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Town Council Saves Aycliffe A167 Lighting

Dear Sir,
Readers may know that Durham County Council proposes to remove all of the street lighting on the A167, apart from roundabouts and major junctions.

The removal of the lighting will take place in late summer and early autumn. This decision has been taken following agreement at the Cabinet meeting, consultation with the public and ratification by the Council.

At a meeting of Great Aycliffe Town Council on 22 April the Town Clerk was instructed to contact Durham County Council to ascertain if a Service Level Agreement for the A167 street lights with Durham County Council could be obtained. Such an agreement would be possible under the Town Council's powers under the Parish Councils Act 1957, Section 3, and Highways Act 1980, Section 301.

The Town Clerk complied with the Council's instructions and an initial response was received from officers of the County Council. This response to say the least was unhelpful and so I

arranged a meeting between senior members and an officer of Durham County Council and senior members of Great Aycliffe Town Council and the Town Clerk.

As a result of that meeting, a new Service Level agreement for the A167 street lights has been proposed. This is a more realistic proposal and, I believe, fair to both sides and I will be presenting it to the next meeting of the Environment Committee on 1st July, with confidence that it will be accepted by the Environment Committee and ratified by full Council.

I will keep residents informed on the results of the future decisions, but I am optimistic that the street lights on the A167 within our parish boundaries will stay on for the next ten years.

Bob Fleming, Leader -
Great Aycliffe Town Council



Bob Fleming
Newton News comment Page 3

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FREE COURSES AT THE PCP CENTRE

The Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe is the Hub for the Colour your Life project which provides access to creative and informal learning activities for the improvement of mental health and the development of emotional resilience.

Details of free courses are as follows:-

DIG-IN GARDENING - Mondays 10am - 12noon (ongoing through till Autumn) Learn about and take part in wildlife and flower gardening and growing your own vegetables

Learn to Sing - An informal singing course to develop your vocal range, discover you can sing or gain confidence & performance skills. Starts Monday 1 June 13.00-15.00 for 10 weeks

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL - Motivational and mood boosting tips on how you can make real & meaningful changes to your life. Starts Wednesday 17 June 10.00-12.00 for 10 weeks

POTTERY - Learn pottery throwing, sculpting, clay modelling and glazing techniques. Starts Thursday 18 June 10.00-12.00 for 10 weeks

Colour & Gemstone Therapy - Learn about the energies and healing properties of multi-coloured crystals, minerals and gemstones. Starts Saturday 4 July, 9.30-12.30 for 5 weeks

Coming Soon: Upcycling with Textiles, DIY for beginners and Papercraft PCP uses professional experienced tutors to deliver these stimulating and inspiring activities. The Colour your Life team are currently looking for someone to deliver the DIY for beginners course. If you are a qualified tutor and interested in delivering for the Colour your Life programme please get in touch.

Keep up to date with new courses online at www.colouryourlife.org.uk Twitter@CYL_CoDurham and Facebook: ColourYourLife.LearnCreateDevelop.

To register an interest or to book your place on any of the Colour your Life courses get in touch with the Colour your Life team at PCP on 01325 321234 email: colouryourlife@pcp.uk.net or call into the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4SF. Please book early to avoid disappointment as places are limited.

Suggestion to End Anti-Social Behaviour



Bring Back the Stocks !

Chairman of ACORN Residents Association Ken Robson and Phil Clark Chairman of Horndale Residents Association have developed new technology to reduce low level crime and anti-social behaviour whilst at the same time reducing police and magistrate costs. As costs spiral for social reports, magistrates courts, probation service and police time this unique

piece of equipment has the advantage of being inexpensive to build and maintain, can be set up anywhere and requires only a good supply of ripe tomatoes and rotten eggs.

Enquiries from cities, towns, villages across the whole of the United Kingdom have been received and production is expected to be expanded as demand rises globally. With a patent lodged it is expected that a large order will be submitted soon from the Home office and training is being arranged for Police officers, Neighbourhood Wardens and Park Wardens particularly with regard to Health and Safety as we wouldn't want anyone to be impaled by a spelk.

Entrepreneurs from Dragons Den are said to be particularly interested in the investment possibilities offered by the apparatus and the equipment may be featured on the gadget show.

European Union members are expected to repeal sections of the Human Rights Act to allow the device to be operated across the union but the main hold up is expected to be filling in Safety Advisory Group forms - the tool of choice for Durham County Council to discourage community events. Ken Robson (just kidding)

MIDDRIDGE SPEED WATCH



Vehicles travelling above the 30mph speed limit through Middridge had better be on their guard as the Middridge PACT group, with the support of our PCSO Michael Hutchinson, are setting up random community traffic surveillance sessions.

Our first session took place on Wednesday 20th May using the speed gun which has been recently issued to Durham Police Force, and a mobile speed matrix. It was amazing to see how the hundreds of vehicles we tracked, significantly slowed down when they realised they were being monitored. We hope the message will get through to everyone to SLOW DOWN

THROUGH OUR VILLAGE. ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual Meeting of Middridge Parish Council on Monday 11th May, the first item of business was the appointment of Chair and Vice Chair.

Anne Clarke was appointed as Chairwoman for a second

year running and Harold Howe was appointed Vice Chairman.

We are also pleased to announce that, Alan Jordan, our Parish Clerk after completing a successful first year, has agreed to continue in post.

Anne Clarke

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GIGIT NORTH EAST REVIEW: "A real cracking band, highly recommended, with their mix of tunes covering everything from Duffy to Def Leppard and the set also includes old favourites you don't often hear"

LINK MAG REVIEW: "Great to hear something different as well as the crowd pleasers, their sound and lights were at a different level to what is usually seen at a pub gig, a band not to be missed"

Saturday 6th June - "Skinflint"

For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Brown Bin Collections

Dear Sir,
Paying Durham County Council £50 - the special reduced rate - for three years for emptying the Brown Garden Waste bin was one of the worst mistakes I have ever made.

I would advise anyone thinking of taking up this option, even at this stage, to think again. Why? At the time of writing this cautionary tale, there have been four brown bin collection days.

I have put out my brown bin (the night before collection) out on three occasions. The bin men have failed to empty the bin on any of their visits. I have had to phone up Customer Care at DCC numerous times, to try to get the bin emptied, several days late. This has not only been costly but rather aggravating. I have asked for a refund, as I certainly do not wish to have this song and dance for the next three years. They have refused my request.

To be fair, my next door neighbour had his bin emptied every time. This of course is even more perplexing. My advice to you would be, if you can put the waste in your green bin, do so.

Annoyed Resident
Name & address supplied

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Mother of Dying Baby Thanks James Cook Hospital

Aycliffe Mother Shows Great Courage

Single mother Rachel Faith Hetherington is holding a charity event on the 5th of June at the Iron Horse Pub who are sponsoring the event in aid of the Hospital which did so much for Rachel's new born baby who has been given little time to live.

Briannah was born on the 25th of March following many difficulties all through her mother Rachel's pregnancy. She was born by emergency section eight weeks early when her heart rate dropped. She was in the Special Care Baby Unit at Darlington Hospital for three weeks before being allowed home, a perfect, beautiful girl.

32 hours later, however, she stopped breathing and was 'blue lighted' back to Darlington Hospital and placed on Continuous Airway equipment. Briannah worsened over the next two hours and was then ventilated



and transferred to James Cook Paediatric Intensive Care Unit.

At that point no one had a clue what had gone wrong. At James Cook Hospital Briannah had to be resuscitated three times and her brain was starved of oxygen, but the hospital staff saved the baby girl.

Briannah had Group B Strep, secondary to meningitis and had 84% brain damage and epilepsy. Rachel was told many times her beautiful little girl wouldn't make it through the night. Intervention was too late and the ventilator would be turned off as she could not breathe on her own! "They turned the machine off and amazingly my little Briannah began to breath on her own! Now four weeks later she is alive, but disabled with Cerebral Palsy, brain damage heart failure and Epilepsy. She has to be fed through a Nasogastric tube and I have been told she could only have days or weeks left to live," said Rachel. Briannah is in a coma and it was suggested she be admitted to a hospice, but Rachel wanted her baby at home close by her and 3 year old brother Layton Lewis who loves his little sister and is constantly by her side stroking her tiny face.

"It would be lovely if we could give a little something back to the hospital for all they have done for my little girl! I know we can't save Briannah, but we could help save another child's life! It would mean the world to us if Newton News could publish this story so people know about Briannah's fight and the money raising event at the Iron Horse" said Rachel.

The event will include live entertainment, dancing, raffle, auction and a buffet.

Donations of cash and raffle prizes would be gratefully received by ringing Rachel on 07518 882149 where you can also order your tickets price £5 each.

Newton News, like readers of this story, will be proud of Rachel who has shown immense bravery now and throughout her ordeal. Her concern for others, at this time of tragedy in her own life, shows great character and her effort to raise cash for James Cook Hospital deserves support.

STUDENT GOVERNOR

Woodham Academy is pleased to announce the appointment of its new associate student governor, Harry Duggan. Harry is Woodham Academy's sixth student governor. He will join the Governing Body to make sure that students' views are heard.

Harry applied to become a student governor because he wanted to have an impact, so that students following him would have an even better experience. He also believes that the opportunity to serve on the Governing Body will help him to develop skills that will be useful in his future career.

Headteacher, Christine Forsyth, says "It is right and proper that students are represented at the highest level at Woodham Academy, because Woodham is their school. I am delighted that Harry has been appointed and know that he will be a worthy successor to our previous student governors, Emma Sandford, Jordan McAteer, Richie Howe, Josie Eldridge and Callum Scott, all of whom have been great ambassadors for Woodham Academy."



AYCLIFFE A167 LIGHTS

Comment on Council Decision

Editor: Newton News applauds the efforts of our Town Council on this issue. They have shown persistence in the face of County Council intransigence, recognising the views of residents and Business Park occupants whose outcry was disregarded. Under the astute leadership of Bob Fleming and Deputy Leader Malcolm Iveson, our Town Council has shown you must listen to the people and find a way forward. Hopefully when faced with other cuts affecting our town they will strike out again in support of public opinion and common sense.

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DISC Appoint New C.E.O.

Chief Executive of DISC (Developing Initiatives Supporting Communities) Mark Weeding announced his retirement as CEO and revealed his successor as Paul Townsley, currently Northern Director of the Lifeline Project. During Mark's 25 years DISC has seen a significant increase in turnover, rising from £400K in 1990 to £21m in this financial year. "Following the last year of really strong results, I feel it's the right time for me to step down and enjoy some quality time away from the pressures of running a successful organisation such as DISC," said Mark. "We carried out an extensive recruitment process and following a successful interview, I'm delighted to hand over the reins to Paul, who is highly thought of in the sector and who brings a wealth of experience to the role." Paul is currently working for the Lifeline Project as Northern Director, before that he was a Senior Director at the Crime Reduction Initiative (North) and prior to that he was the Chief Executive for the Westminster Drug Project for ten years. Paul is looking forward to the challenges he faces when he takes over the



role in August. "Working in the sector I have always admired DISC and the Chief Executive role is a fantastic opportunity coming at an exciting time for DISC and myself" DISC is currently well placed to expand its operations, with a major new project about to start in Leeds on July 1st. Aligned with all the current work being undertake across the North of England, it looks as though the new CEO will find that he's joining a progressive organisation that has further plans to expand. "There are some great opportunities and challenges ahead and I cannot wait to start on the task of helping

DISC and its service users fulfill their potential and build upon DISC's reputation as an excellent provider of Social care services" said Paul. "DISC is well positioned for significant growth, due in large part to Mark's vision, his leadership skills and his commitment to excellence. He will be greatly missed by DISC's staff and the Board of Directors," said Jim Black, Chair of Trustees at DISC. "Mark has the Board's best wishes and we are indebted to him for his many years of exemplary service to DISC's mission." "Having just enjoyed celebrating the 30th Anniversary of DISC, it's good to know we have a dedicated staff, a strong Board of Trustees and a considerable number of volunteers supporting our work, I am immensely proud of the organisation that we have built here that's goes the extra mile for those most excluded from society" said Mark. All the staff and volunteers at DISC wish Mark the very best for the future, and look forward to working with Paul to continue to deliver the very best service to service users.

Audition Date for Aycliffe's Got Talent



Do you have a hidden talent? Are you the next Whitney Houston or modern dancer? We want to hear from you!! Currently auditioning for new budding acts in and around Newton Aycliffe! Singers, dancers musicians anything! It's open to all ages but an adult must accompany anyone under age of 16 Deborah (above) who has auditioned for the X FACTOR and THE VOICE said there is so much unrecognised talent out there it's unbelievable, but only the select few ever get anywhere so this is a chance for local people to be watched by an audience and have a great experience doing what they love!! And the proceeds of the event will be going to such a worthy cause as well as the performances of the competitors alongside other special guests will be taking

the stage for your enjoyment. Prizes to be won on the night and recognition in our local paper "Newton News". All proceeds will be going to a very worthy cause our local charity Lifeline Community Action. Their Helping Hands Project has helped 1000's of people last year and I want to help them. Contact Deborah on 07771 874391 as soon as possible to book your spot for Aycliffe's Got Talent! Cost of audition is £2.50p each. Auditions: Saturday 6th June between 10am and 3pm at the Agnew Community Centre, Morrison Close, DL5 4QZ Those who are shortlisted will be asked back on Saturday 20th June from 9am -12 noon.

Lads Raise Cash for Nepal Earthquake Victims



A big well done to Ido, Joel and Matty of Bloomesley Close who decided to raise money for those affected by the Nepal Earthquake. Friends and neighbours came to a "Beat The Keeper" event on Sunday 17th May and they raised £37 for the Disasters Emergency Committee. Well done boys!

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Christian Aid Coffee Morning

A Coffee Morning for Christian Aid will be held at St. Michael's Church, Heighington on Saturday 6th June from 10am - 12 noon. Admission is £2.50p including Coffee or Tea and a scone. Other attractions include a Raffle, Cake Stall, Plants, Traidcraft and Book Stall. Everyone welcome.

BEST PAW FORWARD FOR LOCAL HOSPICE

Butterwick Hospice Care are inviting supporters old and new to bring along their four legged friends and put their best paw forward for charity. A pleasant, fun-filled route has been devised, set in the idyllic surroundings of Hardwick Country Park for dogs and their owners to take part in our 'Bark in the Park' event. The event will take place on Sunday 14th June commencing at 11am, and will cover a 3km route. Activities, advice and stalls guaranteed to get tails wagging will run from 10am, when registration opens and owners can collect their "woofie goodie bag". Entrants who pledge to have their dog sponsored for £50 plus will receive a special 'Bark in the Park' V.I.P. canvas bag of goodies. Upon completion each dog will receive their own "dog tag" which can be attached to their collar as a lasting memento of this great event.

There will be show case activities and tricks from the County Durham based dog training company "Have a Good Dog" who will be able to advise on effective training methods, behaviour consultations as well as fun and agility displays. Other

exhibitors include dog grooming, food balance and nutrition, specialist portrait dog photography, veterinary advice, and much more. Entry is just £5 per dog and Butterwick Hospice request that entrants try to raise essential funds by raising sponsorship via family, friends and colleagues by giving your pooch a pound to complete the route and the opportunity to set up a "just giving page". If you have any special stories about your treasured pet then include the details on your page along with a photograph. This is a great opportunity for the whole family to enjoy the sights and sounds of your local lake and park with your canine companion. There are picnic areas available as well as on site café facilities to enjoy once you have completed the event. Entrants must register in advance, to sign up please complete the registration form or complete the online registration at www.butterwick.org.uk/barkinthepark, alternatively ring Butterwick Hospice on 01388 603003 or e-mail lynnabury@butterwick.org.uk. So come on register NOW, you would be barking mad to miss out!

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DANGEROUS PARKING AT DOCTORS' SURGERY

Dear Sir,
May I draw attention to the ever growing problem at Bewick Crescent Doctors Surgery and the sheer disregard for safety many people have at peak times here. If it's not pedestrians diving across the road in front of cars which is bad enough, it's the absolute shambles of lazy people abandoning their vehicles down the side of the premises rather than using the car park which means you take your life into your own hands trying to get past these whilst watching for oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

Often large vans will take to parking right on the upcoming street corner which means visibility of such oncoming traffic is severely reduced. On a night, after finishing work, I have to tackle this as a nearby resident and an incident tonight has left me questioning more than usual, why this issue hasn't been raised sooner as opposed to spending money on something such as unnecessary signage for Aycliffe shops - hardly a safety issue. A number of cars were left at the side of the road tonight



The Surgery should have no cars on this yellow line, but most times it has up to four cars parked here with a car park only a few yards away.

so I had to overtake these stationary vehicles. As I was pulling up alongside one, the owner decided to pull out without making their intention to do so known and regardless they should have waited until the traffic was passed before pulling out. I had to slam my brakes on, yet they continued on, oblivious to the fact they had almost drove straight into the side of

my car and then nonchalantly drove into the car park via the exit, again without indicating. I often question how some people manage to become in charge of a vehicle especially after this incident (and the mini roundabout no-one understands road rules for at Tesco - another story for that one). I implore the powers that be of the town to research

potential ways this can be rectified before a serious accident occurs as it is only a matter of time. Name & address supplied

Aycliffe Students Visit Engineering Company

Pupils from Aycliffe Village Primary School recently visited Bignall Group's engineering and manufacturing business in Shildon to observe and understand their advanced precision engineering technology.

During the visit, the pupils produced name plates using a CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machining centre. Chris Hutchinson, General Manager of Bignall Group said "The pupils were quick to understand the 3 axis machine movements and enjoyed using the digital measuring equipment. They used their iPads to film and record the visit."

The link between Bignall Group and Aycliffe Village Primary School was established when Head Teacher, Jed Gargan and Class Teacher, Jim Underwood attended training, through the Primary Engineer Scheme, at



Chris Hutchinson with students from Aycliffe Village School

Nissan Motor Manufacturing Ltd (UK) in Sunderland. Bignall Group very generously sponsored this training. The Primary Engineer Scheme brings together teachers and engineers to engage Primary and Secondary pupils with engineering organisations via curriculum mapped projects. The aim is to provide projects

and enable pupils and teachers to understand more about the diversity and excitement of engineering. Bignall Group engages actively with Woodham Academy, Middlesbrough College and are also industrial project partners with both Durham and Newcastle Universities.

From Bewick Crescent Surgery

Thank you for bringing this to our attention; this is an issue which also concerns us, not least because parking outside

the Surgery blocks access for ambulances.

Although many of our patients are disabled and can park legally in front of the Surgery, there are others who do park inconsiderately.

We will be discussing how best to raise awareness of this issue with our Patient Group; we do currently have a message on our call-out screen reminding people to park considerately, and will be including guidance in the next version of our practice leaflet.

With regard to the large vans which park outside the Surgery, we have many deliveries during the day, as does the Pharmacy next door, and these vans have to stop outside the Surgery to unload. We do ask anyone visiting the Surgery for maintenance etc., to park further up Bewick Crescent away from the corner and junction, and will remind them to do so. Any vans parked in the evening have no connection with the Surgery.

We have been in touch with Durham County Council and they will be adding Bewick Crescent Surgery to the patrol areas for parking enforcement.

The Partners would like to take this opportunity to remind all of our patients and visitors to park with due consideration for others, and to cross the road carefully. The Partners of Bewick Crescent Surgery

NEWTON NEWS

NEWTON NEWS is published and printed by Newton Press, which was first established in 1948 and incorporates "The Newtonian". Visit the on-line version at www.newtonnews.co.uk

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SOROPTOMISTS HELP SCHOOL BENEVOLENT FUND



Counc. John Robinson, Chairman of the Trustees of The County of Durham School Benevolent Fund, received a cheque for £1,060 from Jane Katsambis of Newton Aycliffe, (right) President of Soroptimist International Durham.

The Headteacher of Thornhill Primary School, Mrs Green was also present. It is thanks to Mrs Green and Mrs Overfield, Bursar, that this fund continues to be administered at the school on behalf of the Trustees.

The fund provides grants to parents in County Durham who are struggling financially and have children at school. Those who are in receipt of certain benefits can apply for £35 for a pair of shoes and £35 for a coat for each child. Since her retirement five years ago and after over twenty years in primary school headship; Mrs Katsambis has been committed with other likeminded women within S I Durham; to supporting other women in the world. Both her chosen charities

this year reflect her high regard for parents, children and their needs. One has been The Aarohi Project, in the Himalayas where funds raised will pay a teacher's wage for one year; the second being within Durham. As she puts it . . .

'During my working life here in this wonderful part of the world, I was aware that women particularly, are often the ones who struggle to make ends meet – should they pay bills, buy food or new shoes for their child? The Schools Benevolent Fund offers much needed support to families who are finding it tough. Shoes that fit and warm coats help pupils to be prepared for the day ahead. Self-esteem and self-confidence are more likely to be high and learning more effective.'

Contributions towards this excellent fund either from schools or the public are always gratefully received and should be sent to, The Bursar, Thornhill Primary School, Shildon, Co Durham. DL5 1ES

Council Tackles Underage Sales of Restricted Products

Intelligence gathering will remain at the centre of efforts to tackle underage sales in County Durham. The County Council's enforcement programme for 2015-16 sets out how it plans to tackle sales of age-restricted products such as alcohol, tobacco, spray paint containers, videos and DVDs and fireworks.

The council also enforces age-restricted sales of solvents and glue, knives and access to betting shops and tanning salons. A report, which was presented to Cabinet last month (April), reveals that the number of complaints relating to illegal sales of age-restricted products recorded by the authority increased by 26 per cent between April 2013 and January 2015. Most recorded complaints and

intelligence were linked to illegal tobacco and underage sales of alcohol. This rise shows that improved intelligence-gathering networks are working as more people are reporting these issues due to increased awareness.

In the last year a dedicated tobacco control team has carried out 12 raids on suspected 'tab houses' across the county and seized nearly 40,000 illegal cigarettes along with more than 40kg of hand-rolled tobacco.

Several counterfeit alcohol seizures have also taken place over the last 12 months, including one haul of 330 bottles of vodka from two licenced premises.

The council has also joined forces with police, community alcohol partnerships and local alcohol retailers to launch and carry out Operation ARIES.

The operation aims to reduce the number of sales of alcohol to under 18s and anti-social behaviour as well as to raise awareness of health and risk issues associated with underage drinking.

The report also shows a drop in the amount of test purchases carried out in 2014-15 compared to the previous year and a higher failure rate. This is due to the quality and quantity of intelligence gathering, which means resources can be targeted at premises where there is already evidence that the law is being flouted.

Anyone caught selling alcohol to children was fined and any premises which failed an inspection were offered free retailer training for their staff. Any premises which failed a second inspection were taken to review, which resulted in tougher conditions on their licences.

As part of the ARIES programme, eight premises out of 12 failed to ask an 18-year-old customer for identification under the Challenge 25 scheme when buying alcohol, the report states.

High-visibility inspection and visits were also carried out in hotspot areas where illegal fireworks are believed to be sold, particularly around Bonfire Night. The council will now continue to

focus on an intelligence-led approach to regulating age-restricted products as part of its enforcement programme for the coming year.

Other actions highlighted in the programme include:

- Widening sources of intelligence in relation to the illegal supply of age-restricted products.

- Continuing to target the supply of illicit tobacco throughout the county.

- Carrying on working with partners to tackle the criminal and wider health issues surrounding the illegal supply of age-restricted products.

- Continuing to use surveillance techniques regarding illegal sales from private homes and via social media.

Joanne Waller, head of environment, health and consumer protection, said: "We work with our partners, such as the police and health agencies, to tackle underage sales and illicit tobacco and alcohol using intelligence supplied to us and these latest figures show these efforts are proving successful."

"We also work alongside various enforcement agencies to deal with problems involving anti-social behaviour and wider criminality arising from the illegal supply of these products. "By adopting the range of measures outlined in our enforcement programme for this year we are demonstrating our commitment to continuing to tackle underage sales and access to age-restricted products and the problems associated with these." Cabinet agreed the enforcement programme for 2015-16.

FLOWER THEFT IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!



A resident driving up Central Avenue could not believe her eyes when she saw two people taking plants from flower beds kept so well by the County Council and putting them in their wheelbarrow!

So incensed by the nerve of these people she turned her car round and followed the couple who went into Welbury Grove and then into Ross Walk. This was witnessed on Thursday 21st May at around 12 noon and

photos were taken of them leaving the scene.

These thieves left an untidy mess in the flower bed where they had taken out the plants of their choice, presumably to beautify their own garden.

We contacted the County Council and the number to ring if anyone sees this type of theft is: Customer Services on 03000 260000 - give them the details which will be passed to the police. Alternatively ring the police direct on 101.

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KIDZ FLIX

Come and enjoy a "Night at the Museum, Secret of the Tomb", the last in the trilogy of movies about this hectic and funny museum where animals and dinosaur skeletons spring to life, following the breaking of an ancient Egyptian curse. This is the last film in which the amazingly talented and funny Robin Williams starred in.

The film will be shown at 2pm on Saturday 6th June in the main hall of St. Clare's Church. The film club is open to all children/young people and parents/carers are welcome also.

A small entry charge of £1 helps to keep the club running. We also have a tuck shop selling crisps, sweets and drinks. Hot chocolate and cake for 50p is always popular and a real bargain. So don't sit at home on a Saturday afternoon, come and treat yourself at the flicks!



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New Council Chairman and Cabinet Reshuffle



A former 'meals on wheels' lady has been elected as Durham County Council's new chairman.

Cllr Jan Blakey who represents the Coxhoe ward became the seventh chairman of the Council since unitary reorganisation in 2009 and the 56th chairman since the county council was first established in 1889.

Born and bred in Bowburn, Jan worked for the former Durham City Council's meals on wheels service. She was first elected to Durham County Council in 2008 representing Bowburn which subsequently became the Coxhoe electoral division when ward boundaries were changed in 2013. Married to husband Alan, she has two children, Claire and Adam, and five grandchildren.

Cllr Blakey's appointment was confirmed at the (Annual Meeting of Durham County Council on Wednesday, 20th May. She thanked councillors for electing her as their new chair and told them that her chosen charity for the year would be the North East Autism Society, which is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year.

The society was founded in 1980 by a group of parents whose children were diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Condition. Since then it has grown to provide a wide range of support services to people and families affected by autism throughout the region, including the society's new Sir Peter Vardy Enterprise Centre @ Thornbeck College in Newton Aycliffe, which opened earlier this year.

At the annual meeting, Cllr Robin Todd was appointed vice-chair of the council. Robin has represented the South Hetton area for over 50 years and received an MBE in 2006 for services to local government.

It was announced that Cllr Morris Nicholls the council's longest serving member, would be stepping down from his role as Cabinet member for adult services, having held the portfolio since the formation of the unitary authority in 2009.

His responsibilities have passed to Cllr Lucy Hovvels, who becomes Cabinet member for adult and health services. Her new portfolio covers adult and social care services and commissioning, carers, adult safeguarding and personalisation.

Cllr Joy Allen becomes Cabinet member for safer communities, taking over from Cllr Hovvels and taking on responsibility for community safety, links with Durham Constabulary, the Travellers' Liaison Service and emergency planning. Cllr Allen, who attended Tudhoe Comprehensive School and Durham University Business School before studying at Leicester University, was elected to the council in 2013.

Cllr Eddie Tomlinson takes on additional responsibility

HORNDALE RESIDENTS' MEETING

Horndale Residents Association next Meeting is on Wednesday 3rd June at the Evangelical Church Ladybower at 6pm.

We will be discussing the success of our last 2 events, the first was an Easter Family fun day held in partnership with the Evangelical church again this was a great success with everyone enjoying a free afternoon of games, hot cross buns and chocolate eggs.

The second was a trip to the Discovery Museum Newcastle the cost was only £3 each this was made possible through Big Lottery Funding. Our future trips to Whitby and Scarborough are fully booked but don't worry we are planning more trips over the coming months.

The Police, local councillors and representatives from Livin will be at the meeting to give reports and you can raise any concerns or ideas you may have.

Philip Clark
Chairman

Town Centre Demolition

Dear Sir,

I support the letter of concern about our Town Centre over the closure of Poundstretchers and the suggestion that rent and rates are far too high in Aycliffe.

Surely reducing these overheads is better than having empty shops and the Manager's reply that the Centre will be successful after the refurbishment is complete seems evasive.

I don't understand the logic of demolishing shops when we should be trying to generate interest in people trading here.

Do the owners have a hidden agenda because on the face of it what's happening here doesn't make sense. If we carry on like this we will eventually have a ghost town.

Disgruntled Newtonians, Joan & Roger McNeal

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Dear Sir,

The first group of young people up to 11 years old is now using the newly painted/refurbished Western Area Community Centre at Silverdale Place. This has been completed by Dorothy and Raymond Bowman at a personal cost of £605 with no help from Councillors or livin.

We will be meeting every Monday and Thursday 4pm until 6pm, admission £1. We would welcome new volunteers and are also looking for Volunteer Youth Workers for young people age 11 years to 16 years on a Monday and Thursday 6.30 until 8.30pm. We are also wanting games/toys for the younger group especially Lego or indoor/outdoor games, books etc.

Once we have these groups meeting regularly we will be looking for funding. For further details ring 01325 308094 or 07967 901477.
Dorothy Bowman.

ACCOUNTANCY PRACTICE CHARTS RAPID GROWTH

A fast-growing accountancy firm has added new staff and helped businesses unlock almost £600,000 in support funding as it continues to expand.

County Durham-based Stuart Hall & Co has added to its team after a prolonged period of growth, during which it has increased turnover year-on-year by 30% in each of the last five years.

The company has also helped businesses in the region apply for around £590,000 worth of funding through enterprise schemes and R & D tax relief. As well as supporting firms in tapping into various funding sources, Stuart Hall & Co offers a range of other accountancy services including year-end accounts, bookkeeping, VAT returns and payroll management.

The firm's 350-strong customer base includes enterprises of all sizes from a small sheep farmer in Scotland to major engineering and manufacturing operations with 50+ employees. Entrepreneur Stuart Hall, who founded the business in 2009, said: "Having



dreamed of opening my own accountancy practice for over 15 years, the reality has been hard work, but I am delighted with the progress we have made.

"Our plan as a business is to continue growing at a steady rate whilst ensuring we can continue to offer a quality service to all of our clients." Last year the company expanded into new larger premises at Hutton Close, Bishop Auckland, to accommodate growth and has since added to its team.

James Layfield-Carroll from Newton Aycliffe and

for its specialist services, backed by enterprise experts, which enable businesses to take advantage of funding streams.

Stuart said: "We have supported a mixture of growth plans through varying funding pots that are available locally. All of these amounts have also encouraged job creation in the local area, which is fantastic."

Accounts Manager Abi Smith, who assists all aspects of the business to increase growth, said: "We have a brilliant working environment and are all passionate about providing a quality service to all our clients."

"Stuart understands the importance of investing in his team and encourages and supports all of us on training courses including Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)."

For more information on this service and others offered by Stuart Hall and Co visit www.stuarthall.net.

Coping with Dementia

The Agnew Community Centre on Morrison Close, Newton Aycliffe are keen to continue to raise the profile of people living with Dementia.

With this in mind and aware of how many people signed up to be dementia friends, the Management Committee are looking to hold a Dementia Friends training session in the foreseeable future.

The next part is up to you, readers of the Newton News. If you are interested in becoming a dementia friend take a look at the

Alzheimer's website and see what it means to be able to understand and support those that are in our community and living with dementia.

Let's dispel the myth that life is over when someone is diagnosed with dementia. Let's make the Agnew area of town and beyond as dementia friendly as is possible using a little bit of knowledge and a lot of common sense.

To express your interest, please either telephone me Joan Clark on 07730471487 or email me on: chair.agnew@gmail.com

Helping Local Charity



Lynn Wilson has kindly been volunteering her time selling items on Ebay to raise funds for Lifeline Community Action. Alwyn White says she is much encouraged by Lynn's generous spirit. "Lynn is making a difference indirectly by helping so many people that she may never meet", said Alwyn. If anyone else is interested in volunteering to help charity then we would love to hear from you. Please phone the "Helping Hands" charity on 07936 431262.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

*Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings
of the Town Council and its Committees*

Wednesday 10th June 2015

Council Meeting - 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been also set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda of the Council, and its Committees.

With the exception of the Annual and Extra-Ordinary Council Meetings members of the public can submit a written question for the Council Agenda as long as it is submitted 7 clear days before a meeting.

If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting. Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

"The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".



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Drink-Drive Limits - What About the Morning After?

Do Common Hangover Cures Work?

It was widely reported on Tuesday 19th May that the government is being urged to lower the drink-drive limits in the UK to bring them in line with Scotland, where fewer failed breathalyzer test have been recorded since the law changed there in

December 2014. The Police Federation is calling for a reduction from the UK's current limit of 80mg per 100ml of blood to 50mg per 100ml. One reason for this renewed campaign is that the Police Federation feels that anti drink-driving messages are still not being adequately heeded.

But what about the morning after? Many drivers assume that they have slept off the effects of a night's drinking, or try some time-worn 'remedies' before getting behind the wheel. Both assumptions are wrong and we look at five of the top misconceptions.

A fry up will absorb what's left of the alcohol. Wrong: a big breakfast will temporarily take away the empty feeling in the stomach, but nutrients are what's needed, rather than fat. Think fruit juice and eggs instead.

Coffee: Alcohol dehydrates the body and coffee is a diuretic, meaning that it encourages the kidneys to excrete water, adding to the dehydrating effect. Water — and plenty of it — is what's needed.

Hair of the Dog: Another drink in the morning is foolhardy and may delay the onset of more hangover symptoms, (a reminder that you drank too much in the first place).

Eating Before Bed: A meal after a drinking session won't help the body to absorb or

metabolize the alcohol as it's already too late.

Taking painkillers while drinking: It's always a bad idea to mix alcohol and pills —and it won't lessen the headache the next day.

Many drivers are still failing to understand that the rate at which their body processes alcohol is dependent on a wide range of factors, including gender, body weight and build (ratio of fat to muscle) and many more, none of which can be accurately predicted.

Using a personal breathalyzer is the only way to be certain that you're not still over the limit the following day.

Suzannah Robin is the Sales and Training Director of AlcoDigital, the UK's leading supplier of drug and alcohol testing kits. She commented:

"The consequences of driving while still over the limit at any time can't be underestimated and too many drivers rely on outdated notions to guess when their blood alcohol levels are within limits the next day.

"Using a personal breathalyzer makes complete sense and the pressure to amend our drink driving laws and lower the permitted level of alcohol won't go away".

For further information about AlcoDigital and the brand new range of breathalyzers, please visit www.alcodigital.co.uk or contact the team on 0208 454 7372.

Keep up to date with AlcoDigital news and events on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/alcodigital> or follow @AlcoDigitalLtd on Twitter.

Beating Diabetes

A new programme aimed at reducing the risk of diabetes is to be launched in County Durham.

Durham County Council has been chosen to take part in the first phase of the NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme, launched as a joint initiative between NHS England, Public Health England and Diabetes UK. The "Just Beat It" initiative aims to significantly reduce the number of people expected to be diagnosed with diabetes by the end of 2015.

The programme, which follows a successful pilot, will target people at high risk of developing the condition and work with them to reduce their risk and delay the onset of type 2 diabetes and associated complications.

It will also look at increasing public awareness of diabetes and the implications of living with the condition. Anna Lynch, Durham County Council's director of public health, said: "It is estimated that, nationally, within the next 10 years, about four million people will be diagnosed with diabetes.

"The Diabetes Prevention Programme has the potential to significantly reduce this figure and help tackle one of our most serious health conditions." For more information on the Just Beat It programme, call 0191 569 2847.

Sponsored Bike Ride for Aycliffe Autism Centre

A team of cyclists are hitting the road to raise funds for the DCC Chairman's charity. Cllr Jan Blakey, the newly appointed chairman of Durham County Council, has chosen the North East Autism Society (NEAS) as her good cause during her time in office.

To help get fundraising off to a flying start, a team of cyclists named Team NEAS, led by fellow councillor Peter Brookes, aim to cycle from Trimdon in County Durham to Vauxhall, London on Saturday, June 20.

They hope to complete the 270 mile run non-stop and will be using the summer solstice to give them maximum daylight to crack the epic ride.

NEAS, celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, provides a wide range of services and support to people and families affected by autism- a condition which affects how people process information and see the world.

There are more than half a million people in the UK living with autism and it is believed 26,000 of them live in the North East of England. It is estimated that one in every 100 people live with autism, an invisible disability which often leaves people feeling lonely and misunderstood.

Cllr Blakey said: "Earlier this year I went to the opening of the society's new Sir Peter Vardy Enterprise centre at Thornbeck College in Newton Aycliffe and saw first-hand the fantastic work which the society does to help people living with this challenging condition."

John Phillipson, chief executive of NEAS and also taking part in the ride, said: "We are very grateful to Cllr Blakey for supporting us in our work and to Peter and his council colleagues for helping us with the cycle challenge.

"The society is 35-years-old this year and we have a wide range of events planned throughout the year for people to enjoy and help us celebrate the achievements of the young people and adults we support."

To sponsor the cycle ride

go to: www.justgiving.com/TeamNEAS or text donate NEAS80 (followed by your donation amount) to 70070.

Those taking part are: Cllr Peter Brookes, councillor for Trimdon and Thornley, John Philipson, chief executive, NEAS, David Shipman, strategic manager, adult commissioning, Durham County Council, Andrew Gilmore, finance manager, Durham County Council and Kieran Brookes, senior administrator, City University, London.

ACORN Residents Association Meeting

ACORN Residents Association hold their monthly meeting on Thursday 11th June at the Royal British Legion Club. Commencing with little ACORNS meeting from 5.30 at which future events will be discussed, the meeting will then lead to the main ACORN meeting at 6pm.

It is expected that building on the success of the Whitby and Cragside outings, plans will be announced for the forthcoming visit to York. ACORN has a full program of events, fundays and outings

With the forthcoming 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta ACORN will be celebrating with a marquee Liberteas with tea, scones/cream/jam in a very British celebration.

We shall be dressing up a tent in medieval style with shields and explaining the story of Magna Carta through A3 laminated story boards. Games for youngsters to play with small prizes and a quiz based on your knowledge of British history and civil liberties.

ACORN meetings are attended by police, local councillors and representatives of living housing when available. ACORN continue to work on community projects and events of interest for its members.

ACORN welcomes new members from around the Great Aycliffe area and invite speakers from other organisations
Ken Robson (Chairman)
Tel: 01325 321471

NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Come and join our brand new club "Fitsteps" based on come Dancing every Friday at 11.30pm. No partner required and only £3.50p per session. Lose weight, tone up and have fun!

Sedgefield Lyric Singers present a Concert on Saturday 18th July at 3pm. Admission £3, Seniors £2. Book and collect tickets at the door on 313924.

WANTED - A Bingo Caller for new club starting Monday 1st June and Friday 5th June at 7pm. To volunteer please ring 313924.

Dog Training club every Sunday at 6.30pm - just turn up with your dog.

We are still looking for kind people to donate items for our Fundraising Auction. Please ring 313924 and we will collect.

FOR SALE: Boxes of Car Boot items only £5.

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Black Sheep Brewery Trip

Saturday 8th August 2015
£23 adult
includes coach fare and tour of the brewery

Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Wednesday 12th August 2015
£27.50 adult, £22.50 child

Northumberland Tour

Saturday 27th June 2015
£14.50 adult, £12.50 child
Locations: Bamburgh, Seahouses and Holy Island



Yorkshire Lavendar

Saturday 4th July 2015
£14.50 adult, £12.50 child
Malton included



Whitby Regatta 2015

Monday 17th August 2015
£18 adult, £13 child

Castle Howard Proms

Saturday 22nd August 2015
£45.30 inc. concert & coach travel
Music by UK Philharmonic Orchestra
Gates open 5pm, Proms start 7.30pm
Concert finishes approx 10.30pm



Book early to avoid disappointment

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Newtonian Brings Growing Business Home

A successful Newton Aycliffe-born businesswoman is bringing her rapidly expanding company back to the town. Supply teaching agency SupplyMatch Recruitment has just moved into St Cuthbert's House after outgrowing its previous offices in Durham.

Managing Director Gail Anderson said: "By moving operations to such a well-known part of Newton Aycliffe, we are ideally located for growth and to welcome new and established staff.

"We already place staff into several schools in the local area so it seemed an ideal location for the next phase of our development."

Another former Aycliffe resident, Nicola Turnbull, has recently joined SupplyMatch as a recruitment consultant and part-time administration manager. Kim, goes full time from September. SupplyMatch Recruitment has found work for hundreds of teachers, cover supervisors and support staff in North East schools and colleges.

Gail, who attended Sugar Hill Primary and Woodham Comprehensive, said: "Things were already getting cramped in the Durham HQ before our expansion plans - moving everything to St Cuthbert's House means we have space to grow. I also thought it was important to bring something back to the town where I was born and my parents still live. We are now able to offer unparalleled training and support for people at any stage of their careers - whether they have decades of classroom experience or taking their first steps into teaching. We really love the idea of being able to help more people from Aycliffe and the surrounding areas get fulfilling jobs in education.

"Our staff have CPD courses made available to them when they sign up. We also offer step by step support to graduates applying for PGCE courses."

SupplyMatch Recruitment recently organised a coaching session for Byerley Park pupils by Aycliffe-born



professional footballer Ross Turnbull. They also donated hundreds of pounds worth of books to schools in the town as part of World Book Day. If you're a teacher looking for work, or a school interested in having an event or team sponsored by SupplyMatch Recruitment, email gail@supplymatch.co.uk or write to SupplyMatch Recruitment, Suite L, St Cuthberts House, Block 3, First Floor, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6DX.



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Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe

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www.thevillage-pharmacy.co.uk

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THE CAUSE OF ROAD CLOSURES

The Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) has discovered that more than 40% of all motorway and major A road lane closures in England in 2014 were caused by vehicle breakdowns – and 122 unsupervised children caused them to be shut too. A Freedom of Information (FOI) request from the IAM, the biggest independent road safety charity in the UK, asked for the number of incidences of lane closures on roads managed by Highways England's in 2014. In total there were 443,590 lane closures on motorways and primary A roads in England last year for 44 defined reasons by Highways England. Some of the major findings of the report were as follows:

- 12,759 pedestrians walking on a motorway live lane or active A road caused lane closures (three per cent of all

Using Our Boating Lake



Youngster having fun on West Park Lake

incidences) in addition to the 122 unsupervised children. • There were also 7,446 cases of a 'non-legal' use of the hard shoulder – some two per cent of recorded incidences. • Other causes listed were 3,990 animals loose on the network; 2,598 abandoned vehicles and 6,742 shed tyres • 6,288 injury collisions and 29,656 non-injury collisions also caused lane closures • 856 suicides or attempted suicides caused roads to be shut on England's main routes. • There were also 152 cases of objects being thrown onto the roads, and 567 cases of a vehicle driving on the wrong side of the road causing roads to be closed. The other top five reasons for road closures, apart from breakdowns were planned roadworks, assorted obstructions, non-injury accidents and administration (mainly police and VOSA checks).

Plants, Cakes & Treats Stall

St Elizabeth's Church at Woodham is calling all green fingered friends and those who love their gardens to join us on June 6th when we hold a Plant Sale, Home Bakes and Treats Stall. There will be various plants for sale including summer bedding plants, annuals, herbs and maybe some fruit and veggie plants too for those who love living the Good Life! Also do pop into the church where there will be delicious cakes, pies and home bakes on sale as well as refreshments. It promises to be a great day - we'll see you there at 10am!

Roadworks Notice

Motorists are advised a number of roads across County Durham are due to undergo important maintenance. Durham County Council will be carrying out planned resurfacing and specialist surface dressing at various locations from this month. Where and when major works will take place:

- B6288 North Road, Tudhoe; week beginning May 25.
- B6276 Bridge Street, Middleton-in-Teesdale; week beginning June 8.
- A689 Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland; week beginning June 22.
- A1086 Elm Terrace, Horden; week beginning June 1.
- B6277 West Bockersgill Farm, Newbiggin (Teesdale); week beginning June 8.
- B6282 Rosemount Road, South Church; week beginning May 25.
- C11 Green Lane, Holmside; week beginning June 1.
- B1280 Front Street, Wingate; week beginning June 15.
- C154 Sawmills Lane, Brandon; week beginning June 8.
- A692 Consett Road, Knitsley Mill; week beginning June 1.
- Off Sophia Street, St John's Square, Seaham; week beginning June 1.
- C38 Station Road, Sedgefield; week beginning June 8.
- B6308 Medomsley Road, Consett Bus Station; week beginning June 22.
- Various surface dressing schemes will take place countywide from June until September.

People are advised that each project will have specific traffic management arrangements, including two and three-way traffic lights, some planned road closures, off-peak working

and reduced speed limits – particularly where there are loose chippings temporarily on the road surface. As a result, drivers are warned to expect some delays and to plan for extended journey times. John Reed, the council's head of technical services, said: "We would like to thank the public in advance for their patience while this timetable of important work is carried out, which is vital maintenance work to prevent deterioration of the network. "We would urge people to take extra care when travelling through these sites while the work is going on and to pay attention to all the advisory signs, traffic controls and speed limits." For more information visit the roadworks and closures page at www.durham.gov.uk/roadworks.

AYCLIFFE RUNNING CLUB

Presents

The 3M 10K & Fun Run Sunday 21st June 2015

Sponsored by
**3M UK PLC, INEOS
AND GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL**



10k Run 10.00 am
3k Run 9.15 am

From Greenfield School,
Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7LF
Changing and parking at School

Organised by

Aycliffe Running
Club under
England Athletics
Rules Permit No.
2015-12781

10k Race

- £100 to first male and female
- £100 for the course record
- Veteran prizes
- Chip timing
- Technical Running Shirt

Fun Run

- Commemorative medal

(accurately measured with kilometres marked)

Entry Fees: 10k Run £12.00 Club Runners/£14.00 Non Club Runners
£2.00 extra to enter on the day
3k Run £4.00 All entries

Enter online at ayclifferunningclub.org.uk

Cheques to be made payable to 'Aycliffe Running Club' Entries to:
Anne Kellett, 5 Woodham Gate, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4UB
Closing Date for Entries Sunday 7th June 2015

NOTE! allow extra time to collect your race number on the day.

If for any reason the race is cancelled at short notice (which in the 16 year history has never occurred) Aycliffe Running Club can not return your entry fee as the club is committed to the organisation cost of the event regardless.

Surname Forename(s)

Address

..... County Post Code

e-mail address Telephone No.

Date of Birth Age on June 21st, 2015 Athletics UK Affiliated Club

10k or Fun Run please tick 10k Fun Run male female

(For 10K runners must be 16-years or over on June 21st, 2015)

UKA Reg Number for club member

Declaration: I wish to enter the 3M 10K or Fun Run and I declare that I am an amateur as defined by England Athletics Laws and certify that I am medically fit to run. Furthermore, I agree that the organisers will not be held responsible for any injury or illness as result of my participation in the events. I understand that my details will be stored on the entry computer, but will not be distributed to any other organisation or running club.

Signature Date



CCTV CAMERAS CATCH FLYTIPPERS



Seventeen suspected flytipping cases are being investigated after 24 extra CCTV cameras were set up throughout County Durham. The council is currently investigating 17 suspected flytipping incidents thanks to footage gleaned from its cameras. The authority is now warning would-be waste criminals that if they dump waste there is a bigger chance than ever of them being caught red handed on camera thanks to the extra cameras.

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, Durham County Council, said: "It is encouraging to see that the additional CCTV cameras are proving effective. We hope this sends a strong message to everyone to think twice before dumping rubbish as you never know where our cameras are and who might be watching."

Meanwhile, neighbourhood wardens also helped the Environment Agency investigate a second hand shop owner who broke the law by storing items and burning them at a site in South Moor, Stanley. People are reminded that it may be illegal to pay a man with a van to collect items such as furniture if they do not have a licence. Always ask to see their waste carrier licence before handing over waste and cash.

Residents can take waste to their nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) – for more information visit www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc or call 03000 261 000.

Flytipping can be reported at www.durham.gov.uk/flytipping or by calling 03000 261 000 and unlicensed waste carriers can be reported to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or at www.crimestoppers-uk.org



The West Ward PACT Meeting is being held at Burnhill Way Methodist Church at 6pm on 4th June. All residents are welcome to come along to be provided with updates on what is happening in the local area and to report any concerns they have to the Police, Local Councillors and Durham County Council Wardens. PCSO Chris Noble 7497 West Ward Newton Aycliffe Police Station Tel: 101 Ext. 742613

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Paper Car Licence Scrapped

The Institute of Advanced Motorists is warning people to be aware of the changes taking effect in just over two weeks' time as the paper counterpart for the driving licence is scrapped.

As was the case with the abolition of the paper tax disc last October, the IAM fear many people are still confused or unaware of the implications of the scrapping of the paper counterpart on 8 June. The counterpart was introduced alongside the photo card driving licence in 1998 to include details that could not be included on the card itself, such as any endorsements and which category of vehicles you are entitled to drive.

However this information will now be stored electronically and not be shown on any written documentation you will have. These details can be only be obtained via the DVLA driver record system, and be checked online (reference 1) or in writing by post.

As of 8th June the paper counterpart, or an old-style paper driving licence cannot be relied upon to carry correct or up-to-date information about endorsements or categories of vehicle someone can drive. The counterpart will carry no legal status, and the DVLA recommends you destroy it after 8 June.

What is also changing is the procedure if you have to surrender your driving licence to a court in the event of an endorsement. The court will take your photocard and if you include the paper counterpart with your submission, the photocard will be returned to you but the counterpart will not. You will be expected to pay your fine in the normal way however.

Another change is how to provide proof of your driving record to an employer or car hire firm, as your photocard or paper licence will not be enough in itself any more.

Agnew Extension for New Welfare Hub

Following the recent AGM of Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership (GACAP) who meet at the Agnew Community Centre, plans are coming together to push the proposed extension to the centre to house a welfare hub which would contain space for a food bank and other essentials for families in need including a recycled clothing and uniform swap scheme.

There will also be a number of small rooms which would be available for one to one discussions and a couple of bigger rooms for hire to help sustain the building.

During public consultation which commenced prior to the AGM, plans for the extension were put on display throughout the building.

The consultation period runs until the end of next week, so if you haven't seen the plans pop along to the Agnew Centre on Morrison Close to take a look at this exciting community project which aims to relieve stress and pressure for those in the community who are less fortunate.

You will need to access the DVLA's Share Driving Licence service, which as of Tuesday (19 May) is now up and running (reference 1 again).

You will be expected to access the details yourself and print those off for submission to a car hire firm or employer. Or you can call the DVLA and give a third party permission to check your driving record verbally. If you are hiring a vehicle, it is important to check with the car hire firm beforehand what information they need. Other than downloading the information as detailed above, you can also obtain a special code from www.gov.uk which allows the hire firm access to

your record for 72 hours to make the necessary checks. This applies to both holders of photocard and paper licences. Sarah Sillars, IAM chief executive officer, said: "People are not aware of how many of the current procedures are changing. Similar to the abolition of the tax disc, they assume much of what has happened before will continue. "The onus is very much on the individual to obtain the information they need beforehand. So we very much hope people will not be caught unawares, especially if they don't want a nasty surprise when arriving to collect their car at the start of their holiday."

BIG COUNTY EFFORT FOR SPRING CLEAN

Scores of volunteers have made a big effort to tackle litter as part of this year's Big Spring Clean campaign.

A range of community groups and organisations have got involved in events to tidy up areas and help remove litter. The Big Spring Clean, now in its fifth year, is a joint initiative between LitterFree Durham, Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council. It is held in support of Keep Britain Tidy's 'Love where you live' campaign.

Between 28 February and 18 April a total of 147 litter picks took place, which involved 1,490 volunteers who spent a total of 2,999 hours collecting 1,549 bags of litter.

The volunteers included residents and members of community groups, schools and young people working with the youth offending service.

The Environment Agency also supported the campaign, using specialist equipment to remove debris from the River Wear in Chester-le-Street while volunteers picked litter along the riverbank.

Pauline Walker, senior civic pride officer at Durham County Council, said: "It was

incredible to see so many people get involved with this year's Big Spring Clean campaign.

"Everyone worked really hard and showed real pride in their area. We'd like to thank all of the volunteers who gave up their time to make a difference in tidying up our towns and villages."

CLr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, added: "This year's campaign has been even bigger, with more and more people taking action to get rid of litter. "We urge everyone living in, working in or visiting County Durham to put their rubbish in a bin and help keep our streets, parks and open spaces litter-free."

The Big Spring Clean is one of a number of events held in County Durham to help keep communities clean and tidy.

To find out about other environmental campaigns, including how to get involved, people can contact Durham County Council's civic pride team on 03000 261 000 or by emailing civicpride@durham.gov.uk Information is also available at www.durham.gov.uk/civicpride

Rugby Club Recruit for Next Season

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club held their annual Presentation Evening at Moore Lane last Saturday.

Master of Ceremonies was old boy Dale Kelly who has returned to the club as one of the coaches this season. His natural wit had the audience in stitches and he reflected on yet another great season by the players although falling short of promotion reaching 3rd place again.

Everyone enjoyed a fresh fish and chips supper supplied by an outside caterer, a breakaway from the traditional 3 course meal.

During the main event the following list of players received various awards most deserved.

Chairman's Award: Stuart McIvor
President's Award: Drew Gibson

Coach's Award: Jeff Hodgson

Most Improved Player: Jonny Griffiths

Finally the most prestigious award for the season The Player's Player as voted by all the players went to the captain Warren Parsonage, who had an outstanding season and led by example throughout.

His award was made by John Whitehouse the MD of Whitehouse Funeral Service who was in attendance with his wife Julie. The club wish to thank John and his company for financial support. As a thank you he was given a framed shirt with his company name displayed. The evening rounded off with a disco and a great time was had by all.

This season has finished, the next season starts now with a massive drive in recruitment to create a second team. Any body interested in learning to play the game or any experienced players unattached to clubs would be made most welcome in our friendly club with fantastic craic. Contact head coach Pete Ryans on 07796 172599.

Our thanks once again go to club sponsors, Honest John, S Cars, Smurfitt Kappa, and Whitehouse Funeral Service.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team team sponsored by Franks The Flooring Store could only manage a draw away at Yarm 1st XI in the NYSD 2nd division. Being asked to bat first Aycliffe scored a mammoth 281 for 3 in their 50 overs with Tom Young smashing a breathtaking career best 118 and his opening partner Joe Haines batted throughout the innings finishing unbeaten with a career best 92 and the pair equalled the club record for a 1st wicket partnership of 183. In reply Yarm were able to keep the Aycliffe attack at bay and managed to hold out for draw scoring 207 for 8 from their 50 overs despite three wickets each from both Sean Morgan and Colin Myers.

On the bank holiday Monday the first team had an excellent 65 run win at home over Darlington RA. Aycliffe scored 195 all out and Chris Palmer (sponsored by Vanilla Design and Print) top scored with 51 and Michael Howe supported well with 32. In reply the visitors were bowled out for just 130 after 34.2 overs with fast bowler James Layfield-Carroll taking 3 for 32.

The 2nd team had a record breaking victory at home to Saltburn seconds in the 3rd division of the NYSD, the winning margin of 154 runs beat the previous best of 150 runs, which had stood for 17 years. Aycliffe were asked to bat first and scored 197 all out after 44.1 overs thanks in part to an amazing recording breaking 10th wicket partnership of 73 by 14 year old Adam Lamb (41 runs) and 15 year old Ryan Patrick (26 not out). In reply Saltburn were skittled for just 43 after 23.1 overs with Jack Slatcher (5 for 11) and Tom Wickins (4 for 13) proving almost unplayable. Youngster Adam Lamb (sponsored by House of Eden Nursery) was nominated as man of the match for his outstanding innings.

On the bank holiday Monday the 2nd team lost away at

Yarm by five wickets. Batting first Aycliffe scored 165 for 9 in their 50 overs thanks to solid innings from Adam Gittins (39 runs), Trevor Shingler (29 not out) and John Wardle 17 runs. In reply Yarm reached their victory target in the 40th over despite some good bowling from Danny Weldon (2-35) and Jack Slatcher (2 for 53)

The clubs u15's were knocked out of the league cup after losing at Brandon in a high scoring game by 26 runs. Brandon scored 160 for 6 in their 20 overs with George Slatcher the pick of the bowlers taking 3 for 32. In reply opener Dan Bowmer hit a brilliant unbeaten 50 and Slatcher was 26 not as Aycliffe finished their innings on a very respectable 134 for 6.

The u13's had a narrow win by just two runs at home to Darlington RA. There were good performances with the ball from both Ali Abbasi and Luke Grindlay, who each took 2 wickets and captain Nathan Parry top scored with 16 and Luke Patterson hit 14 in a tense finish.

P.A.C.T. Meeting
Police And Community Together



There will be PACT Meetings held at the following venues.
Simpasture Court Coffee Lounge on Tuesday 2nd June from 6-30pm to 7-30pm.

Neville Parade Methodist Church Hall on Thursday 4th June from 6-30pm to 7-30pm. PC Alan Thompson and PCSO Richard Scott are your Community Police Officers.

They welcome all residents to come along and get updates on what's going on and raise any concerns they may have. Partners from all agencies will attend when available. For more information visit the police Facebook site and www.durham.police.uk



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Child Safety Week

Parents are being reminded about simple steps to keep their little ones safe as part of Child Safety Week.

Durham County Council's Public Health team is working with the One Point Service, The council's road safety team, the Health Visiting Service and County Durham Fire and Rescue to organise activities across the county. A range of activities will be taking place at Durham County Council's children's centres next week (June 1 to 7) with the theme of this year's awareness campaign being 'Tea Time Terrors.' Sessions will highlight the typical types of accidents which occur at this time of day as families rush home from school and nursery, prepare for a bath and cook tea.

Child Safety Week is an annual campaign which is run by the Child Accident Prevention Trust whose statistics show accidents account for three child deaths every week in the UK with over 2,000 hospital admissions as a result and most accidents occurring at home.

Sessions taking place during the week aim to help families understand the risks in the home as well as the consequences of not preparing for little ones growing up and developing - learning to walk and crawling being examples. Parents will also be shown simple tricks to highlight how quickly accidents can be prevented.

Nichola Pitt, children's centre leader, said: "Small changes can make a big impact. The safety of our children is paramount and over the past year we have provided a number of training courses for parents about safety and first aid as well as play and learning activities which focused on sun, road and toy safety."

Activities will take place in centres across the County next week led by staff, many of whom have been trained by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

For more information on what is happening in your local children's centre log on to: <http://www.surestartcountydurham.org/pages/activities.aspx>

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BE WARY OF SNEAKY BURGLARS

Now the weather is warming up, many of us will be opening windows and doors to let in some welcome fresh air. However, police are warning about the rise of

'sneak-in burglaries' - a type of break-in that occurs when you leave a window or door unlocked.

According to Halifax Home Insurance, opportunistic thieves ramp up their activity during summer, resulting in a 10% increase in domestic burglaries and a 40% increase in outdoor thefts.

The majority of offenders look for the path of least resistance when attempting to gain entry to a property, and finding a door or window unlocked presents them with an attractive opportunity. Even if you're just nipping round to the neighbours for five minutes, hanging out the washing, or doing a spot of gardening, you should get into the habit of locking all

doors and windows before you leave your home.

As well as this, there are a number of other things you can do to protect your belongings over the warmer months, and here the security experts at Yale have compiled some of the most important.

1. According to The Home Office, 56% of burglaries take place during the evening, so be wary of leaving windows open on a warm night when you go to bed.
2. Don't leave valuable items in reach of an open window or cat flap if you have one - i.e. keys, wallets/purses, bags, mobile phones or iPads.
3. Install a home alarm, so that if the worst happens and there is a break in, you can be alerted quickly and your

neighbours can contact the police if necessary. They also act as a good visual deterrent.

4. After a day in the garden, remember to put tools and toys in a locked shed or garage overnight as expensive outdoor equipment can be a very tempting proposition for opportunistic thieves.

5. Caravans and motorhomes are also at risk during the summer months. Yale offers inexpensive battery-powered stand-alone alarms, which are ideal for securing mobile homes.

6. Always lock your doors and windows, even when you're at home or in the garden - it only takes a minute for a burglar to sneak in.

7. For maximum protection, secure external timber doors

using a mortice lock and/or nightlatch that meets British Standard BS3621.

8. If you have a PVCu or composite door it is a good idea to upgrade the euro profile cylinder in the multipoint lock to a British Standard TS007 3 star Kitemark cylinder.

9. 'Checking in' at holiday locations on social media or posting holiday photos can be risky, offering an open invitation to criminals, so take the time to check your settings.

10. Also beware of accepting new friends or connections online if you aren't associated with them personally. Burglars can pose as 'friends' to find out more about you and your home.

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SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY COURT PROCEEDINGS

A ground breaking project providing befriending support to friends and families visiting courts has been launched at Durham Crown Court, thanks to a funding boost from Ron Hogg, Durham Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

The Nepacs project, which started at Teesside Combined Courts in July 2013 thanks to funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, provides much-needed support and comfort to families who come to court to support a loved one facing a custodial sentence. Nepacs has received £20,204 funding in total from the PCC - £15,624 to enable Nepacs staff and volunteers to develop the project at Durham Crown Court and a further £4,580 towards

the provision of special visits for children and families of prisoners.

Support is offered to families attending court by a team of volunteers, under the leadership of Jane Leak, the Nepacs support at courts coordinator.

The volunteers are available within the courts offering listening support, information and continued support outside of court through a telephone befriending service. In its first year 93 individuals received long term support to help cope with the impact of imprisonment on their lives.

The project volunteers work closely with Nepacs' prison visitor centre teams and family support workers to help reduce families and friends' worries and anxieties about visiting prison.

Ron said: "Nepacs staff and volunteers provide an important service to families and individuals in an unfamiliar and formal setting which can be very daunting at such a difficult time. I am proud to be associated with this excellent project and I am delighted that so many more people will get the extra support they need."

Jane Leak, Nepacs support at courts coordinator, said: "We are delighted to have received this additional funding as it will enable us to develop the service at Durham Crown Court and offer support to even more families going through a very difficult time."

"Every year thousands of families experience court proceedings and the impact of a custodial sentence despite never having been involved in or committed a crime. From the moment of arrest and throughout the court process families are at risk of social isolation and stigma which can affect their emotional, physical, financial and social wellbeing."

"For those families who are unfamiliar with the judicial system or who are unprepared this can be a distressing time. Our dedicated team on the ground offer a listening ear, a helping hand and friendly support to help make things a little easier."

The team are always recruiting new volunteers who would be willing to give up a few hours of their time to support this worthwhile project.

Jane added: "We are looking for volunteers who may have travelled a similar journey, or have relevant skills or experience, and who can offer genuine understanding,

empathy and emotional support. Volunteering with families and making a difference can be very rewarding and can also provide you with valuable training and experience."

If you are a family experiencing similar issues and would like to talk to someone please get in touch with the befriending team on 07774 385276

If you are interested in

volunteering with the Nepacs court project in Durham or Teesside please get in touch with Jane Leak at jleak@nepacs.co.uk or visit our website www.nepacs.co.uk to find out more.

To find out more about the work of Nepacs, including how you can get involved or make a donation please visit www.nepacs.co.uk or telephone 0191 375 7278.

SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR

Stephenson Way Community Primary School will host their summer fair on Wednesday 15th July from 3.00 to 5.00pm in the school grounds. There will be lots of attractions such as teacups, bouncy castle, trampolines and a mega slide as well as stalls to suit the whole family including face painting, tombola, wheel of fortune and much more. Please come along and join in the fun!

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Visitors to Greenfield Arts in April and May will have seen the start of the exciting renovations and improvements we have been making. As we celebrate our 15th anniversary in June we have been upgrading our Studio 2 space.

With the support of Public Health, GAMP AAP, East Durham Trust and investment by Greenfield Arts the space will include a social space where people can meet and be creative, as well as providing a workshop space for the more messy creative

activities!

Our fantastic group of Cree volunteers have also been involved, giving their time to support our team of builders, and working on a new cabinet to house creative materials. After being given a complicated brief from the

arts team they have designed and built the cabinet which will cover one of the walls in the room.

These renovations will result in the space being more usable and will benefit our hirers, tutors, course participants and the community. Thank you to all our visitors and those who use the centre for their patience – the work is almost finished and we look forward to launching the new space soon!

In Memoriam

Lee Smith



3rd June

Another anniversary and another set of tears. We are so happy that you were a gift to us, but so sad that you had to leave us. We're incomplete without you. We will love you till the end of time. Mam and Dad

Anthea Scott-Atess



26th May 2006

In memory of OUR ANTHEA, a much loved Mam, Daughter, Sister and Neice. Softly the leaves of memory fall, gently we gather and treasure them all. Unseen, unheard, you are always near, so missed so loved and so very dear. xxxxx

RAY FLETCHER

Also a devoted Dad and Granddad and a precious Husband xxx

LORNA ROBERTS 1st June 2013. Two years today Mam - Always on my mind, forever in my heart. Miss you, love, Beverly x

JIMMY CUNNINGHAM 27th May 2011. Treasured memories of a wonderful Son and Brother who is loved and remembered always. Mam and Susan xxx

KATHLEEN FERGUSON 3rd June 2013. It's been 2 years since you passed away, yet in my heart you will always stay. Miss you each passing day. Love, Susan xxx

Congratulations

Emily Wharton & Millie Foster



WELL DONE

on winning Bronze at NDP National Finals in Stoke. Lots of love from Mam, Billy, Brad and Layla xxxx

Lisa Howarth



Happy Birthday

2nd June 2015
Happy birthday to my beautiful Wife. Lots of love John Paul

Happy Birthday

2nd June 2015
Happy birthday to the best Mam in the world. Love from Loren, Aimee and Dylan

Maisie Henry



Happy 10th Birthday

31st May 2015
Happy 10th birthday Maisie. have an amazing day! Love you so much, Daddy and James xxxxxxxx

Happy 10th Birthday

31st May 2015
Happy birthday to our gorgeous Granddaughter with lots and lots of love from Nana Sharon and Granda George xxxxxxxx

Happy 10th Birthday

31st May 2015
Happy birthday Maisie. Lots of love, hugs and kisses Auntie Maxine and Cousin Luke xxxx

Happy 10th Birthday

Happy 10th birthday to my beautiful Niece. Lots of love, Auntie Manda, Cousins Charlotte and Danielle xxxxx

Luke Henry



Happy 11th Birthday

27th May 2015
Hip Hip Hooray, my wonderful Son is 11 today. Happy birthday Luke. Lots of love, hugs and kisses, Mam xxxxx

Happy 11th Birthday

27th May 2015
Happy 11th birthday to our lovely Grandson. Love you loads, Nana Sharon and Granda George xxxxxxxx

Happy 11th Birthday

27th May 2015
Happy 11th birthday to my lovely Nephew. Loads of love and kisses, Auntie Manda, Cousins Charlotte and Danielle xxxxxxxx

Happy 11th Birthday

27th May 2015
Happy 11th birthday Luke. Lots of love, Uncle Stuart, Cousins Maisie and James xxxx

Birthday Remembrance

JOE ROBERTS 1st June 1922. Every day in some small way, memories of you come my way. Though absent, you are always near, still missed, loved and always dear. Happy Birthday Dad, miss you, love, Beverly x

For all your print requirements
Newton Press 300212

Thanks from Past Mayor Running Club News

It has been a great honour for me to represent the people of Great Aycliffe in my role as Mayor. As well as formal civic duties I have attended events throughout the town and been invited into homes to play a small part in family celebrations of Golden Wedding anniversaries and 100th Birthdays.

It has been a real pleasure to meet so many residents and I thank you all sincerely for the warm welcomes that I have been given. In particular I felt great pride at the Remembrance Parade and Service and the tree planting in Aycliffe Village to commemorate those lost to the First World War. You have all shown that you do not forget, with an incredible turnout on both occasions.

While visiting the schools in Great Aycliffe it occurred to me that while times may be hard our young people, our future generation are talented caring and perform to their absolute best. I know they are going to become valuable citizens of the future no matter what their chosen career paths are.

I would like to thank those who helped me raise £4,840.00 for my chosen charities: The County Durham School Benevolent Fund and Cruse Bereavement Services, by donating time, prizes as well as money. In particular I would like to thank the ladies of The Inner Wheel for their kind donations and Councillors Sarah Iveson and Valerie Raw who donated both prizes and their valuable time. Thanks also to the Newton News for the support given over the past twelve months.

Finally I would like to take the opportunity to wish the new Mayor Councillor Mary Dalton every success in her year of office. Councillor Wendy Hillary.

Four members of the club enjoyed a successful evening in the second of the Stockton Summer Tees Trail series over 5K. The venue was the Lord Stones Café near Carlton Bank, North York Moors. With spectacular views across the coast, following the Cleveland Way, this was a challenging but rewarding event.

Dez Fielden was first finisher for the club in 20:05 and 3rd place, also 1st M/40, followed by John Burnside 37th in 24:36 and 1st M/55 and Cyd Upton 45th in 25:07 and 1st F/50. Paul Stetton finished the course in 28:36, 98th.

A number of Aycliffe athletes recently took part in the Raby Castle 10K. This two lap course takes runners through the scenic grounds of Raby Castle Estate and is quite hilly in places.

First home for the club in 6th place was Dez Fielden in the time of 36:59, followed by John Surtees 20th in 38:56 and Dave Blewitt 73rd in 44:26.

Tracy Surtees was the first female finisher for the club

76th in 44:34 and Sandra Collins was 1st F/50 and 122nd overall in 47:51.

Next to cross the line was Steve Smith 137th in 48:26, followed by John Heywood 154th in 49:38 and Austin Donoghue 176th in 51:12.

Trish Kay, suffering with sore calves from a previous half marathon, taped them up and battled round the course to finish 183rd in 51:38, followed by Gary Minns 188th in 51:58 and Carla Norton 269th in 61:03. Susan Clark was second F/60 in 64:58 and Yvonne Williams wasn't far behind in 66:43.

Amanda Heywood chose the shorter option and ran in the 5K race finishing 90th in 34:02.

In the Melmerby 10K Robert Young finished 66th in 42:55 and John Young was 155th in 49:16.

In Parkruns course PBs were achieved by the following :- Darlington South Park, Yvonne Williams 29:54 and Elaine Morgan 30:41. Sedgfield, Mike Brunskill 24:01 and Austin Donoghue 24:04.





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GB SUCCESS FOR AYCLIFFE TRI CLUB

Sunday 10th of May saw two of two Aycliffe Tri Club coaches competing for selection in the 2016 GB Age Group Team. Michelle Scott and Andrew Sedgwick both travelled to St Neots in Cambridge to take part in the British Sprint Triathlon Championships. Over 700 competitors took part in the 750m river swim, 20k bike section and 5k run. Michelle was first to compete exiting the water with the top female triathletes, she stayed strong over the rest of the course finishing 9th in her age group giving her a place in the ITU World Age Group Championships in Chicago 2016.

Next up Andrew Sedgwick took on the course coming out of the water in the top 3. With a massive field of almost 200 of the top men in his age group, Andy gave a fantastic performance and finished in the top 30.

A week later and Michelle was back in action at the Cleveland Sprint Triathlon in Stokesley. Still on a high from qualifying for Chicago the previous week Michelle gave an outstanding performance in the 400m pool swim, 20k bike and 5k run finishing 1st lady in a time of 1.03 almost beating her own course PB.



Dan Halladay

Also racing on May 17th Dan Halladay took on the Olympic Distance at Loch Lomond. Dan gave it his all and finished in the top 20. And a final mention to congratulate Graham Atkins who will also be wearing the GB Tri suit next year in the 2016 ETU Standard Distance Duathlon European Championships after qualifying for a place at the Stockton Standard Distance Duathlon. Wendy Bake, Club Coach

TWO CUP TROPHIES FOR St. JOHN'S SCHOOL



The St. John's School & Sixth Form College Under 15's football team has won both County Cup competitions in the 2014/15 season.

The team beat Oxclose Community Academy in the Londonderry Cup Final, coming from behind to win 2-1. The goals were scored by Aidan Crooks followed by a last minute headed goal from Ethan Dixon to win the game. Throughout the match there was a superb

goalkeeping performance from Zach Hemming.

Two days later they played Biddick School in the Earl of Durham County Cup Final, once again having to come from behind to secure the victory. A hat-trick in the last twenty minutes from Bailey Prudhoe, including an outstanding assist from an under pressure Dixon, saw them home.

Captain Ellis Tait and his centre half partner James Frankland were solid and well organised during the finals and throughout the season, with St John's only conceding seven goals in both competitions, scoring twenty-six.

This same team also won the CIC County Cup last year (Year 9) and the TUC County Cup (Year 8), meaning they have won 4 County Cup Competitions in the last three seasons.

Film Show

St Clare's Church FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW on Tuesday 2nd June will feature, by popular demand, "REACH FOR THE SKY" The remarkable true story of Douglas Bader, an ambitious young pilot who overcomes every obstacle to prove his worth and carry on his career after a plane crash. Starring Kenneth Moore, Muriel Pavlow and Lyndon Brook, it is truly one of the most astounding stories of courage and determination.

Tea and coffee served at 1pm, included in the £2. The film starts at 1-15pm. A variety of chairs are set out for your comfort, and tables too so you can bring a spot of lunch to eat. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME to join us and watch this amazing film in friendly company. Further details from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

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EUROPEAN TITLE FOR AYCLIFFE FIGHTER



Two local promoters joined forces to put together one of the best shows the North East has seen. Lorraine Moore promoter of "The Lee Smith Memorial Show" and Gaz McAllister who promotes "Phoenix Nights" teamed up to present "Time to Fight" at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

The card had 17 fights, including 3 title fights with local boy Reece McAllister headlining the show fighting for the W.M.C. European title against Spanish fighter Jesus Romero Hernandez. It was a long build up to the Show taking 3 months of

planning. All gyms involved brought fantastic support but the Aycliffe support was something different, which added to the atmosphere. Reece McAllister said "walking out in front of my home crowd was the best feeling ever and winning the European title with everyone watching was a defining moment in my career and to all who came Thank You".

Lorraine and Gaz would like to thank everyone who attended and all sponsors who helped to make this Show - we hope to see you all at the next one.

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