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TONY BLAIR VISITS TOWN TO LAUNCH NATIONAL CAMPAIGN

Tony Blair, high flying Labour Party Leader, visits Newton Aycliffe next week to speak at a Public Meeting in the Leisure Centre. He will be launching National "Red Rose Week" not to be confused with "Red Nose Day" held this week.

He is hoping to build on the Party's successful membership drive and will be inviting Newtonians to join the NEW Labour. There is nothing

comical about Tony Blair's leadership which has captured the hearts and minds of the Party majority and many new converts. His honest and forthright style has won more than 80,000 new members to Party membership and the



Tony Blair, Leader of the Labour Party and Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

band wagon has only just started. His performance in and out of the House of Commons has been exceptional and he doesn't appear to have put a foot wrong, which is remarkable for one so young and new to the leadership. The meeting is on Friday 24th March at 8.00pm and everyone is welcome to come along to the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre to hear and question Tony on any subject. There will be an opportunity afterwards to meet the Labour Leader informally.

At the next General Election Newton Aycliffe becomes part of Tony Blair's Sedgefield Constituency, following new boundary changes announced last year. We lose our old faithful Derek Foster who takes Spennymoor in exchange. It is hoped Derek will attend the meeting to introduce his successor and to call for a transfer of support. If, or should we say

when, Tony Blair becomes our MP and this country's Prime Minister, we can expect the full glare of publicity on our town, as the media descend on us to conduct straw poll opinions on controversial political issues. Are we ready to take advantage of this enviable focus of attention? Will we set out our stall well enough to attract new industry? Will we move now, in anticipation - speculate in time - to accumulate later?

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Thank You "Newton News"

Dear Sir
On behalf of the young people from Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre's Duke of Edinburgh's Award group, I would like to thank you most sincerely for so positively supporting us by printing articles in your newspaper. Between 40-45 new young people, some with parents, came down to the Centre on Open Evening to find out more about the Award. 35 have committed themselves to coming back on subsequent Sundays. The group of young people who organised the event have achieved their aim of attracting more young people to join them and it could not have happened without your support.
Sue Turnbull and Andy Wilkinson

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Letter to the Editor

PROPOSALS REQUESTED ON HOW TO REDUCE AYCLIFFE'S RATE BILL

Dear Sir
I wish to take issue with Cllr. Fraser who wrote to the Newton News (11th March 1995) that he would have reduced the town's financial "precept".

This "precept" is a very carefully calculated figure. Officials on the Town Council go to the Town Clerk and identify jobs that need doing in the next financial year - everything from maintaining the town's cemeteries to putting bollards around the green at Aycliffe Village. After careful consideration and

cost-cutting at every possible point, the resultant figure becomes the towns proposed budget - its "rate precept". The "precept" is the maximum amount of money that is needed to run the Town Council for the coming year.

Cllr Fraser says that he objected to the planned precept and that he "proposed it to be reduced" by £54,374. Very good, Councillor Fraser. This indeed seems to be in the best interests of the townspeople! The question for Cllr Fraser, however, is this: Where exactly would he

make the necessary reductions in the budget? And note that, if Councillor Fraser would reduce last year's budget by this amount, he is saying, in fact, that the Town Council have got their sums wrong by £108,748. This is an enormous amount! Where does he propose to make savings such as these? Is he going to cut the bus trip which takes the O.A.P.'s to the seaside each summer? Maybe he would penalise the play schools and nurseries that are already surviving by the skin of their teeth? Or would he cancel the Great Aycliffe Show and the life-saving community Bonfire attended by over 8000 people each year?

Great Aycliffe Town Council is one of the biggest in the country and has greater financial obligations than, for instance, certain District Councils! Aycliffe Development Corporation left the Council with a legacy of massive parks, allotments and recreational areas to manage. This is one of the reasons for the precept being so high. Does Cllr Fraser propose that we stop maintaining these areas?

Perhaps Cllr Fraser might write in and let us know - and no generalised waffle about "reducing inefficiency" please. Clear proposals together with actual figures is what would be needed. The townspeople of Aycliffe await your answer with interest!

Yours faithfully
Martyn D Locklin

DIVING CLUB PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF LOGO COMPETITION



WINNERS CHOOSE THEIR PRIZES

In the last 4 weeks of 1994 Sedgefield Divers ran a competition for the upper and lower school at Woodham. The pupils were asked to design a logo for the club following member's talks on diving at school assemblies.

There were two prizewinners who each received snorkelling equipment to the value of £50, sweatshirts and free membership for 1995. Photographed at "The Midas Touch" Ferryhill, winners Emma Hicks and James Foster, with Club members Peter Haden and Frank Reed. They were formally presented with their prizes at the annual Party held at the Cumby Arms, Heighington. The diving club meet on Thursday at the Leisure Centre from 9 - 10 p.m.

Anyone wishing to join or just wanting to experience a dive should speak to any of the members present. Alternatively a member of the Club will be available at the

Leisure Centre 7.30 - 9.30pm., 20th - 24th March. The winning design by Emma will be used by the Club on all their new sweatshirts, correspondence and equipment.

LOCAL CHEMISTS EMERGENCY OPENING TIMES

Sunday 19th March 1995
12noon - 1.00pm - Hancock & Ainsley, Shildon
Sunday 26th March 1995
12 noon - 1.00pm - Boots the Chemist, N/A

Mother's Day

Sunday 26th March 1995

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL



DAY EXCURSIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

The Council are again organising Day Excursions for Senior Citizens during the Summer of 1995. The Excursions this year will be to Scarborough and whilst these are free of charge there is a returnable deposit of £5.00 which must be paid at the time of booking.

The trips will commence on Monday 12th June, 1995 and will be held from Monday to Friday inclusive.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Council Offices, PO Box 2, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe or by telephoning Aycliffe 300700.

Completed forms must be returned by no later than FRIDAY 12th MAY, 1995.

J.D. FARQUHAR
Town Clerk

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Sooner or later, despite all the protests, it is now quite clear the Post Office will close their premises at Beveridge Way and operate from within other premises as a franchise. It could be Gateways or some other large store and any idea that recent overwhelming public objections have been successful, can be dismissed.

A report this week by the SDC Chief Executive Alan Roberts expressed disappointment that Post Office Counters Ltd. have ignored the results of the consultation exercise. He cast doubt on the value of consultations where the Post Office Counters fail to respond to the results, or give significant comment as to why they should be ignored. They seem to be saying they hear what everyone wants, but they know what is best, and will do it their way!

The P.O. say that whilst people do not like change they know that similar moves, which had the same strong opposition, have led to very significant improvement to the standards of service at the new locations, compared to what was delivered at the former branch offices.

This attitude of "we know what is best for you" is deplorable and we also wonder why they bother "consulting" the public. Post Office Counters say that after considering all the factors involved, and the points raised, during the consultation process they can see no fundamental reason why the P.O. should not be relocated, as long as a suitable partner and premises can be found.

They do not dismiss the concerns that were raised but say they are no different from those at other towns where the transitions to a franchise has been successful. If Gateways cannot or will not take in the Post Office who can? For all we know another bid may be on the table. It may not be as easy in Newton Aycliffe to appoint agents as the shops and stores here are mostly leased from private absent Landlords.

A big move like this is no benefit to the landlord as he is left with an empty unit - not easily let these days. He will be looking to make something out of the P.O. move. A much increased rental from the franchise could, as we suspect was the reason for Gateways withdrawal, be required. Whilst there is a deadlock in these financial negotiations the Post Office stays where it is, but the threat also remains and we should be prepared for the inevitable

Letter to the Editor MISGUIDED AND BLIND TO CLOSE BUREAU

Letters concerning the pending closure of the Volunteer Bureau echo the sentiments of many people in Newton Aycliffe. The VB has operated in the Town Centre since 1987 and provided a means of generating goodwill of volunteers and matching them to the needs of local people. To my mind this is the true meaning of community spirit and is the very fabric to build a caring community; it is the essence of dignified self-help and awareness of social needs; as efficient and caring as the statutory services who could never match this informal approach. I am astonished that after proving itself as a cost effective and successful resource for eight years the grant aid is to be withdrawn. I can only assume that those responsible are misguided or blind to the real nitty-gritty needs. Most Authorities would prize a Volunteer Bureau as something to be proud of and use as a good example. It is a key element of the

Community Care legislation and it is difficult to grasp why the agencies do not recognise this. The Act states quite clearly that local community groups should be encouraged and supported financially and through consultation, to generate and provide self help resources. It seems our Bureau is regarded as of no importance to the budget holders and policy makers and no one seems to know why. Is there some mysterious underlying reason for it and at a time when traders are deserting the town, is it not an indication of the prevailing apathy that the voluntary agencies are being forced out of existence also? Someone, somewhere must take responsibility for the loss of an integral part of our community. As one elderly man remarked recently: "Its the future that matters, no one knows when they'll need help!" Yours sincerely, D. R. Starr Bowes Road

GROUP THERAPY FOR SMOKERS

Are you a smoker? Thinking of giving it up? Join a group of fellow sufferers on **Wednesdays** from 11.00am to midday in **Newton Aycliffe Health Centre**, starting on 22nd March. Six sessions of helpful encouragement and useful tips on how to get started overcoming difficulties and keeping up staying stopped - No charge. For further information ring Kirsten, Fiona, Barbara or Angela on 01325 314381


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Letter to the Editor

**TOWN
COUNCIL
SHOULD ACT
POSITIVELY**

"Lack of any real benefit to the Town".

This was the response by the Town Council's Finance Committee to Tony Moore's request for a grant towards taking a Newton Aycliffe Youth Football team to the Camerouns.

I think this would have been a golden opportunity for this group to act as ambassadors for our town or does the Council believe that Africa is so far flung that it is of no consequence.

I can assure them that our town would be held in high esteem and appreciated, especially by the young men of that country who don't get the chance of playing with footballers from Britain.

For some years Council Moore has taken youngsters all over Britain to visit various football clubs - Liverpool and Everton to name two.

It is sad to see we have a negative thinking Council. Was it to the benefit of the town when they refused access to and from the Equestrian Centre, even though the owner offered to pay for it? This was another lost opportunity and the Town Council

appeared blind to the advantages.

Was it to the benefit of the town to close the Avenue School and create overcrowding elsewhere and now they are having to build expensive extensions.

And the Avenue School site is still lying idle!

Was it for the benefit of the Town for the Council to calling the Police over a genuine mistake by two Councillors over expense claims. For an amount of £34, which could have been settled in the Council Chamber, the adverse publicity isn't to the benefit of our town.

Is it to the benefit of our town to close the Volunteer Bureau which aids the elderly and infirm. To add insult to injury I notice £700 being granted annually to the Heritage Line. Due to the location of the Railway Station I fail to see what benefit this is as not a lot of people take advantage of this transport.

I would ask the town Council to reconsider Tony Moore's request and act **POSITIVELY!**

Yours sincerely,
George White
Bluebell Close

**Letter
Men of
Vision?**

Dear Sir,

Some weeks ago you outlined some of the problems of the Town Centre. Since then at least two other shop leases have been put up for sale, but for we shopkeepers who wish to stay the problems remain. A very radical solution is for the Council to make a compulsory purchase order for the town centre and this would be advantageous to them as they cannot enforce bye laws on this private land at present.

Even if they froze the rents at the present level it would generate over a £million annually, and no other expense, as all the shops are on full repairing leases.

Such a move would give the Council time to think and plan the Avenue School site with a view to building a new town centre which would reflect better the needs of a town of the size and importance of Newton Aycliffe.

Existing shopkeepers could be offered premises in the new centre without the penalties associated with giving up a lease early.

Such a radical move would require both money and men of vision. Some will say the Council is short of the former, but what of the latter?

Yours sincerely,
Harry Taylor
Town Centre Shopkeeper

**MUSIC TO RAISE
CHURCH ROOF**

An evening of beautiful music is on offer at Neville Parade Methodist Church on March 25th from 7pm, when Mr Hector Parr (Organ) and Mr Jack Smith (Bass-Baritone) combine their talents to give a Concert. Mr Parr's programme will include: Organ Sonata in G by Elgar, Trumpet Tune and Air by Purcell and Flight of the Bumble Bee by Rimsky-Korsakov

Mr Smith will include his programme: Hallelujah Chorus and Arms by Handel, Silent Noon by Vaughan Williams, Sombre by Lully and My Lute by Schubert. Admission is £2 (£1.50), payable at door and this includes programme refreshments. Proceeds from Concert are for Church Rafter Fund

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Letter to the Editor

OPPOSITION COUNCILLORS A LET-DOWN FOR AYCLIFFE

Dear Sir
How enlightening is was to read Cllr Don Fraser's candid letter, "No Opposition to Increase Town Rate" (Newton news, 11th march 1995). In it, he told us that only two opposition Councillors attended the year's most important Council

meeting. He could not even get a seconder for his own motion, and concluded that the poor showing of the opposition Councillors was a "let down". It is interesting that Councillor Fraser has come to the same conclusion as myself, that in Aycliffe (as in County Durham generally) a vote against Labour is a wasted vote. Councillor Fraser is absolutely right when he admits that the opposition is a "let down" for the people of Aycliffe. Many opposition Councillors on the Town Council are hard-working and well-meaning people, but they have little or no influence when it comes to the important decisions. If you needed proof that the only realistic way to improve things is to vote Labour, then Councillor Fraser's letter is that proof. This is as true in Aycliffe as it is in Britain. If ever there was a time when people needed to support Tony Blair and the Labour Party, this is it. Yours faithfully John D. Clare

It's Your Newspaper

If you have an item of news of interest to readers contact your Community Newspaper Newton News on 300212

PIZZA Line

Tel: 312218

A BETTER PIZZA ALL ROUND

Letter to the Editor

YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS MAY BE CLAIMING TOO MUCH!

Dear Sir,
I have to apologise to residents that I haven't sniffed out till now what's been under our noses for years! I've accepted at face value Town council Labour member's indignation and morally offended protests about the level of expenses claimed by "Big brothers" in District and County Councils. When they said they did not get the same expenses, I assumed it was correct. Town Council members are able to claim £25.20 a day for approved duties - twice the amount of County and about three times a District Council member's annual basic allowances, divided on meetings held. In addition they may claim for travel and subsistence: £4 a day if they qualify. Regulations state that "Attendance Allowances" as payment for approved duties are as the Council itself determines. Searching through my minutes of Town Council meetings for when the amount of £25.20p was determined I can find no record. I have asked for this specific information when this was agreed by this present Council and notified the District

Auditor. Members of the Town Council may be wrong to assume THEY could claim the MAXIMUM of £25.20p. And having made a song and dance about District and County Councillor's expenses, may have been paid hundreds of pounds MORE than those members can be paid. District and County payments are determined in open meetings annually, why not the Town Council? Members expenses are as accountable publicly as any other matter. Let it be so from now on!
Yours sincerely Don Fraser

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SEDGEFIELD 75 SWIMMING CLUB SUCCEED AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the Northumberland and Durham County Championships held at Bishop Auckland Sedgefield 75 Swimming Club continued its run of success. Craig Thompson (14) collected his third medal in the championships, coming second in the 100m Breaststroke. Ian Storey took 4th place in the Boys 10 years, 200 metre Freestyle event in a time of 2:53.70, also came 6th in the final of the Boys 10 years, 50m Breaststroke in a time of 0:48.38, and reserve finalist in the 100m Individual Medley with a time of 1:31.70. Kathleen Mohan took 4th place in the Girls 14 years, 200m Individual Medley in a time of 2:01.40 and was 5th in the 400m Freestyle. Carol Mohan took 5th place in the Girls 10 years Individual Medley. Matthew Bowden took 6th place in the Boys 12 years, 200m Freestyle in a time of 2:23.50. Congratulations to all those who attended the event, which produced 23 Personal Best Times. Christopher Bowden, Carol Barker, Jill Hunter, Angela W. Smith, Zoe Mitchelle, Alison St. Lindsey Atkinson, Linsey Needham, Iain Cairns, Andrew Cairns, Tony Weed, Barrie Walker, berley Vickers, Scott Watson.
The 3rd N & D is on 25th/26th March at Stanley.

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ST MICHAELS CHURCH Heighington are appealing for hats of all descriptions, miners caps, police hats, firemans hats, brigade hats, army hats, air force hats, navy hats, postmans hats, wedding hats, special occasion hats, in fact any type of head gear to place with flower displays for our festival of flowers 28-30th April. Hats will be returned Monday 1st May. If you can assist please phone Peter Beatty 313924

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In Memoriam

JOYCE GRANT died 16-3-93. As each day dawns and starts anew, as each day ends I think of you, and in between no matter where, in my heart you are always there. You're loving husband Alan, son's Alan, Douglas, John, daughters Jennifer, Susan, daughters and sons in law and grandchildren
STAN MOSSOP Gone but not forgotten - Stella
STAN MOSSOP Sadly missed, never forgotten, love Avril

STAN MOSSOP

Remembered with love, see you Gramps love Kelly
TINA-LOUISE ALLAN 21-3-83. A special sister sadly missed today as always, this world was never meant for one as beautiful as you - with love Jaquie X

TINA-LOUISE ALLAN 21-3-83. Precious memories of a lovely daughter and sister. Remembering you is easy, we do it every day, but the heartache of losing you, never goes away. We will always love and miss you, love and God bless Mum and Chris XXX

SEAMAN, KEITH 22-3-87. It's eight years now since you left us all, we miss you as much today as we did then, we may put on a show and people think we don't care, but our thoughts are always of you and the happy times we used to share. Love you always Pam, Tracey, Amanda and Gareth -

GENTLE JESUS up above please give Grandad a great big hug, love Luke and Gillian X

Personal

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Congratulations

ANDREW HILL



Happy Birthday Dad
Love from Claire

WENDY HILL Best wishes for 14th March, to the best wife and mother love from Andy, Claire and Katie

LEE WREN



HAPPY 40th
Love Eileen, Lee, Lucy, Wesley, Stephen, all family and friends

WREN Happy 17th birthday Looby Lu, love Mam, Dad, Lee and Wes

KIRSTY GIBSON To our darling little girl happy 5th birthday, love Mammy and Daddy

KIRSTY GIBSON Happy 5th birthday, big sis, love Jamie

TRACY ANDERSON Happy 7th birthday, sweetheart, lots of love and kisses from Mammy and Daddy

TIM GELDER Happy 18th birthday love Jean and Vic

TIM GELDER Happy 18th birthday, love Teresa and Reg

TIM GELDER Happy 18th birthday Teddy Bear, lots of love Squidgy Bum X

GELL Charlotte Marie congratulations on passing your driving test first time, love from Grandma, Auntie Pauline, Uncle Michael, Sarah and Amy

KILBURN Have a happy 60th birthday love, all my love and best wishes Freda X

KILBURN To our Dad on his 60th birthday, have a superb day. All our love and best wishes, Alan, Angela, Steven, Margaret and Tracey

KILBURN To Grandad, have a great birthday on the 16th lots of love and kisses, Guy, Steven and David

KILBURN Happy birthday Walter, 60 years young, best wishes Thelma and David

CAROLE ANN SHAW 16-3-95 Happy birthday Mammy, love ya lots Alexander Patrick

CAROLE ANN SHAW 16-3-95 Happy birthday Lots of love always David

Tuition

FRENCH & ENGLISH any age, any stage, experienced teacher. Tel 312334
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Birthday Remembrance

WINIFRED, BROWN (Freda), Much loved Mam, Nana and Great Nana. March 10th on her 79th birthday. May the winds of love blow softly and whisper "Happy Birthday". So sadly missed and longed for, loving daughter Hazel, Brian and family

RENA BLACK (Humble) miss you and love you always Sasha

AUNTIE RENA miss you Auntie Rena, love from Nieces, Amber, Sophie and Cody Sture

RENA (15th March) No longer in our lives to share, but in our hearts you are always there. Sadly missed Dawn and Mick, Tracy and Pete, Gail and Pete, Alan, Maggie and Derek, Ronnie and Lorna

RENA HUMBER Happy birthday, 15th March, memories of a dear friend, who'll be sadly missed - Firthy

LAURINA BLACK 15th March, thinking of you on your birthday, your loving daughters Lindsey and Amy

Jade XX

FREDDIE Birthday memories for my son Freddie, 15th March, no hands to hold, no card to give, but all my love for as long as I live, holding hands with sister Joyce, sharing birthday joys together. Thinking of you both always Mam

Exchange

FROM 3 bedroom semi, GCH, private garden, good decor in quiet cul-de-sac opposite Byerley Park school, Greenlee Garth TO 3 or 4 bedroom house, Aycliffe Village Tel 300453

FROM very clean 2 bed GCH house, central area TO 3 bedroom house old part of town Tel 321380 between 4-6pm

Pets

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

Wanted

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

LIFT To Spennymoor start 8am Tel 307044

GARDENER/Handyman wanted part-time Tel 310503

Situations Vacant

RESPONSIBLE person wanted to look after 2 children, take to/from school etc., for details Tel 307218

Community Response to Bureau's Crisis

Some local people have responded to the Volunteer Bureau's funding crisis and have offered to carry out fund-raising events to raise money to help keep the Bureau open beyond the end of March, 1995.

A lady is currently attempting a Sponsored Slim to reach her desired weight, and all the money she raises will be donated to the Volunteer Bureau.

Mr Ray bell, a concerned resident of Newton Aycliffe, has offered to organise a show with live entertainment, all proceeds to the Volunteer Bureau - offers have also been made to hold market stalls, raffles etc.

If core funding is not secured by the end of March the paid workers will have to be made redundant and the Bureau will not be able to provide a Sitting Service or Dial-a-Ride Scheme. However, at the very worst, the Management Committee intend to still offer an information centre for people wishing to carry out voluntary work. Opening hours and exact details of what services it will offer, will depend on the funds available.

Carole Watson, Chair of the Volunteer Bureau said "It is most heartening to know that the people of newton Aycliffe value our services and are prepared to help keep it open. Even without the cost of staff wages, we would need money to pay running costs, heating etc."

"We are still trying to convince Social Services, Health and District Council of how much we are valued. We won't give up the fight to retain all our services

until we absolutely have to".

Apart from the tremendous amount of support from local people, both Tony Bl MP and Derek Fos MP are lobbying on behalf, as well as the Community Health Council and many other local voluntary organisations. Individuals or groups may write to their local MP or Councillor, or Director of Social Services to express their support to the Volunteer Bureau. The more voices that are heard, the more likely they will be prepared to listen.

Accommodation

HOMELY LODGING available, long and short term. Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal. DHSS welcome 361502

Thank you

AUNTIE JEN thank you for taking me to Disney Land had a lovely time, from my nephew Michael Lewis X

MANY THANKS to residents plus shops Dalton Way, Newton Aycliffe for your kind door to door collection rate £17 for Homeless Child

God bless you all - Geena Wheatley

GARY & MANDY want say a big thank you to Mam's, Dad and Andrew

helping out with the house over the last couple of months. We couldn't have managed without you all

COLLEEN & LEN Walker would like to thank the gentleman from Walsley who helped Colleen when she fell. Also thank Mick for calling

Ambulance, all neighbours and friends for cards and flowers. Also staff on Ward 5 and Ward 4 at Biscuit Auckland Hospital. A big thank you to Jane looking after us.

MANY THANKS to lady from Woodham brought me home after car broke down at Rushy - thank you Heather

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HEALTH CENTRE INVOLVES SCHOOLS & PARENTS IN "BUG BUSTING" CAMPAIGN

Dear Sir
Head-lice continues to be a problem in our community with regular outbreaks amongst children in local schools continuing to occur resulting in childrens hair being treated with insecticidal lotions only to become re-infested a few weeks later.

Now one local school has decided to try to tackle the problem through education and together with the school nurse have organised a bug-busting week beginning on March 20th.

Children and parents at Elmfield Primary school will participate in a series of events aimed at reducing the number of outbreaks. If the week proves to be a success it is hoped to extend the scheme to other schools. School Nurse, Susan Thorpe is pleased the school is taking this approach "Routine head inspections by the school nurse are really a thing of the past, they give parents a false sense of security and do little to prevent cross infestation. The way to control outbreaks head-lice is for children and parents to comb their hair at least once a week. If more people did this it would reduce the number of outbreaks and the need for treatment with expensive lotions and shampoo's. This approach by Elmfield School rally is the way forward in the battle against Head-lice". Newton Aycliffe Health Centre

Mothers Day Sunday 26th March 1995

Advertise your Mothers Day Greeting in your local newspaper "The Newton News"

Lineage 7p per word
3cm x 1 col box £5.00
6cm x 1 col box £10.00
(photos can be used with box adverts and is included in the price)

Hand in to:
Newton Press
or
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AYCLIFFE SOFA COMPANY EXPANDS

A Newton Aycliffe sofabed manufacture has announced it will create 35 new jobs over the next three years. Europa Sofabeds has invested £1million into its new 62,000 sq feet factory on heighington Lane Business Park. The Company previously operated from 3 factories on Aycliffe Industrial Estate. "By bringing all three together on to one site we have increased the time and cost efficiency of our production processes. This will allow us to take on more orders and create new jobs" said John Forrester Managing Director. "We studied several options to cope with increased business but the SDC's help and expert staff persuaded us to stay in the area." he added. Niki Traves, Director of Merchandising for Argos,

officially opened the new premises which houses a woodmill, sewing area, foam conversion, upholstery area, offices and showroom. The new factory will produce over 80,000 sofabeds a year. Councillor Terry O'Brien, SDC Chairman said: "We are delighted to be able to play a part in this project which will create a substantial number of jobs. I wish Europa Sofabeds every success both nationally and internationally, from their new base". The Company's expansion has been mainly as a result of its export drive which started four years ago and has contributed toward doubling the turnover since. One of Europa's biggest customers is a European mail order company for whom it exports all over the world, including the Far East.

BUREAU CLOSURE - RETROGRADE STEP

Dear Sir,
Possible closure of the Volunteer Burea is another retrograde step in so called "Community Care". These two words are becoming empty and harsh for many vulnerable people such as the long term sick, mentally handicapped and disabled. It seems, because of unthought ideology by the few in charge, these very important services are now being threatened with the destruct button now on sending us down the road of no return. Take for instance the deliberate run down of local hospitals at Aycliffe and Winterton, both set in ideal, lovely peaceful grounds.

The residents enjoyed their own community and all the necessary facilities such as Day Centres and evening activities, but most important they had sanctuary and freedom of movement. They do a splendid job nursing the long and short term mentally ill; rehabilitation of patients who have suffered breakdowns, enabling them to return to the community. These hospitals are also training places for nurses and doctors specialising in this important branch of health care. Society will also be poorer and worse off with their loss. Yours sincerely, J. Lawler (Mrs) 111 Greathead Cres.

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL Committee Meetings
Tues., 28th March - Recreation Committee - 7.15pm followed by Environment Committee
Wed., 29th March - Parks & Allotments 7.15pm
THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND



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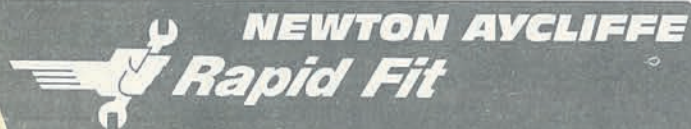
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