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## Despite Terminal Illness, Anna Could Not be Happier

### Aycliffe Fundraiser Wins National Award

North East England's most senior Rotary official has praised the 'outstanding courage, determination and success' of Newton Aycliffe brain tumour research campaigner Anna Swabey who, though battling a terminal illness, admitted this week that she 'couldn't be happier'.

Twenty-four-year-old Anna first made the admission in a national Sunday newspaper colour supplement and confirmed her feelings this week when she was presented with the prestigious 'UK Young Citizen of the Year' trophy by Rtn Terry Long, Rotary's District Governor in North East England on behalf



Anna and Terry Long being interviewed by BBC Look North

of Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland. It was Anna's third honour within the space of a few months. She was also made an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe and nominated for a Durham County Council Chairman's Medal. But the awards were then eclipsed by a marriage proposal from boyfriend Andy Bell.

The couple will marry at Richmond, North Yorkshire, in September. As well as the Young Citizen trophy, the District Governor (left) also presented Anna with a special lapel pin highlighting Rotary International's current year theme - 'Be a gift to the world' - to mark her outstanding success in raising over £50,000 for brain tumour research and helping to secure over 100,000 signatures for an on-line petition requiring the government to debate the amount of cash it allocates for research into brain tumour cancers.

The presentation ceremony should have taken place at Rotary's national conference in Bournemouth in mid-April but the event clashed with the marathon in Paris where Anna will be supporting her 14-strong team of fund-raising runners. "I'm really gutted that I can't be at Bournemouth," she told District Governor Terry. A BBC television crew filmed this week's presentation which was shown on both Look North and at the Rotary Conference.

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## Stars in the Eyes of Woodham Students

Star gazing is high on the agenda for students at Woodham Academy thanks to a new piece of scientific kit.

The school has acquired a state of the art automated reflector telescope which will be used to allow GCSE Astronomy students to easily access fascinating sights of the solar system.

Woodham Academy was able to purchase the telescope with the help of funding from Great Aycliffe Town Council Councillors. Head of Science, Mr Jenkins, said: "We are extremely grateful for the support from the town council. This is a fantastic device for our students and will be very well used."

Students from the school's More Able Academy will use the telescope as part of their Astronomy GCSE. As well as learning to use the equipment, students will also visit observatories and



attend talks at a variety of universities and colleges.

Woodham will also welcome Professor Sean Paling, Director and Senior Scientist of the Boulby Underground Science Facility, into school on Wednesday 13th April 7pm - 8pm.

Professor Paling will deliver a lecture on Dark Matter - The missing mass in the universe. Those interested in attending the talk please contact info@woodham.org.uk or facebook.com/IOPNorthEast

## Husqvarna's Easter Effort for St. Teresa's Hospice

Newton Aycliffe, Husqvarna is doing its bit for charity and has adopted St Teresa's Hospice in Darlington as its charity for 2016 and recently held an Easter Egg Raffle to support St Teresa's Hospice.

Employees donated Easter Eggs, Champagne, Chocolates etc and raffle tickets were sold prior to the event and on the day, even the Easter Bunny showed up to help! Scott Marshall, Project & Appeals Fundraiser at the hospice came along and drew the raffle tickets for the event and an amazing amount of £1000 was raised!

Top photo shows from left - Nicola Dickinson from Reception, Sarah Gray from Manufacturing (aka the Easter Bunny) and Scott Marshall, of St Teresa's Hospice.

Photo below shows from left - Michelle Milner from Reception, Sarah Gray the Easter Bunny with a selection of the Easter Egg prizes



Over the last few months Husqvarna Aycliffe have carried out various events including a Cake Bake Day and a Christmas Jumper Day and together with the Easter Egg Raffle, a fantastic amount of £2895 has been raised for St Teresa's Hospice so far.

This is a fantastic effort from all employees at Husqvarna who will be holding lots more events to raise money for the St Teresa's Hospice.

The Husqvarna Group is the world's largest producer of lawnmowers, chainsaws and tractors and incorporates the brands, Husqvarna, Flymo, McCulloch and Gardena.

The company's modern manufacturing facility at Newton Aycliffe, manufactures product types

including the Automower, which is new generation robotic lawnmower. The company has a core workforce of approximately 300 employees and recruits approximately 600 temporary employees during its peak production period of January until May.

## Councillors' Ward Walkabouts Planned

Aycliffe North & Middridge County Councillors John D Clare, Mike Dixon and Joan Gray wish to give notice that they will be available on Tuesday 12 April at the following locations:

- They will be at the Woodham PACT drop-in event at Woodham Community Centre at 10am.
- Then hold a 'Ward Walkabout' in the Horndale area, meeting at Hallington Head at 10:30am.
- A second Walkabout will follow in Middridge, meeting at the Village Hall at 2pm.

Councillors hope to be accompanied by the neighbourhood wardens, police and an officer from GAMP.

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

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

## Aycliffe Nursery in Region's Top Ten



Emma and Tanya (nursery staff at Cobblers Hall) with children Lenny, Trinity and Jaxon.

Staff and children at House of Eden Nurseries are especially egg-static this Easter after receiving a prestigious 'Top 10 Recommended Nursery Group 2016' Award from daynurseries.co.uk.

The House of Eden have a chain of six children's day nurseries across South Durham: Aycliffe Village, Cobblers Hall and Stephenson Way Newton Aycliffe, Evenwood, Fishburn and Bishop Middleham.

John Newbould, Managing Director said "This is wonderful news, as a group recognition everyone deserves a big pat on the back".

The daynurseries.co.uk Top 10 Nursery Awards highlight the most recommended day nurseries in each region. The

awards are based on over 22,000 reviews received between March 2014 to March 2016 from parents, relatives and guardians of children who attend the nurseries.

Alyson Thorburn, Area Manager for House of Eden added "This award is especially rewarding. It is testament to the hard work and dedication of all our nursery staff which has been acknowledged by the excellent reviews received from parents and carers of the children who attend our setting".

Meanwhile, children and families from all the nurseries have been celebrating Easter by participating in a range of competitions, painting eggs and decorating Easter bonnets.

# THE TURBINIA

## \* Saturday Night Live \*

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Saturday 2nd April - "This Machine"

Gig Pit Review: "Well, I don't know what to say, apart from... THIS MACHINE were absolutely amazing last night, one of the best - especially when the guitarists were on the tables and the bar. Every song was awesome, perfect sound and just an all round excellence. Also, it was the best atmosphere I've ever experienced, everyone was having fun."

Gig Pit Review 2: "One of the most entertaining bands on the circuit, music by Motorhead, Van Halen, Metallica, Pearl Jam, Bon Jovi, Guns n' Roses, Deep Purple, AC/DC, Billy Idol and Thin Lizzy".

Saturday 9th April - "Fizzy Fish"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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REDWORTH AND HEIGHINGTON

The next PACT meeting will be held on 20th April at 7.30pm in Oakwood Learning Centre, Redworth.

The postcode for Sat Navs is DL2 2UH - go past the fishing lakes and the school is on the left.

Please note Neighbourhood Chief Inspector Sue Robinson will be attending this meeting, this is a good opportunity to speak to a senior police officer about concerns.

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**Charlie and Emily Go to Hollywood Alopecia Support Meeting at PCP**

Dear Sir,  
We are the parents of Charlie Lough, aged 15 (above) and Emily Halford, age 14, both from Newton Aycliffe. Charlie delivers Newton News. On the weekend of 19th/20th March we attended 'Move It' Dance Convention with our dance school, Stepping Out, at London's Excel. The girls attended lectures with famous choreographers, spoke to colleges, watched performances and basically had fun. We had a fantastic weekend with individuals being offered amazing opportunities. Charlie and Emily have both been fast tracked straight to the live heats of The UK Dance Elite Championships after being spotted by talent scouts.

Charlie and Emily have been offered an invitation to attend 'The Hollywood Summer Tour' in LA and Charlie has a partial scholarship. Emily was spotted whilst taking part in a Lecture and the 'Freestyle Stage' which was open to anyone. She won the event, beating well known televised dancers. At present the videos on Facebook alone have attracted over 10,000 views. This is an invitation only summer school who only take around 20-30 dancers per year from all over the world. We decided this is a once in a life time opportunity for the girls and with the support of their schools, dance schools, family and friends we are fundraising to get the girls to



Alopecia Support County Durham is a new support group for women aged 16 years and over who would like some support, advice and tips on living with the autoimmune disease. We understand some of the effects that alopecia can have on sufferers, often feeling self-conscious, isolated, and depressed therefore the group provides a friendly atmosphere where members can come and talk to others who have been affected. Group members can also receive tips and advice from wig and bandana makers, beauticians and tattoo artists, try relaxing massage tasters, take part in confidence building sessions and discuss the latest treatments and research. Catriona Grime and Angie Cooke, the Group Founders, say: "We are very grateful



Catriona Grime and Angie Cooke

to the Secret Millionaire and Galaxy Hot Chocolate for the funding they have provided to enable us to launch the group and ensure our first meeting in April is a huge success." The group which is endorsed by Alopecia UK will hold meetings bi-monthly at Pioneering Care Centre starting April 27th 7-9pm. For more information please email alopeciafriendscodurham@outlook.com

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Hollywood. We are going to hold a Hollywood Disney Princess and Hero themed party for local children and try and organise a large raffle. Please watch for the date and give your support. Natalie lough



**Excellent Response to Newton News Appeal**

Dear Sir,  
Thanks to the Newton News and its readers St. Clare's now has a wheelchair. We also now have a wheelchair for sale for £30. If you are interested in buying it, the wheelchair can be viewed at 'Allsorts' Charity Shop at St. Clare's on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays between 10.00am and 1.00pm. The money from the sale will be put towards the purchase of a defibrillator for the church. The excellent article placed in a recent issue of Newton News produced a good response. Thanks to those who donated wheelchairs we have already raised £110 towards the defibrillator and gained a wheelchair for emergencies within the church. If you would like to make a cash donation towards the purchase of a defibrillator please contact me by Texting 'DONATION' to 07904 321987 and I will get back to you as soon as I can. Many thanks  
Noel Bennett

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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

- We are still on the devolution journey (just): bit.ly/Devo240316
- My report on this week's DCC Economy Scrutiny meeting (updates on EU funding and Performance Management): bit.ly/DCCES290316
- Families First South Locality launch event: bit.ly/DCCFFSL
- The horse in the SUDS has gone! bit.ly/SUDShorse3
- To be a 'pothole' (an actionable highways defect) the hole needs to be more than 1 foot wide and 1 1/2 inches deep
- Latest Aycliffe area roadworks information: bit.ly/Roadworks010416
- Last week's report from our MEP: bit.ly/JKD270316

### COMMUNITY NEWS

- Adult Learning and Skills Summer Timetable: bit.ly/DCCALsummer16
- Killhope reopens after £500,000 refurbishment: bit.ly/Killhope16
- Bishop Auckland Food Festival Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 April masterclasses: bit.ly/BAFFclasses
- Northern Powergrid March newsletter: bit.ly/NPG0316
- Police have caught the man responsible for the recent spate of burglaries: bit.ly/DC290316 but still keep your doors locked!
- Apprenticeships currently available in the Newton Aycliffe area: bit.ly/NAApprs

## School Competition Winners



The Mayor and her consort son Michael (seated) visited St Joseph's school on Wednesday to judge our decorated Easter Egg competition. Entries were from Nursery to reception and two winners were chosen from each class who received Eater Eggs. Afterwards our special guests stayed to listen to the children sing hymns for their Liturgy Mass.

## Aycliffe Mum Leads "Mums in the Know"

"Mums in the Know", the UK's rapidly growing Mums network has now launched in Durham West, covering areas such as Newton Aycliffe, Bishop Auckland, Shildon, Barnard Castle, Spennymoor, Crook, Stanhope, Middleton in Teesdale and anything in between. It's a fast-growing community of websites owned by Emma's Diary, the leading pregnancy, mother and baby publication in the UK.

It features not only what's on information for families, but also an essential guide to bringing up children in your local area. Mums in the Know local sites are optimised for mobile devices and use social media to give parents daily inspiration on what to do with the kids, from toddler groups to attend that morning, to live events and outdoor attractions for the weekend.

The network is now reaching over 250,000 parents on a monthly basis, and is well on track to hitting their year end target of 1,000,000 readers. Nicola Gildert, Area Manager for Durham West commented



"The great thing about working for Mums in the Know is having the flexibility to fit around my family, and even when I'm gathering information and visiting local places and events to update on my website, I'm actually able to enjoy doing it with my children - giving them a day out, and giving readers a real life experience of these places. Things like looking for baby changing, seating available to feed baby or just convenience of access for pushchairs and catering for children in general - these are the things that sometimes get missed which parents don't realise until they get there."

The beauty of Mums in the Know for businesses is that they can advertise on a national, regional or local level - so they can target their audience. We also offer sponsorship opportunities, market research surveys and focus groups for mum-friendly brands."

To visit the new MITK website for this area, visit [www.mumsintheknow.co.uk/durhamwest](http://www.mumsintheknow.co.uk/durhamwest)

## "We Need Our Youth Club" says Teacher



An Aycliffe teacher is speaking out about Durham County Council's proposed Youth Service changes.

The Council is proposing to withdraw funding from Newton Aycliffe's Youth and Community Centre, and from the twice-weekly Youth Club held there, in order to focus services upon vulnerable and needy youngsters.

Local schoolteacher Peter Davies fears that this may damage many young people. He says: "I appreciate that the Council must make savings, but the Youth Centre is going to be even more important in the coming years as government cuts damage society, and the Youth Club is an essential part of the service offered to the needy youngsters of the town. It serves as a safe place for those needing somewhere to go, a drop-in for those in need of advice or wishing to disclose, and a safety net for those in danger of going off the rails."

"Closing the Youth Club would simply be to neglect addressable issues which will become insoluble problems later on," says Mr Davies. "I am hoping we can persuade the Council to continue to finance a Youth Worker presence at the Youth Club as part of their service to vulnerable youngsters." Vince Crosby, Chairman of the Youth and Community

Centre, welcomed Mr Davies's intervention. "This is exactly what the Board of Trustees wants too," he said. "We will take over the running of the Centre under the Durham ASK, and we expect to be able to provide a venue for the Youth Club. But we need Youth Workers to provide a specialised service for the young people who go there - who are, some of them, very needy indeed."

Mr Davies explained: "The Youth Club needs our active support for the sake of our young people. When I stood recently for election to the Town Council, I told the voters that I would make youth the focus of my work. In the event, I was not elected, but that does not affect my determination to fight for the town's young people, of whom I was one once, and whom I now serve as their teacher."

## Friends Meet

The next meeting of Friends of West Park is on Tuesday 12th April 7pm in the upstairs lounge at the Phoenix Club where all residents are welcome. Arun Chandran, Secretary 88 Honister Place, DL5 7DN Tel. 01325 313224 Mob. 07711 573043 email: [arunmchandran@aol.com](mailto:arunmchandran@aol.com) -www.greataycliffe.com

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## Table Top Newton Aycliffe



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Thursday evenings from 6 to 9pm

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# IN OR OUT OF EU - BASED ON FACTS

Dear Syd  
I am not one for tit for tat letters in the Newton News however I really don't think Alastair Welsh read my letter. For one thing he got my name wrong! My letter was based on facts which Mr Welsh seems to doubt for example he states, "if this is indeed a fact ...." with regard to the funding our area receives. I will

quote from a letter from our MEP, Jude Kirkton-Darling, which was in the Northern Echo on March 26th 2016 :- "Britain gets more out of the EU than we put in. In fact for every £1 we put into the EU we get £10 through jobs growth and trade. In the North East, because we are a net beneficiary, not only do we get the £10, we have the original

£1 returned to us, mostly through regional development funding." The MEP must surely know what she is talking about, it seems the EU don't have spare tax money from our area to distribute elsewhere in Europe!  
If as Mr Welsh states, "After the New Labour era I have come to realise that the North East is poor because

it predominately votes Labour!" The North South divide was very evident for many years before New Labour. This is not meant to be a political point – just a well-known fact. Anyone who knows me knows that I am certainly not a Labour supporter, 12 years in opposition on the Town Council should amply support this and I

am not a member of any political party so my letters are therefore not intended to be politically biased. However, Mr Welsh's anti-Labour comments quite clearly show he is politically biased.

It is a myth that the country will be £15million better off outside the EU. We will have to pay for trade agreements, etc. outside of the EU so we could actually be a lot worse off. To think that after Brexit this area will no longer be paying a Council Tax rise of over 12 times more than London is a definite no brainer!

My personal view, which is based on available facts, is that the North East will certainly NOT be better off outside the EU for reasons stated in my previous letter. Like Mr Welsh I am entitled to an opinion as I have a mind of my own; times have changed since the days of Dickens.

I don't think the EU is all perfect but I don't blame it for everything and like in most relationships you have to weigh the good against the bad and make a decision based on factual evidence. From the evidence, I believe that we in the North East, will be better staying within the European Union.

Andrea Bergg  
Lascelles Ave.

# Boost for Bikers' Easter Egg Appeal



Once again hundreds of bikers thundered past Newton Aycliffe from Durham delivering Easter eggs to the children's ward at Darlington Memorial Hospital. A fabulous turn out for such a fantastic cause.

We were all there cheering them on at Aycliffe Village as per usual, the children were in Easter bonnets or dressed as Easter bunnies . . . A great time was had by all. Many thanks, The Icton family

## ACORN AGM INVITATION TO DINE WITH ROSE LODGE

Popular residents group ACORN will be holding their AGM on 14th April 2016 in the Phoenix club Newton Aycliffe at 6pm.

Nominations to stand for committee positions should be notified to Jen Bewley (Secretary) or Ken Robson (Chair) by Friday 8th April by telephone on 321471.

ACORN have had another successful year and continue to go from strength to strength, our events and outings are ever popular and our campaigns are notable by their success.

The ability of ACORN to work in partnership without rancour with similar organisations across the north east is nothing less than remarkable.

From humble beginnings as a neighbourhood watch group in 2011 we have transformed our neighbourhood into a place where neighbours look out for each other. The ACORN community have received accolade from various bodies from the Northumbria in bloom group for our efforts in brightening up the area with planters to our members attending training.

ACORN work in conjunction with police and local bodies to improve infrastructure and public harmony. Through public speakers we seek to inform our members of opportunities and risks surrounding us.

Police representatives Town and County Councillors and livin attend our monthly meetings where possible to offer advice and information.

Come along and meet us for a warm welcome. Little ACORNS our junior group will be holding their meeting at 5.30 pm facilitated by Rebekah Lovejoy and Ellie Picken.

Ken Robson (Chair) 01325 321471

Rose Lodge Care Home in Newton Aycliffe will once again be opening its doors to the public to host their latest 'Come Dine With Me' luncheon.

The event is set to take place on Thursday 28th April. Guests are invited to attend a pre-dinner reception at 1pm, with dinner served from 1:15pm.

Those seeking a fine dining experience can choose from two three-course menus on the day, with diners voting for their favourite at the end of the event.

Menu 1 features a spring roll with crispy house salad and mango chutney starter, followed by a pan-fried chicken with parsley butter new potatoes, seasonal vegetables and white cream

sauce main, finished off with a cheese board with breads, crackers and grape selection.

Menu 2 has a starter of Brussels pate served on toasted ciabatta with crispy house salad and caramelised onion chutney, followed by herb crusted salmon with parsley butter new potatoes, seasonal vegetables and a tomato pesto sauce, finishing with an Eaton mess and cream dessert.

The home is requesting a £5 donation from those wishing to attend. They also ask that visitors call the home to book a place beforehand, with payment due upon booking as places are limited.

Those interested can contact the home on 01325 271301, or call in at Rose Lodge on Carers Way, Cobblers Lane.

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## Aycliffe's Front Line NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By T/Inspector Mark J Edwards



Hello again to all at Newton Aycliffe and welcome to my latest report from the front line of Neighbourhood Policing in the town. I have broken this report down into three areas giving you a flavour of what's happening with the Neighbourhood Team, giving updates surrounding our recent crime spikes, and passing on a 'thought for the week'.

### The Team

I'll start off with a bit of news regarding the good old NPT itself. This week we will be welcoming a new PCSO to our ranks as Daniela Jones joins us fresh from training. Daniela will be working alongside old stalwart Gavin Laycock over the coming weeks as she gets to know the area and comes up to speed with local issues. Having met Daniela recently I can report that she is very enthusiastic and looking forward to immersing herself with local concerns. I am sure you will get to meet her over the coming months at one of our various community engagement forums.

I myself will be handing over the Inspector's pips during the coming months as we have a new 'boss' taking over - I will leave it to my replacement herself to make the necessary introductions as I would hate

to rain on anyone's parade. For myself that means dusting off my old Sergeant's chair and retaking that helm. These front line reports will continue however!

### Burglaries Update

There is no doubt that anyone following the Team's social media pages or having read local media will have seen that - of late, we have seen a troubling rise in the occurrence of house burglaries. We have not suffered any such crimes this past week within Newton Aycliffe I am happy to report however the Neighbourhood Team here and our CID colleagues have been working closely together putting various pieces of intelligence together and progressing various leads and that work has paid off.

I reported several weeks ago that a 14 year old male had been arrested on suspicion of being involved in these crimes and bailed. That tenacity didn't end there.... On the 19th March a 39 year old local male was arrested on suspicion of involvement in the burglaries - he was bailed whilst further enquiries progress regarding his suspected involvement. And as I type this a 42 year old male - also from Newton Aycliffe, is currently in custody

undergoing questioning by local detectives having been arrested last night. Your local Neighbourhood Cops may not be flawless but we are determined!

### My Thought Of The Week

I would like to say that the taking of someone's liberty - aka arresting them, is not in itself evidence of guilt. Police Officers operate in the arena of suspicion and belief. During any investigation suspicion gives us the grounds to make an arrest - subject to necessity, and subsequently interview detained persons. It may be that the outcome of the interview process eliminates a particular person from the investigation and they are released with no further action being taken. Whilst there is no doubt that to many people the removal of their liberty is a sad and necessary evil.

Why do I refer to this you may ask? As part of our continued efforts to engage with the community and highlight our accountability to yourselves (basically, what we're doing in relation to key crimes/issues) we regularly raise awareness of arrests made and such conversations often generate debate and conversation amongst our followers. So what am I saying? If you read a post relating to an arrest that has been made, that in itself is not evidence of someone's guilt - it is an awareness that we are working to address local issues by pursuing all lines of enquiry. To close, thanks for reading and I hope you tune in again next time, as one thing for certain - there's always something going on in the world of Neighbourhood Policing.

'Sounds like a plan! Mark J Edwards Neighbourhood Inspector Newton Aycliffe

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Police are appealing for information after a mountain bike was stolen from a shed in Sheraton Close, Newton Aycliffe.

The incident occurred between 9.30am and 11am on Thursday 24th March, 2016. The bike is described as a red and silver Nuke and is quite distinguishable as it has large style front forks and is a 16 inch frame.

Anybody with any information should contact PC 2687 Jamie Pitt on 101. Alternatively you can contact the Independent Charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 PC 2687 Jamie PITT Tel: 101 or 999 in an emergency. [jamie.pitt@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jamie.pitt@durham.pnn.police.uk)

# DAUGHTER TAKES OVER AND EXPANDS FAMILY BUSINESS

A young female entrepreneur is celebrating business success six months after taking over the reins from her parents who ran the company for 30 years. Wear Valley Decorating Centre's new managing director Helen Johnson has invested £10,000 on a raft of business improvements to bring its retail offer, operations and processes up to date to benefit customers and staff.

The centre, which has undergone an extensive makeover, now has a wider range of products, extended opening hours, a new sales and accounting system and an e-commerce website launching next month which will allow customers to browse the latest decorating trends, new product innovations and also shop online.

Speaking about the recent improvements, Helen said: "This is a very exciting time for my team and I as we continue to grow, make positive changes and introduce new product ranges to the centre.

"We have very loyal customers based in and around Newton Aycliffe, so it's important when making any adjustments to the business or the centre to think about them and their needs.

"All the changes made will benefit our customers whether it's providing more efficient billing and payment systems, extra opportunities to shop in



store or online or having more products to choose from."

27-year-old Helen comes from an entrepreneurial family and is sister to Crafter's Companion founder Sara Davies, who recently announced she is moving her craft company's headquarters to Aycliffe Business Park.

Helen returned to the region in November 2015 after working for corporate organisations such as Jaguar Land Rover and Hewlett Packard, and she felt the time was right to take on the

decorating centre and believed she could bring a fresh outlook to the business.

She continued: "My experience from other business and retail organisations has been invaluable. It was always the plan to take over the family-business from my parents. They established and successfully ran a great family-owned, regional business for 30 years and I'm very grateful for all of their hard work and the opportunity to grow and move forward with the centre."

Wear Valley Decorating Centre provides a large range of paints, wallpapers and decorating supplies. It serves trade and retail customers six days a week from its centre in Coundon, County Durham. For further information please visit: [www.decoratingcentreonline.co.uk](http://www.decoratingcentreonline.co.uk)

## Roy 'Chubby' Brown Competition Winner

Newton News recently ran a competition to win two tickets to see Roy Chubby Brown live at Spennymoor Leisure Centre.

Thank you to all who entered - the correct answer was "Roy was born in Middlesbrough".

The competition winner will not only see Roy's live show on Sunday 3rd July, but will also get to meet the star. Congratulations to Lisa Robson of Henderson Road.

If you were unsuccessful and would like to purchase tickets for the show, call the box office on 03000 261161. Tickets are priced at £20.00 each.

Please note: This show is for adults only, please do not attend if you are easily offended.

## DEMAND FORCES NEW COMPANY TO EXPAND



After launching the business in October 2015 Legacy Tackle has been overwhelmed with the support from local and travelling anglers alike. Due to the increasing demand Legacy Tackle needed new premises and took the option to invest heavily to cope with demand.

Although unable to keep everything they will always offer the best possible service in getting customers goods they want. Legacy prides itself on customer service not just in store but via facebook and online store [www.legacytackle.co.uk](http://www.legacytackle.co.uk) where customers can peruse at their leisure day or night.

With new stock arriving weekly they have a wider range of customers and more importantly the word is spreading that 'LEGACY TACKLE' is the place to go for your fishing tackle and clothing.

Next time you're in need of items, pay a visit. New opening hours: Monday - Saturday 9.am-5.30pm - closed on Sundays. Legacy would like to thank all those customers who helped us move in without their help we wouldn't be operating this week. Tight lines for 2016!

**CONTACT DETAILS AND ADDRESS WANTED.**

## Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 5th April will feature the musical-drama "West Side Story" starring Natalie Wood, Richard Beymer, Russ Tamblyn, Rita Moreno and George Chakaris.

Inspired by Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet and set in New York in the mid 1950's, it is a tale of teen age street gangs in a rundown city area and ill-fated love. Music by Leonard Bernstein and numbers such as "Tonight" "Maria" "Gee, Officer Krumpke" and "One Hand One Heart" keep it as fresh now as when it was made in 1961.

It won 10 Oscars including supporting actor, actress, picture, director, music scoring, sound and costume design. Must be worth seeing? 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.

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**Please do not hesitate to contact Alisdair and his friendly staff who are always available to speak with anyone who would like help and advice.**

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### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

## AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that:

A meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee of the Town Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

**WEDNESDAY, 13th OCTOBER 2016**  
at 6.00pm

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. Agendas and Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. ([www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk))

### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 13th April 2016**

## Policy & Resources Committee, 7.15pm

### QUESTION TIME

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

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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## SPONSORS FOR COUNTY ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

Sponsors are needed for an annual awards scheme which recognises outstanding environmental work in County Durham.

The County Durham Environment Partnership is hoping to hear from companies and organisations which would be interested in sponsoring this year's awards, which will open for entries in June.

The County Durham Environment Awards have taken place every year over the last 27 years and during that time more than 890 projects involving thousands of people have received awards or commendations.

To keep running costs to a minimum organisers are inviting companies to support the scheme via one of three sponsorship packages.

There are a range of benefits available to sponsors, depending on how much they

wish to contribute, ranging from sponsoring an award category and participating in judging to having a company name on awards literature and VIP attendance at the annual winners' ceremony.

Details of the packages are available at [www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards](http://www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards). Find out more by contacting Durham County Council on 03000 265 545.

**The awards include the following categories:**

- Built environment
- Climate change
- Community partnership
- Craftsmanship
- Greener business
- Natural environment
- Places and spaces
- Schools and colleges
- Volunteer of the year over 18
- Volunteer of the year under 18
- Volunteer group of the year
- Waste management

## Don't Pick Daffodils

Dear Sir,

Coming home from the Good Friday Service at the Xcel Centre we drove up St Cuthbert's Way in the sunshine enjoying the beautiful array of crocuses which were all in bloom.

We would have done the same with the daffodils except there were no blooms to admire as three youngsters (aged about 10/12) were clutching large bunches of daffodils rapidly picking any that were in bloom.

What a pity they couldn't leave them for everyone to enjoy - picked blooms don't last as long as those left growing. I don't know if they took them home and whether they told their parents where they got them from - but if they did I hope their parents pointed out to them that what they had done really amounted to theft - stealing them from the rest of the community who could have enjoyed them.

Rev Sheelah Stevens

## EU - In or Out Argument

Labour Go Head of Strategy Nigel Griffiths says: "From our £19bn annual contribution to Brussels, we get back a miserly £1.2bn for regional development. It is time to take back control instead of handing over billions."

Tees Valley and Durham contributes £2.30, to get just £1 back from Europe - Lack of Regional Justice. Incredibly, while Europe contributes £213,000 to the economy of Tees Valley and Durham - at the same time Europe takes away £489,000 from Tees Valley and Durham.

People from Tees Valley and Durham are effectively out

of pocket paying towards European structural funds, according to research by Open Europe.

It is estimated that 70% of our overall contributions go to Member States, with just 25% ending up back in UK regions they originally came from with only 5% redistributed across other regions.

Of the 37 regions in Britain under the EU classification system, 35 are net contributors to structural funds, with only West Wales and Cornwall being net beneficiaries.

Regional injustice in terms of funding Europe was addressed by Gordon Brown in 2003 who said the time was

ripe to "bring regional policy back to Britain". But Brown got nowhere redressing the imbalance. The Coalition dropped the commitment as it never even made it into David Cameron's negotiation.

Over the 2007-2013 EU budgetary period, the UK contributed roughly £29.5bn to the EU's structural and cohesion funds, getting back around £8.7bn.

All the regions in the North-East pay in more than they get back, as does Northern Ireland (£1.58 for every £1 it gets back). All sub-regions in Scotland are likewise net losers from the structural funds.

## EU Costs 30p a Day for a £3000 Return

From our Local M.P. Phil Wilson

The EU debate is full of mistruths and confounding information. Even those campaigning to leave can't agree on how much the UK contributes to the EU. Some will claim the figure is £14 billion whilst others will inflate it to £19 billion. Neither however, are right.

The UK's contribution to the EU is based on GDP which changes year on year, and once the contribution is calculated an automatic discount (called a rebate) of £5 billion is applied. In 2015, the UK's net contribution to the EU was less than £6 billion. A far cry from the £19 billion some out campaigners would have you believe.

Breaking this down, Britain's EU membership costs only 30p per person per day. A bargain when you consider that the CBI has stated the EU is worth £3000 per household. As part of the Tees Valley and Durham, we benefit significantly from EU membership.

Under the Youth Employment Initiative North East, Tees Valley and Durham receive £19.8m; from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development we get £11.5; research and development funding for universities and SME's is expected to reach £130m; and the EU Structural funds will contribute £595.6m between 2014 and 2020.

In total, that's a staggering £756.9 million that the North East, Tees Valley and Durham will receive from the EU before 2020.

Examples of where this money has been spent are evident across the North East from the iconic Angel of the North to NetPark in Sedgfield which will receive £4,939,608 in capital from the EU's Regional Development funds. Closer to home Gestamp, and South West Durham Training Centre who have received £163,000 for their Enhanced Train to Gain project, have benefited directly from EU funding, along with many others.

People who advocate leaving, want us to take back control. But is this Tory government really going to invest the same amount of money into the North East that the EU does? To be frank, the answer is no.

Under this government, local authority funding in the North East is the lowest of all regions except the East Midlands. It would be fantastical to believe this government would put the same level of investment back into County Durham, where local authority spending will have been cut by £290 million by 2020.

Whilst EU funding benefits the North East significantly, unimpeded access to the single market brings investment, growth and jobs to the region.

Our EU membership has attracted companies like Nissan and Hitachi Rail Europe to the region, and supports well over 100,000 jobs across the North East. Companies like Nissan, Hitachi and Gestamp all support continued EU membership because they recognise the EU brings investment, growth, and jobs

to the region.

Even Hitachi's Chief Executive has said it would be "ridiculous" for the UK to leave the EU. But the EU referendum isn't just about economics. Benefits of EU membership are everywhere in everyday life. Other benefits include holiday pay, worker's rights, maternity and paternity leave, and protection for agency workers to name just a few.

The EU has brought the cost of a ten minute phone call down by 74% since 2000, and has set the maximum charge for sending a text, cutting costs for consumers by 60%.

For 30 pence a day, the return we get from the EU is huge. It provides investment in our region, supports jobs, and protects our rights.

The EU provides each of us with a better quality of life, and for 30 pence a day that is definitely something worth protecting.

## WOODHAM ACADEMY MARK INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK



Staff and students at Woodham Academy have been celebrating International Science Week by taking part in engineering sessions, visits to university and attending local primary schools to share the fun of science.

Professionals from the Institute of Civil Engineering and volunteers from Teesside University visited school last week to teach students the power of effective construction. Students were tasked with building bridges from paper to withstand weights. Many of the bridges were surprisingly strong and could take much more weight than the students had anticipated.

Another exciting part of science week included students making a trip to Newcastle University to spend the day as doctors and dentists. Year 9 students visited the Medical and Dentistry department of the university where they made their own teeth moulds, investigated the skull of crocodiles and were responsible for diagnosing volunteering patients.

Woodham Academy Science teachers also attended Vane Road Primary School to deliver a fun and engaging assembly to 400 students. The assembly involved magic tricks, firing canons and launching rockets, much to the excitement of the audience.

For those who love science, Woodham hosts a science club for primary students and parents. The next Woodham Sparkles Science session takes place on 11th May 4:30 - 6:00. For more information contact [info@woodham.org.uk](mailto:info@woodham.org.uk).



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## HORNDALE MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 6th April at the Evangelical Church, Ladybower. PACT Meeting at 6pm followed by Residents' Meeting at 6.30pm.

The first outgo of the year is on Saturday 9th April to Skipton. Tickets available from Martin on 01325 316148. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Eddie Wood, Chairman

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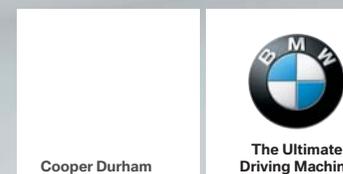
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# Aycliffe Polo Player Selected for England



Emily Pilkington 16, from Sedgfield Water Polo Club based at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, has been picked for the England under 18 girls team to play in a tournament in Denmark. Emily is the 19th player to play for GB, England and Australia since the club was formed in 1997 and has been in the Sedgfield squad since she was 8. If you are interested in playing this fun and exciting game and are competent in the water or a club swimmer you can get more details on 07818554449.

# Youthy Easter Results

The Easter break is usually free from fixtures but some teams needed to catch up on the backlog of games. Under 16 falcons v Hardwick youth. They away team started the game better than we did and created the first couple of half chances, around 20 minutes in to the first half Cameron Copeland found the keeper off his line and chipped him to make it 1-0. Both sides were struggling to get the ball down and pass it it tough conditions with the howling wind again Hardwick created half chances pushing for an equaliser but we held firm and hit them on the break with Cameron again finding the net. With a minute to go before HT Aycliffe give a free kick away within shooting distance, the shoot looped up off the wall and was tucked away HT 2-1. The second half turned into a old fashioned midfield battle with both sides wasting the opportunity to get the ball down and play but with 5 minutes to go Cameron completed his Hatrick from a corner and calmed the nerves FT 3-1. Under 9 Falcons v Aycliffe Jnrs, a local derby for last games of the season for both teams. Even with the strong winds the lads passed the ball around and our defence was once again very hard to break down. Credit to Aycliffe Juniors who never gave in, but goals from Jacob and 2 from Dylan give the Falcons the win FT 3-0. Another clean sheet for Travis Dixon and MOM Given to Dylan. Under 14 Girls v Durham Cestria, who were looking to do the double over our girls

having knocked them out of the Cup the last time out. Against the wind first half we struggled to get any passing movement as the home side passed the ball around and used the width to most effect. Courtney had to be quick off the mark to stop the tide of attacks. Aycliffe had three gilt edge chances to put the game to bed before halftime, therefore it was no surprise when Cestria took the lead just before the break. The halftime team talk did the trick as the girls came out fighting. The midfield then turned the game around winning tough challenges. Cestria couldn't handle Chloe's pace and she equalised, slotting home under the keeper. Cestria were awarded a penalty but it crashed off the bar to give the girls a lifeline.....and we took that chance as Chloe produced a complete copy of her first goal. Cestria were floored by our response as we tightened up to see out the last few minutes. Relief all round at the final whistle as the girls hope to make up ground on Lumley Ladies. We dug deep and got the points....well done Under 14s! Final score 1-2. Under 17s v Peterlee, it was tough going early on as the wind tried its best to prevent any kind of football being played, but once we got going and kept the ball on the floor the goals quickly followed. Niall Douglas opened the scoring with a nice solo effort then Reece Barrass slotted home the second. Corey Denton scored a quick fire hat trick with three nice through balls from Kieran Mcwaters. Ben Lowthiann then slipped

the ball past the advancing keeper for the sixth. Just before half time Reece Barass played some nice one touch football for Kieran Mcwaters to score. HT 7-0. Second half was a little more difficult against the strong wind but Aycliffe continued to play football and when Owen Morrison was uprooted Jimmy Cameron tucked the penalty into the bottom corner for a well deserved goal. Corey Dentonn scored his fourth of the day to end the scoring FT 9-0 MOM- Jimmy Cameron ( new role for Jimmy and he was excellent ) Under 13 Girls v St Cuthberts, tough conditions for both sides at a cold and windy Oakleaf. The game was evenly matched for long periods of the game but the opposition had a player who made the difference scoring 2 goals and setting up their third. Aycliffe did have periods of pressure and several corners but couldn't get passed their keeper. The girls battled to the end but FT 0-3

# AYCLIFFE RUNNERS RACING FAR & WIDE

Aycliffe Running Club runners have ventured far and wide over the last week, with runners competing in races in Gateshead, North Yorkshire, the Lake District and one runner even making it all the way to Portugal. On Tuesday 15th March, Judith Porter competed in the Falesia 5k in Portugal. Judith was holidaying in Portugal at the time. Judith completed the warm and sunny course in a time of 29.19, which is her first sub-30 race in over a year. The last cross country of the season saw six hardy runners turn out on a dull cool day in Wrekenton on Saturday 19 March, for a hilly course. In the ladies race Sue Milburn was the only female running for the club, but she dug in on the 2 lap course to come home 173 out of 274 runner, she was placed 4th in her age category of over 55. In the men's race club captain Mark Wade was first back from the medium pack passing Peter



Men in Wrekenton Cross Country (L-R) Peter Milburn, Dave Thompson, Mark Wade, Martyn Knox, Colin Gibson

Milburn on the last flat section of the course in 36.34. He came 120 out of a field of 454, and was followed closely by Peter Milburn in 39.25, coming in 142 and 2nd in his age category of over 55. Next, returning after injury, was Martyn Knox in 48.28 and coming in 403rd. Colin Gibson was next home from the club in 49.42 and 417th, followed in by Dave Thompson in 57.17 and 446th. Also on Saturday, Trish Kay participated in Coniston 14, a 14 mile road race in the Lake District. It was a beautiful

running day, both cool and bright. This race is organised by a small group of volunteers from the village and has a great community atmosphere with a band playing and plenty of support around the beautiful scenic route. Trish completed the course in an impressive time of 1:57:42, enjoying every minute. On 20 March, Sandra Collins competed in the Thirsk 10 road race. The conditions were mild and breezy. Sandra completed the course in 1:21:00, which was a personal best.

# STUDENTS RAISE £800 FOR SPORT RELIEF



On Saturday 19th March Newtonians Kirsty Knight and Josh Blackburn took part in the Sport Relief 5K Swimathon, swimming 200 lengths each at the Dolphin Centre, Darlington. They are both in Year 10 at Woodham Academy and between them have raised over £800. Well Done!

# Tri Club at Hamsterley



For some, Sunday mornings are for lie ins, for others, relaxing on the sofa, but for members of Aycliffe Tri Club, Sunday 13th March was the kick start of the 2016 season in the Dale Care Off Road Duathlon. The weather was perfect for the 5.5 km run/13km bike/4.5 run event, held for the second year running in the fantastic surroundings in Hamsterley Forest, and you couldn't pick a more suitable location. The course is both technical and fast paced, with a variety of ascents and descents to challenge both the beginner and the experienced. Club members Graham Atkins, Gareth Elkin and Mark Wade, together with new member Nicola Darragh, checked in their running shoes and mountain bikes into transition, before starting the race. The field of athletes was varied from first timers to veterans, and it was Mark Wade who crossed the line in 1:26:15, 7th place overall/5th Senior male. Next to finish was Graham Atkins in a time of 1:31:33, 16th overall/10th Vet male. Gareth Elkin crossed the line in 1:42:43, finishing 32nd overall/16th Vet Male, and club newcomer Nicola Darragh finished in a respectful 2:03:11, 51st overall/ 6th Senior female.

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**Councillors' surgeries**  
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Councillors Sarah Iveson and Jed Hillary will be in attendance at St. Mary's Meeting Room, Burn Lane on Saturday 9th April from 11am - 12 noon.

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## Public Notice

**DONATIONS** needed of Brica-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316630

**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, Ladybow. 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

**JAFFA** are you aged between 5 and 12? Then why not come and join us at JAFFA. Mondays 3.45 to 5pm at Burnhill Way Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe for bible stories and activities.

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## Waste Food on Greens Attracting Vermin

Dear Sir,  
Please can we make a plea through your newspaper to a resident of Butterwick Court who throws food out for birds onto the green between there and Grange Court to stop, for the following reasons?

For months now there has been large quantities of various foodstuffs put out; fish, bacon, chicken carcasses, buckets full of rotten apples and huge

amounts of bread. This has resulted in rats visiting in broad daylight, foxes and an enormous influx of crows.

Two dogs have been hospitalised on drips due to dashing off and eating it before their owner realised what they were doing and one has been left with an ongoing condition. The Environmental Health Officer has been out to investigate and agrees that there is a problem but cannot act unless the person responsible is identified.

Last week a large amount of woolly stuff was left out, I presume for nesting material, and the neighbourhood warden had to come out and remove it before it blew everywhere!

We are now troubled by a murder of crows, which are normally fairly solitary birds, there can be up to forty at a time in front of our houses and the massive problem that we have with them is that they are damaging our roofs by pecking out the mortar.

I don't know why this behaviour is occurring, perhaps a dietary deficiency, but last Autumn five of the residents facing the green had to pay £200 each to have their ridge tiles re-pointed. You can watch and hear them on your roof as whole chunks of mortar fall off. It is now happening again and is a huge cost to us all, the crows have begun to nest nearby and their numbers are going to multiply, increasing the problem significantly.

Apparently we are not allowed to shoot them so we are appealing to the better nature of this person to cease throwing food there. If caught the council have said they will be prosecuted. I am not against anyone feeding wildlife but please do it in your own garden, this is causing enormous and expensive problems for other residents.

Unhappy residents of Grange Court and Brafferton Close

## Catering

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## Lost &amp; Found

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## FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL GROUPS FROM GAMP

Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership (GAMP) have recently launched a Community Grant Fund, to provide grants to groups organising projects/activities within the GAMP area that will directly benefit and improve the lives of local people.

Funding is available to all local GAMP groups to apply for a one off grant to increase their capacity to develop community focused activities. Activities may include:

- Young people's activities during school holidays
  - Social activities for older people
  - Community events
  - Equipment that supports a particular activity
- Applications to the GAMP Community Grant Fund must meet the following criteria:
- The beneficiaries of the activity are people in the GAMP area
  - The activity addresses one or more of the GAMP priorities:

- \*Activities for Young People
  - \*Crime and Community Safety
  - \*Employment, Enterprise, Education & Training
  - The activity must not have started
- Who can apply?**

• Any local not for profit and voluntary organisations operating within the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP)

area.

- Faith based groups who operate activities which are not purely for religious benefit.
- Groups can apply on behalf of an individual, but the group should benefit in some way for doing this (e.g. an individual attached to a group applying for a coaching award).

**How much can you apply for?**  
Applicants can apply for amounts between £250 and £750. Please note groups can only make one application for this funding, and funding will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please also note, groups who have previously received a GAMP Small Grant won't be eligible for funding.

If you would like an application form, please contact the GAMP Team on 01325 327 441, or email: gampaap@durham.gov.uk

Adam White  
Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership (GAMP)  
Assistant Chief Executive's Office  
Pioneering Care Centre  
Cobblers Hall, Carers Way  
Newton Aycliffe DL5 4SF  
Tel: 01325 327441  
email: adam.white@durham.gov.uk  
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## COUNCIL BACKS CHILD ABUSE CAMPAIGN

Durham County Council and the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board have backed the Together, We Can Tackle Child Abuse campaign.

Launched by the Department for Education the initiative is encouraging the public to report cruelty, mistreatment and neglect, while making it easier for people to raise concerns.

Jane Geraghty, the independent chair of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, said: "Child abuse can have a damaging and long lasting impact on children and their families.

"And victims are often reluctant to report their abuse or don't recognise they are being abused.

"This makes it important for us all to be 'eyes and ears' in our communities."

Most children in County Durham are well cared for and protected by their parents or carers but a small number suffer harm.

Yet nationally it has been found that a third of those who suspect child abuse do nothing, with many people not acting on their suspicions because they're worried about being

wrong.

The campaign's message is that you don't have to be absolutely certain about your suspicions and that if you have a feeling that something's not right, you should talk to your local children's social care team who can look into it.

Information is usually gathered from many sources, and any report would form one part of a bigger picture.

The campaign features an "ABC" list to help spot the signs of child abuse or neglect. Look for changes in:

- Appearance - such as frequent unexplained injuries, consistently poor, hygiene, matted hair, unexplained gifts,

or a parent regularly collecting children from school when drunk

- Behaviour - such as demanding or aggressive behaviour, frequent lateness or absence from school, avoiding their own family, misusing drugs or alcohol, or being constantly tired

- Communication - such as sexual or aggressive language, self-harming, becoming secretive and reluctant to share information or being overly obedient

If you are concerned a child is being harmed or neglected call First Contact on 03000 26 79 79. If a child is in immediate risk of harm call 999.

## Accommodation

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## HARROP'S CELEBRATE 50th ANNIVERSARY IN SPAIN WITH FAMILY



Tony & Elaine Harrop of School Aycliffe celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary last weekend by taking all their family to Spain, for a five day celebration in the sun! Tony & Elaine came to live in Newton Aycliffe in 1982, when there were just the six of them. In total 23 members of the family of them went to Spain and thoroughly enjoyed the sun, celebrations and the party atmosphere

provided by the hotel. The golden couple along with their eldest son Darren, daughter Jaki & twins Mark & Phil are all directors of Workshop Supplies on Aycliffe Business Park. Getting time off together can be quite difficult, but the send a big thank you to their staff Simon Elliot, Richard Ross & Ben Calder who took over in their absence, allowing the 50 year celebrations to go ahead without a hitch.

## Do You Know What Household Items Can be Recycled?

A campaign is to be launched to encourage even higher levels of household recycling in County Durham. The County Council has secured almost £31,000 from the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) to promote its national Recycle Now 'Good to Know' campaign locally. The council is promoting the six month campaign which started in February. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the different types of materials that can be recycled from different rooms of the home in the blue lidded recycling bins and recycling boxes, including those from which WRAP believes recycling rates are lower. Good to Know will see the council's strategic waste team getting the message out at school assemblies and roadshows, through social

media, knocking on doors and handing out leaflets. The campaign message will also be advertised in newspapers and on the back of buses as well as on radio. Officers will also be giving out bin stickers and putting stickers on recyclable items in Durham's Sainsbury's store. Around half of the population already recycle and the campaign aims to encourage people to do more by highlighting the benefits. For example, one drinks can could save enough energy to power a TV for four hours and plastic bottles can be recycled and made into a chair. Alan Patrickson, head of projects and business services, said: "More than six out of ten of us now describe ourselves as committed recyclers but that doesn't mean that we can't do more.

"This campaign will raise awareness about the products people might still be unsure of and help those that already do their part to recycle extra items and different materials that they might not have thought of." Good to Know will run alongside the council's ongoing Bin it Right campaign, which aims to get people to put the right items in the right bin to stop recyclable material being contaminated and made unusable.

## AYCLIFFE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP ENJOY OVERNIGHT TREAT

Our next meeting is on Thursday 7th April at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre starting at 6pm until 7.30pm. We have two Guest Speakers the first from Relate who have recently brought out a new project to help those people who live with a health condition. Living with a Cancer or any other health issues can be a long road, and relationships are a really vital part of making the journey better. Yet when we need our relationships most, the effects of having a health condition can pile on the pressure. Relate provide impartial and non-judgemental information, support and counselling for all stages of your journey. They will explain what their aim is within our community. As we just had Easter when this next meeting is on I have asked Ann to come back to teach us a bit of Sugar Crafting. It went so well when she came to the Christmas Meeting, as everyone had fun and enjoyed the night.

If anyone is interested in attending but needs a lift we offer a free transport service on the night of each meeting. For more details ring Allison on 07762 258696 or for more information look on our fantastic new website that Newton Press designed at [www.greataycliffecancersupportgroup.co.uk](http://www.greataycliffecancersupportgroup.co.uk) Our next trip out is on Saturday 16th April and we are going on a mystery trip. Recently our group enjoyed their first overnight stay at Harrogate which was to celebrate our 2nd year Anniversary

## 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.

**WHEELCHAIR** carries up to 23 stone, extra wide seat, super light weight. £100. Tel 07476 423429

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**QUALITY** single plum coloured duvet set. Duvet, fitted sheet and reversible throw in plum and pink. New, unopened, £20. Tel 01325 312518

**4 SLICE** stainless steel toaster, £15. Tel 01325 312518

**GEORGE** Foreman 4 person grill, £18. Tel 01325 312518  
**BRAND NEW** double divan with quilted Damask mattress, can arrange delivery, £120. Tel 07789 113 343

**FULL SET** of awning poles, one hitch lock. Tel 01325 317011

**LARGE** quantity of car boot items, all good condition, £30. Tel 01325 321134

## Congratulations

### Fred Clement

1st April  
 Happy 70th birthday to a wonderful Husband, Dad and Grandad. Love from Edith and family

**MADDOCK** Golden Wedding Anniversary. 2nd April 2016. Jimmy and Jenny congratulations on your anniversary. Love from Jackie, Maud and Alan x

**MADDOCK** Congratulations to Jimmy and Jenny on the Anniversary of their Golden Wedding. Just where did those 50 years go? Love from Gwen, Marie and Ben xxx

**MADDOCK** Jimmy and Jenny, Golden Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations Mum and Dad, 50 years - WOW! Lots of love, Michelle and Matthew xx

**MADDOCK** Congratulations to Mum and Dad (Jimmy and Jenny) on your Golden Wedding Anniversary. Lots of love, Vincent and Louise xx

## Birthday Remembrance

**DES WALKER** 29th March. Our birthday wish must be a prayer. This special day we cannot share. But in our hearts you are always there. Lots of love, Wife Julia and all our family xxx

**TINA-LOUISE ALLAN** 30th March. We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone. For part of us went with you, the day God called you home. You left us precious memories, your love is still our guide, and though we cannot see you, you are always by our side. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same. But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again. Love forever, Jacque xxxxx

**BOB DICKINSON** 3rd April. To a wonderful Husband, Dad and Grandad on what would have been your 90th birthday. Thinking of you always. Loving Wife Peggy and all the family. xxx

**DENNIS GARTLAND** Thinking of you on your 80th birthday on 3rd April. Loved and missed always. Your Wife Irene and all the family xxxxx

## Acknowledgement

**CAROL BRIGGS** and family of the late Dennis Briggs would like to thank Rev. Andrew Bryer, Rev John Purdy, Rev Jeffrey Spencer and all the Methodist community that helped to support and make the service so memorable. Special mention to all of the Durham Light Infantry members who enhanced the Service and gave recognition for Dennis's time serving his country. Thank you to all the family and friends, especially from Pioneering Care Centre for all of the cards, flowers and support received. Great thanks to the Coronary Care Unit, Darlington Memorial Hospital staff and MacMillan and Palliative Care nurses for excellent care. Thank you to Walker's Butchers Simpasturegate for excellent buffet refreshments everyone enjoyed. Special mention to Gwen, Liz and all the tea ladies - job well done. Thank you to the Co-Operative Funeralcare. Thanks to David Scott and staff for the much appreciated excellent care and guidance and last but not least thank you to all the congregation for their generosity - the sum of £252 was raised for the British Lung Foundation. Thank you to everyone for making this so

## Obituary

**WOODHEAD.** Newton Aycliffe. 19th March, peacefully in hospital surrounded by her loving family. Frances Mary (nee Ryder), aged 76 years, dearly loved Wife of Peter; beloved Mam of Chris, Gary, Mandy and the late Andrew; much loved Nan of Kirsty, Donna, Shaun, Stu, Gary-Dean, Charlotte and Chantelle; proud Great-Grandma. Funeral to be held on Wednesday 6th April. Would friends kindly meet for Service in St. Clare's Church at 11.30am followed by cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. Floral tributes if so desired will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600.

**McQUILLAN** On 20th March, peacefully, Rose of Newton Aycliffe. Much loved Wife of John; also a dear Sister and Sister-in-Law. Funeral on Tuesday 5th April. Would friends please meet at 1.30pm for a Requiem Mass at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Newton Aycliffe prior to Cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. No flowers, by request. Donations, if desired, can be made at church for Mary's Meals.

**PATERSON** (nee MacKay), Isabel, of Newton Aycliffe, formerly of Dunoon, passed away peacefully on 23rd March, surrounded by her loving family, aged 88 years. Beloved Wife of the late Michael; much loved Mum of Helen, John, Michael, Lynn and Stephen; also a loving Mother-in-Law, Sister, Aunt, Gran and Great Gran. Would family and friends please meet for a Service at Neville Parade Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe on Friday 8th April at 11.00am followed by cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu to Lindsifarne Care Home Residents Fund.

**WINTRELL**, (Retired Police Officer). Stephen, (Steve), of Woodham Village, died peacefully after a short illness on 26th March aged 58 years. Beloved Husband of Val; much loved Dad of Karl and Debbie; much loved Father-in-Law to Jamie and Phil; loving and treasured Grandad of Charlie, Dylan, Cameron and Tyler; also dearest Brother of Paul and Brother-in-Law. Would friends please meet for a Celebration of Stephen's Life at the Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Tuesday 5th April at 10.15am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired for Cancer Research UK may be given as you leave the Service.

## In Memoriam

**JUDY COLLEY** 27/03/2004. Always in our thoughts and hearts. Missed every single day. Love, Mum, Paul, Helen, Christopher and Michelle xxxxx

**WENDY GRAHAM** 5th April 2009. Missing my beautiful wife Wendy. Love you with all my heart, Charlie xxxxx

**WENDY GRAHAM** 5th April 2009. Memories of a special Sister and Aunt. Love, Kay, Mike, Michael, Sean and Zoe xx

**WENDY GRAHAM** 5th April 2009. Thoughts of my lovely Sister Wendy. Love and miss you always, Mandy xxxxx

**DOREEN SMITH** Our first year without you Mam on 30th April. But we know you are happy now you are with Dad. Love you always. From Catherine, Jean and all the family xxx

**NORMA BARNES** 4th April 2015. 1st Anniversary. We wish that we could see you for just a little while. We wish that we could hug you and to see your lovely smile. But wishing gets us nowhere and longing is all in vain. So we hold you in our hearts till the chain links up again. Together forever always. Loving Husband Graham, Daughter Alison and Family, Son Paul and Family

**ANNE SMITH** 4th April 2015. To a dear Mum and Nana, one long year since you passed away. Love and remembered every day. Love, Alison and Lee xx

**ANN SMITH** 11th November 1928 to 4th April 2015. The brightest star in the sky tonight is our Nana saying "good night". Gentle Jesus up above give our Nana all our love. Tracy, Daniel, Lee, Christopher, Beckie, Scott, Kerri, EmilyRose, Brodie and Tristan xxxxx

**ANN SMITH** 11th November 1928 to 4th April 2015. All our hearts were broken one year ago today. When your life slipped away. If we could have a lifetime wish and a dream that could come true, we would pray to God with all our hearts, just to see and speak to you. A thousand words won't bring you back, we know because we've tried; and neither will a million tears, we know because we've cried. Missing you every day. All our love, Kathleen, Jacqueline, Alison, Pauline, Trevor, Derek and Shawn xxx

**JOHN ROBERT FARMER** 2nd April. Love is a smile a tear and a touch. Love says little, but means so much. Love is forever and I gave it to you. From your Wife who thought the world of you. Goodbye's are not forever, goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I'll miss you until we meet again. Your loving Wife Mary xxxxx

**JOHN ROBERT FARMER** Dad. We're holding back the tears today remembering you. Those wonderful and precious years spent happily with you. And we can't think of anything we wouldn't give to see that lovable, familiar face that meant so much to us. Just to spend a day with you and laugh with you again. For since you've been gone Dad life's never been the same. Love and miss you Dad. Paula, Brett, David and Christine xxxxx

**JOHN ROBERT FARMER** Grandad. Dear angels up above, give our Grandad all our love. Hug him and kiss him, tell him we miss him and will never forget him. Love from Jack, Jayden, Harry and Oliver xxxxx

**JEAN COOK** Dear friend and neighbour. Remembered always. Jack, Lilian and family

**BRIAN FIRTH** 3rd April 1999. Memories are lovely things, they last from day to day. Special ones of you will never fade away. You are in my heart forever. Loving Wife Hazel xxx

**DOREEN SMITH** A year ago on 3rd April, you passed away. In our thoughts you will always stay. Love, Catherine, Jean and all the family

**ALF SAXBY** 4th April 2002. Remembering you on this day. Always in our hearts, never forgotten. Love from your Wife Eileen and all the family xxxxx

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Closing date: Wednesday 13th April 2016

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# SWIMMING CLUB CELEBRATE RETURN TO HOME POOL



Following a long 3 months of training at other locations in Co Durham Sedgfield District 75 Swimming club are now back in their home pool at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre and what better way to show they are back than a collection of titles and medals at 3 different competitions, and a swimmer competing at the GB Olympic Trials.

Elisabeth Yaneske took 1st place in the 400m and 100m freestyle and came 2nd in the 200m freestyle at the Billingham Forum Masters Meet on 13th March. Matthew Bradley became English Schools National Under 19 Champion at 200m freestyle on 19th March at a meet in London. Also during this same weekend 6 swimmers competed at the Richmondale off the Blocks

Gala at Billingham. Between them Kate Carmichael, Sophie Wilkinson, Maisie Craghill, Katelyn Craig, Kate Tolley and Leah Smith competed in 31 races medalling in 27 of those races 4th places in 2 races and with PBs in every race for every swimmer. The Club also competed in two relay events and came first on the Saturday in the 200 Individual Medley in an exciting and tension filled race. The club are delighted Hannah Featherstone will be attending the Team GB Olympic Swimming Trials in Glasgow next month. Hannah will be competing in 100m, 200m, and 400m freestyle and in the 200m IM. The club are incredibly proud of all their swimmers and the hard work that they have put in to achieve at these events and would like to wish Hannah success in Glasgow.

## Jake is No 14 in the U.K.



Jake Mendelsohn from Newton Aycliffe was in action in the Biathlon at Crystal Palace at the weekend. He knocked 5 seconds off his 100 metre swim time (1.07) and 32 seconds off his 1600 metre run time (5.18), winning both his heats and is now 14th in the UK. The staff at Woodham Sports Academy have been extremely supportive of Jake, training with him in their own time after school over the last month. His next challenge is the Great North Swim in Lake Windermere on 12th June which he is doing to raise money for Brain Tumour Research to support family friend Anna Swabey from Newton Aycliffe.

# Delight as Aycliffe F.C. Win Durham Challenge Cup



Newton Aycliffe achieved the greatest result in their 50 year history by winning the Durham Challenge Cup on Good Friday. The Challenge Cup is the premier competition in the county & has been in existence since 1884.

Newton Aycliffe will now be engraved on the magnificent trophy for the first time & is a fitting reward for the club's efforts this year. Their previous best was a semi final defeat in 1969.

There was drama even before the teams got to the Hetton Centre for the final. Just four days before the big game it was discovered that Whickham had played an ineligible player in three previous rounds.

They were removed from the competition & beaten semi finalists West Auckland were reinstated.

The 11:00am kick off was an early start for the fans but 604 turned out on a glorious Easter morning to watch an entertaining match.

Aycliffe dominated the game but it was West Auckland who took the lead after just four mins. The defence failed to deal with a ball into the box & Darren Richardson took advantage firing past James Winter in the Aycliffe goal. There was a further blow for the blues after 18 mins when Ashley Coffey limped off with an ankle injury.

Throughout the first half Aycliffe had several chances to equalise but couldn't get the ball in the net. Zak Boagey, John Campbell & Matty Moffat all came close. Moffat almost scored on 35 mins but his effort hit the crossbar & with no one able to follow in West escaped & made it to half time 1-0 up.

Aycliffe started the second half strongly. A corner on 48mins found Stuart Banks whose header went wide of the post. Five minutes later skipper Paul Garthwaite's low shot was saved by West keeper David Knight who was immediately called back into action to save from Moffat.

The pressure paid off & after 54 minutes Aycliffe equalised thanks to a powerful shot from Campbell which gave the keeper no chance.

Aycliffe continued to press for the remainder of the second half but West held out & took the game to extra time.

Extra time continued with Aycliffe again on the attack. Within 3 mins they took the lead. A free kick just outside the penalty area gave Dennis Knight an opportunity. As has been the case many times this season his kick evaded the wall & the keeper's dive on its way into the net. Aycliffe's third came after 96 mins. Garthwaite scored a great solo effort surging through the defence & finishing with a fine low shot from the left.

West Auckland couldn't respond & Aycliffe took a

deserved 3-1 win.

The Aycliffe players & management under Peter Dixon's leadership thoroughly deserved their victory & the enthusiastic celebrations which followed the trophy presentation showed how much the win meant to everyone connected with the club. In a very nice gesture captain Paul Garthwaite gave his medal away to devoted supporter Martin Hughes, saying later on Twitter 'Top man is Martin. Deserves the medal more than me.'

With 13 league games still to play Aycliffe now move on to 6 consecutive home fixtures, starting with West Allotment Celtic visiting on Tuesday 29 March (ko 7:45) followed by FA Vase finalists Morpeth

Town on Saturday 2 April (kick off 3:00pm).

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