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# NEWTON NEWS

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Week Ending 3rd MARCH 1996

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## GREENFIELD PUPILS REACH TARGET TO VISIT ROMANIA

The Greenfield School Challenge - Romania Appeal has reached its £4,000 target and a group of 13 are visiting Romania during Easter, 1996.

The Challenge has involved the whole school and wider community including parents and friends of Greenfield, partnership primary schools, local industry and retailers. The Challenge goes on! We have some money to use to provide shortage items,

particularly stationery, hygiene products and sweets/chocolates. Part of the programme will hopefully include hospital and orphanage visits to distribute these gifts. Last Sunday, in Gateway, saw one of our dedicated parents,

Mrs. Deer, raffling a hamper and enlisting support from local traders. She raised the magnificent sum of £221.36 and intends to continue her work each Saturday until our departure.

Our special thanks to those who have supported her and our departure. Also our special thanks to those who have supported her and our Challenge:

Boyes, Bon Marche, Hardings, Occasions, Elliotts, Rings 'N' Things plus Market Traders and especially GATEWAY.

**Ongoing Challenge:** to continue raising money to hopefully fund a return visit to our town by a small group of Romanian children.

Any support, donations, help would be greatly appreciated by telephoning the school: 300378

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## £157 for Charity

A collection held in Gateway Supermarket on the evening of Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th February in aid of Leukaemia Research at Leeds General Infirmary Leukaemia and Lymphoma Unit raised a total of £157.00. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

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**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Cyril Graham (late of Clarence Green) will be held at St. Clare's Church on Monday 11th March at 12 noon.

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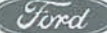
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## Police Chief Talks to Rotary

Chief Inspector Barry Peart was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club weekly meeting. In an interesting talk Barry explained that 8% of criminals were responsible for 65% of all crime committed. In a new strategy team targeting that element with sophisticated intelligence and surveillance, which he expected to reduce crime in this area. He stated that drugs were the main motivation behind most crime. Addicts he said would do anything to feed their addiction. His talk provoked great discussion among members and Rtn. John Birmingham thanked him for giving his time to present a fascinating and informative address.

## TABLE TOP SALE

There are now only one or two tables left for hire at the grand TABLE TOP SALE to be held in Neville Parade Church Hall on Saturday 16th March. As well as private hirers we welcome charitable causes, youth groups, fund raising committees, schools etc. Anyone needing to raise funds or get ride of surplus items can take advantage of this offer. The cost per table is £5, please ring 320876 or 301747 to book or receive further details

## CUP SUCCESS FOR LEGION

Fox and Hounds 2 British Legion 3

The Legion transferred their good run in the league into cup success with a narrow victory over an impressive Fox and Hounds team on a bitterly cold Sunday morning in Shildon writes Lee Forster.

Without any competitive football on a Sunday morning for over three weeks, this was an important tie to come into as the victor was sure to meet the formidable Croft in the Semi-Final of the competition.

It was never going to be an attractive flowing game as the pitch was swiftly turned into a quagmire after only ten minutes of play leaving both goalkeepers susceptible to a "Stan Collymore".

The Legion began well, exposing a weak back four with good passing and vision. This was apparent in the early stages as Mike Swankie's telling right sided cross was met with an offside David Taylor. The break through was made midway through the first half as forward Swankie made his second vital contribution, Mark Shield caught the opposition sleeping with a through ball to Swankie that split open the flat back four. Swankie used his blistering pace to good effect as he brushed aside the defender to hit a sweet right foot shot into the net. This left 'Hounds' reeling as they hardly troubled Ian Palmer or the defence with any worthwhile shot.

The game saw the return of Striker Trevor Cooke after a six week absence through suspension and he showed he hadn't lost any of his touch as he pressed on for the Legion's second-which almost mirrored the first - Man of the Match David Taylor put Cooke through with another great ball, leaving the Striker to score and complete his own unique celebration.

The second half is one George Topping and his players will want to forget as the Legion buckled and lost their team shape with the resurgent Fox and Hounds pinning them into their own half.

Goalkeeper Palmer lost his clean sheet with what can only be described as a wonderful goal from a 'Hounds marksman'. It went from bad to worse as the Legion lost their concentration and conceded another goal that shouldn't have been able to happen. However the trouble with an attacking minded team such as Fox and Hounds is that they can be left unguarded at the back in danger of the counter attack.

The Legion used this to their advantage as Mark Shield rounded of a super Legion move with a wonderful long range goal that transformed a game that was destined to end at 2-2.

Next week sees the Legion play at home to Hurworth Albion in the rescheduled ASE Cup match, the winner meets yet again recent Huntsman victors and in form team Croft.

## HUNTSMEN LOOK FOR RUNNERS UP MEDAL

HUNTSMAN'S Hurworth Albion fixture was last week called off due to a water logged pitch, with yet another Croft W.M.C. encounter staring them in the face this week, writes Martin Walker.

After high-flying Croft bundled a poor Huntsman out of the League Cup, both teams are to meet again in the League.

The fixture is supposed to be on Huntsman's home pitch, but with their pitch labelled disabled - an away trip is the outcome.

And there's nothing for Huntsman to play for, but to try and help neighbours British Legion dismantle Croft. Huntsman would like nothing more, but it seems highly unlikely that this will happen. Success within the Darlington and District Sunday Morning League for an Aycliffe side lies with the Legion, following their triumph over Fox and Hounds in the League Cup last week. However, Croft stand in their way of a final spot in what is expected to be a cracking semi-final clash.

Secretary of the Legion, Colin Fawcett, says that they're very hopeful of some success this season: "Unfortunately, we face Croft in the semis of the League Cup, and if we get to the semi-final of the A.S.E. Cup, we'll face Croft again."

"But we're currently second in the League, and the manager and the team are very hopeful of winning something. At the moment, Hole in the Wall are the team to look out for, and they're our main rivals to challenge Croft in the League, but we'll be disappointed if we don't win, at least, runner-up silverware."

Huntsman will not see any hopes of success this season, let alone the real thing. But there's been a major change within the club. Direct of Football Stuart Hodgson is no longer the Direct of Football. He is now Technical Director of Coaching, with a possible management job and an assistant management job on offer for next season.

Huntsman will witness a big change pre-season this summer, with new faces and different ideas, similar to last year!, bound to be introduced.

## JOB DISABILITY

HAVE YOU HAD AN ACCIDENT AT WORK, OR DO YOU SUFFER FROM ANY DISEASE YOU BELIEVE WAS CAUSED BY YOUR JOB?

If so, cash benefits may be obtained if you suffer an accident or disease caused by your job.

For example:

Have you used hand-held vibratory tools?

Have you been exposed to dust, fumes or vapours?

Have your eyes been affected by heat cataracts?

Do you have chest problems/breathing difficulties?

Advice will be given in your area by officers from Durham County Council Welfare Rights Unit on Tuesday 5th March - 9.30 - 2.30 at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. If you are UNABLE to attend the above advice session please phone our advice line on 0191 383 3846

## CHARITY FASHION SHOW AT THE HALL GARTH



The Hall Garth Golf & Country Club at Coatham Mundeville, near Darlington, hosted a fashion show on Sunday night sponsored by Camerons Brewery, the hotel's new supplier.

Leandra Dodsworth of Binns, in Darlington, organised the show featuring designs by Calvin Klein, Liz Clairborne, YSL, Hof and Bianca.

Ten young local models, including four lads, "strutted their stuff" throughout the Stables Complex ably led by mother and daughter team Carol and Kelli Nish.

Apart from free beer courtesy of Camerons, those attending won over 30 prizes consisting of Hall garth golf season tickets and Leisure Club memberships. Camerons branded Leisure wear and House of Frazer "goody bags".

A raffle was also held with all proceeds going to the David Beckett fund.

## ATHLETICS RESULTS

On Saturday in the Team Valley Relays over 2.2 miles Aycliffe Athletics Club first team finished 25th. The team comprised Steve Wright 11m 40s, D. Askew 11m 35s, J. Jimenez 13m, T. Vinell 12m 40s, Rob Nicholson 13m 30s, Pete Milburn 12m 14s. The times for the incomplete B team were John Burnside 14m 12s, R. Wade 13m 45s, A. Wilks 13m 40s, R. Harvey 13m 55s and Cec Sugden 13m 54s.

At Barnard Castle in the Cross Country race on Sunday over 5.1 miles Joe McCready was 4th, Steve Wright 15th, Pete Milburn

29th, Ian Young 66th, Dave Middleton 75th, Derek Smith 80th, Tony Vinnall 90th and Ian Williams 100th.

At South Shields in the Cross Country Race the Aycliffe Youths team won the 2 mile race. The team was R. Wade 4th, S. Bailey 10th, S. Mood 12th and N. McCleod 18th. In the Senior Mer race Joe McCready was 60th and in the Youth race J. Jimenez was 4th in 20m 12s.

In the Ladies race Su Milburn was 18th. In the Junior race new member D. Bailey was 15th and Moody 16th.

Let the  
Dream Begin ...

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Thursdays 7.30pm - Debbie 300615  
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Take a trip down the "Golden Freeway" back to back solid sounds 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Join Mark Brooks for more fun in the afternoon 2.00pm - 6.00pm

Stay in the "Fast Lane" with more great music 6.00pm - 7.00pm

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## Letter to the Editor

# Viability of Sports Hall Questioned

Dear Sir,  
Further to my recent letter regarding the Oakleaf Sports Complex and the replies published, may I respond by questioning the viability of two sports facilities in this town both of which cost the hapless taxpayer large amounts of money to run.

These facilities are owned by Sedgefield Council and the cost is therefore spread over the whole District whilst the Oakleaf is supported from the coffers of The Great Aycliffe Council to the tune of over half a million pounds a year!

The resultant charge borne solely by Great Aycliffe ratepayers is not only the highest in Sedgefield District by a country mile, but may be the highest this side of Alpha Centauri.

At a time when local authorities are making preparatory rumbling noises about the increased sums of money they will be gouging out of us come April, I feel a few hard questions need answering. I am prepared to believe that there are some people who do not mind paying such large amounts of money for this over capacity but I am not one of them.

I fully believe that either the events that take place at the Oakleaf complex should be transferred elsewhere and the place closed down or that the charges made to the athletes, bowlers, footballers and their like should be commensurate with the costs the rest of us are paying for.

Chris Greenwell

## Local Campaign Against Crime Has Immediate Success

D.C. ALAN PENMAN informs "Newton News" that the local police have carried out a number of arrests against known criminals for vehicle theft and burglary. Cars and property have been recovered and legal action is being taken.

"It has been a good start to our campaign and we are pleased to report that crime has been considerably reduced" said Alan.

"But we need the public's help and ask them to be ever vigilant and report anything suspicious happening. - Telephone the local Police Station on 314401.

An official launch of the campaign against Crime takes place on Monday 11th March with the arrival in the town of Britain's Strongest Man - Dave Gauder - known as "G Force".

Dave will be on hand at numerous places during his 2 day stay at Redworth Hall.

Dave has 17 World Strength records all ratified by the famous Guinness Books. He pulls tanks, Concorde, stops aircraft taking off, lifts double decker buses and is the only man to pull a 200 ton Jumbo Jet.

More details in next weeks issue.

## Letter to the Editor

# Burn Lane Traffic Speed Has Been Reduced

Dear Sir,  
Last weeks letter regarding Burn Lane is very negative in solving the problem of excess road traffic speeds.

The traffic calming measures in Burn Lane were only done after full public consultation.

The high incidence of personal injury to pedestrians has been resolved.

Increases in the number of vehicle movements coupled with irresponsible driving is

leading to more traffic calming. Anyone who doubts this should visit other areas of Co. Durham where excellent schemes have been completed.

The damage done in Burn Lane will be overcome, and when a Government more committed to public expenditure is elected we can expect Durham County Council to further protect us from the misuse of the roads

Pedestrian/Driver

## Temporary Move to Greenfields for Shafto House Residents

Dear Sir,  
Following full and comprehensive consultations and taking into account particular needs for local care, it has been agreed that the relocation of residents of Shafto House during the intensive refurbishments, will be at Greenfields House, Newton Aycliffe. That provision ensures continuity of care locally, keeps good residential friends and staff together, maintains relative's visiting, and good care for Aycliffe people in our community.

Some individual arrangements have been agreed in light of services to be delivered for and by those concerned.

The refurbishments at Shafto House are estimated to take some 40 weeks to complete. After which, I'm sure all concerned will appreciate moving back to enhanced living and care facilities. Meantime, the local

arrangements agreed will ensure that residents are comfortable, cared for by established Shafto House staff, in reach of relatives and friends here in Aycliffe. Cllr. Don Fraser. Woodham & Aycliffe North Wards.

## St. Josephs Head Teacher To retire



Miss P. Gardiner, Headteacher of St. Joseph's School will retire on 29th March. She has taught in the school since its opening and has been Headteacher for last 14 years.

A Mass will be held in the school hall on 21st March at 7pm. Any past members of staff, parents, children and friends of the school would be most welcome come along and join in this celebration.

For further information please ring 316162 or (01377) 2965.

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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"

## March Ceilidh

Methodists at Neville Parade are to celebrate the prospect of Spring with a Mad March Ceilidh to be held in the large hall on Saturday 9th March.

The visiting band from Durham City is The Reivers - one of the most experienced groups in the area.

With an early start at 6.30pm the Ceilidh caters for all ages and is open to all. Tickets are £3 including supper (£1.50 Children) and may be purchased on the door or in advance from The Builders Arms coffee shop in the town centre or by telephoning 312770

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# Swimming Gala Results

Last weekend 17th/18th February at the Derwentside Distance Gala, 8 swimmers from Sedgefield 75 collected 5 personal best times. For many of the younger swimmers this was their first competitive race over these longer distances.

Jill Hunter aged 11, swam in the 11/12 200 metre Butterfly in personal best time of 3:06.43 and finished in 7th position. She also competed in the 200 metre Breastroke (3:27.07) finishing 19th. Ian Storey aged 11, swam in the 11/12 400 metre Freestyle event finishing in 17th position in a personal best time of 5:43.29. Lindsey Needham finished 18th in the 11/12 200 metre Breastroke in a time of 3:26.38. Sarah Kelly achieved the N.E.C. qualifying time in the 13/14 400 metre Freestyle in a personal best time of 5:06.46. Rachel Concannon completed the 13/14 400 metre I.M. in a personal best time of 6:17.92 to finish in 21st position. Alison Storey competing in her first 200 metre Backstroke race finished in 19th position in a time of 2:55.30 (Personal Best). Iain Cairns finished in 9th position in the 200 metre Breastroke in a time of 2:58.81. Tony Weed (Club Captain) competed in the longest event of the Gala the 1500 metre Freestyle, he finished in 9th position in a time of 18:32.59. Coach John Moore congratulated all the swimmers and stated how delighted he was with their performance.



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# CHILDCARE INFORMATION CENTRE LAUNCHED

Busy families will have all they need to know about childcare services in County Durham at their fingertips soon.

A new database of information about the range of childcare available in the County is to be launched this week (March 1st) by North west Durham MP Hilary Armstrong.

Set up by Durham County Council's Social Services Department, County Durham Training and Enterprise Council (TEC) and Directions, which provides information on health, the family and disability, it is aimed at people returning to work, starting a training course, looking for out of school clubs or finding their nearest toddler group.

Called Childcare Information in County Durham, it will include over 1,000 entries and can be accessed by easy to use computer information points in the County's libraries, Job Centres, Social Services offices and Directions access

points. "Information on childcare has always been provided by Social Services but only basic details such as the name, address and telephone number of the provider," said Susan Elliott, Social Services information and publicity officer. "This project will give much more detailed information such as the time the service is available, whether they have pets, the age range of children catered for and much more. Finding suitable childcare has always been difficult, especially for women wanting to return to work or extend their working hours, and this database should prove a useful tool," she said.

# Horndale Action Committee

Dear Sir,  
I wish to inform the residents of Aycliffe that an Action Committee is being formed to fight the closure of Horndale House, a home for mentally handicapped men.

I would ask the towns folk to join me in this fight and register their disgust to the Durham County Social Services Department by writing an letter of protest to me here at County Hall in order that I may hand them to the Director of Social Services personally. The address to writ to is:

County Councillor Tony Moore, Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL  
I await the response.  
Tony Moore

# Fujitsu Win Health & Safety Award

Three local companies have joined the health and safety el winning the British Safety Council's National Safety Award - though it is harder than ever to win one. They are: Elldis Caravans (Consett) Ltd., Consett; F Manufacturers Ltd., Newton Aycliffe; and ISA Controls Shildon.

They joined this year's winners who face a tougher test than before. The Council has again updated and improved its criteria in line with changes in health and safety legislation best practice.

Previous winners had to show their accident rate significantly lower than the average for their industry. Now also have to prove they have a good company safety policy commitment to health and safety at the very highest board. In addition, they must name their health and safety officer (equivalent) and provide details of their industry, number of accidents and employees, to prove whether they are safer than peers.

James Tye, Direct General of the Safety Council, says: "National Safety Awards reward those who attain the highest standards of health and safety. These local companies have fine example to all levels of management all industries."

Prime Minister John Major has sent a message to winners: "work places can be achieved only with the commitment involvement of employers and management. I congratulate them by the British Safety Council for the practical they have taken to create safer places of work."

The three companies are now eligible to attend a banquet London on May 17th, when 1,300 revellers will turn the into the biggest event in the safety calendar.

# SUPER SPORTS SKILLS AWARDS



Great Aycliffe Town Council organised Junior Football and Golf Coaching Courses during the February term school holiday at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex. Both Courses were filled quickly and an additional Course for Golf was arranged to cope with demand.

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor J. P. Rodwell presented prizes and certificates to the children at a presentation on Friday 23rd February.

The next coaching course for juniors will be held during the Easter School Holidays, further information application forms are available from Marie Robinson, Great Aycliffe Town Council, School Aycliffe Newton Aycliffe. Telephone 300700

Pictured are the budding golfers and the younger age group footballers of the Super Sports Skills Courses held during the February half term school holiday.



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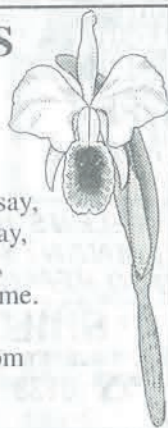
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TO OUR MAM! We know you are the best, because we are!! Love Carrie and Matthew XXX



## Letter

# Keep Dogs Off Greens

Dear Sir,  
The actions taken by your reader J.L. and explained in last weeks Newton News letters are commendable.

Those dog owners that allow fouling ANYWHERE outside their own premises are permitting a criminal offence.

It is not sufficient to suggest fouling "on their own verges" and "should be out of sight". Verges and greens are made up of public property managed by the Council and private areas e.g. around the industrial estate.

Many people use verges and greens for legitimate activities such as playing games, walking without dog-s, observing wildlife, collecting conkers and blackberries.

Children are the largest users of such areas and the activities take place on many unfenced areas which may appear out of site to some but should not be degraded by dog dirt.

RESIDENT

# TONY BLAIR LAUNCHES "GREEN" CAMPAIGN



Picture shows Tony Blair presenting the "Going for Green" certificate to SDC Chairman Barbara Graham at the Sedgefield launch.

Left to right - John Litherland, Director of Planning and Technical Services SDC - Councillor Barbara Graham, SDC Chairman - Professor Graham Ashworth, Chairman of "Going for Green" - Tony Blair, Labour Leader and Sedgefield MP. Approximately ninety people were present when Labour Leader and Sedgefield M.P., Tony Blair, launched the three year environmental campaign, "Going for Green" on Saturday, 24th February, at Ceddesheld Hall, Sedgefield. The message of the campaign which was emphasised by both Professor Graham Ashworth, Chairman of "Going for Green" and by Tony Blair, was that by acting together individuals and small groups can make a real difference to the quality of life in their local environment.

Sedgefield District council is one of a small number of Local Authorities chosen to take part in "Going for Green". The campaign is community-led and will initially be focused on the areas of Sedgefield and West Cornforth where local people are being asked to develop ideas. At a later stage it is hoped to extend the scheme to the whole District. For further information please contact Bruce Adams, at Sedgefield District Council, on 01388 816166.

# INTERESTED IN FORMING A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH?

Neighbourhood Watch Meetings are held in the Horndale Workingmen's Club lounge, every 1st Tuesday of the month. We meet at 7.30pm and people throughout Aycliffe attend. We meet to discuss crime in the area, crime prevention devices and talk about problems in our neighbourhood. On Tuesday 5th March, we have a guest speaker from the volunteer agency, who will advise Neighbourhood Watch members about the

support they can offer voluntary organisations. If you are unable to attend, and would like information about the meeting sending a letter to please contact Mrs Fletcher on 721351. If you would like to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area please give me a call on the above number. The meetings are informal and everyone will be made welcome. We do hope that we will see you there.

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Further details contact: Rev Colin Jay 320112

# DOCTORS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AT NIGHT

Dear Editor,  
I am writing about the hair brained scheme of getting to a hospital yourself instead of calling a doctor out. Who ever thought this one up! I hope they can sleep at night. A lot of people

will die because, if someone is seriously ill, will they be able to get an ambulance in time or a taxi.

The amount of people calling on ambulances during the night could be chaotic, and will there be enough staff and ambulances. Plus, there are many one parent families with quite a few children. Who will take care of the children whilst the parent travels to hospital?

And taxis - who has the kind of money for a Taxi? I am sure the public will later have to pay for the ambulance service.

Doctors do a great job but in most walks of life jobs have night shift workers. Years ago there would only be two doctors running a surgery, now there are about seven or eight doctors. The doctors didn't complain then about being called out during the night.

Will private patients be entitled to a doctor's call during the night? Families on low incomes and little children are going to suffer.

What on earth is the National Health Service being paid to the Government for? S. Thompson Guthrum Place

# Can You Help With Town's Scrap Book?

We are a local community group who meet at the Community House in Silverdale.

We are currently organising a scrap book of Newton Aycliffe Past and Present to send to Rheinghausen in Germany, our twin town.

We discovered that none of us were actually born in Newton Aycliffe, nor were our children, since the local maternity hospitals are in Bishop Auckland and Darlington.

We would be interested to hear from anyone who has had a home birth.

We are also interested in hearing from anyone who can give us information about Newton Aycliffe past or present, photographs and any other memorabilia would be greatly appreciated.

We meet every Tuesday afternoon 1.30pm - 3pm at the Community House, 10 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe. Tel: 307539. Anyone wishing to come along will be made very welcome.



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# S.D.C. Festival of Life

There's a chance to find out about Genealogy and start tracing your family tree on a four week course at Newton Aycliffe.

The course will cover civil and ecclesiastical records and give an introduction to computer based information packages.

It is also hoped to introduce students to the Family History Centre at Billingham where they will be shown how to access the millions of records, worldwide, available throughout the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints.

In the final week of the course, the local Family History Society will open its doors to students, offering support to those wishing to continue with their research.

The course leader, Wil Roberts, has over thirty years experience in Genealogy. The first meeting is at 6.00pm on Wednesday, 6th March at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe.

Contact Wil Roberts on 01325 18882 to enrol.

The course is part of the Festival of Life in Sedgefield District which brings together a series of cultural, sporting, artistic and religious events between March and July 1996.

For further information on The Festival of Life contact Phil Ball at Sedgefield District Council on 01388 816166.

# Learn to Bowl

Have you always wanted to try Indoor Bowls but worry about not being any good? Well you have an opportunity to be shown how to bowl properly by a qualified coach.

The next coaching courses at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex, Newton Aycliffe start on Tuesday 7th February, they are held at 6.30pm and 8.30pm for 5 weeks at a cost of only £6.50 for the course.

There are a small number of places available on each course and they will be filled on a first come, first served basis over the next few days.

Some participants from these leagues have even gone on to play in the Great Lakes Club leagues. Anyone interested should contact the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on 01325 30600.

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# LOCAL SCHOOL WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Pupils with special educational needs at a County Durham primary school have won a national computer skills award for writing their own inter-active ghost story.

And in doing so, the youngsters have won Stephenson Primary School in Newton Aycliffe national recognition as being at the forefront of the development of Information Technology in schools.

Their interactive story 'Mad Mansion' - which comes complete with ghosties, ghoulies and things that go bump in the night won them a top multi-media award in a competition run by the National Council for Education Technology.

The project was developed by pupils at the school helped by IT teacher David Ellis and Barbara Hemingway from Durham Education Authority's Special Educational Needs Support team. "Finding ways to encourage children with special educational needs to read and write can pose something of a problem, so we can imagine our surprise and delight when some children came forward and asked if they could write their own computer story," she said.

Not content with the quality of technology offered by existing off-the-shelf software packages, the children put together the school's own hardware and software to tackle the project.

"The level of self-motivation from the children was incredible. They couldn't wait to get started," said Barbara.

Various story lines ranging from science fiction to fairy tales emerged during an early brainstorming session, but by far the most popular was a spooky story based on a haunted house. "This certainly fired the children's imagination, and as well as writing the story they set about producing a vast range of graphic background shots and sound effects, all of which they added to the story together.

Auditions were held to see who could produce the best sound effects - including ear-piercing screams - and even Headteacher Bill Akers contributed with an owl hooting technique remembered from his own school days!

Technical problems involved in piecing together the youngsters' efforts into working computer pages were quickly overcome as both staff and pupils went through a high tech learning curve. "After a lot of hard work, everyone was delighted with the result and the story has certainly proved a big hit among other pupils at the school," said Barbara.

"The school now has its own full colour, dynamic, talking interactive computer story. The award from NTEC was a fantastic bonus, and a well deserved reward for the youngsters' effort. Another Durham school, Nettleworth Primary near Ches-le-Street, also won an award in the same NTEC competition in recognition of having made substantial developments in its IT to support learning.



## In Memory

**ARTWRIGHT**, Alfie. Treasured memories of a Dad and Grandad who passed away 4-3-95. Reunited with wife Frances and son Brian. Always in our thoughts. John, Jennifer, Rob, Janet and Grandchildren.

**YOYCE MORGAN** March 6th. We think about you always, we talk about you to, we have lots of lovely memories, but we wish we still had you. Sadly missed Mam. Margaret and Andy.

**YOYCE MORGAN** Gentle Jesus up above, give our Nana a great big hug, Andrew and Kayleigh. **YOYCE MORGAN** 6-3-95. Love and miss you always Mam, John, Jacqueline, Emma Jayne and Matthew.

**URNHAM** Cherished memories of our dear friend Margaret, died March 3rd 1991. We miss you most when we need a friend, on you Margaret we could always depend, loving friends Lily and George.

**EN THORNE** 29-2-92. In our hearts you will always stay, loved and remembered every day. Sadly missed loving wife is.

**EN THORNE** 29-2-92. Living memories of a dear Dad, no longer in our lives to share, but in our hearts you are always there. Sadly missed and never forgotten, daughter Elaine. **JOHN ROBSON** 4-3-91. Miss you so much, always remembered, love Susan, Brian, Paul, Alex and Asha.

**JOHN ROBSON** 4th March 1991. Treasured memories of a dearly loved one, always in our thoughts, Mam, Dad and Nana.

**V. LAMBE** 29-2-92. Dear Dad, time moves on but memories stay, love you more each passing day. All my life I will always be glad I was your daughter and you were my Dad loveillian.

**JEAN COCKERILL** A loving wife and mother, who died on March 2nd 1990, is remembered with affection by Harry and Neena.

**JOSEPH WHARTON** died March 1988. Remembering you is easy do it every day, it's the heartache of losing you that never goes away. I love and miss you, Jessie. God bless Grandad, love Lark, Vikki, David, Gayle and Peter.

## Join St. Clare's Family Service

The next Family Service at St. Clare's Church takes place on Sunday 10th March, commencing at 10.30am. The theme for his month's service will be "Prayer".

A warm welcome is extended to all, but specially to young families, to come and share in this short informal all-age service. Refreshments will be available in the hall afterwards to which everyone is invited.

## Accommodation

**HOMELY LODGINGS** available, long and short term, Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal. DSS welcome 361502

**LOCAL** company looking for a 3-4 bedroom property, fully furnished in Newton Aycliffe area for businessman and family Tel 300770, ext. 205

**RESPONSIBLE**, mature, easy going person wanted to share 3 bed house in Aycliffe £37 per week (inclusive). Tel 320615 or 0973 222866

**PROPERTY TO LET** A very nice flat to let, fully furnished, central heating, very clean in Newton Aycliffe, bond required, NO D.S.S. Tel (01642) 762757

**COMFORTABLE** furnished house, no smokers Tel 321854

## Property For Sale

**3 BEDROOM** house, double glazed, gas central heating, to include carpets, curtains front and rear entrance £33,000 or will exchange for 2 or 3 bedroom old part of town, cash adjustment if needed Tel 320842

## Personal

### Clairvoyant, Medium Tarot Cards etc.

Singles or Parties  
Will travel

TEL: 01740 656617

### JUNE'S HAT HIRE

Beautiful hats for all occasions  
Wedding flowers arranged at reasonable prices

Telephone Aycliffe 310967  
Showroom D'ton 355128

**J. E. S.** Home help service for those who need care and domestic help - a comprehensive range of services available - Tel 321743

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

## Hair Dressers

### LISA

DEVONPORT formerly of Saks offers Personal Professional

Hairstyling  
(12 years experience)

0378 805706

### Lisa

Professional Hair Design

TELEPHONE  
(01325) 311569

9 Years Experience  
City & Guilds Qualified

**HAIR DESIGN** professional unisex hair stylist City and Guilds qualified, OAP special rates Tel. Lynn 319497

### Gail's

Unisex Hairdressing in the privacy of your own home  
0378 598656 anytime or 301024 after 4pm

**Newton News** Printed & Published by  
**Newton Press**

St Cuthberts Way,  
Tel 300212

## Public Notice

**YOU CAN** have **CHEAPER INSURANCE!** Freephone 0800 374545 and quote reference P1044 for a CUT PRICE quotation. Business hours 9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday. Try it and see just how keen our premiums are!

### PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

with  
**"Stepping Out"**  
Dance Classes  
Held in Aycliffe, Chilton Sholdon & Spennymoor

Ballet - Tap - Disco  
Jazz - Modern - Stage

Contact Clare Walton  
01325 362098 (after 6pm)

### ASHWOOD ARTS

We have moved to the  
**Blue Bridge Centre**  
Horndale Avenue

Visit our new trade showroom for all your decoupage needs, frames, mounts, prints, glaze, glue etc. 1000's of prints to choose from, new lines arriving daily. 1 day workshops available on request. Training courses in decoupage for the beginners and advanced take place on Monday, Wednesday and Wednesday evening to book phone 300185. Come in and browse at your leisure and enjoy a cup of freshly brewed coffee. Training rooms for rent reasonable hourly/daily rates, for further information Tel 300185.

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

**AYCLIFFE** Hospital Reunion - The above will be held on Thursday 14th March, 7.30pm in the British Legion, Newton Aycliffe - all former employees welcome. **THE EX MRS Tracy Kilburn** wishes to make it publicly known that herself and her sons Steven and David are no longer to be known by the name of Kilburn and will be using the name of Williams, thus severing all connection with the name and family of Kilburn

## 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

## Newton Press

For all your Stationery needs - Call in at St Cuthberts Way, or ring  
**Tel 300212**  
**Fax 312893**

## DANCE CLASSES

commencing  
**Saturday, 9th March**  
at **Woodham Community Centre**  
Tap 10am-10.45am  
Modern 10.45-11.30am  
Ballet 11.30-12noon  
Cost £1.65 per subject  
Enquiries 317983

**SUGAR HILL** Sign Sing Concert (Sign language) at the Workingmen's Club on Saturday 9th March from 12noon to 2.00pm  
**ST. MICHAEL'S** Jumble Sale, Saturday 2nd March 1996, Heighington Village hall, 10am until noon, usual stalls, refreshments, entrance 10p

**S.A.C.A. AGM**  
**Tues, 26th March**  
**8.00pm**  
All welcome

## For Sale

**GOOD QUALITY** Potatoes 55 pounds for £6 free delivery in Newton Aycliffe area Tel: 316208  
**McCLAREN** sit and lay pushchair with rain shield, cosy toes VGC £80 Tel 321596

**PINE SUNBED** 7 tubes, excellent condition £70 Tel 321596

**TRAVEL** cot/play pen, VGC £35. Brown cord pram £10 Tel 321596

**NEW 3ft** single beds £59, doubles £95, new 3 piece suites £460-£480, bunk beds £189 complete with mattress. Gas/electric cookers £209, gas cookers £269-£539. Dishwashers £198. Bargain Buys Tel 321678

**BENTLEY PIANO** very good condition Tel 321854  
**TEFAL STEAM IRON** £32, Russell Hobbs country style filter traditional kettle £25, whilst stocks last Tel Bargain Buys 321678

**AMPHIBIOUS** Water garden pump, P450, 690GPH output, plus foam filter attachment, also external biological box filter, good condition £50 Tel 301692

**WEDDING DRESS** size 14, Barry & Guoin, white, frilled skirt, bows and frill around neckline on or off shoulder large bow on back and a small train. Also a very long veil included, embroidered flowers around edge £100 for both Tel 317160

**GENTS** Mountain bike, 3 months old, rarely used, excellent condition £95 Tel 317329 after 5pm

## 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** two bedroom up and down house with garage, just off Burn lane, **TO** a two or three bedroom house with garage or drive, if possible, old part of town Tel 301840  
**FROM** 2 bedroom flat, good area **TO** 2 or 3 bedroom house apply Box No HEM22, c/o Newton press St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe  
**FROM** 2 bedroom old part of town with garden **TO** 3/4 bedroom old part of town with garden Tel 317695

## Congratulations

**YVONNE COLLEY** Happy birthday "Cocopops" lots of love Roy and Karen XX  
**YVONNE COLLEY** Happy birthday to the world's greatest Mum, Love Nick and Nicola  
**YVONNE COLLEY** Happy birthday Evvy, your the best lots of love Hazel XX

**PAUL HODGSON** Congratulations on passing your driving test, love from Karen, Lucia and Chelsea  
**GARDINER** - Thornton, (Steve and Elaine) congratulations, love and best wishes Dad, Mam, Darren and grandparents

**DAVID EWIN** Congratulations on passing your driving test, love Mam, Paul and Kelly  
**ANNA McCORMICK** is 3 on March 6th, love to a darling granddaughter, Grandad Mikey and Grandma Pam  
**McCORMICK** Anna Elizabeth, happy 3rd birthday to our lovely little girl, lots and lots of love Mammy and Daddy, lick's from Smudge

**ANNA McCORMICK** Happy birthday to our gorgeous girl on her third birthday, Nanna and Grandad  
**McCORMICK** Anna Elizabeth Happy 3rd birthday, love Auntie Sue, Uncle lee and Lauren

**VICKY HARMAN** has passed her test, to drive a car and do her best, to keep a clean licence to the end, so she can legally drive us round the bend. Congratulations love Mam, Dad, Mark, Gareth and Karl

**VICKY HARMAN** Congratulations and best wishes on passing your driving test, safe driving, lots of love Nana and Grandad

**VICKY HARMAN** Congratulations passing your driving test, love Michelle

**HOPPS** Katie-Simone happy 2nd birthday to our darling daughter 4-3-96, lots of love from Mammy and Daddy XXX

**HOPPS** Katie-Simone happy 2nd birthday "Little Sis" lots of love from Daniel XXX

**HAIGH & SAUNDERS** congratulations Paula and Graham, on the birth of your 3rd child, Mark Antony from the Sharp family

**MICHELLE BULMER** Congratulations on passing your driving test, love Mam, Dad and Nicola  
**WARNING!** Walk on the roads from now on, **MICHELLE BULMER**'s passed her driving test. Well done, love from Joanne, Michael and Cameron

**PARKER** congratulations Sandra and Michael on the birth of our new granddaughter, lots of love from Mam and Dad  
**PARKER** Sandra and Michael, congratulations on the birth of your little girl, love and best wishes from Susan and Michael XX

**PARKER** Congratulations Auntie Susan and Uncle Michael, love Michelle, Kevin & Lisa XX

**JAMES REECE EALES** Lots of love for your 2nd birthday on 6-3-96, love Grandma and Grandpa XX

**TO LISA THOMPSON** Now that the tears and grief have gone a special welcome to our son, born to Lisa, hello Joseph, love from Mam and Peter  
**VIKKI** 4-3-96, happy 9th birthday, love Mum & Dad

## JAMES TARN



Happy 20th Birthday  
Lots of love  
Nichola XXX

## NORRIS



Congratulations  
Mam and Dad on  
your Silver Wedding  
love Donna, Bri,  
Joanne, Tom & Scott  
XXXX

**DUNN** Paul and Debra are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter "Olivia" on the 15-2-96  
**HELEN CRAGGS** Happy birthday, lots of love Karen, Stan, Kristina and Claire  
**MAM & DAD** Best wishes on your Ruby Wedding anniversary, love from Judith and Paul

## Thank You

**PAUL & Beverley** would like to thank everyone who attended their wedding on Wednesday 14th February, and for all the good wishes, cards and gifts received. **VERY** grateful thanks to Malcolms School of Motoring for getting me through my test - David Ewin

**THANKS** to Steve at Amber Training for helping me through my test - Paul

**FERGUSON** - The family of the late Stuart Ferguson, wish to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for kindness and sympathy shown, also for cards of condolence and beautiful floral tributes received during their recent sad bereavement. Special thanks to hospital staff and the funeral director and staff of John Meynell Funeral Service

**I WOULD** like to thank two young ladies who came to my assistance when I slipped and fell crossing the road - again many thanks from a grateful pensioner

**I WOULD** like to say thank you to David of Abbey Driving School for getting me through my driving test. Also thanks to my Mam, Dad, Nana and Grandad for their help - Vicky

## Vehicle Wants and Sales

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

## Wanted

### AUCKLAND HOUSE CLEARANCE

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

**BEST CASH** prices for furniture, 3 piece suites, china, cabinets, tables, drawers, china, linens etc., full or part houses cleared Tel 01388 661579

**HOUSE** Clearances, single item cash paid, single item discreet service 310240

**CASH PAID** for household furniture, suites, tables, chairs, robes, cookers, fridges, houses cleared. Kingsway Saleroom 01388 661579

**THREE** piece suites wanted, good prices paid old/broken suites removed free of charge Tel 320615 or 0866770

## 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 nail extensions, direct from the USA, have natural looking long nails. Free consultation on all treatments. Gift vouchers available. For further details or appointment Tel 300500 or book through reception. **ALL NEW CLIENTS FIRST TREATMENT ONLY 1/2 PRICE** except on special offers

**ALOE VERA JUICE** irritable bowel etc, a 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 evening  
Tel 01325 310758  
Carole Hind MBR

### HEALTH & BEAUTY

at the  
**HALL GARTH**  
Coatham Mundeville  
Facials - Massage - Waxing  
Aromatherapy - Manicure  
Pedicures and Body Wrap  
**TEL 300400**  
(open to non-members)

## Holidays

**Holiday Apartments** at Costa Blanca 2 bedrooms sleeps 6, £150.00 per week. Flights available weekly from Teesside or Newcastle  
**Tel 01325 31774**  
available most dates

**COULD THIS SPACE BE WORKING FOR YOU?**  
Tel: 01325 300212



# SLIMMING CLUB MEMBER JUMPS FOR CHARITY



AMANDA MORAN (CENTRE) WITH JUNE MACFARLANE AMANDA'S SLIMMING WORLD CONSULTANT (LEFT) AND MANDY DRAKE, SLIMMING WORLDS AREA MANAGER (RIGHT)

Slimming World Girl, Amanda Moran, lost weight and gained confidence with her *Slimming World* at Neville Parade Church Hall, she decided to become a real daredevil, in aid of *Slimming World's* fund-raising campaign for 'Marie Curie Cancer Care'.

Amanda's big day came on Sunday 4th February and it was her first attempt at a parachute

on an extremely cold Sunday afternoon and Amanda was very nervous, but managed a perfect landing, to great applause from everyone watching.

Marie Curie Fund has been boosted by over £266 and Amanda said "I could never imagine doing something like this before, but losing weight has made me feel so much more confident".

Members from Monday evenings 5.00pm class proudly say congratulations and welcome to Amanda.

Details of *Slimming World* Classes can be obtained by ringing Mandy Drake on 362120

## County Increase Tax

Durham County Council's share of any increase in next year's Council Tax bill for householders in County Durham will range from £12.78 to £38.34.

The figures were agreed by members of the Authorities's Policy and Resources committee, but have still to be ratified by the full Council. Members approved a budget requirement for 1996-97 of £383.506m a figure marginally below the Government's upper spending limit of £383.512m. County Treasurer John Kirkby said that after the application of Government grant and further income from Non-Domestic Rates and a net surplus on District Council Collection Funds, it left £81,899m to be found from households in the County via the Council Tax.

This equated to a Basic Council Tax for the County Council\* of £485.64 for a Band D property (recognised as the Standard band) - an increase, he added, of £19.17 or 4.1% over the last bill. However, as an estimated 90 percent of all properties in County Durham lie within Bands A - C, most households will pay less than that amount. For instance, the Basic Council Tax for properties in Band A will be £323.76 - or an increase of £12.78.

Durham County Council Leader Don Robson said the Authority had done a remarkable job in protecting front line services while at the same time keeping the increase in the Authority's precept to the proposed levels.

Throughout the budget-making process, which began early last summer, we have given top priority to spending in the classrooms and protecting school budgets," he added.

"We are making an additional £700,000 available to cater for an increased number of pupils in our primary, secondary and special schools and have made provision to fund the whole of the teachers pay award."

Other areas of inescapable additional spending include making more than £900,000 available to meet the cost of the new Landfill Tax after its introduction this Autumn and another £500,000 to finance the effects of new legislation governing school transport.

Councillor Robson said that to have achieved that and still kept within Government's "capping" limit had meant some sacrifices, and the Council's spending plans for the coming year had had to be reduced by more than £6m. "Our service departments have had to make savings of around three per cent each, and as a result, their budgets may have to cope with considerable pressure during the coming year," he added. "The Environment Committee is faced with an increasing number of street lights, an increasing road network and will have to make a contribution to the new National Street Works Register. "The Fire Service will have to deal with uncertainty caused by unfunded pensions and, on the basis of recent trends, a greater number of incidents."

"And an increase in the number of elderly people will continue to make additional demands on the Social Services budget. "Nevertheless, I believe that as a result of the modest increases in our Council tax precept and good housekeeping during the coming months, we shall continue to provide a first class range of essential services for the people of County Durham."

If the decision of the Policy and resources Committee is endorsed by the full County Council the Council Tax for each category of dwelling will be as follows:

Valuation Band	(Proportion of 'Basic Amount')	Council Tax
		£
A	(6/9)	323.76
B	(7/9)	377.72
C	(8/9)	431.68
D	('basic amount')	485.64
E	(11/9)	593.56
F	(13/9)	701.48
G	(15/9)	809.40
H	(18/9)	971.28

\* District Council, Durham Police Authority and - where applicable - Parish Council precepts will need to be added to this figure to arrive at the final Council Tax bill.

## Aycliffe Ladies Fourth

On Sunday at Pocklington, York in the 10 mile road race Pete Milburn took 57 mins, Sue Milburn 69 mins, Julia Atkinson 75 mins. The Aycliffe ladies team finished 4th.

In the Wild Boar Chase on Sunday at Ferryhill over 10 miles Joe McCreddie was first in 41 mins, Steve Wright 2nd in 43 mins, Paul Harker 8th in 46 mins, Colin Gibson 11th in 49 mins, Mick Brunsell 52 mins, Rob Nicholson 52 mins, Alan Wilks 53 mins, Trevor Needham 55 mins, Christine Brunsell 55 mins and Dave Thompson 61 mins.

**Barbara & Dave Goad** invite you to celebrate their 1st Anniversary at **The Nags Head** Sedgfield and the arrival of their **NEW HEAD CHEF**

**Sunday 12-2pm & 7-9.30pm**  
2 Courses only £4.95

**Tuesday 7-9.30pm**  
**SPECIALS BOARD**  
2 meals for the price of 1

**Thursday 7-9.30pm**  
FREE ½ litre of wine with table orders over £10

**BAR SNACKS** and **A la carte** also available in our comfortable restaurant  
**Tel: 01740 620234**

CLOSING DOWN SALE - CLOSING DOWN SALE - CLOSING DOWN SALE - CLOSING DOWN SALE

# Massive Closing Down Sale

**EVERYTHING MUST BE CLEARED  
THOUSANDS OF BARGAINS**  
**FABRICA** 9 THAMES CENTRE  
TEL: (01325) 300664

### PILLOWS

2 for only £3.99  
Best Quality £5.99

Feather Pillows  
½ Price, 2 for £7.99

### LUXURIOUS QUALITY QUILT COVER SETS

Made by "Sleepdown"  
**MUST CLEAR**  
Singles £9.99  
Doubles £12.99  
King Size £15.99  
(15 designs)

**FLANELETTE**  
Plain & Floral Sets  
Singles £12.99  
Doubles £15.99  
King Size £17.99

(includes pillowcases, 1 fitted sheet and 1 flat sheet)

### LAMPSHADES

All colours to clear at £3.99

**Frilled Quilt Covers**  
Single £18.99 £12.99  
Double £25.99 £15.99  
King Size £29.99 £17.99

**Plain Dyed Cover Sets**  
selling at crazy prices including pillowcases  
Singles £13.99 £7.99  
Doubles £17.99 £12.99  
King Size £19.99 £14.99

**Chequered Cover Sets**  
Blue or lemon check  
Singles £10.99  
Doubles £14.99

### Luxury Hollowfibre Duvets

	10.5 tog	13.5 tog	15 tog
S	9.50	11.99	14.99
D	15.00	17.99	19.99
K	19.99	21.99	25.99

Fully washable, non allergic

**Plain Dyed Sheets**  
Single fitted £3.99  
Double fitted £5.99  
Flat Single £4.99  
Flat Double £6.99

**Valance Sheets**  
Single fitted £7.99  
Double fitted £8.99

**Pillow Cases (pairs)**  
£2.99 a pair  
(frilled) £4.99 a pair

### Thermal Lined Velour Curtains ALL AT ½ PRICE

	Was	NOW
46x54	£39.98	£19.99
46x72	£51.98	£25.99
46x90	£59.98	£29.99
66x72	£73.98	£36.99
66x90	£85.98	£42.99

Pellets and tie backs to match in five different colours

**READY MADE  
CURTAINS  
OVER 20  
DESIGNS TO  
CLEAR AT  
HALF PRICE**

CLOSING DOWN SALE - CLOSING DOWN SALE - CLOSING DOWN SALE - CLOSING DOWN SALE

THOUSANDS OF BARGAINS - THOUSANDS OF BARGAINS