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Week Ending 22nd April 2016

# Newton News

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## Labour's Shadow Minister Visits Newton Aycliffe UTC

Hilary James Wedgwood Benn is a Labour Party Member of Parliament for Leeds Central since 1999. He has served as Shadow Foreign Secretary since May 2015. He made a great impression on his visit to see the new University Training College under construction at Aycliffe. He made a point of speaking to everyone with a friendly approachable manner and there is no doubt his position as a senior member of Parliament is down to his skill as a good politician and communicator.



Hilary Benn (left) hosted by Phil Wilson on the UTC site

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## Festival at "The Tub"

This weekend is The Turbinia's Spring Beer Festival - the BIGGEST and BEST yet! 16 Craft Ales, plus 2 Craft Ciders, Local and Regional

beers and some amazing brews including Juniper IPA, Orange Saison and a Dark Chocolate; Mint, Milk Stout, Porters, Wheat Beers, IPA's, Bitters, Blondes and Ruby's all 'chilled'. All Beers are served through hand-pulls and reasonably priced at £3 a pint. The Festival is held in two rooms, one for FREE entertainment all weekend, and the other for quiet craic.

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**PROGRAMME**  
**Friday at 8pm** - Open-Mic, with some outstanding local talent.  
**Saturday at 8pm** features "The Gatecrashers" an excellent party band plus regulars on the main stage: "Stormin' the Castle"  
**Sunday at 4pm** - "Bessie & The Zinc Buckets", possibly the greatest (and craziest) band in the North-East. The only 'pub' band ever to play a 'sell-out' gig at Newcastle City Hall.  
A great weekend on offer with everyone welcome!

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## Inner Sparkle at Greenfield Arts

There are lots of reasons we all need to relax and feel good about ourselves, Greenfield Arts are lucky enough to accommodate 'Made to Sparkle' an organisation that strives to do just that, and as their tag-line suggests they encourage 'healing from the heart'.

Monica Middleton, founder of 'Made to Sparkle' holds meditation classes on a weekly basis at Greenfield Arts in spiritual but informal surroundings. The sessions begin with a short talk on a particular topic followed by

meditation and discussion. It is a friendly group and everyone is welcome from beginners to the more experienced. Meditation is an excellent way to relax and improve well-being in a calm and supportive environment and the positive results that can be achieved are far reaching.

Monica and colleague Louise both have an impressive background in holistic and health related practice and they would love to welcome newcomers to their group. Sessions are held every

Wednesday from 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm at Greenfield Arts, Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7LF. For further information please contact Monica on 07449312530 or check out their new website at [www.madetosparkleuk.co.uk](http://www.madetosparkleuk.co.uk). Greenfield Arts are always keen to encourage positive and creative activities and have a full and exciting programme for the summer season. If you would like to hear a bit more about what is on offer please contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk)

## LORD LIEUTENANT LAUNCHES DISC HORIZONS PROJECT

A half million pound, Big Lottery-funded project aimed at helping young people who carry out caring duties for relatives in County Durham and Darlington has been launched by The Lord Lieutenant of County Durham.

The £492,221 Horizon Young Adult Carers Service is a new service designed to support young adult carers aged 14-25 who live in County Durham and Darlington. The Service is delivered by local charity DISC in association with Consett YMCA and the Cornforth Partnership.

The main aims of the service are to provide young carers with access to community based support services, to improve confidence amongst young carers, promote wellbeing and increase the aspirations of young carers to allow them to realise their full potential.

The Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Mrs Sue Snowdon, said: "Horizon is absolutely the name for this project. It's innovative and ground breaking, because its primary objective is to give young adult carers every opportunity, every assistance to expand their horizons, to reach their full potential".

The service will complete comprehensive assessments to identify and meet the individual support needs of young carers accessing the service.

As well as support for individual carers through a dedicated helpline open between 10am – 9pm Monday to Friday, the service will also engage with families of young carers to allow access to support groups and family activities. The programme will also work with up to 70 County Durham and Darlington agencies to



Phil Wilson MP, Great Aycliffe Mayor Cllr Mary Dalton, Lord Lieutenant of County Durham Mrs Sue Snowdon and Paul Townsley, CEO of DISC



increase their understanding of issues surrounding young carers and to improve their interaction with young carers.

Paul Townsley, Chief Executive of DISC, said: "We're delighted to launch this new service for the Young Carers of County Durham and Darlington. By working with The Cornforth Partnership and Consett YMCA, we're really looking forward to ensuring that young carers and their families receive the support they deserve, allowing

them to increase their independence and improve access to vital services." The £492,221 funding for the three year project was provided by The Big Lottery. DISC already has significant experience of project delivery in this field, having already delivered the Horizon Young Adult Carers service across County Durham. DISC also currently deliver Darlington Young Carers Service which provides a valuable service to Young Carers across Darlington.

## Senior Citizens' Excursions

Each year, the Council organises a series of free excursions for the senior citizens who live in our Parish. It is one of the most popular events organised by the Council.

Application forms are now available from the Library in Central Avenue, Recreation Centre in Beveridge Way, Oakleaf Sports Complex or Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane. The forms can also be downloaded from the Council's website [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 4th May 2016.

To be eligible, you do not have to be drawing your pension or have a bus pass, but you do have to be a resident of the electoral parish and 60 years old with a date of birth on or before 31st March 1956 (applies to both men and women). If you are in any doubt, please telephone 01325 300700 and we will check your eligibility.

This year, residents will be able to choose from Northumberland, Scarborough, Edinburgh, Blackpool, Lake District or South Shields.

Our 'trippers' have the choice of venue for the day with a three course meal and tea or coffee provided in a good quality establishment usually with disabled facilities. Most of the excursions also call in for a comfort stop with refreshments provided on the way to or from the main destination.

The coaches provided are 49-53 seater executive coaches with toilet facilities. There is also a 53 seater executive coach with a wheelchair hoist to each destination. This ensures that even people with severe mobility problems can enjoy a day out. The hoist can be used for loading wheelchairs for those residents who need to travel in their wheelchair, or for use by people who cannot manage the steps on the coach. Each person who qualifies is entitled to one 'trip'. To qualify you must be aged 60 or over and must have lived in the electoral parish by 1st April in the year of travel.

# THE TURBINIA

## \* Saturday Night Live \*

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### BEER FESTIVAL DAY 1

#### Saturday 23rd April - "Gatecrashers"

A performance by the Gatecrashers on 12th March 2011 prompted this review in a local North East 'rag': "The Brandling Villa in Gosforth, Newcastle, buzzed with excitement. The place was packed to the rafters with fans as well as musicians from other local bands - all here to spend an evening with the fabulous Gatecrashers. It was the first time I'd seen them with their vibrant new lead vocalist. And I was impressed - so very impressed. Nick (Saints of Arcadia) Jennison has more than enough charisma to set a stage alight - and then some. And he can sing - oh, can he sing! Sharing lead guitar with Ant Wright (who provides great backing vocals) they had a ball while entertaining their discerning Geordie audience. And the crowd roared. Add the brilliant bass guitarist, Dave Hildreth and talented drummer, Doug Hayes to the flavoursome mix - and the Gatecrashers were a big green GO!"

### BEER FESTIVAL DAY 2

#### Saturday 24th April - "Bessie & The Zinc Buckets"

Rockermouth Review: "Stormin' 2011": "Saw the Buckets show in the Iris Tent and they ruled it! If ever a band were more suited to a venue, I could not think of another as much as the Buckets playing in the Iris Tent at Stormin'. Their third time now, yet this time they are becoming legendary amongst the bikers, hence the reason why the tent was rammed full from the very first number. A brilliant marathon performance from these guys (an hour and three quarters without a break), awesome reaction from the crowd, what a show! A big enthusiastic crowd lapped them up as Kev Bucket and the lads proved once again that they're one of the north east's top all time bands. The best gig I've been to, nothing comes close, mayhem of the highest order".

"Only 'pub' band ever to sell out gigs at Newcastle City Hall".  
 "Permanent fixtures at 'Stormin' the Castle', one of the countries top festivals".  
 "This could be the biggest gig ever in Aycliffe, you have got to be there. PS: It's the Gaffa's birthday".

### Saturday 30th April - "Born Villains"

For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034  
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## Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 26th April will feature the comedy-drama "Steel Magnolias" starring Sally Field, Dolly Parton, Shirley Maclaine, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis and Julia Roberts.

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.

## In aid of Parkinson's UK Parkinson's Awareness Week

### The Northern Boyz



**Saturday 23rd April 2016**  
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Honest John has contributed £450 to the Woodham Academy and Greenfield College Year 11 Prom Night Awards organised by Newton Press.

Aycliffe Running Club receives £400 and John thanks all supporters of his Community Kitty both donors and buyers. Thanks also to his helper "Valtastic" and DISC who give space in their Furniture Store for John's shop. Call in soon for a browse around his "Aladdin's Cave" of household goods and bric-a-brac. While there enjoy a cup of tea and a snack in the MoreTime Cafe.

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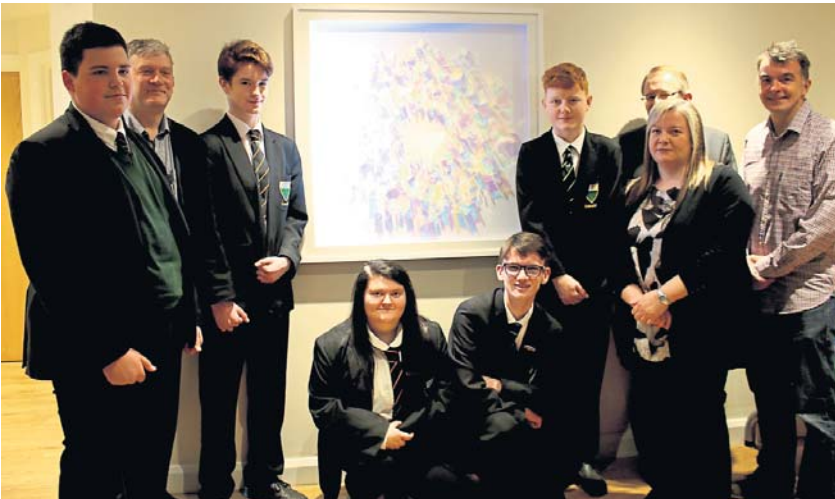
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**Launch of New Artwork at  
Bewick Crescent Surgery**

Greenfield Arts would like to thank all who came to celebrate the launch of a new artwork by Youth Cree students of Greenfield Community College and artist Vicky Holbrough that is now proudly displayed at Bewick Crescent Doctors Surgery. Greenfield Arts have been working with Bewick Crescent Doctors Surgery in Newton Aycliffe to create a new art work which is displayed in their waiting room, to improve the surgery environment and promote positive well-being. Students have worked with artist Vicky Holbrough to explore smart materials, which have ever changing properties. They also investigated how light can affect them and how their ideas can be displayed successfully. They were particularly interested in how materials can change their state whilst on display, therefore interacting with the patients and changing people's perceptions. This has been really exciting for the students who are keen to investigate, play with materials and experiment, developing their discussion and team work skills. After discussions with the surgery's patient group, who gave the patients perspective, the work has now been completed and there was a celebration of the installation on Friday 15th April 2016. They were joined by a small group of VIP guests, including local Councillors and funders, as well as the surgery staff who showed their appreciation for the artwork. Katy Milne, Director of Arts and creativity at Greenfield Arts said: "It was lovely to see the young people and patients, who contributed to Vicky's final creation, all come together and speak about the process and where their ideas came from. I hope it is enjoyed by the patients and makes them smile." This has been a great project where arts and science really come together to make people feel good, and a brilliant

**Flower Demo**

Join with Jackie Charnock from the Shrewsbury Area of NAFAS for an evening of flower arranging entitled 'Melody of Contrasts' at Shildon Civic Hall on Monday, 9th May at 7.30 pm. This is an unmissable Open Night of flower arranging from one of the top flower arrangers from The National Association of Flower Arranging Societies. All welcome. Members £5, Visitors £8.00 Pay on the door.

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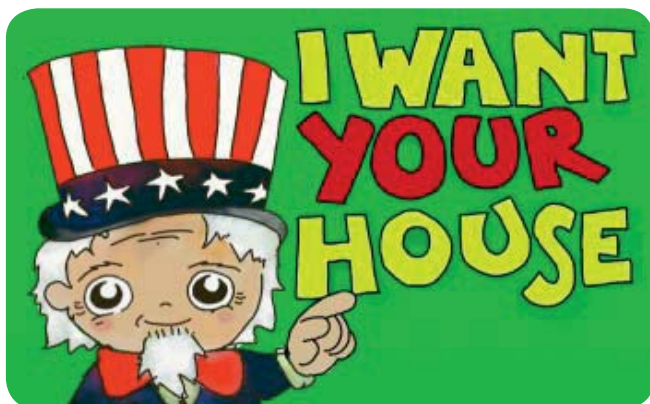
Prize winners will appear in the Newton News at a later date

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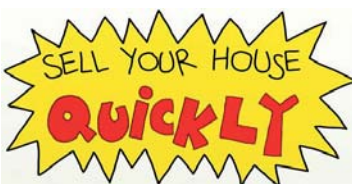
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## Making A Difference for G.A.C.A.P.



Officers of GACAP: Steve Mitton, Liane Taylor, Joan Clark, Susan Sadler and Ron Mitchie

The MAD Choir have donated £700, the proceeds from their Concert at the Phoenix Club last week, to Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership.

Choir Founder Sonia Scott handed over the cheque to Syd Howarth in time for the AGM held this week at DISC premises next to the Blue Bridge.

Syd the founder of GACAP thanked the choir for the donation and for all their charity work over many years.

GACAP will use the cash to support the partners of the organisation in their work helping disadvantaged people in our community.

if you are engaged in a voluntary or statutory welfare organisation in the Aycliffe area and want to be part of GACAP, contact the Chairman Steve Mitton on 01388 721509. Steve was re-elected as Chairman along with Susan Sadler, Co-Chairman, Treasurer Liane Taylor and Secretary Ron Mitchie with Asst. Secretary Joan Clark.

The AGM was very well attended and partners took time after the meeting to network.



## Aycliffe Students Make the Best Desserts



Pupils left to right: Katie Longstaff, Ollie Shotton and Rebekah Mawson  
Back: Carol Reid, Headteacher Alison Gargan, Vince Pearson (Taylor Shaw Chairman)

Three students from Byerley Park Primary School have won a competition to produce desserts for 213 school menus in Co. Durham.

Taylor Shaw catering suppliers prepare 25,000 meals a day, served by over 600 staff and when their cooks noticed their puddings were not being eaten it was decided to allow students to design sweets they would eat, all following healthy guidelines with a 50% fruit



content. Three local schools, including Byerley Park, were asked to design desserts along with promotional posters and poetry. Byerley Park scooped the dessert designs. Their tasty puddings were added to all school Taylor Shaw menus throughout the County at the beginning of the new school term.

The winning desserts were by Katie Longstaff: Katie's Cheesylicious Cheesecake  
Ollie Shotton: Ollie's Fruit Bread

Rebekah Mawson: Crazy Peach Cornflake Tart  
Headteacher, Alison Gargan, said she and all at Byerley Park are very proud of the three pupils and delighted that their designs are now a reality.

## Find a Course to Suit You

Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service's Summer Learning Guide is out now.

The service was rated good with outstanding features by Ofsted in 2015 and voted Durham County Council's Children and Adult Services Team of the Year 2015.

In the recent National Learner Survey, 98% of those using the service said they enjoyed their experience and 97% said they would recommend its courses to family and friends. These figures are well above the national averages and represent exceptional learner satisfaction rates.

The Adult Learning and Skills Service offers a range of high quality courses in your area from absolute beginners to more advanced learners in a range of subject topics.

Courses are held in community venues across the county, in

a friendly and welcoming learning environment and are personalised to fit learners' needs.

Some courses are available online, so you can learn at a time and place that suits you.

The Adult Learning and Skills Service Portfolio Holder Cllr Maria Plews said: "The courses we offer can lead to nationally recognised qualifications and improve confidence and skills. They can also boost job prospects and are a great way to meet new people."

The Summer 2016 Learning Guide is available to download from [www.durham.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.durham.gov.uk/adultlearning) or pick up a copy at your local Library or Customer Service Centre.

To sign up to a course or to find out more, contact the Adult Learning and Skills Service by phone on 03000 266 115 or email [alss@durham.gov.uk](mailto:alss@durham.gov.uk)

## ROAD SURFACE WRONG FOR HEAVY TRAFFIC

Dear Sir,

On the pot hole damage to cars on School Aycliffe Lane, would it be pertinent to ask if repair bills were paid to the vehicle owners? I had a spring on my van broken some years ago on this road opposite the Town Council offices, and it cost me £180 to have it replaced. I did ask for compensation but was refused, quoting the Section 58 rule.

This is always happening on this road and you have to be aware that there are lots of 44 tonne trucks using it to deliver and remove goods from Ineos.

The surface needs to be completely taken up with substantial underpinning done to take the weight of these huge trucks and being a retired (trucker) I know what I am talking about. The top of School Aycliffe road near residential area entrances needs the white lines repainting as drivers are encroaching onto oncoming traffic. It is a narrow road to start with so this is essential.

G Thompson.

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## Volunteer Buddies Wanted

Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) and The Cornforth Partnership are looking for volunteers to help with a project aimed at improving the health, wellbeing and quality of life for local people as well as reducing isolation and loneliness. Buddies Befriending Service is funded through the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Action Partnership (GAMP) and offers flexible, short term support to residents of Newton Aycliffe and Middridge over 50 years of age from trained volunteer befrienders.

As a Volunteer Buddy you will develop a trusting relationship with the clients and where appropriate help them to attend and engage in activities and groups in the community and signpost to relevant specialist services where required. Practical support may also include assistance with shopping or to simply take the time to listen over a cup of tea.

This regular chat provides a vital link into the community to those who can be socially isolated because of restricted mobility or because their family and friends don't live close by. Volunteers Buddies encourage people to get out and about - even if it's just to the end of the garden - and to stay active.

If you know your community, are patient and reliable then this could be an ideal opportunity for you. A full training and support package will be provided by PCP, volunteers are required to be able to give a minimum of 2 hours a week.

If you are interested in this volunteering role or if you know someone who would benefit from having a Buddy, please contact the project team on 01325 329933 or email: buddies@pcp.uk.net. Visit: www.pcp.uk.net or www.cornforthpartnership.co.uk



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I will be closed for holidays from  
Wednesday 18th May  
until Friday 3rd June

## UTC Appoints Deputy Principal



Jenny Trapp, a former Air Traffic Controller who is currently Assistant Headteacher at Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham, has been appointed as Deputy Principal of the new University Technical College South Durham, due to open this September.

Speaking of her appointment, Tom Dower, Principal of UTC South Durham commented: "With her background in the education, commercial and military sectors, Jenny brings a broad skill-set which will ensure that the UTC delivers outstanding teaching and STEM employability experiences for students."

"Her track record as an innovative and flexible leader together with her passion for education and lifelong learning will help to establish the UTC as a life-changing educational route for students interested in high tech careers."

Jenny Trapp said: "I am delighted to have been appointed as Deputy Principal of UTC South Durham. This is a fantastic opportunity to be involved in the development of an innovative education establishment and to shape the culture of the organisation."

Professor Gary Holmes, Chair of Trustees, UTC South Durham and Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sunderland, commented: "Jenny will bring great energy, enthusiasm and extensive experience to the leadership team at the UTC."

"Her commitment to the school's ethos as a grown-up place to learn will ensure that students receive an excellent preparation for a wide range of career opportunities either directly or via higher education."

Jenny, originally from Northumberland, qualified as an Air Traffic Controller with the RAF and was stationed in the UK and overseas controlling both military and civilian aircraft. On leaving the RAF she joined John Lewis' fast-track graduate management training scheme and became a Training Manager.

Subsequently, she has held various roles in adult skills and education as well as running her own business and having two children. Her leadership positions in schools have focused on learning and teaching management and the post-16 curriculum. She has a strong academic profile with an MSc in Educational Leadership.

Jenny was appointed following a two-day assessment and selection process involving Trustees, students and representatives from industry partner Hitachi Rail Europe and the University of Sunderland. Jenny continued: "The UTC was established to inspire young people to become future engineers, technologists and scientists by providing an

outstanding academic and technical education, brought to life through collaboration with our industry and university partners."

"I look forward to guiding all our students on their education journey and supporting staff and the wider community in delivering the UTC's vision."

## GREENFIELD SUPPORTS SPORT RELIEF 2016

On Wednesday 23rd March Greenfield Community College successfully raised £782.85 for Sport Relief. The sport-filled day saw an array of different events taking place. Firstly, the PE department challenged both staff and students to run/walk/jog a combined equivalent of 'Land's End to John O' Groats' as part of a Sport Relief Mile. The target set to complete this distance was 874 miles. Students took part in PE and T4S lessons throughout the day. This target was surpassed with ease as the pupils managed a fantastic achievement of 1,162 miles.

Furthermore, pupils at lunchtime had the opportunity to 'beat the teacher' in different sporting events. Students paid a small donation to challenge teachers from PE, Maths, Dance, Science and English departments in activities such as badminton, table tennis, netball, hula hooping, crossbar challenge and keepy ups in football. It proved an incredibly popular activity as pupils were queuing up to challenge their teachers during lunchtime. A big thanks to all staff and pupils who made the day an incredible success. We look forward to next year.



## Dance School Celebrates



Macadam School of Dance are celebrating after a fantastic weekend competing at Starpower International at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre at the weekend.

Taking only a small group of students and only entering 7 routines they came away with 5 first places, high score awards and a golden ticket to the world dance championships in New Jersey in August. Principal Diane said, we only went for the experience as this is an American competition like what you see on Dance Moms, to come away with what we did was amazing and I'm very proud! One student Ellsa Self was also invited to the Power Pak convention to take part in workshops. The girls know the reality of going is unlikely but are just proud to have been chosen.

This coincides with the school celebrating their 40th Anniversary, they recently had a party where lots of students/parents old and new attended. They are currently raising £3,000 for their 40th Anniversary Show in October as the students all receive the costumes free. Anyone wishing to support them can contact Diane on 07890 511243, dianeples@hotmail.com

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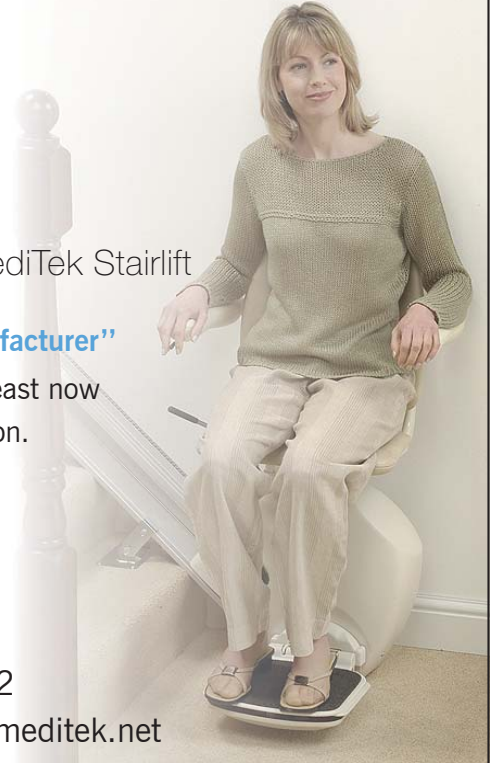
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# Community Centre Disappointed with Town Festival Funding

Dear Sir  
Recently I attended a meeting of the Recreation Committee of the Town Council on behalf of Neville Community Centre in respect of applications for funding support, submitted by myself, for events during the Aycliffe Festival 2016.

To say I was disappointed in the lack of detail and discussion of this Flagship Event promoting all that is good about the town and the so called Community Spirit I frequently read about in your publication, was an understatement.

Early this year the community, was asked to submit applications for support in providing entertainment during this period. At our community centre the volunteers had a discussion as to what type of function would suit the various age groups and finalised our submission to twelve events. On behalf of the volunteers I completed the application forms and submitted them for consideration by the Festival Working Group.

Acknowledgement was received and I awaited, in trepidation, for a favourable outcome. In your publication dated 11th March 2016 I read an article in respect of the Festival informing readers

that 'Elvis' was to perform at the Aycliffe Festival, also in the same article it stated that "as well as Elvis, Kinexus and Betcha By Golly Wow are scheduled to perform at Neville Parade Community Centre this year". Also within the same article it stated "the Festival Working Group has booked a 'Party in the Park', "Aycliffe Village Hall Association's Music Night will run again in 2016, buy your tickets early as it was a sell out in 2015!". Another immensely successful event in 2015 was the Music Night at the Workingmen's Club and this too will run again this year".

At the committee meeting Councillor Ken Robson asked why of the 12 event applications submitted by the Community Centre only seven were approved with reduced funding and five of the events, three of which were mentioned in the Newton News, were promoted as being scheduled to perform at the community centre.

Councillor Bob Fleming explained the reasoning behind this decision was that there were too many similar events being held! I then spoke to the committee on the application process by the community

centre and asked why the seven approved events had their funding applications reduced when four of the five approved events by other organisations were granted full funding; especially as the Workingmen's Club had a drinks licence and will make money on drinks sales. Our Community Centre has no such licence and relies purely on volunteer support. I did not receive an answer to this question and the only reply was one I found insulting in that we should not have booked artistes until approval was received. After further deliberation on this matter I would like answers to the following questions:

\* In respect of "Similar Events" are the two approved music nights different from the ones not approved in our submission?  
\* Did the council give pre-approval for the Festival Working Group to book the two parties in the park?

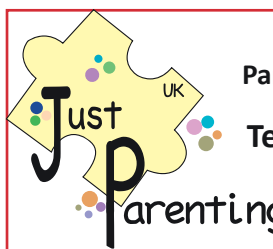
\* Why did the Festival Working Group tell the public that the events in the Working Men's Club and Aycliffe Village Hall Association were going ahead before approval by the Council?

\* Why did the Festival Working Group give full funding to themselves and the other two organisations and not ourselves?

\* How many members of the public are on the Festival Working Group to provide some form of 'checks and balances' to the process?

\* Were the decisions made down to one organisation taking the bull by the horns and doing something positive?

\* Was the final decisions as to full or partial funding and which events are suitable or not suitable just typical machinations of the decision processes of the Council in general?  
Stanley T Wise  
Neville Community Centre.



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# Council Reply on Festival Funding

*From Councillor Brian Hall, Chairman of the Festival Working Group*

**Q1 In respect of similar events are the two approved music nights different from the ones not approved in our submission?**

The two approved music nights are two separate nights of entertainment, organised by different people/organisations in different parts of the town.

• One is being organised by a member of the public in a club, it is not organised by the club itself, and the venue is not charging for room hire.

• The second music night is organised by Aycliffe Village Hall Association. There is also no charge for room hire.

**Q2 Did the Council give pre-approval for the Festival Working Group to book the two parties in the park?**

The proposal for a 'Party in the Park' was put to the Festival Working Group on 15 February, where it was agreed to recommend this event to the Recreation Committee. This was agreed on 24 February and subsequently ratified at a meeting of the Council on 9 March 2016. There is currently only one Party in the Park taking place within the Festival period.

**Q3 Why did the Festival Working Group tell the public that the events on the Working Men's Club and Aycliffe Village Hall Association were going ahead before approval by the Council.**

Publicity for the Festival was included in the Council's newsletter and on the Council's website. In the newsletter, it was clearly stated that 'The Festival Working Group is currently considering event applications...' On the website, prior to the list of events, it stated 'All of the events listed below are not yet all approved and will be considered by the next meeting of the Festival Working Group.'

**Q4 Why did the Festival Working Group give full funding to themselves and the other two organisations and not ourselves?**

The Festival working Group is a working group of the Town Council, which makes recommendations in regard to the Festival to the parent Recreation Committee. The 'Party in the Park' is a Council organised event suggested by the Festival Working Group and approved by the Recreation Committee and subsequently at the Council meeting on 9 March 2016.

The Council has absolute discretion to allocate funds, via its Committee system, from the Festival budget to events which have submitted satisfactory whole applications, including all of the supporting paper work.

In some cases, where all of the necessary supporting paperwork is not satisfactory, or when there are queries in regard to charges or other financial information, the applications may be passed back to applicants to provide additional information, explanations or a

re-submission of applications.

Recommendations from the Festival Working Group to the Recreation Committee may not be accepted or may be referred back to the Working Group for further consideration.

**Q5 How many members of the public are one the Festival Working Group to provide some form of 'checks and balances' to the process?**

As advised above, the Festival Working Group is a working group of the parent committee, ie the Recreation Committee. Working Groups are set up for a specific purpose, in this case to focus on the Festival arrangements. They are not subject to the strict rules that apply to formal Council meetings and do not need to be held in public. However, a working group can only make recommendations to its parent committee and cannot make a decision on behalf of the Council.

At present there are six elected members on the Festival Working Group, supported by Council officers and, on occasion, advisors on a particular item may also be asked to attend. As this is a Council working group, no members of the public are members of the group.

**Q6 Were the decisions made down to one organisation taking the bull by the horns and doing something positive?**

All Festival applications are discussed on an individual basis. There are no objections to a club or other organisation submitting complete applications for more than one event or, in this case, 12 applications. The Festival Working Group, Recreation Committee and ultimately the Council will decide which applications will be supported and what level of grant may be appropriate.

**Q7 Was the final decision as to full or partial funding and which events are suitable or not suitable just typical machinations of the decision processes of the Council in general?**

The Council is a public body and its use of public money must be financially responsible. This means the Council must ensure that public money is spent efficiently to provide value for money. In terms of grants, it needs to ensure that applications are checked and clarification sought where required. Ultimately, the final approval of grant requests lies with the Council. No doubt applicants for both special funds, such as the Festival grants, or general grants provided by the Council will receive them with thanks if successful or disappointment when not successful.

## Aycliffe Village School Headteacher Resigns

The Headteacher at Aycliffe Village Primary School, Jed Gargan, is resigning on 31st August in protest at the Government's education policy. He no longer wants to work in an education system in which he has no belief.

He wrote a letter to parents saying he thought the increasingly difficult SATS exams for both 7 and 11-year-olds placed "unrealistic expectations" which were "setting pupils up to fail."

He also believes the Government, in forcing all schools to become academies - taking them out of council control, will not improve educational performance.

Jed, is highly respected at the school by staff, parents and pupils and on behalf of the Governors James Walsh writes:

"Although saddened by Jed's resignation, the Governors at Aycliffe Village Primary School would like to thank him warmly for all his years of service. In the 9 years that Jed has been Headteacher at Aycliffe Village the school has seen an impressive growth of pupils entering the school, resulting in single form entry throughout and the building of new classrooms. The children at Aycliffe Village are always at the heart of everything that Jed



Jed Gargan who will be writing a personal message for Newton News readers next week.

does and he has tirelessly worked to ensure that Early Years, Library and IT equipment enable children to learn and develop in a supportive, nurturing environment. Jed's loss will not only be felt within the school, but also in the wider County Durham community where he served as Chair of the Primary Heads association and also ran budget training sessions for the Council's School and Governor Support Service. In what will seem like a long goodbye we look forward to working with Jed until the end of term and would always welcome him back as a friend of the school."

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friendly staff who are always available to speak with  
anyone who would like help and advice.**

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# HIGH COST OF POTHOLES

Dear Sir,  
For the second time this year, heavy rain has caused significant damage to my family's cars as a result of the inadequate condition of the road surface on School Aycliffe Lane. In early January, an 8" deep, 15ft. pot hole emerged and ours was one of 20 cars, according to the Borough Council's figures, (there would undoubtedly have been more!) that reported and suffered damage to wheels and tyres. Kwikfit thought it was Christmas all over again. The same thing happened again on Wednesday. Heavy rain created a pothole of similar dimensions and resulted in irreparable damage to both near side wheels on another of our vehicles. (I attach a photograph). I was certainly not the only car that hit the pothole.

The response from Darlington Borough Council's insurers – the Technical Department didn't respond directly – to the initial incident in January was to assert that their only duty is to operate a system for inspection and maintenance. According to them, they discharged their duty by conducting an inspection at 13.45 in the afternoon, determining that it was a priority repair and then left the pothole unmarked until 9.00 the next morning when they repaired the pothole.

They are therefore not responsible for any damage. They chose not to mark the hazard in any way. We hit the unmarked pothole at 4.15 that afternoon, my neighbour hit it at 8.30 next morning. We both had to replace tyres and wheels.

I haven't gone into the details of this latest incident yet but imagine that their response will be the same. From my (admittedly bitter!) view, the response of the Borough Council has been totally inadequate. To leave such a hazard unmarked overnight is not complying with their duty, it is negligence of the highest order, especially as the only way to avoid the hazards was to swerve into oncoming traffic. They are



very fortunate that the only consequences were vehicle damage and not serious accidents, both in January and this week.

The condition of the road surface on School Aycliffe Lane is shocking. It is a patchwork of badly effected repairs and make dos. They

should use the money they have saved not paying for damage to who knows how many vehicles caused by their inadequate maintenance to do a proper resurfacing job and make the road safe once and for all.

Stephen Quigley  
School Aycliffe

## Roof Goes on New Care Home



Newton Aycliffe's new Care Home in the Town Centre is nearing completion as the roofing goes into place. Photo by regular contributor John Williamson. If you have a suitable Aycliffe digital photograph please send it in to: [syd@newtonpress.net](mailto:syd@newtonpress.net)

## Chris Carr Exhibition at Greenfield

Greenfield Arts invites you to the preview of our latest exhibition by Chris Carr on Wednesday 4th May 6pm to 8pm.

'Experiments with Light, Colour and Landscape' shows a series of pastel and acrylic landscapes. Chris experiments with colour rather than realistic representation of actual places and works from imagination, shaped by reality. Many of the pictures verge on the surreal. Chris finds this way of working is more fun and allows more freedom than trying to perfectly recreate.

It's about the overall effect and feeling.

Chris will be in attendance at the preview event to help provide insight into their work and practice, with artworks for sale throughout the exhibition.

For more information check out the website or speak with one of our lovely team members on 01325 379048 or [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk).

**Gallery Opening Times:**  
Monday – Thursday 10am – 9pm  
Friday 10am – 4pm.

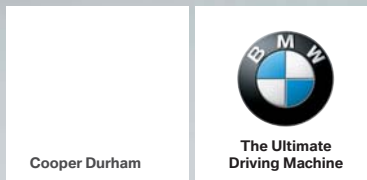
## Pink Tesco Staff Support "Race for Life"



On Saturday 16th April, colleagues at Tesco Newton Aycliffe turned the store pink and sold Cancer Research UK Cupcakes in aid of the upcoming 'Race for Life' event in Darlington. Staff helped raise over £200 from the sale of the themed cupcakes and wearing something pink in support of all the ladies taking part in the Darlington event on the 5th June 2016. To register and take part to help raise money for CRUK, visit [www.raceforlife.org](http://www.raceforlife.org).

Tesco will be putting on transport to the venue for anyone who would like to come along with our Tesco Ladies Team. If you want to secure a place on the coach, contact Shirley Cormack - Community Champion on 07834 993203 or visit her in store.

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# Tackling Underage Sales

An enforcement action plan aimed at keeping children safe from the harm caused by products including tobacco and alcohol is to be considered by councillors.

Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked to consider an enforcement programme for 2016/17 which aims to prevent alcohol and cigarettes being sold to children. As well as targeting shopkeepers who sell age-restricted products to underage people, the enforcement plan will also focus on how the county council, working with partners, will tackle the problem of illicit products which are often more easily sold and passed on to children.

The report to Cabinet also sets out actions which have been taken over the last 12 months,

including test purchasing and operations to shut down sales of illegal alcohol and tobacco.

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships at Durham County Council, said: "We are committed to working with our partners to reduce the risk of children having access to harmful products.

"This report shows how, through an intelligence-led approach and using both education and enforcement, underage sales and supply are being tackled, especially in relation to tobacco and alcohol.

"Our proposed enforcement programme for 2016/17 is aimed at ensuring we continue to address these issues in order to protect young people and tackle the wider criminal issues surrounding these products."

# Moving up with Aycliffe Stair Lift Company

Meditek Stairlifts, based on Aycliffe Business Park are going through some exciting times. With a brand new Showroom/Assessment Centre designed to welcome people with mobility issues they can now pop in for a coffee and a chat to ensure they make the right decision when choosing a stair lift for their home.

Meditek Stairlifts gives you the confidence to keep your independence whether it is short term recovery or a helping hand to improve your lifestyle in your own home whatever your age.

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Ann Handy Customer Service Manager and Billy Walker Technical Support Manager with Nikki (right)

above).

With the knowledge and expertise within Meditek you can have the confidence that you'll be looked after every step of the way by a local company manufacturing on your doorstep.

The design team work endlessly on new ideas listening to what customers want, from a bespoke stair lift, for your home or garden, a standing perch and child seats Meditek Stairlifts reputation for high quality, reliable products all at affordable prices, are second to none.

Nikki said, "I'm so excited to have joined Meditek Stairlifts at this time and looking after people in our own community is an opportunity I'm thrilled to be part of. Inviting people to visit our showroom and been able to be a part of their experience and help make a positive change to people's lives will be very rewarding" Visit and see how Meditek Stairlifts can help you move in the right direction. Just pop in or call us on 01325 311442 We look forward to welcoming you - our kettle is always on.

# Tuba Player of the Year at the Castle



Ross Knight, a tuba player from Scotland, began playing when just 9 years old and went on to graduate from the Royal Academy of Music with a first class honours degree in 2014.

He became BBC Young Brass Player of the year in 2012 and went on to play as guest soloist with the BBC Concert Orchestra, Grimethorpe Colliery Band and other distinguished groups.

In addition to his solo work, Ross is the principal tuba player of the European Union Youth Orchestra and tours widely throughout Europe and the Middle East.

He presents the second in Bishop Auckland Music Society's 2016 season in The Throne Room at Auckland Castle on Friday, 13th. May at 7.30pm.

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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 this week's DCC Environment Scrutiny meeting: <http://bit.ly/DCCEnv180416>
- What is the Town Council, what does it do, how successful was it last year, and what is it hoping to do next year? My report on last week's GATC Policy & Resources Committee: <http://bit.ly/GATCPaR130416>
- Latest Aycliffe area roadworks information: <http://bit.ly/Roadworks220416>
- Last week's report from our MEP: <http://bit.ly/JKD170416>
- GAMP Small Grants funding available for local groups: <http://bit.ly/GAMPgrantsApr16>
- Another call for the Credit Union: <http://bit.ly/CU416>
- DISC launch Horizon Young Adult Carers project: <http://bit.ly/DISC416>
- Ideas for the Bank Holiday weekend: <http://bit.ly/VCD516>
- Tickets are on sale for the Somme 1916: No Turning Back experience: <http://bit.ly/SommeNTB>
- National self-exclusion scheme for addicted gamblers: <http://bit.ly/NSEscheme>

# Middridge Oppose New Housing Development

Dear Sir,

In response to the Article in The Newton News (week ending 15th April) regarding Eldon Whins proposed development, Middridge Parish Council wish to make the following statements:-

1) The boundaries of Middridge Parish were agreed upon and legally set in 1982 by Sedgefield District Council having formerly been part of Shildon Parish. Therefore as far as our Parish is concerned, there is no controversy and we are content with our boundaries.

2) Before any Community Governance Order can be imposed, to change boundaries, the people of Middridge Parish would need to be consulted and in agreement.

In our recent survey of housing needs for our Neighbourhood Plan, 91% of residents were opposed to any development at Eldon Whins, for many reasons, but mainly because of it is:

- Destroying lovely open countryside and intruding into the 'green wedge' between our two communities
  - Increasing the traffic along what are two very busy roads.
  - Increasing the pressure on schools and health facilities which are already over subscribed.
  - Concerns about building on land, which is badly drained and subject to flooding.
- I hope this provides balance to the views expressed in that article. Anne Clarke, Chairwoman Middridge Parish Council

# AIR AMBULANCE LOTTERY REVAMPED

The Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) has revamped its popular weekly lottery with subscribers new and old promised bigger prizes, easier game play and a new syndicate option for workplaces and social groups.

The charity hopes the changes will attract even more players to its lottery, which brings in around £1m a year, roughly a quarter of the air ambulance's annual running costs.

The total prize fund has been raised from £1,000 a week to £1,500 a week, with a £500 top prize now available every week. As well as the jackpot, there are ten prizes of £50 and fifty prizes of £10. Entry remains just 50p a week per play.

Unlike many other charities, GNAAS runs its lottery in-house, which means 100 per cent of the profits are pumped back into the service. Since it started, the lottery has raised around £10m for the charity. Mandy Drake, head of fundraising, said: "For the first time in the lottery's history we have made changes to the game which we hope will attract even more people to play. This in turn will lead to even more money being raised for the air ambulance."

"The lottery is such a quick, easy and rewarding way of supporting this local cause. Players can sign up knowing that their money is making a life-saving difference in the community, while giving them a chance at winning up to £500 every week."

The new syndicate option is open to groups of two or more players. Syndicates can buy any amount of weekly entries for 50p each.

Mrs Drake said: "Some of the businesses which support the charity have been eager to get involved too. We've set up an area of the website where groups of friends, family or colleagues can sign

up and play collectively. The more entries they make, the more chances they have of winning." Syndicate packs are available online or through the post. More information on joining the GNAAS Lottery, please visit [gnaas.com/lottery](http://gnaas.com/lottery) or call 0800-1777-035.

# APPRENTICESHIP JOB VACANCIES

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or 07827 307571 or 01325 315645  
or email: [info@nefirstcu.co.uk](mailto:info@nefirstcu.co.uk)

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# Funding >> Opportunities

## LORD TAVERNERS MINIBUSES GRANT PROGRAMME (UK)

The Lords Taverners, the UK's leading youth cricket and disability sports charity, has announced that its Minibuses grants programme will re-open for applications on the 1st December 2015.

Applications will be accepted from schools/ organisations that cater for young people under the age of 25 who have a physical/ sensory/ learning disability. Please note that the Lords Taverners are unable to support schools that cater for socially disadvantaged children, or mainstream schools for children with behavioural problems.

Last year the Lords Taverners, delivered 32 specially-adapted, wheelchair-accessible minibuses to schools, clubs and youth organisations across the UK. These vehicles give young people with disabilities access to new places and experiences. Lord's Taverners minibuses are based on the current Ford Transit model, with a diesel engine. The average cost to the charity of an accessible minibus is £52,500.

<http://www.lordstaverners.org/minibuses>

## LANKELLYCHASE FOUNDATION THEORY OF CHANGE GRANTS (UK)

The LankellyChase Foundation is seeking applications to its grant making programme.

Based on its Theory of Change (which advocates a radical new approach), the Foundations wants to fund new and innovative work to address the needs of individuals facing multiple and severe disadvantage. By this the Foundation mean people who are experiencing a combination of severe social harms such as:

- Homelessness
- Substance misuse
- Mental illness
- Extreme poverty
- Violence and abuse; etc.

Any organisation can apply as long as the works undertaken is for charitable purposes.

Projects funded in the past include:

- The testing an alternative model of mental health support for women facing severe and multiple disadvantage
- Providing support for pregnant women and new mothers who are facing severe and multiple disadvantage.
- Providing support services to excluded women from ethnic minorities, including English lessons, voluntary community connections and a café that tackles food waste. Grants awarded in the past have ranged from less than £5,000 to £370,000.

The Foundation strongly suggest applicants call for an informal discussion of their idea before submitting an application. The Foundation's grant committee meets twice a year though they can sometimes make decisions on funding in between meetings. [http://www.lankellychase.org.uk/accessing\\_funding/funding\\_opportunities](http://www.lankellychase.org.uk/accessing_funding/funding_opportunities)

## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Spring photos of Aycliffe Village and the Blue Bridge sent in by our reader Mr. Baker. Send your favourite photo of Aycliffe to [syd@newtonpress.net](mailto:syd@newtonpress.net).

## Unwanted Wool Appeal

Whitley Bay-based umbrella charity Angels of the North now has over 150 knitters, including a large team from Age UK, producing children's clothes for distribution to three continents and eight causes supporting needy families including Newton aycliffe.

Because of the increased levels of production, Angels of the North has a shortage of knitting wool and is appealing for anyone who has unused balls of wool cluttering up their cupboards, for which they have no further use, to donate them to this cause.

The knitting team is sitting with needles at the ready to produce beautiful warm clothes for deprived children. Sheena Stephenson who runs Baby Basics in Newton Aycliffe receives knitted garments for her charity from Angels of the North and offers to pick up the wool if you ring her on on 07594 297462 or drop it off at her home: 13, Merz Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5LR.

## HOSPICE SEEKS CALENDAR PHOTOS



Do you have a photograph showing off the beauty of the local The Hospice is searching for 12 fantastic images of the local area to put in this year's Butterwick Calendar. Whether it's a landscape shot, or an iconic landmark, we want to see the very best of your photographs.

With the calendar being sent around the world, this is an exciting opportunity to get your work seen all over the globe, whilst supporting your local hospice.

To find more details on the competition visit [www.butterwick.org.uk/calendarphotocomp/](http://www.butterwick.org.uk/calendarphotocomp/) or phone Jackie Firth on 01642 628930

## EU Funding for County Youth Employment

Up to 6,000 young people are to benefit after Durham County Council secured £17m to help them on their pathway to employment. In June 2015, the authority submitted a bid for funding through the European Council's Youth Employment Initiative (YEI).

And now the DurhamWorks project has been given the green light for a two and a half year programme to develop skills and increase opportunities for 16 to 24-year-olds living in County Durham, who are not in education, employment or training.

Cllr Ossie Johnson, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said: "Securing £17 million is fantastic news and means that we will be able to improve not only the immediate but the longer-term economic opportunities and career prospects of thousands of young people in the county."

"It will also mean that we will be able to introduce new and innovative ideas alongside more tried and tested ways of working to ensure we benefit those people who most need our help." According to the latest figures, from June 2015, 19% of all 16-24 year olds living in the county are not in employment, education or training.

This new funding, made up of £12.78m of YEI, European Social Fund funding and £4.26m in match funding, has been made available to the county to try and help around 5,830 young people progress into work, training, education or volunteering by summer 2018.

In partnership with 16 organisations, including the voluntary and community sector, private training providers, a college, Jobcentre Plus and the Federation of

Small Businesses, we will use the funding to offer support and guidance tailored to the young person's needs.

DurhamWorks looks to develop the skills of local young people and work with local employers to create opportunities including, work experience, employment, traineeships, apprenticeships and other training opportunities; as well as supporting young people to become self-employed.

People wanting to find out more about DurhamWorks can contact DurhamWorks@durham.gov.uk.

To find out more about European funding – or to get help and advice in applying – people can contact the council's European Funding Technical Assistance team on 03000 269 487, via email at [esif@durham.gov.uk](mailto:esif@durham.gov.uk) or see more information on our website at [www.durham.gov.uk/EuropeanFunding](http://www.durham.gov.uk/EuropeanFunding).

## P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together



There will be a combined PACT Meeting to be held at Simpasture Court for Simpasture and Neville Parade on Tuesday 3Rd May 2016.

One of your local beat officers will be in attendance to give updates on what's going on in your area and answer your questions. Councillors and Partners from GATC, DCC and Livin will attend if available.

Michael Crawford (7875) Police Community Support Officer



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# AYCLIFFE DANCERS IN "OZ"

Dancers from Aycliffe Dance Academy had the opportunity of a lifetime this Easter! Production Company Enchanted Entertainment toured the UK with their Easter pantomime 'The Wizard of Oz' making one of their stops at the Darlington Civic Theatre! They contacted ADA to see if they could provide six Senior Dancers for the panto as they've been really impressed with the Academy the last two years! After a gruelling audition

process the girls; Rebecca Carney, Megan Elvidge, Chloe Hutchinson, Sarah Murray, Katya Seaman and Kennedy Wilson were selected. The girls had to work extremely hard learning complex dance routines, scenes and songs ready to perform alongside professional stars such as Dani Harmer (Tracy Beaker) and Bobby Davro. It was such an amazing experience, one that the Academy is proud to have been able to offer their

students! The next big venture for the dance school is their annual show taking place this July. They are currently trying to fundraise for costumes and have a Family Fun Day this Saturday 23rd April at the Bethany Centre, Woodham and is on from 10am to 2pm. There will be Balloon Modelling by Professor

Nincompoop, Bouncy Castle (Bounce About & Play), Fashion Boutique (Dolls House), Face Painting, Games, Stalls, Tombolas and much, much more! Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the fun with FREE entry! If you would like further information about the event please contact Emma on: 07908 162 868.



## Indoor Sport and a Bar Meal for only £5



Age UK County Durham's award winning Come Eat Together project in partnership with Oakleaf Sports Complex invite anyone over 50 to come along to their monthly Meet, Play, Eat. This is an exciting opportunity to meet new people, try a new activity and eat a good lunch.

Taking place on the first Friday of each month, there is a wide range of new and interesting activities to try out, including Arrows, traditional bar games and table tennis. Here's what's coming up in the next few months.

**Friday 6 May - Have a go at Indoor Bowls**

**Friday 3 June - See if you can hit the target at Archery**

**Friday 1 July - Get some fresh air on a Guided Walk**  
Meet at the Oakleaf Sports Complex reception at 11.00am, each session is £5, inclusive of a delicious bar meal.

The activities are suitable for people of all abilities and are led by qualified and experienced instructors. For more information and to book your place please contact Come Eat Together on 0191 374 6577 or e-mail cet@ageukcountydurham.org.uk. For the latest news, videos and to follow our blog please go to [www.comeeattogether.org](http://www.comeeattogether.org) Come Eat Together is funded by Big Lottery Silver Dreams.

Age UK County Durham is the principal voluntary organisation working to make later life a fulfilling and enjoyable experience for all older people in County Durham. We have over 40 years' experience of supporting local older people by influencing policies and practices that affect their lives, challenging views and improving understanding of the ageing process, developing and providing services. Age UK County Durham is an independent local charity and a brand partner of Age UK.

## Free Golf Lessons for Ladies at Woodham Golf Club



Ernie Wilson, while proudly displaying the latest range of Men's golf trousers on sale in his shop, shows ladies how to grip the golf club.

England Golf have chosen Woodham Golf Club to promote Ladies Golf off the back of winning an award last year for recruiting so many junior players.

The club is therefore running two "Free of Charge Ladies Get into Golf" days in early May to try to encourage more ladies to take up the sport.

**Wednesday 4th May 6pm - 7pm or 7pm - 8pm**

**Saturday 7th May 12noon - 1pm or 1pm - 2pm**

All Equipment is supplied, but booking is essential so please call the golf shop on 01325 319977 and speak to Coach PGA Golf Professional Ernie Wilson. E-mail: [woodhamproshop@googlemail.com](mailto:woodhamproshop@googlemail.com)

## So Proud of our Mam!



Please meet our Mam, Clare Rose - we think she is a crazy old fool, but brilliant all rolled into one!

Ben Smith the amazing 401 Marathon challenge runner came to Aycliffe in February, and she joined him to run the full 26.2 miles, standing up for the anti bullying charities he is supporting.

On Easter Saturday in the middle of storm "Katie" she headed off with a small group of friends to Kielder for another marathon. This was not an ordinary marathon, for starters it was 26.5 miles not 26.2. It was also called the Dark Skies as it was run in the dark.

Was this enough for our Mam? No of course not, she volunteered at the last minute to guide a blind lady round the course. On Sunday 10th of April we found ourselves in Manchester for that city's 40th birthday marathon. Mam ran it 10 minutes quicker than her last road marathon in a great time of 4.12.

We think our Mam is great - she doesn't run for a club and she runs us round all of our hobbies and we have lots of them! Well done Mam from Harry, Daniel and George



## NEW GYMNASTICS SESSIONS AVAILABLE!

From Pre-school and Parent & Toddler to Recreational and Competition level.

Athena Sports Academy is proud to announce that we have moved into our own facility within Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. This allows us to increase the variety and number of sessions previously offered as well as improving the quality of the sessions by reducing class sizes and coach-gymnast ratio. Our new programme is suitable for all ages and the first session is completely FREE so we'd like to extend an invitation to anyone wanting to try gymnastics to come along. Gymnastics is a great way to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle whilst interacting with others and ultimately, having fun!

Check out our new timetable below for the range of age appropriate sessions.

0 to 2 years	Monday 9.30-10.30 (Parent & Toddler)
2 to 5 years	Thursday 10.45-11.45 (Subsided)
5 to 10 years	Tuesday 13.45-14.45 (Parent & Toddler)
10 to 15 years	Friday 9.30-10.30 (Open play)
15 to 18 years	Monday 14.00-14.45 (Pre-school)
18 to 25 years	Tuesday 9.30-10.30 (Pre-school)
25 to 35 years	Saturday 9.00-9.45 (Pre-school)
35 to 45 years	Saturday 9.45-10.15 (Pre-school)
45 to 55 years	Monday 10.30-11.30 (Rec 1)
55 to 65 years	Saturday 9.30-10.30 (Rec 1)
65 to 75 years	Monday 17.30-18.30 (Rec 2)
75 to 85 years	Saturday 10.30-11.30 (Rec 2)
85 to 95 years	Monday 19.30-20.30 (Rec 3)
95 to 105 years	Saturday 11.30-12.30 (Rec 3)
Disabilities - 5-11 years	Wednesday 16.30-17.30 (Sessions)
Disabilities - 12+ years	Sunday 9.30-11.00 (Disabilities)

We also offer two Flexibility sessions if you're looking to improve/maintain flexibility and fitness and we'll shortly be introducing an ADULT GYM session for anyone over the age of 16 who would be interested in taking part!

If you would like more information on the content of the sessions or to book a FREE taster session, please contact us via the following:



# FAMILY FUN DAY

## SATURDAY 23RD APRIL

### 10am TO 2pm

AT THE BETHANY CENTRE, WOODHAM WAY, NEWTON Aycliffe, DL5 4UD

- ★ BOUNCY CASTLE ★
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- ★ CAKES & PIES ★
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- ★ BALLOON MODELLING ★
- AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...

FREE ENTRY

EVERYONE WELCOME

# FAMILY FUN NIGHT

## Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre

### Saturday 30th April - 7pm

Come along and join in the fun with our coaching staff for a fantastic night of competitions, games and disco - suitable for the whole family!

You don't have to be a current member, so if you're looking some family-friendly entertainment and a chance to win some great prizes, you're invited too!

Tickets are a bargain at only £3 Adult & £1 Child and are available from Athena Sports Academy, located on 1st floor of Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre Mon-Thu 5pm-7.30pm and Sat 9am-4pm or alternatively the contact methods shown below.

Athena Sports Academy is a non-profit organisation - All proceeds made will help us continue to encourage fitness and well-being in the local community by growing and developing our club.

Tel: 01388 802946  
 Mob: 07800 847527

[athenasportsacademy@gmail.com](mailto:athenasportsacademy@gmail.com)

[athenasportsacademy.co.uk](http://athenasportsacademy.co.uk)

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#### Apprentice Machining/Toolmaker

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All above positions are basic 39 hours per week, Monthly Wage and must be available for overtime, terms and conditions discussed at interview. CV's with 2 referees to be posted to: Mr John Manners, A-Tech Fabrications Limited, Fulbeck Road, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham DL5 6TX.

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Main responsibilities of the post include reception duties, data input, first aid and general office duties. The post holder will be required to deliver outgoing post to local post office on a daily basis.

Please contact Chloe Roberts on 01325 300378 or email [chloe.roberts@greenfieldschool.net](mailto:chloe.roberts@greenfieldschool.net) for further information and an application pack.

Only applications submitted on the school's application forms and completed in full by the specified date will be considered.

Greenfield Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of sex, race, marital status or disability

**Closing Date: Wednesday 4 May 2016 at 12 noon**

*All appointments are subject to appropriate pre-employment checks*

Your place of work will be Greenfield Community College. The school is part of the Aycliffe and Shildon Schools Education Trust (ASSET) and you may be required to work in any of the school sites within the Trust.

# JUNIOR FOOTBALL UPDATE Big Win for 2nd Team

The persistent rain during the week again affected Aycliffe Juniors fixtures but around half the sides managed to find a dry spot for a game.

**Under 7's** played the final match of their league season at Ferryhill. The first game epitomised their season with hard work, playing together as a team and creating space to attack the opposition. The teams were evenly matched and goals from Ashton and Kai saw the match end 2-2. In the second game two early goals were conceded but Harrison and Ashton scored to draw level before Ferryhill found the winner and the game ended 3-2. Huge thanks and well done to all the players for their brilliant play during the season.

**Under 8's** continued their series of friendlies bridging the gap before their final league game on the 1st May. This weekend they travelled to Stokesley and won both games 4-1 then 5-4.

**Under 9's** have completed their league fixtures but the Under 10's Russell Foster league team will be playing their spring cup competition until mid May.

This week they faced Jarrow FC Pythons at a different venue than planned due to waterlogged pitches. It was a game they dominated but could not find a break through. In the first half Evan hit the post and Noah went close.

Sam was solid in defence and Josh showed some good touches on the right wing. Later on Taylor hit the bar, Evan had a shot saved and Taylor made a mazy run but his effort was blocked. Jarrow had one good effort well saved by Herbie which earned him the man of the match award in a game then ended goal-less.

**Under 10's** TJFA league side are now close to their fourth consecutive league title after beating second placed Middleton Rangers 2-1. The game was switched from their Darlington base to the 3G pitches at Middlesbrough Sports Village. The Aycliffe team had a great opening period with Harry and Zack making good ground down the wings, Jake dominated



midfield.

Charlie was clearing anything thrown at the team and Aaron was driving forward well. It was Lucas up front who made the assists again this week after he was involved in laying on Zack's opening goal and holding the ball up well for Aaron to chip the keeper from distance. The 2-0 lead was halved as Middleton broke but the game was in control and ended 2-1.

**Under 11's** game was lost to the weather whilst the Under 12's made the trip to face Brompton Juniors for their last away game of the season. With Nathan still unwell James and Jamie shared the goal keeping duties. Aycliffe controlled the game and after around ten minutes Adam opened the scoring before Jermaine crossed for Zack to finish and open up a 2-0 lead at half time. After finishing his stint in goal James scored a great free kick and with Jermaine making good runs down the wing both Adam and Zack added their second goals. One goal went the other way then Dylan scored the teams sixth goal from a free kick. Jermaine was Man of the Match as the team look to build momentum and enjoy their final four league games which are all at home. All the older teams lost

out to the weather and the waterlogged pitches mean a bigger fixture pile up for them to get through.

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club 2nd XV recorded a big victory when they hosted Sunderland 3rd XV at Moore Lane. The largest turnout of the season saw the team field 20 players, despite the 1st team taking a full squad to Richmondshire.

Darrell McLaren returned for his first game after injury and Peter Steed was another to don the colours. Sunderland also had a number of replacements for the game, played on a heavy pitch after a week of rain.

Aycliffe began by getting deep into opposition territory with some excellent attacking play with numerous offloads. JJ Rudge opened the scoring with a try; Dave Gibson added the conversion. Another try followed soon after with Michael Welsh scoring from 30 metres out. The Sunderland pack had the edge in the scrums, but Aycliffe were on top in the rucks and a third try was scored after Gibson shredded the defence and released Mark Wilson to go in under the posts; this time it was Tommy Cooper with the afters. The visitors retaliated when a rush of blood to

the head saw Andrew Parkin take a quick line-out straight to the Sunderland winger who scored a try that was converted. Aycliffe finished the half with tries from Rudge and Connor Blakey with a further conversion from Cooper. At the break, it was 34 - 7 to Aycliffe.

Aycliffe brought replacements into the back line for the second half, but this did not affect their dominance. One of the new men, McLaren soon scored another try and Welsh added a second when he took a pass intended for Andrew Tonkin to score under the posts with Cooper again converting. Gibson added a try that was converted by Deryk Cairns: his first points of the season. Second tries from McLaren and Wilson saw Aycliffe 60 - 7 ahead. At this point, at the request of the visiting captain, the referee blew for full time with 15 minutes still on the clock. This was probably the best performance of the season from Aycliffe.

**Aycliffe rugby are sponsored by Emre's Barbershop and The Mortgage Advice Centre.**

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Email: [sales@newtonpress.net](mailto:sales@newtonpress.net)

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## 8 Year old Squash Star



Joseph Billany from Newton Aycliffe was selected to represent Durham & Cleveland in an Under 11 Inter County Squash Competition in Warwickshire last weekend. Overall the D&C team finished 17th out of 28 but Joseph won all his 3 matches. His parents Patrick and Marie and sister Sophie are so proud of 8 year old Joseph's great achievements in the sport.



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## Public Notice

### Come on Ladies

Join us every Tuesday from 1-3pm with raffles, bingo, a natter and a cup of tea at the New Phoenix Club Town Centre (Ex-British Legion)

**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  
**JAFFA** are you aged between 5 and 12? Then why not come and join us at JAFFA. Mondays 3.45 to 5.00pm at Burnhill Way Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe for bible stories and activities.

## Sits Vacant

**JOB VACANCY** T&S Bespoke Kitchens Ltd are looking for an experienced kitchen cabinet maker. Please send CV to 10 Cumbie Way, Newton Aycliffe Industrial Estate DL5 6YA. Closing Date 25th April  
**ELIZABETH'S** Elite Cleaning are always looking for reliable, self employed ladies to take on work for our rapidly expanding business. If you are an experienced cleaner, have your own car and a recent DBH check, you are honest, trustworthy, can work flexible hours and at short notice then we want you Call or text 07535 383994  
**EVERCLEAN** require a mobile domestic cleaner. Must be reliable, trustworthy and preferably have experience. Own transport a must. References required. Please contact Susan on 07584 288821 or 01325 789618. Immediate start available

## 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.  
**UNISEX** bike for sale, size large, condition as new, £140. Tel 312002  
**SMALL** Bath with built in seat, Electric Shower and folding door, Size: 46 inches x 29" wide. £150. Can deliver. To view ring 300212.  
**CREAM** kitchen cabinets. 1 x long housing, 1 x set of drawers, 11 x units, 2 glass door units plus extractor fan. £250. Tel 07793 088696  
**WHEELCHAIR** £50; mobility walker aid, 4 wheel (rollator) £40. Delivery possible. Tel 07340 303180  
**VAX** cordless vacuum cleaner, 3 months old plus charger. £100 Tel 01325 312518

# GREENFIELD TENNIS AWARDS



Greenfield Tennis Club continues to develop the young players of the future. Players aged between 4 and 14 years of age have been attending weekly sessions on throughout the winter. The Winter Series ended with the players completing a range of tasks and skills leading to LTA Mini Tennis Awards. Every player

achieved a well-deserved certificate based on his or her success. A new series of sessions begins on Saturday mornings at 9am. New players are welcome. Sessions are held indoors and equipment is provided. More details from Ian Wilkinson (Head Coach). E-mail: rootennis1@hotmail.co.uk

# Model Plane Event at the Leisure Centre



The Shildon Model Flying Club event held on Saturday the 16th at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre was a great success. It was well attended and over 50 different models flown attracting several potential new flyers and club members. The Chairman would like to thank everyone that helped on the day, and the Leisure Centre for giving the opportunity to host the day.  
The club had so much positive feedback we will be hosting another indoor flying day on Sunday May 15th from 12noon until 4pm and it will be FREE to fly. For details please contact Mark Shipley email hawkman1@live.co.uk

## Accommodation

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Telephone  
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### TO LET

Askrigg Close  
4 Bedroom  
Rent £115 per week  
Bond £400, Admin £100

Telephone  
07814 022301

**3 BEDROOM** spacious house in Guthrum Place. £450 per month. Bond and Admin fees apply. Tel 01388 810500  
**3 BEDROOM** properties available to rent in Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe. Please contact Lucy on 07826 925652 for further details (please note we do not accept DSS)  
**3 BEDROOM** house to rent. £400 per month + £400 deposit. Available now. Stocks Green, Newton Aycliffe. Please call 07429 691047  
**2 BEDROOM**, semi detached house with conservatory, garden, drive. Available for rent early May. £475 per month. Phone 07854 685935  
**3 BEDROOM** in Stocks Green, Newton Aycliffe. Rental £425pcm. Newly decorated with new carpets and wooden flooring throughout. Comprises of spacious accommodation. Excellent landlord. Please contact 07900 901992  
**3 BEDROOM** detached house in Woodham. Excellent condition, large garage, £560pcm. Tel 07583 671059 for more information.  
**2 BEDROOM** in Horndale. Excellent condition, new kitchen, £400pcm. Tel 07583 671059 for more information.

# GAMP Community Grants Fund Launched

Community groups in Newton Aycliffe and Middridge are being encouraged to apply for a small grant, as part of a new pot of funding dedicated to small community minded organisations that has been launched by Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP).  
The fund will provide a valuable source of funding to all non-profit making organisations in the Newton Aycliffe and Middridge area.  
The overall aim of the Community Grants Fund is to provide support for groups to organise the activities they would not normally be able to finance.  
Groups can apply for up to £750 and applications are sought from charities, community groups and any non-profit organisation for projects that will directly benefit the area and improve the lives of local people.

**Examples of what can be funded include:**  
• Young people's activities during school holidays  
• Social activities for older people  
• Equipment that supports a particular activity  
• Community events

Brian Riley, GAMP coordinator, said: "A key priority for GAMP is to help support the local community and voluntary sector." Building on the success of previous small grants schemes, it is hoped that community groups will access the funding and deliver a wide range of positive activities." Funding is open to local voluntary groups and community groups working within the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership area and who haven't received a GAMP Small Grant in the past. Groups can apply for amounts between £250 and £750. Groups can only make one application for this funding, and funding will be allocated on a first come first served basis.  
All applications will be considered, especially those which meet GAMP's priorities which are: activities for young people, crime and community safety and employment, enterprise, education and training.  
We welcome all voluntary and community groups to apply and while we would encourage match funding, we will consider fully funding an activity. Application packs are available from GAMP by calling 01325 327 441 or by emailing: gampaap@durham.gov.uk.



## Heighington Scout Fayre

Heighington BP Scout Group would like to invite you to join them at their **Spring Fayre!! To be held on May 14th in Heighington Village Hall 10am - 2pm.** Entrance 50p (includes a cup of tea/coffee) Craft stalls, table top stalls, raffle, refreshments, bacon/sausage butties, tombola, cakes plus many other stalls! Tables available at £8 each, please contact myself Pam 01325 314394. Limited tables available so please book early! All proceeds in aid of Heighington Scout Group

## HEIGHINGTON AFC MATCH REPORTS

### Under 11s

Home to Dormanstown and were quickly into stride hitting the away side for 6 in the 1st half. The 2nd half saw both teams score twice with Heighington running out 8-2 Winners. A fantastic performance from the boys especially 1st half. Goals from Brandon page 2, Leyton Falconer 2, Alastair garrow 1, and a Hat Trick from Callum Fraser.

### Under 15s

Heighington U15's welcomed top of the table Northallerton to Heighington, in a reverse fixture due to a waterlogged pitch. The match turned out to be one of the most competitive of the season, and it was the home side who threatened early on with a couple of chances that they failed to convert. There was nothing in the match at all, and against the run of play Northallerton took a first half lead, after a mix up and what looked like a foul on the keeper. In the second half again Heighington created lots of chances but failed to convert, and that's what ultimately cost them the match, with it finishing 1-0 to Northallerton. A huge thank you to the kids today as they put in one of their best performances of the season, and deserved at least a draw and potentially could have taken all three points.

## Spartans & Tigers Share Honours

With rain affecting many games across the Northern Conference last weekend and no game scheduled for the Spartans, it was effectively opening day for both Harrogate and Durham.

Winter training had attracted a number of new faces to Spartans, but it was a familiar team that took to the diamond with the exception of rookies Kier Hynd and Ashley Vaughan at 1st base and left field.

Estile Peniche started his 2016 campaign pitching steadily, but with some patient hitting the Tigers got Sebastiano Faranda and Jordan Wagner across the plate to score their first runs of the season. A scoreless bottom half with Faranda on the mound gave the Tigers an opportunity to extend their lead in the second inning which they did in emphatic style with a home run single from David Criss. The Spartans replied in the bottom of the second with Ian Porley scoring the Spartan's first run of the season after a solid single from Mark Austins and an error at first base from the Tigers.

The game was put beyond the Spartans reach in the third inning with the Tigers putting seven runs on the board, thanks to some consistent hitting, Spartan fielding errors, and most notably a grand slam home run, again from David Criss. The Spartans rallied in the bottom of the third inning with a two run home run of their own from catcher Alex Fisher.

A couple of RBIs from Ian Porley and Mark Austins limited the damage done by the Tigers, which was consolidated by a rallying

Spartan side in the field, with a 3 up 3 down holding the Tigers to a scoreless fourth inning. The Spartans managed another two runs in the bottom of the fourth, closing the gap to three. Invigorated by their resurgence, the Spartans took the field quickly before the two hour mark in an attempt to use the momentum gained to overcome the deficit.

Despite some solid defensive work, the Tigers patience and measured aggression saw them add two more runs to their tally, which went unanswered by the home team in the bottom of the fifth, giving first honours to Harrogate.

### Tigers 12 – 7 Spartans

With a lot more new faces in the Spartans line up it took a little while to settle in, but veteran pitcher Mike Holton steered the Spartans to a decent first inning, only allowing Sebastiano Faranda and David Criss across the plate to put the Tigers two up. Short stop Martyn Hamilton made his first plate appearance for the Spartans, drawing a walk from pitcher James Kang, and after stealing second he was batted in by Alex Fisher.

The Spartans took the lead with another three runs, before the bats of the Tigers struck hard and punished a couple of Spartan errors with five of their own runs in the second inning. Alex Fisher countered with a home run single in the bottom of the second, and with another run scored in the inning, the difference was one run going into the top of the third.

A number of changes in both sides gave new players the chance to visit the diamond, but David Criss showed his experience with another homer,

driving in 3 runs for the Tigers third inning. The Spartans showed good spirit though and after new 3rd baseman Michael Jones was hit by a pitch on his first at bat they worked a six run fight back to go into the fourth inning leading by two. Mike Holton relinquished the mound to rookie Ashley Vaughan to save the game, who allowed only one more run from the Tigers to give the win to the Spartans, splitting the fixture one-a-piece.

### Tigers 11 – 12 Spartans

## Birthday Remembrance

**TONY DOBSON** 26th April 1972. Happy Birthday Son. Never more than a thought away. Love and miss you every day. Mam and Dad.

**TONY DOBSON** It's hard to forget when you gave so much to remember. Always my Brother, always my hero. Happy birthday kidda. Bryan

**TONY DOBSON** Happy Birthday Uncle Tony. Love and miss you always. Jason, Kieran and Kathleen

**TONY DOBSON** Miss you loads 'young 'un'. Happy Birthday. Andrew and John

**TONY DOBSON** Still miss you mate. Tommy

**TONY DOBSON** 26th April 1972. Happy birthday... Miss you millions, don't be getting too drunk up there. We love you loads. Love from Amber and Courtney xx

**TONY DOBSON** 26th April 1972. Happy Birthday, thinking of you on your birthday with sadness in our hearts for a very special someone from whom we had to part. Miss you. Love, Leanne

## In Memoriam

### Ann Batchelor

(1995)

21 years have passed and we all miss and love you.

Husband Geoff,  
Daughters Amanda  
and Leslea,  
Son-in-Law Alan  
Grandchildren Joseph,  
Emma and Emil

**DENNIS GARTLAND** 27th April 2014. If memories bring you closer, we are never far apart, not a day will we forget you, you'll always be in our hearts. Love always, your loving Wife Irene; your children Denise, John and Lyn; Son-in-Laws, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

## Thank You



Thanks to "Del Boy" and to all those who attended our Table Top Sale last Saturday 16th April, and help make it the success it was.

**BOB MOSES.** Maria, Sharon and Abbie wish to thank family and friends for cards and texts received. A special thank you to Kevin, Cath and Jacalyn for their help. Also to Humanist Sharon for the Celebration of Life. Thanks also to Barry and his team at Gordon Fletcher & Sons Ltd for their guidance throughout and making things a lot easier.

**JUNE PORTER** 27th April 2013. God bless you Mam. We love and miss you. Your family xxxx

**CHARLES LAWRENCE HUNTER.** 24th April 2014. Always remembered by Jeff, Lynn, Rachel, Beccy and Great Grandchildren  
**MAUREEN YOUNG** "my Wife". 1951 to 2003. Mother to our three children, Mark, Paula and Claire; and three Grandchildren. Very sadly missed. Love, Paul xxxxx  
**CHRISTINE ROBSON** 25th April. In loving memory of treasured Wife, Mother, Mother-in-Law, Nana, Sister and Aunt. 19 years have gone by and we love and miss you more than ever. Always in our thoughts.

**JEAN SHEILA FRASER** Died 27th April 2015. A year's sped by since you passed peacefully away in deep sleep. And, whilst we still grieve and a great sadness we feel, a host of happy memories keeps you ever alive in the hearts and minds of your family who love you always. God bless, rest in peace. Donald, Fiona, Lesley, Katrine, your eight Grandchildren and five Great Grandchildren

**KIM FOWLER** (Newman, Oakenfull). 20th May 1957 to 25th April 2009. Flowers fade the nights grow dim, never again for our Daughter Kim. In Heaven now she's gone to rest, while on God's earth she tried her best. Now before Jesus she will kneel and all her pain He will heal. Sadly though, all pain and torment gone, she can never return back home again. She's left a void no one can fill. We'll love and remember her until! With deepest devoted love from Mam Tessa and Dad Ian. Special love from Brothers Craig and Martin. One wish is all we need xxx Also remembering Kim's Son, our Grandson, who died on 29th April 2007. Reunited forever. Put your arms around him Kim and give him a hug from us. Held close in our hearts forever. Nan Tessa and Grandad Ian

**DENNIS POSKETT** Died 22nd April 2007. Treasured memories of a loving Dad and Grandad. Loved and remembered always. Sandra, Michael and Gemma xxx

**DENNIS POSKETT** Died 22nd April 2007. Treasured memories of a dearly loved Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Remembered always. Love, Daughter Susan, Michelle, Kevin, Lisa and families xxxxx  
**OLIVE HUGHES** Treasured memories of a dear Sister and Aunt, who left us a year ago today. Never more than a thought away. Loved and remembered. Sheila, Joan and Colin

## Congratulations

### Laura Langdale



### Happy 30th Birthday

Hope you have a great time celebrating it!!! Lots of love, Andrew and Sophie xxx

### Happy 30th Birthday Gorgeous Girl

All our love, Mam, Neil, Luke and Adam xx

### Annmarie Thomson



### Happy 50th Birthday

Hope you have a great day  
Lots of love,  
Emma, Laura, Paul,  
Simon and Dale XXXXX

**JUSTIN HANNAH** Did you know you are 16 on the 25th April? So Happy Birthday. Have the best day ever. All our love, Nan, Granda and Bonnie xxx

## Obituary

### Lance Blakeley

11th April

Died suddenly at home in Spain, aged 77 years. Enis and Lance moved to Spain eight years ago and made many friends in Spain.

Devoted Husband, Dad, Father-in-Law and Grandad. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends. Enis, Craig, Paula and Boys; Ivor Joan, Hayley and Steph xxxxx

**BETH RELTON** 24th April. Happy 21st birthday Beth. Lots of love always Mam and Dad xxx

**BETH RELTON** Happy 21st birthday to my little Sister. Lots of love, Laura and Scott xxx

### Ann Mafham-Cairns



### Happy 60th Birthday 24th April

Ann, Mum, Granny Have a great day/evening. Love Geoff, Stephanie, James, Abigail, Paul, Kayleigh and Robyn



We found this and you look the same xxxxx

### Emily Russell



### Happy 21st Birthday 22nd April 1995

Hope you have a fantastic time. Love from Mam, Dad and Tom xxxxx

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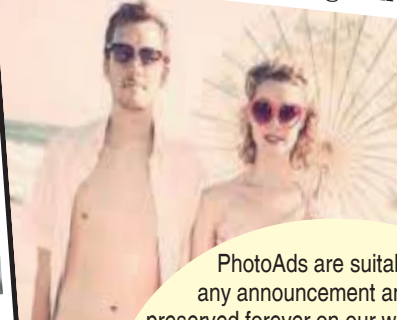
### Alice Springs



### Happy 21st Birthday 10-10-10

to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

### Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



### Golden

ations Man on 1st Jan ters, Gra

PhotoAds are suitable for any announcement and are preserved forever on our website [www.newtonnews.co.uk](http://www.newtonnews.co.uk)

We are currently working on an archive site which will bring you ALL the past issues of the Newton News as far back as 1948!





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## MICHAEL COMPLETES CYCLE MARATHON

Wheelchair-bound Michael Dalton (51), was jubilant at the weekend after completing an extra-long marathon cycle ride - without moving a single inch!

Michael, who spends all his waking day in his wheelchair, covered 50km, eight km more than a standard marathon, on a static, upper-body, hand cycle at the Lifestyle Fitness Suite in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

In the process, he raised over £250 for the Mayor of Great Aycliffe's appeal for the Renal unit/Ward 4 of James Cook University Hospital and other local charities. Michael's mother, 90-year-old Mary Dalton, is this year's Mayor of Newton Aycliffe and was with him throughout the marathon. After completing the fund-raising ride, a delighted Michael, who has battled both spina bifida and kidney failure since the day he was born, admitted: "All I want to do now is to sleep for a week."

Before heading home to relax, Michael found time to



thank Sarah O'Hare and the staff of Lifestyle Fitness for their help and allowing him free use of the gym for his training and the marathon itself as well as his supporters for their sponsorship. Michael is a well-known local councillor, former Mayor of Great Aycliffe and member of the town's Rotary Club. He is still collecting donations for the renal unit and can be contacted on 01325 320499 or mobile 07954 290711.

## Flooded Home Pitches Meant Away Trips for Youth Football

With Aycliffe pitches resembling lakes all games this weekend were played at opposition or central venues.

**U10 girls** v Lumley, hailstones and sleet as the game started. Despite creating the early chances 2 long range shots from Lumley and somehow we were 0-2 at half time. Alysha had 2 good saves to keep us in the game.

The second half started brightly and within 5 mins Brooke raced through the opposition defence and hit the roof of the net 1-2. It was now all Aycliffe and again Brooke used her pace and found the net 2-2. The defence were looking comfortable then another long shot from Lumley hits the inside of the post and we were 2-3 down. Despite our best efforts FT 2-3

**Under 16's Eagles** v Normanby Orange. The boys started really well, looked solid all through the side and within the first half we created a number of chances scoring twice and going in 2-0 at half time. This was the same position we were in last time we played them and they really came at us straight from the start of the second half and this time was no different. The boys stood strong and solid, defending



well and creating a number of chances going forward with the FT score win 5-0 Nile Rutter 3, Daniel Hewitt and Danny Pickering.

Another good performance with everyone involved, a clean sheet and another 3 points

**Under 10's** v Leven. On a very wet 3G pitch passing the ball was very unpredictable and it prevented the game from flowing. Leven went ahead after about 2 minutes and were soon 5 nil up. We struggled on till half time and started the second half with an unchanged side. We conceded another 4 but also got a couple back with a bit of endeavour and two super cool finishes from Matty J. Disappointing but the lads put in some effort, but just couldn't cope with top of the league Leven. FT 2-9. MoM: Isaac

**Under 8 Eagles** v St Cuthbert's another fine win for this young side with Will Houllahan scoring all four goals, quickly going 2-0 up from some excellent passing and movement. A few changes were made and St Cuthbert's got back into the game but our heads didn't go down and everyone battled hard to score another two goals.

**Under 13 Eagles** v Guisborough. The lads started really slowly and resulted in

two first half goals conceded. Team talk was always about team work but Guisborough were quicker and scored again. Quick change of formation and the lads suddenly started playing. Two quick fire goals put us back in the game but Guisborough hit us on break to lead 4-2 but we came back fighting again and grabbed our 3rd but despite a great effort couldn't find the equalizer FT 3-4.

**U11 girls** v Consett, a bit of a disjointed slow start by the girls as Consett worked hard keeping our girls to long range shots. A corner was then driven into the box deflecting of a defender for an OG. That seemed to kick start the game, as space was being found, the goals followed. Alex and then Kate made it HT 3-0. The second half was all Aycliffe, Alex completed her hat trick and Hattie stepped up a gear and cruised to her hat-trick. FT 8-0 Again the strikers grab the headlines but everyone plays their part every week.

The club are developing more girls sides so if you are in Yr 3/4/5 contact Berni on 07939 045242 If you want more information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website www.naycafc.co.uk

## Aycliffe FC Fall Foul of the Weather

Will this miserable wet weather ever end? With the winter we've had, April showers would have been bad enough, but torrential rain put paid to any chance of football at Moore Lane this week. Newton Aycliffe FC were due to play two home games last week, but they and Saturday's away match at Dunston all fell foul of the weather.

That leaves Aycliffe facing a mammoth 10 games in 22 days to bring the 2015/2016 campaign to a close. It will be a hectic 3 weeks for Peter Dixon's side but whatever happens now they will be able to reflect on the most successful season in the club's 50 year history. As well as winning Durham County's most senior cup competition the team achieved it's best result in the FA Cup & FA Vase.

Aycliffe now have trips to Guisborough, Morpeth and Penrith before facing league leaders Shildon at home on Thursday 28 April. Kick off at Moore Lane is 7:30pm. The Sports Club Bar and Ground Bait Cabin will be open from 6:30pm. Admission £6 adults & £4 concessions with under 12s free if accompanied by an adult.

## Horndale Residents' Meet

Many thanks to Little Acorns for the table space at their Petting Zoo on Friday 8th April for us to hold a Tombola.

On Saturday 9th April we had our first outing to Skipton. The weather was very kind and a great day was had by all. The Whitby trip in May is already full, but there are tickets for York on Saturday 11th June and Scarborough Saturday 16th July. Ring Martin for tickets on 316148. Please note change of venue for the Residents' Meeting on Wednesday 4th May 6pm. now to be held at Greenfield Arts Centre, Greenfield College, DL5 7LF.

Residents of Horndale, Greenfield, The Chase and Byerley Park are welcome. Your local Town and County councillors will be in

attendance. For more information please contact myself Eddy Wood (Chairman) on 308608.

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