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Town Council Tax Rise Unavoidable Next Year

Funding cuts and National Living Wage increases leave the Town Council with no choice but to raise the Council Tax next year.

The Town Council is currently in the process of setting its Revenue and Capital Budgets for the 2016/17 financial year. The Council's finances remain in a healthy position and in the short term the outlook remains fairly positive, with a balanced budget in place, savings continuing to be achieved in the current year, and healthy levels of balances and reserves. As a result, the draft 2016/17 Revenue Budget has been prepared in a way that will ensure that existing services are maintained next year. However, the Council must also keep a close eye on what is likely to be an increasingly

challenging future, and try to plan ahead now, for the difficulties that lie ahead.

The Council is reliant on Council Tax Support Grant funding paid by the Government, via Durham County Council, of nearly a quarter of a million pounds and which amounts nearly one-fifth of its Revenue Budget. It has been confirmed that this funding will be cut in the coming years, and there remains a risk that it could be withdrawn altogether.

The Council is also facing a number of significant spending pressures including the implementation of the 'National Living Wage', pension and national insurance cost increases, inflation and increasing pressure to take on services that are being cut by Durham County Council such as street lighting and flower beds.

Unfortunately, in order to maintain the Council's own services, and absorb the cuts to funding and increases in costs faced over the longer term, the Council needs to consider making a small increase in the Town Council Tax next year. This decision has not been



taken lightly, particularly in light of the on-going cost of living difficulties being faced by local residents, and following on from the four year freeze in council tax delivered by the Town Council between 2010 and 2013. However, by agreeing, in principle, to limit the proposed rise to 1.98% next year, the increase in the Town Council Tax Bill at Valuation Band A would be limited to less than £3 per year or 5p per week. This increase will ensure that all of the important services provided by the Town Council to the community of Great Aycliffe can be protected and maintained for at least another year, whilst putting in place some additional resources to help the Council to fund the budget pressures faced in the longer term.

The Council is due to set its 2016/17 Precept and the Town Council proportion of the Council Tax in January next year, and I will keep local tax payers informed of future developments in relation to the budget via the Council website and in the local press.

Councillor Bob Fleming
Leader of the Council

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Free Xmas Concert at the Leisure Centre

The annual Christmas Community Concert organised by the Rotary Club is on Tuesday 15th December at 1pm in the Leisure Centre. As usual town schools will perform items as part of an enjoyable programme of music combined with carols sung by the audience. The Mayor, Councillors and other civic dignitaries will attend this free public event and everyone is invited to give a seasonal boost to their Christmas festivities. Make a note in your diary for an event not to be missed!

WINTER WONDERLAND

Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) and Greenfield Arts Centre will be running a Winter Wonderland extravaganza on Wednesday 25th November, 5:30 - 8:00pm at Greenfield Arts Centre.

There will be lots of Christmas Craft and Food stalls, activities, a winter window display, light sculpture.....and free gifts!

Also you will be able to vote for your local priorities which help GAMP decide on where we spend £120,000 in YOUR local area! Brian Riley, GAMP Coordinator, said: 'A really vital part of the Winter Wonderland Event is to encourage local people to vote for their most important priorities – the things that you think matter the most to you and your community – the results will give the GAMP Board members a steer when they look at deciding what priorities we should be working on for the area next year.

GAMP has an Area Budget of £120,000 to spend on local projects – so it's really crucial that you take this opportunity to tell us what you feel is important.'

So, if you want to get into the festive spirit, buy a few gifts for Christmas or want to have a say on where GAMP spends its budget, why not come along to our Winter Wonderland?



DISCO
at The Big Club

5 December
7 - 11pm
Over 21's Only
DJ: John Melvin

Tickets: £2.50
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(limited spaces)

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Facebook:
Big Club Disco Night

Newtonians Changing Life Styles for a Healthy Heart



Lifeline Community Action (LCA) which supports children, young people and families in need of financial support in Newton Aycliffe is to celebrate the success of its scheme to get people to



live healthy heart lifestyles.

The Aycliffe charity hosted a celebration event on Wednesday 11th November with participants who are two months in to their journey to healthier hearts.

LCA was awarded a grant of almost £10,000 by national charity, Heart Research UK and Subway Stores to fund a year-long project promoting healthy heart initiatives. The charity is based at Western Area Community Centre, and is attracting people from all over the town.

Now in its second stage, the project, which ends in September 2016, has already seen success stories such as people quitting smoking, losing weight and participants learning how to eat healthily on a budget.

R.E.M.E. Meet

REME Association South West Durham Branch, monthly meeting will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 25th November at the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe. All serving and ex-serving military personnel welcome.

Christmas Memorial Service at St. Clare's

Christmas is fast approaching and although those whom we love but see no more are in our thoughts each and every day, it is often helpful at this time of year to come together with others and spend some time in thought and prayer – supporting one another and holding our loved ones before God. It is for this reason that the Parish of Great Aycliffe will be hosting a Memorial Service in St Clare's Church on Sunday November 29th at 4:00pm.

We extend an invitation to ALL who wish to remember those whom they love in this way, to join us at this service – there will be an opportunity to write your loved one's name upon a star and hang it on our Christmas Tree, to sing Carols and to light a candle for your loved one as their name is read out. After the Service you are again warmly invited to join us in the Church Hall for light refreshments and/or to take the opportunity to see your loved one's name in our Memorial Book set out in the Library. If you require any further information please contact Pam Lovelass on 316841 or Rev Debbie Loughran on 310767.

TWENTY IS PLENTY!



On Monday, Wednesday and Friday last week, Student Councillors from Sugar Hill Primary School policed the road outside of school, together with a special guest.

With placards designed and made by children of the school, and wearing high-visibility jackets, we were on duty on mornings and afternoons. We did this to try and stop people parking on the yellow lines and from going over the new 20 mph limit, which has been imposed near the school.

There are lots of parents and children crossing the road at these times of day and cars parked illegally will make this more difficult. Hopefully the outcome will be positive.

By Ellie Green, Sugar Hill Student Councillor, aged 10

Christmas Cabaret Show & Disco

Newton Aycliffe Scout Centre
Saturday 5th December 2015

7.00pm till Late

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Saturday 21st November - "Revenant"

Sam Hauxwell Review: "The blistering set takes in AC/DC, Saxon, Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden, Ozzy, Scorpions, Metallica, Rainbow, Guns 'n' Roses etc . . . not always the usual choices but a mixed bag of METAL mayhem!!!"

The Frigate is a fantastic bar to see any live act, but when Revenant come knocking at the door, it's a different experience altogether. What makes Revenant stand out from the rest is the years of experience and musicianship put into play during their live performances. Arguably one of the greatest local bands I've ever seen, they never disappoint their audience which is full of bikers and a loyal following.

Revenant have a fantastic setlist, which is even enjoyed by those that wouldn't consider themselves metal fans, I personally wouldn't have ever thought of myself as a metal fan but coming from the Frigate on Saturday night, I found myself singing their setlist long after they'd finished their mind blowing performance. Black Sabbath, Rage Against the Machine, and Metallica are just some of the bands they cover song from, chewing it up into their own sound and spitting it back into the audience's ears as a kick-in-the-balls stamp on their live covers.

Saturday 28th November - "Avatar"

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One of the UK's biggest single-priced retailers, Poundworld opened its new store at Newton Aycliffe Town Centre on Thursday 12th November, creating 30 new jobs and a boost for the local economy.

The huge 5,000 square foot new Poundworld, located at the former Poundstretcher

unit close to Aldi, was opened at 10am by the Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Mrs. Mary Dalton, and the opening was attended by a large queue of local shoppers which had formed early at the store.

As part of the celebrations, young customers were



treated to a face painter, while grown-ups nabbed themselves some fab festive essentials from Poundworld's exciting new Christmas Shop range.

Store Manager Tracy Boggitt, said: "We're ecstatic about the fantastic response we've had from customers. Hundreds of people got their hands on some incredible deals on leading brands and seasonal items, including great Christmas products."

"Shoppers were queuing up long before our opening time at 10am on Thursday 12th, and from then on the pace didn't let up. The team here has done incredibly well and we're expecting a very busy opening weekend. We'd

like to thank everyone who has shopped."

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**XMAS FAIRS**

On Saturday November 21st,
Middridge Village Hall 10 -
12:30.

Gifts for all, from Christmas trees to Christmas tutus, from jewellery to jam, from cakes to crafts, from drinks to dog leads - skin care, beauty, art and food gifts - a really wide range of goods on sale from local craftspeople.

Refreshments available and ample parking behind the hall. Please come along and find original and different gifts - not found on the High Street!

BUTTERWICK HOSPICE

at Bishop Auckland would like to invite you to come along and join us at our Christmas Fair on Saturday 5th December 2015, to be held at the Hospice from 12-4pm.

We will have tombola, raffle, mulled wine, Santa's grotto, games, stalls, face painting, cake stall, refreshments and much more.

Entry price is adults £2 including a mince pie and Children £1.00 including a surprise.

St. Michael's Church, Heighington are holding a Fair on Saturday 28th November in the Village Hall from 10am - 2pm.

Morning coffee and Lunches served. Father Christmas will attend. Admission 50p - Children free.

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Pre-School Assistant

Salary Scale – Point 6 - 8 – £7,0759 - £7,2095
(£13,614 - £13,871 pro rata)
Post EY25 – approximately 35¼ hours per week

St. Oswald's Pre-School provides care and education during school term time for children from 3 years of age.

We are currently looking for an enthusiastic and hardworking Assistant to join our team. Who will ensure the children are kept safe and receive fun and stimulating learning experiences appropriate to their age and stage of development.

You should have a L2 or above relevant childcare qualification, with experience of working in an early years setting.

The successful applicant must apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Application forms can be obtained by telephoning 01325 300700, e-mailing info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk or from the Council's web site www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Closing Date for applications:
Friday, 4th December 2015

For further details or an informal discussion about the post, please contact the Early Years Officer, Jackie Swainston on 01325 319880 or by email to jackie.swainston@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

DANCE EXAM SUCCESS FOR LOCAL SCHOOL



Students at the South Durham School of Dance have achieved some remarkable results in their recent IDTA Freestyle Dance Exams, with all the students achieving the highest 'Honours' grade.

The results were:-
Bronze: Amy Corking Honours; Charlotte Mardula Honours
Silver: Anna Shaw Honours
Gold: Alicia Simpson Honours; Maddison Mackinlay Honours
2nd Gold Bar: Abbie

Kennedy Honours
3rd Gold Bar: Kira Watson Honours

1st President Award: Daniela Winwood Honours
For the younger children and newcomers, some doing their very first exams and where the examination is either a 'pass' or a 'fail', they all did very well.

1st Rosette (3 to 5yrs) Eve Towler Pass, Layla Bailey Pass
2nd Rosette (3 to 5yrs) Kacey Heathwaite Pass
2nd Rosette (6 to 8yrs) Laycee-Lee Henderson Pass

Winwood Honours
The examiner made some lovely comments to the students and overall it is another amazing set of outstanding results for the Dance School and all of the students should be really proud of themselves. If anyone is interested in attending dance classes for Freestyle, Street, Acro and Flexibility, Rock n Roll, or Ballet and Tap, please contact Caroline Race on 07949 911642 for further details of classes and venues.

LOCAL ROADWORKS

Works on Travellers Green for sewer installation are on-going. 23rd November to 4th December, on the A689 Rushyford to Bradbury, there will be two-way lights (9.30am - 3.30pm) for BT cabling work.

30th November - High Street, Aycliffe Village, two-way lights (9.30am - 1.30pm, manual control) for vegetation management. 7th-9th December, on the east side of Bradbury Interchange on the A689, lane closure (9.00pm - 6.00am) for BT cabling work. 12th-20th December on Station Road/Spring Road, Aycliffe Business Park, road closed for resurfacing.

SSAFA Volunteer Vacancies

Division Secretary/Treasurer/Case Workers

Our reorganisation is complete and we urgently need volunteers to fill the above posts

Our volunteers support the local service and ex-service community within County Durham's division areas and are supported by the Branch Secretary.

The Division Secretary/Treasurer position would suit a retired/semi-retired person, but applications are welcome regardless of status!

Experience

Division Secretary: A management background is desirable with good IT skills;

Treasurer: Experience in dealing with accounts and good IT skills;

Caseworker: Good interpersonal and communication skills. A driving Licence would be beneficial.

Applicants should contact the Branch Secretary on **0191 383 9452** or in his absence please ring **01325 314043** for further details.



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Woodham Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory DBS Enhanced Disclosure and references.

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

For an application form, job description and person specification please contact the reception desk.

Closing Date 9.00 a.m. Monday, 30 November 2015.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



investing in children

ROCK N ROLL:

Bronze: Alicia Simpson Honours; Gracie Bailey Honours; Kacey Heathwaite Honours; Hollie O'Connor Honours; Anna Shaw Honours; Kieva Towler Honours;
Silver: Drew Shaw Honours; Maddison Mackinlay Honours.

3rd Gold Bar Kira Watson Honours
4th Star Abbie Kennedy Honours
President's Award 4 Daniela



The next "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church, on Tuesday 24th November, features "Fried Green Tomatoes" starring Jessica Tandy, Kathy Bates, Mary Louise Parker and Mary Stuart Masterson. It is a comedy-drama which weaves together the Disparate lives of two young women in the 30's and two women in the 80's; in a warm, touching and amusing tale of the importance of love and friendship.

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 delightful film in friendly company. Everyone is most welcome; further info from Ric Hargreaves on 01325 316755.



north east autism society

We are looking for a number of Residential Child Carers to our team in Newton Aycliffe!

Band 3 £15,341.25 per annum with yearly incremental rises up to £16,376.67* (over four years). This starting salary is equivalent to £7.98 per hour (with yearly incremental rises to £8.51 per hour over four years*)

Full Time, part time and casual roles available.

Please visit www.ne-as.org.uk for more information or call HR on 0191 492 4387.

Closing date: Wednesday, 25th November 2015

*Terms and conditions apply. Contact North East Autism Society for more information



NEW SUPER NURSERY OPENS ON AYCLIFFE BUSINESS PARK



Left to right: Haywood, Sarah and Adele



Husband and wife team Adele and Michael Reeve sold their home to pursue their dream of owning a nursery. Adele an experienced nursery manager with over 12 years in childcare holds a Foundation Degree in

Early Years. She was born in Newton Aycliffe, still has family here and very proud to return and open Summerhill Nursery formerly known as Little Acorns on Durham Way North. It has been totally renovated to offer the most modern facilities in Nursery Care.

Summerhill wanted to create a welcoming space with a natural, home like feel so that children could feel relaxed, ready to take on all the wonderful activities on offer. They also want to ensure the space was flexible so that it could be changed easily in line with children's interests. There is a milk kitchen in the baby room which enables staff to respond to hungry babies calmly and quickly. The toilet and changing areas are located directly from nursery rooms. Summerhill boasts a beautiful central area, set under a glass roof, which is a flexible space that can be used for a wide range of activities such as music and movement or to hold events such as the forthcoming Holly Jolly Christmas event.

Staff includes a team of professionals who share a passion for providing exceptional childcare and education. Sarah Lewins is Deputy Manager and holds a degree in education and early childhood studies along with teacher status. She was born and raised in Newton Aycliffe and has 7 years' experience. Newtonian Haywood Gales is the nursery practitioner who has a degree in early childhood studies and delighted to be following her lifelong passion working with children.

The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6pm. and the fees which are very competitive includes meals, formula milk, nappies and wipes.

Discounts are available to parents working on the Business Park. Tel: 312811. Website: summerhillchildrens nursery.co.uk

Michael and Adele have been overwhelmed by the support offered by the people of Newton Aycliffe, especially those on the Business Park.

Students Help Children in Need



13th November saw the return of the annual Children in Need fund raising event at Woodham Academy. We have raised money for the past 10 years, organised by Jenny McLean, Student Welfare Officer. The whole school participated with sponsored silences, fancy dress and the sale of raffle tickets to win a Pudsey cake made by resident Chef Linda Vipond. In addition other treats were made and sold by students during break and lunch time.

The day was a resounding success, allowing a day of

fun to be both constructive in terms of raising money and awareness for Children in Need. It started with a guest appearance from Pudsey himself who welcomed the students into school, joining yr7 students at assembly time. He was so impressed with our students he decided to stay for the yr7 disco at lunch time. The students said it's the best disco they have ever been to. Throughout the day, students braved the cold dressed in their pyjamas and onsies. All Y7 students were encouraged to take part, some organising

sponsored silence and fancy dress such as batman, fairies and Elsa from Frozen. Yr11 students Thomas Gallagher and George Slatcher braved the cold weather dressing as the 118 men.

The students made a massive effort in both raising money and a positive attitude towards the event. As a result the students, teachers, staff and other contributors managed to raise a very impressive amount of money. Thank you to parents for supporting the charity and providing fantastic costumes.

Brass Concert

The Durham Miners' Association Brass Band, fresh from featuring nationally on the World at One on Radio 4 is performing in Heighington Village Hall on Saturday 21st November 2015 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10, or £7.50 for concessions and are available from Chris Enzor, 01325 710362 or at the door. Light refreshments provided. The programme will be a varied one, with something to suit nearly all musical tastes.

Michaelmas Market

SUNDAY, November 29

BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

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AYCLIFFE DEMENTIA SUPPORT

At the Western Area Community Centre, Silverdale Place "New Pathways Together" hold a Memory Cafe on Tuesday 24th November at 10am with tea, coffee and biscuits. The Alzheimers Society will be represented to give help and advice. Come along and have a chat. Ring 01325 308094. Mob: 07967 901477.

OUTSTANDING IN ALL AREAS - OFSTED FULL INSPECTION




OPEN EVENING

TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2015 | 6.00PM

- KEY NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR
- MEET CURRENT STUDENTS
- MEET STAFF FROM ALL DEPARTMENTS
- PICK UP 'PROSPECTUS 2016/17'
- SEE THE OUTSTANDING FACILITIES
- APPLICATIONS OPEN ON THE EVENING

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Community Stalwart Stands in By-election for Town Council

Following the resignation of Councillor Tom Twissell in West Ward, ACORN Residents' Chairman Ken Robson has decided to stand for the vacant seat on Great Aycliffe Town Council.

Ken has already presented the necessary signatures calling for a By election in the West Ward of the Great Aycliffe parish. Notice will go out next month and if contested, the By election will be held on Thursday 21st January 2016.

This is the next logical step into a sphere of influence within the community dominated by the Labour party, however Ken has decided to stand as an Independent. He explains that in his view it is not a healthy balance to have a political party dominating the Town council with no effective opposition to stimulate and offer constructive debate.

Although not opposed to those policies introduced by the controlling Labour group. Ken believes that as an independent Councillor he would be able to be outspoken on those issues which may be of concern, and not silenced by any party whip.

Ken hopes can rely on residents who already support other groups which he has successfully led in recent years and of course friends, local people and those who he has come into contact with during his 50 years in Newton Aycliffe.

Cllr Arun Chandran who as Secretary of the controlling



Labour Group was the mastermind behind labour's two recent by election successes, and who persuaded Tom Twissell to finally step down rather than continue attending only once every six months whilst claiming his allowance, said "Tom realised it was in the public interest to make way for someone in the community to step forward and fill the role." Arun added, "speaking purely personally, we have 25 Labour Councillors out of 30 on the Town Council, in the recent by elections we had two outstanding candidates, if Ken Robson was the only one standing and was elected unopposed it would, in my opinion save the Council Tax Payer money and I have no doubt he would make an excellent Ward Councillor but it is a matter for the local Labour Party Branch to decide if it wants to put anyone up for election."

Police Appeal

Police are appealing for information after a distinctive shoplifter stole 2 ladies fragrant box sets from Boots, Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe.

The incident occurred around 5pm on Monday 16th November, when the male entered the store and grabbed the items after being challenged by staff.

The male is described as white, around 5ft 7inches tall, slim build with a shaved head, mousey coloured hair. He was wearing a black and white tracksuit top and black tracksuit bottoms and light coloured trainers. He is described as being in his late 20's and was carrying a black drawstring bag. The suspect has distinctive large gap between his front two teeth which police believe may make him distinguishable in the community.

Anybody with any information should contact PC Jamie Pitt on 101. e-mail: jamie.pitt@durham.pnn.police.uk

CHARITY FAIR

Innovations would like to invite you to their Christmas Fair to be held at The Junction, 154 Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland on Friday 27th November between 11:00am and 2:30pm.

The fair will include a number of stalls including hand crafted products, tombola's, raffles and refreshments. Everybody is welcome. Please come along and give us your support

POPULAR AYCLIFFE COP RETIRES

Dear Sir,

It has come to my attention that one of our town's most popular policeman is retiring this month. PC Alan Thompson has been a "Beat Bobby" and a Neighbourhood Watch Officer on this town and in Aycliffe Village for as long as I have known him.

I think he deserves thanks from us all for his long service and commitment to duty during this time. Alan is well known as a "policeman for the people" and although this is one of his chief roles he has gone far beyond the call of duty many times. His pleasant and courteous manner is a pleasure to witness and his willingness to help out in any situation is exemplary.

I would like to say a very big "Thank You" to him on behalf of everyone who has taken him to their hearts throughout his years of service and friendship.

Good luck in your retirement Alan and we wish you and your wife Gail, daughter's Kaitlin and Ellie much love and happiness, now and in the future.

Pam Lovelass

Free Xmas Lunch for People on their Own

Dear Sir,

Not everyone looks forward to Christmas and this Christmas will soon be upon us. While most of us will be making happy memories of time spent with friends and family, for some, this simply isn't the case as they will be spending it alone.

Lifeline Community Action and members of Life Church are committed to changing that again this year. We believe that no person should be on their own throughout the Christmas period unless they want to be. So if you are going to be alone

this Christmas or you are a single parent who is currently finding this time of the year daunting because of financial problems then we'd love to hear from you.

Lifeline Community Action are offering a free traditional Christmas Lunch on Saturday 19th December 2015 at 1pm at Woodham Golf Course. We try to make the day a memorable one, filled with lots of friendship, fun and laughter and one of two surprises.

If you would like to receive an invite to this free event please let us know as soon as possible as places will fill up by phoning or texting 07936431262. You can even email lifeline.action@googlemail.com and we will get back in touch with you.

All of our services are completely confidential.

To those of you who are more fortunate? Are you in a position to support our Christmas Lunch event and really make a difference to someone's Christmas this year?

Join Lifeline Community Action and try to make Christmas a better time for all. We still urgently need donations to make it all happen, we also need transport so we can get people (particularly the elderly) to and from the venue, and if we have any musicians that would be happy to come along to play a few Christmas Carols for us then this would be very much appreciated.

If anyone would like to help on the day then we would love to hear from you too. If you would like to help us out with any of the above please call us now on 07936 431262 we would love to hear from you.

Aycliffe UTC on Schedule

Work on site for the Aycliffe University Training College opposite Xcel Centre is going well; the steelwork is going up fast and they are on track for opening in September 2016.

On 25th November at the new Hitachi facility, from 4.30-6.30pm a parent/student event is arranged when families can find more about the UTC, meet the Founding Members (Hitachi, Gestamp Tallent and University of Sunderland) and see some of the technology to be used at the UTC. Places need to be booked on UTC website: www.utcsouthdurham.org/news-and-events/events/ 1st December is the deadline for applications for students in



Year 10 and 12 in September 2016. Apply online or download an application form to email or post. Details: www.utcsouthdurham.org/apply/

Do you know anyone for whom this might be a fantastic next step in their education? You may have employees, colleagues, friends or relatives

with teenage children. Please let them know about the UTC so that they can decide for themselves. They need to be interested in STEM subject (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Students currently in Years 9 and 11 (that's 13-15 year olds) can apply for places this year.

MESSY AT ST. CLARE'S

Messy Church at St. Clare's is preparing for Christmas with an Advent Messy Afternoon. Please come along to register from 3.30pm for a 4pm start with lots for everyone to do. We begin with a short informal time together looking at how we can begin to prepare for the birth of baby Jesus and what excitement it brings. Activities will follow till around 5.30 when we will all share a tea party. Come along and make a Christmas candle, card, tree decoration all to take home and have fun on our nativity hide and seek! We welcome all to come along and spend some time in church at the beginning of this special season.

The date to remember is **Saturday 28th November** - St. Clare's Newton Aycliffe. Call 319002 and speak to Helen for any more details. There is no charge for Messy Church - a donation moneybox will be available for those who want to support further Messy Family Fun.

E.G.M. Off!

The Agnew Community Association regrets to inform all parties concerned that due to unforeseen circumstances, the EGM that was recently announced to be held on the 25th November 2015 at the Agnew Community Centre at 6:30pm has been postponed until further notice.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused and will post revised date and time of the next meeting in the near future.

Jane Taylor
Secretary

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Great Aycliffe Town Council

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Email: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk • Website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk



20th November 2015

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2015

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As the festive season approaches it gives me the opportunity to reflect on my year so far as the Mayor of Great Aycliffe Town Council. I feel very humble and proud to represent the people of Great Aycliffe, and I have had the privilege of carrying out many and varied functions. Meeting people who live and work in the town and who volunteer their time to help others has been very rewarding. I have had the pleasure of attending local early learning centres in the summer to present the children with their certificates during their "graduation ceremonies". This was a real highlight of my year so far, as was the official opening of the new Hitachi Rail factory on the business park. The employment opportunities that this company will provide will be a major boost to the town. I have had the pleasure of meeting so many people so far, too many to mention them all but they all play an important role in our town.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors firstly for electing me into this position, and the support they have given me so far and for helping me raise money for my nominated charities which this year are the Renal Unit at James Cook University Hospital together with other local charities. Thanks also for the support from the staff at Great Aycliffe Town Council who work tirelessly behind the scenes in order to make my job that much easier. My personal thanks must go to Christine Ryder, the Mayor's secretary for her work organising my diary and ensuring that I fulfil my engagements, and Mally Wilson my civic driver for ensuring I arrive safely at the various events. Special thanks goes to my consort, my son Michael for his unstinting support particularly considering his period of ill health earlier in the year.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all season's greetings and I hope you have a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Mary Dalton



Councillor Mary Dalton
Mayor of Great Aycliffe
2015 - 2016

SANTA'S COMING

Check Newton News issue 18th December for routes and times of Santa's visits, also Newton Press Website or Great Aycliffe Town Council / Oakleaf websites (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) from mid December. Please remember, because Santa and his helpers don't know how many people will be out to see him, the times are only a guideline.



Santa will soon be touring our streets,
Ringing his bell and giving out sweets.

Sadly, some roads are a 'no-no',
So be ready and waiting to hear his ho-ho
At the corner if you can -

Listen for the music from his van.
Tell him how you've been good all year,
As that's the news he likes to hear.

Whisper the gifts you'd like to receive,
With any luck he'll deliver these.
His reindeer friends will be having a rest,
So a truck he will use, as that's next best.
Rudolf and co will be out later that night
With sleigh piled high, what a wonderful sight!
Our Santa teams wish you all the best
Be happy, keep safe, at this Christmas fest.

FORTHCOMING MAYORAL EVENTS

MAYOR'S CIVIC CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY, 20th DECEMBER 2015

Councillor Mrs. Mary Dalton will be holding her
Civic Carol Service in St. Clare's Church
on the 20th December commencing at 6.00 p.m.

The Mayor would like to invite you to join her on this Festive occasion.
Refreshments will be available at the conclusion
of the Service in the Church Hall.



MAYOR'S CHARITY CIVIC DINNER

FRIDAY, 19th FEBRUARY 2016

Arrangements have now been made for the annual Charity Civic Dinner to be held at Woodham Golf and Country Club.

Music will be provided by John Melvin throughout the evening and will conclude at 11.30 p.m.

Tickets are on sale from the Council Offices and are priced at £27.50 each.

Proceeds from the event will be in aid of the Mayor's nominated Charities:- Renal Unit at James Cook Hospital, Neville Community Centre and Guides / Scouts of Great Aycliffe.



LETTERS TO SANTA

Each year Santa's Elves put special post boxes in Newton Aycliffe so that all of the boys and girls from Newton Aycliffe can post their letters to Santa.

When everything is quiet, and nobody is looking, the pixies empty the boxes and take the letters to Santa's palace in Greenland. Santa replies to about 800 letters each year from the children of Aycliffe, so he is very busy and has asked that you remember to put your full name and address on your letter.

We have been told that the post boxes will appear on Monday 7th December at the following locations:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| ☺ Post Office Beveridge Way | ☺ Post Office Neville Parade |
| ☺ Horndale Post Office | ☺ Woodham Post Office |
| ☺ Joy Marie Hairdressers
Aycliffe Village | ☺ McColls Newsagents
Simpasture |



The boxes will disappear on Monday 21st December, but e-mails and forms submitted from the Council's website will be answered right up to noon on 23rd December. Santa has a special e-mail address Santa@great-aycliffe.gov.uk and the website address is <http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/events/santa-letters.html>

Sorry We're
CLOSED

THE COUNCIL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON:

Friday, 25th December

Monday, 28th December

Friday, 1st January 2016

Councillors & Staff wish you
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

AYCLIFFE YOUTH COUNCIL 2015 - 2016

Aycliffe Youth Council goes from strength to strength with 22 young people being elected from their various schools. There is a great mix of existing youth councillors and new representatives. This helps with the work of the Youth Council, particularly in the continuity of projects, with the existing members helping the newly elected ones find their feet.

As usual the Youth Council will be assisting the Town Council’s Environment Officer, Steve Cooper with bulb planting and the Town Pride Environment Week as well as choosing a project to work on themselves.





Josh Blackburn



Thomas Burn



Finlay Crossen



Rebecca Carr



Meghan Cumming



Owen Dickinson



Regan Edden



Emily Edwards



Alex Howarth



Charlotte Johns



Charlotte Kirton



Steven Lowe



Corin Lathan



Bethany Mellody



Katie Oliver



Britney Orme



Francesca Moody



Blake Reed



Thomas Roberts



Erin Theyer

Don't forget Aycliffe Youth Council have a small pot of money available to give grants to local youth or children's groups within the Great Aycliffe area. So far this year the Youth Council have sponsored the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Event which was held as part of the Aycliffe Festival, they purchased and placed a wreath at the Remembrance Day Parade and provided a raffle prize for Aycliffe Youth Centre Girls under 10 Football Team.



Billy Hardy




Andrew Cumming

If you would like to apply, please state the name and activities of your organisation, how much money you are requesting, what you are currently doing to raise funds yourself and what the money will be used for. The Youth Council will also need to see your recently audited accounts and/or most recent balance sheets.

Please put your requests in writing to Aycliffe Youth Council, c/o Great Aycliffe Town Council, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6QF.

If you would like to know more about the Youth Council, contact 01325 300700



Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the ‘Your Issues, Our Proposals’. Although it was available electronically most residents still preferred to complete the paper version which was distributed to residents. These responses will help our evidence base and support the planning policies for the future of Great Aycliffe.

In the main, and as expected, the majority of comments received were about improving retail in Newton Aycliffe.

Once again, I would like to remind everyone about the Independent Soft Market Testing of Retailers that was undertaken earlier this year. Sanderson Wetherall contacted 139 national and local retailers by mail, telephone and email on numerous occasions to complete a short focussed survey about Newton Aycliffe. Only 12 retailers completed the survey and out of those 12 only 3 indicated they would be interested in investing in Newton Aycliffe. One other company did say they would be interested in locating here but had never heard of Newton Aycliffe and it was a site with close proximity to the A1 that they were looking for.

The questions and responses in support of the proposals are set out below.

CIL- Our Proposals		
1	That the Town Council are consulted in advance where CIL or Section 106 monies will be available	97%
2	To set local priorities for investment	97%
Housing - Our Proposals		
1	Request an enhanced percentage of bungalows or older persons' accommodation within 600m walking distance from the Town Centre, Cobbler's Hall and Neville Parade as a substitute to the affordable homes provision	96%
2	That gardens can be made smaller or of a communal nature to make bungalows more viable	84%
3	To avoid small, one bedroomed dwellings, a multi-purpose room should be included in any design that can be used as a bedroom, dining room, study or storage giving greater flexibility to the accommodation	92%
4	To specify a minimum garage size or an option to provide a drive, in curtilage, with a car port on new developments. If only a drive is provided, safe cycle storage should be included	96%
5	Guidance in the character assessment must be followed. Adequate green open space included in new developments in line with Lord Beveridge's Vision	97%
6	Developments built to the highest energy standards will be encouraged	99%

Environment - Our Proposals		
1	To protect the larger, traditional green areas from future development, except where there is in overwhelming need and demand to alleviate parking problems	97%
2	To protect the existing, and encourage new, wildlife corridors by developing a specific policy	96%
3	Ensure the tree lined avenues are kept to retain the uniqueness of Newton Aycliffe	94%
4	To develop a green wedge policy to ensure Aycliffe Village maintains a buffer zone from any potential development encroachment	90%
Retail - Our Proposals		
1	Should a suitable site near the Town Centre, that meets the sequential tests required be identified, we will support and encourage change of use from garage/workshop (B2) to retail (A1) without the need for a change of use planning application, if it could be developed for retail	90%
2	We will keep retail changes under review and undertake a detailed assessment when the Neighbourhood Plan is reviewed in 5 years	99%
3	We will support and encourage the development of a small 'retail row' within Aycliffe Business Park to serve the needs of the businesses and their employees	87%
4	That local labour market agreements are in place to ensure jobs are offered to local people first	92%

The Draft Plan is now progressing with the Heritage and Character Assessment Complete, the Consultation Statement and the Basic Conditions Statement nearly complete.

These documents will be passed to Durham County Council to review prior to being incorporated into the Draft Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan.

Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve QUIZ NIGHTS

Tickets £2.00

Available from The Bar

On Sale 1st December



1st and 2nd
place prizes
&
spot prizes

Hot Meat
Sandwiches
& Quiz
included in
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Food will be
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Children's Christmas Party

SATURDAY 19th DECEMBER

1.00pm - 2.45pm



MEET SANTA



PARTY GAMES - CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Tickets only £4.00 PER CHILD

Age 4-7 years (Parents must stay in the building)

Tickets available from Oak Leaf Reception
and places are limited, so collect yours soon!

Traditional Christmas Lunch

On Sunday
13th & 20th
December

we will be serving
Christmas Lunch
in the Function
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**Two Course Menu
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Relax, Celebrate and Enjoy

MAIN MEAL
Choose from the
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Turkey with all
the Trimmings
Roast Beef
Nut Roast

DESSERT
Choose from the
following;

Christmas Pudding
Mulled Berry
Crumble
Ice Cream

*We have Christmas all
wrapped up for you*

We will be creating a festive
atmosphere with Decorations,
Table Cloths and Christmas
Crackers

Normal Sunday Lunch will still be served
in the Bar on this day.
A warm friendly welcome guaranteed.



ST. OSWALD'S PRE-SCHOOL

The children have had lots of fun recently making pictures for the Bonfire Poster Competition. They followed simple picture instructions to make printing tools from straws; they then dipped them in paint to make lovely firework prints. They also added lots and lots of glitter, sand etc., to add texture and sparkle to their pictures.

They have also had lots of fun making model fireworks for our role play shop; the children made models at home with their parents and brought them in to show all the children at group time.

The children have learnt many things this week while having lots of fun, which included how to use tools safely, how to use simple tools and techniques; they have talked about their ideas and the materials they could use and more importantly how to stay safe on Bonfire Night.

If you would like to find out more about the Pre-School please either call in, or contact Jackie Swainston on 01325 319880



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BEAT BOBBY'S THANKS BULBS PLANTING

Dear Sir,
I am very grateful for your invitation to write to Newton News prior to my retirement as a Police Officer at the end of November.
Having served my first seven years with Cleveland Police I had the opportunity to transfer to Durham Constabulary in 1996. I was posted to Newton Aycliffe Town Office and commenced working as a Core Shift Officer.
As a local lad I was already familiar with the Great Aycliffe Parish area and immediately enjoyed meeting

local people and serving the community by way of policing. In 1999 the Constabulary commenced its commitment to provide local beat officers to patrol within certain ward area and I was selected to work in the Neville/Simpasture area which included Aycliffe Village and The Business Park.
Walking my 'beat' has always given me the greatest job satisfaction. The support and co-operation I have received from the community, partner agencies, local schools, councils, councillors and

wardens has always been very much appreciated. I believe we have all worked together for the same aim, to maintain a good quality of life in this area and to keep our communities safe for the present and future. Our regular PACT meetings have provided a forum to discuss community concerns and in partnership we have solved many of these problems together. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the community of Newton Aycliffe and Aycliffe Village and also to my colleagues and friends of Durham Constabulary.
Best Wishes
PC Alan Thompson
Neighbourhood Police Team
Newton Aycliffe



Great Aycliffe Town Council have been busy planting spring bulbs on many of their sites in recent weeks and to complete this programme they have organised a public bulb planting session within West

Park.
The event will take place Sunday 22nd November at 10am meeting in the carpark near McColls shop in the park. Volunteers are asked to simply come along in suitable footwear and clothing and spend up to an hour planting bulbs such as native daffodils, snowdrops and mixed crocus bulbs to provide some such needed early spring colour next year.

As part of the Town Councils bulb planting programme they have been working with staff from Newton Aycliffe's Children Centre to visit 11 nurseries around the town to encourage the children to plant crocus bulbs in their local community with the assistance of bulbs provided by Durham County Councillors.

Public Support for Golf Course Plans

Dear Sir,
Congratulations on a great editorial regarding the planners and Hall Construction application's application for a much reduced and infinitely more acceptable planning application for development on the Woodham golf course than the previous owners managed to get approved.
The planners seem to think that yet another hotel is needed in the area but fail to understand that there is simply no demand for it with very low occupancy rates of all other hotels in the area.

They also failed to recognise that the very strong local opposition to the previous owners application has now changed to general support for the much more realistic and acceptable development now on the table. What on earth is the matter with our planners? The locally based Hall brothers investment has already been substantial and if our brainless planners are not very careful, our area will lose a prized leisure asset altogether. I hope and expect that the owners will appeal and that residents, golfers and the very many other people who use this facility (not just golfers) will get behind this comparatively modest development proposal. This is a far more sensible, financially sustainable and environmentally acceptable proposal than the previous one which was approved by the same planners only a year or two ago. In addition, the Hall brothers are local business people who have a vested interest in doing

what is right for our local community unlike the previous foreign owners. Let us all get behind this modest planning application or we risk losing one of the best sporting and leisure facilities in the area.
Tony Haworth
Woodham

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.

COUNCIL

- 200,000 visitors saw 29 amazing installations over 4 unforgettable nights of #LumiereDurham: ow.ly/UHh6z
- Great Aycliffe & Midridge Partnership Area (GAMP) Action Partnership Board Meeting at Greenfield Community Arts Centre, Tuesday 24 November, 6pm. Public welcome.
- Latest Visit County Durham newsletter: bit.ly/VCDNov2015
- October's DCC Neighbourhood Protection Report: bit.ly/DCCNPOct2015
- As International Restorative Justice Week begins, County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) reveals that since 2010 the number of young people committing crime has fallen by 52%, with the number of crimes they commit down by 47%.
- Durham County Council's Public Health team is backing a national campaign to raise awareness about HIV testing – National HIV Testing Week – which starts on Saturday (Nov 21): bit.ly/DCCHIV
- Apprenticeship Offer within County Durham – my summary report: bit.ly/DCCApprent
- Family history courses make a perfect Christmas gift: bit.ly/DCCFamHist
- The dog-bin reappears! bit.ly/dogbin2
- Upcoming roadworks of which I am aware: bit.ly/Roadworks17Nov

COMMUNITY

- 'Tots Time' Toddler Group, every term-time Wednesday at the Pioneering Care Centre, 1:30-3pm, £1 per family: 01325 321234
- Winter Wonderland at Greenfield Arts, Wednesday 25 November, 5:30-8pm, FREE. Activities, stalls, winter window and light sculpture launch, GAMP priorities.
- Saturday 28 November 2015 at St Clare's Church: 'Messy church' for children and their adults, starts 3:45pm. Theme is Advent.
- Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November, Christmas Crafts Fair, Locomotion Museum Shildon, 10am-4pm, FREE. 01388 771439
- Kynren tickets are on sale: bit.ly/kynren
- Find out if you're in danger of flooding: bit.ly/EAFlood
- Community project funding opportunity: bit.ly/GrowWildNA

NO SWIMMING AT AYCLIFFE FOR 3 MONTHS

A reminder that the swimming pool at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre is closed to the public from 16th November until 7th February 2016. This is to allow a major refurbishment of the changing room rooms/toilet areas, improvements to the pool hall as well as the creation of dedicated wet disabled facilities. The works are part of an overall investment by the Council into the centre to improve facilities offered to the public and include installation of new spectator seating, creation of new female and disabled changing facilities to the sports hall. Unfortunately it has not been possible to undertake the scale of the works without closing the swimming pool all customers have been contacted and offered the opportunity to swim at other DCC facilities.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 2nd December 2015

Policy & Resources Committee, 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been 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.

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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NAJFC Match Updates



The Aycliffe Juniors football
weekend began again with a
girl's taster session on Friday
evening. This week was for
7-10 year olds introducing them
to the game and it was a great
evening for all.

The Under 7's braved some
terrible conditions to play the
unbeaten Billingham United.
It was well worth it as shared
between goals from Ashton,
Isaac and Kai as well as some
great defensive work earning a
6-5 win. The goals continued
in the second game as they won
again, this time 10-3. The team
are now on a great unbeaten run
of 8 games.

One young under 8's star had

been drawing great attention
to the club all week as a video
of a superb Rhys Galloway free
kick has been viewed more than
a million times across social
media since last Sunday.

The Under 8's team re-arranged
their game so they could
play Leven on the 3G pitch at
Sunnydale. Leven took an early
lead which was cancelled out
by a Harvey Lee penalty and it
was 1-1 at the break. Aycliffe
again went behind but this time
a great back heeled goal from
Connor brought the game back
level. A free kick was awarded
wide on the left and up stepped
Rhys to smash it home and win
the game 3-2. Aidan was great
in defence for the home team
and Lucas pulled off some great
saves in goal. In the second
game a bright start led to a solo
goal from Niall and a 1-0 lead.
Emrehan added another before
Leven pulled one back before
half time. Niall added two more
to complete a hat trick, but one
was in the wrong net, and the
score moved to 3-2. Three late
Leven goals led to this one
ending 5-3. Jacob was strong in
defence, with Jake making some
fine saves and Jayden tackling
hard throughout. Today's men
of the match were Harvey and
Niall.

The Under 11's were at home
to North Ormesby and won 3-1
courtesy of goals from Lewis,
Cayless and Turnbull.

All other teams were left
kicking their heels as the heavy
rain led to these games being
called off.

Horndale Raise £112 for Children in Need

Pupils and staff at Horndale County Infant & Nursery School
raised funds for Children in Need on Friday 13th November.
Deputy Head Teacher Mr D Walker and the School Council led an
assembly telling the children all about Children in Need and how it
was a very important Charity as it helps so many children who live
in desperate circumstances.

As a school we raised £112.85 for the BBC Children in Need
appeal. Staff and pupils dressed as their own hero. As part of
the assembly the School Council had arranged a variety of fun
activities to take part in. Firstly they asked for some brave children
who were requested to put their feet in some yucky concoctions!
They will never look at spaghetti or custard in the same way again!
Next up was the Doughnut Eating challenge to see who could
eat the most within 3 minutes! The only rule was they were not
allowed to use their hands!

Year 2 teacher, Mrs Copeland bravely volunteered for the final
surprise event. The school council wanted to see how many times
she could be splatted with a cream pie in one minute!

Head Teacher Craig Brown said "The children and staff have had
great fun taking part in lots of activities and raising funds. By
the end of the day they had a really good understanding of how
important it is to raise money and more importantly understanding
where their money goes to. A big well done to everyone who took
part, especially our newly elected school council."



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Licence Applications

Goods Vehicle Operators Licence

John Warren ABP Limited of Eden Hall, Hamsterley, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL13 3QG is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra 4 vehicle and 2 trailers at the operating centre at Emerald Biogas, Preston Road, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6AB. Owners and occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386, Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must, at the same time, send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioners office.

20-11-2015

£700 for Local Charity



The "Hub of Wishes" group (formerly MIND), held a Charity Night in October at the RAFA Club and a great time was had by all who attended.

People enjoyed music provided by "Of Justice" and singing by Alice Jordan. Raffle prizes were kindly donated by Krums, YMCA, British Red Cross, Thames Diner, Mikes Fish Bar, Creations Hair Stylists, Petals, Olive Garden, Masala, Occasions, Subway, Headstart Stylists, Mancini, The Worx, Walkers, Eden Arms, Thames Cleaning, Redz, Coffee Pronto, W. Slater & Sons, McDonalds, Sainsburys, Cobblers Hall Pub, Sorepaws, Sunnynhouse, Woodham Golf Club, China Garden, Bengal Lounge and Shafto Way Service Station. The premises and entertainment were provided free and the charity wish to express their sincere appreciation - the fantastic sum of £700 was raised.

Brafferton Village News

Our Christmas Market will be held on Sunday 29th November, from 11am to 3pm in the grounds of Cozy Coffee on the outskirts of the village. Tickets for our Badapple Christmas production (11th December) and our festive raffle will be on sale. This will be followed by our Christmas light turn on at 6pm which includes carols around the tree on the green then mulled wine and mince pies in the village hall to warm up (and very possibly dry off!). We welcome everyone to this

event which is hosted free of charge by the Brafferton & Coatham Mundeville Village Hall Association.

One of the children in the village has written the following review of our games night to show people how much fun it was! He hopes you enjoy reading it.

"I was looking forward to games night, it's always SUPER good. It was a bit windy so I ran to the hall because I knew it would be warm inside. First we played beetle. You have to roll a dice and draw a beetle using the numbers you throw then when you are finished you shout beetle.

There's a prize for the best drawn beetle at the end and a prize for the highest score. After that we ate our fish, chips and mushy peas from Houghton Chippy. They were lovely. While everyone was finishing I played table football with some of the other children.

I was the green team, we had fun. Next we played bingo but I didn't win anything, they made up lots of silly rhymes with the numbers like 86 breaking sticks. The last game I played was Play your cards right. I was good at it but I lost. Then I went home. It was ten o'clock. I watched a bit of tv then went to bed.

By Jamie Brown, age 7½."

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Public Notice

DONATIONS needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316 630

RSPCA North Tees & District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311 215

Chiropody

CHIROPODY

Mr P. Oliver

BSc (Hons) - M.Ch.S

for a Home Visit call

01325 320126

Helping Hands Giveaway

The Helping Hands Team have organised another Great Giveaway. Picture a massive room, filled with high quality items...but everything is FREE!

Helping Hands are passionate about helping people and bringing hope here in our community. On Friday December 4th from 12.30pm our doors will open at St Clare's, town centre where people can come and help themselves to whatever they need - new clothes, toys, shoes, household items etc. If you'd like an invitation please phone Linzi on 07936 431262 or e-mail lifeline.action@googlemail.com

Allotments

ALLOTMENTS available to rent at Middridge Village. Contact Kathy on 07530 899874

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3 BEDROOM house, large garden, old part of town. Tel 07882 440 377

3 BEDROOM Property available to rent in McKenzie Place, Newton Aycliffe. The property is spacious, has 3 bedrooms and a garden. If you are interested then please contact Lucy on 07826 925652 for further details. (Please note we do not accept DSS)

3 BEDROOM Property available to rent in Eskdale, Newton Aycliffe. The property is spacious, has 3 bedrooms and a garden. If you are interested then please contact Lucy on 07826 925652 for further details. (Please note we do not accept DSS)

DOUBLE ROOM to let in shared house on a quiet private estate. Ample parking, professionals only, £90 per week including all bills. Tel 07703 069290

3 BEDROOM property available to rent in Morrison Close, Newton Aycliffe. The property is spacious has 3 bedrooms and a garden. If you are interested then please contact Lucy on 07826 925652 for further details. (please note we do not accept DSS)

3 BEDROOM house to let in Washington Crescent area. Recently refurbished, Rent £525, admin fee £200. Tel 07515 190431

Aycliffe Girl Fights Life Limiting Tumour

Vows to Use Time Left to Help Others

A few weeks ago the Rotary Club had the privilege of listening to a young Newton Aycliffe girl, Anna Swabey, who came to talk about coping with a terminal illness after being diagnosed with a brain tumour.

Anna was at home in January this year when she suffered a seizure. Aged 23, she

was rushed to hospital and underwent a range of tests before doctors found a tumour. Ana said: "They told me I could survive months or anything up to three years, but I didn't even hear that, I just looked at my Mum and we burst into tears."

Rotary members could not believe how she decided to deal with this death sentence, and thinking only of helping others who might be in similar circumstances.

She had everyone in awe of her bravery and determination to "fight until her last breath" to raise awareness and cash for the charity supporting brain tumour sufferers now and in the future.

Anna explained how little of research money was being used for victims like herself and how necessary it was for her to spread knowledge of the condition.

She has raised thousands of pounds since being diagnosed and kept a diary of her treatment and fundraising on her own website, which is an inspiration to all: www.annaswabey.wordpress.com. What is so admirable about Anna's story is her attitude,



Anna with her boyfriend Andrew

optimism and cheerfulness in the face of all she is going through.

Anna a University graduate and keen sportswoman, along with her boyfriend Andrew and friends, have set about doing what they can to fund research into the illness.

Anna had exciting news recently which will help her considerably in her quest to raise awareness of brain tumour treatment and

research.

On-line petitions have brought results and the newly formed Government Petitions Committee decided that this cause was worth looking into further - particularly as it was not on the agenda for the health committee. They wanted to gain perspectives and evidence from charity campaigners, clinicians, and patients alike to best decide if this issue should be debated in Parliament.

The Committee launched an

online web forum for people to share their experiences and to show their support for more funding into research.

Since then, the committee have invited 20 patients to a roundtable discussion at Westminster and Anna is included. This week she travelled to the Houses of Parliament to share her

experiences with the MPs on the committee.

She truly believes this is a huge step forward not only for brain tumour victims but for democracy in general. Anna said: "I feel very honoured to have been given a chance to be a part of the debate". Anna's story was featured this week on national & local TV news.

Birthday Remembrance

"Our Les"



60th Birthday

23.11.55 - 16.11.04
Always in our thoughts.
Always missing you.
From all the family

RITA ANN CHAPE 18th November 1952. Happy birthday Rita. Miss you every day. All my love, Vaughan

RITA ANN CHAPE (nee Lawson). If only we could see you just for a little while. To wish you "Happy Birthday" and see your lovely smile. Always thinking of you. Love, Mam and family

RITA ANN CHAPE Born 18th November 1953. Birthday wishes to a wonderful Mam and Grandma. Remembering you on your special day. Love, Martyn, Nicola, Natalie and Daniel xxxxx



Anna losing her hair

In Memoriam

John Garrett



In Memory

01.02.1959 - 05.11.2015
Missed by family and friends

SANDERSON Catherine Rennie, "Irene". It's a year since you passed away and you are missed every day. By your Husband Richard, family and friends. Gone but never forgotten. Rest in peace. From your loving Husband Richard

SANDERSON Catherine Rennie, "Nan". You've been gone a year, miss you every day. You are always in our prayers, gone but never forgotten. Love you forever and always. Louise, Toby and Billy

KATH HALL (nee Ward). 20th November 2001. 14 years have passed by since you were taken from your family, each year that goes by is just as difficult as the one before. Time will never heal our loss. You gave birth to three children who all have a special part of you within their hearts. We love you, miss you and always will. Till we meet again. Billy, Julie, Edward, David, Ali, Kim and Glenda

NANNA KATH Love you now and forever Nanna Kath. Shaun, Natalie, Rachael, Ben, Alfie, Matthew and Dan

GREAT NANNA KATH All our love and big hugs. Kate, Jazmin, Harry and Rose

Obituary

BERYL RICHARDSON (nee Kelly). 13th November, peacefully, after a long illness borne with great courage and dignity. Beryl of Newton Aycliffe, aged 66 years. Devoted Wife of Joe; a loving and much loved Mam to Angela, Nicola and Natalie; beloved Nana and Great Grandma; a dear Sister to Raymond; also a very dear Stepmother and good friend to many. Will family and friends please meet for Service at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Friday 27th November at 2.00pm. Followed by Committal at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. Family flowers only please. Donations in memory of Beryl may, if desired, be given for the Great North Air Ambulance Appeal

OLIVE McCABE 30th October. Olive Isabel, aged 84 years of Newton Aycliffe. Beloved Wife of the late Mike; much loved Mother, Sister, Gran and Great Gran. Will friends please meet on Wednesday 25th November at 10.45am at Neville Parade Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe, for a Funeral Service to be followed by private family cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, in lieu, to Macmillan Cancer Support

EDNA MOUNSEY. 13th November, at home, Edna, aged 90 years of Newton Aycliffe, formerly of The Oak Tree. Beloved Wife of the late Fred; much loved Mam of Patricia, Vivian, Adrian and the late Philip; Mother-in-Law of David and Tracie; also a beloved Nana and Great Nana. Funeral on Monday 30th November. Would family and friends please meet at 12.15pm for a Service at St Clare's Church prior to cremation at Darlington Crematorium.

Congratulations

David Ryan



Congratulations on winning your second MMA fight
All our love, Emma, Katie, Kian and Olivia xxxxx

Josh



"You made it to 21 in one piece!"

Happy 21st Josh. Lots of love, Mam, Jules
Happy 21st Josh
Love you loads, Danielle
Happy 21st Josh
Cara, Craig & Kids
All The Best Josh
Proud of you. Love, Nana

Jake Davison



Happy 18th Birthday
21st November 2015

"Where did those years go?"
Happy birthday to our lovely Grandson. Love always, Nana and Grandad

JOHNSON (26/11/1945 to 26/11/2015). Congratulations Mam and Dad, as you celebrate your Platinum Wedding Anniversary, We send our love and thanks for always being there for us all. 70 years is a great achievement for which we are proud to share with you. From all your loving family. Also 88th birthday greetings to Mam (married on her 18th birthday)

LAURA and LEE congratulations on your Engagement. Love, Mam, Dad and Ellie xxxx

KJENSTAD, Jack Einar David - Happy 13th Birthday to a special Grandson on 19th November. Love from Gran xx and Grandad Alan xx Have a great day!

Due to demand on space this week, a number of news items could not be published

Rebecca Louise Amy Cooke

Happy 40th Birthday
to
"A Daughter in a Million"

All our love
Mam and Dad

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Births

"Joselyn"



Congratulations

to Andrew and Gemma on the birth of their Daughter "Joselyn". Best wishes and lots of love from Mam, Dad and family

Acknowledgement

JOHN SIMPSON. Linda and family of the late John Barry would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers and kind words on their loss of such a special man. Thank you for the donations to the Great North Air Ambulance and R.N.L.I. Special thanks to doctors at Bewick Crescent Surgery, all staff on Ward 44 at Darlington Memorial, John Meynell Funeral Service and Derek Cattell for his Humanist Service plus all the staff of British Legion.

GEORGE GRAY would like to say a big thank you to his family, who helped him celebrate his big birthday at the Forrester Arms. It was a big surprise, thanks also for the surprise present which I received and many thanks to all the staff and chef for the excellent meal and the use of the back. Nothing was too much bother to them. Thanks to all, George Gray

For Sale

"ALL SORTS" Charity Shop, open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 10am to 1pm at the side of St Clare's Church. Fantastic selection of bric-a-brac, household goods and Christmas gifts for all ages. Plus a real Santa Costume for hire with sack, bell, wig etc. More details on request. *The shop is run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett*

ZANUSSI Spin Dryer excellent condition, £50; Man's Leather necklace and bracelet with steel beads, both boxed, new, £15; Dog coat by Eisbar, size 50c, Red/Black, excellent condition, £15. Tel 01325 301158

MOBILITY shopping scooter, folds into boot, good condition, £100, can deliver; 3 wheel walking/shopping aid, bag and brakes, £25; Lightweight wheelchair, £50. Tel 07956 089630

MAXI-COSI Family Fix Isofix Base. Hardly used. £75. Tel: 07887 379093

POWER CADDY premium cart bag, unused, £90 ono. Tel 01325 313725

DELONGHI Quattro plus gas heater and bottle, £45 ono. Tel 01325 313725

CROSS TRAINER with electronic console, new condition, £60. Tel 01325 312518

SOLID PINE sofa, converts into double bed, £25. Tel 07788 190662

ADULT TRIKE by Kentex, blue, large basket, Shimano gears, £300. Tel 07788 190662

FREE Fibreglass pond, 168 x 104 x 38cm. Tel 01325 301692

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



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HUNTSMAN F.C. LEAGUE CUP MISERY YOUTHY FOOTBALL RESULTS

Despite being unbeaten in the league this season, The Huntsman crashed out of another cup this weekend with a 3-2 defeat away to Willington Queen's Head FC. Manager Neil Dodds recalled Captain Lee Redpath and defender Ste Williams back into the side, as The Huntsman aimed to carry their impressive league form and turn it into Division 2 League Cup success.

The game got off to a relatively slow start, with the away side edging the opening exchanges and

Michael Sproates going close to breaking the deadlock. But it was Queens who went ahead when they won a free kick 35 yards out for goal. It would have appeared from that distance that a cross was the most likely danger, but up stepped the Queen's centre back who rifled home the free kick into the top right-hand corner.

A matter of five minutes later, Queen's won another free kick, this time a lot closer to the edge of The Huntsman box. Up stepped the Willington centre back again, as this time his curled effort round the wall and beat Wintour in The Huntsman

net.

The away side struggled to get into the game, which was being played in very cold and wet conditions. Just when it appeared as though they were going to go into the break without a goal, a powerful run by Ste Williams from right back got the score line back to 2-1.

2-1 would have been a good half time score line given the circumstances. However, the referee awarded Queen's a dubious corner, which was whipped in hard at the front post and eluded everyone to give the home side a two goal cushion at the break.

The away side came out with

a renewed purpose in the second half and certainly had the chances to get back in the game. A magnificent volley from substitute John Jamie Herd forced a top class save from the Queen's keeper.

The Huntsman were given a glimmer of hope five minutes from time, as a good bit of work down the right by Paul Barnes gave Ste Williams a tap in for his second, but unfortunately it was too little too late.

Next up for The Huntsman is the rearranged Heart Foundation Cup tie, at home to Gainford Cross Keys Simpasture Park 10.30 kick off. *Craig Woodhead*



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Good Response from S.O.S



After progressing through the Development section and lots of hard work the under 7's Eagles were ready for their league debut in the Russel Foster Winter League. Playing on Durham City 3G pitch v Escombe Vikings "A", the surface was perfect for the boys to show how they are progressing as a team.

Our coaches commented that the most important outcome was they all enjoyed every minute of the game playing with smiles on their faces. An end to end game from two evenly matched sides saw an excellent 3-3 draw.

The under 11 boys travelled to Chester Le Street v St Cuthberts hoping to continue their impressive early season form. It was a slow start from Aycliffe and after 5 mins the home team opened the scoring which woke the lads up and it wasn't long before we equalized through Ben.

From that point Aycliffe dominated the game scoring a further 6 goals for an impressive 7-1 win - goals from Jake 3, Leon 2, Declan, Ben.

Under 13 girls made the trip to play title contenders Lumley FC but illness and injuries left us with only 9 players and no substitutes. Lumley quickly took control of the game and despite some brave defending and excellent goal keeping they raced into a 4-0 lead.

However the girls kept battling and a superb finish from Meg got us to HT 4-1 down. The second half was always going to be a big ask as a heavy pitch and no subs resulted in Lumley scoring another 5 times without reply FT 9-1, great effort from the girls against a top team.

Under 14 girls travelled to Hebburn and dominated the game with good passing and movement. Chance after chance slipped passed the post or was saved by the keeper and inevitably a rare break from Hebburn snatched the lead - HT 1-0. Out for the second half and the game continued with shots peppering the Hebburn goal, a shot from outside the box hit the post rebounds off the keeper's head and out for a corner.

The girls were now pushing for an equalizer when Hebburn counter-attacked and grabbed a second goal. The final 15 mins were played inside the Hebburn half and the girls got a breakthrough as Martha surged into the box to calmly slot into the corner. The shots on target tally continued to climb, but Hebburn stood firm to take the points - FT 2-1. Most of Sunday's games were postponed due to the waterlogged pitches at the Oakleaf.

Under 12 Eagles played away to Acklam FC, the game was end to end on a pitch that cut

up and became very boggy. Two goals from Kian Cook kept the game close until the final minutes and Aycliffe 2-3 down, a super goal from Joey Howarth tied the game and the points were shared FT 3-3 MOM Joey Howarth and Jamie Cockfield

Under 12 Hawks v Boro Reds, despite being short of players the Hawks again showed great spirit playing as a team. The team develop with every game and take the positives even in defeat. Well done boys a win isn't far away. If you want more information visit our website www.naycafc.co.uk

When Newton Aycliffe Youth FC Under 13 Falcons badly needed a new playing kit and winter tracksuits they asked for help and got an S.O.S response... quite literally! Stephen O'Sullivan of S.O.S Plumbing & Heating Services in Ferryhill put his hand in his pocket to sponsor and purchase the new kit.

Falcons Team Manager Darren Williams said "This extremely kind gesture from Stephen is massive to our team" Darren added "This kind of financial and kit support helps us continue to grow and develop as a grass roots football team and we cannot thank our new sponsor enough"

The Falcons are currently top of their T.J.F.A Division and details on them can be found via www.naycafc.co.uk S.O.S can be contacted on 07748 481544 or <http://sos-plumbing-heating.moonfruit.com>

W.A.S.P.S. Meeting

The next meeting of the Residents' Association is Thursday 26th November at 6.30pm at Simpasture Court, followed by a Social Evening with Quiz, Bingo and Raffle. Bookings taken for trips to Durham Cathedral Market and Pantomime. Payment needed by end of month.

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