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Labour Win West Ward By-Election

Martin Ashcroft has been elected to the Town Council in the By Election for West Ward held last Thursday. Election results were: Martin Ashcroft Labour 333 votes (59%). Gary Soakell Independent 137 votes (24%). Paul Symons UKIP 94 votes (17%). Total votes cast 567 Turnout 13.4% Labour fielded one of their best candidates in Martin Ashcroft, as moderate, progressive young and enthusiastic. In a lower turnout Labour increased its share of the vote. Martin released the following statement "I would like to thank all the people of West Ward for giving me this opportunity to serve them which I will do to the best



of my ability. I will regularly attend meetings and speak up for the West Ward and the Town. I thank my opponents for a clean campaign and for giving the electorate a clear choice. I am happy to meet with anyone and am available at 73 Oakfield, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7AT. Tel. 07811 403 986 I look forward to serving you and thank you once again"

Young Wacky Workshop

If you are looking for something different to do during the school Summer Holidays why not try The Young Entertainers Wacky Workshop and have a really great fun time. They are at the Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Shildon, Wednesdays 5th and 12th August, from 10am to 3pm. £1 entry to Centre. A spokesperson for the event said "Apart from playing mad, crazy games, you'll meet new friends and have a great day of music, fun and laughter too. So if you are aged 8 to 15 years and you think this sounds like something you'd like to do give us a call and get more information. Bring a friend bring two, but don't forget to bring a packed lunch." Ring 01325 313363 or 01388 774838 now to book a place.

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

The next PACT meeting for the Shafto St. Mary's ward of Newton Aycliffe will be held on Thursday August 13th at 6pm at The Library on Central Avenue. PCSO 7430 Gavin Laycock Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Policing Team. Email: gavin.laycock@durham.pnn.police.uk - Ext: 742691

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FAMILY DAY TRIPS

Holiday Trips for families £4 a seat are as follows:
 Wednesday 5th August - Preston Park & Butterfly World
 Wednesday 19th August - South Shields
 Wednesday 26th August - Redcar
 Leaving Eskdale Place Layby at 10.30am and St. Clare's (Wilkinson's bus stop) at 10.45am. Ring Dorothy on 01325 308094 (leave your number if not available). Payment accepted at Silverdale House on Tuesday from 9.30am until 12.30pm or at 4 Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe (most evenings). Seats must be paid for in full by Tuesday 12.30pm prior to following day trip.

Planet Leisure Supports Caudwell Charity

Planet Leisure on the Business Park are supporting a local family organising a Hallowe'en Disco from 5 - 8pm in aid of Caudwell Children who raise cash to help sick and



Hollie with her brother

disabled children. Hollie Williams is a local cystic fibrosis sufferer and the charity made her dreams come true with a trip to Florida.

Hollie had her first operation at only 5 days old and has received numerous treatments since, but she is a very determined girl who loves life and is very strong willed.

She attends the Athena Gymnastics club where she is becoming quite skilled, thanks to coaches Beth and Callum.

Her mother Angela is so grateful to Caudwell she has become a Volunteer Ambassador for the charity to raise awareness and funds.

Last year Hollie raised £321 bag packing, but this year wanted to do something "awesome" and came up with the idea of holding a Hallowe'en event with a cake stall, raffle and fancy dress competition for all ages.

Tickets will be on sale soon at Planet Leisure for this family occasion for £4 each. If you would like to donate a raffle prize please e-mail:

ankela22@sky.com

Gardner by Name - Garden Design & Supplies by Trade



One of the latest businesses to open on Aycliffe Business Park is Ray Gardner a landscape garden designer and supplier of garden products.

Ray spent his childhood living in West Cornforth and attended school in Spennymoor. He began his working life as a greenkeeper at Woodham Golf club in 1987. Whist working there he also attended Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture.

In 1996 he decided on a change of career and Ray Gardner Landscapes was born. He then began his passion for designing and building domestic gardens both grand and small, which he has been doing ever since. In 2004 Ray moved into the Woodham area of Newton Aycliffe and continues to live there with his wife and

two children. With most of his work being in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding areas this could not be a more convenient place to live and provide his services to the community.

While operating "Ray Gardner Landscapes Design and Build" Ray found it increasingly hard to source high and consistent quality landscaping and gardening materials locally so he decided to open Gardner's Yard with the aim of supplying the very best products at affordable prices, enabling the public to create beautiful gardens.

With decorative gravels in

various sizes and colours, bark solutions for decoration or safe play areas, post crete, cement, fencing products, sand's, slates, compost and top soil, all available for quick delivery - just some of the products available from stock.

Ray told Newton News his business is increasing thanks to adverts in Newton News: "We are looking to increase our product range with items such as Logs, Kindling Firelighters, Winter Path Salt and Grit for the Autumn and Winter season. We are also planning to offer Christmas Trees and Holly Wreaths for sale for the festive season".

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 Gig Pit Review: "First time for me to catch the "7 Sins" at Murton's Big Club, I really enjoyed the band, a great selection of rock covers from Tom Petty, Free, Kings of Leon, Def Leppard, Bad Company, Kaizer Chiefs, Simple Minds. The standard of playing was excellent, Bill Brown on rhythm and lead vocals has a great tone to his voice and is a great frontman who likes to get the audience involved with his jokes and banter. The other members play to a very high standard, lead guitar, bass and a cracking drummer that captures the feel and sound of the the drummers that had crafted the songs that they covered. All in all what a great night. Now if they are a new one for you too, make a point of getting to see them - you won't be disappointed. They didn't need gimmicks as the quality of playing was excellent as was the sound quality. So a fantastic night with Rainbow, Free, Doobie Brothers "Long Train Running", Martha & the Muffins "Echo Beach" to name just a few. The crowd really appreciated them and I think you would."
 Saturday 8th August - "GateCrashers"
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W.A.S.P.S. News

The next social evening for WASPS Residents' Association will be on Thursday 6th August at 6.45pm in Simpature Court.

There will be a Quiz, light hearted anecdotes and Bingo for entertainment. For those attending the trip to Eden Camp, a reminder that is on Tuesday 4th August with the coach leaving Simpature Court at 9am. There will be pick-ups at the British Legion Club and Horndale if needed.

For more information contact Alan Lowe on 07754 094946.

TOON BUS

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, Big Club and DL5 Bar. Everyone is welcome and asked to contact Colin for times.

The cost is £10 return for Adults and £5 for Under 19s. The first game is Sunday 9th August - ring 07561 373 517.

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Our next meeting is this Wednesday 5th at Aycliffe Evangelical Church Ladybower starting at 6pm with refreshments from 5.45.

We will discuss the fabulous events we have held over the past months and look forward to the coming months. Also in attendance will be your local Police team, a rep from Livin and local councillors. These meetings are a great way to meet and discuss any concerns or ideas you may have.

So why not join us and help make our good neighbourhoods even better places to live.

Philip Clark
Chair

Impressive ACORN Fun Day

Newton Aycliffe Residents Association ACORN enjoyed a fabulous animal fun day on Friday 24th July.

Local residents and others gathered on Christopher Walk to enjoy a day of entertainment involving Farmyard animals,

Pony riding, Hook a duck, Inflatable slide, Bouncy castle and Fairground rides.

Professor Nincompoop provided entertainment, magic, Balloons and dancing. The man I call the Pied Piper of mirth had children in fits of

the giggles, running around burning off excess energy and generally creating mayhem.

Meanwhile our friend Harry Potty was creating masterpieces of art on the faces of young children. Queues of people were evident from poor Harry sitting down till he finally finished half an hour after everyone else.

This event was the fourth annual event which has been held and continues to be a great success not only for local residents but those people who come to entertain us.

Volunteers young and adult put a lot of time and effort into organising the events for which ACORN are acclaimed and are a real credit to our community.

This year we were particularly encouraged by the contributions to our Tombola, profits of which are to be shared with a cancer charity. ACORN will be holding a further outdoor event on the 24th August which will include a Teddy Bears Picnic. I would like to thank all involved for making this a superb event.

Ken Robson on behalf of
ACORN Residents
Association

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Fan Art Recognised Our MP Surveys Charities on £4.6bn Funding Gap



Thirteen year old Alivia Hoys from Woodham Academy, posted a picture she drew of the actor Stephen Amell (who plays the Arrow on TV) to his Fan Art Friday page. Stephen then chooses so many pictures to go on his Fan Art wall and Alivia's drawing was one of pictures chosen. Stephen has 3.6 million followers on Facebook and Alivia's artwork has received over 3,000 likes. It's not very often a person from Newton Aycliffe gets recognised this way and Alivia is so happy.

Phil Wilson, Member of Parliament for Sedgfield is conducting a survey of local charities as new regional and national reports are launched this week around the income to the voluntary sector and its future sustainability. Government funding to the voluntary and community sector has been falling over the last five years in all regions apart from London and the South East according to NVCO (National Council for Voluntary Organisations). A new review by NCVO, out this week made projections pointing to a £4.6bn annual shortfall in the voluntary and community sector income over the next 5 years. A report by Northern Rock Foundation (Third Sector Trends) also launched this week, highlighted that charities and community organisations located in the poorest areas of the region were more than four times as likely to have lost significant levels income in the last two years (30%) when compared with the richest areas (7%). Phil Wilson MP says, "I believe in strong communities. The charity sector plays a significant role in building strong communities. It is disappointing to see in areas of most need, the vital support and services provided by the charity sector are being negatively impacted by funding cuts and changes in government policy. At a time when they are needed more than ever we need to look at how we support the sector." Phil goes on to explain "I have launched a survey of local charities as I am keen to look at how I can support the sector better. It has never been more important to have people on the ground in our communities, providing activities and supporting those in need. We must therefore



do all we can to protect these organisations and ensure they find sustainable ways of continuing the vital services they provide. Over the next 6 months I hope to have regular dialogue with the sector on various issues from funding to Europe to governance and using social media. The survey is the beginning of this. I am also hoping to get out and visit the many groups and organisations in my constituency."

TURNING A BLIND EYE TO CRIME

Dear Sir,
It was highly gratifying this week to read the rebuttal from our police of the crazy policy suggested from Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg.

Mr Hogg would appear to support a policy of restorative justice and turning a blind eye to drugs as the way forward for Durham Constabulary. The statement from Mr Hogg caused uproar in the media and was a source of dismay to those of us who support law and order in our communities.

Let me propose an alternative view which is perhaps more in tune with public opinion. Capital punishment for those who would take a life.

Life in prison for those who would wilfully ruin someone else's life such as rapists and child molesters.

Full frontal lobotomy for burglars who steal a lifetimes memories from our elderly.

Public flogging possibly at football stadiums as half time entertainment for fraudsters who prey on the vulnerable.

Unpaid labour in the community and in the workplace for those who terrorise neighbourhoods with the profit going back into financing the above.

Which policy would you support.

Cannabis is not a harmless drug when used for recreational purposes, it allegedly lowers reaction times, supports local crime, and results in paranoia.

Many companies and organisations test employees for signs of drug use and if found to be positive disciplinary action is taken. One assumes that the police forces themselves are strictly drug free too.

At a healthwatch meeting some time ago a lady was applauded for managing to get free from drugs after many years enslaved by them. Her story tells of stealing and all manner of unsavoury ways in which she got the money to feed her habit including selling weed to children who presumably are now hooked themselves and busily getting an even younger generation hooked.

How did the lady manage to break her habit, she was jailed and had to break her habit in prison, from leaving prison she moved to a new area and has managed to stay clean ever since. The lady declares that had she returned to her home town she would have been encouraged to regain the habit within days.

It must be said that cannabis is an illegal drug and that it will remain that way until Parliament decides otherwise. It is the role of our police to uphold the law not make it.

My personal view is quite extreme on the subject of law and order, however at present I am allowed to express my views but it begs the question for how much longer?

Ken Robson

Why not Join "Newt's Kids Club"?

and enter the FREE draw to win an Ipod Nano

Newton News has been a part of the Newton Aycliffe community for over 60 years and are now setting up a "Kids Club" with an Ipod Nano to give away to one lucky winner. To be in with a chance of winning, simply join "Newt's Kids Club". This will also entitle you to other future offers and special discounts around Newton Aycliffe. All members will receive a "Newt's Kids Club" Membership Card and be automatically entered into future competitions with some wonderful prizes and opportunities for all members.

NEWT'S LATEST OFFERS:

OAK LEAF SPORTS COMPLEX invite members to bring their parent/s to the Oak Leaf Complex restaurant. Members will be entitled to a **FREE** child's meal when an adult meal is purchased from specials board (offer excludes snacks; membership card must be shown; offer for first 50 members, valid until 31st August 2015).

TESCO store in Newton Aycliffe are offering kids club members **FREE** goodies (see below):
Under 10's will receive a Mr Men book, a bottle of water and a piece of fruit.
10 and Over will receive a hard back book and a pen plus a bottle of water and piece of fruit.

To claim yours, you will need to join "Newt's Club", then take your membership card to the information desk at the Newton Aycliffe TESCO store.

Name

Address

School D.O.B.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Email Contact:

Send your information to Newton Press, Blue Bridge Centre, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DS or hand in to Walkers Butchers (Simpasture), or Youngs (Town Centre).

or visit our website www.newtonnews.co.uk/kids to join online

Kids Club

80% REDUCTION IN YOUTH OFFENDING

The number of young people committing first time offences in County Durham has fallen by more than 80 per cent, a new report reveals.

County Durham Youth Offending Service's (CDYOS) Youth Justice Plan for 2015/17 states that in 2014/15, 193 young people entered the Youth Justice System for the first time.

The figure represents an 8.1 per cent reduction since the previous year and an overall decrease of 82.9 per cent in the past seven years.

The plan, which will be presented to Durham County Council's Cabinet on Wednesday, 15 July, also shows that only 20 custodial sentences were handed out to young people in 2014/15 – a reduction of 20 per cent compared to 2013/14.

In addition, last year also saw a 44.8 per cent reduction in the number of nights young people spent in remand centres last year.

In 2014/15, there were 354 remand bed nights recorded, compared to 641 in 2013/14. CDYOS' other success in 2014/15 included ensuring that every young person leaving custody had appropriate accommodation waiting for them and the development of a range of resources to address young people's communication needs.

Cllr Ossie Johnson, Durham County Council's cabinet

member for children and adult services, said: "It is essential that we work with young people at the first stages of their involvement with the youth justice system if we are to successfully deter them from any further anti-social or criminal behaviour.

"County Durham Youth

Offending Service's achievements over the past year show how effective we have been at doing this with the support and cooperation of the police and other agencies.

"Our Youth Justice Plan for 2015/17 sets out how we will build on this work over the coming months and years."

(TRAVELLERS GREEN, NEWTON AYCLIFFE) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

The Council, on 23.07.15 made an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended, to close to all vehicular traffic of a 65m length of Travellers Green that extends north easterly from the entrance to Hollins Nook, Newton Aycliffe to enable new drainage to be installed. The maximum duration of the temporary closure under the Order is 18 months and is required from 03.08.15 and for the duration of the works, anticipated to be 4 weeks. However, on rare occasions, alternative dates for closures may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly. There is no alternative route available to vehicular traffic during the closure.

Dated: 31 July 2015



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

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POSITIVE DEVOLUTION DISCUSSIONS FOR NORTH EAST

Negotiations over ambitious devolution plans that will drive growth and create jobs in the North East have taken an important step forward.

Following a positive meeting with Communities Secretary Greg Clark MP, members of the North East Combined Authority (neca) are looking forward to detailed discussions with government on how a devolution deal for the North East will look.

At the heart of neca's ambitions is a need to capitalise on the area's existing strengths – in automotive and advanced manufacturing, financial services, life sciences, offshore engineering and the creative industries – and in particular to push export-led growth.

Key aspects that are covered in neca's proposals will focus on areas including investment in the area's workforce, the need for fiscal devolution, a regional body to oversee transport and reform of public services.

Cllr Simon Henig, chair of the North East Combined Authority, said: "Following

a very positive meeting with the Secretary of State we are looking forward to developing an ambitious devolution deal for our area. "This is an exciting, once-in-a-generation opportunity for the North East to take control of its own destiny and to lead on key decision making that will not only boost our economic fortunes but will also improve the lives of people living, working and studying here. "As part of our plans for growth we intend to focus sharply on opportunities to increase trade, innovation and investment.

"In particular we are keen to promote export opportunities and secure long-term investment that will build confidence and stability in our local economy.

"In order to achieve our ambitions it is essential that our plans are underpinned by an ambitious and effective devolution deal." As part of the more detailed discussions on a devolution deal for the area, members of the combined authority will also consider appropriate models of governance.

Volunteer Team Bag £1050 in Asda



Linzi Nicholls from Lifeline Community Action (LCA) successfully co-ordinated a team of enthusiastic volunteers when they bag packed in Asda on Saturday 25th July 2015. Linzi and her team raised a staggering £1050.04 for local people who have struggled financially and been living well below the breadline or people who have suffered ill health or disability over the past year and are in desperate need of a break.

LCA an Aycliffe charity fundraise every year to make sure people with the greatest needs get a break for a few days away just to relieve some of the stress and give people time to recover and feel more able to cope when they return home.

Asda's Community Life Colleague Gemma Purdy congratulated Linzi and her team for the efforts in raising the cash in their Bishop Auckland store; she wishes LCA success with future fundraising events to help people in great need. Gemma also stated that Asda prides themselves in supporting local communities and feel privileged to have been able to help LCA with the bag pack fundraising event.

Two of the youngest volunteers Rachel Bremner and Bailey Nicholls (pictured) were supervised by the adults to help count all of the cash.

MP Vists Stephenson Way Academy

Earlier this month, our local Member of Parliament, Phil Wilson, visited Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery School.

Mr Wilson was invited to a special assembly, where he answered a variety of questions posed by the students, prepared as a result of their recent work related to Parliament and the Government.

The visit came about because one of the pupils, 9 year old Ciaran Brayley, had written a letter to Mr Wilson, congratulating him on his recent re-election. After having a tour of the school, Mr Wilson congratulated the children on being 'exceptionally well behaved', and later describing them as 'a fantastic bunch of children'. Mr Wilson was impressed with the creativity throughout the school and said 'It was encouraging to see such a wonderful school in action.'



Way Academy were clearly inspired by Mr Wilson's visit and his encouragement for them to work hard and follow their dreams, with one Year 5 pupil commenting 'I've never thought of being an MP before, but

I want to help people and communities like Mr Wilson does.' Stephenson Way Academy is very appreciative of Mr Wilson's inspirational visit, and have extended him an open invitation to revisit the school in the future.

 retired greyhound trust darlington

Darlington Retired Greyhound Trust
are holding their annual

FUN DOG SHOW
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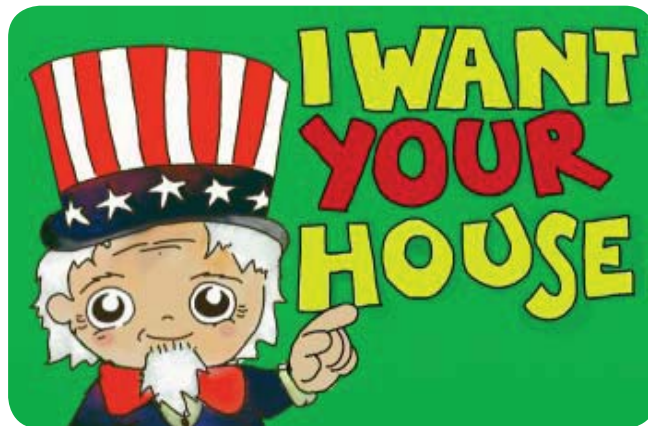


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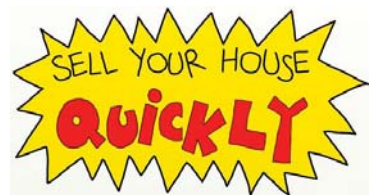


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MAYOR TO MEET CHAIRMAN MIKE AT AYCLIFFE OPENER



Mayor at the Community Fair

Newton Aycliffe FC begin the new Northern League season on Saturday 8th August with a home fixture against current champions Marske. Before the game, League Chairman Mike Amos will be welcomed to Newton Aycliffe by our Mayor, Councillor Mary Dalton.

Mr Amos is starting his final season as chairman and has decided to undertake a sponsored walk to each of the Northern League's 44 grounds to mark the occasion.

Aycliffe are delighted that Mike has chosen to visit us for our first home game and are hoping for a good turnout to support both the team & also the 'Last Legs Challenge'. Half of every penny raised will go to the Sir Bobby Robson Foundation - the Northern League and its clubs had few better friends than Sir Bobby. The other half, in £1,000 segments, will be given to community-based charities nominated by the league's clubs and drawn at the annual league dinner in May 2016. Further details on the fundraising effort can be found on the League website at <http://www.northerleague.org>

Meanwhile Peter Dixon's team have undergone a rigorous training regime in the build up to the season and will be hoping that hard work brings results on the pitch.

Kick off for the game will be at 3:00pm at Moore Lane Park. Admission is £6 adults, £4 concessions. Season tickets are available for £100/ £60.

Meanwhile Sports Club members will be able to enjoy even more football in the clubhouse now that BT Sport has been added to the Sky package. With both live non-league and TV Premiership football available at Moore Lane on the pitch and in the club there is every reason to get along there and enjoy our national sport.

BE ON YOUR GUARD AGAINST ROGUE TRADERS

Residents are being warned to be on their guard against rogue traders after a string of reports of doorstep crime.

Up to 10 incidents have been reported to Durham County Council's consumer protection team and police in the last few weeks.

Most have featured householders being offered bogus property improvement services, such as roofing and garden work - also known as fair weather crimes.

In some of the cases victims have reported that the rogue traders have driven them to the bank to withdraw cash.

The incidents have taken place throughout the county and victims have been of all ages, including elderly and vulnerable people and women living alone.

Victims have reported handing over between £300 and £2,000 for the work, as well as jewellery. Nearly every case has resulted from cold-calling.

Rogue traders will typically call uninvited at people's homes and offer goods and services on the doorstep.

More often than not, they exert extreme pressure on householders, charge inflated prices and display poor standards of workmanship.

The summer months often see a spike in these types of incidents as many people think about having work done around the house.

This is when rogue traders are at their busiest and, in many cases, they will target the elderly and vulnerable.

Trading standards officers

from the consumer protection team are now calling on friends, relatives, neighbours and carers to look out for others in their community.

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, said: "We are advising everyone

to be on their guard against rogue traders and we would also ask residents to keep an eye out for any suspicious roofing or gardening work taking place at the homes of elderly or vulnerable family members and neighbours.

"Rogue traders have a significant detrimental effect on the most vulnerable in our society and our officers will take robust action against anyone found to be taking advantage of people in this manner."

The consumer protection team has issued the following advice:

• **DON'T** accept the services

of uninvited, doorstep callers.

• **DO** seek recommendations from friends and family.

• **DO** try and use members of a trader's scheme, for example Durham County Council's Registered Trader Scheme.

• **DO** call the police or trading standards if you suspect that rogue traders are operating in your community.

Rogue trader activity can be reported by calling the Consumer Helpline on 03454 04 05 06 or police on 101. In an emergency, always call 999. Information can also be sent to doorstep@durham.gov.uk, although this should not be used for reporting incidents.

For more information about Durham County Council's registered trader scheme visit www.durham.gov.uk/registeredtraders

Aycliffe Dog Wins "Best in Show"



Dear Sir,
Just to let you know that our rescue dog Daisy won Best in Show at the Dogs Trust Fun Show in South Park Darlington on Saturday. We are so proud of her.

We have had Daisy for six years now, but she had had 12 homes before us (13th was lucky for her and us). She was a stressed out, four year old dog that did not know how to play or relax when we got her. She is now happy and contented and loved so much. Although she has arthritis in three legs and a crucial ligament operation in the other she wags her tail all the time and so won the waggiest tail competition in the show. This enabled her to compete for the Best in Show. I was overjoyed

when she was selected and won the title.
Wendy Church
The Grange

On Your Bike to Durham Cathedral



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Sunday 2th September: The Beast

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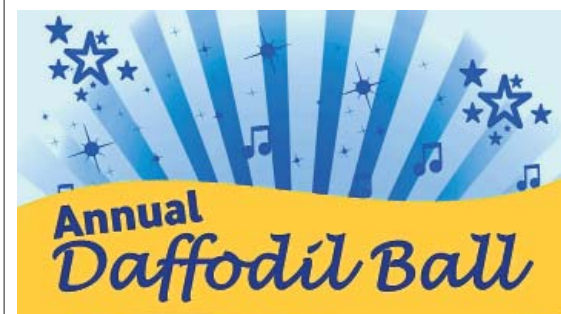
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Care Home Receives Thanks from the Palace



Residents at Rose Lodge Care Home, Cobblers Hall, are very proud to say they have friends in high places.

The ladies and gents were thrilled after receiving a thank you card from Buckingham Palace after sending their best wishes on the birth of HRH Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana of Cambridge on 2nd May 2015.

To honour the birth of the new Princess, residents wrote messages of best wishes and luck to HRH The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge in a card and posted it to the happy couple along with a photo of residents and staff so they could see the faces of their well-wishers. The card reads: "The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge thank all the residents at Rose Lodge Care Home for the very kind card sent on the occasion of the birth of their daughter, Princess Charlotte. Their Royal Highnesses have been overwhelmed by all the wonderful messages they have received and send you their warmest thanks and best wishes."

Rose Lodge, owned by care provider Countrywide Care Homes, offers residential and specialist dementia care to the elderly and was named as the 7th highest recommended care homes in the North East in a poll by carehome.co.uk last year.

Care Manager Nicola Wheatley said: "Our residents were absolutely thrilled when we received a reply to our card and it's been quite the talking point among residents, families and visitors. It's not every day that you receive a letter from Buckingham Palace!"

Goodbye Poundstretcher's Staff



Newton Aycliffe Poundstretcher ceased trading on Wednesday 29th July and the Store Manager Dan Dixon and his team wish to thank all their loyal customers over the past 15 years.

During his 5 year management they have created close bonds with their customers and are truly grateful for all the kind words and support received. Your closest Poundstretcher store is at Tindale, Bishop Auckland

KIDZ FLIX

Fun Friday Films continue at ST. Clare's on the 31st July when the animated comedy 'THE BOOK OF LIFE' is shown on the big screen. This film is jam packed with favourite pop music and features a young boy who is struggling to follow his dreams or fulfill those of his family.

THE BOOK OF LIFE encourages us to celebrate the past while looking forward to the future. Please come along and support this recently reviewed 'great value film club', which welcomes everyone warmly and with sweets and ice-cream too!

Following that on Friday 7th August we celebrate the brilliant boy AND girl football teams on our town with the film The Unbeatables which see's Amadeo reign as the supreme unbeatable until he is challenged by an unlikely opponent.

Both films begin at 2pm with doors open from 1.30pm to register and fill up with drinks, crisps, sweets, popcorn and ice-lollies - a real weekend treat. We welcome mam's / gran's / dads and carers to stay and enjoy a welcome sit down - you are allowed an ice-cream too! Children from 5 years can be left in the care of the children's team and collected at 3.30pm.

St. Clare's is situated opposite the entrance to the Thames Centre - if you require any further information please contact the children's team leader Helen McCormick on 319002.

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PARTNERSHIP COMPLETES LANDMARK FINTECH WORK

Business law firm Endeavour Partnership has completed a landmark project which could revolutionise the way entrepreneurs and investors take advantage of alternative finance markets.

The company has created a new legal framework for Aycliffe financial technology firm Growth Capital Ventures to give investors of all sizes uniform rights and protection, while also making it easier for entrepreneurs to tap into the opportunities of alternative finance.

Growth Capital Ventures operates online peer-to-peer and equity crowdfunding platforms that link entrepreneurs and high growth businesses with a range of investor types including venture capitalists, experienced angel investors and smaller investors via its crowdfunding arm GrowthFunders.

It enlisted Teesside-based Endeavour Partnership to develop a suite of standardised legal documents to facilitate co-investment and syndication between the various different types of investor using its platforms. While striking a balance between investor and entrepreneur needs, the documents also had to adhere to guidelines set out by the Financial Conduct Authority, which directly authorises Growth Capital Ventures.

The documents are designed to give smaller investors the same grade protections as their larger, more experienced counterparts. As well as enabling smaller investors to contribute follow-on investment to growing businesses.

The documents also give smaller investors the right to be involved in shareholder votes, giving them a voice without



holding the business back, should they not wish to be actively involved.

They are also aimed at striking a fair balance between entrepreneurs and investors and ensuring that business leaders can operate without the hindrance of over-interference from investors.

Craig Peterson, director of London and Aycliffe based Growth Capital Ventures, said: "Having previously only worked with big city law firms, it's fantastic to have found a legal partner on our doorstep with the capacity and expertise to handle such a complex assignment. The firm's commitment to developing relationships and its realistic cost structure are what really set it apart from the competition. Endeavour are a valued strategic partner and will provide legal support on all equity investments made through our GrowthFunders platform."

Nik Tunley, partner at

Endeavour, said: "This was an interesting piece of work for Endeavour. We have an experienced corporate and commercial team and it's good to support an innovative 'Fintech' business like Growth Capital Ventures. We are looking forward to working together on some exciting deals as over the next few years".

As well as its strong corporate and commercial sector, Endeavour Partnership also advises regional, national and global businesses on a range of legal matters including, company litigation, commercial property, employment and corporate recovery and insolvency.

Other services, which span corporate and commercial law and cover both the private and public sectors, include company formation, banking and finance, company secretarial, mergers and acquisitions and employment issues. For more information visit www.endeavourpartnership.com

Important Information for Voters

Households in Durham will soon be receiving a form asking residents to check and confirm whether the information that appears on the electoral register for those living at their address is correct.

It's the first stage of Durham County Council's annual voter registration canvass.

The aim of the form is to ensure the electoral register is up to date and to identify any residents who are not registered so that they can be encouraged to do so.

With the Police and Crime Commissioner election taking place across the country in May 2016, this is an opportunity for residents to make sure that when the elections take place they will easily be able to take part.

Colette Longbottom, electoral registration officer at Durham County Council, said: "Anyone who wants to vote must be registered."

"To make sure you are able to have your say at the elections next year, simply check the form when it arrives and return it as promptly as possible."

"If you're not currently registered, we'll send you information explaining how to do this or you can simply go online to apply to register."

It's particularly important that anyone who has moved address recently looks out for the form and checks whether they are registered.

Research by the independent Electoral Commission indicates

that across Great Britain, recent home movers are far less likely to be registered than those that have lived at the same address for a long time.

The research showed that 94 per cent of people who have been at their property for more than sixteen years will be registered compared to 40 per cent of people who have lived at an address for less than one year. Continues...

The same research indicates that while almost 95 per cent of outright home owners are registered, this is the case for only 63 per cent of private renters.

Kay Jenkins, head of English regions at the Electoral Commission said: "The annual canvass is an opportunity for people to easily check whether they're registered."

"It's essential for a healthy democracy that everyone who is entitled to vote is able to, and for those who need to registering is now easier than ever with the online system of registration. "If you have changed address in the last year, it's particularly likely that you will need to register at your new address, so check the form as soon as it arrives."

Any residents who have any questions can contact the elections team on 03000 261 212 or email electoralservices@durham.gov.uk

Register to vote online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

To be eligible to register to vote in England a person must be aged 16 or over (a person may register to vote at 16, but may not vote until they are 18).

CROSSFIT BRINGS FITNESS FOR THE FUTURE



For the first time CrossFit Kids sessions are being delivered during the summer holidays at CrossFit All Out on Aycliffe Business Park. Preschool sessions for 3-5 year olds and Kid's sessions for 6-10 year olds are designed to be fun

whilst developing fitness, social skills, confidence and the basic skills to build a solid foundation for their future in CrossFit and other sports.

Owner Terry Anderson is a very experienced Coach and is qualified to deliver CrossFit Kids sessions, which are fully programmed and supervised to ensure the children have fun, exercise safely and get the most from the sessions in a supportive environment. Parents are welcome to stay at the sessions and have a coffee in the seating area.

Vikki Anderson, Terry's wife and Business Manager at CrossFit All Out said "It's my job to make sure we meet all health and safety regulations, coaches are DBS cleared and insured to coach or assist coaching the children and first aid trained. We take pride in looking after all our members but these groups of children bring a whole new level of responsibility. It's great to have had such a good response to the kids sessions for our first summer of delivering them. We have 2 sessions a week per age group, and now have 2 groups of each age fully booked. They're all enjoying it so far and working hard! We plan to deliver the sessions during school holidays and the long-term aim is to have them as a permanent weekly fixture.

We've had interest from local schools and recently the Youth Centre have secured funding to deliver free weekly sessions for ages 13+ in the Youth Centre too, which is fantastic as we can hopefully offer sessions to a wider spectrum of children.



We have to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped with our recent fundraising activities, beating our £2000 goal for lots of great equipment. The kids will benefit from this massively and we are really excited to see how they all progress physically

and socially." Academy sessions for 11-16 years are held weekly all year round on Tuesday and Thursday 4 - 5pm and Saturday 11am - 12noon. Places are still available for those sessions. For more details please contact Vikki on 07788 123321

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Equipment to Help Your Independence

A helping hand around the home is being offered to older people and anyone with a disability or sensory needs.

Durham County Council has opened a new Independent Living House, in Spennymoor, where members of the public can view and try out a range of equipment designed to make everyday life easier.

People can book an appointment to visit the house where there are items such as bath lifts, a stair lift, kitchen and dining aids and apparatus to help with dressing as well as equipment for people with hearing and visual difficulties.

Staff from the council's Equipment Advice Service are on hand to offer information and guidance on equipment and services and help find products, information and suppliers. Appointments are available between 10am and 3pm, Monday to Thursday. To book, call 03000 265 667, email equipmentadvice@durham.gov.uk, or text 07880 044 719.

People can also contact the Equipment Advice Service for assistance by phone or email using the above contacts.

Telecare equipment such as fall detectors, bed sensors and flood alerts are also available for demonstration at the Independent Living House. For more information, call 03000 262 195 or email care.connect@durham.gov.uk

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PLAYDAY GRADUATION



Playday Nursery held their annual graduation ceremony on Thursday 16th July for the children who are leaving to go to school. The children performed a selection of their favourite songs for their parents and described what they would like to do when they grow up. They were then presented with a certificate and present by Linda Watts, Nursery Manager. We would like to wish all who are moving onto their next stage of their learning lots of luck in the future.

PREMATURE DEATH & SMOKING

Dear Sir,
I refer to the article on the County Council's Award for reducing smoking and in particular to what I believe to be a gross misrepresentation of the facts.

In the referenced article, Alison Cox the director of cancer preservation at Cancer Research UK is quoted as having stated, "Smoking is the largest cause of premature deaths in the UK and remains the public health challenge of our generation".

According to Government Statistics there have been in excess of 7,850,000 legal abortions in England and Wales between 1968 and 2014. These cannot be said to be other than premature deaths, whether sanctioned by an Act of Parliament, or not.

There being no doubt as to the actual cause of death, even the most zealous anti-smoking campaigner cannot blame smoking, or even, secondary smoking!

Can the Anti-Smoking Lobby prove that smoking alone caused a greater number of premature deaths in the same period? I would therefore respectfully request that the anti-smoking lobby refrain from hyperbole and using incorrect facts in their future campaigns. It is illegal for public funded bodies to mislead the public, whether well intentioned or not.

Further, if the National Health Service were committed to reducing the number of premature deaths in the population at large (as it should be) and not restricting its efforts only to those who smoke (legally) it would be logical for it to commit its resources to lobbying for the Abortion Act to be repealed.

This would result in a better return on any monies it rightly commits to reducing premature death.

Alastair P.G. Welsh.

SECOND 'CLOSE SHAVE' FOR CHARITY FUNDRAISER JOHN

Newton Aycliffe Rotarian John Burrows had a hair-raising experience at this week's club meeting when he volunteered to have his head, eyebrows and trademark beard shaved for charity.

Traditional Turkish barber, Emre Sahin, based at the Blue Bridge Centre in Newton Aycliffe, put the finishing touches to the Macmillan Cancer Support fundraiser by swapping his electric razor for an extremely sharp cut-throat.

"No wonder Macmillan call it the "Brave the Shave" campaign", quipped John when Emre removed the last few whiskers.

For retired housing association director John, it was the second occasion on which he had lost his hair for a worthy cause.

Twelve years ago, he had his head shaved to raise funds for the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle as a thank you for the cancer treatment given to his great-nephew.

Anyone wishing to support John in his fundraising effort can make a donation via <https://bravetheshave.org.uk/Donate/JohnBurrows>.

Footnote: John, a former president of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club who lives in Bradbury, caused a burst of laughter at the end of the evening when he won a prize in the weekly raffle – a tube of anti-dandruff shampoo!



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LOCAL MAGICIAN RAISING MORE MONEY FOR CHARITY

Ryan Metcalfe, a magician from School Aycliffe, is raising money for the Brain Tumour Research Campaign through a magic show in August.

The internationally acclaimed magician is a familiar face of the region, having worked professionally at local venues such as Redworth Hall, Wynyard Hall and Hotel Bannatyne. Although Ryan normally performs close-up magic at parties, corporate functions and weddings, he is performing a one-off stage show inspired by the likes of Derren Brown to raise as much money as possible for the Brain Tumour Research Campaign.

Ryan has already raised thousands of pounds for charity through auctioning himself as part of charity auctions at fundraising events at which he has worked, including a fundraising ball for the Brain Tumour Research Campaign in May. The show will be on the 29th of August at 7:30pm in Heighington Village Hall.



Tickets are £5 and available by going to ryanmetcalfemagic.co.uk, searching online for "Ryan Metcalfe Tickets" or by calling 07570038952.

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Wed. 5th August Town Centre Park
2 face painters, craft marquee, zoo train inflatable and football competition held by NAYFC

Fri. 7th August Horndale Park

Wed. 12th August Woodham Park
Teddy Bear's Picnic, bring your favourite teddy bear along to join the fun

Fri. 14th August Moore Lane Park
Frozen Theme, Anna, Elsa & Olaf will be visiting, along with a Frozen character and hunt. Why not get dressed up as your favourite Frozen character for the day?

Wed. 19th August Oak Leaf Park
Krafty Kritters and their animals, Zoo Train inflatable and a visit from Micky & Minni Mouse

Fri. 21st August St. Oswald's Park

Wed. 26th August Aycliffe Village Park

Fri. 28th August Simpasture Park
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Tackling Environmental Crimes

More than 80 people have been left counting the cost of committing environmental crimes in County Durham last month. Latest figures from Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection team show that 73 fixed penalty notices were issued for littering. Three were given out for dog fouling, five for untidy yards and gardens and failing to comply with litter clearing notices and two to waste carriers who did not have the correct paperwork. The team tackles various issues including flytipping, dog fouling, stray dogs, littering and antisocial behaviour.

Twenty-six Community Protection Warnings and nine Community Protection Notices were handed to the owners of properties with untidy gardens or yards.

Wardens removed 127 stray dogs, serving as a reminder of how important it is to make sure dogs are microchipped so that they can be traced and returned to their owner if they get lost.

Teams investigated 49 reports of antisocial behaviour, attended 148 incidents passed from the police, carried out 117 alcohol seizures from underage children and investigated 233 antisocial behaviour reports.

And, as part of Operation Stop It, a multi-agency crackdown on flytipping, the following statistics were also recorded for May:

- 451 flytipping incidents were reported and investigated – 22 are still ongoing and 10 were progressed for prosecution.
- 26 CCTV cameras were deployed in known flytipping areas.
- 14 Police and Criminal Evidence interviews were carried out.
- Seven duty of care letters were issued warning people of their responsibility to dispose of waste legally.
- There were 30 stop and check operations to find out whether waste carriers were licensed – two fixed penalty notices were handed to carriers who did not have the proper papers.

Ian Hoult, Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "Our campaign to stop flytipping is proving effective so far with a 29 per cent reduction since November 2014.

"However, we will not be complacent and are continuing to work with Durham Constabulary, the Environment Agency and Crimestoppers to deter and catch those who dump rubbish illegally.

"By carrying out regular stop and check operations throughout the county we are making sure that anyone carrying waste is registered and has the correct documents in their possession.

"And the use of extra CCTV cameras is helping us to prosecute even more people who have been caught in the act flytipping."

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, added: "Thanks to help from the public we are managing to reduce flytipping in our beautiful county.

"We would like to remind people that they can get rid of unwanted items at their local tip for free or you can arrange a bulky waste collection. If someone is taking your waste away it is vital to make sure you know it is going to the right place."

To find your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) visit www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc and to arrange a bulky waste collection call 03000 261 000.

Businesses must meet their duty of care in correct waste disposal and collection – for further details visit www.durham.gov.uk/commercialwaste Environmental crimes, including flytipping, dog fouling and litter, can be reported at www.durham.gov.uk or by calling 03000 261 000. Unlicensed waste carriers can also be reported anonymously to Crimestoppers at www.crimestoppers-uk.org or by calling 0800 555 111.

Costa Visits OOSC



On Wednesday 22nd July 2 ladies from Costa at West Auckland visited the children at Woodham Burn Out of School Club after

AYCLIFFE RUGBY CLUB MAKE EXCITING SIGNINGS

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club has made a number of new signings in the off-season, leading up to the start of the 2015/16 season at the end of August. The new players include three past semi-professionals, Paul O'Donnell, Alex Lineton and Liam Kelly.

Paul who is based at Catterick Garrison has played at a number of clubs, including playing in the back row for Blyth RFC.

Alex played in the back line for Durham School, where he represented his County and had trials for Newcastle Falcons. He then played a number of seasons at Darlington RFC in the National Leagues.

Liam is a front row player who also played at Schoolboy County level and then on to Darlington RFC. Liam then moved across the pond to the USA where he played at a high level before returning home.

Aycliffe RFC head coach, Peter Ryans said, "We are delighted to have made some great new signings recently and have more in the pipeline. The new players will fit in well to an already strong set of players and will give some great competition for places next season. The club in very much on the up and the standard of our new signings reflects this."

The new season will see a welcomed return for an Aycliffe RFC 2nd team, so there is an opportunity for all ability levels at the club. Pre-season training continues on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7pm and Saturday afternoons at 1pm (not on August 1st), at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Moore Lane.

If you are interested in playing rugby then you can turn up to a training session, contact us on our Facebook page or call Peter Ryans on 07796 172599.

Aycliffe Rugby Club are sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service and S-Cars.

we wrote a letter to them. Jane Costa Manager and Katie who is the Deputy Manager told us where coffee beans come from, the process of making coffee and how Costa raises funds for countries in poverty through the Costa Foundation. We took part in a challenge of balancing a 20p on a lemon for 5 seconds.

Jane and her team are raising money for the Costa Foundation through this challenge.

We had a chance to look and smell the coffee beans at different stages from raw, roasted, and then crushed into ground coffee. We completed a word search, designed our in a Costa mug picture and even designed our own name badge to use in our role play area.

The ladies from Costa kindly brought each of us a gingerbread biscuit, hot chocolate and marshmallows which we had for tea.

We would like to thank them for visiting us and telling us all about their job at Costa.

Written by Thomas age 11 years

If you would like to find out more about Woodham Burn out of School Club please contact us on 01325 300080.

Film Show

There will be a "FAMILY FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church, on TUESDAY 4th August, featuring "PADDINGTON". It stars Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Nicole Kidman and Peter Capaldi in a magical tale of just how much chaos one polite little bear can cause for an unsuspecting family. This is a great film for ALL AGES, so please come along. Unfortunately children must be accompanied, but this is a great film for mums and dads too.

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 on 01325 316755.

WINNER CHOSEN FROM AYCLIFFE'S GOT TALENT SHOW

Aycliffe's Got Talent Final 2015 was held at Shildon Civic Hall on Sunday 12th of July. There was a large number of people there to support the acts and watch the show.

The show began with Dylan Jones who danced brilliantly and had fantastic feedback from our judges Adam Baroni Actor, Andy Oliver and Elaine Morgan our people's judge who is a parent rep for Aycliffe's under 9 boys football. Together they were brilliant professional judges and gave amazing feedback to all the contestants! We really have some future stars in County Durham.

There were another 9 acts: Elev8, Daniel Wilkinson, Callum Dunn, Joshua Ashton, Olivia Smith, Faith Jones, Maysie Surtees, Amy Harrison and Blake Charlton who were all fantastic!

Our winner was the very talented Olivia Smith who at 11 years old taught herself guitar and finished our show with a cracking performance of "Feeling Good"!

Susan Sadler said: "A big round of applause for Deborah



Taylor-Smith who organised Aycliffe's Got Talent and raised £650. The money was in aid of essential funds for Lifeline Community Action's yearly retreat and holidays for people struggling with everyday living.

Alwyn White from LCA said the money raised will go towards helping people who would never get a break normally. People who are struggling with illnesses or in financial difficulty can enjoy some time out and enjoy a few

days away from their everyday problems.

We are now on the lookout for more talent for "The Star Factor" Audition dates are to be confirmed however get in touch as soon as possible to secure your audition whatever your talent.

Contact the talent team on 07771 874391 or email talentayc@outlook.com - We look forward to hearing from you! We are looking for judges and any volunteers to assist running this fantastic show!

Who's Singing Now?



A few readers sent in this photo pointing out the Council's error or sense of humour! Reader writes: "I must listen next time I pass this way, who knows what song to expect as Greenfield Arts College is just up the road. He suggested the song "You Tak the Hei Road and I'll Tak the Low Road". Another wrote: "Roadworks the Musical - coming soon".

Can you think of a better caption? Send it in to Newton News along with any other local photos for us to print. syd@newtonnews.co.uk

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Darlo Supporters Club

It feels like this close season has lasted forever! A few pre-season friendlies to get the lads warmed up for the new campaign and a few new signings. Two of which, Nowakowski and Youhill, picked up injuries during the 5-2 away win at Harrogate RA but, hopefully, these are just minor knocks and will be back ready for the start of the season.

It's also good to hear that Graeme Armstrong is back in training. Take it easy though Army! The new signings Rob Youhill, Adam Nowakowski, Kevin Burgess and Phil Turnbull look really good and I can't wait to see them in a competitive game.

Off the pitch, talks are still ongoing between ourselves and the rugby club. It seems like there are some issues that still need to be resolved but I, for one, am confident that a mutually beneficial decision can be reached between the two parties.

The next meeting of the fans group will be Wednesday 12th August at 7pm in the Iron Horse, just three days before the season starts! As always, all are very welcome. As the move to Blackwell has been delayed for the time being we are focussing on the immediate fixtures and one of the things the group are doing is car sharing to games.

If you are interested in car sharing, either as a driver or fuel paying passenger, then please get in touch at dfcaycliffefans@outlook.com or via twitter @dfcaycliffefans. All enquiries will be in strictest confidence and the information we get will never be passed on to a third party. Other than that we'll see you all at Buxton on the 15th. Keep the faith!

BonMarche Draw

BonMarche, Newton Aycliffe are hosting their grand charity raffle in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, to raise money to support people affected by cancer.

The top prize in the raffle is £250 BonMarche vouchers and a personal shopping experience; the second prize is £100 BonMarche gift vouchers and a personal shopping experience. All customers are welcome to enter and customers and family of BonMarche shoppers are welcome to buy tickets on behalf of their loved ones.

For ladies that don't like to leave anything to chance, there is still the opportunity to book a free personal shopping experience, simply call BonMarche Newton Aycliffe

on 01325 319544 to book your appointment.

BonMarche Newton Aycliffe Store Manager Linda Ritchie commented "we are thrilled to be hosting the grand raffle in our store and we have our fingers crossed the lucky winner is from our town. All monies raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support - our charity partner".

The tickets will be on sale until Friday 28th August and the winning tickets will be drawn at the BonMarche Sunderland store on Monday 1st September from all the stores participating in the grand raffle.

For more information on this raffle or in-store activities please call Newton Aycliffe on 01325 319544

Running Club at Hamsterley 10k



Last Sunday several members of the club took their chance against the midges to take part in the Butterwick Hospice Hamsterley Forest 10K.

This undulating but picturesque course takes the runners along tracks and minor roads through Hamsterley Forest.

First home for the club was Mark Wade, 4th in 40:13, followed by Steve Smith, 27th in 48:54 and Dave Blewitt, 28th in 48:54.

Trish Kay led the ladies home, 62rd in 54:47, followed by Clare Rose, 73rd in 57:42, Angela Barrett, 74th in 57:52 and Susan Clark, 138th in 71:16.

There was a good turnout from the club for the recent for the Redcar Summer Coast 5K.

John Surtees was first home for the club in the brilliant time of 17:21 and 19th overall, followed by Michael Beadle, 66th in 19:37 and Dave Blewitt, 77th in 20:14. Steve Smith's efforts were rewarded with a PB of 20:23, finishing 80th. Sandra Collins was first female home for the club

113th in 22:06, followed by Michelle Zamir, 127th in 22:59 and Rob Nicholson, 142nd in 23:57. Trish Kay was next to finish, 145th in 24:14, followed by Dianne

Savage, 176th in 28:44. Julie Spring and Penny Johnson shared the same time of 29:25 which was a PB for Julie, 178th/180th. Finally, Yvonne Williams ran well to finish 187th in 30:22.

The club had a successful morning at the Sedgefield Parkrun and the following all achieved course PBs: John Surtees 18:20, Michael Beadle 20:01, Michelle Jane 22:49, Michelle Zamir 22:59, Diane Nicholson 30:14, and Denise Evans 30:22.

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

Ride to Remember



A challenging four day bike ride has been completed by 50 people to celebrate the 70th anniversary of World War Two.

'The Ride of Remembrance', organised by the Foundation of Light in partnership with veteran support charity Forward Assist, started in Brussels on 1 July and travelled across Belgium and France to end in Paris. Riders cycled an impressive 320 miles and climbed over 15,700ft in just 96 hours.

The commemorative challenge passed through towns that played a significant part in WW2 including Huy, La Roche en Ardenne, Durbuy, Sedan, Novian-Porcien and Soissons, ending at the Eiffel Tower, Paris. Head of finance and business partnering at living, Peter Camp, was one of the riders and has raised nearly £2,400 for the Foundation of Light, one of living's long-standing partners.

The partnership has worked together for a number of years to deliver award

winning health, education and employment programmes for people living in Durham. Peter said: "It was an amazing experience for a worthwhile cause. I really appreciate all the support I have received with special thanks to living, RBS, Zurich Municipal and Orchard."

"I am incredibly proud of raising such a significant amount of money for the Foundation of Light. There were riders of all ages and abilities taking part, but knowing we were raising money for such a good cause really spurred us on! It was a real achievement for us all." Proceeds raised by the riders will be invested in projects improving the lives of children and families in the North East. Structurally and financially independent of Sunderland AFC, Foundation of Light rely on fundraising for 90% of project costs.

If you would like to donate to the cause, visit Peter's page: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Teamcamp>

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team sponsored by Franks The Flooring Store were defeated by 31 runs at home to top of the table Stokesley 2nd XI in the NYSD 2nd division. The visitors were asked to bat first and scored a challenging 217 all out after 44.5 overs with John Cavanagh again bowling well for Aycliffe taking 5 for 65.

In reply a new club record 6th wicket partnership of 96 between Michael Howe (sponsored by Yvonne and Bob Wood), who scored a career best 71 and Tom Wickins (32) gave Aycliffe hope, but when they were dismissed, the tail quickly followed and Aycliffe were eventually dismissed for a respectable 186 after 45.5 overs.

The second team had an excellent eight wicket victory away at 3rd in the table Blackhall 2nd XI in the NYSD division 3. The home side won the toss and elected to bat first and were skittled for just 79 after 33.5 overs thanks to superb bowling from Patrick Howe (3 for 19), Danny Weldon (3 for 21) and Jack Slatcher (3 for 33). In reply captain Adam Gittins carried his bat for an unbeaten 38 and was given good support from Patrick Howe (18) and Joe Haines (18 not out) as they coasted to a well-earned win in the 25th over.

The 1st team had a dramatic two wicket victory at home to Darlington RA in the NYSD 15/15 cup. RA were asked to bat first and at 98 for 2 were looking to set a big target, but the introduction of spin bowler John Cavanagh had a spectacular affect as he took six wickets in just three overs to help restrict the visitors to 116 for 9 after 15 overs.

Aycliffe also got off to a good start thanks to all-rounder Cavanagh (23 runs) and Tom Young (30 runs). Sam Telford also batted superbly scoring a season's best 44, but a collapse had Aycliffe in trouble, however Tom Wickins (4 not out) kept his cool at the end to see Aycliffe through to the quarter finals with just one ball to spare.



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Year 10 students at Woodham Academy have just completed a three day Enrichment week, designed to support young people to make informed decisions about their next steps into further education, employment or training. Students had the opportunity to experience a range of activities over the four days during which a personalised programme was delivered. Students were invited to visit sixth form education providers, further and higher education providers, they were also



able to work alongside the Durham Education Business Partnership. A small group worked with local businesses on developing high quality interview skills.

"The week allowed me to have experience of the choices I will have when I leave school and I am now more confident with what I want to do when I leave Woodham" said one student who had participated in the week.

Woodham Academy holds the Durham Education Business Partnership status which recognises the high quality of the careers education provision available at the school, with some of the programmes acknowledged by the government in the non-statutory guidance published in April last year, as good examples of innovative practise within the field of Careers education.

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Year 7 Student Awards



Rachel Partridge, Leah Hindmarch and Tia Nicholson

On Tuesday 14th July Woodham Academy held its annual Woodham Learning Celebration evening for the Y7 pupils who have completed their first year of studying.

The main hall was at full capacity with over 150 parents, carers and family attending to see 84 pupils receive certificates for outstanding effort, behaviour, progress and homework over the whole year. Certificates for participation in the National Mathematics Challenge were also awarded.

A special mention has to be made for Mr Heaven's Wildlife group who received the first ever John Muir Awards for Nature Conservancy that the Academy has received.

One of the attending parents, Mrs Partridge, whose daughter Rachel is pictured receiving her certificates for Outstanding Homework, Behaviour and Achievement said "Having my daughter's hard work recognised in this way has been a lovely way to end this very important school year".

This year's Year 7 pupils will now hopefully go on to repeat this success in

Year 8. The Academy looks forward to welcoming its new Year 7 pupils in September.

Getting Married?

We remind those who are planning to get married they can have their wedding recorded in Newton News at no charge.

Send in a photo and details by e-mail to: syd@newtonnews.co.uk

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Accessing our Heritage CCTV Cameras Catch Flytippers

The Bright Water Landscape Partnership covers an area of approximately 200km² within lowland County Durham and Darlington, focusing on the River Skerne catchment from Hurworth Burn reservoir to South Park in Darlington. The project area includes the communities of Newton Aycliffe, Sedgfield, Bishop Middleham, Fishburn, Heighington, Brafferton, Barmpton and Darlington. The Issues

Over the last two hundred years, the landscape of this area has been significantly altered, including the River Skerne itself. There is a history of globally significant innovation occurring within the area that influenced both the agricultural and industrial revolutions. However, there is a general lack of awareness and appreciation of this local heritage.

Many people are not well connected to the landscape on their doorstep. There are physical barriers to access with the A1 and the East Coast main line crossing across the landscape and available information on the area is not always widely available. This creates an intellectual barrier to generating understanding of what the landscape can offer.

Our vision is to reveal a heritage of change and innovation, supporting opportunities to enhance and enjoy the natural, built and farmed landscape, realising gifts for now and the future, raising aspirations and inspiring communities.

To achieve this vision the partnership will aim to:

- Work to reveal the landscape of the past, showing how it has been shaped by man over thousands of years
- Work with landowners, local communities and other partners to restore and enhance key elements of the natural, built

and cultural landscape

- Highlight the cultural heritage of the area, a story of innovation that has shaped the modern world – from the birth of the railways to the Durham Ox
 - Provide opportunities for learning and training, ensuring the heritage of the area is better known and conserved
 - Enable more people to access the heritage of the landscape, helping to improve health and well-being
 - Provide new opportunities for businesses, making them more resilient in the future
- We need your views**

We need the ideas and views of local people to make sure we deliver the best project possible and one that champions the Bright Water area.

To find out more and to put your ideas forward please contact Helen Ryde on 0191 5843112 or hryde@threeiverslnp.co.uk or visit our Facebook page Bright Water River Skerne where we will be running an online survey, which is also available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BrightWaterSkerne>.

Further information is also available via the Durham Wildlife Trust website www.durhamwt.co.uk

Volunteer Cook Needed for Lunch Club



Volunteer Liz Bates has been cooking for the Neville Parade Lunch Club on Tuesday's during term time for 12 years. She is leaving Aycliffe so has prepared her last meal and the club has been unable to find a replacement. Up to 28 elderly people attend, most of whom would be eating at home alone. "Even if we could find someone to do it once or twice a month it would be better than closing down altogether," said Liz.

Seventeen suspected flytipping cases are being investigated after 24 extra CCTV cameras were set up throughout County Durham. Durham County Council has installed the additional cameras at various hotspots in a bid to deter people from flytipping and to provide crucial evidence when prosecuting those who do.

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."

The cameras were provided thanks to funding from local councillors and are part of Operation Stop It – the biggest-ever crackdown on flytipping led by the council in partnership with Durham Constabulary, Crimestoppers and the Environment Agency.

Its aim is to educate households and businesses of their duty of care when it comes to disposing of waste while taking action against those who flout the law.

In the south of the county three suspected flytipping incidents recorded on camera have been progressed for prosecution with two other cases under investigation. In the north of the county six incidents have been progressed for prosecution and five are under investigation. In the east of the county one incident is currently being investigated.

In addition, the council's neighbourhood wardens, who investigate flytipping, have completed specialist enhanced training.

The training involved gathering and logging evidence from the scene, establishing lines of enquiry and interviewing witnesses, conducting Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) interviews and improving statement writing and preparing files for court.

As well as the specialist training and extra cameras, neighbourhood wardens and police carry out regular stop and check exercises to make sure waste carriers are licensed and have the correct paperwork for the waste they are carrying.

Eight waste carriers have been stopped in May – three did not have the correct paperwork and were issued with a notice requiring them to provide this paperwork.

One waste carrier was handed an £80 fixed penalty notice for throwing the notice away and littering.

Ian Hoult, neighbourhood protection manager, said: "The new cameras and specialist training for staff are yet more examples of our commitment to deterring the minority who dump waste illegally and spoil our environment.

"Since the launch of Operation Stop It in November last year we have already reported a decrease in flytipping incidents but we will keep working hard to stop these crimes in our county.

"While education is our priority we do also prosecute offenders as a last resort so we would urge all residents and businesses to dispose of their waste properly and legally."

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. Christopher Williams 56, of Acton Dene in Stanley, was last week handed an 18-week prison sentence, suspended for 12 months, and ordered to pay £4,000 costs at Peterlee Magistrates' Court



after admitting illegally storing and incinerating waste between December 2013 and April 2014 – please see this link <http://www.gov.uk/government/news/second-hand-store-owner-burned-waste-illegally-in-county-durham> for further information.

Anyone who collects, transports or disposes of waste must be licensed with the Environment Agency – unlicensed waste carriers can be fined up to £5,000 as well as an additional fine of up to £50,000 if the waste is flytipped.

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.

Business waste is not permitted at HWRCs and must be disposed of legally using a licensed waste carrier or by signing up to a commercial waste collection service – visit www.durham.gov.uk/commercialwaste

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

If flytipping is in a dangerous place or causing an obstruction to a highway please call police on 999.

How to Manage a Motorway Breakdown

The Institute of Advanced Motorists' chief examiner, Peter Rodger, is advising drivers on how to handle a breakdown on the motorway. Six out of ten deaths on motorways involve a stationary vehicle so breaking down is a very high risk. Here are Peter's seven tips to guide you through the process.

1. Always be prepared – keep a high visibility jacket, something waterproof and a charged mobile phone in your vehicle.
2. Don't press on if you feel your car has a problem; pull over onto the hard shoulder and park as far left as possible to avoid slowing down traffic behind you.
3. Always turn on your hazard warning lights to let other road users know you are slowing down and pulling over.
4. Never attempt to repair the problem yourself. Ideally, call motorway control using a roadside phone and then contact your breakdown company.
5. You should always call for help using an emergency roadside telephone. The distance to the nearest phone is marked on a sign on the hard shoulder. Never cross the

carriageway to get to a phone on the other side. The operator will have already picked up your location if you use this phone.

6. Make sure you and any passengers leave your vehicle by the left-hand door – never wait inside the vehicle until help arrives. Stay behind a barrier or up the embankment. If you feel threatened leave the nearside door open.

7. SMART motorways use the hard shoulder as an extra lane to give you more capacity on the motorway. If your car develops a problem on this type of motorway, leave at the next exit, or pull into a motorway service area. If you would like further advice on how to cope with a breakdown on a SMART motorway please refer to page nine of the Highways England driver booklet.

Peter said: "Breakdowns sometimes cannot be avoided, but the effect of them can be made as painless as possible. If you prepare for every eventuality, you can avoid the experience becoming too inconvenient and be on your way before too long." For more information visit the IAM's website at www.iam.org.uk

Military Choir Visits Aycliffe



The Women's Institute for Durham County has obtained the services of the famous Military Wives Choir "WAGS" to perform in their Centenary Musical Extravaganza to be held in the Xcel Centre on Saturday 26th September. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. President Lyn Swift of Aycliffe said: "We are so happy to get the WAGS choir and there will be other performers on a superb programme of music."

Tickets are £10 and are available from local WI members and from their HQ at Barnfield Road, Spennymoor. Tel: 01388 819100. Email: durhamwi@btconnect.com - book tickets early to avoid disappointment.

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T.V. Presenter Visits St. John's



BBC Look North presenter Colin Briggs visited St John's School - A Catholic Academy in Bishop Auckland recently to give an exclusive talk about his work in journalism and presenting. Mr Briggs was alive with enthusiasm for his career; he had a story for every question that the Year 10 students asked and was truly an inspiration to the young people who are looking to journalism as a possible future career. Maya Gibson, one of the Year 10 students Colin talked to, said, "I think it was important for us to hear about the journey he took though many different roles before settling on something that

he is truly passionate about. This was also an eye opening experience as Colin revealed how some famous faces have had to work hard to get where they are now". A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all.

Birthday Remembrance

CAROL REED Happy Birthday. 4th August 1946 to 13th May 2015. How can we write on paper the way we feel inside. The heartache and the emptiness when the one we loved has died. Thank you for the years we shared, the love you gave, the way you cared. To see you suffer was hard to bear, but now we know you are in God's care. It has been a lonely time without you, a million times we've cried, if our love could have saved you, you never would have died. You are in our thoughts every day. Love always, Roy, Steven, Jane, Lara, Stuie, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

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Thank You

GEORGE BURNHAM - Maureen and family would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kindness and sympathy shown, during their recent bereavement. We would also like to thank Dr Stephenson and District Nurses Andrea and Helen. David Scott at the Co-op Funeral Care in Newton Aycliffe; also Jan Mile for the beautiful ceremony at Wear Valley Crematorium. Donations received are going to Bewick Crescent Surgery and the District Nurses.

Obituary

VERONICA McBRIDE 18th July. Peacefully, Veronica of Newton Aycliffe aged 77 years. Beloved Mam to Steven, Michael, Andrew and Sharon; a loving Nana and Great Nana. Also a very dear Aunt and good friend to many. The Funeral Service was held at the Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Thursday 30th July at 2.00pm
MYRON PRICE 27th July, peacefully at home, Myron, aged 61 years. Funeral on Wednesday 5th August. Service and committal to be held in St. Clare's Church at 1.15pm. No flowers please. Donations in lieu in aid of Cancer Research UK, may be given or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600.

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In Memoriam

Maud Graham

17/4/1941 - 4/8/2012
It's been three years since you passed away. I miss you more as the years go by. I still talk to you every day. Your Husband of 54 happy years, Bob.

Miss you Nana. Laura, Jessy and Mason

BILL TALBOT 4th August 2012. Memories of a dearly loved Husband, Dad and Grandad. As time goes by without you, as days turn into years. We are left with happy memories, but still we shed a tear. Missing you lots. Val and all the family.

BILL TALBOT To a special Dad and Grandad. Remembering you is easy, I do it every day. It's just the pain of losing you, that never goes away. We think of you in silence, we often speak your name. What would we do to hear your voice and see your face again. We love and miss you. Deb, Tim, Sophie and Katie

Congratulations

LAYLA HALL 24th July. Happy 5th birthday. Lots of love from Nana Hall

EDDY MILLER 31st July. Happy 50th birthday to a special Brother and Uncle.

Love from Mandy, Gary, Address, John, Darren, Jenna, Danny and Chloe xxx

Births

Sebastian William Large



Congratulations Carrie and Dan
on the birth of "Sebastian William".
Born on 28th July 2015 at 9.28am, weighing 7lb 1oz
Love from all the Howarth family

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ATC IRON DISTANCE OUTLAWS



On Sunday 26th July at the National Water Sports Centre Nottingham two intrepid ladies from Aycliffe Tri Club along with 1200 other competitors set out to beat the Sherriff of Nottingham and become legendary Outlaws. Wendy Bake and Julie Hodds set out at 6am in the cold waters of Holme Pier Point to tackle the Outlaw Triathlon. An Iron Distance event made up of a 2.4 mile open water swim followed by a 112 mile bike with a 26.2 mile marathon run to finish. All three disciplines must be completed in a maximum of 17 hours before you can receive the title of being an "Outlaw".

This was the sixth year for the Outlaw Triathlon which had always seen fantastic weather conditions unfortunately this year heavy rain and winds ruled the day. This however did not dampen the spirits of the competitors or the hundreds of spectators that lined the route.

After a long day battling the weather conditions which made this already tough challenge even harder Wendy Bake crossed the finish line in 14hrs and 16mins followed shortly by Julie Hodds in 14hrs 32mins. Both ladies were met by huge cheers and high fives from the spectators lining the red finishers shoot and the statement that both had been waiting to hear all day - "You are an Outlaw".

Pic: Julie Hodds and Wendy Bake with their well-deserved finishers T-shirts and medals.

Year 8 Celebrations at Woodham Academy

Woodham Academy hosted its annual Year 8 Celebration Evening last Tuesday. The event marked the end of the school year, with lots of recognition of excellent progress for the students. Students were recognised for the contribution that they have made in their studies up to the end of year 8.

Certificates of Achievement were given in the following categories: most progress made since the start of year 7, best effort, best behaviour, highest quality homework and individual Tutor Group awards. Students with 100% attendance for the year were also rewarded.

The night was a mixture of celebrating what the students have achieved so far, but also acknowledging that students need to give maximum effort in school in order to realise their full potential and achieve their aspirations. Head of Year 8, Peter Groves said "It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the students' achievements so far with parents/carers and also build in key information about the importance of working very hard. We wish all of our students on-going success in their studies".

Cricket Club Record Could be Broken



Lee Weldon (right) presenting Chris Palmer with an engraved silver salver and welcoming him to the exclusive "Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club 500 Club"

Long serving Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club captain Chris Palmer played his 500th senior game for the club when the first team entertained Stokesley 2nd team in the NYSD 2nd division on Saturday 25th of July.

He became only the second player in the club's history to reach this notable milestone and now needs only 17 more games to overtake the record set by current club Secretary Lee Weldon, who played 516 games for Aycliffe before retiring in 2009.

Lee Weldon was quick to pay tribute to Chris, saying that "it

Heighington Inaugural Tournament



Heighington AFC Boys Under 14's held their inaugural Summer Tournament recently, with eight teams from both the TJFA and Russell Foster Leagues competing. A lot of time and effort was put in to prepare the pitches and facilities, and there were

medals and Trophies up for grabs for both the Plate and Cup Winners. In what was an evenly matched set of teams, Ferryhill Town came out winners in the Plate Competition, beating Sprairie Lads 4-1 in the final. In the Cup, Heighington Boys beat Lakeside Boys by 2-1 in a well matched game. The club plans to run a bigger tournament next year covering all 5 age groups with the club.

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