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A Right Royal Tea Party



Her Majesty The Queen turned 90 on April 21st and at St Elizabeth's Church a grand sumptuous Afternoon Tea Party was held in celebration. Guests were encouraged to dress for the occasion and many wore hats and wonderful summery dresses - akin to Ladies' Day at Ascot! The Church hall was decorated with bunting, and tables laid with lace table cloths, best china on the table and foodie delights served on cake stands which all



Nora & David Scott with daughter Charlie

added to the occasion. The event promised the food would be suitable for a Queen and it most certainly was - just

a shame she couldn't be there! The tables were groaning with the feast of delicacies from dainty sandwiches to scones, meringues, chocolate cake, brownie, meringues, lemon cake and fruit cake.

Of course an event dedicated to our Queen, all sang the National Anthem, Happy Birthday and Hip Hip Hooray in patriotic and celebratory fashion, accompanied by a glass of fizz!

During the event there was a quiz of 22 questions which included many on the Queen's life and of course her beloved corgies. The winner of the Quiz was Sheena Cockerill who won a bottle of pink Cava so she could continue celebrating later that day.

There was also a free raffle where everyone received a ticket on arrival and the winner was Charlie Scott-King who won a wonderful patriotic tea set - a very fitting prize for such an event.

The treat was organised by Nora Scott with her husband, David Scott as Master of Ceremonies and daughter Charlie Scott-King who prepared much of the delicious food including scones, fruit cake, lemon drizzle cake and brownies.

Special mention and thanks also goes to Theo, Sandra, Milly, Norma, Denise, Ilene, Eunise for their assistance in the kitchen, helping set up and wash up.

The tea was enjoyed by all with many taking goodies home for their family and friends and I am sure that the celebration would have been enjoyed by the Queen herself!

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ARE TAXI DRIVERS ABOVE THE LAW?

Dear Sir,
Some years ago, when we had a traffic warden, I was on Greenwell Road, alongside of the Leisure Centre, and saw the warden writing tickets for vehicles illegally parked along that stretch. Rightly so!

I asked the warden if he was issuing tickets to the two taxis parked on the double yellow lines at the back of the old Woolworth building.

His reply: "Oh, they are just loading". I laughed and said no, they were waiting for spaces in the taxi rank as those already parked were too lazy to move up, but were still illegally parked. He then said "well they'll just drive around the block and park there again" to which I said that they should get a ticket each time, and surely it wouldn't take long for them to get the message. He then changed tack and told me he would need police assistance to move them on.

I subsequently checked with the police and DCC. The former confirmed their assistance was not required, the latter appeared to be saying it was not worthwhile pursuing the matter.

I'm writing on this subject today having witnessed, yet

again, this same situation - lazy taxi drivers (2 of whom were ladies - come on girls - you're letting the side down!) taking up 2 bays each and 2 taxis parked on the double yellows at the back of the Woolworth building.

(1) Why are taxi drivers apparently above the laws we mere mortals must adhere to? From experience I am of the opinion that there are many taxi drivers who believe they have a 'right of passage' on our roads, and are discourteous to other drivers and pedestrians.

(2) Why on earth do we need so many taxis in the rank anyway?
MM

(Name & address supplied)

CREATIVE WRITING

WASPS - Simpature Residents' Association are planning to hold creative writing classes with a local writer.

Interested? Fancy a new hobby? Become a bestselling author!

Give John a ring on 07972170190 or email waspsresidents@gmail.com

CRAFT ENTREPRENEUR INSPIRES STUDENTS

Crafter's Companion founder Sara Davies was on hand to inspire the next generation of art and design students from Darlington College this week.

The award-winning businesswoman from County Durham delivered a card making and colouring workshop to a group of students as part of a wider plan to get more people involved in crafting and inspire budding entrepreneurs.

The workshop included a presentation from Sara about how she went from a start-up business while at university to a global company with customers all over the world and an operation in California. Sara said: "I felt honoured to share my business journey with these talented young people and hopefully give them some inspiration of what they can achieve through the love for their craft."

The talk coincided with the planned opening of the company's first ever UK retail store at Aycliffe Business Park in May. The store is being designed to be the brand's flagship store that is intended to educate and become a destination for anyone



interested in crafting.

Sara added: "It's a very exciting time for our company. The craft industry is booming and our new store is a reflection of that. We're hoping that people like these students will come and join us, get involved with the workshops and demonstrations we'll be running and interact with other members of the arts and crafts community."

Star Radio were present to film the event, and the breakfast show presenter, Tim Lichfield also took part in the workshop at Darlington College, which will be followed by a unique stamp design competition that will run on the radio station. The competition, which is open for entries until the end of May, will give winners in different age categories the chance to have their bespoke rubber stamp design produced by Crafter's Companion. The winners will be announced in June.

Alan Jones, curriculum manager at Darlington College for art, media and

journalism, said: "It was great to have Sara come in and inspire our art and design students and to show what you can achieve with hard work and dedication.

"Not only has the session allowed our students to learn and practice new techniques, but it will also contribute to their employability skills and get them thinking about their own career journey."

Crafter's Companion specialises in manufacturing, distributing and retailing crafting tools and products, which are currently sold online via its website, on TV shopping channels across the world and by thousands of independent retailers. For further information visit: www.crafterscompanion.co.uk.

Band Concert

On Saturday 7th May a concert by the prize winning Cockerton Silver Band will be held at Neville Parade Methodist Church starting at 7pm.

Tickets for this event are £6 and are on sale from church members. For more information contact Liz Bates tel 310182. We look forward to seeing you there on what promises to be a very enjoyable evening.

YOUTH VARIETY SHOW

After the success of last year's event the organisers are looking again for young people aged 6 to 18 years old who can entertain at the Youth Variety Show, Civic Hall, Shildon on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th June at 7-30pm. A spokesperson said "We are looking for young singers either solo or in a group or even a youth choir. Dancers - solo or in a troupe. Young instrumentalists, magicians, comedians, in fact any young person who has the X Factor in entertainment talents. We would like to hear from you - For more information ring 07747 826324."

Seeds from Space



Science students at Woodham Academy have received a delivery from the International Space Station thanks to a national programme of which 10,000 schools have been chosen to take part.

The scientific investigation, known as Rocket Science is an experiment between the Royal Horticulture Society Seeds were sent to space last year and have travelled alongside Astronaut Tim Peake on-board the ISS before arriving back down to earth in March.

Students have now planted the seeds alongside seeds that have not left the planet and as the plants grow their progress will be examined to identify if any differences occur. The experiment will encourage students to think more about science and the impact of outer earth can have.

Flight engineer Peake sent his best wishes to pupils around

the country who are taking part in the experiment, in a message sent from 400 km above the planet.

He said: "This is a really exciting time for the hundreds of thousands of young people across the country who will begin their Rocket Science experiments."

"I'd like to wish everyone taking part the best of luck with their investigations and I look forward to seeing some of the results."

"It's possible that among those pupils taking part in the project are the young people who will help mankind reach the next big milestones in space exploration for the benefit of people on Earth."

"I hope the Royal Horticultural Society's Rocket Science experiment will spark curiosity and wonder amongst young people who may become the next generation of horticultural scientists."

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On 5th October 2015 carrier bag charging began in England, bringing it in-line charging schemes already in place in the rest of the UK. As a result, Tesco, like other large retailers, is required by law to charge a minimum of 5p for every single-use carrier bag used by a customer. Proceeds generated from the sales of the bags are given to good causes. The money raised by Tesco customers is used to pay for a large number of local projects to improve green spaces in communities across England, Wales and Scotland. Projects that get the green light as a result of the funding include building new pocket parks, sports facilities, woodland walks and community gardens. It's your money - so where the money goes locally is up to you!



You have the opportunity to decide where it is spent, by nominating your favourite local charity or community group. Six projects are selected to receive funding in each of

400 regions annually, which means that over two thousand different projects will receive funding from the bag charge after just one year. You also have the opportunity to vote for your favourite

project locally. We are calling on local community groups to apply for the funding - the second round of applications opened on 18th April 2016. Visit www.groundwork.org.uk/tescobagsofhelp to find out more or visit your Local Newton Aycliffe Store.

Councillors' Surgeries
West Ward Councillors Eddy Adam, Kate Hopper, Arun Chandran, Ken Robson and Martin Ashcroft will be holding a Councillors Surgery in School Aycliffe Community Centre at 11am on 30th April 2016. Members of the public are invited to pop in to discuss any issues of concern.

Anna Hopeful After Government Brain Tumour Research Debate



Left to right: Rotary North East Governor Terry Long, Anna, Denese Cartwright President of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and Anna's fiancé Andrew

Newton Aycliffe cancer campaigner Anna Swabey has told her supporters that the government's recent debate on a petition urging more funding for brain tumour research was 'absolutely incredible, emotional and encouraging'. Anna was at Westminster with fiancé Andy Bell and her parents, Linda and Keith, to hear MPs debate the call to increase the amount of cash allocated annually by the government specifically for brain tumour research. Although brain tumours are the bigger cancer killer of children and people under the age of 40, only one per cent of the national budget is allocated to research in that field. Anna told fellow members of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club this week: "The debate went better than I ever could have imagined. So many MPs turned up and over 30 of them contributed with such empathy and passion. Not a single MP opposed our call for an increase in funding for brain tumour research."

Twenty-four-year-old Anna, who is battling her own terminal brain tumour, has worked tirelessly to raise cash for research. She was a major force behind the campaign to gain more than 100000 signatures for an online petition to force a government debate on boosting the government's current allocation for brain tumour research from the present £7 million to a hoped-for £35 million. At this week's Rotary Club meeting, Anna was presented with a cheque for £500 for the Brain Tumour Research Campaign and a certificate as winner of this year's Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland UK Young Citizen of the Year award. The presentation was made by Rotary District Governor Terry Long who praised

Anna's dedication, enthusiasm and inspirational achievement. The ceremony should have taken place at this year's Rotary Conference in Bournemouth but Anna was in Paris for the city marathon with her 12-strong team of sponsored runners - all of whom completed the course and raised more than £18,000 for the research charity.

Anna has always recognized that any major breakthrough in brain tumour treatment will be too late for her to benefit, but in her latest blog writes how she sat on the train home after the Westminster debate and thought: "I am now filled with such hope for the future . . . such hope for those yet to be diagnosed with this cruel illness."

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BOOTCAMP FITNESS AT WOODHAM

Make the most of the day by joining a new morning fitness workout starting on 16th May at Woodham Community Centre.

Donna Pearson Kelly is a qualified fitness instructor and is running a varied and unique exercise class 'DPK Bootcamp'. The sessions, which caters for all fitness levels, will run on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, 6.30am - 7.15am. There will be 18 sessions over 6 weeks, ending just in time for the holiday season and only costs £69.

The workouts will include Boxercise, Circuit training, HITT, Interval training, Tabata sessions and outdoor workouts.

Donna says: "Exercising early in the morning energises you for the day and jump starts your metabolism, keeping it elevated for hours. Not to mention that gratifying feeling you'll get all day from knowing you've done something disciplined and good for you!

Donna has been running fitness classes for all ages and abilities for many years and has had huge success rates in increasing people's strength, energy, motivation and inspiration.

Be the early bird that catches the worm by calling Donna on 07854 741673 to book your place today.

Brilliant "Hobbit" Production



Earlier this week Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery School were treated to a fantastic performance of 'The Hobbit' from a travelling theatre company. M and M Theatrical Productions, who are currently touring schools in the North East, presented a wonderful abridged interpretation of JR Tolkien's famous tale, which kept the pupils at Stephenson Way mesmerized on Monday afternoon.

'I was scared when the dragon came on,' said one year 4 pupil. 'But I loved the show - especially the funny bits. I want to see it again.'

Currently, some year 5 and 6 pupils are studying the novel 'The Hobbit' as part of their curriculum, and were excited to make comparisons between

the book and the performance. One year 6 boy was looking out to see how one character in particular would be portrayed. 'I thought Gollum looked amazing - just how I imagined him to look from the book. Even his voice was creepy. I even forgot that it wasn't really Gollum!'

The year 5 and 6 classroom has been transformed into all things 'Hobbit': illustrations, maps and extracts from the novel. There is even a cave where children's work is displayed. One year 5 boy thought the novel was hard to understand to start with. 'I couldn't understand some of the words when we started, but I understand it now. I'm always looking forward to the next chapter.'

Pupils and staff at Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery School would like to thank M and M Theatrical Productions for a brilliant show, and everyone is very much looking forward to the same group coming back next year with a brand new production.

Cook Wanted

A Volunteer Cook is required for Newton Aycliffe Dementia Support Group at the Western Area Community Centre, Silverdale Place.

We also need a mini bus driver with DI on the driving Licence and a person urgently to do the clerical work/book keeping - hours to suit. Meetings held every Monday with a cooked lunch and discussions from 10.00am until 1pm.

A DEMENTIA CAFE attended by The Alzheimers Society is on the last Tuesday of every month. Coffee, Bacon bun and chat/games from 10.00am till 1pm.

We welcome all residents with long term illnesses including Parkinsons, M.S., Cancer, or in fact if you suffer from loneliness and need some company, you are very welcome.

The meetings are held every week and now that summertime is here we go out on free trips each Thursday. For further details ring 01325 308094.

Signs of Success for Deaf Community



Rotarians in Newton Aycliffe were all fingers and thumbs at a recent meeting when they welcomed guest speaker Margaret (Mags) Bain, a local expert in sign language communication. Club members were able to try out their signing skills after some basic instruction from Mags

who owns the Silent Tea House in premises shared with Love Thy Cupcake at Beveridge Way in the town.

Her tea room is unique in the UK and provides a service for the deaf which is available in only two other cafes anywhere in the world.

Mags greets customers with sign language and is hoping that more deaf and hard-of-hearing locals will now come along with friends and family to learn how to sign.

Every Wednesday, between 6pm and 9pm, she organizes a coffee evening where for a modest £5 per person, she provides hot drinks and nibbles while teaching customers how to learn sign language and deaf-awareness skills.

One customer said this week: "The Silent Tea House is a wonderful place to relax with friends over coffee and a snack while enjoying the opportunity to learn a valuable communication skill."

Mags has been an extremely competent user of sign language from a very young age because of deafness in her family.

President Denese Cartwright couldn't resist the chance to try out her new signing skills at this week's Rotary Club meeting and received a clear thumbs-up from Mags (pictured right). Mags was introduced by Rtn Geoff Bachelor and thanked by Rtn John Burrows.

Keeping Tenants Safe & Well

The chief fire officer of County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service welcomed the chief executive of livin housing to Service 22 April to sign a memorandum of understanding.

The document represents a commitment by both organisations to work more closely together, sharing information to help keep people safe and well.

The aim is to promote safer and healthier communities for residents of livin housing through education, safety measures and fire service 'Safe and Wellbeing visits'.

Chief fire officer Stuart Errington said: "As a fire service we have the same goals as livin with regard to keeping tenants safe and well in their homes. This document sets out how we aim to do this and it is an agreement to share information. We look forward to working closely with livin and we hope that this will be first of many agreements with other local housing providers."

livin currently manages around 8,500 homes in County Durham. Chief Executive, Colin Steel said: "For livin, the document is another step towards protecting our tenants by reducing the number of house fires and potential injuries or deaths which could occur. Promoting safer and healthier communities is of paramount importance to us".

CDDFRS and livin will also collaborate to install sprinkler systems in homes later this year. Fire service 'Safe and Wellbeing' visits replaced home fire safety checks on 15 February 2016. The visits incorporate extra elements based on lifestyle and provide support and practical help to improve health and quality of life when and where appropriate. The programme focuses on advice, information and practical help relating to:



Stuart Errington, (left) with Colin Steel

alcohol, smoking, dementia, social isolation, winter warmth, slips, trips and falls and flu immunisation.

In the past two months CDDFRS has referred more than 350 people from County Durham and the borough of Darlington to health agencies

either through the NHS, local authorities or charitable organisations.

For more information visit www.ddfire.gov.uk or to book a home fire safe and wellbeing check with CDDFRS call: 0845 223 4221.

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Plumbing & Gas Training Centre Opens at Aycliffe

Bishop Auckland College has established a modern new Gas and Plumbing Centre at South West Durham Training on Aycliffe Business Park.

Natalie Davison Principal/Chief Executive Bishop Auckland College said:

"Thanks to all the staff and all their hard work for getting it ready on time. The Gas assessment went extremely well and we are now open for business.

In addition, to the new Gas Centre, the College has provided Plumbing training and apprenticeships for local companies for over 50 years and this new initiative and investment will support more companies with their bespoke training needs now and in the future.

I would like to thank Ray Dobson Director of Hewitt's, our guest of honour for officially opening the centre.

Hewitt's Plumbing and Heating, are one of the largest, if not the largest employers in Bishop Auckland and we are proud to have supported their apprentices over the years.

Ray Dobson said: "I'm delighted to be here to officially open the new plumbing and gas centre. Hewitt's have a long standing relationship with the College, training apprentices.

This new development will enable lots of business to access plumbing and gas training within the local area.



Congratulations and well done".

Tom Malone, from Newton Aycliffe a former Woodham Comprehensive School pupil has been employed by the College since October 2015 as a plumbing technician after starting as a full time plumbing student in 2014. Having left school in 1998, Tom went into warehousing for seven years before spending several years travelling abroad which took him as far afield as America, Australia and New Zealand. Upon his return home he set his sights on training to become a qualified plumber.

Tom said: "It was great for me that during my plumbing course, I was successful in getting the technician's job at the college. Since being



College Principal Natalie Davison with Ray Dobson who officially opened the new Centre



Tom Malone (second right) with trainees in the workshop

here I have been involved in the development of the new plumbing and gas centre which trains level 2 and 3 students and apprentices and now provides the domestic core safety and appliances training".



Contact Racheal Wartars Careers Advisor for Plumbing if you are interested in the course. The College also has special offers for local plumbers in domestic and core gas safety training. Contact details: 01325 313194. E-mail: gascentre@bacoll.ac.uk

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 7.30pm.

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

Cancer Support Group Meeting

Our next meeting is Thursday 5th May at 6 until 7.30pm at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre. Thank you to all staff at the centre who go beyond their duty to make sure everything is out for us.

Our Guest Speaker is a Macmillan Primary Care Nurse, Louise Trowell who along with colleagues only began this role recently and will explain how they can help people in our community. Our other speaker is a long term member, Rosie Quinn who joined our group on our very first night over 2 years ago as a Student Nurse.

Over the years she has enjoyed attending the meetings as well as training to be a nurse. This year herself and her partner Niall both graduated from University. Her role is to help cancer patients and will talk about her journey and what her role entails as a nurse.

Niall did a bungee jump last year and raised over £250 for our funds, and is now doing a Sky Dive along with nine other people on June 12th. If anyone is interested in sponsoring the skydivers please contact me or if you are on facebook follow the Just Giving Page on https://crowdfunding.justgiving.com/Great-Aycliffe-Cancer-Support-Group?utm_id=2 contact details is Allison (Chair) on 07762 258696 or Carole (Vice Chair) on 07565 504496

WIN TICKETS

Amazing Live American Wrestling Family Supershow



A big time American wrestling spectacular featuring the world famous TNA Superstar "BRAM" will take place at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on Saturday 7th May 2016, doors open at 7.00pm.

Live action will include 7ft Giant Goliath, Japan's Tokyo Joe, Masked Destroyers, Boston Brawler and many more. It is a fantastic show for all the family.

EASY TO ENTER COMPETITION

Win one of 3 family tickets (admitting 4 people with each), simply answer the following easy question:

What is the venue for the American Wrestling Spectacular?

Send your answers to: Wrestling Competition, c/o Newton Press, Blue Bridge Centre, St Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe Co. Durham DL5 6DS to arrive no later than **5.00pm, Wednesday 4th May.**

Email entries accepted to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

EPW Facebook.com/EPWAmericanWrestling
www.epwwrestlinguk.com
YouTube: epwwrestlingtv

AMERICAN WRESTLING

World Title MATCH
ROYAL RUMBLE

JAPAN'S TOKYO JOE
TNA SUPERSTAR BRAM
7ft Giant GOLIATH

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre
Beveridge Arcade
Newton Aycliffe DL5 4EH
SATURDAY 7th MAY 2016
TICKETS AT RECEPTION 03000 266446
DOORS OPEN 7.00PM

TICKETS
VIP Ringside Child/OAP
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£12 £36

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Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DS
Mobile: 07738 066 723

FACEBOOK

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

Two Course Lunch for £3

St Elizabeth's Church, Woodham would like to invite you to their monthly events. All ages are welcome and your friends and family can join too.

On Wednesday 4th May at 12.30, we have our monthly Lunch Club - a delicious 2 course seasonal lunch followed by refreshments for just £3.

Saturday 7th May at 10am is our Spring Plant Sale-with a collection of plants suitable for pots, containers and gardens, there will also be delicious home baking for sale plus a raffle and refreshments.

You are always welcome at our Sunday morning services held every Sunday from 9.30am-10.45am. We look forward to welcoming you very soon at St Elizabeth's.

Dogs Trust & Newton News

FIND A DOG a home

Poppy

Poppy is a 4 year old Border Collie Crossbreed who arrived at the Darlington Rehoming Centre in November last year following being found as a stray. She is a strong, energetic girl and particularly adores her ball. She is quite happy to play all day and is looking for an active home who can give her the exercise and stimulation she needs alongside her favourite game of catch and retrieve.

Poppy loves all her carers and adores attention and being around people so would most likely prefer a home where her owners are around for most of the day. She would prefer to be the only dog in the home and not live with young children as she can be a little unsure at times, but would be happy to live with family members aged over 16 years old.

If you think you could give Poppy the home she is looking for please visit Dogs Trust Darlington at Hill House Farm, Sadberge, DL2 1SL. The centre is open Friday - Tuesday 12pm-4pm, Thursday 12pm-7pm and closed on Wednesdays, or please call 01325 333114 to speak to one of her carers.



Archers on Target for Kynren

Volunteer archers performing in County Durham live action night show, 'Kynren – an epic tale of England' are fired up after taking part in a special training session delivered by an esteemed combat trainer. Over 150 volunteers undertook their first fire training session using arrows and sticks at the weekend, under the direction of experienced Eleven Arches trainer, Mark Hindman Smith, an actor, writer, historian and skilled combat trainer who runs seven stage combat schools across the North of England. Mark is training Eleven Arches volunteers in a range of combat skills ready for the Kynren, but also for use in the world of film and TV and other live performances. The volunteers will use their new found skills as they perform as archers as part of a cast and crew of over 600 taking part in Kynren, the UK's most spectacular live action night show since the opening of the 2012 Olympics which opens on 02 July for 14 summer shows.

Anne-Isabelle Daulon,



CEO of Eleven Arches, said: "Kynren presents a unique opportunity for people from the community to undertake professional training from world-class experts in everything from choreography to combat and pyrotechnics to horse-riding. The first fire training session delivered by Mark Hindman Smith went very well and we look forward to seeing our fire shooting archers in action on 02 July." Kynren will take audiences on a spellbinding journey through British history. Taking place on a 7.5 acre

landscaped stage (equivalent to five football pitches, with a full-size lake at its centre) against the backdrop of Auckland Castle, the dazzling production will immerse audiences in a captivating story that stretches across 2,000 years, encompassing Roman times, the Viking invasions, the Industrial Revolution and Second World War, with ships and a steam train, mass choreography, mesmerising pyrotechnics and spectacular lighting and water effects. Involving more than 1,000 volunteers as cast and crew, who have undergone professional training by the best of the best, including Steve Boyd, a key figure in the choreography of the London 2012 opening ceremony, Kynren is expected to attract nightly audiences of up to 8,000.

Tickets are on sale with prices starting at £25 for adults and £19 for children. For more information, go to www.kynren.co.uk or call 0844 581 1252. Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Specialist LED Lighting Suppliers Moves to Aycliffe

Paul Makepeace and Gary Rudd have moved their established business from Spennymoor to Newton Aycliffe. Based at Unit 14 Evans Business Centre, Durham Way South on the Aycliffe Business Park they supply and install LED lighting at very competitive rates.

LED Supply and Fit are offering a FREE survey to local businesses to see how much they could save by switching to LED lighting. On average businesses can save between 60% and 90% by converting the lights on the shop floor and offices to LED.

If you are interested in a

FREE survey from LED Supply and Fit simply contact Paul on 01325 327304 and arrange a detailed survey of your current lighting and find the best LED system to reduce your costs. All LED lighting is supplied with a five year warranty.

Recent completed orders include Bishop Auckland, Riverside and Bede Colleges, Tees Barrage and South West Durham Training. The company carry a large stock and welcomes walk-in residential customers whether wanting advice or to purchase LED bulbs, priced from £2.69.

LED Supply and Fit operate

throughout the UK with a warehouse range of products and fitting solutions and the added ability to purchase/pick up from this location.

LED Supply and Fit was quick to establish itself as a leading UK provider of LED products and a fully bespoke fitting service. They offer the best-branded LED products on the market sourced from leading UK Manufacturers. Don't be fooled by cheap imitations as their LED products have been tested and guaranteed. They supply competitively priced products, with guarantees, certifications and a renowned UK delivery service. LED Supply and Fit is becoming the preferred supplier and installers of LED products for many UK commercial customers.

They employ a dedicated customer service team who are able to assist with any queries, demonstrations, orders and project needs. Give them a call if you have any questions or have a specific requirement.

LED Lighting is one of the fastest growing industries and over the past year has seen over 900,000 standard lights replaced with energy saving LED Lights, resulting in millions of pounds saved by customers. This has also led to the reduction of over 3000 tonnes of carbon emissions.

Save yourself up to 90% on your electricity bill by simply changing your light bulbs to LED and save the planet by doing so!

For more information visit the website at www.ledsupplyandfit.co.uk



Six Skaters on a Roll



Six local skaters passed grade 6 and 7 this week. Spectrum Roller Skating Club skates at Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre on Fridays 7.30-9.30 and Sunday 2.30-4.30. Joseph Kearney (14), Nicola Stevens (17), Hannah Godwin (9), Niamh Dawson (10), Francesca Guerrero (9), and Jazzmyn Loring (6) all passed grade 6 and 7 Federation of Artistic Roller Skating tests.

Newtonian Ranked 6th in UK



Rachel Bennett

A SCHOOLGIRL athlete is proving to be a bolt from the blue when it comes to sprinting after a string of successes at the highest level. Barnard Castle School student Rachel Bennett has been ranked 6th in the country for the U15 Girls' 200m despite often running against competitors much older than herself.

This year the 13-year-old, of Newton Aycliffe, has claimed a series of medals. These include silvers at the 60m Northern U15 Indoor Championships and 200m U15 Scottish Indoor Championships and bronzes at the 200m Northern U17 Indoor Championships and English National Indoor Championships.

Rachel said: "I have been running since I was nine and am a member of Shildon Running Club specialising in 100m and 200m. "So far this year I am pleased with my medals and am looking forward to competing again in July with the hope one day of running for my country at an Olympics."

PE teacher Andy Woodward said: "Rachel's quiet determination is an example to us all of what can be achieved with commitment and hard work. She thoroughly deserves her success and I'm sure will go on to achieve even more in the future."



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Contact Stuart on 01325 300212 for more details



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

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CHANGE OF VENUE FOR ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The Horndale Residents' Association have changed their venue and now meet at Greenfield College Arts Centre. The next meeting is on Wednesday 4th May at 6pm with refreshments served at 5.45pm. Residents of Horndale, Greenfield, The Chase and Byerley Park are welcome. Town and County Councillors will be in attendance. For further information contact Chairman Eddy Wood on 01325 308608.

Festival of Learning Inspires Ancestry Courses

A series of courses aimed at helping people trace their family tree is being run by Durham County Council in the coming months. The courses range from

a basic introduction to ancestry for beginners through to more in-depth sessions for those already familiar with the basics.

Dawn Layland, Education and Outreach Archivist at Durham County Record Office, said: "Over the last few years we have seen a resurgence in interest from people wanting to trace their family tree and with the centenary of the Battle of the Somme during the First World War soon upon us, many are looking up their ancestors who fought at that time."

The courses will be run at Durham County Record Office at County Hall and include: Family History Taster Sessions (£10 per session) which are designed as a short introduction for those who don't feel ready or are not able to attend the full beginners' course. These sessions run on Tuesday 21 June, 6pm-8pm and Thursday 23 June, 10am-12pm.

Beginners' Family History (£30 per course) a popular introduction not only to family history, but to the Record Office and the sources it has to help with tracing ancestors. This course is aimed at those who have never done any family history research before or

would like a refresher. This three week course runs from 12 - 26 May either at 10am-12pm or 6pm-8pm and includes sessions on Parish Registers & Civil Registration, The Census and Military Records.

For those already happy with basics, Branching Out (£10 per session) is an hour long talk followed by time to browse the facilities with advice and support on hand. Morning sessions from 10am-12pm include: A Closer Look at Parish Registers (Thursday 5 May), Parish Records other than registers (Thursday 16 June) and Illegitimacy, Divorce and Adoption (Thursday 7 July). Evening sessions from 6pm-8pm include: A Closer Look at Parish Registers (Tuesday 3 May), Parish Records other than registers (Monday 13 June) and Illegitimacy, Divorce and Adoption (Tuesday 5 July).

Dawn added: "These courses are a great chance not only to learn how to research your family tree but to find out more about the Record Office and the resources we have that can help."

For more information and to book a place on any of the courses please call 03000 267626.

Dr. Who Wedding



Photo is by Eye Dream Photography.

On the 17th April 2016 Daleks invaded Redworth Hall Hotel for a Doctor Who themed wedding. Daniel Hutchinson formerly from Newton Aycliffe, now lives and works in Saudi Arabia as an Engineer and he returned to marry Alex Leach, a musician and teacher from Darlington on Sunday 17th April 2016.

Daniel's Best Man was his brother Matt Hutchinson with his new brother in law, Max Leach being the ring bearer. Alex's Mother, Fiona, gave

her daughter away, her Maid of Honour was her sister Toni Appleton and her best friend Abby Crawford was Chief Bridesmaid.

The Couple had an all-themed Doctor Who wedding with small Tardis for table centre pieces, Tardis blue running throughout the wedding and even a real Dalek for the wedding photos. Alex will in a couple of months, be joining Daniel to live in Saudi.

Alex and Daniel would like to say a huge Thank You to all who attended the wedding.

55 Year old Team Photo



This photograph of the Sugar Hill School football team 1960-61 was sent in by one of the team members Andy Spark. Back Row left to right: David Nelson, John Surtees, Anthony Deere, Andy Spark, Keith Summers, Dennis Lovelass. Front Row left to right: Dennis Miller, Mikey Bray, John Hindmarch, Jackie Waters, Alan Pearson, Reg Matthews

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POOR ROUNDABOUT Second Hand Furniture Wanted

Collection Service from Aycliffe



A call has gone out for more donations of furniture and white goods for a social enterprise set up to help local people. Gavin Bestford and Susan Hill both volunteer for More Time, and say a steady stream of customers at the showroom in the DISC headquarters next to the Blue Bridge on the town means they need more good quality second-hand goods. Gavin, from Newton Aycliffe, said: "We're always on the lookout for new stock - it's the lifeblood of our service. "We're always looking for more household goods and we have the skills within the team here at More Time to refurbish old furniture and white goods to bring them back to standard. The furniture and white goods are then tested and sold on to

local people who may need quality goods but prefer not to buy them in the shops." Fellow volunteer Susan said: "I want to encourage local people to get in touch if they have any furniture or white goods that they no longer want. We offer a free collection service and are happy to travel and see what people wish to donate." All the money raised from the sale of these goods goes back into the More Time service, helping local people develop new skills in retail, sales, catering and cleaning with the aim of them securing employment in the future. And Susan said "If anyone is struggling with low confidence, this is an excellent place to volunteer to work alongside a great group of people who make you feel

really welcome." People who would like to donate household goods are encouraged to telephone 01325 731294. More Time is based at The IES Centre -Horndale Avenue, Aycliffe Business Park (near the Blue Bridge), The More Time furniture store is open Monday to Saturday between 9am until 4pm. More Time Furniture Scheme provides good quality second-hand furniture at reasonable prices, enabling local people to source the furniture they need, with a cost effective delivery option for those people who don't have access to a delivery van. It also provides fully certified house clearance services for those people who need to have bulky/unwanted items removed from their property.

Dear Editor,
In response to C. Palmer who makes a very good point in his observations regarding the Aldi entrance. I am amazed at how many drivers ignore the one way signs, and large white arrows pointing the way in and around the car park, yet they still go the wrong way round causing havoc, these drivers are a real nuisance, and they use our roads - I would not give them a barrow to use let alone a vehicle! The mini roundabout

does nothing to help either, and it should be removed as it causes more problems than any other roundabout on the town. Maybe we can start a campaign to have it removed?
Months ago I contacted the Highways Authority to have a manhole cover reinstated near the junction of the Greenwell Road car park and it has finally been repaired (in a fashion). It is still not level, so if the council is reading this please take note. George Thompson.

NEW WALKING GROUP

A Free Beginner Walking Group start Friday 13th May at 10.30am from Woodham Village Community Centre. Walks will be up to 60 minutes long at a pace to suit all. A Health Trainer is available to offer free advice on improving your wellbeing. Walking in a group can help you feel more motivated, active and healthy, meet new people, or catch up with friends. For more information telephone David on 01325 316144

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATION

MONDAY 25 APRIL - MONDAY 6 JUNE 2016

A 6 week pre-submission consultation, as required by Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, on the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan will be taking place from Monday 25 April 2016. The Plan and supporting documents can be found on the Great Aycliffe Town Council website at: great-aycliffe.gov.uk/info/neighbourhood-plan-4/consultation-2/ Paper copies can be found at the following locations if you do not have access to a computer.

- The Library Pioneering Care Centre
- Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices
- Oak Leaf Sports Centre
- Excel Centre The Work Place
- Neville Parade Community Centre Simpasture Court
- Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre
- Aycliffe Village Hall
- Woodham Community Centre
- Agnew Community Centre
- Newton News Office
- Horndale Residents Association
- Acorn Residents Association
- Horndale Residents Association

Your comments on the Plan will ensure that the planning policies and objectives reflect the residents and businesses of the Parish of Great Aycliffe and help deliver the overall vision of the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan. An electronic consultation is available at: surveymonkey.com/r/GANPPreSub or you can write to Chrissy Walton at Great Aycliffe Town Council, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe. If you need further information please do not hesitate to contact her on 01325 300700.

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Free Healthy Living Course

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Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre

Thursday 5th May
11:00 - 12:00

Please register your interest by contacting one of your local health trainers by phone, text or email:

Andy 07826884687 a.stewart8@nhs.net	Leanne 07748028006 leannehopper@nhs.net
--	--

0800 8766887 Cdda-tr.WBFL@nhs.net

www.facebook.com/CountyDurhamWellbeingForLifeService

CLASSICAL MUSIC FANS SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR KATHERINE'S CONCERT

Classical music star Katherine Jenkins releases her new album on April 22nd and fans now have their own reason to celebrate. To mark the launch of Katherine's latest CD, Celebration, the organisers of her forthcoming concert at Herrington Country Park, Sunderland, have created a special hospitality package for the event. This includes complimentary on-site car parking, red carpet entry to a designated structure with captivating exteriors on lavish grounds, a welcome drink on arrival, a luxury picnic hamper and access to an outdoor seating area and separate toilets throughout the outdoor performance on Friday May 6th. Katherine's concert, which also features appearances by the National Symphony Orchestra and acclaimed violinists Vladimir and Anton, is the first to be organised by Northern Sessions, a new business area for Sunderland Live. Alison McDonough, Chief Executive of Sunderland Live, said: "Katherine Jenkins is one of the most popular stars in classical music and I'm sure her new album will only serve to



strengthen this success even further. "We hope that fans of all ages will join us on May 6 to celebrate Katherine and her music and are confident that the new hospitality package will allow them to do so in even greater style." The hospitality package for Katherine Jenkins at Herrington Country Park is priced at £100 per person and available in limited numbers. Standard tickets are also available priced at £33 each. Both can be purchased at www.thenorthsessions.co.uk.

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See next week's Newton News for more details

Aycliffe Cancer Support Group Provide Respite Care

Dear Sir,
 After months of searching for a suitable Static Caravan to provide Cancer Patients and their families respite break I am now pleased to announce a kind family has offered our charity this as a gift.
 Some of our members are carers and you can see them struggling and in need of an urgent break even for a few days. We now have 57 members and most are cancer patients, others are relatives and carers.
 However we need help with funding to buy all the necessary items for inside the caravan from curtains and blinds to bedding and kitchen utensils. We also need help to purchase decking and someone to fix it to make sure all our members with mobility problems can access the caravan.
 Can any local company help Aycliffe's cancer support group? We have been running over 2 years now with the help of donations from fundraising event. Our members need a respite break away from the stresses and

worries of going through treatment. We are determined to make a difference, but need our local community to help.
 People know me being hit with the disease myself and I struggle with pain 24/7 and go to 12 different hospitals in the North East with numerous health issues for treatment, but I'm still here and even when I have bad days when the pain is unbearable, helping others keeps me going. With the help of my family and committee members we help cancer sufferers from health professionals.
 There is help and support out there now, but we need to keep informing our community on what services are available. If you are an individual and would like help please contact me or if you have a company/business and would like to assist our charity, please contact me for more information.
 Allison (Chair) 07762 258696
 or Carole (Vice Chair) 07565 504496
 or go to
www.greataycliffecancersupportgroup.co.uk

Film Show

The "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church on TUESDAY 3rd MAY will feature one of Alfred Hitchcock's finest films, the mystery-thriller "REAR WINDOW" starring JAMES STEWART and GRACE KELLY.
 This is the film that showed Hitchcock's true genius at creating suspense. 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.

Local Hotel Donates 250 Pillows



Redworth Hall Hotel have donated 250 pillows to the Great North Air Ambulance. Pictured are Debbie Preston and Linda Gibson from the housekeeping team handing over the pillows to GNAAS driver.

Cobblers Hall New Park Consultation

As readers know this exciting project to regenerate the derelict play area at Cobblers Hall has been given the go-ahead by Great Aycliffe Town Council, the initial proposal being for two activity items (a medium sized MUGA, and a play area aimed at the 6-14 age group) within a 'decorative environmental' park.
 There will be two stages of consultation – the first about general design, with a later second consultation about specific play items.
 The first consultation has now gone live, and we would encourage people please to respond to the online questionnaire here: <http://bit.ly/CHPPQ>
 Anybody can comment, but we are asking people to supply a postcode, so we know broadly where the comments are coming from. Local stakeholders, and people living in the immediate vicinity are being asked personally, by letter from the Town Council.
 Cllrs John D Clare, Mike Dixon and Joan Gray

Better Health at Work Awards

The County Durham Better Health at Work Awards ceremony took place at the Ramside Hall Hotel and Spa to celebrate businesses in County Durham who have successfully achieved the Better Health at Work Award (BHAWA).
 A total of 32 businesses and 164 employees attended the ceremony organised by the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) who manage the County Durham sub region of the North East BHAWA.
 The ceremony was hosted by Lee Mack, Head of Service Health Improvement at County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust who work in partnership with PCP to deliver the award across County Durham.
 Lee Mack said "I am delighted to see so many companies and employees who have gone that extra mile to develop a sustainable culture of health and wellbeing. Businesses of all sizes and sectors were represented including services, manufacturing, engineering, commercial, independent and the public sector – all had a fantastic evening celebrating their achievements.
 It was also great to see the enthusiasm of new organisations, alongside those who have committed to the framework for a number of years and are achieving continuing excellence. As well as employee health and wellbeing, the scheme supports decent work, economic growth and commercial success – goals we can rightly celebrate together."
 The criteria to achieve the awards includes identifying staff 'health advocates', providing support to help staff stop smoking, creating a better awareness of how health can be affected by work activities, asking staff what health issues they would like help with and running subsequent health improvement campaigns to address the most popular topics.
 Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive said "PCP were delighted to be hosting this year's event, and to be delivering the BHAWA in County Durham. It's so important for employers to encourage good health. Not only does it help the staff themselves but brings enormous benefits to business,



the economy of the region and the quality of life of all those who live in the North East. Helping PCP achieve its mission to improve health, wellbeing and learning for all. PCP also picked up a Continuing Excellence award for our commitment to staff health and wellbeing."
 Participation in health improving activities through a workplace health programme allows individuals to develop knowledge, self-management and coping skills as well as build a social support network among co-workers, managers and family.
 Businesses which have signed up to the Award have seen a reduction of absence by 0.26 to 2.0 days per employee and an increase in productivity, which means it makes economic sense to be part of the North East BHAWA. Healthy workplaces also benefit from fewer injuries and illnesses, improved job satisfaction and positive workplace morale.
 For further information contact PCP at the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4SF, call 01325 321234, email enquiries@pcp.uk.net or visit www.pcp.uk.net

BUSY YEAR AHEAD FOR G.A.C.A.P.

24 enthusiastic partners attended to second AGM of GACAP (Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership). The previous year saw 16 partners in attendance. Business was over quickly the Retiring chairman welcomed all present and introduced Syd Howarth MBE founder of the partnership.
 Syd said a busy year was ahead with the hoped acquisition of the Library building to create a welfare community hub and a community centre at Elmfield.
 All officers stood down but as there were not more than one nomination for each post all nominee's were elected. Steven Mitton was elected Chairman with Susan Sadler to assist him as Co-Chairman. Liane Taylor was re-elected as Treasurer. Ron Mitchie was elected as Secretary as Joan Clark had stood down, but she was happy to except the post of Assistant Secretary. All partners present were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to partners and a healthy

period of networking took place. If you would like any further information about becoming a partner please contact Ron by e-mail: secretary.gacap@gmail.com or come along to our next meeting at 4pm at DISC offices by the Blue Bridge on Monday 6th June.

Election Cost

Dear Sir,
 With yet another By Election in West Ward created by a Labour Councillor resigning I would like to invite the controlling Labour Group on Great Aycliffe Town Council to explain why this has occurred. The public have a right to know if the £10,000 cost is justified.
 John Grant
 UKIP Branch Chairman"

Talk on Local History

Aycliffe Village Local History Society will host a talk by Chris Lloyd at 7pm on Wednesday 4th May in Aycliffe Village Hall entitled "Heroes and Villains - Darlington and the 1st World War.
 All welcome - Members £1 non members £3 includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

TURNING FOOD WASTE INTO GREEN ENERGY



Hall Garth Hotel is certainly at the forefront of it's competitor in reducing its carbon footprint. Last month the hotel installed ground source heating across its 70 acre site. This month they are joining a growing number of North East businesses helping to convert the region's food waste mountain into green energy. As a member of the Food Fuel Club they are helping generate green energy that is powering the region while also saving money through reducing the amount of landfill tax they pay. With Stables pub and Oswalds' Restaurant, the volume of food waste is significant. With an agreement in place with Warrens, all of this unwanted food waste is now being used as renewable energy, thus reducing their environment impact .

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New 6-a-side Football League Starts in May

A brand new 6 a side Football League comes to Newton Aycliffe on May 9th each Thursday evenings 6-8pm at the Greenfield School 3G ground. Over £300 worth of Paintball Vouchers, Trophy's and Kits Cost is £28 Match Fee for your team with 40 minute matches. FREE ENTRY - Up to 9 players on the night with 3 subs roll on roll off. Updated league table, fixtures and results will feature all online. For more details and to register go to www.mysoccersixes.co.uk to register or call Jordan on 07494 528412.

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If you feel you have the experience, drive and passion to undertake this role please contact
Linda for an application form

01325 312050

or send your C.V. to play.days@btconnect.com
Closing date for applications Monday 9th May

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL



Temporary Pre-School Assistant

Salary Scale – Point 7 - 9 – £7.22 - £7.31
(£13,891 - £14,075 pro rata)

Post EY19 – approximately 15 hours per week

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

We are currently looking for an enthusiastic and hardworking Assistant to join our team. Who will ensure the children are kept safe and receive fun and stimulating learning experiences appropriate to their age and stage of development. The contract is short term and will run until the 22nd July 2016.

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

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

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

**Closing Date for applications:
Noon Friday 13th May 2016.**

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

LOCAL SPORT

Nine Medals for Town Swimming Club

Swimmers from Sedgefield District 75 Swimming Club continue to push themselves and the club to new heights during another few weeks of challenging competitions.

The Club had 6 swimmers competing at the Richmond Dale 'April Fools' gala at Leeds on 9th / 10th April. Despite only having only a small number of swimmers competing they came away with 9 medals between them. Matthew Bradley, who only competed on Saturday won gold medals in the 50 free and 200 IM and silvers in the 100 breast and 200 free. Niall Coulthard won silver in the 200 free and 50 fly and bronze in the 100 free. Leah Smith and Kate Tolley both medalled in the 50 back with Leah coming away with the silver medal and Kate the bronze. Katelyn Craig and Kate Carmichael also made the journey to Leeds and came away with long course personal best times in all their swims. For some of these swimmers it was their first time swimming at a 50m pool and it was a fantastic achievement for them all getting the qualifying times for a faster level meet.

During the week commencing 11th April, Hannah Featherstone represented the Sedgefield 75 at the British Championships. Amongst the best of British Swimmers Hannah started her week winning the Junior Girls 200 free also recording a personal best time in her swim of 2:02.03. She followed this with further amazing swims in 100 free (58.40), 200 IM (2.20.06) and the 400 free where her time of 4.19.93 was fast enough that she made the Target Tokyo Final, a higher level final event for those aiming for the Tokyo Olympics in 2020.

This weekend it was the turn of Elisabeth Yaneske. On 22nd April 2016 Elisabeth won gold in the 800m at the Scottish Masters Short Course Championships in Aberdeen. In a time of 10:23.22 Elisabeth was 7 seconds faster than in this event last year and a minute faster than her closest competitor. These are all great achievements from swimmers who train consistently well, and continue to improve as a result of their attendance, attitude and ability.

Ex Avenue 50 Year Olds

Students that left the Avenue in 1982 will have had their 50th birthdays so we can all celebrate together at a School Reunion Disco on 20th August 7.30- 12 midnight at the Sports Club Moore Lane. It would be lovely to see everyone and you can contact Lynne Siddens on 07951 491027 or send a text. It would be good to have an idea of attendance by early July.



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

- PCC elections, Thursday 5 May – find your polling station by entering your postcode here: bit.ly/NApollingstations
- Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan Consultation goes live: bit.ly/GANPpsme
- My report on last week's GATC Full Council meeting: bit.ly/GATC200416
- My report on last week's GAMP Employment Task Group meeting: bit.ly/GAMPETG416
- March's Neighbourhood Protection report: bit.ly/NP316
- Mental Health Action in County Durham: bit.ly/DCCMHA
- Latest Aycliffe area roadworks information: bit.ly/Roadworks290416
- Last week's report from our MEP: bit.ly/JKD240416

COMMUNITY NEWS

- Wilmott Dixon proposal to build 450 houses on the former Equestrian Centre site – public hearing, Agnew Community Centre, 24 May: bit.ly/ECWTPH
- Latest unemployment figures: bit.ly/DOOW815
- Newton Aycliffe war memorial listed by Historic England: dlvr.it/L5F93h
- PCP Buddies Befriending Service: bit.ly/PCPBuddies
- Tree Tops Sensory Processing Disorder Parent Support Group, 7-8:30pm, Tuesday 3 May: bit.ly/SPDPS516
- FREE Courses at Mickel Grove: bit.ly/MG516
- New College Information and Advice Event, 5-7pm, Tuesday 3 May: bit.ly/NCD3516; Bishop Auckland College Open Evening, 5:30pm, Tuesday 10 May: bit.ly/BAC10516
- Northern Powergrid April newsletter: bit.ly/NPGApr16
- Ancestry Courses at Durham County Record Office: bit.ly/DCROsum16
- Community Learning – Network Event, Friday 6 May, 9:30am: bit.ly/DCCCLNE

Heighington Youth Football

Under 8's
Heighington travelled to Middleton for their first game as Champions and showed exactly why they were crowned Champions with a ruthless display. Heighington won the first game 7-3 with some outstanding Goals scored.

Theo Callaghan scored Twice including an outrageous bicycle kick, he almost completed his Hat trick but saw his header canon off the bar. Jay Bulch scored twice, the first he scored after dragging the ball back putting the keeper on the floor and slotting home, the second was a thunder bolt that flew in to the top corner Ty Woodward also scored a great volley, Layton Collier fired in from long range. Joe Neild also got in on the act with a tidy finish. Man of the Match went to Jay Bulch.

The second game was even more emphatic running out 7-1 Winners. Harry Surman scored his first goal for the club, which means all but one of the squad of 12 have managed to score this season. Kenzie White had his game of the season firing a hat trick which earned him the man of the match award, with three Great finishes.

Jay Bulch scored his 3rd of the day with another long ranger Finally Layton and Theo, again with his 3rd of the day finished off the scoring. 2 Fantastic performances have made it 16 Wins on the bounce, 2 games to go for the boys to complete the perfect sea

Under 11's - Away to Acklam and due to some mix up, found themselves having to play with small 7 a side Goals. However Heighington scored 4 goals in the first half with some really good passing football. Heighington extended there lead in the second half and could have scored more but for a fine display from the home Keeper. Goals from Brandon pape 2, Leyton Falconer 2 and 1 from Owen Evans completed a very good away win

Under 15's

Game 2 of the Richmond double header, for Heighington U15's was played out at Richmond High School this afternoon. Initial signs were promising as the home side started with only 10 men, however they made it difficult by working harder in the early stages and although a bit fortunate to score first, you couldn't fault them for their efforts. Heighington took a long time to really settle, and certainly were not playing as well as they had been in game 1 on Thursday night. Chances were being created and not finished until a cross from Sam Thompson, was missed by Liam Wright, but Max Errington Coates was on hand to slot home the equaliser.

Richmond's main threat was from the long high goal kicks

and there were a few nervous moments, and it needed a moment of real quality in what was a scrappy match, from Roman Alves, when he neatly side stepped and found the top right hand corner just before half time to make it 2-1.

Richmond now had 11 players and the second half was a ding dong battle, littered with fouls, and bad refereeing decisions which meant neither team really got to grips with playing decent football, and so it was that the scoring remained the same, and Heighington completed a memorable double over Richmond to keep them in the hunt for 2nd place...Well done lads, and MOM was awarded to Todd Steed who kept the home side at bay throughout.

AYCLIFFE RUNNERS IN LONDON MARATHON

Four runners from Aycliffe Running Club participated in this year's London Marathon on 24 April, with one runner setting a new club record.

After months of training on the roads round Aycliffe, Rob Nicholson, Angela Barrett, Tracey Surtees and Mick Brunskill set out on the London Marathon.

Tracey was first home for the club in a very impressive time of 03.26.56. This set a new senior female record for the club. Next came Angela with a speedy time of 04.00.50. She was closely followed by Rob, with a time of 04.06.17, who completed Manchester marathon only two weeks before. Bringing it home for the club was Mick in a time of 04.18.25.

The runners enjoyed fantastic running conditions. Barrett commented: "It was a fantastic experience that I will hold close to my heart and talk about forever - anyone who knows me knows this is absolutely true. "I began running in March 2014 when I joined Aycliffe Running Club (ARC) and this is my second Marathon. The atmosphere, the crowds, what can I say! I even managed to



Angela and Rob

get on some live footage on the BBC as I passed the Cutty Sark. I have ARC to thank for all of this and encourage anyone who wants to run to put on a pair of trainers and do it." Angela's progression from new runner to marathon runner in the short space of two years shows that anybody can get involved with running. Aycliffe Running Club is open to people of all abilities. If you are brand new to running there is a beginners group which goes out every Monday evening. Visit www.ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk to find out more.

KIDZ FLIX

Come along and see the newly released Pixar movie "THE GOOD DINOSAUR" ON Saturday 7th May at 2.00pm at KidzFlix Saturday Movie Club. This family film brings to you Arlo the lovable dinosaur who learns the power to confront his fears and therefore discovers what he is truly capable of. During the film ice-creams will be served for only 50p and of course the popular tuck shop will be open for sweets, drinks and popcorn. Doors open from 1.30pm at St. Clare's Church Movie Hall, come early for front row seats, bring your friends, at only £1 this is an affordable treat for everyone to enjoy. Adults are welcome to stay also or children can watch the film under the supervision of the Cinema Team

Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership

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YOUTH FOOTBALL ROUND UP



Under 7's Eagles

Under 7 Eagles v Shincliffe, First Half saw the Eagles take the game immediately to the home side, with brilliant attacking play and strong defensive performances. Eagles were rewarded for all of their hard work, with 3 great goals HT 0-3. Second half saw the Eagles playing excellent flowing football as the goals continued from the KO, FT 0-10 Goals Adam (1), Edwin (2) & Will (7)

U13 Falcons v Guisborough A very important point against a much improved Guisborough side. Aycliffe dominated most of the game but the ball just didn't want to find its way into the back of the net and no luck went our way. The point today however is crucial in the grand scheme of things as the League Championship is still in our hands with one game to go. FT 0-0 MOM Adam Askew

Under 16's Eagles v Brompton, Playing on a perfect and large pitch was ideal for Aycliffe to play good football on. The lads used the width and moved the ball quickly from the start of the game and were rewarded with 3 excellent goals before HT. The second half continued as Aycliffe piled on the pressure and giving a great team performance FT 6-1 Ryan Harris 2, Nile Rutter 2, Jacob Tabberer and Danny Pickering.

After a slow start to the season the boys have done great to get a this position where, with 3 games left, we still have a chance of runners-up in the league.

Under 11 Falcons v Washington A great first half for Aycliffe with an early goal through Declan, followed by a second goal courtesy of Callum who scored a goal from the edge of the box. HT 2-0. Callum then split open the opposition defence to gift Declan a second goal. Washington grabbed a goal before Leon went on a mazy run beating four players to lay Noah off for a curled finish into the top left corner. FT 4-1. MOM Callum.

Other Results

- U10 Girls 1 v 3 Hebburn
- U11 Girls 0 v 4 Bishop Auckland
- U11 Girls 4 v 2 Washington
- U13 Girls 3 v 1 Lumley
- U14 Girls 6 v 5 Durham Cestria
- U13 eagles 3 v 12 Norton & Stockton
- U11 Eagles 3 v 3 Stockton Yellow
- U12's Eagles 0 v 2 Eaglescliffe

If you want more information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website www.naycafc.co.uk

AYCLIFFE JUNIOR FOOTBALL

A busy week with some of the Aycliffe Juniors teams having lots of games to catch up on. The highlight of the week was the news that the Under 10's are confirmed as TJFA Division One Champions for the fourth consecutive season. This talented team still have two league games to play next week but the fantastic record of 14 wins from the first 16 games has proved enough to seal the title. This squad have been excellent all season scoring 59 goals so far whilst conceding only 9.

They have now completed victories against each side in the league after they won a tough game on Tuesday night. A great Zack free kick was the difference in a 1-0 win away at Seaton Carew. Special mention and congratulations to all of the eleven strong squad which includes - Thomas, Aaron, Harry, Chloe, Sam, Charlie, Jake, Jacob, Evan, Zack and Lucas.

Huge thank you to manager Adrian Dawson and his trusted coach Neil Patterson for supporting and developing all the players during the season. This is a truly fantastic achievement in winning the title again and showing themselves to be the top team in the TJFA league since entering the competition at Under 7.

The Under 7's and 9's have completed their league fixtures and the Under 8's have one league game left next weekend. Their manager Abi Steel completed the Blackpool 10km run to raise money for the teams end of season trip, well done Abi. Whilst Abi was running the boys played a friendly against Kader winning 8-0 and then 7-2. Niall got a double hatrick in the first game then 2 in the second. Jayden and Harvey scored in each match with Lucas, Jack and Rhys also getting a goal. The man of the match this week was Rhys.

The Under 10 Russell Foster League side kept up their unbeaten run but let a 2 goal lead slip as they drew 2-2 against South Shields. They started well, pressing hard and Sam was dictating play from the back. Oli put in a great challenge to stop South Shields scoring before Taylor



finished off a sweeping move to put Aycliffe ahead. Noah soon added a second goal but in the second half 2 goals were conceded and this game ended in a draw.

The Under 12's have played three games this week, first up on Tuesday were Great Ayton. The first half ended with Aycliffe ahead 2-1, both goals coming from Dylan's throw in's the first deflecting in and the second Adam headed home. The second half was a different story and despite James goal the game ended in a 3-5 defeat. On Thursday the team faced Darlington Spraire Lads, they were 0-1 down at half time.

Adam scored a great free kick in the second half after they had gone 0-2 down then an equaliser came from Dylan. The fine second half performance was rounded off with the winner from Zack. On Sunday they played Coulby Newham and Dylan scored twice a 2-2 draw. So, a full house of results in the week with a win, a draw and a loss.

Both the Under 12's and 14's look forward to derby matches against Aycliffe Youth in the coming week as the league season concludes for these teams and the younger age groups next week.

Both Under 18 teams won on Thursday night with the Reds coming from 4-2 down to win 5-4 against Hardwick Youth, goal scorers were Ryan Peart (3), Lewis Bunting and Lewis Race. The Blacks backed

up the midweek win against Northallerton with another win on Sunday against Redcar Athletic to keep the pressure on the league leaders.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's first team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store were well beaten by 58 runs away at local rivals Darlington RA 1st team in the NYSD 2nd division. New captain Luke Telford got off to a good start by winning the toss and asking the home-side to bat first.

On a on a bitterly cold day, Aycliffe bowled and fielded well to dismiss RA for 143 after 45.4 overs with 16 year old debutant Ryan Dawson (sponsored by Pheonix Energy UK Ltd) taking 2 for 7 and Michael Howe taking 2 for 30.

In reply, Aycliffe struggled throughout their innings and were bowled out for a disappointing 85 after 32.4 overs with only Sam Telford

(16 runs), Graham Telford (16 runs) and Ryan Dawson (10 runs) reaching double figures for the visitors.

The U11's also played their first match of the season away at Darlington RA and were unlucky to lose a good game by just 15 runs. There were good performances from Aycliffe's Charlie Cayless, who top scored with an excellent 13 not out and Matty Greaves who bowled well taking a wicket and he also secured another wicket with a run out.

David Robinson also did well with the ball, bowling two maidens and special mention must go to debutants, Daniel Heaton, Thomas Dearden and Adam Shaw who all performed really well in their first game for the club.



Great Aycliffe Town Council

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 11th MAY 2016 - 7.15pm

Agendas are available on Notice Boards, by request at the Council Offices (01325 300700) and the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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

MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

Would you please note that prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday, 11th May 2016 I will be making presentations of cheques to my nominated charities:-

**Renal Unit at James Cook Hospital
Neville Parade Community Centre
Scouts & Guides of Great Aycliffe**

The presentation will commence at 7.00p.m. prompt and the public and press are cordially invited to attend.

Councillor Mrs. Mary Dalton
Mayor of Great Aycliffe.

Aycliffe Firm Sponsors Racing Driver



Racing Driver Max Coates is being sponsored by Primex Plastics Ltd based on Aycliffe Business Park, competing in the Renault Clio Cup Championship, a support class of the British Touring Car Championship.

Gary Clement, Manufacturing Manager for Primex for 4 years, in his spare time is involved with Max and this year he is No 2 mechanic in the Team. This involves attending practice and official Tests together with setting up the race awning / truck at race meetings.

Gary has always looked to help Max as he shows extreme dedication towards his goals and is a superb ambassador for any organisation. Max is looking for additional sponsorship from local Companies and can be contacted via max@scorton.com



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 Our evening with ELVIS was a huge success and we would like to thank everyone who came and supported us. Another live music night is being planned for June with more details to follow.
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Woodham Village Community Centre and Vision:BSL are teaming up to give people in the town and surrounding areas the chance to learn British Sign Language. Not only is this a beautiful language to learn but also helps breaks down the communication barrier between deaf and hearing.

Mike and his team are focused on getting more people involved in learning this skill. However, spaces are limited to 15 students per group to allow for the best student and teacher interaction.

The course is fun, hands on and interactive. The first course will run every Saturday morning from 9:30 - 11:30 for 27 weeks starting 4th June. For those who enrol and complete all 3 modules, a full Level 1 accredited certificate in British Sign Language will be issued.

Mike from Vision:BSL is looking forward to becoming a fixture and a trusted member within the community. More information is available online at www.VisionBSL.co.uk or by contacting Mike on 07946 739 136, or David on 01325 316144. Pre-booking is essential.

Bank Holiday Information for County Residents

Residents in County Durham are being advised that there will be no changes to their bin collections over the two May bank holidays. People should continue to put their bins out as usual during both bank holiday weeks – commencing Monday 2 and Monday 30 May.

Refuse, recycling and garden waste bins should be left by the kerbside by 7am on their normal collection day.

Anyone who is unsure what day to put their bin out can download a collection calendar by entering their house number and postcode into the My Durham section of the council's website – www.durham.gov.uk

Anyone who would like to subscribe to garden waste collections should visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Information is also available by contacting 03000 261 000.

Customer access points will be closed on both bank holiday Mondays – May 2 and May 30 – and they will re-open at 8.30am on the Tuesday mornings.

Taxi Drivers Help Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation

Taxi drivers in County Durham are to be trained to spot tell-tale signs of sexual exploitation of children.

All Hackney carriage and private hire drivers licensed by Durham County Council are to be required to undergo Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness training, after more than half of people responding to consultation supported such action.

Already 683 taxi drivers – almost 40 percent of the 1,757 drivers licenced by the council – have received CSE awareness training on a voluntary basis.

Further free training sessions have been arranged by the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board.

In consultation on changes to the council's hackney carriage and private hire licensing policy, 56.2 percent of respondents agreed that all taxi licence applicants should be required to undergo awareness training to assist in the prevention and reporting of sexual exploitation.

As a result, all applicants will be required to undergo the training before they can be licensed and existing drivers who haven't already completed one of the training sessions will have to attend one by 1 September 2016.

Knowledge tests for new applicants will also be

changed to include questions around CSE awareness.

Cllr Brian Stephens, said: "One of the primary aims of taxi licensing is to protect and safeguard the public, especially our children and young people who are among the most vulnerable groups in society.

"By making it a requirement that all drivers undergo CSE training, we hope that we can help them spot signs of abuse and act on it accordingly."

A number of other revisions have been made to the licensing policy, which was approved by full council earlier this month.

The policy has been amended to include some new requirements for both licensed vehicles and drivers to improve on existing standards and help safeguard the public.

For example drivers will be required to have their identification clearly visible to passengers and new vehicles will have to meet tougher emission standards.

The use of CCTV in all licensed vehicles will be strongly encouraged and drivers will be required to sign up to the Disclosure and Barring Service Update Scheme.

Basic numeracy testing will be introduced as part of the knowledge test while older vehicles will be required

to undergo more frequent testing. The amended policy will also see drivers have their licence suspended if they do not present their vehicle for testing at a specified time.

The consultation sought the views of members of the taxi trade, trade representatives, taxi service users and all relevant authorities and organisations.

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Birthday Remembrance

GRANDPOP JOCK 28th April. Dear Lord above give Grandpop all our love, hug him and kiss him and tell him we love him and that we are always thinking of him. Happy birthday Grandpop. Love, Emma and John-Paul

JOCK SHEDDEN 28th April. A beautiful memory, dearer than gold, of a Dad whose worth can never be told. There's a place in our hearts no one can fill. We miss you and always will. God bless. Elaine and Ian

In Memoriam

Mary Hay

Died 26th April 2015

A much loved Wife, Mother, Grandma and Great Grandma. Sadly missed by all her family. Janet and John; Graham and Linda; Granddaughters Helen, Lyndsey, Joanne and Laura and Great Grandchildren Anna, Olivia and Harry. Reunited with Peter who died 1st September 1975. Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts. Loved and remembered every day.

Betty Wheeler



3rd May 2015

Treasured memories of a wonderful Wife, Mam, Nanna and Great Nanna. It's been a year since you've been gone, taken away from us tragically. A day doesn't go by that we don't think of you. The pain of missing you never ends.

We will always love you and will never ever forget you.

Love always, Fred, Ann, Kevin, David, Pamela, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxxx

Obituary

Margaret Elizabeth Archer (Peggy)



Passed away peacefully in hospital surrounded by her loving family on 24th April, aged 87. Wife of Fred; Mother of David, Kenneth and the late Dennis; devoted Nana, Great Nana, Sister and Aunt. She will be sadly missed and loved by all. Service to take place at St Clare's Church on Monday 9th May at 11.45am, then on to Wear Valley Crematorium. Family flowers, donations can be made if so desired for the British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research UK

John Garnett (Jack)

24th April 2014

We think about you always and talk about you too. We have so many memories, but we wish we still had you.

Your loving Wife Gladys; Family Stephen, Anthony, Denise, Deborah and Granddaughter Laura

Acknowledgement

PATERSON The family of the late Isabel Paterson (nee MacKay) wish to thank all relatives and friends for the many kind and thoughtful expressions of sympathy received during their recent sad bereavement and for attending the Service at the Church and Crematorium. The family also wish to express their sincere gratitude to the manager and staff of the Lindisfarne Care Home, who looked after Mum so well for the last four years. Donations collected on behalf of their Residents Fund amounted to £705.17. Special thanks to Nick at Co-operative Funeralcare for his support, Rev. Andy Bryer for conducting the Service, Arthur Middleton, a friend of the family, who played the Pipes and the RAFA Club for providing the after Service refreshments.

BIGGER FINES FOR USING MOBILE PHONE WHILST DRIVING

The Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) has welcomed the Department for Transport opening up a public consultation on stricter penalties for using a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving. The DfT's consultation is

looking for feedback on proposals for increasing the fixed penalty notice level from £100 to £150 for all drivers.

It also invites views on increasing the penalty points from three to four points for non-HGV drivers, and three to

six points for those that hold a heavy goods vehicle (HGV) licence and commit the offence whilst driving an HGV.

Neil Greig, IAM director of policy and research said: "Forcing all drivers caught using a hand-held mobile for the first time to attend a re-education course would be a really positive step.

"For many, smartphone use has become an addiction that we can only start to cure through some form of therapy. The IAM does not object to tougher penalties but we do believe that the real deterrent is fear of being caught. That fear can only be increased by increasing the numbers of traffic police on our roads."

The DfT's report launching the consultation (reference 1) cites the IAM's survey in July 2015 on drivers taking selfies at the wheel (reference 2) The IAM found that 9% of drivers surveyed admitted taking a selfie whilst driving within the previous month – a figure that increases to 19% of 25-35 year olds.

The survey also discovered 8% of drivers admitted to driving while using a video-calling application such as FaceTime and Skype to make and receive video calls, rising to 16% among 18 to 24 year olds.

Neil added: "Technology has caused this issue and technology offers one route towards reducing the distraction effect of mobile phone use. It will not be easy to retrofit many of these solutions but the IAM is supportive of trials and pilots to show whether automatically switching off phones when moving can deliver safer roads."

Congratulations

Bobbie-Jo Humble - Happy 18th Birthday



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Happy 18th Birthday to a wonderful Daughter. Hope you have a fantastic weekend! Love you loads, Mam and Dad xxx

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Happy 18th Birthday to a special Granddaughter. With lots of love from Gran, Granda and all your family and friends xxxxxxx

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Carol Fothergill



Happy 50th Birthday
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Ice Hockey Stars in National Finals Third Win Against FA Vase Finalists



Gregor Mills (left) and Finn Bradon

Two young ice hockey players from Aycliffe will take to the ice in Sheffield next month to play for a National Championship. Finn Bradon, aged 10 and Gregor Mills aged 9, play for the Billingham Stars Under 11 team who have been in formidable form this season having just won the North of England Conference, winning all 16 regular season matches. The team will now head to Sheffield just two matches away from being crowned National Under 11 Champions and will face competition from teams from Sheffield, Swindon and Chelmsford. Finn has been playing ice hockey since 2011 whilst Gregor only took up the sport last August. Both players learnt to play ice hockey at Billingham Forum which runs 'Learn to Play' each Sunday afternoon from 4pm until 5.30pm. No previous experience is necessary although some basic skating skills is required and full equipment can be provided for a small charge.

A goal in each half by John Campbell gave Newton Aycliffe their third win of the season against FA Vase finalists Morpeth Town on Saturday. The Highwayman remain in the running for the Northern League title but this loss put a huge dent in their hopes. Aycliffe took the lead after just 3 mins. Campbell dispossessed a defender & found himself one on one against keeper Karl Dryden. The Aycliffe forward slotted the ball home comfortably. Campbell might have made it



two 10 minutes later but this time fired over the crossbar. Morpeth responded & put pressure on the visitors' goal as the first half progressed. However, their shooting proved inaccurate & gave few problems to James Winter. The second half saw Campbell combine well with substitute Dennis Knight. Their hard work was rewarded just before the hour. Knight won the ball & played it to Campbell on the left who saw his first attempt on goal blocked by Dryden. However, he was first to the rebound & was able to place the second shot out of the keeper's reach. Morpeth were unable to respond & the win took Aycliffe's points tally for the season to 60. Campbell's brace takes him to 22 goals this season, achieved in just 26 games. Five of his goals have come

in the two games against Morpeth this month. This win was a great boost to Aycliffe after their disappointing 6-2 loss at Guisborough in midweek. There is little time to celebrate the win though as the games continue to come thick & fast. Aycliffe visit Penrith on Tuesday 26th April before returning to Moore Lane to face league leaders Shildon on Thursday 28th. Fans wanting to relive Newton Aycliffe's historic Durham Challenge cup victory over West Auckland can now do so with a DVD of the Good Friday final. The excellent production from the team who video North Shields games is now available at a price of just £5. Copies can be obtained at home games or by phoning Yvonne on 07500 866535

Last Home Game of Season

With the season drawing to a close a good crowd turned out to see Aycliffe play their last home game of the campaign and they weren't disappointed. The opposition were Washington who have struggled somewhat this season. Taking nothing away from them, the 14 men that took to the pitch against Aycliffe stuck to the task without complaint and kept on going for the full 80 minutes. From the off though it was obvious that there was only going to be one winner with Neil Morgan going over for the first try with the first passage of play. With the chilly winter-like weather keeping the crowd stamping their feet out on the pitch the Aycliffe team warmed up with further tries coming from Chris Richards, James Thacker going over twice and Warren Parsonage. Luke Tinkler added 3 conversions to leave the halftime score 31-0 to the top of the league team. The second period started as the first ended. Tries came thick and fast and with the plucky 14 of Washington tiring and Aycliffe able to make use of a full squad, fresh legs were brought on to finish the job. Further tries came with Adam Gascoigne getting a brace; his second late on from a diagonal run across the field leaving all in his wake. The ever present James Thacker added a further two tries to his first half tally, giving him a total of 4 for the day. Washington found themselves in the unusual position of being in the Aycliffe half of the field and only yards from the home side's try line. With a rush of blood and a ten man maul Washington drove over the line to score a consolation try which was unconverted. Aycliffe had to wake up again and get back on track. Luke Tinkler, Matthew Wiper, Mark



Wilson, and Drew Gibson all went over adding to the total. Connor Blakey, making his full first team debut, had a strong game and he added two more tries with decisive running in the loose. The final score 92-5 to Aycliffe but all credit must go to the lads of Washy who turned out to give Aycliffe a game. With Aycliffe looking over their shoulder at the chasing pack in the league we travel to Sedgfield on Saturday 30th April for a big local derby clash and all supporters

are encouraged to come along to the cricket ground in Sedgfield for a 3pm kick off.

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