake in our thoughts. You are with us when we are asleep in our dreams and you are forever with us in our hearts. Good night, God bless to a loving Dad and Grandad from Angela, Jim, Peter, Melissa and Darren

BILL CROSSEN Died 9th December 1997. It's a lonely life without you, life is not the same, I love you more than ever, I think of you every day. Good night and God bless Love Wyn

ENID PARKER Died 17-12-95. Loving memories we have locked in our hearts, you shall not be forgotten because we are apart. From your loving daughter Susan, grandson Shaun, God bless you Mam

ENID PARKER died 17-12-95. Since the day our dear Lord called for you, my heart has been empty, every day I look at your photo and think of the good times we had together. God bless you my love, from your loving husband Steve

BOB DICKINSON 10th December 1991. Loving memories of a dear Dad and grandad. To be with you in the same old way would be our dearest wish today. From Brian, Susan, Alan, Linda, Sharon, Craig, Emma, Stacey and Amy XX

BOB DICKINSON 10th December 1991. Treasured memories of a dear husband. We shared some happy days, we shared some sad ones too. But the saddest day of all was the day that I lost you. Love always Peggy XX

TRISHA JONES died 9th December 1989. We'll never forget you, though years may go, your lovely smile and bright blue eyes, leave such a tender glow, when we look at your photos we miss you more than anyone will ever know. Loved forever Mam, Dad and family

ROBERT ROGERSON (Bob) A year has gone by and there is not a day we don't think about you, love John, Heather, Stuart, Michelle, Gemma, Jamie and Angel

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Congratulations

SUFFIELD Happy 4th birthday Daniel for 11th December, lots of love from Granma, Grandad and Stuart XX

DANIEL SUFFIELD Happy 4th birthday to our special little boy on 11-12-98, have a great day, lots of love and kisses from Mammy and Daddy XX

DANIEL SUFFIELD lots of hugs and kisses on your 4th birthday, love from your baby sister Amber XX

JORDAN CAYGILL 6 today, lots of love from Nana and Grandad XXXXX

JORDAN CAYGILL Hip hip hooray our Jordan is 6 today, love from Julie, Steve and Katherine

TERENCE FOWLER 15th December, I love you more today than I did 25 years ago when I said "I do". Happy silver wedding anniversary, love Jeannie

TERENCE FOWLER 18th December, happy 50th birthday, you are simply the best, love Jeannie, Paul and Gavin

CRAIG BARRIGAN 14-12-98, congratulations Craig on your 21st birthday. Hope you have a very special day, because you are perfect in every way, love Health and Happiness always Mam and Dad XX

CRAIG BARRIGAN 14-12-98, happy 21st birthday Craig, best wishes from brothers Wayne, Neil and Scott. PS don't get too drunk

CRAIG BARRIGAN 14-12-98, happy 21st birthday Craig, we hope you have a smashing time, best wishes Wayne, Clare and Jack

CRAIG BARRIGAN 14-12-98, happy 21st birthday Craig, all my love Helen XX

Birthday Remembrance

STEPHENSON (Anna) 14-12-98. A special Mam. There's a face that's always with us, a voice we would have to hear, a smile we will always remember of a Mam we loved so dear. Lots of love Brenda, Sandra, Brian, John, Kevin and all the family

MANNY HOSTEIN You loved your birthday, 11th December, made sure no member of the family forgot. We do not need reminding, we offer our prayers up for you. Manny and pray God keeps you safe in his arms. Loved and remembered always, wife Colleen, children, grand children and great granddaughter

McLUCKIE Dear Fred on his 70th birthday, 10-12-28. We miss your hug, we miss your kiss, but most of all, it's you we miss. From his loving family

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CHLOE MARIE 15-12-98, hip hip hooray, guess who is 1 today, Chloe-Marie, wow-wee, that's who is 1 today. Lots of love from your big cousins, Darren and Danny XX

CHLOE MARIE 15-12-98, To our precious little niece, Chloe on your 1st birthday, we are so very proud of you, sweetheart. Lots of love, hugs and kisses, auntie Mandy and uncle Gary XX

CHLOE MARIE 15-12-98, To our daughter who is 1, you fill our hearts with joy and fun, your smile, your laughter, you give us all day, you are so special in every way. Lots of love, hugs and big kisses. From Mammy and Daddy XX

CHLOE MARIE 15-12-98, Happy birthday to our special little girl, who is 1 year old today, you give us joy and happiness, that brightens up our day. Lots of love and kisses from Nanna and Grandad Miller XX

JOSEPH KENNEDY Ward 19, Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle. Get well soon Joe, and have a lovely Christmas, only one more to go then back to school!! (Hard luck), love always from Mam, Dad and Hayley XXX

CLARE WINTER Happy 21st birthday to a special friend, lots of love Zoe and Michael

CLAIRE WINTER Happy birthday to a very special auntie, lots of love Charlotte XXX

WINTER Happy 21st birthday Claire, lots of love and best wishes Darren and Gillian XX

WINTER congratulations and all best wishes on your 21st birthday Claire, lots of love Mam and Dad XX

WINTER Happy 21st birthday Claire, 13-12-98, have a great party, love Deborah XX

CLAIRE WINTER 13-12-77, congratulations Claire on your 21st birthday love from Helen

CLAIRE WINTER 13-12-98, happy 21st birthday love all your mates, Zoe, Jo, Kirsty, Tracy and Leigh XX

CLAIRE WINTER Congratulations on your 21st birthday, 13-12-98, have a great party on Friday, love Mary and John XX

CLAIRE WINTER congratulations on your 21st birthday, 13-12-98, don't get too drunk at your party!! Love Diane, Neil and Mason XX

CLAIRE WINTER congratulations on your 21st birthday, 13-12-98, have a great night, love Susan, Ronnie, Rachel and Neil XX

BETH THOMPSON Happy 4th birthday darling, love from Mammy and Daddy

BETH THOMPSON Happy 4th birthday, love Granny, Granda, Mark, Tracey

BETH THOMPSON Happy 4th birthday love Nana, Angela, Gavin

JOHN MORLEY Happy 60th birthday on 15th December, love from your wife June

WREN & SAMS Congratulations Lucy and Gary on your wedding, 12-12-98, with much love from Mam, Dad, Wes, Lee, Angela, Nana and all the family XXX

STERLING Rebecca Jane, 13-12-88, happy 10th birthday lots of love and kisses Mammy & Daddy XX

STERLING Rebecca Jane, happy 10th birthday, lots of love from Nana and Grandad

STERLING Rebecca Jane, happy 10th birthday to my big sister, love James XX

ALLEN GEOFF happy birthday running Daddy, we love you lots, Becky and Kirsty XX

JOSIE SAUNDERS 11-12-98, the big four O is here! Happy birthday to the best mam in the whole world, love ya loads, have a lovely day from Michelle and Alan XXX

JOSE SAUNDERS 11-12-98 Happy birthday Mam, 40 today! Lots of love from Marty

Constance Davies



Congratulations Connie on passing your 6th Kyu Green Belt and on achieving Junior Grade "Student of the Year". Well done, Love from Mam, Dad and Katie XX

Judi Kearsley



Happy 30th Birthday 14th December 1998 Love from Mum, Dad, Rachael, Robert, Simon & Kay, Amy and Jac

Lauren-Marie Ward



11th December 1998 To the best granddaughter in the world on her 2nd birthday, love Nan and Grandad

LAUREN-MARIE WARD To a special daughter on her 2nd (11-12-98) birthday love you lots Daddy and Nicola XX

LAUREN-MARIE to a very special granddaughter on her 2nd birthday, lots of love Grandma and Granda XX

LAUREN-MARIE To a gorgeous little niece on her 2nd birthday, love you lots auntie Julie and uncle Martin XX A very big kiss for a special cousin, lotsa love Charley-Louise

LAUREN-MARIE WARD To my little girl on her 2nd birthday on 11-12-98, lots of love and kisses Mummy XX

LAUREN-MARIE WARD Thinking of you on your 2nd birthday 11-12-98, love from your family in London XX

POLLOCK Happy 10th birthday to a dear granddaughter Jemma love you lots Nan XX

OWEN PRESTON 11-12-98, happy 1st birthday Owen, love you lots, love auntie Gayle and uncle Mick XX

PRESTON Owen Michael James, happy 1st birthday 11-12-98, to our special little boy with all our love n kisses Mammy and Daddy XX

PRESTON Owen Michael James, happy 1st birthday much love Pam and John XX

PRESTON Owen Michael James, happy 1st birthday, love from Gran, Granda, uncle Scott and uncle Stuart

DEREK JOBES 9-12-98, happy 2nd birthday lots of love Mam, Dad, Sony, Sarah and Simon

CHRISTOPHER JONES Happy 9th birthday 12-12-98, have a lovely day at Blackburn v Newcastle, love Mam, Dad, Ryan and Keiran XX

Thanks

MATHISON The family of the late Jim, wish to thank relations, friends and neighbours for their kindness, sympathy and cards of condolence received during their sad bereavement. Special thanks to Dr. Pounder and Nurses **ALI, TIM, MARIE and SUE**

Thanks for your help, appreciate all you have done, love Connie

THANK YOU I would like to thank so many people, my wonderful family for their love and support over the last few months. Friends and relatives for all the help they gave me and my Mam. Special thanks to my sister-in-law Karen for everything she did and to everyone for the cards and words of comfort, during and after the sad loss of my Mam, Enid Mercer. She would have been so proud that, thanks to everyone's kind donations we raised £340 for the Butterwick Hospice. Many thanks Diane Collier and family

HairDressers

LYNNS Mobile hairdresser have your hair styled in the comfort of your own home by an experienced hairdresser, evening appointments available Tel 319497

CLAIRE'S Mobile Hairdressing, 13 years experience, Tel 317405

HAIR BRAIDING prices start at £10 depending on length of hair, Tel Tara or Leanne on (01325) 308207

Lost & Found

FOUND has your tabby cat been missing since Monday 30th November, Bluebell area Tel 318489

LOST since 1-12-98, male cat, 2½, grey with white collar and paws Tel 311491

Pets

BOARDING KENNELS and CATTERY (established 18 years), White House Farm, Bolam, Near Darlington (off A68). Approximately 3 miles from Heighington - 01388 832635

Entertainment

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Wedding Flowers arranged at reasonable prices

CLOTHING parties top quality clothing at top quality prices, Tel Leanne on (01325) 308121

WOULD THE couple in the maroon Ford Escort who witnessed the accident at the Big Club on Saturday 5th December please contact Kev on 317012

CRAFTY CAKES for any occasion, cakes made and iced or just iced Tel 316084

McLUCKIE After the death of my dear husband June McLuckie will not be sending Christmas cards this year but would still like to wish family, friends and neighbours the compliments of the season

Aycliffe Youth Football Report

The heavy frost of last weekend caused the postponements of the majority of the clubs fixtures. The only team to play were the 14's away to Hartburn and reports have indicated that this game should have been postponed due to conditions.

After a disastrous first half performance to concede 5 goals they rallied in the second half to finally lose by 7 goals to 3. The scorers for Aycliffe were Shaun Grant (2) and Aaron Wright.

At the half way mark through the season only the 10s are in serious contention to win league honours but five age groups are still in the league cup. The 10s are four points clear at the top with a game in hand, due to their unbeaten run.

The under 15s striker Neil Robinson scored what proved to be the decisive goal when playing for Bishop Auckland Boys at Leeds in the National Competition for the age group. It was a typical Robinson goal, powerful running in the penalty area - holding off the defender, before beating the keeper with a powerful shot.

Aycliffe Athletics

Sue Milburn continued her impressive recent form with an outstanding display at the Richmond 10k on a cold day over a hilly, muddy and demanding course. Sue ran in 3rd overall in 40.55, only seconds behind the two front runners.

At the Harrier League meeting at Jarrow, Kirsty Coates recorded her best finish so far ending up in 19th place in the U13 girls race. Colin Gibson was 100th in 38 mins over the 10k course with Dave Thompson 265th in 52 minutes.

At the Thirsk Cross Country meeting Kirsty Coates ran her second race of the weekend in perfect running conditions. Sue Milburn was a magnificent 8th place to maintain her high position in the ladies series race. The senior mens race again saw Aycliffe turn out 9 runners for the third time in a row. Joe McReady led the way in 15th place, next was the rejuvenated Ian Monkman 24; Peter Milburn 42nd; Ian Young 110th; Steve Cox 113th in his debut on the country; Derek Smith 119th with Ian Williams, Dave Middleton and Dave Thompson also competing. The Gateshead lunchtime series saw Ian Monkman 17.12 and Peter Milburn 17.14 battling it out over the 5k distance with Ian just edging it.

The Nike International at Chester-le-Street saw Peter Milburn going well 27.53 over the 7k distance with Dave Middleton in the Vets race a good 23 minutes for the 5k event.

NEWS WANTED

NEWTON NEWS IS YOUR VOICE IN THE COMMUNITY - GET IN TOUCH IF YOU HAVE A NEWSWORTHY ITEM. TEL: 300212

Photography

STUART J. ALLISON Wedding, Portrait and Pet Photographer Tel 300036

AYCLIFFE SCHOOL WINS NATIONAL HISTORY PRIZE



On Wednesday 25th November Stephenson Way Primary, junior department, held a presentation evening, for the junior children who take part in the history club after school. The history club had entered a nationwide competition and had come 1st. The project was the Battle of Britain. The children had to submit written work, model and a video in which they portrayed themselves as Pilots, Homeguard, Air-raid Wardens, Evacuees and Radar Personnel in the RAF. The children each received a certificate presentation by Mr. William Akers the former head, also presented on the night was a cheque for the Spirit of Normandy trust for £150 this was presented to Mrs. Perry, acting head, (£100 for school funds, the other £50.00 will be for the history club). We would like to mention all the teachers - Mr. D Field, Mrs. J Atkinson, Mr. W Akers, Mrs. E Field and Mrs. Grainger, oh, and of course, the mums. Gill Akred, Linda Hatfield, Alison Hubery, Shirley Ball, Christine Rand and Carole Wells, as, without them, none of this would have been possible. Well done Stephenson Way History Club.

CHRISTMAS TREES
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Saturday 12th December - No c/c

Brilliant entertainer "Wayne Curtis"
Sunday 13th December - No c/c

Fantastic band "Bon Jordi"
Plus great vocalist "Leon"
Thursday 17th December - Tickets £2.00
Doors open at 7.00pm

Pantomime Night in Concert Room
"Jack and the Beanstalk"
Saturday 19th December - Starts 6.30pm
Tickets £1.00 each

In the Bar Lounge the wonderful voice of
"Phil Samson" - No c/c

The lovely songstress "Susie Dee"
Sunday 20th December - No c/c

Stevens Newsagents
Newton Aycliffe Town Centre - 312532

SEASONAL SPECIALS

5m Gift Wrap £2.49 now 99p
Tins Roses £10.30 now £8.99
Tins Quality Street £12.49 now £9.99
500g Roses £4.09 now £3.49
454g Quality Street £3.59 now £2.99
1lb Milk Tray £6.15 now £4.99
1lb Dairy Box £5.69 now £4.99
Terrys Orange 2 for £2.99

MANY MORE OFFERS IN STORE
We accept Access and Visa

LETTER WATCH YOUR PURSE THIS XMAS

Dear Sir,
I feel I must try and make people aware of watching their purses and shopping bags.
I had finished my shopping and was on my way home, I neither saw or felt anything, but some instinct told me to make sure my purse was in my bag. Unfortunately I was too late, my purse was gone.
I'd just picked my pension up and I had about sixty pounds for Xmas and a few pound in two pound coins for my grand children. Perhaps the person 'finding' my purse needed the money more than I do, but the purse also contained my Bus Pass and Boots Card.
Until I can have a new Bus Pass, I can't shop out of town. My purse also had photo's of my late husband and a friends wedding of over 40 years ago. Keep the money but please let me have my memories back.
Please don't publish my name if possible as I feel very sick and stupid over this traumatic experience. Being a pensioner isn't a well paid job, but we make ends meet without stealing from people.
Yours faithfully
Name & Address supplied

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Letter to the Editor COMPUTER LINK WITH COUNTY HALL

Dear Sir
Whilst I was a County Councillor I was often told by resident of difficulties they experienced in gaining direct contact with services in County Hall when they needed particular help, advice and Officer contact at their time of need.
To meet those needs for a personal contact with County Hall, I supported DCC plans to establish a Computer Contact Link in Local Libraries to cut out inconvenient journeys to County Hall in Durham for residents in need of DCC services and help.
The Computer Contact Link is now installed. With the help of our friendly warmly helpful, courteous library staff, residents of Newton Aycliffe can now easily access an in-depth range of "help, advice and information" directly from Departments at County Hall. Residents who may have need of direct contact with County Hall, now and in the future need only to call at our library to discuss their needs with our "user friendly staff who will help them make their enquiries "on site" direct to the County Council.
It has taken a long time to install the £35,000 system in the libraries to give direct access to County Council services. I hope everyone in need of the service will take advantage of the Link.
Computer Contact will help transform our library to the County Information Centre

and Direct Contact Point which residents have long-needed in Newton Aycliffe. Residents need have no worries at gaining direct, personal access to County Hall in the future.
Yours faithfully
Don Fraser
Woodham Ward
SBC and GATC

XMAS GIFTS

Once again, Bells Stores are pleased to be associated with the annual TFM Radio/Comcast Teesside 'Give A Child A Christmas' campaign.
Help needy children in this area by dropping off a gift, new and unwrapped before Friday 18th December 1998 at any Bells Stores to give them a happier Christmas this year.

Knitting for Charity

Help the Aged would like to thank all those who responded to our advert for outworkers for knitting, sewing, embroidery, woodcraft etc. We still have - vacancies please ring Peter Beatty on 313924.

EVERYONE INVITED TO XMAS SING-ALONG

Everything is underway for the popular annual Christmas Sing-along with our Town Band in the main hall of the Leisure Centre.
A large audience is expected on Sunday 20th December at 2.30pm, and for the first time it will be a full civic occasion with the Mayor and other town dignitaries in attendance.
The usual Xmas songs and carols will be sung by everyone, led by a brass band, with school and adult choirs adding their short contributions to the programme.
Our annual Community Xmas Sing Along is organised by the Towns Rotary Club and is now an established part of the Social calendar.
The event lasts about 1 1/2 hours and admission is FREE.
Be there early to get a good seat! Bring all the family and use this occasion to kick start your Christmas celebrations.

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LOOK

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