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Aycliffe Club Withdraws from Royal British Legion

New Club Launched in Effort to Survive

Dear Sir,

The Royal British Legion Club (Ltd) is disaffiliating (withdrawing) from The Royal British Legion organisation. Over the years, since the Newton Aycliffe Branch of the RBL was formed (1958) subscriptions have been taken yearly and sent to head office.

When the Club was built and officially opened (1962) these subscriptions are still being taken by the Branch and all of the money collected is sent to Head Office, and no remuneration has ever come back into the Club.

Their rules insist a member must first join the Branch, £17.50 joining fee, before they can join the Club. We find these rules restrictive for new members who only want to join the Club.

The members have reluctantly made this decision to try and get more money coming into the Club and taking subscriptions ourselves, which will be £5 + £1 donation to a forces charity, and be an income we have never had.

The Club is losing money on a weekly basis as, like any pub or club, we are finding it difficult to get members. So no matter how distasteful to some people this decision is, we need to lose the Royal British Legion tag before we lose the Club altogether.



Our solicitors have advised us not to use any part of The Royal British Legion logo for the name of our Club, for legal reasons, therefore over the past five weeks our members have been voting on a new name "The Phoenix Club (Ltd)" has been chosen. Subscriptions for the Club, both men and women, who will become full members, will be taken at the Club and, not like the Branch, wanting members to pay by direct-debit or at a pay-point. So please all you members

out there, and prospective new members, remember it's only £6 to join. Come along and pay your subscriptions and help the Club survive. Tommy Palmer Club Secretary.

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Mayor's Civic Service

The Mayor Mary Dalton, will be holding her Civic Service at St. Clare's Church, on Sunday, 13th September 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

Councillor Mrs. Dalton extends a cordial invitation to parishioners and friends to join her on this occasion. Refreshments will be served in the church hall at the conclusion of the Service.

Councillors' Surgeries

Shafto, Central and Neville Ward

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

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A HELPING HAND WHEN NEEDED

CANCER VICTIMS ARE LEFT OUT IN THE COLD RAIN

The Aycliffe Hub Refuses Shelter

Dear Sir,
I first heard of the charity 'Helping Hands' through my daughter. I was desperately trying to cope with everyday life with paying the bills and even buying basic food items.

Alwyn and Linzi were amazing, they helped me with household items and even gave me sound advice and it was all done in a friendly and compassionate way.

From there I started to attend Life Church and I'm so glad that I did as it was so uplifting. I made new friends and this was something I desperately needed as at the time I was at home caring for my beloved terminally ill husband around the clock!! My Life Church family were with me all the way and I found I was able to relax there and it was a place to share my ups and downs and there were certainly a few downs!

Like most people, I still struggle with certain issues

in my life but knowing that leaders from Life Church are only a phone call away helps me tremendously I really shudder to think where my life would be now had I not got the help I needed! Grateful

Alwyn White told the Newton News 'we don't get any financial gain for the work we do but hearing this wonderful story is payment in itself'. We focus on being life-changers ... one life at a time'.

THANK YOU!

Dear Sir,
I would like to thank the young man who came to my assistance on Tuesday 1st September around 9ish. when I took a tumble along Shafto Way. I did not suffer serious injury just a bruised nose, chin and shock! It was an "old lady's" fall.

Marge Mason
Swan Walk.

Dear Sir,
On the 3rd September I went to the Youth Centre at 5.30pm where the Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group was due to have a meeting at 6pm with two Guest Speakers.

It was agreed for us to be let in the building at 5.30pm to set everything out. We had already had meetings in June and July in the Youth Centre, but not in August the holiday period.

The Secretary has opened the building twice for me and was supposed to open up this night. At 5.30pm myself and 22 other cancer patients stood and waited for someone to open the Centre, including the Guest Speakers.

It got colder and colder and then started to rain. We didn't go home as many were looking forward to their night out as well as gaining some health information which could help them. At 6.15pm still no one had

turned up so I went and

asked in the building next door "One Point" run by Durham County Council to ask if some of our members could stand inside their building for shelter until we shorted where we could go. I was only talking 5 or 10 minutes and I specifically said I had terminally ill cancer patients as well as cancer patients who had just had serious operations to remove tumours etc., but their reply was NO! I was totally appalled, upset and angry that these people couldn't let someone who is seriously ill just stand in their doorway for shelter. Here we are trying to help people in our community in their hour of need and to support each - The Hub is other obviously not!

The Youth Centre have apologised and are looking into what happened. Someone from One Point did ring me but their excuse was poor, she said maybe it was because there was no manager around. The One Point building just happened to be opened as it normally closes at 5.30pm so maybe a few staff members stayed back to catch up, but I was just asking for shelter for a matter of minutes for very ill

people.

Then something amazing happened, Tesco let us use their meeting room and supplied us with hot refreshments and made sure everyone was okay and comfortable. May I thank Shirley and the staff for helping us - words can't explain how much we really appreciated what they did. They showed true community spirit and compassion.

Allison White
Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group

County Council Replies

Newton News sent this letter to Durham County Council for comment and their reply is as follows:

Rachel Hirst-Dean,
Durham County Council Strategic Manager, said: "We are very sorry for any upset caused and would like to apologise to the group."

A Wedding Day Never to be Forgotten



Andrew Hartley and Kirsty Wilson were married on the 2nd September 2015 in a small gathering at St. Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village followed by a Reception at The County where the staff and Collette the Manager were brilliant. The Best Man was Jamie who did a fantastic job and Bridesmaids Abbie and Alannah looked beautiful. Kirsty and Andy chose 2nd September specially as it was the same date Kirsty's parents Ken and Alwyn were married in 1982 making it their 33rd Anniversary. It was also Kirsty's sister's 11th anniversary as they were married on the same date in 2004. The happy couple are enjoying their honeymoon in London before returning to start their married life together in Newton Aycliffe.

The Royal British Legion

Saturday, 12th September

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CHRIS SMALL

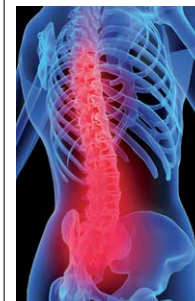
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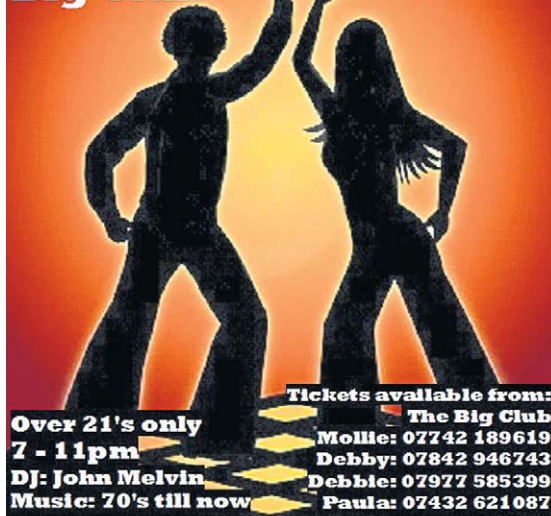
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Gig Pit Review - "I went up the tuns, glad i did, never seen 'The Kill' before, known mark for years, what a band, top drawer!!!! Not a great fan of Bon Jovi, but I have to say these are the best trib act I've seen, and greggs vocals in both bands was awesome, guitar playing was immense and the rythm section tight as anything.

Grown men stood open mouthed, and the women went beserk. Great nite lads!" Rockermouth review - "Great band!

Still haven't seen the Bon Jovi Forever set, but it's the same line-up as The Kill,and they rock! Talented lads, the lot of them. A great set of musicians, and Gregg has frontman skills & stage presence to back up his excellent voice.

Then add to that a cool & interesting set list, a quality P.A. rig, and you've got a superb package. Can't wait to see the lads play again. But maybe next time at the Office".

Recent gigs include O2 ACADEMY, NEWCASTLE

Saturday 12th September - "Skinflint"

Twice stars of the main stage at 'STORMIN'

Previous review from the Turbinia: "Skinflint's first blast in the Tub last night, and what a first blast! I love Skinflint, cos they've got the only two guys I know who get their hair out more than me! Absolutely ace! Everyone has said how good the lads were and with an alternative venue just over the road having a band on again, some of the folk who came over from there said they were well pleased they had done so! The lads had the sound bang on for us, they sounded excellent! (I loved "the soundcheck song"). Opening tune was "Paranoid", swiftly followed by "For Whom The Bell Tolls". Thin Lizzy's "Cold Sweat" was top notch as was "Cat Scratch Fever", I heard that one at Crook and it's fast becoming one of my faves! Chris Isaac's "Wicked Game" and Ozzy's "Bark At The Moon" were followed by "Rosalie", (which took away one of our lad's shout for his encore straight away!), AC/DC's "Whole Lotta Rosie" removed Keith's second encore shout so he was stuck for what to shout for when the time came! Bit of Foo Fighters and Sabbath, The Cult's "L'il Devil" had me and some of the lasses on the floor with the hair out and Status Quo's "Sweet Caroline" rocked! "Whisky In The Jar" totally ruined Keith's chances of shouting for anything at all for an encore. "Highway Star" and "Smoke On The Water" and the lads rounded off with my all time fave "Rebel Yell", which guaranteed me whiplash the following morning! Saw these guys at Stormin' last year, was looking forward to them coming to the Tub and they did themselves proud. I hope they enjoyed the gig as much as the punters did and look forward to them coming back for another round!!

Saturday 19th September - "101"

We are pleased to welcome back one of the tubs favourite bands, who play a great mix of modern & classic rock. Tracks covered by, - LED ZEPPELIN KILLERS - AC/DC - KINGS OF LEON - LYNRYD SKYNYRD - KIESER CHIEFS - NIRVANA - RAZORLIGHT - PINK FLOYD - GREEN DAY. Davys rock page review - "All in all, a great night with a great atmosphere and a lot of people dancing, so if you want to hear newer covers with a good mix of older rock 101 deliver."

For more information on bands go to

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SURPRISE OPENING OF NEW HITACHI FACTORY BY PRIME MINISTER DAVID CAMERON



Last Thursday, 3rd September 2015, Hitachi Rail celebrated the return of rail manufacturing to its British home in the North East, joining with key delivery partners at the official opening of a £82 million Rail Vehicle Manufacturing Facility in Newton Aycliffe. The official opener was our Prime Minister David Cameron accompanied by the Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne. Only a selected few knew he

was coming to Aycliffe and the guests were pleasantly surprised to see him after the proceedings came to a halt for around 30 minutes waiting for his arrival. Hitachi Ltd Chairman and CEO, Hiroaki Nakanishi, welcomed the Secretary of State for Transport Patrick McLoughlin MP and Rail Minister Claire Perry MP, along with over 500 invited guests, to the opening ceremony and for guided tours of the state-of-the-art



"It is our culture as a business to take a long-term view in everything we do. From our investment here in Newton Aycliffe, to our network of new train maintenance centres across the UK, to our ongoing work in building a strong regional supply chain – Hitachi is here to stay."

The day began with the ceremonial sealing of a time capsule by Secretary of State for Transport Patrick McLoughlin MP and Mr Higashihara, President and COO of Hitachi Ltd., featuring aerial acrobatics who first performed in April 1998 and who have performed in 57 countries around the world.

The time capsule included a small model of Hitachi's Class 800/801 IEP train, digital photos of trains painted by local school children, a map of Newton Aycliffe, profile of site architect Masayuki Ninomiya and a mobile phone with photos and videos.

Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin MP said: "The state-of-the-art IEP trains that will be manufactured

here will transform rail travel for countless passengers between London, the north east and south west. Not only will these trains allow us to operate more services, with more seats, and faster journeys, the improvements will also bring great opportunities for growth, generating hundreds of jobs in the local area and thousands across the country within the supply chain.

"We are investing record amounts in transport, not just to help people get around, but to help people get on. The opening of this world-class Hitachi facility is a prime example of the strength and opportunities of the Northern Powerhouse and is a welcome addition to the historical culture of rail excellence in this region."

Following the speeches, guests watched a shadow performance depicting the story of Hitachi followed by a video showcasing the construction of the 43,000 m2 facility and sentiments from local people, before a dramatic "big reveal" of the first fitted-out IEP Train 2, which arrived into the UK

especially for the ceremony. Managing Director of Hitachi Rail Europe, Karen Boswell, said: "On behalf of the Hitachi Rail family I would like to thank the local community, the Department for Transport, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, Merchant Place Developments and Shepherd Construction, as well as the many suppliers and all other partners for their hard work and commitment to help us deliver this iconic rail vehicle manufacturing facility."

"Our immediate goal is to deliver the Class 800/801 trains for the IEP on time, on budget and to exceed expectations. These Hitachi trains will deliver new comfort and reliability to customers, improving seat capacity, luggage and storage - better than anything already in use."

"Newton Aycliffe will be the engine room driving Hitachi Rail's future growth across the UK and into Europe, and I'm incredibly proud to lead a company committed to making the North East a rail manufacturing centre of excellence once again."



Town Mayor Mary Dalton and her Consort son, Michael, were in attendance

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rail vehicle manufacturing facility. Invited guests also witnessed the unveiling of the first fully fitted-out IEP train to arrive in the UK.

Welcoming the opening, Prime Minister David Cameron said: "This massive investment from Hitachi shows confidence in the strength of Britain's growing economy. This new train facility will not only provide good jobs for working people but will build the next generation of intercity trains, improving travel for commuters and families, as well as strengthening the infrastructure we need to help the UK grow."

Chancellor George Osborne said: "Today we see a major boost for the UK with Hitachi investing millions in returning train manufacturing to the North East. This state of the art facility will grow and secure jobs for decades to come and will help us to build the Northern Powerhouse, while at the same time revitalising one of our oldest industries in

the region within which this tradition is synonymous."

Chairman and CEO of Hitachi Ltd, Hiroaki Nakanishi, said: "Today is a momentous occasion for Hitachi Rail, Newton Aycliffe and the British rail industry. We have brought train design and manufacturing back home to its birthplace in the North East."

"In our world-class facility we will combine the best of Japanese technology with the best of British manufacturing to make the best trains for Britain and the world."

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You Were Warned!



In response to the concerns of residents, Agnew PACT recently made speeding on Burnhill Way a 'PACT priority', and police have started to monitor the road. Earlier this week, County Councillors John D Clare, Mike Dixon and Joan Gray attended a speedwatch with PCSO 7564 Hutchinson. They were shown how to operate the speed gun - which actually provides sufficient evidence to issue a fine.

This speedwatch, however, was not designed to catch and fine. Signs were erected warning motorists, and a mobile speed matrix informed drivers of the speed they were doing. The function of a speedwatch like this is to warn people that

the road is being monitored and thereby secure a general reduction in road speeds. Other roads being monitored in the area are Woodham Way and Rope Moor Way.

Magician Raises £400

Ryan Metcalfe, a local magician, has raised £400 for the Brain Tumour Research Campaign through his fundraising show, Smoke & Mirrors.

The show last month was a sell-out success, with Heighington Village Hall completely full. Ryan would like to thank everybody who attended the show and gave donations towards the cause.

Autumn Community Learning Programme

The new Autumn Term Community Learning Programme at Greenfield Arts is now available with lots of opportunities for everyone.

We offer various sessions for young people, including after school workshops in art, music and yoga, specifically designed to suit young people. We also host the South Durham School of Dance which is a constant fixture at the centre and a great

Our specialist courses this term include silk painting and wet felting by our new Shed Head Sharron Bates,

who specialises in textiles and fine art. We also welcome back our floral art course due to popular demand, which runs for 10 weeks.

We offer courses for adults which run for 10 weeks at a time in various arts and well-being disciplines including Spanish, meditation, pottery, fitness and music. They are a great way to meet new people and develop a new skill.

To join any of the above courses or sessions please contact Greenfield Arts on 01325 379048, info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of our members of staff.



LITTLE TREASURES TODDLER GROUP REOPENS

'Little Treasures' Toddler group re-opens on Tuesday 15th September in the newly extended Woodham Community Centre. The group runs each Tuesday in term time from 10.15 to 11.45, catering for all children from newborn up to 4 years old. As well as a range of toys the group features a baby corner, craft table, singing time and home made cakes each week.

The group welcomes mums, dads, grandparents and childminders and is hoping to attract new members this term. They charge £1.50 for a child, 50 pence for an additional sibling, which includes refreshments for child and carer alike. Everyone is welcome to come along. For more details contact Helen Forster on 07761 832 715.

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County Responds to Refugee Crisis

An action plan which will outline how County Durham will support the UK response to the Syrian refugee crisis is to be developed by a new partnership.

The Durham Humanitarian Support Partnership will be led by the county council and will meet as a matter of urgency to clarify and progress the part Durham will play in responding to the emergency.

The partnership will look at all needs families seeking refuge in the county may have including housing, food, health, education, translation services and community support.

It will also seek to work with churches, the voluntary sector and other partners to identify what help may be required and how it should be provided.

The approach is designed not just to enable the vital preparations to be made, but to ensure that the families arriving here, many of whom will have experienced desperate situations, experience the best possible welcome.

In the first instance the county council will invite a range of partners to join the discussions to make sure all areas are represented in the partnership.

The chair of Durham Humanitarian Support Partnership is Cllr Eddie Tomlinson, who is also the

council's Cabinet member with responsibility for assets, homelessness, housing and rural issues.

Speaking ahead of the first meeting Cllr Tomlinson said: "We have already expressed our commitment to play our part in responding to what is a desperately sad situation impacting on nations and neighbours across Europe."

"We are therefore taking immediate action to support this specific situation by launching a partnership which we believe will deliver the best possible outcome for the families needing our help. "While we have systems and processes in place already to meet the needs of refugees requiring our help - the numbers have been extremely small and the current crisis requires a very targeted and specialised response."

The partnership will include a cross-party member/officer working group and a raft of other organisations and agencies which are well equipped to support the initiative.

Further details will be released as decisions are made.

The county council also awaits clarification from Government regarding details such as how many families require the county's support, any specific needs they may have and how the funding arrangements will operate.

Newton News Question the Prime Minister

Syd Howarth Editor of Newton News was invited to put a question to Prime minister David Cameron at the Hitachi opening last week.

After welcoming him to Aycliffe and thanking him and George Osborne for coming to mark the occasion Syd asked:

"How supportive are you in devolving power to the North East Combined Authority and how soon will it happen?"

David Cameron

"I'm very supportive of it. It's a really important agenda. Part of the Northern Powerhouse vision is to make sure that combined local authorities can come together and have powers and the resources they need to help transform their areas, and all credit to the Chancellor for helping to drive this agenda. "It's very exciting that the North East authorities have come together in this way."

George Osborne

"The local authorities in the North East have put together a really exciting bid. They made the details of that public today. We're working across different political

parties to change the way the North East is run so that decisions that effect this part of the world are taken here, and not several miles to the South in London. That's a really important part of the Northern Powerhouse, and at the moment the North East is leading the way amongst some of these Northern cities in coming forward with a really good plan.

I don't want to pre-empt all the discussions and negotiations, but at the moment the North East is edging out in front. We've got to make a decision over the next couple of months, exactly the form of deal.

"The deadline we put on it was a decision by the end of November. But as you saw with Greater Manchester you can move things really quickly, with the elected mayor coming in about 18 months time.

This whole approach has been, you tell us how you want this to be organised, we're not going to turn up and impose a model on you. This has been a North East idea and we're working with the North East, the Labour civic leaders and the Conservative councillors in the area to make it happen."

Job Vacancies at Nursery

Little Cubs Nursery is recruiting! We are looking for the following roles to join our fantastic staff team at Little Cubs, based at Xcel Centre on Aycliffe Business Park:

Two part-time Nursery assistants (applicants should hold a relevant level 3 qualification)

One part-time cook (Food Hygiene Certificate desirable but not essential)

For more information contact Donna on 01325 312288 or to apply, send CV with covering email to littlecubs@xcelcentre.com

County Councillors Walkabout



Aycliffe North County Councillors Joan Gray, Mike Dixon and John D Clare will be holding one of their 'Ward Walkabouts' on the Horndale estate on Monday 21 September.

They will be starting from Aycliffe Evangelical Church at 2pm, and hope to be accompanied by representatives from Livin, the Neighbourhood Wardens and the police.

Anybody with questions or concerns is welcome to accompany them, or to inform them of issues prior to the walkabout by emailing:

• joan.gray@durham.gov.uk
• mike.dixon@durham.gov.uk
• john.clare@durham.gov.uk
or <http://bit.ly/JDClare>



Neville Community Centre Respond to Insinuations

Dear Sir,

Many of you will have read the article about Neville Community Centre in last week's Newton News insinuating that money was taken from The Friends of Senior Citizens accounts which is absolute lies.

I have written proof of receipt of £48,000 from LIP of West Cornforth and if the person who wrote the letter were to open their eyes on entering the building they would see the new entrance, new lights, newly refurbished gents toilets, new disabled and baby changing toilet, refurbished lounge, complete new kitchen, new windows and curtains in the main hall, new roof, new surround fence, new flooring in the main hall, new stage flooring - all of which cost a lot of money for which we have

receipts with our treasurer.

Everyone who has used our hall states it is the best hall in Newton Aycliffe. I would like to say a very big thank you to all who have supported us over the years, both friends and our excellent committee. We wish The Cubby well at Neville Parade.

Peter Beaty MBE

For parties and booking of hall please ring Bill Blenkinsop on 01325 307449 or direct through the letter box at Neville Community Centre.



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HAVE YOUR SAY ON LOCAL ISSUES

Residents in Great Aycliffe & Middridge can find out how local issues are being tackled when the local area action partnership meets later this month.

The GAMP Board will be meeting on Tuesday 22 September 2015, between 6pm and 8pm, at Middridge Village Hall, and members of the public are invited to go along to observe proceedings. Local people can also raise any

neighbourhood issues that they would like the board to address. These need to be put in writing and sent in advance of the meeting.

The board will be receiving presentations in relation to Durham County Council's Medium Term Financial Planning and the Durham Ask, as well as the Operation ARIES initiative which is aimed at under-age drinking and antisocial behaviour.

Anyone who would like to

attend the board meeting should register in advance by ringing 01325 327441, or by emailing gampaap@durham.gov.uk. Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership is one of 14 Area Action Partnerships set up by Durham County Council in 2009.

CHILDREN CELEBRATING HARVEST

Messy Church on Saturday 19th September will have a 'water' theme as it helps to celebrate the Harvest. Through craft and cooking we will say THANK YOU FOR THE HARVEST and all that it brings.

We begin at 4pm looking at how fortunate we are to all have access to clean water and then through water play, fruit salad making, pasta painting pictures and seed planting we will discover how much we need water in our everyday lives.

Sharing a special tea together at the end we invite you all to come along. Messy Church is free to all, there will be a donation box to support the work of 'WaterAid'.

Please come along to St. Clare's Church for a 4pm start, registration from 3.30pm onwards and everyone will be very welcome. Please contact Helen on 01325 319002 (evenings/weekends) for any more information.

Students First Day at Senior School



With shiny shoes, blazers just a bit too big and enormous rucksacks, new students arrived at Woodham Academy last week for their first day at secondary school. Most admitted having been too excited to get to sleep the night before and to have been up and ready for school well before breakfast-time. They were accompanied throughout the day by volunteers from Year 8 who helped them to find their way and to settle in.

As usual, the morning began with a welcome assembly with Headteacher Christine Forsyth, followed by time for students to get to know their tutors and new classmates. Woodham Academy has a dedicated Year 7 tutor team, specially trained in making sure that children are well-supported throughout their first year at the school so that they learn well and are happy. Highlights of the first day were experiencing new subjects for the first time and, of course, a Woodham Academy lunch.

Headteacher Christine Forsyth says "It is always wonderful to welcome new children to the school. I hope that they will be as successful as our Year 11 leavers who achieved outstanding results at GCSE."

DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

The Marie Clare Singers are seeking to enlarge their vocal strength, if you enjoy songs from shows and items by such composers as John Rutter, Carl Jenkins and other modern composers then this is for you.

We rehearse on Thursday evenings 7.00pm until 9.00pm in St. Clare's presbytery. No auditions are required nor the ability to read music just the enthusiasm to enjoy making music with a friendly group of like-minded people, if this sounds appealing do come along and take part, the choir is open to all voices and ages.

For further information phone 01325 316 963

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Shingles vaccinations will also be available to those aged 70-72 years and 78-79 years as at 01 September 2015.

On Saturday 03 October **only** nasal vaccines will be available for healthy children aged 2, 3 and 4 years.

Walk-in clinics – no appointment necessary

Stiller's Open New £1.1m Warehouse at Aycliffe

Newton Aycliffe company Stiller Warehousing and Distribution is looking to expand into new markets after opening a new £1.1m warehouse.

Stiller provides cost-effective warehousing and distribution services to businesses in the North East region as well as commercial property lettings.

Their new 40,000 sq ft, 5,000-pallet warehouse will increase by nearly 50% the family firm's warehousing capacity at its premises in the heart of Aycliffe Business Park.

Stiller, who employ 140 people, has ploughed £1.1m into the new unit, which will include a new 21st Century racking system and VNA (Very Narrow Aisle) handling equipment.

The multi-user warehousing facility, which has been constructed by local steel firm Finley Structures, increases Stiller's storage footprint to 200,000 sq ft and has the capacity to hold 5,000 pallets.

The Aycliffe firm wants to explore new "clean" markets with what it calls "an investment in efficiency as well as expansion" in a bid to build on a number of recent contract wins.

Commercial Manager Matthew Stiller said: "This is another exciting development for the company and one which demonstrates the strength of our position in our market place."

"The new warehouse offers



Stiller Warehousing & Distribution commercial manager Matthew Stiller in the firm's new £1.1m warehouse

a clean environment and state-of-the-art flooring, and our new racking equipment means we will be targeting different types of business.

"We have aspirations of taking on food-based clients and pharmaceutical companies because the new facility is a very clean and efficient working environment

"We're already taking on new customers, a variety of locally-based manufacturing companies, and we're employing at least five new members of staff in this new warehouse."

"But we're also looking to take on more staff. We're recruiting in the office and we're always on the lookout for good drivers."

Stiller's new investment is the first part of a two-phase development at its Aycliffe site, with more land earmarked for another new warehouse to accommodate a further 6,000 pallets.

Managing Director Paul Stiller added: "The new warehouse has been built to the highest specifications. It also offers excellent space utilisation. We've invested £60,000 in a VNA man-up fork-lift truck from neighbouring firm Linde Castle, which is a specialist piece of handling equipment enabling high storage density."

"We're also relocating a major part of our operation, Central Park in the middle of Aycliffe Business Park, back to our own premises. That has served its purpose but it was time for us to invest in this expansion. The whole investment is to make our warehousing and distribution process more efficient, which makes us more competitive, and with that brings the prospect of more jobs."

Stiller's latest investment comes six months after it announced a new £15m three-year deal with food packaging firm Coveris Rigid, which is expected to increase annual turnover from £10m to between £12.5m and £13m this year. The new £1.1m facility takes Stiller's overall investment in the last two years to £5.6m, during a time when several neighbouring businesses are also expanding.

Stiller invested in a fleet of 12 new vehicles in 2014, including two 12-tonne vehicles, two urban trailers and four long double-deck trailers, and brought in five new Iveco trucks earlier this year to accommodate its deal with Coveris Rigid.



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Public Defibrillator On Demo at Tesco's

On Friday 18th of September at 7pm the Public Access Defibrillator will be officially handed over to The Newton Aycliffe Community by the town's Rotary Club.

The defibrillator has been sited just inside the Tesco store as this has the highest footfall in the area and is accessible to the public almost 24/7.

It also provides a safe vandal proof home for the machine saving hundreds of pounds it would cost in a special casing placed outdoors.

The Local MP and the Mayor have been invited to attend when The President of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and members officially hand the defibrillator over for general public use.

Although it has open access for the community in an emergency it remains the property of the Rotary Club so that safety checks and records can be maintained.

A representative of The North East Ambulance

Service will be on hand, to demonstrate CPR techniques and to answer questions about using the defibrillator.

There will also be a back to back DVD on show to explain how CPR and Defibrillation can save lives. Rotarian Jill Thompson said, 999 should always be called if someone suddenly collapses, but we hear on the news how stretched the ambulance service is becoming.

Time is always of the essence and with the right knowledge a life could be saved while professional help is on its way.

Come along on that Friday evening to learn how a little knowledge could save a life, or sign up to attend an information session on CPR - Cardio - Pulmonary Resuscitation.

A charity event will be held at the British Legion Club on 30th October 2015 for the Defibrillator fund. Tickets priced £5 inc Supper are now available. Ring 320901.

UK STEEL ENTERPRISE BACKS £750,000 GROWTH MOVE BY NEWTON PRESS



Left to right: Stuart Howarth, Allison Routledge of HSBC, Syd, Christopher and Paul Howarth, Sarah Thorpe UK Steel Enterprise

Newton Aycliffe print company whose ultra-green credentials are helping to attract a raft of new business has invested £750,000 in a major relocation and expansion project.

The ambitious move by Newton Press, a long established family-run print company, has been backed with a £130,000 financial package from UK Steel Enterprise, the Tata Steel business-support subsidiary. Made up of a £50,000 unsecured loan and an £80,000 grant from UKSE's Access to Finance scheme, backed by the government's Regional Growth Fund, the finance supports a project that will create four new jobs and safeguard an existing 13-strong workforce.

With new state-of-the-art premises on the Aycliffe Business Park in Newton Aycliffe, the company, specialists in graphic design and full colour printing, has also acquired five additional pieces of high-tech machinery including digital finishing equipment.

Newton Press has two of the world's best environmentally-friendly printers. It uses water and chemical-free machines and vegetable-based inks so creates no contaminated water waste. The use of FPC (Forest Stewardship Council) and PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) paper from sustainable sources and a wood-burning biomass installation also gives the company the zero carbon footprint that is winning them business.

Customers of all sizes come from every business sector and the company prints everything from books, magazines, catalogues, leaflets and labels to tickets,



t-shirts and business stationery. Started by Syd Howarth in 1963, the business is now run by sons Stuart, Christopher and Paul with other family members and a team of designers and printers. Master Printer Syd Howarth remains involved with the company's Newton News, the UK's first free local newspaper that has a weekly print run of 17,000 and a massive on-line readership.

"The investment from UKSE has been a huge help, allowing us to do some of the things on our wish list that otherwise we could not have done at this stage," said Stuart Howarth. "We were turning away work because of lack of capacity in our previous premises which were 75 years old and originally an 'Aycliffe Angels' ammunitions factory.

"Now we have the space, controlled temperature and environment as well as the equipment we need to meet that demand from existing and new customers. We are committed to continuous investment in new technology to stay competitive on quality, turnaround and price and

this move follows a major investment in equipment two years ago.

"Our zero carbon footprint is winning business from major companies and PLCs as they are looking for suppliers that can prove their green credentials. We have ISO 9001 and ISO 14001, the environmental management standard, which is unusual for a company of our size," he added.

Sarah Thorpe of UK Steel Enterprise, celebrating

its 40th anniversary this year, said: "This is a strong expansion project from a well established and very experienced business. We were delighted to be able to help with a package that included both loan finance and a grant."

Newton Press also secured support from its bank HSBC. Allison Routledge, Commercial Relationship Manager, said: "HSBC has

been involved with Newton Press for about five years now and we are pleased that we were able to work with UK Steel Enterprise on this major project and support a Northern company that is growing so successfully."

Film Show

There will be a "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church, on TUESDAY 15th September, featuring the thoroughly British comedy "WHAT WE DID ON OUR HOLIDAY" Starring Billy Connolly, Rosamund Pike and David Tennant.

The cast also includes Celia Imrie, Annette Crosby and Ben Miller and was shot on location in Glasgow and the beautiful Scottish Highlands. It is a warm, witty, hilarious comedy which teaches adults that if you want to keep certain secrets under wraps, then having children around is a serious problem. Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

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.

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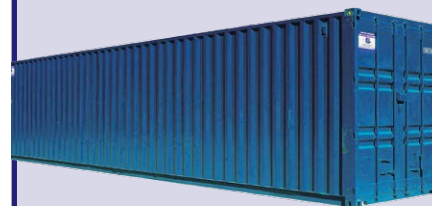
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Romania is a sad country for dogs to live in: abandoned by families and left to fend for themselves, abused by locals, captured by dog catchers, and then inhumanely killed, it is horrific. Left to wander, unneutered and the problem multiplies.

Our rescuer was driving along when she spied a little dog on the side of the road, as though he was waiting for his family to come back. Fearing he would be run over, she got out of her car and he ran into her arms.

He was shaking violently from the bitter cold of the Romanian winter, and was also very undernourished. She swept him into her arms and cuddled him, whispering a promise that he was safe

now, and would never have to worry again.

We brought Manny over to the UK earlier this year into a family foster home. He completed all of his assessments and we found that he is around two years old, and that he doesn't like cats or small children. Other than that he is perfect in every way – but sadly nobody has offered him a forever home.

We don't want to break the promise that our rescuer made to him on that bleak winter's day...can you help this little boy's dream come true?

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Statement by Phil Wilson MP

"It's a dream come true. I remember when this was an empty field. This goes back to 2008-2009, when Hitachi first came to see me and said they wanted to build their factory here.

After the election there were a lot of cutbacks and we had to campaign for this. We rallied businesses, Durham County Council, One North East as it was then, and we put a campaign together to convince the government of the economic case.

We've now got this iconic building, building iconic trains in an iconic area, bringing train building full circle, back to where George Stephenson assembled Locomotion Number One at Heighington Crossing just 500 yards from here 190 years ago.

Part of the Locomotion Pub is the original ticket office

and waiting room, so it's probably the oldest in the world!

To think it has come full circle, to this day where they'll be building the most sophisticated trains for the 21st Century, right here in Newton Aycliffe is fantastic. It's great and I'm really proud of what has been achieved – a lot of work by a lot of people – and it's a very proud day for me as Sedgefield MP.

We've also got the building of the UTC starting next week, where we'll be training future engineers and giving local young people the skills to come and work here and at other companies.

"Because it's not just about Hitachi. We have Gestamp Tallent, 3M, PWS, Ebac and lots of others doing fantastic work. It's just another sign that Aycliffe Business Park is really going places."



Photo shows Willie Lim (in the Blue Karate Gi) with students

Willie Lim, a Sing Ong Tai Chi master, 8th Degree Black Belt Tae Kwon Do and 7th Dan Black Belt Ryukyu Kempo Karate, is again visiting Newton Aycliffe Karate Club on Thursday 17th September to pass on his knowledge to eager students of martial arts.

His speciality is giving students the key to unlocking the practical applications within martial art forms (Kata). Willie lives in the U.S.A., but travels worldwide spreading knowledge and using his unique teaching style.

"He only gets over to the UK about 3 times a year so this is a rare opportunity and we are very privileged to be hosting this event", said Senior Instructor Andy Bailey of Newton Aycliffe Karate Club. The course is £20 and will run from 7pm to 9pm at Neville Parade Community Association. You can email on naanshinryu@gmail.com or call Andy Bailey on 07999 501379 for more

information either about the course or about Newton Aycliffe Karate Club. The

club train on Tuesday nights from 7pm to 8.30pm from 7 years up.



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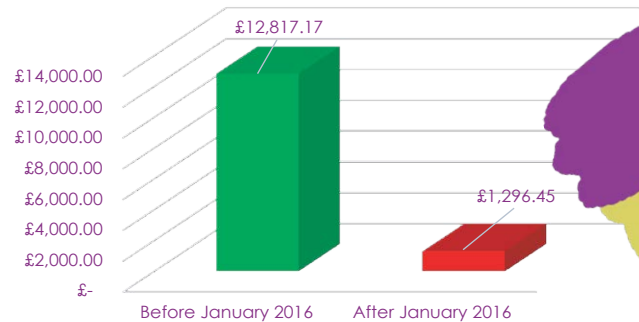


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West Park Lake is Firstly a Recreational Facility

Dear Sir,
The Town Council commissioned a report by the Ground Work Trust on the Ecology and Hydrology of the lakes and that report is expected to be brought to the Council's Recreation Committee in October hopefully. On Cllr Adam's comments about duckweed in the lakes, which is remarkably similar to a former Chairman of the Environments article on Facebook.

I would make a few points. Firstly comparing the top lake with the bottom lake, the top lake was virtually 70% cleaned out by Friends of West Park volunteers and council staff until they were stopped by that same former Chairman of Environment. The top lake has been relatively clear of algae, weed and duckweed ever since (you see mainly water not green in the top lake.) In previous years this was not the case.

Duckweed has never stopped

algae growth and the photos we placed on our Facebook pages over the last 3 years almost daily proves this. It is indeed, a symptom of other problems in the lakes. When the lakes used to get drained and cleaned many years ago, then refilled, it never once affected the swans, ducks, geese and sticklebacks and minnows or snails.

Since that time the valve system has fallen into disrepair and the council stopped cleaning the lakes. Each year the algae has come back stronger. Friends of West Park have the total support of the residents and many non-resident visitors in wanting to see these lakes cleaned out, and the water flow problems sorted.

The Council recently changed it's view on the lakes in September last year when the Recreation Committee RESOLVED - that it be recommended:- (i) That this Park is to be viewed as a Recreation Amenity first and foremost for use and enjoyment by the general public. Wildlife are a welcome addition but not the primary purpose of the Park. Its primary purpose is to serve the public as an amenity open space, with play equipment and other recreational use, similar to the Parks at Woodham, Simpature, Moore Lane, St Oswalds, Byerley Park, Horndale and Town Park. (ii) That Officers continue to seek alternative ways of dredging the lake. (iii) That an advisor or advisors be engaged to comment on the hydrology and ecology of the lakes.

That is the policy of the Town Council now. West Park has, and continues to improve, thanks to the Town Council working with and listening to Friends of West Park and residents. For those who just want to see algae, duckweed, etc, visit the Ropemoor reserve pond, or the Nature Park pond, or the Angling lake or the Ineos lake. Sorry my mistake, none of these natural ponds and lakes are actually covered with algae or duckweed. How the wildlife manage to survive in them heaven knows!

Cllr Arun Chandran
Chairman of Environment
GATC and Secretary Friends of West Park

Woodham Sports Academy Excels



Woodham Sports Academy athletes once again topped the table at GCSE, with 87%

of students achieving five or more A*-C grades including English and Mathematics.

The Sports Academy offers high-quality coaching opportunities to elite athletes in a range of sports, including football, swimming, dance, gymnastics, cricket, table tennis, softball, basketball, handball, water polo, boxing and American football.

However membership of the Sports Academy also requires students to meet strict criteria in terms of academic progress, attendance and behaviour. Liam Clough, Director of the Academy, said "Once again, those who take part in competitive sport have done better academically. This is because Woodham Sports Academy develops the whole person: character, leadership and self-esteem as well as health and well-being. Sport gives a structure to learning

that helps in all subjects.

Our aim is for athletes to aspire and achieve, not just in their chosen sport, but in all aspects of their lives at Woodham Academy and

beyond." Over one third of Woodham Academy students are members of Woodham Sports Academy, with girls and boys equally represented.

MAD Annual Concert Goes "Country"

For the last 6 years M.A.D Productions have put on a spectacular show in aid of local North East charities. They have raised thousands for The Blue Lamp Foundation, Help for Heroes, Hope for Justice, NE Air Ambulance, GACAP and Xcel Local. This year we are back for the 7th year with a fantastic Show.

M.A.D Community Choir will be presenting 'Country Roads' an evening of sing-along country sounds in aid of Macmillan and Cancer Research. The event will be held at the Xcel Centre, Long Tens Way, Newton Aycliffe on Wednesday 7th October 2015.

Doors open 6.30pm.

Tickets are on sale now! You can also 'step on up' on the night and pay on the door.

If you would like to purchase tickets please contact: Woodham Community Centre 01325 300258. Sonia Scott 01325 310991 or Vicky Hewish 07582 734294

M.A.D Productions would like to express their thanks to the Xcel Centre for allowing us to use the hall free of charge and for again supporting the choir with singers and dancers.

For more information on M.A.D see our Facebook page or the website www.madchoir.co.uk

Neville Community Centre Re-opened by the Mayor

The new set up at Neville Community Centre which will incorporate the Cubby, will be officially opened by the Mayor Mary Dalton on Saturday 19th September at 10am Chairman Bill Blenkinsopp is inviting the whole community to the opening where refreshments will be served courtesy of the local Co-op Shop.

The new Committee are keen to see this wonderful facility used by the community and plans are being formed for regular Junior Discos, Bingo Nights and other activities with the hope of attracting greater use of the Centre.

The Cubby will be open daily as a Drop-in, just as it was in the Town Centre. This will be welcome news to the regulars who expected it to close down in October, but hopefully people in the Neville Parade area will now also make their way there for hot and cold snacks.

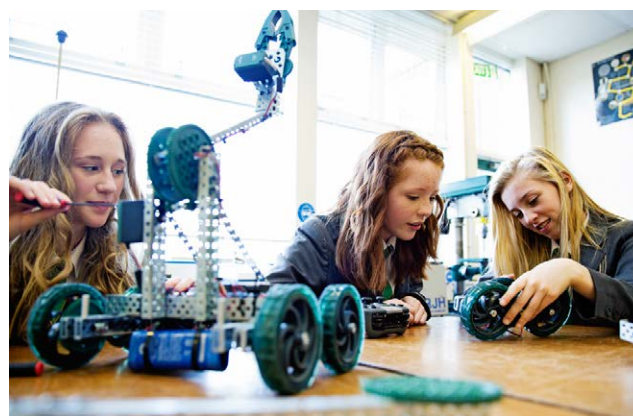


Year 6
Open Evening
for September 2016 entry

Thursday 17th September
6:00pm - 8:00pm

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OPEN EVENING

Thursday 17th September
6:00pm - 8:00pm

OPEN DAY

Friday 25th September
9:30am

OPEN DOOR

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01325 300 328

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Cabinet Consider School Loan Scheme

County Durham schools could benefit from access to a new loans scheme to help pay for improvements and new computer equipment.

Proposals to introduce the lending scheme will go before Durham County Council's Cabinet on Wednesday 16 September.

Under the plans, loans would be made available to all maintained schools in the county, including nursery, primary, secondary, special and The Pupil Referral Unit. The council is proposing to lend funds on the basis that they are used for building works, energy efficiency measures and new furniture or equipment such as ICT.

CLlr Ossie Johnson, Cabinet member for children and young people's services,

said: "The new loan scheme would help maintained schools access funding to enable them to pay for important improvements to their buildings and provide much-needed new equipment for pupils.

"At a time when the funding available to schools has fallen significantly due to Government funding reductions, meaning that only those with chronic problems and in need of essential works are prioritised for assistance, loans such as these could prove a huge benefit to many of our maintained schools." Cabinet will be asked to consider a number of recommendations regarding the loan scheme, which would come into effect from 1st October 2015.

MAYOR'S CHARITY GOLF DAY RAISES £427



The Mayor Mary Dalton Tees Off!

The Mayor Mary Dalton, hosted her Charity Golf Day at the Oakleaf Golf Complex on Friday, 4th September 2015. The event was a

success with an amount of £427.64 being raised for the Mayor's nominated charities which are the Renal Unit at James Cook Hospital,

Neville Parade Community Centre and Scouts/Guides of Great Aycliffe.

The Mayor would like to thank the sponsors and supporters of the day, namely:

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E.W. Knapton (Insurance)
Newton Press
Sabre Rail Services Ltd.
Bewick Pharmacy
SW Accountants
The Village Pharmacy
Great Aycliffe Town Council
Julie Welch (Oakleaf Golf Manager)

The hospitality tent at the 6th tee was well received and the Mayor would like to thank fellow Councillors Val Raw, Sarah Iveson and Malcolm Iveson for helping with the organisation of the refreshments.

Presentations and dinner were held at The Oakleaf Sports Complex Function Room. Winners of the competition this year were 'Oakleaf Golf Club' who were presented with the Annual Golf trophy donated by Hydro Polymers in 2003. Results of the day: Winners: Oakleaf Golf Club

Second: SW Accountants
Third: Big Club Golf
Individual Winner: Steven Easby (SW Accountants)
Longest Drive (2nd Hole): James Jacques (Sabre Rail Services Ltd.)
Nearest the Pin (11th): Glen Causer (Ineos Compounds)
Nearest the Pin (13th): James Carter (3M (UK) PLC)

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

The Council intend in not less than 7 days from the date of this notice to make an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended, to close to all pedestrian traffic of a 15m length of Bluebell Subway that passes beneath Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, to enable structural maintenance works to be undertaken. The maximum duration of the temporary closure under the Order is 6 months and is required from 28.09.15 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. Alternative route: Northern side of the closure south westerly via the footpaths north of Hareson Court, Coverdale Court and Wolveston Close to the southern side of the closure and vice versa.

Dated: 11 September 2015



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

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Changes to Care Connect

Proposals that would see changes to a community alarm system are to be considered by councillors next week.

Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked to give the go-ahead for a public consultation on the plans for the future of the authority's Care Connect service when they meet on Wednesday, 16 September.

The council is considering introducing changes to the way in which people pay for the service as it looks to make £260m in savings by 2020.

The proposals would see a 20p a week increase for customers who already pay for the service, taking the weekly charge from £4.60 to £4.80. In addition, a charge of £2.80 per week would be introduced for anyone who does not currently pay for the service because they receive means-tested benefits.

Cllr Eddie Tomlinson, the Cabinet member for assets, strategic housing and rural issues, said: "We appreciate that Care Connect is an essential service for thousands of people across the county."

"However, with the need to make significant savings during the next financial year, it would not be possible to continue providing the service if we do not change our charging policy."

"We have worked hard to keep any additional charges as low as possible and believe our proposals compare favourably with other authorities. That said, we would not consider introducing any changes without first fully consulting with people who use the service."

Cabinet had previously agreed a package of measures in December 2013 to cut the cost of running Care Connect by £1m. This included no longer offering the service free of charge to people who were new to Care Connect and who

were in receipt of Guaranteed Pension Credit, Council Tax Benefit or Housing Benefit. However, anyone who was already signed up to the service and did not pay a charge because they received benefits was given protection from charging for two years. This period ends on 31 March 2016 and with a further £750,000 of savings required in order to ensure the continuation of the Care

Connect service, the council is proposing to begin charging all users. If Cabinet agrees to a consultation taking place, a further report containing feedback from service users would be presented to councillors in January 2016. Any changes to the service would not come into effect until April 2016. Cabinet is due to meet at County Hall on Wednesday, 16 September.

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Nasty Letter

Dear Editor
I was disappointed to read in last week's edition such a scurrilous and damning letter regarding Peter Beatty, a man who has given a large part of his life to charitable work. For someone to wait until Peter has retired, due to health reasons, to write such a nasty letter angers me. If this person had a problem they should have gone through the proper channels and not written such a low down letter. I have known Peter for over 30 years and have always found him to be an honest and generous man of impeccable character. I am sure people can remember what a shambling wreck Neville Community Centre was before Peter revitalised the building to the splendid centre it is today, a job he and his team can be justly proud. It is monstrous that someone can, by the stroke of an anonymous pen, attempt to destroy a good man's reputation.
Mrs V. M. Raw

DARLINGTON - ALMOST TOP!

A 2-1 win over a very dogged Ramsbottom on Tuesday night was almost, almost, enough to put us top of the league. But a late goal from Blyth away to ten man Salford guaranteed that they go into the FA Cup weekend as league leaders and we stay second.

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PALLETS free - collect from Newton Press at the Blue Bridge Centre (goods inward door)

Public Notice

DONATIONS needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316 630
RSPCA North Tees & District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311 215

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Weddings

CLASSIC WEDDING CARS offer a superb collection of cars for your special day including Rolls-Royces, Bentleys, Jaguars, Beaufords, Daimler Limousines and VW Campervans. View our cars at our Aycliffe showroom. www.classic-wedding-cars.co.uk 01325 789 291 (Aycliffe) mob 07721 771 113.

However, following on from our away victory over Halesowen last Saturday, it's now four wins out of four for the Quakers thanks to second half goals from motm Nathan Cartman, following a lovely pinpoint cross from new signing Ryan Brobbel, and the defensive striker that is Alan White, who is now our top scorer on four goals.

A healthy crowd of 1,063 (including five fans from Ramsbottom) watched the game, which, considering the England game was on the telly, isn't too bad at all. This Saturday sees us embark on the road to Wembley when we take on Hyde United in the FA Cup at Heritage Park (£10 adults, £7 concession and £4 child), kick off 3pm. Hyde currently sit in 19th place but, as we've discovered already, league placings count for little at this stage of the season. In a

quirky twist of fate Hyde also happen to be our next league opponents on the following Saturday, again at Heritage Park.

We had our last fans meeting in the Iron Horse on Wednesday night and there'll be a little mention of what was discussed next time.

We are always looking for new people to come and join us. We are a social group of Aycliffe based Darlington fans who get together to praise, criticise and generally chat about anything Darlo related.

If that's something you'd like to do then pop along, we'd love to meet you.

You can also follow us on twitter @dfcaycliffefans, on facebook Newton Aycliffe Darlington FC Supporters group or email us dfcaycliffefans@outlook.com.

As ever, keep the faith.

Junior League Restarts

Most of the Newton Aycliffe Junior teams are waiting for the coming weekend to commence their league seasons, however one team had an earlier start to competitive action. The Under 10 Russell Foster League side have recently performed well in friendlies including an exciting fixture against Newcastle Academy. This had prepared them well for the re-start of the league season against Waldrige Park Glanton at Monkton

Stadium. A strong squad took to the field with Herbie making his debut in goal, and outfield Oli, Chloe, Branton, Taylor, Isaac, Matty, Evan, Sam, Bo & Ted were all involved. Newton Aycliffe raced into a 4-0 half time lead. Not easing up in the second half, Aycliffe secured a tremendous 11-1 victory - with Bo, Taylor & Sam netting one goal each, 2 from Evan and Hat-Tricks from Matty & Branton. Chloe secured the players man of the match, with Matty taking the parents award. A great way to re-start this league campaign.

All our other teams look forward to beginning their TJFA league seasons in the coming week, and best of luck to all the players and coaches for the season ahead.

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Councillors' Walkabout

Durham County Councillors Eddy Adam and Kate Hopper are continuing with their series of walkabouts to meet local residents. Where practicable, Kate and Eddy will be joined by partners representing DCC Neighbourhood

Warden team, your local Neighbourhood Police beat team and social housing provider Livin.

The next walkabout commences at 9.30 am on: Tuesday 15th September starting at Skipton Close. Further venues and dates will be confirmed at a later date.

Any resident who wishes to raise local concerns but is unavailable on the day, our contact details are: eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk Tel: 07900 701966 kate.hopper@durham.gov.uk Tel: 07900 702365

Pets

PAWS2RESCUE Dog Rescue We urgently require fosterers and adopters for our Romanian rescue dogs. To find out more and to help this wonderful charity please text 07834 614 659 or follow us on facebook paws2rescue. Donations of food, treats, collars etc always needed to send on our regular van runs.

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Credit Union Moves to St. Clare's Small Hall



Left - right: Harry Drake, Colleen Stanfield, Gordon Howe, Gavin Hennessy CEO NEFirst, Kate Hopper, Rev'd Mike Dixon, Ernie Temple, Rev'd Debbie Loughran.

A meeting of the NEFirst Credit Union took place last Thursday at St Clare's Church Newton Aycliffe, to finalise the arrangements for their move from Aycliffe Library to St Clare's Church Vestry.

During the meeting Mr Gavin Hennessy from NEFirst credit union presented a short history of the credit union, and outlined the way ahead for the organization in this area. Thanks were expressed to the Library staff for their support and the accommodation provided.

The credit union will open in the Vestry (opposite Wilkinson's Bus Stop every Thursday morning between 10am and 12am every week.

This will give local people Credit Union in a private and the opportunity to join the confidential setting.

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If you feel you have the qualities we are looking for send your CV with a short covering letter/email to tell us a bit about yourself and why you feel this trainee position is what you are looking for.

Send your CV to:

helen.richardson@communicatorsltd.co.uk

If you need any further information, or wish to have an informal chat about the position, please contact Chelsey Keedy who will be able to share her experience with you and tell you more about the job. You can contact Chelsey on 01325 308840

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Struggling Pensioners Offered Local Help

Did you know that 1 in 6 people in the UK is over 65 years old, and 1 in 6 of those are in poverty? Over 3 million people across the UK are either malnourished or at risk of malnourishment. Over 1 million are over the age of 65.

Age UK state on their website that many pensioners cope with poverty because of their extreme resourcefulness and determination not to get into debt - something they are proud of. They prioritise paying household bills ahead of food and would rather go without things many of us take for granted today.

Benefits such as Pension Credit can make an important difference, but many older people do not claim because they are not aware they are entitled, and are put off by the process or are reluctant to ask for help. Thankfully here at Lifeline Community Action we get widespread support to be able to help pensioners that find themselves struggling. Charlotte (name changed

for confidentially purposes) is 76 and is working with Lifeline Community Action to try and get her life back on track. Like many pensioners she lives alone and can often be isolated socially.

She only goes out once a week to collect her money to pay her bills and buy essential food items. Because of debt issues, Charlotte often needs help with food due to her low income. We identified that she needed a compact fridge freezer so that her food will keep fresh between shopping trips and enable her to buy cheaper frozen food items.

This is just one of many stories we have and we at Lifeline Community Action but sadly, many pensioners still struggle. We are determined to make sure we try and support any pensioner that comes to us for help. If you're a pensioner and would like a home visit then please ring our helpline 07936 431262

Susan Sadler Founder - Lifeline Community Action M: 07861 714779

Youth Football Season Kicks-off



Under 14 Girls' played host to Hebburn Town Honey's in the season's opener. In a very competitive match the Under 14s ran out comfortable 6-3 winners. Goals from Chloe Ryan (3), Matilda Weir (2) and one from Becky Potter ensured a winning start.

Under 13 Girls' were away to Washington Juniors. A 6-0 defeat didn't do the girls justice, in a highly competitive game, for which 5 of the 6 goals, would have graced any game at any level. Both teams passed the ball well, in extremely cold and windy conditions. Late in the game as the girls pushed forward, the finishing again was the difference, with a 2 further 'wonder' goals and finally a scramble in the box, making it 6-0. The girls still showed a fantastic attitude and tremendous character, against last season's champions.

Under 11 Girls' v Bishop Auckland Girls. Last season's runners up and one of the top teams in the league snatched the lead for a 0-1 at the break. The girls only needed to believe and continue taking the game to Bishop, they did and were rewarded with a Hattie equaliser. FT 1-1. Second match against

Washington Wildcats, the Girls dominated the game with goals from Olivia (2), Ocean Tia Hattie (4) and Kate ensuring an excellent 8-0 win. Great start for an excellent bunch of talented footballers. The Under 10 Girls' were awarded first game points and progressed onto the second game against one of the top teams at this age group Durham Cestria - who led at half time 0-2. Cestria added a further 2 goals. The girls powered back into the game with 2 superb goals from Brook and Cestria were on the back foot but too late - great first day for these young girls. FT 2-4

The Under 17s got their league campaign underway with an emphatic 8-0 win against Boldon. Goals from C.Denton (3) K.Mcwaters (3) G.Marley and N.Douglas ensured the points. Man of the Match went to Kieran Mcwaters.

The Under 11s played their first game of the season against Beamish Samurai and what a game! The boys went 1-0 up but Beamish soon made it 1-1, after that the boys pushed on making it a final score of 4-1. An amazing effort from all the team!

TURKEY ANYONE?

No one wants to think about Christmas yet but Lifeline Community Action (LCA) is planning well ahead so that they can try and prevent people getting into debt over the festive season. LCA trustee Alwyn White said 'Its not good enough for us to start to try and tackle all the problems in December. We need to meet people who are struggling now and attempt to steer them through what has now become a huge spending spree for most families.

LCA are extremely fortunate to have widespread backing with our collection and distribution of aid and we want to make sure it goes to the right people. We have now compiled a list for people who will need our support in December. If you think that's you then please drop us an e-mail: lifeline.action@googlemail.com

Birthday Remembrance

DARREN ABLEWHITE 14th September. Thinking of you on your birthday, with sadness in our hearts, for a very special someone, from whom we had to part. All our love, always. Dawn and Lauren xx
ALBERT ANDREW 12th September 1934. We send you a prayer, we blow you 81 kisses for your birthday Dad. We hope your special angel is taking good care of you. We love and miss you always. Love from your Daughters, Julie and Susan and family. Happy birthday to our handsome Dad xxx

Sits Vacant

BARBER REQUIRED to join Emre in his busy shop at the Blue Bridge Centre. Must be able to shave and have a wide range of cutting skills. This is a great opportunity for someone who likes to work in a warm, friendly environment. Please contact Emre on 07738 066 723

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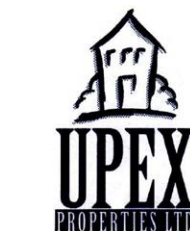
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DARREN ABLEWHITE 14th September. Always in our thoughts Big Lad. Geoff and Marie

MAXINE COUSINS 13th September. Thinking of you on your 50th birthday. We talk of you still, we haven't forgotten you and never will. Always in our hearts and thoughts. Love always, John, Jack and Harry

MAXINE COUSINS Happy 50th birthday Auntie Maxine. Sending big birthday hugs up to you in heaven. Love, Laura xxx

MAXINE COUSINS Sending love to a special Daughter on her 50th birthday. Miss you so much. Love, Mam and family xxx

MAXINE COUSINS Happy 50th birthday Maxine. Party with the angels. Love and miss you, Pat, Dave and family xxx
JOHN MCNAMEE 15th September. I opened my eyes this morning and looked to the heavens above, I whispered "Happy Birthday Darling" and sent you all my love. Love and miss you always, Yours Jill xxx

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

BROWN leather double bed with mattress £100. Collection preferred but can be delivered at extra cost. Call 07584 065123

SWEETIE CART and Wishing Well, ideal for weddings, christenings etc. Made from wood, includes sweet jars and decoration in good condition. £100 for both. Call 07584 065123

FULL SIZE snooker table, slate bed, balls, triangle, rests, wall score counter, good condition, buyer collects. Offers to 01325 300212

For Sale at The Cubby:- Good quality kitchen units, worktops and 2 stainless steel sinks. 3 electric wall mounted heaters. Square & round tables and chairs. Internal (manual) & external (electrically operated) roller shutters. 10 four foot fluorescent light fittings. Curtains and curtain poles. Internal doors with closers. Fully operational alarm system
At Neville Community Centre:- Large collection of surplus crockery, glasses, cutlery and pots & pans. No reasonable offer refused. Please contact Bill Blenkinsopp on 07873 190 833 to view and purchase.

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Congratulations

Karen Hannah



Happy 40th Birthday
11th September

Don't worry, they say life begins at 40!

We hope you have a great day.

All our love, Mam, Dad, Simone, Lisa, Justin, Bruno and Bonnie xxx

MARIE ALLEN, 12th September. Happy birthday, lots of love, Geoff, Becky, Tom Kirsty and Ryan xxx

Births

Marie and Tom



Congratulations on the birth of Grace Eleanor Streeton, 25th August at 3:35am

weighing 4lbs 13oz. Love and best wishes from Sarah-Jane, Craig, Madison, Cayden and Mackenzie xx

In Memoriam

Sim Chrissie



8th September 2014

As our first year without you, our wonderful Mam (Granma) has come and gone, we are thankful that you shared your life with us and for leaving the most precious memories that we will hold in our hearts forever. We love and miss you every single day xx Love, Liz, Eunice, Myra, Frazer, Danny, Wayne, Dawn, Kaya, Amir, Haywood and Keavy xx

ROBERT WAITES 8th September 2001. Fourteen years have passed. Memories never pass. Miss you. Love, Ruth
CYRIL TINKLER Thinking of you today Cyril and every day. Love always, Freda and family xx

Natalie



11th September

Our Beautiful Natalie
21 Today

Have a wonderful year.

All our love,
Mam, Nana
and family xxx

Rebecca Jade Lindley



11th September

Happy 18th Birthday
Have a fantastic weekend. Love from all the family xxx

Happy 18th Birthday for a Special Daughter
Lots of love,
Mam and Dad xxx

Thank You

A BIG THANK YOU to the young lady who came into Barclay's Bank on Monday 7th September and gave me the £50.00 I had left in the cash machine outside. She went away before I could thank her properly. I would just like her to know how grateful I am.

Obituary

WILKINSON. September 5th, peacefully in Bethany House. Jo aged 69 years of Rushyford Court, Woodham. Beloved Wife of Bill much loved Mum of Mark, Barry and Darren, also a treasured Grandma to her six grandchildren. Funeral Friday September 18. Would family and friends please meet 11am for a Service at The Bethany Centre, Woodham prior to burial at West Cemetery, School Aycliffe.

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THE STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY NEEDS YOU

Would you like to become involved with a project that focusses on the Stockton and Darlington Railway? If so, come along to an event at Locomotion, NRM Shildon on Tuesday September 15th at 10.00 o'clock.

The project is called: Walking and Studying the Line and is funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund Award which was given to the Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. The Friends recently put on a two day conference at Locomotion to debate the importance of the railway and the potential for a World Heritage Status bid in time for the 200th anniversary celebrations in 2025. This was attended by railway groups, local politicians including MP Phil Wilson and a range of national speakers including the director of the NRM.

To achieve our aims, we need everyone with an interest to help us collect information and

identify the surviving parts and structures of the line. We wish to encourage everyone, from learned historians and railway enthusiasts to school children to participate. The survey work will involve researching archives and documents. It will also involve fieldwork, surveying and possibly archaeological excavations.

The project is designed to complement work being undertaken by Durham, Darlington and Stockton Councils, who are already looking ahead to the celebrations for 2025.

If you are interested in getting involved and attending the workshop, please contact:

Trish Pemberton
 01388 833229
 trish.pemberton@btconnect.com

or Caroline and Niall Hammond
 Archaeo-Environment
 01833 650573
 info@aenvironment.co.uk

Coffee Morning and Evening

On Thursday 24th September the Ladies Group at Burnhill Way Methodist Church will be hosting a Coffee Morning and Evening in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support from 10am - 12noon and then from 6pm - 8pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy coffee, tea, home-made cakes and a chat. There will also be cakes to buy so please join us and support this worthy cause.

AYCLIFFE F.C. PLAY BRIGHOUSE IN FA CUP



Newton Aycliffe have a trip to Brighouse Town this weekend in the First Qualifying Round of the FA Cup. This is the first time in their history Aycliffe have made it past the preliminary stages of the competition.

Brighouse play one league higher than Aycliffe but were taken to a replay by Atherton Collieries who play at the same level as Aycliffe in the North West league. After comfortable victories against Nelson and Morpeth the visitors feel they have a good chance of causing an upset in Yorkshire.

However, after a tremendous start to the season Aycliffe came down to earth with a bump at Jarrow Roofing. Despite leading 2-1 after the first quarter of an hour

Aycliffe lost the game 6-2. Aycliffe went behind on 9mins, equalised on 11 and took the lead on 12 minutes. It was all downhill from there unfortunately with the Roofing attack proving too strong. Lewis Teasdale in particular scoring four goals. With the score at 5-2 Aycliffe lost striker Matty Moffat to injury just before half time. Aycliffe played better in the second half with sub Mark Stephenson bringing some stability to the centre of midfield, but there was no way back for the visitors and the home side added a sixth in the last minute.

The performance at Jarrow Roofing was a major disappointment coming only a few days after a good victory at Bishop Auckland.

Aycliffe won that game 2-0 with goals from Alex Kitchen & Zak Boagey.

That win brought Aycliffe FC to 10 points, achieving double figures many weeks ahead of the same time last season. Most of these points have come on the road as Aycliffe haven't played a league game at Moore Lane since the opening day of the season. Their second game comes on Tuesday 8 September against Consett before the trip to Brighouse on Saturday 12th.

Huntsman Advance in County Cup

The Huntsman's great start to the 2015/16 carried over into the cup this week, with a convincing 3-0 away to Witton Gilbert. A full 18 man squad made the trip, with Neil Dodds forced into a couple of changes from the recent winning side due to injuries Ryan Durr, Anth Harrison and Ryan Mercer all coming into the side.

The long wait before kickoff gave the lads an extended warm up which certainly looked to have paid dividends as the frame of the Witton Gilbert goal was tested twice in the opening two minutes. That early pressure was rewarded just moments later when Dave Neale arrived to stab home from close range to give the away side an early lead.

One soon became two following some great play in the middle of the park, and it was Reed Molloy who was on hand to calmly dispatch for his 10th goal already this season. You could forgive the away side for taking their foot off the gas slightly following the early goals, however they continued to press with Molloy and Anth Harrison once again hitting the frame of the goal before the half time whistle.

The home side came out with a lot more purpose in the 2nd half and it turned into a much tighter game. The depth of the Huntsman's squad showed however as manager Neil Dodds filtered on all seven changes and took the game beyond the home side.

The game was completed following a good piece of work down the left hand side from Ollie Gell to find John Jamie Herd to smash home from close range. More chances came and went without the Huntsman troubling the scorers but all in all a good away win.

Next up for the Huntsman is a game against The Sports Club this Sunday at Simpature 10.30 kick off.

Craig Woodhead

Neville Parade Cubby Notice

The Cubby has now moved over to Neville Community Centre and welcomes residents to drop in for home-made hot and cold snacks at very reasonable prices. Please note that the premises will be closed on Tuesday 15th September for necessary electrical work to be carried out.

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CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's first team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store had a straight forward home win by 112 runs against relegation threatened Sedgfield 2nd XI in the NYSD second division. Aycliffe were asked to bat first and scored at a very quick rate and were eventually bowled out for an impressive 225 from just 35 overs.

Sam Telford (sponsored by Yvonne and Bob Wood) top scored with a typically robust innings of 68, which included nine boundaries to reach his best score of the season. Stephen Sweeney also batted well, scoring 45 with other useful contributions coming from both Tom Wickins (26 runs) and captain Chris Palmer (25 runs).

In reply the visitors were bowled out for 113 after 33.3 overs thanks to some excellent bowling from James Layfield-Carroll (3 for 16), Luke Telford (3 for

17) and John Cavanagh (3 for 37).

The second team travelled to 3rd in the table Bedale 1st XI and were beaten by 40 runs in their NYSD 3rd division clash. The home side chose to bat first and were bowled out for 128 after 46.4 overs. Dan Craggs was the pick of the bowlers taking 4 for 25 and was given good support from Jack Slatcher (sponsored by Mr & Mrs Greaves), who took 3 for 13 from 13 overs.

Acting captain Slatcher batted with gritty determination to top score with 20 and Danny Weldon and James Brown both chipped in with 13 runs each as Aycliffe were dismissed for a below par 88 after 39.4 overs.

The Club's junior presentation night has been arranged for Wednesday 16th September at the Sports club and it will start at 7pm. All u11's and u13's who have played for the club this season are invited to attend.

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