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Plastic Bag Money Given Back for Good Causes

TESCO SEEK APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

On Monday 5th October 2015 carrier bag charging began in England, similar to the charging already in place in Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland.

Tesco, like other large retailers, are now required by law to charge a minimum of 5p for every carrier bag used by a customer. Proceeds generated from sales of the bags will be given to good causes, as set out by Defra.

The money raised from the 5p bag charge will be used to pay for a large number of local projects to improve green spaces in communities across the UK. Projects will include building new pocket parks, sports facilities, woodland walks and community gardens.

It's your money - so where the money goes locally is up to you, you'll have the opportunity to decide where it is spent, by nominating your favourite local charity or community group. This money is set to make a huge difference to local communities across the UK by ensuring that green spaces can be enjoyed by all.

Six projects will receive funding in each of 428 regions annually, which means that over two thousand different projects will receive funding from the bag charge after just one year.

The amount of funding available for individual local projects will range from £8,000 to £12,000.



Tesco is calling on local community groups and charities to apply for the funding. There are two voting rounds a year, the first one opens on the 19th October 2015. Nominations will be whittled down to three good causes that customers can choose from to vote for in each area. Administration of the local funding will be handled by environmental improvement charity Groundwork, which specialises in transforming local green spaces for the better.

It is a great opportunity for the local area to benefit from

funding like this, so get our nominations started and help transform our local area.

For more information please speak to myself in store or visit www.tesco.com/carrier-bags Joe Riley, Tesco Aycliffe

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Honest John Open Weekends

Starting this weekend, Honest John will change his opening hours to include Saturdays and Sundays at the DISC Furniture Scheme premises next to the Blue Bridge. He looks forward to welcoming browsers.

Due to unforeseen circumstances and at short notice last weekend's opening had to be cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

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Poppy Display at Woodhorn

The New Friends New Places Club invite you to join them on a trip to see the stunning Poppy display on Sunday 1st November at Woodhorn Colliery and Museum.

Cost £10, entrance free. Sunday Lunch stop at Washington Toby Carvery paid by yourself. Pick up at St Clare's Church, 10.30am, Stephenson Way Cemetery 10.40am.

Seats to be paid for when booked. Ring 01325 308094 Please leave your name and number.

TOWN SHOP MOVES TO THAMES CENTRE

Bridie Griffith's father Terry O'Connor opened in Newton Aycliffe in 1979 as an expansion to his Spennymoor shops. It was on Greenwell Road, called Aycliffe Aquatics & Pet Care.

Bridie worked there, but very soon this shop was not large enough to meet demand and the pet shop was moved into Beveridge Arcade beside the Leisure Centre.

The Greenwell Road premises were turned into a sunbed/



Bridie (right) with husband Paul and Assistant Donna Wilkinson



tanning salon - one of the first in the area. Bridie was at both shops with her parents as well as at the Spennymoor sites. By 1995 the Greenwell Road closed and Terry and his wife Gail were ready for semi-retirement. Bridie took over the Beveridge Arcade shop along with her husband Paul, changing the name to Petals & Pets, and building a solid reputation as florists.

Petals and Pets survived there for 20 years, struggling through tough times and a declining town centre trade which saw many shops close. On Monday October 5th Bridie and Paul opened their new shop in the town's Thames Centre no longer selling pets accessories. PETALS FLORIST is a bespoke flower and gift shop, and provides wedding and funeral services along with traditional flowers and arrangements

Petals also specialise in unique, contemporary modern arrangements as well as unusual and bespoke gifts. One of their most popular services is their "Build

a Bouquet" idea, where customers can literally design their own bouquet or arrangement by hand picking each flower and having them arranged and wrapped to their own choice.

Delivering locally, nationally and internationally, with same day deliveries Petals provides a comprehensive florist service. For Bridie it was sad to close the doors of the Beveridge Arcade shop after working in there for 30 years, but she is delighted to be able to stay in the town where her regular customers have become friends. She is also happy to be in the Thames Centre with it's wonderful community feel amongst the traders.

McColls Community Fund Helps Brownie Pack



McColls store at Parsonage Centre run a MADL (Making a Difference Locally campaign) where certain products sold generate money that goes into an account which the store can use to support the local community.

Michael Johnson, Area Manager presented a cheque for £149.42 to the 8th Newton Aycliffe Brownies in order for them to use the money for projects they have in their local community.

The Brownies are a leading group for girls and young women, giving them a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills & make a positive difference to their lives and their communities.

There are vacancies for your daughter to become a Brownie

locally. Contact Rebecca Barnett on 01325 311204 or check out the website on: www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested

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Friday: 9am - 7pm
Saturday: 8.30am - 5pm
Sunday: Closed

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CHECK US OUT ON
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New Tattooist Starts Business in Aycliffe



Jamie Hawks a Tattoo Artist for the last 3 years is the latest tenant to open his own studio in the Blue Bridge Centre owned by Newton Press. Jamie (28) comes from London and moved to Derby to study animation for which he has B.A. Hons Degree. He moved to the North East in 2011 to take his apprenticeship in tattooing and began his art the following year in cover-ups, with a specialism in animation and realism.

He has worked at numerous Tattoo Conventions and has taken guest studio spots all over the UK. Jamie will still work freelance in Denmark twice a year at an Iron and Ink Tattoo Studio where he has a great reputation.

He is a sponsored artist by Jungle Tattoo Supplies and his work has been published often in "Skin Deep" the U.K.'s top tattoo magazine.

To book Jamie or to obtain more information ring 07817 109754.

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Saturday 17th October - "F.M."

Was this our best pub gig ever? Probably!

What can you say about FM, this was rock and metal utopia, a classic journey through the rock 'n' roll hall of fame. They did the lot, Kaiser Chiefs, Foo Fighters, Sabbath, AC/DC, Zep and no real cheese, OK, they did "Whisky in the Jar", but hey! FM put a great amount of effort into this gig, sometimes mid week gigs just don't seem to have the same wow. The atmosphere was great, as was the music, a superb night. What is particularly pleasing is that FM don't always take the easy option, ie: instead of sticking to "Sweet Child Of Mine", they did "Welcome to The Jungle". How long have FM been around now? Many a year and on this performance many a year to come. Thanks lads you were awesome

Saturday 24th October - "GrooveTrain"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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Fireworks Display Only for Aycliffe Residents

Apply for Free Admission

Great Aycliffe Town Council will again be holding its Annual Fireworks Display on Thursday 5th November 2015, there will be a funfair for young children, which will open at 5.30 pm, the beacon will be lit at 7pm with the fireworks to follow. Due to safety concerns Great Aycliffe Town Council have taken the decision to only allow residents of the Parish of Great Aycliffe to attend the display, therefore the event will be pre-ticketed. The Fireworks Display will be a FREE family event and residents can apply for a free wristband by attending Oak Leaf Sports Complex on one of six sessions, please see below:

Saturday 17th October - 10.00 am until 3.00 pm

Tuesday 20th October - 5.00 pm until 8.30 pm

Wednesday 21st October - 10.00 am until 1.00pm

Thursday 22nd October - 2.00pm until 6.00pm

Saturday 24th October - 9.00 am until 12 noon

Monday 26th October - 1.00 pm until 3.30pm

You must provide proof of residency with a utility bill or photo card driving licence. Tickets are limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis. One person may apply for their families wristbands, however please note there are a limited number of wristbands available. The site will be secured and you will not be able to gain access unless you are wearing a wristband.

If you require any further information please contact Rachel Goddard on 01325 300600.

Hollie Thanks Everyone for Supporting Charity Disco

Dear Sir,
May I thank everyone who has helped me with the Halloween Junior Disco on Friday 30th October at Planet Leisure in aid of the Caudwell Children's charity which has helped me so much since I was born with various medical problems.

I want to give them something back to help other children. I have received a lot of support, but want more people to come to the disco as there are some fantastic prizes given by local people. The Rotary Club have just given me a cheque for £100 and part of it has bought a giant Teddy Bear which someone can win if they guess his name. Husqvarna have donated Garden goods worth £100

There is a wonderful Raffle with some very valuable prizes including a Doll's House made and donated by John Tindale. Thank you John this is a fantastic prize to win and I am jealous of the winner. Tesco's and Sainsbury's have donated £10 vouchers.

Thanks to Planet Leisure for giving the venue - without them this would not have happened. I am very grateful to Shawn for helping my Mum organise the event.

Thanks also to Saffron at Love Thy Cupcakes who has helped with cakes and decorations. Paul Gittins is the Disco DJ and we are all looking forward to the dancing.

May I thank those who have helped sell tickets especially Vane Road School who have always supported me and my family, not forgetting Athena Gymnastics who have built my confidence - can't thank Beth, Callum and Faye enough.

Thank you for reading this and please come along to our spooktacular night. We will



David Anderson, Past President of the Rotary Club presents Hollie with a Teddy Bear to help raise funds for her Charity Disco shown here with her parents and brother.



be selling tickets and taking donations for Cauldwell at Tesco's on Friday 23rd October - thank you to them.
Hollie Williams Aged 10

Footbridges Saved!

Cllr Eddy Adam and Kate Hopper have been working with DCC officers to ensure the remaining two foot bridges in the West Park area are retained and maintained for public access.

They are pleased to report that replacement works are currently programmed to start on site on Wednesday 21st October and is expected to take 10/11 working days for the replacement of one of the bridges.

The second bridge will follow once the first bridge is reopened to the public. During this process there will be disruption and restricted access to the public rights of way, and we are sorry for this temporary inconvenience. We have asked our operation team to ensure that signs are erected informing users of the upcoming closures. The third bridge which has been removed is currently being considered for replacement.

Town Festival Features Aycliffe Brewed Beers



The Turbinia Beer Festival held over the weekend of 22nd-25th October, will feature bottle beer from Aycliffe's own brewery "Steam Machine" owned by local couple Nick and Gulen Smith.

A full programme of live entertainment including famous northern bands is part of the festival while tasting the fantastic range of beers available. Gary the landlord at the Turbinia welcomes everyone to his popular pub for a great weekend.

Halloween Party at Phoenix Club

On Thursday 29th October the town's Line Dancing Club are holding a Halloween Party Night at the Phoenix Club from 7pm.

In addition to entertainment by Jackie Hudson there is a Fancy Dress Competition and an Open Buffet (bring a plate). From 8-9pm you can have a lesson in Line Dancing from our qualified teacher. Admission is only £3 and you get a free raffle ticket, so come along for a great night out at the Phoenix Club.

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FANTASTIC GIVE-AWAY FASHION SHOW BY LCA



Lifeline Community Action recently hosted another Fashion Show at Woodham Golf Club, which was a massive success. Deborah Taylor-Smith co-ordinated the event Deborah said..."what an amazing night! We all had a fun time and helped those in financial difficulty at the same time. We had "Elev8 Dancers" from Kdanz run by dance teacher Emily Henderson. Kdanz meet at Dreams Dance Studio at Aycliffe Business Park and hold classes there for most ages.



The fashion show started off with Ernie dressed casually walking down the catwalk then dancing his way back! He brought a smile to us all. Confident ladies showed off our amazing dresses and our teenage models Charlotte and Ellie showed us some really cool clothing for the older kids! Our youngest model was Monique who is only 4.

Daniel Wilkinson who dances with "Stepping Out" at Aspire Dance Studios danced his way down the catwalk and then we had the privilege of him dancing for us while Deborah Taylor-Smith sang. It was followed by a buffet meal before the items of clothing, toys and accessories were distributed. We hold these Fashion Shows regularly so if you would like to come along to the next one or help out by modelling our clothing please contact Deborah 07771 874391. We look forward to hearing from you!

Councillors' Walkabout

Aycliffe North County Councillors John D Clare, Mike Dixon and Joan Gray will be holding one of their 'Ward Walkabouts' in the Byerley Park/ Chase/ Greenfields area on Monday 26 October. They will be meeting at Lascelles Avenue at 2:15pm, and hope to be accompanied by the neighbourhood wardens, police and an officer from GAMP.

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>

County Councillors Eddy Adam and Kate Hopper continue with their community walkabouts, please join them and the local Police, Livin and the Neighbourhood Wardens on the following dates and times; Tuesday 20th October, meeting at 9.30am in Linden Place then onto Rowan Place and Elmfield. Tuesday 27th October, meeting at 9.30 in Beechfield then onto Oakfield and Ashfield.

Poor Choice of Name

Dear Sir,
It beggars belief that the Legion Club is to be renamed "The Phoenix" and being just across from an Army Reserve Centre!
May I bring to the attention of the club that the symbol of the phoenix and its long connection to the IRA!
How can they possibly think this is in good taste and continue to support Remembrance Day?
Perhaps a rethink on the name would be appropriate as I believe they may lose a greater number of club members who have military connections.
Wife of a Veteran

MAD ANNUAL CHARITY CONCERT RAISED £1800



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 was no different; back for the 7th year with a fantastic show, M.A.D Community Choir presented 'Country Roads' an evening of sing-along country sounds in aid of Macmillan and Cancer Research. The event was held at the Xcel Centre, The M.A.D Choir would like to express thanks to the Xcel Centre and the Pastors for allowing us to use the hall free of charge and the Xcel singers and dancers for supporting the choir. We would like to express our gratitude to Macmillan Cancer, Cheryl and Andrew Chester for organising and supporting the event. We thank The Mayor Councillor Mary Dalton



MAD Musical Director Eve Brown with the Mayor and VIP's

and her consort Michael Lodge, Callum Ridley, Lee Johnson and Dean Sanderson. We raised an amazing £1800+ on the night and this is still increasing and we would like thank everyone who came along to support us. For more information on M.A.D. see our Facebook page or the website www.madchoir.co.uk

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Tuesday 27th October
11.30am - 12.30pm
8 - 15 years
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Crafty Kids

Thursday 29th October
9.30am - 11.00am
8 - 15 years
£3.20 members
£3.70 non members

Archery

Tuesday 27th October
9.30am - 11.00am
8 - 15 years
£3.20 members
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Mini Archery

Wednesday 28th October
9.30am - 10.30am
4 - 7 years
£2.40 members
£2.90 non members

Mini Activity Session

Friday 30th October
9.30am - 11.00am
4 - 7 years
£2.40 members
£2.90 non members

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



GREENFIELD ARTS LATEST EXHIBITION

Shhh...Things We Don't Talk About
by Barrie West, Maggie Parker and Angela Sandwith
Tuesday 20th October – Wednesday 18th November

"All We Are Saying is our public voice, but there are things going on we don't dare mention."

Artists at the Greenfield Gallery will be sneaking the exhibition in one piece at a time. Come and share what you think the art work is all about, your wishes and dreams and the state of the world. Come and see behind the scenes as the artists go

through the curation process uncovering and exploring the things we just don't talk about.

Preview open from Tuesday 20th October to Wednesday 28th October with the exhibition running from Thursday 29th October to Wednesday 18th November.
Gallery Opening Times:
Mon – Thurs 10am – 9pm
Friday 10am – 4pm

Newtonian Starts New Doggy Business

Newtonian Diana Watson has started her own business "Scranimals" a dog boarding and sitting service. She has always been an animal lover with a particular interest in dogs, training these pets and studying their behaviour.

She has two dogs of her own which compete in Agility and Flyball. Scranimals first started as a food specialist for pets with allergies with feeds for dogs, cats, rabbits, birds hedgehogs and rodents. Diana also supplies her own home-made toy range.

When asked about boarding she decided to make a career move, giving up her job working with children to start a new business with help from a Government Start-up loan.

Boarding, house visits, walking and day care service is now up and running alongside Pet



Treats and toys.

Visit www.scranimals.co.uk -
E-mail: scranimals1@gmail.com;
Tel: 07817 622051. 37
Stocks Green, Newton Aycliffe,
DL5 7HE.

Aycliffe Company Increase Annual Turnover by £3.1m

Finley Structures of Aycliffe saw turnover jump to £16.4m by the end of March this year - up by £3.1m on 2014. During that time, the steel fabrication firm has also taken on eight new employees - boosting staff numbers to 68 - while working on high-profile contracts across the region.

Finley Structures fabricated and erected 2,000 tonnes of steel which makes up the frame for Hitachi Rail Europe's new £82m train-assembling factory on Aycliffe Business Park.

The firm has also worked on a 2,300-tonne project at the Victoria Gate shopping centre in Leeds - a deal worth close to £4m.

During the 2014-15 financial year, they also built Nissan's new Leaf factory, the Sports Village in Middlesbrough and a 300-tonne frame for the £38m National Biologics Centre in Darlington. In addition, Finleys completed a 500-tonne project for Teesside University and a 620-tonne contract for the University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing and Research Centre to round-up a busy year.

Its sister company, nearby SCH Site Services which employs 36 people, continues to perform strongly, while Finley's also launched the ROF 59 activity centre, at Aycliffe Business Park which employs another 15 full-time and 15 part-time staff.

Joint managing director Julie Finley says it's been a hugely positive and progressive period for the firm. "The construction industry continues to have its challenges but it has been an exceptional year for the Finley group," she said.

The financial performance for the year end March 2015 has been largely down to the two large, contracts in Hitachi for Shepherd Construction and Victoria Gate for Sir Robert McAlpine.

"During the timescale of the Hitachi contract alone we took on eight new staff - four in the office and four on the shop floor - to cope with the amount of extra work, which means we're up to record employee levels."

Earlier this year, Finley Structures won a multi-million-pound contract to build new schools across the region with major contractor Galliford Try, a national firm which has offices across the UK including Washington, Tyne and Wear.

The family firm has also won a number of other new contracts, including a 270-tonne project for Interserve at York University's Biomed Building, a 600-tonne contract at Navigation Park in Enfield for A&H Construction and a



Joint MD Julie Finley

430-tonne job for Sir Robert McAlpine at Workington Academy in Cumbria - which are all currently on site.

"There's a lot going on and we're now working on more contracts outside the North East region," added Julie.

"We're especially delighted to be working on projects with new clients as we continue

to strengthen the excellent relationships we already have with all the major contractors. It certainly continues to be a hugely positive time for the company."

Founded by John Finley in 2000, Finley Structures has three sites on Aycliffe Business Park - its head office and main factory on Whinbank Road, its SCH site on Beaumont Way and its new ROF 59 site on Durham Way South

Parking Fee for Disabled

Lesley Waugh who is disabled contacted Newton News to let people know that North Tees Hospital is the only one in this area which charges disabled people a parking fee. She learnt this at her cost when she received a fine of £40 when she parked in a disabled bay and assumed it was free.

Brafferton Village News



We would like to announce our very first Village Christmas Market to be held on Sunday 29th November. This is also the day we will switch on our Christmas tree lights. There will be a small selection of different stalls, all aimed at helping you with your Christmas shopping!

It will be held outdoors in the grounds of 'Cozy Coffee' who will be providing delicious seasonal refreshments. The Village Hall Association will have a stall where you can buy tickets for our Badapple Theatre Company production of Farmer Scrooge's (Yorkshire) Christmas Carol and our festive raffle.

There will be more details of these events over the coming weeks so "save the date" in your diaries now!

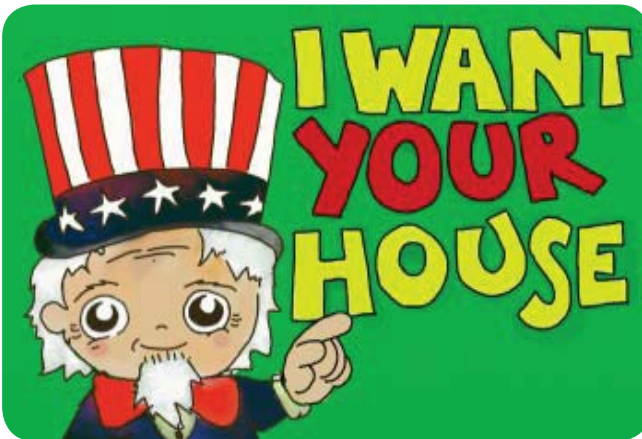
If you would be interested in having a stall please pop in to Cozy Coffee to discuss with Rosie. Messages can also be sent through either Cozy Coffee's Facebook page or Brafferton Village Hall's.

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Email: thevillagepharmacy@intrapharm.com
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Rescue Move

May we just say a massive thank you to JP & Son Removals of Newton Aycliffe. They came to the rescue when the company we had originally booked were unable to accommodate us when our date changed unexpectedly.

The team of four were prompt, efficient, polite, careful and courteous - not a single item was damaged!

We would like to highly recommend them - we shall certainly be using them for our next move.
Val & Phill Halton

Targetting Dog Fouling



Dear Sir
You may have read the letter in last week's Newton News from a lady who sadly slipped on 'a rogue bag of faeces' near Woodham Park because dog walkers had been leaving the extra bags near by a full dog-dirt bin.
Dog-dirt bins are emptied once a week on a rota basis. Where they are full to overflowing, it is usually because someone has put in a large bag of 'other' rubbish, leaving insufficient room for the dog-bags. Where this is not the case, the bin-emptiers are tasked to notice and report bins that are regularly overflowing with genuine dog-dirt bags, so

extra bins can be installed. There are currently more than 20 dog-bins in the Woodham Way area alone of my ward, and you will remember that Cllrs Joan Gray, Mike Dixon and myself have recently put two new bins into the Woodham Park area. There are in addition 24 ordinary litter bins in the area, into which people can put their dog-bags if the dog-dirt bin is full. However, if you spot an overflowing dog-dirt bin, please tell a county councillor so that they can report it and ask for it to be emptied specially.
Cllr John D Clare

LOCAL COBBLERS WIN FIRST & THIRD PRIZE IN NATIONAL COMPETITION



Cobbling runs in the Simpsons family veins, dating back to the family's first shop opening in Berwick in the 1850's. Ken's father set up the business in Shildon in the fifties and has enjoyed the patronage of residents from Aycliffe since then, regularly advertising traditional shoe repairing in the Newton News. Ken has run the shop at 24 Church Street since 1990 having repaired shoes since he left school. He has won the JR National Shoe Repairer of the Year award three times and because he has won it so many times is now barred from entering. This year's competition was held in London and Ken came first again. He first entered in 2008 on a whim and because he enjoys competing with

others in the trade. His nephew Adam Johnson who has been trained by Ken, also entered the 2015 competition and took Third Prize. Adam has been training for the last 2 years with Ken watching over his shoulder making sure everything is up to his high standard. He decided to enter the competition after being encouraged by his fiancée. The shop offers many services including key cutting, leatherwork, engraving and retail of related goods such as belts. If you require more information call the shop on 01388 777709 or call in and watch a traditional Cobbler at work. Ken is currently exhibiting some old cobbling machinery in his shop window.

Aycliffe Used Furniture Store Now Open at Weekends

The More Time Furniture store at Newton Aycliffe is now open on weekends, allowing budget conscious shoppers the opportunity to view the large selection of furniture on display and to take advantage of some extremely attractive sales opportunities. Furniture Coordinator Matt Roberts, said: "We provide good quality, low cost furniture and the costs are even lower right now. It's a great that we are now able open on the weekend allowing more opportunities for people to come and buy or just to browse."

Matt added: "We have a really eager band of volunteers who will make sure you get a warm welcome. If you like, you can also visit our on-site More Time café which is open weekdays." Current stock includes a great range of good quality, low priced sofas, chairs, suites, dining room furniture, bedroom furniture, beds, mattresses, bookcases, children's furniture, toys, white goods, small electrical goods, bric-a-brac, toys and books. People in receipt of benefits also receive an extra 15% off marked prices and there is also local delivery service. The new More Time Furniture Scheme opening times are listed here: 9am to 4:30pm, Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm Friday and Saturday 11am - 3pm Sunday. Visit us at Sapphire House, IES Centre (near the Blue Bridge), Horndale Avenue, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6DS. More Time is a project developed and delivered by DISC, and all profits from the



scheme are ploughed back into supporting training and educational services across the organization. Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/moretimefurniture Or call 01325 731294

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COUNTY NEWSBITS

compiled by County Councillor John Clare

The bit.ly and ow.ly links are shortened URLs; type them into your browser to go to the relevant webpages.

- DCC Consultation on a difficult decision about Care Connect: bit.ly/DCCCareCon
- DCC canvassers are out across the county over the next few weeks to help ensure people are registered to vote: ow.ly/T4lOc
- My report on the DCC Environment Scrutiny meeting 12 October: bit.ly/DCCEnvOct15
- Controversy over school funding: bit.ly/DCCSchFunding
- DCC Streetlights Project update: bit.ly/DCCLightsOct15
- GAMP October ebulletin: bit.ly/GAMPOct15
- If you're a carer, check out the latest news and offers available in October's edition of DCC's Carer's Echo: ow.ly/T4lKx
- Get ready for #LumiereDurham 2015. Check out the preview film: bit.ly/LumiereFilm and find out all you need to know: ow.ly/TcyKH
- Oktoberfest, the North East's premier engineering and manufacturing trade event, is coming to the Xcel Centre on 22 October: bit.ly/1YQFvN5
- Beamish - FREE ENTRY offer for people on certain benefits, 2-8 November: bit.ly/BeamishFree15 or 0191 3704000
- October newsletter from our MEPs Jude Kirton-Darling and Paul Brannen: bit.ly/MEPOct15
- Town Council Fireworks wristband distribution starting Sat Oct 17: bit.ly/GATCFWOct15 (Great Aycliffe parish residents only)
- At meeting, 14th October, GATC's Environment Committee received notice of the consultation on the proposals for the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan: bit.ly/GANPIC
- At meeting, 14th October, GATC's Recreation Committee received the Ecological Report on West Park: bit.ly/WestParkHandE
- Special Offers return to the OakLeaf Sport Complex - curry, rice & naan only £3 every Saturday 5-9pm.
- DDES (Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield) NHS Clinical Commissioning Group October newsletter: bit.ly/DDESOct15
- Relative Experience Project training courses to help you support 'kinship carers': markdh@familylives.org.uk or 07711556811
- Pioneer Care Centre: Tots Time - Wednesdays, 1.30-3pm, £1 per family. Contact 01325 321234 or enquiries@pcp.uk.net
- Please help Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre prepare for Asset Transfer from DCC (£20 prize draw): bit.ly/NAYCCsurvey
- Construction to start on the School Aycliffe Solar Farm: bit.ly/SASolar
- 'Diamond Deltics' at the Locomotion Museum, Shildon, 24-25 October, 10am-5pm: bit.ly/LocomotionDD
- Animal Handling Session at Killhope Museum, Sunday 25 October, 3 x ¼ hour sessions, 1-4 pm, £3.00 per child. Booking essential: 01388 537 505
- Upcoming roadworks: bit.ly/Roadworks9Oct

BLUE BRIDGE CENTRE

OFFICES TO LET

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Office 14 - 16ft x 15ft (4.88m x 4.57m)	Office 12 - 16ft x 16ft (4.88m x 4.88m)	Office 10 - 14ft x 19ft (4.27m x 5.79m)
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Contact Stuart on
01325 300212
for more details

Charity Belly Dancing Event at Planet Leisure



Tricia Stewart is in the process of setting up a social enterprise to help make a difference to people's lives through education and training. She likes to organise events to raise money for good causes especially when it involves dancing and having fun. Tricia's husband Craig an I.T. Manager for DISC in Newton Aycliffe helped out using his technical skills and organised

all the music for the evening. The belly dancers and John Bailey would like to thank Planet Leisure in Newton Aycliffe for offering their fantastic facilities for free with a massive thank you to Shaun, Andy and Adam who worked so hard to put the rooms together and supported the event before and throughout the night making sure the evening went without a hitch. Tricia said she

has never known such fantastic staff, nothing was a problem to any of them and they were hard working with a fabulous sense of humour. A big thank you to Vicky Hewish who was compere for the evening, Colin and Ann Williams who organised the raffle, Sheena Stephenson who collected tickets at the door and the amazing photographer Beki Metcalfe.

COUNCILLOR RESPONDS

Dear Sir,
A letter in last week's Newton News questioned councillors' motivation and work-rate. In response, may I ask residents to visit my councillor blog at bit.ly/JDClare, which last month passed the 1,000 'friends' mark – a remarkable figure for blogs of its kind.

The blog is a convenient way for Facebook-users to raise personal concerns, tells residents what I am doing so they can hold me to account if they wish, and allows people to decide whether they think I am serving them well.

Many people suspect social media so - if you do not wish to join Facebook - I have started publishing also a weekly email newsletter, to which Aycliffe residents are welcome to subscribe by sending an email to john.clare@durham.gov.uk.

Cllr John D Clare



Belly Dancers from across the North East attended the Durham Hafra in Support of Tesco's Charities The British Heart Foundation and Diabetes UK for a fabulous night at Planet Leisure recently. Les Fleur Vintages (Tricia Stewart, Lesley Ann Dixon and Maxine Watchman) hosted the belly dance event inviting all their belly dance friends to pay £5 to perform.

Professional belly dance teachers and troupes filled the dance floor in traditional sparkling and vibrant costumes to showcase the many styles of belly dance including

Baladi, Saidi, Tribal and Sha'abi to raise money for two very important causes. John Bailey Community Champion from Tesco Bishop Auckland supported the evening and thanked the dancers and audience for their generous support stating that over £430 was raised on the night with more money to be collected.

Les Fleur Vintages belly dance trio kicked the night off with a Golden Era number followed by professional performances from Glennis Larum; Val Grainger's Tribal Masquers from Redcar; Vanessa Gooding from Hartlepool; Victoria Armstrong from Darlington; Claire Stobbs from Wallsend and Kay Taylors amazing Helwa troupe. Everyone was in a spin as Samantha Smyth stunned the audience performing an oriental fantasy with her butterfly wings, followed by the fabulous Joanne Miller dancing to a fast and funky sha'abi number.

Helwa are a North East Troupe consisting of students that study with Kay Taylor. You can find out more about bellydance classes on www.nebellydance.uk Helwa can be booked by contacting Kay on 0191 565 2920 or through www.bookabelly.com John Bailey (Tesco's Community Champion) thanked all for supporting the charities.

Poppy Appeal

The Co-operative Funeralcare is selling hand-made Poppies of Remembrance again this year to support the Royal British Legion. In 2014 between us we raised £278.77 for the RBL and would like to thank everyone who contributed to that wonderful amount. The poppies have been kindly crocheted and knitted for us by members of the community and are available for a donation to RBL at Newton Aycliffe Funeralcare in Macmillan Road. For more information please call 01325 300510

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Aycliffe Company Moves to Larger Premises



(l to r): Oberlin Filter project manager Mark Blewitt, managing director Alistair Jameson and sales engineer Mike Johnson.

The UK arm of a US-owned global filtration manufacturer has moved to larger premises in a £350,000 expansion after doubling its turnover. Oberlin Filter produce state-of-the-art automatic pressure filtration units for companies in heavy engineering, medical, aerospace, surface treatment and automotive sectors.

Its machines assist in the production of industrial gas turbine blades, vanes and segments within aerospace, gears, valves, valve seats and crankshafts within automotive sectors as well as joint replacement devices such as knee and hips in the medical industry.

Oberlin Filter is owned by a private, family-run business, based in the USA, with another production facility in Germany.

They began production in Aycliffe in 2002, from a small unit on Gurney Way then as the business expanded it took over three neighbouring units.

After outgrowing them, the company has now moved to new 11,000 sq ft premises on Hurworth Road in a relocation costing £350,000, which has included the £40,000 purchase of a 10-tonne moving crane from nearby firm Durham Lifting.

The new facility will enable Oberlin Filter and its Aycliffe team of seven to maintain recent growth after doubling turnover to £1.8m in the last few years and explore new markets.

The firm's sales engineer Mike Johnson said: "Essentially we design and manufacture automatic pressure filtration

units for any kind of liquids that need solids removing. We work with companies in chemical processing, sulphur recovery, edible oil, pharmaceutical and water treatment or sludge dewatering - basically any liquid/solid separation, particularly when either has a re-usable or re-saleable value.

"Our systems clean the liquid while the solids are discharged and dried automatically - and we bring every part of this very technical and scientific system together in-house."

As well as manufacturing filtration systems, Oberlin Filter's team boasts a range of other skills at its new Aycliffe operation, including electrical panel building, welding, fabrication, control system design and PLC programming, while it also has a new large spray booth. The sale of consumables, principally filter media, is another area of valued growth within the business.

The company's main line of work comes with the production of filtration systems, costing between £50,000 and £200,000 per unit. Mike added: "There are many others, who manufacture filtration units, but our technology and experience allows us to penetrate dynamic and evolving, precision based markets. Typically industries where metal working requires grinding and high pressure, high volume coolant control management.

"We've established several new clients in the aerospace and medical sectors in recent years after recognising these markets as growth areas for us. "We hit £1.8m turnover a couple of years ago and are manufacturing on average 12 filtration systems a year and we're currently working on our 100th build in Newton Aycliffe.

"The short-term aim is to maintain current growth over the next couple of years. The long-term goal is to develop active business relationships with further grinding machine manufacturers beyond the three-fold increase of the last three years and other key market areas such as hot frying oil, within the food industry, water treatment, sulphur recovery and pharmaceutical."

• Call Oberlin Filter on 01325 317900, email Mike Johnson at mwj@oberlinfilter.co.uk or for more details go to www.oberlinfilter.com

Sugar Hill Compete in Cross Country Race



Pupils from Sugar Hill Primary School took part in the recent Cross-Country races at Ferryhill Business and Enterprise College. Competing against several local primary schools, the children secured some fantastic placed finishes despite the terrible weather on the day.

Particular praise must go to Jamie-Lee Foster, who won

the Year 5/6 Boys' Race in an excellent time. All the children ran really well and the teaching staff would like to give them a big 'well done' for representing the school and running so well in all of the races.

Trees Chopped Down Without Thought

Once again trees treasured by the community have been felled without notice or explanation. Seven beautiful cherry trees in front of the former police station were chopped down on Monday to the disbelief of residents and pedestrians passing by.

The site is where a new Care Home is being built and no doubt it will have planning authority permission but it is the lack of notice which riles. Far too often we have complained the County Council do things without regard to what the general public will say, when a short explanation beforehand would be sufficient. The Town Council Environment Committee agreed tree felling should be notified, but it has happened again.

We expect they will say that new trees will be planted to make up for the removal, but that comes too late, after people have been angered.

Pickpockets in the Town

Dear Sir,
On Tuesday 6th October my mother was shopping in the town centre, and when she was leaving Aldi a woman started talking to her and another two were standing around closely. When she got to Wilkinsons she noticed her purse was missing from her handbag, and my mother, who is in her 80's, thinks she was distracted by the woman while one of the other two took her purse from her handbag which was hanging around her shopping trolley. She reported the incident to the police station soon after. Shoppers in the area should be vigilant and make sure they are not targeted by these heartless pick pockets. Anthony Garnett

REHEARSALS FOR PANTO

The Acorn Players are rehearsing now for their forthcoming Panto "Sleeping Beauty" on 19th, 20th and 21st November. Those who remember last year will know what a good time everyone had.

This year will be equally as good with a great cast, fantastic dancers and our usual high value raffle.

We would welcome any help making props and assisting on the night, so call in at Woodham Academy on Monday rehearsal night 7 - 8.30pm.

For information on booking tickets ring Brenda on 311816,

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Activities at Woodham Village Community Centre 2015

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FITNESS AND HEALTH	BODYTONE	MON	11-30am	12-30pm	Starts 25 th Oct
	SLIMMING WORLD	MON	5-00pm	7-00pm	
	"	MON	7-00pm	8-0pm	
	NIA	THUR	3-30pm	4-30pm	
SPORTS	BADMINTON	TUES	9-00am	10-00am	
	"	TUES	8-15pm	9-30pm	
	"	FRI	9-00am	10-00am	
	"	SUN	6-30pm	7-30pm	
	TAEKWONDO	TUES	7-00pm	8-00pm	
	"	SUN	10-30am	Noon	
	KARATE	THUR	6-00pm	7-30pm	
	"	SUN	4-00pm	6-00pm	
CHILDREN 0-4yr	WIGGLETS	MON	9-30am	10-15am	
	"	MON	10-30am	11-15am	
	LITTLE TREASURES	TUES	10-15am	11-45am	
	WIGGLES and WOBBLIES	FRI	10-15am	11-15am	
CHILDREN 4yrs +	TAEKWONDO Little Tigers	TUES	6-00pm	7-00pm	
	KARATE Red Dragons	THUR	6-00pm	7-00pm	
	JUNIOR GYMNASTICS	FRI	6-00pm	7-00pm	
ARTS CRAFTS HOBBIES	IN STITCHES	MON	Noon	3-00pm	
	ART	TUES	1-00pm	3-00pm	
	SEW and SO'S	WED	7-00pm	9-00pm	
	HOBBIES	THUR	1-30pm	3-30pm	
SOCIAL	COMMUNITY CHOIR MAD	WED	7-00pm	8-30pm	
	CUPPAS Coffee Morning	THUR	10-00am	Noon	For Charity
	BOARD GAMERS	THUR	6-00pm	9-00pm	
	TEA DANCE	FRI	2-00pm	4-00pm	
	LADIES SECTION	WED*	2-00pm	4-00pm	*Monthly 2 nd Wed
EDUCATION	COMPUTERS FOR THE TERRIFIED	WED	9-30pm	11-30pm	Courses run all year check for latest information
	DROP IN TIME FOR COMPUTER, TABLET and TELEPHONE HELP	WED*	10-00am*	12-30pm	*If we are running a computer course 11-30am 12-30pm
LUNCHEON CLUB and Free activity taster session	A joint venture with PCP Growing our Community	WED	11-00am	2-00pm	The last Wed each month

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Oil & Gas Success Supports Aycliffe Company's Growth

Subsea cable protection specialist, Tekmar Energy, is bucking the market trend after experiencing steady growth in the oil & gas sector during what has been a challenging time for the industry.

Since the start of the year, and against the dramatic fall in the oil price, the company has expanded its reach into new global regions, won multiple orders of repeat business and brought in six new clients so far this year including JDR Cables, FlexLife and GE Oil & Gas.

James Ritchie, CEO, commented, "Working under the stringent guidelines of the American Petroleum Institute's API 17L specifications, we have invested and expanded our materials processes and in house testing to support the supply into this quality demanding sector. It has been tremendous to see the growth potential coming from the oil and gas division in what is described as a declining market".

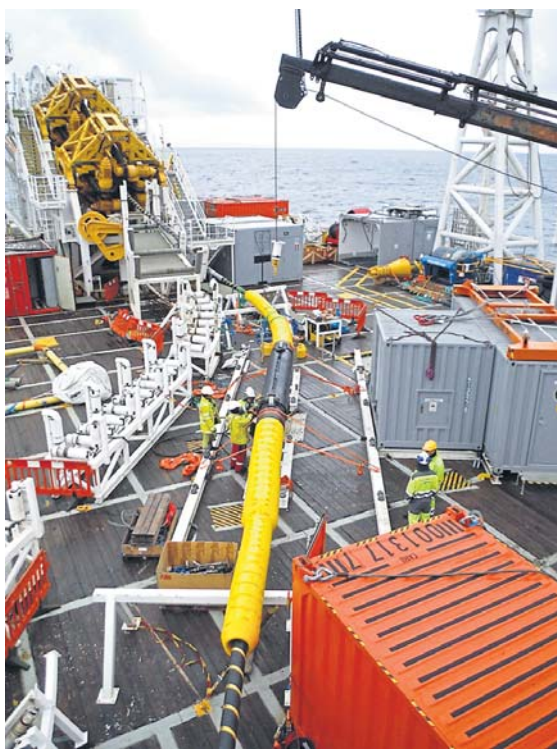
In addition, Tekmar has successfully supplied and installed equipment on the prestigious Martin Linge project. Their involvement on the landmark Norwegian

development included supply of bend restrictors on the world's longest high voltage subsea power cable at 170 km (105 miles).

Charlie Sullivan, Tekmar's Technical Sales Manager, said: "It has been an extremely encouraging time for Tekmar following extensive business development, including the formation of a new oil and gas management team, seeing us gain increasing traction in the sector. This has resulted in us securing several significant orders for cable protection systems to be supplied on projects in Angola, Venezuela and Brazil to name a few.

"Not only are we continuing to supply our core market-leading products such as bend restrictors, j-tube seals, split pipe and TekDuct but we are also receiving more enquiries for bespoke solutions where we can deliver further added value through our innovative approach and ideas. As we continue to grow into new regions, there are an increasing number of opportunities and everyone at Tekmar is looking forward to realising this potential."

Tekmar's growth has seen the company expand into the Gulf of Mexico and Middle East for the first time. To support



its expansion in the United Arab Emirates, Tekmar has also appointed Emdad as its strategic, local partner.

Formed in 1979, Emdad is an established service provider and EPC contractor which has played a vital role in enabling Abu Dhabi's key energy players to achieve higher levels of reliability, and performance.

Chief operating officer at Emdad, Aly Abdel Malak, said: "Emdad is committed to strengthening its products and services offering to producers and contractors in the Middle East energy industry. As part of this, we are focused on bridging the gap between trading and service activities through our selective choice of suppliers and targeted development of related products.

"Our partnership with Tekmar is fully in line with this strategy because it enables us to answer the requirements of our customers in the high growth O&G offshore sector. At the same time this provides Tekmar with opportunities for local content through our Coating Services as well as a closer cooperation early in the sales process with our in-

house offshore installation partner. We are confident that the value this partnership will bring will be distinct, meaningful and provide many benefits to clients."

With more than 30 years' experience, Tekmar is a market leader in the design, manufacture and supply of subsea cables, umbilicals and flexible protection systems for the renewable energy and oil & gas industry.

Tekmar is set to exhibit at the Middle East oil & gas conference ADIPEC for the first time in November where they will be on Emdad's stand.

Tekmar's renewable energy division has also announced success in the past month. The firm was selected to provide its innovative TekTube on a wind farm in the Netherlands as well as supplying TekLink cable protection systems on the U.S.'s first offshore wind farm, Block Island. For more information please visit: www.tekmar.co.uk

Film Show

The next "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church, on TUESDAY 20th October, features "THE BOOK THIEF" starring Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson and Sophie Nelisse. It is the story of Liesel, an illiterate young girl in WW2 Germany, adopted by a couple.

It tells the story of how she learns to read, and transforms the lives of those around her. 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.

Great North Greats Conference

The Great North Run have a fantastic culture programme and they have been celebrating "ordinary people doing extraordinary things" through a range of projects and exhibitions. Greenfield were invited to the Great



£1600 Raised for Charity

Dear Sir

My family and friends held a fundraiser at my shop in Darlington with a raffle, tombola, cake and book stall on Saturday 10th October followed on Sunday with sponsored walk all in memory of my sister in law Lisa Jane Maddison who passed away last April. She suffered from Huntington's Disease.

She and my family are from Newton Aycliffe and we did the walk around the Aycliffe Way completing 6 miles in total and raised over £1600 for The Huntington's Association. This leads up to what would've been Lisa's 42nd birthday on Monday. Lisa is missed by all who knew her and it's important for us to raise awareness of this terrible illness. Donations are still welcome contact Jamie on 07735 961043.

Jamie Maddison

North Greats Conference as delegates and guest speakers, to hear from inspirational people who have come from, reside in, or make unbelievable things happen in our region. The conference had an audience of 250, many of whom were young people who are our next generation of innovators.

Speakers included Olympic Volley Ball champions Nathan French and Peter Bakare, World class Scientist Danielle George and Shadow Culture Secretary Chi Onwurah. Young people gathered from across the region to hear these fantastic talks one of which was delivered by our very own Greenfield Community College students from the Engine Heads Room 13 School in the Cloud Project.

They spoke articulately and with great passion alongside Professor Sugata Mitra about the power of Self Organised Learning and how the

internet is changing the face of learning forever.

Students from both campuses of Greenfield Community College, who are motivated and ambitious young people, described the conference as "a really good experience that made me think about what else is possible", "the speakers were really good and I loved hearing from the scientist as I'd like to explore science and engineering as a career".

Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity, trip organiser said, "there is so much creativity and innovation from our region, it was wonderful and uplifting to have some of those inspirational people together in one room."

I was very proud of our young people who spoke so passionately about our School in the Cloud research and the way they are helping to develop teaching and learning in our school."

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 28th October 2015

Council Meeting - 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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

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- Producing regular Management Accounts.
- Must be good at Excel spread sheets, communicate well within the teams and able to work to deadlines.
- Calculate wages from clock-cards; training will be provided.
- Organise travel arrangements, appointments, paper work, phone calls etc.

Administration Support Staff:

- Must have 1 year of experience of working in a busy admin department.
- Familiar with the Excel spreadsheets and must have basic PC skills.
- Duties included; administration work, to assist accounts team and engineering team with documentation, purchasing, answer phone calls, taking minutes etc.
- Experience of accounts, payroll would be advantageous but not mandatory.
- Good communication skills and telephone manner.
- Confident in a busy office environment.
- Enthusiastic with a good attitude.

Procurement Person:

- Previous experience of sales and administration would be advantageous.
- Duties included purchasing materials, control the bill of materials, CMR export documentation, prepare delivery notes, handle purchase orders, etc.
- Liaising with the customers & suppliers, taking quotations, ordering materials, prepare quotations, tenders & portal documentation.
- Driving may be required occasionally, so a full UK driving licence is required.

Welder/Fabricator:

- Fully qualified MIG welder fabricator with sheet metal experience to work in busy fabrication environment.

Design Engineer/Draughtsman:

- Must have a minimum of 2 years of experience in a busy design office ideally in a metal fabrication company.
- Familiar with the basic mechanical mechanisms, welding & machining techniques, 3D modelling, 2D detailing knowledge using latest 3D modelling Inventor software.
- Prepare bill of materials; assist in quotations, client visits, liaising with clients & suppliers, CE documentation and the preparation of manuals when required.
- Bachelor degree in Mechanical or other engineering degree would be advantageous.
- Should be familiar with the excel spread sheets & PC operating system.

**CV's in the post to Mr John Manners, A-Tech Fabrications Ltd.
Fulbeck Road, Aycliffe Business Park,
Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, DL5 6TX**

Volunteer Shortlisted for Regional Award

Sheena Stephenson, a retired Children's nurse, from Newton Aycliffe and a volunteer for Lifeline Community Action was in a shortlist of three for the Leathers LLP Award for Individual Charity Supporter of the Year held at Marriot



Coffee Morning Raised £825

Carol Bradley organised a Coffee Morning in memory of her dad and to support MacMillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning at Middridge Village Hall on 26th September.

She would like to thank everyone who supported this by donating prizes, buying raffle tickets, delivering leaflets, baking, helping on the day and also all those people who came along to enjoy the event.

Thank you to The Gifted Owl Company and Elanvee for attending. Special thanks to Middridge Village Hall Association for generously allowing use of their premises. The morning was a huge success with £825 raised. There is one unclaimed raffle prize - cream ticket 21-25 Mrs. Morris, please contact 07738 097138 to claim.

Hotel, Gosforth on the 8th October.

Sheena struggles with mobility but she does not let that stop her helping others. Sheena devotes her time to running a project called Baby Basics, in County Durham, along with her assistant, Yvonne Beynon, which provides baby items for families who are unable to provide for their new arrivals. Sheena collects baby items that people donate, cleans them and makes sure they are in excellent condition. She raises money through car boot sales and raffles and also knits and crochets baby clothes and blankets in her spare time to give away. Sheena also volunteers on an alcohol project that supports users and teaches people how to knit and crochet.

Huntsman Hit Six to Go Top of Division

The Huntsman bounced back this week following last week's disappointing cup defeat, with a 6-0 over Shildon Timothy Hackworth at home on Sunday. Manager Neil Dodds was forced into several changes, centre half Anthony Macdonald had to play as emergency goalkeeper with Nathan Wintour ruled out through injury, while Captain Lee Redpath returned along with Paul Barnes, Calum Farley and Ryan Mercer.

A bright start from the Huntsman was rewarded when a well taken corner from Mercer was met by Dave Neale, playing as a make shift centre forward bulletted his header home to make it 1-0. The home side continued to dominate the game but they had to wait 35 minutes before they doubled their advantage on the stroke of half time as Neale's ball across the box found Reed Molloy, who took the ball around the keeper, before smashing high into the net.

Following the break the Huntsman continued to dominate and the third goal arrived after a well worked move down the right hand side produced a great ball which was met by Neale, who challenged the goalkeeper and nodded home.

It was Neale again who made it 4 and completed his hat trick when he smashed into the top corner from 20 yards with a goal of the season contender. A 4th for Neale soon followed, as he was on hand to turn home a John Jamie Herd strike from outside the box to cap an excellent individual performance.

A shade unfortunate not to have been credited with the 5th, Herd completed the scoring, stabbing home from close range. Remarkably Neale

wasn't awarded man of the match and the accolade went to the all action display of Calum 'No Rules' Farley. The victory saw Huntsman go top of Division 2 on goal difference. They will seek to carry recent league form into this Sunday's Heart Foundation Cup tie at Simpasture to Gainford Cross Keys.

BIG 63-10 WIN FOR AYCLIFFE RUGBY 2nds

The Rugby Club 2nd XV hosted Stockton 3rd XV at Moore Lane. With a continued shortage of referees in the county, Stuart McIvor again took the whistle. Despite this, and a number of cry-offs from the 1st team, Aycliffe were able to field a squad of 17.

The early exchanges were fairly close, but Aycliffe were able to take the lead when young Matt Parsons scored his first try for the club after a good backs move. The lead was doubled when JJ Rudge went over and another try was added with Connor Blakey just managing to touch the line with the end of the ball as he was dragged to the ground.

Aycliffe featured a strong back row of Ronnie Gilyeat, Craig Holmes and Malcolm Woodward and this gave plenty of ball for scrum-half Jason McLean to feed to the pacy backs. Two further tries from Blakey, to complete a first half hat-trick, and another from Rudge, combined with three Rudge conversions saw Aycliffe 36 - 0 up at half time. With Stockton down to 14 men due to injury, Aycliffe generously lent Craig Holmes to the opposition and it was they who scored the first try of the second half. Normal

Aycliffe Win at Hartlepool

For the second week Aycliffe found themselves at Hartlepool, this time facing league new boys West Hartlepool TDSOB. After last week's solid performance, Aycliffe's pack was bolstered by the return of Liam Kelly, Mark Affleck, Bob Malvern and John Whitehouse.

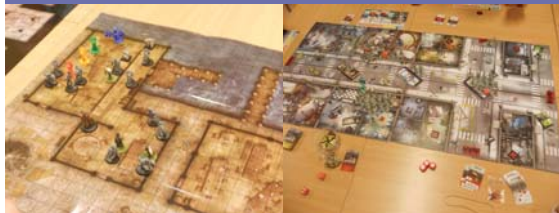
The weather conditions and the pitch were perfectly suited to Aycliffe and they started

off in fine fashion, with James Thacker scoring the first of his four tries in the first 5 minutes of the game. his try was converted by Nicholas Coates making his debut for the club at Scrum Half. Aycliffe continued to crank up the pressure with Luke Tinkler making an excellent break, passing to Adam Gascoigne who was brought down just short of the line, however with the TDSOB defender unable to keep hold Adam fought back to his feet to dive over the line. TDSOB tried to play some of the forward dominated rugby they are known for, making a number of pick and drives around the base of the rucks. Aycliffe defended excellently with John Whitehouse making a number of fantastic tackles. However, something had to give and TDSOB managed to drive over the line from a tap penalty.

Newton Aycliffe were disappointed that they had given up a try and began to take the game to TDSOB. Luke Crossen scored an incredible try, smashing through a number of opposition players as he ran 40 yards to cross the line. Now the flood gates began to open, with James Thacker and Adam Gascoigne both adding brilliant tries to their tally. Just before half time David Judge scored a fantastic individual try, slicing through the TDSOB defence, before sidestepping the fullback to score under the posts. Nick Coates added 5 conversions to make half time score 40 - 5. The second half saw Niall Kelly replaced by Jeff

Hodgson at second row. Aycliffe continued where they had left off, with James Thacker chipping over the top, he then somehow managed to catch the ball around his ankles before scoring under the posts. The next try came from three forwards looking lost in the backline. The ball was passed to Liam Kelly who made a break down field before offloading out the back of his hand to Mark Affleck who continued the charge forward. Mark Affleck then passed beautifully to John Whitehouse who, after throwing a sensational dummy, scored his first try for Aycliffe. It was time for a couple of changes with Adam Batley making his debut for the 1st XV at tight head and Matthew Wiper returning from injury at open side. Hard work from the TDSOB forwards was repaid by a consolation drive over try. It was now the turn of Captain Andrew Littlefair to add to the scoring, driving over the line to score in the bottom corner. This was followed up by an excellent try from Luke Tinkler. A final substitution saw Chris Richards, finally back from Canada, making his first start. He quickly made an impact on the game scoring with one of his first touches of the ball. The second half rout was then fittingly rounded off by another James Thacker try after he was given an easy run in from a beautiful break by Gareth Parsonage. Final score 74-12. Next Saturday Aycliffe host title rivals Sedgefield who also have yet to lose a league game this season. Ko 3pm.

Table Top Newton Aycliffe



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Thursday evenings from 6 to 9pm

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Hotel Supports Local Suppliers



The Hall Garth Hotel held a Supplier Showcase evening last Friday featuring local businesses who provide services to this popular venue. The weather was kind enough for the event to be held on the courtyard with background music provided by Harry Mears on clarinet. Various tasty morsels were served made from ingredients of suppliers and wine from Bon Coeur of Melsnby. Cheeses and rare breed pork sausages were sampled, supplied by Parlour Made of Mordon. Bread was from Olivias Artisan Bakery with milk and cream from Acorn Dairy. Pam Henderson, the Manager, told Newton News the hotel was enjoying good patronage with full occupancy most of the time.

Tribute to Janet Newbold

Janet was a long serving employee of the County Council based at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre from 1974 until her retirement in 2007. Janet was highly respected by both her colleagues and customers, many of whom became firm friends. Janet sadly passed away last month after her illness and will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all her former colleagues, friends and neighbours.

Anyone wishing to get together to remember Janet can meet for drinks and chat at Woodham Country Golf Club on Sunday 25th October 2015 at 7pm. Any donations collected on the evening will be donated to Cancer Research.

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Welcome also to Lisa Hayling (Sparkle Nails)

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JUNIOR FOOTBALL RESULTS ENCOURAGING SPORT AT WOODHAM

Newton Aycliffe **Under 8's** were up against Barnard Castle Hurricanes managing a notable win. Playing some excellent passing football they scored eight goals with no reply, Harvey scored 4, Rhys got a hat trick and Connor one. Defensively Aidan was solid and Lucas kept a great clean sheet. The second game was another goal fest as Aycliffe won 9-3, Jayden, Emrehan and Jack were the creators for Jacob getting 4, Niall a hat trick and Jake two. Men of the Match were Harvey and Niall. **Under 9's** had a local derby at home against Newton Aycliffe Youth. The Juniors started slowly and gave their opponents lots of possession resulting in an early goal. A second half penalty was converted by Reece to equalise for the Juniors who by now were dominating the game.

A good passing move was then finished by Lewis, giving the home team a 2-1 lead. Then a couple of minutes from time the visitors got an unlikely equaliser and the game ended in a 2-2 draw. It was a good all round performance from the Juniors with Thomas picking up the man of the match.

Under 10 TJFA side travelled to face Norton & Stockton Ancients and came back with all league points after a 5-0 win. Another clean sheet for Thomas and goals from Lucas (2), Jacob, Jake via the penalty spot and a stunner from Aaron sealed the win. The second game saw more goals and a second clean sheet as Zack got the first and Lucas added 4 more with Thomas on target twice in a 7-0 win.

Under 10 Russell Foster team continued their winning run with a 2-0 win over a determined Washington Juniors. Sam, Evan and Bo

were all denied before the break. Sam hit a low drive past the Washington keeper whilst Herbie kept the opposition at bay with a fine display in the Aycliffe goal. Noah, Branton and Evan all hit the woodwork before the final goal was added. Player's man of the match was Herbie and the parents' award went to Evan.

Under 11's were involved in a great game at Sunnydale against Cleveland Juniors with both sides contributing some entertaining football. It was going to be a tough morning with the regular goal keeper unavailable but two Charlie Cayless strikes secured a 2-2 draw.

Under 12's were up against Shildon and started nervously in the absence of their two recognised goal keepers. They soon settled and Dylan Howe finished a strong run to get the first goal. Dylan then added another from the half way line in the second half before Adam scored two goals to seal a 4-0 win. Thanks to Jermain and Dylan Scotchbrook who shared goal keeping duties in the absence of usual keepers.

Under 14's headed to Cargo Fleet Juniors and had a difficult first half and got to the interval 2-0 down. Dawson came in to the defence and was strong in the challenge to aid the visitors cause. Hynes managed a cool finish to half the deficit then when pushing for the equaliser a third goal was conceded. Hynes went on to add his second and bring the game back to 3-2. The effort in searching for the equaliser was epitomised by man of the match Jayden but the goal didn't come and the game finished in a 3-2 loss. The Juniors were guaranteed a good result as our two Under

18 teams, Reds and Blacks, faced each other. Honest John's Community Fund kindly supported the purchase of a new away strip for the Blacks which they proudly wore for this fixture. The club came together in great spirit and the won a closely fought game 3-2. Reds goals came from Morghan Claydon and their man of the match Lochie Scott.

Under 23's travelled to face South Shields Simonside in a Durham FA cup fixture. The first half ended 0-0 after Aycliffe missed a few good opportunities but their hosts were down to 10 men after a dangerous tackle on Jack Slatcher resulted in a straight red card. Aycliffe dominated possession but could not get the opener and unfortunately conceded a penalty to go behind. Their hard work was rewarded though when man of the match Michael Howe finished off a Colman through ball at the near post, ending 1-1.



A group of Year 9 girls from Woodham Academy had a brilliant time at a sports festival held for them and other girls from schools across the region, by Sedgefield School Sports Partnership. The festival was aimed at non-active girls who enjoy sport, but who aren't currently accessing it outside of school. This is in light of data which shows a lack of female participation rates in sport

in the 14-19 age range in comparison to boys. Coupled with the scary statistics about childhood obesity, this was a fantastic way to educate the students, alongside developing their sporting experiences and social skills. The girls had the chance to take part in a range of fun sporting activities such as Zumba, Dodgeball, Rounders and Beach Volleyball, before playing team activities where

they got to plan their own sport club. The group were encouraged to think about their club ethos, the positive values and attitudes that they want to portray and how they would promote their club to their peers. After much deliberation and voting, the girls decided on a 'Fitness and Multisport' themed club and with the support of the SSP and the PE staff, this club will run for 6 weeks after school. The aim of the club is to

encourage as many young girls from Year 9 upwards to take part in a free sporting activity within school, which might motivate and inspire them to take part in the US Girls community club which currently runs every Monday night from 7-8.30pm at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. It is hoped that some of them will join Woodham Sports Academy, which currently has almost 300 members, with girls and boys equally represented.

AYCLIFFE FC SCORE FOUR GOALS IN 10 MINUTES

Aycliffe pulled off a fantastic victory over Durham City in the Ebac Northern League Division One on Saturday. Four goals in a devastating ten minute spell in the second half secured the 3 points. The victory came despite the visitors losing new signing John Campbell to an ankle injury in the first 5 minutes. Zak Boagey replaced Campbell & went on to score two goals in a man of the match performance. Dennis Knight also contributed two with



another sub Jack Gibson getting the fifth. Aycliffe were missing top scorer Matty Moffat to injury and with Campbell's early injury it could well have been a difficult day but the team's hard work and determination won through.

The first half was goalless despite chances at both ends. However the second half was an Aycliffe goal-fest with the first goal coming after 51 mins with a 25 yard strike from Boagey out of the reach of the Durham keeper.

The second goal came just five minutes later when the unfortunate home keeper failed to hold on to a Jordan Laidler free kick. Dennis Knight pounced on the rebound and slotted the ball home. The same player got his second two minutes later. Just after the hour Boagey got another with a long range shot which looped

over the keeper into the top corner. Durham came close to a consolation goal after 77 minutes but the shot was well saved by their former player James Winter in the Aycliffe goal. The fifth goal came with five minutes to go, 18 year old Jack Gibson on as a substitute for Knight, finishing well. This was an impressive win for Peter Dixon's team who now lie 11th in Division One with 16 points from 10 games. They are 3 points and 2 places behind Penrith who visit Moore Lane Park on Tuesday 13 October.

Forthcoming Fixtures
Tuesday 13 October
 v Penrith (h) 7:45pm
Saturday 17 October
 v Newcastle Benfield (h) 3pm
Wednesday 21 October
 v Norton & Stockton Ancients (a) 7:30pm
Saturday 24 October
 v Bedlington Terriers (a) 3pm

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Xcel Church: United @ Five

Xcel Church meets at 10.30am every Sunday morning at the Xcel Centre and we would love for you to come along and join us. Plus we have some exciting news as Xcel Church is changing the time of their United Night service.

You are invited to join us for the launch of our new service 'United @ Five'. Starting from Sunday 25th October join us at 5pm every Sunday for what we know will be a great time. Xcel Church is all about family with a full kids programme during every service for children aged 2-11yrs old. You can also meet new people, hang out in Jacksons for a coffee and get involved in a whole host of other regular activities including Planet Youth which meets every Friday night from 7-9pm and is for all 11-17yrs old.

We look forward to meeting you at United @ Five from Sunday 25th October. If you would like more information then just give us a call 0845 4505871 or email info@xcelchurch.com

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year old supervising. The mother thought this would put a lot of people off using the facility. We contacted Managing Director Julie Finley who has sent the following response:

Dear Sir,
 The number of trampoline parks are limited and earlier this year one trampoline park in Scotland was closed down by HSE due to the number of RIDDOR's. This had an impact on the number of underwriters in the UK willing to write cover on trampoline parks. I have battled for 6 months to obtain insurance and the underwriter has given very specific guidelines which must be adhered to. The guidelines state that a waiver must be signed by every person wishing to bounce and you must be

those person/s. I am currently pulling together a proposal to reduce the age to 16+ to sign the waiver, however those under 16 will still require a parent or guardian of 18+ to sign the waiver and remain on site.

I am aware of the young men who were asked for ID and subsequently turned away, however this is outside of my control and is purely for safety reasons.

This is a highly dangerous activity and we need to ensure that all participants are fully aware of the dangers and are kept safe.

Julie Finley

aged 18+ to sign a waiver. Those under 18 must have the waiver signed by a parent or guardian aged 18+ and that they accept responsibility for

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Community Aid Partners at Work

Another full house of partners of Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership filled the meeting room at the Agnew Community Centre for the monthly meeting. Stuart Hudson from Durham Food Bank was the guest speaker telling an interesting story of the important work the Durham Christian Food Bank was doing, going far beyond food support. He said, there were currently 28 food bank outlets in County Durham. Many other services also linked into the important service provided including helping

people with energy costs. New partners Clair Johnston from Veterans at Ease explained the vital work being done in Newton Aycliffe for veterans and serving members of the forces suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other associated mental health disorders. Chris Palmer was thanked for ably translating for Christine Gressmann, who shared the plight of deaf people in the area. A deaf person, trying to obtain help from a social worker who could translate their needs, especially when English

wasn't their first language, was increasingly difficult. Christine Walton an Officer from Great Aycliffe Town Council attended the meeting at the invitation of Chris Palmer to understand first hand the plight of the deaf community in Aycliffe. She also undated partners on the Great Aycliffe Plan questionnaire online and in the Newton News. Partners updates included Lifeline Community Action update in respect of their Fashion Show with loads of give-aways for needy families. These were regular event along with many other function for families in Newton Aycliffe who found themselves in need of aid. Dorothy Bowman from the Western Area Community Centre advised partners about her ladies club that met on a Tuesday afternoon at the Navy Club, and her Dementia Support Group on a Tuesday Morning and all day on a Thursday at Western Area Community Centre. She also announced the launch of her supported shopping trips for older people who were no longer able to go shopping as they cannot walk or carry goods. The trips are every Friday and could be more if required. If what you read is of interest to a group you volunteer or work for, the next meeting is on the first Monday in November at 4pm at the Agnew Community Centre. E-mail the secretary on gacap001@gmail.com

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Lost & Found

Gold Ring Lost



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MISSING Small black Tom Cat, answers to the name of Bobby he has a white tuft of fur under his chin. Missing since 6/10/15 in Greenfield Way / Bluebell / Byerley Park Area. Microchipped but recently lost his collar. If you have any information please contact Mark 07792 250265 or Becky on 07736 036028.

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(ISA). The award lasts for three years and should strengthen future applications by St John's for funding to develop its array of cross-curricular links with schools and communities worldwide. The British Council, which promotes cultural relations and educational opportunities between the United Kingdom and the rest of the world, described St John's application as "outstanding" and praised its "commitment and passion" towards its international programme. Among the features singled out were partnerships with both local schools and others as far away as Spain, Chile, Peru and Bangladesh. As an example of its commitment towards the programme, St John's annual Project Peru campaign involves around 30 staff and students embarking on a three-week trip to the Amazon jungle to build vital facilities for residents in the remote city of Iquitos. The British Council report noted: "Your links with Spanish speaking countries like Chile and Peru make the embedding of Spanish more interesting by combining language studies with topical global themes such as sustainable living, for example." Other initiatives include staff and student exchanges with a school in Zaragoza, Spain, with contact maintained on a daily basis so that the two schools can share resources and ideas. Similar links have been forged with a school in Megeve, France, following a sustainability project looking at topics such as renewable energy and organic farming. Another joint initiative with a school in Tubingen,

Rothman's Staff Reunion

Reunion buffet lunches will be held in November for pensioners who worked at the three Rothmans factories in County Durham. Funded by BATUK Pensions Department the get together for the former staff from the Darlington factory will take place in the Central Hall Dolphin Centre on Wednesday 25th November 1pm-6pm to confirm attendance please contact Giulio Pontone 01325 300942, Liz Ohern 01325 486566, Ken Storey 01325 269128

The get together for pensioners from the Spennymoor and Peterlee factories will be held in the Spennymoor Town Hall on Thursday 26th November 1pm-6pm, to confirm attendance please contact, Giulio Pontone 01325 300942, Shelia Foster 01388 810657, Andrew Smith 01388 811810
This will be the 10th anniversary and for those pensioners who have never been before please come along, it's a great opportunity to meet up again with old friends and colleagues.



Germany, involved students working tactfully and sensitively together to create part of an exhibition at St John's to mark last year's centenary of the outbreak of the Great War. The school's cross-curricular projects also involve feeder primary schools and other secondary schools as well as talks to pupils by Durham University students from countries as diverse as Brazil, Russia, Canada, Iraq and Pakistan. Participation has extended to the wider community with families offering accommodation to exchange students and the public supporting ongoing Project Peru fundraising ventures. The report also praised St John's international co-ordinator and head of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Philip Robertson, for co-ordinating an "impressive array of work" and described

him as "a credit to the school and the wider community". Mr Robertson thanked his department and the school as a whole, adding: "It is a massive honour for the school and means we are part of an elite group of schools to have received this status. "As well as the kudos of being able to say we are an international school, it will hopefully unlock more doors for us to attract more funding and grants to continue our work. "From the students' point of view, the exchange visits have allowed individuals coming here to learn about British values and for our students to discover other cultures and customs." The ISA is seen as a guiding framework for schools to help them embed their international work within their curriculum and to prepare their students for life in a global society.

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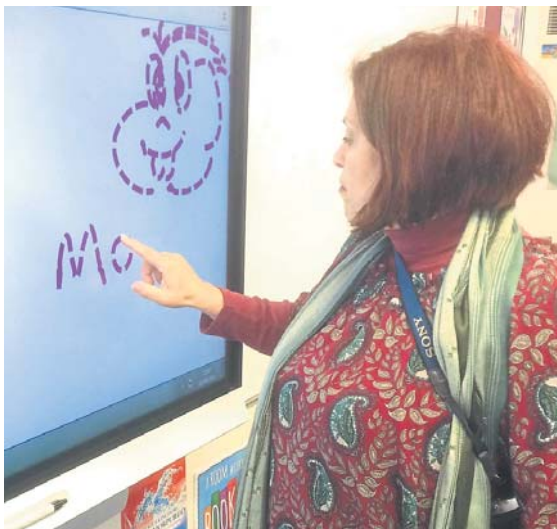
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BRAZILIAN TEACHERS VISIT AYCLIFFE VILLAGE SCHOOL

Aycliffe Village Primary School has just received notice that it has been awarded the International School Award for its work in developing international links and global citizenship as part of the education the school offers its pupils.

Over the last two terms, Staff have been developing links with Angelina Lia Rolfsen School in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Pupils have sent work to the pupils of the school, depicting life here at Aycliffe Village. We have also received work from the Brazilian children showing life in Sao Paulo.

Over the course of a week, visitors from two schools in Brazil visited us and our local partner schools, Shincliffe Primary and



to be developing these links with the Brazilian pupils. The staff have seen from other programmes in the past how much the pupils get from such collaboration. In addition to the Brazilian partnership, links have also been established with a school near Amien in France.



Langley Moor Primary. The visitors were treated to an excellent display of singing and recorder playing by our pupils.

Later in the term staff from Aycliffe Village Primary School will visit Brazil to

further develop the links established and arrange, with the Brazilian Teachers, a collaborative work programme for all schools to enjoy. With the Olympics just a year away, this is an exciting time for the school

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

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WHITE double wardrobe, 2 mirrored sliding doors, 2 hanging rails, 4 shelves, immaculate condition. £125. Tel 07444 819673

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BRAND NEW double divan with quilted Damask mattress, can arrange delivery, £120. Tel 07789 113 343

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MAHOGANY display corner units, single/double, £80 each. Tel 07899 793858

WHEELCHAIR ultra lightweight aluminium, unused, £100. Tel 07476 423429

WALKER/ROLLATER 4 wheels, seat etc., unused, £50. Tel 07492 359728

DRESSING table stool/storage box, good quality, beige suede, 17" (high) x 16" (wide), never used, cost £59, sell for £40. Tel 01325 628024

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In Memoriam

GRACE HEDLEY 16th October 2013. It's two years since you left us Mam. We miss you every day. Forever in our hearts. Love always, Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxxxx

MARK BULMAN 16th October. Five years on, a much loved and sadly missed Grandson. Nana

THOMAS SMITH Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. Miss you always. Loving Wife Norah and family

DORIS ICETON 20th October 2012. Three years have passed Mam and I miss you so much. All my love, Sharon xxx

DORIS ICETON 20th October 2012. Love and miss you Nana. Stephen xxx

Thank You

THE FAMILY of the late Jennifer Anne Murray wish to thank all family, relations and friends for the charity monies donated to the three charities of her choice. A total of £762.76 was shared equally

WHEATLEY Laraine and Brian. We would like to thank our lovely family and very special friends who attended our Surprise Party on Saturday night. Thank you Vikki for arranging the whole thing so cleverly without us suspecting a thing. It was a brilliant night and we were so touched by the loving wishes, cards and gifts. Every detail was perfect and the room was decorated beautifully, just like a wedding reception. The buffet was delicious and particular thanks go to Michele, who made our stunning two tier cake. Our 30th Wedding Anniversary was such a special day for us and to have such wonderful people share it with us, was the icing on the cake.

I WOULD like to express my sincere gratitude to my friends and neighbours in MOULE CLOSE, especially Linda, for their help and support after an incident in the Town Centre. Many thanks, Gladys Garnett.

HAIGH, Martin and Linda (Gaskarth, nee Brazier), would like to say a massive thank you to all their families and friends who attended their Wedding on 10th October 2015 and contributed to making it such a wonderful occasion

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Congratulations

Thomas Neal Miller



Happy 18th birthday
17th October 2015

Have a great day and night. Love always, Mam and Dad xx

Happy 18th birthday Bro
Now you can drink legal! Love, Kelly, Louise, Woz and Craig xx

Happy 18th Birthday Uncle Thomas
Love from Oliver and Annabel xx

Neil & Carrie Hurst



25 Years - 20th October 2015

You've laughed together since the day you met and we love you for it. We hope every year ahead is as happy.

Enjoy your celebrations. Love, Bev, Lindsey, Mark, Russ, Ash, Niall, Brooke, Danielle and Ryan xxxxx

Dorothy and Ces Stevens



Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary
16th October 2015

Happy anniversary today Mam and Dad. You are both 50 shades of grey. Love, Michael and Julie

The years have passed so fast since you were wed, 50 years ago today! Bet it feels like yesterday? Wishing you a wonderful Golden Wedding Day. Love, Daniel and Lauren

My Friends, my heroes, my loves. Happy Golden Anniversary. Love, Kelly xxxxx

Gabrielle Welsh



Happy 18th Birthday Gabby

17th October 2015

You are our pride and joy. Enjoy your celebration and have a fantastic weekend away.

All our love, Mam, Nana Linda, Gramps Dave, Davy, Mario and Libby xxxxx

Happy 21st Birthday Stacey



Lots of love from Mam, Dad and Carl

Margaret Beverley



Happy 80th Birthday

Love from all the family
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

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CES STEVENS For fifty years you have been there to love, support and care. Life has fulfilled our hopes and dreams way beyond compare. Love always, Dorothy xxx

PETROCZY Emily and Jack. Have a great 18th birthday. Best wishes from Uncle Stephen and Auntie Jean

PETROCZY Happy 18th birthday Emily and Jack. Have a great day. Lots of love from Nanna and Granda

TOMMY GREEN Happy 75th birthday on 17th October. Have a great day. All my love as always, Sheila xxxxx

TOMMY GREEN Happy 75th birthday Dad. Lotsa love, Karen, Bill, Richard and Holly xxxxx

MAUREEN SHELTON Happy 70th birthday on 17th October. Lots of love from all your family and friends. Hope you enjoy your meal xxx



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Great Swimming Results for Woodham Academy



Competitive club swimmers from Woodham Sports Academy took part in the English Schools Swimming Association North East Trials recently. The event was held at Durham City Freeman Quay and hosted schools from all over the North East of England to compete in medley and freestyle relays.

The squad was a mixture of year 7 and 8 girls, and year 9 and 10 boys. Woodham Academy has always had a strong swimming tradition and has excellent links to

Sedgefield 75, currently working with coach Heather Brewster.

The event itself was a huge success for Woodham Academy students Josh Blackburn, Ben Stephenson, Lyndon Hall and Flynn Leybourne who swam the fifth fastest time in the senior boys' freestyle relay, and Niall Coulthard, Jake Mendelsohn, Jonathan Jones and Joseph Boyes who came fourth overall in the junior boys' freestyle. The time they posted will hopefully be enough to take

them to National Finals in London once all ESSA regional trials have been completed - the best 16 times in the country compete. This is just another indication of the success of Woodham Sports Academy, where there are now over 40 swimmers.

Mr Clough, Director of the Academy, said "The recent ESSA swimming gala was another indication of the strength of talent we have at Woodham Academy. Since its launch our school sport has grown immensely with over 300 students across the Academy involved in extra-curricular sport.

We have students now who regularly compete at district, regional, national and international level. It is fantastic to work with students who are extremely talented".

This is just one of the exciting opportunities available to Woodham students with regard to swimming. The Academy is very lucky to have a pool in such good condition, utilising the facility to the full. All students in Key Stage 3 at Woodham Academy have a series of swimming sessions throughout the year where they will focus on competitive swimming strokes, water confidence activities, life-saving, personal survival and water polo.

Outside of school time the pool is used for Sports Academy swimming and water polo practice. This offers an opportunity for students to access these activities with qualified, experienced coaches free of charge.

ATHENA GYMNASTS AT SAGE GYMFUSION SHOW

Athena Sports Academy based at Shildon and Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centres sent 2 teams of gymnasts to perform at the Sage in Gateshead on Saturday in front of an audience of over 800 people. The event, Gymfusion, is part of British Gymnastics National Festivals Programme which takes place throughout England and Northern Ireland and includes exciting and creative performances from gymnasts of all ages, abilities and disciplines, with shows guaranteed to wow the audience.

This year's event, "Legends", was well attended by many clubs from the North, from Leeds to the borders of Scotland. Athena sent over 30 gymnasts from the club to this elegant venue. The first to grace the stage was Athena's Disability Team, a team of 6 gymnasts, 3 girls and 3 boys, whose routine, Athena's Angel, was a tribute to the clubs very own legend, Gerry Fuller, who sadly passed away at the beginning of the year. Their routine was aptly done to 'Angels' by Robbie Williams, and bringing tears to those who



watched it superbly executed by the team dressed in lovely white costumes. It was a fitting tribute to someone who is still in the hearts of everyone at the club.

The golden performance of this year's Gymfusion has to be the mainstreams routine, which told the story of the Greek Goddess, Athena. All gymnasts were dressed in gold costumes with hair and make up to match, which made this a classical performance to be remembered.

The routine was full of flowing

moves, by this talented team and applauded well by the audience. Last year's performance received great plaudits, but Samantha Robson and Brittainy Fuller, who choreographed this routine, put together an even more amazing show which will be talked about for years to come. Athena have a very busy couple of months ahead with many gymnasts entering regional and national competitions including boys from our Warriors Squad. The annual Christmas Showcase is

where you will be able to see the Gymfusion routines which are not to be missed.

The club offer gymnastics classes from the age of 3 years, welcoming new members, boys and girls. If you are interested in joining our Gymnastics Family or would like more information contact Sam today on 07800 847527 or 01388 605946 or view our new website, www.athenasportsacademy.co.uk

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Aycliffe IBC Unbeaten

For the second successive game in the Durham & District inter club triples league Aycliffe ran out winners to maintain their unbeaten record.

Having previously disposed of last year's league winners they travelled to Durham and defeated a strong home side by the same score 5-0.

Best of the rinks was that of skip P Payne who were always in front and were winners by eight shots, but could have been more but for a late rally by the home side who scored five from the last three ends.

K Dunning won by seven despite being one shot down at the eighth end they proceeded to take nine shots from the next five ends to give themselves an unassailable lead.

D McDonald completed the rout but this was a much closer game the result being more or less decided on the last end. Final scores: D McDonald 13-10 M Barkess, P Payne 17-9 S Smith, K Dunning 14-7 A Pratt.

Halloween Family Disco

Ghouls, Ghosts, Witches and Goblins are all welcome at the family Halloween disco at the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way on Friday 30th October at 7pm. Tickets are on sale now £2 per person (children under 3 - free).

So come along and join the party. It would be good to see you all in fancy dress but it's not compulsory. Hot dogs will be on sale as well as non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks at our competitively priced bar. Tickets are available at the bar which is open Monday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings and Saturday and Sunday from approx. 1.00pm. Or you can phone 01325 318901 - please note messages on this number are picked up at the weekend, and reserve your tickets for collection. The tickets are selling fast so book yours as soon as possible.

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