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## 119 Exhibitors at Aycliffe's North East Oktoberfest

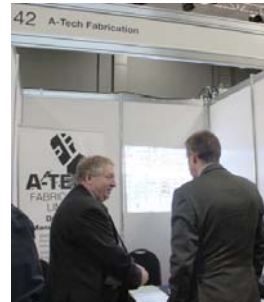
On Thursday 23rd of October the Xcel Centre at Aycliffe hosted the 7th Durham Oktoberfest - the North East's Premier Engineering & Manufacturing Exhibition. The event had over 119 exhibitors with the additional opportunity to meet buyers from key regional and UK organisations, plus, the new addition of Meet the Funder. The aim of the event is to create opportunities for companies to showcase their capabilities.



County Councillor Neil Foster, Darren Race and Simon Goon of Durham Business

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make new contacts, network and more importantly win and secure new business. Around 1,500 people attended this year and the feedback on the day was excellent with many of the exhibitors already re-booking for 2015.



The event is coordinated by the Engineering Forums across County Durham which includes South, North and East Durham with the support of Business Durham. This year we were lucky to secure two high profile speakers, Paul Watts - Joint MD of the AMA Group based in Peterlee and Mike Matthews (MBE) - Managing Director & European Operations Officer at Nifco.

Continued on Page 2

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## REMEMBRANCE DAY SILENCE

**TUESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2014**

Please note that a cordial invitation is extended to all parishioners to attend a Service of Two Minutes Silence which will be held on Tuesday, 11th November 2014 at 11.00 a.m. in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre.

Anyone wishing to attend this service should assemble outside of Boyes / Wilkinson's in the Town Centre (Beveridge Way) at 10.45 a.m. on the 11th.

A short service will be led by Revd. Christopher Pearson.

## ROAD CLOSURES AND CAR PARK CLOSURES

**REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE  
SUNDAY, 9th NOVEMBER 2014**

### PLEASE NOTE:

In order that the **Annual Remembrance Day Parade** can take place the following roads will be closed for short periods when the parade marches to St. Clare's Church and also for the return route and Salute Past.

**Greenwell Road, Macmillan Road,  
Stephenson Way and St. Cuthbert's Way.**

Would you also note that the car park opposite the Royal British Legion and the car park at Bewick Crescent will be closed from 6.00 a.m. until approximately 12.30 p.m. for security purposes for the Parade to take place.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Great Aycliffe Town Council

## REMEMBRANCE DAY INFORMATION

**Sunday, 9th November 2014**

The Remembrance Day Parade will assemble in the Barnard Armoury Yard at approximately 10.40 a.m. and proceed via Greenwell Road, Macmillan Road and Stephenson Way to St. Clare's Church.

The Parade will halt outside of St Clare's Church for a short service when the Last Post and Reveille will be sounded and followed by the silence at 11.00 a.m.

Wreaths will be laid followed by a service in St. Clare's Church.

Would Veterans attending this event please note that seats have been reserved for you at the front of the Church.

At the conclusion of the service the Parade will reassemble outside of the Church and proceed down Stephenson Way for the Salute and March Past. The Salute this year will be taken by Commander Ed. McNaught, RD, RNR. The Parade will be dismissed in the Barnard Armoury Yard.

## Aycliffe Village Remembrance Day Service

A Remembrance Day Service will take place at St. Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village on Sunday, 9th November 2014 commencing at 3.00 p.m.

During the Service the congregation will proceed to the war memorial in the church grounds for the laying of wreaths.

## FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW



St Clare's Church FEEL GOOD FILM SHOWS will feature "AS GOOD AS IT GETS" on Tuesday 4TH November. This smash-hit comedy got Jack Nicholson a Best Actor Oscar, and Helen Hunt the Best Actress Oscar. The film was winner of three Golden Globe Awards and another five Oscar nominations, because it really is that good. Nicholson plays an obsessive-compulsive novelist who takes pride in his ability to repulse, offend and wound anyone and everyone; until events conspire to drag him into the human race. There are lots of laughs, lots of tears and you have to wait awhile for the feel-good feeling, but it is worth the wait. Tea and coffee served at 1pm, included in the £2. The film starts at 1-15pm.

A variety of chairs are set out for your comfort, and tables too so you can bring a spot of lunch to eat. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME to join us and watch this real feel good film in friendly company. Further details from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

# 80 Years Old and Still Volunteering

Michael McCabe has taken part in the Get Active cycling sessions at the Pioneering Care Centre for 3 years and has been a volunteer cycle marshal for the majority of that time.

After 6 months as a participant Michael enjoyed it so much he became a PCP volunteer and completed his Cycle Marshal and First Aid training. He often leads 3 cycle sessions a week, up to 40 miles! Turning 80 on the 29th October is especially significant for Michael as he was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes some years ago. He says his active lifestyle has resulted in his type 2 diabetes 6 monthly checks being clear for some time now and he feels fit, healthy and happy.

At the start of this month the nation was celebrating Older People's Day (1 October) and the theme was 'Full of Life'. The 14th November is also World Diabetes Day which aims to encourage people who are at risk or recently diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, to get help and support. Michael is a great ambassador for both and says: "The regular activity keeps me busy, gets my joints moving and gives me a clean bill of health from the doctor. It also makes my family happy as they don't have to worry about or look after me as much! Being involved in the cycling group also has excellent social



benefits; I have met some lovely people who are now close friends. I also enjoy getting to know new people and the camaraderie in the group is fantastic."

Michael is also a member of U3A and regularly attends their health walks on Tuesday morning, adding another 9 miles onto his weekly activity! And he has recently attended training to become a Health Walk Leader. Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive says "Michael is a great example of the achievements and

contributions older people make to our community. As an organisation we strive to promote healthy lifestyles, give opportunities to combat loneliness, encourage volunteering and sharing skills with different generations. After all nearly everyone is an Older Person to someone! As well as being a cycle marshal Michael also supports PCP at events and is a great promoter of the benefits of living an active lifestyle, whatever your age! A very happy 80th birthday Michael

from everyone at PCP!" If you would like further information on the services and activities available at PCP including the weekly cycling sessions, the Living Well, Taking Control reducing your risk of type 2 diabetes programme or volunteering please get in touch. Contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net. Or find us on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: /PCPandCentre

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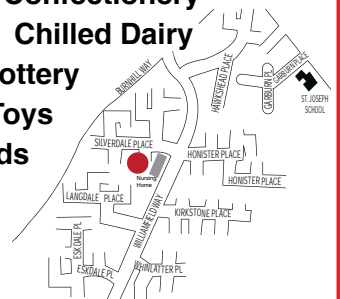
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## Would You Walk on Hot Coals?

Are you brave enough to walk over 15 feet of broken glass? Willing to put your nerves to the test and do both in one night! If the answer is yes then this event is for you!

A Fire Walk is the shortest sponsored walk you will ever do but the most exhilarating. Fire walking is a powerful tool designed to help transform fear and to inspire people to do things they initially didn't think possible. It can show you that there is more to 'reality' than you think and that many limitations which people experience in life are self-imposed.

This year we are pushing you to your limits and including an "Ice Walk" as well, which is a 15 foot barefoot walk over broken glass. The interesting thing about Glass

Walking is that anyone can do it! The hardest part isn't walking on the glass; it's a matter of walking through the wall of fear that hangs over you and inhibits you.

You can choose to take part in one event or you can do both if you are brave enough.

Prior to the walk of your life, you will receive 2 hours intensive motivational training from BLAZE, which is designed to increase confidence and self-esteem, dispel fears and doubts, and encourage team building. These newly acquired skills can be recalled in the future! This is an inspirational and empowering event: enjoyable, distinctive, and definitely different! Registration is £30 for both events or £20 if you would

like to choose either Fire or Ice Walk. All we ask is that you try and raise a minimum of £150 sponsorship.

The Fire and Ice Walk will be held on Friday 14th November at Hardwick Hall, Sedgfield. To sign up please contact Laura on 01388 603003 or email lauradouthwaite@butterwick.org.uk

## History Talk

On 5th November at 7pm in Aycliffe Village Hall, the Aycliffe Village Local History Society will host a talk by the Chairman Harry Moses entitled 'Bede College Students Company 8 Durham Light Infantry 1915'.

All welcome, members £1 non members £3 to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Enquiries 01325 301093.

## Aycliffe Oktoberfest

*Continued from Front Page*

Both speakers presented compelling messages regarding the opportunities and strength of North East businesses. However, Mr Matthews also urged companies to focus on the supply of skills and talent to support our growth and ambitions for the future.

Darren Race, chairman of South Durham Engineering & Manufacturing Forum (SDEM) and project lead for the event said, "This year's event has once again been incredibly successful with many of the exhibitors rebooking on the day. It's still early but we know that some of the exhibitors have already had strong indication of new business and these wider opportunities will result as they follow-up from the day. We are already planning for 2015 so if you're interested



in taking part then you need to register your interest early." To find out more visit [www.durhamoktoberfest.org.uk](http://www.durhamoktoberfest.org.uk) | email [info@durhamoktoberfest.org.uk](mailto:info@durhamoktoberfest.org.uk) Tel: 0191 303 7772.



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RECENT REVIEWS FROM TOON ROCK PAGES: 'AWESOME BAND, as ever they played absolutely brilliantly, Tommy was as fantastic as ever (THE best frontman in the North East, bar none, the man is an inspiration and a legend). I can't believe how good they were. It was like walking into a pub, full of your best mates with the best goddam juke box you could hope for. Every member of the band is a really good and talented player. The timing was great, the entertainment value was excellent. The audience (well packed!) loved it from the off.'

'They are a superb band, probably THE BEST in the North East, period!' Tracks covered by The Who, Bryan Adams, Thin Lizzy, Free, Hendrix, Stones, Bad Company, Kings of Leon and much, much more. Should Be One Of THE GIGS Of The Year, DON'T MISS IT!!

**Saturday 8th November - "Insanity"**

For more information on bands go to  
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**Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke**



# Les Celebrates His 100th

Born in Helmington Row on 23rd October 1914. Les Robson was apprenticed to a local painter and decorator, after leaving school. Once qualified he set up his own business and was also a self-taught artist, selling paintings from the age of 11.

His other passion was dancing, attending dances in the area, where, after being stood up by his date for the evening, met his wife, Rose Emma. They married within 6 weeks and Les forged his dad's signature so he could get married! They were married for 69 years, had 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

At the age of 25 Les was called up for service and during the War was a Tank Sergeant in the Royal Armoured Corps, involved in the Battle of Kohima. This terrific battle stopped the Japanese getting into India. Les took part in this and in his own words "caught them with their pants down"



Les with the Mayor and his Grandchildren



He turned down promotion because he loved his tank and his mates, serving 5 years in Burma and India. He received the Oak Leaf Emblem, and was mentioned in despatches, published in the London Gazette for tactical knowledge. After the war Les returned as

a painter and decorator in and around Bishop Auckland and was considered to be the best 'eggshell' decorator in the region. He worked for Camerons Brewery, painting murals in the local public houses and designed the famous Cameron's Lion.

He studied at Darlington College to become a Teacher, for Art and Design and worked for Sunderland Education authority for 21 years before he retired. The year before his retirement in 1979, he turned down a job to decorate a Saudi Arabian Palace, due to his age and painting high ceilings. Les is a Fellow of the Institute of British Decorators, and in retirement took up the role as a Part Time Assessor, assisting students at local prisons for a few years.

He had time on his hands for painting and was commissioned to paint portraits and landscapes and one can still be seen on display in his local pub, the Red Alligator in South Church - the famous Red Alligator racehorse. He enjoyed gardening and was always up for a new challenge, so tried pottery and sculpture at Bishop Auckland College, where again, he was a natural - teaching the Tutor a few tricks. Les is known for his talent, sense of humour and storytelling, reaching his 100th Birthday is yet another tale. He was admitted to Lindisfarne Care Home in June 2012. His daughter lived in Newton Aycliffe and his grandchildren all went to school in the town.

## Warning on False Calls

Residents are reported to be receiving phone calls from a person stating they are representing Santander Bank, requesting personal details. This is false and should be disregarded as banks are unlikely to make such phone calls.

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## Big Lottery Fund Car for Local Furniture Scheme



PROJECTS to generate energy from the River Wear and to help the needy access cheap furniture were among several schemes to share nearly £65,000 from the Big Lottery Fund. Eighty-two projects, including seven in south west Durham, shared a pot of £675,395 provided via the lottery's North-East Awards for All kitty. A total of £62,687 will be split across the North-East groups. The County Durham Furniture Help Scheme, at Chilton, supplies furniture at low prices to people in County Durham. It was given £10,000 to help to run a project to transport customers from rural areas into the Chilton site and home again. Newtonian Chris Palmer, managing director and founder of CDFHS said: "We're trying to help people in rural areas who can't get to our Chilton Depot".

**What's new on our website this week?**  
**www.newtonnews.co.uk**

- 1996 issues of the Newton News have now been completely uploaded to the archive section.
- More organisations details have been sent and added - don't forget to claim your FREE web page by sending your club's details to paul@newtonnews.co.uk
- More upcoming events have been placed on the

- website calendar - claim your date and publicise your event FREE, send details to paul@newtonnews.co.uk
- Information about the Annual Year 11 Awards.
- Video interview with Pamela Petty from Ebac, telling us all about the new Washing Machines to be produced in Newton Aycliffe.

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# Neighbourhood Plan Issues Explained

Angela Corner, Community Neighbourhood Engagement Officer, has been analysing some of the returned questionnaires and would like to try and answer some of the points and questions raised. 'Why ask about things you know the answer to such as keep the green spaces?'

We cannot presume to know the answer to questions, whilst we may suspect we know what an answer will be, it is our responsibility to evidence anything that may end up as a planning policy, without supporting evidence the Independent Examiner will more than likely remove it from the final plan.

Can you get me a bungalow/house?

Great Aycliffe Town Council (GATC) is not and has never been a housing provider. As the main housing provider, Sedgfield Borough Council housing stock was transferred to livin a number of years ago. If you would like to apply for social housing you need to contact livin on 0845 505 5500 or contactus@livin.co.uk.

Anti-Social Behaviour

P.A.C.T (Police and Community Together) meetings are held frequently in various locations in the Great Aycliffe area. At these meetings you can inform police and other residents of any Anti-Social behaviour problems you may be having. This may then become a priority for the police over the coming weeks. If you would like to know where and when your next PACT meeting will be held you can find details in the Newton News or on the following website [www.durham.police.uk/your-neighbourhood/Newton-Aycliffe](http://www.durham.police.uk/your-neighbourhood/Newton-Aycliffe)

**The Town Centre**

Needless to say a large number of comments have been received regarding the Town Centre. Including - the litter bins need emptying more; why are we asking about it if it's privately owned; better facilities elsewhere; too many empty shops to name just a few.

The Town Centre is privately owned by Freshwater Developments - any specific problems should be raised with Bryan Haldane Town Centre Manager either in person at 3 Beveridge Way or by telephoning 01325 300130. However, all comments received from the questionnaire will also be reported to Freshwater Developments BUT we may be able to write a planning policy that could make it

easier for changes of use or new developers to start a business or open a shop in our town centre.

**Litter in-between Greenwell Road and the Town Park**

The Town Council is aware of this issue and has raised a complaint/has been liaising with Durham County Council, which is in the process of contacting the land owner to request their co-operation in tidying the site in the near future and thereafter on an ongoing maintenance basis.

Angela Corner said "While I have been engaging with the community and analysing some of the early responses it has become apparent there is confusion over the services which the Town Council provide. There have been a lot of issues raised which are the responsibility of Durham County Council but as they are both generally referred to as 'The Council' I believe this is where the problem begins"

For clarification purposes Angela explains:

**The Town Council IS NOT RESPONSIBLE for:**

• Taking away garden waste and the proposed new charge for this service

• Recycling • Emptying refuse bins

• Running the Waste Transfer Station (Rubbish Tip)

• Enforcement (litter or dog fouling)

• Education (other than Pre-Schools at Woodham & St. Oswald's)

• Housing • Town Centre • Anti-Social Behaviour

• Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre

• Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre

• Community Facilities • The Library • Health Services

• Street lighting (other than when on Town Council land)

• Road repairs • Traffic Enforcement

• Providing bus services • Highways • Schools

Angela Corner said:

I understand that's a lot of 'the Town Council don't do' BUT what we are trying to do is plan for the future of Great Aycliffe so whilst we might not be 'responsible' we may be able to help improve things for the residents of Aycliffe"

**The Town Council IS RESPONSIBLE for:**

• Special community events - Fun in the Parks, Santa Tours, Fireworks Display, Senior Citizens' Excursions, Christmas Lights, previously Aycliffe show now Aycliffe Festival

• Assisting and supporting other event organisers - 10k race, 3k Fun Run, Remembrance Parade, Junior Cross Country, Annual Indoor Bowls Competition and Community Enhancement Awards

• 8 excellent parks, all with play equipment

Town Park, West Park, Moore Lane Park, Simpasture Park, Beyerley Park, St Oswald's Park, Woodham Park, Aycliffe Village Park

• Additional play areas at Scott Place, School Aycliffe, Oakfield Sports Complex and Horndale

• 6 Football Pitches, Mini-soccer and six-a-side pitches

• A Skate and BMX Park

• 4 MUGA pitches

• An environmental centre at Moore Lane

• An Environment Officer who works with Communities and Schools to encourage an environmental interest

• 214 allotment plots. 5 allotment sites with pigeon and poultry facilities

• Ground Maintenance and environmental management to: Great Aycliffe Way, North Agnew Plantation, Cobblers Hall Plantation, Woodham Burn, Simpasture Railway walk, Butterfly Meadow at Rail Halt, School Aycliffe Wetlands, Millfields/Bickford Terrace, Aycliffe Village Greens

• 2 pre-school play settings with 'Good' Ofsted ratings

• Maintenance of Aycliffe Angels Memorial Garden and War Memorial and flagpole

• Public seating in many locations

• Bus shelters with litter bins (not ones with adverts)

• Civic Events

• A Civic Pride Team

• Youth Council

• Community Empowerment - Customer Panel, Consultation and Open Days

• Small grants to local voluntary organisations

Angela Corner will be providing feedback over the coming weeks but if you have a burning issues please feel free to contact her on 300700 or [angela.corner@great-aycliffe.gov.uk](mailto:angela.corner@great-aycliffe.gov.uk).

## Art & Music Venue for Budding Artists

Dear Sir,

We're trying to raise pledges to open a Community Arts House and Coffee Shop in Bishop Auckland - with free wall space for local artists and an open stage for budding performers.

We've set up a pitch on the kickstarter site and in order to raise pledges and exposure we are hosting a taster night of what "The Busker" will do.

On Sunday 9th November at the Working Men's Club in Newton Aycliffe we have secured X Factor's Geoff Mullen along with a variety of other brilliant home grown talent for a night of entertainment.

We ask that attendees pledge a minimum of £3 on the kickstarter site for "The Busker", and their tickets will then be forwarded on to them. The edge to this is that if the entire £15,000 needed is not raised then no money is taken for the event.

We have set up a Facebook page- [www.facebook.com/helpthebusker](http://www.facebook.com/helpthebusker) and the kickstarter page is <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/583287419/the-busker-0?ref=project>

We really believe this venue will be a fantastic asset to those performers and artists who require a much needed platform to showcase their talents.

# Woodham Academy Elect New School Council



Students at Woodham Academy have been busy appointing their new school council following a series of tutor group elections. A total of 60 students, two from each tutor group, were democratically elected to represent their peers.

In many cases the competition was tough with students presenting pre-election speeches. If that wasn't enough, students were then questioned by their peers on why they would be the most suitable candidate for the role.

Woodham Academy has been awarded Investors in Children for many years and the school takes the role of the school council very seriously. In addition to the school council Woodham also appoints an Associate Student Governor, who represents the students on the Governing Body.

The school council has instigated a variety of changes within the school with the most recent being the new student toilets which opened in September

Josh Blackburn, in Year

9, has been elected on the school council for his third consecutive year and has recently taken up a position on the Aycliffe Youth Council. He said: "I feel that it is a privilege to be part of the school council and to express the views of students

within the school.

This enables me to suggest improvements on behalf of Year 9 and Woodham Academy.

I enjoy being part of the council and hope to remain on it throughout my time at Wodham".

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# MAD CHOIR DONATES £900 TO GACAP CHARITY



Aycliffe's MAD Choir's Concert at the Xcel Centre last month was held in aid of charity and one of the recipients was the Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership. Chairman Pauline Chambers is seen here receiving the cheque for £900 from MAD representative Joan Clark. Pauline was overwhelmed by the generous donation which will be used to co-ordinate

help for disadvantaged people in the area. GACAP is a partnership of statutory and voluntary groups helping individuals and families in need. Sonia Scott the MAD organiser told Newton News it was an honour to help GACAP and wished them every success in their work. The next Concert has a Christmas theme and will be held at the Bethany Centre,

# Town SSAFA Group Needs Two Volunteers

Dear Sir,  
 Thank you for providing a page on your website and as Remembrance Day looms we would be most grateful if you could pass on our thanks to your readers for their continued support in donating to service charities. Our thanks also go to local traders and charities for their valuable support with our mission.  
 Due to retirement and illness we have two vacancies for caseworkers in our division which covers the old Sedgefield Borough and we would be most grateful if could let your readers know through your Newton News columns our contact details are below.  
 At SSAFA we do rather than talk about what we do, but today we need to talk as well! Our dedicated caseworkers constantly give their time freely to help needy tri -service personnel, veterans and their families during times of hardship.  
 The history of SSAFA is the history of the men and women of Britain's Forces and their families. The vision and drive of one man stands at the heart of the UK's oldest Armed Forces charity. In February 1885, as the Second Expeditionary Force set sail for Egypt, Major James Gildea wrote to The Times appealing for funds and volunteers to look after families left behind. Within three months, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association was born.  
 Since then, we've supported millions of people, and millions more are eligible for help. Through two World Wars and every subsequent conflict involving Britain, SSAFA has been here for our servicemen and women and their families. The ability to adapt quickly to their needs is still at the heart of everything we do. We never stand still, so our new services provide vital support wherever and whenever it is most needed. We are committed to offering practical,emotional and financial support to both serving and former members of

Her Majesty's forces and their families who are experiencing hardship. Our lifelong support for our Forces and their families is reflected in everything we do. So if you need help, we'll be here for you, through thick and thin, until the job is done.  
 SSAFA trained volunteers are non- judgemental and are ready to help you, confidentially wherever you live in County Durham. Want to get Involved We're looking for people to volunteer a little of their time to help the Armed Forces family and meet inspiring people and learn new skills as part of our volunteer network across County Durham If you need help or wish to get involved please contact the divisional secretary Brian Wilson, 01325 314043.



A PACT Meeting will be held at Neville Parade Methodist Church Hall on Thursday 6th November 6-30pm to 7-30pm.  
 PC Alan Thompson and PCSO Richard Scott are your local police contacts. Representatives from all partners will attend when available. For more info on whats going on visit www.durham.police.uk

## Greenfield, Byerley Park and Horndale Areas

PACT meeting Wednesday 5th November 6pm at the Evangelical Church Ladybower.  
 PC Mike Welch PCSO Mike Hutchinson Park Wardens Neighbourhood Wardens and County Councillors will be in attendance.

Woodham on Friday 5th December at 7pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. Admission £3, pay at the door. Don't miss this fabulous night of entertainment by a very talented group of performers. For details e-mail: joan26@live.co.uk or telephone her on 07730 471487.

# TESCO COLLECTION FOR FOODBANK

Volunteers wanted on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th and Saturday, 29th November at Tesco, Newton Aycliffe (long days)  
 Please contact Ernie Temple of St. Clare's Foodbank if you are able to help. Tel: 313449.  
 Long day shifts: 9-11am, 11-1pm, 1-3pm, 3-5pm  
 Short day shifts: 10-12pm, 12-2pm, 2-4pm

# Last Chance for Firework Wristbands

G.A.T.C. Family Fireworks Display on Wednesday 5th November 2014, there are still FREE wristbands available for Great Aycliffe residents, so if you still haven't got yours we have two additional collection dates:  
**Friday 31st October 2014 10.00 am until 4.00 pm**  
**Monday 3rd November 2014 10.00 am until 2.00 pm**  
 They will be available to collect from the Reception desk at Oak Leaf Sports Complex, you must bring a utility bill or photo card driving licence and reside in Great Aycliffe. Please remember you must wear a wristband to attend the Fireworks Display. **Strictly: No Wristband, No Entry.**



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## DO YOU WANT MORE BUSINESS?

If you are a local company looking to grow and would like more business then why not register to attend a B2B meeting where the current seat value is £80,000. The event will be held on Thursday 13th Nov at Redworth Hall Hotel.

To register your attendance please contact Alex Lineton on T: 07791 759840 or email alex@beaumontgm.co.uk. Bring plenty of business cards and prepare to experience something quite special.



### The Village Pharmacy

Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe  
Pharmacist: **Alisdair McConnell** MRPharmS

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Email: thevillagepharmacy@intrapharm.com  
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the surgeries in Newton Aycliffe*

*Electronic Transfer of Prescriptions from  
Pease Way and Bewick Crescent Surgeries*

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*Please do not hesitate to contact Alisdair and his  
friendly staff who are always available to speak with  
anyone who would like help and advice.*

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Please ask for more information

## Students Look to the Future

Wednesday 23rd October was designated "Our Futures" day at Greenfield College. The timetable was suspended as students participated in a wide range of activities to help them think about their future careers and to unleash aspirations.

Year 7 were treated to a powerful performance from Theatre Hullabaloo followed by a QR code careers hunt to help them design and create a life-size poster. For year 8 there were financial skills workshops with the staff from Santander, and an opportunity to use JED to discover what career might be right for them. Year 9s went to Belmont to Get the Buzz - and came back buzzing, having had fun visiting a range of interactive careers stalls!

CragRats delivered excellent workshops to year 10, covering everything from body language to CV writing and with a Dragon's Den session - won by Blank Canvas with their creative and innovative idea for a design app and Team Ten with a show stopping pitch for their smart trainers. While all of this happened in school year 11 were visiting universities at York, Newcastle and Sunderland where they got a taste of student life.

The students really enjoyed these university visits, getting a clearer picture of university life and paths to studying at university, one student said: "I'd never thought that university was for me but after yesterday I've totally changed my mind - I even know exactly which course I want to get on to now!" Martin Smith Subject leader for English who accompanied one of the groups said: "The Newcastle trip was really useful and interesting. Our students got a really clear idea of what student life is like - the whole day was really inspiring and fun!"

All students in years 7-9 also had the chance to watch videos



filmed by Greenfield Alumni about their careers journey after leaving school. With videos representing alumni who attended school from 1979 right up to 2005 current students heard that from Greenfield it is possible to go anywhere and be anything, from a chemist in Dubai, to an Army Captain in Germany; from a professional sportsman to a professional drummer, ex-Greenfield students have gone on to do great things. They have built their own businesses and one is a local

pastor, but teaching /education appears to be a particularly popular choice - sometimes locally, sometimes as far away as Vietnam.

Greenfield wants thanks to everyone who sent in a video. The initiative has been so successful that it is hoped to start a library of these and build an alumni organisation. If you are an ex-Greenfield student and would like to submit a video, contact christine.stonehouse@greenfieldschool.net We would love to hear from you.

## PANTO AT SHILDON

Only a couple of weeks left and Shildon Civic Hall will be transformed into London Town. Mr Dick Whittington will be moving in for 3 superb shows, as Shildon CentreStage bring their superb, classic panto.

All the fun as Dick Whittington tries to outwit the evil Queen Rat and get to the bright lights of London. This show is a must for ALL kids, young and old, as we boo, hiss and cheer our way through the show, add a little singing and dancing and audience participation throughout - the kids will leave happily entertained.

But please do be careful when you make your journey to the Civic as Queen Rat has been seen window shopping and admiring the Christmas decorations in Aycliffe shopping centre. Jack, who is good friends with Dick Whittington, but is often seen in Aycliffe has told us, "that horrible Queen Rat will do anything to stop my

friend Dick from getting to London, so we may need the help of all the girls and boys to come along and cheer us all on and make sure she doesn't get her wicked way and become Queen of the World:

Get into the festive way by coming down to the Civic and for a price which won't dent your pocket. Don't delay, book tickets today, for the shows on Fri 14th November 7.30pm, Saturday and Sunday (15th-16th) at 2pm all for the great price of £5 adults and £3 for the kids. Pre Book on 01325 313363 - 01388 774838 and then pay on the day as tickets will be waiting for you on arrival. For more information or another way to pre book, go to our website, www.centrestagetheatre.webs.com We are a Community Theatre Group, playing to our own community, so please show your support, and enjoy a great couple of hours entertainment with us!

## Newtonian Starts Upholstery Business

John Anderson has lived in Newton Aycliffe for over 20 years and started in the furniture and upholstery business at the age of 16 after leaving Greenfield School. He has worked at various furniture companies in Newton Aycliffe throughout his career completing upholstery, re-upholstery and repairs to household sofas and chairs and commercial contract furniture for pubs, clubs, restaurants etc.

He met his wife Louise in 2004 and they have lived in Newton Aycliffe together ever since. They have a daughter, Lola aged 3 and a son on the way. John has always strived to start his own business and

finally took the decision to start in January 2014 after working with North East Camper Interiors, a camper conversion company based on Aycliffe Business Park.

John was completing upholstery to their camper vans specifically VW, T4 & T5 conversions. He saw there was a gap in the market for this type of upholstery work in the North East.

The business has enjoyed a great start and he has set up a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/andersonupholsterynortheast> It carries lots of photos of the type of work completed and John is becoming well known on the VW forums for his professional and good quality workmanship.

John moved into his new unit at 5 Brighthouse Court, Burtree Road, Aycliffe Business Park on the 1st September 2014 where he works with



his sewer Amanda Lorrimer also of Newton Aycliffe who previously worked at The Sew Inn, Simpashiregate.

He specialises in VW Camper van seats and Rock & Rolls beds upholstering to customers wants and needs. John also re-upholsters and re-foams caravan cushions,

sofa cushions, horse box and has even upholstered a HGV show cab.

John hopes to increase his profile within the huge VW Camper industry and thanks everyone for their support to date.

Contact: Anderson Upholstery, 0774 7442686

## Youth & Community Centre Programme

Forthcoming events: GAMP Open Day 8th November 2014 10am - 2pm. An opportunity to vote on Key Priorities for the community. The Beveridge Café will be open. Permanent Events:

### EVERY MONDAY:

Beveridge Café 10am - 2pm

Bootcamp 7.15pm - 8.15pm

Zumba 6.30pm - 7.30pm

### EVERY TUESDAY

Beveridge Café 10am - 2pm

One Point Bump Baby and Toddler Group 10am - 12pm

Dancercise 11.30am - 12.30pm

Destination Judo Classes start from 4pm

KDanz Classes start from 5.30pm

Youth Zone 16 - 20yr olds 7pm - 9pm

### EVERY WEDNESDAY:

Beveridge Café 10am - 2pm

Tai Chi 12pm - 1pm

Youth Zone 6pm - 8pm

### EVERY THURSDAY:

Beveridge Café 10am - 2pm

Little Gems Toddler Group 12.30pm - 2pm

One Point Baby Café 1.30pm - 3pm

### EVERY FRIDAY:

Beveridge Café 10am - 2pm

Little Gems Toddler Group 10am - 11.30am

Dancercise 10am - 11am

Sporting Chance 3 - 6yr olds 4pm - 5pm

Sporting Chance 7 - 11yr olds 5pm - 6pm

Youth Zone 6.30pm - 8.30pm

### EVERY SATURDAY:

Popnosis 5 - 16yr olds 10am - 11am

### EVERY SUNDAY:

Duke of Edinburgh 14 - 25yr olds 6pm - 8pm

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## RETAIL PARK AT AYCLIFFE WOULD BUILD ON TOWN'S SUCCESS

Dear Sir,  
Perhaps now that we are participating in a Neighbourhood Plan for Newton Aycliffe we should explore the pro's and con's of an out of town retail park. It appears some councillors are against the idea but I for one would like to hear both sides of the argument. Our town centre shopkeepers have complained for years of high rents and low footfall. We have empty shops, charity shops, and bookmakers. No market apart from a couple of stalls in the Thames Centre. It seems to me that the question we must ask ourselves is would the town benefit from an out of town Retail Park situated on our industrial park?

1. An out of town Retail Park would bring extra jobs to our town.
  2. Local Shoppers would be able to access high quality retail shops without travelling
  3. Lower traffic flow to places such as Darlington (poor expensive parking), Tindale Crescent Via Shildon or Eldon, Metro Centre (hardly green to travel that far)
  4. Pressure on London based landlords to reduce perceived high charges in our town centre, thus making it more attractive to trade in Newton Aycliffe.
  5. With thousands of new homes planned at Eldon Whins, Copelaw and what seems every bit of land available, it would appear that there is to be an increase in potential customers.
  6. Well paid jobs are being created at Hitachi and other employers.
- Whilst I don't claim to be an expert it seems to me we have a chance of something which could build upon the current success of our Town and be an asset to the community. Everyone should express their views in the neighbourhood plan forms being distributed, if the councillors are to make the decisions you want to hear.
- Ken Robson  
ACORN  
Residents Association

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Timpson's Pod Takes Parking Spaces

Dear Sir,  
I'm disappointed to find that Newton Aycliffe Tesco store have installed a Timpson Key Cutting pod in the car park, placed across four parent and child bays. I'm two weeks away from giving birth and have a 3 year old and find there is already a lack of these bays at this store. Even without the key cutting hut there, there's normally individuals who park there without children, or with children older than stated on the signs, and these spaces are now my only option with being so heavily pregnant. I can't understand why our Tesco store has allowed this? Understandably the key cutting hut wants to be as close to passing trade as possible, however there's hundreds of normal bays, lots which are just as close,

and even more disabled bays than there is bays for parent and child. Why are these spaces never targeted? I have also had two friends who have tried parking but could not get a parent and child bay and left without shopping as they have newborns and normal bays just aren't suitable for safety of setting up the pram - Really not great customer service. I've been informed by Head Office the store manager is looking at other locations for the hut however the structure looks quite firmly rooted to the floor therefore I'm just not buying this comment. I won't be going to Tesco until I know this has been moved. I'm sure we will get parked at Sainsburys where parents and toddlers are valued more than those that need new keys!

Leyanne Pennington-Foster

## Wrong Number

The Keys Community Detox in the last issue carried the wrong telephone number. It should be - 07783 407961. with apologies to all who rang.

Sheena Stephenson  
Manager

## Timpson Retail Pod in the Wrong Place

Dear Sir,  
1) Why has the new Timpson's outlet been placed directly on what is the main access/egress route between Tesco's and Newton Aycliffe town centre? It does not make any sense!  
2) It must be a problem for disabled customers and those with limited mobility. Has a risk assessment been done and is there a copy we can see?  
3) Three parent and toddler parking spaces have been moved from near the store entrance, is that wise?  
4) Was planning permission obtained for this development, or has Durham Planning Department been informed as to the change of circumstances of the original planning permission for the store?  
5) When I was talking to the store manager on Sunday another member of staff joined us and said that the position of Timpson's was not the original one chosen, is that right? Where was it supposed to be? I could think of at least three or four better positions for it.  
6) Also while at the store on Sunday I noticed that the trolley park near the store entrance had been moved, the Tesco member of staff who was bringing back a linked set of trollies was having a real job getting them into position and had to block the store entrance to swing them round into line! Name and address supplied.

# SUPPORTING WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED

Dear Sir,  
The Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire starts by asking 'What is Your Vision for Great Aycliffe?' then goes on to ask a series of loaded and/or peripheral questions without giving the respondent the chance to give opinions on the most important issue. For example, it asks whether we should have a say on what type of houses we want, but fails to ask the more important question of whether we actually want any more houses at all; it asks where are the best places for development, but doesn't give us the option of saying 'nowhere' in this town. It seems to me that the Council has already decided there will be residential expansion, but is going through the process to be seen to have consultation purely to fulfil legal requirements. The consultation document looks like a sham designed to support what has been decided already. There will probably be a few minor window dressing changes to make the process appear meaningful, but I fear that isn't the reality.

Newton Aycliffe already covers a large area. I see no valid reason why it would be desirable for it to cover a still larger one, with yet more people. It may be argued that more houses and more people means more buying power, and more likelihood of new businesses coming to the town. However, Tesco and Lidl seem to be busy enough already, suggesting it is not lack of potential customers that is putting businesses off coming to the town, but some other reason(s).

Personally I would not like to see Newton Aycliffe any busier than it is now. I don't want it to be like Darlington, where you can't go anywhere without getting into an horrendous traffic jam. If there has to be expansion, I must say I also have no confidence in the area's road designers. Just look at the debacle of a roundabout they designed at Thinford. There's also one on the way out of Darlington going to Middlesbrough (perhaps a different designer, but probably going to the same school!). Are we to have another one on the A167? Some of our roads, such as Stevenson Way, Shafto Way and Pease Way are already subject to some of the most ill thought out traffic calming measures devisable, and I have

every confidence that any new roads would be equally badly thought out as these examples. I have heard it argued that more people are needed because there will be more businesses. That's just not necessarily the case. The town already has a lot of people, many being unemployed, and there are many towns and villages within easy commuting distance, such as Darlington, Shildon and Bishop Auckland. There are many examples

of business areas that aren't right next to houses. There is absolutely no reason why the Business Park can't expand significantly and successfully without the town's population skyrocketing. A properly reasoned case has yet to be made (and/or conveyed) for expanding the town beyond it's existing size. Perhaps one of our councillors or our MP would like to enlighten us on Council thinking on this important matter?

John Snowball

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## J&C COACHES

presents

### Late Night Christmas Shopping

at the Metro Centre  
Thursday 27th November  
Pick up from Dolphin Centre 4.30pm  
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### Dance Till Dawn

Sunderland Empire Theatre  
Thursday 19th February 2015  
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Show Starts 7.30pm

### Calamity Jane

Sunderland Empire Theatre  
Thursday 5th March 2015  
£36.50 inc. show ticket & coach travel  
Show Starts 7.30pm

### Oklahoma!

Newcastle Theatre Royal  
Wednesday 24th June 2015  
£52.50 inc. show ticket & coach travel  
Show Starts 7.30pm

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Newcastle Theatre Royal  
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## Donation Supports Aycliffe Autism College

North East Autism Society has received £5,000 towards the expansion of its specialist college at their North East Centre for Autism in Newton Aycliffe.

The donation was provided by the Santander Foundation, which offers grants to UK registered charities for projects that help disadvantaged people in local communities.

The grant will enable the local charity to refurbish an unused building on its site to provide additional training and a broader variety of courses to young people aged 16-25 who attend the college.

John Phillipson, CEO at North East Autism Society said: "We are extremely grateful to the Santander Foundation for their generous donation. The

development to the college will feature a training kitchen so students can learn practical cookery skills and it will also service a café to provide small business experience. In addition, it will showcase some of the highly specialist work undertaken at the college and the benefits for young people and adults with autism."

Sharon Atkinson, Branch Director at Santander's Darlington branch said: "The Santander Foundation makes hundreds of donations every year to good causes throughout the UK. Our branch is committed to playing a key part in the community and we are delighted to be supporting North East Autism Society, and hope the donation makes a real difference to local people."

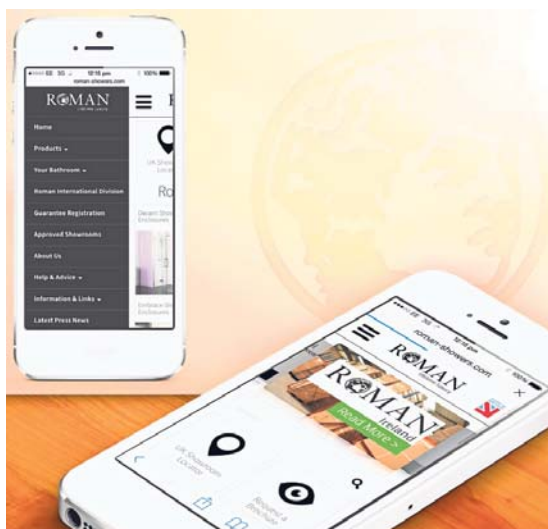


## Aycliffe Company Responds to Growth of Mobiles

Leading UK Shower Manufacturer, Roman, has redesigned the look and usability of the mobile version of their website (www.roman-showers.com), to respond to the rapidly growing number of people visiting the site through a mobile device. The redesign of the mobile view enhances the users experience to make it extremely straightforward to navigate and improve user friendliness.

Due to the significant increase in people using a mobile phone to browse the website Roman decided to advance their mobile view and improve its usability by enhancing the features and giving it a brand new look.

On entering the mobile site, the user is presented with changing images at the top for a constant fresh look, beneath there is a very visible search box for people to type in their search terms to find what they are looking for with ease and speed. Roman's showroom locator is a popular feature on their website so it is positioned on the homepage alongside their much used request a brochure button. Followed are the Roman Ranges presented in a modern box design and when clicked they link you straight through to the specific range. The bottom of the page finishes with Roman proudly displaying the Made in Britain Campaign logo followed by all their social media links. All



Roman's social media links are clearly visible at the bottom of every page to ensure that they are clear and easily clickable. The navigation menu now slides in from the side of the screen to help you find what you're looking for giving the mobile website a more mobile application feel when browsing through the website. This has dramatically improved accessibility & usability as the menu can be accessed at any time. The menu button is always at the top left of your screen even if you are scrolled right to the bottom of the page and it is displayed on every single page. The menu includes all links from the full website view so that you have access to all areas of the website as you would if you were browsing the full website on a computer screen. The overall look of the mobile

website has been given a modern facelift; it presents a minimalistic look with a sharp white background and bold black icons and text, which improves the customer experience. All buttons and thumbnails are optimised for true accessibility and ease of use on all touch screen mobile devices. David Osborne, Managing Director of Roman, commented: "As the number of people using a mobile phone to visit our website is constantly increasing, we know it is extremely important that we make their experience as effortless and enjoyable as we can. The aim of our new mobile website is to present a straightforward, simple and modern platform, where people can find what they are looking for quickly and efficiently."

## Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire Update

So far there have been 35 returned Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires from Aycliffe Village, but there is still time to have your say in the future development of Aycliffe - if you did not receive a questionnaire you can pick a copy up from Joy Marie Hairdressers or The County. Completed questionnaires may be dropped into any of these venues before 17th November 2014.

A feedback meeting will be held in Aycliffe Village Hall on 25th November 2014 at 6.30pm. All village residents are invited to attend.

### What will Aycliffe look like in 20 years time?

### Still time to have your say

What type of business do you want to attract to the town? What do you want to use our land for? Do we need to use some of our green space for parking, or housing or do we want to keep it as it is? There is still time to comment by completing the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire. If you don't have a copy you can pick one up from a number of venues across the town:

**Woodham or Agnew Community Centre**

**Thames Diner – Town Centre**

**Pitstop Café – Aycliffe Business Park**

**Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre**

**The Library**

**CrossFit Gym – Aycliffe Business Park**

**Joy Marie Hairdressers – Aycliffe Village**

**The County – Aycliffe Village**

**Town Council Offices**

**The Oak Leaf Sports Complex**

**Newton Press Offices**

Once completed just return the questionnaire to any of these collection points before 17th November 2014. Alternatively, you can download an electronic version via the Great Aycliffe Town Council Website

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## MIGHTY WURLITZER EVENT

On Thursday 6th November 2014 7.00pm the Mighty Wurlitzer Members All Star Awards are presented by Deputy Lord Lieutenant of County Durham Anita Atkinson. Featuring also eight organists along with top Mezzo Soprano Heather Jill Burns who has performed at the Royal British Legion's 90th Anniversary Concert and played Carmen at The Sage, Gateshead.

Tickets £7 including a Hot Supper or £5.00 for Music Only. Tel 01388 762467. The concert is to help to maintain the Mighty Wurlitzer at the North East Theatre Organ Association, New Victoria Centre, High St., Howden-Le-Wear, Nr. Crook, DL15 8EZ

### HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

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Academy Geographers Visit Durham City

Countdown to Community GAMP November Event



Year 11 Geographers at Woodham Academy spent the day in Durham City on Tuesday 14th October 2014 gathering primary data for their Controlled Assessment task. Their hypothesis ‘Durham is a clone town’ is related to a New Economics Foundation

report that suggested all UK high streets have become monochrome strips of bland anytown shops. As Durham City is a World Heritage site and attracts over three million tourists each year, students hope to prove that Durham is not a clone town. Students worked hard throughout the day, getting information on shop types, completing pedestrian counts and assessing the environmental quality of Durham City. Students return to the classroom this week to analyse, illustrate and evaluate their data. The task represents 25 % of the final GCSE grade and completed well gives a considerable boost to final grades in June 2015. Our thanks to all who made the day so successful, Overlander Travel, the people of Durham City and the staff and students of Woodham Academy.

Do you want to find out what’s happening in Newton Aycliffe? Do you want to help make decisions about what happens in your area? Do you want to have a say on where money is spent? Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership (GAMP) are holding a community event to showcase what’s ‘GREAT’ in Newton Aycliffe and Middridge. The What’s ‘GREAT’ in Newton Aycliffe and Middridge Event is taking place on Saturday 8 November 2014, from 10.00am until 2.00pm at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre. So why not come along and find out more about all the great work that’s going on in your local community – there will be free activity taster sessions and demonstrations taking place throughout the day. If you are a member of a local community group working with young people, we will also be launching a ‘Small Grants Fund for Children & Young People,’ so come along and pick up an application pack. The Small Grants Fund is aimed at providing Activities for Children & Young People

– groups can apply for grants of up to £1,000 to fund projects and activities related to children and young people. Local groups are encouraged to attend the event and pick up an application pack. A really vital part of the event is also to ask local people to vote for their most

important priorities – the things that you think matter the most to you and your community – the results of your votes will give the GAMP Board members a steer when they look at deciding what priorities we should be working on for the area next year.

GAMP has an Area Budget of £120,000 to spend on local projects to address the priorities each year – so it’s really crucial that you take this opportunity to tell us what you feel is important. For more info: Email: gampaap@durham.gov.uk Tel 01325 327 441

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Tax Disc Changes

The new DVLA electronic road tax system is causing a stir amongst many motorists. From 1st October, you no longer need to display a paper tax disc in your vehicle's windscreen. Now motorists are being directed to the DVLA's website to pay their road tax, although motorists without use of the internet can still pay at the post office. If you're vehicle already has a paper tax disc you don't really need to worry until the next time you tax your vehicle, although you can remove the paper tax disc from your windscreen if you want to. Your existing road tax remains valid until the expiry date, at which point you can renew using the new DVLA system. A recent survey conducted shortly before the new rules came into effect estimated more than half the country had no idea about the new road tax system.

The new electronic road tax database will now keep track of who has paid and for those who avoid paying can now face a fine of up to £1,000. You may also not be aware that under the new rules motorists selling their vehicles are no longer allowed to pass on unused tax to the buyer. Sellers can only claim a rebate on any full calendar months of unused tax that remain, while buyers must pay from the first day of the month in which they purchase the vehicle, even if they do not take ownership until days or weeks later. The situation means that unless sales are completed on the first day of the month, the DVLA will in effect recoup an extra month's worth of tax split between the buyer and seller. It's all going to take some getting used to. Safe motoring. Elliott Ramsey Aftersales Manager

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Meeting Time .....

Meeting Venue & Address .....

Brief description of Activities .....

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## New Team Chasing Trophies New Lane Ropes Helps Aycliffe Swimmers



The Stephenson Way Year 6 football team got off to a great start this year, finishing third in the Greenfield Football league. The newly formed team played well together, winning and drawing many of their matches. They are now looking forward to the next part of the league (after Christmas) and are already working hard with the hope of coming home with silver or gold medals next time!

New competition anti-wave ropes were presented to Sedgfield 75 Swimming Club and Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre as part of a project supported by GAMP via the Neighbourhood Budget allocation of Councillor Joan Gray and Councillor John Clare. The provision of competition anti wave ropes will improve the conditions of the pool water allowing for the general public to swim alongside swimming clubs while the Club will benefit with more accuracy and improved swimming times. It will allow the reproduction of competition conditions helping develop swimmers even more.

Sedgfield 75 Swimming Club currently have various national champions as well as representatives in the



Junior Great Britain Squad. The introduction of these new lane ropes will be a huge help to both club development and improvements to the

comfort of the public when swimming. Both Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre and Sedgfield 75 Swimming

Club are extremely grateful for the support by Councillors Gray and Clare and Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership

## Wildcats Fall to Manchester's Hot Shooting Halloween Family Outing - 2nd November

Manchester's shooting accuracy was too much for the Durham Wildcats to overcome in a 92-84 loss at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on 26th October. The Wildcats fell to a 3-3 record in the BBL Championship whilst the Manchester Giants improve to 4-3.

The Wildcats battled back from a 13-point deficit in the second quarter to tie the match at 40-40 by halftime. Down 29-16 early in the second quarter, the Wildcats went on to outscore Manchester 24-11 going into the break. Two minutes into the second quarter, Fran Urli was fouled on a made two-point bucket, converted the free throw and shortly made another bucket to start Durham's comeback. Durham continued the second half strongly behind two-straight John Puk buckets. Manchester would answer with baskets of their own, keeping the third quarter tightly contested. But with a 63-61 Manchester lead going into the fourth quarter, the Giants' sharpshooting capabilities kicked in and pulled them away from Durham to the six-point victory.

Despite nearly doubling Manchester in rebounds, the Wildcats could not slow down the efficient shooting of the Giants. Manchester shot 56 percent from the field (32-57) and were 45 percent shooting from the three-point line (10-22). Durham won the rebounding battle 45-23 but were unable to capitalise on many of their offensive rebounds, of which they had 25.

Leading the charge for the Wildcats was Chris Jones who had 17 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. Jones was 7-14 shooting, including one three-pointer, and was 2-2 from

the free throw line. This follows his BBL Team of the Week performance earned in the match against Plymouth University Raiders on 19th October when Jones had 15 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds.

Odiba Attah's offensive production continues to increase with every match as he also had 17 points. Seven of Attah's eight rebounds were on the offensive end of the court, helping the third-year forward put back easy baskets. Last week, Attah had a pair of 14 point scoring performances versus Bristol Flyers and Plymouth University Raiders.

Also scoring in double digits were Panos Mayindombe, with 13 points, and Urli, with 10 points and playing in his first home match for Durham. Urli had six rebounds. Mayindombe nailed two three-pointers in the match. Captain Ralph Bucci followed up his milestone-reaching performance of 1,000 points scored, 500 assists and 100 BBL league games played from last week with seven points, game-high 12 rebounds and 3 assists versus Manchester. Bucci now has 1,028 points and 504 assists in 101 BBL league games played. Puk sparked Durham to take early control in the second half by netting six of his eight points in the third quarter. Sam Martin twice netted crucial three-pointers in the second half to keep Durham within a basket of tying or taking the lead over Manchester. He finished the game with six points. Joel Madourie had six points. David Buchberger was a game-time scratch from the playing roster as he re-aggravated an injury during training this last week.

The Wildcats will look to rebound at home next week as they host Glasgow Rocks. Tipoff on 2nd November at the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre is set for 4:00pm. The Rocks were defeated 89-86 versus Cheshire Phoenix on Sunday 26th October. They are 2-3 on the season. The Wildcats will be hosting a **Halloween Family Outing** for the match versus Glasgow on 2nd November.

Fancy dress is encouraged and free home match tickets for 16th November will be awarded to the top-five dressed fans. All ticket prices will be slashed with a 50% discount by entering the code "SPOOKY50" when purchasing your tickets through [godurhamwildcats.com](http://godurhamwildcats.com). Halloween treats will be available at the concessions stand and a "spooky" atmosphere will haunt the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre!

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# Good Rugby Performance Beaten at Their Own Game

Newton Aycliffe RUFC travelled through the beautiful Northumbrian countryside on a J&C coach to visit Prudhoe and Stocksfield Rugby Club. The weather was sunny with a really strong cross field wind and the pitch was dry with plenty of grass but had a rather prominent slope. The referee for the game was from Surrey and was visiting the area for a wedding do. He was, luckily for both sides, a quality referee but was some what at times bemused by the coarse art of northern rugby. Aycliffe fielded a strong side which the return to action after a longish layoff of Andy Littlefair. Aycliffe started badly to say the least; a speculative kick by the hosts into the visitors 22 saw panic from an Aycliffe defender who whilst under pressure flicked the ball into space to allow the speedy Prudhoe winger to catch the ball unopposed to cross the line; fortunately the conversion was missed. 5 - 0 down after a few minutes was not what Peter Ryans (head coach) and the travelling support wanted or expected to see. Thankfully the lads got their act together and fought their way back into the game using the slope to their advantage with veteran fly half Darryl Pettit put one or two telling kicks into P&S half. Resulting line outs saw second row, Neil Morgan, dominate both his and the opposition's ball. Through this quality possession, the backs were able to run at the home teams defence and cause havoc in the midfield. The forwards, led by Deryk Cairns and Richie Littlefair, began to dominate the breakdown. The pressure applied at the ruck area by Aycliffe resulted in penalty after penalty close to the home side's line. Something had to give and, after great work from both the forwards and the backs, Chris Richards scored a try. Luke Tinkler playing at fullback missed the following conversion but a short while later kicked a longish penalty for Aycliffe to lead 5-8. After this the home side were unable to legally prevent Aycliffe from winning masses of ball which resulted in a number of penalties. Captain Warren Parsonage decided to run everything. Mikey Dunn, making up for his earlier defensive failings, went on to cross the line twice after more excellent forward and back handling moves. The half time score was 5 - 20. The second half saw Aycliffe, playing up hill, stifle all of the home side's attacks with a really strong defensive performance. Aycliffe's back row of Cairns, Andy Littlefair and Drew Gibson tackled extremely well and disrupted P&S possession. The front five's scrummaging was really solid and, despite playing with a sore head due to a severe cut from a previous game, Jeff Hodgson helped dominate this area of the game. The second half was drifting into a stalemate until the last fifteen minutes; with Aycliffe down to 14 men due to a sin binning, the hosts crossed the line and the converted try made the score 12 - 20. Further sin-bins saw 14 men of Prudhoe facing 12 of Aycliffe for the last 7 minutes of the match. Aycliffe however held firm despite terrific pressure from the home side and the game finished with a 20 - 12 victory for the travelling team. In conclusion Aycliffe dominated this game in every aspect - a really good performance. On 1st November, Aycliffe host Richmondshire at Moore Lane; kick-off 2.15pm. Aycliffe rugby is sponsored by WHITEHOUSE FUNERAL SERVICES and S CARS.



Last weekend, Woodham Academy's American Football team played its second game of the season in the American High School League of Europe Division 2, against the Baumholder Buccaneers, from Baumholder US Army Base in Germany. Woodham, playing alongside Menwith Hill High school, got off to a great start, recovering a fumble, with an ever potent offense Woodham scored shortly after on a 32 yard run by Chris Armstrong to take the lead. From there on the game changed into an intriguing defensive battle, both teams going blow for blow on defence and keeping the opposing offenses quiet. It wasn't until midway through the 2nd Quarter that Baumholder levelled the score, on a 10 yard run by Baumholder's Anthony Amos. The second half followed a similar pattern; both teams played exceptional defence all day. Woodham were led by great performances on defence by Liam Wood and Josh McNulty. Woodham edged ahead in the 4th quarter when Josh Penny hit a 34 yard field goal to take the lead 10-7, only to have that score equalled by Baumholder not long after. The game finished 10-10; however there are no ties in DoDDs American Football, so both teams would have to slug it out in overtime. After the Warriors stopped Baumholder on the opening possession, the sudden death game was now hanging in the balance, with one last big push Woodham opened a gap for Chris Armstrong to exploit, running in a 10 yard touchdown to seal the 'walk off' victory.

Head Coach of the American Football programme, Danny Ketch, commented, "It was an exceptionally tough game, one which was a true testament to our grit and determination. To win a game like that, the boys had to dig deep, to push themselves all the way to the end. The explosion of emotions when Chris ran it in was incredible. It's definitely one of the most satisfying victories I have been a part of." Woodham were buoyed by great offensive performances; Richie Howe completed 7 of 11 passes, and Ricky Mannion had 6 catches for 58 yards. The top performer was Armstrong, named stripes.com's 'European Player of the Week' for his performance. Coach Ketch commented "Chris' performance was outstanding. As always he finds a way to affect the game



and give us a moment of brilliance like today." He went onto say, "Competing with an American high school is fantastic, as high a level as we will ever find this side of 'the pond', so to be able to compete, and win, is an incredible achievement for us all."

## Sponsored Dales Walk for Falcons Under 8's



On Saturday 11th October some of the boys and parents from U/8 Falcons took part in a sponsored 10k walk on the Yorkshire Dales from Tan Hill to Muker. It took 3 hours 20 minutes to raise funds for the End of Season Tournament at Haggerston Castle. We raised £300 and the team thanks everyone who sponsored the walkers.

## BUSY END TO TRIATHLON SEASON

September and October have been an incredibly busy time for Aycliffe Tri Club with its members racing at iconic venues that take in some of the most beautiful but demanding scenery. Sunday 7th September saw Michelle Scott and Andy Sedgwick taking on the legendary Helvellyn Triathlon. Michelle took on the one mile open water swim in the cold waters of Ullswater then as part of a relay team Andy battled



Andrew Sedgwick on the bike section

had a fantastic race with Michelle Scott taking first place female overall and Andrew Sedgwick finishing as first place male in his age category. This has been a fantastic year for Aycliffe Tri Club who would like to thank all it's members for their continued support and dedication. The clubs coaches are looking forward to next years racing season and helping club members achieve their goals. If you are interested in Triathlon and would like further details about Aycliffe Tri Club please contact the club on the website [www.aycliffetriclub.org.uk](http://www.aycliffetriclub.org.uk) by email [aycliffetriclub@gmail.com](mailto:aycliffetriclub@gmail.com). Or if you would like to come and talk to the coaches come down to Woodham Community College Pool on a Wednesday night at 7pm (term time only) Wendy Bake Club Coach



Michelle Scott with her winner's trophy

the 38 mile bike section (including the dreaded Kirkstun Pass) and the 9 mile 3118ft run up Helvellyn. This was a challenging event for both experienced athletes who plan to return and tackle this challenging course again. Sunday 21st September saw Tri Club members taking part at three different events across the North of England, each event with its own difficulties (These Triathletes never take the easy option!). Teesdale Triathlon saw three club members taking on the Sprint with a 400m swim, 18 mile bike and 3 mile run. First home for the club and coming 4th in her group Melanie Rowland finished in 1hr 39. Next home Alan Kellet 10th in his group finished in 1hr 43 followed

by Mick Casey in 1hr 51. Wendy Bake travelled across the country to race at Penrith Sprint Triathlon a very hilly course saw Wendy knock 3 mins off her previous years' time and finish in 1hr 36mins. Then over at Hartlepool Michelle Scott and Dan Halladay entered the marina to race in Hartlepool Big Lime Sprint Triathlon. Dan Halladay was first man out of the water and finished the event in 1hr 12mins with Michelle Scott who was first lady out of the water and finishing 6th lady over all was close behind in 1hr 18mins. To round up their training season Michelle Scott, Andrew Sedgwick and Vicky Howse travelled to Malta for their National Championships. All three

◆◆◆

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# Two New Salt Barns Ready for the Winter

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Durham County Council is preparing for winter conditions by making sure that the new salt barns in Wolsingham and Peterlee are up and running in plenty of time.

The Wolsingham barn, which was completed in January and cost £500,000 to build, can hold 5,000 tonnes of salt and will supply provisions to the



the aim is to keep as many communities and main routes as possible open to try and help people get to work and school.

As well as the additional barns, there will also be:

- More than 42,000 tonnes of salt stored in barns ready for use.
- Thirty-seven large power gritters, 33 trailer gritters and four snow blowers.
- A total of 2,500 salt bins at various locations will be filled for people to help clear the areas around their homes.

The council treats more than 1,700km, or 45 per cent, of the county's roads between 80 and 100 times during normal winter conditions but will also clear other minor roads if possible in severe, prolonged bad weather.

Footpaths in areas such as town centres, busy shopping centres, hospitals, health centres, doctor's surgeries and care homes will also be treated if there has been heavy snowfall.

For further details about Durham County Council's winter maintenance policy visit www.durham.gov.uk/winterroads and to report any problems on the roads please call 03000 26 1000.

west of the county.

Serving the east of the county, the recently-built £750,000 Peterlee structure, which is based at the Hackworth depot, replaces the former Wellfield depot barn, which was beyond repair, and has an increased capacity of 7,500 tonnes.

Every year the council sets out its winter maintenance policy to deal with snow and ice and to make sure that salt stocks are topped up, salt bins are available across the county and a fleet of gritters is primed and ready to hit the roads.

As parts of the county are rural and sparsely populated

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Jane McAneney RN Cert ECBS Bowen Technique Practitioner

Telephone Jane on 07751 920 464  
www.the-bowen-clinic.co.uk

## Young Adults Baptised

LIFE Church in Aycliffe love  
to have a party and the recent  
celebration of Gypsy andLatana being baptised was  
another very good reason to  
do just that! Alwyn White  
(left) one of the leaders  
said 'It was incredible to  
witness two young people  
take that step of faith and get  
baptised'. LIFE Church offer a service  
of water baptism to those  
who believe and trust in  
Jesus Christ, following the  
instructions laid down in  
the Holy Bible. If you are  
interested in being baptised  
then please drop us an e-mail  
lifeline.action@googlemail.  
com and we'll get someone  
from LIFE Church to have a  
chat with you.

## Chiropody

**CHIROPODY**Mr P. Oliver  
BSc (Hons) - M.Ch.S  
for a Home Visit call  
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Newton Aycliffe.  
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www.amysdivinedogs.co.ukOUTWARD BOUND WITH  
ACADEMY WILDLIFE CLUBIf you went down to the  
woods recently you could  
have been in for a big surprise  
... as staff and pupils of  
the aptly named Woodham  
Academy took advantage  
of the unseasonably good  
autumn weather to showcase  
their broad-leaved trees  
and shrubs to groups of  
enthusiastic youngsters.  
The event, which formed  
part of the school's Y7  
Specialist Day, also included  
a practical workshop on  
how to design and make  
model bird-boxes - ahead  
of Woodham Wildlife Club's  
plans to begin installing  
real ones over the next few  
months.Participants were informed  
the event was part of the  
school's strategy to improve  
environmental awareness  
and to re-model the  
landscape to benefit local  
wildlife. They were excited  
to hear that hedges were now  
being managed to provide  
over-wintering shelter and  
food for song birds and farm  
birds, and that a boundary  
would be allowed to flourish  
in order to create a corridor  
around the site. The school,  
they were informed, was  
also home to a number of  
wildflowers, including three  
species of orchid, and that  
the intention was to create  
both spring and summer  
wildflower meadows -  
which would be managed  
by the County Council in  
conjunction with pupils.  
A number of those present  
have already signed up to  
a programme run by the  
prestigious conservation  
group, the John Muir Trust,  
and are actively working  
towards their 'Discoverer'  
award. To achieve this award  
participants must complete  
the equivalent of four days'  
conservation work, doing  
something to protect and  
promote the natural-world  
and its biodiversity. The  
tour guide, Mr  
Heaven, took learners to a  
corner of woodland where  
Wildlife Club members  
have already been hard at  
work removing litter and  
collecting windfall branches  
to create 'dead borders' for  
mammals, invertebrates  
and amphibians, and were  
impressed that the site could  
boast fox, stoat and bat  
sightings. Although it would,  
admittedly, have been too  
much to ask the wildlife to  
put in a personal appearance  
on the day, proceedings were  
briefly interrupted when one  
unsuspecting squirrel found  
itself, briefly, the focus of  
their unwanted attentions.  
Woodham Academy is  
hosting a 'Big Dig' onSaturday 15th November, Trust donated trees around  
when volunteers will be the school as part of their  
planting 450 Woodland ambitious plans

## Accommodation

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on the 5thRemember, Remember the  
Fifth of November and St.  
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Lunch at 12.30pm  
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Looking forward to seeing  
you. Also remember the  
Coffee Morning on Saturday  
1st November at 10am.

## Opticians

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BE APPRECIATED****MartinBage**  
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# Last Garden Waste Collections of 2014

Residents across County Durham are reminded that the final garden waste collections for this year take place between 28 October and 7 November. Exact collection days can be checked by putting your postcode into "My Durham" on Durham County Council's website [www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk). So far this year, almost 20,000 tonnes of garden waste has been collected from properties

## Reminder to Pay £20 for 2015

in the Chester-le-Street, Derwentside, Easington, Durham, Sedgfield and Wear Valley areas. This has all been turned into compost for use on local farms. Residents in the Teesdale area should check with Rotters for their garden waste collection days. Go to [www.rotters.org](http://www.rotters.org). During the winter, garden

waste can continue to be recycled by composting at home or taken to any of the household waste recycling centres across the county. Details of your nearest recycling centre and opening times can be found at [www.durham.gov.uk/HWRC](http://www.durham.gov.uk/HWRC). From next spring there will be an annual fee of £20 for garden waste collections from the kerbside and residents will need to sign up to receive the service. Almost 10,000 households have already signed up. An additional 35,000 properties which have not previously been covered by the scheme will also be able to subscribe for garden waste collections. By signing up, residents receive

16 fortnightly collections between spring and autumn. Anyone opting to take up a three year subscription will get a discounted rate of £50. Rotters will continue to work in partnership with Durham County Council in Teesdale in 2015 and the same annual fee applies. Residents are asked to subscribe before 1 February to ensure they receive all collections in 2015. For more information about the garden waste collection service or to find out if a property is part of the scheme, go to [www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste) or call 03000 26 1000

## COUNTY NEWSBITS

compiled by County Councillor John Clare

- Durham Wildcats basketball team; home game Sunday 2nd November v. Glasgow Rocks at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre (4:00 pm)
- Healthwatch Durham AGM – Wednesday 12 November in Bishop Auckland Town Hall. Tel. 01325 375960
- Parking will be free in all DCC car parks after 3pm in December (to encourage Christmas shoppers) and free after 10am on 6 December (as part of 'Small Business Saturday').
- The County Council has agreed to continue its Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for a further year into 2015/16, protecting all claimants in line with what their entitlement would have been under the Council Tax Benefit System – few other Councils in the country have been able to do this.
- Hardwick Park, Sat 1st November, 1-3pm: Sock monsters craft session - £4 per child. Book in advance: 01740 621505
- Feeling old and isolated? Silver Talk offer regular, friendly telephone calls to older people in County Durham: 0800 093 0092
- The 'Us Girls' Project seeks to engage girls aged 14+ into sport and fitness activities, with sessions (only 50p) being held on a Monday evening (7:00pm - 8:30pm) at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Tel. 07508 050157.
- Tyne & Wear is to take bus services back under public control; this will affect County Durham services into Tyne & Wear: <http://bit.ly/BuDeregulation>
- The GAMP 'Small Grants Fund for Children & Young People' will launch in November. Tel. 01325 327441
- If you are tracing your family tree and have an ancestor who was a miner, volunteers have catalogued 200,000 records from the Durham Miners' Association: <http://bit.ly/DCCMiners>
- Significant blue badge parking changes: <http://bit.ly/DCCBlueBadge>
- Important developments to Welfare Benefits: <http://bit.ly/DCCWelfareUpdate>
- The County Council this week adopted a new Licensing Policy: <http://bit.ly/DCC Licensing>

## Workers Special

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## Congratulations

### Ryan "Angry Elf" Stainsby



Happy 18th Birthday  
Love from everyone at  
EHLUK xx

### Eden-Lee Murray



Happy 16th Birthday - 30th October 2014

To our gorgeous Daughter. We are so proud of the beautiful lady you have become, have a fantastic day. Lots of love, Mam, Dad and Demi

## In Memoriam

### NEVER TO FORGET

A Little Cross  
A Plot of Green  
A Tale Untold  
A Deed Unseen  
A Father's Sigh  
A Mother's Prayer  
An Empty Bed  
An Empty Chair  
A Family Standing  
Around the Grave  
To Honour the Life he Gave.  
For Every Day  
And Every Year  
We Will Remember them  
John Addison, DLI  
British Legion

**YVONNE COLLEY** Died 3rd November 2012. Close in our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. Love, Dad, Nicola, Karen, Nicholas and Shaun xxxxx

## Obituary

**NEAL** - on 26th October, Tony, aged 82 years. Much loved and missed by Yvonne and family. Would friends please meet at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Tuesday 4th November at 2.45pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be made to the Great North Air Ambulance (at the Crematorium Service). **ANN WILSON** 21st October 2014. At Bennoch Lodge, Kirkcaldy, formerly of Beechfield, Newton Aycliffe. Beloved Wife of the late Tom; Dearly loved Mum, Mother-in-Law, Gran and Great Gran. Funeral to be held in Kirkcaldy on Friday 31st October 2014.

## Birthday Remembrance

### John Jones



Happy 80th Birthday  
30th October 2014

If tears could wash away our pain, we would not feel such hurt again. The heartbreak felt since you've been gone, we wouldn't wish on anyone. But today is your 80th birthday, so we'll have to be brave and accept God's taken what first He gave. Thinking of you today and always John. Freda & Family xx

**JOHN SMITH** (Jack). Thinking of you, Dad and Husband on what would have been your 89th birthday on 30th October. Miss you lots and love you always from Daughters Catherine and Jean; Wife Doreen and the rest of the family

### Aria Travis

Happy 1st Birthday  
Lots of love from  
Mammy, Daddy and  
Big Brother Brandon xxx

## Acknowledgement

**VERA REED** The family of the late Vera Reed would like to say thank you for the many cards, flowers and messages of support we have all received during our sad time. Special thanks to Dr Christopher Stevenson and Darlington Hospital for their compassionate care. Many thanks to Defoe Social Club, the Cubby, Cafe Pronto, the Knit & Natter Club and Creations Hair Salon for the many happy hours in their company. Thanks also to all staff from DaleCare; Susanne from ScrubbaDub and Bethany Day Care for their excellent care. Much appreciation to Pam Lovelass from St. Clare's for the beautiful Service; Whitehouse Funeral Services, Elaine and Jane for their kind, compassionate care of Vera on her last journey. Thanks to Star Cabs for their donated services. Thank you to all who very kindly donated to Butterwick Children's Hospice - Total stands at £412.

### Bethany Fothergill



Happy 18th Birthday  
4th November 1996

Lots of love from Grandad, Granny Sophie & Dean xxx

### Kelly Keane



Happy 21st Birthday  
3rd November 1993

It's been an absolute pleasure, loving, nurturing and guiding you to the age of 21. The key to the world is yours Taz. Enjoy, Love, Mam and Dad xx

**Kelly Elizabeth Keane** Our fantastic Granddaughter on your 21st birthday. Our wish for you, is that all your wildest hopes and dreams will all come true. Love you so much. Grandma and Granda xx

**Happy Birthday Sis** Have a great party, you are a good un. Love, Daniel and Lauren xx

**Happy 21st Birthday Kelly** To our best friend. Have an amazing day. Love, Stacy, Carl, Isa and Andrew xxxxx

# Durham Wildcats HALLOWEEN Extravaganza



VS



Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre

Sunday 2nd November, Tip Off: 4.00pm



# Aycliffe Girl Footballers



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Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club currently has 2 girls' teams competing in the Russel Foster Youth League every weekend at the u13 & u12 age groups. As the number of girls interested in playing football continues to grow, we are now developing teams at u11 (yr6) and u10 (year 5/4). Head Coach of girls development Berni Borsberry commented "Our coaches regularly visit the local primary schools and are impressed at the level of skill many of the girls already have. Lots of the girls at these sessions seem very keen to progress their football but a smaller

number actually come along to the football club after school. We have just moved indoors to Greenfield for winter training offering the girls a warm and safe facility to enjoy our sessions" As we now have two professional ladies teams in the area the opportunities for girls to progress in female football has increased hugely. Our club invites all girls to come along and have a look at our coaching, no matter how skilled you are, we offer sessions for all abilities. More information: Berni 07939 045242 or check web site: www.naycafc.co.uk

# RUNNING CLUB NEWS



Aycliffe Running Club have been busy over the last few weeks with lots of different distances and terrain covered. It was a good turnout from Aycliffe on 28/09/14 for Redcar half marathon. Conditions were near perfect for running resulting in a few PB's achieved. The flat course took the runners along the trunk road past Corus and back again to the start then changed direction and followed the coast road, past the vertical pier, into Marske and back. Mark Wade led the Aycliffe runners home finishing 77th in 1:27:20 followed closely by Richard Campbell in 98th position 1:29 and a new PB. On the previous day at the 5K Hackworth Park run Sandra Collins and Alan Wilks both achieved PB's recording 22:15 and 23:31 respectively. Other Aycliffe runners were Shelley McCormack who finished in 25:15, Rob Nicholson 25:31, Jodie McMaster 26:02 and Simon Robinson 26:30.

58:57. Simon Robinson 1:00:12 and Susan Clark 1:06:02. Liam Montgomery was the only entrant from Aycliffe to compete in the Yorkshire marathon and completed the race in a new PB of 3:47:47. For more information about Aycliffe Running club and their training sessions visit www.ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk/

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