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Finleys Steel Bring Major Leisure Facility to Aycliffe

Includes Permanent Memorial to Aycliffe Angels

A former World War II munitions factory on the Business Park will become a permanent memorial to the Aycliffe Angels as part of an exciting development creating 20 jobs.

Aycliffe construction firm Finley Structures acquired the old Presswork Metals factory on Aycliffe Business Park more than two years ago and £600,000 has been spent on constructing a new 70,000 square foot facility on the site, which has stood empty for more than six years.

A further £300,000 is to be invested in the fit out of the facility, including a trampoline park, cafe, restaurant and bar, and the facility will also include one of the biggest climbing walls in the country, standing at 20 metres tall, as Rockantics move from the town centre. Finley Structures has revealed exciting plans which will help



Julie Finley with Kim Fryer

to preserve the building's wartime history. The family firm wants to name the complex ROF 59, standing for Royal Ordnance Factory 59 - the original name of the group of Aycliffe factories built in the 1940's.

Staff working at ROF 59 will wear overalls, like the Aycliffe Angels did when they risked their lives working there 70 years ago, while several other features will enable Aycliffe's proud history of the munitions-making factories to live on. Part of an old railway line, used to transport the munitions to the main railway line which was uncovered during foundation works, will be incorporated into other memorabilia features including a model spitfire and archive photographs from back in the day.

Managing Director Julie Finley said: "We recognise the important historical significance of the factory and the Aycliffe Angels who used

Continued on Page 2

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Archaeology Day at County Hall

Details of County Durham's "Pompeii of the North" and other projects from across the Iron Age, Roman and Medieval times will be presented at the annual Archaeology Day at County Hall on Saturday 21 March. The spectacular discoveries at Binchester Roman Fort near Bishop Auckland uncovered some of the most well preserved remnants of an empire dating back some 1800 years ago. Archaeologists discovered a bath house with seven-foot high walls, an inscribed altar dedicated to the Roman Goddess, Fortune the Home-bringer and a silver ring which is one of the earliest evidences of Christianity in Roman Britain. There will also be presentations on the research for historic village

atlases for Easington, Ferryhill, Thornley and Wheatley Hill, an update on excavations at the Feetham's site in Darlington and a report on the recent work of the Limestone Landscapes Project. The Durham County Record Office will provide information on the Durham at War project, an interactive website mapping the impact of the First World War on people across the North East. It gives online access to thousands of original documents, objects and fascinating real-life stories. The talks are complimented with displays and bookstalls. Tickets for County Hall Archaeology Day (9.50am to 4.20pm) price £14, including refreshments, are available on 03000 267 013 or emailing archaeology@durham.gov.uk

DRUGS RECOVERY PROGRAMMES WORK SAYS POLICE COMMISSIONER

At a drugs recovery event today, hosted at Durham Prison, Ron Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham, listened to first hand accounts from prisoners and family members of prisoners, who successfully quit drugs and alcohol after receiving support from the Drugs and Alcohol Recovery Team (DART). The DART team in HMP Durham has developed a number of initiatives to support prisoners undergoing treatment. It offers support and treatment for prisoners who have recognised problematic substance misuse. The event today gave the opportunity for speakers from the SMART recovery team at HMP Durham, Lifeline and Turning Point who offer drugs and alcohol services in the community, to talk about

different recovery models. It also gave the opportunity for prisoners and ex-prisoners to talk about their experiences and their recovery journey whilst undergoing treatment in and out of prison. Ron Hogg said: "Today signified the success of drugs recovery programmes. I am very impressed by the DART team's innovative thinking and energy in the field of drug treatment, which has greatly advanced recovery inside prison and enhanced links between prison and the community on discharge. This is just one example which clearly works." "It has further reinforced my view on decriminalisation and the need to move towards a recovery-based approach. We need a frank and open debate on our drugs policy. The focus should be on harm reduction, and thus ought to include discussions on legal drugs such as alcohol as well as illegal drugs." The event today also included a performance by ESCTT Theatre Company based at Sunderland College.

It is a student run ensemble that promotes the education of social change through theatre, in collaboration with prisons, schools and colleges. The performance included a number of techniques and approaches to engage the audience and communicate the effects of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) on the user, their friends and family. "ESCTT Theatre Company is about giving back to the community and about enhancing social change. We feel honoured to have performed at the DART recovery event at HMP Durham and hope that our message was communicated well" said Courtney Price, Performance Manager at ESCTT. Ron Hogg said: "The production of new psychoactive substances and skunk, which is much more virulent than hash, and is now 80% of the cannabis market, is a consequence of our present approach. Evidence from other countries such as Portugal, and the state of Colorado,

indicates that introducing an alternative to prohibition does not boost drug use, and could save millions of pounds if users were treated for addiction rather than sent to prison." "What I have heard and seen today reiterates my views even further. Personal use must be decriminalised with a focus on recovery and easier access to treatment."

Just Reduce the Lighting

Dear Sir,
Switching the lights off on the A167 through Newton Aycliffe and removing the lamp posts is social vandalism. How about removing every second light bulb in County Hall and reducing the wattage of the bulbs that are left to the lowest possible. Maybe this will enable DCC to think more carefully about what it proposes to do
Chris Wheeler



THE TURBINIA

* Saturday Night Live *

The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge

Saturday 14th March - "FIZZY FISH"

BAND QUOTE - Fizzyfish are a band..... but what sort of band?
We aren't rock...we aren't pop...were not indie or even punk.....

We are the edges in between, we feed on the flux flowing through them all and fuse them all together. The subject matter of some of our songs can be a bit dark, but you won't care as you sing away oblivious to the hidden messages in these anthemic tunes, all plucked from our own Juke Box of Doom stretching from 1976 to nearly now and back and forth. We try and pick songs that you will know, but not ones that every other band plays. We are not really a club, wedding or Barmitzvah band, you may find some parts of our set a bit anthemic, a bit serious, you may find the humour a bit off the wall, the imagery a bit surreal, you may find you have a damn good night, a daaaaamn good night. The first set is designed to listen too, while you get comfy in your surroundings, the subliminal messages gradually turning you to drink, loosening your resolve, you may want to get up and dance and that would be great, but stick around for the second set as we know you will definitely feel the need to dance as the energy ramps up. We will then send you out into the world having journeyed through time and space, faced some demons and come out the other side full of fabulousness a humming and a smiling. The list of acts we cover evolves through time, most stuff is post punk, we could do classic rock, but there are other bands that cover that area really well and we suspect that we are a bit different.

Saturday 21st March - "MUGSHOT"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

Major Leisure Facility for Newton Aycliffe

Continued from Front Page



Former facade of Presswork Metals

to work there, so we have deliberately retained much of the original brickwork and signage within the building. "The plan is to create a permanent memorial, and help us to keep educating young people about this important piece of British history.

"Aycliffe Business Park probably wouldn't exist today without the Royal Ordnance Factories, and we feel it's important to preserve that heritage for many years to come." Consultant Kim Fryer, of Newton Aycliffe-based KF Restaurant and Hospitality, has already been appointed by Finley Structures to manage the restaurant development, and the company is looking to recruit a bar manager, bar assistants, chefs, receptionists, cleaners and other members of staff in the coming weeks. "This is a fantastic project to work on and I'm delighted to be involved," she said. "It's important that we keep our heritage alive and educate our young people to appreciate and understand what the previous generation did for this country. "But it will also be an attraction to both families from all over the region looking for a good day out as well as local businesspeople looking to entertain guests. "We'll be using locally-sourced, fresh produce and we'll have some quirky food and drinks menus to cater for everyone." Anyone who'd like more information about the jobs at ROF 59 can email p.hadwin@finleystructures.co.uk

EVERY PARENT SHOULD READ THIS

A stranger approached an 8 year old girl and asked her to come with him, as something had happened and her Mum had sent him to pick her up.

The girl asked the stranger for the PASSWORD! The man got confused and the girl was able to run away.

She and her Mum agreed on a password in case she ever had to send someone to pick her up. Maybe this saved the girl's life.

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Friday 20th March

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Raising the Flag for Commonwealth Day

Great Aycliffe Town Council celebrated Commonwealth Day on Monday 9th March, with a short ceremony at St Clare's Church.

Commonwealth Day is celebrated across the Commonwealth by young people, schools, communities and civil society organisations, promoting understanding on global issues, international co-operation and the work of Commonwealth organisations.

The Town Clerk, Andrew Bailey, read a message on behalf of HM the Queen, and a further message from His Excellency Kamallesh Sharma, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth. The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Mrs Wendy Hillary, then read the Commonwealth Affirmation.

The theme for this year's Commonwealth Day is 'A Young Commonwealth' and to mark this, Meghan Cumming, Chairman and Charlotte Kirton, Vice Chairman of Aycliffe Youth Council, helped



Mayor Wendy Hillary, Rev. Debbie Loughran, Meghan Cumming, and Charlotte Kirton of Aycliffe Youth Council help raise the Commonwealth Flag

the Mayor to raise the Commonwealth flag, while the Commonwealth Anthem was played. Announcing the theme, Secretary-General Kamallesh Sharma, said "A Young Commonwealth recognises the capacity, contribution and potential of young people, who play a vital role at the heart of sustainable development and democracy."

The ceremony concluded with a prayer for the Commonwealth, read by Rev. Debbie Loughran from the Parish of Great Aycliffe.



Top Award for Co. Durham Women's Federation



Now celebrating its 100th year, the Women's Institute has 78 branches throughout the county and to mark their century of success, the Durham Federation has been presented with the Chairman's Medal.

A member from each branch attended County Hall where they received their award from Cllr John Robinson, JP, Chairman of Durham County Council.

And to highlight the last 100 years of the WI in County Durham, the County Hall Records Office also put on display photographs and memorabilia from throughout this period.

Cllr Robinson, said: "My reason for this event is to bestow upon you, the Chairman's Medal. I have done so to mark the centenary of your organisation while honouring all of the branches of the Durham WI for what they have achieved in their communities by celebrating friendship. "I hope everyone has enjoyed the wonderful display, highlighting many extracts from the extensive archive held here by the County Records Office."



Lyn Swift from Newton Aycliffe, Chairman of Durham County WI, is presented with the Chairman's Medal from Cllr John Robinson, JP, Chairman of Durham County Council.

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PUBLIC MEETING ON A167 LIGHTING

Durham County Council's proposal to remove lampposts and lighting from sections of the A167 near Aycliffe has brought a serious reaction from residents and regular road users.

The Great Aycliffe Residents Association is calling a public meeting on Thursday 19th March at 7pm at St. Mary's Church Community Hall which can be accessed by the rear car park. Officers and Councillors from the County Council have been invited to comment on the decision and answer questions. Everyone invited.

Craft & Gift Fayre

On Saturday 21st March we are holding a Spring Craft & Gifts Fayre at Neville Parade Methodist Church. There will be a variety of stalls including cards, cakes, crochet, woodturning, knitting, jewellery, photography and much more. Refreshments include bacon sandwiches, broth, pie & peas & delicious desserts. Come along & join us, have a snack, pick up a bargain & have a chat with old & new friends. We look forward to seeing you from 10am - 2pm. For more details tel 07733210845

Council Deny Recycle Wagon Hit My Car

Dear Sir, I would like you to print a story regarding how on the 20th February a Durham County Council recycle truck hit my car at 8.50am and the driver did not stop or leave a message.

I contacted the Council who made enquiries and I filled in a form for the accident and returned it to Des Hunt. I also involved the police and contacted my own insurance company.

I have considerable damage to my car wheel arch bent in past my tyre and pictures can be supplied. The driver denies hitting my car despite neighbours saying it was the only vehicle in the cul-de-sac at that time.

I was told by Zurich the Council's insurer they were waiting on CCTV from the vehicle for over a week and when I requested a copy of CCTV I was told they are not

equipped with them so why did it take over a week to tell Zurich that?

The tracker confirms the vehicle was in street at that time so how can they treat people like this?

We have a small income and I have never claimed on insurance for 17 years and my car has not even been examined by Zurich. They say they need time to prove the Council did not do it, but in my opinion that is disgusting.

We are an honest family just trying to get by and ask the council to take responsibility and stop hiding behind insurance companies. Please put my car back to its condition before your wagon hit it!

Michael Vickers
The Council have replied saying they cannot comment while this is being investigated

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Officers Warn "Excuses Cost Lives" in Seatbelt Campaign

There are no excuses when it comes to a choice between life or death, officers are warning motorists during a week-long seatbelt campaign.

Police speaking to motorists who have not been wearing their seatbelts have heard all manner of excuses, including "my clothes will get crumpled" and "it is uncomfortable". Motorists have often spent longer making excuses than it would have taken to click their seatbelt into place.

During a week-long seatbelt campaign that begins on Monday 9th March, officers will be warning motorists that there are no excuses when it comes to their safety.

Common misconceptions

around seatbelts include that the air bags will offer motorists enough protection for them not to be seriously injured, that they don't need to wear it as they are only going a short distance or it would be safer in the event of an accident to be thrown from their vehicle.

A person travelling in a vehicle who is thrown forward at a speed of 30mph whilst not wearing a seatbelt can impact with the force of a charging rhino.

Inspector Ed Turner, from the Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit, said: "Some members of the public have many excuses to offer for not wearing their seatbelts. Some have told officers that it's too uncomfortable and others

have said it will crumple their clothes.

"Some people actually spend longer trying to explain to officers why they haven't worn it than it would have actually taken to put it on in the first place."

"We would ask people whether it's worth risking their lives or the lives of others in their vehicle. Obviously the answer is no. In a crash you would be twice as likely to die if you are not wearing a seatbelt. Not only is it criminal but it is totally unacceptable and it costs lives."

In 2014, 688 drivers were issued fixed penalty notices across Cleveland and Durham for not wearing their seatbelts. 128 passengers were found not to be wearing their seatbelts and of these 50 were aged under 14.

Under current legislation drivers are responsible for ensuring that suitable safety restraints are worn by all passengers under 14 years old. Children must use an appropriate child car restraint for their weight until they are 135cm tall or their 12th birthday, whichever is first.

Failure to wear a seatbelt now carries a fine of £100. If prosecuted the maximum fine could be anything up to £500.

SOLVING A & E PROBLEMS

Sir

The problems in local A & E could be solved prior to the general election and council elections if some simple decisions were taken now.

Many local councillors also sit on the board of the quangos which shut A & E at Bishop Auckland and Hartlepool creating most of the problems in the first place.

James Cook is massively under pressure, so is A and E in North Tees as was shown on television in a Panorama special. I was in the walk-in centre at Darlington A & E myself four weeks ago. The patients for A and E were in ambulances and on trolleys and forming queues out the door.

In an attempt to salvage the political careers of those who took these decisions in the first place they announce an expansion of A & E now. The expansion they propose will take months to plan and years to achieve.

Re-open the facilities we once had at Bishop Auckland and Hartlepool instead, appoint a new paediatrician at Northallerton and re open a full A & E there. The problems will then be solved.

Nigel F Boddy

SCHOOL'S MEGA WALK

Pupils played Princes and Princesses as they took part in a special walk to St Francis Junior School in Newton Aycliffe with their very own MEGA Motion Monarch.

Demi-Leigh Steward, 11, won a MEGA Motion competition to decide which famous hero or villain should accompany them and was rewarded with Henry VIII himself escorting the pupils as they walked, cycled and scooted to school. Princess Demi-Leigh (the first) and her classmates were not alone in dressing like royalty as even some school staff got in on the regal act, dressing as kings and queens.

Once there, pupils enjoyed a special assembly highlighting the benefits of healthy and environmentally friendly ways of getting to school as well as hearing all about Henry's battle with King Francis of France.

The special day was the latest Durham County Council MEGA Motion event which comes under the wider local Motion campaign promoting sustainable transport throughout south Durham. The campaign aims to encourage children to walk, scoot or ride to school to make them aware of the health and environmental benefits from an early age. As well as the fun walks centred around this year's theme of Heroes and Villains, pupils earn points every time they use sustainable travel to get to school, aiming to collect enough points to become MEGA heroes by the end



of the year.

Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "MEGA Motion is a brilliant scheme, helping our children to stay healthy and teaching them all

about environmentally friendly ways of travel from a young age. It's great to see the kids enjoy such a memorable day and we'd like to wish them all good luck in their quest to become MEGA Heroes!"

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VILLAGE HALL LUNCH

Now there is no funding from Durham County Council, Aycliffe Village Hall needs your help! It is the responsibility of the local residents to keep funding flowing for the hall.

Local resident, Caren Edmead, has stepped in to help by holding a monthly luncheon. The first was held on Friday 6th March. 10 people came to this event and said the atmosphere was warming, with the food being good value for money with very good service.

The next luncheon will be held on Friday 1st May from 12:30 until 14:30. You will be served with mince and dumplings followed by apple pie and ice

cream and a hot drink! There is a vegetarian option on request. This lunch costs £5 per person and all proceeds go to Aycliffe Village Hall. Residents who attended Friday's luncheon have already pre-booked for the next event – so don't miss out this time!

Booking is essential. If you are interested in coming along or require any further information, please contact Caren on: 01325 313179 or 07780 992269.

Film Show

St. Clare's Church FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW on Tuesday 17th March will feature Disney's 14th animated classic "PETER PAN" for the young-at-heart folk of all ages. Come and enjoy the adventures of Peter, Wendy, Tinkerbell, Hook and Smee with like-minded adults who never really grew up.

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 the film in friendly company. Further details from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

SPECIAL SERVICE FOR MOTHERS DAY

All things bright and beautiful- will be celebrated on Mothering Sunday at St. Clare's Church. This will be All-age Family Worship with the whole family in mind.

Come along to give thanks for Mothers past and present, for all important women in our lives today and every day. We begin at 10am with a parade of flags that represent the life in our church and community. The Service will include giving daffodils and cards to all mothers, the Brownies will be leading the prayers and SHINE Choir will be performing a special song for the occasion. The service concludes with bacon buns served by the Youth. So please come along, Sunday 15th March, 10am - a warm welcome awaits.

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Future Magnet Team Selected

Aycliffe Firm Appoint New Board Member



Team Members: Kira Watson, Katie Leadbitter, Amy Corking, Bobbie-Jay Banks, Daniel Wilkinson, Curtis Griffiths, Rhys Mackinlay, Ewan Farrell. Hitachi representatives Michael Burnham and David Langley.

A team from Year 8 at Woodham Academy are currently taking part in the of Future Business Magnates competition. Future Business Magnates is a fun competition with an important business message and opportunity. It was launched in 2005 by the late and much loved Sir Bobby Robson and is celebrating its 10th year. The theme this year is Light. This year the number of entrants has

risen to 24 schools. The students will be introduced to the excitement and challenges of working in business which will broaden their understanding and knowledge of jobs roles and functions. It will also develop their communication, presentation and research skills as they complete tasks set. A named employee, who is Hitachi, will act as mentor and will take

phone calls and emails from students, offer advice and guidance, and contribute directly to the delivery of the team's Business Proposal and Challenge submissions. You can follow their progress by tuning in to Star Radio or visit www.futurebusinessmagnates.co.uk. We wish all students involved success in their challenge!

Commercial Expert Ltd are delighted to announce the appointment of Mark Whitaker as their new Advisory Board Member. The finance company, based in Aycliffe, offers alternative commercial finance solutions to business clients across the UK. The business has undergone steady growth and expansion since founded by local businessman Michael Coates in 2008. Mark will assist in the development of a long term growth strategy focusing on existing clients and current and new business introducers. He will also support staff development and technical training in order to help maximise opportunities and devise bespoke solutions for clients. Mark's career in banking and finance began after joining Yorkshire Bank in 1981 and undertaking



a wide variety of front line roles including traditional Branch Manager positions in Yorkshire and Oxfordshire. He went on to head up the Bank's flagship corporate business centre in Leeds between 2000-04 and undertake a number of strategic projects for the parent company, National Australia Bank. More recently, he headed up Santander's commercial business centre in West

Yorkshire and worked for Begbies Traynor, coordinating business development activity and providing goodwill Banking advice and support for the benefit of clients of key business introducers. Mark currently provides advisory services to a number of businesses in Yorkshire and the North East, including a firm of accountants, a haulage company and a hotel management group. He has also been engaged by Atom Bank, based in Durham, in anticipation of them being granted a full banking licence later in 2015. "Mark's career history illustrates the sheer breath of knowledge and experience he has in advising and providing financial solutions for a range of businesses. We are delighted that he will be working with us to pass on his expertise to the team

and to our clients," said Michael Coates, Founder and Managing Director of Commercial Expert Ltd. Mark added "I'm delighted to become involved with Mike and his team. It is good to work alongside individuals who share my values and truly believe in top quality client service as a primary differentiator". For more information about Commercial Expert, including client testimonials and case study examples, visit www.commercialexpert.co.uk or call one of the team on 01325 359800.

RESIDENTS MEET

Linden Place Residents Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday 17th March 2015 at 6pm at Silverdale House. All residents welcome

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Let Common Sense Prevail

Dear Sir,
With regard to the removal of A167 lights - my initial thoughts are not whether the lights should be removed or not but how much it will cost for them to be taken down, including traffic disruption, against the potential saving in electricity charges? Why not simply switch off the power and leave them in situ, after all, within the next 5 - 10 years no doubt another study will have taken place (at the tax payer's expense) which will show the need to have lights on this road once again. If they have been removed then we, the tax payer, will have to pay for their replacement.
John Humble
Langley Road

Dementia Awareness

The town's Dementia Awareness group meets every Thursday 11.00am until 12.00 at the Youth and Community Centre, opposite TESCO. This group invites speakers and arranges outings and are going to Whitby on 19th March and Beamish in April. People welcome from surrounding villages/towns. If you are lonely and sat in your home every day come and join us. For further details ring 01325 308094.

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GET GROWING AT THE BIG PCP DIG

The call is out for gardeners of all ages, and experience, to get involved in national Big Dig Day on Saturday 21 March 2015.

Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) is inviting local residents to come along to the garden at the Pioneering Care Centre between 10am and 1pm and get stuck into some simple gardening tasks.

This free event is a great opportunity to get to know your

neighbours and your work will help create a thriving garden in the heart of our community. As well as the gardening activities, there will be free refreshments and a chance to find out about exciting future plans for the community garden which includes family and horticultural therapy activities. Last year the garden was transformed into a hive of growing activity with thanks to participants attending a 'Plot



to Plate' project and garden volunteers. PCP wants to build on this success and the vision is to use the entire garden area for a variety of learning and leisure projects to bring the local community together. There are a number of ways you can get involved: Come along to the Big Dig, it's a great way to take the first step to get involved in growing your own and discovering what's available on your very own doorstep to improve your health and wellbeing. Dig-in: free gardening course for adults Mondays 10am – 12noon. Learn about and take part in growing your own vegetables whilst meeting new people. Dig Art: 10 week free course for families starting this Easter.

Tuesday 31 March 1-3pm and Tuesday 7 April 1-3pm then weekly on Saturdays 10am-12noon. Garden fun for all the family making artwork from materials gathered from the garden. Make outdoor sculptures using reflective, tactile, musical and recycled objects. The health benefits of gardening are well recognised. Gardening can have a positive impact on physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. For further information contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, tel: 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net. Or find PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: /PCPandCentre

We Know Who You Are!

Dear Sir,
Why would a dog owner pick up their dog's mess, tie the bag and then drop them in the street instead of disposing in the correct manner?

The person doing this between the cut at the back of the R.A.F.A. club and the cut going to Ritson Road know who they are and will be reported to the environmental health officer. When caught remember you are always seen by someone and why should our children be subjected to this health hazard?
Responsible Dog Owner.

Eldon Table Top Sale

SATURDAY, APRIL 11th; 10am - 12pm at ELDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, Main Road, Eldon, Nr Bishop Auckland, DL14 8XB.

Bag a Bargain! Home-made refreshments on sale. For details please call 01388 775960. Seller's Tables Only £5 pre-booked on 01388 775960 (no food or new goods - thanks)

Popular Local Pub & Restaurant For Sale



The Blacksmiths Arms near Newton Aycliffe is up for sale Freehold at £425,000. A detached property this popular eating place is situated within a 5.1 acre site, incorporating a good size car park and spacious rear enclosed lawned beer garden with flagged patio. Rear outbuilding incorporating boiler house and private lawned gardens and adjoining fields which extend to 3.6 acres.

Trading accounts for the year to 31st March 2014 show Profits of £86,021

(before internal rent, directors salaries and depreciation) against sales of £297,390 net of VAT. Sales for the year to 31st March 2015 are expected to show a minimum of £300,000 net of VAT. A particularly valuable feature of the property is the spacious and self contained private accommodation, comprising 2 flats. The property benefits from mains electricity and water with private drainage and LP-gas for cooking. Oil-fired central heating.



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Plus many more items, too numerous to list. Come along, browse and enjoy a cup of tea. So I can acknowledge your donation, please drop off between 10am and 3pm

TV Star Brings Band to Legion Club



"Diversify" a fanatatic four piece band from Barnsley is coming to Newton Aycliffe British Legion Club on Friday 20th March.

The band has played in holiday parks and nightclubs around the UK including Butlins, Haven, Pontin etc. The lead singer is Lee Otway star of Channel 4's Hollyoaks as David Bombhead Burke and he won Celebrity Stars in Their Eyes and Soapstar Superstar on ITV.

Other TV work he was on Celebrity Love Island along side Callum Best and Shane Lynch, starred in the 2013 BBC Drama The Syndicate to name a few as well as being a successful West End performer.

His new band performs all up to date chart music from Bruno Mars, Olly Murs etc. Check out the website www.

diversifyband.co.uk

It promises to be a great night of entertainment and a rare chance for people of Newton Aycliffe to see a TV celebrity perform in their local venue.

Come Dancing

Thursday 26th March 2.15pm until 3.45pm Navy Club Burnhill Way, Newton Aycliffe. Admission £3.00. The bar will be open.

New Friends New Places invites you to this afternoon Dancing session. Diane from The Diane White School of Dancing will be leading the session

All types of dancing - Come with or without a partner. If this session is a success further ones will be arranged. Please come and join us. Ring 01325 308094.

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Closing date: Wednesday, 1st April, 2015

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Email helen.richardson@communicatorsltd.co.uk

NB: Traineeship programme **will not** affect any benefits you may be receiving.

Cancer Patients Rely on Charity Grants to Help Financial Hardship

Macmillan Cancer Support helped a record number of people in urgent financial need during 2014, with 546 County Durham cancer patients last year receiving a Macmillan grant to help them with costs arising from their treatment.

New figures from the charity highlight the financial isolation that often follows a cancer diagnosis. Patients in County Durham received £173,684 for vital essentials such as heating bills, clothing and transport costs, as well as practical household items like washing machines - a 21.6% increase on 2013.

Research by Macmillan also found that four out of five people are, on average, £570 a month worse off as a result of a cancer diagnosis.

Fay Scullion, General Manager for Macmillan Cancer Support in Northern England, said of the record numbers:

"Our latest grants figures demonstrate the dramatic financial impact cancer has on the lives of patients and their loved ones. In 2014 Macmillan helped more people than ever before, as we continued to work to ensure that nobody faces cancer alone."

"People undergoing or recovering from cancer treatment should not have the additional worry of how to pay for absolute basics such as heating their home, or bedding to keep warm. There are 2.5million people now living with and beyond cancer in the UK. And with this figure set to double by 2030, we believe that our next government needs to make cancer a priority. That's why Macmillan is urging all of the main political parties to commit to matching the best cancer outcomes in Europe by the end of the next Parliament."

In 2014, Macmillan awarded over £10million in grants to 33,011 people across the UK. The Macmillan grants programme gives payments to cancer patients who have limited financial resources and are in need of immediate assistance, giving an average level of help of £303 per person assisted.

Macmillan helped more patients with clothing than with any other cost arising

from having cancer. This was followed by grants to help with the cost of fuel bills and the cost of travelling to and from hospital for treatment.

Fay added: "Macmillan believes no one should face cancer alone and we urge any cancer patients who are struggling financially to contact our helpline to find what support is available to them."

Every week, over 634 people in the UK receive a grant from Macmillan Cancer Support. Macmillan relies on public donations to continue providing this vital financial support to people affected by cancer. To donate to Macmillan Cancer Support, please call 0300 1000 200 or visit macmillan.org.uk/donate

Macmillan grants are just one of the ways Macmillan can help with the cost of cancer. For more information about financial support available to patients, please call freephone 0808 808 0000.



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Great Talent on Show at Woodham

On 17th March Woodham Academy will once again showcase the very best in music and dance in the eagerly anticipated Woodham's Got Talent 2015.

Last year the judges had to make tough decisions separating the performers as the standard was so high, however the wonderful dancing of Year 8 student Lauren Towell won the day. This year's show is promising to be every bit as spectacular. The standard of rehearsals suggest that it once again will be extremely hard to split the students. Following wonderful auditions from all the students the finalists have been decided but who will win?

The evening also hosts a performance by the Woodham Academy Jazz Band and a mystery staff item - more to be revealed on the evening. Tickets are on sale now £4 adult & £3 concession and can be purchased by contacting 300328

World Book Day Brings All Together



Staff and children at Vane Road Primary School celebrated World Book Day by inviting parents, carers and family members into school to share a book with their child. Staff were over the moon with the amount of support from parents with this event. Head of English Mrs Sim said, "It is lovely to see so many of our parents and children coming together to share their love of books."

Why Did Councillors Allow Tax Increase?

Dear Sir,
Durham County Labour led Authority has voted to implement a 1.9% increase in Council Tax at a time when inflation is a mere 0.3% and could be soon down to zero. They have refused the offer from Government to maintain the tax freeze.

DCC have decided where the axe should fall despite the Independent, Libdems and Tory speaking out to accept the grants to keep a freeze on the tax.

Yet the DCC is still cutting back on front line services and at the same time asking residents to pay for garden rubbish to be removed.

The final straw is the removal of lights from the Main A167 Road!

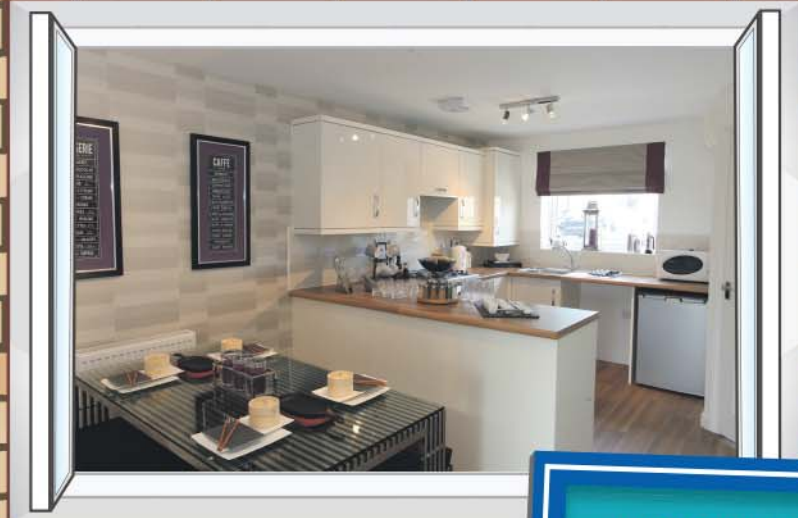
What will be next?

Counc John Clare writes about Government measures hitting us but what the Council he is on is doing is much worse! Why did he and our other representatives go along with the Labour group and not speak against this tax rise?

Perhaps he will explain in his next letter to Newton News why he supported this increase and all the other loss of services. He needs to justify the reasons behind all the bad news we are receiving.

A concerned resident
Name & address supplied

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Sugar Hill Staff Create a Dreamland

Dear Sir,
As most people will be aware it was World Book Day on Thursday 5th March and many schools across the country got involved carrying out various activities to promote reading including letting the children dress up for school. I would just like to tell you about our experience with Sugar Hill Primary School where my son attends. As

well the activities during the day and having the children dress up on Wednesday 4th March the staff invited children and parents back to the school at 5pm in their pyjamas for hot chocolate and cookies to read bedtime stories.

The staff had transformed the hall into a comfortable relaxing area with blankets, cushions and rugs for parents and children to

get cosy and read their books. This event was well attended by Sugar Hill Primary School staff and pupils with staff also in their pyjamas to encourage the children to snuggle down. Bedtime reading is an important time for children and parents and the school did an absolutely amazing job of setting the scene and showing parents and children just how wonderful

a bedtime story can be. I would hope that this will encourage parents to carry out this pleasant task with their children on a regular basis. Everyone who attended this event joined in and really enjoyed this wonderful experience. I would like to thank all of the staff at Sugar Hill for once again going above and beyond, for our children. Louise Fawcett

County Council Parklife Easter Programme

Sport for all the family is available this Easter in County Durham parks. The popular Parklife programme is moving outdoors with free activities for all ages ranging from rounders to tennis.

Take part in the Go Play Easter scheme at the following sites:

Wednesday 8 April:

Hackworth Park, Shildon (1pm to 4pm)

Friday 10 April: Bishop Town Recreation Park, Bishop Auckland (1pm to 4pm)

During the winter Parklife was on at several indoor venues across Bishop Auckland, Crook and Shildon. Marie Urwin, sport and physical activity development officer, Durham County Council said: "These sessions are all about having a go at a range of sports that all the family can enjoy and we are delighted they are continuing."

"Hundreds of people have taken part and we are looking forward to welcoming new people on the road to fitness. There is no need to book, just turn up on the day. We will soon be announcing the new spring and summer programme with a huge range of activities."

For more information visit www.durham.gov.uk/parklife

Of Course I am Bothered

Dear Sir,
I read in the Northern Echo, comments from Labour and UKIP that the Conservatives do not seem bothered about the Parliamentary Constituency of Sedgefield.

I must correct both Parties and tell you I am standing in the seat for the Conservatives, and I do care for the area, and have been out working hard for the seat. I will keep working hard and put maximum effort to this goal. If elected I will try as hard as I can for everyone in the constituency, and not segregate the areas down.

We see far too often those elected to represent us, on our doorstep and in Parliament, just turn the path and do everything for their personal position. Well I am in this to work for you, and I assure you of this, and if elected you will be employing me.

Scott Wood, Sedgefield
Parliamentary Candidate

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What's new on our website this week?

www.newtonnews.co.uk

- Don't forget to claim your **FREE** web page by sending your organisation details to paul@newtonnews.co.uk or complete the form on our website.

- Do you run a business in the DL5 post code area? If so why not claim your **FREE** web page on the Newton News website? See the form on the website for required information. Many businesses have taken up this offer, don't miss out, do it now.

- Claim your date and publicise your event, send all the details to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

newtonnews.co.uk for a **FREE** listing on our events calendar.

- 1945 video has been added to our video archive, thanks to Cllr Arun Chandran.

- Photos of the Magistrates Court, Aldi foundations, West Lake Park and Welbury Grove (C1970) have been added.

Many new pages for organisations, businesses and services have been added to the site.

- During the next month we will be adding archive issues from Newton News in the 1980s.

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info@stiller.co.uk

Aycliffe Climber Becomes Antarctic Postmaster

"Arriving at Port Lockroy for the first time was unforgettable. We came in on a Zodiac [rigid inflatable boat], through driving sleet and snow. We couldn't see the base at all, then suddenly it just appeared out of the blizzard. We dumped our kit on the beach, grabbed some shovels and started digging out snow to find the door". And so began a four month adventure at the World's most southerly Post Office for Stephen Skinner, who was brought up in Newton Aycliffe and went to Woodham Technology College.

Stephen had a long time ambition to work in Antarctica ever since he was a teen. He beat competition from scores of UK and International candidates to grab this job, dubbed "Penguin Post Office" in a recent BBC Nature documentary. He is employed by the



UK Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT) to help run the Post Office at Base A, Port Lockroy, Goudier Island but this tells only part of the story. Stephen says "Working days here are very changeable. They can involve acting as Museum guide, maintaining buildings and artefacts and giving presentations to passing Antarctic Visitors". Then there are the postal duties - all of the mail from here is stamped and goes back to the UK, via the

Falkland Islands. The Base relies on passing expedition ships to take the sacks of mail for us. Postcards can take up to 8 weeks to get home.

Stephen shares the UKHAT base with 3 other volunteers. The island is the size of a football pitch and has very basic living conditions. There is no running water, basic dormitory accommodation and food. No Wi-Fi or mobiles here and with temperatures as low as -10 degrees and wind speeds of 80 knots conditions can be quite tough.

Back mid-March, Stephen says "The penguins are awesome. We don't have television here, so we simply open the curtains and watch penguin TV! The things I do miss are really tangible like the smell of mown grass or seeing insects. But mainly I miss my friends and family."



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Groundwork Celebrates 30th Year Sports Club's Stuttering Form

Social enterprise Groundwork, based in Newton Aycliffe, is celebrating 30 years of transforming the lives of hundreds of thousands of people across the North East for the better.

Groundwork, which was established in the region in 1985, delivers a range of social and environmental regeneration programmes that engage communities, private businesses and public sector partners to make sustainable change.

Its work embraces land and community improvement programmes, training and work placement schemes, projects to boost people's wellbeing, and practical initiatives to tackle climate change and help businesses improve their environmental impact.

'Green' milestones and achievements during the last three decades have included:

- Encouraging 202,396 young people to become involved in community-enhancing projects
- Helping 3,515 people into employment
- Assisting people to gain 3,502 qualifications
- Supporting 3,282 businesses
- Improving more than 11 million hectares of land
- Planting 153,959 trees

The range of its influence comprises:

- Helping young people to participate in their local communities and providing a range of positive activities, building confidence and self-esteem to transform their aspirations and re-engage them into education or training.

- Supporting people to retrain, gain confidence, skills and valuable work experience, and ultimately get a job. From structured volunteering to apprenticeships and formal placements with employers, Groundwork helps people move on a journey towards meaningful employment.

- Assisting communities and business take practical action to tackle climate change – and it recognises that by doing so it also can reduce fuel poverty and help business be more efficient.

- Running specific initiatives in disadvantaged communities to improve the self-esteem, physical health and general wellbeing of residents. This includes walking, environmental volunteering, food growing, and play activities.

- Working with communities and its partners to create or improve open spaces that are well-designed, relevant to the needs of local people as well as being attractive havens for wildlife. Groundwork also helps to create activities to put land back to use, such as sport and exercise schemes or food growing, even if it is on a temporary basis while waiting for land to be developed.

- Its regeneration portfolio breathes life into redundant buildings and secures a base for new green, business or community organisations, which in turn has the potential to deliver jobs and community support

Kate Culverhouse, Groundwork Chief Executive, said: "Groundwork



Kate Culverhouse, Groundwork Chief Executive

is very proud to have been at the heart of the North East community for 30 years.

"When looking back over the growth and development of Groundwork in the region during the last three decades, it has been both humbling and heartening to see how it has helped individuals and communities overcome, often, challenging circumstances to transform lives and communities.

"Our staff, volunteers, stakeholders and partner organisations are looking forward to continuing to make a positive contribution to the region for many more years to come."

Groundwork's roots lie in an 'urban fringe experiment' spearheaded by the Countryside Commission in the late 1970s that developed new approaches to restore and manage neglected and derelict land on the outskirts of conurbations where town met country.

This led to the first North East Trust being founded in County Durham in 1985 to meet the needs of people and communities affected by the devastating impact of pit closures.

This Trust was soon joined by other areas across the region with Groundwork North East, a registered charity and company limited by guarantee, being incorporated in 2009.

Its 200-strong workforce comprises community development workers and project officers, landscape architects, employment and training specialists, education workers, business advisers and youth workers. Its staff work alongside 120 volunteers.

Collaboration is central to Groundwork achieving its goals in the region and as a result, it works in partnership with private companies, local communities, public bodies, housing associations and voluntary sector organisations.

The aims of its projects include helping businesses to develop their green credential and reduce their environmental impact, improve people's employment prospects and potential, enrich the quality of residents' lives, and regenerate and enhance neighbourhoods.

Groundwork will be holding a series of celebratory events, which it will announce during the coming weeks.

Newton Aycliffe Sports Clubs run in cup competitions came to an end on Sunday when they were beaten 3-2 by first division Shildon Supporters Club in the Wear Valley League Invitation Cup. This defeat came on the back of last week's exit from the Darlington Charity Cup to Division 2 leaders Mason Arms by the same scoreline. The Aycliffe side proved tough opposition for both of the higher league teams and can be proud of their efforts to compete with only single goal deficits separating the sides on each occasion. With promotion to Division 2 still a real possibility with 4 games left to play, both ties whetted their appetite to finish the league campaign on a high – but a lot of hard work is still required to ensure they stay on track. The game at Sunnydale Athletics Track did not start too well for the away side. A corner in the 5th minute saw the home side take the lead as the Sports Club failed to clear. A few moments later, a similar situation at the other end of the pitch saw Darren Griffiths glancing header go just wide of the mark. On 15 minutes Shildon Supporters doubled the lead with a strike from outside of the box beating keeper Andy Hartley at the far post. The Sports Club managed



Darren Bosomworth firing home to equalise

to get back into the game on the 40 minute mark with leading goal scorer Connor Hughes collecting the ball from a throw in and driving it past home keeper Chris Wilson to make it 2-1. Then, before the whistle could be blown for half time, the Sports Club equalised – this time Darren Bosomworth driving the ball home to level things up at the break.

A change in formation and personnel saw Chris Jones and Jonathan Clegg replace Craig Hannant and Anthony Campbell at half time. Both sides tried hard to take the advantage and stop the game going to extra time and penalties. It was Andy Hartley who was the busier of the two goalkeepers twice saving brilliantly to keep the hosts at bay. With ten minutes to go

though it was the hosts who grabbed the winner. After fending off 2 corners, it was the 3rd which could not be kept out as the ball crossed the line after numerous attempts to clear.

With only the league and a chance of promotion left to play for all efforts will made to try and regain the form recently seen over the past few months to try and secure a place in Division 2. Next week sees The Sports Club away to Willington Cottles before a short break taking them into the final run in during April.

Team:- Andy Hartley, Craig Hannant, Darren Griffiths, Mark Craggs, David Teder, Darren Bosomworth, Ryan Stonehouse, Paul Cook, Gareth Boyes, Anthony Campbell, Connor Hughes Subs (Used): Jonathan Clegg and Chris Jones

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There have been few phenomena in recent years like that of Disney's Frozen, and its popularity is not slowing down as Butterwick Hospice offer a

unique family event this April! Set in the grand marquee at Hardwick Hall Hotel, Sedgfield, Butterwick's event is sure to thrill, entertain and whisk away to a magical land as YOU the audience become the stars. The event will see a massive audience join together and follow the words on screen to take part in this incredible afternoon.

A full screening of Disney's Frozen, complete with your own prop bag to join in, a live host and a range of the fabulous characters right before your eyes makes this event one to set apart from the others! Wrap up warm as it may even snow! Don't delay in buying tickets though, they're already flying out the door for this amazing treat! Tickets are just £10 per child, £15 per adult and a family ticket of 2 adults and 2 children costs just £46 so bring the whole family to this really special event! Doors open at 11am. For more information please visit www.butterwick.org.uk/frozen or call 01642 628930.

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CAN AYCLIFFE EASE RELEGATION WORRIES?



Newton Aycliffe earned three vital points at home to 8th place Durham City on Saturday. Aycliffe have had a worrying recent run of form in the league. However Tuesday night's win in the League Cup quarter final against Washington provided a boost to the team's confidence. The win against Durham came courtesy of two goals from Dennis Knight. The first was scored on 37 mins. A weak defensive header fell to Stuart Banks who found Knight on the left. The Aycliffe forward shot across goal finding the bottom corner of the net. Knight's second goal came after 57 mins when he found himself played through with only the keeper to beat. The confident shot was fired home without difficulty guaranteeing Knight the man of the match award from sponsors Hewitts solicitors. Durham might have found a way back into the game a couple of minutes later when a strong penalty appeal was denied by the referee. With the clock ticking down

Aycliffe provided their fans with some anxious moments. Three minutes from time central defender Craig Garthwaite miscued, slicing the ball over his own keeper and into the net. Fortunately that proved to be the last significant action and Aycliffe managed to hang on to take all three points. Two away games this week, against Bedlington and Dunston, will be a stern test for Aycliffe but six points would go a long way to ease those relegation worries. Beyond those games Aycliffe have been drawn away to Ashington in the semi final of the League Cup. The game against ex England cricketer Steve Harmison's side will take place on Tuesday 31 March @ 7:45. As ever the team would appreciate as much support as possible. Forthcoming Fixtures Wednesday 11th March (away) Bedlington Terriers 7:30pm Saturday 14th March (away) Dunston 3:00pm Tuesday 17th March (home) Consett 7:30pm

Heighington AFC Boys Report

The Under 8's travelled to Barnard castle playing on a pitch with a huge slope and in strong winds. The boys were 1-0 down at half time then the hosts scored 5 goals in 3 minutes to make it 6-0. The score line was harsh on Heighington who hit the woodwork 5 times, Joe Neild particularly unlucky. Jordan McBride was man of the match. Heighington regrouped for the second game and won 3-0 with goals from Tyler Woodward, Joe Neild and Jordan McBride. Man of the match was goalkeeper Sam Routledge. Under 10's played out a 2-2 draw at home to Middleton Rangers, taking the lead through an Owen Evans goal in the first half. The visitors pulled a goal back before Evans scored his second to put Heighington back in the lead. The home side could not hold on to the lead as Rangers equalised for the second time, but another impressive performance from the whole team who are becoming increasingly difficult to beat. Under 12's game saw them play away to local rivals, Newton Aycliffe Youth Falcons, which are always a very tough encounter and Heighington were a little worried as the results haven't been going their way. They started the game on an equal footing, each side

challenging end to end. Heighington played some good football with a few missed chances, but than picked up the pace with some fantastic football all round. After some fantastic footwork Cameron Brassell took on the last defender, to slot the ball past the keeper with his left foot, 0-1. The Falcons picked up the game with the ball hitting the post, but with a few good saves from O'Neil the scoreline stayed the same. Heighington picked up the pace again with an inch perfect pass from Kilburn-Robinson, picking out Mitson who calmly placed the ball in the back of the net, 0-2 at half time. Heighington made a change putting Richardson up top for Mitson, and Alton stepping into goal. They then played some amazing 'one, two' football. Pass and move is what they were told and the boys did it with passion in their hearts. With a magical pass from Kilburn-Robinson finding Richardson, who beat the defenders racing out wide, to then beat the oncoming keeper, with a quick look up Richardson coolly put the ball between the sticks from 20 yards, 0-3. The Falcons pressed but with the safe hands of Alton in goal Heighington kept a clean sheet with what could be the best football we have seen all season.

A few inch perfect passes saw Kilburn-Robinson break away down the left hand side, beating 2 players, to cross the ball only narrowly missing the post but landing at the feet of the in-form Pouton who buried the ball in the back of the net at the narrowest of angles for 0-4. Pouton returned the favour with what could have been the pass of the season, picking out Kilburn-Robinson who finally got himself on the team sheet, 0-5. That wasn't the end of Kilburn-Robinson as Dawson played a lovely through ball to see Kilburn-Robinson round the keeper, to make it 0-6. The game ended 0-7 as Dawson picked another perfect pass, with Kilburn-Robinson who after 3 assists now bags his hat trick and a well deserved MOM. Under 14's match was played in blustery conditions, and was scrappy as a result with neither team taking control. Heighington took the lead through Liam Wright, but shortly before half time Whinney Banks snatched 2 goals. In the second half the opposition took control of the match and grabbed a third and final goal, and despite better play late in the game, Heighington failed to score, so the match ended 3-1 to Whinney Banks.

Daffodil Coffee Morning

The Mothers Union will be hosting a Daffodil Coffee morning at St. Clare's Church on Saturday March 14th beginning at 10am. As well as delicious home-made cakes, scones, pies and preserves - mouth watering bacon butties will be served. Super prizes on the raffle are sure to tempt you also. All children will be able to make a surprise Mother's Day card / picture as we will have a craft table available manned by the children's team. A FREE slice of cake for the adult who is accompanying the child/ren, will go down well with a cuppa. All proceeds are for the upkeep of St. Clares Church- a busy church which seeks to serve its' community well, so please come along, everyone is most welcome !



Newton Aycliffe Junior F.C.

U12's ARE LOOKING FOR NEW PLAYERS



NAJFC current U12's are on the lookout for new players to add to current squad! If you know of any players wanting a fresh new challenge in a team that want to play good football as well as enjoying themselves, then let us know! We train every Saturday morning 11:30-12:30 @ our home, Sunnyside Leisure Centre, Shildon on the brand new 3G pitch. For more information, please contact the team manager,

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Aycliffe Win Derby

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club continued their remorseless progress in Durham and Northumberland Division 3 with a 32 - 14 victory over fierce local rivals Sedgfield, bagging a try scoring bonus point into the bargain. Aycliffe have had the edge in recent contests between the two teams, but the games are always close. Things looked ominous when from the first scrum, Sedgfield drove forward 10 metres, and from the second they were awarded a penalty try, the conversion putting them 7 - 0 ahead. The speed of James Thacker soon put Aycliffe on the scoreboard with a try. From the back of a ruck, Andy Littlefair dove over to put Aycliffe ahead. With Aycliffe attacking again, Tom Hogan-Wharton took the ball out wide, Craig Holmes was in position to receive the scoring pass and he put the ball down behind the posts. Luke Tinkler converted. Before the half was done, Sedgfield struck back with another converted try and at the break the game was in the balance at 17 - 14. Aycliffe were trying to keep the play open and early in the second half, a jinking run by Holmes cut the defence apart, Littlefair was on hand to score in the corner to gain the bonus point. A penalty by Tinkler increased Aycliffe's lead. Sedgfield were unable to make much impression and

with time running out, David Judge set off on a run down the wing before kicking ahead, the bounce favoured Adam Gascoigne, whose pace saw him score behind the sticks. Tinkler completed the scoring with the conversion. At the whistle, Aycliffe had a hard-fought 32 - 14 victory. Aycliffe take a break for two weeks before returning to action on 28th March at Seghill; kick-off 3pm. Aycliffe rugby is sponsored by S Cars and Whitehouse Funeral Service

FUN DAY AT CARE HOME

A Fun Day will be held from 12-4pm at Woodham Grange Care Home off Burn Lane this Saturday. They are selling raffle tickets for a variety of prizes including paintballing, hair styling vouchers, passes for Playshack and Ruff and Tumble. We are also holding a tombola, cake stall, face painting and hot dogs for lunch. We are hoping the fundraising will be as successful as possible and we have already sold a lot of raffle tickets



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JUNIOR FOOTBALL RESULTS

The Under 16's were at Skelton Utd and returned home with all 3pts but found ourselves a goal down after only 2mins, but we soon equalised through Jimmy Cameron, only to fall behind for a second time minutes later. Corey Denton made it 2-2 before half time. Corey Denton fired home for 2-3 and Lewis Crowe added a 4th to give Aycliffe an excellent 2-4 away win. Man of the match was Corey Denton.

Under 15 Falcons were away at Hardwick Youth with little chances ere created in a goalless first half. The hosts then scored straight from the kick but the Falcons dragged themselves back into the game with Corra hitting the bar and Danny P. forcing the keeper into a good save. With time running out Liam W. found the corner of the net. Final score 1-1.

The Under 13s travelled to the impressive Darlington RA who found themselves one up through Josh Richardson only for the RA to respond. A free kick was dispatched by Keiron Todd for 2-1. He then finished well for 3-1, back came the RA for 3-2.

Keiron then rounded the keeper for 4-2. The RA scored 4 consecutive goals for 6-4. Toddy again finished well to reduce the deficit. Manager David Todd was full of praise for his battling team, hard luck lads!

Under 13 Girls hosted Framwellgate Moor Girls' Under 14 in a where we welcomed our new girls, Lydia Shale and Becky Potter who made impressive debuts. The visitors' opened the scoring for 0-1. Chloe Ryan equalised for 1-1 at half-time. Early second half pressure paid off as a Courtney Wilson clearance evaded all for Chloe to race through and side foot in for a final score of 2-1. Well done girls and good to catch up with Framwellgate.

The Under 12 Eagles were away to Richmond Town Blues for a late kick off. Not much to report at all about this game which ended in a very disappointing 0-0 draw.

Man of the match went to Riley. **The Under 11 Eagles** were at home Hardwick Youth. Adam Hicks scored to give the Eagles the lead. Hardwick equalised and then a penalty to make it 2 -1. Hardwick scored two more before half time making it 4-1.

Aaron Ross reduced the arrears to make it 4 -2. Hardwick then scored again only for Dylan Bowater to score a second half hat trick to make it 5 -5. A last minute Aaron Ross free kick was parried by the keeper to Lewis Batey for the winner! Unbelievable!! Final score 6-5.

Under 11 Falcons were away at Thornaby to play TIBS. Tom Jasper opened the scoring and Liam Horner the 2nd - Dylan Redpath added a third with a header. Second half saw the Falcons add a further 8 goals from Declan Scott, Cameron Vaudrey, Dylan Redpath - completing his hat-trick, Tom jasper scoring his 2nd, Clayton Edwards scoring two and Kieran Gillham completing a solid performance. Declan Scott was man of the match.

Under 10s Eagles were at home to Bishop Auckland Aces. Brandon Addy scored after 5mins. 1-0 HT. Second half and chance after chance was squandered. Alfie Backhouse fired past the keeper for 2-0. Brennan Fitzpatrick scored with a long range shot just inside the half way line which made his performance complete. Well done all. Man of the match went to Brandon Addy.

Under 10 Falcons v Durham Fed. A Lunchtime kick off saw the Falcons battle hard in a close

contest with Declan, Leo and Hayden in the midfield, Jai and Ben in defence, Nathan upfront and Leon in goal. 0-0 at half-time. Leo then put the Falcons 1-0 up! But a fast counter attack by Durham made it 1-1. Great attacking and defending by the Falcons but everyone had to settle for 1-1. Man of the match went to Jai.

Under 8 Eagles against Stockton and Norton Ancients. Jayden Jones organised well at the back...keeper Jack Greenwell stood firm and both wide men, Ashton Houlahan and Noah Scott both scored. Centre forward Joe Kennedy lead the line well and got his reward with two goals. Great team performance.

Under 8 Falcons took on the All Stars and Travis Dixon opened the scoring with a hat trick in the first 5 mins!!! We added a 4th with a superb strike by Dylan Stewart. A Travis header made it 5-0 at half time. A solo run by Jacob Bailey-Thompson made it 6-0. All Stars pulled 2 late goals back. Dylan Stewart was man of the match. The 2nd game saw goals from Alex Beattie, Ryan Usher and 2 a piece for Cole Gaskarth

and Travis Dixon. The game ended 6-2. Man of the match went to Aiden-lee Peacock. The girls league restarted after the winter break. It was also debut days from the Under 10 & Under 11's.

Under 10 Girls v Boldon, tough start, but the girls dug in and matched the opposition even an early goal to go 0-1 down didn't put them of their stride. A huge penalty shout and a couple of near misses and it could have been different but Boldon grabbed a second and a final minute third for a 0-3 win.

Under 11 Girls v Hebburn Town, a slow start from the girls who found themselves 0-3 down at half time. Quickly off the mark with a goal from Aaliyah, Hattie hit the post twice before a superb goal 2-3. Time ran out, full-time 2-3. Under 11 v Lumley Girls, evenly matched first half then a Lumley corner, the ball missed everyone and somehow ended up in the net.

The girls were not down started to get on top, superb equaliser from Hattie and it was game on. A couple of scary moments then Hattie drove home the winner from a tight angle for 2-1.

Regional Class of the Year Award



Congratulations to Greenfield's Engineheads for winning "Class of the Year" at the Northern Echo Schools Awards this week.

The fantastic group of young people were rewarded for their hard work and dedication to the work of Room 13 at Greenfield Arts.

Over the past year they have led training sessions for teachers, organised activity in Room 13, given presentations at national conferences and they will soon be leading assemblies at Greenfield about SOLEs and

Room 13.

Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity at Greenfield Arts (who was also a finalist at the awards) said: "It is fantastic that this inspiring group of young people have been recognised in this way for all their hard work over the past year - well done!"

We are very proud of this group of Year 9 students, who regularly volunteer their time - well done! Find out more about Room 13 on the School in the Cloud blog via our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk.

Great Aycliffe Town Council & Durham County Council

CONSULTATION ON NEW BMX TRACK AT HORNDALE PARK

An initiative has been put forward by Aycliffe Youth Council to provide a purpose built BMX Pump track in Horndale Park (similar to the one in Woodham Park). This would be a joint partnership venture between Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) and the Town Council. The BMX track will not be artificially lit, although some lighting will spill over from Burnhill Way.

It is estimated that the project will cost approximately £25,000 and may be funded, in the main, by the GAMP Area and Neighbourhood Budgets.

We are particularly interested in your views, as residents, in order to ensure the money is spent wisely.

To assist the Town and County Council with this project we would be grateful if you could complete the following questions.

1. Do you think a BMX area in Horndale Park is a good idea? Please reply Yes or No and if not, why not.

Please return to Great Aycliffe Town Council, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF
CLOSING DATE - TUESDAY 7th APRIL 2015

Mothers' Day Remembrance

MAUD GRAHAM Thinking of you on Mothers' Day. We smile as we remember just how vibrant you once were and the way you always treated us with tender loving care. Hope you know we love and miss you more than any words can say. Your loving family, Rob, Lisa, Jessica, Laura and Mason xxxxxx

JENNIE TARVIT Thank you for the years we shared, thank you for the way you cared. We love you then and we love you still. Forget you not, we never will. Thinking of my special Mam on Mothers' Day. Miss you every day. Love from Kathy, Martin and family xxxxx
GRACE HEDLEY Mother's Day is here again. But you are not here with us. No cards, no gifts, no greetings, no hugs, no kisses, no fuss. Wishing you a Happy Mothers' Day in Heaven. Lots of love, Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxxxxx

PATRICIA FISK Missing you this Mothers' Day and always Mam. Love, Susan and Michael xx
FEATHERSTONE, Eleanor Miss you always. Love, Tony x

Obituary

ANN BERTLETT (nee Corey). 05/02/1942 to 06/03/2015. Passed away peacefully in Darlington Memorial Hospital surrounded by her family. She was a beloved Mam to Peter and Susan; loving Mum-in-Law to Paul; treasured Nana to Liam, Becci and Lewis. Would family and friends please meet for Service at St. Mary's Church for 10am on Wednesday 18th March. Flowers care of Co-op Funeralcare, Mcmillan Road. "Rest in Peace, you are only a heartbeat away" xxxxx

MAUREN WRIGHT of Newton Aycliffe. Passed away peacefully on 6th March aged 73 years. A dearly beloved Wife to Cliff; much loved Mum to Amanda; a treasured Grandmother to Lucy and James; also a great Grandmother to Emily. Family and friends please meet for Service at Wear Valley Crematorium (Coundon) on Friday 20th March for 10.15am

BELL On 5th March, peacefully in Aycliffe Care Home, Mary (nee Mullen) aged 80 years of Newton Aycliffe formerly Gateshead. Beloved wife of Wilf; loving Mam of Val, Angela and Paul; also a dearly loved Nana. Funeral Tuesday 17th March. Would friends please meet at 10.15am for a Service at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe prior to interment at West Cemetery, School Aycliffe. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, can be made after the Service to the family's chosen charity, a donation box will be provided at Moore Lane Sports Club.

JOAN STOKER. On 10th March, peacefully in hospital following a short illness. Joan (nee Harvey), aged 80 years. Beloved Wife of the late Tom; much loved Mam of Marie, Stephen, Paul and Dean; Mother-in-Law of Ray, Christine, Amanda and Katie; also a much loved Nana Joan and Great Nana Joan. Will family and friends please meet for Service and cremation at Darlington Crematorium on Friday 20th March at 11.15am.

Birthday Remembrance

TREVOR WILLIAMSON 16th March. Beautiful memories, dearer than gold, of a man whose worth can never be told. There's a place in our hearts no one can fill, we miss you each day and always will. On your 70th Birthday. Love, Sue, Darren, Nic, Vicky, Craig, Thomas, Jack, Finley and family xxx

PAUL CLARK 17th March 1957 to 8th July 2009. Treasured memories of someone so special. No cards or presents for one so dear, just special thoughts and a silent tear. My heart still aches as I whisper low "Happy Birthday Paul, I miss you so". Love always, Carole xxxxx

PAUL CLARK Missing you so much, you are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. With all our love, Adam, Diane, Matthew and Sarah xxxxx

FRANK 18th March. Happy birthday Frank. No card again to send to you. Just all our love is all we can send up to you. From your loving Wife, Pauline, Son Frank, Daughter Diane, Son-in-Law Kevin, Grandson Luke and Granddaughter Hannah xxxxxx

LORNA ROBERTS 15th March 1924. Tears in place of wishes, heartaches mixed with love. No happy birthday wishes, no cards to Mam with love. Loved and missed every day, Beverly xx

In Memoriam

PHYLLIS BLENKINSOPP 9th March 2014. Your memory is so special, your presence missed so much, you will always be within our thoughts and loved so very much. Time slips by and life goes on, but from our hearts you are never gone. We think about you always, talk about you too. We have so many memories, but most of all we wished we still had you. Always loved by your Sisters, Brothers-in-Law, Nieces and Nephews

PHYLLIS BLENKINSOPP 9th March 2014. I thought of you with love today, but that is nothing new, I thought about you yesterday and days before that too. I think of you in silence, I often speak your name, all I have are memories and your picture in a frame. Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part, God has you in His keeping, I have you in my heart. All our love, Ian, Jackie, Nicola, Graham and Danny. Love and kisses, Zach and Mia xxxxxx

RAYMOND BENNETT (Ben). 16th March 2014. One year since you left us Dad. Missed and remembered every day. Susan, Laurence and family xxxxx

RAYMOND BENNETT 16.03.2014. In our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. Love always, Jacky and all family x
ALLEN FRAZER 18th March 1998. Partings come and hearts are broken, loved ones go with words unspoken. Deep in our hearts there's a memory kept, for a special Husband, Dad and Grandad we will never forget. Love always, Ann and family xxxxxx

MARY HIND 15th March 2009. You were a wonderful loving Mam and a devoted Nana. We miss you so much. You are always in our thoughts and our hearts. Never forgotten. All our love, Janet, Tony and David xxxxx

Congratulations



Rebecca Armstrong



Happy 18th Birthday
19th March 2015
All our love, Grandma, Granda, Charlie and Katie

Katie Pryor



Happy 18th Birthday
14th March 2015
Enjoy your party! Love from Mam, Nigo, Sarah and Matt xxxxx

Margi Howes



The Oldest Kerb-Rat in Town is 60 Today!!
19th March 2015
Happy birthday to a much loved Mam and Gran, from Daniel, Deborah, Ryan, Lucy and Lewis xxxxx

Walter Kilburn



Happy 80th Birthday Dad and Grandad
Love you lots, Tracey, Dave, Tyler and Millie.
All my Love on your 80th
Walter
From Freda xxxxx

Mothers' Day Greetings

JULIE HOWEY Happy Mothers' Day Mam, we love you so much, you are the best. Hope you have a nice day. Love, Ste, Mick and Paul xxxxxx
SYLVIA SPENSLEY Happy Mothers' Day to not just my Mammy, but my best friend also, love you loads. Have a lovely day Mam. Love always, Julie and Den xxxxxx
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to a special Mam. Love, Curt and Cloe xx

Colour PhotoAds

Advertisements with a Photo can be placed at one of our agents:
YOUNGS NEWSAGENTS (Town Centre)

DON WALKERS (Simpasturegate)

or direct to our office at:
NEWTON PRESS (Aycliffe Business Park)

Small PhotoAd - £15.00

Photo and up to 20 words - extra words 15p each

Large PhotoAd - £25.00

Photo and up to 20 words - extra words 15p each

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Photographs collected afterwards from Newton Press offices.

Photos are held on file for six months only

Please ensure all Personal Advertisements are clearly written to avoid distressing errors

WATER POLO TEAM IN WALSALL NATIONALS

Sedgefield Water Polo Club's Under 17's team travelled to Walsall for the first round of the National Championships with high hopes of doing well in the competition. They were in group A with five other top teams.

Unfortunately they started the competition badly losing to London Invicta 9-5 after some disappointing play and to many major fouls. In their next game they were up against Welsh Champions Cwbra

Braig and in a tight game Sedgefield's fitness told and they won 10-6. The Water Polo Team in Walsall third game saw them up against Cheltenham from the West who have won many National titles at Junior and Senior level but Sedgefield were far too good winning 15-4. Their fourth game saw Sedgefield playing City of Manchester one of the favourites and in a low scoring game Sedgefield won 6-3.

In Sedgefield's final game they played Scottish Champions Caledonia knowing if they won they would top the group and get a good draw for the next round. Sedgefield's fitness really stood out as they easily defeated the Scottish team 11-5. This was a good performance by Sedgefield after losing the first game. In the next round Sedgefield are up against London Invicta again and Solihull.

Team: Richard Murray, Michael Cousins, Mike Kelly, Connor Keeble, John Pratt, Jake Plant, Ben Stephenson, Kris Egginton, Mathew Alderson, Ben Mason, Daniel Armstrong and Isaac Wass.

CHARITY MATCH TO HELP CANCER VICTIM RAISE 10K



John Close and Sean Tarling with Paul McGeary (centre)

Two former Newton Aycliffe captains will swap the pitch for the dugout later this year when they take charge of respective Newtonian XI's to raise money for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

Sean Tarling and John Close will select from a pool of current and ex-Newtonians in the charity game which will also act as a celebration of Aycliffe's five year tenure in the Northern League, dating back to August last year.

Several players have already signed up to take part in the charity game, which will take place at Moore Lane Park on Saturday 2nd May, while former Chairman and Assistant Manager Gary Farley has agreed to referee proceedings. The match is the brainchild of former Aycliffe committee person Paul McGeary, 33, who was diagnosed with Leukaemia in November last

year. Paul's #NotOneInch campaign has already raised almost £6k for charity as he aims to raise £10k by the end of 2015.

Paul said, "The game was always something that has been in the back of my mind since the club was first promoted to the Northern League but through one thing or another it never got off the ground last summer. "With the fundraising push in mind, I decided to resurrect the idea and when I approached Sean and John they were only too happy to be involved. The reaction from the small group of players who I have asked to take part has been overwhelming.

"I urge anyone who has played for the club from the Wearside League season, right through to the current day to get in touch and add their name to the pool of players, regardless of whether you played one

game or 100 games for the club.

"Lads who are unable to play for whatever reason are encouraged to support the day, as are supporters either active or lapsed, as it is a celebration of how far the club has come in recent

years."

The game will kick off at 12.30 on Saturday 2nd May 2015, with admission by donation to Paul's chosen charity Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

Former players can contact Paul on 07703732342 to express their interest in taking part on the day.

YOUR NEWS ITEMS PRINTED FREE IN NEWTON NEWS

Some readers are under the impression Newton News makes a charge for printing stories about events in the community involving businesses and town organisations.

Whilst other publications may charge for this service your community newspaper DOES NOT and never has demanded payment for news items. If your organisation or company has newsworthy information they wish to share with our community please get in touch. We would be happy to hear from you and take photos/video footage if required. Remember Newton News has a 16,500 circulation weekly, delivering to each household in Aycliffe and the surrounding villages. We also deliver to over 280 companies on Aycliffe Business Park and leave copies for people to pick up in public places.

We also have a very active website where current and past issues of Newton News can be viewed. Our popular website attracts local, national and international views each week from people around the world.

Feel free also to send in any news and photos by email to syd@newtonnews.co.uk - We look forward to receiving your next piece of good news.

**Items received are subject to space being available and the content acceptable. The editor retains the right to refuse items that are anonymous or unsuitable for publication.*

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ATHLETICS NEWS



Ropner Park was the venue for the penultimate event in the Stockton Winter Trail series of races over 5K. A mainly flat course and ideal conditions resulted in some fast times for the club. Newcomer Shane Doe had a brilliant debut for Aycliffe, finishing 38th in the time of 21:46, but John Surtees was first home for the club, 4th in 18:09, followed by Graham Atkins, 15th in 20:19 and 1st V/50 and Dave Blewitt, 27th in 21:15.

Next to cross the line was John Burnside, 29th in 21:20, and Tracy Surtees was not far behind, 32nd in 21:25, followed by Steve Smith, 41st in 21:55 and Sandra Collins, 54th in 22:32.

Alan Wilks was once again 1st V/65 in 23:07 and is almost certain to win the series prize in his age group.

Gary Minns was next finisher, 71st in 23:37, followed by Paul Stretton, 117th in 26:31 and Dave Mackenzie, 119th in 26:45.

In the Harewood House 10K near Leeds, on a course which included some stiff hills, Mark Wade finished 20th in a field of nearly 2000 in the time of 39:34 and Geoff Miles completed the course in 53:56.

In the Dalton Dash 10K, an undulating and challenging course in the picturesque Yorkshire Wolds, Dave Mackenzie finished in 55:31 and in the Surrey Half Marathon Naomi Kellett achieved a PB of 1hr:43m.

Why not join us in our circuit training sessions every Tuesday from 6-7pm. Non-members welcome.

For more information about Aycliffe Running Club and their training sessions visit ayclifferunningclub.org.uk

Easter Super Sport Skills

Monday 30th March
Activity Day
9am - 4pm
8-15 years
£11.00
Bring a packed lunch

Tuesday 31st March
Archery
9.30am - 11am
8-15 years
£3.20 members
£3.70 non members

Wednesday 1st April
Crafty Kids
9.30am - 11am
8-15 years
£1.00 members
£1.50 non members

Thursday 2nd April
Mini Activity Session
9.30am - 11am
4-7 years
£2.40 members
£2.90 non members

Tuesday 7th April
Archery
9.30am - 11am
8-15 years
£3.20 members
£3.70 non members

Wednesday 8th April
Mini Fun with Balls
10am - 11am
4-7 years
£2.40 members
£2.90 non members

Thursday 9th April
Target Bowls
9.30am - 10.30am
8-15 years
£1.00 members
£1.50 non members

Friday 10th April
Mini Archery
10am - 11am
5-7 years
£2.40 members
£2.90 non members

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