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UNANIMOUS OPPOSITION TO HORNDALE CLOSURE

Over two hundred people attended Monday's public meeting about the closure of Horndale House. The size of the meeting, in the foulest weather, indicates the degree of concern about the issue.

Councillor Tony Moore, who called the meeting, took the chair. In his opinion, the men had already been moved once (from Aycliffe Hospital) and should not be moved again. The men could not look after themselves, and should not be scattered around the town, without easy access to Horndale House. He had supported moves to move them into houses in the immediate area around Horndale House, where they were accepted and well-liked. In particular, he objected to any plans to wind down Horndale House - however gradual. There was a lively question time. Many people were worried about the effect upon house values, and clearly did not believe assurances that group living schemes did not affect local house prices. A number of people feared for the men themselves. What evidence was there that they would be happier

isolated in a house on Greenfield's Estate, separated even from a local shop by a busy main road? Why was the money not being put into providing sheltered housing schemes? One speaker argued forcefully that the Care Services were operating a dual standard - trying to put as many residents as possible into the community, but then rounding the others up and pushing them into an institution.

Nigel Porter, the Managing Director of Durham Care, Social Services, tried to allay people's fears. Horndale House, he said, was one of nine Hostels in Durham, which Durham Care planned to reduce to three. It had 24 places and 19 residents. The immediate plan was to relocate nine of the residents - all of whom had asked to move into a house with their friends.

Shared Living Schemes were part of the governments Community Care legislation of 1993, so there was nothing new about it. The County Council had 23 such schemes operating, and no residents had ever wanted to return to a hostel! He also stressed that there was a formal procedure for complaints from local residents, but that he had never received one. Many people, he said, actually welcomed living near a shared living scheme; the houses were well-maintained, and well-staffed. In his opinion, the public didn't need protecting from the men, none of whom had a criminal record. If anything, the men were vulnerable people who needed protecting from unscrupulous members of the public.

Mr Porter gave a number of assurances, which people of Newton Aycliffe might remember and may need to hold him to in the future:

* There was no timetable to close Horndale House, though there was, in the medium term, a desire to relocate as many men as possible into the community.
* There was no plan to turn Horndale House into offices - the building was unsuitable. Any such decision would

have to be taken by the County Council, after public consultation.

* All three houses would have a qualified member of staff, 24 hours a day (although the leaflet given out after the meeting only said that this was so "in some cases").

One question was not answered to the satisfaction of the meeting. Why is it the policy of Durham Care to buy the houses without first consulting, or even informing, local people? The council's actions have been in the words of one speaker "last minute ... underhand ... hushed up". It is a crazy policy, and there is no wonder that local people are worried and suspicious. Fears need to be allayed and explanations given, and Durham Care have only themselves to blame for the furore their plans have aroused.

At the end of the meeting, people indicated unanimously that they wished Horndale House to be kept open, and a petition was presented with 582 signatures, asking the County Council to reconsider its decision.

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3 Town Boxers in Schoolboy Championships

Three young lads from Aycliffe Amateur Boxing Club travelled on Saturday to box in the quarter final of the Schoolboy National Boxing Championships. Richard Carter at 48kg, Sean Denham at 57kg and Devlin Spensley at 60kg. Richard was very unlucky when he boxed a lad from Leeds, he won the first two rounds comfortably, but in the third he received two warnings and lost two points and at the end of the contest Richard had lost by one point.

Sean came next, boxing a lad from Dinnington, as Sean's opponent climbed into the ring he looked very flash, wearing a long golden gown, from the bell Sean put pressure on the other boy, going forward hitting with both hands and half way

through the first round the Referee stopped the onslaught and Sean was the North East Counties Champion and National Semi Finalist.

Then it was time for the 1995 Schoolboy National Champion, Devlin. He boxed a lad from Doncaster who was one of the favourites and very strong, but Devlin's class showed and he was a clear winner.

The National Semi Final is held in Liverpool on March 9th and we wish Sean (sponsored by Thames Butchers) and Devlin the best of luck to become Schools National Champion 1996.

Aycliffe Amateur Boxing Club train on Tues. & Thurs. from 6pm to 7.30pm at the Youth Centre, Central Avenue.

Letter Burn Lane Road Hazard

Dear Sir,

If an individual places an unlighted obstruction in the carriageway which is a danger to road users, the police, quite rightly, take rapid action to have the danger removed.

Should they not therefore take the same rapid action to remove the hazards in Burn Lane placed there by the Council, as these have now been unlit for over two months, through a period where we have suffered reduced visibility due to snow and fog.

These islands were introduced, supposedly as a safety measure, as vehicles were travelling down a Burn Lane at speeds in excess of the limits. In this they have been totally unsuccessful, as while they offer an obstruction to buses and goods vehicles, they can be negotiated at speeds approaching 50 m.p.h. by cars (and very often are). Since their introduction they have been continually damaged, and have been the subject of vandalism. It would appear to be a favourite pastime of Newton Aycliffe drunks to kick over flimsy traffic bollards, and time and again these have been replaced. It now appears that the council have given up, and are leaving the unlit islands as traffic hazards.

This is not acceptable, and they are failing in their duty if they do not initiate action to make the road safe for users.

Stewart C. Black
Woodham

LABOUR LEADER LAUNCHES SDC "GREEN" CAMPAIGN

This Saturday Tony Blair will launch a campaign to improve the environment in Sedgefield District.

The Labour Leader and Sedgefield M.P. will be at Ceddesfeld Hall, in Sedgefield to launch the Going for Green Campaign in Sedgefield District and local people are being urged to join in.

Sedgefield District is one of only six Local Authorities chosen to take part in the initiative which aims to show how individuals and small groups can make a real improvement to their local environment.

The Mission Statement of the Going for Green Campaign states "Everyone deserves to live in a decent environment....The time has come for everyone to act....Going for Green will encourage everyone to improve the quality of life by keeping the best and changing the rest".

Research has shown that two out of three people would make changes in their life styles to improve the environment, but are unsure of what to do. Sedgefield District has appointed Stephen Hemingway as Going for Green Co-ordinator, and he will be urging members of the community to become involved. It is a community-led project and Stephen would like to hear from people with their own ideas for "Green" projects. These might involve energy saving, waste reduction, recycling, travelling sensibly and protection of wildlife and habitats. When the campaign is launched on 24th February, Northern Electric will be bringing their Energy Efficiency Roadshow to Sedgefield and hope that local people will call in between 10.00am and 2.00pm for advice on energy saving in the home.

Councillor Bill Waters, Chairman of the Estates and Environmental Health Committee, Sedgefield District said "We are very pleased to be taking part in this initiative, because we recognise the importance of efforts to protect the environment. We already have a number of initiatives in Sedgefield in terms of recycling and other "green" schemes, but we want to do more and hope local people will back us".

People wanting to get involved can call Stephen Hemingway on (01388) 816166.

LUNCH CLUBS PROVIDE MORE THAN JUST FOOD

Dear Sir,

May I, once again, call upon your Community Newspaper to remind the people, of the Middridge Ward, about the Lunch Clubs at St. Francis School and Middridge Village Hall.

The Lunch Clubs are going from strength to strength, we regularly have trips away in the Community Bus. The Bus is provided free of charge, by the Sedgefield District Council.

Some of the places visited to date are, Sunderland Lights, the Fire Station, Durham City, Northallerton Christmas Market and York Minster followed by shopping in the city of York.

Both Lunch Clubs have had visits by Durham City Ambulance Service, The Fire Brigade, Environmental Health, and the Chairman of the

District Council. One of the most memorable visits was by Liz Jordan, from Sedgefield Leisure Services Department, who got both clubs in hot flushes with exercises called "Chair-robics" everybody enjoyed Joy's visit and ask when she is coming back!

The Lunch Clubs are always looking for new fiends to come along and join them for a friendly chat, a meal, and a cup of tea. Anybody interested in going to the Lunch Clubs or going out for the day in the Community Bus should contact Denise on 311089 or Mrs. Dobbin on 316774.

Or of course contact the Newton News our own Community Newspaper on 300212 for details. Many thanks for your time
Martyn D Locklin
Middridge Ward

T.A. OFFERS EXCELLENT TRAINING



Our local Territorial Army medical unit, 201 Field Hospital based at Fenham Barracks certainly put its young soldiers through the hoop in order to train them for promotion.

Obviously in a unit such as this, the training is both extensive and thorough. For, after all, another soldier could be put at grave risk if the Combat Medical Technicians, as they are known, are not fully competent with the sophisticated equipment with which they are issued.

And the two part-timers pictured are both hoping for an upgrading very soon. They are Private Victor Wagstaff who is 20 years old and a student from Walker in Newcastle and she is working as part of a team with Private Alan Dixon (24) from Etherley Dene in Bishop Auckland. He has been in the unit for 2 1/2 years and perhaps those very first stripes may be just around the corner for them both.

Vicky is based at the headquarters of the unit in Newcastle while Alan is based at the Newton Aycliffe detachment. The unit itself also recruits from Wearside and Teesside.

There are opportunities to travel abroad with the unit and volunteers receive a free uniform and a Regular Army rates of pay whilst in attendance. Anyone interested in joining should contact 01388 261 1046 and ask for 'PSIs 201'

HUNTSMEN ADD TO THEIR WOES

League Cup 2nd Round
Croft W.M.C. - 7
Huntsman - 2

CROFT cruised into the League Cup Semi-finals with an inevitable win over the Aycliffe side, writes Martin Walker.

A couple of weeks ago saw Huntsman crash out of the A.S.E. Cup to Halfmoon with a 5-2 home defeat, and this game adds to the Club's woes. Further more, Huntsman have been asked not to play any further home games for the rest of the season, after the Halfmoon A.S.E. Cup clash tore the Horndale pitch to shreds. All matches will be played at opponents grounds. Paul Kelly was voted, again, the man-of-the-match which might have disappointed Midfielder Tony Travis, whose tireless non stop effort wasn't rewarded.


Martin Haigh was ordered to wear the minger T-shirt, for the fifth time this season. Haigh is outraged, and believes that his team-mates have a vendetta against him. He said: "In my mind, they're only jealous that I've won the majority of the man-of-the-match awards. In one case this

season, I was voted the man-of-the-match, but our players voted me the minger - so I got together and voted somebody else as the man-of-the-match".

Boss Stuart Hodgson, was substituted 20 minutes from time due to a back strain. He is a little disappointed that his team never scored their half chances. He is, however, pleased with the improvement they showed in the second half.

Referring to his injury, Hodgson said: "I've had injury for a while, but we find another 'keeper to replace me. In the end I had to go off, the pain was unbearable. The Director of Football would also like an anonymous Valentine sender to reveal her/his name. "I dreamt that I was a bit of a soap, and you were in the bath!" was the romantic message in the surprise. Every one at the club was baffled by the card, which was sent to the Huntsman sealed with a loving kiss. This week Huntsman were away to Hurworth Athletic. Previous result was 7-0 in favour of Huntsman.

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Carelink Mobile Wardens have to deal with emergencies of all kinds, and their ability to assess a situation and give first-aid and reassurance before a medical team arrives can be a life saver for elderly people in Sedgfield District. Carelink is run by Sedgfield District Council and staff training is a priority. The thirteen Mobile Wardens who deal with problems around the clock need a wide range of skills and have just completed four days training with the County Durham Branch of St. John Ambulance. On successfully completing the course, they all received the "Emergency First-Aid at Work Certificate" which was presented by Councillor Mrs. Barbara Graham, Chairman of Sedgfield District Council. Carelink enables many elderly people to retain their independence at home by providing twenty-four hour help, support and reassurance seven days a week literally at the press of a button. It operates throughout Sedgfield District and 6,500 elderly people are already in the scheme. Anyone who would like more information on Carelink can contact Arthur Bellwood, Carelink Manager on (01388) 721351.

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The Northern Sinfonia and the Sinfonia Chorus are live at Spennymoor Leisure Centre on Monday, 26th February in a programme of works ranging from Elgar, Finzi and Vivaldi to Whittaker's Northumbrian Folk songs. Newcastle based, the Northern Sinfonia have been performing throughout the North of England for more 30 years and have toured overseas throughout Europe, America and the Far East. They have performed previously in Spennymoor, but the concert on 26th

February will benefit from the improved sound system and acoustics made possible by a substantial award, for arts facilities, from the Arts Lottery Board. Alan Fearon will conduct and Martin Hughes will lead the orchestra. The performance starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00 (£3.50 concessions) available from Spennymoor Leisure Centre or from Northern Sinfonia - freephone 0500 591996. For further information please contact Pauline Murray, on (01388) 816166.

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HOUSES WILL BE BOUGHT FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

A public meeting was held on 1 February 1996 at Greenfield Comprehensive School to discuss the proposed closure of Horndale House, home for mentally handicapped men in Newton Aycliffe.

To say it was such an atrocious night, 260 people actually came to the meeting to listen to the presentations given by both Councillor Tony Moore and Mr. Nigel Porter of Durham County Council's Social Services Department. Councillor Moore gave a 10 minute presentation on the background of Horndale House and how, when it was first built.

He had worked closely with the Manager of the home to allay fears of the people in the area, who were initially very anxious about having mentally handicapped men living within their community.

Public meetings were arranged by Councillor Moore in order that the local people could be given full details of the men who were to be moved from Aycliffe Hospital into the private house which had recently been bought in their area by Durham County Social Services.

The residents of the home now live in harmony with the local people who regard them as an integral part of the community. Councillor Moore expressed his opinion that to uproot these men from their stable environment is a retrograde step and one which would indeed effect the lives of many.

Mr. Porter, the General Manger of County Durham Care and his staff gave a presentation on behalf of Durham County Council Social Services Department. The proposal to place the men from Horndale House into the community was discussed at length and Mr. Porter stated that it was the intention of the Social Services Department to buy a number of private houses. The policy of the Department however is not to inform residents in the area before the houses are purchased but an explanation will be given to householders following completion. Mr. Porter also stated that there were some men currently in Horndale House who could not cope in the community and these men would infact be moved to either Bishop Auckland or Durham.

A vote was taken at the close of the meeting and it was unanimous that Horndale House should remain open.

Lady Bowlers in Finals

Two Aycliffe Lady Bowlers have reached the National Finals in the Unbadged Pairs.

Jennifer Heslop and Brenda Mangles sealed their place at Banister Park, Southampton on March 6th by beating Mrs. M. Ferguson and partner, from Carlisle, in the zone final by 19 points to 12, so putting them in the last 16 in England.

Both Jennifer and Brenda are keen members of the Bowling Club, playing in the Great Lakes League at the Oak Leaf Complex, and have represented the Club in the Inter Club County League, and Open Competitions throughout the North East.

Brenda has also been selected to play for the County for the second year running.

We wish them all the best in Southampton

£35

Jumble

Monday evenings Jumble Sale at the Community House raised £35 despite the dreadful weather conditions. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event.

Letter to the Editor

OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX WELL USED

Dear Sir,

We would like to question if your correspondent Chris Greenwell has ever visited The Complex recently, because if he had then he would realise that there are two successful Squash Leagues, of which the courts are always fully booked, a Five-a-Side Football League, a Badminton and Bowls Club as well as Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club who meet twice weekly to use the Sports Hall. The only reason we don't

use the track is because it is in a bad state of repair. We are not asking for a tartan track, just a suitable track which we are confident would be put to full use and would encourage people to become and remain healthy.

Could we please remind Chris that Golf is not the only active sport in the town!

Susan Milburn
Chairperson - Newton Aycliffe Athletics Club

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R.A.B. SPONSORSHIP HELPS ACORN A.F.C.



R.A.B. Tooling kindly donated a strip and helped towards League and Cup fees this season for local pub side A.F.C. Acorn. The team, pictured, had a successful season last year in the Darlington District Sunday Morning League, finishing runners up in the League and winning the League Cup. But are unfortunately finding it harder having stepped up to the C.I.U. League this season. The Club are enjoying the experience however, despite the lack of success, and thank Ronnie for his support.

Car Thieves Tracked Down

Determined car thieves in Newton Aycliffe bypassed several security measures taken by the owner of a Vauxhall Calibra when they stole the vehicle, which was later recovered in Darlington by Durham Constabulary using the TRACKER stolen vehicle recovery system.

The L-registered vehicle was stolen from the driveway of the owner's home and was eventually found hidden in a lock-up garage.

The owner commented: "I didn't hear a thing when the car was stolen despite the fact that the thieves had to go to great lengths to steal the car. In addition to the alarm

which apparently never went off, they got through deadlocks, a steering wheel lock and an immobiliser.

"I had TRACKER installed 10 months after I bought the car as I thought thieves might strike and find the car attractive. I'm now delighted that I did and the investment has been worthwhile."

To date, TRACKER has helped police to recover more than 894 TRACKER-equipped vehicles while tracks have also led to the discovery of a further 212 other vehicles with a total estimated combined value of £11.9 million. Motorists can find out more about the TRACKER system from the AA by calling freshen 0800 990099.

Letter to the Editor RESPITE CARE WEEKS OFFERED

Dear Sir,
I am writing to ask if readers of the Newton News can help people and their carers in the Newton Aycliffe area.

According to our estimates, more than 66,000 people living in County Durham have a physical disability. Many will require occasional or full-time care. Some will need help with basic tasks like getting up, eating, toileting and washing. They and their carers deserve a break from their daily routine now and again.

The registered charity Winged Fellowship is Britain's largest provider of short-stay residential

respite care for disabled people. Every year we provide more than 6,000 respite care breaks for severely disabled people and their carers. Many of them come from this area. For some, it is the only escape from routine they ever get!

We have just produced our new respite care brochure. It contains details of our five respite care centres. All have level access, specially fitted bathrooms, wide doors, 24 hour nursing support, organised trips in specially equipped coaches and personal help call buttons.

Winged Fellowship breaks are specially priced to

make them affordable. Our respite care starts at £175 a week for couples and carers come for less! If you are disabled needing some help yourself, a social community dealing with disabled people - or you know someone who could benefit from one of our breaks, we'd be delighted to send you a brochure. Readers can contribute by writing to Winged Fellowship, Angel, 20-32 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9XD. Tel: 0171 833 2595. Your help could make a difference to a severely disabled person's carer!

Aged and Infirm Need Help

Due to illness in the family we have recently lost the very much appreciated support of two of our decorators. Therefore we need volunteers willing to help with decorating for the Aged and the Infirm. This is a very worthwhile

cause which is helping people in the Community, please consider giving it your support.

Anybody willing to help please get in touch on 311089 or 318333.

Many Thanks
Martyn D Locklin

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FIRST CIVIL WEDDING AT HALL GARTH



Lowarth, Advertising Manager, and part of the Newton family business, married his partner, Beverley Tarn, after year engagement, at the first Civil Wedding to be held Hall Garth Hotel. The couple, who live in Woodham, tied the knot on Valentines Day to make the occasion more memorable.

The ceremony, attended by family and friends, was conducted in the new conservatory which had been suitably decorated for the occasion. A reception was held in the Brafferton Suite with entertainment and music for dancing, afterwards, catered by local artistes Lee, Marie & Georgio.

LOCAL CHEMISTS
EMERGENCY OPENING TIMES
Sunday 25th February, 1996
12noon-1.00pm - Hancock & Ainsley, Shildon
Sunday 3rd March 1996
12noon-1.00pm - Boots the Chemist

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JOIN THE LADIES AT SCHOOL AYCLIFFE

When the Community Centre was finally built at School Aycliffe over ten years ago a group of ladies decided to meet at the new hall on a monthly basis. Guest speakers were invited on a wide range of subjects and an informative and pleasant social evening became a regular fixture in the Hall. At the time they did not envisage that the School Aycliffe Ladies would still be in existence in 1996. One of the founding members Janice Lee said: "Membership has fluctuated over the years and at times we struggled to keep going. We try to vary the content of the evenings to suit all tastes but it is difficult to predict how many Ladies will turn up on a particular evening". School Aycliffe Ladies meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the School Aycliffe Community Centre at 8.00pm. The existing Members are trying to encourage more Ladies to join them and this year hope that the following events will attract new support.

Feb. 27th Taking better photographs (Media Workshop - Darlington Arts Centre).
Mar 26th Hypnotherapy (Chris Turnbull).
Apr. 23rd Countryside Events (Graham Clingan, SDC).
May 28th Outdoor event.
Jun. 25th Aromatherapy (Sue Laskey).

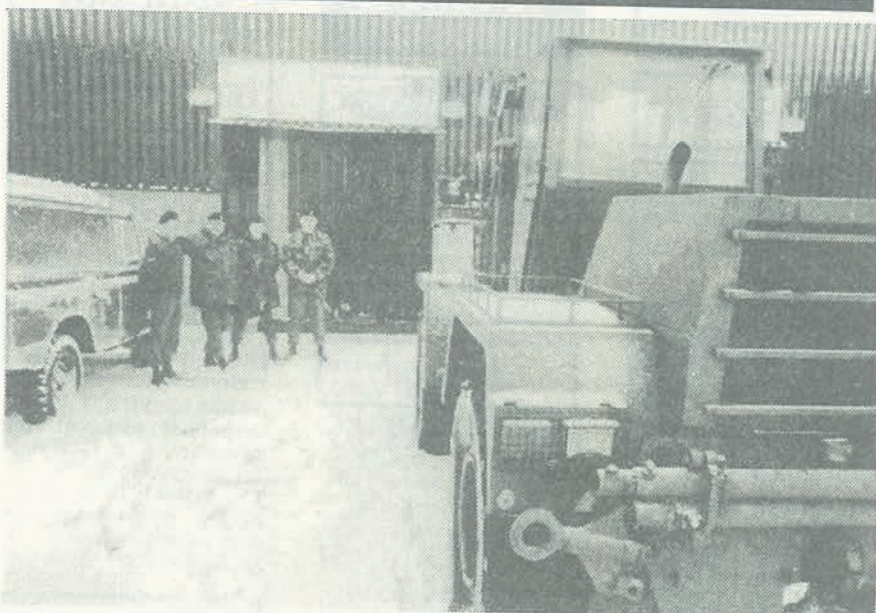
Written Test From July

All learner drivers should note that as from the 1st July 1996 they will be required to pass a Written Test as well as the normal Driving Test, before being issued with a Full Driving Licence. After this date, until both tests are passed, the normal rules will apply. For example, they cannot drive unaccompanied or on a motorway. Anyone wishing to learn to drive must first apply for a Provisional Driving Licence. Career And Training Services (C.A.T.S.) offer a licence and test application service from The Driver Education Centre, Milburn House, 7 Woodland Road, Darlington. Telephone (01325) 369162. The Driver Education Centre staff will be pleased to offer advice on immediate practical in-car lessons and the need in the future to take theory lessons at home or in the classroom.

Letter to the Editor DOES THE INSPECTOR OF TAXIS HAVE A WHITE STICK?

Dear Sir,
I refer to an article in your paper a couple of months ago regarding complaints about taxis in Newton Aycliffe. After waiting some time for these so called regular inspections by the Taxi Inspector (I assume he has a white stick), to carry out his duty, I recently visited the ranks in the Town myself, on that occasion I observed the following:
• Extremely dirty cars.
• Front bumpers hanging off.
• Rear bumpers hanging off.
• Hackney licence plates missing or broken.
• Shoddy paintwork.
• Dented body work.
• Most cars without Sedgefield licence on the doors.
• Noisy rattling and banging engines.
• Tyres that looked very suspect.
• Substantial amount of rust on bodywork.
• Old vehicles, (at least one "Y" reg. and several "B & C" reg.
• Scruffily dressed drivers, (dirty clothes and unshaven).
I therefore ask where and how have they improved the standards of Aycliffe Taxis!!!
J.P. Hall

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T.A ENGINEERS SOLVE REMOVAL PROBLEM FOR BUS SOCIETY

When the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society moved to its new premises on the Industrial Estate they had only one problem, the main entrance doorway was too low by some three inches. The Preservation Society then began to scratch their heads as to who could help them. "It's a big problem" remarked one of its members, "it's a big mechanical problem" said someone else. Who could solve a 'big mechanical problem'? It had to be 124 Recovery Company, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, based in

Newton Aycliffe. After a few phone calls and a visit, the job was arranged for the 27th of January 1996. SSgt. Peter Brown, Cpl. John Ramsden and LCpl's Peter Compton and Warren Golightly, all volunteers in the Territorial Army, did the job much to the delight of the Bus Preservation Society. If you would like to help the local community, learn a skill and be paid at the same time, why don't you consider joining 124 Recovery Company? Give them a ring on Aycliffe 312739.

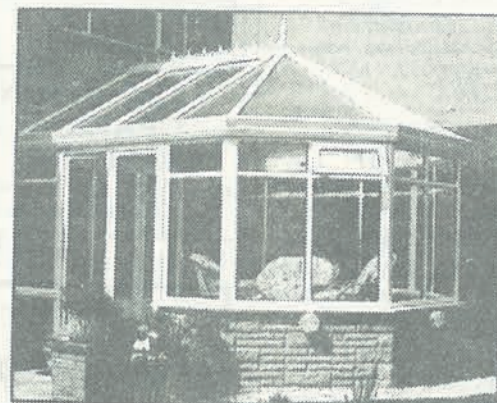


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LL UP OR THE HANCELLOR

Motorists should be told exactly how much of their money goes into the Chancellor's pocket every time they fill up with petrol - and how little of this tax money goes to fund the UK's transport system, say the AA and the RAC.

The AA's members' magazine, (issued 7 February) Editor General, Simon Per, says: "Today for every 10 of petrol or diesel that you pay, he (the Chancellor) takes £50. Yet barely £2 of this goes to improve, manage and maintain the roads network. The resulting gulf between how much motorists pay and how little is spent on roads and public transport has become a national shame."

The two leading motoring organisations aim to expose the Chancellor, at every fill-up, as the principal profiteer of the pump.

The campaign will also highlight the tiny proportion of the Treasury's £24 billion income from motorists that goes to fund Britain's crumbling transport system.

COFFEE MORNING

St. Elizabeth's monthly Coffee Morning is to be held on Saturday 2nd March - 10 till 12.

Home made cakes andaffle prizes, all are welcome to drop in for a cup of tea and a chat.

ENT LUNCHES

Lent Lunches will be served in St. Clare's Church Hall every Monday during Lent from 26th Feb. to 25th March, 12 to 1.30pm.

A bowl of home-made soup, a bread bun, a cup of tea and a biscuit for only £1.

All are welcome to come along. All proceeds are for overseas missions.

Large Stocks

PARKIN NESS of Whitworth Drive, Aycliffe Industrial Estate, are one of the largest stockists of gardening products in the North East. They are open 7 days a week and are the largest stockists of own care products in the area. 5% of their products are pre-packed by themselves on the premises giving the public the advantage to buy products at bulk prices in small quantities.

Unlike other organisations who sell in this way, they do not charge a membership fee. Of 33 different pre-packed products, PARKIN NESS also stock 12 different types of composts to suit every need, also in stock, over 30 different insecticides/pesticides and plant foods, and a wide range of pots, seed trays, netting, canes, tools and greenhouse accessories.

Seeds are available from 49p packet. Onion sets, shallots, potato sets, Paraffin, rotavator and delivery services are all part of the PARKIN NESS service.

Opening times are:-
Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm
Saturday 9am till 3pm
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St Cuthberts Way,
Aycliffe Ind. Estate
Tel 300212

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In Memory

RENA It's been a twelve month without here's never a day when I don't think of you and the good times we had together, I hope you are well in the joy's of life. You always Jeff X

HUMBLE A good friend, sadly missed and forgotten, love Alex. When you left us on a big day a fifth of my life away. We love you so much, that we don't go away, they miss you everyday, love Mam

On that day you went didn't have time to say much I loved you, I love you everyday, today

R PLUM Our love and love are with you every day, and family. On this day of love and love you, Ella and family

Always in my heart, love and miss you Debra and Scott. I am thinking of you and every other day, today

A good friend and sister, miss you always, Ian and Buster

Can't believe your thinking about you, love you Bill

25-2-95. We could forget that twelve years have passed, as our lives go on you will always be Sue, Alex and Asha

HUMBLE 25-2-95. In memory of a friend, one year has passed since you slipped away in my thoughts. I always stay, love

HUMBLE Black, a dear daughter, died 25th February 1995. My heart still aches with the silent tears still that it meant to lose one who will ever know, I always Dad XX

RENA HUMBLE 25th February 1995. I miss you always Donna XX

BLACK 25-2-95, missed, but always in my heart, Blacky and Karen

HUMBLE Silent, loved and missed, heartily in Canada

ES John Arran, died 22nd 1992, loving brother, always in my heart, quietly today in memory we treasure, you always,

g you never, till we find sweetheart, God bless, Dad, Garry, Paul

HUGHES 22-2-95, remembering you is do it every day, it's the ache of losing you goes away, loved and always Valerie, and Shirley

SON Mary, died 24-2-94. I miss you Mam, and words can say, never-loving daughter

OBSON 22-2-93. More than a thought, I missed love Jeanie

ER, MABAL In memory of a loving Dennis Kathy and a loved Nana, we loved never forget, Kevin

EN, MARGARET Precious memories dear sister, not just on this day but every day, your loving son

EN, MARGARET February 1995. Loving son of my Mam who I turn to when I need you, the world is grey, one for whom we love that she has gone, I missed by Pam, and Andrew

TENWICK - DRYDEN Paul and Michael 25-2-89. Remembering you is easy we do it every day, it's the heartache of losing you Paul, that never goes away. May God take care of you Paul and Michael, loved and remembered always Mam, Dad, Sharon, Andrew, Kier and Carley

DAVID LAVERY Loving memories of a dear husband and Dad, who died 27th February 1991, sadly missed, always in our thoughts, Lily, Derek and Indig

GEORGE INNERD

Died 21st February 1991

We miss you more than words can say, to be with you would be heaven again. Gentle Jesus up above, please give George all our love. Your loving wife Renee, son Andrew God bless XX

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Public Notice

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Thursday 28th March - Sean King

Monday 8th April - Danny McCoy

Thursday 2nd May - Dave Alexander

Free Entry and Free Buffet

Karaoke Fri. - Disco Sat. - Quiz Night Sun.

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OPENING TIMES: Mon-Thurs 8am-4.30pm Friday 8am-3.30pm Sat 9.30am-12.30pm Wed Eve 7-9pm

THE ANNUAL General meeting of Heighington Village Hall Association is to be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 12th March 1996, 7.15pm for 7.30pm. All villagers are most welcome to attend **MIDDRIDGE** Village Association - The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th March, 1996 at 7.30pm. The Agenda is posted on the notice board outside the hall.

HEIGHINGTON Playgroup, give yourself some free time Mum, places available Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 11.45am, £1.50 per session. Contact Village Hall on 318458 at above times.

FUN FOR ALL Line Dance Classes commencing Tuesday 27th February at Aycliffe Leisure Centre, from 7.40-8.30pm, £1.75 per session Tel 317983

Thank You

MARIE thank you for our handsome new son (about time you did something right!) Love Dean

LEYONA thank you for looking after us while Mammy had our baby brother, Billy, love Kayleigh and Jake

CO-ORDINATION Party for those who may never have heard of a co-ordination, here is a chance to find out more! On February 29th at 7.30pm in the Burnhill Way Church Hall there will be a co-ordination party - nothing to do with religion, just an opportunity to be shown and maybe buy items of bedding, towels, pictures and accessories for the home. There will be many varied items of interest, come and look, decide, buy if you wish, all are welcome

JUMBLE SALE

St Mary's School Friday 1st March from 6.30pm

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Coffee and Tea All welcome

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McCLAREN pram/pushchair with sun canopy, £40 ONO, back carrier for baby to approx. 2 years £10, Ikea black ash bookshelf 6'6" x 24" excellent condition £20 ONO, Teak effect desk, 61" x 24" high 3 drawers and one cupboard £20 ONO Tel 311798

PORTA POTTI excellent condition, can deliver £30 Tel 315949

SUNRISE medical scooter with weatherproof cape, as new £1000 ONO cost £2500 call Aycliffe 310831

MENS CLOTHES for sale, Crombie overcoat, suits, 3 navy blazers, 2 brown, several pair of trousers, to suit tall slim man £150 Tel 310140

LADIES blue waxed stockman, full length coat, size 12, never been worn, cost £160 accept £60 Tel 310593

BLACK wardrobe, work desk, black corner television table and video unit, offers Tel 311168

Vehicle Wants and Sales

SCRAP CARS MoT failures, good prices paid Tel. 0836 630036

COULD THIS SPACE BE WORKING FOR YOU?

Tel: 01325 300212

Congratulations

PAMELA CUNLIFFE



Happy 40th Birthday Join the club love Janette & the girls

ANDREW LONG Happy 13th birthday on 25-2-96, love from Mam and Kelly, roll on our holidays

ANDREW LONG 25-2-96, happy 13th birthday, love Auntie San, Uncle Paul, Michael and Louise

ANDREW LONG Happy 13th birthday, love from Auntie Sue, Uncle David and Nanna

JOE MOORE Happy 65th birthday Dad, hope to have many more pints at the Fox and Hounds, love always Janet

JOE MOORE Happy birthday Grandad, lots of love and kisses Phillip and Lucy

JOE MOORE To Dad, I love you so, even though sometimes I do not show, happy birthday Dad, love from Helen

JOE MOORE Happy 65th birthday love and best wishes Sara and Tony

JOE MOORE Happy 65th birthday for a special Grandad, lots of hugs and kisses Ashley

JOE MOORE A very happy birthday, I can get you into the races for half price now, all my love Doll

SPENSLEY, ZOE Happy 18th birthday, love from Auntie Daphne, Uncle Alan, Wayne, Ashley, Chris, Jonathon and Sam the dog

SPENSLEY Happy 18th Zoe, lots of love and best wishes Nana and Granda Tarvit

EDWARDS Happy birthday Anne, best wishes Nana and Granda Tarvit

ANGELINE 27-2-96, happy birthday, love ya stacks Marie, Geoff, Becky and Kirsty XX

TRACEY FIRTH Happy birthday Lardy, love the Humbles

LYNDSEY BLACK Have a good time on your birthday 20-2-96, love Firthy X

YOUNG Dean and Marie would like to announce the safe arrival of Billy George on 8-2-96, a beautiful brother for Kayleigh and Jake

TAYLOR, ZOE Happy birthday, love Nanny

TAYLOR, ZOE Happy 10th birthday, 24-2-96, love Mum, Dad, Emma and Charlotte

RICHARD KERR Safe journey back to Australia, we'll miss you, love Auntie Audrey and family

HARRY BOURNE February 1996. To a very special grandad all our love on your birthday and always, love Angela and Rachael XXX

YOUNGHUSBAND, Helen, a star in Sound of Music, a star in Guys and Dolls. Now a star on her 16th birthday, lots of love Mam, Andy, Emma, Kev and Johnny Depp!XX

MALCOLM HARPER Happy 18th birthday on 22nd February, all my love from Nana

ZOE SPENSLEY



February 24th, 1996 Happy 18th birthday love and best wishes from Mam & Bob, Abigail and Adam

THOMAS NEWELL

Happy birthday 18th February 1996 Lots of love Curtis John XXX

THOMAS NEWELL

Happy 4th birthday Sweetheart, love Mammy & Daddy XX

THOMAS NEWELL

Happy birthday Thomas Love Grandma and Granda XXX

ARTHUR NEWELL

May you have a long and happy retirement, lots of love Pat, Stephen and Ann XXX

ARTHUR NEWELL

No more work Grandad, just us, love you the whole wide world, Thomas and Curtis

TAYLOR Lyndsey and Ian congratulations on the birth of our grandson Dale, 7-2-96, lots of love Mam and Dad

TAYLOR Ian and Lyndsey (nee Holden) congratulations at last he is here, love and kisses Julie and Paul

JANE AND SHAUN Congratulations on your wedding day, 24-2-96, wishing you health and happiness from Gail, Keith and Scott

SYKES David Patrick happy 30th birthday, love Carole

SYKES David Patrick, happy 30th birthday Daddy, love Alexander and Stephanie

House Exchange

FROM 3 bedroom GCH own kitchen units in house, nice and clean, must be seen, **TO** a 3 bedroom house anywhere considered Tel 312339

FROM 2 bedroom house - old part of town with garden **TO** 3/4 bedroomed with garden old part of town - ring 317695

FROM 2 bedroom front and back garden old part of town **TO** 2 or 3 bedroom old part of town Tel 307549

Holidays

Holiday Apartment

at Costa Blanca 2 bedroom, sleeps 6. £150.00 per week Flights available weekly from Teesside or Newcastle Tel 01325 317746 available most dates

Wanted

AUCKLAND HOUSE CLEARANCE

Pay cash for antiques and old fashioned furniture, eg: china cabinets, tables, sets of chairs, hall stands, bureaux, bookcases, sideboards, chests of drawers, bedrooms furniture, mirrors, clocks, old watches, costume jewellery, chine, silverware, cutlery, crockery, jugs, bowls, vases, figurines, animals, linens etc. Anything old and interesting. Personal and discreet service Tel 01388 608042 anytime

BEST CASH prices for furniture, 3 piece suites, china, cabinets, tables, drawers, china, linen, clocks etc., full or part houses cleared Tel 01325 314885

HOUSE Clearances, spot cash paid, single items, discreet service Tel 310240

CASH PAID for all household furniture, suites, tables, chairs, robes, cookers, fridges, houses cleared. Tel Kingsway Salerooms 01388 661579

THREE piece suites wanted, good prices paid, old/broken suites removed free of charge, Tel 320615 or 0831 866770

Health / Beauty

ATHENA

Beauty Studio

The Leisure Centre, Newton Aycliffe

Telephone: 300500

Facials, Massage, Waxing, Manicures, Pedicures, Electrolysis, Red Vein Removal, Lash Tints - Brow Shape

STAR NAILS

The latest technology in nail extensions, direct from the USA, have natural looking long nails

Free consultation on all treatments Gift vouchers available For further details or appointments Tel 300500 or book through reception

ALL NEW CLIENTS FIRST TREATMENT ONLY 1/2 PRICE except on special offers

ALOE VERA JUICE for irritable bowel etc, also creams for skin/muscle problems, free local delivery Tel 310758

REFLEXOLOGY

Natural Therapy Stress, Migraine Back/Neck problems etc. Qualified Therapist 7 Years Experience Leaflet on Request Reflexology evenings Tel 01325 310758

Carole Hind MBRA

Pets

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

GERMAN Shepherd puppies for sale, KC reg pedigree, parent can be seen, £250 Tel 310112

DOG TRAINING Pet and puppy classes with limited numbers are held in West Auckland and Durham contact

Paul Greener (Home Office Accredited Instructor) Tel 01325 462533

CLEAN UP CRAP PAN ALLEY

Dear Editor,
With reference to the
your letter on 10th
January from the Bowes
ad area. I, and many
other people, thoroughly
agree with her about

some thoughtless and lazy
dog owners deliberately
allowing their dogs to
foul outside peoples gates
and house fronts - grass
area.
I spend a lot of the

summer, and winter time
too, cleaning away dog
deposits, because its
offensive and spoils the
look of places where we
must live out our lives.
I've noticed they don't let

JOHN WATSON CONSERVATORIES, WINDOWS & HOME EXTENSIONS

BEST QUALITY HARDWOOD & UPVC
GLAZED ROOF SPECIALISTS

EXHIBITION

at the
EDEN ARMS HOTEL
Rushyford

This Sunday
25th FEBRUARY 1996
from 11am-4pm



The Longest Established Manufacturer in the area
Loft Conversions - Staircases and Home Improvements
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SPECIAL BALTI DISHES, CURRIES & BIRIYANIS

Specialist Outside Catering in authentic
Indian Food for all
PPY NIGHT every Thursday & Sunday
GHT COURSE MEAL - £9.95p

Opening Times:
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Fri - sun: 5.30 - Midnight

10% OFF WITH
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ADVERT

OPEN EVERY HOLIDAY
EXCEPT XMAS DAY

We regret we do not accept signed bills, but
do accept cheques with Banker Card
Free Containers & Bags provided

6 St. Elizabeths Close
Woodham Village
Tel: (01325) 301044 or 301066

HOME FROM HOME

A relaxed blend of music and chat
in informal style with
JOHN PIERCE

WEEKDAY MORNINGS 10.00am to 1.00pm

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM YOUR TOWN
WHAT'S HAPPENING LOCALLY

plus at 11.30am

Daily features with advice from local experts

Monday - Police and the Community

Tuesday - Travel

Wednesday - The A1 FM Doctor

Thursday - Family Law

Friday - Book Review

Tune into your local commercial station



"Just for you"

Letter to the Editor

the dogs foul their own
grass verges.

Instead they should be
taking the dogs to toilet on
large grass areas and dog
walks out of sight.

I had to call the
Environmental Health
Officer out three times last
spring and summer to a
place I've named as Crap-
Pan Alley - between the
Oak Tree from Gilpin
Road, to Baliol Green - it
was a health hazard and
nauseating sight to behold.
Another thoughtless and
dangerous act is young
people, over ten years or
more, cycling outside
busy shops such as the
Town Centre and worse
Neville Parade. Some old
and frail person will
be sent flying sooner
or later, especially
when thoughtless, lazy
youngsters dump their
expensive bicycles right in
front of shop doorways,
when it's just as easy to
stand it up and the bicycle
taken good care of
Sincerely J.L.

Name & Address supplied

Womens World Day of Prayer

The "Women's World
Day of Prayer" is on
Friday 1st March, and to
mark this event there
will be a service at St.
Andrew's Church,
Aycliffe Village at
1.30pm. All the churches
in the Great Aycliffe area
will be taking part and
all ladies are invited to
come along and share in
this International
service, which this year
was prepared by the
women of Haiti, the
theme being "God calls
us to respond".

The speaker is Mrs. Joy
Hornsby of Richmond,
and after the service tea
and biscuits will be
served in the Village
Hall.

J & D WOOLS

Church Street, Shildon, 01388 774687

CLOSING DOWN SALE NOW ON

We will close our doors for the last time on
Thursday 7th March - everything must go!

STOCKISTS OF LADIES AND
CHILDREN'S FASHIONS

LINGERIE & NIGHTWEAR

KNITTING YARNS & ACCESSORIES

APPRECIATION:

June and Denny wish to thank everyone
for their custom over the last 20 years.

SDC HOST KOREAN ART EXHIBITION



Two hundred people have
visited an exhibition of
Korean Art where more
than forty paintings by
artist Jun. Myung Ja were
on display.

The exhibition was
organised by Sedgfield
District Council, as part of
the Year of Visual Arts and

was opened on Saturday,
10th February by SDC
Chairman, Councillor
Barbara Graham.

The artist has strong links
with the Tae Kwan Do
community, who helped to
stage the event and gave a
display of martial arts on

the opening night.

One visitor walked all the
way from Durham City to
see the paintings, and the
artist, Professor Jun of
Seoul University, said she
was delighted with the
response from local
people.

PLANS TO EXTEND AYCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

Aycliffe Village Hall
Association are holding a
Coffee Morning on
Saturday 2nd March from
10.30 to 12.30pm - all are
welcome.

There will be a Tombola
in aid of Bearded Collie
Rescue, dry & silk flower
arrangements by Paula
Brown and Julie Kent, De-
coupage by Christies and
Childrens Clothes by Bee.

Whilst funds are
constantly needed for
running costs, The Village
Hall Committee are
proposing to embark on
fund-raising to build a
further extension to the
south end of the hall to
include a full size stage,
two rooms and a new
ladies toilet.

Joe Jopling
(Project Co-ordinator).

Don't Litter the Streets!

Dear Sir,
Some of your readers may
be putting out bundles of
waste paper to be
collected for recycling. I
was advised to leave such
items at the front door, as,
apparently, putting them
on greens and pavements
is a littering offence.
Householder.

N.A.S.A.

Unit 9, Leaside, Aycliffe Ind. Estate
Telephone (01325) 310239

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Established 15 years

* SPRING SALE *

1000's of parts to clear at rock bottom prices
Pads from £3.95 - Shoes from £5.95
Cylinders from £5.00 - Discs from £7.50
Shock Absorbers from £9.50 - Cables from £2
Filters from £1.85 - Plugs from £1.00
Water Pumps from £8.50
Ball Joints from £4.00
Wheel Bearings from £4.00
Batteries from £20.00 etc. etc. etc.

HURRY - These prices cannot be repeated