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College for Adults with Learning Disabilities Opens in Aycliffe



On Friday 24th April Sir Peter Vardy DL officially opened the new specialist training college for adults with learning disabilities called the "Sir Peter Vardy Enterprise Centre" at Thornbeck College, Newton Aycliffe. The North East Autism Society (NEAS) have completed renovation work on a disused building at the Centre, the charity's £9m educational facility in Newton Aycliffe. The new facility offers additional space for the College, a specialist training centre that provides personalised study programmes for learners with autism, learning difficulties and, or disabilities, for people aged 16 to 25 years old. Christine Dempster, Director of Education at NEAS said; "It was a privilege to show Sir Peter our college facilities and demonstrate our relentless drive to

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AUSTERITY HAS FAILED SAYS GREEN PARTY ELECTION CANDIDATE

While all the other parties squabble amongst themselves and look to use the election campaign as a point scoring exercise I, as the Green Party candidate, would draw people's attention to the positives they can expect from me.

If elected as MP for Sedgefield I would, not being bound by a party whip, be able to truly dedicate myself to the needs of constituency and surrounding area. I would look to rejuvenate town centres by building a local network of suppliers and retailers that can compete with the large multi-nationals and meet the needs of the people in terms of choice, secure employment and sustainability.

Over the last five years the Coalition Government have attacked all our public services, including the NHS. I would support the NHS Reinstatement Bill 2015, which is the only

piece of legislation that;

- Restores the Duty to Provide by the Secretary of State
- Renationalises the NHS
- Attempts to tackle PFI debt
- Safeguards the NHS from TTIP and
- Enables people to be prioritised above profit.

I'd also fight for improved mental health services and social care in the community as well as supporting the strengthening of other public services to meet our diverse needs and create good secure employment, the renationalisation of the rail network and investment in a sustainable transport system. Fossil fuels are a finite resource and with investment in renewable energy sources such as solar, tidal and wind along with research we can bring high skilled, secure, well paid jobs to the area.

I would fight to ensure that no

Sedgefield resident need worry about their heating bills, their child's education, access to a GP, medical or any other frontline service or have issues of trust in their MP. If elected by you I would be accountable to you.

I will fully oppose the current austerity agenda that is unfairly targeting the most vulnerable in society to pay for the reckless dealings of the financial sector. An experiment that has seen unprecedented rises in foodbank usage, homelessness, people

living in poverty and real term declines in take home pay whilst simultaneously creating 13 new Billionaires in the last year alone and a doubling of the combined wealth of the top 1000 individuals since 2005.

I want Sedgefield to be proud of its surroundings and its MP, something I am confident I can deliver. If these are things you believe in, I urge you to vote based on those beliefs, vote Green Party, vote Greg Robinson on May 7th.

Regenerating Newton Aycliffe Town Centre



Readers will have noticed the new town centre signs

erected recently and they are well designed and help visitors find the shops which up until now have been somewhat hidden from view. Phil Wilson MP shown in the photo said "this is the Town Centre taking another step forward, and the new signage looks great. We are already seeing more people coming back into the town and I look forward to further regeneration over the coming weeks".

Councillors' Surgeries

Shafto, Central and Neville Ward

Councillors Sarah Iveson and Jed Hillary will be in attendance at St. Mary's Meeting Room, Burn Lane on Saturday 9th May from 11am - 12 noon.

New Aycliffe Training College

Continued from Front Page



Sir Peter Vardy cuts the ribbon on the official opening of Thornbeck College

continue to expand the range of meaningful employment opportunities for our learners. The new centre will enable the college to increase its offer of vocational pathways available to learners and will include car maintenance, woodwork and catering."

Sir Peter Vardy toured the new facilities and had the opportunity to meet learners who access the services. The college works in partnership with local businesses to give learners the opportunity to practice and develop work related skills in a range of supported and open employment projects. Learning programmes focus on equipping learners with the skills that they need for living and work. For further information about the centre please call 01325 328 088.

Why Use Schools for Polling?

Once again schools are closing to allow a small area of their premises to be used for polling on Election Day. This causes a lot of inconvenience to parents who may be working. They have to take a day off which affects their income and also the production of the company where they are employed.

Four schools in Newton Aycliffe are affected this time: St. Joseph's, Stephenson Way, Vane Road and Sugar Hill. Church Halls and Community Centres are being used as alternatives so why couldn't other premises be used instead of the four schools mentioned? The Leisure Centre and the Scout Centre could serve the Stephenson Way area as could the Mormon Church instead of Vane Road School. None of these are too far to walk for voters and many would use their cars anyway.

The need for numerous local polling stations within walking distance is less these days as fewer people vote, and some ballot by post. Some Councils have cut the number of polling stations and staff to run them, saving lots of cash.

With the advance of modern communications elections in the future may be different, slicker with more encouraging methods to get people to cast their vote.

Neville Community Centre

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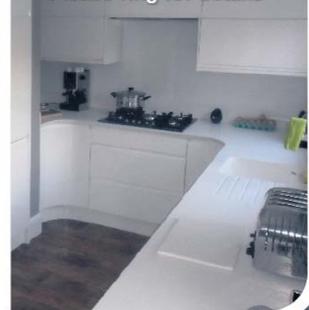
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Local Councils Ignored by County Council

Dear Sir,
Major credit to Town Councillors in both Newton Aycliffe and Ferryhill for condemning Durham County Council's policy of removing lights from the Great North Road A167.

This decision is as much baffling for its daft waste of money as it is vindictive in its refusal to acknowledge the views of people who will be affected.

Allegedly a core of 200+ were allowed to influence a decision which will affect detrimentally not only the general population of South West Durham but also the thousands of people who pass through this area daily.

If County Durham aims for excellence as its public relations would have us believe, this is a peculiar way to demonstrate it. By reducing lighting to the lowest possible denominator of British Standards, we have to say goodbye to striving for betterment RIP words like exemplary, consummate, commendable, perfect, admirable, and praiseworthy. Of course anyone can consult then ignore the consultation but this is far from creditable behaviour for a County

Council.
I would suggest we keep this and other issues alive by reviewing them shortly before the elections in 2017 when we can perform our very own consultation and take the relevant action through the ballot box.
Ken Robson –
Resident of this Parish

BRING BACK LABOUR

Dear Editor
The Conservative candidate in the General Election said in the Newton News last week there was no cost of living crisis in Aycliffe. I think he needs a reality check.

I have been looking for work for a long time and my partner has just managed to get a part time job but with a short contract, agency work. The price of food and energy bills going up all the time means that you are often worse off when you have a job.

We really need a Labour government who actually understands what life is like for the majority of us, not just a few millionaires in the south.
Samantha Louise Hoggarth

Students Take Advice on Producing a Newspaper



On Monday 27th April 2015, students from Greenfield Community College were given the opportunity to have a question and answer session with the editor of the Newton News. The Royal Blue tutor group had the chance to ask relevant questions to Syd that would benefit them when they eventually write their own newspaper.

They are learning to produce their own publication when this photo was taken. Each student from the group had a question prepared to ask about formatting, roles in the business and how to make a good article. The tutor group would like to thank Syd Howarth for taking the time to visit and Mrs. Best, the tutor, for organising this opportunity.

Election Doorstep Questions

Phil Wilson, the Labour parliamentary candidate for Sedgefield, shares his views on some of the important questions he's heard on the doorstep during the election campaign so far.

Will Labour cut the deficit?

The Conservatives said they would get rid of the deficit by 2015, but instead they have left a debt of £75 billion. They have borrowed more in 5 years than Labour did in 13. They cannot say how they will raise additional funding for the NHS. They have promised over £7 billion in tax cuts but again can't say where they will get the money. All they've promised is more extreme cuts. Labour's manifesto has no proposal for any new spending paid for by additional borrowing. We will help more people into better paid jobs which will lead to increased tax revenues and lower social security spending. We will make cuts where necessary in a fair way.

What is Labour's plan to tackle immigration?

Over 99% of the constituency's population are white British so immigration should not be a significant concern locally. I understand though the national concern. There are more British people living in other parts of the EU than Europeans living here. However, immigration still needs to be controlled. Labour will ensure that people coming here from other countries will not be able to claim benefits until they have contributed to our society and paid taxes for at least two years. Labour will make it illegal for employers to undercut wages by exploiting workers and we will ban agencies from recruiting only from abroad. Labour will also require that large firms seeking to recruit people from outside of Europe offer a local apprenticeship. And we will make sure our borders are strong with a 1000 extra border and enforcement staff paid for by US-style visa reforms.

What will a Labour government do about bus services?

Buses are the lifeline of our local towns and villages.

The lack of bus services is an issue in the constituency from Thornley to Ferryhill, from Wingate to Chilton, from Trimdon to Middleton St George and all points in between. Under the Tories, over 2,000 bus routes have gone, including many locally and bus fares have increased 5 times faster than wages. Labour will give communities more control over the way buses are operated so they can decide routes and set fares.

What will you do about rogue private landlords and helping first time buyers?

Approaching 20% of houses in the constituency are private lets. Most private landlords look after their properties. A minority do not, and cause problems for local residents. I've been to many community meetings as MP where private landlords are brought up as an issue. Labour will drive up standards by introducing a self-funded national register of landlords, and making it easier for local authorities to introduce licensing schemes and ensure tough sanctions. Labour will also give councils the power to double council tax on properties left empty.

Labour's sixth campaign pledge is to create the biggest house building programme for a generation with a priority for first-time buyers. We'll cut their stamp duty to zero for homes worth under £300,000 and secure three-year rents capped by inflation.

What are your views on unsustainable housing development in the area?

There is a need for housing but it must be done in a sustainable way that recognises the ability of an existing community to cope. That is why I was opposed to plans to build 2000 houses at Sedgefield village. 2000 is far too many. However Sedgefield needs some houses and I will work with the local community and the county council to work out the best locations. A similar issues has arisen in Middleton St George where, if all the housing applications go through, a 1,000 houses could be built over the coming years. I have been fighting on behalf of the residents to stop over development including presenting a petition to parliament and taking representatives from the village to meet with government ministers.

Help Provide Respite for Parkinsons Victims

Dear Sir,
As the nation marks Parkinson's Awareness Week, I'd like to tell your readers about Parkinson's, a disease which affects nearly 130,000 people in the UK. Parkinson's is an incurable, progressive disease of the nervous system that inhibits the way the brain controls movements such as walking, talking and writing. It has affected such famous figures as Muhammad Ali, Johnny Cash, Michael J Fox and Billy Connolly.

People with Parkinson's and other disabled people and carers often find it extremely costly and difficult to organise a break away from their daily routine because of their complex medical and care arrangements.

As a result, a huge number of disabled people and their carers give up on the possibility of ever taking any respite, due to the enormous physical or financial barriers they face.

I work for Revitalise, a national charity providing respite holidays with care at three accessible centres around the UK. Each year we welcome thousands of disabled people and carers to enjoy much-needed breaks with us – breaks which often mean the difference between coping and despair. If your readers would like more information about Revitalise or would like to support our vital work, please call us on 0303 303 0145 or visit www.revitalise.org.uk.
Colin Brook, Revitalise

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The Music Society season continues on Friday, 8th May at 7.30pm in The Throne Room at Auckland Castle when award-winning soprano, Raphaela Papadakis performs Lieder by Schubert and Liszt, together with a selection of Britten's Folk Song arrangements. Accompanied by chamber musician and conductor, James Sherlock, on piano this is a concert not to be missed by music lovers of all ages. Tickets: £12.50 available from Brian Varley (01388) 606075 or pay on the door. (U18s free).

Gestamp Tallent's Two New Presses Ready for Production This Month

Erected in Purpose-Built Extension

Work to complete plant 1 extension has gathered pace over the first quarter of 2015. Since the return to work in the New year Gestamp Tallent has seen the installation of a new 35ton overhead crane, the Fagor 4000T transfer press and Arisa 1500T progression press complete with a short form coil line. Both presses are now in their final commissioning stages.

Work commenced on the Fagor Press as soon as staff arrived back at work after the Christmas break with the installation of the scrap conveyor in the pit. This needed to be installed before the press arrived and went ahead with no problems.

The Fagor engineers arrived on site shortly after and started with the press install. The first items they installed were the pads in the pit that the press sits on. Then the various press items arrived on 15 wagons over a period of 3 days which logistically caused the team a few problems as storage space was at a premium as Howard Russell were still on site finishing off the building construction.

The decision was taken to store some items off site until they were required. The main body of the press (beds, crowns and slides) arrived at Teesport on January 27th. Gestamp personnel were lucky enough to see the various items been taken off the ship and put onto special transport to be delivered to site. The heaviest items weighing 90 tonnes!

The press then started to be built from the floor up in various stages using a mega-lift until the crowns were placed on the top. This took approximately 3 weeks which was very impressive. The destack feeder and all of the auxiliary items were then installed around the press. Commissioning of the press started mid-March and is still continuing.

So far the press has passed all of its dimensional and run checks and the destack feeder is just finishing its commissioning phase. Commissioning of the transfer system has just started which is expected to take 2-4 weeks. After that tools will be introduced to the press and training for operator and



maintenance will begin. With the press currently being on plan the company expect the press to begin production at the end of May. Once in production this will be the largest capacity transfer press within the plant. From the initial designs, the specification was based on the Komatsu (K1) press so parts to be manufactured can now be run in both presses.

After the scrap conveyor was installed for the Fagor press work commenced on the installation of the Arisa conveyor which went ahead with no problems. In January a team from Gestamp press shop attended the pre-acceptance buy off at Arisa's premises in Spain. Shortly after this the press was decommissioned and shipped to Aycliffe. This time the parts arrived via 11 wagons. Three special transport wagons brought the bed crown and slide from Southampton where the ship docked. The first parts arrived at the beginning of March, and the main components of the press were assembled in just over

a week then the soundproof cabinet was assembled. Meanwhile the Cisam coil line arrived on site and was installed by the Arisa team. Operator & Maintenance training is expected to be completed by the end of April.

No Change to Bin Collection for Holidays

Residents in County Durham are reminded that there are no changes to bin collections during the May bank holiday weeks. All bin collections in the county will remain as usual during the weeks of Monday 4 May and Monday 25 May. Householders are asked to put their bins out near the kerbside by 7.00am on their usual day. This applies to refuse and recycling bins and also to garden waste collections for those who have subscribed to

this service. Residents can find out their collection details by entering their house number and postcode into 'My Durham' at www.durham.gov.uk or by calling 03000 261 000.

For advice on recycling or to find out what items go in which bin visit www.durham.gov.uk/whatgoeswhere and to subscribe to garden waste collections visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste or call 03000 261 000.

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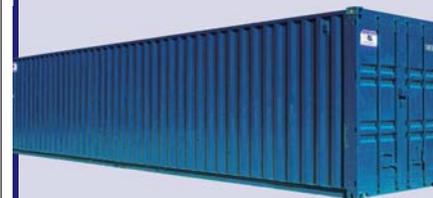
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MULTI-USE GAMES AREA PLANNED FOR MOORE LANE PARK



It has been agreed by the Town Council to provide a MUGA on half of the tarmac area, previously used as tennis courts at the park. The Town Council is to provide half of the funding and an application is to be made to Durham County Council for the other half of the funds needed, which are available from a previous planning Section 106 agreement. If the funding bid is successful, it is hoped the MUGA will be installed before the end of this year.

Newtonian's Painting Shortlisted for Royal Academy Exhibition



Local Builder Billy Lowery is a very accomplished artist and his work has been shortlisted for the Annual Open Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy in London. Paintings have been entered from all over the world and Billy's painting, inspired by a trip to Berwick, has been chosen for the final two rounds of selection. The final choice will be announced today and we hope Billy is successful.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON EXPANSION OF AGNEW COMMUNITY CENTRE

Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership (GACAP) whose current base is at the Agnew Community Centre held a Public Consultation between 6 and 7 pm on the 22nd April, to display the plans for the extension to the Centre to accommodate a multi use community welfare hub adjacent to the existing centre. The grounds where the Agnew Centre is located on Morrison Close are owned by Durham County Council and the Agnew Centre which was built in 2008 is a well established facility, well used by the local community. Local residents present stated that the multi functional extension to the Agnew Centre was a desirable addition to what the centre currently offered. They were happy for the development to go ahead but did express some



concern about parking. Parliamentary candidate Phil Wilson called in to show his interest and support for the project. The plans for the development at the Agnew Centre would according to Steve Mitton the Vice Chairman be on display in the meeting room until the next meeting of GACAP in about 28 days. He advised whoever

wanted to view the plans should telephone the centre on 321504 to ensure the room wasn't in use. They should make themselves known to either the Secretary or the Treasurer of the Agnew Centre on arrival and if they wished to make any comment about the plans to fill in the form and hand it to the office to be presented at the next GACAP meeting.

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(BLUEBELL SUBWAY OFF GREENFIELD WAY, NEWTON AYCLIFFE) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

The Council, on 24.04.15 made an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended, to close to all pedestrian traffic a 15m length of Bluebell Subway that passes beneath Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, to enable structural maintenance works to be undertaken. The maximum duration of the temporary closure under the Order is 18 months and is required from 05.05.15 and for the duration of the works, anticipated to be 12 weeks. However, on rare occasions, alternative dates for closures may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly. **Alternative route:** Northern side of the closure south westerly via the footpaths north of Hareson Court, Coverdale Court and Wolveston Close to the southern side of the closure and vice versa.

Dated: 1 May 2015

Colette Longbottom
 Head of Legal & Democratic Services
 County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL

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APPROVED GARAGES

Film Show

St Clare's Church FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW on Tuesday 5th May will feature "BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S" a beautiful, gentle, romantic comedy starring Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Patricia Neal, Mickey Rooney and Buddy Ebsen. Hepburn stars in her most memorable roll in this 1961 film which won two Oscars. One was for best score by Henry Mancini, the other for best original song, Moon River. 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

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Local History & Heritage Fair

County Durham History and Heritage Forum is holding a Local History and Heritage Fair 'Yesterday Belongs to You' at New College, Durham from 10am - 4pm on Saturday 9th May. Admission £1.50 with accompanied children free.

The event will be opened by John Grundy the well-known TV Presenter and Historian. More than 70 exhibitors will be attending and outside the Northern Bygone Society will be displaying a variety of classic cars.

Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society will be giving visitors the opportunity to ride in the bus featured in the TV Series, "Heartbeat". Come along and learn about your local history and heritage and even meet the Romans.

First AGM of Town's Welfare Partnership



A well attended meeting of partners, public representatives and general public attended the first AGM of Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership, (GACAP).

The Vice Chairman Steve Mittons chaired the meeting and thanked Pauline Chambers, the outgoing chairman, who had, because of ill health not been able to attend the AGM and several other meetings during the year.

Syd Howarth, whose brain child GACAP had been, outlined the progress that Pauline had made behind the scenes on progressing the application to the Big Lottery. There was a vote for the post of Chairman with two nominations, Susan Sadler and Steven Mitton. A secret ballot was held with tellers Ron Mitchie and Ken Robson. Ken in his usual humorous manner as 'Returning Officer' for the post revealed a dead heat. Susan Sadler said she was

prepared to withdraw her nomination. Steve Mitton said he would, under the circumstances be prepared to accept the role but would look to it being reviewed in three months. Susan said she was happy to stand as Vice Chair for the same period.

The draw for the correct entry in respect of the seaside scene in the entrance foyer at the Agnew Centre was won by County Councillor Jed Hilary.

West Park Friends Meet

The next meeting of Friends of West Park will be on Tuesday 12th May 2015 at 7pm in the Upstairs Lounge at the British Legion. All Residents most welcome - refreshments available

UKIP Candidate Receives Death Threat

Dear Editor,

There have been a number of threats to candidates this election and I have been no exception.

On the day that my election address went out to the first batch of constituents I received an email from a constituent wishing me to die in a fire. It also had another section but that is to obscene to be published.

Sadly due to the way the world now is I had to treat this as a genuine threat to not only my life but to that of my family who live with me because my address was made public by my choice.

I obviously spoke to the police and have been silent until their investigation was over. I genuinely had no idea and spent much of that evening sitting wondering if some one was coming to set my house or car on fire. As you can imagine this is unwanted stress which

should never have happened.

In a democracy you get to vote who you want to elect. It is a peaceful way of doing it and there is never any need for threats. I therefore send a message to all those who would think of doing so asking them to speak with their vote rather than abuse people who are standing to make a difference.

John Leathley
Sedgefield UKIP PPC

Flower Demo

Flower Demonstrator extraordinaire, the renowned Mildred Stafford of Aycliffe, will present 'An Enchanted World' of flower demonstrating at the Open Meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club on Monday, 11th May at 7.30pm at Shildon Civic Hall.

Tickets available on the door
£5 (members) £8 (visitors)

Bowls Open Day

Saturday 9th May 12.30pm - 4.30pm

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Just bring your own carpet slippers or bowling shoes but don't worry if you don't have any, we have all the equipment needed.

Why Newtonians Don't Need the Labour Party

Dear Sir,

The first paragraph of Warren Saunders' letter of last week is proof that the Labour Party is not needed. Every political party has bigoted and prejudiced members and supporters. As for middle class privilege and social mobility, did Tony Blair not achieve this under a Conservative Government in spades? Thereafter, he and the Labour Party lied about weapons of mass destruction and embroiled us in an illegal war.

When I read Warren's letter it reminded me of the sketch in Monty Python's 'Life of Brian' - "What have the Romans done for us". Locally, the Labour Party have closed Post Offices, closed Care Homes and now

intend to put out the lights! However, their most damaging action has been the introduction of the Cabinet System at County Council level; all the Council electorate have effectively been disenfranchised. The Labour Party Politburo makes all decisions regardless of how the electorate vote.

Nationally, Labour have wreaked havoc:

- Labour embarked upon an Illegal war.
- Labour failed to properly equip the troops they sent to war.
- Labour failed to plan for the 'peace'.
- Labour sold the nation's gold reserves when the market was depressed such that we had no reserves when they bankrupted the economy.

Labour left office after 13 years of misrule with unemployment at an all-time high [The Coalition has created two million new jobs in less than 5 years].

Labour wrecked the economy, and while in opposition have opposed the Coalition by espousing the socialist policies applied in Greece, France and Italy and other failed states.

Labour seek to deny us our democratic right to vote for the governance of our choice. We are increasingly governed by the European Union and are entitled to an in/out referendum; Tony Blair and Ed Miliband both disagree. They do not trust the electorate to vote for what the Labour Party want.

Labour have (in their own minds) engineered a multi-cultural Britain. The reality is that Britain is now a multi-race Britain, no more and no less and many would reasonably argue, a multi-racist Britain. Is it part of the British culture for parents to flee Britain and take their babes-in-arms to a war zone? Is this the culture that the multi-cultural Labour Party set out to achieve?

Labour and the Conservatives are both now promising to build 2 million new homes with the Conservatives also promising full employment. I hope these promises are achieved (without increasing borrowing). However, if we do not leave the EU and apply a proper and fair immigration policy, our taxes will be spent on housing an open-ended

number of immigrants from the failed E.U. As for full employment, again the number of jobs we will have to create is open-ended! We will be creating jobs in Britain for millions of E.U. migrants and all of our social and welfare facilities and cultural identity will be overwhelmed.

Newtonians and the country at large need Labour like they need a hole in the head. Vote UKIP and get out of the E.U. and then we may be able to achieve proper housing and jobs for Britain and not for the socialist Europeans who are fleeing their countries due to the failed socialist / Labour economic policies to which they blindly adhere. They are not coming here in the hope of forming a multi-cultural society, they are only seeking jobs and housing which their own failed economies cannot provide.

Alastair P.G. Welsh.

VIEW ON PHIL WILSON

Dear Sir,

It's really encouraging to see the positive way that Phil Wilson has run his campaign to be re-elected as our MP. He's talked about the issues that have affected us on the town, from his part in leading the campaign to bring Hitachi to Aycliffe to Labour's plans to abolish the bedroom tax and zero hours contracts.

For the Conservatives to call Phil's involvement with Hitachi in last week's Newton News a 'desperate Labour lie' is totally wrong and a cheap shot. Anyone from this area knows the huge role that Phil played and I think he deserves an apology.

I'll be voting for Phil, keep up the good work and thank-you for not engaging in playground politics.'
Brogan Clish, (20)
Newton Aycliffe.



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Sunday 14 th June	12pm - 5pm
Thursday 13 th August	5pm - onwards
Thursday 24 th September	5pm - onwards
Thursday 12 th November	5pm - onwards

WEDDING FAYRES: 9th of July & 24th of October 2015, Time: 12pm - 5pm



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In Honour of Those who Served Village Green Will Not be Spoilt History Talk



left to right standing: Mayor of Darlington Gerald Lee, Douglas Sayles (Royal Navy), Mary Skipsey (Land Army), Lord Lieutenant, Sue Snowden, Denis Beecroft (Royal Canadian Air Force), Mayoress Mrs Ruth Lee. Sitting: Jack Suddes (Durham Light Infantry), Rene Hoskinson (ATS).

On 16th April the Mayor and Mayoress of Darlington, Gerald and Ruth Lee hosted Afternoon Tea in Redworth Hall Hotel.

The purpose was to honour seven residents of Heighington and Coniscliffe Ward who had served during WWII. They were: Thomas D. Beecroft of the Royal Canadian Air Force; Denise Carver and, Douglas Sayles, the Royal Navy; John (Jack) R. Suddes, Durham Light Infantry and Mary Skipsey, the Land Army. Sadly, Rene Hoskinson, ATS and William R. Hoskinson, the Royal Air Force, were unwell and could not attend. A packed Hall listened to David Allaway read out citations for the veterans. Everybody present

was very moved to hear of the exceptional bravery, courage, and resilience of ordinary men and women who performed in a very extraordinary way in the service of their country. Mary Skipsey declined a citation; instead she entertained everybody with some hilarious anecdotes of life in the Land Army. The Queen's representative, the Lord Lieutenant Sue Snowden presented them with a Certificate, and a second one was presented by Worshipful Mayor, Cllr Gerald G. Lee. Trish McLean then led the company in singing all the old songs popular in WWII. The Veterans received a standing ovation when they left the Hall and there was not a dry

eye when Jack Suddes stood to attention and recited 'We will remember them' before bidding farewell. After a very memorable afternoon in Redworth Hall Hotel the proceeds from the afternoon's fund-raising activities went to the Children's Ward, Butterwick Hospice and the Phoenix Recovery Centre, Catterick.

Dear Sir,
In reply to Mr Robert's letter on the village green being spoilt. If I may give a little bit of history on the pavement in question which is "unadopted" and was put in at the turn of the century so that the Head Teacher Herbert Flower could walk easily to the Village school which was where my house is in St. Andrews

Close.
As a local councillor for over 20 years Durham County Council were asked if they would tidy the pavements on the green which they kindly agreed to and their method is to use weed killer. They return after a month to trim all the dead grass and the green grows back to its natural colour

I am very sorry that Mr Roberts feels the green was spoilt and I think if he sees the outcome of the work done he will see it back to its beautiful best. Unfortunately Durham County Council have withdrawn work on the village green so I have approached the Town Council to take over this task
Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp

Heather Munsey will give a talk to Aycliffe Village Local History Society entitled 'The Sinking of the Lusitania' on Wednesday 6 May at 7pm in Aycliffe Village Hall.
All welcome, members £1 non members £3, includes tea/coffee and biscuits.
Details 01325 301093.

Green Party Promises You - The Earth

Dear Editor,
I have been taken aback by the amount of negative campaigning that has spilled over onto the pages of the Newton News over that last few weeks. It is apparent, with not much to differentiate them on policies, the main parties are reduced to personal attacks and exploitation of the fear voters are currently experiencing under the current political and economic system. The current system has clearly failed for all but an elite few and none of the main parties are willing to challenge or change it. It seems to me that whichever of the main parties is voted in, they will continue to prop up the failed neoliberal ideology and the reliance on the free market greed based economy that we have endured under Thatcher/Blair/Cameron, which has led to great suffering of the majority of the people it was supposed to serve. Surely it is time now to change the system itself, and not just who runs it?
With the emphasis on economic and environmental sustainability and a more balanced and equal society, it seems the only party that is

offering a real alternative and will change the actual system so it works for all of us, is The Green Party.
The Green Party is committed to investing in renewable energy and building more social housing which will create more jobs, they will raise the minimum wage to £10 an hour, properly protect the NHS, and make the big corporations pay their taxes, re-nationalize the railways, say no to fracking and they are the ONLY party who will end austerity. All this, and they will reduce the deficit at a sustainable rate without the current levels of suffering. Their policies are available online and are comprehensively costed and approved by leading economic experts.
The Green Party won't promise you the moon on a stick, it won't even promise you a British moon on a British stick, but it will promise you the Earth, for you, your children and future generations. There is a real alternative, be the change you want to see in the world, vote Green for the common good.
Kathy Beetham (Aycliffe Green Party Supporter, find us on FB and twitter @AycliffeGP)

ACORN MAY MEETING

Local residents group ACORN will be holding their monthly meeting at the Royal British Legion Club on May 14th. Items for discussion will include the highly successful Whitby trip for the Goth weekend, Flower tubs which have now been installed and coming events.
Beginning at 5.30pm with a meeting of Little Acorns the junior section of the organisation, who will be making plans for their summer events, the main meeting will commence at 6pm where local issues can be discussed and future plans announced. We are now taking details of anyone interested in joining a Skillshare 4 hr course on Pet First Aid.
The Libertea Marquee tea will be our next major event. Attendance by local and County Councillors and hopefully Beat Police Officers ensures that ACORN residents can be kept up to date with current affairs affecting the town. The group welcome speakers on topical issues which affect our communities.



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ELECTION ADDRESS FROM CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE

My Priorities as Your MP: More Job Opportunities – Lower Taxes – Good or Outstanding Schools - NHS Delivering to You – Immigration Controlled – Better Public Transport – Rural & Farming Support – Better Social and Affordable Housing. I am standing to be your M.P. because you deserve a better standard of MP who listens, learns and will fight your corner. I don't believe in false promises, or just toeing the party line. I want to secure a better future for everyone. If elected you will be employing me, so I will be working hard for you. We need long term permanent growth and I will champion jobs and growth for you and continue to push the recovery of the economy. Give me five years and I will endeavour to reduce long-term unemployment, and continue to fight for our NHS services locally, continue to reduce the tax burden, deliver the best

schools and push for stronger immigration controls. I fought in Afghanistan and Iraq to secure a better future for our country. Fighting politicians in Westminster will be easy in comparison. I am a local man with a mining family background who attended a local state comprehensive school, then Aycliffe IT Education Centre, before joining the Army in the Royal Tank and Nuclear Biological and Chemical Regiment. I bought my first home in Newton Aycliffe. I will fight tooth to bring new investment, prospects and regeneration to our area. I will not only protect our vital services, but push for new projects to keep us moving. Most importantly, I want to permanently reduce long term unemployment by creating a culture of training and enterprise. The Conservative Plan that I

back is to:

Cut Income Tax by increasing the personal allowance to £12,500 so there's no tax on the minimum wage.
Support business creating two million more jobs, building on the two million new jobs already.
Extend the Right to Buy to Housing Association tenants, and build 200,000 Starter Homes.
Deliver 30 hours free childcare for working parents, so it's easier for parent to return to work.
Cut the Benefit Cap to £23,000, and use the money to deliver three million apprenticeships to help young people.
Guarantee generous increases in the Basic State Pension, so people have security in retirement.
Protect and improve the NHS with the extra funding from a stronger, healthier economy.
Remember—this could all be put at risk by a Miliband-SNP deal, so don't vote for Labour, locally you were lied to over Hitachi and the University Technology College, you were represented poorly by an MP voting against cutting your income, business and fuel taxes, but was happy to claim nearly £1million in expenses from your taxes. UKIP won't be able to deliver to you overall and a UKIP may secure a Labour and SNP Government. I ask you to put your trust into my values and standards to represent you fairly at all times.
Scott Wood

Mock Election at Woodham Burn School



Candidates at Woodham Burn began their campaigns for election to School Prime Minister this week by holding hustings during 'Golden Time'. Children were treated to snacks

and fun events to persuade them to come along to listen to the messages and manifesto ideas of each candidate. The leaders for each party are as follows: Green Party: Naomi Kavanagh; Scottish Nationals: Bradley Lewis; Labour Party: Charlie Pemberton; Conservative Party: Iain Robson; UKIP: Jonas Greenow; Liberal Democrats: Jack Greenow and Plaid Cymru: Jay Moore.

"Matilda" Rehearsals

After completing "Grease" last week, the CATS Youth Theatre Group will be shortly going into rehearsals for their next show which will be their musical adaptation version of Roald Dahl's "Matilda". The musical story about Matilda Wormwood, an extraordinary young girl with stupid parents and brother. It also includes the terrifying headmistress Miss Trunchbull, who hates all children. Matilda maybe small but she has some powerful tricks to show this horrible grown-up. A spokesperson said "The group are on the look out for any young people aged 9 to 14 years of age who would like to be part of this next production, either Acting, Singing or Dancing. They choose which they want to do. They can come along and watch if they wish and there is no commitment to join. Over the years CATS have performed many musical productions such as Annie, Hairspray, Mary Poppins, Oliver, High School Musical and many more. So, who knows your son or daughter could be the next West End star from small beginnings with the CATS group? For more information ring 01325 313363 / 01388 774838 www.cats-theatre.co.uk



Wednesday 6th May at 6pm at Evangelical Church Ladybower. Covering Greenfield Byerley Park Horndale Areas. PC Mike Welch PCSO Mike Hutchinson Park Wardens Neighbourhood Wardens and County Councillors will be in attendance. Everyone is welcome to attend

Outstanding Award for Aycliffe Organisation

Outstanding – that's the rating the Care Quality Commission has given Reach Out Care Support Network for its work with children and young people with complex needs.

The organisation, based in Burnhope, Newton Aycliffe, works alongside a range of local authorities in Co Durham and Teesside as well as offering support direct to families under the direct payments scheme.

"We have an amazing team of well trained support workers who can offer a range of services to children and young people including independent living skills training, confidence building activities, home support and a sleep over service," said director Dot Butler.

"There are only a few organisations nationwide to achieve 'Outstanding' under the tougher new inspection regime so we are delighted. It was a detailed inspection which included interviews with service user families, local authority commissioners and staff. CQC looked at five categories – is the service safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led? We were delighted to be rated awarded Outstanding in all areas.

"Over the years we have developed a training kitchen at our Hope House base where young people can learn how to cook and we also have a horticultural project where they can learn about nutrition. We work hard to offer a quality service and this has been recognised by CQC." Reach Out Care Fostering Services, a sister company, has an Outstanding rating from Ofsted and also holds Investors in People Gold accreditation.

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, call the team on 01325 310009 (option 2). There are also support worker opportunities – call 01325 328965.



Left to right: Susan Andrews, Lisa Snaith-Cairns, Louise Hogarth and Dot Butler.

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Notification of Changes

From Friday 17th April 2015

THE BABY CLINIC

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From Wednesday 6th May 2015

our

WALK-IN CLINIC

will move from Tuesday to Wednesday.

PLEASE NOTE: NEW TIME 6.00pm to 7.15pm

This is a Nurse-led clinic to promote and support a healthy lifestyle, including cervical screening, blood pressure screening, healthy eating advice, weight management and HRT monitoring.

Our Health Care Assistant led

NHS CHECK FOR LIFE CLINIC

will also move from Tuesday to Wednesday.

By appointment only.

We will continue to run our

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC

each Wednesday

PLEASE NOTE: NEW TIME 5.30pm to 7.15pm

For further information please call at Reception or ring 01325 316637 between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

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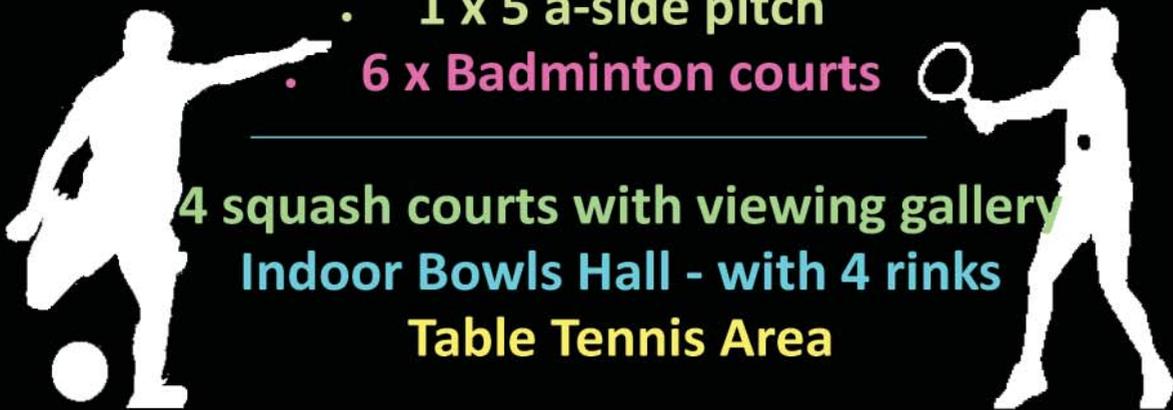
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Wednesday - Body Fit (over 50's) 5-6pm

Thursday - Oaklife (50+) 9.30-11.30am

Friday - Starting 10th June Yoga
6.30-7.30pm

Sunday - Pilates 6.00-7.00pm

Junior Squash Coaching

Tuesday

5 - 7 years
4.15pm - 5pm

8 - 15 years
5pm - 6.10pm

With Coach Bill West



PASS - Fun for kids

Saturday

9.30 - 11am

8 - 15 years

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WEB AGENCY HELPS DARLO GET BACK HOME

A Darlington based web design agency helped the football club raise its initial target of £225,000, putting it one step closer to moving to Blackwell Meadows for the upcoming 2015/16 season.

Geonet Solutions, established in Darlington twenty years ago,

created a user-friendly website allowing fans to purchase five-year season tickets as well as pledge money to the 'Heading Home' campaign. The new website proved extremely popular, with over 17,000 visits in the first week, meaning the target was reached

just two weeks after the launch. Club director of Darlington F.C., Dave Mills, said: "We want to say a huge thank you to Geonet for helping us reach our initial target. "From the beginning, Geonet were professional in their approach, knew exactly what was required and stuck to a challenging deadline."

The digital solutions company provides a range of services, including digital fundraising, to a variety of clients across the North East and internationally. More than 90,000 people visited the site within the first month of it going live, with the majority of those being

accessed by users from a mobile or tablet.

Creative manager, Chris McQuillan, said: "It was a pleasure to help the club, we are really pleased with the final result and that the money was raised in a fortnight.

In light of the recent planning permission approval, funds raised will be used to transform Blackwell Meadows into a joint football and rugby venue, with work due to start in May. For more information on digital fundraising or anything mentioned above please either visit www.geonetsolutions.co.uk or contact 01325 361 729



Left to Right - Chris McQuillan, Creative Manager at Geonet Solutions and Dave Mills, Director at Darlington Football Club

Aycliffe Cricket Club Results



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team team sponsored by Franks The Flooring Store had to settle for a draw away at Wolviston 1st XI after rain disrupted their NYSD 2nd division match. The home side elected to bat first and scored 137 for 7 from their 50 overs with John Cavanagh (sponsored by CVO Fire) again taking the man of the match award with a tight spell of 3 for 21 from 13 overs.

Fast bowler Sean Morgan supported well taking 3 for 44 from 11 overs. In reply Aycliffe had to score an unlikely 138 from just 12 overs and opening batsman Michael led a gallant attempt, smashing the bowling around the ground for a quickfire 31. Three more wickets fell quickly and the Aycliffe innings eventually closed at 65 for 4 to earn a draw. The 2nd team game against Wolviston 2nd XI in the NYSD 3rd division was also rain affected and that game also finished in a draw.

The visitors were asked to bat first and scored a huge 265 all from 49.3 overs. Mark Davies, who played first class cricket for Durham last year, unsurprisingly scored a big century against a very young Aycliffe bowling attack. The pick of the bowlers was 16 year old leg spinner Patrick Howe who took a career best 6 for 46 and 18 year old Tom Wickins took 3 for 66.

In reply Aycliffe batted well and reached a respectable 106 for 6 at close of play thanks to good contributions from Neil Bancroft (19 not out), Adam Gittins (19 runs) and John Wardle (13 runs).

The u15's team (photo above) got their season off to a great start with a comfortable win by 8 wickets at home to Mainsforth. The visitors decided to bat first and were restricted to just 62 for 7 from their 20 overs. In reply opener Dan Bowmer (13 runs) got the Aycliffe innings off to a solid start and then an unbeaten 23 from Adam Lamb and 15 not out from Arran Taylor saw their side to victory after just 11.3

overs
The clubs under 13's team lost at home to Richmond in persistent drizzle, but despite the weather there was a good

performance from Kieran Shingler who took a wicket during Richmond's innings and then top scored with 10 not out in Aycliffe's reply.

Aycliffe Ice Hockey Player in Prestigious Tournament

A 9 year old ice hockey player from School Aycliffe will be taking the national stage this weekend at the prestigious English Ice Hockey Association's 'Conference Tournament' held in Sheffield. Finn Bradon will be representing the Northern 'Conference' in the Under 11 age group. Finn, who plays his ice hockey at Billingham will be lining up against teams representing Scotland, the Midlands, South East, South West and Wales. The Northern Conference has the best ice hockey talent from various teams across the North of England. Finn started playing ice hockey three years ago



through the 'Learn to Play' sessions held each Sunday from 4pm at Billingham Forum Ice Arena.

Town's Rugby Club Win Friendly Match

Newton Aycliffe Rugby played their last home match of the season after completing their league programme the previous week. The visitors were an Under 25 team from Bishop Auckland. Aycliffe welcomed back former player Alex Lineton who has not played rugby for three years together with old boy Mark Affleck. Aycliffe started quickly against a side who were slow to settle; Lineton drew the tacklers and fed James Thacker who ran 60 metres to score a try under the posts that Luke Tinkler converted. A penalty from Tinkler put Aycliffe 10 points ahead. Bishop were on top in the early scrums, but Aycliffe were the more powerful in the loose. Aycliffe increased their lead when Thacker put Tinkler through a gap and the conversion was added. Bishop fought back and from a promising position on the 5m line, they spread the ball wide,

making use of the overlap to score a converted try. As the half came near its close, Neil Morgan managed to squeeze over in the corner to give Aycliffe a 20 - 7 lead at the break. Bishop were much better in the second half and began to impose a bit more pressure on Aycliffe, whilst restricting the scoring chances. There were few opportunities for either side, but Aycliffe did add a fourth try when a kick through bounced awkwardly and rebounded over the line to where Michael Dunn was able to touch down. Tinkler's third conversion of the afternoon ensured that Aycliffe would win by 27 - 7. Aycliffe are away at Darlington Stadium on 2nd May, when they play Darlington Mowden Park 3rds. Kick off is 3pm. Aycliffe Rugby is sponsored by S Cars, Smurfitt Kappa and Whitehouse Funeral Service.

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Teams Chosen for Charity Football Match

Former Newton Aycliffe FC captains Sean Tarling and John Close locked horns ahead of this weekend's huge charity reunion game as they finalised their squads last night.

In a specially arranged meeting, Close and Tarling spent three hours deliberating who they wanted to represent them in the Moore Lane Park showdown.

The game is raising money for former Newtonians' committee man Paul McGeary's chosen charity Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research, with admission at the gate on Saturday by donation.

Paul was struck down with Leukaemia in November last year, but is thankfully making a full recovery, raising a phenomenal £8000 along the way.

Sean, who captained Allan Oliver's side to the second division title in 2011, won the all important toss and opted for current Newtonian Dan Mitton as his Assistant Manager, meaning John will be joined in the dugout by another former skipper, Darren Craddock.

Among the picks for #TeamTarls are former football league stars Dan Mellanby and Jeff Smith, while recent County Cup winning captain Stuart Owen will anchor the side.

Joining #TeamClose are Warren Byrne - who netted 45 goals during the 2010-11

campaign, Aycliffe's youngest ever captain Mark Wood and the club's first centurion, Paul Broom.

The game kicks off at 12.30pm at Moore Lane Park this coming Saturday, May 2nd and donation buckets will be in operation throughout the 90 minutes, which will be officiated by former club Chairman, Gary Farley.

The match has been sponsored by Aycliffe firm AC Door Systems (www.acdoorsystems.com), with Managing Director Adam Cayless kindly purchasing charity t-shirts for each player who takes part on the day. Those who cannot make the game but wish to donate to the occasion can do through the secure online link www.justgiving.com/Paul-McGeary2

#TeamTarls: Dan Mellanby, Stuart Owen, Ben Wood, Mark Peck, Jeff Smith, Fred Woodhouse, Ray Stanger, Will Swinburne, Peter Strevens, Barry Poskett, John Shotton, Dan Molyneux, Anth Pepper, Jordan Steele.

#TeamClose: Warren Byrne, Paul Broom, Kieran Megrin, Dale Jardine, Mark Wood, Chase McMullen, Anthony Campbell, James Oliver, Richard Hinton, Dion Raitt, Stephen Richardson, Stephen Cunliffe, Joe Young, Scott Pocklington.

YOUTH FOOTBALL RESULTS

Kader FC U16's 1-1 Under U16's. First half was a typical end of season game, bumpy pitch, long grass and a bit scrappy. Second half, Kader took the lead but after several half chances a long Kieren Kirby throw was flicked on by Nial Douglas and there was Glyn Marley to poke it home. The game could have gone either way and Aycliffe had a great chance but failed from the penalty spot. MOM - Glyn Marley.

Under 15 Eagles (photo) played their last game of the season away against Nunthorpe Athletic 'A'. The boys played some great passing football and ran out convincing winners 8-1 with goals from Ryan Harris (4), Daniel Hewitt (3) and Ben Lowe.

Under 12 Falcons 2 Richmond TB 2. Well done to all the boys for a positive end to the 9v9 season. All 12 players involved worked really hard and in Manager Darren Williams' opinion were the better team. Great goals from Cole & James and outstanding performances from joint MOM Callum Brown and Spencer O'Sullivan.

Under 12 Girls v Norton & Stockton. In the heavy rain, Aaliyah broke free to slide in for 1-0. Aaliyah added a second. Meg rounded the keeper and sealed the points. Final score 3-1. That's 3 wins from 4 games for these girls leaving 3 more to play - still everything to play for!

Under 11 Falcons finished off with a heavy defeat but the boys showed commitment and never



gave up. A mid table finish this year for the boys. Some great football at times. Thanks to parents players and coaches for your help and support during the season.

Under 11 Eagles 3-9 Kader Juniors. The Eagles were slow to start and Kader took a two goal advantage. Adam Hicks pulled one back, 1-2 HT. Kader scored 3 goals in as many minutes straight from the kick off! Plus points were Jamie Cockfield in goal. Adam Lowe back from injury and scoring 2 good goals, Joe Halford in midfield, Hicksy putting his chance away etc.

Under 11 Girls v Boldon All Stars, Hattie with 2 goals and an Aaliyah strike ensured a fine 3-2 win.

Second game v Birtley Town, goals from Teanna, Ellie Jo and a thumping header by Aaliyah wasn't quite enough in a 3-4 loss.

Under 10 Falcons narrowly lost to Dearness 5-3 after coming back

from 4-1 at one point. A Leon hat-trick and a fine display by Finley - who edged man of the match. With grateful thanks to all the parents for your support.

Under 10 Girls v Boldon - the champions elect. Every girl gave 100% in all areas of the pitch but Boldon ran out 0-2 winners.

Under 8 Falcons A great end to a great season for the boys. A hard game against Middleton Rangers. Two brilliant goals by Cole Gaskarth earned the boys a 2-1 win. MOTM was Cole Gaskarth. Second game was a 3-0 loss, it was a bit like chase the ball. MOTM was Thomas Dearden. A huge thank you to all the parents and people who have supported us all year round.

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 from the Traffic Commissioners
 Office.

01-05-2015

Newton Aycliffe Juniors Football Round Up

U8's - Away to Hartlepool St Francis who stormed into a 2 goal lead, but we got back into the game with a goal from Kyle after good work from Parker. HT 2-1. Second half saw us press for an equaliser and looked likely, but got caught on the break again to trail 3-1. Thomas pulled another goal back as we again pushed forward with good play from Kiera - some good saves from Lleyton we were hopeful of getting an equaliser. We missed chances, hitting the post, but Hartlepool caught us again to

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score twice to make the final score 5-2. Unlucky in the end after battling performance. MOTM Thomas Francis

U9's Russell Foster - 2nd victory in a row! Against a determined Shotton side, despite dominating the first half, it ended 0-0. 2nd half, Shotton struck first but we equalised shortly afterwards, with Evan following up after Bo's shot was saved by the keeper. Aycliffe continued to put pressure on Shotton, with some excellent play from Sam and Evan setting up Bo, who was brought down in the box. Captain Sam Porteous scored top left hand corner, 2-1. With Matty moving the ball well in defence, Isaac, Evan and Taylor linked to set Bo free, and despite his first effort beating the keeper and coming back off the post, Bo reacted first to extend Aycliffe's lead. Shotton got one back - FT 3-1. An all-round excellent, strong performance. MOTM Ted Hayward.

U11's - Home vs Cleveland Panthers, our penultimate game. They are currently 2nd in the league and started the game as expected attacking the Aycliffe goal from the off, scoring within 5 mins. At times Aycliffe played good football. Cleveland forced Aycliffe to play deep and were the stronger team with clinical finishing, meaning the half ended 0-5. We came out fighting, moving the ball around well, frustrating the opponents. The whole team from goalkeeper to subs gave 110%, without reward, FT 0-8. We lost to a stronger footballing team, but the lads showed real heart and team spirit never giving up and chasing every ball, ending the game with smiles on their faces. Well done everyone we couldn't ask for anything more. MOTM was awarded to Dylan S.

U11's - last game of the season at home vs D/ton Allstars C. Against the run of play Dton were the first to score, then Aycliffe drew level within minutes when Adam made a run down the left wing, beat the defender and slotted the ball past the goalkeeper. The rest of the half was evenly matched but D/ton went on to score a further 3 - HT 1-4. Aycliffe continued their attacking play in the 2nd half and had most of the chances, but were again denied by the D/ton keeper and also the post.

Kyle made a run down the wing and scored, and minutes later Kyle made another run down the wing, took a shot that went across the goalmouth and Zak was on hand to knock the ball in. An injury to Nathan in goal saw Jake come on as substitute

keeper and was soon tested by a goalmouth scramble. He knocked the ball out three times before Curtis made a goal line clearance. Aycliffe should have had three or four more goals but were again denied by the keeper and the post. They battled to the end and were the better team in the second half but unfortunately the result didn't go their way - final score 3-4. A great team performance and the result may not have gone our way, but it was a thrilling end to the season, well done everyone. Man of the Match was awarded to Kyle who came on for the second half and was involved in both goals.

U13's - We played our penultimate game against local rivals Bishop Auckland St Mary's Kings. We drew with them 1-1 earlier in the season so was hopeful of a good result for this tie. It was not to be - we just didn't really turn up, and they wanted it more than us

and deserved the 6-2 victory. Damian Lawson and Lewis Hynes finished well for our 2 goals and Ethan Stoker in goal was AGAIN superb, but it wasn't to be. I think, as they say, our players were already on the beach. MOTM to Logan Sanderson Howes, his effort today was above all other - well done buddy!

U18's - Home vs Hetton Juniors who we drew with 4-4 away. We started strong with pressure, early on and getting forward as often as we could. The lads kept the pressure on late into the half and still with no end product. The ball fell to a Hetton player on the edge of the box to strike past Todd - H-T 0-1. 2nd half was non stop pressure from Aycliffe, and Raine was played through on goal and coolly slotted home 1-1. Aycliffe corner, delivery of Howe was perfect, Fitzgerald heading home 2-1. 20 minutes left Craggs scored a 3rd - FT 3-1 Great Result!

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LIBERTEA MAGNA CARTA EVENT

Plans are progressing for the Magna Carta Liberteia event on Sunday 14th June 12 noon till 3pm. ACORN Residents Association always up for a fun event are organising a marquee Tea and cream scone get together.

Theme for the mini fun day will be medieval, with flags flying and bunting fluttering in the breeze. A laminated copy of Magna Carta will be on display complete with Latin and English translations. Of course being an ACORN event the whole thing will be tongue in cheek but with an educational twist, games to play and quizzes rewarded with Haribo so do a little research.

Try your hand at throwing a foam lance, sorry no bow and arrow or just relax have a chat and a cuppa.

Why not dress up as a knight or medieval maiden, bring a picnic and get involved.

For more details ring Ken Robson on 01325 321471

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Closing Date for applications:
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Helping Hands Fifth Year Party

Lifeline Community Action roll out the red carpet for local people in need to celebrate five years successful work in the community, giving the most to the people who have the least

Lifeline Community Action (Helping Hands) want to help families who struggle financially and who live below the breadline to feel and look good for the day. LCA would like local people in need to help them celebrate their success at their 5th Anniversary Garden Party on 9th May 2-5pm at Woodham Golf Club.

Durham County Council's Chairman, Councillor John Robinson and his consort Maxine Robinson will be attending this fun and friendly afternoon that is packed with entertainment, music and delicious cakes, sandwiches and scones in an elegant and fabulous location.

If you want to wear beautiful clothes, be served tea in the garden and have a relaxed afternoon, please contact us on 07936 431262. We would love to see all past and present people we have worked with over the last 5 years.

Tribute to Inspector Mark Hall

Family, friends and colleagues of Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Inspector Mark Hall have paid tribute to him after his sudden death last week.

Mr Hall, 47, who lived in Newton Aycliffe, fell ill when he was out on his bicycle on the evening of Thursday, April 23. He was taken to hospital in Darlington then transferred to Durham, where he sadly passed away on Friday, April 24.

Mark leaves behind his wife Tina, children Rebecca, 25, Luke, 24, and Ben, 9; three step-children, Nathan, 24, Chris, 22 and Joshua 20, and three grandchildren.

Mr Hall's family said: "Mark was a beloved son, brother, husband, father and grandfather. To have him taken from us so suddenly is heart-breaking. "His career as a police officer, his membership of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and his work with young people were all extremely important to him, however his first priority and love was his family.

"He loved to watch his youngest son play football and other sports, and in the past couple of years has spent many a weekend playing golf with nine-year-old Ben to help him develop his love and passion for the sport.



Mark with his wife Tina

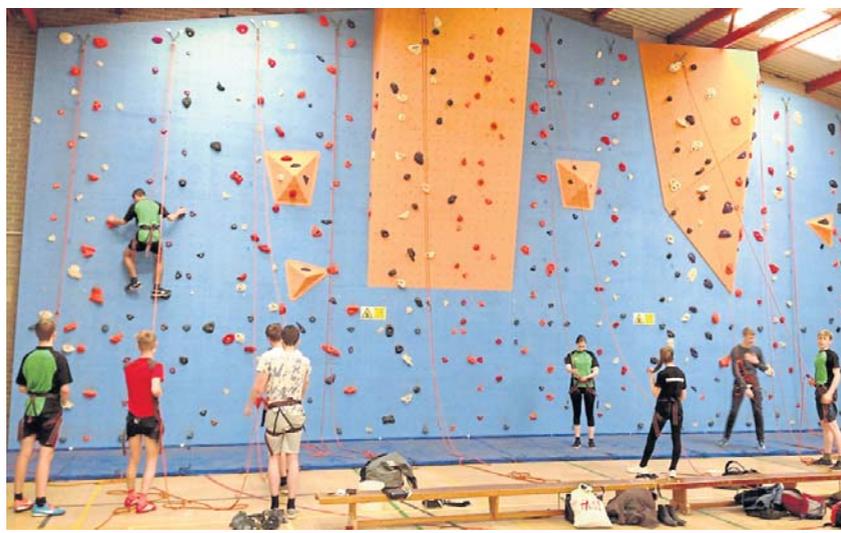
"The world has lost not only a highly respected member of the community but most importantly a committed, loving and charitable son, husband, father, grandfather, colleague and friend."

Superintendent Kerrin Smith said: "We are deeply saddened and shocked by the loss of Mark. He was a much-loved friend and colleague of so many people at Durham Constabulary and will be hugely missed. "Mark began his career as a police officer with Bedfordshire Police in 1990,

transferring to Durham in 2001. During his time with Durham he undertook a number of different policing roles, but most recently was the Neighbourhood Inspector for the Newton Aycliffe, Shildon and Sedgefield areas. He was passionate about the role, leading the team by example, and doing all he could to ensure local people felt safe in the communities in which they live.

"All our thoughts are with Mark's family and friends at this difficult time." An online book of condolence has been opened so that people can leave messages about Mark. It can be reached via the Durham Constabulary website (www.durham.police.uk).

Students Reach New Heights



Year 11 students at Woodham Academy participated in GCSE Physical Education climbing sessions in Durham designed to improve the practical scores within this subject area, and all students who participated performed exceptionally well.

All students covered the health and safety requirements for climbing, knot tying, initial preparation, climbing calls and climbing techniques. More advanced climbers had the opportunity to explore more complex routes, including overhangs and features.

The students were a real credit to Woodham Academy. Their attitude and effort were commendable. All students have gained a high enough grade within climbing to have it count as one of their final four scores in this element of the subject. We wish them all well in their upcoming written exam.

For Sale

"ALL SORTS" selling anything and everything for Charity. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10am to 1pm at St Clare's Church. New stock arrived, 50% discount

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Thank You

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DOREEN SMITH The family of the late Doreen would like to thank all friends, Co-op Funeralcare, Bethany House, Neighbours, Amanda for catering and Petals for the flowers on her passing. £100 was collected and donated to Honest John. Catherine and Jean

Obituary

EDITH FEE passed away peacefully on 23rd April, 2015. Loving Wife of John; dearly loved Mother of Nigel and beloved Gran of Joanne, Gary, Andrew and Rebecca. Would family and friends please meet for Funeral Service at Coundon Crematorium on Thursday 7th May at 11am. Followed by refreshments at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Moore Lane. Donations in lieu in aid of the British Heart Foundation.

FRASER, Sheila of Newton Aycliffe passed away peacefully in hospital on 27th April, aged 80 years. A dear Wife, a much loved Mam, Grandma and Great Grandma. Family and friends please meet for Service at Wear Valley Crematorium (Coundon) on Thursday 7th May for 9.30am.

Congratulations

Look who's 60 Kathy Ziti Goode



02/05/1955

And still looks 18

Happy Birthday

from Husband Julian xxxx
Daughter Anne and
Son-in-Law Mark xxx
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from Grandchildren Josh,
Lewis and Macy xxx
and Josh's Partner Becky.
Very special kisses to Great
Grandma from Emelia
Rose xxxxxxxxxxxx

Daisy Taylor



4th May 2015

Happy 13th Birthday

Daisy

"Teenager at last"
Lots of love always, Mam,
Dad, Oscar and Buddy
xxxxxxxxxx

DAISY TAYLOR Happy 13th birthday. Hope you have a lovely time. Lots of love from Auntie Sue and Uncle Andy and Dexter xxx

DAISY TAYLOR Happy 13th birthday Daisy. With lots of love from Aunt Shirley, Dave, Thomas and Oliver xxxx

DARREN ALLEN and Jenna Graham. Congratulations to two special people on your Wedding Day on 2nd May 2015. You are made for each other. Love you both. Mam, Dad and Danny xxx
DIXON Congratulations Michelle and Jason on finishing the London Marathon in a fabulous time. Love from Mam, Dad, George and Sarah xxxx

HEIGHINGTON AFC BOYS MATCH REPORTS

Fundraiser LES GIBSON, comedy impressionist, often called 'The Man Of A Thousand Voices' is bringing his characters and his voice to entertain the people of Newton Aycliffe. For tickets please contact David Brassell 07870 777779 or Jim Barr 07899 862079

New Team Recruiting new U14 team for next season who are starting to train now, contact Mark Stapleton, on 07443621876 if you are interested in becoming involved

Under 7's hosted Ferryhill Juniors on Saturday in their 8th friendly in preparation for next season. Heighington produced their best performance to date in a 6-0 win in the first game. A superb hat trick from Joe Neild, 2 goals from the outstanding Tyler Woodward and a customary goal from Oliver Paylor were enough to see off Ferryhill. The balance in the team was helped by the return of Harvey Yale at the back who cut out any danger. Theo Callaghan playing in goal didn't have a save to make. The second game was more of the same, with Tyler Woodward scoring his first hat trick in Heighington colours and impressive debutant Thomas grabbing the other after a flowing

passing move involving Tyler Gibbon and Theo Callaghan. Man of the Match award going to the entire team, especially considering Heighington were missing 5 players it was fully deserved. Next up for Heighington, away to Seaton Carew, followed

by their first tournament on the 17th May at Heighington Parish Field U14's played Shildon in a friendly on Thursday at home, winning 5-2, goals from Roman Alves and 4 from MOM Bailey Howarth. Hoping to organise another

friendly this week, in preparation for Blackpool tournament in two weeks.. All age groups looking for new players, so if you would like to get involved with any of our teams please contact David Brassell on: david.brassell@hotmail.co.uk

"BIG CLUB" TEAM WIN COUNTY CUP FINAL



The victorious team with the trophy - photo by Peter Allison

Former Middlesbrough goalkeeper Jason Steele has won his first piece of silverware, but it's a managerial achievement the young footballer is celebrating. Steele watched proudly as his Sunday morning pub team, Newton Aycliffe Working Men's Club, defeated Stockton Hardwick Social 2-1 in the County Cup Final. Warren Byrne scored twice for the 'Big Club' before Hardwick pulled one back with 10 minutes to go. It ensured a nervy finale, with the full-time whistle signalling delirious pitch celebrations. It was the club's first County Cup win since Allan Oliver, now chairman of Newton

Aycliffe, took them to the title in 1998. Steele, 24, who jointly-manages the Sunday side along with fellow boss Dave Owen, said: "It was a fantastic achievement and the lads can be really proud of themselves. I don't think either side really played that well in the final, but it was always going to be a tough game.

"We needed them to be a team of men and that's what they were. I've never seen a team work as hard as they did, and that was after being at work all day. I was proud of them, and delighted for Dave Owen as he does a great job."

The victorious squad included former Newton Aycliffe winger Stuart Owen, who says the cup win topped his achievements with his hometown club. The midfielder was a key part in Aycliffe's rise to the Northern League first division in recent years.

But he said: "Winning silverware with Aycliffe was brilliant, I have some great memories of my time with the club, but this was with your mates. We all drink together and we beat some good sides along the way, but went into

the final as under dogs. When that final whistle went, it was the best feeling in the world - something you can keep for the rest of your life."

Another member of the squad, Mark Wood, knew all about the history of the County Cup - his father, Des, was in Oliver's team to last win it 17 years ago. He said: "Big Des always talks of his playing days and winning the County Cup all those years ago, so it was about time we gave the Big Club regulars something else to celebrate.

"It was a great night but I was just as happy for the backroom lads as I was the players - the likes of Syd Thomas, Jeff Surtees and Trevor Mossop. "They run the club, sell the digits and make sure we don't have to shell out any subs every week and raise money to pay for travel expenses and trips away - it meant just as much to them as it did the players." Goalkeeper Steve Richardson paid tribute to his fellow 'keeper, and boss, Steele. He said: "The lads want for nothing and we just think it's great what he does. He's so passionate about it and deserves a lot of praise for the time and effort he's put in."

AYCLIFFE SWIMMER CHOSEN FOR EUROPEAN GAMES

As a result of her outstanding performance at the British Championships Hannah Featherstone of Sedgfield 75 Swimming Club has been selected for the European Games Team. The games take place in Azerbaijan on the 21st to 28th June. This is large multi sport event even bigger than the Commonwealth Games

We were hoping for team swims but to every one's delight she has been selected to swim in three individual events the 200, 100 and 50 metre Freestyle. Team members will be decided later.

It is worth noting that Hannah is the only swimmer who has been selected from the whole of Northumberland and Durham. Sedgfield 75 had six swimmers competing in a total of 37 swims at Chester le Street Gala. They were Jessica Hall, Rebecca Hall, Kate Carmichael, Peter Golightly, Zac Hodgkinson, and Daniel Hall. Jessica had six swims gaining 2 gold medals, 1 silver one Open Final and one NER time. Rebecca had 9 swims achieving 2 gold and 2 silver and made three Open Finals

Kate swam in five events gaining PBs in two of them Peter Golightly had 8 swims making two Open Finals and winning a bronze medal in a new best time Zac had six swims gaining a bronze medal and competing in two open finals.



Daniel competed in the open Events and managed one PB. Sedgfield 75 hosted the Durham Hub session on Saturday 26th April. Swimmers attending were from Derwentside, Peterlee,

Durham and Newton Aycliffe. Coaches were Chris Dove, Paul Woodley and John Moore. It was a great session and it's hoped to host another one at NALC in the near future.

ATC at Stockton Duathlon Festival



Graham Atkins on the 40k bike section

Whilst club members Michelle Dixon, Tracey Warrior and Penny Johnson were battling the London Marathon, April 26th also saw 3 of Aycliffe Tri Club members racing in the Stockton Duathlon Festival. Three races took place with the Sprint Distance of 5k run 20k bike 2.5k run being a qualifier for the GB Age Group Team for the 2015 World Championship and the Standard race of 10k run 40k bike 5k run the final qualifier event for the ETU Duathlon European Championships in 2016.

In the Sprint Distance Andrew Sedgwick had a fantastic performance finishing 2nd Vet Male. Also in the Sprint Michelle Scott showed another strong performance in a top class field coming in 9th Senior Female.

Graham Atkins raced in the longer Standard event finishing 8th in his age group. All 3 Multi Sport Athletes worked hard and enjoyed the event held at Stockton Riverside.

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DFC Aycliffe Supporters

By the time most people read this, we'll know for sure if Darlington are one game away from promotion or another season in the Evostik North. Our league season ended on a high with a very youthful team running out 3-1 winners against New Mills. Now to the playoffs. The playoffs and Darlington have never quite gone according to plan. Defeats to Plymouth and Peterborough at Wembley and Rochdale and Ramsbottom in the semi finals have left us fans nervous of these one off games.

But this poor run must end some day, mustn't it? Due to deadlines we don't know if its to be Spennymoor or Darlington that Bamber Bridge will be facing in Saturday's final.

We do know that Wednesday night's all ticket game was a capacity crowd for Heritage Park with both teams selling out their ticket allocation by Monday morning, such was the appeal of this tie. Whatever the result and whoever is playing the Brig on Saturday I'm quite pleased with this campaign and wish Spennymoor all the very best next season.

Off the pitch, work is due to begin at Blackwell Meadows later this month. Watching the ground develop over the next few months will make this football free summer go that little bit quicker.

On a personal note it was pleasing for me that on Saturday there were several people who didn't attend the supporters club meeting asking how it went. Word seems to be getting around. We have several quotes from different bus companies with regard to supporter travel.

These will be discussed with the group at the next meeting, on May 13th, and details will be known after then. If anyone wishes to be involved in the group, or knows someone who might be able to use the supporters bus service then please email us at dfcaycliffefans@outlook.com.

Alan Bennett

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