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## Youth Centre Members Enjoy Pizza & Politics with MP Phil

The NAASA youth group at Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre were joined by Sedgefield MP Phil Wilson, for pizza and to discuss the importance of voting.

In total 30 young people attended the Newton Aycliffe and Shildon Alive Friday evening youth group, to listen and speak with Mr Wilson.

The group attracts those in their teens up to 19 years old, meaning some of those who attended could cast their first vote in the EU referendum this June.

The rushed introduction of Individual Voter Registration, a year earlier than planned, has however wiped many people, particularly the young



and disadvantaged, from the register. The Electoral Commission has stated that 770,000 names were removed from the register when the transition period to individual voter register ended. In Sedgefield constituency alone, at least 500 people were removed from the register. Phil Wilson however, has made it clear that he will work hard to ensure young people in his constituency are not denied a voice, "Young people are the

future of this town and they deserve to have their say." Vince Crosby Chairman of the Board of Trustees said, "My Trustees are fully behind getting young people involved in the way they can understand how both laws are made and how to engage with the MP and I would like to thank Phil for taking the time out. Young people having previously met with the local Councillors are becoming more involved." During the pizza and politics session, he listened to the concerns of the young people and answered numerous questions on a range of issues, with one teen quizzing the MP on changes regarding e-cigarette legislation. Others told Phil how important the youth centre is to them, and expressed their concerns over potential changes to the youth service in County Durham; a direct result of the disproportionate cuts the government is placing upon Durham County Council, with the toll of government austerity costing the council £290 million between 2010 and 2020.

Phil Wilson said "What young people like show is that young people care about their communities, and they want their voice heard. The teens and the staff at NAASA are a credit to the town and to the constituency."

"I want young people to have their say, it is not about whether they vote for me, it is about enabling them to exercise their fundamental right to vote". After Mr Wilson had finished speaking, those 16 or over were able to register to vote.

Overall the evening was a great success, with 16 pizzas consumed, and more young people now on the electoral register, able to have their voice heard. To register to vote, please visit:

[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

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## Students Visit Council Offices



The Mayor, Cllr Mrs Mary Dalton and her Consort son Michael (seated), received representatives from St Joseph's School Council last Wednesday at the Council Offices. The children were investigating democracy as part of "Celebrating British Values Week".

## Town Centre Entertainment

An Aycliffe entertainer is putting on a free Punch & Judy Show on Easter Saturday in the Town Centre from 12 noon until 3.00pm. Take your children along to enjoy this traditional entertainment.

## 'EVERY MOMENT COUNTS'

Local electrical contractors Harvey Electrical Services announced they have become an official supporter of the Butterwick Hospice. Joining an increasing number of business supporters from around the region Harvey Electrical Services will pledge their support for the North East



## LOCAL DOCTOR WINS NATIONAL AWARD



Dr Banerjee (centre) with members of the Trust's research team, including Professor Murphy (left), who helped conduct the study

A Darlington hospital consultant has been named the first ever winner of a national award for his investigation into the risks people with food allergies face from restaurant and take-away meals.

Dr. Tushar Banerjee, consultant paediatrician at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, has been selected by Imperial College, London, to receive the Jill Warner Award, which will be given annually to the research project considered to have the most impact on the care of people with allergies.

Dr. Banerjee, said, "My research revealed that people with food allergies were at significant risk of accidental exposure when eating take-away and restaurant food, largely due to the lack of

knowledge of people working in these venues. Around 15 people die from the most serious form of food allergies in the UK every year and hospital admissions for food allergies have increased 500 per cent since 1990.

"These are preventable deaths and having identified the risks through my research, I worked with Darlington Borough Council and addressed two awareness-raising meetings for large and small-scale caterers in the town. We also made them aware of a European Union directive, introduced in late 2014, requiring restaurants to highlight ingredients causing allergic reactions, such as milk, eggs, fish and most dangerous, peanuts, on menus."

"Winning this award came as a total surprise and I am particularly pleased as it means my research findings being shared even more widely than I hoped."

Dr. Banerjee runs a multi-disciplinary food allergy clinic at Darlington Memorial Hospital where patients can be seen by a dietician, gastroenterologist, dermatologist, respiratory clinician and a specialist allergy nurse.

charity throughout 2016 and 2017.

The Butterwick Hospice was established in 1984 as The John Butterwick Day Care Centre by the incredible and courageous Mary Butterwick. An amazing journey has seen the hospice grow from strength to strength with three hospice centres now operating in Stockton and Bishop Auckland along with three outreach centres attached to hospitals in Sedgefield, Stanhope and Barnard Castle. All providing care for people of all ages who are living with a progressive life limiting illness.

All of The Butterwick Hospice's services are provided free of charge to those diagnosed with illness and to their loved ones, for which they rely upon donations from businesses and the public to fund the care. Karl Harvey, owner of Harvey Electrical Services said:

"The Butterwick Hospice is a charity very close to my heart, words cannot describe the great work they do and the support they provide to those in need. We do everything we can to support them, we regularly attend fundraising events and

pledging our support for them never came into question. I am very proud to support such a worthy cause"

As a supporter, Harvey Electrical Services attend various corporate and networking events held by the Butterwick Hospice's corporate department. It enables businesses to integrate even further into the community and to help spread the Butterwick Hospice message.

Karl was presented his official supporter certificate by Chief Executive of the Butterwick Hospice, Graham Leggatt-Chidgey, at a recent networking event at The Judges Hotel, Yarm.

Harvey Electrical Services are a local family run business providing commercial and domestic electrical services including PAT testing, wiring installation, specialist lighting schemes, fire alarm testing, intruder alarms, CCTV systems throughout Newton Aycliffe, Darlington and the North East.

For more information on Harvey Electrical Services please visit [www.harveyelectricalservices.com](http://www.harveyelectricalservices.com)

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**Saturday 26th March - "7 Sins"**  
 Gig Pit Review: 'First time for me to catch the 7 Sins at Merton's Big Club. I really enjoyed the band, a great selection of rock covers from Tom Petty, Free, Kings of Leon, Def Leppard, Bad Company, Kaiser Chiefs, Simple Minds. The standard of playing was excellent, Bill Brown on rhythm and lead vocals has a great tone to his voice and is a great front man who likes to get the audience involved with his jokes and banter. The other members play to a very high standard lead guitar, bass and a cracking drummer that captures the feel and sound of the drummers that had crafted the songs that they covered. All in all what a great night. Now if they are a new one for you too, make a point of getting to see them, you won't be disappointed. They didn't need gimmicks as the quality of playing was excellent as was the sound quality. So, a fantastic night with Rainbow, Free, Double Brothers 'Long Train Running', Mamba & the Mullins 'Echo Beach' to name just a few. The crowd really appreciated them and I think you would.'

**Saturday 2nd April - "This Machine"**  
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# ROTARY CLUB MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION - RECORD BREAKER



The model railway exhibition, organised by the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe, held last Saturday at the Youth Centre, Burn Lane, broke all previous records with some 720 visitors and raising in excess of £2000 for the Heel and Toe Charity, serving children suffering from Cerebral Palsy in our area. Top quality layouts from as far away as Welshpool in mid Wales and Spalding as well as from across the North East were on show in a wide variety of scales along with traders selling new and used equipment, bookstalls and preservation societies.

Visitors were kept well fed from the Centre Café with the speciality bacon butties going down a treat. The Exhibition Manager John Burrows said "We are delighted with the record attendance and the monies raised for this worthy charity. Our thanks go to our sponsors Sabre Rail of Newton Aycliffe, Barclays Bank, Great Aycliffe Town Council and Durham County Council."

The event was honoured by the presence of Cllr Mary Dalton, Mayor of Great Aycliffe Town Council and Rotarian Terry Long, District Governor of Rotary North East.

Contact John Burrows  
07870-210269  
jandeburrows@gmail.com



Charlotte Icton presenting the John Henry Jones Memorial Trophy in memory of her grandfather to Steven Fairlie for his "Langholm" layout which won Best in Show.



David and Edward Farms receiving the Peoples Choice Trophy from John Burrows the Exhibition Manager, for their Barnstoneworth layout.

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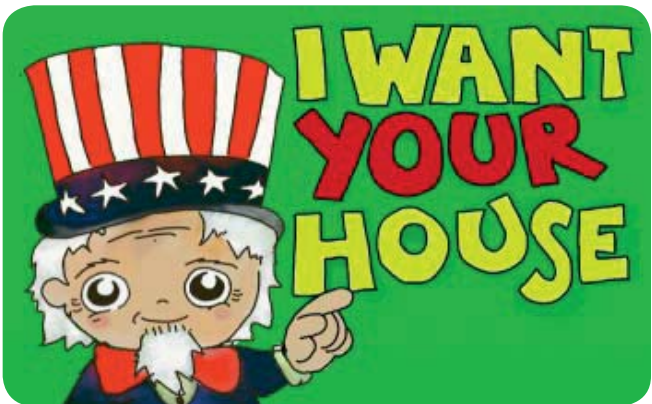
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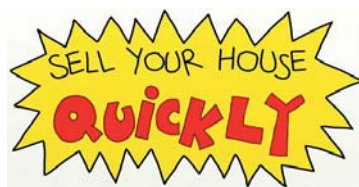


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North-East based charity Veterans at Ease will be holding its monthly 'Handbags and Sandbags' Coffee Morning event. Veterans, serving military personnel and family members in the community are invited to join us for a cuppa and a chat with a representative of the charity about the one-to-one therapy services we offer to those dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other combat stress related issues.

The event will take place on Thursday 31st March 2016 between 9:30hrs and 11:00hrs at The Phoenix Club, Macmillan Road (formerly known as the Royal British Legion). All are warmly welcome. For more details, please contact Therapist and Events/Volunteer Co-ordinator Clair on 07557 989 416.

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A wonderful line-up of stars in a film that amuses, titillates and saddens as cheeky chappy Alfie goes his selfish way. Tea and coffee will be served at 1pm, included in the £2, 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 great film in friendly company. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

# Eleven Arches Project Volunteers Make the Grade



As part of the build up to the first season of 'Kynren – an epic tale of England', a series of spectacular open air live action night shows set to hit County Durham this summer, Eleven Arches has put all of its 'front of house' Experience

Team volunteers through an internationally recognised training scheme which was developed for the Game Makers at the 2012 Olympics. Ahead of the 14 shows, which premiere on 2nd July, the volunteers have all received WorldHost training from the Durham Employment and Skills training team. Based within Durham County Council, the team offer a full range of high quality training and development opportunities for businesses and individuals. The WorldHost course was seen as key to providing visitors to London 2012 with a warm welcome and contributing to the success of the Olympics with surveys revealing that 99 per cent of visitors wanted to return to London following the event. It is hoped that, in the same way it will contribute to

making the Kynren an equally unforgettable experience. Cllr Neil Foster, the Council's Cabinet member said: "The training means that visitors to County Durham will receive a first class welcome from local volunteers who will play a major part in what we're sure we'll be an amazing event. We're delighted to be able to continue our support for the work of the Eleven Arches Trust which promises to provide a huge boost to Bishop Auckland and the whole county in terms of tourism, local businesses and jobs." Claire Byers, Director of Communications and Marketing at Eleven Arches, working closely with the volunteers on the Experience Team, said: "Kynren will be the UK's most spectacular open-air live action night show since the opening of the 2012

Olympics. We were delighted to have Durham Employment and Skills as our training partner, they brought great professionalism and passion to the sessions, and we are so proud of the hard work and commitment from all the volunteers who took part. With visitors expected from right across the region, the UK and as far afield as Europe, Australia and Japan, they will undoubtedly be superb ambassadors for County Durham and the wider North East region."

Eleven Arches is investing heavily in the professional training of its 1,000 plus volunteers, from choreography and combat to pyro to horse-riding, with standards befitting being on the world stage. The £31m Eleven Arches project is part of the vision of philanthropist and investment manager, Jonathan Ruffer to establish Bishop Auckland as a visitor destination in the North of England. The Eleven Arches concept is inspired by Puy du

Fou, who, over 37 years, has completely transformed the fortunes of the Vendee region, France. Kynren has already been included in the Rough Guides' Top 10 new tourist attractions and the Guardian Travel's hotlist of worldwide travel destinations.

The Durham Employment & Skills team offers a full range of high quality training and development opportunities for both businesses and individuals. For more information contact DES@durham.gov.uk or 03000 266 644.

## Nominations Deadline for PCC Elections

Prospective candidates wishing to stand in the elections for the police and crime commissioner in the Durham area have until April 7th to submit their nomination.

Anyone considering standing for election can request a nomination pack from Durham County Council's electoral services team.

They will be asked to attend an informal briefing session when they collect their pack and should contact the electoral services team to make an appointment.

The deadline is 4pm on Thursday 7 April 2016. Anyone wishing to make an appointment to collect a nomination pack should contact electoral services at DCC on 03000 261 212 or email [electoralservices@durham.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@durham.gov.uk)

Further information for prospective candidates can also be found at [www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/police-and-crime-commissioner-elections](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/police-and-crime-commissioner-elections)

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## Aycliffe Firm Cited as National Inspiration

International shower designer and manufacturer, Roman, has been identified as one of London Stock Exchange's 1000 Companies to Inspire Britain. The report is a celebration of the UK's fastest growing and most dynamic small and medium sized businesses.

Roman has been included in the London Stock Exchange's landmark report, which identifies the most exciting and dynamic small and medium sized enterprises. They produce this report as they understand the importance in showcasing and supporting the UK's dynamic SMEs. They state that these 1000 Companies to Inspire Britain have a unique capacity to innovate and create new jobs, in turn spearheading the revival of the UK economy.

The London Stock Exchange worked with research company, DueDil, to identify the list of 1000 Companies. In order to be included in this report Roman had to meet the selection criteria set down. These criteria included the companies to be UK registered and active; have revenues between £5 million and £250 million, based on the latest Companies House filings and have a minimum of three years in operation. It also required companies to have shown consistent revenue growth over a minimum of three years and to have significantly outperformed their industry



peers. The full report is available to download on the London Stock Exchange website. Writing in the publication, The Rt. Hon. George Osborne MP said: "UK high growth businesses are leading the charge in rebuilding our economy. These companies are the backbone of the British economy. They create high quality, well paid jobs, innovate and drive economic growth." David Osborne, Managing Director, commented: "I think my namesake has said it all. We are very proud to be recognised by the London Stock Exchange in such a way and ranked alongside so many other great companies. We are very proud of our achievements over the last 30 years, but particularly over recent years and we are now set for a period of sustained high growth."

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## Wishes Can Come True



A local charity is celebrating receiving funding to help create a new IT suite. The Hub of Wishes, located at Silverdale Place in Newton Aycliffe is a day service provider that supports adults over 18 years of age who have mental health issues.

At their Hub of Wishes community building the charity delivers a range of activities, which helps promote social inclusion and allows their service users to build friendships. Currently, the charity runs an art therapy group, walking group, lunch club, bingo, day trips, healthy living/eating courses, gardening and alternative therapy sessions. All these activities allow the centre users to improve their basic skills and build confidence to assist them in their recovery.

The funding secured through

Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) via the Neighbourhood Budget allocations of County Councillors Eddy Adam and Kate Hopper, will allow the organisation to purchase new PCs and offer free training courses to their clients.

Vicki Lawrence, from the Hub of Wishes, said: "The funding will allow us to offer our service users and wider community better facilities by replacing the centre's current PCs that have become unusable, because of their age".

The new equipment will also benefit other organisations who use the centre, for example; Cornforth Partnership deliver a job club from the centre (for the wider community) and the new PCs will be used by them to help with job searches and preparing CVs etc.

## Scholarships for Talented Aycliffe Dance Students

"Stepping Out with Clare Walton" Dance School attended 'Move It 2016' in London's Excel. They were excited to see all the major colleges performing and taking lectures with famous choreographers like Lukas McFarlane, Ryan Jenkins, Ben Davies and Ballet Boys to name a few.

Five dancers: Lisa Robinson - for Commercial Street Charlie Lough, Georgia Thelwell and Claudia Bennett - for Contemporary Lyrical and Emily Halford for Latin (who trains in this genre with Bryan & Brenda Thomson at Lee Green School on the town) were spotted and scouted throughout the weekend with an invitation to live finals of the Dance Elite UK competition. The prize is £5000 and a scholarship to Hollywood, by-passing the audition process.

Due to the standard shown by these girls Dance Elite UK want to come to the Aycliffe studios and audition every single SO dancer and others in the North East strictly by invitation only.

West End 'Matilda' Casting Agent approached Principal Teacher Clare after seeing Claudia Bennett perform and have offered her an opportunity to audition for a West End Role in Matilda

and want to come and audition the rest of the school for supporting dancing roles. Georgia Thelwell was chosen to dance on Ryan Jenkins "ID Dance" Showreel for MoveIt16 with his dancers.

Georgia Thelwell and Charlie Lough have been chosen to front up a new dance and sport clothing range in Hampshire by a new upcoming company 'The Jonese's Apparel'.

Chloe Fenton (from Dance Mams UK) clothing range Bossy have selected our whole school of dancers to perform in the launch of her label in Liverpool

Georgia Thelwell, Claudia Bennett, Lisa Robinson and Charlie Lough were scouted by TalentInc, a US company with an audition invitation in London on March 26th for TV work. They do Austin & Ally, Bella & Bulldogs, Twilight, and films Paper Towns, Vogue & Elle.

Emily Halford secured an audition for Kimberley Wyatt for the Hollywood Tour 2016. She was also approached by the Russian Ballet.

The school was recommended for a main stage performance for 'Move it 2017' alongside the country's top colleges.

Charlie Lough, Claudia Bennett, Georgia Thelwell

and Lisa Robinson competed on the 'Move It' Freestyling Stage with amazing IPROV performances which Charlie Lough won her 'Move It' Freestylers stage heat then went on to win the overall Grand Final beating well known students who have been televised from famous studios

Off the back of that Charlie Lough was chosen by scouts offering a scholarship to the Hollywood summer tour 2016! She will attend dance classes at L.A.'s hottest dance studios where the magic of making music videos happen! She will work with top choreographers and receive lots of VIP experience!

Another pupil, Daniel Wilkinson, attended Abby Lee Miller's Masterclass and after being put through his paces smashed the audition and was offered a scholarship with Abby Lee Miller in LA. What a weekend for these pupils who are nicknamed fondly "The Green Machines" due to their hard working ethos and passion for dance.

Clare and her team are bursting with pride and want to share these wonderful successes and achievements with their patrons in Newton Aycliffe

## Woodham Academy Girl Hits the High Note



Local girl Zoe Barnett hit the high note on Saturday when she played violin to a sell out audience at The Sage in Gateshead. Zoe is one of many County Durham talented musicians selected by the Durham Music Service to play in the County Durham Youth Orchestra.

Zoe has been playing violin - a snazzy purple number - for several years, with lessons via the Durham Schools service who come into schools during the week, also playing on a Thursday evening at rehearsals based at Greenfield School.

The full orchestra played at Christmas time with the sound track to The Snowman at Ushaw College and at The Excel Centre.

The Sage is a much bigger venue and the orchestra played a number of pieces with sessions from other smaller bands during the performance too.

## Flower Demo

A thing of beauty is a joy forever - so the saying goes and this will be especially true for those who attend the next meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club on Monday, 4th April at Shildon Civic Hall at 7.30pm when Area Demonstrator, Heather H. Hayes, presents an evening of flower arranging under this title - 'A Thing of Beauty'. Free to members - £5 for visitors - pay on the door

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# Apprentices are an Asset



Jack Mitchell, Karl Teasdale, and Ciaran Kelly

Leading international shower designer and manufacturer, Roman, supported National Apprenticeship Week, which took place from 14 – 18 March 2016. The aim of the week was to increase awareness and the take up of apprenticeships.

Roman were keen to get involved as they have always found apprentices a great asset to their company and fully support young people going into apprenticeships.

As part the campaign Roman staff from different departments attended the

“Finding Your Future” event at Bishop Auckland College where they provided information about Roman, as they are offering four new apprenticeship opportunities this year.

They also answered questions and gave advice about apprenticeships to the college students and school pupils that attended the event from local schools in the area.

A local radio station interviewed Roman’s Operations Director, John Wright why Roman choose to

employ apprentices and how they benefit the company.

Roman has created a video for National Apprenticeship Week, to give young people an insight into what they can expect from an apprenticeship. The video includes three of Roman’s newest apprentices, from three different areas of the business.

These apprentices explain why they chose to do an apprenticeship, what their role involves and what they hope to achieve in the future. This is a useful reference tool for young people thinking about going into an apprenticeship as they can hear the advantages from personal experiences.

This video will be used in local colleges and schools and will be on Roman’s website and YouTube channel making it available to as many young people as possible.

The three new apprentices Roman took on last year are Ciaran Kelly, Jack Mitchell and Karl Teasdale. Ciaran does a level 2 Joinery Apprenticeship, Jack is working towards a level 2 Customer Service Apprenticeship and Karl is an Electrical Mechanical Apprentice. These apprentices are 17 years old and last year joined Roman to pursue their chosen careers.

John Wright, Roman’s Operations Director, commented: “We have had an ongoing student apprenticeship scheme running now for 20 years – so we are very clear about the advantages and benefits apprentices bring to the company.

Apprentices are also a great foundation for someone to go on to a successful career in industry and we have many examples of this within Roman.

Apprenticeships have a positive impact on individuals, businesses and the wider economy and Roman want to continue their involvement and are planning to take on four new apprenticeships this year.”

# Community Helper

Charlotte Icton was nominated for an award by her Tutor at St Johns School, Bishop Auckland for Services to the Community for her involvement with the Rotary Santa Collections. She took on the work in memory of her Grandad, John Jones, who was a Rotarian.

Her Mum sent a letter to school apologizing if Charlotte’s homework was not to her usual high standard because she was out each night, in the freezing cold, collecting for local charities! This is how the process started and how Charlotte received her nomination.

An Awards Ceremony was held at the Xcel Centre, and unfortunately she didn’t win, but she continues to help the Rotary Club and anyone else who needs a helping hand.



# Tesco Easter Egg Collection for Hospice



Over the last month we have been collecting Easter Eggs from the kind donations of our customers here in Tesco Newton Aycliffe for St Theresa’s Hospice.

So far over 50 eggs have been kindly donated and were presented to the hospice by Shirley Cormack (Community Champion) and her colleagues on Tuesday. We would like to say a massive thank you to all who donated to the Easter Egg Appeal.

# New Dance School for Aycliffe

Two enterprising young Newtonians are about to open a fresh new dance school. Qualified dance teachers Emily Henderson who is 22 years old and Frances Wade who will shortly celebrate her 20th birthday decided that the time was right to launch Infinity Dance Company which will hold classes in the two halls at St Clare’s Church in the Town Centre, returning dancing to the heart of the Community.

Both girls are past students from Greenfield Community College and through dancing have over the years made many friends from all over the region.

Emily said “We have both danced since we were very young and the passion we have for it is our driving force. We recognise that setting up by ourselves needs a lot of determination and hard work, but, we are both at a stage in our lives where we can wholeheartedly commit to the dance school.

We want to achieve high standards whilst exploring new ideas to ensure that students of all ages and abilities thoroughly enjoy our classes and are offered the opportunity to reach their full potential.”

This is the second dance school to be based at St Clare’s and Frances said “The Church is a perfect place for us to establish our school, it



is central to the town making it easily accessible by foot, it has lots of free parking nearby as well as being on the main bus route into town. There are two halls that we can use which are just the right size and provide the right environment for teaching. The Front Hall is particularly nice, it even has a stage which will give us some flexibility to put on performances as we develop.”

The girls also praised the Church Officials who have been particularly helpful in getting things organised without delay.

Infinity Dance Company will be holding their Launch Night

in St Clare’s Front Hall on Wednesday 6th April from 6.30pm through to 8pm.

Classes will be held on a Wednesday and Thursday evenings plus a Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon and are offered to children aged from 3 years right up to more mature adults. You can sign up for a number of different styles including, Street, Lyrical, Tap, Ballet and Break dancing.

So, if you “Wanna Dance”, please come down and meet the girls where they will talk you through their timetable and future plans.

Tel: 07791 772965 or 07807 580992 for details.



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# Two Schools Raise £1000 for Charity in “Race for Life”



St Francis C. of E. Junior School and Horndale Infants and Nursery held a Race for Life event this week. It was an overwhelming success, raising over £1000 in sponsorship and donations. Thanks to all parents and supporters who have helped make this community event such a success. All money raised will be going to Cancer Research UK and will help to make a difference to those affected by cancer.

## “NEWTON NEWS” Deliverers Wanted for all areas of the town



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## GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 6th April 2016**

**Environment Committee  
Recreation 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”.



# “North Better off Out of EU” 3M Among the World’s “Most Ethical”

Dear Sir,

Angela Bergg states that she is a true Northerner and wants to remain in the EU because the undemocratic EU gives the North East more back in funding per capita than the North East taxpayers contribute. If this is indeed the case, presumably successive British Governments have allowed this to happen. However, come BREXIT there will be more British tax payer’s money available to spend in the North! It’s a no brainer!

Why pay the EU £15 billion per year just so that they can distribute the remainder of our EU contribution? It must be better and more democratic just to LEAVE the EU and spend all our own taxes where the electorate want them to be spent. Yes, Mrs Bergg, there is a North / South divide but remaining in the EU will only perpetuate it.

When I first moved to the North East (more than 40 years ago) I thought that the North East voted Labour because it was poor. After the New Labour era I have come to realise that the North East is poor because it predominantly votes labour! During our membership of the EEC, and latterly the EU, we have not only lost over a million jobs but we have lost great industries: Coal, Steel, Shipbuilding, Aluminium; with Farming and Fisheries

being at great risk due to our continued membership of the EU.

Coal - It is now cheaper to import coal from Poland than to mine our own. If we leave the EU and Poland decides to raise its prices we can easily produce our own coal and repatriate a lot of jobs.

Steel – 35,000 steel jobs were lost under New Labour. EU ‘rules’ meant that we could not subsidise our steel production. Also, EU ‘Green energy’ targets meant that our costs of production were artificially high and uncompetitive, even within Europe!

Shipbuilding – When the Pallion Yard at Sunderland closed the emergency funding (our own tax money) received from the EU was conditional upon the most up-to-date shipyard in Europe not being used for shipbuilding! Germany and the Netherlands, in the meantime, illegally subsidised their shipbuilding.

Aluminium - Again, EU ‘green energy’ targets and taxes on fossil fuels meant that our production could not remain competitive.

Farming – Remember the butter, grain, and sugar mountains and the wine lakes? The Common Agricultural Policy uses our taxes to pay farmers not to farm. Our Dairy Industry is in danger due to the ‘dumping’ of over production

in the EU, subsidised by our taxes. Better to pay our own farmers to farm our land rather than subsidise over-production in the EU and dumping in Britain. We will have more money after leaving the EU to properly fund our farming.

Fisheries – For years we have been making criminals out of our skippers and scrapping our fishing boats so that Spanish and other EU fishing fleets could plunder our fisheries. Madness!

Mrs Bergg’s ‘fear campaign’ is based upon the fact that she does not trust our democratically elected Government to properly and fairly distribute the monies we taxpayers currently pay to the EU. This is a perfectly rational fear for a labour supporter. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown after him, both failed to address the North / South divide. However, even if her fear is justified and a post BREXIT British Government distributes our total contribution to the EU along the lines that it is currently distributed (partly by the EU) then the fact that there will be an extra £15 billion in the kitty will mean that the North will be financially better off OUT rather than IN.

As an aside. Today I received a ‘Remain’ leaflet delivered by an employee of “Royal Mail”. Does this mean that the Queen has gone back

on her word? Is she now allowing the ‘Royal’ warrant to be used by the ‘Remain’ campaign? Is this the level playing-field we were promised?

Perhaps, the Prime Minister, as figurehead for the ‘Remain’ campaign, can enlighten us upon if/and when Her Majesty decided to side with his campaign.

Alastair P.G. Welsh

3M, which has a manufacturing plant at Aycliffe, has been acclaimed as one of the world’s most ethical companies for the third year running.

The science-based technology company’s Aycliffe site employs around 320 people manufacturing respirators for worker safety and products for the vehicle aftercare market. It is one of just 131 companies worldwide to be honoured

for its ethics and good practice this year in the annual rankings produced by the prestigious Ethisphere Institute.

Ethisphere chief executive Timothy Erblich said: “3M’s 100-plus years demonstrate a sustainable business advantage that is supported by its values and commitment to ethics and innovation. “The company clearly understands its role in the

broader global business community and recognises the value of operating with integrity.”

Aycliffe plant manager Colin MacLeod said the site was proud of the recognition. “Our people are at the core of 3M’s commitment to ethics and integrity,” he commented. “We believe in creating trust with customers by doing business the right way, every day.”

## Police Cadet Scheme Proves it Worth



Police Cadets received training from the county’s Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) at a special event held this week.

The training session, hosted by PCC Ron Hogg, took place at Durham Constabulary headquarters on Thursday 3rd March, 2016.

The evening started with an inspection where Ron spoke to every cadet while on parade. He then gave a presentation and took part in the Q&A session answering a range of questions from Ron’s greatest fears and his greatest achievements to his favourite superhero. Ron said:

“This has been a unique opportunity to hear first-hand why these young people chose to be involved in the police service, what interests them and what they would like to achieve by the

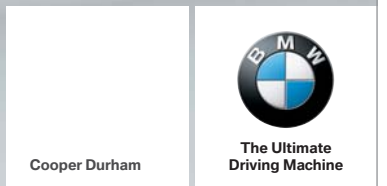
end of their cadet training.

“The cadet scheme is run by Durham Agency Against Crime, and has come a long way since its launch in January 2014. I look forward to seeing how these latest trainees develop their knowledge and skills over the coming months.”

The cadets also took part in a knowledge check, relating to subjects they had learnt in their training so far. Finally they were asked ‘What is the best thing about being a cadet?’ Answers included “It got me an apprenticeship with the police”, “It’s made me a much more confident person” and “I feel included and valued”.

To find out about the Cadet scheme, visit the Durham Agency Against Crime website at: [www.daac.org.uk](http://www.daac.org.uk)

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# Golden Anniversary FREE E-BOOKS BY AYCLIFFE AUTHOR

## COFFEE MORNING



George and Mary Lee of Washington Crescent received a visit from the Mayor Mary Dalton on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Saturday 19th March. The couple who have no children have occupied their bungalow for the whole 50 years having arrived in the town after being married in 1966. Mary comes from Darlington and George was born in Close House. They met at Rempoy where they both worked on producing pattern books for Paton & Baldwins. Mary had previous jobs as a Seamstress carrying out work for Polam Hall School and Alexanders at Faverdale. Before becoming disabled George worked at Black & Decker for 10 years and he retired for health reasons in 1976. George and Mary both enjoy music. Mary is an accomplished pianist and enjoys knitting. There will be a family reunion of around 50 people to celebrate their anniversary at Burtree Inn this weekend.

A local author bids to stimulate more enthusiasm for reading, in the wider Aycliffe community, by offering FREE Ebook versions of his paperbacks. Steven Corner, 45, a senior electronics engineering lecturer, at Darlington College, has written five titles which include adult and children fiction, in addition to a true story.

His paperback stories include 'A Dream from the Somme' an intriguing love story that spans a lifetime from the Great War to the present day, with a 'twist and turn' that leaves the reader wanting more. 'The Whispering Pegasus' is a fictional horse racing story that captures the pride, joy, disappointment and sadness of owning great steeplechasing racehorses. Will Whispering Pegasus rank alongside the greats like Arkle, Red Rum and Desert Orchid?



'The Child Who Saved Christmas' tells the story of evil Yggdrasil, the Nordic Tree God, who desires the magical powers of Santa. Can Santa's loyal elves stop Yggdrasil's evil plan? . . . Or will children awake with no presents on Christmas morning? 'Cinq Heures' is a true story about a mountaineering

accident in 111. Imagine hanging for over five hours from a climbing rope following a fall on the le Dent du Geant (Giant's Tooth) in the Swiss Alps. Most climbers die within sixty minutes of Suspension Trauma . . . Did Dan McClean survive?? 'Twelve Ghoul's of Halloween' is a children's tale of Mia, the little girl witch and Jaelyn Dracule, the little vampire, and their quest to outwit the Twelve Ghoul's of Halloween and save Halloween from oblivion . . . for Mia and

Jaelyn did it turn out to be best Halloween party ever? Mr Corner has authorised for these Ebook titles to be reduced from their original publishing prices to £0.00. All titles can be found, this month, on [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com), search Steven J Corner books and all e-version titles will be found. The author can be contacted on [stevencorner14@hotmail.com](mailto:stevencorner14@hotmail.com) should you wish to provide a book review or advise him on the stories you like to read. Happy reading!

A grand coffee morning is to be held in St Michaels Church in Britain's Most Perfect Village - Heighington on Saturday 2nd April from 10am to 12.30pm. Tea/coffee and delicious cakes will be served in our historic 900 year old church and further interest will be many bric-a-brac stalls which guarantees a good bargain for everyone. Cost of entry is £2 which includes tea or coffee and a scrumptious scone. Everyone will be made welcome

## CRIME COMMISSIONERS FIGHT ALCOHOL ABUSE

The consequences of excessive alcohol consumption were shown in sharp relief at a major conference hosted by the North East's three Police and Crime Commissioners in Durham. Speakers at the event included:

- Jon Foster, Senior Research and Policy Officer, Institute of Alcohol Studies
- Professor Dorothy Newbury Birch, Professor of Alcohol and Public Health Research, Teesside University
- Colin Shevills, Director of Balance
- Maxine Thompson of One Punch North East
- Miriam Davidson, Director of Public Health for Darlington

- Kirsty Gail-Wilkinson, Public Health Portfolio Holder for Durham County Council

The conference heard the heart-breaking story of Kristian Thompson, a County Durham teenager who died in rehabilitation months after being hit by a single punch in 2010. Since then, his mother Maxine has committed every effort to an awareness campaign called One Punch North East, using the keywords 'stop, think and walk away'.

Ron Hogg said "we all know what the consequences of excessive alcohol consumption can be, but only by talking to people who have suffered tragedies such as Maxine, do you really appreciate how utterly devastating they are".

The Commissioners also backed calls from Colin Shevills, Director of Balance North East, the regional alcohol office, for the limit for driving with alcohol in the bloodstream to be reduced to the same level as was introduced in Scotland in 2014. The Commissioners recently backed a Private Members' Bill in the House of Lords which called for the same reduction, and have today received a letter from the Secretary of State for Transport, saying the Government 'has no plans to



change the drink driving limit in England and Wales'.

Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner Barry Copping said "This response provides no comfort to the victims of drink-driving. In Scotland the new limit has led to a 17% reduction in drink-drive offences. The three PCC's in the North East region will continue campaigning for a lower drink-drive limit to bring into line with most of the rest of Europe."

Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, Vera Baird, announced the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Alcohol Working Group have secured a meeting with members of the House of Lords in March, to enable these issues to be highlighted in Parliament. Speaking after the event, Vera Baird said: "There was an excellent turn-out at the conference today, and very strong support amongst the 150 delegates for the measures we are asking for. We have a clear mandate in the North East to press the Government to reduce the drink-driving limit, to introduce a minimum unit price for alcohol, and to review the licensing laws."

## Easter Madness at Brafferton Village Hall

Following the success of the February Half term activities we have another jam-packed timetable of activities going on over the Easter holidays!

**Good Friday, 25th March Easter Egg Hunt** Brafferton Community Play Group is holding an indoor Easter Egg Hunt followed by Easter crafts. 10-11.30. £1 a child

and all ages welcome! There is a small additional charge for adult refreshments.

**Tuesday 29th March & Tuesday 5th April Children's Boot Camp.** Join Stu for this fun Boot Camp session. There will be lots of different activities to keep them moving and energised. 9.30-10.30 £2 child and all ages welcome.

**Wednesday 30th March Pop up Pottery** Join us from 1-3pm with the Pop up Pottery Company to paint your own plate or mug!

Every Wednesday Bootcamp 8-9pm £3. Children welcome to sit at the side or join in. **Friday 1st April LoveScience Workshops** Under 5s Mini Engineers 10-10.45am. The case of the missing arm 11.30-13.30

**Saturday 2nd April Little Learners** This runs from 10.30-11.20.

**Monday 4th April Family MokyFit** Join Carla for this fun, family MokyFit class. Children are welcome to join in or can sit at the side with play group's toys. £3 per adult. **Thursday 7th April Sand Art with Karen** Join Karen for this pop in Sand Art session from 10-12. £3.50 per picture. Refreshments available.

**Friday 8th April Crafty Bear Workshop** Spring and Easter with crafts ranging from painting and gluing for little hands through to more difficult crafts for older children (and adults)! 10-11am, followed by refreshments.

There is something for everyone during our Easter madness fortnight! For full details including booking and contact details please check: <http://www.mumsintheknow.co.uk/event/easter-madness-at-brafferton-village-hall/> or visit our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/BraffertonVHA](http://www.facebook.com/BraffertonVHA) Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 5th April, starting at 6.30pm with a cheese and wine reception and don't forget about the **St George's Day Everything English** event on Saturday 23rd April, in aid of Alzheimers Society. More details to follow soon!

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**& Newton News**  
**FIND A DOG**  
*a home*  
**Fidget**

Fidget is an 8 year old Springer Spaniel who arrived at the rehoming centre with his brother Jessie at the beginning of the year. Sadly the pair came to Dogs Trust when their owners were no longer able to care for them. Since being at the rehoming centre the carers have noticed that Fidget doesn't have much patience for his brother Jessie, which can often lead on to them having the odd squabble. As this also has been observed in a home environment Fidgets carers are now considering to rehome the siblings separately.

Fidget is looking for an adult only home who have experience of this breed and understands their traits. He is looking for an active home that love the outdoors and could potentially live with a compatible female. Fidget is a very active boy who could benefit from some basic training, he loves to play and is at his happiest when he is splashing in muddy puddles and carrying a toy in his mouth.

If you think you could give a home to Fidget please visit Dogs Trust Darlington at Hill House Farm, Sadberge, DL2 1SL. The centre is open Thursday-Tuesday 12pm-4pm and closed on Wednesdays, or please call 01325 333114 to speak to one of his carers.



## Safety Poster Winners



Bob Knox from Northern Power Grid came into Sugar Hill Primary School to explain to Year 4 pupils what electricity is, where our power comes from and how to stay safe around electricity. It was a really informative discussion. The Year 4 teachers decided to hold a safety poster competition and Bob came back into school the following week to judge the children's entries. Erin Russell's poster won 1st prize and she received a £30 Toys R Us voucher, kindly donated by Northern Power Grid. Sophie Evans and Anthony Gowland came in 2nd and 3rd place respectively and won an Easter Egg each, courtesy of their teachers, who were so proud of their efforts and the application of their learning.

## Honest John Easter Weekend Openings

Honest John and More Time Second Hand Furniture Sale Room will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. **Special Easter Saturday Opening from 9am-3pm.** With lots of furniture bargains and lots and lots of Honest Johns goodies in what can best be described as an Aladdins Cave of interesting items. Opening hours are back to normal on Tuesday 29th March. Honest John Monday to Friday 10am-4pm and More Time Monday to Saturday 9am-4.30pm.

## THE CUBBY "Happy Easter"

Open as usual  
**GOOD FRIDAY and  
EASTER MONDAY**

Come along and support The Cubby,  
enjoy a nice cup of tea and a bite to eat  
at very reasonable prices

Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 1.00pm

## EASTER AT XCEL CHURCH



You are invited to join us this Easter Weekend at Xcel Church as we meet to remember all that Jesus has done for us. Details of all our services are below:  
Good Friday Service 11am at the Xcel Centre followed by refreshments. This one hour service is for all the churches in Newton Aycliffe to attend as we take a moment to reflect together about the power of the cross of Jesus Christ.  
Easter Sunday Services These take place in all of our locations at 10.30am. With more of a family feel, our services provide everyone with an opportunity to

celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. There is also a full kids programme available too.  
Easter Sunday ~ United at Five Starting at 5pm at the Xcel Centre, you are welcome to join us as we hear stories of all that Jesus has done in peoples lives. Whether you are a Christian or just intrigued then this night will be a great opportunity for you to get to know more about God. Again, there is a full kids programme available during the service. For more information about Xcel Church please check out [www.xcelchurch.com](http://www.xcelchurch.com)

## Another Novel by Former Aycliffe Fireman

Swapping the fire station for the front line, retired fireman A.A.G. Whitehead a former serving Fire Officer at Newton Aycliffe has always had heroism in his blood and on his mind. It has been the heroism that he saw in his working life that inspired his new novel, citing that "For many years he was intrigued by the human reaction to being given an order which could obviously put the receiver into harm's way."

Whitehead is also keen for his novel to help pay tribute to the brave men that were lost on the front lines in the great war explaining "This is my personal tribute and hopefully in it, the readers, if they don't already appreciate the pain, misery and suffering these men endured will do so." The heart of the book follows human relationships that develop and flourish between these characters in times of great adversity. In a mixture of patriotism and excitement, Danny Byrne and his friends from the close-knit pit villages of north-east England sign up, like so many other young men, to fight for King and country at the start of the First World War, a war they all expected to be over by Christmas. In this fictional account of the Durham Fusiliers, Danny and his band of brothers embark on an adventure where no one knows the ending. The camaraderie, skills, and

connections of the regiment mean they are soon singled out as a specialist operations team - a unit that is feared and revered in equal measure. 'Pals Wars- The Second Battle of Ypres' is published by Austin Macauley, and is available to order from Amazon and all good booksellers. For further information please visit <http://www.austinmacauley.com/>



## Funding Opportunities

### Holiday Grants for Children (UK)

The Henry Smith's Charity has announced that schools and youth groups can apply between now and the 18th March 2016 to the Holiday Grant for Children Programme for activities taking place between the 1st February - 30th April 2016.

Schools, youth groups and not for profit organisations can apply for grants towards holidays or outings within the UK for children aged 13 and under who are from deprived areas or have a disability. Applications can be considered for holidays or outings that have the objective of providing children with a break they would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience. The maximum grant is usually £2,500 for any one trip. Grants are normally limited to a maximum of two-thirds of the total cost of a trip as the charity would expect some local partnership funding to be in place.

Recently funded projects include:

- Berridge Junior School which received £1,000 towards a day trip to the seaside for 160 school children from a disadvantaged area of Nottingham.
- Thrybergh Primary School received £2,500 Goose Green Primary towards a residential trip to an activity centre in Lancashire for a group of disadvantaged children from South Yorkshire.
- Nursery School which received £3,000 towards a trip to Hayling Island for 48 pupils from a primary school of inner London.

<http://www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk/holiday-grants-for-children.html>



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Email: [legacytackle@outlook.com](mailto:legacytackle@outlook.com)  
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[www.ineosgolfclub.webs.com](http://www.ineosgolfclub.webs.com)  
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## REME Meeting

REME Association South West Durham Branch, AGM will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 30th March at the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7PW. All serving and ex-serving military personnel welcome.

## Western Area Community Activities

**BUS TRIP** to Redcar 30th March £3 per seat pick up 10.00am.  
**EASTER HOLIDAYS & THEN EACH WEEK**  
Easter Monday Fun Day from 1.00pm til 4.00pm. Face painting, Easter Egg Hunt and much more.  
Kids Movie Night 4.30pm until 6.30pm, Western Area Community Centre, admission £1.  
Disco and Activity Night 4.30pm until 6.30pm. Admission £1. Follow us on Facebook.

# SWIM FOR CHARITY & YOUR OWN GROUP

The Rotary Club's Annual Swimathon is on Sunday 8th May at Spennymoor Leisure Centre giving all local organisations an opportunity to swim and share the proceeds of sponsorship with their OWN CLUB and SSAFA, the forces organisation which helps former soldiers and their families who have fallen on difficult times. Charities and town groups are always in need of funds and this is a great way to boost your balance sheet and enjoy an hour's swim free, competing for various trophies, including the most lengths swum and the highest amount raised. Teams of up to six people swim in relay for 55 minutes and it is great fun while raising cash from sponsorship. Any club can take part, both young and old. Please ring Gordon Howe for more details or complete the Application Forms below and hand in at Newton Press at The Blue Bridge Centre.

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## SWIMATHON 2016

on  
SUNDAY 8th MAY 2016  
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at  
SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE

*We challenge you to enter a team or several teams  
of up to 6 members to swim in relay style for  
55 minutes to raise funds through sponsorship  
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*(Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Families Association)*

**YOU MAY NOMINATE A CHARITY OR  
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SPONSORSHIP RAISED BY YOUR TEAM(S)**

**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR TEAM EARLY  
IN ORDER TO OBTAIN YOUR SPONSORSHIP FORMS,  
YOU DO NOT NEED THE NAMES OF YOUR  
SWIMMERS UNTIL THE DAY OF THE SWIM**

**PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS**

Name of Team.....

Name of Contact .....

Address of Contact .....

.....Postcode: .....

Telephone Number.....

Email .....

**EXACT TITLE of Charity or  
Good Cause nominated to receive  
half of sponsorship raised by team .....**

Signature of Team Contact.....

*The organisers reserve the right to refuse the nomination of a "cause" which is considered inappropriate.  
Any refusal will be given in writing following receipt of this entry form.*

Sessions will start promptly on the hour, every hour, from 9am to 4pm. Whilst no guarantee can be given, every effort will be made to accommodate your preferred day time.

### PLEASE STATE YOUR PREFERRED START PERIOD

9.00am ☐ 10.00am ☐ 11.00am ☐ 12noon ☐

1.00pm ☐ 2.00pm ☐ 3.00pm ☐ 4.00pm ☐

*If children under the age of 14 are competing a Parent's Consent Statement must be completed on sponsorship form. NOTE: Confirmation of time of swim and sponsor forms will be forwarded by the organisers to the Team Contact, whose responsibility it is to advise the team of all relevant information.*

Please return to Swimathon Chairperson:  
**GORDON HOWE**  
9 Murton Close, Aycliffe Village  
Newton Aycliffe DL5 6LF  
Telephone 01325 496848  
Mobile 07847 470655



# YOUTHY U17's STILL UNBEATEN

**Under 17's v Sunderland Velocity**, our U17s made it ten in a row with a win over Sunderland Velocity. It took 30 mins for the deadlock to be broken when Reece Barras converted a Zac Smith cross, Zac Smith then scored himself with a shot from the edge of the box HT 2-0.Velocity pulled a goal back but minutes later Zach Barrigan scored with a a great volley into the bottom corner. Countless chances went begging before Lewis Coatsworth headed home a pinpoint corner from Reece Barras followed by Glyn Marley and the final goal to Ben Lowthian with a long range effort. Credit to Velocity who never dropped their heads and battled to the end. What was more pleasing was to receive two lots of great feedback ,one from the referee saying 'what a change it was to referee a bunch of 17 year old lads who don't twist and use abusive language. Then a text from the away manager saying what a great bunch of young lads you have. Well Done lads credit to yourselves and the club MOM - Josh Reay – Outstanding performance  
**U12's Eagles v St Mary's Aces**, The Eagles are playing great football at the moment but unfortunately the results are not going our way. The lads battle to the end of every game. Kian Cook scored a good goal following some good work by Rhys Wilkinson down the left hand side. FT 1-4, MOM Dylan Bowater  
**Under 16's Eagles v Billingham Synthonia**. The boys started really strong in the first 20 minutes and took a deserved 1-0 lead. Billingham then stepped up a gear and grabbed the equaliser. The last 10 minutes our boys got back into the game and scored another making it HT 2-1. Second half was a close affair with both sides creating a number of chances with only Billingham taking one of them and the score ending 2-2 with Aycliffe goals from James Browning and Ryan Harris. All in all it was probably a fair result with both sides battling hard and creating a number of chances.  
**Under 8s v Roker Boys**. It was only our second game and a chance

## Heighington AFC Reports

Under 8s  
Heighington travelled to Shildon this week just 3 wins away from claiming the title. Heighington took the lead through Theo Callaghan after Jay Bulch had hit the post. They soon had their second, with Tyler Woodward prodding home from close range. Shildon pulled a goal back and then had Heighington on the back foot for the next few minutes and only a flying save from Tyler Gibbon kept Heighington in front. Jay Bulch then scored a quick fire double to ease the tension and finish the game 4-1 Winners. Theo Callaghan was awarded Man of The Match. The second game Heighington went 1-0 up through a driven strike from Layton Collier, Shildon equalised shortly after half time. Theo Callaghan then scored a Hat trick including a free kick from way out to put Heighington 4-1 in front. More goals almost followed with chances for Man of the Match Maddox Marcus forcing a great save from the keeper, Kenzie White putting one just wide and Tyler Gibbon striking the post. A tough day at the office for the league leaders but a great battling display puts them another step closer to the league title  
Heighington Under 15's made another trip to Redcar for the second time this month to face top of the table Redcar Newmarket. With only 11 players available it was going to be a long and demanding match, but the away side settled very quickly and were a constant threat on the Redcar goal, but squandered a couple of excellent chance early on to take the lead. It was a big surprise it took until 37 mins before the breakthrough, and it was Lucas Thompson header from a Roman Alves corner. Buoyed by their lead it was expected to take the same performance into the second half. However, it was

a struggle to get a foothold in the game, and chances and good play from either side were limited. In fact it was a bit of a scrap in all honesty, and it was the home side who drew level when Heighington failed to clear a corner and the ball bobbed around before they forced it over the line. It stayed that way until 15mins from time, when the home side grabbed a goal from a wonder strike, which turned out to be the winner, as Heighington failed to make an impact throughout the team and in front of goal. MOM was Goalkeeper Timmy Furphy who made a number of great saves to keep the score down. It was a frustrating for Heighington having control of the match to throw it away in this manner, similar to the Home match against Newmarket, who have now done the double over Heighington

Heighington Under 8s on the Lookout for new players  
Heighington Under 8s have been playing in their first league campaign this season in the TJFA league on a Sunday morning as well as training on a Thursday Night at Heighington Parish Fields. The boys have done incredibly well at 5 a side level winning every game this year. Next season we move up to 7 a side and are therefor on the lookout for 2 additional players to improve our already fantastic squad. With this in mind Heighington will be having an open training session on Thursday April 14th up at Heighington Parish Fields. This is ideally for children with a little experience in playing the game, however not essential. Your child must be 8 Years old between the 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 to be eligible for our team. If you and your child would be interested in coming along please get in touch with Heighington's Coach Dean Marcus on 07713 577364

for the boys who hadn't played yet to make their debuts. Isaac, Declyn, Lewis,Oskar and James all really excited. We started well and went 1-0 up with a great strike from Will Houlahan. Roker boys equalised and the debutants were introduced. Despite going 3-1 down the boys started to get the hang of it and Thomas Mains did well to keep out some strong shots. It was all about learning today and the more experienced players like Tyler and Will helping the new boys to settle. Final Score 1-3  
**U13 Falcons v Guisborough**, Fairly comfortable win in the end for the lads after an average first half but excellent second half which we dominated throughout by playing attacking TEAM football.Score could have been higher but for an excellent performance by the Guisborough keeper. All 16 players contributed to an excellent result FT 10-2Goals from : Jay Williams 3 Cole Harrison, Spencer O Sullivan, Adam Askew, Owen Bickford, Cameron Cook, Freddie Cockburn - MOM - Cole Harrison  
**U12 Falcons v Great Ayton**. The game started quietly with not many chances, Dylan forcing a good save from the keeper with a powerful shot. Kieran hitting the cross bar with an effort that he admitted was a cross. 2nd half the lads held the ball up better and one or two decent team moves created chances. The goal came from a corner delivered well by Dylan Redpath with a superb cushioned volley from Kane Hopwood, Kane showing that you don't need to use power to score with a piece of finesse that proved the difference between the teams 1-0. The last ten minutes Aycliffe had to dig in and Great Ayton caused lots of problems especially at set pieces. It was a day when defences were on top, a good defensive display by both teams. It was a pleasing day for the coaches with our concentration and positional discipline was excellent. Man of the match Keiran Gillham, for strong defensive display, always looking to play the ball out of danger and helping out offensively too.

**Under 16 falcons v Great Ayton** who sit second in our league with a game in hand so we knew we were in for a hard game. The first half was an old fashioned midfield battle with tackles flying and neither side really creating much HT 0-0 The second half started very even between the sides before the lads were caught out from a corner and Ayton scored 1-0. As Aycliffe then started to chase the game they were caught twice more in quick succession and found ourselves 3-0 down .Aycliffe shuffled the team round to try and find a way back into the game and were rewarded as Harry Duggan scored his first for the club and then we created a couple of good chances but couldn't convert. FT 1-3, another good performance if not the result  
**Under 11 Eagles v Whinney Banks**, an early goal for the home side from a very scrappy goal and Aycliffe were 0-1 down, however the lads were soon back level with a goal from Brennan Fitzpatrick. A good game was continuing when a controversial goal was given that was deemed by the referee to have crossed the line. The lads accepted the decision and carried on battling and again were rewarded with a goal from Calum Whitfield. Another goal from Whinney Banks was equalised through Brennan Fitzpatrick. HT 3.3.  
2nd half started well for Aycliffe. It was good to see the lads back to playing good football and competing. We went 4.3 then 5.3 up with another from Calum and a cracking free kick from Brandon Addy. Unfortunately a mad 5 minutes cost all 3 points which we truly deserved as we panicked and good pressure from the home team resulted in FT 5-5.  
MOM Alfie Backhouse for a master class as Left wing back. Also mention to James Sear in goal who made a dramatic save towards the end.  
**Under 9 Falcons v Darlington** 21st all stars Colts. In a tight game Aycliffe were pushed back at times and 21st were putting a lot of pressure on both our defence and keeper. Aycliffe got an early goal that was brilliantly taken by Dylan Stewart. The lads then struggled to get the ball forward. We definitely made it hard for ourselves at times. Some great saves from Travis Dixon kept us in the lead. FT 1-0 MOM Louis Parnaby.  
The club are now developing more girls sides , if you are in year 3/4/5 and interested in playing football contact Berni 07939 045242. If you want more information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website www.naycafc.co.uk

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# Aycliffe Juniors Report

Aycliffe Juniors continued their footballing season with another series of games for our younger teams.

The Under 7's were superb when playing against Stockton based Primrose Hill. They battled hard for every ball and showed great work rate. They conceded an early goal but then scored five of their own in a 5-1 win. Josh and Lewis had a goal each and Kai was the hat-trick hero in this one. The second game was closer but Aycliffe still came out 2-0 winners on a day when a man of the match could not be picked as the whole team were excellent.

The Under 8's enjoyed a match day experience with Darlington 1883 after winning their games against Trimdon 6-0 and 4-2. It was the penultimate game of the season for this team and they played on a bobbly surface which made going tough. Rhys scored from a free kick to open the scoring, then Jayden added another goal after a one two with Harvey. In the second half chances continued to be created and Harvey added the third goal and Jayden the fourth. The great play continued and Jayden completed his hat-trick with Harvey then scoring the sixth. The second game saw goals from Jake and some good defensive work from Emrehan to give a 2-0 half time lead. Trimdon scored before Niall added the third and the best was saved until last when Aidan lobbed the keeper from the half way line for the fourth and final goal. Men of the match over the two games were Jayden



and Jack.

The Under 9's faced a strong Darlington Spraire Lads side. Positions were changed around to allow players experience across the pitch. Goals either side of half time ensured a win for Spriare Lads whilst Aycliffe had both some good passing moves and chances they could not score. Jake was the Aycliffe man of the match for a really good performance in an unfamiliar defensive position.

The Under 10 Russell Foster League side faced Chester le Street and notched up another win. Noah was superb and struck a hat-trick without reply to open a 3-0 lead. The boys tired a little with only one sub available but closed out a 3-2 win. It was a brilliant performance from all involved, with Noah being the man of the match. The Under 10 TJFA league side dominated their home game against Billingham Synthonia and came away with a 3-1 win. Lucas struck two quality goals in the first half and Charlie crowned a good display with the third goal

scored after a good strike from the edge of the box.

The Under 11's didn't have a game whilst the Under 12's faced Barnard Castle at Sunnydale. Barnard Castle proved to be a formidable team and Ethan Parkinson's goal was not enough to avoid defeat. The visitors were well organised and strong on the ball, but Aycliffe had some early chances with Dylan going close on a couple of occasions. Adam also hit the bar, with both himself and Jermaine making good progress down the flanks. At half time the strong visitors had opened up a 4-0 lead. Aycliffe's battling performance continued in the second half and Ethan's goal was reward for their efforts in a 7-1 loss. James was the manager's choice as man of the match.

Neither of the Under 18 teams or Under 23's had a game this weekend so our oldest team in action were the Under 14's. They were at home against Redcar Town Whites who sat just one place above Aycliffe in the league. The boys started slowly and found themselves 4-0 down after twenty minutes. The end of the first half saw an improvement that carried on into the second half and a goal from Burrows then two from Hynes had Aycliffe back in the game at 4-3. Redcar got a penalty which deflated the home team who then quickly conceded again to make the score 6-3. The team though showed some great spirit and two more Hynes goals brought the deficit back to only one goal at 6-5, but this is how it ended. Hynes was man of the match not just for the goals but superb work rate and effort.

## WATER POLO CLUB MEMBERS SEEK HELP

Hello Everyone

We are three members of Sedgefield Water Polo Club who train at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre and all live in Newton Aycliffe. We have a fantastic opportunity to go and play water polo for the North East in an international tournament in Lloret, Spain. This tournament is called the BWMF Cup IV and will be held between 31st August and 4th September.

There will be over 50 teams taking part from different nationality's including Croatia, Spain, Scotland, Hungary, Italy and Portugal and we will all be staying together in a team hotel, competing against each other in the tournament, making new friends from different countries, improving our water polo but most of all making the most of this fantastic opportunity.

In order to go to Spain we need to fund raise for our flights, transfers, entry fee etc and this comes to about £450 per player. We wondered if this would be something you would be able to help us with by offering a donation to help us raise funds. We are planning to do bag packs, raffles, cake sales, tombola's and lots of other things to help us reach our target.

If you could help please could you let us know we would be very grateful. You can contact us 01325 301888

## AYCLIFFE RUGBY NEWS

LAST weekend's fixture saw Newton Aycliffe RUCF entertain Prudhoe and Stocksfield at Moore Lane. The weather conditions were perfect, blue sunny skies, with no wind. The pitch looked in good condition and everyone at the club were looking forward to the game.

The match kicked off at 3pm prompt under the guidance of Durham's Referee Societies Mr Alan Irvin.

NARUFC this week wanted to let the rest of the league know that they had got over their mauling at South Tyneside a few weeks back and were ready for the rest of the season. Craig Holmes back in the first team, crashed over the opponents line after a few minutes to open the scoring.

From the resulting kickoff Prudhoe tenaciously attacked the home side's line which resulted in a period of domination. Aycliffe's organisational skills went missing and Prudhoe took the lead when they converted a try, the score being 5-7 to the visitors. Slowly very slowly The First XV began to get back into the game, Prudhoe who were very strong up front controlled the scrummage Aycliffe dominated the lineout, the break down area seemed to be 50/50 with neither side taking control early doors. Craig Holmes again crossed the line after some great play from the forwards. The forwards finally woke up and began to play a more controlled game picking and driving close to the breakdown area caused Prudhoe no end of trouble. The first half saw Newton Aycliffe go on to score two further tries through a pair of try scoring machines in Jonny Griffiths and James Thacker. Adam Gascoigne converted two of his four Kicks. Half Time score 24-7

The second half saw NARUFC totally dominate proceedings seven tries in total were scored, some of which were totally breath taking to watch. The running skills with ball in hand by this Aycliffe team are at times spectacular. Every player in the squad produced a quality performance which had a positive effect on Club Coach Peter Ryans who couldn't take the smile of his face.

Try scorers in the second half where as follows Andrew Littlefair two Jonny Griffiths one, Luke Crossen one, Ben Walton one and Luke Tinkler two he also kick a conversion. Adam Gascoigne kicked a further four conversions.

It is not very often that a referee gets a mention in the match report but it has to be said that Mr Irvin had an excellent game his control of the match and

his general feel for the game was second to none. A special mention must also go to all round performance from Prudhoe's No8 he had an excellent game and was an absolute credit to his club.

Final score 69-7

Club Coach Peter Ryans was full of praise for his players after the match "That was an excellent all round performance. No teams in this league are going to lie down and allow themselves to be thrashed. Prudhoe came here and worked really hard and our boys had to put in a big performance which they did. After Prudhoe scored we really got into the game and produced some real quality rugby I'm very proud of the lads today. We still have a long way to go before the end of the season but our goal still remains we want to win promotion" Aycliffe rugby is proudly sponsored by Beaumont Ground Maintenance and S Cars

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## RED DRAGONS ROARING SUCCESS

Zanshin-Kai Red Dragons cadets class aimed at those aged 4-8 years recently took part in the first grading of the year and all of the young students taking part in the grading session were successful.

Those that gained their first belt in October 2015 went on to achieve their Yellow belts at the first grading of the year: Maddison Fenton, Martha Noble, Leo Henderson, Maia Haden, Harrison Dunn, Adam Smith, Emma Smith, Evie Wilds, Jonah Harrop and Jenson Jones.

For the others it was their first ever grading and though nervous they all successfully achieved their Red belts: Harrison Fleming, Ollie Fleming, Ellis Fleming, Sammy Lake, Miley Simpson, Cory Mitchell, Jaydon McGill, Joseph Hayman, Erin Sutherland & Lola Rose Giudice.

Congratulations to all those Karate kids who showed great effort, spirit and technique throughout the evening. All of the instructors and assistants

were proud of you all, each passing with Merit grades. Zanshin Kai Red Dragons was set up last summer with the support of Woodham Community Association and funding from Great Aycliffe & Middridge Area Action Partnership.

All our instructors are insured, first aid trained and have undergone advanced disclosure checks with the criminal records bureau and been cleared to work with children and vulnerable adults. Congratulations also to Josh Pinder 9th Kyu Red Belt, Charlotte Dunn & Brandon Woodward 8th Kyu Yellow belt & Stephen Dunn 3rd Kyu Brown belt who also passed their gradings that week.

For more information on Zanshin-Kai Karate or Zanshin-Kai Red Dragons call into Woodham Community Centre or telephone an Instructor on 07917203421 / 07746204064 or email zanshin-kai-karate@hotmail.co.uk. Face book (zanshin kai karate newton aycliffe).

## COFFEE MORNING

St Elizabeth's Church would like to invite you to their monthly events full of friendship and fun.

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## County Newsbits

Compiled by  
County Councillor  
John Clare

Type the shortened bit.ly and ow.ly links into your internet browser to go to the relevant webpages and find out more.

### COUNCIL NEWS

- My report on the DCC Cabinet meeting held 23 March: [bit.ly/DCCCab230316](http://bit.ly/DCCCab230316)
- My report on the GAMP meeting held 22 March: [bit.ly/GAMP220316r](http://bit.ly/GAMP220316r)
- Local litter and the Big Spring Clean: [bit.ly/DCCbsc16](http://bit.ly/DCCbsc16)
- Poor response to DCC Youth Service consultation: [bit.ly/DCCYCpoor](http://bit.ly/DCCYCpoor)
- From 1 April Heighington Lane HWRC will stay open 9am-6pm
- Are you a private landlord? Would you benefit from accreditation? [bit.ly/DCCLAcc](http://bit.ly/DCCLAcc)
- Latest unemployment figures: [bit.ly/Unemployment0216](http://bit.ly/Unemployment0216)
- We are putting a bench by the SuDS: [bit.ly/SuDSbench](http://bit.ly/SuDSbench)
- Latest roadworks information: [bit.ly/Roadworks230316](http://bit.ly/Roadworks230316)
- Last week's report from our MEP: [bit.ly/JKD190316](http://bit.ly/JKD190316)

### COMMUNITY NEWS

- GAMP Funding available for local groups: [bit.ly/GAMPfund16](http://bit.ly/GAMPfund16)
- GAMP's list of Easter Activities for young people: [bit.ly/GAMP0316](http://bit.ly/GAMP0316)
- Free Junior Sports club at the Leisure Centre: [bit.ly/DCCALC316](http://bit.ly/DCCALC316)
- Dave Morton is getting some of the credit he deserves: [bit.ly/DaveMorton](http://bit.ly/DaveMorton)
- Visit County Durham – Easter newsletter: [bit.ly/VCD0316](http://bit.ly/VCD0316)
- Somme commemorative exhibition, Palace Green, 25 March - 2 October: [bit.ly/PGSomme](http://bit.ly/PGSomme)
- More burglaries - lock your doors! [bit.ly/NAPburglaries316](http://bit.ly/NAPburglaries316)



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## Public Notice

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**RSPCA North Tees & District** cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311215

## HORNDALE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of Horndale Residents Association will be on Wednesday 6th April, 6.00pm PACT meeting - 6.30pm residents meeting. To be held at the Evangelical Church, Ladybower. Some tickers are still available for the trip to Skipton on Saturday 9th April. Contact Martin on 01325 316148 or Eddie 01325 308608. Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting. Eddie Wood, Chairman

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## Sits Vacant

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

**WANTED** for busy Farm Shop near Walworth Castle, "Saturday Girl" to work Saturdays, every other Sunday and when needed in the school holidays. Would suit student, must have own transport due to location. Please ring 07760 424822

## Personal

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# 'Mechanimals' Bring Generations Together

Year 7 at Greenfield Community College have been working with creative practitioners to create imaginary and fantastical 'mechanimals' who are at the centre of our story makers project.

Story makers is a GAMP AAP initiative which is being managed and developed by Greenfield Arts to promote literacy and intergenerational play and create a love of literature through making stories.

The mechanimal puppets not only feature in the stories but the students have had the opportunity



to take them along to local primary schools to interact with younger children bringing the

generations together in learning and creative

play. Children from Byerley Park and Stephenson Way Primary School were thrilled to be involved in the project and meet the 'mechanimals' and hear how the older students had constructed and brought them to life also using a range of creative, engineering and technical skills.

The Mechanimals were given names and personalities which will lead to an App featuring these characters and this will help promote literacy through creative play.

## Plaque to the Future



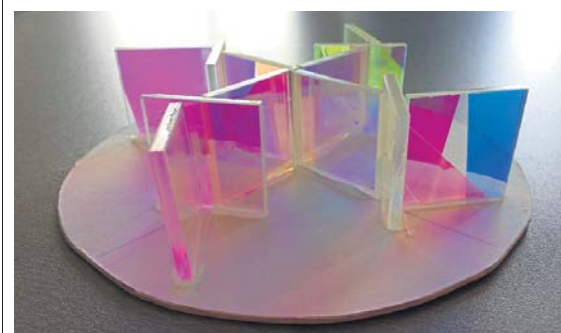
Hundreds of theatre lovers are to be reunited with personalised plaques after more than 25 years of supporting Darlington Civic Theatre.

In 1990/91 Darlington Civic Theatre introduced a 'sponsor a seat' programme where patrons could name a seat to show their support for the theatre and have a personalised plaque attached to a particular seat.

Now, 25 years on, Darlington Civic Theatre is keen to reunite these plaques with their owners. As well as many local theatre-lovers, some famous names have also sponsored seats in the past including Ken Dodd, Tom Jones, Cameron Mackintosh, actress Sylvia Syms and Tommy Cooper. Many local businesses and associations got involved too including Cummins Engine Ltd, The Northern Echo, Elm Ridge Garden Centre and

Darlington Rotary Club. Heather Walkington, Director of Fundraising and Development at Darlington Civic Theatre told us "It's wonderful to have the opportunity to reunite people with their plaques. Many were dedicated to friends and family and their support made the 900 for the 90's campaign possible. With a large restoration on the horizon we felt the time was right to re-unite people with their own part of the theatre". Over 300 brass plaques in total were produced. A comprehensive list of names has been drawn up and if you were one of the supporters back in 1990/91 and would like to be reunited with your plaque or collect it on behalf of a family member or business, please email [CivicTheatrePlaques@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:CivicTheatrePlaques@darlington.gov.uk) with your name, address and contact details or call Heather Walkington on 01325 406104

## Uplifting Artwork for Bewick Crescent Surgery



Youth Cree have been working with Bewick Crescent Surgery and artist Vicky Holbrough to create artwork for patients to enjoy and be inspired by whilst providing a welcome distraction for their visit to the surgery.

Whilst creating the artwork the young people have been looking at smart materials with changeable properties focusing on dichroic film which is affected by light and colour resulting in what will be a fabulous and uplifting piece of art. There will be a celebration of the installation on 15th April 2016 including the young people, doctors and patients from the surgery. The Youth Cree project is funded by Public Health and GAMP and developed and led by Greenfield Arts and is designed to promote positive well-being, an outlook which will be specially communicated in this particular commission.

If you would like to know a bit more about our projects and activities please contact our team on 01325 379048 or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) or check out our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk)

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# Your Say on the Future of Transport in the North East

The consultation window is open to give people across the North East a chance to talk about the future of transport throughout the region.

The North East Combined Authority (NECA) is setting the wheels in motion for plans to launch a 20 year 'Transport Manifesto' that covers both 'urban and rural' geographic areas of Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland.

The manifesto 'Our Journey' will feed into the local transport plan for the combined authority area and will set out how NECA intends to deliver on its ambition to promote affordable, attractive, reliable, safe, healthy transport choices for businesses, residents and visitors.

If you've ever been on a journey using local transport and said to yourself "I should really mention this to someone" – whether it be good or bad, then now is your chance.

The outcome of the manifesto will be beneficial to residents, businesses and visitors to the North East as transport is a vital commodity that keeps the region moving.

The consultation will look at a variety of transport options including road, rail, air and sea. The North East Combined Authority area 'Transport Facts' at a glance:

- **Covers 3,200 square miles of urban & rural communities**
- **2 million residents**
- **4.1 million visitors a year**
- **200,000 people commuting into urban centres**
- **38,000 small and medium-sized enterprises**
- **The largest car plant in the UK by far**

Newcastle City Councillor Nick Forbes, Chairman of the Transport North East Committee, said: "The aim of this Transport Manifesto is to put passengers at the heart of the North East's transport network."

"Across the region, people rightly demand a transport system that works for them, that is reliable, easy to use and affordable. Now is your chance to ensure you have a say over how we tackle the issues holding us back as a region."

"For the first time in many decades the region is coming together, as Transport North East, to set a vision. But it is not up to politicians to decide on our transport priorities; the vision of the region has to be one we all contribute to. This document will guide our way for the next two decades, from everything to our approach to Metro ticket prices to which major roads we seek to upgrade. It is the passengers, the motorists, the cyclists and other transport users who will shape this region, and their feedback on this manifesto is vital."

The Transport Manifesto will help to empower the region and reinforce its position of being a national and international force. It will allow the subject of transport to underline its importance in areas such as economic growth, the environment and health.

Durham County Cllr Neil Foster, vice chair of Transport North East Committee, said: "Having efficient and reliable transport systems in place is a crucial part of our drive for economic growth. We need to ensure that residents in both urban and rural areas, whether they travel by car, use public transport or cycle, can access services, leisure, jobs and training opportunities."

"Businesses – including those which are already based in the North East and those thinking of investing here – need to be able to have confidence in the transport networks within our region and those which connect us to national and international markets. We want people's views on these important transport plans which will help to shape our region over the next 20 years."

Another valuable feature of the Transport Manifesto is the opportunity to discuss and raise the public profile of 'Sustainable Travel' that helps to reduce carbon emissions into the environment and minimise local air pollution. Sustainable Travel represents areas of transport like walking, cycling, public transport, car sharing and taxis – where people use leg and lung power or join others on their travels.

North Tyneside Councillor John Harrison, vice chair of Transport North East Committee, said: "We strongly believe that by working together to get the correct transport infrastructure in place, the region's economy will be in a great position to prosper."

"It is important that residents and visitors to the North East are able to rely on good transport and this manifesto is a significant step forward towards reaching our goal. This is an excellent opportunity for the public to shape transport in the region and I would encourage people to have their say on the manifesto before the deadline on April 8th."

Whether you use transport for the school run, getting to work, visiting friends, going shopping, moving goods or exploring the region – the manifesto team would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

The best way to cast your vote or send in your views is by visiting the NECA website [www.northeastca.gov.uk/transport-north-east-and-transport-manifesto](http://www.northeastca.gov.uk/transport-north-east-and-transport-manifesto) or by contacting 0191 277 1156 for a hard copy to be posted out to you.

## Heighington Village Hall Association AGM Report

The AGM was held in the village hall on Tuesday 8th March. Sadly, attendance was rather disappointing, a situation noted by the Chairman in his report. The village hall continues to be the centre of the village community and a base for a wide range of user groups for all ages and interests.

The association is very aware of its responsibility to provide a well maintained venue for its regular user groups and for people to hire for private parties and events.

A programme of maintenance and improvement is planned for the year ahead along with events which the committee hopes our parish residents will use as a way of connecting with their neighbours.

Reports were delivered by the groups who meet in the hall detailing highlights of the year. The user groups continue to be a success due to the unflinching efforts of the group organisers, who in the main are all volunteers, who give their time for the benefit of all their group members. Private bookings for the hall

have remained steady over the last year and it is hoped the proposed improvements to the hall will make it more appealing.

The Association reported that due to the economic situation the council is undergoing serious funding cuts and as a result the village hall is going to face significant challenges ahead.

Every resident of Heighington parish is a member of Heighington Village Hall Association and it is more important than ever that people pull together to preserve this valuable asset for the benefit of parish of Heighington and the wider rural community.

### In Memoriam

#### Margaret Kelly

24th March 2009

Forever in my thoughts.  
Love you always,  
Paddy xxxxxx

### Birthday Remembrance

#### Tina Louise Allan

30th March

So many years without you, no parties now to share, missing your smile and loving ways. It's still so hard to bear, deep in my heart I carry you. Memories precious and dear, all my love I send to you, now your birthday is here. Much love, Mum xxx

**PATRICIA FISK:** (Pat) 24/03/1936 - 07/07/2000. Today would be your 80th birthday. No flowers or gifts or party to celebrate, just fond memories, we, your family can all share. R.I.P. Pat. Love always, Tony, Susan, Michael and Family xxx

**SONIA BEENHAM** 27th March. Happy birthday to our Mam so dear, no candles to blow out this time of year. Your first birthday without us we shed a tear, we love you so much and wish you were here. Always in our hearts from all of your loved ones xxxxx

**GRANTED EDGAR** 27th March. Our wonderful Son on his 48th birthday. I hide my tears when I say your name. But the pain in my heart is still the same. Though I smile and seem care free, there's no one who misses you more than me. Lots of love, Mam, Paul, Lee, Andrew and family xxxxx

**RONNY MAYOH** Happy 81st birthday on 28th March 2016 to a wonderful, caring and loving Dad. Love from Maria, Christine, Ian and Daughter-in-Law Anita xxx

**RONNY MAYOH** Happy birthday to a wonderful and loving Grandad on 28th March 2016. Lots of love, Kimberley, Maria Smith xxxxx

**RONNY MAYOH** Happy birthday to my loving Husband on 28th March 2016. Love, Rose xxxxx

**RONNY MAYOH** Happy birthday from all your loving family. We miss you more and more every day.

### Acknowledgement

**JOHN MIDGLEY** We would like to thank the staff at Defoe Court Nursing Home involved with caring for our lovely brave Dad, John Midgley. The nursing staff, care staff, kitchen and domestic staff gave us kind care, attention and emotional support during the long week leading to our Dad's inevitable passing. You ensured our Dad was cared for with respect and dignity to the end. You gave above and beyond, often staying in your own time. We cannot praise you or than you enough. Karen Murphy and Kathryn Snaith

### Congratulations

#### Luke Molyneux



Happy 18th Birthday  
Lots of love from  
Mam and Dad xxxxxx

#### Luke Molyneux



Happy 18th Birthday  
Luke  
29th March 2016  
With lots of love from  
Grandma and Grandad

#### Brian and Joyce Raine



#### Congratulations

To an amazing couple on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 26th March. Lots of love from all the family xxxxx

#### Fred Clement

1st April

Happy 70th birthday to a wonderful Husband, Dad and Grandad. Love from Edith and family

### For Sale

**RENT** a washing machine only £3.99 per week, no deposit, fully maintained. Bargain Buys, Shafto Way, 01325 321678

**"ALL SORTS"** Charity Shop at the side of St. Clare's Church is open 10am to 1pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. On sale is a huge selection of bric-a-brac, toys, household goods, jewellery, electrical goods . . . the list is endless. All items are perfect and at low prices. All money raised will continue to be given to good causes. All Sorts is a charitable project run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett.

**ULTRA LIGHT** weight wheelchair, unused, can deliver, £100. Tel 07956 089630

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

**BRAND NEW** double mattress, still wrapped, could deliver, £85. Tel 07881 917931

**EPSOM** photo PX720WD printer, good condition £50; small computer table (free); computer chair (free). Tel 01325 319624

**ALUMINIUM** light weight folding wheelchair, still boxed, £45. Tel Middridge 07964 277265

**4 WHEEL** mobility walker seat, £50. Wheelchair £75. Can deliver. Tel 07340 303180

**PIANO & ORGAN** seeking a home. St Clare's Church have an upright piano and a floor-standing, wood-encased Yamaha Electone organ surplus to requirements. Both are in good working order, free to anyone who can collect. Please contact Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

## ROC - MEET THE TEAM!

"It's great to be joining a fostering service where children are at the centre of things and there is a strong commitment to supporting them well in all areas of their lives".

That's what our new fostering team manager Keith Miller thinks about joining the Reach Out Care team.

Keith has been a social worker for more than 30 years and has held many senior positions. Two highlights have been pioneering a children's refuge with a national charity and spending five years with British Association for Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) as a trainer and child care consultant.

"I am really pleased to be at Reach Out Care – the agency has a good track record in providing high levels of support to foster carers which is really important," he said. "I also love the fact that it's a not-for-profit agency and that I will get to spend time with children and young people and work alongside the foster carers."

"Many referrals now are for children who have complex backgrounds. My vision is to provide an enhanced training programme for foster carers based on recent research and practice on attachment, resilience and therapeutic parenting. This will allow them to work more therapeutically with children who need support to recover from earlier difficult



*Meet the team - from left to right they are: Fostering team manager Keith Miller, senior supervising social worker Lorraine McAloon, Independent Reviewing Officer Carol Seddighi, Agency Decision Maker Kim Leighton, Registered Manager Susan Andrews and Responsible Individual George Burlison.*

and traumatic experiences in their lives."

Welcome on board Keith!

• If you want to know more

about fostering, give us a call, office hours, on 01325 310009 (option 2) or go to [www.reachoutcare.co.uk](http://www.reachoutcare.co.uk)

## KEEPING KIDS ENTERTAINED AT EASTER

**School's out for Easter and a range of exciting sporting activities will be available throughout County Durham to keep children entertained.**

**There will be athletics, dodgeball, football, tennis and gym sessions as well as swimming crash courses.**

**The activities will take place in leisure centres across the county as part of Durham County Council's School's Out programme between 29th**

**March and 10th April. A full list is available at [www.durham.gov.uk/youngactivities](http://www.durham.gov.uk/youngactivities) or pick up a postcard at your local leisure centre or library.**

### Obituary

**JOHN OXLEY** aged 59, suddenly on 17th March 2016 in Spain, formerly of Newton Aycliffe. Son of Winnie and the late George; Brother of Lesley; Uncle to Christopher and Nephew of Edith





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## Marie Curie Fundraiser

The Bishop Auckland Fundraising Group of Marie Curie is holding a Carvery and Cabaret Night at Bishop Auckland Golf Club on Friday 15th April at 7.00pm. Tickets priced at £15 include a carvery meal, together with a cabaret performed by local singer, Kimberley, who entertains with Songs from the Decades.

Come along and help raise funds to support 'end of life care' provided by Marie Curie's team of dedicated nurses.

For further details contact Elizabeth Varley (01388) 606075 or Gillian Wales (01388) 662282

## AYCLIFFE RUN OF SUCCESS

On Saturday 5th March, 5 hardy runners turned up to Alnwick Cross Country in freezing wet and very muddy conditions. In the women's 4.2 mile race Sue Milburn and Claire O'Connor (cross country debut) battled round the muddy and hilly course. Sue came home in 39.27 and 181 position and 3rd V55, followed by Claire in 240 position in 43.17. The men's 3 lap, 6 mile course was very challenging. Peter Milburn came home in 234th position in 50.18, followed by Gary O'Connor (also making his cross country debut) in 304th position in 53.02 and then Colin Gibson (just back from 6 weeks holiday in New Zealand) in 391st position in 59.37. Meanwhile, on a bitterly



Michelle Zamir collecting her prize as 1st Lady



John Surtees



Michelle Zamir, Michelle Scott & Michelle Jane

cold Mothering Sunday, 6th March, dedicated Aycliffe club runners attended the final race in the North Yorkshire and South Durham (NYSD) Cross Country

league at South Park, Darlington. Club runners saw success, with one of their ladies teams achieving 3rd place overall in a time of 39.01 in the Senior Women's race. The team was made up of Michelle Zamir, Michelle Jane and Michelle Scott. Also joining them in this race was a second team made up of Angela Barratt, Susan Clark and Natalie Duffelwel. They came in 13th with a time of 51.46.

In the Senior Men's race Aycliffe entered one full team of Ste Smith, Rob Jayne, Alan Wilks and John Heywood. The team placed 18th with a time of 57.07. Trevor Needham and Ray Todd also ran, making up an incomplete team.

As well as racing at this final meet, the series prizes were also presented. The club enjoyed success with Susan Clark and Ray Todd receiving series prizes. Ray took 1st place in the over 75s age category and Susan took 3rd place in the over 65s category.

On Sunday the 13th March club runners also turned out for the Wynyard 5k trail race, part of the Tees Trail Winter series. John Surtees was first home for the club and placed 2nd overall in a time of 18:24. He was closely followed by Peter Milburn who came in 9th in a time of 20:43. Michelle Zamir was 1st lady overall in a time of 22:28. Other runners included: Dave Blewitt (22:16), Ste Smith (22:17), Michelle Jane (23:02), Alan Wilks (23:24), Cyd Upton (24:00) and Susan Milburn (24:56).

## Timely Win for Aycliffe FC

Newton Aycliffe returned to winning ways in an exciting game against Bedlington Terriers on Saturday. The win was timely as Aycliffe prepare for their Durham Challenge Cup final against Whickham on Good Friday. Aycliffe's midweek games against Ashington & Washington had both resulted in defeats. Even worse central defender Alex Kitchen suffered a broken leg in the game at Washington.

Aycliffe needed a lift & put on a strong first half performance, taking the lead after 10 mins. Ashley Coffey played a ball through to John Campbell who beat the defenders & placed the ball out of the reach of the Bedlington keeper into the net. The second goal came on 23 minutes when leading scorer Matty Moffat jumped to a high ball. His back header found the goal leaving the keeper stranded.

The home team went into the break with a 2-0 lead & looked like they were heading for a comfortable victory against a team lying second bottom of the league.

However, Bedlington came out for the second half in determined fashion & were soon threatening. Within 5 minutes of the restart they had a loud penalty appeal turned down. A cross into the box hit Dennis Knight's arm but from such close range that the referee refused to point to the spot.

Aycliffe came close to a third just after the hour when a Jordan Laidler cross from the right found Moffat who was unable to get a controlled shot on target.

Within a few minutes Bedlington pulled a goal back. A Knight miss-kick landed at Liam Hudson's feet. The Bedlington forward fired past James Winter who could only get his fingertips to the ball. Two minutes later the visitors had a good chance to equalise but Andrew Ferrell's shot was deflected wide.

Aycliffe had more attempts but without getting them on target. With a minute to go, however, Moffat scored his 20th of the season. Running on to a long ball forward he beat the



defence & comfortably placed a shot into the net.

That didn't end the drama. With the clock on 90+1 Bedlington substitute Michael Baxter found himself in space in the box & fired home.

It was with some relief shortly afterwards that Aycliffe heard the final whistle. They now travel to Ashington on Tuesday night for a league game and then move on to the Hetton Centre for their first Durham Challenge Cup final appearance in their 50 year history.

Aycliffe now have 50 points in the league. The last time they finished a season with more than that was in 2012/2013 however this year they have reached the half century with 14 games still to play. After the cup final they go into a sequence of 6 consecutive home games between 29 March & 14 April. Thanks to the wet winter weather it will be a gruelling run to the end of season & we hope that as many Newtonians as possible get to Moore Lane to support our team.

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