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The "Steam Machine" Brewery in Aycliffe is now in full production and the first shop to stock the beer is Woodham Post Office and Off-Licence. Steam Machine's IPA 5.2% signature beer), and the ale/lager hybrid San Franciscan Steam 5.2%, are now both available in 330ml craft bottles at Woodham News Ltd. Newton Press printed the distinctive labels and are pleased to be connected with this local business. Stephen Jones, shop owner, said he really enjoyed both beers when sampled earlier in the week, and complimented the lovely hop presence of the IPA.



Stephen at Woodham Post Office stacking the shelves

Woodham News has become the first local retailer for Nick and Gulen's craft brewery based behind the Blue Bridge Centre.

"We're absolutely delighted to be able to point those interested in our modern beers to a fellow local business. Others wanting to stock our products should contact me on 07415

759945 E-mail: info@steammachinebrew.com" said Nick.



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Theatre Graduate's First Professional Role

Congratulations to Newtonian Nathan Elwick who has just graduated from the London Arts Educational School with a degree in Musical Theatre. Nathan attended Woodham



Academy where he was a mainstay of many of the School's fine productions. After leaving Woodham he studied at Newcastle College for 2 years before receiving a full bursary to join ARTSED who boast the best training for musical theatre and acting for film and TV in the business. In his final year Nathan was offered the part of Gomez in ARTSED's production of "The Adams Family" which attracted the attention of numerous theatrical producers. After graduation Nathan was offered his first professional role in the new production on tour of "The Glenn Miller Story" starring Tommy Steele which comes to Newcastle's Theatre Royal, 21st-26th September

WALWORTH SCHOOL END OF TERM FROLICS



Aspiring athletes at Walworth School Newton Aycliffe, a special school for primary aged children, are in tip-top shape for the upcoming season thanks to support from local work – surface manufacturer, Just The Tops. The Shildon based Company has provided much needed funding to supply sporting teams from Walworth with a brand new kit. This will be used throughout the 2015/16 academic year by the football, rugby and cross country teams. After the School wrote to local businesses asking for support, managing director at Just The Tops, Neil Robinson, was keen to lend



a helping hand. Neil said, "Over the last 12 months my business has gone from strength to strength, which has put us in a position to be able to give something back to the community". Peter Wallbanks, Headteacher at Walworth, said, "Encouraging our children to participate in sports allows them to have fun and encourage fitness, while also building teamwork skills that will serve them well later in life. The children and I would like to thank

Just The Tops for its support and would encourage other local businesses to support grassroots sport – it really does make a big difference". At the end of term the students were put into International Teams in a special World Cup Tournament and part of the fun involved members of staff including the Head Teacher Peter Wallbanks, taking a bath in beans.

REME Meeting

A Meeting of the REME Association, South West Durham Branch is on Wednesday 29th July at 8pm in the Scout Centre Bluebell Way. All serving and retired military personnel welcome

7,404 Meals Collected for Foodbank

The recent Foodbank collection from customers of Tesco Newton Aycliffe realised 7,404 meals for St Clare's Foodbank. This was no mean feat and a big thank you goes to the volunteers from the Foodbank for the time and effort they dedicated in helping Tesco collect this staggering amount. "Thanks to all of you who contributed to this worthwhile cause", said Helen Maynard Tesco Manager.

Woodham Academy Fair

Thanks to everyone who attended the Woodham Academy Summer Fair on Saturday 11th July. Bright sunshine and blue skies welcomed visitors to a wonderful event which left them spoilt for choice. With free activities running throughout the morning, the event offered a host of fun and games including art workshops and creative activities which saw families creating all manner of handiwork – strings of beads, hair decorations, aeroplanes and key rings to name but a few! The Jungle Run inflatable had the children tackling a series of different obstacles consisting of tunnels, tubes, biff & bash, scramble nets

and a large slide! Whilst others created delicious smoothies using a range of exotic fruits in the Let's Get Cooking workshops, Woodham Sports Academy worked non-stop on a whole host of activities. For some, there was only just enough time for a quick stop to have their faces painted before heading over to the robot field in an attempt to score the most points possible in qualification matches, elimination games and skills challenges. Refreshments were available throughout and after an exhausting morning of enjoying all the opportunities on offer, a light lunch was included to round off the event.

The Royal British Legion Summer Party Night

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Saturday 25th July - "This Machine"

Gig Pit Review: "Well, I don't know what to say, apart from . . . 'THIS MACHINE' were absolutely amazing last night, one of the best . . . especially when the guitarists were on the tables and the bar, haha!! Every song was awesome, perfect sound and just all round excellence. Also it was the best atmosphere I've ever experienced, everyone was having fun."

Gig Pit Review: "One of the most entertaining bands on the circuit, music by Motorhead, Van Halen, Metallica, Pearl Jam, Bon Jovi, Guns 'n' Roses, Deep Purple, AC/DC, Billy Idol, Thin Lizzy and more."

Sat 1st August - "Tony Liddle & Electric Warriors"

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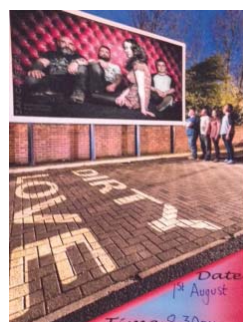
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Apprenticeships have always been a big part of Gestamp Tallent recruitment strategy and they have invested continuously in apprenticeships since the early seventies. More recently, because of a national shortage of engineers and the increasing levels of youth unemployment, it has become more of a focus. Over the years, apprenticeships have proven they are the ideal platform on which our employees can build their careers and to date the company has trained over 200 young people.

The apprentice programme covers Advanced Apprenticeships in Engineering Toolmaking and Maintenance and lasts for four years. This provides major career opportunities for young people and many of the individuals who joined the Company on the apprentice scheme have worked their way up through the ranks to some of the most senior positions within the Company.

53 apprentices are currently on programme and of the other 80 81% have completed. 65% remained with the Company for more than 2 years after completion and 52% are still employed at Gestamp Tallent.

Apprentices provide a replacement strategy for skilled roles as craftspeople are promoted, leave or retire. They are also a future resource for roles across the company and 33% of the Senior Management Team are former apprentices. As one of the largest employers in the area Gestamp believe it is important to continue to offer opportunities for local young people to make their first step on the career ladder.

Course Certificate recipients:
Ian Cockburn, Paul Grimstone, Callum Taylor, Scott Jardine, Sam Allison, Paul Newell, Matthew Hauxwell and Ryan Porter

Apprentices who received Multi Skilled Maintenance



Course Certificate holders



Apprentices who received contracts



Left to right: Peter Gallone, Plant Director Aiden Farrell; Team Leader, Vocational Education Directorate (BIS); Zeena Cala; Head of Employer Development (SFA); Karen Clark; Employer Development Manager (SFA); David Pearson, Training Controller

Technician contracts were Ross Fahey, Matthew Grimley and Connor McNulty. Toolmaker's contracts: Elliot Coatsworth, Ben Raper, Charles Rogerson, Ed Shearer and Aidan Spooner.

Community Centre Manager Must Retire

Community stalwart Peter Beatty is being forced to retire from voluntary work he has pursued all his working life.

For the last 14 years he has run Neville Parade Community Centre, saving it from certain closure, by refurbishing and almost rebuilding the 60's premises. The Centre is now one of the best facilities in town for hire with a hall and stage.

Peter, now 85 years old, has to retire on instructions from his doctor and he is anxious to find a replacement very urgently. Anyone who is interested in giving something back to the community and can spare the time to manage the Centre is asked to contact Peter on 313924.



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Community Grants up for Grabs

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to groups which support employment and education, young people and the elderly.

The 4 Together Partnership has set aside a pot of £24,000 of its area budget provided by Durham County Council to be used to fund projects in the Ferryhill, Chilton, West Cornforth and Bishop Middleham areas.

Grants of between £500 and £5,000 are being made available to groups which want to fund projects that meet the partnerships priorities for 2015/16. These are:

- Employment, job prospects, education and training.
- Activities for children and young people.
- Older people.

Applications, which are open until 11 September 2015, can only be for capital items – anyone who is unsure whether they meet the criteria can contact the team for more information.

The 4 Together Partnership will be running two application advice sessions on Tuesday 21 July from 2pm until 4pm and Wednesday 22 July from 6pm until 8pm.

These sessions will take applicants through the forms giving hints and tips on completing applications. Anyone who would like to book a place can get in touch with the team.

The decision on which projects will receive funding will be by a public vote which will be held at the 4 Together Forum event taking place on Saturday 14

November 2015.

Lee Copeland, principal AAP coordinator, Durham County Council, said: “We would love to receive applications from groups who have ideas for projects which meet our priorities for this year.

“We would also like to encourage applicants to come along to the advice sessions for help and guidance in completing the applications and the process itself.”

For more information about the 4 Together Partnership call 03000 267 540 or email fouraap@durham.gov.uk

Film Show

The next “FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW” at St Clare’s Church, on TUESDAY 28th JULY, will feature the musical “FUNNY FACE” starring Audrey Hepburn, Fred Astaire and Kay Thompson. Songs by George and Ira Gershwin and great dance routines make it a real Feel-good-film.

Tea, coffee and juice are served at 1pm, included in the £2, children £1, and the film starts at 1-15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a lovely film in friendly company. Everyone is most welcome; further info from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

FESTIVAL PARKING CHAOS



Dear Sir,

Isn't it wonderful to see the powers-that-be arranging a plethora of events for the summertime, in lieu of the demise of the much lamented Great Aycliffe Show? Something for everyone it seems. Two very notable examples of their powers of arrangement spring to mind – Saturday 11 July was a brilliant day at the Leisure Centre, on Greenwell Road.

Yet another huge dancing competition had been organised at this venue, attended by hundreds of strangely dressed young (and some not so young) hopefuls, dutifully attended by grannies, grandads and aunties, in cars loaded to the gunnels with cases full of make-up and dresses.

So much so that by 7.30 a.m. there was not a single car parking space to be had in any of the car parks along Greenwell Road, or behind the Leisure Centre!

The memory of various locals (including staff members of shops due to open later in the morning) trawling up and down the road, hopelessly looking for a place to leave their car, before getting to work; or the early residents, trying to find somewhere to park, so that they could pop into Young's for their papers, or Herons for bread, for their breakfast, will stay with me for a long time. The residents

of Aycliffe are a stoic lot you know. Simultaneously, summertime entertainments in the Beveridge Way Shopping Centre, on the day in question, were absolutely mobbed by at least ten spectators, who had managed to find a parking space, or come on foot, to avail themselves of the cacophony on offer.

But wait, there's more! Sunday 19 July was even better. Not only was there not a single parking space along Greenwell Road, the main car park, behind the Shopping Centre, had become something akin to a shoreline with a pod of beached whales, since it was cluttered with 5 or 6 stranded coaches that had disgorged their load of Jazz Band Competition participants, headed for – yes you've guessed it – the Leisure Centre! Some coaches were even parked on the pavement – tough on anyone with a baby in a pram, or someone using a mobility scooter.

This, together with the innumerable people carriers offloading their bass drums and symbols, meant that once again any unsuspecting local resident who dared to try to park and go to the shops was met with a barrage of verbal abuse, liberally sprinkled with expletives and one invader was heard to utter – “the Council have told us that this is our car, so get lost!” – to one poor soul, who had asked that the drums be moved back off the service road, so that he could squeeze past the abandoned buses and be on his way home, without the shopping he had come for (never mind that this car park is on private land and belongs to the Town Centre owners).

Marching Bands arranged along the middle of Greenwell

Road (a public highway), outside of Homeplan, blocking the road to passing traffic, hurling abuse at people passing by, no marshals in sight and no local traffic order, closing the road for this event. Oh! organisation, consideration – they really worked well that day!

Ah! Yes the wonders of organisation – I suppose funding cutbacks mean that this can no longer be afforded and why worry – the people of Newton Aycliffe should be accustomed to this kind of treatment by now – ignored, trodden on, taken for granted. After all, they are only the ones who pay a large part of the cost of running the Leisure Centre, via their Council Tax payments from the biggest new town in the County. Many of them are even members of the gym there but wo betide them if they want to use the gym on one of these festive days, they can't even get close to avail themselves of their one hour of self-inflicted torture.

Shopkeepers on the Town Centre? Why worry about them, if they cannot afford the ridiculous rents and exorbitant service charges and are silly enough to open their premises in the vain expectation that people will actually be able to get to them, to do some shopping, then they'll just have to close down. Won't they?

The big question is – do the Town Centre Manager or the Leisure Centre Manager ever stop to consider the implications of the decisions that they may make on behalf of visitors to the Town, who contribute nothing to the local economy, or for the long suffering residents and businesses, who could at least be alerted to what's afoot? Dr. James Parkin

HOLIDAYS OFF TO A FLYING START

The summer holidays started with lots of activity at Greenfield Arts this week. Art Club had a busy evening on Monday making photo frames and lots of mess with collage. On Tuesday artist Adam Bligh visited the centre and spent the morning working with local families to create a new sculptural installation for the centre foyer.

Thursday we got active as part of the Youth Cree project (funded by Public Health via GAMP AAP) hula hooping with Eat, Sleep, Hoop!

We've had a great first week and are now looking forward to 5 more busy weeks ahead! There are still places on some of our workshops – visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk for a list of activities and contact us on 01325 379048 to book a place



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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Customer Panel Meeting

The next meeting of the Customer Panel will be held on:

TUESDAY, 28th JULY, 2015

commencing at 6.00p.m. The Panel meet in the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe.

The meeting will be to give a general update. Mr. Steve Cooper (Environment Officer) will be in attendance to answer any environment queries.

We are always looking for new members. If you would like to know a little more about us and our work this would be a great meeting to attend. The group are informal and quite often have lively debates about a wide range of Town Council matters.

Why not come along and join us at this meeting – we look forward to seeing and meeting new members.

Further information can be obtained from Christine Walton on 01325 300700 e-mail: Christine.Walton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

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

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Silk Painting at Greenfield



Last week a great new course at Greenfield Arts began with local artist Sharron Bates sharing a skill with a group of enthusiastic participants, who were eager to learn this great technique.

In the first session the group learnt the basics of outlining and created some beautiful pieces, and over the next 2 sessions they will continue to hone their skills! The participants are really

enjoying the course and the opportunity to try something new. Sharron Bates, the artist and teacher is also enjoying the chance to share her skills and passions with enthusiastic participants!

Sharron will be running another course at Greenfield Arts in September and a course in wet felting. Please contact Greenfield Arts for more information (www.greenfield-arts.co.uk)

LCA Help Families with Baby Basics

The Baby Basics team from Lifeline Community Action have teamed up with a local agency and helped make the birth of a new baby the best time ever for a family in financial difficulties.

A local couple were initially in a state of disbelief to receive such fabulous items; they were very excited, overjoyed and amazed.

The agency told LCA that every single item was carefully inspected. They identified a need for every single item received. The mother was quite emotional, and kept shaking her head, wiping her eyes and saying 'wow' and 'thank you so much'.

The agency pointed out it was not them but LCA who had provided all the baby essentials and who really care about them and their children. The agency says the family are very happy and uplifted. The older children loved the clothes and toys, and had an outstanding two weeks at school. The baby is very content in her new

buggy, new clothes and equipment.

LCA work closely with many organisations and together make huge differences to people's lives. If there are any agencies that would like to work with LCA please email: lifeline.action@gmail.com

Homemade Refreshments in Heighington Village Hall

Heighington Village Hall Association is planning to open from 10.00am to 2.00pm every Friday from 24th July until 28th August for light refreshments.

There will be homemade sandwiches and cakes, as well as tea, coffee and squash, on offer. Why not come along and treat yourself?

The proceeds will go to support the village hall.

North East Companies Scoop Business Awards



Esh Construction and housing provider livin - both based in Durham - have been hailed responsible business champions after clinching accolades at the national Responsible Business Awards, run by the Prince of Wales's charity Business in the Community.

Held at the Royal Albert Hall in London last week (7 July), the awards acknowledged the companies for building partnerships with schools and inspiring young talent.

Esh received The School Partnerships Award for its 'Building my Skills' initiative which brought together 65 businesses and 49 schools across 23 local authorities in the north of England to provide a dynamic career advice programme in which almost 7,000 young people benefited from mock interviews, work experience and apprenticeship opportunities.

livin scooped The Jaguar Land Rover Inspiring Young Talent Award for its powerful employability programme. Delivered in partnership with local employers, the initiative has helped over 500 young people through a combination of careers advice, work experience, mentoring and training. Every trainee gained employment and the programme produced £1.5 million in economic value.

Prime Minister David Cameron commended winners via video message saying: "On behalf of the whole country, I want to say thank you to all of you, for what you are doing to show that responsible business is good business and something we should all be very proud of."

The event - a culmination of a series of regional awards run by Business in the Community across the country, recognises innovative ways that businesses are addressing social and environmental issues and transforming communities.

Brian Manning, CEO, Esh Group, said: "Businesses must work together to open student's eyes to opportunity, charge them up and excite them about the world of work. If we do, we can greatly increase a young person's ability to gain better qualifications, aspire to be in employment, and enter the job market."

Colin Steel, CEO, livin housing, said: "Young people are core to the success of our social and business aspirations - they're our future. Six years ago we saw gaps in service provision - Livin Futures plugged those gaps. Through the programme we engage with hundreds of young people of all ages and abilities, delivering high quality, sustained programmes that really do open doors, giving young people the best chance of getting a job."

Over 1,200 senior guests, from SME owners to the CEOs of global brands attended the Responsible Business Gala which was sponsored by 2014 Responsible Business of the Year National Grid. The event,

which took place at the Royal Albert Hall in London, and was hosted by TV presenter Claudia Winkleman with entertainment by comedian Adam Hill.

Liz Needleman, Business in the Community's England East area director, said: "It's tremendous to see our region's businesses acknowledged on a national level for the great work they are doing within schools and communities. Inspiring initiatives such as those created by Esh and livin - provide a leading example for fellow UK businesses to make a difference."

Come Dine at Rose Lodge for £5

Rose Lodge are set to host their next Come Dine with me Lunch event on Thursday 6th August from 1:30pm.

Guests will have a choice of two delicious three course menus. Menu one features a pear and Parma ham salad with basil oil dressing starter, pan-

fried chicken and chorizo with vegetables and a creamy chive sauce main course, and profiteroles and strawberries with a chocolate sauce for dessert. Menu two features a date and onion chutney pitta salad starter, roast pork steak with rosemary and parsley mash and

vegetables main, and a tiramisu with vanilla cream and raspberries for dessert.

The booking cost is £5 per person and all are welcome. Places are limited. To book please call: Tel: 01325 271301 or email roselodge@cwch.com

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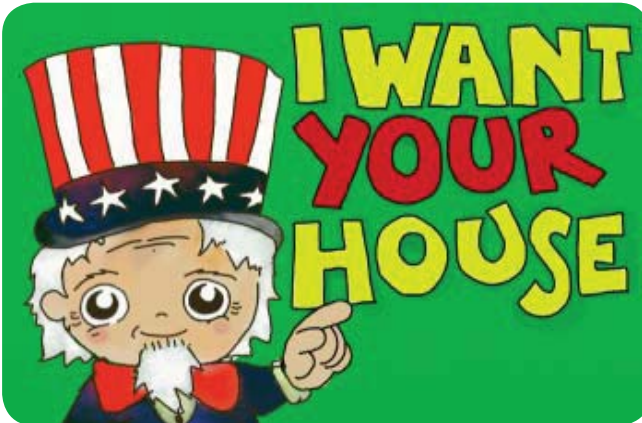


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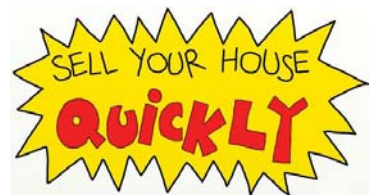


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Woodham Academy Stars Shine



Last Thursday night one again showcased the high quality music making at Woodham Academy in their Summer Concert. The show opened with the Samba Band. This rapidly became an audience participation piece with Mr Wynd encouraging parents and even Deputy Head Mr Lumb on stage to join the students in their rendition of Olodum Batacada. The evening progressed with

super performances from the Year 7 band playing Drunken Sailor, Broadcast Anarchy with Loose Change and the Woodham Academy Jazz Band performing their own versions of Moves Like Jagger, Skyfall, Superstition and Twist & Shout. A number of students took to the stage for the very first time, including Y9 pianist Joel Gibson and Y10 guitarist Paul Gray. Both gave excellent

performances. Talented pianists Kirsty Knight and Kate Reynoldson gave performances of Home and Somewhere over the Rainbow respectively. Zoe Wheeler gave a lovely performance of Yours by Ella Henderson and Charlotte McAdam was flawless in her rendition of Somewhere Only We Know. Woodham Sound too were on form with George Ezra's Budapest and Bruno Mars' Marry You. Cornet player Amy Taylor played a wonderfully delicate arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Chanson Napolitaine. Woodham's Got Talent winners Hannah Bussey and Victoria Witton again took to the stage with their own quirky version of Sam Smith's Stay with Me. Special mention goes to Y9 student Ben Wales, who performed his own composition. It was an honour to hear such an emerging talent. It was also the final performance for some of our Y11 leavers. Zoe Efthymiadou played Salut D'Amour on violin and Meghan Cumming sang Birdie's Not About Angels. Lewis Walker and Jonathan Jarvis have been stalwarts of Woodham Academy music groups and we would like to wish them all the very best in their futures.

HORNDALE NEWS

Dear Sir,
There were many great comments after TV award winning comedian Patrick Monahan appeared at Woodham Golf Club on the 7th July to raise funds for Horndale Residents Association.

Patrick took time out of his busy schedule to entertain us and from arriving to leaving he gave his full attention to the 100 people in the audience. During the interval he spoke to each table and then went on to do his second slot which was a rehearsal for his Edinburgh Festival Show. Thank you to Mandy and John at the Golf Club and their staff for the generous help and support given in making the evening a success.

"The best pie and peas I have ever had" was one comment. Also thanks to Greenfield College for use of their stage and to Richard Agar for moving it and supplying blackout screens - all in all a good community effort.

Over the last few months, we held an Easter family fun day in partnership with Aycliffe Evangelical Church, bus trips to Discovery Museum Newcastle and Whitby and all our trips for August are fully booked.

These events are funded by the Big lottery and all money raised with ticket sales are put into other community events.

Philip Clark
Horndale
Residents Association

Praise for Full Stem Ahead Initiative

Dear Sir,
I write to thank and congratulate Newton Aycliffe Youth Council for the opening event of the Newton Aycliffe Summer Festival Week on July 3rd. It was called Full 'Stem' Ahead, the acronym standing for Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics.

I have a business on the town called Go Ahead Training and I was very pleased to be invited to take part in the event, the focus of which was to demonstrate to young schoolchildren and their parents the hugely important role they play in the future of technology, engineering, economics and manufacturing for the Business Park which serves their town.

I would also like to thank the businesses and colleges for acknowledging the importance of the event by sending teams representing them, such as 3M's, Go Motor Sport, Hydram Engineering, Compound Filtronic, SRM, EDT Trust, South Durham UTC, Darlington, Middlesbrough,

South West Durham Training Ltd and Bishop Auckland College.

The event was extremely hard work and time consuming to organise with no certainty of success, so I applaud Council officers, Andrew Bailey, Chrissy Walton and Steve Cooper for their efforts along with Mayor Mary Dalton who opened the event and Councillor Jim Atkinson who was ever present throughout the day and the process.

Aycliffe Business Park has a dedicated team working tirelessly to extend a message to the people of Newton Aycliffe that they are important to the prosperity of their community and the Council's initiative by organising this event shows a commitment they feel the same.

Go Ahead Training will be working with the business community in supporting any future initiatives and for all the hard work done by the Youth Council, we repeat our thanks. David Spensley

Treat for Greenfield Cree Volunteers



Greenfield Arts' male Cree volunteers had some fantastic achievements lately and were rewarded for all of their hard work with a well-deserved luxury spa day and meal.

The local male volunteers have been working with Greenfield Arts for over 3 years and have achieved so many things in this time including creating a public art installation on site called Nalu, building and designing a little free library space, creating a witch statue for the Beamish museum event, creating and producing some finale features for Cutting Loose and Quercus live and designing and building a new cupboard unit for our new creative space.

The men are a lovely bunch of people who are always looking for others to join us, to have ideas, have some chat and make things happen. There are always cups of tea and even the occasional bacon buttie! The project is funded by Public Health and East Durham Trust and developed by Greenfield Arts. It is a great way of getting involved, meeting others and making things happen in our community.

The group has also been nominated for two awards recently, the County Durham Volunteering awards and the Durham County Environment awards. We wish them all the best and if you are interested in getting involved drop by or come along to one of our sessions on Monday 10.30am -12pm at Greenfield Arts, Newton Aycliffe (www.greenfield-arts.co.uk)

BREASTFEEDING ENCOURAGED



There are currently 124 supporters and 23 trainees in County Durham and Darlington and all were invited to a celebration at Spennymoor Leadership Centre.

In County Durham, a little over half (58 per cent) of all mothers start breastfeeding but by the time their baby is six to eight-weeks-old, half of these new mums tend to give up, so mothers who have themselves breastfed are on hand to offer advice and support.

County Durham peer supporters also complete a recognised training programme during which they learn about breastfeeding, how it works and how to recognise and overcome potential barriers to successful breastfeeding.

Peer supporters offer breastfeeding information and support in a variety of settings, such as antenatal sessions; on

postnatal wards; at clinics and at breastfeeding cafés.

Lucy Hovvels, Cabinet member for adult and health services with Durham County Council, said: "We are delighted at how many local mums are volunteering their time to support other breastfeeding mums in their area."

"We have several initiatives taking place across the county to support breastfeeding mothers and the peer support programme is a very valuable service."

Thanks to initiatives such as this, there has been an increase in breastfeeding statistics year on year; however rates in County Durham are still lower than the regional and national averages.

For more information about the Support Programme parents should contact their health visitor.

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CARE HOME FETE



Aycliffe Care Home hosted a fun-filled Summer Fete for the local community to benefit its residents and two charities. It raised a total of £910 for Veterans at Ease and the Joanne McCourt Fund, with a proportion going to the residents' comfort fund. Members of staff, residents and the community all came together for the event, which included entertainment from Janie St John and a performance from a flyball dog agility team. There was also a Veterans at Ease stall, a raffle, a bouncy castle for children, as well as food and refreshments for those in attendance. Located on Burnhope Way, Aycliffe Care Home is a

purpose built 54-bed home that provides 24 hour general residential, dementia and nursing care. Jane Mack, Manager said: "Our summer fetes are always well received and this year's was no exception. The day was enjoyed by all, with plenty of entertainment on offer and the total amount raised is an incredible achievement. "Two fantastic charities have benefited from our local community's support and I would like to thank everyone who attended and donated, with special thanks to those who volunteered as, without their support, the day wouldn't have been possible."

AWARDED FOR EFFORTS IN TACKLING SMOKING

Durham County Council has won a national award for its successes reducing local smoking rates as well as its work with local NHS trusts. The council has been given a Clear Award for reducing the number of people who smoke and for its work with NHS trusts in ensuring people, particularly those in hospital, those with poor mental health and pregnant women, receive support in quitting smoking. The panel commended the awareness campaigns run by the council-commissioned programme - Fresh Smoke Free.

The CLear Partnership, which works with local authorities across England to support progress in reducing smoking, awarded the accolade. The partnership comprises Public Health England (PHE), Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) and Cancer Research UK.

Cllr Lucy Hovvels, Cabinet member for adult and health services with the council, said: "Durham County Council, as a partner on the County Durham Tobacco Control Alliance, is very committed to reducing smoking in our communities and we are delighted that this has been recognised." Alison Cox, director of cancer prevention at Cancer Research UK said: "Durham's impressive record on this



Left to right: Dianne Woodall, Durham County Council, Martin Dockrell, head of tobacco control programme at Public Health England with Eve Wouldhave and Annie Pluse from County Durham NHS Stop Smoking Service.

crucial public health issue is to be applauded. "Smoking is the largest cause of premature deaths in the UK and remains the public health challenge of our generation.

"With the determination and commitment of councils like Durham we will safeguard the progress made to date and can look forward to a future free from the harms of smoking."

Could You Monitor Standards of Conduct?

An independent person who can help to ensure proper standards of conduct are met is being sought by a North East organisation.

The North East Combined Authority is looking to appoint someone to the independent support role and is inviting applications by the end of this month (July 31).

Interested candidates will be expected to have high standards of personal conduct and will ideally have some knowledge of local government.

The appointment is for a two-year period with a possible extension of a further two years. As part of their role the independent person would be consulted on member code of conduct issues and therefore close friends and relatives of members of the combined

authority are not allowed to apply.

Anyone who wishes to apply or request further information should contact Vivienne Geary, monitoring officer for neca, on 0191 6435339 or email vivienne.geary@northtyneside.gov.uk Alternatively people can write to Vivienne Geary, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY. Applications must be received no later than 31 July 2015.

Further information about the role and about the North East Combined Authority is available at www.northeastca.gov.uk

Aycliffe Village Student Wins STEM Competition

Pupils from Newton Aycliffe Schools attended a STEM (Science, Technology Engineering & Maths) event at the Oakleaf Centre recently. Pupils enjoyed a range of activities and gadgets linked to using technology, including robots and underwater vehicles, to support their understanding of new technology.

Asha Hunter from Aycliffe Village Primary School entered a competition to guess how long it took to actually manufacture one of these robots. Her estimate of 18 hours was the closest to the actual time of manufacture of 18 hours and 45 minutes.

Mr Tom Dower, Head of the new University Technical



College in Aycliffe, came to Aycliffe Village Primary school recently to present Asha with her prize - a model robot!

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Sue Binn's dog Max

E.U. - "THE EVIL EMPIRE"!

Dear Sir,
It would appear that the 6,426 votes our MP lost to UKIP have caused him and the local Labour Party to realise they now have to, at least, appear to be acting democratically when discussing the completely undemocratic EU (hereinafter referred to as the 'Evil Empire'; its abhorrent treatment of Greece earning this title).

Prior to the election Tony Blair visited Sedgefield and spoke out against the Conservative and UKIP policies of holding an in/out EU referendum. Clearly, he did not appreciate the mood of the electorate; a Conservative Government was elected and the promised Referendum will be held. I voted UKIP simply on the basis that the Labour stance of denying us a vote was as undemocratic as the EU.

Why is Phil Wilson MP surveying the business community? The electorate now have a chance to vote and will make up their own minds without empty threats from banks and business, big and small. If he wants to be on the winning side (the NO Vote and out of the E.U. he should be surveying his electorate at large; he already knows the views of 6,426!

The facts are:
We import more from the Evil Empire than we export to it. The E.U. will still trade with us; they cannot afford not to!

The UK is a nett contributor to the Evil Empire. When we stop over-contributing we will have more money to fund our region than the paltry £460m the North East now gets back from Europe.

The E.U. is undemocratic. The majority of our MEPs are anti-EU but they cannot influence its decisions. How the Greek problem is to be resolved will not be decided by the Greek people or the EU electorate,

it will be decided by German bankers and the German Government.

A substantial number of big businesses in Britain are notorious for being 'offshore' and not properly paying tax on profits they make here. This is undemocratic. The Referendum is an opportunity for the tax paying electorate to ignore any threats from vested interests.

Why is it now so important that Phil Wilson is, "... aware of the practical effects that continued membership (of the EU) or withdrawal, would have"? He did not want a referendum and surely he cannot be insinuating that David Cameron is going to let him interfere in the negotiations. With one vote he only has the same influence as the rest of the electorate.

Democracy and consultation are novel concepts for Phil Wilson and local Labour. They run a Cabinet System in Durham County Council. Decisions are taken by the local 'poliburo' of the Labour Party and the majority of elected Councillors are not consulted and don't get to vote!

Under Labour's watch there have been public campaigns against the closure of Post Offices and Care Homes, and our Town Council is going to save their blushes (at our expense!) by funding the retention of street lights on the A167.

When voting in the in/out EU referendum remember that your vote is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to return to the democratic Government of Britain by the British. Ignore the threats and false promises of vested interests such as the Evil Empire, the Labour Party, Bankers and big business. Phil Wilson has already made up his mind. He hopes to use the views of local business to threaten you with economic

disaster if you vote to leave the EU. Phil Wilson, the Labour Party and the banks know how to work together to create economic disaster. If you are undecided on how to vote, seek wiser counsel and visit the UKIP website. Alastair P.G. Welsh.

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Wed 29 th July & Thur 13 th Aug	9:15 – 10:00	Fun&Fitness for under 5s; parent must be present
	10:00 – 11:00	Fundamental skills; balances, shapes, coordination
	11:00 – 12:00	Rolls
Fri 31 st July & Fri 14 th Aug	12:00 – 1:00	Cartwheels
	9:30 – 10:30	Walkover variations; 1 arm, elbow, valdez
	10:30 – 12:00	Flics
Thurs 6 th Aug & Tues 18 th Aug	12:00 – 1:00	Advanced pedestals
	9:00 – 10:30	Aerials
	10:30 – 12:00	Somersaults; tuck, pike, straight
Friday 7 th Aug & Fri 21 st Aug	12:00 – 1:00	Twisting somersaults
	1:30 – 3:00	Open gymnastics session
	9:15 – 10:00	Fun&Fitness for under 5s; parent must be present
	10:00 – 11:30	Round offs
	11:30 – 12:30	Walkovers
	12:30 – 1:30	Pedestals

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Toddle Waddle for Charity Young and Old at Care Home Summer Fair



To help raise money for fantastic charity "Meningitis Now", in memory of Joanne McCourt, a Toddle Waddle

It was a day of family fun at Rose Lodge care home, Carer's Way, as the home hosted its annual Summer Fair as part of this year's Aycliffe Festival.

Guests of all ages were welcomed to the free afternoon event which featured a bouncy castle, games, various stalls and cake sale.

The home volunteered to host their Summer fair as

part of the Aycliffe Festival, a community-hosted events programme which saw events take place in venues across Newton Aycliffe from Friday, July 3, to Sunday, July 12.

Rose Lodge, which offers residential and specialist dementia care, raised over £200 from the day for the residents' fund which goes towards extra treats for the residents such as day trips

COMPUTERS FOR THE TERRIFIED



Woodham Community Centre volunteers David Sutton Lloyd and Tim Randall gave a talk to the town's Rotary Club this week on their work in teaching "Computers for the Terrified". Their work is mainly aimed at older people who are afraid to use new technology and the friendly courses, run for many years, have been very successful. One of their most capable computer users was 90 years old so it is never too late! The teaching is very informal and becomes more of a social activity with the opportunity to meet others and make new friends. Anyone interested can contact David on 316144.



out. Care Manager Nicola Wheatley said: "Our Summer fair was a big success with residents, families and guests on the day saying that they'd had a brilliant time. We were delighted for the opportunity to get involved

in the Aycliffe Festival. It's very important to us that our residents can continue to stay active within our community and taking part in the festival was a great opportunity to further build relationships with those in our local area."

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was held at Neville Parade Methodist Church where all of the children took part in mini sponsored sports events. The children not only helped raise money they had a fantastic time in the process and they all received a medal and stickers. In addition to the sponsored Toddle Waddle there were various cakes for sale as well as face painting, a raffle, arts and crafts. The toddler groups which are held every Monday and Thursday also kindly donated their weekly subs. The family of Joanne McCourt would like to say a huge thank you to everyone involved as we couldn't have done it without you. A total of £240.00 was raised on the day however this amount is expected to rise considerably once all the sponsor money is collected

VILLAGE SCHOOL CONCERT



Pupils at Aycliffe Village Primary School were entertained by fellow pupils with an amazing concert from pupils from Year One through to Year Five.

The Keyboard players are taught by Mr Dan Shield from Music Works and have worked hard to practice the songs they played to the school.

The players were accompanied on the drums by a Year One pupil, Florence Johnson who has recently achieved a Grade Two exam distinction with her playing. In addition to the Keyboard Concert, Year 2 pupils entertained with a fabulous range of songs and Year 4 entertained their parents with their recorder playing. Year 5 and 6 pupils will begin to learn the clarinet when they return in September. The singers and recorder

players are taught by the teachers in the school and staff from the Durham Music Service. The school buys into these services as the benefits of playing a musical

instrument are very helpful in other areas of learning.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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WOODHAM "SPARKIES"



Earlier this month students from the surrounding primary schools attended Woodham Academy for the final session in a yearlong Science club 'Woodham Sparkies'. Over the course of a year students attended 6 sessions covering a wide range of topics including astronomy and the amazing world of microbiology. All students were presented with achievement certificates before embarking on their final challenge of the year, the annual 'Woodham Sparkies' Rocket contest where parents competed against their children

to build a water rocket that could reach the top of the school building. All the rockets built were a huge success and 3 groups were presented with prizes for their achievements in aerodynamic design, stability and of course the prettiest rocket. 'Woodham Sparkies' Science Club is open to all year 5 and 6 students from the local area and we are currently enrolling students for the 2015-2016 programme. If your child is interested in coming along please contact: Nichola Jenkins on info@woodham.org.uk

DELAY ON TOWN CENTRE DEMOLITION

A number of people have noticed that demolition work seems to have come to a halt in the town centre. No workmen to be seen and their cabins, toilets have been removed.

We contacted the Town Centre Manager for information and he gave the following response:

"This was always planned to be a long term contract however there have been some delays namely:

- 1) NGN failing to terminate gas supplies in the correct location
 - 2) As anticipated there are complex issues with the way the concrete frame for Churchill House is dismantled and maintaining the structural integrity of the clock tower
- The demolition is continuing and the project including the post demolition works should be complete by mid/late October this year.

Bryan Haldane

Mayor at Pre-School Graduation



St. Oswald's Pre-School held its first Graduation Ceremony this year, which was a great hit with the children, their parents and extended families.

The Mayor Councillor Mary Dalton was in attendance to present every child a certificate. There were two ceremonies and the photographs show the children who attend mornings and afternoons with the Mayor. The children sang some lovely songs and used Makaton signing, which was lovely to see.

We would like to thank all of our parents, carers, their extended families and the Mayor and her Consort for attending the



event. Thank you for all your lovely comments, it is lovely to know that all the preparation was worthwhile and appreciated by all who attended.

Also a great big THANK YOU for the sponsorship

money raised during our 'Fit Event' last week that raised a staggering £616.60. What can we say but WOW! If you would like any further information about the

Pre-School please contact Jackie Swainston on 01325 319880 or call into the Pre-School when it re-opens on Wednesday, 2nd September 2015.



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Letter Received from the Queen



During the Summer term in their English lessons Year 7 students at Greenfield Community College have been reading a play called 'Two Weeks with the Queen', by Australian author, Morris Gleitzman.

The play tells the story of a boy named Colin Mudford who is sent to live in England while his brother is being treated for cancer.

Inspired by the play, Mrs Robson's year 7 English class decided to find out more information about our monarchy and the commonwealth. As part of their research they decided to write letters to the Queen, asking a number of questions about her life, work and pets!

The class and Mrs Robson were thrilled when on Wednesday 8th June 2015 they received a letter from the Palace, along with information about the Queen's life and work. Each member of the class got a copy of the letter to take home as a keepsake.

Sign up for New Adult Learning Courses

Need to polish up your maths and English skills? Or would you like to improve your employment prospects with a specialised qualification?

Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service offers a wide range of courses, details of which can be found in its new Autumn 2015 Learning Guide.

As well as helping students boost their skills, confidence and job prospects, courses offer the chance to meet new people and many can also lead to recognised qualifications. This year's classes include maths and English at all levels up to GCSE equivalent, computer and technology courses and vocational qualifications in subjects including childcare, health and social care and business and administration.

The service also offers apprenticeships at intermediate and advanced level in a wide range of employment-related areas including business administration, ICT, supporting teaching and learning in schools and customer service. Courses start in September but enrolment is already underway.

Colin Ellison, Adult Learning and Skills Service learning delivery and curriculum manager, said: "Our courses are very popular with a wide range of people - from learners who are looking to gain extra qualifications to those who are simply looking for a new pastime or the chance to make new friends. In fact, a recent survey of our learners found that 98 per cent would recommend the service to their friends and family. Our apprenticeships were given an 'outstanding' rating by Ofsted, with the service overall being rated as 'good'."

Most courses are held in community venues, where they offer a friendly and welcoming learning environment. However, some are also available online, offering people the chance to learn at a time and place that is convenient for them. The Autumn Learning Guide is available to download at www.durham.gov.uk/adultlearning. You can also pick up a copy at your local library or Customer Access Point. For further information on courses and how to enrol, contact the Adult Learning and Skills Service on 03000 266 115 or email alss@durham.gov.uk

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Election of a Town Councillor for
Byerley Park, Horndale & Cobblers Hall Ward
of Great Aycliffe Parish

1. An election is to be held of One Town Councillor for the Byerley Park, Horndale & Cobblers Hall Ward of Great Aycliffe Parish.

2. Forms of nomination for the Parish Election may be obtained from the Clerk to the Town Council or the Returning Officer at Room 1/104-115, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UL between the hours of 10am and 4pm who will, at the request of an elector for any electoral area prepare a nomination paper for signature.

3. Nomination papers must be **delivered in person** to the Returning Officer at County Hall, on any day after the date of this notice but no later than 4p.m. on Friday, 31st July 2015. Nomination papers may only be delivered by either the Candidate, Proposer or Seconder.

4. If the election is contested the poll will take place on Thursday, 27th August 2015.

5. Applications, amendments or cancellations of postal votes must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at County Hall by 5p.m. on Wednesday, 12th August 2015.

6. Applications to vote by proxy at this election must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at County Hall by 5p.m. on Wednesday, 19th August 2015.

7. Applications to vote by proxy at this election applied for on grounds of physical incapacity, where that physical incapacity occurred after 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 19th August 2015, must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at County Hall by 5p.m. on Thursday, 27th August 2015.

Dated:- Friday, 17 July 2015

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Monday-Thursday 8.30am-5.30pm
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Please ask for more information

NEWTON PRESS HAVE MOVED

Newton Press has completed its move to the Blue Bridge Centre and customers are finding the premises pleasant to visit with good parking outside. We have received a number of cards, e-mail messages wishing us good luck and we thank everyone for these kind thoughts. We look forward to improving our service to the town offering top quality printing and providing the community's newspaper Newton News.

Heighington AFC Boys

Heighington Under 8's continued their sensational pre season form away to Mount Pleasant in Darlington on Sunday. Heighington started on the front foot passing the ball around confidently and looking

assured at the back with Kenzie White - one man defence.

Heighington had several chances hitting the woodwork twice, forcing the opposition's keeper in to some great saves. They took the lead thanks to a great finish from super sub Layton Collier. Jay Bulch then finished neatly before acrobatically adding his second and Heighington's third to win 3-0. Jay Bulch and Kenzie White shared the man of the match award

The second game saw Heighington run riot winning 8-0. Thomas Graham opened the scoring, Joe Neild added a second before Graham made it 3-0. Two long range strikes from Joe Neild made it 5-0, before Maddox Marcus scored his first goal for the club after a flowing move involving Graham, Collier and Neild. Joe Neild made it 7 before Collier wrapped up the victory with a great volley. Man of the match went to Maddox Marcus and captain Joe Neild

Under 11's 3rd division side entered Trimdon's annual tournament on 11th July against teams from div 1 & 2. They lost their first two games and it was looking like Heighington would be one of the first teams to be leaving due to the poor start to their play, but after a team talk from the manager and coaches the lads switched on and went from strength to strength with a 4 game unbeaten run including as goalless draw against league one Champions Whinney Banks which placed them in the semi-final.

The boys were now facing the unbeaten Golden Flats who are also a top flight team in the Semi-final, could we really do this? The boys played their hearts out with unbelievable football and determination and won the game 1 nil to reach the final.

Once again the boys found themselves facing league one champions Whinney Banks but held their own and pushed them all the way only to be beaten narrowly at the end by one goal. At the final whistle instead of jubilant celebrations our boys were given a standing ovation from the winning team, their manager, coaches, parents, tournament organisers and the referee who also congratulated them, which in itself shows how close we came and how well they played and how far they had progressed throughout the day.

Manager Gary Fraser said the boys were unbelievable and feared no team on the day. The effort the whole team put in was tremendous and they should be very proud of themselves and to reach the final is a great achievement. We look forward to the new season with a great set of lads with great team spirit



Police are appealing for witnesses after a window was smashed at Argos on Greenwell Road Newton Aycliffe.

A shopping trolley has been pushed at a window causing it to smash, the incident occurred around 12.30am on Saturday 18th July, 2015.

Anyone with any information should contact PC 2687 Jamie Pitt on 101. Tel: 101 or 999 in an emergency. jamie.pitt@durham.pnn.police.uk



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team team sponsored by Franks The Flooring Store had a sensational record breaking victory away at Hartlepool 2nd XI by 6 wickets in the NYSD 2nd division. The homeside were asked to bat first and scored what look like a winning total of 251 all out after 43.5 overs.

Luke Telford was the pick of the bowlers taking 4 for 63 and both Colin Myers (3 for 53) and John Cavanagh (2 for 44) supported well in challenging circumstances. In reply opening batsman Tom Young smashed the Hartlepool bowling to all parts of the ground scoring a brilliant 94 from only 87 balls faced, including 17 boundaries and one six and was given excellent support from fellow opener Sam Telford who scored a typically aggressive 40.

When the pair were dismissed Michael Howe and John Cavanagh continued the momentum scoring 53 and 36 not out respectively as Aycliffe reached 254 for 4, which is their highest ever score to win a match batting second, with more than 12 overs remaining.

The second team completed the double over Northallerton 2nd XI when they came out on top by eight wickets in their NYSD 3rd division clash at Moore Lane. The visitors were asked to bat first and were bowled out for just 111 in 49.4 overs thanks to a well disciplined performance from Aycliffe's four main bowlers with Adam Gittins finishing with 3 for 18, Patrick Howe 3 for 36, Jack Slatcher 2 for 8 and Danny Weldon 2 for 32. Openers Adam Gittins (22 runs) and Patrick Howe (24 runs - sponsored by Aycliffe NUFC Supporters Bus) got the innings off to a good start. When they were both dismissed, Ben Nicholson (26 not out) and Joe Haines (17 not out) then saw Aycliffe safely home to victory with more than 21 overs in hand.

The club's u18's team had a comprehensive 72 run win away at Shildon Railway in the County Durham Junior League. Batting first Aycliffe totalled an impressive 158 for 5 from their 20 overs thanks to superb innings from both Adam Lamb (59 runs) and Patrick Howe (51 not out). In reply Patrick Howe took 4 for 30 and Ben Nicholson, Tom Wickins and Adam Lamb each picked up a couple of wickets as the home side were bowled out for 86.

The u15's batted first away at Tudhoe and scored 98 for 5 in their 20 overs with opening batsmen Jack Lowery and Dan Bowmer again in the runs scoring 37 and 20 respectively. In reply Tudhoe eased to a seven wicket victory after 16.3 overs despite some good fast bowling from Adam Lamb who finished with 2 for 16.

The club's u13's team played really well away at Wolviston despite losing by 17 runs. Batting first the home side reached 93 for 4 in their 20 overs with Tom

Cayless, Kieran Shingler and Leo Mercy each taking a wicket. In reply Aycliffe made a gallant attempt to chase down the runs and were led by a superb innings of 32 (retired out), including five boundaries from guest player Josh Weldon who was playing in his last game before returning home to Australia. Aycliffe were eventually dismissed for a creditable 76 with one ball of the allotted 20 overs remaining.

The u11's beat the showers, but unfortunately couldn't beat Norton as they lost by 78 runs. However captain Leo Mercy and Nathan Slater both took a wicket, Francis Humble took an excellent catch and Rob Hillman top scored when Aycliffe batted, smashing two very good boundaries in his innings.

Lifeline Community Action New 'Drop In'

Lifeline Community Action (Helping Hands) is planning a 'Drop in' to start in September at St. Clare's Church hall. They would like readers to let them know what kind of activities they would like provided. Would you like to indulge in relaxation sessions, learn to cook, improve skills, fitness - they need to know.

LCA want to make a safe, friendly and fun centre where people can come along and relax, learn and gain support. All you have to do is drop Tricia an email stating what you would like to do at the 'Drop In'. There is a prize for the best idea.

Drop an email to: Tricia: triciastewart.lca@gmail.com



Woodham Academy
Washington Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4AX
Telephone: 01325 300328 Fax: 01325 301950
www.woodham.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Forsyth

Teaching Assistant required for September 2015 Grade 2 Point 14-19 (32.5 hours per week)

The Governors seek to appoint a Teaching Assistant to support the day-to-day running of the school's Behaviour for Learning Centre. This promotes the learning of students eligible for Pupil Premium and those identified as having social, emotional, behavioural and learning difficulties. The successful candidate will plan, deliver and assess activities and strategies to advance learning, working with individuals, small groups and whole classes without the presence of a teacher. He/she will also be expected to work alongside outside agencies to support students. Candidates should have experience of working with young people and should possess relevant qualifications.

Woodham Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to a full enhanced disclosure procedure via the National Criminal Records Bureau prior to appointment.

For further details and an application form please telephone Mrs Lorraine Cox at the school or visit the school website.

Closing date for applications: 9.00am, Thursday 20th August 2015



Woodham Academy
Washington Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4AX
Telephone: 01325 300328 Fax: 01325 301950
www.woodham.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. C. Forsyth

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The ideal candidate will hold a food hygiene certificate, although training will be provided, and be required to provide support in the preparation, cooking and serving of food and beverages plus related catering duties

Woodham is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to enhanced disclosure, the successful applicants will be subject to relevant vetting checks before an offer of appointment is made

The College is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be invited for interview if the essential job criteria are met.

An application form, job description and person specification can be downloaded from the school website at www.woodham.co.uk or please contact the reception desk.

Closing date Monday 3 August 2015 – Interviews 4 August 2015

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RUGBY CLUB APPOINTS NEW CHAIRMAN

Newton Aycliffe RUFC are pleased to announce that its members have elected local businessman John Whitehouse as their new Chairman. John owns Whitehouse Funeral Service. A family run business with branches in Darlington and Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, Whitehouse covers the whole North East. John became a main sponsor for the club last season and the club wish to thank him for his continued financial support for the 2015/16 season.

John even decided to come out of playing retirement and polished his boots. As an ex player for Darlington RUFC for several years he brings experience to Aycliffe Rugby and is proactive in training and encouraging new and old players to build a 2nd XV. He might even give potential



first team players a run for their money. John and the newly elected committee were gracious in thanking outgoing chairman Bryan Parsonage for his outstanding service to the club. These are exciting

times for Aycliffe Rugby with more potential new sponsors pledging their support.

The countdown for the season continues to tick away with only 6 weeks left to the first match at home to Barnard Castle in a cup match, scheduled for Saturday 29th August.

Recruitment still continues with new exciting signings. There are still plenty of places for new players to join the club. Please contact Head Coach Peter Ryans 07796 172599 for current training programme details.

If any other local businesses would consider helping the club financially the club now has comprehensive sponsorship deals available that would benefit both parties. Please contact club Public Relations Officer Stuart McLean 07812 372675.

AYCLIFFE IN JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS

No league action this week for any team however there was tournament and pre-season friendly action aplenty!

The Under 7's played their first tournament on Sunday and the whole squad were fantastic. They finished in third place and were only one point away from a place in the final. Another strong performance by everyone and things are looking good for the season ahead. The under 7's train every Monday 6-7pm at Sunnydale so come along on the night or contact Brett Lambert on 07903 718088.

The Under 8's travelled to Hemlington for a tournament on Sunday. There were 5 teams involved: Hemlington, Stokesley, Coulby Newham, Crook and Aycliffe. In the group stages Aycliffe started brightly by drawing the first game 0-0, winning the second 4-0 (including a hat trick by Niall Armstrong), then Aycliffe struggled in the last two games losing both. Luckily Aycliffe's record was good enough to qualify for the semi-finals facing Crook who won the group game between these teams 3-0. With some motivation from the coaches it was an improved Aycliffe performance and they won 2-1. Goals came from Harvey, through a fine individual effort, and then a free kick from Connor which sealed the win. In the final Aycliffe faced Coulby Newham who had also won the same encounter in the group stages. It was Coulby Newham who took the lead initially albeit against the run of play. When up against it the Aycliffe team played their best football of and first Harvey equalised before another Connor free kick sealed the 2-1 win for Aycliffe.

Huge congratulations to the Aycliffe team which included Lucas, Connor, Aidan, Harvey, Rhys, Niall, Jack and Jayden. Big thank you to coaches Jack, Abi and Damian, who also lead training 5-6pm on Fridays. To get involved, contact Abi on 07854 716874.

The Under 10 TJFA squad made the short trip to Ferryhill for a Football Festival. In their group of 5 teams Aycliffe came up against some teams better known to them than others. First was a new team to them, Nunthorpe, from the TJFA North Riding league. Three goals shared between Charlie, Jake and Zack had no reply from the opposition leading to a 3-0 win. Barnard Castle faced Aycliffe next, a new side and an unknown quantity. The winning continued as goals from Charlie and Lucas gave Aycliffe a 2-0 win. Third opponents were Swallowwell from the Russell Foster league and an entertaining game saw the lead exchanged several



finishes and Alex Lewis capped a great second half with a brilliant goal. A great start to pre-season and looking good for the next game

To join our Under 14 squad, who are training on Tuesday's, 6.30-7.30pm contact Adam Cayless on 07825 845962. All sessions are at Sunnydale Leisure Centre and new players are very welcome.

times and after Charlie put Aycliffe ahead it took two identical Zack equalisers to end the game 3-3.

The final group game required Aycliffe to win or draw to progress to the semi-final. They faced Marton Whites and a great start saw Charlie put Aycliffe ahead in the first couple of minutes, Zack added the second before Charlie put Aycliffe 3-0 up. Marton got one back but Aycliffe finished the group stage as winners, progressing to a semi-final against Willington.

An early goal in the semi-final seemed to have Aycliffe on course for the win but Willington showed great desire to come from behind and win the game 3-2 with a spirited and high quality display.

Good effort from the whole squad which included Thomas, Aaron, Chloe, Sam, Jake, Charlie, Zack and Lucas. The 13 goals scored came from Charlie (7), Zack (4) with Jake and Lucas getting one each. A

hugely enjoyable day's football which was well run by our hosts at Ferryhill ended with the Aycliffe team just short of the final which saw Marton defeat Willington on penalties. If you want to get involved with the Under 10 squad, who also field a team in the TJFA league, then training re-starts at Sunnydale on Thursday's 5.45-7pm from the 23rd July. The first six weeks back are to be led by the FA Skills coaching team.

The Under 14's were in action playing a pre-season friendly. They were 3-0 up at half time and were playing some fantastic football. A couple of changes were made at half time to try new things and they then ran out 5-4 winners. Lots of things were learnt from the game and this eaves lots to work to do in training. Overall though loads of positives and a win! Special mention to Andrew Burrows, who on his debut, scored 2 great goals. Lewis Hynes scored 2 with charity

TESCO HELP SCHOOLS & CLUBS

Tesco's in Aycliffe have recently donated around £1500 worth of non-food merchandise, items which include stationary, crafts and baby products to local Schools and clubs in and around the Newton Aycliffe Area.

These include St Joseph's, St Marys, St Francis, Woodham Burn, Stephenson Way, Greenfield and Helping Hands.

They have also donated to Evergreen School, Beavers, Guides and Cubs. The schools have been very grateful and appreciate all the help we have given to provide these items to enable them to aid education in the school and raise money by using the items in fetes and fund raising activities.

Great Aycliffe



Town Council

COMPLETION OF AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15

In accordance with Regulations 8 and 11 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, I hereby give notice of the conclusion of the annual audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2014/15 by the Council's external auditors, Mazars LLP, and the availability of the Accounts for inspection by local government electors.

Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 sets out the following rights of local government electors in relation to the inspection of statements of accounts and auditors' reports:-

A local government elector for the area of a body subject to audit, other than a health service body, may:-

- inspect and make copies of any statement of accounts prepared by the body;
- inspect and make copies of any report, other than an immediate report, made to the body by an auditor; and
- require copies of any such statement or report to be delivered to him on payment of a reasonable sum for each copy.

Anyone elector wishing to inspect the Accounts should telephone the Council Offices on 01325 300700 to make an appointment with the Finance Manager. Appointments are available at the Council Offices between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

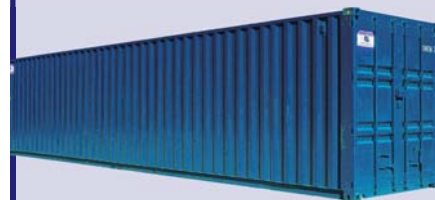
In addition a full copy of the Statement of Accounts has also been made available for inspection on the Council's website at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

20th July 2015.

Mr Dan Austin C.P.F.A
Finance Manager
Great Aycliffe Town Council

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Stadium of Light Experience



Congratulations to Class 8.3 from Greenfield, Sunnydale Campus who came out on top at a recent event hosted by the Foundation of Light at the Stadium of Light.

The class were joint winners of the Caterpillar Truck Challenge 'Fit for Purpose' and invited to the celebration. All Year 8 at the Sunnydale Campus took part in the enterprise challenge run by the Foundation of Light with two groups reaching the final.

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advertiser you saw them in
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The project included lessons in enterprise and business over a term, and a task to present ideas for improving caterpillar trucks and making them 'fit for the future.'

The students had a great time at the stadium and the celebration.

Ritchie Kelly said 'Today has been an amazing day; I could only feel excitement due to the suspense. I and my entire group really enjoyed the experience and hope to be involved

in similar activities in the near future'

Emma Lee said 'I thought the challenge was good because it was different and something I had never done before.'

Jack Comerford said 'I enjoyed doing the presentation and I am very pleased we won'

Lewis Keenleyside 'I really enjoyed the whole experience. It was really good fun. Today has been awesome and Ms Scott and Mr Brand have been really good.' Well done to all!

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Running Club News

On Sunday 12th July three members of the club travelled to the picturesque village of Kilburn to take part in the 7 mile Road Race, incorporated in the annual Kilburn Feast. The route passes through historic Coxwold, Byland Abbey, Oldstead and finishes in the centre of Kilburn.

Susan Milburn surprised herself by taking the F/55 prize despite suffering with a painful Achilles, finishing 119th overall in 60:54. Vivianne Pow was next to cross the line, 138th in 63:38, followed by Judith Porter, 211th in 74:41. Aycliffe Running Club hosted the 4th race in the Summer Tees Trail series of races over 5K. The venue being the Oakleaf Sports Complex and the route was round the nearby golf course. Most clubs member were involved in marshalling duties, but there were some impressive performances from those who did run.

Peter Milburn was first home 12th in 19:35 and 1st M/55, followed by George Dixon, 16th in 20:03 and John Burnside, 29th in 21:07.

Next was Dave Blewitt, 37th in 21:39, followed by Alan Wilks, 51st in 22:37 and 1st M/65 and Cyd Upton 53rd in 22:50 and 1st F/50.

Next to cross the line was John Heywood, 54th in 22:53, followed by Gary Minns, 75th in 24:09, Susan Milburn, 78th in 24:23 and Angela Barrett, 102nd in 26:32.

Alan Wilks also competed in the Sunderland 10K and



had hoped to get under 22 minutes. He didn't quite manage that, but his time of 22:19 is still exceptional for a man approaching his seventies. Richard Campbell also ran well and finished in the time of 19:58.

Michael Beadle ran the Hackworth Parkrun for the first time and was elated after winning it outright in 19:58. Sandra Collins also ran in this event and her time was 23:20.

In the Sedgefield Parkrun PBs were achieved by new member Dianne Nicholson, 30:26 and Denise Evans, 30:39. For more information about Aycliffe Running Club and their training sessions visit ayclifferunningclub.org.uk

Aycliffe Songwriter and Pop Artiste

Lewis Bygate (19) has always been into rap music, and began writing his own lyrics back in 2007, he got into recording a few years ago and gained rapid recognition from working with several other north east artistes.

He has performed throughout the north east area including his home town Aycliffe also performing in Manchester twice and in London.

Back in late 2014 he released a song dedicated to his home town "B.Y.G - Aycliffe Town" and has now gained very good recognition within the area and slowly but surely building a nice big fan base, with a good team of friends who help him run his facebook page and work on music with him.

Lewis told Newton News: "I have always had a passion for music from about 6 or 7 years old. I began trying to write my own lyrics when I was 11, then when I hit 15, myself and a few friends started finding instrumentals to rap on and playing together. I then met someone who had a studio in their bedroom and recorded my first official track. It then took off massively and is now more of a business."

Later this year he will be releasing "B.Y.G - Aycliffe Town Part 2" which will have a music video too. He is inspired by many Grime MC's who usually hail from the London area but there is also many from the Manchester area such as Bugzy Malone etc. He has always been a huge hip hop fan and loves people like Biggie, Tupac, Ice Cube, The Game, but also liking modern American stuff such as Machine Gun Kelly type vibe. He would also like to put out



a message to any potential musicians who are maybe struggling with lyric writing etc or even building their confidence, to message him and they can talk and work together, "NEVER hide a talent if you have one, be the best you can and prove people wrong, don't be shy!" BYG has a gig coming up very soon and people should check his facebook page for further details and drop it a like.

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Triathlon Challenge to Help Dementia Charity

Aycliffe Triathlon Club member, Richard Johnson, is set to participate in the Challenge Almere (Holland) Ironman distance triathlon to raise money for Alzheimer's Society. The challenge involves a 2.4 mile open water swim, 112 mile bike and then a 26.2 mile run.

Richard, who hopes to raise over £450 by taking part in the challenge on Saturday 12th September said: 'I decided to take part for Alzheimer's Society because I have witnessed the impact dementia can have on individuals and their families. It's good to know that every step will help support people with dementia and their carers today and fund research to find a cure for tomorrow.'

Jeremy Hughes, at Alzheimer's Society, said: 'We are delighted that Richard is giving his time to support us as 225,000 will develop dementia this year, that's one every three minutes. As a charity, we rely on the generosity of individuals like Richard to help us continue our vital work. Please back Richard in his fundraising efforts so that Alzheimer's Society can continue leading the fight against dementia.'

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Richard with his son Joseph

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PCP SUMMER FAIR FUN

PCP's Summer Fair on the 11th of July had over 300 visitors from Newton Aycliffe and further afield as part of The Aycliffe Festival 2015.

From upcycling sessions to CV checking, Athlefun to Animal Antics and Pilates to Punch and Judy, the day showcased the full range of work done by the PCP across County Durham and Tees at the charity's headquarters, the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe.

The event organisers, led by Claire Todd, Funding and Development Manager, were thrilled with feedback received on the day: "We heard compliments about the range of activities on offer from many attendees, some of whom had come to visit the Pioneering Care Centre for the very first time. We'd like to thank all staff and volunteers for their hard work in making the day so enjoyable and welcome visitors to come back to the Centre to benefit from our ongoing programme of events and activities."

For further information on regular activities and upcoming events, please contact the Pioneering Care Centre.

Address: Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF.

Tel: 01325 321234

Email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net

Website: www.pcp.uk.net.

Or find PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: /PCPandCentre



TOWN COUNCILLOR'S ATTENDANCE QUESTIONED

Dear Sir,
We have already lost a couple of Councillors this year due to non-attendance and restricted attendance. Great Aycliffe Town Council are being put in a disgraceful position as another absent Councillor turned up at a meeting last week convened to ratify its budget. Counc Tom Twissell was just in time to keep his position on the Council.

Seemingly Councillors must attend once every six months to qualify for their allowance of £1000+ per annum. Last week's meeting lasted less than an hour which breaks down to £500 per hour. One wonders if the Prime Minister is on such a wage? Seriously though Councillors should represent the electorate who vote for them and be seen to do so. We are all aware that decisions affecting our town are discussed at Labour group meetings and as such are passed off in the council chamber through sheer strength of numbers, but even the illusion that we are being represented falls away when seats at the table are empty. Seated in the public area of the meeting were members of the public interested in the proceedings and included prospective candidates for the forthcoming By-Elections. Not a good example for prospective newcomers. There are always questions



Counc Tom Twissell

Thank You

I WOULD like to thank the lady from Woodham who found my wallet on Tesco car park and handed it into the Police. Nothing was missing and thank you very much. Steven Lawrence.

Acknowledgement

BARBARA SUTTON aged 83 years, peacefully in hospital on 3rd July, surrounded by all her loving family. Beloved Wife of the late Les Sutton; loving Mother, Mother-in-Law, Nanna, Great-Nanna and Sister. Funeral Service was held in St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 14th July followed by cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium. Donations were gratefully received for the Great North Air Ambulance. Barbara's family would like to thank everyone for the cards and letters of condolence. A special thanks to all the medical staff on Ward 44 in Darlington Memorial Hospital, Rev Elizabeth Bland and all staff at John Meynells Funeral Service. Re-United Always and Forever

Obituary

DOREEN BROWNE, aged 93 years, peacefully on 16th July of Woodham, Newton Aycliffe. Much loved Wife of the late Frank; dearly loved Mum of Carole and Sue; loving Gran and Great-Gran. Funeral Monday 27th July. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 1.15pm. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu, in aid of Bethany House Christian Care Home may be given or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600

HARRY TAYLOR 9th July, peacefully at home. Harry, aged 82 years of Aycliffe Village, late of Cullercoats. Harry will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Tuesday 28th July. Would family and friends please meet at 1.30pm for a Service at Durham Crematorium.

PARKIN Margaret Eunice (nee Ward) of Newton Aycliffe. Peacefully in hospital on July 21 aged 76 years. Loving Wife of Stan; Mother of Eunice and David; Mother-in-Law to Peter; Grandma to Peter and Rhianne; Sister to Jean, John, George and Alan; Sister-in-Law to Glenda and Mary. Family and friends please meet for Service at Wear Valley Crematorium (Coundon) on Friday 31st July at 11.45am. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, to Cancer Research.

In Memoriam

John Andrew Williams



In loving memory of our beautiful son John Andrew Williams who suddenly passed away on 30th July 2014, aged 31. No words can say how much we love and miss you. You will always be in our thoughts. All our love, Mam, Dad, Leanne and Madison.

BARRY WOOD (Bosco). 26th July 2014. Always in our thoughts Dad. Love, Mandy, David and Grandkids xxx
BOSCO One long year has gone by, miss you. Love, Mo xxx

to be asked on behalf of the public such as: When is the West Park lake to be cleaned out? When is the Whinlatter bridge to be replaced?

Which lights are going to be removed in Newton Aycliffe?

What is to become of the Elmfield site?

It is my intention to contest an election in the West Ward as soon as a seat becomes available.

Ken Robson
ACORN Chairman

Birthday Remembrance

BRENDA SCOONES We miss you every day and always sending love your way. Love Mark, Jane, Chelsea

BRENDA SCOONES Heaven took an angel home but we feel you around, we're never alone. Love Jacqueline, Victoria, Rob, Jake, Lewis and Michael-Brendan xx

BRENDA SCOONES 24th July. Happy birthday Mam. Miss you. Love from daughter Elaine, Grandkids and Great Grandkids

JOSEPH HEDLEY 29th July. Birthday wishes to a special Dad. Thinking of you. Forever in our hearts. Love from Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth

Congratulations

Louis Hurst



18 on 21st July

Happy Birthday Louis

You've grown from a gorgeous little boy into a wonderful young man and we are all very, very proud of you. Here's to a happy future. Have a great day. Lots of love, Mum, Dad, Sam and Joe xxxx

Claire Sarsfield



Happy 40th Birthday

Hope you enjoy your weekend. Love, Dad, Liz, Lily, George, all your Sisters, Brothers and the Gang.

Love you loads Mam
Love, Chloe xxxx

Nathan Taylor



Happy 18th Birthday

29th July 2015

Lots of love from Mam, Dad, Arran and all the family xxxxx

Daniel Dixon



Happy Birthday

from Brown, Josh and Karl xxx

Brian Marriner & Michelle Bowman



Congratulations

Newton Aycliffe couple Brian Marriner and Michelle Bowman married at St Clare's on 18th July 2015. Congratulations to you both from all family and friends that attended their special day.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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

Tel: Syd
01325 300212
or syd@newtonnews.co.uk

For Sale

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

LAWN MOWER (manual) with bag, brand new, £40. Tel 324162

LADIES Raleigh bike for sale, £30, Tel: 313884

ELECTRIC Recliner chair, dark beige material in good condition, when new cost £599, been stored for quick sale, accept £100 ono. Tel 01325 318407

SLOW cooker. 3 litre. £5. 01325 300313

DEEP Fryer. Never used. £15. 01325 300313

WHEELCHAIR ultra light weight, brand new, fits in smallest car boot. £100. Tel 07476 423429

FULL SET of garden furniture. Table, four chairs, parasol and stand. VGC, £70. Tel 01325 313367

BRAND NEW double divan with quilted Damask mattress, can arrange delivery, £120. Tel 07789 113343

AUTISM CENTRE FETE



Pupils from Aycliffe School at the North East Centre for Autism, Newton Aycliffe, held a Summer Fete last week to celebrate the end of the school term.

The pupils were busy all term producing a range of beautiful handmade products to sell on the day including arts and craft, woodwork and textiles. There was a wide range of stalls with homemade jam, cakes and biscuits.

Karen Ferguson, Head Teacher said; "We had a fantastic day raising £220.56 for the school, a big thank you to everyone who supported us."



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KARATE FOR JUNIORS

Zanshin-Kai Karate, based at Woodham Community Centre, opened a new class on Thursday 16th July aimed specifically at children aged from 4 years to 7 years. The class aims to introduce younger children to the positive benefits of sport, exercise and the values Zanshin-Kai Red Dragons is our new class for children aged between 4 year old (minimum) and 7 years old, designed with young children in mind to keep them active and fit, improve their co-ordination and concentration and learn the basics of Karate while having fun. Red Dragons is on Thursday evening at Woodham community centre 6.00pm – 7.00pm We also have a Junior class for 8 years to 15 years and an Adult class for 16 upwards. If you're interested in taking up Karate and would like more information call into the centre any Sunday or Thursday, call 07917 203421 / 07746 204064 or email us at zanshin-kai-karate@hotmail.co.uk. Beginners always welcome and if you join in July you get free classes throughout the summer holidays – that's five weeks free!

Team Sponsor

Jack's Driving School has once again supported Heighington U11's and provided the team with a brand new away strip. We would like to thank Jack for his continued support and for being our sponsor for another season.



Kelly Jones

Crossfit Members Compete in British Championships

On 4th and 5th July, four athletes from CrossFit All Out took part in the British Championships at Lee Valley Athletics Centre in London, with a coach load of supportive members travelling down to cheer them on! Each athlete gave it their all and they have done unbelievably well, given that CrossFit All Out is only 18 months old and the athletes were competing against some top level CrossFit athletes. The results were: Joe Allinson 26th, Tez Anderson 28th, Yasmine Meite 52nd, and Kelly Jones 79th. CrossFit All Out delivers strength and conditioning group programming and coaching which is fully scalable to any level of



Yasmine Meite



Terry Anderson



Joe Allinson

ability. The programme is designed to enable elite athletes to progress in strengths and weaknesses, whilst also delivering undeniable results for clients looking to generally improve their fitness. Photos from the event can be viewed at: facebook.com/thebritishchampionships photos: (handstand hold) (sprint) (olympic lift) (olympic lift)

AYCLIFFE FC RETAIN SWINBURNE TROPHY

Newton Aycliffe FC retained the Frank Swinburne Memorial Trophy in a close game at Moore Lane Park last Saturday against Northallerton. A second-half goal from returning central defender Mark Peck proved to be the difference between the two sides. The game was preceded by a minute's silence for the popular former committee man. It was wonderful to once again see several members of Frank's family at the game and his widow Pauline presented the trophy to Aycliffe's Dan Mitton & Jack Oliver after the final whistle.

For Aycliffe this was another important pre-season game ahead of their Northern League Division One campaign which gets under way on 8 August with a home game against Marske. Preparations continue with home games against Whickham on Friday 24 July (7:30ko) and then Darlington RA on Tuesday 28 July (7:45ko). Admission for both games is adult £4, concessions £2.



Pauline Swinburne presents the Frank Swinburne Memorial Trophy to Dan Mitton (left) and Jack Oliver

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HELP FOR TOON FANS

Honest John has helped keep the price of transport down for Newcastle supporters by subsidising the bus cost for home games. The bus picks up from the Turbinia, Iron Horse and the Big Club. Everyone is welcome and asked to contact Colin for times. The cost is £10 return for Adults and £5 for Under 18's. The first game is Saturday 1st August - ring 07561 373 517.

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